

Famous Folk

Senator Bankhead—Peabody and His Bomb—Rear Admiral Sperry. General Davis—Secretary Garfield and Pete the Bulldog—Sir Eldon Gorst.

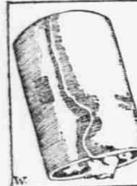


JOHN H. BANKHEAD.

JOHN H. BANKHEAD, former congressman, who was appointed by Governor Comer of Alabama to fill the vacancy in the United States senate made by the death of Senator John T. Morgan, holds his appointment only until the meeting of the legislature July 19, when that body will choose some one to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Morgan. Mr. Bankhead ran first in the Democratic primary for alternate senator last August. He and former Governor Joseph E. Johnston were selected at the primary to fill any vacancies that might occur by either of the sitting members from Alabama dying or being incapacitated. His appointment by Governor Comer is considered to strengthen his chances of election by the legislature. In 1904 he contested the Democratic nomination to the house of representatives with Captain Richmond P. Hobson and defeated the man who sank the Merrimac. Two years later Captain Hobson defeated him in the contest for the same nomination and was elected to congress.

Mr. Bankhead is a native of Alabama and about sixty-five years old. He is an ex-Confederate officer, a farmer and served in ten congresses. He has a weakness for gambling stories. One that he tells is of a time when an attempt was being made to drive gamblers out of Mobile. A witness was testifying for the defense, and it was well known that the judge was a skillful poker player. The witness talked of "going blind," "raising," "passing" and so on, and finally his honor said gravely: "Mr. Jackson, you are using a good many of what I presume are technical terms. Will you be good enough to explain some of them?" The witness, with equal gravity, replied, "I shall be pleased to do so, your honor, if you will kindly let me have your poker deck for a few moments."

It was a dramatic moment in the Haywood trial in Idaho when former Governor Peabody of Colorado entered the courtroom and handled the bomb which Harry Orchard confessed to having made for the governor's destruction. Another spectacular episode was the meeting between the ex-governor and Orchard. The latter was much affected and almost broke down at being greeted by the man whose life he had sought, but the former executive of the Centennial State reassured him, remarking, "I understand how it



GOVERNOR PEABODY AND THE BOMB.

was with you." The dynamite had been taken from the death dealing machine when it was introduced in court, but it looked grewsome nevertheless. When Governor Peabody came into court he took a seat near the desk on which the formidable looking object was lying.

"Here's your bomb, governor," whispered one of the correspondents. Mr. Peabody reached forward and with a half smile measured with his hands the instrument which had been made to hurl him into eternity.

"It's pretty big," said he. Mr. Peabody was governor of Colorado from 1903 to 1905 and was sworn in for a second term after having been declared re-elected by the legislature, but resigned, according to agreement, in favor of the man elected lieutenant governor. He is fifty-five years old and a native of Vermont.

Rear Admiral Charles S. Sperry, president of the war college at Newport, represents the naval branch of Uncle Sam's fighting force in the peace conference at The Hague. He was born in New York in 1847 and was educated in the public schools, Waterbury academy, Connecticut, and at the United States Naval academy, from which he graduated in 1866. He married Miss Edith Marcy, daughter of Governor William L. Marcy of New York. He became an ensign in 1868 and rose steadily through the different grades until reaching his present rank. He is a member of the general board of the navy and is considered a high authority on the subject of international law as it affects naval warfare.



REAR ADMIRAL SPERRY.

