

PERSONAL STORIES

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

The oldest man in public life in the United States is Senator Edmund Winston Pettus, of Alabama, who will soon be eighty-six years of age.

Senator Pettus was a lieutenant in the Mexican war; he rode horseback to California with the "forty-niners" and was advanced from the rank of major to that of brigadier general in the Confederate army.

The last time Senator Pettus was re-elected to the Senate the Alabama legislature unanimously set aside a law as old as the State, which requires that a Senator shall appear before the legislature in person to accept election.

Miss Mary N. Murref, the brilliant novelist, who is known as Charles Egbert Craddock, has had some amusing experiences with the unlettered mountain people of the South.

Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, is a familiar figure as he walks about Washington for his recreation. He has white hair, white whiskers, and glowing pink cheeks.

Finally a newspaper man wrote an article, saying that the mysterious package contained an attachment for the telephone which would enable its users to see each other at any distance.

The late Dr. Harriet S. French, of Philadelphia, was one of the vanguard of woman physicians in this country. She was the lifelong friend of Frances Willard, and it was to her that Miss Willard went for advice when she was still penniless and unknown.

Dr. Allen G. Hall, moderator of the General Assembly of the Southern branch of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, is a famous story-teller and after-dinner speaker, and takes a lively interest in politics.

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Intense and excitable, and when provoked had a trick of pulling furiously at his long hair. Shortly after the adjournment of one of the sessions of Congress he received a long "collect" message from a brother of his who was a pastor in Natchez, Miss.

When Judge Page Morris was a Congressman from Minnesota he was sorely beset by relatives from various parts of the country, who besieged him with hundreds of senseless questions.

IN SHALLOW WATERS.

BY KIRK MCGEE.

When it became known throughout the town and the fishing fleet that after one more trip to the Banks Dave Bliss, who had for three years been mate of the Swardfish, and the captain of John Baker, would take out the Mary and Jane and become a captain himself.

There was just one way to save the Swardfish. Men of the fleet will tell you to-day that there was only one man on whom they dared take the chance. That man was Capt. Dave Bliss.

There are women who shake trouble from their shoulders as ducks shake water drops. Usually they are women who have tried to retain some control of will power, women who are proud in being able to conquer a petty desire to pour out a word here and there.

When the Swardfish came limping home a week ago, and all the other boats were gulf between master and mate. The crew were divided in sentiment. It was the same with the towment. When it was known that the craft had arrived, Mary Baker sat at the window and waited for her father and lover.

That evening Mary received a note from Dave by the hands of a boy. He said not a word against her father. He simply asserted that he had done the best he could, and that before seeing her he had looked into each other's eyes now, but they did not. It was no anger in the new captain's heart, but the other flushed, compressed his lips, and those who were watching him realized that he felt as if an insult had been put upon him.

That first voyage of the new craft is still recalled at the fish houses, in the sail lofts and offices, and wherever fishermen gather to gossip. She shortened the run to the Banks by two days. She was stowing away cod when the other craft arrived. Her daily catch was the largest for years. She had filled up and was ready for home and a market while half the fleet were still whistling for fish.

Stevens Issues Fiat Will Leave Canal if Work Is Done by Contract. OLIVER CONFERS WITH TAFT. Lowest Bidder Believes He Has Complied with President's Request as to Associates—Mr. Roosevelt May Insist on Government's Doing Work. McArthur-Gillespie Gets Hearing.

John F. Stevens, chief engineer of the Panama Canal, has become a prominent figure in the consideration of the contract which the administration may award for the construction of the waterway.

Denies that He Called Guild's Letter "Impertinent and Insolent." Says Maximum and Minimum Plan Is True Way to Get Reciprocity. Uses Strong Language.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, is very angry over a statement in a Boston newspaper that he had denounced as "impertinent and insolent" a letter from Gov. Curtis Guild, of his State, to President Roosevelt, suggesting an extra session of Congress for the purpose of considering tariff reciprocity legislation.

FROM WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW. Who gets the best of everything in life, the woman of few words or the one who talks with the woman who says what she has to say in a calm, quiet, generally, to be heard by the man.

ALUMNI SOCIETY BANQUET. Final Arrangements Completed for Big Reunion at Rauscher's. Final arrangements have been made for the annual midwinter banquet of the Alumni Society of Georgetown University.

Will Give Spectacular Play. The pupils of Miss Minnie Hawk will give a spectacular play for children, "Sleeping Beauty," at the Belasco Theater this afternoon.

MUSIC LOVERS HEAR PIANIST. Rosenthal Greeted by Packed House at New National Theater. Music lovers crowded the National Theater yesterday afternoon, when Moriz Rosenthal made his second appearance in this city under the auspices of Sydney Wrightson, of the Washington College of Music.

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