

## REED RULES DOOMED

Congressmen Are Tired of Being Bossed by the Speaker.

Col. Henderson's Successor Will Be Simply a Presiding Officer and Not the Autocrat of Congress.

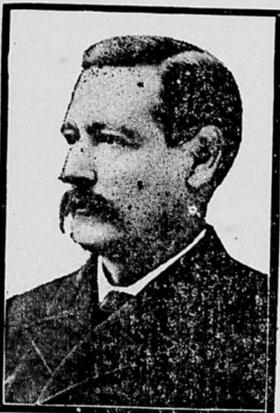
[Special Washington Letter.]  
**"A**ND now, in accordance with the constitutional duty devolved upon me, I declare this house adjourned without day." Exactly at noon on March 4, 1903, those words will be pronounced by Speaker Henderson, the heavy gavel will resound and the Fifty-seventh congress will come to a close. Speaker Henderson, who retires to private life, will be the last presiding officer of the national house of representatives who shall wield imperial powers over his colleagues.

The rules of the house of representatives, which have been known as the Reed rules, ever since they were promulgated in December, 1899, have given autocratic power to the speaker. Time and again efforts have been made to change those rules, but to no purpose. The republicans have always pointed with pride to the great advance made in national legislation while Reed was speaker; and both parties have agreed that Reed was right in declaring that "a visible quorum" was the constitutional quorum which could proceed "to do business."

But a majority of the house of representatives has been in favor of changing the rules, in some particulars, for at least six years. Congressman Hepburn, of Iowa, has been the leader in the attack upon the Reed rules, and he will continue to be the leader in the fight. It is well known that Col. Hepburn had a majority of the republicans in caucus assembled, in December, 1899, and he could have then forced important changes in the rules, but he forbore. His colleague and friend, Col. Henderson, had just been selected for the speakership, and it would have seemed exceedingly ungracious in a member from his own state to have insisted on curtailing his powers before he was inducted into his high office. If any other than Col. Henderson had been selected for the speakership in December, 1899, the rules would have been surely changed.

There is a great deal of speculation already concerning the speakership of the next congress, but one thing may as well be regarded as settled, and that is, no matter who secures the prize of that exalted position, he will be simply a presiding officer, as the constitution intended him to be, and not a ruler of representatives selected by sovereign constituencies precisely as he was himself selected. The rules will be carefully amended, the main point to be observed being that each representative shall really be a representative—one whose voice and vote shall command attention and respect.

Speaker Reed was autocratic. Speaker Henderson has not been. No more conservative speaker ever occupied the chair than Mr. Crisp, of Georgia, for he was not autocratic. There is no complaint concerning the man who may have been, or who may be, speaker of the house of representatives. Criticism exists concerning the rules rather than concerning the man who enforces them.



HON. WM. P. HEPBURN.  
 (Iowa Congressman Who Will Lead Attack on Reed Rules.)

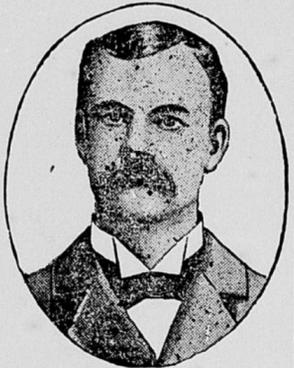
cerning the man who enforces them. Tom Reed not only ruled the house, but rudely ruled it, at times. But his majority was slender, and he had to be a big boss, or no boss at all.

Whoever shall be chosen for the speakership when the new congress shall have convened on the first Monday of December, 1903, will in all probability be allowed the power of the appointment of the committees and committee chairmen; and that will be power enough for one man to wield over his fellow representatives. But he will not be allowed to command all legislation through the committee on rules. There is where the representatives will check the one-man power of which so many have complained during the past six years.

It is well remembered that Speaker Reed blandly smiled when a petition signed by a majority of the house of representatives was presented to him, praying for consideration of the bill for the Nicaragua canal. Remember, a majority of the members of the national house of representatives—think of it! That majority had elected, had created

the speaker, but under their rules those representatives were obliged to petition their creature, the speaker, and pray for permission to legislate as a majority desired to represent. And what came of it? Speaker Reed said that he would "give it consideration." He was as good as his word. He did give the matter consideration until the close of the congress, but he did not permit the majority to rule. He never allowed the bill to come before the house at all.

