

BILL AND HIS FOLKS

Napoleon Pinner Tells William About His Grandfathers.

HIS ANCESTORS DULY TRIED

They Live Together Like Little Children and It Is Hard to Manage Them—Home at the Circus.

(Copyright, 1933, by Edgar W. Nye.)

"There is a good deal of difference between people in the matter of getting along with old folks," said my neighbor Napoleon Pinner the other day to me, as we were waiting for the board of equalization to eat down the valuation on our property.

"Some people can go through the wars and never weaken, but they are no good at managing old people. I think that if we keep in mind that we will need some-



WITH MR. PINNER.

body seems day to be patient with us we will soon learn to be patient with others."

"Yes, that's true. Did you ever think what a trial Methuselah must have been to his family?"

"Yes, but Methuselah retained all of his faculties up to his eight hundredth year. He could read fine print, you remember, up to 786 years of age, and then he began to imagine that smoking was hurting his eyesight, so he quit for 30 years, but it did not help any and he went back to it, they say—only worse, to make up for lost time."

"But the last 80 or 90 years of Methuselah's life he got so that he used to repeat himself a good deal. Even Enoch was tried with him, and when one of Methuselah's grandchildren—some of them 300 years old—used to wake up with the crop in the night, the old man, forgetting that he used to have it when he was their age, would mumble to himself and gnash his teeth for hours, after which he would put them back in the bureau and go to sleep again."

"But what started me off on the subject of old people was my wife's grandfather. He lives with us. He is 90 years old today, and we are going to give him a birthday cake. I have just bought eight dozen wax candles to put on it. "My grandfather lives with us also. He is 87 years old in November. Both of the old gentlemen live with us, having no other relatives they can get along with. My grandfather came to live with me when my wife and I went keeping house, and two years after that my wife's grandmother died and the old man came to our home. "It has been a rather ticklish business to manage the two, for my grandfather has an unmanageable temper, and for a moment or two sometimes you'd think he might assassinate some one, but once or twice a year is as often as he has an outbreak like that. "My grandfather's name is Peradventure Pinner, an old Bible name selected from the best column of the good book I reckon. My wife's grandfather's name is Mortimer Dowd. They call each other Peradventure and Mortimer when they are calm, but if anything goes wrong they call each other Pinner and Dowd. "I was afraid that my grandfather might get one of his little spells of temper and I drive my wife's grandfather into the north with a club, for Dowd is the greatest man you ever saw. So one day I told Mortimer that Peradventure was the kind of a man that had to be set down on the moment he showed any signs of temper, and if he had the nerve to shut him up once for all he would have no trouble, but I was afraid he did not have the necessary courage. However, I told him that he was so much older than Peradventure he must take a firm hand with him at the start. "I need to have them do the chores to keep them out of mischief. Mortimer had to milk and feed the chickens, and Peradventure did the kindling and carried in the wood. "One day they had been down town together, and Mortimer had bought a necktie with the money I gave him. It had the words of an old song set to the tune of 'Wilmington's Farewell.' Peradventure had bought household candy with his money and had hidden a part of it in the woodshed, where I found it and took it away because I was afraid he would be sick eating candy along with the rest of the beer he had been drinking. "He discovered that it was gone at about dusk while he and Mortimer were in the woodshed together. Mortimer is as lively a character as ever lived. He has fine, soft, silky white hair and a skin like an unbroken egg. When the two are asleep at night together and I get in at 11 o'clock to see if they are covered up all right, I can't help concerning them, for Peradventure has eyes open, you know, that he can look back like a mannequin when he wants to, and he has a big red book on him like a penguin, and as you approach him at night you can hear it purr. He also sleeps on his back, and his mouth comes unclamped at times. "But Mortimer has a soft voice and a noticeable air about him that endears him to every one. He says very little, and if he can't hear very well he lets it go, while Peradventure tells out "Which" in a voice that carries the milk down at the springhouse."

discussions over politics and religion, but never had any real serious fights. Mortimer could always prove all his statements by the Bible and so could Peradventure.

