

PROMINENT IOWA REPRESENTATIVE



Copyright by Walden Everett. When congress is not in session, Congressman Hull makes his home at Des Moines, Ia. He is a staunch Republican, and stands high in the councils of his party, having been chairman of the executive committee of the Republican congressional committee for several years. He is a veteran of the civil war.

MICHIGAN ELK FARM

FINE HERD OF ANIMALS ON TRACT IN CASS COUNTY.

Bonine Place, Established by an Old Settler, is Partly Given Over to Profitable Raising of the Queer Pets.

Niles, Mich.—It is a rare sight to see a herd of elk with their young at their sides on a farm these days, but such a thing is viewed annually by hundreds of people in the Bonine park on the famous Bonine farm, near Vandalia, Penn township, Cass county. This, the only elk farm in Michigan, and one of the few in the United States, consists of 1,600 acres, and is owned by Mrs. James E. Bonine of this city and her three children—Isaac A. Bonine and Mrs. W. T. Dougan of this place and Mrs. E. D. Hammond of Sheldon, N. D.

James E. Bonine settled in Penn township in 1843, whether he went penniless, his father having lost his fortune in Wayne county, Indiana, as a result of the failure of the Richmond bank, Penn township was then an almost unbroken forest.

Mr. Bonine lived a life of great activity and became the owner of 1,600 acres of land, a portion of which was prairie, while 800 acres he cleared. He became the leading banker of Cass county, and his widow is now the largest stockholder of the First National bank of Cassopolis. He died in Niles in 1898 at the age of 82 years. His widow is now 82 years of age and is remarkably well preserved.

Upon this land Mr. Bonine established in 1862 what is known as Bonine park, consisting of a tract of 60 acres, which he stocked with buffalo and elk. This tract is still kept up, and although there are no buffalo there are still a large number of elk.

Isaac Bonine states that they discontinued raising buffaloes because the animals, which in the wild state migrate to the south in the fall, did not do well here except in summer, whereas the elk are even harder than cattle and never seek any shelter from the elements, sleeping dry and warm in the snow in winter, whereas cattle would melt through. He says the hollow hair of the elk prevents the heat of the body passing out and the cold from entering.

Mr. Bonine says that the raising of elk has proved very profitable; that they have sold them for public and private parks all over the country, including the cities of Chicago, where he placed some of the elk in 1882; Detroit and Grand Rapids, where some were placed in the parks at the Soldiers' home. The elk bring \$100 at any age after six months.

The first pair of elk they secured in western Iowa. Several years ago seven head were sold to King Emmanuel of Italy, and the king dispatched a man-of-war to the United States to take them back. The king has established a big park and the elk procured of the Bonines were the beginning of a herd which has become world famous.

His Every Yawn a Jawbreaker. St. Louis.—His irresistible desire to yawn compelled John H. Barnes, a printer, to seek medical attention six times the other day.

One morning eight years ago when Barnes arose from bed and yawned he found he couldn't close his jaws. He consulted a physician, who set the dislocation. Since then Barnes has never yawned without the penalty of a visit to a physician.

He was eating a sandwich in a restaurant on Saturday and opened wide his mouth. His jaws immediately became dislocated. He went to the city hospital for treatment and returned to finish his meal. The same thing happened again, and during the day he made no less than six trips to the institution.

BRANDY 150 YEARS OLD.

Liquor Discovered Hidden in Garret—\$250 Offered for It.

New York.—Subtle scents suggesting the sunlit vineyards of France, from which it is supposed to have come 150 years ago, hang in lingering affection about the neck of a bottle of brandy which has just been brought to light by R. W. Dryden, while ransacking the garret of his ancestors.

The bottle was found in a box of selected pine which had been put together with screws and elaborately sealed. The receptacle bore the stencil marks on its lid "Lewis M. Cowles, Esq., Baltimore, Md., 1757."

When the cover was removed the bottle, which holds about a quart, was found wrapped in newspapers bearing the date of February 6, 1864. There was an old-fashioned label with a red border on it, on which it was set forth that the contents were "old French brandy of 1757. Presented to the Sanitary Fair by H. J. de Pyster."

The bottle had been purchased by a relative of Mr. Dryden at the fair, which was organized to raise funds for soldiers wounded in the civil war. The cork was surmounted by a cockade of pink ribbon, and around the neck was a band of green fringe, which, low descending, swept the bottle's aged breast.

Mr. Dryden took the box to the cafe of Emil Struener, at 376 Broadway, where it was placed in the window for exhibition.

