

# MARK TWAIN

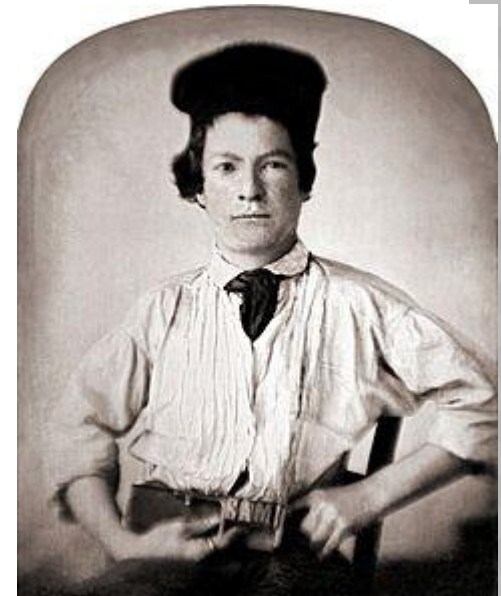
1835-1910

# EARLY LIFE

- ◉ Samuel Langhorne Clemens was born in Florida, Missouri, on November 30, 1835. He was the son of Jane (née Lampton; 1803-1890), a native of Kentucky, and John Marshall Clemens (1798-1847), a Virginian. His parents met when his father moved to Missouri and were married in 1823.<sup>[7][8]</sup> Twain was the sixth of seven children, but only three of his siblings survived childhood: Orion (1825-1897); Henry (1838-1858); and Pamela (1827-1904). His sister Margaret (1833-1839) died when he was three, and his brother Benjamin (1832-1842) died three years later. Another brother, Pleasant (1828-1829), died at six months.<sup>[9]</sup> Twain was born two weeks after the closest approach to Earth of Halley's Comet. His ancestors were of Scots-Irish, English, and Cornish extraction



- In 1847, when Twain was 11, his father, by then an attorney and judge, died of pneumonia.<sup>[16]</sup> The next year Twain left school after the fifth grade<sup>[17]</sup> to become a printer's apprentice. In 1851, he began working as a typesetter and contributor of articles and humorous sketches for the *Hannibal Journal*, a newspaper Orion owned. When he was 18, he left Hannibal and worked as a printer in New York City, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. He joined the newly formed International Typographical Union, the printersunion, and educated himself in public libraries in the evenings, finding wider information than at a conventional school.



# TRAVELS



- Twain joined Orion, who in 1861 became secretary to James W. Nye, the governor of Nevada Territory, and headed west. Twain and his brother traveled more than two weeks on a stagecoach across the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains, visiting the Mormon community in Salt Lake City.

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- First job was as a printers apprentice in Missouri.
- From Missouri he went to New York and Philadelphia and worked for several newspapers
- In 1857 he came back to Missouri and worked as a riverboat captain.

# PROFESSIONAL CAREER

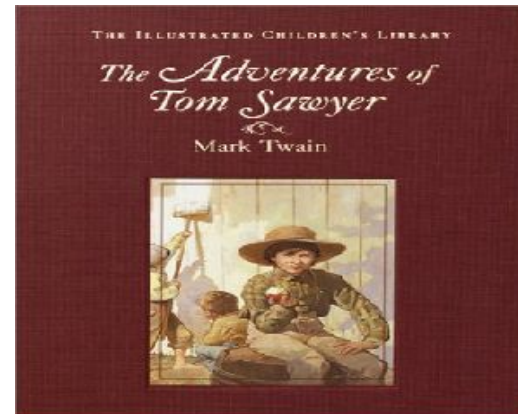
In 1857 a river boat captain's salary was 250.00\$ per month, which is equivalent to a 155,000\$ per year salary in the present day.





