

The Punta Gorda Herald

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FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1902

Tampa is becoming more and more metropolitan. She had nine burglaries in two hours last Saturday morning.

Palatka Times Herald: Robt. McNamee remains silent as to his political future; but we wager that he will be a prominent figure in Florida politics for some years to come.

Capt. James McKay has been nominated for mayor of Tampa by the good government club. He has many friends in this region who will rejoice if he is elected.

Judge Wm. A. Hoeker is a very popular candidate for justice of the supreme court. The newspapers in all parts of the state speak in the highest terms of him.—Stark Telegraph.

The Democratic executive committee of this, the first congressional district is called to meet in Ocala May 12th to arrange for the primary. Lake, Marion and Sumter counties now belong to this district.

Judge J. B. Wall of Tampa, who is a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, was a loyal supporter of Bryan and Stevenson in 1900. He is one of the best jurists in the State and his decisions always command respect.—Gainesville Sun.

Florida has always honored her Senators who have proven faithful and capable with a second term. Mr. Mallory has certainly made a most pleasing representative, and we see no reason why the old plan should not be followed in his case. Palatka Times-Herald.

There are half a dozen R. B. Smiths in Florida. If, therefore, any country editor wants to say anything impolite about Mr. R. B. Smith, it would be wise to use a diagram showing location, business, size and capacity, to prevent mistakes.

Bryan won't vote for Hill or Cleveland, and neither Hill nor Cleveland will vote for Bryan; wherefore, it follows that Frank Harris, the Ocala editor, is a better Democrat than any one of the three, as he will vote for any one of them that may be nominated. "Me, too."

Yes, the editor of THE HERALD is independent of printers. He has three boys of his own who can stick more type, make more noise on brass horns and other things and fly around with more girls than any other three boys in Florida, but he wants those boys to go to school. Therefore, he wants to hire a printer.

It is very ridiculous that the editors are to have no fun out of this campaign. With no one to oppose Mallory, Sparkman, Davis or Crawford, and the supreme judgeship being too dignified and the other offices not worth while, we are tempted to run Bob McNamee for everything in sight just for the fun of the thing.

There's one thing about Col. Dawe and Boon Grande: no matter how much agudiente and other deep water they may have, they will have to come to Punta Gorda for ice and social functions. We are getting ready here to manufacture blizzards to order and Col. Trabue says we'll soon be prepared to freeze Charlotte Harbor and make a skating rink of it.

CANDIDATES TO VOTE FOR.

At the approaching primary, July 15th, the Democratic voters of DeSoto county will vote for the following:

- One United States senator.
- One representative in congress.
- One justice of the supreme court.
- One secretary of state.
- One state comptroller.
- Two railroad commissioners.
- One representative in the legislature.
- One tax assessor.
- One tax collector.
- One county treasurer.
- Five county commissioners.
- One State's attorney.

There may be as many candidates for these offices as choose to run, so long as each candidate is a democratic elector and qualifies according to the rules governing the primary. All nominations must be by a majority vote, and if no one receives such majority, then the two receiving the highest number of votes must be balloted upon in a second primary set for the 12th day of August, 1902.

Jew Fish Caught Two Men.

Talk about fish and fishing! People outside of Florida don't know a fish from a tadpole or a morning dew from a mill-pond. Just listen at this: Sunday morning a lot of fishermen, boatmen and others were lounging and strolling around on the railroad dock waiting for the church bells to ring, when an immense jew fish came along and began nosing around the sharpie "Nellie" lying at Geo. T. Brown and Co.'s fish house. The water, you know, is as clear as the limpid eye of an innocent girl on a morning in May, and the fish was as easily seen as the full moon on an Indian summer evening.

The temptation for sport was too great for those pious idlers; they at once forgot that it was Sunday and they were going to church; and so Pursar Albert Finney, of the steamer Plant, and Capt. Jno. Ohlsen, of the sharpie "Nellie," rushed into the fish house and seized R. B. Smith's shark hook and chain and put on a four-pound mullet for a bait.

Elsewhere they use threads for fishing lines, but here we use cables and chains, because the fish in these waters bite sure enough and can snap off a man's leg before you can say Jack Robinson.

Well, Finney and Ohlsen jumped down upon the deck of the "Nellie" and tossed the bait to the jew fish. Then the fun began and the two got all they wanted and more besides, and they got it very quick.