James R. Garfield, who has been working hard since March 1 to make a record as secretary of the interior, is a great admirer of his official chief, the president, and his fondness for Mr. Roosevelt's society is so pronounced that it has sometimes attracted good humored comment. He is a leading

member of the "tennis cabinet," goes on horseback rides with President Roosevelt and in general is seen much in the latter's company. A story was printed not long ago that he was to have a folding bed in a convenient room in the White House so as not to miss any more of the chief magistrate's society than necessary. Of course this was a joke, as was also the story that the object of the president in acquiring the bulldog known as Pete was to give an element of danger to visits to the White House by admiring friends after dark and thus diminish the number of such visits. Whatever the reason, Secretary Garfield's calls became somewhat less frequent from that time. Various yarns



JAMES R. GARFIELD—PETE THE BULLDOG.

have been told about the more or less mythical exploits of Pete, and he was celebrated as follows by James J. Montague in the New York American: A certain dog named Cerberus, so run the tales of yore, Was wont to tree the ghosts that roamed on Night's Plutonian shore, Ulysses' faithful Argos, when the former came from Troy, Was so delighted that he died of unfeigned joy. Through all recorded history have sundry dogs laid claim, And had their several claims allowed, to various sorts of fame, We grant the laurel cheerfully to many a keen fanged pet, Whose name rings down the corridors of echoing time—and yet

When Pete patrols the White House grounds, and in their own behoof Three statesmen and an envoy are departing for the roof, When Root is backed against the wall, and Taft is up a tree, And Cortelyou has shed his coat that he may freely flee; When two supreme court judges o'er the hedges lightly leap, Sans portion of their raiment, which they leave for Pete to keep, We'll gladly let historic dogs enjoy their little day, For Pete upholds the honor of the U. S. A.

Sir Eldon Gorst, the new British consul general in Egypt, holds an office that is really more important than might appear from its name. He is to all intents and purposes the ruler of Egypt and succeeds in that post Lord Cromer, who has been described as "the maker of modern Egypt." The latter found the country almost ruined, her people desperate with suffering, her very existence in peril from the dervishes, and he left her in splendid prosperity, her taxes lightened, her finances on a firm basis and her people increasing in numbers. The new Egypt has aspirations to rule itself, and it will be Sir Eldon Gorst's duty to pave the way for some sort of constitutional government. Though a Conservative, he was appointed by a Liberal government because he was considered the man best fitted by training and capacity to fill the position. He is forty-six years old and the eldest son of Sir John Eldon Gorst, who is still living. He was named after his father. When his ability brought him a knighthood he dropped his first name that there might not be two Sir Johns in the family. But in Egypt everybody still speaks of him as Johnnie Gorst. He went there when twenty-six as an attache and rose rapidly through the diplomatic grades. He was financial adviser to the Egyptian government when in 1903 he was summoned to London to assist the foreign office in the negotiations which resulted in the Anglo-French agreement that so largely contributed to giving England a free hand in Egypt. His services were rewarded by the bestowal upon him of one of the most prestigious positions in the permanent civil service, that of under-secretary of state for foreign affairs.



SIR ELDON GORST.

Brigadier General George Breckinridge Davis, the military expert of the United States delegation to the peace conference at The Hague, is judge advocate general of the United States army. He was born in Ware, Mass., in 1847, and graduated from West Point in 1871. He studied law at the Columbian university, Washington, and married in 1871 Miss Ella I. Prince of Springfield, Mass. Before going to the West Point academy he was a volunteer soldier in the Union army during the civil war, rising from the rank of sergeant to a second lieutenant before his eighteenth birthday. He was professor of law at West Point from 1895 to 1900 and reached his present rank in 1901. He is the author of a number of works on international law.



Copyright by Clinelinst. GENERAL GEORGE B. DAVIS.

The One Advantage. Jiggers—Well, how do you like living in a flat? Jiggers—Great! Splendid! Jiggers—But you haven't as much room as you had in your house. Jiggers—That's just it—no room for my wife's relatives.—Cleveland Leader.

Reade's Eccentric English.

