Recollections of a Surviving Member of the Provisional Congre's

CONFEDERATE HISTORY NOW FIRST TOLD

Origin of Memorial Day, Breckinridge's Plan to Surrender the Confederacy and Other Incidents of the Great Struggle.

In a comfortable frame house at Woodland, a pretty suburb on the Wabash railroad, lives one of the only two survivors confederacy, reports the St. Louis Republic He is Dr. Samuel Howard Ford, for more then sixty-two years a clergyman of the Baptist church, an LL. D., a D. D., and a

The other living member of that mem-orable congress is J. L. M. Curry, formerly of Alabama, now of Washington City.

Doctor Ford is 82 year old. For more than fifty years he has edited the Christian Repository, one of the foremost Baptist came to this country with his parents in his early childhood.

Doctor Ford came to St. Louis from Memphis in 1871, after the yellow fever epidemic in the south. It was his second com ing to the city in which he had been educated and had served in editorial positions. Prior to his Memphia residence he lived in

On Tuesday, April 3, the date of the mond, he told the reminiscent story of the beginning of the war to a Republic representative. It contains information not heretofore published.

constitutes the venerable clergyman the first Memorial day sermonist. It accords to the women of Memphis the distinction of having inaugurated Decoration day away back in 1866, a pious custom fol-lowed since by thousands of communities in

this country. It relates how surrender of the confederacy was planued by a few patriotic men after Grant had crossed the Potomac river. It cites John C. Breckinridge as the originator of the plan and names as his strongest opponents Jefferson Davis and Congress-

man Wigfall of Texas. It gives Beauregard's reason, personally etated to Doctor Ford, for his non-advancement on Washington.

It tells of men in the provisional congress who were not originally secessionists, but were drawn into the whiripool of secession against their own convictions.

This is Doctor Ford's story: 'I have not prepared anything at all for this interview, and, therefore, I shall give it in colloquial phraseology. Being reared with a great gift for management. in Missouri and an alumnus of its State university, I was made editor of the Western Recorder, the leading Baptist paper of the rest, on the other hand, was inclined to be west. This was carly in the '50's, hence I severe, although after the war he became a states should remain in the union and battle for their rights under the old flag.

Kentucky Before the War. "However, I was sought out by Mr. Hal-Seman, the editor of the Louisville Courier. now the Courier-Journal, to answer, editorially, articles by George D. Prentiss in

torial writer-in-chief for the Courier. height, there was called a meeting of the leading men of Kentucky to be held at the Gall House. Among those who attended this meeting were John C. Breckinridge, whose term as vice president had just expired; Governor McGuffin, ex-Governor Moorehead, Richard Durrett, Humphrey Marshall and others. The business under consideration was the course Kentucky should pursue. I wen invited to take part in the consultation and the opinion generally expressed was to provent, if possible, the secession of any of the southern states, as that would draw Kentucky into the war tax. Letter were written by some of these gentlemen to the leading men of South Carolina not to pass a secession ordinance. All know what happened, however, and state after

"Fort Sumter was attacked, the country was in a blaze and Buckner, with his State Guard, retired to the rendezvous on the borders of Kentucky, when, suddenly, the news reached us that he and the State Guard had entered Kentucky, camped in Bowling Green and seized the Green River. putting outposts on Muldraugh's hill. Camps had already been formed across the river in Indiana and Sherman, with his troops, passed through Louisville to stay the approach of Buckner.

"That night the Courier office was raided Articles in the handwriting of ex-Governor Moorehead and of Durrett were found in the office. Both these men were arrested and sent to prison. I was somewhat alarmed, for I was not in a condition of health to endure prison life. I had reason to believe that many of my articles would be found in the office, or that the printers would make it known that I had been editor for some time; so in the gray of the morning I packed up what was necessary, entered my buggy and drove off to a place called Boomfield, where the camp of John H. Morgan was secretly located.

