

# MEN OF THE HOUSE

Gossip from Around the Speaker's Chair in National Congress.

## PARLIAMENTARY LAW AUTHORITY

The Value of Asher Hinds—Indiana Prominently Figures in National Legislation—Hinds of Important Committees.

Washington.—The indispensable man is not numerous, but scarce as he is one is to be found in the speaker's room in the house of representatives. Asher Hinds has been clerk at the speaker's table ever since Tom Reed began to wield the gavel away back in the Fifty-first congress. He came here from Maine where he had been writing editorials on the Portland Press and he slipped right into the czar's habits and moods. He is a young man still, considerably under 40, and when Reed picked him up he was barely more than a boy; but he hadn't been in the harness a single session before he was looked upon by the older members as an authority on parliamentary law; and before two congresses had passed there was nobody else about the capitol who could compare with him.

Reed himself depended on Hinds absolutely. The great speaker was not much of an adept in the intricacies of parliamentary law and didn't pretend to be. He was concerned in reaching results and having made up his mind what he wanted to do he had a way of turning to the experts about him for information as to how he might do it. Hinds was always able to find a way and the speaker never hesitated in following out Hinds' suggestions no matter where they might lead.

There had not been a republican speaker since who has not been even more dependent on Hinds than Reed was. When Reed was in the chair he noticed that whenever the house got into a parliamentary tangle Hinds would hie himself to the speaker's room and hurry back with some loose sheets of paper, upon consulting which a way out was sure to be found. This had happened several times when it aroused Reed's curiosity. He inquired about it and discovered that his clerk had spent his spare hours collecting all the precedents and decisions of speakers from the beginning of the government—work which nobody had ever had the intelligent industry to undertake before.

Hinds had a drawer full of these papers and as soon as the house leaders found out about them they passed a resolution to print them and put them in permanent form. Hinds' book is now the standard work on parliamentary precedents.

### A Reincarnation of Reed.

It is a frequent subject of remark among habitués of the house that Hinds seems to be almost a reincarnation of Reed. It may be simply the strain of common ancestry among Maine seafaring folk, but there are certainly several striking points of resemblance.

Hinds is not quite as big physically as Reed was, but he is plenty big enough; and to look at him from the rear as he ambles up Pennsylvania avenue one might well imagine himself watching the resurrected speaker's rolling gait. Hinds has the same easy drawl supplemented by the same hard sense and delicious humor. His face is of the keen Yankee type, so that here the resemblance ceases. Nobody who remembers Reed can ever forget the vacant moon-like expression which used to characterize him in his moments of repose.

At home during the recess of congress Hinds not only writes the editorials for his paper, but he occasionally hustles out on an important local assignment. Last summer he thought he would look after the army and navy maneuvers, which centered about Cushing's Island in Portland harbor.

### Indiana in the House.

Indiana is to play an important part in the house of representatives as long as Cannon is speaker. The old stand-by, like Payne, Dalzell and Grosvenor will still continue in their positions won by seniority, but a new element has come in of younger men who have been loyal adherents of Cannon and who will be his counselors now. Conspicuous among these are Hemenway and Overstreet of Indiana. Hemenway is to be chairman of the appropriations committee and Overstreet is to be

chairman of the reorganized committee on post offices and post roads. But their influence does not arise from their chairmanships. It arises from their close personal relations with the speaker and his confidence in their judgment.

When the speaker came to look over his committees almost the first thing that struck him was the necessity of completely reorganizing the postal committee, the chairman of which had failed of reelection and the other members of which were almost without exception subject to some failing which made it inadvisable to put them at the head of a committee which was destined to handle a very knotty and disagreeable situation. So he decided to go outside the committee for a chairman. He didn't have to look long before he hit on Overstreet.

Overstreet was secretary of the republican congressional committee last year when the figures he made before election were almost exactly verified by the results. He is a mighty cool politician, as well as a very clean-cut fellow every way and one of the most popular men in the house.

### The Appropriations Chairman.

Hemenway is a different type, with fewer popular qualities and less of the politician's art. Cannon's confidence in him has grown through years of intimate relationship while both were members of the appropriations committee.

For several congresses Hemenway has been Cannon's right hand man on that committee and he possesses some of the sterling qualities that have gone to give Cannon so high a place in the esteem of the house. He has the Indiana faculty for close calculation. He is not a chummy fellow and for that reason he may never gain a popular hold on his party, but he is bound to grow as long as he remains a member of the house and he will become more and more a factor in legislation.

