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Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., March 10, 1899.

Average of the Presidents.

Physically the average President of the United States is a magnificent specimen of manhood. He is three inches taller than the average American. He weighs 150 pounds—a heavy broad-shouldered man, a man of immense vitality. The average President's forehead is high, and there never has been a snub-nosed President. In height, our Presidents have varied from Lincoln, who stood 6 feet 3 in in his stockings, to Harrison, who stood only 5 feet 8 inches. In weight they range from Cleveland's 300 pounds to John Adams' 140, giving an average of 180.

The most youthful husband who ever became President was Benjamin Harrison, who was married when only 20. The next youngest was Johnson, who married when only 21, and whose wife taught him to read. The oldest was Cleveland, who did not marry until he was 49. Madison married at 43, Tyler married for the second time when 53. The average matrimonial age was 29. Buchanan was the only bachelor.

John Adams lived to the greatest age of all our Presidents, reaching his 91st year, and dying in the house of Representatives of which he was then a member. Jackson lived till 88, and Madison till 85. Garfield, having been assassinated by Guitman when scarcely 50 years old. P. Q. died at 54. The average age attained by our Presidents is great, being a little more than 70 years, showing that they must have been men of great vitality. This, indeed, we should have supposed in any case.

The average President had a good nose, long and straight. Nearly every President was excellently equipped in this respect, no possessor of a really insignificant nose ever having occupied the White House. Van Buren, Polk and Pierce had especially long noses, and Benjamin Harrison's was probably the shortest of the lot.

In another characteristic, too, our Presidents have been strangely alike. They have all possessed fine foreheads, high and intellectual. Strange to say, however, the facial angles are not large, the foreheads, as a rule, continuing nearly in the line with the nose, and in some cases even falling behind it. This was conspicuous in the case of Washington.

The early Presidents wore their hair in a peruke. Then came a number with hair fluffed out above their ears, or brushed up from their foreheads in a mop. Last came the close-clipped fashion of later days. In nearly every case the hair was plentiful, or capable of becoming so if allowed to grow. There was little tendency to baldness until in quite recent times, and when there was shown itself just above the forehead rather than on the crown of the head. Jackson had a mass of iron gray hair, while John Quincy Adams and Van Buren were nearly bald. Most of the Presidents kept the color of their hair until quite late in life, few of them showing more than a sprinkling of gray.

The average hair was dark brown in color, though Jefferson had red hair, Tyler black and Fillmore light. John Quincy Adams was the first President to wear any hair on his face, he having a luxuriant growth of whiskers. It was not until Grant became President that any occupant of the White House ventured to wear a mustache or beard. Since then every President has had a mustache except McKinley and two others—Hayes and Garfield.

The early Presidents drank heavy wines, being especially fond of Madeira. Jackson preferred whiskey, as did Pierce and Grant. Arthur put one-third of the cost of his state dinners into the wines. Hayes was a teetotaler and served no wines on his table. Madison limited himself to one glass of wine at dinner. Cleveland did not have wine unless there were guests present, and McKinley has followed his example.

In the matter of dress our Presidents, with few exceptions, have been decidedly simple. Jefferson received foreign ministers in a soiled shirt and run-down slippers. Jackson cared little or nothing for dress. Washington and the two Adamses wore the stately old costumes of their times. Hayes objected to a charge of \$25 for a suit of clothes, and had afterward most of his apparel made by a country tailor. Grant looked old after two or three days' wear. Lincoln was never more than a gaunt frame on which clothes hung loosely. Garfield and Arthur were "dudes," the latter at one time owning eighty pairs of trousers. Cleveland despised dress and dressty men, but Mrs. Cleveland saw to it that he was always well dressed in public.

Taylor wrote the worst hand of any of our Presidents. It was a schoolboy hand, cramped and awkward, while Jackson's scrawly bespoke a nervousness and timidity that were anything but characteristic of the man. Cleveland's writing is small and delicate, while Jefferson's is as easily read as print. Monroe's writing was even more feminine than Cleveland's, and Lincoln's was smooth and polished.

American Negroes.

A look at the map of the Philippine Islands will show the great importance of the news from there. That island lies near and partly parallel with Panay of which Iloilo is the chief port, and has been occupied by the American forces. Negros is a great sugar producing island, and Bacolor, its administrative centre, is near the northern end and directly east of Iloilo. Beyond, to the east, separated by a strait about fifteen miles wide and generally parallel with Negros, lies Cebu whose chief port of the same name is second only to Iloilo in all the Visayan group. The island of Cebu has about 400,000 inhabitants, Negros about 200,000 and Panay about 800,000. This is essentially the heart of the large array of islands in which the Visayan language is spoken, and it is recorded that the Visayans had attained a relative degree of civilization before the Spanish conquest, readily accepted Christianity, and assisted in the subjugation of the Tagals, who compose most of the insurgents on the island of Luzon.