Safety in Flight. "That night we passed through, or very near, Sherman's army, and reached the other side of Green River, where the confederate troops were encamped. To go into further details would be unnecessary. Suffice it to say that very soon after this the ocnvention was called for all the counties in the state to meet at Russellville. Delegates were elected in some way, and quite a large gathering took place in the main hall of the Bethel Baptist college, of which Dr. Scott Blewett, now president of the Jennings Female college, was president. John C. Breckinridge was made president of the assemblage. The motion was made in that convention to elect a permanent leg islature, which Breckinridge opposed, but finally yielded to. A legislature and regular officers were elected and Bowling Green

was designated as the meeting place. "That legislature met. I was in Nashville at the time, to which place Haldeman had removed his Courier, but passing on the railroad through Russellville I was astonished to learn that I had been elected by the legislature a commissioner for the state of Kentucky to get that state into the con-lishers. federacy, and that I was a member of the provisional congress from the Louisville district. Luke Blackburn, afterward governor of Kentucky, was my opponent, but to raise funds to erect a monument to the son, you will learn from this that there are the final vote was unanimous. I had never appeared in public as a politician, and at with flowers. That was in May, 1866, than work." first felt inclined not to accept, but I went They selected me to deliver an oration in on to Richmond and was duly sworn in. Elmwood cemetery.

course of the confederacy."

the failure of an advance on Washington ington. after the battle of Managese. Beauregard had sent out a report of the battle, which seemed to imply that Mr. Davis was the for the memorial (the middle of May), an cause of the nonadvance. Davis indersed officer knocked at my door. I looked out something like a demurrer on the back of of the window-we were rather cautious the report and a very heated discussion enued, but the matter was amicably adjusted. However, I was sent by Mr. Davis with a by the military authorities at Washington of the provisional congress of the southern | Kentucky to co-operate with Sidney John- he said he had. ston, which he consented to do. In that conversation I learned definitely from Beauregard that the advance on Washington was not possible, as they had no transportstion, and everybody thought the whole war

was over after the Bull Run victory. Inauguration of Davis. "The day finally arrived for the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as permanent president of the southern confederacy. It was a periodicals of the country. He claims Mis- | cold, rainy day. The congressmen and the souri as his home, not by birth, but by members of the cabinet met in the Virginia adoption. He was born in England, but state house preparatory to proceeding to the stand erected some little distance from it.

There sat Davis, with his face pale, fixed,

moveless as marble, entering upon what

would either cover him with glory or per-

haps bring an ignominious death. "We marched through the rain the short distance to the stand. I took part with Bishop Johns in the chaplaincy of the occasion. With firm voice and fearless utterance Davis announced in his inaugural his thirty-fifth anniversary of the fall of Rich- determination to pursue to the last the holy effort of defence the confederacy was making. "J. L. M. Curry, then of Alabama, now of Washington City, is the only one left, beides myself, who served in that original provisional congress. Senator Vest, from this state, became a member afterward and was in the permanent congress. I declined to run as a candidate for the permanent traitors, never! A thousand women, with congress, but was offered positions in connection with the cabinet, which I also de-

> "Wigfall of Texas, one of the most effective speakers and a devoted champion of Davis, passed at once out of sight. No one has ever known what his end was. Reagan of Texas, a member of the administration, still lives.

"I was living in Mobile during part of the war, attending the sick and wounded; in fact, I led the retreat from Louisville to Mobile. When Canty came up the bay I surrendered. I never fired a gun in anger, but ministered a great deal to the Missouri and Kentucky troops. Senator Cockrell of this state was a warm friend of mine and was often entertained at my house during the war. I knew John H. Morgan very well. He was a dashing, fearless man, could outwit whomever he met and withal he was a gentle, loving sort of fellow. Forbecame associated with the press of this city very amiable, active citizen. In my and I have been so connected all my life. opinion Bragg was the poorest general of At the age of 20 I was made assistant editor the war. After the battle of Chattanooga, with Colonel Chambers of the then Missouri instead of pursuing the federal army, he Republican, now the Republic. In that ca- expended his whole mental energies upon pacity I wrote some things in regard to getting up statistics, showing how many secession when that movement was started. prisoners he had, how many flags he had but not in favor of it. I believed that the taken, and thus let the whole thing slip out of his grasp. His march through Keatucky showed indecision, but it is painful government. now to pass on the faults of the men who have gone. Why Toombs Was Shelved.

been president of the confederacy the whole reason to suppose that he would have been became edi- thing would have been decided in three victorious over the Kearsarge. It had been "Well, as the agitation was reaching its dent instead of Davis if, on the day of the the yacht Deerhound that if anything hapelection, he had not been the worse for pened to him he would lay by as a refuge, liquor. and unquestionably one of the finest orators. but at the same time inclined to quarrel and carried him to a French port. When in regard to Joe Brown of Georgia, a very intense secessionist at first, and who ordered States accepted its utterance that Semmes the embargo on the northern ships in was a legitimate admiral of a belligerent Savannah harbor before there was any power, a worthy successor of the famous confederacy, and who, after Appomattex, became a republican, was of the most withering kind. Said Toombs in a speech: 'lgnoble villain, buoyed on by corruption, he rises as he rots.

