

WIDOW OF MICHIGAN STATESMAN



The wife of the late senator Alger divides the greater portion of her time between her Detroit home and the National Capital.

GREAT MARBLE CAVE

OREGON MARVEL VISITED BY PARTY OF EXPLORERS.

Located in Siskiyou Reservation and Promised to Be Largest in the World—No Less Than Twenty Miles of Chambers.

Portland, Ore.—In southern Oregon, trending the California line, near the famous old mining camp of Kerby, is a cave that promises on further exploration to be the greatest in the world. It is in the Siskiyou reservation, 75 miles from Crater lake, and eight miles from Briggs' mine, on Sucker creek.

This wonder of marble and crystal beauty has just been explored to greater depths by a party composed of Joaquin Miller, C. B. Watson and Jefferson Myers. Mr. Myers returns to Portland enthusiastic with what he had seen.

"It is truly wonderful, that place," he said. "We went over all that is now known of it. Joaquin Miller named it 'The Marble Halls of Oregon'."

"We went from Kerbyville under the guidance of the two men who have spent 20 years in and around the splendid place—John Kincaid, of Willamette, Ore., and Frank M. Nickerson, of Kerby. We left Portland August 1, and have just got back.

"From Kerby we went to the mouth of Cave creek, then up that stream over a good foot trail seven miles to the mouth of the 'Halls.' Here the River Byx comes right out of the mountains and tumbles over a fall of 25 feet. This is the lower entrance. It is about as large as an ordinary deer in the face of a marble cliff, 300 feet high and 500 feet wide and clear water, a beautiful sight to itself. This entrance was found in 1874 by a hunter named Elijah Davidsook, who trailed a white-faced deer into the place. Three years later, in 1877, Davidsook, Nickerson, one of our guides, and John M. Chapman made the first exploration. They went over the same route within the cave that we did this trip.

"The first owners were Homer and Ernest Harkness, brothers, who acquired there in 1880 and spent over 11,000 trying to open up the place. They made trails and all that, but gave it up, for there were not people enough to come to see to make it pay. F. M. Nickerson and A. J. Henderson next took up the property in 1887. After them came Capt. A. B. Smith, who spent about \$3,000. His party went in August 10, just past, and through the efforts of M. J. Anderson, chief of forestry for southern Oregon, the government withdrew it from private entry and will make it a national monument.

"The halls are, so far as we know now, on four levels or floors. From the lowest to the highest is about 600 feet. These levels, as in a table, are connected here and there. Above the lower entrance is another and smaller one about 300 feet up the mountain.

"The hills cover perhaps a township and contain not less than 20 miles of chambers, halls and rooms, many of which have not yet been explored up. The interior is composed of solid marble, white as snow and red at patches, some of them over a foot thick and 50 feet long, clear as diamonds. The color effects cannot be fully used."

"Tear Down Burr's Prison. Washington—Workmen have begun to demolish the old center house at the Marine barracks—the place where Aaron Burr was confined after he killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel.

DIG WATERWAY SYSTEM.

Three Thousand Six Hundred Miles of River Accounted For.

An old river pilot, in discussing the presidents voyage down the river from St. Louis to Memphis, says that a little idea of the western system of waterways can be gained from an old pilot's story.

"The distance from St. Louis to Cairo is 198 miles, from Cairo to Memphis, 341 miles, so that the president saw only 439 miles of our western system below St. Louis. Now, the Ohio river from Pittsburgh to Cairo, is 956 miles; the Kanawha is 72 miles; the Tennessee river, from its mouth to Florence, Ala., is 256 miles; the Mississippi, from St. Paul to Cairo, is 326 miles, and from Cairo to New Orleans, just 1,000. The Missouri river from St. Louis to Kansas City, is 786 miles, and above that point is navigable for nearly 2,000 miles more.

NEW POISON TEST.

Paddy Could Try It On the Cat at Less Expense.

An Irish laborer entered a drug store, and drawing a paper bag from his pocket, he poured on the counter a number of very sticky and unpalatable-looking candy lozenges.

"Can you examine them sweeten?" he asked.

"They look queer. What is the matter with them?" inquired the druggist.

"Pizen, O'm a-thinkin'. Did ye ever see such stuff? Dinis Daly give them to me by, and Dinis is no frind of mine."

"Well, I can make an analysis." "All right, O'll come in tomorrow on my way from work."

The Irishman had reached the door, but he suddenly stopped with his hand on the latch.

"And how much will that analysis be?" he inquired.