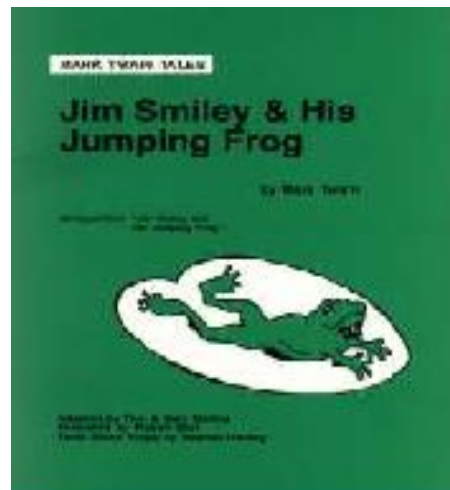
# PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- ◉ In 1876 Tom Sawyer was published and in 1884 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn was published, both of which are his most popular works.



# PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- ◉ In 1865 Twain published his first short story, “Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog”.

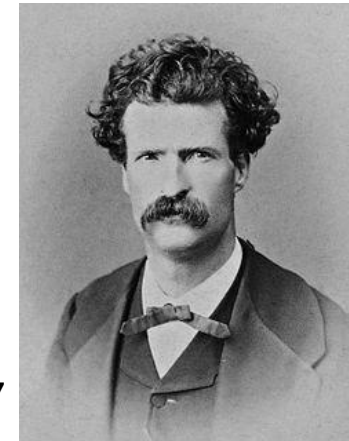




# MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

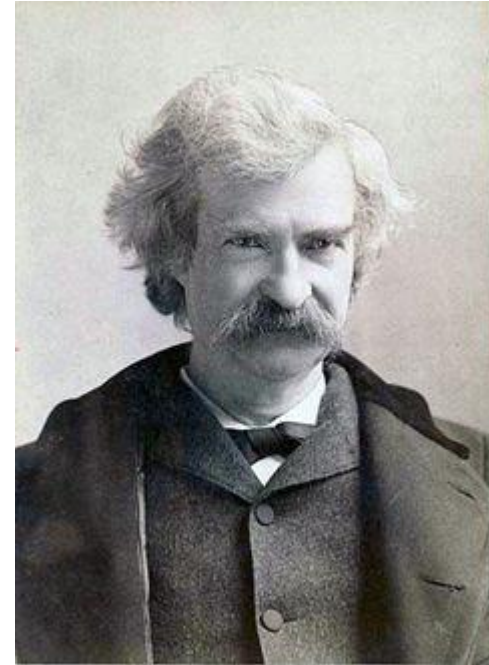
- Throughout 1868, Twain and [Olivia Langdon](#) corresponded. Though she rejected his first marriage proposal, two months later, they were engaged. In February 1870, Twain and Langdon were married in [Elmira, New York](#),<sup>[28]</sup> where he courted her and managed to overcome her father's initial reluctance.<sup>[30]</sup> She came from a "wealthy but liberal family", and through her, he met [abolitionists](#), "socialists, principled atheists and activists for [women's rights](#) and [social equality](#)", including [Harriet Beecher Stowe](#) (his next-door neighbor in [Hartford, Connecticut](#)), [Frederick Douglass](#), and the writer and [utopian socialist William Dean Howells](#),<sup>[31]</sup> who became a long-time friend.

Twain in 1867



# LATER LIFE AND DEATH

- Twain passed through a period of deep depression that began in 1896 when his daughter, Susy, died of [meningitis](#). Olivia's death in 1904 and Jean's on December 24, 1909, deepened his gloom. <sup>[60]</sup> On May 20, 1909, his close friend Henry Rogers died suddenly. In 1906, Twain began his autobiography in the [North American Review](#). In April, Twain heard that his friend Ina Coolbrith had lost nearly all she owned in the [1906 San Francisco earthquake](#), and he volunteered a few autographed portrait photographs to be sold for her benefit. To further aid Coolbrith, [George Wharton James](#) visited Twain in New York and arranged for a new portrait session. Initially resistant, Twain admitted that four of the resulting images were the finest ones ever taken of him.



Mark Twain in 1895 by [Napoleon Sarony](#)