

AMBITION THAT COLLAPSED

Man Who Became Famous Lost All Interest in the Place of His Birth.

There was once a young man who came from a wee bit of a town, and wherever he would tell folks where he was raised they would ask him where that was, relates the Cleveland Leader.

It frked the young man to find that his native town was such an inconspicuous place, and he said to himself: "I will hustle around and make myself famous, and then Blink Center will get some notice, for after I have become a celebrity everybody will learn that I was born and raised here."

So for years and years he climbed the path of fame, until at last his name was known in every house in the land.

And then he died, and folks talked a good deal about him, and his life was cited to the young people as an example of what persistence and industry accomplish.

At last his fame grew so lustrous that it was necessary to organize a society bearing his name.

Then the society got to work and looked up his birthplace.

Did the society locate it at Blink Center?

No, for nobody at Blink Center could remember anything of such a family as his. So the brass tablet in memory of his birth was affixed to a tumble-down house in the outskirts of a city 100 miles from Blink Center.

However, it was easier for excursionists to get there than to go to Blink Center on a jerkwater railway. Yet this teaches us that all is vanity and that we often cut a good deal of ice without first building an ice-house.

MINIATURE AUTOMOBILES.

Some of Bronze Designed for Ornamental Pieces Are Costly.

The automobile has been reproduced in miniature in almost innumerable forms and sizes, made of metal and of basket work and of cardboard, and designed for various uses, as for toys, for candy boxes, for flower holders and so on, or it may be solely for ornament. Many of these miniature reproductions have been accurate and elaborate in design and finish and some of them have been pretty costly.

Among reproductions of the last named sort, designed for ornamental pieces, are miniature automobiles in bronze, which may be perhaps a foot in length over all and are in appearance very realistic and striking. One, for example, shows a touring car, correct in design and proportion and worked out true in detail, supported on a low pedestal representing a bit of roadway. It is a very handsome and natural appearing little bronze auto, looking fit to step into and start up.

Another miniature auto of this sort in bronze represents a runabout moving at great speed along a road. It contains figures of two men bending forward against the rushing wind and driving the machine for all they know how—an impressionist piece this.

Some of these miniature autos in bronze come from Paris, some from Vienna, and some of them sell for \$100 and more.

POINTING OUT DISTINCTION

Statement of Former Slave Woman Which Meant No Disrespect.

The following anecdote recently brought to Richmond by a Georgia woman is a true story, says the Baltimore Sun.

A Boston couple were recreating near Augusta and met an old negro woman to whom they took a fancy. They invited her to pay them a visit and the black woman accepted, especially as her expenses were paid. In due time she arrived in Boston and was installed in the house of the white folks. She occupied one of the best rooms and ate at the same table with her host and hostess. At one of the meals the hostess said:

"Mrs. Jones, you were a slave, weren't you?"

"Yes, marm," replied Mrs. Jones. "I belonged to Mar's Robert Howell."

"I suppose he never invited you to eat at his table," remarked the Boston woman.

"No, honey, dat he ain't," replied Mrs. Jones. "My master was a gentleman. He ain't never let no nigger eat at de table long er him."

And in making this speech she meant no disrespect to her hostess. She meant merely to point out a natural distinction.

Book Not Yet Written.

No sooner does a writer deliver himself of some study of abnormal social conditions or make some pathetic exhibit of a cancerous growth on the business body of the country than he is hailed as the true interpreter of the American spirit and the most accurate photographer of American qualities. The great American novel is discovered by these critics a dozen times a year.—Cleveland Leader.

More Like History.

An enthusiastic citizen of Chicago was one day showing a visitor the wonders of the lake front. "A few years ago," said he, "the lake extended inland far beyond where we are standing. I tell you there isn't a town in the world that's making history as fast as Chicago is." "It looks to me more like making geography," replied the anatomical stranger.

JOBS PLENTY; NO SEEKERS

Trials and Tribulations of Incumbents Scare Others Away in Pennsylvania Town.

