OLD MEN STILL YOUNG.

SPECIMENS AT WASHINGTON THAT AMERICA MAY BE PROUD OF.

Payne and Colquitt and Edmunds and Banks and Everts and Randall and Many Others Whose Names Have Been Famous Many Years.

[Special Correspondence.] WASHINGTON, March 27.—There seems to be something about public life which keeps old men young. Perhaps it is the lelsureliness of the work, and the absence of that worry and nervous strain over public business which is so common inmen who have extensive private interests. Some of the sprightliest statesmen in Washington are the old fellows. Take the supreme court as an example of this. The ancient judges—Bradley, Field, Miller and Harlan-are the sort of men whom the world calls "lively old boys." They get through with a prodigious amount of labor, and at the same time manage to have a good deal of quiet fun.



Even as they sit on the bench, the very incarnation of solemnity, the smile that lights up their old faces when some lawyer cracks a dry, crinkly joke, like the opening of a bottle of Mumm's extra, is worth going miles to see. These elderly jurists are all great pedestrians, and the scene they make swinging down the ave-

nue by twos and threes after their day's work is done is one which everybody has looked at with interest, and which we scribes have all written about.

Some men actually refuse to obey the orders of imperious nature and grow old as the years gather. A few not only refuse to let the heart dry up and the blood become thin with age, but they persist in remaining youthful in appearance and fair to look upon. There is Senator Colquitt. I never see that man without wondering if he hasn't played some such trick on us as palming a son off on the senate and the world for himself. It does not seem possible that this lively person, with the bright eyes and smooth, youthful face, is the man who served as a staff officer in the Mexican war, and who was first elected to congress nearly forty years ago.

Yet he is the man, and one would say that he was good for another quarter of a century. Colquitt's case proves that if man wants to live long and retain his powers in old age he must live right. The senator is now and always has been a tectotaler. Probably he has made a greater number of temperance speeches than any other man in congress. It was his devotion to the temperance cause, it is said, that made him governor of Geor-

gia and then senator.

A few days ago I saw a somewhat remarkable couple on top of the dome of the Capitol. They were Senators Colquitt and Payne, and these old fellows were taking in the great panorama which is spread out under the eyes of Liberty with all the zest of a couple of school boys. It is no easy climb to this height. up the steep, winding stairs, and with no elevator to help one even a part of the journey. Yet here were two men whose combined ages represented a century and a half looking out upon a city full of noble edifices, that was founded but a few years before the elder senator was born. Senator Payne will be 80 if he lives till November, but he is not by any means an old man. He is as lively as a cricket, both mentally and physically, and made the ascent of the dome without any discomfort.

Senator Payne is a New Yorker, and he and Stephen A. Douglas were boys together. The senator once told me that he loaned Douglas the money with which that young man went out to Illinois and established himself as a lawyer. "And though the \$200 which I gave him was about all the money I had in the world," said the senator, "it was the best investment I ever made." Douglas died a quarter of a century ago, and here is Payne, by no means worn out.



SPRY SENATOR ALLISON. Without doubt the statesman who carries his years best is Senator Allison, who has just been re-elected by his Iowa constituents. Allison is one of the handsomest men in Washington. He has a fine eye, which the ladies like to look upon. His skin is warm and smooth, and no bald spot disfigures the manly head.

He is not even gray. One would not think this man, apparently as strong and active as any collegian, had worked for a gress, and worked hard, too. Allison is one of those fortunate men who thrive on hard work. He has great capacity, accomplishes much with little effort, and when his work is done throws off all care and worry as easily as he lays aside his

overcoat when spring dawns. Allison knows how to take care of himself. He lives well but rationally. He has a weakness for prairie chicken and wild turkey, but these are not luxuries which make men old and gouty. ingly, and concerning a statement which | tion forced a terrible vice upon a vast people that he was an inveterate tobacco chewer, he laughingly said the other day that he had never chewed tobacco at all. "I tried it once when I was a years, but I notice that he disdains to him off or take him on.

Colquitt and Allison are men who look no older now than they did ten or fifteen years ago. They represent one class of youthful old men-the men who are sustained by plenitude of rich blood and native vitality. Senator Payne represents another class, and still another type sits just across the aisle from him in the senate chamber. "Well, if there isn't Evarts making a speech," said an irreverent visitor to the senate one day last week; "will that man never die? There seems to be nothing left of him but his nose and a hat full of brains."