The fish instantly took the bait and started off to Boca Grande. Realizing that the tug of war was at hand, the two men quickly wrapped the rope to which the chain and hook were attached to a convenient cleat of the boat. The instant the rope became taut, the cleat was snapped off like a chalk pipe stem, and both men at once grabbed the rope. Somehow, they must have caught a pretty good hold, for they couldn't turn loose, or at any rate didn't; and so, before any one could say sent, they were snatched heads foremost over the gunwales of the boat and into the bay. Sunday clothes, billed shirts and all.

The crowd of spectators set up a roar of laughter that shook the dome on Hotel Punta Gorda; but that jew fish, utterly regardless of both the merriment and the disaster, kept on his way, dragging the two men after him. In a few moments, however, which seemed an hour or so to them, the two managed to get loose from the rope and some sympathizing spectators hauled them aboard the sharpie. But Finney and Ohlsen vow that that jew fish weighed 4,000 pounds or something over.

What did they want with the fish anyhow? That is the question. But if you want to catch fish, just come to Punta Gorda. That is the moral of the story.

HEMATITE ORE AT FORT MYERS.
Mr. Henry M. Pfann, owner of a big saw mill near Kissimmee, accompanied by an expert mining engineer, went down on the steamer H. B. Plant Wednesday to Fort Myers to inspect some deposits of hematite ore found on 320 acres of land owned by Mr. Pfann and Messrs. J. H. Curry and Jno. B. Singletary of Palmetto.

Hematite is used as a flux in the manufacture of steel and is very valuable. Most of that now used in the United States comes from Cuba. If the deposit on Mr. Pfann's land prove as extensive as appearances indicate, he and his associates will be rich men and another of Florida's wonderful resources will be developed.

COMPTROLLER CROOM.
Hon. A. C. Croom, comptroller of the State of Florida, who is a candidate before the Democratic primary to be held in July, 1902, for the nomination for the office he now holds, is a native of Florida, and has resided for the last twenty years in Hernando county.

At the early age of sixteen years, he enlisted in the army of the South, first as a member of the 1st Florida, and afterwards as a member of Scott's cavalry, and served through the whole period of the war. Having performed his duty as a soldier, he now enjoys the distinction of being a member of that gallant band of veterans, which, under the leadership of the chivalrous General John B. Gordon, is doing so much to keep the light of pure patriotism ever shining before the rising generation.

The spirit that prompted him at such an early age to enter the field of battle in the defence of his country is still alive, and with matured judgment and that wise discretion which is taught by wide experience, it is fair to presume that he is well qualified to continue to perform the duties and bear the responsibilities of the office which he has filled so acceptably since his appointment.—Tallahasseean.

THE GLORIOUS MIKKA.
Speaking of fish stories, here is one which the Tampa Tribune says is sworn to, but whatever Victor Knight and Gordon Keller say may be relied on without any bolstering affidavits:—
A party composed of Victor H. Knight, Bruce Knight, Ensley Knight and Rev. Tinney Wade spent a day harpooning for fish on the Mikka river. This is what they caught:

- One sawfish 13 ft long, weighing 2,000 pounds.
- One sawfish 15 feet long, weighing 2,800 pounds.
- One sawfish 18 feet long, weighing 3,000 pounds.
- One shark, 10 feet long.

Gordon Keller states that the saw from the 18 foot sawfish, which is 4 feet in length, will be on exhibition at his store in a few days.

DIED IN CHICAGO.

Another Eminent Citizen Passes Away.

William Marshall, Sr., died April 25th, Friday, at 8 o'clock p. m. at Lakeside Hospital, Chicago. Death resulted from an operation performed Wednesday as the last hope of restoring his failing health.

Although for sometime past Mr. Marshall's condition had been becoming more and more serious and the family had realized that unless some relief could be secured the end could not be far off, yet the sad result of the operation which promised if successful, complete restoration to health, was utterly unexpected and came as a crushing blow.

Accompanied by his wife, Mr. Marshall left Punta Gorda for Chicago April 9th, and reports of his condition and prospects had been very encouraging. Letters written by him shortly before the operation to members of his family here, expressed perfect confidence in the outcome and were exultantly joyous over the prospect of strong and happy years to come as a result of the ordeal.

