

OLDEST WOMAN IN WEST VIRGINIA

"AUNT POLLY" DEWEES BORN AT POINT PLEASANT IN 1804—HER FAMILY PATRIOTIC.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Oct. 30.—West Virginia's oldest woman, and perhaps Ohio's also, is "Aunt Polly" Dewees, who belongs to both states, spending part of her time in Ohio and part in West Virginia. She really belongs to the "Little Mountain State," because she was born in what is now West Virginia in the old days when this state had not left the parent stem—the Old Dominion. "Aunt Polly," as every one calls her; her real name is Mary Margaret McLane Dewees—was born in the old Van Metre settlement near Point Pleasant, June 10, 1804. She is therefore something like 105 years and five months of age. Despite this fact Mrs. Dewees is as spry as a school girl. During the recent Mason County Fair "Aunt Polly" beat any girl there in hopping around over the grounds. She can beat most young women of twenty in doing housework and can cook enough to feed a lumber camp. Her pier is the talk of the whole section where she lives. "Aunt Polly," moreover did a fine crazy quilt after she passed the hundredth milestone.

"Aunt Polly's" family has been a patriotic one. Her father was a soldier in the war of 1812 and received a quarter section of land in reward for his services. He lived until he was nearly 100 years old. He raised 11 children, all of whom have crossed to the other side except your Aunt Polly.

Mrs. Dewees was first married to a man named Board. Three children were born to this union. All are dead. She was married to Isaac N. Dewees after the death of her first husband, and to them were born six children. She had four sons in the Union army. At present she lives with W. S. Dewees, one of her two surviving sons, near Mt. Alto, in Athens county, O. Another son, Melvin M. Dewees, took high honors in photography at the Chicago World's Fair 1893.

Mrs. Dewees has 14 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, now two years old. "Aunt Polly" is good for many years, so says she, so say her neighbors.

GOOD PRICES FOR TOBACCO

WEST VIRGINIA GAINING IN PROMINENCE AS PRODUCER.

A dispatch from Huntington says: Gradually coming into the lime light during the past five years as a tobacco producing region, Southern West Virginia has at last assumed sufficient importance in this respect to invite battle between the trust and the independent tobacco industries of the country. Five years ago the tobacco growing industry in this section was so light that it attracted no attention from the great tobacco centers. The few hogsheads that were produced at that time were usually shipped to Louisville, by steamboat, where the product commanded a fair price, but such a thing as soliciting the crop had not been heard of.

This year, however, it is different. Then the tobacco territory was confined to a slight acreage in Lincoln county. Now there are great barns of tobacco in Cabell, Putnam, Lincoln, Mason and Wayne counties. On one farm in Mason county, near Gallipolis Ferry, a field of fifty acres was grown. The tobacco cut in the counties named will, this year, bring an immense quantity of money into this territory, and the quantity and quality of the crop are such as to excite the keenest interest among buyers for the big manufactories.

Henry Blumen, representing a Lynchburg manufactory, arrived in Huntington last night, and will spend the next ten days in southern West Virginia, engaging tobacco for his firm. Letters received by local growers indicate that two representatives of the American Tobacco Company will be here Wednesday, and then will be started the race between the trust and the independents for the capture of the West Virginia crop. The Lynchburg man, having two days' advantage of the trust men, will probably succeed in making a number of heavy purchases before his rivals come on the scene, but when they do come it will be two to one for the trust men, and they will be able to cover twice as much territory as their rival.

Many farmers seem to be disposed to hold their crops, believing that prices will advance before the first of the year. The West Virginia product this year, compares favorably with the crops of the long-tried tobacco growing sections of the country, and the prices offered are already considered fair.

Present conditions are such as to demand the construction of a warehouse, somewhere in the West Virginia district, and various parties now have this project under consideration. It is looked upon as an absolute certainty that a warehouse of liberal dimensions will be erected either at Point Pleasant or Huntington. Huntington, all concede, is the logical location for the warehouse, but there seems to be a prospect that Point Pleasant will also erect one, and will act independent of any action that Huntington may take.

