

THE LAST OLD SOLDIER.

(By A. H. McGregor.)

Say, boys, you heard what the newspapers say?
One and fifty old soldiers a day,
Footsore and dreary, dropped out at last,
Back on the road where the column has passed.

Every seven days—keep the number in mind—
Another full regiment lagging behind,
We bid them good-bye with a tear and a song,
And the column keeps steadily marching along.

Every three weeks another brigade
Back in the quiet old churchyard is laid;
One look at the spot where they peacefully sleep,
And each at his place in the column must keep.

Sixty days a division forever at rest,
No picket thrown out, no foe will molest;
And let it be morning, at high noon or night,
The column moves onward—is soon out of sight.

Every six months a full army corps
Goes into camp on the furthestmost shore.
No break in the column—the evening is damp,
But mind, boys, we'll soon be in camp.

An army each year, and weary, I ween,
Sleeps 'neath the sod with the grass growing green.
An army complete, fifty thousand strong,
And the column is still slowly moving along.

Soon there will be but an invalid corps
Of an army that numbered two millions or more—
A division, brigade, then a regiment small,
Too feeble to note when a comrade shall fall.

At last but a company, then a platoon,
A few stragglers left; then, soon, oh, too soon,
They will read this small item: "The news comes today
That the last old soldier has just passed away."

SHE'S A FOUR TIMES GRANDMOTHER NOW

On 101st Birthday Mrs. Shrake Has 152 Descendants.

Wyalusing, Wis.—Mrs. Lydia Shrake of this village has just celebrated her one hundred and first birthday, a large number of relatives being present. She has living four children, thirty-two grandchildren, eighty-four great-grandchildren, thirty great-great-grandchildren and two great-great-great-grandchildren, or 152 descendants. Her youngest son is sixty-eight years of age, and she makes her home with him.

Mrs. Shrake was born in Pennsylvania in 1812 and when a child moved with her parents to Coshocton county, O., where in 1831 she was married to Mr. Ault, to which union two daughters and three sons were born. Her husband died in 1838.

Five years later she married Jacob Shrake, and they moved to Wyalusing. To them five children were born, one daughter and four sons. The second husband, who served in the war of 1812, died in 1861.

Despite her age Mrs. Shrake is able to do many of the household duties, has remarkable mental faculties and keeps posted on current events through the newspapers without the aid of glasses.

She takes walks about the neighborhood with the aid of a cane.

SPARROWS TREE THIS TABBY.

Cat Goes After Birds and Catches Tarts Instead.

Los Angeles.—Treed by a great flock of angry sparrows a badly frightened cat was rescued here by officers of the Humane society. Three days before the cat had climbed the tree, presumably in the hope of catching a sparrow. The sparrows caught the cat.

Every time tabby tried to leave the birds fought it back with their sharp beaks, and the rescuers had to beat off the spiteful sparrows before they could reach the cat.

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JAPAN'S FAITH IN NATION'S JUSTICE

Expects Equal Treatment With Whites Eventually.

PRESS PRAISES WILSON.

War Talk Is Denounced as Ridiculous and Calculated to Embarrass the Two Governments, Which Are Seeking to Reach Peaceful Settlement by Diplomacy—Count Okuma Cheered.

Tokyo.—In spite of the fact that Governor Johnson has signed the so called "land bill," faith in the American people to see that justice is done the Japanese is the dominating note in the discussion here of the California alien land ownership legislation. War talk is denounced as ridiculous and calculated only to embarrass the two governments, which are laboring for a peaceful settlement by diplomacy.

It is conceded, however, that failure on the part of the Americans to re-



COUNT OKUMA.

spond to the Japanese appeal for a discontinuance of the alleged discrimination would be likely to lead to some estrangement of the two peoples. The Japanese public generally is convinced that the land bill is a racial and not an economic measure and hence a blow to national pride, and it feels that the world must be taught the necessity of equal treatment of the whites and non-whites.

The Tokyo newspapers are loud in their praise of President Wilson's zeal in his endeavors to preserve the traditional friendship, and they recognize the difficulties which confront the president of the United States in the confusing conflict between state and federal rights.

The Nichi Nichi is of the opinion that the question as to whether the Washington government can procure equal rights for the Japanese depends upon the strength of Japanese diplomacy, and it urges the government to take a firm attitude.

A joint celebration of the Japanese and American peace societies here was attended by 1,000 Japanese. Speeches were made by Count Okuma, former minister of foreign affairs; Baron Yoshiro Sakatani, mayor of Tokyo, and Tsunejiro Miyazaki, who was counselor of the Japanese embassy at Washington in 1906. All of the speakers endeavored to clarify the situation, and all decried jingoism.

Count Okuma was loudly applauded when he compared the attitude of the California legislators with the anti-foreign movement in Japan half a century ago, which he looked upon as an abased race prejudice.

"We despised foreigners," he said, "because they looked different. We did not consider them human beings. Japan finally saw the falsity of its position and became an admirer of everything western. The same causes underlie the California question; but, like the Japanese, the Californians will see the folly of their position, and truth and justice will triumph."

"At some future day the Californians will laugh at their fathers and grandfathers for driving off the Japanese, just as we laugh now at the anti-foreign absurdities of the samurai."

NO DEGREES FOR PASTRY.

Harvard Bans All Pie, Pudding and Cream Puffs.

