

Fortunes in Old Wood.

"You wouldn't think those bits of wood were worth at least \$3,000," said the owner of a quaint old store in the Bowery, as he pointed to a heap of round, flat and odd-shaped splinters lying on his work bench.

"I certainly shouldn't have thought they were worth anything. Are they lined with diamonds and have they been smuggled through the Custom House?"

"No, no! That is a Stradivarius violin, and one of the finest in the country."

"But it is all broken to pieces."

"Not at all. The owner kept it in a damp place and the glue got soft. I had to take it all to pieces. Why, that fiddle has probably been taken apart at least twenty times since it was made, in 1710. That would make it 173 years old, wouldn't it?"

"And yet it is as sound as it was on the day it was finished. Not a crack anywhere, and where the varnish has been worn off by friction against the clothes of the player, the grain of the wood looks sandstone. See here, isn't that a picture, that back? Mark how the light flashes in and out of that mottled grain as I gently move it."

"But doesn't it hurt the instrument to take it apart so often?"

"Not a bit if the work is done by a skillful hand. Look at me now." He took up another violin and inserted a sharp knife between the edge of the front and the sides. In a few seconds the knife had made a complete circuit, and the front was lifted gently off.

"It sounded as if I was cutting the wood, but I was only scratching the glue," he continued. "I have taken off this front or 'belly,' as it is technically called, and now you can see the inside. There is nothing in it but the exquisite finish of the workmanship. I am going to put a new 'bar' in; that is this narrow strip glued to the under side of the 'belly,' and extended the whole length just on the left of where the bridge stands. The bar gives strength to resist the pressure of the strings, and upon its size and shape depends the quality of the lower notes. On the opposite side of the bridge is a little post about as thick as a penholder. This is not glued, but is supported by the pressure of the 'belly' and back. Upon its exact adjustment depends the tone of the higher notes. A movement of the thirty-second part of an inch will make a material difference, and as every violin has an individuality of construction, the best place for the putting of this sound post varies, and can only be found by long and careful experiment. Some great violinists will even want the post moved so as to suit the acoustic properties of different concert halls."

"What is a violin made of?"

"All 'bellies' are made of soft pine, because that wood has the straightest grain and is the most easily set in vibration. The backs, necks, and sides are of cypress or maple. Look at the beauty of the grain of this 'belly.' The lines couldn't be straighter if they had been ruled by machinery. Irregular grain spoils the rhythm of vibration. See how the grain gets closer toward the center; that is to allow for the vibration, which is quickest immediately under the strings. The 'belly' is in two pieces, so arranged that from each edge the grain gets narrower toward the center. Artificially grained wood—that is, slabs built up of strips glued together—has been tried, but did not work well."

"In what does the superiority of an old violin consist?"

"Mainly in tone, though the varnish of the great makers cannot be exactly imitated. The manufacture of it is a secret, as much so as some of the lost arts. It was not a spirit but an oil varnish, and it shows no signs of perishing or losing brilliancy. Some makers have thought that amber was the principal ingredient, but all attempts to dissolve that substance have been practically unsatisfactory. The varnish not only serves to protect the wood, but checks the escape of vibrations and drives them back where they communicate with the air enclosed in the violin. The air escapes through these two slits in the belly, called 'holes.'"

"What causes the superiority of tone?"

"If I could tell you that, I shouldn't be repairing fiddles for a few dollars. I should be making them and selling them for thousands of dollars apiece. Some say it is age alone that makes the beauty, but we have got very old wood to make modern fiddles of, and yet they remain inferior. We have mathematically gauged the form of the great violins, and have made exact reproductions, yet they haven't the tone. Some persons assert that the old varnish had peculiar qualities which affected the sound. Other makers claim that their violins will be just as good as the Stradivari a hundred and fifty years from now. We can't very well contradict them, but the player who wants an instrument for present use can't very well afford to wait so long. No doubt very good violins are made to-day, and excellent prices are obtained for them, but they haven't the tone of the old ones. Why, a really fine judge will tell from hearing a fiddle who the maker was, that is, if he was one of the three or four great artists, and as for the look, a violin to a connoisseur is like a picture; he will remember each peculiar curve, and the pattern of the grain will be forever in his memory."

