

Fitzsimmons In Marble

PHYSICAL WONDER WHO IS TO BE IMMORTALIZED BY
GUTZON BORGLUM.

Greatest Fighting Subject For Sculpturing This Age Has Produced, Says the Sculptor—Noted Pugilist a "Man of Battle" Who Always Fought Fair—Winner of Three World Championships and an Authority on Geography—His Home Life Happy.

THE fact that Fitz is sitting—or standing—for his statue in virgin marble should not make Michael Angelo turn over in his tomb and throw fits. According to Sculptor Gutzon Borglum, Fitz is a fit subject for the sculptor's supremest art. Mr. Borglum proposes forthwith to perpetuate Fitz as a type of the finest fighting man of the present age, so that when this country shall have been relegated to the mustiness of ancient days our successors of the fiftieth century may visit the museum of antiquities in which the Borglum marble shall repose, to gaze in awe upon the "classic" features and form of "Robert Fitzsimmons, Pugilist, Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century."

Well, why not?

Phidias carved some figures not half so pretty as Fitz. Michael Angelo's taste ran largely to angels. Mr. Borglum, it will be remembered, created some angels for the Church of St. John the Divine, but destroyed them with his hammer when some of the church people denied that female angels exist, the Borglum creations being females. Now this sculptor has set about doing a truly masculine statue, non-angelic, and he will trust his fame to his figure of Fitz.

"I regard Mr. Fitzsimmons," says Mr. Borglum, "as superior in the fighting sense to any living man—the greatest 'fighting' subject for a sculptor that

of the ancient gladiator of whom the schoolboys of the past generation were wont to declaim, Fitz almost may say that he has met in the arena every shape of man or beast that the broad empire of America can furnish and has never yet lowered his arms.

Followed Fighting Seriously.

Fitz has followed his profession seriously. For him prize fighting has been a business. He did not enter that line of industry as a mere diversion, to pass away the time, nor yet to gain the laurels of championship merely for the sake of the laurels. Fitz discovered that he was, as Mr. Borglum remarks, "built for battle." It was not natural, then, that he devote his life to battle so long as his battling powers endured, and that is exactly what this man did.

Like General Grant, however, Fitz did not know he was a great fighter at first. He learned the blacksmithing trade and became an adept at shoeing horses. That was his chief duty in the smithy, and it is said that he is still proud of his prowess as a horse shoer. By the way, while we are about it we may as well mention that Fitz is the champion horsehoer of the world, so far as making horseshoes goes. He won the championship in Pittsburgh a few years ago by making thirty-six horseshoes in thirty-five minutes.

protruding from the broad shoulders and protecting the mighty chest full of lung power. Legs long and limber, arms long and sinewy, neck short and thick, chest big and hollow-like—there's your ideal pugilist, fit for Pagan marble's immortality. That's Robert Fitzsimmons, triple champion, world buster, finest and fittest fighter that ever stepped into the squared circle.

The Fitz head is small and mainly hairless. This baldness once prompted a stage comedian to crack a joke at the expense of the fighter, who was in the audience.

"Fitz is as strong as Samson," said the comedian.

"Don't believe it," replied the doubting actor.

"Well, if Fitz can bring down the house without any hair on his head, just think what he could do if he had hair like Samson's."

Fitz was originally a Cornishman, according to birth, but he is now altogether an American. He blacksmithed in New Zealand and whipped everybody in Australia before he came to the United States, which he adopted as his permanent country. He began his fighting career in Cornwall, where he dropped every man he went up against. He still drops his "h's" in British manner, but he has picked up more than enough American slang to make up for that. He has conquered three continents, held three championships, and now he takes high art into his camp.

Authority on Geography.

Though Fitz, like all pugilists and all pugilistic writers, employs the ring slang when he talks pugilism, he can write good English. His book, "Physical Culture and Self Defense," is said to have been printed just as he wrote it, and it will pass muster in a ladies' seminary. At his home he has a large library room on the first floor stocked with standard authors. He has full sets of Victor Hugo, Balzac, Kipling and other world's champions in literature, and he reads them too. But his favorite reading relates to geography and travel. One of his friends, a fellow of the Royal Geographical society, declares that Fitz is an authority on geographical matters.

