

NOTED KING OF SPENDERS

Imitators of "Coal Oil Johnny" Prove to Be Pickers.

WAYS OF MAKING MONEY FLY

McDevitt and Scotty Eastly Outclassed by the Record of the Oil Well Kid of the Late '90's.

With only \$2,000 to procure in New York the sensation of being "a millionaire for a day," Johnny McDevitt of Wilkesbarre, Pa., achieved the dubious distinction of being written down a picker. Numerous Pittsburgh Johnnies have pulled off the stunt in a quarter of the time and have burned more money at one sitting in Chorus Alley without getting a line in the papers. "Scotty of Death Valley" beat them all in his famous week-end stunt in New York following his special train trip across the continent. Both Scotty and McDevitt were wise enough, being sober at the time, to pin return tickets to their clothes before putting loose. Towering above these amateurs and middle class spenders is the unsurpassed record of the king of spendthrifts, Pennsylvania's favorite son of bygone days, "Coal Oil Johnny."

About once in ten years the story of "Coal Oil Johnny" starts on his newspaper grounds. By a curious coincidence the story had gained a fair start this year when McDevitt spluttered his brief hour on the "Great White Way," affording a comparison of the traits of spenders of today and yesterday.

The bustle of "Coal Oil Johnny" shifts with every round of his life story. In 1871, a few years after Johnny went broke, the writer saw him managing the business of the railroad station at Rouseville, half a dozen miles from Oil City, Pa., and twenty miles from Franklin, where he is now located, enjoying the winter of life on the family homestead. Getting His Start, Johnny was born of poor parents near Meakleyville, Mercer county, Pennsylvania. At an early age and his little sister went to Venango county to live with an uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. McClintock, who had a large farm on Oil creek. When Johnny was 12 years old his adopted uncle died. A few years afterward oil was discovered, and Widow McClintock, along with other landowners in Oil creek valley, found that she had secured above an independent fortune. She soon found herself a rich woman. One day while attempting to hasten a fire by means of oil Mrs. McClintock was burned to death—the first victim of the treacherous oil can. With her death Johnny came into all her possessions, his little sister having died some years before.

But like all youths who suddenly acquire great wealth, he had suddenly by the score. They told him "save his money," that he would "need it some day." The report was that, since there seemed to be a disposition on the part of everybody to get it away from him, he guessed he would spend it before it was stolen. Johnny started for Philadelphia, leaving behind his wife, whom he had married in 1892, and a baby son. He took with him Seth Stocum, the man at whose door Steele lays the greatest blame for his upswing.

Cutting Loose. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia Steele was met by W. H. Wickham of New York, who offered him \$50,000 for the McClintock farm. Johnny accepted and received \$25,000 to bind the bargain. With \$25,000 in his pocket, Steele and his friend, Stocum, to whom Steele had given the power of attorney, started out to paint the town. They did it, all at Steele's expense.

While in the Quaker City Johnny came in contact with the managers of the bluff and gaylord minstrel show, that was then in sore financial straits, and decided to finance the concern. John W. Gaylord, a member of the minstrel company, tells an interesting story of Steele that shows some sidelights on the character of the oil king that have never before been published. "Tom," declares Gaylord, "Coal Oil Johnny was my particular friend. Johnny saw our show perform in Philadelphia, got stuck on the business and bought a one-third interest in the show. We went on the road, did a monstrous business, turned people away and were prosperous.

Prince of Spenders. "Reaching Utica, N. Y., Johnny gave a supper to the company that cost him \$2,000. He then conceived the idea of traveling by his own train and accordingly purchased an engine, a locomotive and baggage car. Dates for two weeks ahead were canceled and we went Philadelphia, Johnny footing the bill. It was in Philadelphia that Johnny bought his first back. After a short drive he presented it to the driver. Our dates being canceled, Johnny introduced us for the loss of the probable business receipts upon the basis of packed houses.

