

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Flat denials were authorized by the White House and Secretary Lansing of published reports that Mr. Lansing is preparing to resign.

Sale of the Hill steamer Minnesota was confirmed Thursday by L. W. Hill, president of the Great Northern railroad. The ship is said to have sold for \$2,750,000.

President Wilson broke another precedent Thursday when he walked over to the Treasury department from the White House to see Secretary McAdoo in his private office.

Options on 3,500,000,000 feet of spruce timber in the Coos Bay district have been taken by an Eastern paper manufacturing concern. The tract covers 100,000 acres and the price is said to be between three and five million dollars.

Rather than see a friendless tramp, who died of exposure, buried in a pauper's grave, the residents of Avon, Ill., gave him a public funeral. Villagers closed their shops for half a day, bought floral offerings and followed the hearse to the cemetery.

Ex-President Taft, in an address at Bangor, Me., declared President Wilson's recent address to the senate was "an epoch in the history of our foreign policy," and his advocacy of our participation in a world league was a most powerful aid to its formation.

Five hundred women invaded the church of Rev. Paul Smith in San Francisco Thursday to find out what he proposed to do about women of the underworld in carrying out a vice crusade he has been leading. They took the position that they were directly interested.

Groundwork for the expected attack in the senate on President Wilson's proposal that the United States join in a league for peace was laid Thursday in a resolution introduced by Senator Borah reaffirming as a national policy the doctrine of no entangling alliances laid down by Washington and Jefferson.

Representations by the United States for a fair trial for two Mexican priests sentenced to death at Zacatecas on a charge of aiding Villa have been made. Mexico City has been informed that as a result they will not be tried under a law which gives them no opportunity for defense.

President Wilson, speaking recently to a delegation from the Maryland League for National Defense, which attacked the National Guard and advocated universal military training, rebuked them for their "unrestrained language," and said they would have a better chance of their support if they were more reasonable in their attitude.

Lewiston, Idaho — A silver-tip fox pelt estimated to be worth its size in \$100 bills is being exhibited in the Central Idaho country by John Hanson, a Leesburg mining man, who made the lucky capture. It is two feet long from tip to tip and almost black except for a snowball at the end of the brush and a few white spines along the back.

Portugal has issued an official white book explaining its entrance into the war.

A North Dakota farmer is frozen to death in the blizzard that swept that state Sunday.

Germany claims to have taken 200,000 Roumanian prisoners during the campaign in that country.

Mrs. Alice Bennett of New York, 106 years of age, died recently after the first illness in her life.

Another big shipbuilding contract has been awarded a Portland concern. Two vessels are to be built said to be the largest of their kind in the United States.

The sudden overflow of the Three Forks river at Butte, Mont., and the descent of mercury caused the overflow to freeze over a square mile of territory, including the railroad tracks of the Northern Pacific. All trains have been halted until the ice can be removed.

President Wilson plans to visit the capitol three times a week to urge completion of his legislative program before adjournment of congress.

A report from Buenos Aires states that the German raider, which sank several vessels in the South Atlantic, has been sent to the bottom. No details are given.

Japan is facing an internal crisis. Opposition to Count Terauchi has opened a vigorous campaign on the ground that the cabinet was formed in violation to the spirit of the constitution.

One thousand dollars damage is asked of a Surety company and a policeman of Astoria, Oregon, for the death of a Russian spaniel dog.

The New York daylight-saving committee's plan to advance the clock one hour during the five months beginning May 1 has been approved by the American Federation of Labor.

Franz Bopp, the German consul at San Francisco, convicted of violating the neutrality of this country, has been sentenced to two years at McNeil's Island federal prison and fined \$10,000.

Doings of State Legislators

"Bone-Dry" Law as Framed Meets With High Favor

Salem—If there is any objection to the emergency clause or any other important part of the pending "bone-dry" prohibition law it did not make its appearance at the opening meeting of the house and senate committees on alcoholic traffic here Tuesday night.

Almost every legitimate interest affected by the measure was represented at the hearing which was conducted before a large crowd in the house chamber and a number of valuable suggestions were made.

