

Mr. E. Walker

STATOR.

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Poetry.

Last Words of Col. Crittenden.

"A Kentuckian has died, but God."

"Ah! tyrants forge thy chains at will—

"Nay! gall thy flesh of mine,

Yet, thought is free, unfetter'd still,

And will not yield to thine!

Take, take the life that Heaven gave,

And let my heart's blood stain thy sod;

But know ye not Kentucky's brave

Will kneel to none but God?

You're quenched fair Freedom's many light,

Her music tones have stilled;

And with a deep and darken'd blight,

The trusting heart has failed;

Then do ye think that I will kneel

Where sin is so ye have trod!

May! point your cold and threat'ning steel,

I'll kneel to none but God.

Assumer breezes lightly rest,

Upon a quiet river,

And gently on its sleeping breast

The moonbeams softly quiver—

Sweet thoughts of home light up my brow

When gauded with the red;

Yet, these cannot unman me now—

I'll kneel to none but God.

And tho'st a sad and mournful tone

Is coldly sweeping by;

And dreams of blue forever flows

Have dimm'd with tears mine eye—

Yet, mine's a heart unyielding still—

Heav'n on my breast the cold;

My soaring spirit scornfully will—

I'd kneel to none but God.

ON A CONTRARY WIFE.

BY MR. B.

A waggish chap, whose vixen wife,

By drowning, lost her precious life,

Called out his neighbors all around,

And told 'em that his spouse was drowned

And spite of search, could not be found;

He knew, he said, the very nook

Where she had tumbled in the brook,

And he had dragg'd along the shore,

Above the place, a mile or more,

"Above the place!" the people cried—

"Why, what d'ye mean?" the map replied,

"Of course, you don't suppose I'd go?

And waste time to look before?

I've known the woman quite a spell,

And heard her fashions fit well—

Alive or dead, she'd go, I swear,

Against the current any how!"

Boston Post.

As an illustration of how life is sustained in the Polar latitudes Surgeon Kane mentions that he fell in with a Dane over seventy years of age, who had spent fifty-five years of age, 78 deg., subsisting during that period entirely on birds, fish, bears, and other animal food. He had not seen a vegetable for a whole time.

A PLACE VACANT.—The Government of Mexico can get no person to act as Minister of Finance. As there is no money in the public treasury, and none likely to be, the business of the department will not suffer much from the vacancy.

Two severe earthquakes were felt in this city on Friday night last, between the hours of half-past nine and twelve o'clock.—Sunday Dispatch, Dec. 29.

To the Public.

OREGON CITY, O. T.,

JAN. 22d, '52.

EDITORS STATOR.—In your paper of the 2d inst. a communication from the Rogue River country appears, implicating in the highest degree the character of my son, Worthington Bills, and also my own. Feeling that the letter alluded to does me great injustice, I wish to give you a simple, plain statement of facts, supported by such evidence as I herewith offer to you:—My son is now in the hands of the law, and therefore as he is removed from all liability of being affected by prejudice or passion, I am content that he should await the notice of the authority having control over him, and if it should in the end prove that he has been unjustly accused, I should be pleased to have the same publicity given to a notice of his innocence, as has been given to the accusations against him. With regard to the letter of Mr. Painter's, the spirit of candor with which it seems to have been written, forbids the thought of its having been prompted by any other motives than honest convictions, therefore I conceive I am the more called upon, in justice to myself, to offer to the public the following. In the letter alluded to it is stated—"This Bills and his father had taken claims at the falls, some five or six weeks subsequent to my arrival. They entered into an agreement with the Indians for a tract of land which contains some five or six sections." That portion of the above assertion which says that my son had taken a claim in Rogue River valley is correct, but I never had a claim there myself, nor have I ever laid claim to any piece of land in the Rogue River country anywhere; but on the contrary I then owned a claim in Lane County upon which I resided most of the time after leaving Portland in February last, until about the 10th of October, when I started for the mines near Rogue River. The reason of my going to that country, was simply, that sometime previous my son took a quantity of goods to that country to be sold, and receiving a letter from him to the effect that my presence was needed to settle up some business connected with their sale, and getting the balance due for them, I immediately started. After settling this business, and being pleased with that part of the valley, I looked some farther about the country, and made up my mind to settle in it. My son at this time made a claim, built a house upon it, and made other improvements preparatory to making a farm. I remained and assisted him some in commencing his improvements. At the same time his improvements were going on, I built for myself a house, on what I called the "gold bar," intending to devote my attention for a time to mining or trading at that point;—I also with a view to the promotion of good feeling and harmony between the whites and Indians, about this time built a house for the war chief 'Sam,' upon the condition that he should not permit the Indians to molest in any manner the whites in that section, or those travelling through it; and also that he should prevent the other Indians from burning off the grass in that vicinity. There was no other condition of any manner or kind attached to this transaction; and so far from my son having anything to do in building this house for this chief, he was only engaged in assisting me to fulfill my own engagements, which was no more than others there also done; among whom was Mr. Dean, who was employed to bring my son into this valley—he, Mr. Dean, and all others in the vicinity being familiar with the purpose for which it was being built, and every one in the neighborhood knowing to the circumstantiality of my building the house for the chief, highly approved of the idea, and thought it would be of much service in promoting good feeling between all parties. Among those thus approving, was the gentleman last named, and the Indian Agent himself.

