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COWBOY PREACHER

PECULIAR BUT FETCHING METHODS HE EMPLOYS.

Uses the Blunt But Forceful Language of the Plains to Bring Hardened Sinners to Repentance.

Seattle, Wash.—In the course of an hour's preaching at the Volunteers of America mission, Samuel S. Bettes, the "Cowboy Preacher," roped, thrived and hog-tied Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Catholics and quite a number of other religious bodies. After getting his rawhide securely around the orthodox denominations he proceeded to brand them with marks not exactly familiar to the cattle ranges in Texas, where the cowboy preacher used to ride the round up.

Bettes, who says the prefix "Rev." is the grease some ministers use to slide into heaven with, faced a mixed but entirely receptive audience when he launched, or rather rode, full speed, into his discourse. There was the usual shouting coterie of Volunteers but the rest of the hall was packed with men from the streets, who were attracted by the flaring signs outside the basement entrance, advertising the "Cowboy Preacher," and by the uproarious chorus of cries that varied the singing.

The preacher got some enthusiastic yells when he delivered himself of especially caustic epigrams. A few of his choice ones were as follows: "You never hear of a man back sliding from the Presbyterian church because he had to backslide to get there."

"Some people talk about the Methodists converting sinners. Why, I can hog-tie any Methodist in catching sinners."

"I'd rather be a religious fool than a devilish sharp."

"The hard shell Baptist may get to heaven, but if he does he'll find out."



SAMUEL S. BETTES

what an awful old fool he was on earth."

"Religion is a good cure for dyspepsia. The man who curses generally has a stomach ache coming to him."

"No true Christian will smoke a cigarette. A cigarette is a fool at one end, a fire at the other, some paper and dust in between."

"Some Seattle ministers let their hobbies run away with them. They need a religious bronco buster."

"Long hair don't let a preacher through the eye of the needle any easier than long legs."

Incidentally, Mr. Bettes wears a good deal of hair himself, which he tosses back on his forehead when he gets well under way with his picturesque sermons. He took for his text, "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, beautiful as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners," which he said was from the Songs of Solomon, 6:10.

Before the sermon began one of the Volunteers arose and asked for contributions. When the plate came back to the platform, Bettes arose and remarked that he needed 12 more dollars to pay for a new suit of clothes, but the \$12 were not forthcoming.

His sermon dealt chiefly with the glories of unorthodox religion. He calls himself a free-will Baptist, and frequently broke off short in his talk to hand out some scathing denunciation of certain aspects of present-day religion. Striding back and forth on the narrow platform, his long iron-gray hair falling in disorderly masses across his brow, his face flaming red and perspiring, he poured forth a torrent of words, at times ascending to heights of uncouth eloquence, at other times dropping back into slang or the grotesque language of the plains.

Again.
This morn' for me
There'll be no case;
My wife will make
Me shell the peas.

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CAT SLIDES DOWN A POLE.

Firemen's Feline Mascot Learns the Trick by Watching Them.

Boston.—The firemen of Combination A fire station, on Canal street, in West Medford, have a mascot, a veteran fire horse and a captain in whom they take great pride, says the Globe. The mascot is Dick, a large tortoiseshell cat, that slides down the sliding pole like any other fireman. The horse is Jeff, with a record of 25 years' continuous service. The captain is Frank H. Walker, for



"Dick" Coming Down the Sliding Pole.

over 27 years a member of the department. Dick, the cat, is an unusually intelligent animal. He was presented to the company by Hoseman Chamberlain about two years ago, when a mere kitten.

He had adapted himself to the ways of the fire department, and at the present time can slide down the firemen's sliding pole from the second floor, a distance of 19 feet, with comparative ease. He attends fires occasionally, riding in the bottom of the combination chemical engine and hose wagon, and is to be found "at home" almost any afternoon sound asleep on the broad back of the big black veteran horse, Jeff.

Dick learned the trick of sliding down the pole by watching the firemen and, according to Capt. Walker, first essayed it a year ago. The cat was upstairs and wished to get to the lower floor one evening. The door leading to the stairway was shut and after trying in vain to enlist the attention of the firemen Dick made a flying leap for the sliding pole and, clasping it with his fore and hind paws, slid down within two feet of the bottom, where he jumped and half fell off. He landed, like all cats, on his feet.

EARLY STAGE COACH DRIVER.

Hampton Ball Once Had Senator Benton as a Passenger.