Probably Senator Evarts never will die as other men die. In his case dissolution, some twenty-five or fifty years hence, will resemble the withering and blowing away of a plant. Evarts does resemble mummy, if ever a living man did. He weighs no more than 100 pounds, and about one-third of this is contained in his habit is acquired, and it is by them that the head. The only change his friends have observed in him in the last ten years is a sinking back of the line of the mouth and a correspondingly greater prominence of that great nose. He appears to holding the prepared opium. The pipe is of be a man without any teeth in his head. Perhaps they have been crowded out by the gray matter of the cranium. Atany rate, the big brain is as perfect and profound as it ever was.

Though sometimes a little shaky on his pins, as the Briton would say, Evarts manages to take some exercise. Last Sunday afternoon I saw him and another famous old man trudging down Connecticut avenue. Evarts and Banks made a striking pair. The former is 72 and the latter 74. Both were well known figures in public life two generations ago. Ex-Speaker Banks does not look his age by about twenty years. As they walked down the avenue, amid a throng of



EVARTS AND BANKS OUT FOR A WALK. ticed that the congressman is livelier with his legs than the senator. But in mental activity Evarts has the advantage. The man who was speaker of the house before many of the present members of that body were born is afflicted prepared optum is kept. It may be of bone, with a senile memory, and at times with inability to concentrate his thoughts. Probably this is his last appearance in the halls of congress, where he is now rounding out a career of which any man could well be proud.

Senator Sherman as a type of youthful old men occupies a position midway between Colquitt and Evarts. The Ohio statesman is neither mummified nor full. vital blooded. He is, rather, one who has husbanded the native strength of his constitution by careful living and methodical work till now, at nearly 70, and with a record of forty years of public service behind him, he seems good for a dozen years more. When in good health Samuel J. Randall was a fine specimen of the youthful old man. Randall has one of those smooth, boyish faces, yet strong and manly, which do not change with the years.

Few statesmen have worked harder than Randall, or accomplished more in the way of legislation. Two years ago he was the same Randall, alert, self contained, sharp eyed, quick eared, a picture of strength, that he was twenty years before. Two decades did not apparently make much change in him, and had he worked less assiduously and taken more exercise and pleasure he might still be

one of the active leaders on the floor. Senator Edmunds is one of the old ooking statesmen who are not very old. It is Edmunds' baldness that gives him the appearance of a patriarch at 62. The most venerable appearing men in the senate are not the oldest members of that body. "Old Joe Brown," of Georgia, whose long, almost hairless head and great white beard make him look like a centenarian, is only 69. The oldest man in the house, Mr. Miles, of Connecticut, is one of the liveliest members of that body, and by no means the oldest in appearance. There are many young old men in the senate and house, and not a few young men who, profiting not by the lessons of experience, are rapidly growing old. WALTER WELLMAN.

Miss Isabella Smith, the private secretary of Labor Commissioner Merriwether, has been assigned the work of gathering statistics concerning the women and girl operatives in the factories of Missouri.

ORIENTAL VENGEANCE.

quarter of a century in the national con HOW THE CHINAMAN HAS PAID HIS DEBT TO THE CAUCASIAN.

He Was Forced to Buy Opium, and He

Nearly half a century ago the Chinese were induced, by use of the cannon argu- risively as they totter by his laundry door, ment and the slaughter of uncounted thousands of their brothren to permit the importation of opium from the East Indies. In The senator drinks wine, though spar- thus "opening a market for trade," civilizaonce printed about him, to the effect and reaped an apparent profit in hard cash from the bloody transaction.

But the outcome of the business demon strates that the profit was far more apparent than real. A baffled Oriental does not limit his dreams of vengeance by the boy," he added, "and the result of that boundaries of a lifetime. He makes his experiment was not encouraging." Al- hatred hereditary, and bequeaths to his lison has been in congress twenty-five son the accomplishment of the plans he has been unable to carry out. Sooner or later ask street car drivers to stop either to let patient, persistent, unrelenting hate will carve some way to its appointed goal and stand grinning in ghastly giee above the corpse of the victim.

A civilized nation compelled China to use opium. China in return has presented the whole world with a pipe for use in smoking the drug, and introduced an almost incurable vice among the Caucasian race. Her majesty's Indian empire no longer grows the poppy for Mongolian consumption alone, for slaves of the narcotic exist everywhere at the present day.