"How old is the oldest violin you have seen?"

"Here is one by Gaspar di Salo dated 1671, and he had then been making them some years. To him is due the credit of perfecting the present violin. Prior to his invention there were only lutes and viola, both comparatively clumsy in form and poor in tone. You will see, if you notice closely, that this violin is a little larger and fatter than the model of the best of Stradivari's make, and the / holes are larger. The tone, therefore, is a little hollower, and not so brilliant. It has what players call a tenor or alto quality, like that of the viola. The Amati, a large family, were the next great makers, though Magini, a pupil of Salo, made some excellent instruments. Antonio Stradivari, the greatest of all makers, was a pupil of the now famous Amati. Stradivari, even in his own day, was considered an artist, and was treated with as much respect as a great painter

Where He Hid his Money.

"I had a curious case two years ago. A wealthy man had been attacked with partial paralysis, and his speech and the greater part of his memory had left him. He wrote out the question, 'Where did I put my money?' The amount was large, \$32,000 in bonds, which he had been about to take to a safe deposit building. The heirs were wild. I stopped all the tearing up and cushion-pricking business, for the man was not a 'concealer,' though it was supposed by the doctors that he had felt the attack coming on and had put the money in some out-of-the-way place. Just how or in what spot in his library he had fallen could not be made out. After a day's reflection my partner and I had to conclude that he had been robbed. Two courses were open to us: we could make sudden arrests without any reasonable evidence, always a hateful course; or we could find the exact spot where the man fell, and 'limo' up from that. The doctors helped us here: 'You had better examine the gentleman's body,' they said. We did so, and found a long horizontal mark on the hip, and blue marks on the knee and elbow. He had fallen sideways over an object not over sixteen inches high, and having a narrow, rounded edge of metal, for an iron mark was found on the clothing. Every piece of furniture in the house was inspected, but to no purpose. The heirs' apparent were in despair. But my partner and I began to be hopeful. In detective work, whenever you come upon some detail that seems utterly inexplicable, that is the thing which of all others must be explained; and you feel, moreover, that in solving the difficulty you will come nearer in some unknown way to your point. We took all night to think the matter over. Then my partner said: 'How about the cellar? That's where the household metal is.' They all laughed. 'He hasn't been there in a year, they said. We went down. My partner glanced quickly around, and then gave me a look that I can almost feel running through my nerves to this day. He had discovered some common household articles which had not been used since the family has been searching the fireplaces. He was, in fact, looking over a lot of coal hods. There is our metallic edge,' he said. He turned the hods over carefully, and from out a mass of waste paper there rolled at last the \$32,000 worth of bonds. The paralytic had fallen over the hod, and the money had dropped into it among his waste papers. Before the general search was made, all 'rubbish' had been taken to the cellar. Our friends had sought too deeply for what they had supposed to be concealed money, and had grossly neglected the science of the obvious. Some detectives do precisely the same thing. My partner and I divided \$5,000 between us that night."

"Yes, they hide money in queer enough places. I have found it in the covers of old family Bibles, behind mirrors, in the bored-out legs of chairs, behind cupboards nailed tightly to the walls, in false ceilings, balusters, pin-cushions, in the lining of old hats, in clocks, stoves and bronze images, in vases with the bottoms covered inside with plaster of Paris, in black bottles weighted with mercury and marked poison, in canes, shoes, and vest linings, in tomato cans and tea canisters, in cracked walls covered with wall paper, in all sorts of bedding and upholstery, and in almost every conceivable place."

