

STORIES ON GUILTEAU.

Gath's Talk With the Chicago Lawyer About the Assassin. Mr. Eneury Storms, the well-read Chicago lawyer, who testified in Guiteau's case recently, and who knows Guiteau in Chicago very well, said to me last night: "I think Guiteau will be found guilty. His case, bad as it was, has not been helped by his presumption in that court. To call him as a witness, who can explain why he committed the murder, is pretty clear proof of his memory, reasoning powers, and responsibility. Judge Parker's cross-examination brought this out clearly to the jury, because, when you find the people saying he was sharper than the lawyer in this or that answer, you may be sure that the jury is getting no deep idea that he is a lunatic. Besides, his insanity, so called, was no matter of record before the assassination. It began with that act. There is scarcely any human being out of whose life you cannot pick enough eccentricities to construct a tolerably good fabric of foolishness. "There is not a single exception to the rule that no man with insane inspiration from God ever boasted of it. There have been men insane that way, but it took very dexterous handling to bring out the point. Erskine, the British lawyer, cited a case where a man believed that he was Jesus Christ, and no amount of questioning could bring him to acknowledge it, till at a sudden point the lawyer said: 'Forgive me, I did not know that I was in the presence of our Savior'; whereupon the man bowed with dignity. A man is responsible for a murder if he could have restrained himself from doing it. Now, suppose anybody had stepped up to Guiteau that morning and said: 'You dirty coward. I have got a pistol here, and will blow your brains out if you draw your weapon against the President'; would he not have slunk away? Therefore he could restrain his murderous propensity; and, being able to restrain it, he is responsible. "Didn't you and Mr. Logan testify that Guiteau was peculiar? "Gen. Logan testified that he believed he was crazy; but I think that arose from the perversion of common words. It is one thing to say to a person about another, 'That fellow is crazy,' and another thing to limit his responsibility for crime. I said that Guiteau hadn't common sense, which is a very different thing from craziness. His conduct, his willful belief that he can get a great office on such claims as he had, were exhibitions of ignorance. They could have been corrected by a better education and a more honest conversation with the world. I have no doubt in my mind that the trial will proceed to a proper conclusion. It would be a great shame if it did not. After I had testified, Guiteau's brother came to me at the hotel, where I was sitting among some gentlemen, and in a rather overbearing way, asked me if I thought he could distinguish between right and wrong, or fact and illusion. I said 'Yes.' 'How do you know it?' said he. 'Because of the manner in which you ask; and I also think,' said I, 'that you could draw the distinction as to when you were going to be un-civil.' "In this trial the prisoner never puts forth his idea of Divine inspiration until he has exhausted his worldly line of explanation and argument, and when cornered he puts the inspiration out. In short, that is a pretense. That there is any such thing as inspiration no lawyer is going to argue. The only thing a lawyer will admit, or any worldly man for that matter, is that a person believes himself inspired. Guiteau does not believe it, because he relies upon his adroitness of mind, his great wit, his dexterity, etc., and wants to play before the country as a brilliant man. It is only when he feels himself going to be hanged that he interposes Divine inspiration. "Referring to the conduct of the prisoner in court, Mr. Storms said: 'I think the judge has tried to be considerate of the interests of justice, and I rely upon his inflexibility. I suggest, however, that he might have compelled good behavior from the prisoner—not by mentioning the kind of punishment he meant to administer, but by sending the prisoner for twenty-four hours, or forty-eight hours if necessary, to solitary confinement on bread and water, without any newspapers to read. That would have brought good behavior out of Guiteau. When he came back to court at the first sign of applause the judge ought to have cleared the entire audience out, excepting only the jury, witnesses and counsel. Guiteau would have found that his policy was good behavior. His display in this trial has been all in the line of his self-esteem. He should have been punished for a contempt of court where he claims to be a counsel in his own behalf. Let him have all the rights that other counsel have, but no more. Suppose I should go into that court and examine and interrogate like Guiteau—don't you see, all the judge would commit me in five minutes? Why should he, appearing for himself, have any more rights than any other lawyer? And,' continued Mr. Storms, 'the great position and dignity of President Garfield ought also to be put out of sight in this trial. By keeping that in mind the prisoner hopes to float his claim of insanity and inspiration. Consider Mr. Garfield as a plain man, whose life was taken by a miscreant, and then what becomes of the inspiration? That is just what the defendant is being tried for—a private murder; and he is trying to dodge his responsibility for it by pleading the president's lofty station and the divine necessity for killing him. "Instructing Females How to Put on Trousers. The editor of the Elmira Free Press is a married man, or, at least, we suppose he is. In discussing the proposed reform in female dress, which is to thrust trousers (silk broadened ones) upon the fair sex, he comes to the front with the following timely advice, which will doubtless be appreciated by our fair readers: "We have not," he says, "the slightest objection to the wearing of trousers on the part of the sex to which the goddess properly belongs, but it is only when all these what danger and discomfort they are inviting. Trousers, for instance, cannot be put on by drawing them over the head. Neither can they be drawn