Not long since a gentleman who has spent several years as a merchant at Canton said: Abstractly China does not care for the emigration of her citizens. They are allowed to go abroad for the purpose of bettering their condition, but I think I am in a position to state it as a fact that when they depart they are given to understand that one of their duties is to spread the habit of opium smoking. To my mind they are made the agents of a flendish Oriental revenge for past injustice and injury.

At any rate, it is from the Chinese that the implements for self destruction are furnished. These latter are cheap or costly, according to the means of the purchaser, and consist of a pipe, a bowl, a lamp, a tray, a bottle of oil, a yin hoe or bodkin, and a toy or box for bamboo, and is tipped at either end with bone, ivory, silver, gold or mother of pearl. The lowest price of a new pipe is \$1.25, but the same stem when thoroughly seasoned



SCENE IN A DEN. with opium is valued at \$25. Near one end, mounted about with brass, is the aperture into which the bowl is inserted. The bowls are of three grades. Those of red china clay cost eight cents each; the second grade, of dark gray or slate color, are valued at thirty five cents, and the highest quality, the black, brings fifty cents. The lamp can be purchased for sixty cents; but if it is caged with East Indian silver filagree work it may be held at as high a sum as \$100. The tray is simply an ordinary tea tray for holding the various utensils.

The oil used is either olive or peanut, and the yin hoe is a bodkin of steel pointed at one end and flattened at the other. The toy is an air tight box, in which the supply of worth only forty cents, or of solid gold or silver and diamond studded. The opium is of four grades, and is sold in packages of five taels. The cheapest variety is worth \$7.50 is can and the costliest \$11.50.

These are the materials and here is the manner in which the keeper of an opium "joint" utilizes them in serving his customers: First he cleans out the bowl and damp ens the top with a sponge. Then he takes the cover from the toy, dips in the sharp end of the bodkin and brings out a bit of pasty opium the size of a pea. He holds this half an inch from the flame of the lamp until it swells to the dimensions of a small walnut, and the original color changes from that of black molasses to a Vandyke brown.

The sizzling globule is next withdrawn from the fire, carefully relied about on the bowl of the pipe and again subjected to the flame. After a third and final cooking it is deftly deposited in the center of the bowl. One long whiff of twenty seconds' duration and the pill is gone. The process of cooking occupies about two minutes. Five pills will make an amateur drowsy and eight will put him to sleep, but a "flend's" daily ration is order given him by

forty pills and upwards. So many difficulties and dangers hedge about the acquirement of the habit that it seems wonderful that any one persists in smoking the deadly drug after the first experiment. If even the slightest breath of air enters the mouth when the smoke is inhaled the devotee is certain to suffer from an acute attack of wind colic, for which the gations brought only specific is a slice of lemon covered with against Commandburnt opium. A curious thing about the prepared drug is that it hardens if exposed to the air, but the atmospheric effect on a cooked pill is to soften it to its original semi-

liquidity. Opium smoking is no longer confined to the back rooms of Chinese laundries. It has gone beyond that now, and finds its home and its white patrons in more luxurious quarters. Probably no large city in the United States is without at least two or three lavishly appointed resorts where the unhappy victims of the vice meet to indulge in their suicidal propensities. They are arranged in series of apartments abounding in rugs and couches, and it is the custom of the regular patrons to group themselves in parties of four, generally two men and two women, who recline about the little flickering lamp and pass the deadly pipe from hand to hand, the most expert of the quartet attending to the cooking

In New York city several "joints" lie within a stone's throw of Sixth avenue and devoted to an excianation of the technical Twenty-eighth street. Near this corner is a workings of a newly patented threshing mafruit store which is open day and night. The | chine.

clerk on duty after dark is an expert mandolin player, and the place is a favorite resort for the sated "flends," who sit hour after hour dreamily listening to sweet strains of music and indulging in reveries born of poisoned blood and semi-paralyzed brains. As they muse and ponder the hours slip away and the dawn comes on apace. The mandolin tinkles out the "Sweet By and By" and the pale Has Taught the White Man to Smoke faced relics of lost menhood and womanhood It-A Terrible and Constantly Spreading | glide out to seek fresh distraction or the merciful oblivion of sleep.

These are the "Yenshee quas," the "opinin devils," to whom the Chinaman points de-FRED C. DAYTON.

Another Literary Congressman.