"What is the best way to conceal money? I can't say; but I will tell you about a man whose method was a good deal talked about at the time among the detectives. He was a bachelor, and well known as a 'concealer.' He died of heart disease, in Broome Street, some years ago. Many attempts had been made to rob him, but without success. Thieves ran off one night with all his clothing, and ripped it to pieces, only to be disappointed. When he died, everything was broken up to find his money. The cellar had been dug out to the extent of three feet, the roof broken apart, and the eaves examined to no purpose. When they were clearing out the rubbish, just after I arrived, some one knocked down a rickety shelf above the mantelpiece, which was covered with old letters, medicine phials, dusty newspaper scraps, and other worthless rubbish. A quarter of an hour later one of the heirs, a girl of six years, was found seated on the floor in a pile of bank notes, to which her mother's attention on account of their pretty pictures.

"That 'concealer' was the only really deep one I ever knew. The lady paid a high compliment to the gentleman's sagacity when she remarked: 'Why, no one would ever have thought of looking up there for money.'"

—Interview with a Detective, in N. Y. Sun.

Moderate Prices to Sale.

The Breeder's Gazette says: "It is the opinion of many conservative and observant men that we are to have moderate prices for almost all agricultural products for perhaps two or three years. Of course no one can predict prices with certainty. Any one of several causes may produce high prices, but the probabilities are that, with average crops in our own and other countries and the prevalence of peace, prices for all great staples will be lower than they have been for two or three years past. In the line of live stock, this country has a full stock of all classes—horses, cattle, sheep and swine. Good prices have caused increased attention to breeding; there have been no destructive epidemics among our animals, and, pretty certainly, a larger number of females have been bred this year than in any former one. There is no need for discouragement, but we do not advise any one to heavily involve himself in debt, looking to great profits as a means of paying."

—A remarkably well-executed five-dollar gold piece, which actually contained \$4.65 worth of gold, was stopped in the Boston Sub-treasury a few days ago. It is said to have been so well executed as to place experts at variance and to make it a difficult question to determine whether it was made from a die or by superior casting.

—Bicycles have been sent to China and the natives are delighted and astonished.

SWEPT INTO THE STREAM.

One Thousand Acres of Land and "Right Smart of Bears."

On the deck of a big Mississippi steambot stood an aged Southern planter. Indicating by a sweep of his arm the waters the boat was passing over, he said to a passenger from the north: "When I was twelve years old I killed my first bear on a new plantation my father was then cutting out of a forest that grew directly over the waters of this bend. That was a mighty good plantation, and there was right smart of bears there, too. But that one thousand acres of land went into the Mississippi years ago."

It is putting no strain upon the figure to say that great forests of youthful hope, womanly beauty and manly strength are swept in the same way every year into the great turbid torrent of disease and death. Yet it should not be so. That it is so is a disgrace as well as a loss. People are largely too careless or too stupid to defend their own interests—the most precious of which is health. That gone, all is gone. Disease is simple, but to recklessness or ignorance the simplest things might as well be complex as a proposition in conic sections. As the huge Western rivers, which so often flood the cities along their shores, arise in a few mountain springs, so all our ailments can be traced to impure blood and a small group of disordered organs.

The most effective and inclusive remedy for disease is Parker's Tonic. It goes to the sources of pain and weakness. In response to its action, the liver, kidneys, stomach and heart begin their work afresh, and disease is driven out. The tonic is not, however, an intoxicant, but cures a desire for strong drink. Have you dyspepsia, rheumatism, or troubles which have refused to yield to other agents? Here is your help.

A LIFE SAVING PRESENT.

Mr. M. E. Allison, Hutchinson, Kan., saved his life by a simple trial bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, for consumption, which caused him to procure a large bottle that completely cured him when doctors' change of climate and everything else had failed. Asthma, bronchitis, hoarseness, severe coughs, and all throat and lung diseases it is guaranteed to cure. Trial bottles free at Henry Cook's drug store. Large size, \$1.

ATTENTION TEACHERS.