Hemenway will hardly develop into a floor leader, for he lacks the snap and pugnacity of a born debater, but he will always be looked upon as safe. He, too, is young enough to look forward to a career, but his ambition lies in the direction of the senate or the governorship of his state. Hemenway and Overstreet come from adjoining counties.

### The Landis Brothers.

Two other Hoosiers who are going to attract attention are the Landis brothers. One of them has been in the house for three congresses and is known as a witty and formidable debater and a thoroughly good fellow. He went to Boston two or three years ago and made a hit there before one of the political dining clubs of that town, which is even now remembered. He has a faculty for telling stories that nobody who hears them can by any possibility forget.

His brother, who is just beginning his first term, is like unto him in mental alertness, though there is little resemblance physically between the two. Charlie, the older, is a little over 40, stocky in build with iron gray hair.

Fred, the younger, is the baby of the house, with his 29 years. He is tall, angular and thin as a rail. He had already made a reputation as a story teller and wit. His quaint expressions are quoted in the republican coat rooms.

There is another brother, Kenesaw, who used to be private secretary to Walter Q. Gresham, when Gresham was secretary of state in Cleveland's second administration. The way Kenesaw shook up the dry bones of the state department during his brief incumbency was a caution. He is a lawyer now in Chicago and he can hardly have more friends there than he left in Washington. Both Charlie and Fred Landis are newspaper men.

LOUIS A. COOLIDGE.

### Two New York Hotels.

Only two hotels in New York refuse to keep their register of guests open and publicly accessible. These are the Fifth Avenue and the Waldorf-Astoria. The Fifth Avenue is a favorite resort of politicians, and its guests sometimes prefer not to have it known that they are there. The Waldorf-Astoria has made its way with leaders in haute finance, with important and important persons, diplomats and men like Dr. Amador and M. Varilla with republics in their brains. The books are not accessible to the public; lists of guests cannot be transcribed. This is not only intended as a protection to the guests, but as a protection to the office staff. Many business houses send circulars to "hotel arrivals" when they can get the names, and at the Waldorf this would mean each morning the sorting of some 1,500 additional pieces of mail. The law only requires that a register shall be accurately kept, so that the police or authorized officers of government may consult it.—N. Y. Post.

### American Capital in Canada.

American capital is rapidly invading part of the dominion near Sherbrooke, and the near future will see the erection and equipment of many large manufacturing plants, which will greatly increase the wealth and business of the section and promote trade with the United States.

# Sunday School Convention to Be Held at Jerusalem

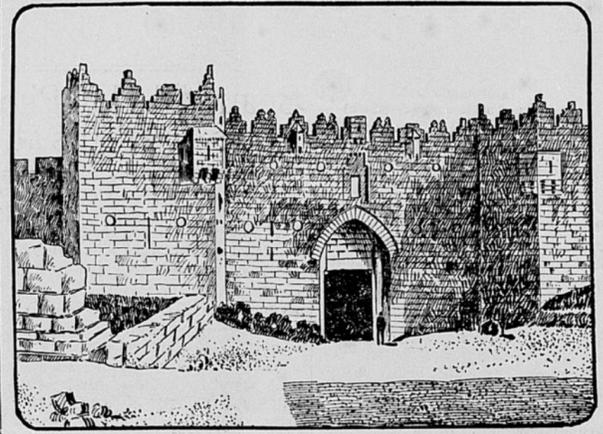
April of Next Year Will See a Dream of Sunday School Leaders Realized.

THE World's Fourth Sunday School convention is to be held at Jerusalem in April of next year, and it is expected that over 800 delegates from the United States, England, the other countries of Europe and from other parts of the world will be present. Thus it is to be realized a hope which has burned in the breasts of certain Sunday school leaders for years. It was at the tenth International Sunday School convention at Denver, Col., in June, 1902, that the plans began to take definite shape. The possibilities and difficulties in the way of holding the next world's convention at Jerusalem were fully presented and after thoughtful consideration the convention endorsed the plans. When the English Sunday school workers saw the spirit of the Americans, they decided that if the Americans could compass the 6,000 miles of ocean to get to the Holy City, England could and would gladly fall in line, and so the World's Sunday School executive committee took up the matter energetically and one of the most interesting and successful, as well as unique, conventions which the world has ever seen promises to be the result.

