

GOOD FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS

In reply to the question of the Columbus Enquirer-Sun, "Will Bryan retire?" The Houston Post answers: "Oh, yes! every night, but is up bright and early soon after the Pullman porter calls him in the

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morning." That is really one of the cleverest things Bailey has said for a long time, and when subjected to careful analysis shows, among other things, in the first place that Mr. Bryan does "retire," that is to say goes to bed, and in the second place, that he is so abundant and constant in his efforts to spread himself all over the country that he frequently goes to bed in a sleeping car, which means, of course, that he is ever mindful of the interests of the people, and ever ready at night to serve them whenever he is called in the morning, having a clear conscience, void of offense except towards a few of his most sincere admirers, whom he does not understand, and not understanding will not forgive. We have no-doubt that he sleeps. He is fifteen years older now than he was when he began his great crusade against the established order, and yet he is as bright and fresh as a daisy with every new day that comes; good, we should say, for at least twenty years more of strenuous pursuit.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

OSBORN FOR JUDICIAL RECALL

Again is the recall, applicable to the judiciary, urged in a governor's message; this time by Chase S. Osborn of Michigan. Governor Osborn vetoed a bill repealing the existing law that judges of the supreme court should reside at the state capitol. In his message returning the bill without his approval to the legislature, he says: "This bill has been lobbied for actively by members of the supreme court actuated by selfish purposes. While this may be their privilege, it indicates the finite character of our courts, and proves to my mind that any recall law that might be enacted should apply to the judiciary with equal force as to other officers of government."—La Follette's.

SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY

By John Jay Franey, in the American Eagle: The recent successful engagement at the Shubert theater in Kansas City of those marvelous and matchless artists, E. H. Sothern and Julia Marlowe, to a large extent dissipates the idea prevalent among some people that the plays of Shakespeare are on the decline, and tends to arouse and stimulate the thought that the unsurpassable dramas of Shakespeare will continue to challenge the admiration of posterity as long as generations of human mortals come and go upon the waves of time, for this healthy dramatic sentiment the people are largely indebted to Mr. Lee and Mr. Sam Shubert, who not only have an high appreciation of the rendition of the higher order of finished art and are not tainted with that degree of commercial piracy that some theatrical managers have, which deadens the ardor and hinders the growth and development of great actors by feeding and stimulating a public taste for frivolous things on the stage.

The successful appearance of such finished artists as Sothern and Marlowe also has an influence in revising thought upon the life, times, character and mental superiority of William Shakespeare, whose birth at Stratford on Avon, in England, occurred on April 23d, three hundred and forty-seven years ago. The event of a great man's birth is one that is usually commemorated by admiring friends, there are no great men excepting those who have rendered great service to the human race, it has been said with more or less truth, that some men are born great, others achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them. We are advised by, from and through accredited historical sources, that a few men in the fields of human activity have achieved greatness, Nimrod, the founder of the Babylonian empire, accomplished much in the art of war and has been styled by accredited historians as Nimrod the Great. Cyrus, the head of the Persian dynasty, by reason of the employment of superior military skill, successfully contended against the armed forces that were bent upon the invasion and destruction of his dominions, thereby earning for himself the title of Cyrus the Great. Sennacherib, the king of the Assyrians, by reason of his successful invasion of India, has been assigned a place in history as Sennacherib the Great.

Sesostris, the celebrated Egyptian king, whose name and fame was made by his valor in war, as well as his genius in erecting the titanic edifices, known to Egyptian civilization as the Solomon temples, the obelisks and the pyramids, is regarded in history as Sesostris the Great.

Alexander, the king of the Macedonians, whose successful attack against Darius and his wonderful army of Persians, is regarded by competent, respectable and accredited historians, as the greatest piece of military stratagem of ancient times, and history refers to him as Alexander the Great. So it is with Hannibal, Scipio, Caesar, Pompey, Charlemagne, Frederick, Napoleon and others whose human achievements whether justly or not, have earned for them the title of great. But in the eloquently expressive and wonderfully impressive language of Victor Hugo, when man shall have theater and sphere of his own age, state which condition can and will be brought about through the thorough development of the human mind, the discharge of the warrior will have been signed, his fame will have faded in the distance and his greatness will have gradually passed away. The triumphs of the warrior are

usually bounded by the narrow theater and sphere of his own age, when the victorious achievements of the military chieftain shall have been forgotten or shall have been remembered only in the song of the minstrel or the page of the chronicler. The lofty intellectual labors of Shakespeare will continue to shine on and on in ages now unborn and accents yet unknown.

An eminent French philosopher of the seventeenth century is credited with the statement that all great men had great fathers and that all great fathers and all great men must needs have had great mothers, in fact, that the greatness that men have achieved in this world could be largely attributed to the refining civilizing and humanizing influence of mothers, that it was mothers who made the home, wherein dwelt those two-fold potential influences of virtue and love, which when associated, are like a lily with a heart of fire and might be classed the fairest flower in all this world. The mother of Shakespeare dowered her son with passion and imagination that was unlimited in its powers to attract and rivet the attention of his fellow men, nothing is known of her, however, beyond her beautiful maiden name.

In the year 1557, Miss Mary Arden, a modest, graceful, chaste, pure and beautiful English maiden of Wilmincote, Warwickshire, was wedded to Mr. John Shakespeare, a very substantial citizen of Staffordshire, England. The sweet, silent hours of marriage joys of this fortunate couple were clustered with peace, prosperity, happiness and paternal love. She being the impersonation of purity, chastity, love, beauty, and grace; he being the embodiment of a magnificent physique, splendid moral courage, heroism, rugged, honesty and a good true Christian spirit, their two lives like uniting streams, flowed on as one, their highest ideal being to improve themselves both in heart and in brain so a to be worthy of each others love and affection. William Shakespeare was the third child born of this happy union, which great event took place at Stratford on Avon, April 23, 1564.

The early life of William Shakespeare is measurably speaking, shrouded in mystery. He studied at the grammar school, subsequently married at a comparatively early age, went to London, made a comfortable fortune, which enabled him to enjoy that enviable position of being above want and the fear of want—not too rich or too poor—a condition most desirable for all of us more or less. Anything more than this would have been a nuisance to him; anything less would have been inconvenient, otherwise he would not have written these incomparable lines, "If thou art rich thou art poor, for like an ass whose back with ingots bow thou bearest thy riches but a journey and death comes along and unloads thee."

There is no part of history so

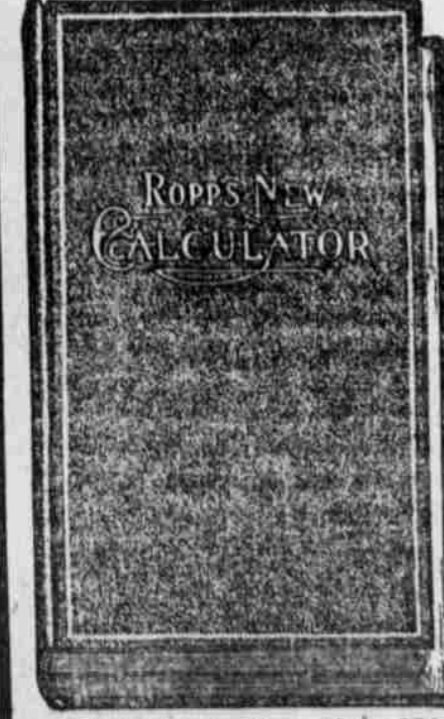
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