With regard to the second assertion, quoted above from this letter, it is entirely unfounded, so far as I am concerned, and I have no knowledge of my son being engaged in any such transaction; but if he has, as I said before, he is responsible to the tribunals of his country. In this letter it is charged against me that about the 10th ult. (his letter being written in December) I left for the Willamette valley, and that I "borrowed two or three

horses from the Indians" and have "not been heard of since." The facts are that I left there on the 10th of December to come to this valley for the double purpose of selling my improvements and claim in this valley, and of securing a load of supplies to take back to Rogue River valley for winter use. Before leaving I made an arrangement with Mr. Jacob Painter, Mr. Elson, and Mr. Shaw, for two horses and one mule belonging to those gentlemen, to be brought by me to the settlements, loaded with provisions, &c., and drove back again; the loads of each of those animals, upon their arrival, to be equally divided between the owner of the horse and myself. This I have done.

loaded the animals and started them for that section, in the care of Mr. Hilt, some days since, and at this time they must have accomplished something more than half their journey.

Mr. Painter also says, "It is the opinion of the citizens that he (the old man) laid the plan to exterminate all the whites, and that Worthington, his son, was to carry it out during his absence; and they were to have the Indians rob all the pack trains and they would reap the rewards of the booty arising therefrom." It would seem to be quite idle for me to deny the truth of any part of this assertion, inasmuch as perhaps some evidence besides my own denial might be called for; but it is simply an assertion—and one quite easy to make—and perhaps quite as difficult for the author to prove correct, as for me to show unfounded. What the secret opinions of men may be it is impossible for others to know, and that my secret intentions and designs were not as above represented, I acknowledge would be impossible for me to prove by others. But with regard to the above assertion, I am willing and anxious that my son while in that country should meet and undergo any examination that may be considered called for by the circumstances of the case. I am conscious of no such design, and am preparing for an investigation of all things connected with my residence there at any and all times.

With regard to the allusion in this letter, to my being the same man published by Mr. Dryer, of the "Oregonian," last spring, for leaving the country indebted to him, this is the first notice of such publication that I have received. When I left Portland I was not aware that I owed the editor of the "Oregonian" a penny, nor am I now. It is true I had some business with him in the way of advertising and having hand bills printed, &c.; but I always either paid each bill thus made myself or left the means with which it should be done in the hands of my clerks, with orders to pay it him—and if any bill has ever been left unpaid it was on account of my directions not being attended to—and in no case intentional. If by any means any just demand thus holds by Mr. Dryer, has not been paid, I do now and have at all times stood ready to pay it upon presentation. With regard to his hasty publication of me in this manner (which I have never seen) I would simply say, that no gentleman would thus treat another. He, nor any other man ever had the slightest reason to suppose that I intended to leave this country, and if a bill did remain against me, due to him, he had no reason to suppose I would refuse to pay it; for I had a good deal of printing done at his office, and always paid him promptly, as he cannot deny.

In support of my own statements, as to where I resided previous to starting for the Rogue River country, as I said before, I offer the following certificates.

LEMMEL BILLS.

LANE COUNTY, Jan. 10, 1852.

We, the undersigned, have been acquainted with Lemuel Bills, from five to eighteen months, and have known him to be upright and straight forward in all business transactions.

E. P. SKINNER,
E. L. BRISTOW,
J. W. POINDEXTER,
and ten others, citizens of the same County.

I have been acquainted six months with Lemuel Bills. He has been laboring on my mill. His dealing with me has been honest.

H. SWAW.

We agree in the above, with regard to

the character of Mr. Lemuel Bills.

LOUIS CALHOUN,
WM. STEVENS,
JOHN LEASER,
P. F. CASTLEMAN.

Several other certificates of a like nature with the above, were shown us by Mr. Bills, which it is considered unnecessary to publish.—Eduo.

History of the Book of Mormon.

As the Book of Mormon, or Golden Bible, (originally called,) has excited much attention, and is deemed by a certain new sect of equal authority with the sacred Scriptures, I think it a duty which I owe to the public to state what I know touching its origin.

Solomon Spaulding, to whom I was united in marriage in early life, was a graduate of Dartmouth College, and was distinguished for a lively imagination and a great fondness for history. At the time of our marriage he resided in Cherry Valley, New York. From this place we removed to New Salem, Ashland county, Ohio, sometimes called Conneaut, as it is situated on Conneaut creek. Shortly after our removal to this place his health sank, and he lay upon his death-bed. "I am dying," said he; "my breath cannot last long." And so he ceased to breathe.

More than a quarter of a century earlier, and before a similar scene was witnessed. This was on the same day, the jubilee of the nation, Adams, at 85 years of age, and Jefferson at 88, came down to their last hour. "I resign myself to my God," said Jefferson, "and my children to my country." Soon after Adams exclaimed, "In God we trust forever!" and all was over. They, too, had ceased to breathe.

Five years after this, at 71 years of age, Monroe ceased to breathe.

Five years after this, at 85 years of age, Madison ceased to breathe.

Nearly five years after this, at 68 years of age, Harrison remarked:

"Sir, I wish you to understand the true

principles of the government; I wish them

taught out; I ask nothing more." And he

ceased to breathe.

Four years after this, at 78 years of age, Jackson observed,