Notice is hereby given that I will examine all persons who may desire to offer themselves as candidates for teachers of the common school of Webster county, at my office in Red Cloud on the third Saturday of each month. Examinations to commence at 9 A. M. Do not ask for special examinations. C. W. SPRINGER, County Superintendent of Public Inst.

Eukles' Arnica Salve.

The greatest medical wonder of the world. Warranted to speedily cure Burns, Bruises, Cuts, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Cancer, Piles, Chilblains, Corns, Teeter, Chapped Hands, and all skin eruptions, guaranteed to cure in every instance or money refunded. 25 cents per box. For sale by 2071. Henry Cook.

New Advertisements

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that on and after February 1, 1884, the co-partnership heretofore existing between Kaley & Edinger, doing business in the town of Red Cloud, Webster county, Nebraska, will be dissolved, M. D. Edinger retiring from the firm, A. Kaley continuing in the business at the old stand. All parties knowing themselves to be indebted to the firm will please call and settle their accounts before that time. KALEY & EDINGER.

PROBATE NOTICE.

In the matter of the application of Governor N. McDaniel to be appointed administrator of the estate of George S. McDaniel, notice is hereby given that I have appointed and set aside the fourteenth day of January, 1884, for hearing said application. All persons interested will take notice hereof and attend at the office of the county judge in and for Webster county, Nebraska, at that time if they so desire. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said county court, at Red Cloud, December 27, 1883. JNO. R. WINOX, County Judge. G. R. CHANEY, attorney.

NOTICE.

The co-partnership heretofore existing between D. B. Spanogle and A. L. Funk, doing business in the towns of Red Cloud and Blue Hill, Nebraska, under the firm name and style of Spanogle & Funk, will be dissolved on January 1, 1884, by expiration of time. All debts due said firm will be collected by D. B. Spanogle. SPANOGLE & FUNK. Dated at Red Cloud, Decembe 26, 1883.

Harness Shop,
—BY—
J. L. MILLER,
—DEALER IN—
HARNESS COLLARS, SADDLES,
HORSE-BLANKETS,
WHIPS, COMBS, BRUSHES,
HARNESS OIL
And everything usually kept in a first class shop.

Two doors north of 1st Nat. Bank. RED CLOUD, NEB.

Trunks & Valises.

Geo. O. Yeiser,
Real Estate & Insurance Agent,
RED CLOUD, NEB.

Office on Webster Street, in Miller & Ball's seed store.

Has on his books desirable Town and farm property.

Farms from \$0 to 1000 acres. Below are a few from list.

1000 acres of beautiful land with stream of unfailing water.

A very nice farm of 350 acres with residence, fine barn, wind mill and tank, 200 acres fenced, wood fruit etc., at a bargain.

160 acres fine land, 3 miles from Red Cloud, cheap part cash balance on long time.

Farm of 160 acres, 130 under cultivation, good dwelling, wind mill, walnut and forest trees, all smooth land.

80 acres near Red Cloud, all plow land.

140 acres near Red Cloud under a high state of cultivation.

Farm of 160 acres, fenced, and crop fenced, good dwelling, unfailing water.

40 acres under cultivation, cattle horses, hogs and crop, all offered for a short time at low figures.

Farm of 640 acres, 100 under cultivation with improvements, 8 miles from Red Cloud.

Farm of 190 acres, 50 acres under cultivation, good house and stable, offered at \$4.50 per acre.

Farm of 330 acres, about 80 acres under cultivation, good dwelling, granary etc. wood and water.

Also, town property, business houses residences, vacant lots suited for business houses and dwellings.

Now is the time for profitable investments in and around Red Cloud. Correspondences solicited.

Abstract, - Insurance, LAND OFFICE,
—OF—
W. H. GOODALL,
RED CLOUD, Webster Co., NEB.

Complete Abstracts of Title to all lands in Webster county furnished on short notice and at reasonable rates.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

MONEY! MONEY!

