

Notifying Sir Gobbler

RESIDENT GEORGE Washington issued the first national proclamation calling upon the people of the young republic to observe Thursday, the 28th of November, 1863, as a day of Thanksgiving and prayer.

"Whereas, Both houses of congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:

"Now therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 28th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these states to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty which we are possessed, and the means we have of applying and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

"Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A. D. 1789. GO. WASHINGTON."

Washington Second. But Washington was not impressed with the necessity of an annual Thanksgiving holiday, or else congress failed to request him to call one for there was no proclamation of this sort again issued for five years. On New Year's day of 1795, he issued a proclamation naming Thursday, February 19, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, chiefly on account of the overthrow of the whiskey rebellion in western Pennsylvania, as certain passages of the paper show, as follows:

"When we review the calamities which afflict so many other nations, the present condition of the United States affords much matter of consolation and satisfaction. Our exemption hitherto from foreign war, an increasing prospect of the continuance of that exemption, the great degree of internal tranquility we have enjoyed, the recent confirmation of that tranquility by the suppression of an insurrection which so wantonly threatened it, the happy course of our public affairs in general, the unexampled prosperity of all classes of our citizens, are circumstances which peculiarly mark our situation with indications of the Divine beneficence toward us."

"Deeply penetrated with this sentiment, I, George Washington, president of the United States, do recommend to all religious societies and denominations, and to all persons whomsoever within the United States, to set apart and observe Thursday, the 19th of February next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, and on that day to meet together and render their sincere and hearty thanks to the Great Ruler of Nations for the manifold and signal mercies which distinguish our lot as a nation, particularly for the possessions of constitutions of government which unite and by their union establish liberty with order; for the preservation of our peace, foreign and domestic; for the reasonable control which has been given to a spirit of disorder in the suppression of the late insurrection."

John Adams' Proclamation. The next presidential Thanksgiving-maker was John Adams, and his national observance seen a combination of the old Fast day spirit with that of Thanksgiving. He issued a proclamation which said:

"This duty, at all times incumbent, is so especially in seasons of difficulty or danger, when existing or threatening calamities, the just judgment of God against prevalent iniquity, are a loud call to repentance and reformation; and as the United States of America are at present placed in a state of active and passive war, and demands of a foreign power, evinced by repeated refusals to receive our messengers of reconciliation and peace, by depositions on our commerce, and the infliction of injuries on very many of our fellow citizens well engaged in their lawful business, on the one hand; and the considerations it has appeared to me that the duty of imploring the mercy and benediction of heaven on our country demands at this time special attention of its inhabitants."

"I have therefore thought it to recommend, and I do hereby recommend, that Wednesday, the 26th day of November, 1789, observed throughout the United States as a day of solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer; that the citizens of these states, abstaining on that day from their customary worldly occupations, offer their devout addresses to the Father of Mercies. And finally, I recommend that on the said day the duties of humiliation and prayer be accompanied by fervent thanksgiving to the bestower of Every Good Gift, not only for His having hitherto protected and preserved the people of these United States in the independent enjoyment of their religious and civil freedom, but also for having prospered them in a wonderful progress of population, and for conferring on them many and great favors conducive to the happiness and prosperity of a nation."

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States of America, at Philadelphia, this 2d day of March, A. D. 1789, and of the independence of the said states the twenty-second. JOHN ADAMS."

Variation in Dates. The following spring President Adams appointed another fast day, alluding in his proclamation to the most precious interests of the people of the United States still held in jeopardy by the hostile designs and insidious acts of a foreign nation, as well as by the dissension among them of those principles subversive of the foundations of all religious, moral and social obligations, that have produced incalculable miseries and misery in other countries. In fact the



Stories of Men Of Note

Colonel Anthony's Epitaph. THE late Colonel Anthony of Leavenworth, the real fighting editor of Kansas, identified with the history of the commonwealth before and since the war, and publisher of the Leavenworth Times for nearly forty years, necessarily left the impress of his sturdy, aggressive character on the community in which he lived and on the affairs of Kansas. Concerning his religious views and the epitaph he desired on his gravestone, the Times publishes these notes:

"Colonel Anthony met death with the same lion-hearted courage he always showed during life. A few days ago, when he was suffering much, he begged Dr. Darrah and those about him to make no effort to prolong his life. He said that his time had come and he was ready to die. Colonel Anthony never professed any religion, but always exhibited a deep interest in any discussion of Biblical matters. The teachings of Buddha appealed to him strongly, and many times during his life he expressed admiration for the wonderful power and great influence for good of the Catholic church."