One suggestion, advanced by A. A. Hall, a chemist, will be given serious consideration by the committee. He pointed out that in its present form the bill will not permit the manufacture of denatured alcohol, which may be made a valuable by-product of many Oregon industries such as the paper mills, the sawmills, beet sugar factories, canneries and others. He explained that the denaturation of alcohol is done under government supervision and that its practice would not be in violation of the spirit of the "bone-dry" law. Denatured alcohol is a dangerous poison and therefore could not be used for beverage purposes.

Five Good Roads Bills Up.

Salem—Road legislation loomed large in the proceedings of the house Tuesday. The good roads committee, comprising representatives of civic and industrial organizations in various parts of the state, completed its work on roads; Representative Laurgard introduced a road code of his own design; Representative Bean introduced a bill taxing all gasoline sold in the state at the rate of 1 cent a gallon, and a bill to double the rate of automobile license is on the way.

Involved in all this activity is the final fate of the Bean-Barrett bill, which passed the house last week and which authorizes the state board of control to issue bonds in the amount necessary to meet the federal appropriation of \$1,800,000 allotted to Oregon.

The good roads committee, or at least those members of it who are in the lobby here, are opposed to the Barrett-Bean bill. They are attempting now to have it held in the senate committee until their own bill is disposed of. Their bill, they will provide amply for Oregon's participation in the federal road program without a bond issue.

House and Senate Won't Co-operate.

Salem—All prospects for early or effective co-operation between the house and senate committees on consolidation went glimmering Tuesday when the house committee determined to pursue an independent course toward the senate program.

In accordance with that plan the house committee has prepared a bill creating a state commission of labor and consolidating with it the present Commissioner of labor, the board of inspection of child labor, the Industrial Welfare commission and the Industrial Commission.

Naval Militia Praised.

Salem—That the Oregon naval militia during the past two years has reached the highest state efficiency of any similar organization in the United States; that it holds the highest marksmanship record, and that it attained this status on the cheapest basis of any such organization, was asserted by Adjutant General White before the ways and means committee. The naval militia asked \$15,900. The National guard asked \$164,300, a total of \$180,200 for development of naval and military forces of the state.

More Normals Proposed.

Salem—Representative Sheldon, of Jackson county, is preparing a joint resolution submitting to the referendum of the voters at the next general election a normal school plan for the entire state.

The measure proposes to maintain the present school at Monmouth, but to establish another at Ashland and a third at some point in Eastern Oregon, to be designated by the regents.

A maintenance fund of one twenty-fifth of 1 mill is provided for each school.

Plan Recall of School Directors.

Salem—Senate bill No. 95, introduced by Senator Eddy, providing the necessary legislative machinery for the recall of school directors, was reported favorably in the senate by the committee on education, with the amendment that it only apply to districts of the first class.

The committee held that to apply the bill to other districts would not be advisable. In districts of the first class, however, school directors are elected for terms of five years.

Bill Would Dim Auto Lights.

Salem—A bill introduced in the house by Representative Sweeney would provide regulation for all automobile headlights. It would require automobile owners traveling on state highways to equip their machines with dimmers, so that the glare of the lights would not blind cars approaching in the opposite direction.

"Safety First" Bill Proposed.

Salem—For the purpose of eliminating grade-crossing accidents, Representative Barber has introduced a bill requiring railroads to maintain a watchman at every crossing in the state over which they operate trains at a rate of speed exceeding 15 miles an hour. This is the first piece of "safety first" legislation proposed at this session, but other measures are scheduled, it is reported.

Measure Aims at Fake Ads.

Salem—Representative Mackay, of Multnomah county, introduced a bill in the house designed to carry out the campaign of the Portland Ad Club against fake advertisers. It would prohibit all "untrue, deceptive and misleading" advertising and fix heavy penalties for violations.

Early Water Power Legislation Asked in Memorial to Congress

Salem—Early development of the water-power resources of the nation is something that this legislature wants congress to provide.

The house, by unanimous vote, adopted Senator Gill's joint memorial urging upon congress "the absolute and urgent necessity of the development of water power in order that the natural resources may be utilized to create new wealth by the settlement of lands, the development of agriculture, the establishment of manufactures of varied nature, the economy and comfort of rail facilities of transportation, the means of transportation enlarged and made cheaper, and traffic congestion relieved by opening to navigation waterways incapable of use because of natural obstructions removable by water-power development in navigable streams, and adequate national defense may be aided, all of which will contribute to the increase and diversification of agriculture, commerce and industry, and as a consequence promote economic security."

