

Semi-Weekly South Kentuckian.

VOLUME IX.

HOPKINSVILLE, CHRISTIAN COUNTY, KY., JULY 12, 1887.

NUMBER 55

CHAS. M. MEACHAM. W. A. WILGUS.

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY MORNING BY

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STANFORD'S YOUTH.

The California Millionaire Tells the Story of His Early Struggles.

Discussing the story the other day at how Abraham S. Hewitt earned his first money, an old Californian said: "I was talking with Senator Stanford on that subject recently, and asked him how he earned his first dollar. The Senator smiled and replied: 'I remember it just as well as if it had occurred yesterday. I was a farmer's son,' he continued, and 'and I lived on my father's farm in the Mohawk valley, between Albany and Schenectady, or what was then known as the Conant road. There were three brothers of us. I was six years old at the time. My father was a contractor and was absent from home a good deal of the time, leaving the place in charge of the gardener, who went to the market at Schenectady twice a week with a wagon-load of vegetables to sell at the market. One day my brother and myself gathered a lot of horse-radish in the garden, and took it to the market. When we came home at night the gardener handed us six York shillings, which was the profit of our produce, and we divided it evenly, each of us having two shillings. That was the first money I ever earned, and I never see a boy trying to earn a few pennies without feeling a renewed gratification at my success in that endeavor."

"My next financial endeavor," continued the Senator, "was in 1831 or 1832. We boys were in the habit of gathering a store of chestnuts every fall and putting them in the garret for winter's use. One day our hired man came home from market and told us a bit of gossip that chestnuts were worth \$5 a bushel in market. The next time the gardener went to town we put what we had gathered in grain bags and sent them in by him. He sold them for \$5 a bushel and brought us home \$25, which, you, perhaps, can understand, was a large sum of money for boys of our age in those days when grown men were working for two shillings a day. Until I went to Albany to study law in 1846, when I was twenty-two years of age, I attended the country schools and picked up the rudiments of an education in them. In the summer I worked on a farm, and at times assisted my father in his contracts, seeing a little of the world around me. One winter, when I was about eighteen years old, and a stout, vigorous boy, my father bought a lot of woodland and told me that if I would cut the trees off I might have the proceeds. I went to work with a will and cut twenty-six hundred cords that winter—not alone, but with the assistance of some men I hired. When the wood was cut I hauled it to town and sold it to the Mohawk & Hudson River railroad, now a part of the New York Central system. I made a profit of one dollar a cord on the transaction and found myself the possessor of twenty-six hundred dollars."

"After finishing my studies in the office of Wheaton, Duell and Hadley in Albany," continued the Senator, "and being admitted to the bar, I got to Western New York, and started with another young man in the northern part of Wisconsin. I was not very successful as a lawyer and used to write on political and other subjects, and took a great interest in the village debating society and local politics. Several of my fellow-townsmen who were similarly inclined joined with me in organizing a company for the purpose of publishing a paper. I had a narrow escape from becoming an editor. We learned that there was a press and an outfit of type for sale in Milwaukee which could be had for \$700. It was a long and tedious ride, and you may imagine my disappointment upon my arrival at that destination to find that the press and outfit had been sold a few days before. The enterprise was abandoned. I went back to the law, but soon after had another misfortune. The building in which I had my books burned, and with it all my law office and worldly possessions. I was almost hopeless then, and gladly accepted an invitation from my brothers to join them in California. This was in 1852, four years after the discovery of gold on the Pacific slope, and, packing up the few things I had left, I set out overland to the Goldland. Arriving there, I settled in a little town called Michigan Bluffs, in the mercantile business, and three years later moved to San Francisco, where I have since lived."—N. Y. Sun.

THE WEDDING RING.

Some Notes of Interest Concerning Its Antiquity and Importance.

From time immemorial, when men and women have pledged their troth, a ring has been the token, either exchanged by both or given by the lover to his mistress, as a sign of their engagement. In some nations this betrothal is considered as binding as the marriage ceremony itself and is made the occasion of rites almost as solemn and important. The ring, too, to be used at this time must be particularly elaborate and even of a certain value. This latter point used to be rigidly adhered to, with even the matter of weight added, a circumstance which led to some engagement rings being not only of extremely beautiful workmanship, but of such massive make as to be rather cumbersome, a church of the building sometimes protruding from the front of the ring. An ancient engagement ring which served a threefold purpose, of most ingenious shape and form, was known as the gimmel, or linked ring. The writer of these lines knows one such ring, which must have passed through strange and manifold scenes in its time, since first it played its part in some long bygone betrothal. It was composed of three circles of gold, so constructed that when it closed it represented a solid ring, with the device in front of two hands clasping a heart, but capable of being opened and split apart, so that three rings are made of the one. At the betrothal ceremony in which a gimmel was used the two outer rings were taken by the contracting parties, each having one hand, and the centre or notched ring was retained by the witness of the bond, who at the time appeared delivered up the connecting

QUALITIES OF PIGE.

Improving Swine Up to a Condition for Yielding a Fair Profit.