Now it does not require a constitutional lawyer to explain that the constitution of this republic of the people never intended that one man should throttle the representatives of the people, and prevent them from legislating. That is the stand which is taken by Col. Hepburn and a majority of the house; and that is the reason that it is easy to fore-



HON. CHAS. E. LITTLEFIELD.  
 (Maine Congressman Who Wants to Succeed Speaker Henderson.)

see that the rules will be changed, so that no man who may occupy the chair of the speaker shall have such imperial power in this republic. It is barely possible that the house will name its own committees, as the senate does; but that reform is not so imminent.

So long as the speaker is permitted to name the committees and dole out the chairmanships there will be deals possible in contests for the speakership. For example, four years ago, a New York man was a candidate for the speakership, and, if he had succeeded, a Kansas man would have taken his place as chairman of the committee on Indian affairs. Naturally enough the Kansas man supported the New York man for the speakership, and there by consulted his own self interests.

Under existing rules no representative of the people is allowed to lift his voice in debate, no matter what outrages (according to his opinion) may be under contemplation. The speaker sits in his exalted position, and never sees nor hears any representative of the people who may clamor for recognition, unless the representative shall have previously called and stated his business and secured permission from the speaker to address the house. In that event, if the speaker fully understands the situation and agrees to "give recognition," as they term it, the representative of the sovereign people may be recognized and heard.

It will be news to a majority of readers that the representatives of the people do not present anything at all under existing rules in the house of representatives. The member of congress is regarded as a great man at home, but as he nears Washington he shrinks. When he gets here, he finds that he is only one of a small herd of individuals who have no rights whatever, except which are accorded charitably by the older members and the speaker.

The imperial surmise was quite correct, as will be seen presently. The countess had just remarked that after the next turn in the road they would see the lights of their palace, outside the city, when something dark bounded from the bushes into the middle of the street, causing the horses to halt and rear.

"At the same moment," said the countess afterwards, "I felt a painful twitching at the roots of my hair—yes, I was frightened, what woman would not be under the circumstances? While the count threw the reins to me and told me to hold on for dear life, I perceived two faint yellow glimmers piercing the darkness. My first thought was: 'Alien—the natives had often told me of the unbearable brightness of the lion's eyes, of the fixity of his metallic glance. It made me shudder, but nevertheless I looked at the object of my terror with a keen air, sinking my eyes in his. I had read once that it is impossible to hypnotize a wild animal that way.'"

The count says the animal was no more than five feet from his horses' heads when they stopped and refused to go further; there the brute stood

## HUSBAND SAVED HER

Deed of Valor Performed by Count von Goetzen.

Germany's African Viceroy Takes Good Care of His Wife, When Attacked by a Giant, Blood-thirsty Panther.

[Special Berlin (Germany) Letter.]

**T**HE vast German possessions in Africa are ruled by a governor general, who exercises autocratic functions over natives and settlers alike. The present viceroy is Count von Goetzen, the husband of a charming African woman, who was Mrs. William Matthew Lay, of Washington, and before that May Lowney, of Baltimore. Her position in German Africa is frequently likened to that of the wife of the viceroy of India, Lady Curzon, nee Leiter, of Chicago; but, as a matter of cold fact, it is even more consequential. The countess is queen of half a million more subjects than the regent of Bavaria, and the kings of Wuerttemberg and Saxony combined reign over fewer people than her ladyship. When she rides to parade ten regiments of well-trained troops lower their colors before her.

Count von Goetzen has been a traveler all his life, and his bravery has earned for him many medals, both at home and abroad. His latest feat of courage was saving his wife from the fate of being eaten alive by a giant panther.

His was a deed of prodigious valor—having no firearms, he drove off the maneater with a whip of rhinoceros skin that chanced to be in his carriage.

Count von Goetzen is the absolute ruler of a territory embracing 1,470,413 square miles and 6,550,000 of blacks. The adventure here told occurred about a month ago, in the evening, on the Pugu road, about one mile outside of Dar-es-Salam, capital of the German African empire, as the count and countess were returning from a visit to friends living on a plantation near the edge of the virgin forest, an hour or so further in the interior.