Montgomery City, Mo.—This place boasts of having the oldest living Mis-



HAMPTON BALL

souri stage driver. His name is Hampton Ball, a relative of the "Dave" Ball, candidate for governor. He drove a stage coach over the Boon's Lick road, from St. Louis to Lexington, Mo., more than 57 years ago, his route being from Jones's Burg, now Jonesburg, to old Danville, the county seat of Montgomery county.

Mr. Ball recalls with pleasure the fact that he once had as one of his passengers Thomas H. Benton, the Missouri statesman.

Mr. Ball not only drove a stage in his early life, but had the distinction of holding up one, not for the purpose of robbery, but to give a passenger what he termed a meritorious flogging for an injury to his afflicted brother. The offense occurred when Mr. Ball was a lad and he promised when he became a man he would avenge the wrong. He knew that the stage would pass a certain place and would have in it the passenger whom he had promised in youth that he would flog. Ball secured a hickory withe, and going out in front of the stage, ordered it to stop. He then commanded the passenger to walk out to the side of the road, where he administered the floggings.

The First "Baedeker."

In answer to an inquiry a German paper says: "The first Baedeker was published at Coblenz, on the Rhine, in 1839. Baedeker was born at Essen in 1801 and was by occupation a book seller. There had been tourist guides before his."

A Seasonable Inquiry.

"Ice," said the prudent citizen, "should be used only in very small quantities."
"What are you preaching now," rejoined the impatient person, "health or economy?"—Washington Star.

ROUND THE CAPITAL
Information and Gossip Picked Up Here and There in Washington.

Virtue That Abides in Clean Linen



WASHINGTON.—The nation's capital is sincere in its crusade for cleanliness, and promises to prove herself a worthy example to the other cities of the land. The activities of Dr. W. C. Woodward the past week have centered in the effort to reform the laundry business of the city.

Every person who launders for pay the clothing, sheets, pillow cases, table cloths or similar articles belonging to any other person will be required to register with the health officer.

"What the health department desires," says Dr. Woodward, "is to bring under better control the many homes of the poorer classes in which washing is done for hire to supplement the scant wage of the head of the household. Too often these houses are in an uncleanly condition."

"And there is reason to believe that in many cases, especially in the summer season, when heating water for washing not only diminishes the profit of the operation, but also adds to the

discomfort of the household, the water used is not properly heated, and clothing from various sources is passed successively through the same dirty water; and, moreover, that ironing, which, when efficiently done, is a reasonably safe disinfecting process, is not done in the manner best adapted to the accomplishment of that end.

"And finally, during rainy days in summer, and particularly during inclement weather during the winter season, clothing is hung up or spread about within the living rooms of the premises, often amid foul odors which effectively permeate it, and occasionally on premises occupied in part by patients suffering from communicable diseases.

"While the most effective regulation of the business of laundering can not be brought about until some system of licensing is established, as is proposed in the pending bill, yet it would seem that it may be possible to facilitate the inspection of places where laundering is done by requiring registration at the health office. If they be registered then they can be systematically inspected, at least from time to time, as lunchrooms and other similar places are now being inspected. Instead of being visited only occasionally, in the course of the routine work of the department."

Envoys Notorious as "Tightwads"



UNCLE SAM is getting wise on one point and that is that foreign countries like to have him send millionaires as his representatives to their lands there to spend American gold lavishly, but are disposed to be decidedly niggardly when it comes to their representatives spending money in America.

Secretary Root is credited with being about to turn this situation to good account. Mr. Root resents the position of the foreign governments in requiring money qualification of an American ambassador.

Of course what ambassadors and ministers spend here on private enterprises for their governments can not be reckoned. But their entertainments and general mode of living are an open page. The man who draws the biggest salary in Washington is James Bryce, who gets \$50,000 annually and an additional \$10,000 a year for contingent expenses. Mr. Bryce has one of the finest mansions which the capital can boast, completely furnished, with an extra fund to pay for any necessary repairs or new equipment. He has linen, silver and glass

at the expense of the British exchequer, and even the liveries of his retainers come from the public fund.

Yet with this vast sum at their disposal, few people live more unpretentiously than the British ambassador and Mrs. Bryce. Their social record during the last winter contained fewer events than any of the immediate predecessors. Mrs. Bryce gave about six small afternoon receptions during the season, when tea and small confections were served.

There were two large evening levees, when practically the whole of Washington's official and social world was entertained. About three formal and pretentious banquets were given by the British ambassador during the winter.