Cambridge, Mass.—The curfew for pie, pudding, cream puffs and charlotte russe has been sounded at Harvard.

Recently the Memorial dining hall managers have substituted cereals in various popular forms at the noon and night meals as well as for breakfast. This experiment has proved a great success.

A great many of the 900 students at "Mem" believe that the new form of dessert is much more healthful than pastry.

Icebergs Fast Moving South.

Newport, R. I.—A message from the revenue cutter Seneca saying that the ice fields are rapidly moving southward was picked up by the radio station here. The Seneca, which is protecting the Atlantic steamship lines, gave its position as latitude north 43.41, longitude west 49.01.

NEW SIEGEL MURDER CLEW.

Chinese at Oakland Treasured Clippings About Girl.

San Francisco.—A key to the mystery of the murder of Elsie Siegel, granddaughter of General Franz Siegel, a civil war hero, in the room of a Chinese in New York in June of 1900, is believed to have been found in Oakland. In the rooms of Lee Dor, who was arrested on charges of having opium, United States treasury agents found a set of press clippings describing the death of Elsie Siegel and several photographs of pretty white women.

Prior to this discovery the prisoner had been released under \$1,000 bond. His whereabouts now are unknown.

John W. Smith, a treasury agent, who unearthed the evidence against Lee Dor, said:

"Lee Dor tried to convince us that he had no knowledge of English, but it is significant that a Chinese who pretends no knowledge of our language should so treasure the reports of a murder that took place in New York four years ago."

The Chinese suspected of strangling Elsie Siegel was Leon Ling. His description does not tally with that of Lee Dor.

AIDED BY WIFE IN FIGHT.

British Mine Owner and Woman Kill Five Mexicans.

Agua Calientes, Mexico.—John Walker, a British mine owner, and his wife, fighting shoulder to shoulder, recently killed five men and wounded three of a band of eleven employees at the mine near Villa Garcia, Zacatecas. Mr. and Mrs. Walker arrived here later under escort of troops.

The employees attacked Mr. Walker because of his inability to raise money to pay their wages. The men used knives and clubs, and Mr. Walker had been seriously cut and beaten when he opened fire with an automatic revolver. Mrs. Walker re-enforced her husband with a rifle.

After the battle Mr. and Mrs. Walker escaped and were befriended by a Spanish priest, who hid them until he could secure the aid of the American consular agent here. The latter obtained troops to escort Mr. and Mrs. Walker here.

MISCHIEVOUS PAGE

CALLS MISS WILSON

But Suspicious Phone Operator Intercepts Message.

Washington.—After a search of five weeks on the part of secret service men, capitol policemen and attaches of the sergeant-at-arms office to discover the identity of the page of the house who called up Miss Jessie Wilson on the phone on one of the night sessions of the house the search of the guilty person was finally abandoned.

During the night sessions on the tariff the pages on the floor of the house having lots of time on their hands, amused themselves by phoning to various residences in all parts of the city. One of the lads suggested that it would be a good joke to call up "Main 6" and ask for Miss Wilson. This is the White House number, although it was unknown to the boy who used the private line from the capitol to the White House.

The operator on duty at the executive mansion realizing that somebody was playing a trick, notified the capitol switchboard, and the message was traced to the house cloakroom. An immediate investigation was ordered.

After weeks of work the identity of the page responsible for calling up the White House remains a mystery.

The message for Miss Wilson never got any further than the operator at the White House.

DOLLAR PATCHES HIS SKULL.

Coin Hammered Out to Fit Hole in Man's Head.

Omaha, Ark.—John Chickmore of this place will always have \$1 on his person, but it will never be available as a cash asset, as it lies in the front part of his head over a jagged hole more than two inches long and one inch wide.

Chickmore got in a fight, and his skull was crushed in by a stone thrown by Alvin Roberts. Dr. W. A. Butts, who was called, had to have something at once to cover the opening. Chickmore being in too grave a condition to be removed to a city hospital and there being no time to order a silver plate.

The doctor did the next best thing—he made one. He took a silver dollar and a heavy hammer and beat it out to fit the hole. He sewed up the scalp, and John is now recovering.

TO RAISE MILE OF CENTS.

Church Society Has Estimated the Number as 84,480.

Summit, N. J.—"How many cents to a mile?" is a question which the young people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church of Summit are asking, and they are to give a practical demonstration by collecting the required number for the church building fund.

When they have enough to make a mile they will tell the people of Summit how many it takes. Meantime those who have measured the diameter of the copper coins have arrived at the answer—84,480.



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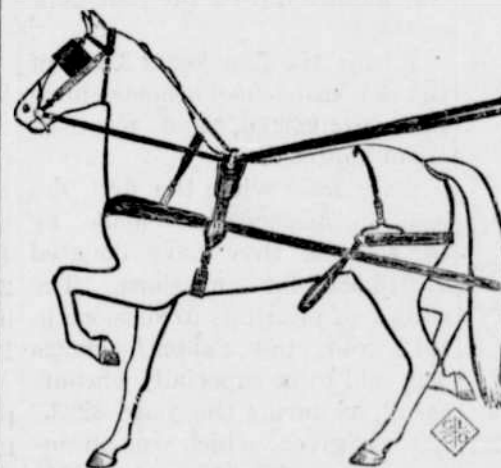
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