The convention will be held in two large tents to be pitched outside the

days spent on shipboard are to be made attractive and profitable by music and lectures. The preparation and direction of the former feature has been entrusted to Prof. W. B. Chamberlain, who occupies the chair of sacred music in the Chicago Theological seminary, and who for years was a professor in Oberlin college, and directed the great First Church choir of that institution. It is proposed to form on shipboard a choir which shall render selections at the Jerusalem convention and lead in the general singing. The presence on the ship of a band and orchestra will render the music more effective. The lectures and conferences to be held on shipboard are in preparation and will embrace topics of related interest to the scenes visited and the historic events for which they are famous.

The first world's convention was held in London in the summer of 1889. About 350 delegates went from the United States. Other countries represented in the convention were, England, Ireland, Nova Scotia, India, Australia, West Indies, China, Germany, France, Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Italy and Sweden. Such Sunday school workers and teachers as B. F. Jacobs, Doctors Peloubet, Warren Randolph, Dixon and Wharton were on the programme, and a motel Sunday school



THE GATE OF DAMASCUS. Near Which the Sunday School Convention Tents Will Be Pitched.

walls of Jerusalem, near the Damascus gate, under the shadow of Calvary. For three days, from April 18 to 20, the world's greatest leaders in Sunday school work will be heard. It is too early to give an intimation of what the programme will be, but this work is in the hands of the executive committee, of which Mr. E. K. Warren, of Three Oaks, Mich., is chairman. The other members of the committee are for England: Edward Towers, F. F. Belsey, Charles Waters, Rev. Robert Culley, Rev. Danzy Sheen; for United States: John Wanamaker, A. B. McCrillis; Canada: S. P. Leet; Sweden, August Palm; Australia, Archibald Jackson; Japan, T. C. Ikahara; Italy, Rev. Dr. Burt; Germany, Prof. Fetzner; France, Rev. Mr. Greig. There is also an advisory committee composed of Vice President C. F. Gates, D. D., LL. D., of Robert College, Constantinople; Mr. W. W. Peet, treasurer of the Turkish missions; H. S. Barnum, D. D., Rev. Howard Bliss, president of the Syrian Protestant college, Beyrout; H. H. Jessup, D. D., Beyrout; Mr. E. G. Freyer, treasurer Syrian Protestant college, Beyrout; Dr. Chaucey Murch, American mission, Luxor, Egypt.

The convention will be enriched by the presence of the members of this last named committee. They will have much to do with the arrangement of the programme, and will be heard at the sessions of the convention. In connection with the convention, or rather as a necessary preliminary to it, there is being arranged a tourists' cruise to and from Jerusalem. This will bring together the delegates to the convention and provide delightful and congenial companionship during the entire trip. A vessel has been specially chartered which is scheduled to sail from New York on Tuesday, March 8, 1904. On the journey to and from Joppa, the nearest port in the Holy Land to the city of Jerusalem, stops will be made at Funchal, Madeira, Gibraltar, Algiers, Valetta, Malta, the island on which Paul was shipwrecked; Piræus, including rail trip to Athens; Constantinople, Smyrna, Beyrout, Caifa, with side trips into Galilee and Samaria; Joppa, with the trip to Jerusalem, where the Poles of Solomon, Rachel's tomb, Bethlehem, and Bethlehem hills, Mount of Olives, Bethany, Gethsemane, King's Wine Press, Tomb of Kings, etc. Special religious meetings in addition to the sessions of the convention will be held at Bethany, and on the Mount of Olives, at Bethlehem on the hillside, and another meeting on Olivet in the garden of Gethsemane. On the return trip Alexandria and Cairo, Egypt, will be visited, besides Naples and Villefranche. The steamer is expected to reach New York May 18. Numerous side trips are arranged for those wishing to prolong their trip and see more of Europe and Egypt. It is arranged that a religious service shall be held on Mars hill at Athens, on Sunday morning, March 27, where Paul so many centuries ago preached the risen, Christ to the Greek philosophers.

was conducted by Mr. Marion Lawgate, with Miss Annie Barlow as primary teacher. At this convention it was resolved, "That a committee be appointed on Sunday school work throughout the world," and that "an organizing secretary be appointed for Sunday school extension work in India." Mr. F. F. Belsey, of London, was president of the convention.