"But Governor Brown was not deserving whom a direct charge of treason could be hat to the woman who came to the doo Toombs regretted in other years that he not come here to ask for food or charity. had used these severe words.

and therefore took no cognizance nor asked temptation to ask if I might sit here for favora of it

ing of the war long before it came to pass, fact which has never been recorded. including Tennessee and Arkansas, were in nothing that yields bigger returns on the the possession of the federals. The whole investment. sweep of the Mississippi was under their

Trying to Quit.

the south, and especially opposed to it was any market. Wigfall. I was not present at this con- Moral-You never can tell by the amount sultation, but Senator Vest was, and had of noise an individual makes how much ice with the commandant at fort Dodge if the this been accomplished, guided by the di- he cuts in the world. plomacy of Breckinridge, all the evils of reand saved a great deal of bloodshed.

was pastor of a church after the war. advance on Washington. script was lost before it reached the pub-In these notes Mr. Davis was entirely exenerated for that non-advance.

"The first floral decoration that ever orconfederate dead and adorn their graves things in this world that are a lot worse on to Richmond and was duly sworn in.
That was in February, 1861.

"It is a fact not generally known that a number of the men in the provisional congress were not originally secessionists. Alexander Stephens, the vice president, was not; neither was Ben Hill of Georgia, nor Rives of Virginia, and I was not, with many others. But we were in the current and we had to do our best. There is one thing I would like to mention, which is known to but few, which is, that a motion was made in the provisional congress, whose doings were in secret, to confiscate all the debits due in the south to northern creditors. It was favored by Jefferson Davis and the ad-Some time before the

LEAF OF CIVIL WAR HISTORY | ministration, but opposed with great power ladies to deliver what would really be a KANSAS AND ITS HIGH WINDS by Robert Toombs of Georgia, who said in semi-sermon in memory of the dead, and the language of Aristides in regard to seiz- that I would certainly do it, unless preing the shipping in the port of Athens: 'It vented by force, in which case the responwas a good thing for Athens, but most un- sibility of what might occur would not rest just, and so let no unjust act mark the with me. The matter was published in the Memphis papers, and created great excite-"It was due to Toombs' strong influence ment. The commissioner telegraphed my that the bill failed. There was a great deal answer to General Thomas at Nashville, and of discussion just at that time in regard to be sent it on to President Johnson at Wash-

First Memorial Day.

"At midnight preceding the day appointed those days-to see who it was. The officer informed me that liberty had been granted

people repaired to Elmwood cemetery. The later Ocean. ladies were seated on the grass around the platform amidst the graves of the confederate dead. Many federal officers in undress the tornado stories we used to write for uniforms were in the throng. I opened my eastern papers. Mary Elizabeth Lease also

address to that hushed throng by saying: on some high places. David took up the lamentation in inimitable strains that have drifted down to us with a peculiar pathos. Let there be no dews on Gilbon, nor rain, nor fields of offering," and so on down to the conclusion of the chant, "How have the mighty fallen!"

" 'If David could take up these strains of sadness and eulogy,' I continued, 'over the death of his lifelong foe, Saul, why shall not we utter the same words of tenderness over our own loved friends who sleep around us in silent, unmarked graves? Of them I can say:

"No battle banner o'er them waves, No battle trumpet sounded; They've reached the citadel of graves, And here their arms are grounded."

"It was my own composition and expressed with tears. And then I exclaimed somewhere in the address: " 'Mistaken they may have been, but

tears streaming down from tender eyes, responded: 'Never! Never!' This speech was published all over the United States. It was the first Decoration day speech, and inaugurated the solemn custom we observe at the present day in

memory of the 'Blue and the Gray.' Semmes on Privateering.