Most persons perhaps would not look for a moral to adorn a tale of a pugilist, but there is one in the case of Fitzsimmons. How did he keep himself in such fine physical condition as to win the heavyweight championship, though himself a mere middleweight, when he was several years beyond the age at which most pugilists lose their fighting power? Let Fitz himself answer:

"Most pugilists are down and out at thirty. It's the old story of wine, woman and song. A fighter can't go round tanking up in saloons and dissipating and be fit for fight. I'm all right because I've always lived a good family life. There's nothing like a good family life for keeping a man in condition, and I advise all young men to get married as soon as they can. When you have a home and some kids it'll keep you out of an awful lot of trouble."

Not a Fake Fighter.

Another thing, Fitz always fought fair. There was no fake about Fitz. He says himself that it was a good thing that prize fighting was knocked out in New York state, because many managers were crooked and fighters put up fake exhibitions. When Fitz was training at Carson City for his championship fight with Corbett a man from the Corbett quarters went over to Fitz's place shortly before the date for the battle.

"Here, Fitz; this man has been with Corbett a good deal. Suppose you have him tell you how Corbett fights."

Before the Corbett friend could protest Fitz spoke up:

"I don't want to hear him. It wouldn't be fair."

Like Sullivan, Corbett and others of the "profess," Fitz has essayed the role of actor. His present wife, No. 2, who was Miss Julia May Gifford, was a musical comedy singer before her marriage. Both the Fitzsimmons appeared in "A Fight For Love," where in Bob made a horseshoe, shod a horse, walloped the villain and brought down the house. But it is in his home life that Fitz shines most resplendently. A year or so ago he bought a farm near Dunellen, N. J., with a house somewhat like an ancient castle and a cozy lodge at the gate. There he installed his books and his boxing paraphernalia and settled down to grow old gracefully. There are several small Fitzes to make home interesting. His children call him "papa" to his face and "Fitz" to his friends.

The familiar picture of Fitzsimmons on the sporting pages shows him with huge freckles all over his body. He used to be noted as the only man on earth with freckles on top of the head, another championship distinction. But of late years Fitz in some mysterious manner has got rid of his freckles, so that the Borglum marble which 2,000 years hence will preserve him to admiring posterity will be of pure and spotless white, like his ring record.

Earthquake Proof House of Drainpipes.
Colonel Henry E. C. Kitchener, Lord Kitchener's eldest brother, who resigned from the British army several years ago to become a banana planter in Jamaica, is now in England purchasing material for the construction of an earthquake proof house on the "Kitchen" model, says the Cement Age. Colonel Kitchener's residence in the suburbs of Kingston was badly damaged by the earthquake. He has decided to build a house with walls composed of rows of drainpipes placed on end and filled with cement, with layers of cement between, with a casing of cement on the outside and thin wood inside. He declares that this combination will resist any earthquake.

"Fitz looks like a triangle standing on its apex."

Winner of Three Championships.

A pugilist does not fight with his legs; hence those members do not require excessive muscularity. If they are somewhat lanky and lean they possess the very qualities desired. Fitz's legs are so, and thus he was enabled to be what the fighters call shifty on the pegs while delivering his sledge hammer blows with the brawny arms



ROBERT FITZSIMMONS.

this age has produced. It is strange to me that this man has been caricatured incessantly and that not one real picture typical of the man has been drawn so far as I know."

Wherefore Sculptor Borglum will supply this yawning deficiency.

The sculptor calls attention to Fitz's great neck, which he can almost draw down between his shoulders, it is so short. Long necks are not an asset in the fighting game. Long arms are preferred. Statues of ancient gladiators with long necks disgust Gutzon Borglum.

"Built For Battle."

