

OLDEST SON OF SECRETARY KNOX.



Read Knox, oldest son of Secretary of State Philander C. Knox, has been appointed confidential clerk to his father.

HOLDS ODD RECORD

Long Life is Habit of Members of This Family.

Brother in Missouri Tribe is 108 Years Old - His Sister Has Reached 105, While a Niece is Only 102.

Chillicothe, Mo.—There is living in Chillicothe a member of a family which for longevity probably holds the world's record.

ZACHARIA Hamilton, a resident of Highview, is 78 years old, but the spry manner in which he shovels coal at the light plant and performs other labor and his general appearance would never betray his age.

A brother, William Hamilton, who lives in Franklin county, Kansas, is 99. He owns a large farm near Ottawa and is active in assisting with the work.

The oldest member of the Hamilton family but one, is Mrs. Mary Ann Bolcourt, who is a resident of Mobile, Kan. She is 105 years of age.

Mr. Hamilton says the long lives of his family are due to their taking proper care of themselves.

"We have had to work hard all our lives," said Mr. Hamilton, "but we have taken good care of ourselves. We make a practice of retiring early and rising early. The morning air is healthy. When I go home after working hard all day, I always rest a short time before eating my evening meal.

"My aunt, Mrs. Ann Bolcourt, has preserved herself well during her lifetime. While she has had to work hard, she never neglected to care for herself. At her present age she does a great deal of work around the house.

"Mrs. Sarah Byrne, my sister, who now resides on a farm near Rushville, Ill., like myself, was thrown out of a home when an infant. She had to work hard during her early life and until she was married. She is at present enjoying the best of health and attends to the household duties.

Has Jeff Davis' Glasses.

Richmond, Va.—The spectacles worn by Jefferson Davis, president of the confederacy, when he was captured by federal troops following the surrender, are in the possession of S. E. Ziegler of Newville, Pa., who served with the Pennsylvania troops under Gen. John F. Hartranft and attended the ceremonies incident to the unveiling of a statue to Gen. Hartranft at Petersburg recently.

Ziegler says he secured the spectacles from a business partner in Ohio immediately following the war, paying the man \$30 for them, and for a sworn affidavit as to their authenticity. Ziegler says this man personally took them from Davis at the time of his capture.

WATCH LOST TWENTY YEARS.

Gift of Parishioners to Priest Discovered Near Place Where He Used to Go Bathing.

Pittsfield, Mass.—Twenty years ago Rev. Joseph Quevillon, the priest of Notre Dame French Catholic church, although in his eightieth year, used to swim twice a week at the arch bridge under the Berkshire division of the New Haven road. The priest was an eccentric character and always went alone to the bathing place.

It was on one of his swimming trips that he lost his gold watch, which had been presented to him on the completion of his 50 years of priesthood. Soon after the loss of the watch Father Quevillon died.

Mrs. Flora W. Bagg, a nurse, was down to the arch bridge teaching a pet dog to swim. In picking up a stick she noticed a glittering bit of gold, which proved to be the stem of Father Quevillon's watch.

"Presented to Joseph Quevillon by his congregation on the fiftieth anniversary of his priesthood, Pittsfield, September 23, 1879."

Mrs. Bagg handed her find to the police. The watch cost \$100 and the gold chain \$50 when it was purchased of Jeweler Fred Kelley.

HENS RAISE GAME BIRDS.

New York Commissioner Will Establish Farm for the Propagation of Flocks for Stocking.

Albany, N. Y.—Forest, Fish and Game Commissioner James S. Whipple has been instrumental in getting an appropriation to establish a farm for gamebird propagation. It has been decided to locate the farm in Chenango county, southeast of Utica.

About 14 acres of land are required to begin with. The larger portion is to be fenced. Five or six coops will be constructed for breeding places, and sections of the farm divided into separate compartments. Hungarian partridge, English pheasants and quail principally will be propagated.

The farm will open with about 500 pairs of birds and several hundred dozen eggs. Eggs will be furnished those who will hatch them on their own premises and distribute the birds locally. Game-bird breeding is not experimental; it is now being carried on successfully by other states and individuals.

Adds 10,000,000 Years to World's Age.