COUNT VON GOETZEN ATTACKING THE PANTHER.

They drove in an open phaeton, the box of which had been lowered to allow the count to handle the reins from his accustomed place. Their team was a pair of grays, light in color, and quite recently imported. Having heard that wild animals will rarely attack persons clad in white, the kaiser sent the countess two white carriage horses, with a graceful note saying he hoped she would be "able to drive them herself, as they were gentle and proof against surprises by demons of the African forest."

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THE COUNTESS VON GOETZEN.

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stockstill, regarding the trotters with eyes like fire balls.

The viceroy continues: "The rearing mares had smashed the lantern in front and I was obliged to go to the rear of the carriage to get the one fastened there. It was of the American, electrical kind, giving out a big, white light. When, lantern in hand, I again passed by my wife, she handed me a heavy whip of rhinoceros, which, on that day, I had confiscated on one of the outlying plantations, as it is against the law to use this terrible instrument of punishment, that, at one time, no native chief or slaveholder could do without.

"The whip weighs about fifteen pounds and many a poor black devil's back has been broken with one of its kind. To reassure my wife I said, in advancing: 'If it's a dog he won't hold up the viceroy's carriage a second time after I get through with him.' But I knew all the time that it wasn't a dog and was upbraiding myself for having gone without pistols. A kingdom for a Mauser revolver! such as I had at home.

"Such and similar thoughts passed through my mind as I jumped forward, whip in right, lantern in left. Then I suddenly remembered the paragraph from the emperor's letter, accompanying the gift of horses. 'I must not obstruct the view of the animals.' I concluded hastily, 'they may, after all, prove an element of protection.'"

"The light of the lantern now fell full upon the object in the road. First I saw only the head of the beast. It was as big as a lioness's, but I recognized at once the panther's outlines. As I approached nearer the beast raised his tail, a powerful appendage, round like a stick, and towering two or three feet above his head. The animal himself appeared to be some three feet high by three and a half feet to four feet long.

"I struck him a terrible blow with the rhinoceros whip across the face, following it up with another and yet another across the shoulders. Thereupon, to my surprise, the panther turned tail without offering any violence, though as the whip first descended he showed a formidable array of teeth and his pointed tongue. He

turned tail and ran sideways, I after him, raining blows upon his back, some of which, I am sure, took effect. Next I heard the young wood lining one side of the road creak and rustle. The panther had leaped into the thicket and made off in a hurry."

Then the count jumped into the carriage, took the reins from his wife's hands, and, giving her the lantern, told her to wave it in order to keep off possible other intruders of the sort just encountered. But the horses were too frightened to move at once, and it took a lot of persuasion and no end of whipping to make them go. Once coaxed to a gallop, they flew along the road at breakneck speed. "No troika chased by wolves ever made better time," says the countess.

The viceroy is undecided as to what circumstances he shall attribute their marvelous delivery, and, courageous man that he is, he hesitates about taking too much credit to himself. "The color of the horses, my lantern, the fact that the beast was crammed with food—all worked together," he said to his military household upon reaching home. That is probably true, but the person with the rhinoceros whip, advancing upon a 300 pound king of the wilderness as if he was an unruly house dog, was evidently the decisive figure in the one-sided battle.

"But don't forget the countess," wrote Von Goetzen to Kaiser Wilhelm; "who but a nervy African woman could have managed those plunging horses at the crucial moment? Ninety-nine out of a hundred women would have fainted, the hundredth would have jumped out to seek salvation in flight, or would have run me over to get away. Not so her excellency. She held the horses in a firm grip, and at the same time coaxed and encouraged them with the best German at her command. Then, as we drove home, I standing upright in the carriage to keep the frenzied animals under control, the countess leaned far out waving the lantern, once as a protection against other wild beasts that might follow us and again as a signal for our servants."

"I really had no time to be afraid, except for that momentary twitching at the roots of the hair, but I confess it makes me shudder when I think of the savage cry the panther uttered as he leaped into the bushes," writes the countess.

