

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

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THE assessed value of Texas has increased more than \$100,000,000 within the past two years. The products of the State this year are valued at \$119,966,206, against \$85,000,000 in 1882.

GEN. CROOK is now living at Fort Whipple, near Prescott, A. T. His home is a pleasant, roomy house of two stories, surrounded by piazzas, and commanding a fine view of hill and valley. The Indians of the section call him "The Gray Fox."

A GEORGIA man, after nearly jerking his leg off trying to get his foot out of a "frog" on a railway track before an approaching train should reach him, finally had to unlace his shoe, pull his foot out and leave the shoe to be run over. Just as he got his foot out safely the train went by on another track, and he used his shoe to kick himself with for not seeing that he was on a side-track all the time.

THE new English *Illustrated Magazine* is not only going to give *Harper and Scribner* a tussle in the old country, but will be heard them in their native den. It will be published in England for 12 cents and in America for 15 cents. *Harper's* sells for 18 cents in England and *Scribner* for 24 cents. All magazines there sell by retail for 25 per cent less than the published price. A thoroughly-good illustrated magazine for 15 cents will be a novelty in this country.

THERE are about thirty blind news-dealers in New York city. Most of them own their own stands and are doing a good business. Some of them are so active and dexterous that many of their customers do not suspect that they are blind. It is said that nearly all of them are experts in detecting false coin, and, what is more wonderful, can determine almost instantly the value of most foreign silver coins presented to them by customers in payment for newspapers.

AN improved ice-freezing apparatus is the subject of an invention for which a patent was recently granted to Mr. John Bowes of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The invention consists of an apparatus for freezing water by natural cold, the water being fed into shallow pans for that purpose. Steam-pipes are provided for thawing the frozen blocks free from the bottom and sides of the pans, after which the pans are tied up and the blocks of ice are discharged into the ice-house by gravity.

A REMARKABLE feat was recently accomplished by John Macdonald, of Dundee, Scotland. His brother Archibald was passing through a field when he was attacked by a bull, and, being a cripple, attempted to defend himself with his crutch. John ran to his rescue, and, having no weapon, caught the beast by the horns, and with one supreme effort gave a sudden twist to the head, dislocating the neck by the jerk, and killing the bull. Mr. Macdonald was at one time champion athlete of Scotland.

A NICE BOY.

"Nice child, very nice child," observed an old gentleman, crossing the aisle and addressing the mother of the boy who had just hit him in the eye with a wad of paper. "How old are you, my son?"

"None of your business," replied the youngster, taking aim at another passenger.

"Fine boy," smiled the old man, as the parent regarded her offspring with pride. "A remarkably fine boy. What is your name, my son?"

"Puddin' Tame!" shouted the youngster, with a giggle at his own wit.

"I thought so," continued the old man, pleasantly. "If you had given me three guesses at it, that would have been the first one I would have struck on. Now, Puddin', you can blow those things pretty straight, can't you?"

"You bet!" squealed the boy, delighted at the compliment. "See me take that old fellow over there!"

"No, no!" exclaimed the old gentleman, hastily. "Try it on the old woman I was sitting with. She has boys of her own and she won't mind."

"Can't you hit the lady for the gentleman, Johnny?" asked the fond parent. Johnny drew a bead and landed the pellet on the end of the old woman's nose.

But she did mind it, and raising in her wrath soared down on the small boy like a blizzard. She put him over the line, reversed him, ran him backward, till he didn't know which end of him was front, and finally dropped him into the lap of the scared mother, with a benediction whereof the parent was that she'd be back in a moment and skin him alive.

"She didn't seem to like it, Puddin'," smiled the old gentleman, softly. "She's a perfect stranger to me; but I understand she is the matron of a Truant's Home, and I thought she would like a little fun, but I was mistaken."

And the old man sighed sweetly as he went back to his seat. He was sorry for the poor little boy, but he couldn't help it.—*Drake's Magazine*.

CAPT. RICHARD KING, the cattle king, pays taxes on property in Nueces county, Texas, valued at a million dollars.

THE BAD BOY.

"What is this I hear about your father creating a panic in a dry-goods store," said the grocery man to the bad boy, as he took a butter tryer and ran it into a pumpkin a few times. "They tell me that he had about a hundred female clerks tied on the shelves and on the counters, and all of them screaming bloody murder, and that a floor-walker hit him over the head with a roll of paper cambric, and somebody turned in fire alarm. How was it?"