"You ask what I have to eay about privateering going on on the seas during the war. I knew Admiral Semmes personally in Memphis after the peace conclusion. He was editor of the Bulletin, I believe. Indeed, he delivered an address in the great Tabernacle in which I preached on 'The Alabama and Privateering. In this address he denied emphatically and showed documents to prove it that ne was a privateer in any sense any more than the armies were marauders. His ship was a regularly commissioned confederate vesse belonging to a belligerent people-the

southern confederacy. He spoke of his achievements and asserted that he had never done an unkind act nor an act that was not strictly honest in all his captures of American vessels. Then he stated with bold utterance that he was personally responsible for every act he nad committed and that his freedom today proved to all the world that he had never been a pirate but a legitimate admiral of a legitimate "He spoke of the sinking of the Alabama

by a chance shot in some portion of the vessel, which immediately incapacitated it "My own opinion is that if Toombs had and had it not been for that he had every Toombs would have been presi- planned by an English gentleman owning He was a man of great decision and directly the vessel sank Semmes got into a boat and the yacht picked him up even with his best friends. His language France was asked to deliver him over that country declined to do so, and the United Paul Jones of other days."

## FABLES UP TO DATE.

Topeka Mail and Breeze A tramp, who in his earlier and more of these scathing remarks. He was said to presperous days had been a politician be the only man in the confederacy against stopped at a house, and, raising his battered brought, and, as be said to me 'l agreed with a deep frown on her face, said: with my adversary quickly.' Robert "Madam, I am a hungry wayfarer, but I do noticed this house as I was passing and said "Toomba might have been sent back to to myself: 'I can tell by the appearance of the senate after the reconstruction, but he this place that it is presided over by a lady declined. He told me himself he had sho is cultured in mind, neat in person and fought the government with all his snight an excellent cook.' I could not resist the few moments and rest." Then the lady "Ben Hill of Georgia was in many respects said, with a benevolent smile: "I see, poor the greatest statesman in the confederacy. man, that you are no common tramp." She He was one of those who favored the clos- thereupon brought out enough pie, cake and meat to feed a strong hired man. And when the tramp had filled himself to the limit and "Shortly after Grant's army had crossed moved off down the road without having the Potomac to make the final stand near been even asked to chop a stick of wood Petersburg it became apparent to many he communed with himself, saying: that the cause was lost. The border states, "Verbal glucose is cheap, but I know of

Moral-there is nothing like understand

ing human nature. "The representatives of these border A stranger passing along a road heard fall wheat. He put the wheat in on a hillstates, including John C. Breckinridge, in the distance a tremendous bellowing and side field and next spring when it came up held a consultation and decided to propose said to a companion: "I presume when we to the government at Washington a com- get in sight of that animal we will find fall breezes had made an interchange of plete surrender of the confederacy as a that he is the largest and altogether the whole, with all its arms and general assets. finest buil in this country." But when they Missouri had his garden truck blown out on terms that should be agreed upon. It finally came to the place where the animal of the ground five times wefore he learned was believed to be the only way to save the was bellowing and pawing up the earth they south from ruin. Davis was approached in found that it was a narrow-hammed Texas with flatirons.
regard to this proposition, but opposed it, brute that would not weigh over 700 pounds "Pioneers u So did the men from extreme points of and would not sell for more than \$17.50 in

construction would have been avoided. It | A farmer's boy, who was born weary, was would have been the best thing for the south sent out to plow. He had been cautioned by his paternal ancestor to labor diligently, but "I became familiar with Jefferson Davis almost as soon as his ancestor was out of while we were both in Memphis. He was sight he concluded that he would take a rest president of an insurance company and I He was a dreamy, unobserving sort of youth I and did not notice when he sat down that a was asked by the editors of a magnzine to colony of busy ants were doing business detail for them my conversation with Gen- right there. Then, just as the boy had eral Beauregard in relation to the non-dropped off into a peaceful slumber, about This paper I forty-five of the ants took a recess from showed to Mr. Davis and he made several their regular work and crawled up under pages of notes on the subject, giving the the boy's pants and bit him in several dozen inner history of the affair, but the manu- places at once. Then the boy waked from his slumber a little quicker than he had ever done in his life before and ran howling home. And his father said as he bathed him with pain killer and such other linimen curred was in Memphis. The ladies decided as happened to be about the house: "My

He Wanted Spring Chicken.

Reporters' Imaginations Given Full Eweep in the Early Days.

Decadence of Tornadoes that Once Gave the State Renown-Spring Winds Remind a Correspondent of Good Old Times.

