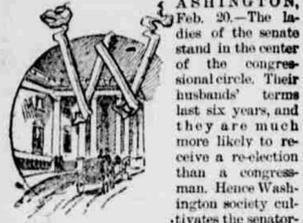


OUR SENATORS' WIVES.

PEN PICTURES OF SOME LEADING LADIES OF WASHINGTON.

Mrs. Senator Ingalls and Mrs. John Sherman—Some New England Women. The Wives of Hoar, Aldrich, Edmunds and Others—Some Southern Ladies.

(Special Correspondence.)



WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The ladies of the senate stand in the center of the congressional circle. Their husbands' terms last six years, and they are much more likely to receive a re-election than a congressman. Hence Washington society cultivates the senatorial ladies more than it does the wives of the members of the lower house, and they rank next to the lady of the White House and are on a par with the wives of the justices of the United States supreme court.

The president of the senate is the official head of the body, and social rank here goes side by side with official station. The social rank of a lady corresponds with the official position of her husband, and Mrs. Ingalls is now the leader of the senatorial ladies.

She is a good leader, too. Tall, plump and fine looking, her cheeks are as rosy and her eyes as bright as when she married John J. Ingalls, the young Kansas lawyer. Ingalls and she met, I am told, at a friend's wedding, and before this Ingalls had been something of a woman hater. At least, he had not courted any of the other western girls of the vicinity, but at this wedding he was one of the groomsmen and she one of the bridesmaids, and the acquaintance there made ripened into courtship and marriage. Mrs. Ingalls was then Miss Anna Chesbrough, and her father was a New York merchant, who had moved west to Atchison. Ingalls came to Kansas with not much more than two suits of clothes and bright prospects, and Mrs. Ingalls' father had failed in the panic of 1857, when he moved to Kansas and made a second business success. Mrs. Ingalls comes of one of the oldest families of New England, and I think one of her ancestors was Peregrine White. She has numerous children, and the girls of Washington think there is no young man quite so bright and so sweet as her boy Ellsworth, who graduated a year or so since from college, and who is now studying law while he acts as his father's private secretary. Her daughter Ethel, who is one of the debutantes of the season, is a very pretty girl still in her teens.

Mrs. Ingalls has many of the qualities of Mrs. John A. Logan; and this reminds me that Mrs. Logan is quite well, and she is living a very retired life here at Washington. Mrs. Senator Sherman held last year the place which Mrs. Ingalls does this, and she is a remarkably fine looking lady. She looks fifteen years younger than Senator John, and her tall, straight form is well rounded. She has a rosy complexion and beautiful eyes. She married John Sherman when he was 25 years of age, and when he was a lawyer in Mansfield, O. She came with him to Washington during his first term in congress, thirty-three years ago, and she has been in the thick of Washington society since then. Her maiden name was Cecelia Stewart, and she was the daughter of an Ohio judge who stood very high at the Mansfield bar. Mrs. Sherman has domestic tastes as well as social ones. She understands how to cook, and she is an accomplished linguist, reading and speaking French very well.

Her daughter, Miss Mary, is a very bright girl, well educated, and possesses more mixing qualities than are usually ascribed to her father, the senator. Senators Beck, Allison and Voorhees are widowers, and a number of the senators' wives do not mix much in society. Mrs. Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, is not in good health, and neither she nor the senator go about much. The same may be said of Mrs. Senator Plumb, of Kansas. Mrs. Senator Aldrich is another pretty senatorial lady, and she was the ward of a Providence merchant. She watches very well over the interests of Nelson W. Aldrich, who, by the way, is one of the handsomest men in the senate.

Philetus Sawyer married his wife when he had his fortune yet to make, and her name was Miss Hadley. She was a native of Vermont, and she went with him on his emigration tour to Wisconsin. She is an invalid and does not go in society.

One of the most talked of women this session is the English wife of Gen. Joe Hawley, who appears for the first time in Washington society. She is pretty and highly cultured, and she talks with a slight English accent.

The southern ladies are, as a rule, of old families, and Senator Butler's wife comes of one of the best families of the Palmetto state. Mrs. Senator Pugh, of Alabama, is the daughter of Gen. John L. Hunter, of South Carolina, and she went to Alabama in 1835, when she was a wee bit of a girl. The Pughs live very nicely at Washington, though they do not entertain very much.