Several offers have been made for the bottle, but the highest, \$250, has been refused, the owner declaring that he would not think of disposing of such an heirloom.

Brandy bearing the date of a century ago is offered on menus in this city and London merchants quote it. Mr. Dryden has not yet decided whether he will sample the brandy.

CHESHIRE'S FAMOUS CHEESE.

Weighed 1,000 Pounds and Was Sent to President Jefferson.

Boston.—The town of Cheshire, Mass., was known to fame for generations before Dalton had become a seat of statesmanship. It was set by some of the dairy farmers of Cheshire, England, and for years product was the most noted in the state, if not in the country. Mr. Dean delights to tell the story of the famous Cheshire cheese which was presented to Thomas Jefferson, and many a congressman has added it to his store of knowledge.

Cheshire was strongly Republican or anti-Federalist, in early times, and upon the inauguration of Jefferson the Cheshire farmers decided that the product of one day's milking should be contributed by everybody, to be made into a cheese to be given to the president.

On the day appointed all the people gathered in their best bib and tucker, the mysteries of cheesemaking were exemplified to their utmost, and the result, pressed into a huge cake in an immense cider press, was found to be a mammoth cheese weighing 1,604 pounds. Representative George P. Lawrence is wont to tell friends that when the cheese reached the vicinity of Baltimore it had grown so old that it walked the rest of the way, but Mr. Dean says this is not so, and as Mr. Dean still owns a part of the apparatus with which the historic cheese was made his version still has the right of way.

Fiddle Attracts Big Game. Bangor, Me.—Attracted by the music of a violin, deer, moose and smaller animals visited a camp in the West Branch region of Maine, according to guides returning to Bangor.

A camper began to play one evening, the guides said, when soon a fine straggler approached. Then came antlered bucks and at last a moose. Little game animals fairly swarmed about the fiddler.

BALLROOM UNDER THE GROUND.

How It is Lighted by Day and Night—The Gardens Overhead.

The underground ballroom at Welbeck has none of the gloomy characteristics of a cellar, says the London Chronicle. By day as well as by night it is perfectly lighted, being designed and built by the old duke as a picture gallery. It is lighted entirely from above, the flat, wonderfully decorated roof being pierced by 27 big octagonal skylights, built up of prisms and recessed from view. The light falling thus is softened by passing through rich crimson silk. The 18 exquisite glass chandeliers which illuminate the room by night were an object of the mysterious duke's particular care; many sets after being specially made were ruthlessly rejected before his taste was pleased.

One notable feature in the room is the marble bust of the "invisible prince"—as his tenants called him—who constructed the apartment by the simple process of excavating a quarter of an acre of ground, lining the clay banks with a double wall, sandwiched with asphalt to exclude damp, spanning it with iron beams weighing over 30 tons each and resting on arches to form the roof.

It is quite flat and level with the garden above, so that one walks over a beautifully turfed lawn, little dreaming that below this sylvan spot is the splendid chamber 160 feet long and 64 feet wide, which has been described by competent judges as the most noble and amazing private room in Europe.

OLD IDEAS ARE PASSING AWAY.

Incident That Conclusively Demonstrated This is a New Age.

A reporter congratulated Mayor Douglas of Niagara on his recent superb illumination of the great falls. "Yes," said Mayor Douglas, thoughtfully, "the idea was novel and striking. It made an excellent advertisement. New things are what is wanted nowadays. It is to them that young men owe their success. Thus, the other day I sat in the private office of a certain firm and saw the triumph of the new idea over the old demonstrated. The senior partner, a white-haired conservative, was studying the letter of an applicant for a position.

"No, no," said the senior partner, shaking his head, "this young man won't do at all. See how he put the stamp on this letter. It is not only crooked, but upside down as well. That indicates that he is lazy and careless."

"But the junior partner said emphatically: 'Nothing of the kind. It indicates that he is a hustler who doesn't waste his time on useless trifles. We'll try that young man.'"

Future Copper States.

Two tons of average iron ore will make one ton of metal, but it takes from 33 to 75 tons of copper ore to produce one ton of copper. Iron ore occurs in large deposits, worked in some cases by steam shovels, whereas copper comes from comparatively narrow veins or irregular masses.

In 1882 the western states attained prominence as copper producers, the lakes supplying 25,000 long tons, Arizona 8,000 long tons and Montana 4,000 long tons of copper. In 1887 Montana was first in production and has never been headed, with Arizona second and the lakes third in 1905.

