

Babel of uproar, oaths, yells, and execrations, which broke forth from every corner of the room. Some bade us go, we won't say whither; others somewhat less discourteously, "Take a drink." And yet for all that, the service was held, and no doubt blest to some of them; and even from that very company of votaries of sin and blasphemers, there came to it two or three stragglers.

One Sunday night, on going home to our humble cabin after our labours, to court tired Nature's sweet restorer, what was our dismay to find our habitation surrounded with water. Wading to the door we entered, and with some difficulty struck a light, which disclosed to us a most melancholy scene. The tiny place was flooded with the dirty water of the Creek, and the planks of our floor and cutty-stool, and other worldly possessions, were swimming complacently about. The water was half way up the legs of our bed, and to judge from the cause, which was evidently the accumulation of tailings (material from the mines) in the bed of the brook, it might as readily as not increase, until it carried away the whole establishment. Accordingly, seizing our blankets we beat a retreat, and were fain