"Five dollars," was the answer. "Paddy walked over to the counter, and swept the lozenges into the bag, which he replaced in his pocket."

"Never sweat," he said, "I'm going home, O'll be to the cat."

"CLEVERLY."

A LITTLE DESPOTIC STROKE BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE.

There is a story that Charlotte Bronte, when a girl of 16, broke out very angrily at some one who said she was always talking about cleverly.

"Now you don't know the meaning of cleverly," she said; "Sheridan might be clever—scamps often are; but Johnson hadn't a spark of cleverly in him. That remark really gives the essence of Johnson and the key to the great qualities of his work; for, in his case, even more than in most, the prose was the man. Whoever wants cleverly," whoever wants what Mr. Bernard Shaw is supplying to the present generation, had best leave Johnson alone. The signal merit of Johnson's writings is that he always means what he says and always says what he means. He may often have talked big, but, except perhaps in the political pamphlets, he always wrote for truth.

The Missing Link. Some years ago remains of an ape-like creature possessing unusual human resemblance were discovered in Java, and the animal was named Pithecanthropus. Professor Haeckel and some others accepted this as representing the ancestral human form closely allied to the ape.

A special expedition, under the combined auspices of the Academy of Sciences of Berlin and the Dutch East India government, is being organized to make a thorough exploration of Java to search for additional specimens of Pithecanthropus. The geological formation in which the original discovery was made is widely extended among the mountains of that island. Youth's Companion.

Know Her Own Mind. Mrs. Perry thoughtfully regarded the package she had just brought in, and then returned to her husband and said she had meant to buy a new blouse. "What did you get?" he asked.

"Pink Louisiana." "Her husband could not quite conceal a skeptical smile, and Mrs. Perry went on hurriedly: "I know what you are thinking, Joe—that I don't know my own mind. But I can prove that I do."

"And you ever know me to go to a grocery and bring away a can of peaches instead of a bar of soap? Certainly not!" she exclaimed, triumphantly.

Many New Plays. Plans of the New York city managers of theaters indicate that their patrons will see 120 new plays during the next eight months.

GEN. LEE'S WAR HORSE.

Skeleton of Traveler to Be Mounted at Washington and Lee.

Lexington, Va.—The skeleton of Gen. Robert E. Lee's famous war horse, Traveler, has been found and will be set up at Washington and Lee university, Lexington, Va., in a few months ago. When they were sent to Rochester, N. Y., to be mounted, the expense to be defrayed by Mr. Joseph Bryant of Richmond.

Traveler was one of the most prized of all the great warhorses of history. He was a fine specimen of the Gray Eagle stock, and was a great favorite with his master. He came into the possession of Gen. Lee early in 1862. At first he was used as an extra horse, but his indomitable pluck and splendid qualities no appeal to Gen. Lee that he was used almost constantly. His horse his owner from Appomattox to Richmond after the surrender.

Gen. Lee's war horse, Traveler, was a Washington college, he rode Traveler, and the faithful animal was his riding horse until the death of Gen. Lee. Many times did the old confederate chieftain ride over the beautiful hills surrounding Lexington in the back of his patient old horse. Traveler died in June following the death of his master. Gen. Lee died in October, 1870. The old horse, while grazing in the yard of the president's house, on the campus of Washington and Lee, ran a nail in his foot, which resulted in lockjaw, and this caused his death.

The body was buried, and long afterward the bones were taken up and preserved at the university, and now they have been returned, and will occupy an important place in the university museum.

HE WAS A WISE OLD OWL.

Hooted When New Salem Mistook Him for a Catamount.

York, Pa.—Three brave hunters from York went to New Salem, effectually laid the wild beast scare in that section, and put the village nature-fakers to shame. They identified the "ravage catamount," which had been hooted as an innocent old owl.

The sporting blood of Dr. M. H. Holtzappel, Councilman G. W. Hook and M. H. Lake was aroused by stories of this creature, which roamed the woodlands, howled about the terror-stricken village, had a fondness for chewing and clawing dogs and was tawny and the size of a calf.

Accompanied by a few villagers they started the hunt and came to a hole in a hillside. Slight bushes and sticks poked through the hole.

Preparation was made to light the dynamite. Dynamite set and down one of their number into the den with a rope about his waist, when a stir was heard. Out flapped a great barn owl. It lit on the limb of a gum tree and perched on a branch, which was easily identified as the "howl" of the beast.

SIAMIAN BURIAL IN OCEAN. Immense Apes Die at Sea and Are Disposed of Sailor Fashion.

