

### **A Notable Individual.**

Persons who have read the ever popular Uncle Tom's Cabin, as who have not, cannot but be interested in a colored character who is at present stopping in Rockford. The gentleman is Mr. Milton Clarke, now employed in the sub-treasury at Boston, Mass. His own brother, Lewis Clarke, is the original colored person upon whom Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe founded the character of George Harris, in Uncle Tom's Cabin, and several of the other characters in that book are drawn from Mr. Clarke's own family. A biography of the two Clarkes, Lewis and Milton, has been written and gained a large circulation.

Milton Clarke, the gentleman now in this city, had a most eventful life, filled with thrilling incidents. He was a slave, although he does not know and does not believe that a single drop of colored blood flows in his veins. He was the property of an uncle of Hon. John Logan, on a plantation in Kentucky. He escaped from bondage and was captured in 1842

in Ohio, but was not taken back to slavery as the people took up his cause and subscribed sufficient funds to purchase his freedom. For many ~~years~~ years he worked for his fellow sufferers who bore the chains of bondage, traveling and lecturing throughout the north in the early period of the anti-slavery movement. The opinion of many of the people, even in north, was in a formative state. Many had not yet decided that slavery was wrong and as a consequence the brave young laborer in freedom's cause met with a flood of trials and suffered bitter experiences, insults and indignities. But he persevered and had the joy of seeing slavery banished, as a cursed thing, from the length and breadth of the land and the triumph of the righteous cause for which he had labored so long and suffered so much.

On Sunday last he visited the Lincoln Mission Sunday School and gave some very interesting items regarding his life, and his family. In response to an urgent request he will attend the picnic of the above Sunday School, at Remington's Park to-morrow and relate a few of the varied experiences of his eventful life. It will doubtless be an occasion of interest to many not connected with the schools and all who desire are cordially invited to be present. Doubtless a number of persons will find it worth their while to drive down to the park for the purpose of listening to this notable visitor.

Mr. Clarke will be the guest of C. C. Briggs, who is an old friend of his and intimately connected with his history. Forty years ago when he escaped from bondage, Mr. Briggs, who then resided in Vermont, befriended and harbored him and gained his life-long devotion. After Clarke's freedom had been purchased, Mr. Briggs accompanied him on a number of his anti-slavery lecturing tours and also made speeches advocating the same cause. Mr. Briggs is out of town now, but returns to-morrow and will welcome his old friend.