A writer on the pig has said that "there are several points to be observed, and those should have consideration before all others." Also "fineness of bone and absence of bristles, as the latter have been bred away from all the best breeds; and they, the bristles, will not be tolerated on any respectable farm. That he should eat quietly and not roam about, not even walking about his pen after eating."

Not a few persons, in establishing a herd of swine, have been influenced by views similar to those quoted above, not estimating at their full force the ease and expedition with which the hog could be made to part with those characteristics that formed a great work against inroads from disease. The ease with which the hog has been improved has tempted some breeders to push this improvement, in some cases, just a little too far. Novices have taken up where the regular breeders have left off, and have pushed it beyond the limit of safety. It has been done by selecting on their own judgment, or it may be better to say, on their own fancy.

Beginners would more frequently than has been the custom, leave the selection of a pair of pigs to the man who has bred them, it is not impossible that the persons would be better than it sometimes is. The novice, left to himself, is quite inclined to set upon the suggestions above quoted, seeking a pair with smallest bones in the herd, and with absolutely no bristles at all, and perhaps, hardly a remnant of hair. Then, give the novice a few years more in which to breed in-and-in, feeding high on grain and rich slops, to the exclusion of pasture grasses, cultivating the tendency, always shown by the high-bred and full-fed hog, to take little or no exercise, and sleep much of the time, and it requires but a few years to place the offspring from swine so reared and managed where they will give up right quickly under exposure to inclement weather, or to any prevailing disease. In fact, such a collection is a good nursery for disease to begin its work in.

BRITAIN'S CHIEFTAIN.

Sketch of the Duke of Cambridge, Commander of the British Army.

One of the results of the recent war scares has been to bring prominently before the public the great military chieftains of the age. A considerable amount of ink has been devoted to biographical notices of such Generals as Count von Moltke, Bismarck, Gourko and Gazi Osman Pasha, but, singularly enough, all mention of the remarkable warrior of the age—namely, Field-Marshal the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief of the British, Indian and Egyptian armies, has been omitted. Born two months before his first cousin, Queen Victoria, he spent all the early years of his life at Hanover, where his father acted as Viceroy until 1837, and subsequently at Berlin. The inevitable consequence thereof is that he is somewhat of a martinet on the subject of discipline, and that he speaks English with a very strong German accent. He is a tall, finely built man, with white hair and whiskers, an apple-cheek and a ruddy face, which shows traces of good living. His manner, when not storming at delinquent soldiers, is bluff, frank and hearty. He is fond of good cigars, good dinners, pleasant women and a nap after meals, and sometimes even during his meals. In short, he is a good kind of an honest old fellow, who, however, at times, is guilty of the most pig-headed obstinacy and prejudice. The only time when he had the opportunity of displaying his prowess on a battle-field was at the Crimea, where he showed great pluck personally, but lost his head altogether as a leader. He has had many love affairs, which culminated in a morganatic marriage with a very estimable woman who is altogether unknown to society, but by whom he has a numerous family. Two of his sons, the Colonel Fitz George, form part of his official staff, while another of his boys, Captain Fitz George of the royal navy, has distinguished himself in the sister service. Taking him altogether, he is one of the most popular members of the royal family. The people know that with all his faults he is a man of warm and loyal feelings, and that he has uniformly conducted himself loyally and well. He is a good son, and never lets a day pass without walking around to St. James' Palace to spend half an hour with his old mother, the venerable Duchess of Cambridge. It may be stated in conclusion that he is very sensitive to newspaper criticisms, and was recently much distressed at being lampooned for having appeared at an inspection of troops with an umbrella held over his head to keep off the pelting rain."—N. Y. World.

BEGINNING AGAIN.

How a Poor Little Mouse Caused the Separation of a Scotch Couple.

"When two people have 'made up' after a quarrel, it is safer to 'let sleeping dogs lie,' and refer no more to the bone of contention. Even a good-natured recurrence to the subject contains within it the germs of re-formation. A Scotch couple had lived together happily for several years, but one evening when they were seated at their fire-side a mouse chanced to run across the floor.

THE GAY BUTTERFLY.

Its Interesting Metamorphosis From a Caterpillar Into a Wings-Bearing Beauty.

The butterfly lays its eggs on the tree, shrub or plant, whose leaves are to furnish food for the young. From these eggs in time emerge caterpillars, which eat ravenously for a few days, and increase rapidly in size. Soon after becoming full grown the caterpillar ceases eating for a time and enters its second stage, and becomes a pupa, or chrysalis. It then gets rid of its intestines, changes its skin, suspends its body to the under side of some object, either by its legs or by a little rope of silk which it produces. The pupa case then breaks and the butterfly, with its crumpled wings, emerges from it. This ends the second or chrysalis stage, and the third stage is entered on. The wings gradually strengthen, and the third stage ends by the complete transformation of the former caterpillar into the fully developed butterfly.

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Rates: \$2 Per Day, \$10 to \$14 Per Week, \$35 to 40 Per Month.

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Come at once. Avail yourself of this great opportunity to save money.

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