Before the civil war Tennessee was the chief copper state. In 1896 that state was credited with 3,750,124 pounds of copper and 18,821,000 pounds last year. Utah added 39,712,000 pounds to the world's stock in 1906 and California 24,421,000 pounds. Alaska sent to the smelter 5,700,000 pounds of copper last year and Utah and Nevada are the largest certain sources of new supply.—American Review of Reviews.

Quick Wit Saved Situation.

The quick wit of a young woman attendant at one of Washington's fashionable photograph studios saved her from a very embarrassing situation the other day. Senator Daniel dropped in to see some proofs of pictures for which he had sat the day before. The young lady did not recognize the senator and adopted the time-worn formula of asking: "How do you spell your name, please?"

"D-a-n-i-e-l," spelled the senator. "Did you ever know it to be spelled any other way?" His manner was rather short, but the young woman had identified her customer in the brief orthography lesson, and replied, sweetly: "No, sir; I never did; but so many liberties are taken with spelling nowadays that I never even attempt to spell Smith."

History Repeats Itself.

It is interesting in this day and generation to know that the lawyer for the defense in the Brown-Bradley case is of the opinion that a woman who is interested in politics must be an abnormal creature. "I have no taste," said Napoleon, "for women who meddle in politics." "You may perhaps be right," replied Mme. de Staël, "but since people have taken the freedom to cut their heads off on account of politics, they ought at least to be allowed to understand why."

Against Wine Sellers.

No wine may hereafter be sold in Spain on Sundays, and the inns must be closed on weekdays at midnight.

PAYING UP AN ELECTION BET.

Much Time Had Elapsed, But Loser Proved His Honesty.

Among the passengers on a steamer which arrived at New York last week was a retired German manufacturer who had not been in this country for many years. At quarantine he received this message: "Dine with us next Friday evening and we will finish our game of chess." The message was signed with the name of a physician, an old friend of the tourist. He accepted the invitation, and after dinner the physician took from his desk a memorandum, on which the position of the pieces had been recorded when a call interrupted the game of long ago. The pieces were placed in position and the game proceeded as though there had not been a great space between the moves. When it was over and the many happenings in the life of the players since the night of the unwelcome call had been discussed, the physician gave the servant a signal and presently a bottle of wine was brought and placed before the men. "You may not remember," said the doctor, "that I made a bet with you that night. Well, I lost, and here is the bottle of wine. Blaine was not elected president. Nothing like paying your honest debts nowadays."

NOT MUCH OF ROMANCE THERE.

Woofing and Wedding of an Indian, as Dickens Saw It.

If an Indian wants a wife, he appears before the kennel of the gentleman whom he has selected as his father-in-law, attended by a party of male friends of a very strong flavor, who screech and whistle and stamp an offer of so many cows for the lady's hand, wrote Charles Dickens. The chosen father-in-law, also supported by a high-flavored party of male friends, screeches, whistles and yells (being seated on the ground he can't stamp) that there never was such a daughter on the market as his daughter and that he must have six more cows. The son-in-law and his select circle of backers screech, whistle, stamp and yell in reply that they will give three more cows. The father-in-law (an old deluder, overpaid at the beginning) accepts four and rises to bind the bargain.

The whole party, the young lady included, then fall into epileptic convulsions, screeching, whistling, stamping and yelling together. The noble savage is considered married, and his friends make demoniacal leaps at him, by way of congratulation.

Sermons Over the Departed.

The minister is regarded by the undertaker as an unsatisfactory assistant. True, "a successful minister is usually a very busy man and cannot be expected to give himself in a spiritual way to funeral reforms;" nevertheless, he should forego the use of "antiquated methods" and "by practicing modern and correct customs" cooperate with the undertaker. He should take care, too, that his remarks be appropriate. Under no circumstances should he "attempt to preach a departed to heaven, regardless of the life he had lived;" even "to conduct the service of a notoriously bad person and ask the choir to sing 'Safe in the Arms of Jesus' is hardly the proper thing." Briefly, says the undertaker, people should not be led to believe that a man can live like the devil and die like a saint.

Reduced Size.

After a concert at Manchester, England, Joachim, the great violinist, whose death occurred recently, was at the railway station, waiting for a train.

A respectable-looking man, apparently a navy in his best clothes, paced at his side a while, watching him with close interest. Finally he asked for a light, and got it. As he drew at his pipe to get it started, he looked Joachim full in the face. Then, just as he was about to go on, he tapped the violinist's chest impressively.

"But Paganini was the man," said he. Joachim used to say, declares the narrator of this story, that he never felt so small in his life. Whole pages of learned musical criticism had never begun to whittle him down so.—Youth's Companion.