The memorial already had passed the senate and now will go forward to Washington with the view of impressing upon congress the vital interest of the people of Oregon in the pending water-power legislation.

The measure did not even evoke debate in the house, so well acquainted and so satisfied were the members with its provisions.

Five Days of Grace Likely.

Portland—Within 30 days after the "bone-dry" prohibition law is enacted by the legislature and goes into effect the express companies must banish from the state of Oregon the last bottle of booze. Such is one provision of the proposed act, but it must not be construed as affording 30 additional days to a thirsty party for stocking-up purposes.

Five days' grace may be given, however, if rumor is substantiated. Although the proposed law at present contains no such clause, its insertion is anticipated.

"We have learned unofficially," said A. P. Peterson, general agent of Wells, Fargo & Co., "that a clause may be added to house bill 100 permitting five days in which to dispose of shipments en route to Portland or to other points within the state at the time of the passage of the law."

If this provision is made, it will amount to the extending of five days of grace, in which packages of liquor already at the express offices or in transit may be claimed. The 30-day provision of the law merely defines the time in which the companies must remove all undelivered consignments from the state.

House Does Big Lot of Work.

Salem—Thursday was one of the busiest days that the house has had since the session opened. A big grid of bills was passed, an aggregate of 40 bills were introduced, and a number of important resolutions were disposed of and a big volume of routine business was transacted.

The house ran twice through its regular order of business and most of the new bills were sent to committees.

A big batch of committee reports came in the morning and half a dozen measures were sent to oblivion over the indefinite postponement route.

The first lot of appropriation bills came from the ways and means committee. They provide revenue for the conduct of the executive, secretary of state and treasury department, for the special apprehension of criminals, the State Training school, the school for the Deaf, the attorney General's office and the Capitol and Supreme court buildings.

Ashland Site Favored.

Salem—The special committee of the joint ways and means committee named to investigate the feasibility of transferring the Industrial school for girls from Salem either to Weston, Drain or Ashland probably will be able to report next week.

The scheme had its inception in the mind of Representative Ashley, and he was closely seconded by Representative Childs, who is chairman of the committee.

The Industrial school for girls has asked for new buildings in the budget and the School for feeble-minded also has requested money for permanent improvement in the way of new buildings.

Premium Cut Advised.

Salem—Pure-bred livestock men of Oregon, at their convention here, recommended that the Oregon State Fair's request for \$50,000 for livestock premiums be cut to \$40,000. They urged, however, that a livestock coliseum be built at the fair grounds. They also went on record as favoring the Jones bill for a tax on dogs, the money from which would be used to reimburse owners of sheep that are killed by dogs.

The stockmen were opposed to the Agricultural commission, as proposed in House bill 172.

Anti-Picketing Bill is In.

Salem—Representative Kuhl has introduced the famous anti-picketing bill. It is the measure advocated by the Portland Employers' association and for which a group of Portland business men staged a demonstration before the Multnomah delegation in the senate chamber. An effort was made to have the bill introduced as a Multnomah county measure, but only part of the delegation will support it. Kuhl himself says that he is in hearty sympathy with it and that he will work hard for its passage.

Board Would Get Rise.

Salem—Representative Mann introduced a bill in the house fixing the salaries of Multnomah county commissioners at \$3000 a year and requiring them to give all their time to the work. Their present salary is \$1800 a year, but they do not have to be on the job all the time. Efforts were made to get the whole Multnomah county delegation back of the bill, but they refused to take action.

HILL IS INDICTED FOR LIQUOR BRIBE

Seattle Mayor and Police Chief Caught in Federal Net.

DRY SQUAD IS ALSO ACCUSED

Executive is Said to Have Been Paid \$4000 to Protect Importers—13 Indicted by Grand Jury.

Seattle, Wash.—The long-expected indictments against Mayor Hiram C. Gill, Chief of Police Charles L. Beckingham and ex-Sheriff Robert T. Hodge, charging conspiracy to violate the interstate commerce and Federal liquor laws, and acceptance of bribes, were returned by the United States grand jury Saturday and warrants were placed in the hands of Deputy Marshals for the arrest of these defendants and 10 others who were indicted.