Johnny was a prince with his money. I've seen him spend as much as \$20,000 in a day. That was the time he rented the Continental hotel in Philadelphia and wanted to buy the Girard house. He sent to the Continental and politely said to the clerk: "Will you kindly tell the proprietor that Mr. Steele wishes to see him?" "Yes, sir," said the clerk, "the landlord is busy."

Johnny suggested that he could make it pay the clerk to accommodate the wish. The clerk became dissatisfied and Johnny issued the bill for a \$20 gold piece with the request. The result was an interview with the landlord. Johnny said that he had been ill treated and requested the summary dismissal of the clerk. The proprietor refused and Johnny offered to pay the hotel. The man said he would not because he wasn't the entire owner. A bargain was made to lease it for one day for \$5,000. The cash was paid over and Johnny installed himself as landlord. He made no better, while Stocum officiated as clerk.

Open House for All. The doors were thrown open and every guest in the house had his fill of wine and edibles free of charge. A huge placard was posted in front of the hotel. "Open House today; everything free. All are welcome." It was a merry life. The whole city seemed to catch on and the place was full. When Johnny thought he had enough fun he turned the house over to the landlord, who reinstated the odious clerk. Johnny was frantic with rage. He went over to the Girard house and tried to buy it. He arranged with the proprietor to "lease" the Continental by making the price so low that everybody would come there. The Continental did mighty little business as long as that arrangement lasted.

his course in Philadelphia. In 1892 he was sold under the sheriff's hammer to George W. Hinkle of Philadelphia for \$25,000. It was at this time that Steele became a wanderer with only a few hundred dollars in his pockets. Wife and child he left behind. Try as he would he could not get away from his past and he was heart sick, but he says he never once thought of suicide. Forgiven by his wife, Steele returned home, was warmly received by Mrs. Steele and his relatives and started to live down the past. For a few years he lived in the west with his family and engaged in railroad work. In the '80s Steele returned to the oil regions. Since then they have all been living on the farm of Steele's father-in-law, where the former oil king enjoys himself leading the simple life and working about the farm. He has consented to live upon comfortably and is contented.

INVENT FOOL-PROOF PLANE

Four-Ounce Bar Calculated to Put Flying Machines in Safety Class.

The Wright brothers have made the aeroplane fool-proof. The device by means of which an aviator can fly without concerning himself in the least about turning a somersault in his aeroplane has been practically perfected and demonstrated at Dayton, A. L. Welsh, one of the pioneer Wright flyers, announced recently at the Manhattan hotel, that he had flown a craft equipped with the device recently for over half an hour in a stiff wind with complete success.

It was practically in order to perfect this automatic stability device that the Wrights conducted their experiments at Kitty Hawk, N. C., last fall. The successful completion of the device is a result that has been sought by experimenters in every part of the world ever since the Wrights brought out the aeroplane. It means that any man can step in a flying machine and pilot it through the air with as much ease as he can pilot a motorboat.

The balancing skill which has hitherto made good aviators so rare and has made flying so dangerous is no longer necessary with the aid of this device. It brings the driving of flying machines practically within the range of any ordinary person's capability without an intricate knowledge of aeronautics.

The device is so small that it scarcely can be detected even by those who are familiar with aeroplanes. It consists of a small steel bar weighing less than four ounces, which hinges as a pendulum from an arm which projects from under the operator's seat. This pendulum is set so delicately that it responds to the slightest deviation of the aeroplane from the horizontal laterally. If the craft is thrown from its balance only the fraction of an inch, the movement of the pendulum causes two small valves to open, which make either a miniature tank of compressed air or the compression from an engine force a piston back and forth, which communicates with the warping levers and distorts the craft back to a horizontal position. The device causes the levers to do what has hitherto been done by the hand of the operator.

"It is sweet with us," said Mr. Welsh recently. "We have been experimenting with this device at Dayton since last May. But it is only within the last month that the Wrights have been willing to set the final stamp of their approval upon the mechanism. They are never willing to permit a thing to be given to the public for use until they have fully and adequately demonstrated to their own satisfaction that it is just what they wish it to be. The fact that they are willing to place it on any machine for any person who desires it shows that they are thoroughly satisfied with it.

