

The tide of destiny is turning fast towards Florence. All sorts of accumulation of facts point that way

The West.

The habit of THE WEST is one of push, energy, pluck. It is the news-givernary of these mountain slopes.

Vol. V.

FLORENCE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1911.

No. 35

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HOMES OF OUR SENATORS.
Mansions Where Legislators Abide.
McMillan's Beautiful Washington Residence.
Washington is a city of magnificent homes, of which the majority are those of members of congress, cabinet ministers, or other persons somewhat connected with the administration of the government. Many of the stateliest of these mansions, says a writer in the *Detroit Free Press*, are the residences of senators who have built or bought them. Parenoiologists tell us that the character and distinguishing traits of different individuals may be read not only from their "bumps" and their faces, but also from their walk, the carriage of their arms and body, their handwriting and many other things pertaining to them. If this be true, why may we not tell something of a man's personality from the house which he lives in? A big-hearted, open handed man, of a cheery, hospitable nature, will naturally desire a cheerful, big, roomy house, while a man or woman of mean, small nature will be contented to live in a small, mean dwelling. This theory is sustained by many of the residences in Washington in which our senators' wives have their luxurious homes, not a few of them corresponding in character with that of their fair occupants.
There is no senator's wife who has a more beautiful home than that of Mrs. James McMillan, wife of the senior United States senator from Michigan. It is a large, massive double house of pressed brick, liberally supplied with bay windows from the ground to the third floor on both sides of the front entrance. It is located on Vermont avenue, in the northwest section of the city, and has quite an extensive yard at one side. That side, by the way, is the most attractive part of the house. It has a cozy veranda, on which it is delightful to sit on summer evenings and watch the fine specimens of horseflesh that go speeding up and down the avenue. Entering the main portal you find yourself in a stately hall, with the drawing-room on your right and the reception-room on your left. Both of these rooms are magnificent. The drawing-room is large and lofty. It has three deep windows richly hung with rose silk and white lace, while above the mantel there is a Peche mirror which is a veritable work of art. The floor is of richly inlaid woods, polished like marble, while the furniture is of the most dainty and luxurious description, and a few choice pictures hang upon the walls. The reception-room is liberally supplied with velvet sofas and divans and characterized by the same air of comfort and luxury that pervades the drawing-room. Mrs. McMillan is a thoroughly domestic woman and gives her personal attention to the conduct of her household.
On Massachusetts avenue, northwest of the capitol, and bearing the number "1428" over its door, there is a handsome house of a rich, dark bluish stone. It is a cheerful, pleasant looking dwelling, suggesting good taste and refinement in its every outline. It is the home of the youngest and most beautiful woman in Washington who can boast the honor of being a senator's bride, for it is occupied by Senator Cushman K. Davis, of Minnesota, and his charming wife, before her marriage was Anna Agnew. Mrs. Davis is the most talked about and the most written about woman in the nation's capital, and the different stories that are told about her early antecedents and adventures are simply legion. Probably most of them have no more foundation in fact than have the fabulous stories that make up the contents of the "Arabian Nights." Be that as it may, the interesting fact remains that Mrs. Davis is one of the most agreeable and attractive women and one of the most perfect mistresses of the art of entertaining that the fastest walker would be able

