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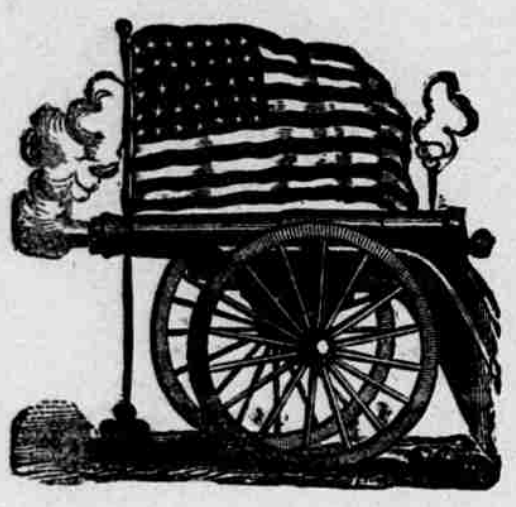
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His Flute Now His Staff.

S. C. Skinner is an old soldier living in West Brighton, who carries as a staff to assist him in walking an old flute that has a history. Mr. Skinner himself also has a history. During one of the political demonstrations in Rochester he came to the city accompanied by a little grandson. He brought his old wooden flute, now a walking stick, with him, as he goes nowhere unaccompanied by his old friend, which has long since lost its beautiful voice. In the year 1861 Mr. Skinner enlisted in the army, and immediately went to the front, taking with him his wooden flute. He enlisted as a musician and was soon playing the national airs at the front of a marching regiment, while shot and shell fell fast and thick around him. He was sent to Company I, Ninety-eighth regiment, New York volunteers, commanded by Justice Adams of the appellate court, with Captain Vain in command of the company.

Mr. Skinner was captured and was in Libby prison two months. While there he gained the good graces of the jail authorities to such an extent that he was taken to see President Jefferson Davis. This was something, Mr. Skinner said, that he never knew of any of the other prisoners being allowed to do.

After being in the war over three years he was discharged while on provost duty in this city. He says his flute did him good service while in the war, and is yet helping him on through life's journey, although in a much different way. While a prisoner in Libby, Mr. Skinner said that he lost one pound a day, and was only able to move around by the aid of his flute, used as a cane. He says it seems almost a thing of life to him, and now that, like himself, it is in feeble health, he would not part with it for gold.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

The Old Telegrapher.

The old telegrapher was relating his experiences. "Do you know," he remarked, "a man in my profession develops such a wonderful acuteness of touch and hearing that it might well be called a sixth sense. While I was correspondent for the United Press at New Haven there used to be a man on the New York end of the wire whom I knew as well as I know my own brother, and yet I had never seen him. I had known him in this manner for years, and solely by the manner in which he ticked his instrument. The moment I opened my key and got my response I could tell if it was he. Ill health compelled him to go south. He was gone six months. He returned unexpectedly one night and took his place at the key for a few minutes to open up a conversation with me. It was after the midnight recess, and his successor had been on duty in the fore part of the night. I had received no intimation of his coming, and yet the instant he called me I knew his touch, and I firmly believe I should have known it among a thousand."—New York Times.

Black Men in Persia.

Old inscriptions and carvings have shown that there existed in ancient Persia members of a race of black skinned men who possessed features resembling those of Africans. The origin of these people, as well as their apparent disappearance in modern times, has furnished puzzling questions for ethnologists. Some have supposed that in prehistoric times the greater part of southern Asia was occupied by a primitive black race, of which only vestiges remained when the empires of Babylonia and Assyria arose. Lately descendants of the black men who figured in the early history of Persia are believed to have been found by the Russian explorer Dr. Daniloff, dwelling among the mountains near Shiraz, east of the Persian gulf. These people, although they still form an independent group, mingle with the surrounding population, as in ancient times, and find employment at long distances from their homes. Some of them are to be seen in the city of Teheran.—Youth's Companion.

Minnesota's Vastness.

In Minnesota and the two Dakotas there are areas of more than 200 square miles with a population of only eight to the square mile. Speaking of Minnesota, the Minneapolis Tribune says: "Minnesota alone is larger than all New England, and a much larger proportion of the land is tillable. Of the 53,450,000 acres in this state, only 5,000,000 are now cultivated. If peopled as densely as Ohio, Minnesota alone would have a population of 7,500,000. There are said to be a million lakes in Minnesota, and these are fed or drained by innumerable streams, not to mention the mighty Mississippi on the east, the Red River of the North on the west, the Rainy lake water courses on the north, and their great tributaries, which, together, penetrate nearly every section of our vast territory."

Would Talk It Dead.

It was shockingly bad manners, of course, for even a brother to say such a thing, but she had been exercising a sister's prerogative of speech all day and had hectoring him to death.

Her name, be it said, is Jeanne—really Jeanne, by virtue of her Huguenot ancestry.