Senator Vance's wife is a Kentucky lady, and Vance has a house on Massachusetts avenue, in one of the most fashionable quarters of the city. Mrs. Vance was a widow when she married the senator, and Vance was a widower. They both had some money, and the two piles keep them from want. Vance has a 1,000 acre country seat near Asheville, N. C., and I understand that Mrs. Vance has bought 3,000 acres adjoining. This property gives some of the finest views of the United States. It is covered with magnificent timber, and it makes good farming land. Vance got it for a song, and it will eventually be worth a fortune.

Senator Call's wife's maiden name was Simkins, and her grandfather was a distinguished representative in congress from South Carolina.

Senator Everts married, says Dr. B. Randolph Keim, one of the best authorities on Washington society, the daughter of a bank president, who had been state treasurer of Vermont; and the maiden name of the Iowa senator's wife, Mrs. Wilson, was Mary Jewett, and she was an Ohio girl from the town of Newark. Wilson was a harness maker in early life, and he studied law at the bench. After his marriage to Miss Jewett he went to Iowa and settled at Fairfield. From thence he was soon sent to congress, and Mrs. Wilson became one of the leading ladies of the congressional circle. Her husband has now received his second election to the senate.

Senator Farwell's wife was a school teacher, and she is a woman of very charitable instincts, and much interested in missionary work. She is cultured, and she has a decided admiration for Charles B. Farwell.

Senator Chase is a Quaker and his wife is a Quakeress. Chase was, however, I think, born in Massachusetts. At least he comes from a Massachusetts family, and his wife was one of the Society of Friends of the state of Pennsylvania. Both the senator and Mrs. Chase adhere to the doctrines of the

Quakers. Chase dresses in the Quaker garb, and the two do not mix much in society.

Mrs. Senator Spooner is a bright eyed, nervous, enthusiastic woman from Madison, Wis. She can do six different things at the same time, and every one of them well. Her maiden name was Annie Main, and her father was a farmer of influence near Madison. Mrs. Spooner lives very nicely in a big brick house near the Capitol. She is a good horseback rider, and John Spooner's Kentucky bays are one of the sights of the city.

Mrs. Senator Eustis, of Louisiana, comes of the celebrated Buckner family, of Kentucky, and the Eustis family is related by marriage to that of Mr. Corcoran, the Washington millionaire. George Eustis, the brother of Senator Eustis, married the daughter of Corcoran, and this daughter died at Cannes, in the south of France. Mr. Corcoran put a memorial window in the church at Cannes where her funeral was celebrated. Senator Eustis is rich, and this is the same with Randall Lee Gibson, the other Louisiana senator. Gibson is, however, a widower, and his wife was the daughter of the old Montgomery family, and one of the most cultured women who has ever taken part in Washington society.

Senator Joe Brown's wife is a very bright woman, and she takes care of Joe Brown. Not by the way, that Brown needs taking care of, for he is the youngest old patriarch who ever wore a white beard. She keeps, it is said, two scrap books relating to Brown, in one of which she keeps all the good things said about him, and in the other all the bad things.

Senator Payne, of Ohio, came from New York originally, and he was a young lawyer when he settled in Cleveland and courted Mary Perry, who is, I think, related to Oliver Perry, the great commodore. Mrs. Payne's father was a rich merchant of Cleveland, who had a good eye as to the value of real estate. He bought a good deal near Cleveland, and the rise of this formed the foundation of the millions which the family now owns.

Mrs. Senator Blackburn's father lived to be 100, and Mrs. Blackburn is one of the leading ladies of the southern circle. She has a bright daughter, Corinne Blackburn, who is a superior musician, and one of the best pianists in the city. Joe Blackburn named this daughter after the heroine of Mme. de Staël's novel, "Corinne," and it is said that he gets the inspiration for some of his floweriest phrases from his intimate acquaintance with the works of this novelist.

Eugene Hale's wife is Zach Chandler's daughter, and she brought a fortune to the senator when she married him. She is a bright, well educated woman, and she has many of the qualities of her able father.

Senator Dawes was a school teacher when he married his wife, Miss Sanderson, one of his pupils, and her family is one of the oldest of Connecticut.

Senator Teller married a New York girl, and Senator Beck's wife was a sort of kin to Gen. George Washington. She died only a short time ago.