to find between sunrise and sunset on the 21st of June, which being the longest day in the year, would naturally afford him the longest period for his search. She is an ideal hostess, and a woman who is a complete mistress of every feminine art that can make a husband or a guest feel that her home is one of the pleasantest places on earth.
The interior of Mrs. Senator Davis' home is rich and tasteful, but at the same time warm and home-like. It is a home in which the visitor feels thoroughly at home from the moment of his entrance, a result due to the charming woman whose presence and influence are agreeably manifest in every appointment of the dwelling.
Planted squarely on the corner of Sixteenth street and Massachusetts avenue, northwest, in full view of Scott Circle, with its equestrian statue of the famous old hero of the Mexican war, Gen. Winfield Scott, is a large, square double house of pressed brick. It is self-assertive, bluff and hearty, like the old lady from which the rich state of Nevada who for so many years made it her home, and won all hearts by her kindness and courtesy to all. It stands back from the street, with a small, neatly kept lawn in front. A carriage way passes before its portal, beneath a small stone porch. Two gas lamps project from its walls on each side of the front door. It stands alone, completely detached from the neighboring dwellings, and bay windows and stained glass abound on its every side. One of its most attractive apartments is the dining-room, which is furnished with a bold mixture of modern and antique. Here and there is a plate of rich-colored cloisonne enamel, a piece of Nankin china, a specimen of old brass work, a bracket of real old hand oak, an antique lamp or some other article dear to the heart of the collector. It was Mrs. John P. Jones, the wife of the great millionaire silver king and senator from Nevada, who made this beautiful home so tasteful and magnificent.
Mrs. Senator Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut, lives at 27 I street, in the northwestern section of the capital. She and her husband are old-fashioned people and their house is a rambling mansion, full of shadows, with a big, wide-open staircase leading up to long corridors, where one's footsteps echo strangely. It is a house that should always be full of light-hearted guests to give it life and cheerfulness. All to a remote period than today. But they harmonize perfectly with the kindly presence of the delightful lady who presides among them with a charming old-fashioned grace and courtesy. Mrs. Hawley was a hospital nurse by profession before her marriage with the senator, and the gentleness of voice and manner which she then acquired are singularly winning in the social circle of her home.
At number 8 Lafayette Square lives Mrs. Joseph N. Dolph, wife of the senior senator from Oregon. Her home, like nearly all Washington houses, is of red brick, plain and substantial in its exterior. It is of the straight-up-and-down style of architecture, with a double door flanked by two windows on its right. The principal feature of its interior, which is rich and substantial throughout is a large back room in the second story, half museum, half library, where Mrs. Dolph's other half fulminates those diatribes which have made him a senatorial leader and one of the best-known members of the senate. Mrs. Dolph is a woman of quiet and retiring disposition, who finds her chief happiness in her home and seldom cares to wander from it.
Mrs. Shelby M. Cullom, wife of the senior senator from Illinois, lives at 1413 Massachusetts avenue northwest, in one of the few Washington houses having a distinctive individuality of their own. It is of light gray sandstone and has not escaped the influence of the present era of florid architecture. The outer door stands open, and as the visitor enters the vestibule he hesitates between two portals—the one directly before him and the other on his left. The former leads back into the house proper, while the latter leads into the senator's library and office rooms, whose coziness, together with the wide diversity of their belongings, make it seem quite appropriate to apply to them the name of "snuggery." Mrs. Cullom's home is, though small, is elegant and tasteful in its every appointment.
Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco

RESULT OF OUR OFFER.
James Colmer Carries Off the Honors.
He Gives the Most Creditable Answers.
Miss Della Morris and Willie J. Kyle Carry Off the Second and Third Prizes Respectively.
It must be confessed that it has been more difficult to arrive at a decision for first prize than was expected when we propounded the questions for the school students to answer. Two have answered all the questions, and have written their letters so nicely, that these must be selected, from the entire number, on which to give first place. First in their order, we print the reply of
JAMES T. COLMER,
whose letter contains our questions and his answers thereto, and is as follows:
WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.—When and where was he born; what trade did he learn; what office did he hold from 1861 to 1865; what did he do in 1871, and what is he engaged in now?
Ans.—Was born at Martin's Ferry near Columbus, Ohio, March 1, 1837; learned printers' trade, being printer, reporter and news-ed. on *Ohio State Journal*; was consul at Venice from 1861 to 1865 under Lincoln, being appointed for writing life of Lincoln; in 1871 assumed entire control of magazine called "The Atlantic," pub. at Boston and became its ed.; is now engaged in literary pursuits, his connection with "The Atlantic" having ceased in 1881. Is now writing for the *Ladies' Home Journal*.
PHILOMEL.—What bird is called by that name and what is the story that gave rise to it?
Ans.—The nightingale. Origin—(Greek)—Philoemela, the daughter of King Pandion of Attica who was changed into a nightingale. One authority says that King Pandion of Attica had two daughters, Procne and Philomela. Procne was married to Tereus, king of Thracia. Procne got lonely and sent her husband Tereus after Philomela. He went and got her and on the way outraged her (his wife's sister), and cut off her tongue so that she could not tell and then confined her in a lonely castle, called "cage" by some. She however by means of some lace or cloth communicated with Procne that she was not dead as Tereus had reported. She got her liberty and to revenge she killed the son of Tereus and served the son as a banquet for the King, his father. The king was enraged and persuaded the women and when he drew his sword to strike them both were changed into birds, Philomela into a nightingale and Procne, his wife, into a swallow.
PHILOSOPHERS' STONE.—Anciently to what substance did the word apply and in searching for it what great discoveries were made?
Ans.—An imaginary substance said to be able to transmute or change the inferior metals to gold. Alchemy and the science of chemistry were discovered in searching for it.
STENTORIAN.—What is the meaning and origin of the word?
Ans.—Exceedingly loud or powerful as applied to voice or lungs. Origin—Stentor—a herald mentioned by Homer who had a voice like thunder.
The above answers are complete in detail, and give correctly what one author says regarding the first three questions. In the answer to the last question, all will notice the difference as given in our own reply, which we believe to be authentic. The letter of James is plainly written, and as we print it letter by letter as it appears in manuscript, it will be seen that there are a few words incorrectly spelled, but taking the age of the boy into consideration and the length of his answers, these are few.
The next reply, which we also give verbatim, and the next in order of consideration, is that of
DELLA MORRIS
as follows:
PHILOMEL.—A bird of the thrush family, the song thrush. This bird sings when all other birds are silent. This word is derived from Philomela, daughter of Pandion, king of Athens, who, according to an old legend, was changed into a nightingale. The true nightingale or Philomel is a native of Europe. The song thrush is being imported to our state from Germany.
STENTORIAN.—From stentor a herald with a loud voice. Very loud. "He snored in stentorian tones."
WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.—He was born in 1837. He is an American author of prominence. He was once sent as Minister from our country to Rome. He is, I think, editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*.
(Continued on next page.)