London.—The perennial problem of the age of the world has been revived by a new combination based upon the antiquity of radio-active minerals.

Geologists some time ago figured the age of the earth as at least 250,000,000 years, and the estimate held until mathematical scientists computed that the sun itself had not existed more than 116,000,000 years.

Lord Raleigh, son of R. J. Strutt, who is an eminent scientist, announces as the result of a recent experiment with a chain of thorium, containing helium, that the latter could not have accumulated in less than 240,000,000 years.

JAPS HAVE THRIFTY SCHEME

Seek Disposition of Russian Postage Stamps Accruing to Them as Spoils of War.

Among our good neighbors the Japanese nothing is wasted; out of all and everything they endeavor to extract benefit, says a St. Petersburg newspaper. Thus, for example, during the Russo-Japanese war the Japanese secured more than 1,500,000 rubles' worth of Russian postage and revenue stamps abandoned by us in various postoffices, branches thereof, and sundry other establishments.

For this purpose they have special agents who offer them to Russian arrivals for half their value. A certain Caucasian, also of an enterprising turn of mind, proceeding to Japan on business, encountered one of these agents at Yokohama and tempted by easy gain bought various stamps valued at 2,300 rubles for 1,000 rubles only. The stamps were successfully conveyed to Vladivostok, but unluckily the agents of the detective force got wind of the affair.

One of these agents visited the Caucasian in the guise of a stamp purchaser, and in order not to rouse suspicion and for greater verisimilitude laid some money on the table. When the "merchant" left the room for the stamps the signal was given to the ambuscade and no sooner had the owner returned than the agent met him revolver in hand and arrested him on the spot with his wife and confiscated the stamps.

It is reported that the money will be returned to him, but that the stamps will remain for the benefit of the exchequer. It is said that in the case of a big buyer of these stamps the Japanese offer to land him safely on Russian territory, with his booty, in a torpedo boat or special steamer, but whether or not this offer has yet been accepted is unknown.

PUTS CRIMP IN PIANO FIEND

Scheme of Long-Suffering Couple Ruled in Considerable Abatement of Nuisance.

"We've found a joyful way to stop the continual playing of a piano in the flat below us," said a young matron to a girl friend. "Unfortunately, the remedy is only applicable when the nuisance is in the flat below one, so I'm afraid it won't do other people much good. However, it has been most efficacious in our own case.

"Every evening about 5:30, I think it is, when the man of the house gets home, some one starts this fearful tin-tin-panny piano going, and they are accustomed to keep it up at frequent intervals all evening until we get so tired of 'O Gee, Be Sweet to Me Kid' and that sort of music that we almost grow mad. The other evening we had two friends to dinner, and when the music down stairs had been going for some time one of our friends suggested that we make use of it and have a dance. The idea no sooner took root than we had the rugs up and were doing the merriest barn dance you ever saw, and was not long before the music ceased, and it was something like an hour before they began to play again. Almost at the same time, even though we were in the middle of our salad, we got up and began to two-step, with the result that again the music stopped. Even if we were a little delayed with our dinner, we had put an end to the abominable music, and, incidentally, we had better appetites for the dessert and cheese. Now every time they begin George and I dance as hard as we can to the music, and the consequence is we are having more peace in our own home."

Legislative Page Revises Scripture.

Edwin A. Merritt, Jr., majority leader of the assembly, was among the foremost opponents of Gov. Hughes' direct-nominations bill. In the course of his opposing oratorical fight he said, referring to the existing political-convention system:

"We are getting along all right at the present time. We don't want an uncertainty for a certainty. The thing that has passed through the test of long experience is what we want. I know of nothing which will so illustrate what I want to point out as that phrase of the scriptures which says: 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'"

A Tangled Maze.

"I don't know whether this girl accepts my offer of marriage or not." "Doesn't she say?" "Doesn't seem to." "Well, can't you read between the lines?" "No; I can't. She has written between the lines and also across the lines in three different directions."

Mush Relieved.

"Mr. Flippy," said the naughty young dandy, whose ancestors had come over with William the Conqueror, "you forget yourself." "That's it!" exclaimed Mr. Flippy, beaming on her. "Thank you so much Miss Wayback. I knew I had forgotten something, and I was so afraid it was my umbrella."