A MYSTERY OF THE PAST

Peruvian Civilization, Judged by Monuments, Tells a Strange Story.

In a newspaper report, Prof. Bingham of Yale, who has been exploring among the monuments of pre-Inca civilization in Peru, is quoted as saying of the three-indeed temples of Macchu Picchu: "As to whether or not they were built by races originally from the far east we can say nothing; our object in going to Peru was to find facts. We have learned that the workmanship of these pre-Inca temples, preceding those whom Plutarch compared, exceeded in beauty the work of the Incas of Peru's time. How long they had been in this plateau region we cannot say. Our work has been purely one of exploration. We leave the speculative archaeologist to pronounce on the antiquity of Peruvian civilization."

Archaeological research, of course, may be pursued without speculation. But the interest of the larger part of mankind in the results is almost wholly speculative. It may be interesting to know that the architecture of an ancient Peruvian temple is Egyptian; it would be vastly more interesting to know how the architectural ideas of the Egyptians were taken to Peru. That is, after all, the underlying question in archaeology, the absorbing one. What relation were the Mayas of Yucatan to the Phoenicians and the Chaldeans? Whence did they come; how did they reach the western coast? Why did the Taltics and the Mexicans build pyramidal temples? What is the symbolic significance of the cross discovered in the pre-Christian ruins in Oaxaca?

Speculative persons have been saying for many years that the monument builders of South and Central America and Mexico were of oriental origin. But this is mere guesswork. Archaeological diggers unearth more monuments, discover the sites of more old and forgotten cities yearly. The practical archaeologist may derive sufficient satisfaction from his discoveries. He may satisfy himself that he is not concerned with the mysteries of the past. Yet the ultimate aim of his work must be to reveal the secrets. Mankind is not content to marvel at the buildings and carvings of unknown people in a remote age without trying to discover who the people were, why they builded, whence they came.

Some day the clue to the mystery may be discovered. The new and costly handbook of aboriginal remains in the United States which the bureau of ethnology is soon to publish would be comparatively unimportant if its contents were not, in some way, a guide to the revelation of the mystery, thus far impenetrable, of the American Indian. We cannot help admiring Prof. Bingham's practicality. But, after all, his work would not be very

MORE THAN 3,000 PAIRS Of Fine Kid Gloves, on Sale Saturday At 8:00 A. M., at KILPATRICK'S

We do not believe that there ever was offered a better lot of Choice Gloves than this splendid collection. About the middle of last month a proposition came to us from one of the biggest dealers in gloves in the world. After considerable negotiation we succeeded in selecting from the vast stock a particularly desirable lot, adapted especially to the finer trade. Bought by us at such reductions as to enable us to offer them TO YOU LOWER THAN THEY CAN BE IMPORTED—and all sold with and under our "give satisfaction guarantee."

- About 50 dozen pairs selected Smaschen, worth \$1.00, will be sold, all colors, at, pair 69c
About 63 dozen pairs Genuine Kid and fine Lamb, usually sold at \$1.25, warranted, at pair 79c

About 85 dozen pairs selected skins, Pique and overseas, different styles stitching, all colors and several weights; gloves sold everywhere at \$1.75 and \$2.00, will be \$1.19 sold at

When we say sold everywhere, we mean of course in stores which sell exclusively high grade gloves. Our sales last year of these grades were very large; only 14 pairs from the entire sales were found to be defective. These we made good and we will give a new pair for any and all which will fail to give satisfaction from this sale.

- 30 dozen pairs of 12 button length mainly white and black and 15 dozen 16-button length different colors and weights, gloves usually sold at \$3.00 to \$3.50 will be sold at, pair \$1.89
20 dozen pairs of choice 16-button lengths, worth \$3.25 to \$3.75, \$1.98 at, pair

14 dozen pairs very select elbow length, worth up to \$4.00, at, pair \$2.49

No limit on quantity. None fitted on day of sale. All fitted afterwards, and all guaranteed, if claims are made within 30 days from date of sale.