The others indicted were four city detectives, an ex-policeman, Edward P. Baker, manager of the Jesse Moore Hunt company, of San Francisco; Logan and Fred Billingsley and two associates of the Billingsleys.

The principal witnesses against the Mayor, chief of police and ex-sheriff were Logan and Fred Billingsley, who were indicted several weeks ago for conspiracy to violate the interstate commerce laws and pleaded guilty, but were not sentenced that they might be used as government witnesses.

As soon as they learned of the indictments, Gill, Beckingham and Detectives Peyster, Doom and McLennan went to the Federal building and gave \$3500 bail each. Ex-Sheriff Hodge was said to be arranging a bond. The Billingsleys and W. H. Pielow and William Frazier, transfer men, are already under bond for earlier indictments and new security was not required of them.

C. J. Mullen, ex-Policeman, was indicted charged with attempting to intimidate the Billingsleys, government witnesses, in an effort to induce them to jump their bond and flee to Canada. Mayor Gill said that he would not even temporarily detach himself from his office because of the indictment, and that he would be a candidate for re-election in 1918. If convicted of a felony the mayor would be removed automatically.

All of the defendants, 13 in number, are charged jointly with conspiracy in one indictment, with the exception of Mullen, who is accused singly. Mayor Gill is accused by the government with having accepted a bribe of \$4000 last summer from Logan Billingsley at the time the alleged conspiracy began.

Mayor Gill, Chief of Police Beckingham and Hodge, together with four city detectives, who are former members of the waterfront division of the police dry squad, are charged with plotting with the Billingsleys to ship huge quantities of whisky into Seattle under organized official and police protection.

Hunt Loses Governorship

On Supreme Court's Ruling

Phoenix, Ariz.—The Arizona Supreme court Saturday returned a decision holding that Thomas E. Campbell, Republican, is the de facto governor of Arizona.

The decision was signed by Justices Franklin and Ross. Justice Cunningham submitted a dissenting opinion.

The majority holds that the certificate of election issued to Campbell is prima facie evidence of his election. The court issued no writ, stating its belief that George W. Hunt would now surrender the office, but declaring that if he did not a writ would be issued.

In a brief statement Mr. Hunt said he would not appear at the state house on Monday and that the office and its belongings would be surrendered to Governor Campbell.

Sailors Drift Ten Days.

Willemstad, Curacao—Three French sailors have reached the island of Buen Ayre, off the Venezuelan coast, after having been at sea for 10 days in a small boat. They were in a starved condition, and brought with them the body of one man who had died.

The sailors reported they were members of the crew of the French armored cruiser Jeanne d'Arc, stationed at Martinique, and were carried off in their boat by the current.

The men were transported to Curacao.

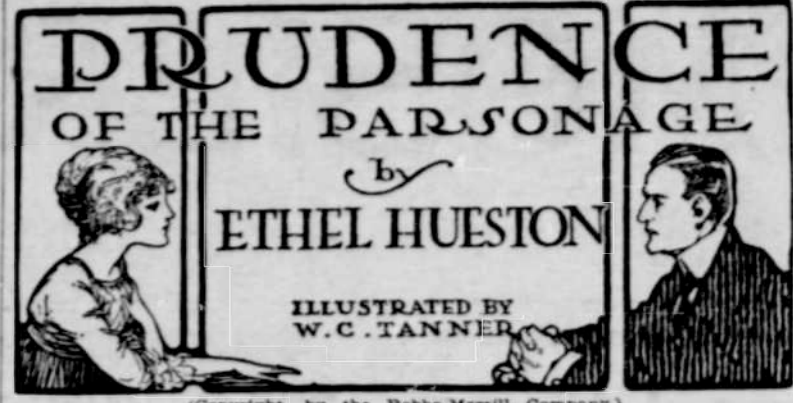
King's Train Imperiled.

Madrid—An attempt was made Sunday to wreck a train on which King Alfonso was a passenger. The royal train was preceded by a freight train, the engineer of which saw an obstacle on the track and removed it. Neither the royal train nor the freight suffered any damage.

The spot chosen, near Granada, Andalusia, was a particularly favorable one, as the road here begins to run down grade. The police have arrested two men, one of whom was found code letters from Barcelona.

Haytien Ex-President Dies.