St. Louis, the Missouri metropolis, which is desperately busy at the present time in preparation for the great Louisiana Purchase exposition, was the place of the next World Sunday School convention. It was held in September of 1893, beginning immediately at the close of the seventh International (American) convention. Addresses



JEW'S WAILING PLACE.

were made by representatives from England, Scotland, Germany, Sweden and India, with additional reports from Holland, Italy, France, Norway, Switzerland, Denmark and Japan. Among the speakers from other lands were the famous Sunday school men, Mr. F. F. Belsey and Mr. Edward Towers, both World convention presidents; Mr. Charles Waters and Count Bernstorff. The late B. F. Jacobs was elected president. The special feature of this meeting was the starting of a fund for the pushing of Sunday school work in Japan.

The third world's convention went back to London. Over 200 delegates went from the United States. In addition to the countries represented at the first convention, delegates from Newfoundland, Austria, Belgium, Japan, Hawaii and South Africa, were present. Among the speakers were Bishops Warren, Fowler and Thoburn, besides Dr. Joseph Parker and Rev. F. B. Meyer. The special feature of this convention was the dedication of Mr. T. C. Ikahara to Sunday school work in his own land of Japan, for which field he sailed immediately with the special prayers of the convention resting upon him.



## THE ROAD TO GRUMBLETOWN.

'Tis quite a straight and easy road  
That leads to Grumbletown,  
And those who wish can always find  
A chance to journey down.

'Tis customary for the trip  
To choose a rainy day—  
When weather's fine one's not so apt  
To care to go that way.

Just keep down Fretful Lane until  
You come to Sulky Stile,  
Where travelers often like to rest  
In silence for awhile.

And then cross over Pouting Bridge,  
Where Don't Care Brook flows down,  
And just a little way beyond  
You come to Grumbletown.

From what I learn, this Grumbletown  
Is not a pleasant place;  
One never hears a cheerful word,  
Or sees a smiling face;

The children there are badly spoiled  
And sure to fret and tease,  
And all the grown-up people, too,  
Seem cross and hard to please.

The weather rarely is just right  
In this peculiar spot;  
'Tis either raining all the time,  
Or else too cold, or hot.

The books are stupid as can be;  
The games are dull and old;  
There's nothing new and nothing nice  
In Grumbletown, I'm told.

And so I've taken pains, my dears,  
The easiest road to show,  
That you may all be very sure  
You never, never go!  
—Ellen Manly, in St. Nicholas.

## UNCLE SAM'S MAILS.

They Can Follow a Traveler All the Way Around the World and Back Again.

The United States mails are carried everywhere. It would be almost a physical impossibility for a man to hide himself in any remote corner of the world without being discovered at last by some insignificant agent of a worldwide service, the machinery of which operates quietly and with clock-like regularity. If a bird's-eye view of the different railroad and steamship lines which carry the mails could be taken the giant spider's web thus formed would appear woven in a pattern so intricate that the mind would balk at the mere suggestion of unraveling it. And besides the regular steamship and railroad threads of this maze would appear tens of thousands of cross-lines, representing pony routes, dog-and-sled tracks, swift courier and runner "trails," and even reindeer, whaling-ship and canoe lines. Every sort of vehicle and beast of burden, and nearly every invention of man for quick transportation, have been pressed into the postal service, and it is possible for a letter to go around the world under conditions so strange that the mere history of its journey would form a story of thrilling interest.

If a man should start from New York and travel northward to Alaska, then down the coast to California and take



AN ARCTIC MAIL CARRIER.

ship to Manila, and follow the lines of travel to Hongkong, to Singapore, to Canton, to Tokio, to Vladivostok, to St. Petersburg, to Vienna, to London, to South Africa, and finally to South America, touching on the way at several Pacific and South Atlantic islands, and thence back to his starting point, he could travel a distance several times greater than the circumference of the globe. If he ordered his mail forwarded to him, and left correct addresses at each place, the letters would dutifully follow him and finally be delivered to him in New York a few days after his own arrival there. All that he would have to pay extra for this remarkable journey of his mail would be a dollar or two in tolls, which would represent the charges for forwarding exacted by some of the countries through which it passed. There is in the post office department at Washington the envelope of a letter which traveled in this way 150,000 miles, and another which came safely through a trip of 125,000 miles. Both are marked and stamped in a way to baffle any expert decipherer of puzzles.—St. Nicholas.

