

Humorous.

Blitson. A COSTLY JOKE.

In the flush times when oil-wells were the theme Whereon all enterprising minds were dwelling, And every speculator's fondest dream Saw great Petroleum's aromatic stream—

We paid our money and we took our stock, Whereat our disinterested friend departed; And then I marked, as I have marked before, 'Twas not possessing riches great or small, That fixed the due proportion each one bore,

On them all, burdens do most lightly fall, While some are like the cobbler in his stall When into one small hole he puts his little awl.

Why need I here repeat the old, old story? We never saw again our cherished pet; The reader will have guessed so, "a priori," And very likely knows how 'tis, himself.

When the whole enterprise had gone to pot, Once more we stockholders convened a meeting; In the same sadly well-remembered spot We came to see where all our wealth was "not."

And to the rest one then, there, thus gave greeting; We poor outsiders do not feel so sore (Although we're neither more nor less than human)

At having sacrificed our little store, For you rich folk, who know so vastly more, Have been deceived in spite of your acumen And this deep hole that's proved so great a bore,

Although it has no oil, it has "bit-you-men."

Mark Twain's "Geological Specimen."

An article recently published in the Hannibal (Mo.) Courier brought up in a party of gentlemen two of whom were Messrs. David Dean and William Brown, of Ralls County, a conversation in regard to the early youth of Sam Clemens (Mark Twain). Several very amusing anecdotes were related about Mark when he was a small boy, among others the following:

Mark had a constant playmate and chum, a boy about his own age, named Napoleon Pavey or, for short, Pole Pavey. One warm spring day, the two boys having got a holiday, Mark shouldered an old flint-lock musket, and Pole an old squirrel rifle without any lock at all, which he carried along, as he said, just for looks of the thing and went duck-hunting over in Sny Bottom. The boys hunted faithfully for several hours and succeeded in killing a chicken hawk and a crow, after which they commenced their homeward march, not very proud of their success, as in this region at that day game abounded. Finally Mark stopped suddenly, as an idea struck him, and then exclaimed:

"See here, Pole, let's git up a rare—what I've call it? A rare geological specimen for the boss; you see he's got a great hankering after these things."

"What's a rare geological specimen, Mark?" said Pole, as he opened wide his eyes.

"Why, it's a rare bird what ain't never been seen in these parts before; something very uncommon-like," answered Mark.

"Where are you going to git her at, Mark?—We ain't got nothing but this old chicken rober and crow and they ain't a bit uncommon," queried skeptical Pole.

"We'll git her up to order, Pole," answered Mark, as he flung himself on the green grass beneath a giant old elm tree.

The two boys went to work on their rare geological specimen. As Mark would pluck a feather from the tail of the crow, Pole would hand a corresponding feather that had been taken from the tail of the hawk which Mark would carefully insert in the socket from which he had just pulled the crow's feather. And thus, after two hours of steady work, every one of the long feathers of the hawk's tail had been transferred to the crow, and it would have required a careful examination to have detected the fraud.

"How is that for a specimen, Pole?" said Mark, as he admiringly exhibited the re-tailed crow to the gaze of his companion, resplendent in the rich plumage of the great chicken-ester.

That night the bird was carefully laid away in a place where it would be safe from the devouring presence of the old tom-cats. (which Mark afterwards wrote about as creating such fearful destruction at his sister's candy pullings. The report soon circulated through the town that a strange bird, the like of which had never before been seen, was killed, and Mark and Pole became the heroes of the hour. The next day being Sunday, Judge Clemens invited all of the wise men of the village of Hannibal to his house to examine and pass an opinion on the new "geological specimen." They came.—The bird was exhibited on a table, around which the savans gathered. One faction, headed by Dr. —, maintained that the bird was nothing more than a common black crow, the tail of which had been turned gray by some accidental cause not mentioned, having possibly had salt thrown on it in the young and tender days of the bird. The other faction, headed by Judge Clemens, scouted such an idea. It was absurd—ridiculous. They were willing to admit that the bird very much resembled the crow; that possibly it was a crow, but, if so, it belonged to a separate and distinct species from any that had ever before been discovered.

The discussion was continued, and became exciting. Neither faction would admit themselves wrong and the others right. Mark and Pole occupied a position near the door, and were attentive and interested, though silent, auditors.

"What!" exclaimed Judge Clemens, warming up, "do you tell me that it would be possible by any external process to turn the feathers in the tail of that bird from black to the color they are? These uniform rings and spots would defy the skill of the greatest painter that ever lived. No gentlemen," continued the Judge, as he rather violently took hold of the bird by the tail to examine the spots more closely; "no gentlemen—!" But the discussion was cut short by the bird dropping down on the table, while the Judge held on the tail in his hand.

"Let's scoot, Pole," said Mark, "the show's faded." And the two boys vamoosed.

The Judge contemplated the "rare geological specimen" with consternation, and then his eyes wandered to the open door and caught a glimpse of his young hopeful and his companion in mischief cutting across the back yard for high timber.