Between the Tagal followers of Aguinaldo and the Visayans there are wide differences of race, speech, habits, industrial and commercial relations, and the memory of early hostility and conquest. It is not unnatural that the Visayans should be more readily inclined to welcome American authority, because the so-called government set up by Aguinaldo is essentially a Tagal affair, and his success would be that race in a position of supremacy over others more numerous and more inclined toward civilized ways. The very name "Filipino," which is used by Aguinaldo and his followers in all their declarations, is the term commonly applied to Manila in the Tagals alone. The voluntary application of the President of the Provisional government of Negros and other representative natives, who first visited Gen. Miller at Iloilo, went back to the capital of Negros raised and saluted the American flag, and then went to Manila and waited on General Otis there on Tuesday, therefore indicates a tendency which is likely to influence greatly the course of events in all the Philippine islands south of Luzon. For commercial purposes the Visayan group is scarcely less important than Luzon itself. The fact that this country has lately bought sugar more largely than before from the Visayas, since supplies of cane-sugar from Cuba were reduced and supplies of beet-sugar from Germany were largely excluded, is also of national importance.

In Congress, by those who doubtless imagine they are urging the independence of the people of the Philippine Islands, Aguinaldo and his Tagal insurgents are supposed to be "the people," but that organization, its force and such support as it has come entirely from the Tagal race, which has no plot or force outside the island of Luzon, and is bitterly distrusted by the entire Visayan population. Moreover, it embraces only a fraction of the population of Luzon, and occupies less than half of its territory. More than half is occupied by savage tribes, and while some of these are in race related to the Tagals the rest are related to the Negritos, whose presence in Negros gave that island its name. Within twenty miles of Manila, it is stated, there are savage tribes who have no relation whatever with the Tagals and utterly reject their pretended authority. It is amazing, in a small minority of the Tagal inhabitants, emboldened by part of one race, confined to one island and not occupying half of that, and bitterly opposed by other races much more numerous, as entitled to represent the population of the Philippine Islands.—New York Tribune.

Jacob Bupp Dead.

A Famous Maker of Ropes that Hanged Murderers. Jacob Bupp, who, it is said, made more ropes with which to hang murderers than any other man in the country, died last week at the national soldiers' home at Dayton, O. Mr. Bupp had a national reputation as an expert hangman's rope maker and out of the 109 ropes that he made to hang murderers only one broke. That was in the case of Murderer West, a Washington county negro, who paid the death penalty. Among the ropes he made for famous criminals was the one used to hang Charles Jules Guitman, who assassinated President James A. Garfield.

He also made the rope to hang Dr. Beach, of Altoona. Dr. Beach will be remembered as the noted physician who dissected his wife alive. Dr. Beach weighed 265 pounds, and the rope which was used to hang him was one of special make and it served its purpose. The rope which hung the Nicely boys, of Westmoreland county, was also made by him. He made the rope that hung Eli Sheets, the only murderer ever hung in Beaver county. Mr. Bupp made all the ropes used to hang Allegheny county murderers until a few years ago, when he gave up the business.

Kentucky Elopement.

Brothers and sisters, all named Franklin, were the participants in the city hall in Jeffersonville last week in a double wedding. Magistrate George Hall performed the ceremony that made Etna Franklin the bride of William B. Franklin and Laura Franklin the bride of John B. Franklin. The bridal couples eloped from the vicinity of Bradenburg. They walked part of the way. When they came to Salt river no boat could be found to ferry them over, and, hunting a shallow place, they waded across. The four hastened to a farm house and warmed. The grooms said they became acquainted with their brides at the same time, and both paid calls together. Every social function in the neighborhood was attended in a body by the Franklins. They were shipped at the same church and, in fact, the four have been practically inseparable since the courtship began.

While the Franklins were going to Jeffersonville they met Joseph Byars and Dora McFarland, of Metcalf county. After being married the three couples crossed to the city again.

Sally Lunns.—One pound sifted flour, one ounce butter, two eggs, three teaspoonfuls baking powder and one teaspoonful of warm milk. Mix the baking powder with the flour; then add the eggs well beaten, warm the milk and dissolve the butter, in it; add to the other ingredients and mix all together to a rather stiff dough; cut it into four pieces; make into the shape of buns; flatten with the hands, and put them into a good oven at once and bake for about 20 minutes. When removed from the oven brush over with a little egg and milk.

The President of the French Republic receives a salary of \$125,000 outright, and his allowances of one kind or another are as much more, making altogether the sum of \$250,000 for keeping up the French presidential establishment.

Mexico's Sign Language.

Mexico is a land of many tongues; but, above the Indian dialects and Spanish, there is one universal language—the language of signs. It is the most expressive of all; the Mexican eye and hand are eloquent members. It is capable of infinite variations; its shades and suggestions are beyond all translation. But there are certain gestures that have a fixed meaning, a signification well understood by every nation and every tribe from Guatemala to Texas.