"Spring winds are pretty high in Kansas,

"Peffer and his whiskers and Sockless Jerry Simpson have taken the shine off of idress to that hushed throng by saying: did her share in wrecking the tornado busi- "Soggy" Sanders, a noted full-blood "When the beauty of Israel was slain ness for enterprising newspaper men. Why. I Cherokee, who has held office ever since he can recollect that about the time Wichita's world-famous boom was on and the town growing at the rate of a mile a day that I When United States Senators Jones was good for six columns of high-wind stories every week.

"Sure," assented the night editor. "But orchards and claim hunters' sod shantles lands in severalty and change their manner have done more to tame Kansas breezes of government—to become a territory or than all our long-whiskered pops. Twenty state of the union. years ago you could start at the western They also told the Indians that the border of Kansas and drive half way across Dawes commission would soon be down the state without striking a yard tree, an among them to treat for some changes the orchard or a hedge fence. . Now it's differ- federal government desired in the Indian ent, and it takes a broncho buster of a territory; that they came among them as cyclone to make five miles without getting friends to advise them for their best intired feeling."

"That's right," put in the old-time reout two miles from Wichita?"

"Yes, of course. Everybody knows Bud." "Well, Bud's a friend of mine, and I drove anxious to hear him. Said Sanders: out there with him a few days ago, and he called the chickens up. All of 'em were just frien' to Injun is white man, when he want etartin' pin feathers.

'What, got all these spring chickens

a'ready, Bud?' I asked him. 'I have spring chickens the year round,' said Bud, 'and always the earliest in the hung.' 'How do dat?' asked it prisoner market, but I don't want you to give me 'I pay you \$1,000 you save it my neck. away on it. I've got a place penned in with 'All lite, said it dat lawyers, and he gave wire net at the top of that little knoll yon- it dat lawyers moneys-\$1,000. chickens on the ranch, and in less than a want it here now-he want it Chulluckee week the wind strips their covering off Indian to kill hisse'f." down to pin feathers-and there you are. Nice spring chickens, tremendous size for their age!

Plight of Farmer Smith's Cow. "That reminds me of Jim Smith's cowone of the most thrilling specials I ever wrote, and all straight facts. One day in the boom times Smith came driving in to town from his farm lickery clip. He wanted the Wichita fire department to come out and rescue his best milk cow. When the hookand-ladder company got there they found tremendous long-horned brindle cow pinned up to the side of Smith's red barn, thirty feet from the ground. She was literally 'up against it.' and Smith and Mrs. Smith and the hired man and entire Smith family

had been trying for a week to get her down. "'A stiff breeze kim up kind o' suddent like,' the old man explaraed, 'an' Brindle was h'isted before I had time to run a lariat over her laigs an' around her horns and make her fast to a substantial hole in the ground dug for that purpose. An' that she is nigned up agreet the hern for six days is, pinned up aginst the barn for six days and no dyin' down of the breezes that

blowed her up "thar." "That reminds me of a story a friend of mine told me," put in the drug clerk, as he poured out some more cough drops for medicinal purposes. "He was walking across the fields one day and tried to whistle. The wind was blowing pretty hard and the whistle was no go. He puckered up his mouth, but not a sound came from it. Six miles away another man was driving along on a road parallel to the whistling man. He met the whistler next day and complimented him on his whistling.

'But I didn't whistle,' said my friend. I tried to, but the wind blew so hard il couldn't make a sound. Experiment proved that the Kansas spring wind had blown the whistle six mtles away before it

had time to make a sound. "For years the Santa Fe railroad main tained a continuous orchestra at the Wichita depot," said the newspaper re porter. "The company had a lot of telegraph wires strung over the depot, some tight and some loose, with large and small The Kansas zephyrs blowing through these kept perfect time. The clerks noticed it, and by putting in an ingenious wooden contrivance between the wires they had all the popular tunes of the day Wichita first heard 'Johnny, Get Your Gun, and 'White Wings,' and I Want You, Ma Honey,' via the Santa Fe orchestra, which picked up the airs from Chicago drummers

Crops Blown Out of Ground. "Western Kansas for years was known s 'the short-grass region,' because the wind blew so hard the grass never got more than two inches high. A man from Missouri moved out here once and sowed a crop of it was all in the valley. Spring winds and crops in the two fields. Another man from

"Pioneers used to be in considerable fear of Indian raids on the border of the state and when John P. St. John was governor he used often to carry on talks from Topelia wind was blowing right. I once heard General Miles ask Governor St. John to please send out a barrel of firewater, and Governor St. John, who, you recolled, was a prohibitionist and easy as a child, said that he didn't think they had it in the arsenal.