"One night last week, in one of his few conscious moments, he called one of the members of his family to his bedside and dictated the following statement relative to his religious ideas: 'I die in full confidence of a divine power who made and controls the universe; that there have been no changes of control, so far as we know. What is made by that divine power is perfect and remains perfect. So far as the other world is concerned, we do not know. Divine power is for good and not for evil. We believe that we should do unto others as we would be done by.' I don't believe that God ever created a devil. I don't believe that a devil exists anywhere except in the heart of man or beast."

"Colonel Anthony retained old Quaker ideas of the custom of not wearing mourning for the dead. He discussed such matters with his family. Knowing that his end had come, Colonel Anthony's only regret was that he had not yet taken time to write of his early experiences in the days of the Kansas struggle for freedom. He expressed the hope that D. W. Wilder would some day write the history and story of those days. Colonel Anthony speaks of his approaching end with great deliberation. If an epitaph were put on his tombstone, he said, the story of his life would be his name and date of birth and death, and the following inscription: 'He helped make Kansas a free state. He fought to save the Union. He published the Daily Times for nearly forty years in the interest of Leavenworth. He was no hypocrite.'"

A Generous Giver. Although J. Pierpont Morgan is credited with gifts to philanthropic enterprises which reach \$1,000,000 a year, his name does not appear on any of the ten buildings in the city which were built with his money.

The greatest secrecy surrounds his charitable work, which is much more extensive than is generally supposed. As a matter of fact, Mr. Morgan is well up toward the head of the great givers of the world. One of his chief philanthropies is keeping boys off the street. As a vestryman in St. George's church in Stuyvesant square, Manhattan, he has organized a club for this purpose, and out of the club has grown the New York Trade school, as well as a smaller trade school connected with the church. Mr. Morgan endowed the first club with \$50,000. Among the gifts of Mr. Morgan are \$10,000 to Harvard college, \$150,000 for a private hospital in Stuyvesant square, \$50,000 for the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, \$100,000 for the Young Men's Christian association, \$50,000 for the Loomis Hospital for Consumptives, \$10,000 for a library in Holyoke, Mass., where his father was born; \$25,000 for preserving the palaces, \$50,000 for a new parish house and rectory in Stuyvesant square, \$50,000 for the collection of porcelains and \$100,000 for the Tiffany gem collection for the Metropolitan museum.

Roosevelt Expresses Thanks. When Captain Richmond P. Hobson spoke at Columbia City, N. C., in the closing days of the campaign, he was severely in his criticisms of President Roosevelt, declaring among other things that the president was tyrannical, and that his purpose ultimately was to set up a dictatorship in this country.

When he had finished speaking a crowd of democrats gathered around him and were congratulating him on his speech. A young woman pushed her way through the crowd, but when Captain Hobson extended his hand she did not take it. Instead, she declared that she did not believe one word that he had said about the president, and that he ought not to make such assertions.

The young woman was Miss Ida Galbreth, a teacher in the public schools of Columbia City. The other day she received a letter from President Roosevelt which read: Washington, D. C. Nov. 7. My Dear Miss Galbreth—Will you kindly allow me to express my appreciation, sincerely yours, THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Assisting a Critic. Emperor William wrote a poem once, which he submitted to a great literary man who dined at the castle for that purpose particularly. The critic read it, and found his dual duties in conflict. He had to advise an amateur poet with an exceptional power of resenting a hostile comment. He yielded only a very little to the exigencies of the situation. "This verse, your majesty," he began, "seems to require alteration in certain respects." The emperor took the manuscript and conned it thoughtfully. Then his brow cleared. "Why," he cried, as one seeing a sudden light, "I have actually not signed the poem. Give me a pen!" And the only fault he saw in the work was forthwith remedied.

Cockran's Story Teller. Bourke Cockran is a capital story teller, but a good many of his latest yarns have himself for one of the leading figures. A Kentucky democrat who sat in the Riggs house headquarters in Washington was aware of this peculiarity of the distinguished New Yorker. Therefore, when a Tammany man asked, "Have you heard the latest story Cockran tells?" he answered: "No, I don't believe I have; what is it about himself?" "No," then, "I have not heard it." And then the New York politician went over to a corner seat and studied over the situation.

whole paper is so full of this spirit that it is hard to understand why it should be regarded as a Thanksgiving proclamation.