Last week three barn burnings occurred in West Virginia, one of the barns burned, and the biggest of the three, was in Mason county, another in Putnam, and a small barn in Lincoln county. There has been some speculation as to the origin of these fires. Incendiarism is strongly suspected in two of the cases, but personal grievances are believed to have been the motive, and not any feeling with reference to the troubles which have agitated the Kentucky and Tennessee tobacco regions.

Coxey, who marched to Washington some years ago with an army of unemployed, is now riding in an automobile.

There is a widespread movement all over the country for improved highways. There is certainly a great need for better highways.

IMPROVED WATERWAYS.

The culmination of the campaign for improved waterways will be reached in Washington, D. C., when the National Rivers and Harbors Congress meets December next. President Taft, who will be the central figure at this national convention, has made more extensive plans for a personal inspection of the rivers and canals of the United States than any other chief executive in the history of the country. He is not only making a water trip from St. Louis to New Orleans to be present at the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Waterway convention, but will be in Norfolk, Va., and deliver an address before the Atlantic Deep Waterways convention. These two conventions represent particular projects for waterway development and naturally precede the National Rivers and Harbors convention, which for a number of years has been meeting in the capital city of the nation.

President Taft will have as his associates on a most extensive program: two members of the cabinet, Secretary Dickinson, of the war department of commerce and labor, both of whom, by reason of the portfolios which they hold are intimately associated with the waterways of the country. In addition to these distinguished citizens, addresses will be made by the German ambassador, Count J. H. von Bernstorff; Governor Judson S. Harmon, of Ohio; Governor Hadley, of Missouri, and editors of leading newspapers representing the several sections of the country. It is also expected that in view of the prominence of this national convention, whose one object is to improve the waterways of the United States, that the Canadian government will be represented either by Sir Wilfred Laurier, premier, or Earl Gray, the governor general, efforts with that end in view being already under way.

The object of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress is to educate the people to the importance of the fact that the national government, having assumed the control and improvement of the rivers and harbors of the country, is unequivocally bound to discharge these obligations promptly and by sound business methods, that the great natural waterways may be made to do their share in the work of transportation.

Interest in the forthcoming convention is on the increase and it is confidently believed in the capitol that there will be 5,000 delegates in attendance, Secretary Frank Ellison of the congress having assurances from governors of states, mayors of cities and officials of commercial bodies that the movement for a broad and comprehensive policy of waterway development is spreading throughout the country, due in large part to the campaign inaugurated by the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.—Paducah News-Democrat.

APPEALS TO ALL CLASSES.

Searching the realm of fiction for material for a great play, Mrs. Southworth's "The Hidden Hand," appears to many to offer more fine opportunities than any other story. It appealed so strongly to one of the leading modern actors, Eugene Moore, that he made a new dramatization. This new drama of "The Hidden Hand" was immediately produced by Fred G. Conrad, owner of numerous successful attractions, and will be seen at Hooff's Opera House, Nov. 9th.

With the madcap Capitola and the arch-villain of stage villains, Black Donald, as the leading strong dramatic characters Mr. Moore evidently has constructed a drama chock full of American life. Comedy, pathos and romance are constant rivals for the interest of the audience. The picturesque Blue Ridge Mountain scenery is cleverly reproduced.

When a man prolongs his handshakes with a modest girl it is apt to make her blush.

MILK FROM TREES

CABLE COUNTY MAN TO REVOLUTIONIZE DAIRY BUSINESS.

According to the Huntington Advertiser, a Cabell county man intends to revolutionize the dairy industry of that county. He proposes to furnish his patrons with cowless milk, and there will not be a single cow in his herd, if it can be called a herd. His product will be purely vegetable, but he will probably have to consult the pure food law before he sells it as milk, that is, as milk as it is commonly understood. Instead of herds of cattle, the gentle bossie will be absent. In her place, his dairy will consist of an orchard of trees, and milking will be the simple process of making an incision in the bark of tree and catching the precious fluid in pails. The product is pure vegetable milk, rich and nutritious and a valuable food product, but there is some question as to its buttermaking capabilities. Any rate, there is no danger of the existing dairies going out of business all at once, or even soon. The Advertiser says:

"There stands in the lobby of the Huntington theater one of the most remarkable specimens of the world's flora ever discovered. The scientific name of this plant would be understood by so few that it is omitted here, and the less technical term of milk tree is substituted. The specimen now on exhibition is about eight feet in height and the main bole is two inches in diameter. Beginning at a height of one foot from the root, a myriad of sponge-like branches strike out from every direction. In spite of the number and size of these offshoots, the tree maintains its size until near the top, where an umbrella-like canopy of branches spreads above.

