

fathers were as respectable as mine. I've not done right; that I'm willing to allow. But I an't so bad as Bill. He got to drinking too much a good many years ago, and learned to fiddle, and used to leave home sometimes, and go off round to dances, and so on. But he had as good a wife as ever was, and he's reformed, and so am I. I've come across the lake to help at harvesting, and get some wool and carry back for the children to card up, and then we'll have it spun and made into something warm for 'em next winter. These women-folks they are the master-critters for such things. They'll sit and card and talk, and get a wonderful deal done. But education is a great thing, and we can't get it over there among the mountains where there an't nobody five miles back from the lake. It's a curious country there, there's so many ponds. There's Long Pond, and Square Pond, Goose Pond, and Crane Lake, and Paradox Pond, and Pyramid Lake, and—that's all, I believe. Well, now there an't nobody but me that lives anywhere about here, that knows how these ponds got their names."

"Well, do you know, Uncle Zeek?" asked one of the company.

"Why, yes; there's Long Pond and Square Pond, they were called so because of their shape; and the wild geese go to Goose Pond; and Crane Lake, the surveyors found a crane's nest on the bank. And then there's something very curious about Paradox Pond: the stream that the outlet falls into is sometimes swelled by a thunder-shower that don't reach the pond, and then the water sets back through the outlet into it. So you see I know all about the history of that country."

"But," said I, "you have not informed us concerning Pyramid Lake."

"Oh, as for that," said he, "I don't rightly know what that took its name from, without it was because they sometimes catch suckers there very early in the season."

"However," said he, "I was talking about my family. You must know that my grandfather came from England with Lord Howe. He had just finished his education at