Those Stage "College Boys."

The west has recently been flooded, I hear, with "college boys" acts—teams of not overly brilliant young men who wear big white flannel hand-me-downs, hats of a style mostly favored by colored gentlemen, sing last year's ballads very poorly and dance with indifferent success. One disgraced manager, whose booking agent had been sending him an oversupply of the teams, stood in the lobby watching one of the "college boys" talking with a mash he had picked up in the town.

"Say," said the girl, "are you fellows really college boys?" "Well," answered the other, "I ain't one but Bill is. Why, Bill," with pride, "he graduated from the Barbara college in Los Angeles."—Bears Broadway in New York Telegraph.

Larger or Smaller?

"Remember," said the friend, "that the eyes of posterity will be on you." "Yes," answered Senator Gough, "and I am wondering whether future generations will look at me through the big or the little end of the telescope."

He Knew.

First Traveler.—Where did you buy those cigars? In Paris? Second Traveler.—No; in Cologne. "Well, they don't smell like it," Yonkers Statesman.

JUST ADDED HIS TESTIMONY.

In the Absence of Knowledge of Biblical Text It Was Best Cowboy Could Do.

Once upon a time, not so long ago, a couple of cowpunchers found themselves guests in the home of a minister of the gospel whose custom was to hold family worship of a morning, and to conclude the same by asking, each one present to give some quotation from the Scriptures. One "after another repeated some text, says Recreation, until at last it came the turn of Jim Bulstoke of the Crowfoot ranch.

"My dear young friend," said the dominie, as he saw the latter hesitating, "surely can recall some verse from the Bible."

Jim's face was bathed with perspiration, but at last there came to him some approximation of a memory of something he had read or heard at some stage of his life about the first chapter of Genesis. At last he broke out: "God made the world!"

The dominie lifted a hand to hide a sudden smile, but bowed to Jim's neighbor in the circle. Curley was even worse off than Jim had been, and for the life of him could not think of anything. At last, remembering the occasional virtue of a good bluff, he twisted one foot around his chair leg and, with all the confidence he could muster, remarked: "He shore did!"

HAD DWELLING IN ODD NEST

Deadly "Carolina Tarantula" Caught by Boys on Plantation in That State.

Mr. A. W. Pickens of Garvin township brought to this office Saturday an enormous spider which he called a Carolina tarantula. It was captured by some boys on his plantation. The spider was an inch and a half long and half an inch broad before having been killed and drawn to its smallest compass. Before being killed it was much larger. The animal was equipped with ten legs, four at the front and six at the stern, and a particularly wicked looking mouth. The bite of this spider, Mr. Pickens says, is as deadly as that of a rattlesnake.

Some boys on Mr. Pickens' plantation found a peculiar looking hole in the ground and decided to investigate. After digging for a while they came upon an odd looking nest. Prying it open they found the spider inside. The nest was provided with a trap door, which the spider could close after himself as he went into the nest, and would be safe from intruders. Mr. Pickens brought the nest to the city with him. It was a very ingeniously contrived affair and was of almost as much interest as the spider itself.—Anderson Mail.

Miraculous Strawberry Box.

Luther Burbank, at a dinner in Santa Rosa, replied modestly with an anecdote to a eulogy of his new creation, the spineless cactus. "Really, you know," said the plant wizard, "the spineless cactus is nothing like so marvelous as the strawberry box that the fashionable fruiterer of the east uses. That is a creation indeed!"

"A fashionable New York fruiterer," he said, "told his new boy one June morning to go to the back of his shop and fill a box with two-dollar grade strawberries for Mrs. Van Golds."

"The boy a moment later called from the rear: 'Hey, there ain't enough berries here to fill this box.' 'The fruiterer hurried back himself. He looked at the box, then he answered at the boy: 'Why, you young greenhorn, he said, 'you've got it upside down!'"

In the King's Name.

An odor of unconscious humor hangs about a justice of the peace of whom a Canadian contributor to the London Outlook tells. His name was Alexander Beggs, and one day a farmer was brought up before him for allowing a cow with an infectious disease to wander at large. The magistrate promptly ordered the cow shot and fined the owner \$10.

