

The Democratic Sentinel

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GREAT MEN FOR SPORT.

PASTIMES OF THE NATION'S CHIEF EXECUTIVES.

Arthur, Harrison and Cleveland as Hunters and Fishermen—Grant's Fast Horses and Jackson's Cob Pipe—Lincoln Attended Theaters—Washington Enjoyed the Chase.

Presidential Amusements.

Mr. Cleveland is probably the most thoroughgoing sportsman that has ever occupied the Presidential office. At the same time the methods of hunting and fishing which he prefers are not such as are regarded with the highest approbation by sportsmen in the use of rod and gun. He does not care to cast the fly for trout, but prefers to troll for bluefish. Quail, which afford the finest sport in the neighborhood of Washington, have never served as game for him, success with them requiring patient walking and great quickness. He has found it more amusing to shoot ducks from behind a blind in the Chesapeake, or to kill deer with a night light in the Adirondacks instead of stalking them by day.

President Harrison is a duck hunter. Though a poor shot, he is very fond of the sport, and he also has popped away at these water fowls the Chesapeake. The ducks of that region have been Presidential game ever since the Gov-

ernment began. It is probable that George Washington bagged many a brace of them. In his day canvas-backs were thick in the Potomac. Subsequent Presidents have mostly taken a shot at them. It will be remembered that Mr. Harrison, three years ago, mistook a pig for a coon in the Virginia

woods and killed the animal. Unfortunately, it was not a wild, but an educated pig, belonging to a colored person in that vicinity, who received payment for it from the club which was entertaining the President as its guest at the time.

Mr. Cleveland earned the reputation of being the hardest working President that the country has ever had, accord-

ing to a Washington correspondent in the *Globe-Democrat*. In that respect he even excelled Mr. Harrison. Nevertheless, during his term at the White House he found time for occasional game of billiards, in which he is quite expert. He is also a particular good whist player, and puts up a strong game of poker now and then in company with a few intimate friends. He does not care much for driving, which has always been Mr. Harrison's favorite amusement. Mrs. Cleveland used to attend the famous paper-chases which amused the society of Washington when she was a bride.

Arthur a Fisherman.

President Arthur was a really scientific fisherman. Sport with rod and reel was his favorite outdoor enjoyment. On one occasion he and Gen. Sheridan went out to the Yellowstone Park to fish, hunt and camp out. They got away so far out of reach of the telegraph that the Chief Executive of the nation practically forsook the reins of government for many days. If anything serious had happened to require action by him, as might very possibly have occurred, it would have been necessary to put sevens on his trail to hunt him down. Mr. Arthur tried his best to get some fun out of his term of office, but he found it very difficult. The President is the hardest-worked man in the United States, and he can hardly take a vacation without carrying the shop with him. When Mr. Cleveland went up into the North Woods, he still remained to

some extent in harness, a line of couriers connecting his camp where he went with the nearest telegraph office. Mr. Arthur was very fond of the theater, especially comedy, because he liked to laugh. Above all things he delighted in giving little stag dinners at the White House, to which he invited the men who talked best and were most congenial.

The billiard table on which Mr. Cleveland has played and will play again at the White House was originally purchased for President Garfield. Gen. Garfield had the present billiard-room in the basement of the Executive Mansion fitted up for that purpose, and he played there a great deal with his most particular friends. He was very fond of all kinds of games. He was a first-rate horseback rider, and held an honorary membership in the Washington Base-Ball Club. Before he became President he used to attend the base-ball

games that were ever framed. From the very day it went into effect, however, the quality of the milk used in the principal cities in the State has steadily improved, and now it is found that the products of the dairy there are above the legal standard. Milk to be good must, according to the law, contain 3 per cent. of butter fat. During the month of July, out of the many tests that were made in various parts of the State, there were only four dealers whose milk was 1 per cent. higher than the legal figure, while the bulk of the milk barely passed the law. Tests made a month later, however, showed the milk of fifteen dealers to contain 4 per cent. of butter fat, and now it is rarely that the tests show less than 3.50 or 4 per cent. Commissioner Tupper is now satisfied that there is no State in the Union where purer milk is sold.

The law provides that any person who shall sell, or exchange, or expose for sale, deliver or bring to another for domestic use or to be converted into any product of human food whatsoever, any unclean, impure, unhealthy, adulterated, unwholesome or skimmed milk, or milk taken from an animal having disease, or was taken from an animal fifteen days before or less than five days after parturition, shall, upon conviction thereto, be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$100, and be liable in double the amount of damages to the persons on whom such fraud shall be committed. The law authorizes the dairy commissioners to appoint agents in every city having over 10,000 inhabitants, and to collect samples of the milk sold in such cities. It is their duty to forward such samples to the office of the commissioner in Des Moines. The compensation of such agent at any one time is not to be more than \$3 for collecting and delivering the same to express companies. The law also provides that the number of times samples are collected in each city shall not exceed an average of thirty times during any one year.

Jackson's Cob Pipe.

The favorite solace of Andrew Jackson's leisure was smoking a corn-cob pipe. He declared that no other vehicle for the absorption of tobacco smoke was so sweet and delightful. It is said that his wife also, during her lifetime, was addicted to the corn-cob. As will be remembered he introduced a new order of things at the White House, disdaining aristocratic refinements and doing away with the elaborate etiquette previously in vogue. His favorite sport was cock-fighting, and at home he owned a breed of birds which were regarded as invincible. Some of them he brought to Washington to fight; but, much to his disgust, they were defeated.

Little is known about the diversions in which James Monroe found recreation. He appears to have escaped from the anxieties of government by playing the fiddle. Neither he nor Madison was a sport in any sense. John Quincy Adams was the pedestrian President and swimmer.

Gen. Washington was in his prime a great sportsman. He was particularly fond of fox hunting, keeping a pack of hounds from imported stock and several hunters. With these he hunted almost every day. In fact, he lived in all respects as does the typical country gentleman in Virginia at present. The story that Washington once threw a stone across the Potomac was long ago exploded. Such a feat would not have been possible for any man who was not constructed after the pattern of a rifle.

The fact seems to be that he did throw a shilling across the Rappahannock. But, whether he did or not, Mr. Depew declares that the greatest exploit of his life was "to throw a crown across the Atlantic."

CHANCE FOR RICH MEN.

Let Them Unite in an Effort Looking to Improvement in Country Roads.

Millionaires who don't know how to lay out their money to advantage will find a good suggestion in an article by ex-Governor James A. Beaver of St. Louis. His favorite character was Falstaff, and he had a cordial personal liking for James H. Hackett, who was the greatest Falstaff ever produced. Their intimacy was broken up by Hackett's ambition to represent the United States abroad as a Minister Plenipotentiary. Mr. Lincoln did not think it proper to confer this honor upon the actor, and a break in their friendship was the result. That is the way in which presidential friendships usually end. A President can hardly venture to indulge an intimacy with anybody, because if he does so the person admitted to confidence almost invariably demands something which can not be granted. In this respect a President of the United States is most unfortunate. Such an intimacy is so entirely friendless as he is. Those whose friendship is most desirable shrink from approaching him lest their motives be misconstrued, and he is perpetually surrounded by a crowd of political and other scyphants. It is hardly possible for him to have a real friend.

President Pierce was enormously popular. Every day he took a regular constitutional from the White House to the Capitol along Pennsylvania avenue and back, bowing to everybody right

and left. He and his wife paid social visits regularly, quite contrary to usage, to the families of their New Hampshire friends who had clerkships in the departments, and he entertained them as guests. President Harrison the first used to go to market early in the morning two or three times a week, and on one occasion he was caught in the rain,

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