"The specimen now on exhibition is potted, but the tree is quite capable of surviving in the open. The milk tree is aptly named. By making an incision in one of the branches a steady flow of rich, thick milk, breaks forth, the sack-like bark seeming to be almost to the bursting point with the milky fluid.

"This much for description of the plant itself. "Mr. Gainer, manager of the theater, is the owner of the plant. It has been demonstrated that the main branches, if clipped close to the body of the tree, will live if planted in moist earth, take root and grow with remarkable rapidity. It is said that a full-grown tree, if properly cared for, will produce four quarts of rich milk a day. This product is palatable, and a chemical analysis shows it to be entirely wholesome.

"Mr. Gainer recently purchased a number of lots and it is said by some of his closest friends that he intends to establish a milk ranch, upon which he will grow the milk tree and market its product. Mr. Gainer owns two lots, each 30x200 feet. It is estimated that this space will accommodate 2,000 milk trees of average size. With this number of trees showing a production of four quarts daily the output of the ranch would approximate 2,000 gallons per day.

"The butter making qualities of the fluid have not yet been tested. One milk tree required as much water as the average cow, but one of the peculiar qualities of its product is that it absolutely refuses to coalesce with water. The instant water is poured into the fluid a sort of rubber shield forms on the surface leaving the water standing clear above.

WEDDING.

Invitations are out for the wedding of Miss Ennalia Van Denman to Hon. James Capehart, of Point Pleasant, W. Va., to occur on Thursday evening, November 4, at 6:30 o'clock at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, followed by a reception at the home of parents, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Van Denman, on North Sandusky street. Delaware, O.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

BREWERY LICENSE

GRANTED BY CHARLESTON COUNCIL WITH CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS.

Councilmen Stephenson and Robins voted last night to allow the brewery here to run, providing none of their product is sold in Kanawha county. "I am a dry man and don't like to see whiskey or beer sold at all, but I am not so radical as to want to destroy peoples' property," said Councilman Sam Stephenson at the meeting of the city council last night.

"And if the brewery people give us a pledge not to sell their product in Kanawha county and if certain of the 'wet' councilmen whom I know and whose word I would just as soon have as a gold bond, will stand by us in refusing them license in 1910 if they break their promise, I will change my vote." Mr. Stephenson concluded in speaking of the request of the Kanawha Brewing Company that the council concur with the board of affairs in granting the license.

At a former meeting of the city council the vote on granting the brewery license stood 20 to 20, but the announcement of the vote was postponed until last night in order to allow Councilmen Stephenson and Robins and others to investigate the justice of the brewer's claims. After much discussion at the meeting Messrs. Stephenson and Robins were fully satisfied that the brewers would not break their word and changed their votes to grant the company license if they would execute a written agreement not to sell their product in this city or county.

The votes was then announced by President MacCorkle as being 22 to 18 in favor of license for the brewery.

MUCH DISCUSSION.

When the brewery question came up Mr. Stephenson arose and explained his position. He said he was at heart a dry man and did not believe in the liquor traffic, but that he also believed the brewers who came to this city and have invested more than \$300,000 in a business here had a right to some consideration, and that if they did not sell in dry territory and disposed of their product where the traffic is licensed they cannot injure the city and will have some chance to prevent their investment from becoming a total loss to them.

Mr. Stephenson made the stipulation, however, that he would have the promise of the wet councilmen that if the brewers violated the "treaty" that all would see to it that they receive no license in 1910.

Captain S. B. Avis, on behalf of the brewers, addressed the council. He said that the brewers had proved themselves to be good citizens, law abiding and conservative and that with the future of their business at stake not only would not, but could not afford to break their word. He said, moreover, that they will be glad for the people to closely observe the way they will keep faith with the parties to the agreement.