Reade's use of the English language, too, was eccentric, not to say ludicrous. In "A Simpleton," when he wished to signify that two people turned their backs on each other in a fit of temper, he wrote, "They showed napes." Describing the complexion of the New Haven fishwives in "Christie Johnstone," he says, "It is a race of women that the northern sun penchifies instead of rosewoodizing." In "Readiana" he describes a gentleman giving a lunch to two ladies at a railway restaurant as follows: "He souped them, he tough chickened them, he branded and cochinealed one, and he branded and burnt sugared the other (brandy and cochineal and brandy and burnt sugar being Reade's euphemisms for port and sherry respectively). While he was preparing his series of articles on Old Testament characters he read what he had written to John Coleman on one occasion and came to this startling passage in his argument:

"Having now arrived at this conclusion, we must go the whole hog or none."

Coleman objected to this phrase. "You don't like the hog, I see," said Reade. "Well, it's a strong figure of speech, and it's understood of the people, but—yes, you are right. It's scarcely Scriptural, so out it goes."—Gentleman's Magazine.

Bass Are Real Cute.

It is jumped for a fact that the reason bass jump—and it is common practice of the fish—is because they wish to acquire grace and strength in testing their ability against that of fishermen. Several men who say they know what they are talking about point out that bass do most of their jumping during the spring and are especially active just before the open season begins.

At this time they may be seen doing long distance jumps, somersaults and side stepping.

One bass expert goes so far as to say that he spent an entire afternoon watching a three pound bass dragging a long willow sapling through the water and acting as if it were caught on a hook.

Leaping into the air, it would turn in a half circle as if to disgorge the barb, and then it would swim backward in an endeavor to snap the barb.

This fisherman asserts that what jumping the bass do during the summer is merely to keep in practice and not get stale.—Philadelphia North American.

Improving Nature.

To "paint the lily; to gild refined gold," when taken in a literal sense, seem processes too absurd for serious deliberation. Flowers of unnatural hues, however, bloom in florists' windows, and the color green as applied to the carnation is no longer confined to the title of a book. But the Persians do even worse things in the name of beauty. They dress up their flowers, according to Mr. Willis in "The Land of Lion and Sun."

Persia is not a land of flowers. Zinnias, convolvulus, asters, balsams, wall-flowers, chrysanthemums, marigolds and roses are the principal blooms of the country.

The Persians, not content with the plain flower, cut rings of colored paper, cloth or velvet and ornament the bloom, placing the circles of divers hues between the first and second rows of petals.

The effect is strange. One, at first glance, supposes he sees a bouquet of curious and bizarre flowers of entirely new varieties.

The Boomerang and Its Inventors.

The boomerang is a puzzle. One might think that the highest laws of mathematics had been laid under contribution in the perfecting of it. The convexity on one side, the flatness on the other and the sharp, knife-like edge on the inside of the convexity have the air of having been carefully thought out. Yet the people who invented this singular weapon cannot count higher than five and are destitute of all the arts and amenities of life. There is perhaps the lowest plane of human life. Some people have assumed that the boomerang was the creation of an older and higher civilization, but for this there is no evidence. It must be the product of an age long empirical use of throwing weapons.—London Spectator.

Sandy's Criticism.

A young Scotchman went to a London school of music, where he learned to play the violoncello fairly well. On his return to his native village he gathered his friends together to hear his new instrument. When he had played one or two tunes, he looked up expectantly. After a slight pause his old grandfather spoke. "Eh, man," he said, "it's a maircy there's na smell w' it!"—Liverpool Mercury.

He Knew.

Lady Customer—I wish to tell you how these shoes of mine are to be made. Shoemaker—Oh, I know that well enough—large inside and small outside.—Meggendorfer Blatter.

Pretty Bad.

Wife—Aren't you going to smoke those cigars I gave you? Husband—No; I'm keeping them till Tommy begins to want to smoke. They'll settle it!—Illustrated Bits.

Authoritative.

"So you are going to leave your studio?" "Leave? No. Who told you so?" "Your landlord."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Self conquest is the greatest victory.—Plato.

CHESS CLOCKS.

There Are Specially Constructed Ones Used in the Game.