But when he filed up the conviction slip, by a slip of the pen he sentenced the owner to be shot and the cow to be fined \$10. Then, as the king's direct representative, he signed it: "Edward VII. per Alexander Beggs, J. P."

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FORTUNE FROM TWO WATCHES

Lucky Deal He Didn't Want to Make Brought Wealth to Jeweler of Seattle.

Two watches, one worth \$30 and the other \$50, traded a little unwillingly for two tracts of land near Seattle, one ten and the other five acres, about thirty-eight years ago, has piled up a fortune for John B. Miller, who formerly had a jewelry store in Portland, a Seattle dispatch says.

Mr. Miller had a watch store on the West side when Seattle had a population of about 2,000. A friend came in and wanted to trade ten acres near Seattle for a watch. Miller was not anxious to trade, but finally consented and secured a deed to the land, for which he gave a \$30 watch. Shortly afterward the man came into the store again and said his wife wanted a watch and offered to trade a five-acre tract adjoining the first ten. Miller finally consented and got a deed to the property.

The land was then some distance out from Seattle and was really of little value, but Miller clung to it. About twelve years ago he was offered \$4,000, but he refused to sell, although his friends urged him to do so. He went over to Seattle several years ago and has sold from the five-acre tract the 27,000 worth of lots and out of the ten-acre \$50,000 worth. He still holds 17 lots.

WORTH OF MULE RECOGNIZED

Writer Pays Deserved Tribute to the Qualities and Usefulness of This Humble Animal.

The Kansas City Star, in an article on the renowned Missouri mule, pays the faithful animal some handsome compliments.

"The 'fool mule' of the comic paper is not such a fool after all," says the Star. "He takes care of himself, and the barn men of any big teaming company will tell you a pair of mules will outlast two or three pair of horses at hard work. A mule could give an athletic points on training. He will not overeat or overdrink. After hard work he will not eat or drink until rested. He seems to know that he cost his owner no small sum, and will not allow a careless driver to overwork him. He is not of a nervous temperament, and loses no energy working as the horse does. To the diseases that attack the horse in the south he is immune. Everything considered, the demand for the mule is a just tribute to his usefulness. Missourians should have a proper pride in the Missouri mule, the ideal beast of draft and burden for the south."

Modesty of Great Man of Science.

The modesty of a great man of science is shown in the relations between Darwin and his publisher, John Murray. When he sent to his publisher the famous "Origin of Species," Darwin wrote: "It may be conceited, but I believe the subject will interest the public, and I am sure that the views are original. If you think otherwise, I must repeat my request that you will freely reject my work. I shall be a little disappointed; I shall be in no way injured." He was "assured" at the fact that the trade ordered 1,493 copies before publication and delighted with Dr. Wilberforce's article in the Quarterly Review. "I am quizzed splendidly," he said. "I really believe that I enjoyed it as much as if I had not been the unfortunate butt." When he brought to Mr. Murray his book on earthworms of which seven editions were sold within a year, Darwin said: "I doubt very much whether it will interest the public, as the subject is not an attractive one."—Science Progress.

Oil Memorial.

The movement to raise \$100,000 for a memorial to the oil industry has been started in earnest, and it is expected that the corner stone will be laid next August, which is the fiftieth anniversary of the drilling of the first oil well. The memorial will consist of a monument and plot of ground and a road a mile and a half long, from Titusville to the site of the first well, which is in Venango county.

The work of raising the money is in the hands of Titusville women belonging to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and they expect to get funds from all parts of the United States.

The latest scheme of the women is to have the school children of Titusville raise a mule and a half of pennies. This would be 130,580, and would net \$1,305.80. Each child has been given strips of cloth for eight pennies.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

A P. P. Collier Epigram.

The late P. P. Collier, the noted publisher and horseman, once discussed at a publishers' convention the odd case of Ambrose Bierce, who in England is regarded as an author of genius—whose "Chickamauga" is said to be the finest story ever written in English—while here at home Mr. Bierce is not half as renowned as, say, Winston Churchill.