"Well, if you will keep watch for pa, at the door, I will tell you about it," said the boy. "Somebody has told pa that I was at the bottom of the whole business, and when a man loses confidence in his boy, and rolls up a trunk-strap and carries it habitually, it stands a boy in hand to keep his eye peeled. You see, pa has been in a habit lately of going to the store a good deal and lallygagging with the girl clerks. Any girl that will smile on pa, and look sweet, catches him, and he would sit on a stool in front of the counter ten hours a day, pretending to buy some kind of fringe, or corsets, or something, and he would faintly talk the aim of the girls. Ma didn't like it at all, and she told pa he ought to be ashamed of himself, cause the girls was only making a fool of him, and all the people in the store were laffin at him, but pa said for her to shut her yawp, and he kept on trying to find excuses to go to the store. Ma told me about it, and she felt real sorry, and, by jinks, it made me mad to see an old man, old enough to have gout or paralysis, going round hawking clerks in a store, and I told ma if she would let me I would break pa up in that sort of business, and she told me to go ahead and make him jump like a box-car. So 'tother day ma gave pa a piece of ribbon to match and a corset to change for a larger size, and a pair of gloves to return because the thumb of one 'em ripped off, and told him to buy four yards of baby flannel, and see how much it would cost to have her sea-skin coat relined, and to see if her new hat was done. Pa acted as though he didn't want to go to the store, but ma and me knew that he looked upon it as a picnic, and he blacked his boots and changed ends with his cuffs, and put on his new red necktie, and shaved himself, and fixed up as though he was going to be married. I asked him to let me go along to carry the packages, and he said he didn't mind if I did go. You have seen these inju-rubber rats they have at the rubber stores, haven't you? They look so near like a natural rat that you can't tell the difference unless you offer the rubber rat some cheese. I got one of those rats and tied a fine thread to it with a slipnoose on the end, and when pa got into the store I put the slipnoose over the hand button of his coat-tail, and put the rat on the floor, and it followed him along, and I swot it looked so natural I wanted to kick it. Pa walked along smiling, and stopped at the ribbon counter, and winked at a girl, and she bent over to see what he wanted, and then she saw the rat, and she screamed and crawled up on the shelf where the boxes were, and put her feet under her, and said: 'Take it away! kill it!' and she trembled all over. Pa thought she had gone into a fit 'cause she was paralyzed on his shape, and he turned blue, and went on 'cause he didn't want to kill her dead; and, as he walked along, the rat followed him, and just as he bowed to four girls who were standing together, talking about the fun they had at the exposition the night before, they saw the rat, and they began to yell, and climb up things. One of them got on a stool and pulled her clothes tight around her ankles, so a live rat couldn't have got in her stocking, let alone a rubber rat, and the girls all squealed just like when you tickle them in the ribs. Pa looked scared, as though he was afraid he was breaking them all up with his shape, and he kept on and another flock of girls saw the rat, and then jumped up on the counter and sat down on their feet, and yelled 'rat.' Then the others yelled 'rat,' and in a minute about 100 girls were getting up on things and saying 'shoo,' and one of them got on a pile of blankets, and the pile fell off on the floor with her, and the men began to dig her out. Pa's face was a study. He looked at one girl, and then at another, and wondered what was the matter, and finally the floor-walker came along and see what it was, and took pa by the collar and led him out of doors, and told him if he ever came in there again he would send the police after him. I had gone by the time pa had got out on the sidewalk, and he picked up the rubber rat and found it was hitched to his coat, and he went right home. Ma says he was so mad that he stuttered, and she thinks I better board around for a day or two. She tried to reason with pa that it was intended for his good, to show him that he was making a fool of himself, but he does not look at it in that light. Say, do you think it was wrong to break him up that way. He was going wrong entirely."

"Oh, I don't know. You and your ma are the best judges. But I would have liked to see them girls climbing up the side of the store. But what is the trouble with the minister?" said the grocery man. "He was in here this morning with the tail of his black coat sewed up, and when I asked him to sit down he said he was standing up almost entirely now, and when I asked him if he had seen you lately, he said he had, to his sorrow, and he never wanted to see you again. I hope you have not done anything you will be sorry for."

"It wasn't me at all. It was Duffy's dog," said the boy, as he broke out with a laugh. "You see, the minister felt as though he had been cross to me, when I asked questions of him, and he met me on the streets and apologized, and said, hereafter he would try to show a Christian spirit, and would answer any questions I might ask him. So I began to ask him how he thought it was that Daniel had such control over the lions when they cast him into the den. I told him I thought Daniel had chloroform on his handkerchief, and when the lions got a sniff of it they didn't want any Daniel in theirs, but he said that wasn't it. He said it was the power of man over the brute creation, and showed the efficacy of prayer. He said