Beltsgrove, Pa.—Officeholding, considered a joy in most parts of the state, is deemed a curse in Union township, Snyder county, and so many are the woes attending those chosen by their fellows to run public affairs that not a single nomination for office has been made in the township, and election is less than two weeks away. In consequence, Judge McClure will be called on to fill the offices soon to be made vacant.

Most of the tax payers in the township are hard-working farmers, who want to see returns for money spent. The township school board is even now being sued for alleged neglect of duty, and while the overseers of the poor are not involved in litigation, they have been bulldozed and made generally miserable because they proposed to erect an almshouse.

Recently the supervisors began suit against A. E. Cooper, a wealthy lumberman, alleging that by having narrow tires on his timber wagons he has ruined the public highways. The suit has aroused some bitterness, and no persons seem anxious to succeed the present supervisors and take the inheritance of litigation.

Many would like to hold office, as an abstract proposition, but the horrible example of the retiring officials has cured them of any hankering so far as Union township is concerned.

GABRIEL STONE PRESERVED

Famous Rock Is to Be Enclosed in Glass and Painted—Originally Property of Rappites.

New Harmony, Ind.—Capt. John Corbin, of New Harmony, has decided to preserve the famous Gabriel stone that has been in his possession for some years. The stone originally was the property of the Rappites, who formerly had a colony at that place. It was when the colony of Rappites was threatened with dissensions that George Rapp, the head of the community, one morning discovered a stone near that place that contained footprints and a scroll. Rapp told his followers that the footprints were those of an angel, while the scroll was in a language from Heaven which he understood.

The Rappites accepted Rapp's version and the threatened dissensions did not take place. For years the stone has lain in the yard of Capt. Corbin, and the weather has almost worn away the footprints and the scroll. For several years the stone was used as a doorstep. Capt. Corbin intends to place the historic stone on a foundation and incase it in glass and trace the footprints and scroll in paint, so that it may be preserved for years to come. All tourists who visit New Harmony are desirous of seeing the Gabriel stone, but few believe that the footprints are those of an angel. It is claimed by reliable writers that Rapp secured the stone near St. Louis and had it secretly taken to New Harmony.

CHILD BLIND BY COUGHING

Case of New Jersey Girl, Six Years Old, Puzzles Medical Specialists.

Philadelphia.—Blindness caused by coughing—a case so rare as to be almost unique in surgical annals—has been brought to the attention of eye specialists of the Medico-Chirurgical hospital.

The patient is Luella Charlesworth, six years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Charlesworth, of Millville, N. J. She has had whooping cough, and after a violent fit of coughing she complained that the room she was in was dark. It was a long time before her mother could realize that the child was blind.

Their family physician said he had never before heard of such a case, and advised bringing the girl to the Medico-Chirurgical hospital, in the children's ward of which she was placed. Dr. L. Webster Fox, head of the eye department at the hospital, said:

"I have not examined the child closely, but I am sure the blindness is caused by a bursted blood vessel, and if so, it will hardly be permanent. The trouble is likely caused by clotted blood on the lens of the eye. If it is in front of the eye a cure will be easy, but if the back is flooded treatment will be more difficult. The case is a very rare one."

Thorn Bush Saved His Life.

Edward Fenton, of Toronto, Canada, had a thrilling escape from death while at the falls. He was walking along the top of the cliff of the gorge when he slipped on the ice and went over the edge. Just as he was disappearing he seized hold of a thorn bush which grew on the brink of the precipice, and to its toughness he owes his life. He could not gain a foothold or help himself in any way, but his companion, Harvey Whetmore, also of Toronto, took off his overcoat and let it down to Fenton, who succeeded in transferring his hold from the thorn bush to the coat and was gradually drawn up to a place of safety, at the imminent risk of both his own life and Whetmore's.

Astor Buys Fossil Oaks.

William Waldorf Astor has bought up a forest of fossil oaks discovered at Yaxley, Northamptonshire, England. The majority of the trees are perfect from roots to branches and so hard that they turn the edge of the finest ax. Mr. Astor is using these 2,000-year-old oaks to panel the walls of his medieval castle of Hever, and the houses of the Tudor village he is constructing on the grounds.