Please understand that in the choicest flock there may be a bad sheep and that even in this choice lot of skins from choicest kids and lambs there may be a defective pair of gloves. The broad Kilpatrick guarantee covers such an emergency and the purchaser will freely get a new and perfect pair. Gloves will be distributed in lots and so arranged that you can purchase quickly. Give this sale your early attention for later we have another important sale which should have your presence.

A Down and Out Sale

Second Floor—Suit Section, Saturday—A rack full of Wool Suits, broken sizes, various materials, a few 34, 36 and 38, others mainly large sizes. Sold formerly as high as \$20.00—

Down and Out, Saturday, \$5

Heavy Coats and other outer garments, some Polos, Rough Mixtures mainly—many colorings, many weights, may weaves—here too are \$30.00 garments—

Down and Out, Saturday, \$5

Dresses for house and reception. Silks, Panamas, Serges and Velvets suited to most occasions; one or two Oriental in coloring and trimming; some sweet and dainty effects. Did sell as high as \$35.00—

Down and Out, Saturday, \$5

This Sale opens at 10 A. M., timed to allow you to attend the glove sale at 8 A. M.

The new underpriced Square near elevator will show Oriental house slippers at 29 CENTS PER PAIR. How can they be made for that price? We don't think they can—we ourselves sold hundreds of pairs at 50 CENTS, and at that they were a decided bargain. No set time for this sale; while the slippers last TELLS THE STORY.

Last Word on Children's Coats

To close out the very last of a splendid lot of Coats for Children and Misses, ages in fact from 3 to 15 years, will sell Saturday without restriction. Coats which sold up to \$15.00, at, each \$2.50

This is absolutely and without qualification, the best value in Children's Coats ever offered by us.

Four-in-Hands for Men—Saturday, as long as the ties last; a splendid assortment of four-in-hands, formerly 50 cents, at— 25c Each—All Silk

Thos. Kilpatrick & Company

Hayden's Mark-Down Sale

Gives you the Choice of all Fancy Suits and Overcoats That Sold Up to \$35.00, at—

\$15.00

It Gives you the Choice of all Fancy Suits and Overcoats That Sold Up to \$20.00, at—

\$9.50



THIS sale is inaugurated for the sole purpose of turning the balance of our stock of high grade clothes into money; and no price is low enough unless it attains this end. We refuse to carry goods over into next season—so our prices are cut regardless of profit or cost. With mark-down sales, and so-called bargains being offered on all sides it behooves you to think for a moment before you buy—any merchant can quote low prices, but they're not values unless they are backed by reliable goods. This store has been doing business with you for a quarter of a century, selling you only the best clothes produced by

HART, SCHAFFNER & MARX

and other leading makers, and always at the smallest possible margin of profit—that's why this big department has the confidence of the clothes buying public.

A Rousing Sale in Our Boys' and Children's Sections beginning Saturday—at \$1.95—We give you the choice of hundreds of boys' double breasted knicker suits and overcoats that sold up to \$3.50.

At \$2.95 we give you the choice of hundreds of Boys' Knicker Suits and O'Coats that sold up to \$5.00—many of these suits have an extra pair of trousers.

At \$3.95 you have the choice of hundreds of Boys' Knicker Suits and O'Coats that sold up to \$6.50—Suits with 2 pairs of trousers. O'Coats with convertible collars—cut full length—belted backs—many of the O'Coats worth up to \$7.50.

Extra Special—We offer for Saturday One Hundred all wool Grey "Germania" Chin-chilla Reefers, age 4 to 9, of high grade manufacture—suitable for boy or girl—at \$2.95; a good \$5.00 value. Here's a chance to clothe the boy at a saving of 1/2 to 1/2 off—our entire stock of boys' suits up to \$12.00, included in this sale—\$1.00 corduroy pants, 50c—\$1.50 corduroy pants, \$1.00.



Hayden Brothers

BEE WANT ADS PRODUCE RESULTS