Mr. Stephenson asked for a roll call of the "wets" present who would stand by the agreement with the brewers and the following members declared with Messrs. Stephenson and Robins that if the brewers violated the agreement they would see that no license be granted them in 1910: Carr, Carrol, Daniels, Frist, Gardner, Gebhart, Grosscup, Isccas, Jeffers, Leachman, Fruth, Nearman, Popp Slack, Smith, Stuart, Scherr and MacCorkle. Mr. Singleton did not vote, saying he was a wet man and would not bind himself by any promise.

The brewing company will probably be given license today.—Charleston Daily Gazette.

Justice Peckham having been removed by death from the federal supreme bench the Parkersburg Dispatch-News names Judge Alston G. Dayton as a suitable man to succeed him. Dayton is all right, but we believe most West Virginians would rather see Judge Goff promoted to this office.

MUST SERVE OUT PRISON TERM

GOVERNOR REFUSES TO EXTEND EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY IN CASE OF MASON COUNTY BOY.

Governor Glasscock, on the recommendation of Pardon Attorney Waugh refuses to interfere with the sentence of the Circuit Court of Mason county which gave Grover Cremeans, a mere boy, five years in the penitentiary upon his conviction of voluntary manslaughter.

On the 29th of March, 1905, Grover Cremeans, a boy of sixteen years was tried for the murder of John Smith, in Hannon district, Mason county, and was convicted of second degree murder. He was sentenced to sixteen years in prison and the case was appealed to Supreme Court of Appeals, where error was found in the lower court and the case remanded.

At the September term of court in 1907, Cremeans was again placed on trial and this time found guilty of voluntary manslaughter. Cremeans then filed his petition asking that the forty months he served in the Mason county jail be deducted from his sentence.

The case had the full and earnest consideration of the pardon attorney. The relatives of the boy made pathetic appeals for clemency and the trial judge and the Prosecuting Attorney advised against the extension of the clemency. The crime of which he was convicted was very serious and it was believed that the youth of the defendant was taken into consideration by the jury which found him guilty.

STATE MEETING OF PHYSICIANS.

The state board of health will hold their annual meeting at Parkersburg, Nov. 9, 10 and 11, the main feature of the meeting will be the examining of many applicants for practicing medicine in this state. The meeting will be held at the Chancellor Hotel.

VETERANS DYING RAPIDLY.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 27.—Death's invasion of the ranks of veterans caused 48,312 names to be dropped from the pension rolls of the United States last year. Of this number, 32,831 were survivors of the Civil War. The total loss of the pension roll from all causes was 51,681.

Sunday was an ideal autumn day.

BODY OF SUICIDE RECOVERED YESTERDAY.

The towboat Sam Brown, part of the coal fleet which passed here Thursday, was delayed for several hours on account of a tragedy enacted here. Just as the boat passed under the Ohio river bridge John Gaybeak, a boatman, leaped overboard and drifted under one of the barges and drowned.

Graybeak's body was found near Glenwood yesterday.

When the man leaped from the deck of the boat a stop was made and several hours were spent in trying to recover the body of the drowned man. All efforts were fruitless, however, and the boat proceeded in the wake of the remainder of the fleet.

Other members of the crew stated that Graybeak had been drinking heavily. He had made two other attempts to drown himself on the trip, it is said, but had been recovered by the boatmen. This time he passed under one of the barges almost immediately after striking the water and rescue was impossible.

The unfortunate man's home was at Pittsburg, and the body will probably be sent there.

BROWN'S PENSIONS

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PENSIONS RECENTLY ALLOWED.

Thomas J. Sampson, of Glenwood, increase of pension from \$17 to \$24 per month.

Nancy B. Fisher, widow of Gideon Fisher, of Buffalo, W. Va., widows original pension of \$12 from July 3, 1909.

Jerome Plants, of Greer, increase of pension from \$12 to \$17 per month.

Lewis D. Allen, of Point Pleasant, increase of pension from \$17 to \$24 per month.

Sarah J. Martin, widow of Preston Martin, of Ben Lomond, accrued pension due her deceased husband at date of death.

Henrietta Johnson, widow of Asa E. Johnson, of Condee, widows original pension of \$12 per month, from July 21, 1909, also the accrued pension due her deceased husband at date of his death.

The baptism of a young lady in the Ohio river last Sunday night, at North Point Pleasant, drew quite a large gathering.

Every subscriber should closely examine the label on their paper.