Madison four times issued proclamations setting apart days for religious observances. In July, 1812, he designated Thursday, August 3, "as a day of public humiliation and prayer." A year later, in pursuance of a joint resolution of congress he appointed the second Thursday of September as a Thanksgiving. In the autumn of 1814 congress gave him the same advice again, and so Madison named January 12, 1815, to "be set apart as a day on which all may have an opportunity of voluntary offering at the same time in their respective religious assemblies their humble adoration to the Great Sovereign of the Universe, of confessing their sins and transgressions and of strengthening their vows of repentance and amendment."

The second Thursday of April of the same year was also observed as a peace thanksgiving, by the president's proclamation, at the behest of congress. This closes the list of Thanksgiving proclamations, which were not again renewed till Lincoln's time.

A Story of Fasting. Buchanan also invited a day of fasting and prayer in a proclamation issued December 14, 1850, designating Friday, January 4, 1851, for that purpose. He wrote: "The union of the states is at the present moment threatened with alarming and immediate danger; panic and distress of a fearful character prevail throughout the land; our laboring population are without employment, and consequently deprived of the means of earning their bread. Indeed, hope seems to have deserted the minds of men. All classes are in a state of confusion and dismay, and the wisest counsels of our best and purest men are wholly disregarded."

"Let us, then, with deep contrition and penitent sorrow unite in humbling ourselves before the Most High, in confessing our individual and national sins, and in acknowledging the justice of our punishment. Let us implore Him to remove from our hearts that false pride of opinion which

would impel us to persevere in wrong for the sake of consistency rather than yield a just submission to the unforeseen exigencies by which we are now surrounded. Let us with deep reverence beseech Him to restore the friendship and goodwill which prevailed in former days among the people of the several states, and, above all, to save us from the horrors of civil war and blood guiltiness. Let our fervent prayers ascend to His throne that He would not desert us in this hour of extreme peril, but remember us as He did our fathers in the darkest days of the revolution, and preserve our constitution and our union, the work of their hands, for ages yet to come."

Lincoln's Proclamations. Lincoln several times set apart fast days, and it was he who made the national Thanksgiving day a custom, as the first president regularly to proclaim it. He began in April, 1862, by asking that the following Sunday be observed as one of thanksgiving for the "signal victories to the land and naval forces engaged in suppressing an internal rebellion."

A year later Lincoln set apart Thursday, August 6, for the same purpose. It was after Gettysburg and Vicksburg, when the tide of the confederacy turned. In the same autumn he designated "the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens."

This established the present custom, from which there has since been no departure. Every autumn has brought from the White House its Thanksgiving proclamation. In fact, the practice of giving them out the Saturday before the November election is almost as well established. The president cannot be said to be influenced in his measure of gratitude by any turns of the political tide.

In his last Thanksgiving proclamation President Lincoln wrote: "And I do further recommend to my fellow citizens aforesaid that on that occasion they do reverently humble themselves in the dust and from thence offer up penitent and fervent prayers and supplications to the Great Disposer of Events for a return of the inestimable blessings of peace, union and harmony throughout the land which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations."

Nothing Surprising. Bradley Martin, Jr., who has recently been married to Miss Phipps of Kentucky, has a dry humor that has been likened to Mark Twain's. On a visit to America the young man went to Niagara for the first time.

He was accompanied on this tour by a Harvard instructor who admires nature profoundly. The instructor hoped to see Mr. Martin impressed, almost overcome, by Niagara's grandeur. The young man, for a joke, was determined to disappoint his friend.

Their first view of the falls was by moonlight. The great white water was beautiful under the pale light of the moon, and the air was filled with deep, sweet music. Mr. Martin really was moved, but he yawned, lighted a cigarette, and said: "Let's be going."

His poor friend was thunderstruck at such indifference. "Why," he cried, "where are your eyes? Aren't you amazed? Aren't you impressed? Aren't you transported?" "Of course not," said Mr. Martin. "What is there here to make such a fuss about?" "Look," cried the Harvard man, "look

at the man to his feet, saying: 'Oh, did the motor car hit you?'"