Senator Blair married a Methodist preacher's daughter. She is a society woman, and is much interested in charitable work. Her hobby is the Gardfield hospital, and she and Mrs. Senator Logan have done a great deal to make it a success.

Mrs. Vest comes of one of the oldest families of Kentucky, and her maiden name was Sneed. Her grandfather was a revolutionary soldier, and lived to the advanced age of 102 years. She is a fine looking woman, with dark eyes and dark hair, and she has displayed great taste in the arrangement of her home, which is on P street, near Iowa circle, one of the fashionable parts of the city.

Senator Manderson married Miss Rebecca S. Brown, of Canton, O., and Miss Brown's father was a very prominent Ohio lawyer, and her grandfather was one of the oldest Whig politicians of the state. She is a very beautiful woman, well formed, bright eyed and vivacious. She dresses well, and she can tell a good story and sing a good song.

Senator Palmer's wife is a bright eyed, sensible woman, among whose ancestors was Governor Winslow, of Massachusetts, and whose father came from Maine to Michigan when his daughter, Miss Lizzie Merrill, was very young. Mrs. Palmer has one of the finest houses in Washington, and she is one of the most accomplished of senatorial entertainers. She entertains more than any other lady of the senate, and she is very popular in Washington society.

Senator Culbom's wife was a Springfield girl, who came with her family from Pennsylvania to Illinois. Her maiden name was Julia Fisher. She is one of the bright women of the senatorial circle, and her daughter is considered one of the beauties among the girls of Washington society.

Mrs. Senator Walthall is a tall, stately woman, with dark hair and dark eyes. She is well educated, and she comes from one of the F. F. V.'s (first families of Virginia). Her husband was a noted general during the late war, and she thinks so much of the general that she spent a great part of her time in his camp when he was in command under Gen. Joe Johnston.

Mrs. Senator Quay comes of one of the oldest families of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Cuth Davis is a very fine looking woman, who would attract attention in any crowd. She is quite a musician, and a good horseback rider.

Mrs. Senator Hearst, of California, gives some of the finest receptions of Washington, and the same may be said of Mrs. Stanford, who is a very rich woman, with a very kind heart and a great amount of common sense.

Mrs. Senator Mitchell is in Paris this winter, but her daughter was one of the loveliest of last season, and she is one of the most beautiful girls the United States has yet produced.

Mrs. Cockrell is a tall, Juno-like lady, who takes good care of Gen. Cockrell, and who stands very well in Washington society. She comes of the Ewing family, and is related to the noted Ewings, of Ohio.

Senator Edmunds' wife has not been very well for some years. She comes of one of the oldest families of Connecticut, and her grandfather was a representative in congress during the administration of Madison. Senator Edmunds lives very well at Washington, and he is decidedly domestic in his tastes.

Mrs. Frank Hiscock is the daughter of a rich New York merchant who lived at Tully, where Hiscock practiced law. She is a fine looking lady, well educated, and quite popular here.

The senatorial ladies are, as a rule, women of culture. They have worked side by side with their husbands up the hill of fame and of fortune, and the most of them think of other things as well as society and fashion.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

The Brooklyn bridge enjoys at present the celebrity of being the greatest bridge in the world, but when the gigantic viaduct now in course of erection over the Frith of Forth, in Scotland, is completed, all other bridges will be cast in the shade. The Brooklyn bridge is 5,892 feet long, and has a span of 1,900 feet. The bridge across the Forth will measure 8,061 feet, and there will be two great arches, each 1,710 feet in length.

There are 250,000 Knights of Labor in good standing.

NIAGARA RIVER POWER.

MORE PLANS FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT DESCRIBED.

A Scheme to Build a Tunnel More Than a Mile Long and Fill It with Turbine Wheels, Which Will Furnish 110,000 Horse Power.

(Special Correspondence.)

NIAGARA FALLS, Feb. 13.—All lovers of the sublime and beautiful in nature have rejoiced that the state of New York had at last taken control of Niagara falls, laid out a reservation including and preserving the adjacent beauty, and to some extent regulating the cost of a visit to the great waterfall. At the same time, all who have seriously thought of the immense water power there literally "running to waste," have had their utilitarian instincts grieved by the confident statement that there was no way to utilize the force without marring the beauty. How to make Niagara useful without making it less beautiful has been the question; and it is now confidently announced that the problem is solved.