"Let us adjourn for dinner, gentlemen; we will renew the discussion after dinner," said the Judge; but never willingly renewed it with any person except Mark. That night, when Mark had got into bed, after creeping through the back window, a vision of his father, standing by his bedside, appeared to him.

"So it is your opinion is it, you young rascal, that the rare geological specimen is a bird of paradise?" said the vision as it tickled Mark on his naked legs with a keen cherry switch.

Mark said he felt sick, and didn't have any opinion, which was probably true, as he had dined and supped that day on green radishes found in the garden of Pole's mother.

Explaining the Finances.

Jake and Pete were met by Dan, a sort of negro sharper, at the Capitol building yesterday, when a general conversation took place about the hard times.

"Dar now," said Pete, holding up a half-dollar note, "it's fifty cents, and dat fifty cents didn't get near 'nuff for me to reach him until I'd put in half ob a good squar day's work."

"Dat's de fact ob de dismanizment ob de finanshil condition ob de country," said Dan wisely.

"How's dat," asked Jake; "what's de financial condition got to do wid a nigger's work?—Tell me dat."

"It's de contractshum ob de money question, you see. 'Spoken we jis redoozes de matter down to de argumint!" urged Dan.

"Lemme hear yer arguy dat pint," said Jake earnestly attentive.

"Well, now, dar is fifty cents in Pete's hands, yer see!"

"Yes," said both of the listeners.

"Den Pete lends dat to me dis way, yer see," taking the note.

"Yes," they answered.

"Now, I puts dat down in my flank dat way, yer see," pocketing the money.

"Yes," said Jake. Pete is silent.

"Next, Pete wants his money back in his own hand, yer see, an' I doesn't gib it to him."

H. & W. T. DICKERMAN'S NEW FURNITURE ROOMS

New Millford, Pa. Can be found the largest and best assortment of Furniture consisting of: PARLOR, CHAMBER, DINING ROOM, AND HALL FURNITURE, to be found in the County, all now and of the latest patterns,

and will be sold very cheap for CASH. All goods warranted as represented.

H. & W. T. DICKERMAN. FOR 1876. JOB PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

With our four presses, a large assortment of plain and fancy job type, borders, inks, papers, cards, etc., and experienced workmen, we are prepared to do:

All kinds of Job Work at the LOWEST PRICES. Promptly upon receipt of order, (by mail or otherwise,) we can furnish: Wedding Invitations, Envelopes, Bill Heads, Statements, Note Heads, Box Labels, Show Cards, Admission Tickets, Ball Tickets, Law Blanks, Auction Bills, Large Posters, Small Posters, Bottle Labels, Calling Cards, Address Cards, Business Cards, Invitation Cards, Pamphlets, Business Circulars, Wrappers, Tags, Dancing Programmes, etc., etc.

HAWLEY & CRUSER, Democrat Office. May 10.

A NEW STEAM MILL. PLASTER, FEED AND LUMBER. A Rare Chance.

The undersigned, having just completed a new STEAM MILL, at ALLEN'S CORNERS, will keep on hand a good supply of Fresh Ground Cayuga Flour, sufficient to meet the demands of all who desire it in this section. Also a supply of Feed, Lumber not on hand will be saved to order, on short notice. Post Office address, Montrose, Pa. E. HARPER. March 25th, 1876.—2m.

Dauchy & Co. AGENTS 25 elegant 9mm Chronos, \$1; 100 for \$3. National Chron Co., Phila., Pa. \$1-47

MOODY'S Sermons and prayer meeting talks from the Tribuna verbatim reports. 500 pages \$2. Just out. 3000 sold before publication. AGENTS W. ANP. D. E. B. TREAT, Publisher, 535 Broadway, N. Y.

PSYCHOMANCY, or SOUL CHARMING. How either sex may fascinate and gain the love and affection of any person they choose. Includes: Mental development all cases possible, free, by mail, etc. together with a marriage guide, Egyptian Oracle, Dream, Hints to Ladies, Wedding Night Spells, A queer book. Address T. WILLIAM & CO., Publishers, Philadelphia. 22

Agents wanted for the New Historical Work Our WESTERN BORDER. A complete and graphic History of American Pioneer Life 100 YEARS AGO. Its thrilling conflicts of Red and White Foes. Exciting adventures, scout's, pioneer women and boys, Indian war, the camp life, and sports. A book for old and young. No a dull page. No competition. Enormous sales. Agents wanted everywhere. Illustrated Circulars, free. J. C. McCURDY & CO., Phila., Pa. 22nd.

Men earning \$40 to \$120 per week! Selling Our Country AND ITS RESOURCES. Complete in the thrilling history of 100 eventful years since the exhibition.—Grand in description of our mighty resources in agriculture, commerce, minerals, manufacturing, natural wonders, curiosities, etc., all richly illustrated. A Century Map and Birds-eye View free. 1,000 more agents wanted quickly for this and our standard Life of Livingstone, 68,000 already sold, also new Bible, 2,000 illustrations. Has no equal. Extra terms write to HUBBARD BROS., Publishers, Phil. 22nd.