But little more can be placed to the credit of the French ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, second on the list of big salaries. M. Jusserand gets \$42,500 a year, about \$10,000 for extra expenses. The dean of the corps, the Italian ambassador, Baron Mayor Des Planches, is almost out of the social running.

In view of the loud lamentations about what a hard time American diplomats abroad have to make ends meet, it is said that Secretary Root and some legislators who are in his confidence will present the next complainants with a story of what good managers the diplomats who live in Washington have proved themselves.

Are Turning from Whisky to Beer



FROM the preliminary report of the commissioner of internal revenue it is apparent that the consumption of whisky and other ardent spirits is on the decrease and that the consumption of beer is increasing. During the fiscal year which ended June 30, last, \$131,789,242 was paid to the government as revenue on whisky and other spirituous liquors. For the year previous \$147,550,281 was paid, a loss in revenue of \$15,767,038. There was distilled during the year which ended June 30, last, 119,808,402 gallons of distilled spirits, a decrease over the previous year of 14,333,672 gallons.

During the past year 68,747,560 barrels of beer, ale, etc. were made, a gain of 291,569 over the preceding year. On this beer, ale, etc., the gov-

ernment received as revenue the sum of \$58,747,680, a gain of \$201,569.

The receipts from all sources of internal revenue for the year aggregated \$251,665,950, being a decrease of \$17,998,072 from the receipts for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1907.

Tobacco of all sorts yielded a revenue of \$49,862,754, a loss of \$1,948,315, the figures of the year which ended June 30, 1907, being \$51,811,069. This year cigars contributed a total sum of \$20,714,276; little cigars, \$545,050, and cigarettes, \$4,879,346, and tobacco of other kinds, including chewing and smoking, \$21,846,563.

Oleomargarine paid revenue to the extent of \$954,304, a gain of \$66,663 over the previous year. This represents 79,107,302 pounds consumed.

Renovated butter was a close second to oleomargarine, 50,240,708 pounds being manufactured, upon which \$125,601 revenue was paid.

Filled cheese paid \$1,271; mixed flour, \$2,380. Playing cards were taxed for \$549,810, a loss of \$112,904 for the preceding year.

Would Make Work of Mining Safe



THE great number of mine accidents and the appalling loss of life therefrom has prompted the United States government to invite Great Britain, Germany and Belgium to send their leading experts in such matters to this country to co-operate with the efforts now being made through the United States geological survey to establish an experimental station at Pittsburgh and to inaugurate the work there of testing explosives used in coal mining. Congress at its last session appropriated \$150,000 for this purpose, and this sum has been turned over to the survey.

It is said that abroad mine explosives are tested, and those which are deemed standard for the purpose of mining are labeled "permissible." There is no such condition here, nor has the geological survey the right to impose it. It may, however, endeavor to ascertain the facts by investigation, and then set them forth for the benefit of mine operators and for the information of state legislatures.

Last year 3,200 men were killed in the mines and the year before 2,061. The rate for 1906 was 2.34 for every thousand men employed, while for 1907 it was still greater. In four mines alone nearly 500 men were killed since last December—356 in the disaster at Monongah, W. Va., said to be the most appalling, so far as the loss of life is concerned, in the history of mining;

25 more in the disaster at the Darr mine, in Pennsylvania; 32 in the Naomi mine, in Pennsylvania, and 61 in the Yolande mine, in Alabama.

The experts who will come to this country are Capt. Desborough, inspector of explosives under the home office, Great Britain; Herr Meissner, chief of the German mine service, and Victor Watyngne, engineer-in-chief, administration of mines, Belgium.

Cruelty.
"Are you the officer of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals?" asked the fussy little man.
"I am," replied the man addressed.
"Well, look at that horse, how he's switching his tail. The flies are something awful."

"What would you suggest, that I arrest the flies for worrying the horse, or the horse for worrying the flies?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Idyllic Situation.

"They are such ideal chums, seemingly."

"Yes, and thereby hangs a tale,—a romance in real life. They fell in love at first sight, and were married right away, and for awhile it looked as if there would be no more to the story. But in time their love ripened into friendship—think of it!—and they are what you see."—Puck.

Breaking It Gently.

"Pardon me, sir," began the person in the railroad train who sat next to him, "but you say if I sat on your—"

"Suppose you sit on my—"

"I did!" admitted the person, calmly.—Half Hour.

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