Niagara, say the engineers, can be made to yield 110,000 horse power, and not a foot of the reservation be encroached upon or any building erected near the falls. Mr. Thomas Evershed, division engineer of the New York state canals, has presented the perfected plan and estimates; Mr. Elman Sweet, New York state engineer and surveyor, has cordially approved them, and a company has been formed to carry them into execution. This company proposes to furnish 500 horse power each to 238 mills, which shall be located from one mile to two and a half miles up the river from the falls, in no way interfering with the view, yet easily accessible by river and railroad, and all this they propose to accomplish by one great tunnel underneath the town and side tunnels from the river, each with its wheel pit for turbine water wheels—the whole series drawing through the main tunnel to the level of the river below the falls. Thus they will secure, at a cost of \$3,000,000 or less, a power exceeding the combined water power of Holyoke, Lowell, Minneapolis, Cohoes, Lewiston and Lawrence, and, unlike these, subject to no vicissitudes of drought or danger of overflow or destruction of dams, but from sources as exhaustless as the great lakes and in tunnels as enduring as the solid rock.

The conception is sublime. The completed work would seem to outdo any of the wonders of the ancient world. It exalts one's views of the dignity of the human intellect.



MAP OF TUNNEL.

Yet the plan is so simple that the most ignorant can comprehend it.

The conditions are these: From the head of the rapids to the cataract the fall is 65 feet, height of the cataract 165 feet, total fall 230 feet. The average flow of the river is 275,000 cubic feet per second; total water power, therefore, 7,000,000 horse power, from which the company proposes to take only 110,000 horse power. At the foot of the falls the river turns almost square to the right, thus a straight line from the rapids above to the edge of the water just below them is the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle. The tunnel, therefore, is to begin at a point just above high water level, but 300 feet below the top of the bluff, below the falls; thence it is to run at an upgrade of one foot in 100 through the solid rock to a point a mile above the falls; thence it is to continue one and a half miles parallel with the river, 400 feet distant from it and 100 feet below it, and to be connected with it by lateral tunnels. Of these, each is to have its wheel pit for turbine water wheel, and the slope of the lateral tunnel or conduit such as to secure a rapid discharge of the water. The main tunnel is to be 24 feet in diameter, amply sufficient to discharge all the water the main tunnels may pour into it; and these, with heads ranging from 34 to 80 feet, for turbine wheels of the latest pattern, will amply secure the promised 110,000 horse power, or 500 horse power each for the 238 factories, for which sites can be provided in the space secured.

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Silk Hats for Poor Young Men.

"A young man on a salary of \$5 a week sporting a high hat?"

"Yes, sir! There are a great many young men who are on the racket," answered the latter. "I know a man who keeps a store in a basement just back of Wallace's theatre. His place is the great emporium for the itinerant dealers in old hats. He buys old silk hats for from 20 to 30 cents apiece, according to their marketable condition, and sells them in lots to the chief retail hatters. This is the reason that silk hats can be purchased at some stores for \$2.75, \$3, and \$3.50. It is easy for a good hatter to fix up an old hat to look as good as new. It is the custom of many young men, especially impetuous young actors, to pay a visit to the old man in the cellar back of Wallace's. He will sell them an old silk hat for 50 cents. They take to a practical hatter and have made over for about \$1. It can be shaped somewhat like the latest fashion, and a hat apparently costing \$8 is thus obtained for \$1.50."—New York Evening Sun.

The Prince of Wales' Detectives.

The Prince of Wales is always accompanied by two detectives. They dress as gentlemen, and are over at his back. At the theatre they sit at the back of his box, at the races they stand just behind him, and it is their business never to have him out of their sight. He has no responsibility of them, but they can never leave him out of their minds. They live at Marlborough house on the fat of the land, but their position is not one that is coveted by their brother professionals of Scotland Yard.—Harpur's Bazar.

VERTICAL SECTION SHAFTS AND TUNNELS.

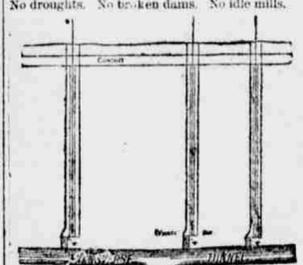
It is proposed to lay out the mill sites of the rapids from 75 by 200 to 300 by 400 feet; to leave ample space between for railroad tracks to the main line and for streets; to build wharves and secure landings for lake and canal vessels, and secure ample rail connection with the railroads entering at the

falls. And finally the company proposes a charge of but \$10 per year for each horse power of water supplied—less than a third of the average cost at other places—yet when all the sites are utilized the income will be 40 per cent. on the total cost. These are the immediate returns looked for; but beyond the vast possibilities of storing and transporting the power by electricity to neighboring cities.

