

NARRATOR'S NOTES: Mark Twain

Though SAMUEL LANGHORN CLEMENS is best remembered for his FICTIONAL characters - TOM SAWYER; HUCKLEBERRY FINN and A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT - published as the works of "MARK TWAIN", note must be taken of his "bread and butter" profession. In the latter years of the Nineteenth Century he toured the world and earned renown as a PLATFORM ENTERTAINER. "CLEMENS" as "TWAIN" was and as a matter of fact still is a top-shelf Entertainer and Platform Speaker. His performances were as appealing as the stories he loved to tell. In the 21st Century Re-enactors and Interpreters strive to recreate the Twain persona as well as to retell CLEMENS-Tales.

Scene 1:

SAM CLEMENS was born at Florida, Missouri, November 30, 1835, and spent his boyhood years at Hannibal, Missouri. Though he was apprenticed to practitioners of the Printing Trade by Age 12 and devoted about ten years to this business, his "paramount ambition" was that "of every boy in Hannibal", to become a Riverboat Pilot. He realized this Dream in 1859 when he was licensed and subsequently worked as a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi River until 1861 when outbreak of the American Civil war influenced him to seek other