Money to loan on improved farms in southern Nebraska at the very best rates of interest.

We call the attention of all desiring such accommodations, to the farm loan department of our business, in which we are still offering the best inducements to the public.

There is absolutely no cost to our customers. No fees for abstract title; no fees for recording mortgages; no fees for taking acknowledgments, no loans paid in checks or drafts upon which the borrower must pay a discount in order to get the money, but all loans paid in actual cash, over our counters without any deduction whatever.

In placing our loans there is no tedious delay in submitting applications to eastern parties, as our facilities are such that we can close all good loans on short notice.

We are prepared to fill desirable loans at nine per cent. straight, with no charge of any nature whatever. All payments of interest and principal may be made at our bank, and will be sent to the parties free of charge and interest notes returned to our customers.

As to our promptness and fair dealing we refer to those with whom we have placed loans (numbering at present nearly six hundred.) Call at our office, or address us through the mail. 211 f SIMPSON & SWEZEY, Blue Hill, Nebras

Legal Notice.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND for the Eighth Judicial District, held in and for Webster county, State of Nebraska.

Maria Ayers.

Nathan A. Ayers.

Nathan A. Ayers, defendant in the above entitled action, will take notice that Maria Ayers, plaintiff in the above entitled action, did on the 26th day of November, A. D., 1883, file her petition against said defendant in the district court of Webster county, Nebraska, charging said defendant with wilfully abandoning said plaintiff for more than two years last past; also, charging said defendant with having in the month of October, A. D., 1883, and at divers places and divers times since that date, and prior thereto, committed adultery with certain lewd women, to plaintiff unknown. The object and prayer of said petition is that said plaintiff may be divorced from said defendant; and for the custody and care of Richard S. Ayers and Frank Ayers, sons, and the issue of said marriage; also, asking a decree allowing plaintiff alimony and for such other and further relief as equity may suggest. The defendant, Nathan A. Ayers, will therefore take notice that he is required to answer said petition on or before the seventh day of January, A. D., 1884.

Maria Ayers.

Per Case & McNeny, her attorneys. nov30-dec21

S. & M. TIME CARD.

Trains arrive and depart as per following time card:

WEST BOUND TRAINS.

No. 3 Lincoln Express..... 7:00 am 7:35 am
No. 28 Kansas City Ex..... 7:15 am 7:50 am
No. 11 St. Paul..... 8:00 pm 8:35 pm
No. 21 Wyoming Express..... 9:25 pm

EAST BOUND.

No. 22 Wyoming Express..... 9:35 am 10:00 am
No. 2 Mail..... 10:00 am 10:35 am
No. 40 Denver Express..... 7:10 pm 7:45 pm
No. 4 Omaha Express..... 8:00 pm

CASTORIA
for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. AUSTIN, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

CENTAUR LINIMENT
An absolute cure for Rheumatism, Sprains, Pain in the Back, Burns, Galls, &c. An Instantaneous Pain-relieving and Healing Remedy.

PLATT & FREES,
—DEALERS IN—

COAL, LUMBER, ETC.

Red Cloud, Nebraska.

Maryatt & Co's,

Is the place to buy Jewelry. Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Plated Ware of all description kept in stock. Wait and see our new stock before you buy elsewhere.

Repairing a Specialty. MARYATT & Co.

NEW Furniture Store

Four Doors North State Bank, RED CLOUD, - NEBRASKA.

Furniture, Picture Frames, Brackets and Mirrors.

UNDERTAKERS' GOODS.

R. E. HARENAPE.

BURLINGTON ROUTE

Daily Express Trains for Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, and all points in Colorado, Utah, California and the entire West. The advent of this line gives the traveler a new route to the West, with scenery and advantages unequalled elsewhere.

Through Tickets at the Lowest Rates are on sale at all the important stations, and baggage will be cheerfully furnished upon application to any agent, or to P. S. EUSTIS, General Ticket Agent, Omaha, Neb.

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