"Jane," said he, "I wish you would marry a Mormon. It's a blot on our national honor, and you'd do more to break it up than all the laws of the United States."—New York Herald.

The Honest Broker.

Banker—No, I'm afraid I can't let you have the money. You are too much indebted to the institution across the way.

Broker—No, sir, you are mistaken. They hold me for nothing—they've got only my word.—Journal Amusan.

Luck to Ships.

The workers at Barrow-on-Furness make it a point of carrying a black cat in every ship that is built there. They consider that this brings luck to a ship.

A Manuscript Hunt.

The editor of a popular weekly was placed in a great dilemma the other day, says The Westminster Gazette. Having with much care selected six complete stories for publication, he placed them for safety on the floor, underneath the waste paper basket. On leaving late at night he forgot to change their position, and when the charwoman came the next morning she swept them up with other litter and put them in the dust bin. The same morning the dustman came around, and the paper, including the editor's priceless stories, was placed in large sacks and sent off to the Salvation Army depot.

The editor's despair at discovering the fate of his manuscripts may be imagined, but he is a man of much decision, and, having learned the process of collection, he chartered a hansom, and, taking two assistants with him, set off for the Salvation Army depot. It was, of course, impossible for the authorities there to tell him which bag contained the litter. The huge sacks, 40 in number, which had been collected during the morning were without any mark of identity, and it was at once apparent that if the manuscripts were to be recovered it would be necessary to search the entire litter.

Undismayed at the prospect, the editor and his assistants took off their coats and went to work. After many hours of weary search five out of the six were ultimately recovered. The last, according to the editor, the most priceless, evaded all search; but, triumphant at the result of the day's labors, the editor and his assistants returned to the office and the manuscripts were forthwith handed to the waiting printers.

Trapping Turkeys.

One of the methods by which wild turkeys are taken by native hunters, as described in "Hunting and Fishing in Florida," by Mr. C. B. Cory, curator of the department of ornithology in the Field Columbian museum, Chicago, certainly does little credit to the intelligence of the turkeys.

A place is found where turkeys are numerous. Corn is scattered about, and if that is eaten, more corn is placed there the next day. The birds are fed in this manner for a week or two, until they become accustomed to going there for food. Then small logs are laid, forming a square box about 6 or 8 inches in height; possibly two logs on each side, one above the other. Inside is placed the corn, and the turkeys enter it readily, as the obstruction is not sufficient to excite their fears.

The next night another log is added, raising the box a little, perhaps a foot or so, and this process goes on until the small logs form a cone shaped box, narrowing at the top, leaving an opening perhaps a foot or 18 inches wide, by which they can enter at the top.

Corn is placed in the box, and a few kernels leading to it, as usual, and the turkeys, mounting the last log, drop in and eat up the corn. And now they are caught. The opening is so narrow that, although a turkey can easily jump down through it with closed wings, it cannot jump out again with its wings spread.

Outwitting a Judge.

A strange story is related of a jurymen who outwitted a judge, and that without lying. He ran into court in a desperate hurry and quite out of breath, and exclaimed:

"Oh, judge, if you can, pray excuse me! I don't know which will die first, my wife or my daughter."

"Dear me, that's sad," said the innocent judge. "Certainly, you are excused."

The next day the jurymen was met by a friend, who, in a sympathetic voice, asked:

"How is your wife?"

"She's all right, thank you."

"And your daughter?"

"She's all right too. Why do you ask?"

"Why, yesterday you said you did not know which would die first."

"Nor do I. That is the problem which time alone can solve."—New York Tribune.

English Settles.

The "genuine English settles" often offered in shops are viewed with discretion by travelers who have seen such belongings in old English farmhouses. On their native heath they are of solid oak, fully five feet high and running quite across the great kitchens. They are black with time and are apt to be well seasoned with ham fat. The duty of the settle is fourfold. It is the family seat, and, as the bench part can be raised, in the drawers beneath are kept the family rags for weaving. Above the seat is the family hatrack. The upright is double, and in the recess thus formed the family bacon is hung, doors opening from behind into this cupboard. The dainty affairs we know as English settle are toys compared to the actual thing.—New York Post.

German Rulers.

The present ruler of Germany is Emperor William II, who acceded to the throne June 15, 1888, on the death of his father, Emperor Frederick. The German empire was the creation of Charlemagne in 800. Since that time to the present emperor there have been 60 rulers of various royal houses, the disturbed condition of Germany for several hundred years and the political changes made by the wars of the middle ages bringing first one and then another royal family into prominence.

Portugal's Monarchs.

The present king of Portugal is Carlos I. He ascended the throne Oct. 19, 1889. Portugal has had since 1095, when its independent existence began, 33 kings—10 of the house of Burgundy, 8 of the house of Avis and 14 of the present reigning house of Braganza.