"The danger that threatened the first lady in the land and the way in which she conducted herself on this trying occasion," says the kaiser's report, "have increased, if possible, the respect in which her excellency is held by natives and whites alike."

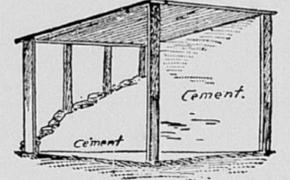
## AGRICULTURAL HINTS

### CONCRETE HENHOUSES.

They Solve the Problem of Eggs in Winter and Sound, Unfrozen Combs in the Spring.

A western poultry keeper, E. W. Geer, of St. Francois county, Mo., has solved the problem of eggs in winter, and sound, unfrozen combs in the spring. He has done it in a very simple and inexpensive way. At the same time he has insured fertile eggs in midwinter, something ordinarily very hard to obtain. He has accomplished this by means of concrete poultry houses that are free from dampness in the most rainy seasons, and as warm inside in the coldest days as a cellar.

In constructing the house, an elevation is thrown up a foot or more above the surface. In this elevation the stone base for the walls is laid,



HOUSE TO SECURE WINTER EGGS.

then a frame of any good stout material is made, as shown in the illustration. The base piece is imbedded in the concrete, and the wall is made two inches wider than the wooden uprights, on each side of them, and as the wall is carried up, the uprights are inclosed in the concrete. The latter is made of lime and sand, small stones, cheap, broken bricks and pieces of hard wood. In fact, any hard substance may be worked into the wall. It is leveled up and smoothed over by the lime and sand mixture.

At first the originator used cement in the latter mixture, but, finding the lime answered as well, and cost less than one-third as much as the cement, he abandoned the cement. When finished the walls are smooth and white, will last a lifetime and harbor no vermin whatever. In making the roof, Mr. Geer uses a four-inch scantling placed on edge. On top a waterproof roof is laid. Under the rafters tongued and grooved ceiling is nailed and the four-inch space is packed with forest leaves or some other inexpensive material. Double windows, with stout shutters for the night, defy the frost.

In houses of this character, Mr. Geer's fowls mate and lay all winter. February 6 he took off an incubator hatch of 162 chickens from a total installment of 225 eggs tested down to 199 fertile ones. He attributes the high per cent. of fertility of his eggs in winter to the natural warmth of his fowls in the concrete houses, which is superior to the artificial warmth generated by furnace or hot water pipes. In houses of this kind the early-hatched pullets and the early molted hens lay all winter, little chickens thrive and grow, while the incubator is unaffected by any change of temperature outside.—Henry B. Geer, in Orange Judd Farmer.

### WORK FOR THE CHILDREN.

Give Them a Few Hens and Let Them Raise Poultry for Their Own Enjoyment.

There is no vocation which we, from our own experience and observation, could recommend more highly to boys or girls on the farm than the rearing of fine poultry. It is not only intensely interesting, but healthful and profitable. The fact is to be regretted that more attention is not paid to this industry by those who reside on large farms. Young folks generally take readily to the work and become very much absorbed in it. They should, of course, commence in a moderate way. We commenced with one bird—a rooster—and we found that he was worthless without a mate, so we obtained a hen.

Any child who is old enough to feed his fowls regularly is old enough to start in the poultry business. Attend some good poultry show and see what breed you fancy. If this variety is suitable to your market and surroundings, purchase either fowls or eggs of a reliable breeder and commence work. Prepare a comfortable house for them with yards and a few bird coops, and you will be fixed all right for the first year.

Read your poultry journal closely. This is the style of our world at present, and we must keep up with the times if we wish to be successful. In so short an article it is impossible to go into details, for there is a great deal to be learned. The short course in poultry raising is this: Commence right; go slow; work and read, and stick to it.—Fanciers' Journal.

### The Weight of Feeds.

The following are the average weights of the most common feeds, one quart being the bulk quantity in every case:

	Lbs. Oz.
Wheat bran	3 4
Wheat middlings (course)	3 4
Wheat middlings (fine)	1 13-16
Oats meal	1 3-16
Corn meal	1 8
Lined meal (old process)	1 8
Cotton seed meal	1 8
Gluten meal	1 11-16
Mixed wheat feed	9 2-16
Eye bran	2 2-16

### SUGAR CURED HAMS.

Method of Salting and Smoking Which Has Been Tried with Success for Years.