The new member of congress for the First listrict of West Virginia is George Wesley Atkinson. At the election, something more than a year ago, he ran as a Republican candidate, His opponent, John O. Pendleton,

Democrat, was declared successful, and took the seat, Mr. Atkinson then began a contest, which resulted recently in his victory and the ousting of Pendleton. The new member is still a young man. He has black hair and a black mustache, and is tall and straight as an Indian. The

present is his first G. W. ATKINSON. triumph in politics, but he has for some time held a respectable position as a writer. He is the author of "A History of Kanawha," "After the Moonshiners," "The West Virginia Pulpit," "A Revenue Digest" and "Don't." The last named book is regarded as his best effort. He now has in press a work of one thousand pages on "Prominent Men of West Virginia." So it will be seen that Mr. Atkinson is an ir teresting addition to the small congressional group of persons who have temporarily laid aside the pen to pursue a political career.

Cherokee Strip Land Boomers.

the Indian territory is attracting the atten tion of "land boomers." It was thought that the strip would be legally opened to settle ment at an early day, and Guthrie, Oklahoma became the headquarters of hundreds of people ready to make a grand skurry across the dividing line. Carpenters were busy building small frame houses and mounting them on wheels, so that when the rush came they could be whirled across the country to the desired spot and the claim held by the best title possible in the scramble.

The other day false intelligence came that the president had opened the strip to settlement, and in a night 10,000 people rushed in. They are now, of course, liable to expulsion The experiences of those who settled the Oklahoma country do not seem to have taught their successors the lesson that in a wholesale grab either for realty or gold ten lose their little all where one makes a fortune. The lottery of life is about the same at the mines or on the virgin prairie as in the big citiesthere are few prizes and many blanks

An Atrocious Crime in Russia. Nearly every country has some blot on its scutcheon in the way of atrocious crimes, but a recent atrocity at Moscow has tempo rarily turned the eyes of the civilized world toward Russia. The victim, a sister of charity named Piatnizky, was well known for her many good deeds. Her body was found in a sack, the flesh being backed from the bones and cut into small pieces. The head was picked up in a quarter of the city far distant from where the trunk was discovered. crime was fastened on a medical student, Belsowsoff by name, who, after arrest, committed suicide. No reason has developed for the murder and mutilation. The woman's life was spent in doing good, and it was not known that she had an enemy in the world.

Guarding Against Diseased Cattle. The English house of commons is preparing

to consider measures to prevent more fully the introduction of diseased cattle into the British isles. The main country of export aimed at seems to be the United States, and in a recent debate one of the members of par liament asked the government to ascertain if cattle from the western states of America were free from contagion, and, if they were free, whether they could not be conveyed to England without contact with animals from the eastern states, among which disease might exist. Curiously enough no facts were exhibited on which to base the slightly alarmist legislation proposed.

The United States Life Saving Service. Recent statistics regarding the United States life saving service are of value. They show that since the present system was introduced, ten years ago, 7,903 persons have been succored and over \$60,000,000 worth of property saved. The cost of maintaining the ser vice for the decade was less than \$10,000,000 There are 226 stations-165 on the Atlantic coast, eight on the Guif of Mexico, eight on the Pacific and forty-five along the shores of the great lakes. The wages paid are small, the maximum salary of a keeper being \$800, while the men get \$50 a month during the active season. Out of this they are expected to buy their own food and clothing.

Treatment of Enlisted Men.

The United States navy now has an investigation on hand similar in kind to the one at present agitating the army. The latter, it will be remembered, had to do with the charge that a private soldier was subjected to exces sive punishment for not obeying an illegal

a lieutenant at Fort Snelling, Minn. The soldier has been released and the officer is undergoing court martial. The naval episode has to do with alle-

tary of the navy.

er McCalla, of the steamer Enterprise, by several of his crew, who allege COMMANDER M'CALLA. that on a voyage recently finished they were the objects of a discipline se severe that it in cluded the cutting down with a sabre of a seaman who chanced to be under the influ ence of liquor. Chief Engineer Entwistle and Ensign Kline are among the complainants, and a long list of accusations is now being sifted by a court of inquiry at the Brookly; navy yard. Meanwhile Commander McCalla remains in charge of his ship. If a court martial is ordered he will be relieved from duty until final action is taken by the secre

It is recalled of the late Joseph Biggar, the oted Irish member of parliament, that he first became prominent by making a speech against time which occupied five hours and a half in delivery. One-third the oration was



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