"The other fellow, thinking he was gushing, ungalantly said: 'Oh, chase yourself around the block!'"

"What a deuced remarkable request," said the Englishman, in telling the story. "And, in the second place, how can a fellow chase himself unless there are two of him?"

Excitement Over a Baby. "When I was a student at the University of Virginia," said Surgeon General Rixey of the navy, "there used to be an old man named Tom Crabbe who cleaned my boots and ran my errands."

"Tom, one morning, came to my room in an excited and gay mood. 'My daughter, sir,' he said, 'has a little baby. A fine child. Twelve pounds in weight.'"

"When was it born?" said I. "This morning," answered Tom. "Is it a boy or a girl?"

"Do you know, sir," he said, "I forgot in the excitement to find out whether it was a grandfather or a grandmother?"—Washington Times.

An Englishman's Wit. "The average Englishman is a very serious proposition," recently observed Colonel "Dan" Loeb of Kentucky. "A London friend of mine who is in the government service and is now in New York has some difficulty in becoming acquainted with the ways of this strange country. He told me that he saw a man knocked down by an automobile in Fifth avenue. He helped

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"At this the young wife of Mr. Ingalls' friend, who had been following the conversation with great interest, gave expression to a cry of astonishment and disbelief. "Oh, Mr. Ingalls!" she exclaimed, "How in the world could one engine pull such a train!"—New York Times.

How Railroad Men Exaggerate. M. E. Ingalls, president of the "Big Four" system, was calling at the house of a friend when the conversation chanced to turn upon certain phases of the commercial greatness of this country.

Mr. Ingalls says he had remarked to his friend that he had recently seen a statement to the effect that if the egg product in the United States for the year just ended were loaded into one railway train,

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Some Tersely Told Tales Both Grim and Gay

Its Practical Value. REPRESENTATIVE HEMENWAY of Indiana tells of a notable lecture delivered in a small town of that state by an eminent geologist from the east.

At the conclusion of his address the lecturer remarked to the audience that he thanked them for their attention. "I have," said he, "endeavored to render these problems, abstruse as they may appear and involving in their solution the best thought, the closest analysis and the most profound investigation of our ablest scientists for many years—I have, I say, endeavored to render them comparatively simple and easily understood in the light of modern knowledge. And now, ladies and gentlemen, before leaving the platform I shall be glad to answer any questions that may occur to you as to points that may appear to need clearing up, or as to those points that may have been overlooked."

After a moment's silence a tall, gaunt man, with an anxious, earnest look, arose. "I should like to put a question," said he.

The lecturer bowed. "I shall be only too happy to reply to it, sir," said he.

The tall man cleared his throat, and then, in a loud voice, said: "I would take it as a considerable favor if you would tell me whether this science has produced any remedy for warts."

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mony throughout the land which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations."

A Nebraska Model. A proclamation issued in the territorial days of Nebraska, it may be added, is a model of conciseness:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, OMAHA, N. T., Nov. 10, 1858.—J. William A. Richardson, governor of the Territory of Nebraska, issue this, my proclamation, setting apart Saturday, the fourth day of December, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, as a day of Prayer and Thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the manifold blessings which, in His great goodness and mercy, he has bestowed upon this people.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the territory.

WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON, Governor.

J. STERLING MORTON, Secretary of Nebraska.

Start of an Iowa Lawyer. An Iowa lawyer tells the following story of his first months of practice: He went to a small country town and secured office room, in front of which was placed the usual sign. Then he sat down and waited for his clients to appear: all the while feeling very much the dignity of his position. The day passed and no one called, and another and still another, until week went by, and still there had been no client.

One morning, however, he was at the depot to attend upon the arrival of the daily accommodation train, quite an important function of the town, when a handsome, well dressed young woman approached and inquired: "Is this Mr. Smith?" At once the feeling of importance returned, and in the bland tone he replied: "It is, madam. What can I do for you?"

"Can you tell me how much it will cost to send a sow and pigs down to the next station?"—Green Bag.

Political Amusements. It is told that while John Sharp Williams was speaking in Mississippi a man in the audience cried, "I've been robbed by pickpockets!"

"I did not suspect there were any republicans present," said Mr. Williams, amid great laughter.

"There ain't," cried the victim; "I'm the only one!"