

THE NEBRASKA ADVERTISER

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NEMAHA, NEBRASKA

PIRATE OF FISH.

The Bluefish is the Most Vicious and Destructive of All the Finny Tribe.

The greatest enemy to the best species of fish is found in the vicious, voracious, and dangerous bluefish. In size, ordinarily as long as your arm, with teeth like barbs, he can snap in halves a fish of his own size, and nearly all fish stand in mortal dread of him. Generally traveling in schools—sometimes as much as five miles in length—they will in short order decimate a school of shad, spot, menhaden or such like. In his stomach can be found numbers of smaller fish, according to size. We have opened one which contained a trout almost his own size, while another contained a shad nearly as large. Still others are found having within themselves one or more of their own species of smaller size. We have seen them behind a school of shad, spot, or menhaden, and sometimes schools of mackerel and cod, snapping and slashing their prey until the water was all foam. They eat until they can hold no more, but their viciousness is not abated. With a snap a shad is sundered and spit out, and the next shares the same fate. They never tire, and the fish destroyed, but uneaten, cover the surface of the water.

Without question the bluefish is by far the greatest factor to be reckoned with, considering the preservation of our food fishes. But man's effort seems to be futile in his extinction or banishment. Nets will not hold him, and only the stoutest line (for he is "game" in every sense of the word), protected with metal about the hook, will withstand his vicious snapping. The only method by which he is procured for market in our waters is with hand lines, baited with menhaden. Hundreds of New England fishing vessels commonly termed "downeaster smacks," are now, and will continue during the summer and fall, fishing off our coasts and in the Chesapeake bay in this manner. Our own people do little or none of this kind of fishing. The fish, when caught by these smacks, are iced in boxes and barrels, and from Cape Charles or some other railroad point are shipped to northern markets. The numbers caught by these craft in comparison with the myriads to be found at present in our waters do not count for anything, and yet hundreds of boats and thousands of men are engaged in the industry.

It has long been a question among our people if the benefits to be derived from these northern visitors—in the way of reducing the number of bluefish and the money they invest with our people for bait and provisions—will equal the damage they do in tolling the bluefish into our waters.—Richmond Dispatch.

BISHOP NEWMAN'S DIARY.

The Venerable Divine Has a Complete Record of Events Since the Year 1860.

Bishop Newman, the venerable divine of the Methodist church, has kept an unbroken diary since 1860. Probably no man has been more closely identified with the important affairs of history, and few men have met and known more famous men than the bishop, and if he ever consented to the publication of this daily journal it would undoubtedly rank among the few great diaries of history.

In a recent interview with Dexter Marshall the bishop said: "I have rarely lived a day without meeting some one with something to say worth preserving, and for years the bulk of my daily entries has consisted of notes of the talks I have had with all sorts of people. I can hardly indicate the value and variety of the information I have thus been able to set down in black and white, and I must confess that I have derived an immense amount of satisfaction from time to time in looking the records over. Some of the most interesting things have been said by the unlettered, and some of the wittiest, too.

"Oh, yes, I sometimes preserve jokes as well as facts, and I have found that the sense of humor exists everywhere and sweetens the lot of almost everyone. By constant practice I have trained my memory so that it acts almost automatically, and now when I am ready at the end of each day to set down whatever I have heard worth while the salient points recall themselves, so to speak, and I am able to write them down without trouble. I generally precede the notes of my talk with a description of the speaker, and in this way I have got together a very large number of brief pen sketches of personalities."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Mosaic Map of Palestine.

A map of Palestine in mosaic, over 1,500 years old, has been found in uncovering the ruins of an old temple in that country. The mosaic map formed the pavement of the building; and, though many parts of it are missing, the section containing the city of Jerusalem is still practically intact.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

TROUBLE WITH SPAIN

We Have Had More or Less of It for Nearly a Hundred Years.

It Started in the Natchez District Under Jefferson's Administration—Gen. Jackson's Bold Seizure of Florida.

[Special Natchez (Miss.) Letter.]

In the early part of this century the Americans of the "Natchez district" organized a revolt against the Spaniards, who at that time occupied a strip of the Mississippi territory about 100 miles in width. In public meetings the citizens of Natchez denounced President Jefferson because he would not aid them in overthrowing the Spanish tyrannical rule. After recovering West Florida from England Spain took possession of this strip, which was in dispute. This was our first trouble with that country, and it began shortly after the revolution. About this time the "Northwestern territory" threatened to secede from the union because the government was too slow in compelling Spain to give us full access to the Mississippi river. By treaty we had that right, and New Orleans was designated as a depot for the deposit of western commerce. Without notification Spain annulled these rights, and this with other troubles caused the revolt in the northwest and in the Mississippi territory.