Hourglasses, or sandglasses, were formerly used for the purpose of measuring time at chess matches, but now specially constructed clocks are in general use for this purpose. These clocks consist of two clocks mounted on a common base, which moves on a pivot, the two clocks therefore being on the arms of a sort of seesaw. The beam, or base, is so constructed that when one clock is elevated it stands perfectly perpendicular, while the depressed clock lies over at an angle, but as the mechanism of each clock is so constructed that it only moves when the clock is perfectly perpendicular it follows that when the upright clock is going the depressed clock is at rest.

Another and more modern variety has the two clocks fixed on the same level, but with a small brass arm reaching from the top of one to the top of the other. This arm acts on a pivot and can be brought down into actual contact with one clock at a time by a touch of the finger. When it is thus in contact by an ingenious device the clock is stopped and the desired result is attained. The working of the clock during a match is simplicity itself. At the commencement of the match the hands of each clock point to 12. Then at the call of "time to commence play" the clock of the first player is started; then as soon as he makes his first move he stops his own clock either by depressing it or by touching the arm referred to, the same motion starting his opponent's clock. So it goes on during the entire course of the game, each move being marked by the stopping of one clock and the starting of the other.

COUNTERFEIT BILLS.

The Check Letter Test on United States Currency.

The United States government prints its currency and numbers its bills in a series of four, so that every piece of paper money turned out bears one of the check letters—A, B, C, D. One of these letters is always found in two places on a United States bill, in the upper left hand corner and in the lower right hand corner. The placing of the letter on the bill is not determined by the number of the bill. The rule is to divide the last two figures on the note by four. Should the remainder be one, the check letter must be A; should it be two, the check letter is B; three, the check letter is C, and nothing, the letter D.

For example, I have before me a five dollar certificate. Its number is \$1489730. The terminal number is 30. Divide by four. The result is seven with two over. The check letter is B.

Here is a yellow back gold certificate with twenty-three as its terminal number. Divide this by four, and we have five with three over. C is the check letter.

Should this rule of four fail to work on any United States currency note you may bet all you have that the money is bad. Some counterfeit bills are right to their check letters, but a great many are not so if the rule of four works. The bill may be still bad, but if it doesn't it is surely bad. This rule applies only to United States currency and not to national bank notes.—Minneapolis Journal.

Spain's Buried Wealth.

The Carthaginians and the Tyrians regarded Spain as El Degrado. It is but a poor country today, but potential wealth lies in its rock bound hills, just as in the days of the ancients. When those acquisitive mariners, the Phoenicians, first set foot in the country they exchanged their commodities, says Aristotle, "for such immense quantities of silver that their ships could neither contain nor sustain the load, though they used it for ballast and made their anchors and other implements of silver." So rich in silver was the country then that the people are said to have made their commonest domestic utensils of the metal and even their managers. The Romans found that their greedy forerunners had sadly diminished the precious store, yet enough was left to satisfy not a few proconsuls.

The Truthful Woman.

It is no exaggeration to say that a more or less truthful woman is looked upon with grave suspicion. What is more, nobody believes her. If she quite truthfully pronounces her age to be twenty-nine everybody at once says then she must be at least thirty-five, while if she should ever be ejected into admitting the number of proposals she had in her youth it will only confirm the popular impression that she had been very lucky to catch a husband at all.—London Ladies' Field.

Force of Habit.

Redd—I see that man Finn has got an automobile. Greene—And it was quite amusing to see him the first week he had it.

"How so?" "Why, every time he'd blow his horn he'd stop and look around. He used to peddle fish, you know!"—Yonkers Statesman.

In Automobiledom.

Scientist—Light travels at the rate of about 187,000 miles a second. Chauffeur—Gee, that's goin' some! Auto Enthusiast (slightly deaf)—Pardon me, sir. But what make machine was it you just mentioned?—Bohemian.

Her Cleverness.

She—Mary Graham is certainly a very clever woman, yet she has little to say. He—That's where her cleverness comes in. She leads a man to believe that she thinks he is worth listening to.—Pick-Me-Up.

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