

A CHAIN OF FAME.

The Barrier Washington Erected Across the Hudson.

ARNOLD REMOVED ONE LINK.

Still the Monster Cable, In Spite of the Traitor's Act, Served its Purpose and Blocked the Progress of the British Ships Up the River.

Somewhere in the bed of the Hudson river just off of West Point lies buried the larger part of a great iron chain, one of several ordered by General Washington during the Revolution to be constructed to prevent the enemy from ascending certain rivers to accomplish strategic points of vantage.

The British were making strenuous efforts to get hold of the Hudson in order to keep free communication with Canada by the additional channels of the St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain, and so it was determined to obstruct the Hudson by a great chain crossing from Fort Montgomery to Anthony's Nose.

But this was a failure. The chain parted within a week after it had been stretched, and, although subsequently raised and again placed, it was destroyed by the British.

Finally Washington decided to forge another and obstruct the river between West Point and Constitution island, for here there was an abrupt change of course, and a heavy tide reduced the speed of any ship encountering it. Besides, the channel was 300 feet narrower at this crossing.

The forging of a chain such as was contemplated was then no small undertaking. Requests were secretly sent to various iron companies, and among the bids the most favorable came from the Sterling Iron works, situated in one of the most beautiful regions of the east, now within the fashionable domain of Tuxedo Park.

It was originally organized by Lord Sterling in 1751, a well known officer in the Revolutionary army, and continued in operation for more than a hundred years, meanwhile passing into the possession of Abel Noffsie, who married a niece of Peter Townsend and who now in association with the latter increased the capacity of the works which eventually came into the entire possession of Peter Townsend, a patriot and filled with the spirit of the time.

He finally obtained a few Welsh miners from Pennsylvania for the heavy handling in the forging and a number of men from Connecticut with their ox teams to do the hauling, and when the chain was ready it was drawn over the rough mountainous roads and through forests that had to be purposely cut in many places and so on to New Windsor, the nearest river point, and towed to West Point.

It was a strenuous undertaking from the very start. Each link weighed 300 pounds, was two feet in length and two and a quarter inches square, and each 100 feet was secured by a swivel, a twisting link, and at every thousand feet there was a clevis. The whole of this weighed 185 tons. When it was stretched across from West Point to Constitution island it was buoyed up by large sixteen foot logs, and these were in turn held in place by the anchors.

The British made no specific attack on this then invincible obstacle, for it must be remembered that in those days there was no dynamite nor torpedoes, and none of the enemy's prowess would have pushed their way through such a barrier.

Although the British did not succeed in passing the big Hudson river chain, the American traitor Arnold gave it his particular attention and removed a link of it under the pretense of having it repaired for weakness at a nearby smithy. He wrote to Major Andre that it would not be replaced until the forts were surrendered to the British. But somehow the chain stood for its purpose, and Sir Henry Clinton did not attempt to relieve Burgoyne.

Parts of this celebrated chain are to be seen among various historical curios of prominent societies. A number of years ago Major Howitt of New York, then the owner of a mine near the Sterling properties, became interested in finding out the whereabouts of the remaining portions of the chain. A large part of it lies at the bottom of the river, about thirty tons were in various possessions, and at West Point there are thirteen links, and a staple placed near the spot where the chain was anchored and a plate tells of the date and place of forging.—Boston Herald.

No Primaries For Her.

"Are you going to the primaries tonight, Ethelinda?" asked the husband of his suffragette wife.

"Indeed I am not!" replied the lady. "Do you suppose that after I have attended the postgraduate course in political science for two years I'm going to waste my time on those primary classes? I guess not! They're good enough for you men, but we women have progressed beyond that!"—Harper's Weekly.

Two Failures.

"I married for beauty alone," said a presumably happy benedict to an old chum. "And yet you remind me of a friend of mine who married for money," was the rejoinder. "How's that?" "He didn't get it!" said the chum sarcastically.

The preservation of health is a duty. Few seem conscious that there is such a thing as physical morality.—Spencer.

HAD A TART TONGUE.

Northcote, the Painter, Was Not Overpowered by Royalty.

James Northcote, the English portrait painter, said fine things and unflattering things almost in the same breath. To be a little of both is a virtue. He observed some one to Hazlitt, the first critic of his day, "that corrodes everything it touches."

"Except gold," said Hazlitt. "He never drops upon Sir Joshua or the great masters."