"Sometimes they would go a little too far, and Mortimer would go all the evening and Peradventure would bounce off to bed and sleep his boots on at a time on the floor when he was undressed and tried to scare us. But in the morning both would wake up all pleasant, and Mortimer would tackle a little black pipe he has, while Peradventure would go into the buttery and take a large comprehensive swallow out of a bottle that has a luscious old cherry at the bottom of it. At first he took this only in the spring, but now he has gradually added more and more spring months till the robins seem to be nesting most all the time with him.

"I take them to the circus with me every year and sometimes twice, and they remember and talk about it for years afterward. Mortimer is a great admirer of the elephant, and I have all I can do to drag him away from the large beast with the country seat to his pants. "But Peradventure loves rare animals, such as the jackass from Australia and the sacred new milk cow of Farther India. He claims that he has seen most everything now that Noah had and some that he couldn't get, like the Polled Angus or moody cow, and other things that Noah advertised for far and wide, but couldn't obtain in those days. "One day they got into a sort of quarrel over the female acrobat that hangs from the top of the tent by a bunson and holds, suspended in air, by her teeth and a wide suspender an uncle and two other relatives on her father's side. Mortimer claimed to have selected her first, but Peradventure said: "You better take some one of your own age. Take the child wonder in the showbox; she's about as tottering as you be."

"And so they quarreled that way, till finally I thought I would have to take them out, but pretty soon the lion cage was wheeled into the ring, and the curly headed lion tamer, with Hair Bloom on his tresses, performed all sorts of feats with the king of beasts, winding up by gagging the king of the forest with his dank dome of thought. Then people applauded the man, forgetting that the poor lion would have to go and eat a cat or a wild ass goat to take the taste out of his mouth.

"We have great fun, of course, though in a quiet way, my wife and I comparing notes regarding Mortimer and Peradventure, for they do lots of amusing things. Sometimes I, is not so pleasant when they eat too much preserves or drink milk when they have been eating green corn and watermelons. "But nothing is more beautiful than in the winter evenings by the big open fire to watch Mortimer and Peradventure playing checkers and whistling 'Floyd's Retreat' while they knock a couple of checker men together and crow like a pair of infants.

"I didn't finish telling you, though, how Peradventure hopped on Mortimer and accused him of taking the horse and mule and riding off on the joint of the woodhouse. Well, Mort denied it, though he didn't of course know that I had done it myself for Peradventure's good, and he said my grandfather ought to know what he was talking about before he tackled it folks.

"At that my grandfather said that he had been grieved and galled about long enough by an old fungus like my wife's grandfather, and he might about as well settle him and put him out of his misery now as any time. So he started at him with a wild light in his eyes, but Mortimer had in his mind what I'd told him about being prompt or his wife would pay the penalty, so he grabbed the ax that was sticking in the chopping block and made a rush for Peradventure that scared him almost to death.

"Blank your old pet!" says Mortimer. "If you are in this woodshed in another minute, I'll split you open from the brislet to the wach pocket and open you up like a boughed codfish! Now git!"

"Michigan Days at the World's Fair, September 15th and 14th, HALF FARE to CHICAGO via C. & W. M. R.Y."

On Sept. 12th the C. & W. M. R.Y. will sell tickets to Chicago and return at one way fare for the round trip, good ten days, including date of sale, via St. Joseph and boat \$3.00 and via New Buffalo, all rail, \$3.00.

A SPECIAL TRAIN will leave Grand Rapids at 7:25 a. m., Sept. 12th, arriving at Midway Pleinace, World's Fair Grounds, at noon.

"Michigan Days" will be celebrated in grand style, with splendid illuminations, fireworks, electric fountains, etc., during the evening.

Every patriotic Michigander should make it a point to be there, if possible, to help in the celebration, and make it the greatest of the year, for "Michigan is a GREAT STATE."

Other celebrations during the week will be: Sept. 13th, Athletic Union; 14th, Ohio and Veterans day; 15th and 16th, Kansas, Costa Rica, Mexico, New Mexico and Vermont days.