Mr. Collier ended with an epigram at once true and sad. "Mr. Bierce is fortunate, for it frequently happens," he said, "that the prophet who is without honor in his own country can't afford to go abroad."

His Disheveled Hair.

They sat at a little table on the balcony of the Ninth ward summer garden, looking over the railing at a man at a table below. "That man," he was telling her, "is a second-rate. He hasn't an honest hair in his head."

"From here," she commented, "he looks as if he hadn't any hair to speak of. It's a pity that what he has can't be just a little bit honest."

SEEMS PROVISION OF NATURE

Remarkable Resemblance Between Couples Noted by New York Sociologist.

"Of course there is no end of opportunity in New York to study types," said a sociologist of that city, "and I have seen one peculiar combination here that I have never observed elsewhere, though I have no doubt it can be found in other places. That is, couples who look alike. No, I do not mean wives who look like their husbands. That is not unusual, especially among elderly people, who, having similar conditions throughout their lives, have grown to resemble each other. I mean that a husband and wife will look like another husband and wife."

"For instance, I have a cousin who is a tall, slim, dark man, with a strong, well-marked face—and thin—and his wife is a pronounced, handsome blonde, of the rather plump variety, with an aquiline nose. Twice in New York I have seen on the cars other couples who looked so like my relatives that I have been on the verge of speaking to them. It seems to indicate to me a basis for Schopenhauer's theory that selection is always seeking to establish or revert to the type."

"Another peculiar thing about types is that people who resemble each other are subject to the same diseases. I can tell a group looking man or woman as far as I can see one. On looking at a certain man or woman I can tell what disease he or she is most afraid of, and is, consequently, most subject to, and it will be the same for every other individual of that type."

"Proves what? Oh, well, every one can work out his own kind of a proof nowadays."

SCOTLAND'S LOW DEATH RATE.

Statistics Show the Land of the Thistle to Be One of the Healthiest on the Earth.

Scotland, according to the latest statistical returns, has a population of 4,826,000, which is less than the population of London. There is a small annual increase, some 50,000, which would be larger were it not for emigration, the hardy young Scots going forth to seek their fortunes in other lands. So it happens that there is an excess of rather more than 10,000 females over males.

In 1908 there were 131,817 births in all Scotland and 77,893 deaths, which made the death rate per 1,000 only 18.13; and there were 21,582 marriages.

The death rate for the last year was lower than that of the preceding ten years, a noteworthy fact, and when we consider that the present death rate of Scotland is about a third of that of the federal district here we get some notion of how remarkably healthy Scotland is, even allowing for its few congested centers of population and the great consumption of whisky.

Edinburgh, the capital, which was once called the "Terror hole of Europe," is now one of the healthiest cities on the globe, owing to the great work of rehousing the poor that was accomplished there a generation ago by public-spirited citizens.

The Scots are, as a rule, a strong and enduring people, of notably high intelligence; their climate cannot be called a good one, in the sense of being agreeable, but it makes strong men and women. The most benign climates, blessed with blue skies and almost constant sunshine, do not make such sturdy people as the lands of mist and raw winds.

Too Much for the Frenchman.

A story is told of a Frenchman, who was very anxious to see an American business man at his home. The first morning when he called at the house the maid replied to his query: "The master is not down yet," meaning downstairs.

The following morning he called again, and was met with: "The master is not up yet," meaning that he had not yet arisen from his bed.

The Frenchman, looking at her with doubtful eyes, paused for a few seconds. "Get in ver' deaf'ruit, but set so mademoiselle will tell me when so master will be neither up nor down, but in so middle, sen I vill call at sat time."—Joe Mitchell Chapple, in the National Magazine.

Eskimo Graves of Stone.

To the Eskimo mind, everything animate or inanimate possesses a soul. Thus, in their graves we found they invariably placed every cherished possession, that their spirits might serve the departed spirit in the same occupation in the life to come. There is little room for burial beneath the scanty earth in Labrador, even if the frost would permit it. So the grave consists of upright stones, with long flat ones laid across. These not only serve to keep the wolves from the body, but wide obelisks also afford the spirits free passage to and from. From Wilfred T. Grenfell's "Experiences on the Labrador," in the Century.

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