Considering the fact that the available water power of the country is diminishing as the forests are cleared, and that in many manufacturing centers summer droughts and winter floods are serious menaces, one can but wonder that the exhaustless power of Niagara has not already been utilized. Manufacturers would hardly ask us to credit them with sentimental reasons for withholding their lands. No doubt the principal obstacle has been the enormous initial cost of making the improvements, as it presented itself to most who examined the subject. No one company could profitably utilize such a power; and it was not easy to form a sufficient combination of companies. The fact that Niagara on the Canada frontier had something to do with it, no doubt; and still more, that it was on the western frontier when the factories of New England and eastern New York were established. Some small raceways were made several years ago, involving not 1,000 horse power in all; but they all came within the fixed bonds of the park reserved by the state, and are, of course, discontinued. In 1855 the hydraulic canal was begun, outside the limits of the reservation; that is, across the peninsula on which the village of Niagara Falls is built, and after a long dispute it was reopened in 1878, and now supplies power to a Brush dynamo, supplied with power by the rapids, has been run in Prospect park for the illumination of the falls and grounds, and other small uses have been made of the power. But all appear trifling compared with the plan proposed by the new company.

Another scheme for the utilization of Niagara's power has been set on foot by certain gentlemen of Lockport, N. Y. Their purpose is to supply water for the city of Lockport and vicinity, for manufacturing and other purposes, by taking it from the Niagara river at Tonawanda, or some point between Tonawanda and Niagara Falls, and discharging the current into Lake Ontario near the village of Olean. The waterworks of this organization are very taking. They are:

Lake Erie, the mill pond, Niagara river, the head race, Lake Ontario, the tail race. No floods. No droughts. No broken dams. No idle mills.



TRANSVERSE SECTION SHAFTS AND TUNNELS.

The land at Tonawanda is but little higher than the river. From there northward is a gradual rise for about ten miles to a ridge running in an east and west direction. Lockport being situated on the ridge, whose crest there is lower than further west, and is cut by two ravines or depressions. The work will be all cutting, and little or no embankment will be required. From Lockport to the mouth of Eighteen Mile creek the country falls and the distance is comparatively trifling.

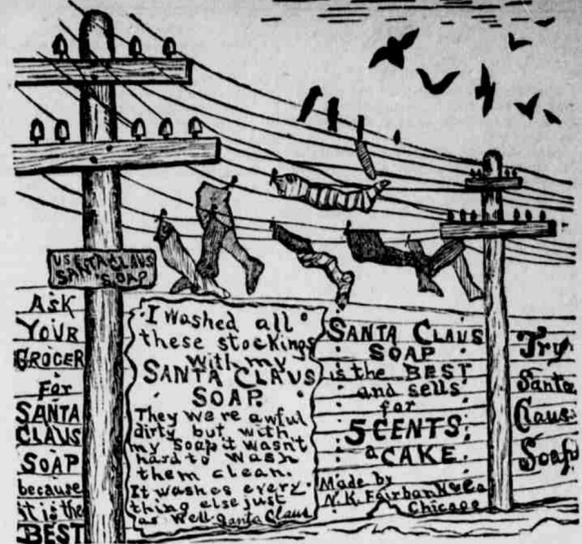
The Niagara river has a fall of 233 feet. It is proposed to run a canal from a point opposite Grand Island, near Tonawanda, where the current is not very rapid, to Lockport, discharging the water which shall pass through it into Eighteen Mile creek, which empties into Lake Ontario, and will form a conduit for about one-third of the distance. The utilization of the power is first practicable at Lockport. Between Lockport and the lake twenty dams are practicable, at each of which the full power of the water of the canal with a considerable head can be made effective. Of course the size of the canal and the fall obtained will determine the amount of power that can be made available. It is



PROPOSED LOCKPORT CANAL.

claimed that 261,636 horse power can be obtained at Lockport, where a 220 feet fall can be had if the canal be twenty feet deep and 300 feet wide. I give a map of the proposed canal.

L. S. R.



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