Daniel prayed three times every day, and then looked the lions right in the eye, and a lion wouldn't have gall enough to eat a man that looked straight in his eye. To illustrate, he said he could look a vicious dog right in the eye and the dog would turn tail and run, and just then we passed Duffy's, and the dog barked and growled, and the minister said he would demonstrate to me the power of the human eye over the brute, and he went right into Duffy's yard. Well, I know that dog, 'cause Duffy used to raise melons, and I went right up a tree. I didn't want that dog to think I was trying to play any Daniel business on him, because every little while Duffy has to take a file and pry pieces of pants out of that dog's teeth, so I got upon a limb. The dog looked at the minister a minute, and the minister looked at the dog, and when the dog began to lick his chops I says to myself, "Daniel, you better be getting hence," but Daniel didn't get hence till it was everlasting too late. But I guess he would have saved his coat if he hadn't tried to pull the dog over a picket fence. The minister is usually a very deliberate man, but when the dog began to tangle his teeth up in his coat tail, he felt that it was good to be somewhere else, and he began to go away to look some other dog in the eye. I guess Duffy's dog is not the right kind of a dog to look in the eye. I think some dogs is different about being looked in the eye. The minister looked like a flying trapeze performer when he come over that fence. They needn't tell me our minister never belonged to a gymnasium, 'cause he couldn't get over a fence that way, and always have been a good little boy who never stole melons. I could tell by the way he got over the fence that his neighbors used to raise melons when he was a boy. Well, Duffy was taking a nap, but he woke up, and came out and called the dog off, and the minister went off with his hand on where his coat was tore, and when Duffy chained up the dog I came down. I am not yet convinced about that Daniel business, and until the minister demonstrates it I shall hold to the chloroform theory. And so the minister wouldn't sit down. I thought that dog's teeth had been filed."—*Peck's Sun*.

RED HOT.

Extracts from Ben Butler's Speech to the Democratic Convention of Massachusetts.

No Wonder the Republicans Want to Get Rid of Him---How They Disfranchise the Poor and Treat Their Prisoners.

With every emotion of sensibility I receive your kind greeting. I have come obedient to the call of the convention, through your committee, to say a few words which may aid in your deliberations. By your appreciative kindness a year ago I was presented as your candidate for Governor, to the Legislature of the Commonwealth. The people of the Commonwealth, all who were in favor of reform, of good government, of the honor of the old Commonwealth so far as they were then instructed, ratified your nomination at the polls. It seemed to me that to a deliberative assembly, representing the reform element of the Commonwealth, that reform element which has always in every day and in every year had its seeds firmly planted in the Democratic party, I should give some account of my stewardship. The Commonwealth may be dry and uninteresting, but it is necessary that at some time it should be spoken. I had intended to have given it to you and to the people in a letter accepting your nomination if I had been away, but as it is you must bear the infliction. As you remember, I examined into the legislative work of the Commonwealth somewhat in my inaugural address to the Legislature. I recommended therein many changes, some wise, I know, and some, for ought I know, not so wise. I had in mind, however, not only these recommendations, no, not one, was passed by a Legislature of the Commonwealth which sat a longer time than any other Legislature ever sat before, and much longer, I hope, than any other will ever sit again. Why, there were some recommendations so obvious that they didn't even dare to consider them. I recommended them to pass a law protecting the passengers on railroads against the insane, wicked and unfeeling attendants of railroads, and all obstructions upon the rails, which might be the cause of the slaughter of hundreds of innocent women. It was a recommendation from the executive. Of course it would not pass.

They had pretended for years, if the constitutional restriction didn't bind them, they would be glad to relieve the people of the Commonwealth from paying poll-tax as a qualification for suffrage. Their best orators had so declared. Their ablest men of the older time—when they had almost as much as the world—had recommended this to the Legislature. In view of the strong feelings that this anomaly, that a man's vote should depend upon his ability at one part of the year to pay in a sum of money, should be wiped away, and, to get rid of the constitutional defect, I advised a plan which would allow the Legislature to do what I supposed they would wish to do when they had an opportunity. They said they doubted its constitutionality. Our friends in the Legislature said: "Very good, let us do it according to the Supreme court"—a Supreme court of their own choosing, not mine, or there might have been a different choice. They refused it. That great question of the constitutional rights of the people they would not submit to the Supreme court. But they said: "We will have a proposition to amend the constitution." They were not chary, however, in submitting questions to the Supreme court. When the third-rate lawyers that composed some of the committees of the Legislature were through the executive had erred and did not know what he could or could not make a veto upon a measure, they rushed with that question to the Supreme court, and the answer you remember. Having then voted down legislative bills that said: "Very good, let us do it according to the Supreme court"—a Supreme court of their own choosing, not mine, or there might have been a different choice. They refused it. That great question of the constitutional rights of the people they would not submit to the Supreme court. But they said: "We will have a proposition to amend the constitution." 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