About this time Aaron Burr floated down the Mississippi river with an expedition to accomplish partly what we did half a century later—the capture of Spanish territory on our coast. Our boundaries have been extended since from the Mississippi to the Pacific—territory then owned by Spain. Burr met with encouragement in the Natchez district, but our Gen. Williamson was in the pay of Spain, and his expedition came to naught. Several years later Gen. Jackson captured Florida. Outlaws had been preying in the border states and fled to Florida. He pursued them, and finding that they were aided by the Spaniards and Seminole Indians he incidentally took possession of the country. He had no authority for so doing, but had written to President Monroe, intimating his intentions.

Gen. Jackson wrote: "I do not ask for formal orders, but tell Johnny Ray to tell me to do it." "Johnny Ray" was a member of congress from east Tennessee and a particular friend of Jackson's. It is presumed that President Monroe told "Johnny" Ray, for Jackson did it. The main object, however, was to take the country before it should fall into the hands of England.

But before Jackson had taken the Florida peninsula, the American residents of west Florida rebelled against Spanish authority, captured the garrison at Baton Rouge, and set up what they called a "government." With a view of relieving the general government of international complications, the filibusters claimed that the territory was part of Louisiana, and they asked to be annexed to Louisiana instead of applying for admission as a separate state. Some favored the latter idea. The territory had been in dispute before it was "Texanized." The district is known to this day as the "Florida Parishes," and is the richest portion of southwestern Louisiana. The "Lone Star" flag is still preserved.

The seizure of Florida by Jackson caused a bitter quarrel between Jackson, Calhoun and W. H. Crawford, of Georgia, all candidates for the presidency, and wrecked the chances of Calhoun. In a cabinet meeting some one moved for the arrest and trial of Jackson for violation of international law in seizing Florida. Jackson accused Calhoun as being the member, and cited Crawford as his authority. This Crawford denied. Calhoun denied that he was the member, told Jackson that he lied, and "was quite capable of lying." "Old Hickory" did not carry the quarrel further until he became president, when he threatened to send an army to South Carolina, and to hang Calhoun for attempting to carry that state out of the union.

Jackson's enemy defeated Calhoun for the presidency—his political star sank in a day to rise no more. This great quarrel was because of the Florida acquisition, and from that our present trouble began.

While Spain claims that she cannot sell her territory with honor the fact remains that she has done so. Florida was virtually restored, and we finally

gave Spain \$5,000,000 for the territory, and, as an offset, put in a damage claim for that amount. Spain has not forgotten that.

Prior to the civil war we made several efforts to purchase Cuba, mainly for the extension of the slave trade. But failing, filibustering expeditions were winked at. When Lopez was organizing his famous expedition he sought out Jefferson Davis, and offered him a command and \$50,000 a year. He knew of Davis' record in Mexico, and hoped that he would thus get a number of volunteers from Mississippi. But Davis declined. The sad fate of Lopez and his men is well known. The execution of the Americans came near bringing on a war, and the southern states, which mainly furnished the filibusters, were very hostile.

In order to understand the boundary question, which may soon become a matter of more general interest, it may be stated: In 1762, Louisiana, which then extended to the Illinois, was dismembered by France. That portion east of the Mississippi river, excepting the island of New Orleans, was ceded to England. At the same time Spain also ceded to England "all of the territory that she possessed on this continent to the east and southeast of the Mississippi river, including the peninsula of Florida."

About 20 years later England gave back the peninsula of Florida to Spain, and also a large slice of Louisiana which she had received from France previously. The stipulations were general, and the boundaries were little understood, if at all.

A few years later France, becoming tired of maintaining the expensive and fruitless colony of Louisiana, ceded, as a free gift, the Louisiana territory to Spain. France gave, or rather the Spanish claimed, the entire territory of Louisiana as it existed before it was carved up by France.

In 1803 Spain exchanged Louisiana for an island in the Mediterranean which France at that time possessed. France, then at war with England, acquired the territory in order to prevent it from falling into the hands of the English. While our ministers were treating with France for the purchase of Louisiana, Minister Livingston suggested that we first seize New Orleans and treat afterwards. He thus wanted to hurry up matters before England acquired the country, having little faith in the earnestness of France, although that country was at war with England.

When the United States purchased the Louisiana territory, the terms were again general, the treaty reading that the boundaries should run as "before existing." Consequently the United States claimed all of the territory comprising Louisiana before being sliced up by France.

Thus, it will be seen, France sold to the United States some territory that belonged to Spain. In fact, the boundaries in several instances "lapped" one over the other. And Spain, being uncertain of her boundary lines, pushed colonies into the territory she had, or believed she had, acquired from France. She seized this strip of Mississippi territory, established headquarters at Natchez, and held it with the aid of the Natchez Indians, importing negroes from Africa to do plantation work.