SEPTEMBER 14th tickets will also be sold by either route. Ask C. & W. M. R.Y. ticket agents about rates, train time, etc., for all above dates, and arrange to go and help celebrate.

Geo. Pass. Agent. When in the city and you want a good meal, try Dixon's restaurant.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Peck Bros. druggists, corner Monroe and Division streets.

The Modern Beauty. Thrives on good food and sunshine, with plenty of exercise in the open air. Her form glows with health and her face blooms with its beauty. If her system

DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder. The only Pure Cream of Tartar Powder—No Ammonia, No Alum. Used in Millions of Homes—40 Years the Standard.

S. S. & W. W. CHAMBERLIN

REAL ESTATE AND LOANS Old County Building, Corner Kent and Lyon Sts.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, SEPT. 9, '33.

FARMS TO EXCHANGE FOR CITY PROPERTY.

140 acres 3/4 miles from Wayland, 65 acres plow land, 18 acres good beach and maple timber, soil clay loam, well and brook, good ten room house, barn 32x44 almost new, orchard of four acres. This is one of the best farms in the country. No mortgage.

150 acres one mile from Reddy, Mr. Osta county, on the D. L. & N. railroad, 80 acres improved, 80 acres heavy beach and maple timber, soil clay loam, orchard 100 apple trees 5 years old and bearing, 3 wells and cistern, good house with home, also nice poultry and hog house, two large new barns with stone basements, including farming utensils of all kinds, good span of horses, 35 tons of hay, 140 bushels wheat, 150 bushels oats, 3 acres corn and 3 acres potatoes, 9 head of cattle, 62 sheep. No mortgage.

40 acres four miles from Sparta village, about 30 acres improved, soil gravel clay loam and black loam, good be and cellar, 2 barns with one stone basement or stable, fine apple orchard of 250 trees, fruit sold for \$300 last season.

70 acres one mile from Sparta, 50 acres improved, 20 acres timber and bottom land, soil clay loam and sandy loam, well and cistern at house and spring brook across farm, fair house, good barn and small orchard.

120 acres town Ellbridge, Oceana county, 2 1/2 miles from village of Hart, 70 acres improved, 10 acres good sugar bush, 15 acres good timber, good large frame house with well and cistern at house, fine large barn with well at barn, also spring water in pasture, orchard of 3,000 peach trees from 2 to 5 years, 500 plum trees 3 years old, 200 old apple trees bearing, one-half acre grapes. This is one of the best fruit farms in Oceana county.

40 acres eight miles east of the city of Grand Rapids, fine buildings and best of soil. All improved.

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102 acres 1 1/2 mile from city of Grand Rapids, southwest; good buildings and water, fine dairy farm.

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40 acres town of Ferris, Montcalm county, 35 acres cleared, soil sandy loam, good log house and barn, good well; price \$600.

80 acres 1 1/2 mile from village of Hart, forty acres cleared, forty acres of timber, soil sandy loam, water spring brook, good new house and barn, orchard 125 peach trees and 150 plum trees; also apple and small fruits.

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Twenty acres town of Hart, 2 1/2 miles from village of Hart, 6 acres improved, 14 acres choice beach and maple timber with good sugar bush, good small frame house, 2 acres peach and plum trees 3 years old, also small fruits. Price \$1,200; terms \$500 down, balance on time to suit.

Fifteen acres one-half mile from Hart village, all improved, first-class plum and peach land. Price \$500 cash.

Twenty acres 2 miles from village of Hart, 8 acres cleared, 12 acres good beach and maple timber, six hundred peach and plum trees, 3 years old. Price \$600, terms one-half down balance at 7 per cent, time to suit.

Twelve acres, one-half mile from village of Hart, seven hundred peach, plums and apple trees bearing, new frame house and barn. Price \$1,000, one-half down, balance on time to suit.

Twenty acres town of Hart, 3 miles from village of Hart, all cleared, good frame house and frame barn, well at house, 3 acres peach, cherry and small fruits, sixty old plum trees, one-half mile from school house. Price \$1,400, one-half cash, terms balance on time to suit.

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