

Old Daniel Boone.

A VERACIOUS ACCOUNT OF ONE OF HIS ORDINARY HUNTING PERFORMANCES.

Daniel Boone was a name that in bygone years ranked well up in the list of worthies of the early days of the republic. Every schoolboy was familiar with his doughty deeds as hunter and Indian fighter. In the rush of events in these irrevocable modern days the fame of good old Daniel has become somewhat obscured. This is not as it should be, and it is a matter for congratulation that the Wisconsin State Register has concluded to revive his memory, which it has done in the following remarkable poetical reminiscence of one of his many feats:

Old Daniel Boone, he shot a coon,
And twenty-five wild geese;
'Tis said of him, he split the limb,
When they all sat in the pen;
The rent did close, and catch their toes,
And hold them fast and snug;
When in a line upon a pine,
A coon received the slug.
He charged again, and cut it twain,
The branch close to a tree;
A creek beneath the bough received,
And after it, plunged he.
When he came out, his breeches stent
Five hundred trout contained,
Which weighed at least two grand apiece,
And there they all remained.

But strong and staunch, he took the branch;
And laid it on his back,
And home he walked, he nothing balked,
As tight as he could shack.
The time of day, I've heard him say,
Was four o'clock or near,
And miles nineteen there lay between
Him and his cottage dear.
The way was steep, the snow was deep,
And brush and logs not few;
But such were his powers that in two hours
His labors all were through.
As I am told, old Bruin bled,
Did meet him on the road;
But he shot him dead on the spot,
And added to his load.

When home he came, the good old dame
Soon feathered all the geese;
The fish and coon were dressed as soon,
And Bruin not the least.
Old Mother Boone then took the coon
And ninety pounds of fish,
Likewise a score of geese or more,
And put them in a dish.
Potatoes, too, and not a few,
Were added to the mass;
She chopped them fine and added brine,
And seasoned all with sauce.
And then with care they took the bear
And stuffed him full of it;
Before the blaze they Bruin raised
And put him on a spit.
One of them stood and piled on wood,
While 'toter turned him round to roast;
How fine he looked completely cooked,
I've heard them boast.
And then with haste they Bruin placed
Upon a table near,
And soon began, the good old man,
To carve him in the rear.

A huge claymore, as Wallace bore
His dextrous hand held fast;
A pitchfork, too, that pierced him through,
In 'tether hand he clasped.
He cut and cleft, from right to left,
To each he gave a quarter.
His wife and son, they each took one,
The rest, himself and daughter.
'Twould do you good, I know it would,
To see them eat and stuff,
The bones were cleaned; the table gleamed,
And then all cried: "Enough!"

The fact that wild geese never alight on trees of course does not detract at all from the credibility of this narrative. There was one circumstance in the tale which Marcus regretted not having wrought into his "poem." It was the alleged fact that when the great hunter was coming out of the creek with a half ton of trout in "his breeches stout," so great was the bearing down on his suspenders that a button thereon was wrenched off with such violence that it flew across the creek and killed a partridge. Doubtless the lateness of the hour and the distance to be traveled—nineteen miles in two hours on foot—prevented the renowned Daniel from securing the partridge, which would have added a trifle to the delicacies of the feast, at which even the carving tools are worthy of special mention.

The account of one of the feats of the great hunter and the generous repast resulting from it may throw some light on the fact that Kentucky has been no less a state of the past half century as being the state where giants are raised. It is a well known maxim in stock raising that "high feeding produces big calves."

A Fire in the Sun.

The South-west Sky Aflame at Sunset—Poughkeepsie calls out the Firemen.

N. Y. Sun: New Yorkers were treated, the 27th ult., to an altogether unusual and mysterious sunset. It caused everybody to ask everybody else what the matter was with the sky. The phenomenon began at 4 1/2 o'clock, after the globe of the sun had descended behind the housetops. At first it diffused a mellow white light, that spread over the western sky like a haze. The light gradually spread towards the south and changed to a pale lemon yellow, that grew deeper and richer and filled the sky with a brilliant glow. This lasted for nearly a quarter of an hour, and then the color changed to a vivid crimson, which became more and more fiery until the sky looked as though it were ablaze with the reflection of a great fire in the harbor.

People scurried toward the Battery and the North River front to see where the fire was. At the Brooklyn Bridge the spectacle was wonderful. The red glow spread over the water from shore to shore until it became a mass of red. A section of 15 degrees of the horizon in the south-west was of such a fiery and blazing color that hundreds lingered to watch it, and the bridge policemen were kept busy answering questions about it. Not one person in twenty who saw it was willing to believe that it was sunset.

Telephone bells rang in the Staten Island and Bayonne offices, and voices from New York demanded to know, "where is the fire?" The last two or three clear evenings displayed sunsets something of the same sort, but not nearly so vivid.

In Poughkeepsie the fire department was called out at 5 1/2 o'clock, because of the illumination in the south-western sky. The heavens from the horizon nearly up to the zenith were covered with a red glare as though from an extensive conflagration. Telegrams from different points tell of the same phenomenon.

A Nice Property.

William H. Vanderbilt owns \$47,050,000 in United States registered 4 per cent bonds; a draft for the interest on which is mailed to him quarterly from the treasury. The interest on these bonds amounts as follows: Per annum, \$1,882,000; per quarter, \$470,500; per month, \$158,833.33; per day, \$5,156.16; per hour, \$214.84; per minute, \$3.58.

HOMES OF THE HUSBANDMEN.

A Trip Through the Country by a Reflector Correspondent.

Everybody Prosperous and the Reflector well Received.

NUMBER III.