The Spaniards captured this portion of the Mississippi valley through secret plottings with the Natchez and Choctaw Indians. The Natchez Indians occupied the lower portion, and the Choctaws extended from Choctaw bluffs (the present Vicksburg) to the Chickasaw bluffs (the present Memphis).

Upon the acquisition of this section by the Americans the Spanish officials refused to leave, according to treaty, but remained, plotting with the Indians, hoping to retake the country. Finally they were expelled beyond the borders to the Spanish province of Texas. Then nearly all of the Spanish settlers left the country, and after our conquest of west Florida, they left that section also for Texas, so intense was their hatred of Americans.

The fact that Spain was the original possessor of this vast territory, and having lost it for the lack of power to hold it, must ever rankle in the Spanish breast.

In the early part of the sixteenth century, while a Spanish adventurer was seeking gold, and incidentally a spring of perpetual youth, which an Indian soothsayer told him existed on one of the Bahama Islands, he stumbled upon a peninsula, which he named Florida. According to the Spanish custom he claimed the "air, the sea and the earth," in the name of Spain. The boundaries, of course, were not defined, for he had no idea of the extent of the country.

But when the French discovered the Mississippi and settled in Louisiana, Spain came forward and claimed everything by "right of discovery." The French claimed from Canada to the gulf, and "all the territory watered by the rivers which flow into the Mississippi river," which La Salle had discovered.

For nearly a century and a half after its discovery Spain made no attempt to colonize the country, beyond an occasional expedition in search of gold and pearls, supposed to exist here in large quantities.

A Poor Consolation.

The word is often at her tongue That she's not made in beauty's mold; Though she will ne'er be pretty, young, Yet soon she will be pretty old. —Up-to-Date.

IS A GREAT SOLDIER.

Maj. Gen. Miles, Commanding the Armies of the United States.

He is Respected by Regular as Well as Volunteer Troops—His Marvellous Success as an Indian Fighter.

[Special Washington Letter.]

Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, commanding the armies of the United States, is very popular with all soldiers who have served with him. The regular as well as the volunteer soldiers admire and respect him. Some things concerning his military career were obtained to-day in casual conversation.

"I served under Gen. Miles at one time," said an army officer on duty in the war department, "and I have great respect and admiration for him. I think that you may say that all the officers and men who have ever been on duty with Gen. Miles respect and admire him for his manly qualities, superb courage, military genius and perfect integrity.

"One thing you may emphasize, and that is the fact that all young West Pointers who have served with Miles love him and swear by him. He has had the loyal and earnest support as well as the affection of the young officers who have been so fortunate as to see actual campaigning with Miles as their commander. His strongest friends in the army to-day are West Pointers. The old prejudice against volunteer officers is fast dying out. It is dead, so far as Gen. Miles is concerned. I am a West Pointer myself, and I tell you not even Napoleon had the confidence and admiration of his soldiers more than Gen. Miles has had from his officers and men, and I am one of them who would cheerfully obey any order coming from him, no matter what peril might be in the immediate future for me.

"Do you know that Gen. Miles never lost a battle in his life, either in the civil war, or during his Indian campaigns? When we were on the frontier, with Indians outnumbering us ten



MAJ. GEN. NELSON A. MILES, U. S. A.

to one, it was necessary to send out small detachments to attract large hostile bands. On such occasions officers and men asked but one question, and that was: 'Will Gen. Miles lead us?' And when they were informed that Miles would be with us, there was no hesitation, no doubt, no questioning, but every man felt assured that victory would result, and we were never disappointed. Our commander challenged admiration for his activity and gallant leadership. He always led us in every fight. He never sought to shield himself. He is absolutely without fear of anything mortal. In the Nez Perces campaign officers begged him not to expose himself, because there was a general dread that all might be massacred if he should fall.

"Gen. Miles always dressed in a picturesque style when on the frontier. He wore a broad sombrero, blue shirt, red tie, buckskin coat and trousers, fringed, with a belt around his waist in which were pistols and a large knife. He was as well equipped for personal struggle and danger as Buffalo Bill or any other ranger. He is one of the bravest of the brave, and I have seen him under fire with his officers and men; always cool, always aggressive, and ready for every emergency.

"Just after the Custer massacre Gen. Miles took 225 men and went after Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, who, with 3,000 bucks, had settled down for the winter. That was a daring undertaking, but Gen. Miles captured those Indians who at that time regarded themselves invincible.