New York—News of the death of General Davilmar Theodore, once president of Haiti, was contained in private letters from Haiti, received here Monday. It was said that his death occurred in Port au Prince January 13. General Theodore overthrew the government of General Oreste Zanon in 1914, and was in turn forced to abdicate the presidency in November, 1915. He fled from Haiti, but returned after American intervention.



IT WAS A LUSCIOUS APPLE THAT GOT OLD MOTHER EVE INTO TROUBLE, AND APPLES IT IS THAT MAKE TROUBLE FOR CONNIE AND THE TWINS.

Mr. Starr, a widower Methodist minister, has been assigned to the congregation at Mount Mark, Ia. He has five daughters, Prudence, the eldest, who keeps house; Fairy, Carol and Lark, who are twins, and Constance. Their advent stirs the curiosity of all Mount Mark, and members of the Ladies' Aid lose no time in getting acquainted and asking a million questions. Prudence, who is nineteen, has her hands full with the mischievous twins and Connie, but is moved to defend them valiantly when some of the good ladies of the congregation suggest that an older woman is needed to run the family.

CHAPTER III—Continued.

"Indeed they are not," cried Prudence loyally. "They are young, lively, mischievous, I know—and I am glad of it. But I have lived with them ever since they were born, and I ought to know them. They are unselfish, they are sympathetic, they are always generous. They do foolish and irritating things—but never things that are hateful and mean. They are all right at heart, and that is all that counts. They are not bad girls! What have they done today? They were exasperating, and humiliating, too, but what did they do that was really mean? They embarrassed and mortified me, but not intentionally! I can't punish them for the effect on me, you know! Would that be just or fair? At heart, they meant no harm."

It must be confessed that there were many serious faces among the Ladies. Some cheeks were flushed, some eyes were downcast, some lips were compressed and some were trembling. Every mother there was asking in her heart, "Did I punish my children just for the effect on me? Did I judge my children by what was in their hearts, or just by the trouble they made me?"

And the silence lasted so long that it became awkward. Finally Mrs. Prentiss crossed the room and stood by Prudence's side. She laid a hand tenderly on the young girl's arm, and said in a voice that was slightly tremulous: "I believe you are right, my dear. It is what girls are at heart that really counts. I believe your sisters are all you say they are. And one thing I am very sure of—they are happy girls. I have a sister so patient and loving and just. Not all real mothers have as much to their credit!"

CHAPTER IV.

A Secret Society. Carol and Lark, in keeping with their twinning, were the dearest chums and comrades. To them the great, rambling barn back of the parsonage was a most delightful place. It had a big cowshed on one side, and horse stalls on the other, with a "heavenly" haymow over all, and with "delicates" for the descent of hay—and twine!

Now the twins had a secret society—of which they were the founders, the officers and the membership body. Its name was Skull and Crossbones. Lark furnished the brain power for the organization, but her sister was an enthusiastic and energetic second. Carol's club name was Lady Gwendolyn, and Lark's was Sir Alfred Angelcourt, ordinarily, although subject to frequent change. The old barn saw stirring times after the coming of the new parsonage family.

"Hark! Hark!" sounded a hissing whisper from the corncrib, and Connie, eavesdropping outside the barn, shivered sympathetically.

"What is it? Oh, what is it?" wailed the unfortunate lady. "Look! Look! Run for your life!" Then while Connie clutched the barn door in a frenzy, there was a sound of rattling corn, as the twins scrambled upward, a silence, a low thud, and an unromantic "ouch!" as Carol bumped her head and stumbled.

"Are you assaulted?" shouted the bold Sir Alfred, and Connie heard a wild scuffle as he rescued his companion from the clutches of the old halter on which she had stumbled. Up the haymow ladder they hurried, and then slid recklessly down the hay chutes. Presently the barn door was flung open, and the "society" knocked Connie flying backward, ran madly around the barn a few times, and scurried under the fence and into the chicken coop.

A little later Connie, assailed with shots of corncobs, ran bitterly toward the house. "Peeking" was strictly forbidden when the twins were engaged in Skull and Crossbones activities.

And Connie's soul burned with desire. She felt that this secret society was threatening not only her happiness, but also her health, for she could not sleep for horrid dreams of Skulls and Crossbones at night, and could not eat for envying the twins their secret and mysterious joys. Finally she applied to Prudence, and received assistance.