Sure Test.

Mrs. Witherby—I wonder if I have got everything in this trunk?

Witherby—The only way to tell is for me to lock it and strap it first.—London Fun.

DANBURY.

McKinley is President.

Surprise party on Becca Messner, Saturday night.

Thos. Henderson of the Bluffs was in town, Thursday.

Rev. Davis commenced his revival meetings, last Sunday night.

Many of the boys from town took in the wolf chase, Thursday.

Dr. W. A. DeMay made a trip on business to the county seat, Thursday.

Chas. Monroe came home, Saturday, from a two weeks' visit at Denver.

Lavy Clay came home, Thursday, from Orleans, where he has been attending college.

H. W. Parker is able to be out again after about four weeks of suffering from his accident.

Thirteen cars of hogs and three cars of cattle were shipped from here in the month of January.

Tin wedding party (surprise) on C. P. Underwood, last Wednesday night. An oyster supper was prepared, and everybody had an enjoyable time.

The Woodmen boys here with visiting neighbors enjoyed themselves with an oyster supper, Saturday night, and also two candidates were given the degrees in woodcraft.

Maud Eno ended her six-month term of school in the Lural dist., last Wednesday, by giving an entertainment in the evening which was much appreciated by all present. After exercises were over a magic lantern show was given by a gentleman from Hitchcock county separate from the entertainment.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Land Office at McCook, Nebraska, February 25, 1897.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Saturday, March 20th, 1897, viz: Anton Braun, who made H. E. No. 5549 for the northeast quarter of section 9, township 5 north, range 30 west, 6th P. M. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Frank H. Andrijski, Joseph Harr and Peter L. Zimmer of Osborn, Nebraska. Any person who desires to protest against the allowance of such proof, or who knows of any substantial reason, under the law and the regulations of the Interior Department, why such proof should not be allowed, will be given an opportunity at the above mentioned time and place to cross-examine the witnesses of said claimant, and to offer evidence in rebuttal of that submitted by claimant.

Feb. 5-6ts. A. S. CAMPBELL, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Land Office at McCook, Nebraska, February 25, 1897.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Nebraska, on April 3rd, 1897, viz: John W. Kestian, H. E. No. 5500, for the southwest quarter of section 3, township 2 north, range 30 west, 6th P. M. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Milton C. Maxwell, William F. Everist, Andrew Carson and Ida Carson, all of McCook, Nebraska.

A. S. CAMPBELL, Register.

FARINGTON POWER, LAWYER.

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JOHN E. KELLEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW

McCOOK, NEBRASKA.

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McCOOK, NEBRASKA.

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Read the best county newspaper—that's The McCook Tribune every time.

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Cures Piles, Scalds, Burns.

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Every Thursday afternoon, a tourist sleeping car for Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Los Angeles leaves Omaha and Lincoln via the Burlington Route. It is carpeted, upholstered in rattan, has spring seats and backs and is provided with curtains, bedding, towels, soap, etc. An experienced excursion conductor and a uniformed Pullman porter accompany it through to the Pacific coast. While neither as expensively finished nor as fine to look at as a palace sleeper, it is just as good to ride in. Second class tickets are honored and the price of a berth, wide enough and big enough for two, is only \$5.00.

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The tobacco habit grows on a man until his nervous system is seriously affected, impairing health, comfort and happiness. To quit suddenly is to sever a shock to the system, as tobacco is an inveterate user becomes a stimulant that his system continually craves. "Bacco-Curo" is a scientific cure for the tobacco habit, in all its forms, carefully compounded after the formula of an eminent Berlin physician who has effected, in his private practice since 1872, without a failure. It is purely vegetable and guaranteed perfectly harmless. You can use all the tobacco you want while taking "Bacco-Curo." It will notify you when to stop. We give a written guarantee to cure permanently any case, with three boxes, or refund the money with 10 per cent. interest. "Bacco-Curo" is not a substitute, but a scientific cure, that cures without the aid of will power and with no inconvenience. It leaves the system as pure and free from nicotine as the day you took your first puff of smoke.

Cured by Bacco-Curo and Gained Thirty Pounds.

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Gentlemen: For forty years I used tobacco in all its forms. For twenty-five years of that time I was a great sufferer from general debility and heart disease. For fifteen years I tried to quit, but couldn't. I took various remedies, among others, "No-To-Bac," "The Indian Tobacco Antidote," "Double Chloride of Gold," etc., etc., but none of them did me the least bit of good. Finally, however, I purchased a box of your "Bacco-Curo" and it has entirely cured me of the habit in all its forms, and I have increased thirty pounds in weight and am relieved of all the numerous aches and pains of body and mind. I could write a quire of paper upon my changed feelings and condition.

Yours respectfully,
P. H. MANNING.

Pastor C. P. Church, Clayton, Ark.

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