JAPS TO GROW BIG.

ISLANDERS TO ADOPT A NEW DIETARY PLAN.

Baron Takaki Says This Method Will Increase Stature—Expects Future Men to Be Large as Caucasians—Tells of Navy Tests.

Philadelphia.—The Japanese of the future are to be of the normal stature of the Caucasian race, according to Baron Takaki, surgeon general of Japan. The baron declares this will be brought about by the Japanese eating the proper kind of food.

Baron Takaki in a lecture at the University of Pennsylvania said it was a national humiliation that the Japanese were so small physically. He said if in the centuries past the Japanese had eaten food which makes muscle, bone and sinew they would be of normal height.

The baron denied that the Japanese were of normal size centuries ago. He said they have been dwarfed and diminutive for ages.

Dr. Takaki quoted statistics of the Japanese army and navy to prove that by giving the men proper diet he has brought them nearer the standard weight and size of the men of the English and American navies. He also declares that many diseases common in Japan have been almost wiped out by the same method. Dr. Takaki has made it his lifework to find a method by which the size of the Japanese race can be increased.

"Within a few generations I am sure the Japanese race will be of normal size," he said. "One of the greatest humiliations of our life is that we are so small. The Caucasian race is normal in size, and that is what we want to be. That is what we will be within a short time if the people of my race follow my directions."

"The trouble is in the food the Japanese race has been eating for centuries. We have not been living on the kind of food which goes to the making of muscle, bone and sinew. Other nations have had proper food and are normal in height. The Japanese now will follow the example of the Englishman and the American."

"I made a test on our men of the navy. I found that they did not have enough food and did not have the right kind of food. I feed our men of the ships the same rations as that given in the American navy, with additions of my own. What was the result? Within a year there was a great change. The men seemed to expand and become taller."

"After three years of proper feeding the men now are much nearer the standard of the men of the American navy and army. There was less disease and fewer deaths in that time than ever before. We can look forward to the time when we shall be equal in size to the Caucasian. The emperor has promised to join hands and help in the work."

"The thing is past the experimental stage. It is now a certainty. We are a persevering people and future generations will find the Japanese brother his equal in size and strength. Young people of the future will read only in histories that the Japanese were one time a diminutive race. The lesson will be that to keep from degenerating physically the nation must be given proper food."

BABY BROWN'S GOLD.

Fortune of \$4,000,000 Grows to \$11,000,000 While He Plays—Six Years Old.

Providence, R. I.—John Nicholas Brown, on his sixth birthday, is the possessor of \$11,000,000, of which \$7,000,000 was added to the fortune of this precocious child since he was three months old. And the hardest work little John Nicholas Brown did for this \$7,000,000 at first was to take his bottle regularly and industriously and somewhat later to romp about the nursery.

John Nicholas Brown, when three months old, was left \$4,000,000 by his father, John Nicholas Brown. At the age of two years Baby Brown had increased his little legacy to \$5,182,000. Yet Baby Brown is a royal spender. He employs a small army of servants, maintains an establishment at Newport and another at New York, and so manages to get rid of about \$50,000 a year.

Still his money keeps on piling up, notwithstanding his lavish expenditure on himself. At the age of four years his \$4,000,000 had grown to \$6,745,000, and on his sixth birthday he has the modest sum of \$10,999,000 in gilt-edged securities.

PLANS DAILY AIRSHIP TRIPS

Wyoming Inventor Expects to Put Machine to Commercial Use in the Spring.

Rock Springs, Wyo.—The first airship line in the world will be inaugurated from Rock Springs to Lander, Wyo., as soon as spring opens. Airships will make daily round trips over the mountains between the two points. The company is now being financed and other arrangements are being made.

Martin Shea, an inventor who lives here, announces that he has invented an airship on totally different principles from all other flying machines, and says a miniature machine which he has built proves his theory entirely correct. He expects to build a full size machine before the winter passes, and if it goes over the mountains as he expects, he will be in a position to build machines commercially. Shea is enthusiastic and is guarding his model with jealous care.