PHILOSOPHERS' STONE.—The stone or preparation which the alchemists formerly sought as the instrument of converting the base metals into pure gold. Alchemy was the fore-runner of chemistry.
Being unable to obtain access to an encyclopedia I have had trouble to answer Nos. 3 and 4.
The above communication is plainly written, every letter so distinct that there is no mistaking it for another, and we have failed to find an error in it. But there are some of the questions we propounded unanswered, and such must be taken into consideration, no matter what the cause, or our sympathies for the reason of failure.
The third answer is that presented by
WILLIE J. KYLE
and will be read as below:
PHILOMEL.—(Philoemela)—Procne and Philomela were the daughters of Pandion, King of Attica, who, in return for warlike aid rendered him by Tereus, King of Thracia, in Thracia, gave him the first-named in marriage. Tereus, however, being enamored of her sister, feigned that his wife was dead and induced Philomela to take her place. On her discovering the truth he cut out her tongue to hinder her from revealing his deceit. But she depicted her sad story on a robe which she sent to Procne, and the two sisters then contrived a horrible revenge for the infidelity of Tereus, by killing and serving to him at table his son Itys. Thereupon the gods interposed, changing Tereus into a hoopoe, Procne into a swallow and Philomela into a nightingale, while Itys was restored to life as a pheasant, and Pandion changed into a bird of prey. (See osprey.)
STENTORIAN.—1st.—Pertaining to a stentor; extremely loud; as, a stentorian voice.
2nd.—Able to utter a very loud sound; as, stentorian lungs. "The loudness of his stentorian voice."—Fuller. "He measures out his own stentorian voice."—Warburton. A herald spoken of by Homer, having a very loud voice; hence, any person having a powerful voice.
There was much painstaking in the writing of Willie's answer, and although it contains replies to only part of the questions, it is truly a model of correctness for so young a boy.
Notwithstanding we offered only three prizes, nothing is more cheerfully done than the publishing of a reply to a part of the questions by a very young boy who has taken marked pains with his letter. It is that of
DAVID M. KYLE
and here it is:
WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.—An American author who was born at Martinsville, Ohio, in 1837. He learned the printers' trade, but soon began to write for the papers, both prose and verse, and in 1853 he was editor of the *Ohio State Journal*. In 1860 he was appointed United States consul at Venice, and there remained until 1865. His Italian experiences are expressed in his "Venetian Life and Italian Journeys." After his return to the United States Mr. Howells became editor-in-chief of the *Atlantic Monthly*, 1871, and is noted for the faithful portrayal of American character of the present day. A collection of his poems was published in 1873. In 1885 he removed to New York to take charge of the editorial department of *Harper's Magazine*.
PHILOSOPHERS' STONE.—Stone or preparation which the alchemists formerly sought as the instrument of converting the base metals into pure gold.
AWARDS OF PRIZES.
First prize, James T. Colmer.
Second prize, Miss Della Morris, and in consideration of her perfectly written letter, the time of subscription for *The West* is extended to one year.
Third prize, Willie J. Kyle.
All know that we are in sympathy with the efforts of the smaller children in their endeavors to gain knowledge, and we have decided to give David Kyle a prize for his good and perfect answers, so we have left the selection to the Literary Editor of this paper and she will present it on Christmas.
OUR ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.
After viewing all the authorities upon the subjects we gave out for answers, we believe the following to be perfectly authentic:
WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS was born at Martinsville, Ohio, March 11, 1837. He learned the trade of a printer, and when quite young entered upon journalism. From 1861 to 1865 he was United States Consul to Venice. Returning to America, he engaged in literary labor, and in 1871 became editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, a position which he still holds. Besides his papers in that magazine and other periodicals, he has published a volume of poems and numerous novels, and a few books of travel.
PHILOMEL.—The story which gives to the nightingale the name of Philomel is as follows: Pandion, King of Attica, had two daughters, Philomel and Procne,
(Continued on next page.)