"Well, but is he not overflowing?" persisted the other, "with envy, hatred and all uncharitableness? He is as spiteful as a woman—and then his nigardliness. Did he ever give away anything?"

"Yes, his advice," said Hazlitt, "and very unpleasant it is."

This is not the picture of a charming man, and yet Northcote was not without his redeeming virtues. For one thing, he was refreshingly free from the worship of mere prestige in an age when men were careful to apportion respect according to rank and station.

The prince of Wales, when he was a young man, met the painter and was much pleased with his conversation.

"What do you know of his royal highness?" inquired Sir Joshua Key notes later.

"Nothing," answered Northcote. "Nothing, sir; why, he says he knows you very well."

"Pooh!" said Northcote. "That's only his brag."

The president of the Royal academy smiled. "Bravely said," he muttered. "bravely said!"

FACED SEVEN LIONS.

And Three of Them Got a Dose of Lead in Short Order.

Captain H. A. Wilson has written a record of "Service and Sport in Equatoria" in "A British Boyhood." He relates a thrilling encounter he had with seven lions on the Mara river when in pursuit of roan and accompanied only by his gun bearer. Five of them were lionesses. They were all full grown and occupied with their kill—a cow graffe. They were feeding slowly, their first hunger appeased, pushing and jostling one another playfully, their low growls distinctly audible.

"For a couple of minutes I waited, watching them; then, as the biggest lion, a fine black maned fellow, turned sideways to me, I raised my rifle and let drive at his neck. I heard the thud of the bullet on flesh, and he dropped in his tracks like a stone. With a simultaneous growl every head went up, and the lions swung round, facing the noise of the shot. I let fly a second bullet at the chest of the second male, and with a deafening roar he bounded high in the air, dashed a dozen yards forward and fell dead to earth just as



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I was drawing a second head on him afresh.

"The remainder, all lionesses, turned at my second shot and walked slowly away with much tail lashing and a chorus of growls. I was just in time to get a snapshot at the hindmost as she disappeared into the scrub. The toll of the bullet and her answering snarl told me that I had hit her, which blood spots on the leaves confirmed."

He Couldn't Plow.

A certain incident connected with the great Napoleon while he was in exile in Elba is commemorated in the island to this hour by an inscription affixed to the wall of a peasant's house. A man named Giacani was plowing when the famous exile came along one day and expressed an interest in his work. Napoleon even took the plowshare out of the man's hand and attempted to guide it himself. But the oxen refused to obey him, overturned the plow and spoiled the furrow. The inscription runs thus: "Napoleon the Great, passing by this place in MDCCCXIV, took in the neighboring field a plowshare from the hands of a peasant and himself tried to plow, but the oxen, rebellious to those hands which yet had guided Europe, headlong fled from the furrow."

Newcomers should get the habit of going to Innes & Davidson's barber shop.—Adv.

NOTICE OF CONTEST.

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, The Dalles, Oregon, July 7, 1913.

To Ed Smith of Powell Butte, Oregon, Contestee:

You are hereby notified that Paul H. Garcken, who gives Bend, Oregon, c-o Box 247 as his postoffice address, did on July 7, 1913, file in this office his duly corroborated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your homestead entry, No. Serial No. 619552 made July 29th, 1912, for S½SE¼, sec. 7; NE¼, SE¼NW¼ and lot 2, section 18, township 18 N., range 16 East, W. Meridian, and as grounds for his contest he alleges that the said Ed Smith has failed to reside upon or cultivate said tract for more than six months last past and that such failure was not due to his employment in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States in time of war or otherwise.

You are, therefore, further notified that the said allegations will be taken by this office as having been confessed by you, and your said entry will be canceled thereunder without your further right to be heard therein, either before this office or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the FOURTH publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically meeting and responding to these allegations of contest, or if you fail within that time to file in this office due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on the said contestant either in person or by registered mail. If this service is made by the delivery of a copy of your answer to the contestant in person, proof of such service must be either the said contestant's written acknowledgement of his receipt of the copy, showing the date of its receipt, or the affidavit of the person by whom the delivery was made stating when and where the copy was delivered; if made by registered mail, proof of such service must consist of the affidavit of the person by whom the copy was mailed stating when and the postoffice to which it was mailed, and this affidavit must be accompanied by the postmaster's receipt for the letter.

You should state in your answer the name of the postoffice to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

H. FRANK WOODCOCK, Register.
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