We will attempt to give the readers of the REFLECTOR an idea of the country and what the farmers are doing as we see it in our trip over the best country in the State. In our last we were traveling down the beautiful valley of Chapman creek, halting long enough at the residences of P. McGuire, N. Keating and G. R. Barnes to add their names to the best paper in Kansas, till we reached the growing little city of CHAPMAN.

situated at the confluence of Chapman creek with the Smoky Hill river. It is improving rapidly and putting on metropolitan airs to a large extent. Here we found business brisk, the business men with a smile of happy content on their faces, a reading community and a larger list of subscribers to the REFLECTOR than to any other paper in the county. We then crossed the creek and drew up at the residence of JOHN ERWIN,

where we were invited in and to make ourselves at home, which we did. After partaking of the noon-day meal, we learned from Mr. E. that he came to this county 25 years ago from McDonough co., Ill. There being no homestead law at that time, he purchased the farm he now lives on, adding to it until he has now 645 acres of well improved land with about 75 acres of timber upon it and Chapman creek running through it, making it one of the best stock farms in the county; upon which he has 75 head of fine cattle, 60 head of hogs and about 5,000 bushels of corn raised this season. Mr. E. is true to the principles of Democracy, and the REFLECTOR has his hearty support and best wishes. He says, and we think he is correct, that the democrats and independents of this county have the sacred principles of the founders of this nation. Bidding Mr. E. and family many more years of happiness and prosperity we wended our way up the valley of the placid stream until we reached the home of DANIEL RYON,

who was at work upon a new barn he had at once informed us that he wanted the REFLECTOR to visit him. Leaving Mr. R. we continued our journey, stopping at the residence of R. F. GROSS,

who also ordered his name added to the list. No sooner said than done. And we at once proceeded until we reached the residence of MRS. ISABELLE HAINE,

who has a well improved farm on Chapman creek, which she will sell at a low figure, having lost her husband recently and having no one to farm it for her. After adding her name to the list we once more started in pursuit of more of our unknown friends of the cause, halting at the residence of GEO. W. FREEMAN.

The evening shades having begun to fall, we were told to put up for the night, which we did. After partaking of the evening meal we gathered around the family hearth, when we were informed that Mr. F. was the first settler in Dickinson county. On learning this information we were determined to learn something of the early history of the county. He came to this county 28 years ago, from Montgomery co., Ark. He is a staunch democrat and was twice appointed Probate Judge before the county was organized and declined the appointment both times. Afterwards he took an active part in organizing the county, and was elected the first Probate Judge of the county. The county seat and court-house then being one lonely log cabin, on the banks of the Smoky Hill river, two miles below Detroit, called Newport. We were deeply interested in the Judge's story of the early settlement of the county, the many county divisions and county-seat fights, all of which are now amicably and harmoniously settled, and all is serene and prosperous. On the morning we arose, took breakfast and started on another day's forage. We next drew rein at the home of GEO. SHRY,

whom we found at work on a new house he is building, which is quite an improvement to his farm. He came to this county in 1867, from Jay co., Ind. He and his brother Perla and father own 580 acres of the best land on Chapman creek, and are all sound democrats and readers of the REFLECTOR. We next called at the stock farm of O. H. SUTPHEN,

who was attending to his cattle, having some very fine ones. He has one of the best arranged and located stock farms in Dickinson county. He is one of the many republicans who appreciate a good thing by subscribing for the REFLECTOR. Our next is W. H. SUTPHEN,

the father of our last. He settled here 12 years ago, coming from Osage co., N. Y. Mr. S. has a well improved farm of 200 acres, having upon it a large flouring mill with the latest improved machinery. It is operated by Messrs. Newell & Johnk. There is an iron bridge at the mill in which Mr. S. spent \$700 of his hard earned money the county furnishing the rest. There is now in course of construction a Union Church. Lots have been laid off and a storehouse will be commenced at once to be used for the general merchandizing business. Mr. S. is the post master at that place. Politically he was a democrat up to the late war, when he says the party left him and he voted with the republicans since. But after having quite a spirited discussion upon the issues of the day, we found him yet true to the principles of that party which is as old as the government itself, and only a republican in that "strange spell, a name." After adding his and Mr. Newell's names to our fast growing list, we bade them adieu and continued our explorations.

M. NAHONY AND M. MALONY were the next residences we halted at and added their names to our list. The latter was an early settler, coming to the county in 1866, homesteading 80 acres, which he has increased to 200 acres of well improved land. We next called upon J. A. MEEK,

who at once ordered the REFLECTOR to visit him weekly, and we journeyed onward. Next to encounter was

DR. HENRY THOMAS,

who settled in Dickinson county in 1872. The Dr. is a pleasant and agreeable gentleman. He also ordered his cognomen placed upon our list, which was done. We continued our rambling until we reached the farm residence of J. G. GFELER.

Night again overtaking us we asked for accommodations which were granted, and we at once set about to make ourselves at home. Mr. G. came to this county 13 years ago, from Polk co., Ia., only having money enough to homestead 80 acres of land, now he and six brothers, who followed him, have 1200 acres of the best improved land in Dickinson county, all in a body and well fenced, cross fences, lots, corrals and good buildings, which proves the adage "in unity there is strength." The next morning we headed towards Abilene, only pausing at the homes of Dan. O'Connor, Jno. Kanny and C. H. Brechtbill long enough to add their names to the list for the REFLECTOR to visit them weekly. More anon.

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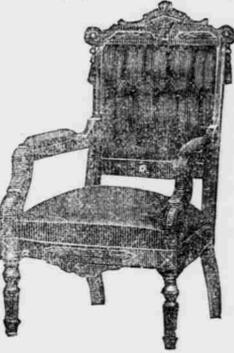
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