FOR COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, AND ALL THROAT DISEASES. WELL'S CARBOLIC TABLETS. PUT UP ONLY IN BLUE BOXES. A TRIED AND SURE REMEDY. Sold by Druggists generally, and by John. H. Halloway & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

1876! WHERE NOW? 1876! To Michigan, one of the foremost, flourishing and healthy States!

WHAT FOR? To buy a Farm out of the One Million Acres of fine farming lands for sale by the Grand Rapids & Indiana R. R.

Strong Soils, Ready Markets, Sure Crops. Good Schools, R. R. runs through centre of grant. Settlements all along. All kinds of Products raised. Plenty of water, timber and building materials. Price from \$4 to \$10 per acre; one fourth down, balance on time. Send for illustrated prospect, full of facts and figures and be convinced. Address W. A. HOWARD, Comm'r. 154-2nd St. Grand Rapids Mich. P. R. L. PIERCE, Sec'y Land Deputy.

IT PAYS any smart man who wishes to make \$2,000 a year on a small capital, to commence in our line of business. Roofing is a specialty. There is no one in your county who carries on the business. You can learn it in one week by studying our instructions, which we send to all who asks for them. Any man having \$100 capital to start with, can purchase enough material to roof three ordinary houses. The sum realized from sale and profit, on this supply, added to the regular pay for labor as Roofer, should amount to not less than \$200. An expert man could do the work in nine working days. Two persons of small means can join together to advantage; one canvassing, while the other attends to the work. Send for our book of instructions (free if you write at once) and study it. Ask for terms: If you are unable to advance the money, present the matter to the principal storekeeper in your place, and talk it over with him. He will be glad to furnish the stock and divide the profit with you. We will guarantee the territory to the first responsible applicant. Address New York State Roofing Co., Limited, 4 Cedar St. N. Y., and mention.

"CENTENNIAL" -AT- GREAT BEND, PA.

LARGEST AND BEST ASSORTMENT IN THE COUNTY!

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, HATS AND CAPS, BOOTS AND SHOES, NOTIONS, WALL PAPER, STATIONERY, &C.

In the "LENHEIM BLOCK," Great Bend, Pa. All goods bought with care and for cash only. An immense line of Bargains just received.

Country Produce of all kinds Marketed in Philadelphia and New York. "Welcome" to both old and new customers.

GEO. L. LENHEIM. (In His New Store.) Great Bend, May 10th, 1876.

SPRING OPENING MATHUSHEK AND CHICKERING Pianos. J. F. BRONSON'S MUSIC & JEWELRY STORE.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES AMERICAN AND FOREIGN. AN ENDLESS VARIETY OF CLOCKS.

FINE JEWELRY Of all Descriptions. NEW GOODS CONSTANTLY ARRIVING. GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES This Spring.

George Woods & Co's. J. ESTEY & CO'S, AND OTHER ORGANS. J. F. BRONSON, AG'T, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

MUSICAL MERCHANDISE Of all Descriptions. SHEET MUSIC, INSTRUCTION BOOKS, etc., etc., etc. Brick Block, - MONTEOSE, Pa. March 22d, 1876.

1854. Facts Better Than Fiction! 1876.

THE POPULAR DRY GOODS AND CLOTHING HOUSE OF GUTTENBURG, ROSENBAUM & CO.,

is still in Montrose, being established nearly a quarter of a century, and intend to be another. Are carrying the largest and most complete assortment of Dry Goods, Ready-Made Clothing, &c., Ac. of any other firm in the County. Our facilities for buying in large quantities of first hands by the original packages, and by having a resident buyer constantly in the market, is such, that it makes it almost an impossibility for any new or old dealer to compete with us in prices.

OUR STOCK COMPRISES AS USUAL, DRY GOODS, CARPETS, MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS, LADIES' AND GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS,

Ready-Made Clothing Of our own manufacture and well appreciated for its superior workmanship HATS, CAPS, &C., &C.

Fine lot of Cloths, Cassimers and Suitings, for Custom Work. Measures taken and perfect fitting guaranteed. Only reliable goods sold that will bear recommendation. Prices furnished on application as our custom. We will say for one and all, that we defy competition. Respectfully yours, GUTTENBURG, ROSENBAUM & Co. Montrose, April 12, 1876. M. S. DESSAUER, Managing partner.

A. S. MINER, BINGHAMTON, WHOLESALE DEALER IN BRONZE LAMPS, OPAL LAMPS, ALL GLASS LAMPS, HAND LAMPS, BURNERS, WICKS, SHADES, SHADE HOLDERS, &c., &c.

EVERY STYLE OF FLINT AND COMMON CHIMNEYS.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS IN ALSO, MANUFACTURER OF TIN AND JAPANED WARE. Prices Guaranteed as Low as any House in Southern New York.

Address by Mail Promptly Attended To. March 24, 1876. J. S. MINER. BEST JOB PRINTING AT THE LOWEST RATES

We are continually adding new material to our office, and with our Large Stock of JOB TYPE and FOUR Printing Presses, we defy competition

Both in Price and Quality, either in Plain Black or Colored Work. HAWLEY & CRUSER.