Portland, Ore.—Two immense apes, captured in the wilds of Siam, would have been landed at Portland when the German steamer Arabia, of the Portland & Asiatic line arrived from the orient, had they not contracted pneumonia and died on the voyage. One died eight days out from Yokohama and the other passed away two days off the mouth of the Columbia river.

The apes stood fully five feet high when erect, so the officers of the steamer declare, and they would have made splendid specimens for a zoological garden or museum. The Chinese are heartbroken over their death, because they were valued at about \$100 apiece. There were four "missing links" on board when the steamer pulled out from Hongkong, and two of them are still in their bunks in the fore-cabin, their more robust constitutions having withstood the effects of the north Pacific ocean.

In Politics for Child's Sake. Wheeling, W. Va.—A child's ambition is the cause of W. H. Hearne, the millionaire attorney, announcing that he will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of this state. Hearne is 60 years old. A few months ago he wedded Miss Campbell, 16, of St. Louis. Mrs. Hearne wants to be the first lady in the state.

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YANKEE TRADE BALANCE DIO.

Despite Gain in Imports, August's Exports Lead by \$1,464,404.

Washington.—Attention has been attracted recently to the increased value of the imports into the United States from foreign countries, especially during the month of the value of August and exports. That month, as shown by the official statistics, is, however, yet on the credit side of America's ledger and, in August, of the government exports, the bulk of them to remain.

For the month of August, for instance, the exports of goods over imports aggregated in value \$1,464,404, and the value of exports over imports for the eight months ended August 31 was \$194,453,162.

The increase in imports into America is due, in considerable measure, to the increased prices which imported commodities command in the markets of the world. Just how much of a difference the increase in foreign prices, due to the present international transaction, it is impossible now to determine, but the figures are at hand which indicate that not merely the quantity of the imports, but the value of them in the countries of origin is responsible for the large imports of the last year or two. It is evident, too, from the statistics prepared by the government, that the narrowing of the margin between imports and exports is due not to a decrease in the exports, but to an increase in the value of the imports.

It must be expected that with our growth of population and increasing share of population devoting its attention to manufactures, said O. P. Austin, chief of the bureau of statistics, "we shall have less and less of natural products to spare for exportation and require more and more of foreign products, both for use in manufacturing and in supplying that class of food requirements not produced in the United States, and that in periods of prosperity like the present the importation of articles of luxury and high grade manufactures will also continue large; and that the maintenance of the present excess of exports over imports will depend upon the activity of our manufacturers in marketing their products in other parts of the world."

ODD SUMMER RESORT FOR DOGS.

Boarding House Near Paris for Canine Pets Whose Owners Are Away.

Paris.—The latest novelty is a dog summer resort, just outside of Paris. A keeper on the Bois de Boulogne has opened a dog boarding house, which canine pets have a summer residence during the time their owners are traveling.

The promoters say dogs get awfully lonely when their owners are away, and a change and a fresh garden in which to play. Prices vary according to the size of dog and how much he eats.

Just now about 60 dogs, pets of wealthy and titled persons, are having holiday, awaiting the return of their owners.

Each dog has his own name, the menu varies according to the dog's usual habits, and the animal is usually not a few or two.

DEER DIG POTATOES. Unearth Vegetables from Hills, But Eat Only Larger Ones.

Shepherd, S. D.—Deer that eat potatoes and despoil the patches of prospectors have furnished the latest topic for the nature fakers whom the president has been busily denouncing.

Near Mineral Hill lives John Mehan, who works a number of claims during the winter and cultivates a truck garden in the summer. Mehan declares that deer in his area have become so plentiful that for three nights they have entered his potato patch and gone from hill to hill digging up the vegetables and eating them. He sat up the third night and witnessed the performance. As the deer season is not open, he could not kill them, but drove them away.

The deer, he said, ate only the large potatoes and paid no attention to the smaller ones.

Wins Omece By Twin's Aid. Boston.—The utility of having a twin brother who is an almost indistinguishable double was demonstrated in the recent primary elections by Joseph Leonard, a councilman. Leonard got the best of his rivals by appearing at a speaking in two places at once, which was more than any of them could do. Leonard won the nomination to the lower house.

It was confusing to the politicians to leave one precinct where Leonard was talking and find him talking at another precinct. Disputes were frequent over Leonard's campaign rounds.

The councilman did not explain how he could be in two places at once until the voting was all over. Then he let it become known that his twin brother, Martin, who looks, talks and dresses almost exactly like him, aided in his campaign.