DISAPPEARING TURTLES.

"Soft Shells" in New York Aquarium That Burrow Out of Sight.

In the row of smaller tanks encircling the great central pool on the floor of the aquarium there is one with a label that reads "Soft Shell Turtles," says the New York Sun. And the turtles are there in the tank, sure enough, though there are times at this season when you would look in vain to see them.

At such times the turtles are buried in the sand. Many turtles of various kinds bury themselves in the mud in winter.

If the water in the tank gets chilly the soft shell turtles bury themselves in the sand on the bottom for their greater comfort; and when the water warms up they may come out again. You might see one just emerged, with its broad, flat back still covered with sand, like a turtle with a gravel roof.

Or you might see sticking up out of the expanse of the sandy bottom of the tank an odd-shaped head looking almost snakelike. This is the head of one of the buried turtles, which it had thrust up above the sand in order to breathe.

And then again you might not see any turtles in the tank; but they are there, nevertheless, strictly in accordance with the label.

ITALY'S KING GOOD SHOT.

Quick and Accurate Firing Characterizes His Forays in Game Preserves.

During his sojourn in Caserta King Victor Emmanuel has spent most of his time shooting in the magnificent preserves of Licola and Astroni, killing every time more than 100 head of big game, he being a very quick and good shot, firing immediately after putting the gun to his shoulder without waiting to take aim, writes a Rome correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette. Queen Elena, who claims to be a better shot than her husband, has given up shooting since the birth of the little crown prince, but all the same she has always assisted at these expeditions from a box especially built for her in the middle of one of the largest trees. Both king and queen are very affable with the beaters, with whom they often enter into conversation, inquiring about their condition and needs. In one of the last shoots, which had been very fatiguing on account of the bad weather, and in which the beaters were tired and covered with mud and soaked with rain, the king ordered them to be given double pay, and invited each to take one animal killed by him. The duke of Aosta, who lives now in Naples, is just the opposite of the king, disliking shooting to such an extent that for years he has not fired a shot.

ENGLISH LACK CURIOSITY.

An Instance Which Illustrates Its Entire Absence in Some Britons.

"While going through an English cathedral," said a returned visitor the other day, says a New York Times writer, "we noticed that all the tombs except one had inscriptions explaining them. Being curious to know whose tomb it was that did not bear an inscription I walked down to an iron railing, the gate of which was in charge of an old man. We had entered this gate to view the tombs, paying the customary sixpence admission. Pointing to the tomb, which was less than 75 feet from the gate at which the old man was stationed, I said to him: 'Beg pardon, but whose tomb is that one there? It has no card on it, and I'm curious to know its history.'"

"Looking up toward where I was pointing and peering through the rather dim atmosphere of the church the old man in the most pathetic tone imaginable replied: 'I don't know, sir; I've never been up that far.'"

"Supposing that he was a new-comer I said: 'How long have you been here?'"

"Slowly but proudly came the reply: 'Twenty-seven years.'"

Cigarettes and Other Smokes.

In smoking a cigarette we are partly inhaling about ten grains of tobacco, which as a rule is milder and freer from adulteration than any other form of smoking tobacco. One pound of tobacco will furnish filler for about 415 cigarettes, and one pound of cigarette paper will serve to envelop 12,000 cigarettes. One cigarette consists of one twenty-sixth of an ounce of tobacco wrapped in about one hundred and fifty-sixth of an ounce of rice paper. Ten cigarettes about equal one full-sized cigar. An ordinary pipe holds tobacco equal to the amount required to make five cigarettes.

Through Strong Drink.

Liquor drinking is one of the results of European penetration of Morocco. The taste for strong drink, though still indulged comparatively in secret, is steadily increasing, the practice spreading from force of example among the Moors themselves, as a result of the strenuous efforts of forgers to inculcate this vice. As yet it is chiefly among the higher and lower classes that the victims are found, the former indulging in the privacy of their own homes, and the latter at the low drinking dens kept by the scum of foreign settlers in the open ports.

Only the Poor Escape.