"Kansas winds were pretty high for

fact in those days. I told you about

to plant it a foot deep and weight it down

is thin blood. It causes pale faces, white lips, weak nerves and lack of vitality. Abloodenriching, fat producing food-medicine is needed.

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Smith's cow being pinned to the side of the barn. Well, not long after that Smith no-Well, not long after that Smith noticed that some scoundrel was milking his cow over night. Brindle came up every day with the sun, but didn't give milk enough to spread over a dish of catmeal. Smith finally stood guard one night. He found that the cow took shelter from the wind behind some big bowlders. The wind rotary motion and milked the cow."

There was a pause after the correspondent told this. "Have some more cough drops," said the drug clerk, who likes to near good stories.

"One day when the brackes were pretty stiff," put in the newspaper man's crony. 'some hunters out in Sumner county turned a bald eagle loose within twenty rods of member from South Carolina, Boyce, to see for mo to make the address. I asked him but it seems to me they are zephyrs now to the nest of its mate. Ordinarily an eagle Beauregard in regard to his going across to if he had communicated it to the papers, and kentucky to co-operate with Sidney John- he said he had. "The next morning at about 10 o'clock the drinks all around, in a corner drug store, rewhole city turned out. More than 30,000 lates a Wichita correspondent of the Chicago spring wind. I know this to be so, for I timed the flight.

SOGGY'S GREAT SPEECH.

Cherokee Turned the Laugh I pon the Senators at Tablequab.

was old enough, talks the English language When United States Senators Jones of Arkaneas and Platt of Connecticut were at Tahlequah about eight years ago investigat ing and looking into Indian matters they there's really some truth in the rise and held a meeting in the opera house and fall of the home-grown Kansas cyclons. made speeches to the Cherokee senators and Hedge fences and apple orchards and peach councilors, advising them to take their

terests.

After they had finished their talks porter as he drank the last of his cough "Soggy," who was an attentive listenerdrops, "but the 'winds do blow and crack for their remarks had been interpreted into their heels' out here yet occasionally. You Cherokee by an interpreter-"Soggy" arose know Bud Johnson-runs a chicken farm slowly, and in a very dignified and courteous manner said he would like to make a few remarks. Senators Jones and Platt were

"Yesh, it is great fren's-all time good it some mo' Injun lan'. White mans who jus' talk put me in min' of a story I once heart it. Man goin' to get hung, he's lawyer tole him dis: 'I can save it neck from being der. As soon as breezes begin to blow in lawyers he tell it dat prisner: 'You go shoot the spring I drive in all the superannuated it yourself in hed.' Dat's what white mans

This speech of "Soggy's" brought down the house, and the staid United States senators joined in the encore.

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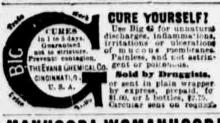
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The first installment of the **New Serial Story** 

## The Path Beyond Levee

By F. A. CUMMINGS,

Recounting the Thrilling Adventures of Two Daring and Ingenious Young Men in Aiding the Escape of Fugitive Slaves, and the Romantic Motive Which Led Them Into Such a Perilous Undertaking, will appear in The Bee Next Sunday Morning.

> This is a novel on a perfectly new American theme by a new American writer and is a very extraordinary story. No mere love of gain could tempt men into an undertaking of such deadly peril as is here recounted. The first link was forged by a personal and romantic sentiment resulting from the discovery of a girl held as a slave who was in reality white. This romance pervades the story. But a love of adventure for its own sake also played a large part in the experiences recounted.

> Two young men living in a Louisiana parish undertake to deliver negro slaves into the hands of the Abolition Society in the North. No danger could be greater, no adventure more thrilling than those related here. And yet such was the adroitness and caution observed that the undertaking succeeded, and successive large parties of human chattels were piloted into the promised land. Glimpses of life on the plantation, the dismal swamps traversed in escaping, the superstitions of the fugitives, the country store operated as a "blind," the part played by Horace Greeley and his associates in the north, and the happy issue out of so many perils, are elements which combine to make a story which holds the attention and imparts an absolute sense of conviction.

The tale is historic in the fidelity and vividness with which it revives to us a unique epoch in our national life. The style of the narrative is admirable for its purpose -artless, direct, graphic, the style of a man who tells a straight, strong story because that is the way he thinks and talks.

Read The Sunday Bee.