"Then, too," goes on the enraptured sculptor, "Fitzsimmons' body is built for battle. His shoulders are far apart, and his chest is tremendous. His arms, too, show that he is a man of battle. Taken in its entirety, the form of this gladiator mutely spells 'fight.'" With which statement various other gladiators of the age will agree without further comment—Jim Corbett, for instance, and Tom Sharkey and George Gardner, to mention only a trio of the victims of the Fitz mitts in later years. Even Jim Jeffries will not dissent, for, though he whipped Fitz twice, he has declared that Fitz gave him the worst beating he ever received in the ring.

Jeffries, by the way, is the only man who ever whipped Fitzsimmons up to three years ago, when the Borglum gladiator had reached the age of forty-two and had fought 364 battles in a ring career of twenty-seven years.

All suggestion of levity aside, this man Fitzsimmons is a physical wonder, and nobody will seriously object to his perpetuation in marble. In the essential respects Bob Fitzsimmons is the most remarkable pugilist that ever lived. There are pugilists and pugilists. Like poets, they arise, expire and become has-beens. But here is one who has reached the ripe old age of forty-five (for a prize fighter) and is still a live number. In the style

NEW FALL STYLES.

Brown the Most Popular Color—Coats Shorter, Vests Cut Higher.

The man in green is the most exclusive and conspicuous dresser of the season. His suit is of bottle green. He got the idea from Paris, and his distinction lies in the way he carries out his color scheme. His hat is a shade of green, his gloves and handkerchief a little lighter. He wears a light green shirt, with suspenders of the same color. His tie is distinctly darker, but still green. Even his underwear, it is said by Men's Wear, harmonizes with the shade of his suit.

Brown, while not so extreme, is the most popular color of the season. In some shades the demand has been so heavy that the stock of cloth is exhausted. Green tones with grays also are seen frequently, but there are few plaids. Blues, of course, are always correct. But, whatever the color of the suit, the accessories must match.

Coats for business wear are a little shorter than they were last year. The back slit is retained, but in some styles the curve at the waist has been eliminated. As a further contrast to the flaring skirt formerly in vogue, the chest is cut extremely full, and the sleeves are large at the top. The business cutaway is made with or without pockets. Gray mixtures are popular in the cutaway, and one style is made so that it looks like a sack from the front.

The vest is cut even with the coat lapels or a little higher sometimes if the material is fancy in texture or color. Vest pockets are made with flaps that button in some instances. The cuff is being left off the trousers.

There is less waist in the overcoats this year. They are made of the softer cloths, and full rich colors are in evidence. Mufflers include the plaided silk, and the woolen muffler that clasps around the neck still will be the vogue.

A novel necktie is made of wood pulp. It looks like silk and promises to become popular. The neckwear makers are much interested. Autumn four-in-hands to be correct should be not more than two inches wide. They are seen in high colors. Bat wings come in solid colors two inches wide. Knitted scarfs are in fashion again as well as the cross stripes and the long bias.

QUINTET'S LONG WALK.

Baltimore Singers Will Travel 4,500 Miles on \$3,000 Wager.

The Midnight Sun Quintet, composed of five young men who have started on a wager to walk from Baltimore to Seattle, Wash., arrived in Washington recently for a brief stay. The walkers left Baltimore penniless, one of the agreements in their wager being that they shall earn every cent they spend on the way by singing.

If the quintet reaches Seattle in fifteen months \$3,000 will be the reward, says the Washington Post. One of the drawbacks in the journey across the continent is the fact that the singers are obliged to drag along a good sized push cart.

"We will take the southern route," said their leader, "so as to avoid the cold. We will strike out through West Virginia and Kentucky, down through Arkansas to Texas, through New Mexico and Arizona to southern California and thence up the coast to Seattle. We expect to arrive there before the opening of the Alaska, Yukon and Pacific fair."

By this route they will cover a distance of about 4,500 miles. This means that they must average about fifteen miles a day.

The quintet is composed of Hall A. Butler, manager; W. A. Saunders, musical director; W. B. Corbin, T. T. Hamilton and Clifford Gill.

Leather From Whale Skins.