"Why do you imagine that he is poor, because he doesn't dress better?" "No, not that; but there has as yet been no talk of investigating him."—Houston Post.

MICHIGAN HERON ROOKERY

One of the Few Nesting Places of the Birds Is Located in That State.

A notable nesting place of the great blue heron is ten miles west of this city on the north bank of the Kalamazoo river.

It is notable, says a Battle Creek correspondent of the Detroit Free Press, for the reason that there are now only a few nesting places left in the state, and still more notable for the fact that this is the only rookery not located in inaccessible swamps, almost impossible to penetrate, especially for women bird students.

Hérons always return to the same nesting place. The ones at this rookery have returned annually for 25 years past.

The nests are huge, rude affairs, built of sticks and twigs of about the same size, loosely packed together and forming a sort of lattice work on which the eggs are laid.

They use the same nest every year, simply adding more sticks. The eggs number from three to four, are of a bluish green color, a little larger than hen's eggs.

If possible, sycamore trees are always selected for nesting because the color of the bark harmonizes perfectly with the plumage of the bird and affords what ornithologists term "protective coloration."

The herons during the nesting period are of great benefit to the farmers, as they destroy all the snakes and field mice for miles around. When they are feeding the young, the noise and commotion made can be heard at a great distance.

"THE WORLD FOR CHRIST"

Enormous Growth of the Christian Endeavor Societies Everywhere.

Sixty-six thousand societies, with a membership of more than 3,000,000, have grown in 25 years from "a tea and talk" in a quiet home in Portland, Me.

Dr. Father Endeavor Clark—as he is affectionately called through a pun on his initials, F. E.—was pastor then of the Williston church, in that city; and it was in his house and at his invitation that some of the young people of the church founded the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, which celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this month.

There are almost 50,000 of these societies in the United States and Canada, and more than 10,000 in Great Britain and Ireland. In Africa there are 225 societies, in Brazil, 62, in Bulgaria, 15; in China, 350; in Finland, 19; in Hungary, 13; in Russia, 10; in Sweden, 143; in Hawaii, 54, and in India, 507.

The annual Christian Endeavor conventions have become stupendous, being attended by something like 60,000 registered delegates, not counting thousands of outsiders. It is proposed at the quarter century celebration to commence the erection of an international headquarters building in Boston. This will not only provide offices for the society but will serve as a memorial to the founder, Dr. Francis Edward Clark. The motto of the Endeavorers is "The World for Christ."

OFFICER WAS TOO CURIOUS

Watchman Mistook Lover for Nocturnal prowler with Evil Intentions.

Recently there was a series of burglaries committed in the fashionable section of Baltimore. So anxious were the police authorities to apprehend the culprits that instructions were issued to the roundsmen to exercise extraordinary vigilance during their tours of inspection, relates Success Magazine.

On one occasion, just after midnight, an officer saw emerging noiselessly from a house in Eutaw place a young man, who hastily darted down the street. The officer made after him as rapidly as possible. When he had stopped the young man, he said:

"Didn't you come out of the corner house just now?"

The young fellow, though of quite a respectable air, seemed ill at ease. "I did," he answered, with some confusion. "Do you live in that house?" sternly demanded the officer.

"That's an impertinent question," replied the young man, in a tone of great indignation. "I don't see what business of yours it is, so long as her father doesn't object."

Wise Youth.

"But can you support me in the style to which I have been accustomed?" she asked.

He smiled.

"I don't think I should have any hesitancy in promising that," he said. And then she suddenly realized that he knew her folks kept but one servant, that the gown she wore was last season's style, and that her mother had let the upper hall bedroom to a roomer who was in the gimlet department of a downtown hardware store.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Trying to Prove an Alibi.

"Now, Tommy, either you or Johnny have been stealing grapes again. Here are the skins."

"Twasn't me, ma—honest it wasn't. I eat all my skins."—Cleveland Leader.

Hard Slap.

Cremnitz White—'I'd do anything in the world for art.

J. Caustic—'Well, why don't you quit painting?'—Judge.

SNAKE'S HEART AS A CURE

Girl Says Battler's Vital Organ Stopped the White Plague—Physicians Astounded.