"As an illustration of his carefulness and keenness in dealing with the Indians, you might mention the peace talk which he had with Sitting Bull at Cedar creek. The wily and dangerous Sioux leader sent a flag of truce for the purpose of arranging terms of capitulation. Gen. Miles and Sitting Bull were to meet midway between the lines of Sioux and the Fifth infantry, and have a nice quiet little peace talk. According to the plans they met and held a conference. Within a few moments a big Sioux buck sauntered out toward the general and chief, and came very close to them. At the same time, by a previous order issued by Gen. Miles, one of the infantrymen sauntered out, and also approached the parleying commanders. Then another Indian quietly

sauntered forth, and at the same time one of the infantrymen imitated him. This continued until there were six Sioux bucks and six infantrymen surrounding Gen. Miles and Sitting Bull. Gen. Miles then said: 'You are a bad Indian. All of your bucks here are armed. They have weapons under their blankets. You intended to kill me here in cold blood. If any one of your men pulls a trigger one of my men will kill you right in your tracks.' The old chief had no desire to go suddenly to the happy hunting grounds, and warned his men to return to their places. One by one they retired, and one by one the infantrymen returned to their ranks.

"Gen. Miles then said: 'Now, I will give you five minutes to surrender. If you do not do so I will open fire on your band and annihilate you.' Sitting Bull turned away, saying: 'I have enough men here, as you see, to wipe out your entire army.' Gen. Miles repeated the remark, that in five minutes he would open fire unless the band surrendered. Sitting Bull went back to his camp, delayed beyond the allotted time, and Gen. Miles promptly ordered his troops forward. The soldiers of the Fifth infantry understood their work, and followed their commander. The battle was not a prolonged one, for Sitting Bull was defeated and surrendered.

"Gen. Miles is a hard rider. He is an athlete. He is tall, erect, soldierly in appearance, a splendid horseman and a perfect marksman either with a rifle or a revolver. He rides a bicycle and rides it well. He is a swimmer, boxer and all around emergency man, no matter where he may be placed. Buffalo Bill says there never was such a perfectly equipped man for Indian fighting in the entire army.

"The Nez Perces chief, Joseph, who was one of the greatest of Indian leaders, had been pursued by several vigorous fighters, with good commands, and had eluded all of them. When Gen. Miles, however, followed him and surrounded him, and when the old chief realized that he had been out-generaled in his own style of warfare, and in his own country, he expressed amazement and said: 'Who is this new chief that has outwitted me? I know it must be a new chief, for the others are children.'

"By the way, I do not believe that any general could learn from books, or under any instruction procure, the aptitude for the disposition of troops which seems intuitive with Gen. Miles. In the same Nez Perces campaign, I recollect his promptness of action when he came up with the Nez Perces and found them entrenched. The country was new to Gen. Miles. He had never been there before. But, glancing over the country, using his field glass, and asking a few questions of the guides, he began immediately the disposition of his troops, and moved them with such precision and celerity that Chief Joseph was outwitted and out-generaled with such dazzling quickness that he uttered the remark above quoted. Coming from a man of the undoubted ability of Joseph, I have always regarded that remark as one of the greatest compliments that has ever been paid to Gen. Miles as an Indian fighter.

"Grover Cleveland was president when Gen. Schofield retired. Do you know that there are no two men in this republic who ought to have greater admiration for each other than ex-President Cleveland and Gen. Miles. Their lives have been parallel in civil and military life.

"While Grover Cleveland was a poor boy, sweeping the office for Lawyer Bowers, in Buffalo, Nelson A. Miles was a poor boy clerking in a store in Boston. Grover Cleveland possessed exceptional ability and sturdy qualities, and Lawyer Bowers took him into his home and into his office and encouraged his early struggles. Using military terms, I may say that Grover Cleveland passed through all grades of promotion in civil life, just as Gen. Miles has passed through all the grades of promotion in military life. Just as the poor boy in Buffalo was entering upon the practice of the law, the poor boy in Boston was entering upon the military profession. Strangers to each other, they were struggling along the pathway of life; and their lives were running in parallels, each of them achieving a distinction and success by sheer native ability and merit. Each of them possessed the genius of labor, and they toiled and plodded along, each honestly doing his best in his own sphere, and then their lives converged and they came together in the national capital. The poor boy of Buffalo was chief executive, and the poor boy of Boston became commander of the army." —SMITH D. FRY.

Little Willie Knew.

Sunday School-Teacher—Come now, children, tell me, what house is always open to everybody—to the rich and the poor, the young and the old, the sick and the well? Do you know what house I mean?

Little Willie—Yeth, ma'am; I know.

Teacher—Well, Willie, what house is it?

Willie—The police station. — Baltimore Life.

Partially Returned.

Algy—You say she only partially returned your affection?
Clarence—Yes; and that's what I'm kicking about. She returned all the love letters, but retained all the jewelry.—Judge.