## Crocodile's Mixed Menu.

The capacity of the ostrich to swallow all sorts of articles is matched by that of the crocodile, if the list given below is a fair sample: The stomach of a recently killed Indian crocodile contained, besides a half-digested calf, a human skull, a silver bangle, some gold ornaments, a tobacco box made of tin, a lime case, a nitercake, a railway ticket, a horn case containing some 20 copper coins and a soda water bottle containing some mustard. The foregoing list of articles is sufficient to convince students of natural history that crocodiles are passionately fond of bric-a-brac of a substantial nature.—Boston Herald.

## Illinois Central R. R. Time Table

—East Bound—  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
When Cleverly Performed—  
to Instructions Given, It Attains  
Lots of Fun.

An ordinary slate, such as children write on, is shown to the audience; to prove that nothing is written upon it both sides are rubbed with a wet sponge. A chair is brought to the foreground, the seat of which is covered with a black cloth. Then the performer asks any girl in the audience to be kind enough to give her first name and offers to let the slate guess the date of her birth. After the name is given the performer places the slate on the chair and lays a piece of chalk upon it. After making a few motions over the slate to indicate that the writing is going on the performer lifts up the slate and behold! One side of the slate shows the correct name and date of birth.

This seems to be a trick hard to explain, but nevertheless it is a very



SLATE TRICK ILLUSTRATED.

simple one. Take a plain slate, on one side of which the name and the date is previously written. A friend of the performer is instructed to call the name so quickly that no one else can get ahead of him. All that is left to do is to secrete the name and date on the slate until it is time for it to appear. To do this you will have to get a piece of cardboard, fitting exactly over the black part of the slate, both sides of which are covered smoothly with black slate paper. Sheet J is laid over the side of the slate with the writing on it (a). Place the slate with the sheet over it face down on the chair. When you are going to show the secret writing to the audience lift the slate in such a way that the sheet of paper stays upon the black cloth, where it (being black, too) cannot be discerned.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

## STORIES ABOUT EAGLES.

They Show That the Big Birds Are Not Afraid to Tackle Even the Strongest Antagonist.

Some years ago Sir Charles Mordaunt witnessed in Scotland a strange battle between an eagle and a stag, which completely dispels any theory that the ornithologist may put forward as to eagles not attacking large animals, says the Chicago Journal. The bird singled out from a herd one particular buck, which it succeeded in driving from the rest. It struck the animal repeatedly with its powerful wings, knocked it down and finally killed it.

Baron Schroeder witnessed a still more remarkable spectacle. An eagle attacked a fawn which was one of a herd in the highlands. The cries of the little one were answered by its dam, which sprang upon the eagle and struck it repeatedly with its fore feet. Fawn, deer and eagle rolled headlong down a declivity, and the bird was dislodged from its hold and the fawn rescued.

But Sir Kenneth Mackenzie knows a more thrilling story than either of these, for, according to report, an eagle was rent in twain during a battle in his forest of Gairloch. Fixing its talons in the quarters of a roe, the bird was dashed against a tree, to a branch of which it endeavored to hold to stay the flight of its captive. The bird was halved in an instant.

Many traditions are extant as to eagles having carried off and devoured children. In the north of England the legend is perpetuated by the name of many an inn, the sign "The Eagle and the Child" being common. The most recent case bearing close scrutiny appears to be one which occurred in South Africa. A Boer farmer, living on the veldt just beyond Barberton, whose stock had been harried by eagles, lay in ambush for the aerial robbers, and saw one of them descend and carry off the five-year-old child of one of his Kaffir servants. He shot the bird, which, with the child still clutched in its grip, fell into a thorn bush. The bird was dead when picked up, but the babe was little hurt. The eagle measured nine feet from tip to tip of its wings.

Two eagles will stalk a covert in concert. While one conceals himself the other beats about the bushes with a great screaming, driving out its quarry for the hidden eagle to swoop down and make an end of it. An even more insidious method has been observed, when an eagle, detecting a sheep on the edge of a precipice, screamed shrilly, and with foreful beat of wing hurried it into the valley below, where it could devour it at its leisure.

There is good reason for believing, after all, the ancient legend as to the manner in which Eschylus, the Greek poet, met his death. It is said that an eagle dropped a turtle on his bald head. Algerian travelers are familiar with the sight of eagles carrying turtles and tortoisers to a height and dropping them upon rocks to break the creatures' shells and render the flesh accessible.

Seven Shots Per Second. A revolver that shoots seven times in a second has been invented by a gunsmith in Brussels.