

A FAMOUS RELIC.

A Snuff-Box that Belonged to the Earl of Buchan, George Washington and Commodore Decatur.

It is Now the Property of Lewis Williams, of Belleville, Ill.

An interesting souvenir is in the possession of Lewis Williams, city marshal of the city of Belleville, Ill. It is a snuff-box, which, according to tradition and the written history accompanying it, was made from the wood of the tree that sheltered Sir William Wallace after he and his army had been defeated in the terrible battle of Falkirk, Stirlingshire, Scotland, fought July 22, 1298.

The wood of which this ancient snuff-box is made no one appears to be familiar with, but it resembles the cherry of the present day. It is five inches long and two and three-fourths inches wide, being oval-shaped on the top with a flat bottom.

The hinges of this lid have become worn out from age and use. In each end there is also a compartment closed with lids. The hinges of one of these lids are yet in good condition, while the others are long since gone.

This lid is between a compartment which is between the bottom of the box and the bottom of the snuff compartment. There is not much room in this compartment, and it is for the keeping of valuable papers, etc. Near each end of the box is a hand of silver, and around the edges of the lid of the end compartments there was the same, but they are no longer there.

This box was presented to Gen. Geo. Washington by the earl of Buchan, who had received it from Goldsmith's company of Edinburgh, Scotland, which company, at the request of the earl, consented to its transfer to Gen. Washington.

The box then was considered a valuable souvenir gift on account of its age and history, and was in a manner revered by Scottish chiefs and people on account of the event its existence commemorated.

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Mr. Williams, his son, its present owner, in the compartment of the box for valuables or papers is the following, written on note paper, in the handwriting of the late V. L. Williams: "This box is made of the tree that sheltered Sir William Wallace at the battle of Falkirk, and was presented to Gen. Washington as such.

Washington presented it to Commodore Decatur and Commodore Decatur presented it to Catherine Clark, my mother, and she to my mother, Volney L. Williams. This box has a Scottish coat of arms on it. There came a man, in 1840, on from Scotland and offered me \$600 for it to put it in the Scottish museum. But as I promised my mother to keep it in remembrance of Washington, Decatur and herself, I refused to accept the offer.

The present owner as a zealous guard and as a ready preserver of the snuff-box as did his father and would not part with it. He is going to have the hinges, which are gone, replaced and the fact noted upon paper to be placed in the proper compartment of the box to be a portion of its history.

Edward I., being informed of this hatched home from Flanders and marched towards Scotland, where he gained the battle of Falkirk in 1298. He still continued to harass the English people, but in 1305 he was betrayed into their hands by Sir John Monteith, in whom he had confided. The king sent him in chains to London, where he was executed on Tower Hill, August 23, 1305. He was beheaded and quartered and the parts sent to the four parts of the country. His story is familiar to all the world through Miss Porter's famous novel, the "Scottish Chiefs."

Mr. Williams has also another souvenir, which he greatly values. It is a pearl-handled knife with twenty-four blades of the common-sized pocket-knife. The blades are nearly all small and with the handle bear the evidence of good workmanship.

Feeding Forty Cent Corn. With the corn on hand and cattle to buy at \$3.50 per hundred, would you sell your corn at forty cents per bushel or buy cattle and feed them? This is about the form of question put to us on Tuesday by one of our extensive farmers and heavy stock feeders.

Our farmers have derived a nice profit on their stock-feeding operations the past several seasons and we would very much like to see this state of affairs continue. But "circumstances alter cases," and they must bear in mind that the value of corn now is 50 per cent higher than any they have fed for years.

We have no wish to discourage stock-feeding, but we wish to impress upon the minds of farmers the fact that the present and prospective price of corn naturally changes the conditions, and we would have them well and thoroughly consider the question in all its bearings before they invest. This is the season for buying in the stock, and if they take this first step they can retreat without loss.

Jay Gould Caught for Once. Mr. Pine, of this city, on one of his recent trips to Cairo, the interest of the Singer company, took their Chicago attorney along to see that the titles to the property purchased by Mr. Pine for the Singer company were perfect.

In Good Spirits. T. Walker, Cleveland, O., writes: "For the last twelve months I have suffered with lunacy and general delirium. I commenced taking Doan's Kidney Pills about six weeks ago, and now have great pleasure in stating that I have recovered my appetite, my complexion has grown ruddy, and I feel better altogether." Price \$1.00, trial size 50 cents.

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There exists a means of securing a soft and brilliant complexion, no matter how poor it may naturally be. Hagan's Magnolia Balm is a delicate and harmless article, which instantly removes freckles, tan, redness, roughness, eruptions, vulgar flushings, etc.

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