Williamport, Pa.—The apparent cure of a case of consumption, the family claim, through the efficacy of the heart of a rattlesnake, has astounded the physicians here.

Members of the medical profession are watching the case of Miss Stella Woolever, wondering whether a new cure for the white plague has been discovered. The case is a remarkable one, the more so because it bears out claims made by the girl's parents regarding the cure, and apparently corroborates stories which were regarded as fertile imagination.

Miss Woolever was in the last stages of consumption. The physicians attending her, after a consultation, assured her parents that she could not live a week. Then it was that they insisted on trying the cure that they had spoken of several times, that of swallowing the heart of a rattlesnake as soon after the death of the reptile as possible. While it was regarded as merely a superstition, the physicians said that it could do no harm, and the experiment followed.

A rattlesnake was found, after a hunt, and killed before it could bite itself. The heart was removed and was washed down the girl's throat with water. To the astonishment of the physicians, the patient, who is 20 years old, showed almost immediate improvement. The following day she had no sticking spell, and the next day was much better. Later she left the bed she had occupied and walked to the home of a neighbor.

The consulting physicians held another consultation and decided to advise that another heart be given the girl. A hunt is now going on in the neighborhood for the snake that is to furnish the heart.

QUAINTEST GIFT RECORDED

Irishman Makes Odd Provision for Daughter in Will, Disposing of \$250,000.

London.—One of the quaintest bequests on record is to be found in the will, just proved, of Mr. Thomas Hayes, of Leopoldstown Park, Stillorgan, Dublin.

Mr. Hayes was a director of T. Lyons & Co., limited, drapers, and left a personal estate valued at \$250,000.

By his will, which consists of about 100 folios of 9,000 words, the testator left his estate in trust for such persons as his daughter, Gertrude Frances Talbot Power, wife of James Talbot Power, shall appoint.

In default of such appointment, or subject to such a pointment, Mr. Hayes directed that \$999.99 should be paid to his said daughter on the first day after his death (should she so long survive him), \$999.99 on the second day after his death (should she so long survive him).

This phrase is repeated throughout the will, for each day until the two hundred and fiftieth day after his death is reached. It is added that the sums thus paid are to be for Mrs. Power's own separate use.

PIPE-ORGAN ALARM CLOCK.

Carnegie Hires Noted Musician to Awaken Him Daily from Slumbers of Night.

New York—Andrew Carnegie is awakened every morning by music. Just as the clock strikes eight each day, the first notes of "Lead, Kindly Light," or "Silent Night," his two favorites, roll out of the pipes of an immense organ in his home in Fifth avenue, rousing the steel king for the day and starting the machinery of the household to work.

Whether Mr. Carnegie wakes when the first bars are played, or whether he is gradually roused from slumber, depends, he says, on how tired he is. At any rate, he believes in being brought back to consciousness by the music of some hymn he loves, so that the first thoughts will be restful, soothing, and give him inspiration for the day.

The instrument is played by Walter C. Gale, organist of the Broadway Tabernacle, every morning, Sunday included.

MAKES "FORGERY" LAWFUL

Court Decides Buyer of Railway Ticket Can Sign Seller's Name to It Without Peril.

New York.—The right to sign another man's name to a railroad ticket which has been sold by one passenger to another has been affirmed by the supreme court here. The decision establishes a precedent.

The decision was given by Justice Leventritt in the case of Archibald C. Newburn, accused of having forged the name of George E. Whitcomb to a railroad ticket. Whitcomb was the original purchaser of this ticket and sold it to Newburn.

Newburn was arrested when he signed Whitcomb's name to the ticket. Justice Leventritt held the mere sale of the ticket carried with it the purchaser's right to sign to it the name of the man from whom he bought it.

Has a Large Stock.

As Santo Domingo always keeps a large surplus supply of presidents on hand the disappearance of one now and then cannot make much difference.

An Oversight.

A wealthy spinster of Ithaca, N. Y., has scandalized the town by marrying her coachman. She should have been up to date and taken the chauffeur.