Changing Our Language.

If we come down to the philosophy of the thing, we are confronted with the phenomenon that virtually all the people in the world are engaged in the eternal amusement of sloughing off their inherited and familiar language and learning to speak another. No spoken language, anywhere on earth, has ever been the same thing for a hundred years. Slang is sweet in all mouths, because it is new. By and by slang becomes idiom; people weary of it because it is traditional, and adopt new phrases. The English in this respect are quite as bad as we; you shall hear a "clinch" spoken of any day in Oxford or Cambridge or Belgrave.

Learning's Influence.

Profound learning can never take the place of familiar and everyday contact with men and women. To move the world we must know the world. To influence men we must appreciate their condition and be in some sense familiar with the things in which they are interested. It is only in this way that learning can have its rightful influence over the lay mind.—United Presbyterian.

LONDON'S HEALTH IS ON GAIN.

Death Rate Reduced Thirty Per Cent Since Passage of Act of 1891.

London.—What a wonderfully healthy place London would appear to be in spite of its black spots is shown by a striking report from the pen of Sir Shirley Murphy, medical officer of health for London county. In comparing London with other towns, however, it should be remembered that the metropolis has a health act, passed in 1891, which gives the local authorities far greater powers than those possessed by the sanitary districts in the provinces.

How valuable, indeed, how necessary are these powers, is proved by Sir Shirley Murphy's statement that since the act was passed the London death rate has diminished by over 30 per cent, and that this means a saving in each of the last two years of over 19,000 lives, which, in its turn, means an addition to the life capital of London of three-quarters of a million years. The London death rate is for the year under review 15.1 per 1,000, which is less than that of any other town with more than 200,000 inhabitants, except Bristol and Leicester.

An analysis of the London figures, however, reveals that the changes of life are much greater in some parts of the metropolis than in others. The death rate varies from 2.4 in Hampstead to 20.7 in Finsbury. The infant mortality figures tell the same story, the death rate being 77 per 1,000 for children under one year in Hampstead to 140 in Finsbury and 163 in Shore-ditch.

The marriage rate, while slightly in excess of that of the previous year, shows a steady decline. The birth rate is the lowest on record.

MADE MILLIONS OF COINS.

Heavy Output of Money by Philadelphia Mint in 1907.

Philadelphia.—The total output at the United States mint in this city for the year 1907, according to reports compiled, was 183,993,942 coins, representing a value of \$63,263,104.93. For the year of 1906 the output was 166,863,223, therefore there is an increase in this year's production over last year of 16,948,710 pieces.

During the past year there were 4,230,800 gold pieces coined, representing a value of \$54,901,450. The total coinage of silver was 32,011,725, or a value of \$5,319,488, and in base coins—pennies and nickels—the production was 147,353,418, denoting a value of \$3,042,128.18. Of the new design of eagles and double eagles, with high relief and modified, 612,073 pieces were coined, representing a value of \$9,849,900.

For the Philippine government the following number of coins were struck: Fifty centenos, 1,200,625, value \$203,695; 20 centenos, 1,791,051, value \$84,618; ten centenos, 1,500,781, value \$50,771; total, 3,992,075; total value, \$338,457.

For the Panama government these coins were made: Forty-one balboas, 800,000, value in United States money \$40,000; one-two hundred balboas, 1,000,000, value \$25,000; total, 1,800,000; total value, \$65,000.

STEALS A LIVE RATTLESNAKE.

California Snake Thief Thinks He Has Miser's Gold Dust.

Los Angeles, Cal.—An unknown snake thief got the surprise of his life the other night and the serious part of the incident is that he may have endangered the lives of others. Two mining men came in from the desert in the afternoon, bearing a large suit case. They watched it so carefully that attention was attracted to it and to the men. The thief evidently followed them, for when they entered a down town saloon the suit case was stolen almost from under their eyes.

When they discovered the loss they gave the alarm, not because of anything valuable that had been stolen, but because of the danger to the thief and to others. They reported to the police that the suit case contained not gold dust, but a big, live rattlesnake, which they had brought here in the hope of being able to sell it to some curio dealer.

Photographs by Wireless.

Paris.—Pascal Berjonneau, an inventor, the other day exhibited before the postmaster general and a number of persons interested in scientific investigation a new telephotography apparatus which can be adapted to the wireless system or to the ordinary telegraph wire system. He transmitted the picture of the postmaster without the aid of wires from one end of the hall to the other. The inventor claims that distance does not interfere with the effectiveness of his method. Photographs, he says, can be sent by it between New York and Paris.