Letter Slow In Delivery. Constantinople.—The best child schemes of the most up-to-date post offices rang at Aley, but the record in tardy delivery of a missive belongs to the Turkish coast.

The time taken was 73 years, the distance being from Mount Athos to Corfu. In July, 1834, the Aschmadrone of a convent wrote to a woman in the island, announcing the departure of a heaving misson.

The letter has just reached the island and has been delivered to the woman's grandson.

How It's Done. Assistant Telegraph Editor.—Eighty mortal accidents in the Alps this year, what a good headline for that! Telegraph Editor.—That's easy. Marked Falling Off in Alpine Expeditions.

LAND WILLED TO GOD.

Philadelphia Couple Leave Property for Peculiar Purpose.

In La Porte, Pa., has been discovered a deed that conveys four acres of land to God. The instrument was made by Peter E. Armstrong and wife, once rich residents of Jefferson county, Pa., and in date Aug. 2, 1862. The couple, so far as is known, were not members of a religious sect, but gave the portion of their property as the deed says, "that his might may be fully separated from the world and gathered together and enjoy that light and liberty which they did in the one faithful days of their theocracy."

"Whereas," the deed continues, "in consideration of Almighty God in the past and present, which we do humbly acknowledge, and for the exceeding great and precious promise of unending life to those who in holy faith and patience wait for the coming of his appointed son to judge the world, which promise we have received from Him who is creator and original grantor of earth's territory to the children of men—we do by these presents deed, grant and convey to Almighty God, who inhabiteth eternally, and to his heirs, to the intent that it shall be subject to bargain and sale by man's ability no more forever. The four acres are situated just outside of the town of Colesburg, and when transferred were part of a wilderness. One of Armstrong's folk looks after the property, but recognizes the deed.

CHEW GUM IN COURT.

Western Judges, Lawyers and Jurors All Addicted to Habit.

The prevalence of important trials here and elsewhere seems to have had the somewhat unusual result of boosting the business of caterers to the public fancy in several directions. "Dramatic American romances" and popular dramatic productions, based on municipal corruption plots are not the only things that have thrived on the general interest in the progress of these trials. Another result has been the breaking of the gum chewing monopoly, long accorded to the telephone and ship girl, for the habit has spread amazingly. It was begun locally with the jurors in the graft trial. Purred to all through long hours for five or six days a week in the court room and deprived of the solace of cigar or tobacco, the jurors' chewed gum. The practice spread to the members of the jury which have followed, and now the casual visitor who drops in one of the court rooms where any of the trials are in progress will see a room full of slowly grinding jaws. Jurors and court room habitués alike, chewing the product of the chicle factories.—San Francisco Call.

Diamonds in America. Since 1850 many American diamonds have been authenticated, but none before had been found "in place." Most of those in the United States, Guyana and Brazil have come to light through the "breaking down" or washing away of the original rock, which allows the diamonds to be washed in to brooks and river gravels, as in South America. Many have been found in the glacial moraine of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, another prehistoric glacier had swept them from some point in Canada. Search is now being made for the original resting place of these stones by several surveying parties along the line of the new transcontinental railway from Quebec to Winnipeg.—Review of Reviews.

Superstitions About Water. Delightfully quaint are all the superstitions concerning water, and one which never fails to excite little thrills along one's spine is that which holds that, if water is taken with soup, the drinker will cough in his grave. A lively quarrel is said to be the result of two friends washing their hands in the same water, and while water poured on the doorstep ensures prosperity, water thrown out will soon give cause to weep. Pleasant indeed for the maiden is the belief that every time she spills water her lover thinks upon her; but for the housewife the spilling of water foretells that, ere she can dry it up, her house will be full of callers.

Sold His Eternal Salvation. Rodnos' Dielo, a Russian newspaper, reproduces from the original a curious deed of transfer. The document runs: "I, the undersigned, Nicollia Nicheporovitch, peasant, 35 years of age, of the Dogmarovsk district of Mollit-poi, have fallen into evil days. I am at the end of my resources, and hereby certify that I have sold for the sum of 50 rubles my eternal salvation and place in the kingdom of heaven to Makar Selonky." The signature is attested by one elder of the village council.

Corrosion of the Wasting Away of the iron of a steam boiler may be due to the acid in the fuel water, says Ideal Power. Where sulphuric acid is found in this water its destructive force is often spent in destroying the feed pipes before it actually enters the boiler. This is expensive, annoying, and even dangerous in some cases, but is much preferable to a boiler explosion.

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