But the best surgical skill afforded by the great city was unavailing and could not supply the vitality undermined by long illness. His condition was satisfactory until Friday afternoon when came a collapse, and his wife was hurriedly summoned to his bedside. He sank rapidly, and although unable to speak, he remained to the last conscious of her loving presence.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from Westminster Presbyterian church of Rockford, Illinois, in which he had been an elder for more than twenty years. Members of G. L. Novins post G. A. R.; of the Masonic lodges of the city, in which he had been active; of the Winnebago County Bar Association, of which he was one of the oldest members; of the church, a part of whose life he had so long been; with friends from all ranks and classes joined in paying this last tribute of their love and honor. The interment was in Cedar Bluff cemetery of Rockford.

Mr. Marshall had many friends in Punta Gorda who are sincerely grieved at his passing away.

Of sturdy Scotch-Irish stock, William Marshall was born July 30, 1837, in County Anagh, Ireland. His parents removed to America in 1841, locating first near Belvidere, in Boone county, Illinois. Some weeks were consumed in crossing the Atlantic, notwithstanding that their passage was the shortest made by a sailing vessel up to that time. From New York to Albany, they took the New York Central railroad, then but a crude affair, whose passenger coaches were so roughly constructed that the children could peer through the cracks in the car floor and watch the ties and gravel fly past underneath. By Erie canal and the great lakes, they reached Chicago, then but a village squatting in a malarial marsh.

His youth passed in the vigorous labors of those early times. For a time he became a teacher, but the breaking out of war between the states in 1861 found him a student in the law school of Northwestern University, Chicago. Declining a commission offered him in the infantry service, which involved some months of delay in getting to the front, the young student enlisted in the artillery serving throughout the war in the battery organized as Silversparre's, but later known as DeGrosso's.

Typhoid fever almost claimed him as a victim at Memphis, but after a short furlough at home to recruit his strength, he returned to the front. He never entirely recovered from the physical strain and exposure of the four years service.

Brave and faithful to his sense of duty in war, when peace came he was prompt to lay aside the rancor and bitterness of conflict and reach the hand of a brother across the chasm of fratricidal strife; probably his best effort as an orator was his response to a speech by Gen. John B. Gordon at a reception tendered a crack Southern militia company which was the guest of Rockford many years ago. He eulogized the sons of the South no less for their bravery in taking up the terrible burden of a new civic life in the bitter hour of defeat, than their bravery on the field of battle, and spoke the longing of his heart for the time when there should be no sectional North or sectional South, but one united country, grand and indivisible.

Mr. Marshall commenced the practice of law at Harvard, Illinois, but removed to Rockford in 1869, where he was engaged in active practice until the failure of his health and his consequent removal to Punta Gorda three years ago.

His mind was keen and masterful and he was recognized and consulted as an authority by his associates at the bar both of Winnebago and adjoining counties. His remarkable memory and strong intellectual grasp served him well in his profession and he was not only well informed on matters pertaining to the law, but on a very wide range of general subjects as well.

He carried his sense of equity and love of peace into his profession and in his long practice never pushed a case to trial where he could secure a just and equitable settlement by a fair compromise.

His pure and able professional life was one of which his children can cherish the remembrance with pride. Chicanery and sordid self-seeking had no place or part in any of his work.

He will be remembered with gratitude by many younger members of the bar whom he aided and advised and encouraged in their early struggles. His sympathy and hearty interest were always at their service.

Always a lover of children and beloved by them, he was long an active worker in the Sunday school of his church as well as the Association of Sunday schools of the county. For many years he made the annual Sunday school picnic a red-letter day for the little ones. Taking his boat to the grounds on the wooded banks of Rock river, he toiled all day at the oars in the hot July sun, taking load after load of the little ones for a row until every child had had his turn, and there was no mother nor any little one so timid as to fear if Mr. Marshall were in charge. It was always typical of the man to be doing service for some one at whatever personal inconvenience. The keynote of his character was a simple kindly love that embraced all men and sought to do them service; quietly, unobtrusively, self-effacingly. His daily life was an example of his deep and fundamental belief in the brotherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and his words even more than his words bore witness to the vitality of his Christianity. And even in the last years of broken health, though by weakness his activities were more confined to the narrower limits of the home circle, his unselfishness, patience and kindness triumphed over the irritation and suffering of illness, and so with quiet heart and fearless eye, he walked out on the lonely path to the triumph beyond.

Of his marriage with Allie M. Herrick, three sons were born; W. P. and E. L. Marshall who reside here, and R. F. Marshall, of Harvard, Illinois.

Five brothers and three sisters survive, his death being the first break in a family of nine children. His bereaved widow and children and other kindred have the heartfelt sympathy of many friends here, in Illinois and elsewhere.

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