Served Under Eight Presidents.

Feeding Hills, Mass.—Richard Jones, father of Mrs. Fred Johnson of Feeding Hills, has resigned as postmaster of Suffield, Conn., after serving since July 13, 1893. First appointed by President Grant, he has also held the position under Presidents Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt.

During President Cleveland's first administration he was postmaster without a commission, while the president was trying to make up his mind whether to appoint somebody else or not.

PUT GREAT FAITH IN GINSENG.

Chinese Willing to Pay Fabulous Prices for Roots.

Frederick D. Cloud, student interpreter at the Shanghai consulate general, says: "Many of the Chinese believe that when all other remedies fail and death is at hand, knowing has the power to bring back health and longevity; hence, when they feel the need of it they will pay fabulous prices for certain kinds of roots. A root to be really valuable as a commodity must come from the mountains of Kirin or be reputed to have come from there. It must be bifurcated, so as to resemble as much as possible the human form, and be semitransparent, dry and flinty.

"Of course, the larger the root the better and as it is sold by weight it is not very uncommon for a good specimen to bring as much as \$100 an ounce. The value for such a root is in its shape, its texture, the manner in which it has been cured and the region whence it came.

"But it must be borne in mind that, out of a great quantity of roots, only a very few of the kind described can be obtained, so that the average price of ginseng is even greatly less than \$100 per pound."

NO, SHE NEVER KISSED HIM.

Washerwoman, However, Had an Idea of the Situation.

Neil is a girl who lives up on Capitol Hill. On Mondays a woman comes to Neil's house to wash clothes. The woman's name is Nell, too. The other day Neil, the girl, was in the sitting room reading when the telephone rang. Neil, the washerwoman, answered the ring. Neil, the girl, then heard Neil, the washerwoman, say: "Yes, this is Neil."

Silence. "How's that?" Silence. "What! Am I mad because you kissed me last night. Look here, man, you're too fresh. Who are you, anyway. I never kissed—"

Just then the telephone receiver was wildly snatched from her hand. Neil, the girl, blushing furiously, had grabbed it. She hung it on the hook. "He wanted me," she said. "He always tries to tease me that way. I— I never kissed him in my life."

As she disappeared up the stairs the washerwoman smiled and said: "That's a big one."—Denver Post.

Astigmatism from Reading in Bed.

Astigmatism, which is a condition where the refractive powers differ in the different meridians of the eye, is in most cases hereditary, but it is often acquired, says a writer in Health. The error of acquired astigmatism often takes place during and after a severe illness, and can be avoided by proper precautions. The whole system is in a weakened condition, and the person so afflicted, being confined to the house, will resort to reading to pass away the time, and this is often practiced while in a reclining position. There can be nothing more injurious to this practice.

Reading under these conditions overburdens the muscles, and the action of these muscles upon the form of the eye causes an irregularity in the curvature of the cornea which is known as astigmatism. This is detrimental to distant vision and makes reading and near work difficult.

A Came in Defense.

"If you want to keep off hold-up men," said an old detective to the observer, "carry a cane. A hold-up man is more afraid of a cane than he is of a revolver. He's deathly afraid that the man carrying it will jab it in his face or eyes or get the end of it in his mouth. On this account they're just as much afraid of a small, light stick as they are of a heavy one.

"There are so many different ways of using a cane that a man doesn't know just which way to guard against it. And any man can use it. Nine men out of ten who carry revolvers couldn't hit the side of a barn with them, and the 'hold-ups' know it, but it doesn't take any skill or practice to learn to slambang away with a walking stick."

Character.

Character is consolidated habit, and habit forms itself by repeated action. Habits are like paths, beaten hard by the multitude of light footsteps which go to and fro. The daily restraint or indulgence of the nature in the business, in the home, in the imagination, which is the inner laboratory of life, creates the character, which, whether it be here or there, settles the destiny. Men forget what life is for. Their consciousness takes in only the flimsy, transient, passing show. They forget that experience is the only all important factor. That character is worth more than all else the world can possibly yield—the very object of all material circumstances.—Western Catholic.

Our Government Cemetery in Mexico.

"Though very few people are aware of the fact," said an army officer the other day, "the United States government owns and maintains a national cemetery in Mexico. It is located at San Cosme, near the City of Mexico, and was purchased and established in the year 1850 for the purpose of interring the remains of the soldiers of the United States who died or were killed in that vicinity during the war with Mexico and also for the purpose of interring the bodies of citizens of the United States who have died in that vicinity since that period."—Washington Star.