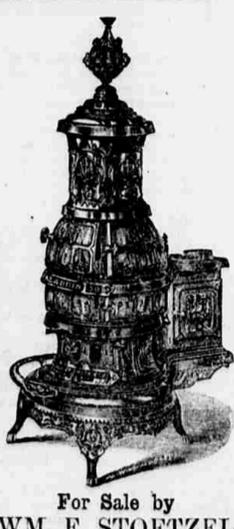
found no "southern question"—in the sinister significance which the words have acquired in our political dictionary—to say anything about. When Garfield was laid to rest, the old sectional animosities and bitter-nesses were buried too—never, please God, to know a resurrection. The really surprising and delightful thing is, that the customary discussion of this "southern question" should not have been missed by one reader of the message in ten thousand, north or south, until David Davis called attention to its disappearance. The fact is too eloquent in itself to need comment. "It is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." The broad, east-and-west line that formerly ran across the political map has quite faded out. There is a new geographical line to take its place; the half-joking jealousy of the older states of the Atlantic slope which it occasionally pleases the Mississippi valley politicians and editors to indulge in doesn't count. The actual lines of difference on the living issues of the day zigzag and meander across the only sectional but also the party lines in a whimsically erratic manner that makes the study of the map a rather puzzling business even to the oldest and clearest-headed students. It is not as republicans and democrats that the members of the present congress will divide on the question of currency, tariff, the reduction of taxation, the creation of a new navy, the increase of the army, steamship subsidies, internal improvements, and so on. The times are indeed auspicious, as David Davis says, for the dissolution of old parties and the appearance of new. But wise men will not give way to impatience. When events are moving so rapidly, it is not worth while to try to hurry them. ALMOST CRAZY. How often do we see the hard-working father straining every nerve and muscle, and doing his utmost to support his family. Imagine his feelings when returning home from a hard day's labor, to find his family prostrate with disease, conscious of unpaid doctors' bills and debts on every hand. It must be enough to drive one almost crazy. All this unhappiness could be avoided by using Electric Bitters, which expel every disease from the system, bringing joy and happiness to thousands. Sold at fifty cents a bottle. Ish & McMahon. (8) BOYD'S OPERA HOUSE! JAMES E. BOYD, Proprietor. H. L. MANN, Business Manager. STOP A MINUTE! AND REMEMBER THIS DATE! Friday and Saturday and Saturday Matinee. DECEMBER 16 and 17. Perfection at Last. Absolutely the Greatest Musical Company on Earth. M. B. LEAVITT'S GIGANTIC MINSTRELS! A HUNDRED NOVELTIES. GREAT COMEDIANS. 20 TO 30 ACTS. A Great D. U. S. Company. A new world of fun. No plays, no acts. No worn-out songs. No tired-out sketches. No dilapidated music. Not in rapid jokes. Everything new. Everything original. Everything brilliant. The best in the world. Not bombast, but a fact. Grand highway parade daily. Popular prices, 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sale of seats commences at box office Wednesday morning, Dec. 14. 1-4

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