At a recent meeting of a farmers' institute the subject discussed was the best method of curing and keeping hams. All members agreed that the quality of the meat depended in a great measure upon the kind of hogs and the way they were cared for. Much better meat is obtained from the purebred than the common scrub. In order to be perfectly healthy they need plenty of range, with as great variety of feed as possible, and plenty of fresh clear water. They should be killed in cold frosty weather, and after scalding and cleaning, hung up to cool overnight. Several methods of salting and smoking were presented, but the following, which was given by a farmer who, after years of experience, has gained the reputation of having the best sugar-cured hams in the county, was accepted as the most satisfactory:

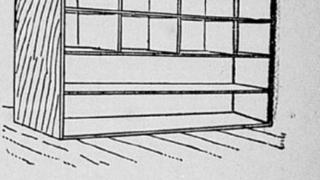
Cut the meat up in the morning and shape the hams nicely. Salt lightly to bring out the blood, and allow it to remain a day or two. Prepare a brine, using two pounds of salt, two ounces of saltpeter, two pounds of brown sugar, one ounce of red pepper and five gallons of water for each 100 pounds of meat. Let this brine, which should be strong enough to float an egg, stand until the ingredients have dissolved, then place the hams in a tight barrel and pour the brine over them until they are covered. After ten days pour the brine off and cover with fresh brine prepared as the first was. When they have been in the brine a month, take them out, wipe them with a dry cloth, and while still damp sprinkle powdered borax over them, using a tablespoonful to ten pounds of meat. A large pepper box is a great help in applying it. Hang them up and smoke with hickory chips two or three weeks. Slip each ham into a flour sack, tie the ends securely, and hang them up in a cool dry place until you wish to use them. The preservative qualities of borax are recognized by all who have tried it, and it is now used in all the large packing houses. The best meat is made of hogs weighing 180 to 200 pounds. It has long been a question among progressive farmers as to whether it paid to produce hogs weighing over 300 pounds, and we are quite certain that when the object is to obtain meat of a superior quality it does not.—Rural New Yorker.

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### COMPLETE TOOL BOX.

No Farmer Who Believes in Keeping Up House or Barn Can Do Without One.

Here is a sketch of a handy tool box that ought to be on every farm: Take a box 4 1/2 feet long, 3 feet wide and 15 inches deep; knock one side out and stand on end; make a shelf about 15



FARM TOOL BOX.

inches deep in the top part to keep saws, squares and planes; make a deep door, hinged at top instead at the bottom; make eight partition drawers, 6 inches wide and 6 inches deep to keep different sizes of rivets, buckles, nails, screw taps, bolts, etc.; then make two drawers, 12 inches deep, to keep hammers, hatchets, chisels and auger bits.—Perry McClain, in Epitomist.

### SENSIBLE FARM NOTES.

Hard, clayey soils should be turned up to the air in the fall so that the frost can have a chance to work on them during the winter.

Drain tile should not be laid above the frost line, especially if it be unglazed tile. The hard frosts will pulverize it. Many a ditch has had to be redug on this account.

The 1902 cranberry crop of the United States is estimated by the secretary of the American Cranberry Growers' association to amount to 725,000 bushels, against 1,040,000 bushels in 1901.

It is difficult to keep books on the farm, but it must be done if the farmer is to know where he stands and whether or not he is making anything by his farm operations. Farming must be conducted on the same basis as any other business. The sooner the farmers realize this the sooner will some of them be saved from going the downward road to bankruptcy.—Farmers' Review.

### How a Traveler Got Eggs.

An English traveler who has visited every nation in the world is authority for the statement that one food is universal throughout all countries. "There is not a part of the world," he says, "where you cannot get an egg." While in western China, however, he at first had some difficulty in getting even eggs. The natives could not understand him, and refused to recognize the pictures he drew of eggs. "The way I got out of the difficulty," he adds, "was that I squatted down on my haunches, flapped my wings and coek-a-doodle-doo'd until the entire nation grasped what I wanted, and I was simply provided with hundreds of eggs."