Newfoundland fishermen connected with the whaling industry have been conducting a series of experiments in an attempt to make whale leather a commercial product and are said to be meeting with some success. The average whale hide covers a surface of about 1,500 square feet, a square foot of the hide weighing from two to five ounces and being valued as high as 50 cents. The leather is exceedingly tough and is said to possess great wearing qualities, thereby being peculiarly adapted to the covering of furniture, carriage tops and seats and to automobile purposes. It is also said that the leather can be used for boots and shoes. Leather made from the intestines of the whale resembles kid and is extremely thin and tough.

The New Europe.

The giant Hamburg-American line steamer which is to be built in Belfast will be named the Europe. She will be of 48,000 tons compared with the Lusitania's 22,500.

The Lucy Tanka.

Of all earth's fauns there is but one for which I have a mania. And that's in brief, ere life be done, To sit across the seas upon The speedy Lucy Tanka.

I yearn to test that wonder craft, That marvel of celebrity; I yearn to tramp her fore and aft And soot the waves too weak to waft One touch of mal-de-merity.

I pine to break my fast in Cork (And break it not too brokenly), To lunch at sea and prod a fork In dinner grub at old New York Or, at the least, Hobokeny.

The things I'm fascinated which Appeals to many crania, For me, I'll sit until I'm rich, And then I'll float across the ditch Upon the Lucy Tanka.

Long months that means to me; all earth Holds not a man that's needier, And when at last I've bought my berth I'll bet you everything I'm worth They'll have a boat that's spicier. —Richmond Times-Dispatch.

FOREST FOR HARVARD.

Students Will Study Woodcraft Next to Nature.

About 2,000 acres of forest land covered with heavy timber have been given to Harvard university, it was announced recently at Cambridge by officials of the university. The land is situated in Petersham, Mass., and is considered the finest tract of woodland in Massachusetts, says a Cambridge special dispatch to the New York Press. The gift, it was said, was the result of the combined generosity of two men, James W. Brooks and John S. Ames of Boston. Brooks formerly owned the tract, but, realizing its great value to the university as a laboratory for students of forestry, agreed to sell it to the university at a figure much below its actual value.

Then Ames came forward and said he not only would buy the land for the university at Brooks' figure, but would give \$5,000 in addition for buildings and equipment for the new forest laboratory.

The timber tract will be devoted to experimental work by students in the division of forestry, which is part of the new Graduate School of Applied Science. Professor R. T. Fisher, head of the division of forestry, said the gift would supply to students of forestry unusual opportunities to study not only practical logging operations, but to observe experiments in forest reproduction. He said there were buildings on the tract which, with slight repairs, could be used for dormitories and that the students could live in the woods like real lumbermen for months and make the observations away from all distractions incident to city or village life.

"It will be the policy," said Professor Fisher, "to carry on regular logging operations and other woods work looking toward the most productive handling of the forest and in connection therewith to teach the elements and principles of technical forestry."

Thus the function of the whole tract, from the point of view of the professional student, might be compared to that of the hospital in medical study or of the mine in mining engineering, an actual working example on a liberal scale of the business in which the forester expects employment, accompanied in the case of the forest by abundant chance for the study of the fine and more theoretic points of the science.

It also was announced that holders of surrounding tracts had agreed to give enough land, about 250 acres more, to round out the Harvard forest.

YOUNG TEDDY WAS GAME.

Courage of Son of President Tested on the Gridiron.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.'s, drubbing during the recent game between Phillips Exeter and the Harvard second team, which resulted in injuries to him, is said to have been deliberately planned, says an Exeter (N. H.) dispatch to the New York Herald. The Exeter boys say they had no personal feeling against him and only wanted to see if he is made of as good stuff as his father.

When it was announced that young Roosevelt was likely to play, a number of the Exeter lads decided to pummel him. Just before the beginning of the match it was stated by one of the coaches, who heard the talk, that it would be ill advised for young Teddy to go in.

He was kept out until the second half and then took a place at right end. He walked with a limp, which indicated that he had had a rough experience in a previous contest. He showed no sign of weakening, however, and paid heed only to the signals. In less than two minutes after the start of the second period the opportunity came for the Exeter lads to give attention to the president's son. The scrimmage lasted about three minutes, at the end of which time Teddy went limping to the side lines.

"He's game," said his antagonist.

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