The afternoon mail brought to the parsonage an envelope addressed to "Misses Carol and Lark Starr, the Methodist Parsonage, Mount Mark, Iowa," and in the lower left-hand corner was a suggestive drawing of a Skull and Crossbones. The eyes of the mischievous twins twinkled with delight when they saw it, and they carried it to the barn for prompt perusal. It read as follows:

Miss Constance Starr humbly and respectfully craves admittance into the Ancient and Honorable Organisation of Skull and Crossbones.

The twins pondered long on a fitting reply, and the next afternoon the postman brought a letter for Connie, waiting impatiently for it. She had approached the twins about it at noon that day.

flush a little at this, but however the stolen apples tasted, the twins had no difficulty in disposing of them. Then, full almost beyond the point of comfort, they slid down the hay chutes, went out the back way, turned the corner, and came quietly in through the front door of the parsonage.

Prudence was in the kitchen preparing the evening meal. Fairy was in the sitting room, busy with her books. The twins set the table conscientiously, filled the woodbox, and in every way labored irreproachably. But Prudence had no word of praise for them that evening. She hardly seemed to know they were about the place. She went about her work with a pale face, and never a smile to be seen.

Supper was nearly ready when Connie snatched in from the barn. After leaving the haymow, she had found a cozy corner in the corncrib, with two heavy laprobes discarded by the twins in their flight from wolves, and had settled down there to finish her story. As she stepped into the kitchen Prudence turned to her with such a sorry, reproachful gaze that Connie was frightened.

"Are you sick, Prue?" she gasped. Prudence did not answer. She went to the door and called Fairy. "Finish getting supper, will you, Fairy? And when you are all ready, you and the twins go right on eating. Don't wait for father—he isn't coming home until evening. Come upstairs with me, Connie; I want to talk to you."

Connie followed her sister soberly, and the twins flashed at each other startling and questioning looks. The three girls were at table when Prudence came into the dining room alone. She fixed a tray-supper quietly and carried it off upstairs. Then she came back and sat down by the table. But her face bore marks of tears, and she had no appetite. The twins had felt small liking for their food before; now each mouthful seemed to choke them. But they dared not ask a question. They were devoutly thankful when Fairy finally voiced their interest.

"What is the matter? Has Connie been in mischief?" "It's worse than that," faltered Prudence, tears rushing to her eyes again. "Why, Prudence! What in the world has she done?"

"I may as well tell you, I suppose—you'll have to know it sooner or later. She—went out into Avery's orchard and stole some apples this afternoon. I was back in the alley seeing if Mrs. Moon could do the washing; and I saw her from the other side. She went from tree to tree, and when she got through the fence she ran. There's no mistake about it—she confessed." The twins looked up in agony, but Prudence's face reassured them. Constance had told no tales. "I have told her she must spend all of her time upstairs alone for a week, taking her meals there, too. She will go to school, of course, but that is all. I want her to see the awfulness of it. I told her I didn't think we wanted to eat with a thief—just yet! I said we must get used to the idea of it first. She is heartbroken, but—I must make her see it!"



"I Got What I Could and Ran."

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If you were in Prudence's place would you turn in and give Connie and the twins each a sound spanking—as the most effective sort of punishment?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Pleasure in Well-Doing.

Pleasure has a way of coming indirectly—where least you look for her and when least you expect her. She lurks in the happiness of work well done. She lingers in the consciousness of honest bookkeeping with life, and she always is to be found in the joy of growth and progress. In all these ways honest pleasure is to be found. This isn't meant to be a dull preachment against anything but work. But it does mean to say that happiness lies in doing and the consciousness of well-doing.

Missouri's Lead Output.

The demand from Europe in 1915 for lead to be used for war purposes caused the output of Missouri mines to break all previous records in the quantity of lead ore placed on the market that year, the amount being 105,624 tons in smelted or refined shape, which was worth \$18,380,500, or just about enough to build—and equip an up-to-date dreadnaught for the United States navy.

Cane Nearly Century Old.

William A. J. Giles of Concord, N. H., bought a cane in an auction shop, some weeks ago, to help him in his lameness. He supposed it was an ordinary cane, but William H. Harris, when inspecting it, pulled off about 15 inches in length. On the blade was engraved the words: "William Mattocks, June 2, 1832."