A general upward movement of the body, shoulders shrugged, eyebrows raised, lips pouted and palms outspread, varies in meaning from "I don't know and I don't care" to "most respectful." Really, sir, I do not understand you." The index finger moved rapidly from right to left, generally before the face, means "No more" or simply "No." To move the right hand palm downward from the body toward another person means "Just wait, I'll be even with you yet."

The index finger on the temple, moved with a boring twist, means "He is drunk." The right hand held to the lips, three fingers doubled, thumb and little finger erect, varies from "He drinks" to "Have one on me." To move the open hand over the cheek in imitation of a razor has reference to the idiom "playing the barber," and means "to flatter." All four fingers and the thumb held points together and moved toward the mouth means "to eat." The right hand held before the face, the two middle fingers moving rapidly, is a familiar salutation.

Low Rates to Washington and Baltimore.

Special Ten-Day Excursions via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Pennsylvania railroad company has arranged for three low rate ten-day excursions from Pittsburgh and Washington in Western Pennsylvania to Washington, Md., on April 27th and May 11th. Round-trip tickets will be sold at rates quoted below, good going on special train indicated, or on train No. 4, leaving Pittsburgh at 8:30 p. m., and carrying through sleeping cars to Washington. Special train of through parlor cars and coaches will be run on the following schedule:

Table with columns: Station, Train leaves, Rate. Altoona 11:40 7.35, Bellefonte 11:52 7.35, Curwensville 12:15 7.25, Clearfield 12:31 7.25, Philipsburg 10:12 7.25, Pottsville 10:23 7.25, Tyrone 12:03 p. m. 7.25

Tickets will be good returning on any regular train, except the Pennsylvania limited, until April 8th, May 6th and May 20th, respectively, and to stop off at Baltimore within limit. Holders of special excursion tickets to Washington can purchase, at the Pennsylvania railroad ticket offices in Washington, excursion to Richmond at rates of \$4.00 and to Old Point Comfort (all rail) at \$6.00; at the offices of the Norfolk and Washington steamship company, excursion tickets (not including meals and staterooms on steamers) to Old Point Comfort or Norfolk, Va., and to Virginia Beach at \$4.50; Washington to Mt. Vernon and return, via electric railway, 50 cents.

Should the number of passengers not be sufficient to warrant the running of a special train, the company reserves the right to substitute participants in this excursion on regular train. Tickets on sale at all stations mentioned above. For full information apply to agents or Thomas E. Watt, passenger agent western district, Fifth Avenue and Smithfield street, Pittsburgh. 44-10-3t.

Washington.

Four-Day Personally-Conducted Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The almost unparalleled success of the tour last year has induced the Pennsylvania railroad company to offer the residents of Williamsport, Wilkesbarre, Sunbury, Harrisburg, and neighboring cities in Central Pennsylvania another opportunity to avail themselves of the peculiar advantages of a personally-conducted tour to Washington, and has therefore arranged for a four-day tour to the National Capital on Monday, March 27th.

Trains will leave Renovo at 6:40 a. m., Williamsport 8:30 a. m., Sunbury 10:50 a. m., Altoona 7:15 a. m., Lancaster 10:35 a. m., Harrisburg 12:35 p. m., stopping at the principal intermediate stations and at York. Returning special train will leave Washington at 3:30 p. m., Thursday, March 30th. Passengers from points west of Williamsport, will use regular trains from Washington returning. All tickets will be good to return also on regular trains until Saturday, April 1st, inclusive.

Round-trip rate, covering transportation, hotel accommodations from supper on date of tour until luncheon March 30th. \$12.90 from Williamsport, \$14.00 from Altoona and proportionate rates from other stations en route to Washington will be distributed free on the train. For itineraries, rates, tickets, and full information apply to ticket agents; E. S. Harrar, division ticket agent, Williamsport, Pa.; or address Geo. W. Boyd, assistant general passenger agent, Broad street station, Philadelphia. 44-9-4t

SPREADS LIKE WILDFIRE.—You can't keep a good thing down. News of it travels fast. When things are "the best" they become "the best selling." Abraham Hare, a leading druggist, of Belleville, O. writes: "Electric Bitters are the best selling bitterns I have ever handled in my 20 years experience." "You know why? Most diseases begin in disorders of stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels, blood and nerves. Electric Bitters tones up the stomach, regulates liver, kidneys and bowels, purifies the blood, strengthens the nerves, hence cures multitudes of maladies. It builds up the entire system. Puts new life and vigor into any weak, sickly, run-down man or woman. Only 50 cents. Sold by F. Potts Green, druggist, guaranteed."

It is stated that thirty per cent. of the common contagious diseases are carried from house to house by the domestic pets of the household.

IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT.—"I doctor-ed for a long time for indigestion and that tired feeling, but believe the medicine I took made me worse. Seeing Hood's Sarsaparilla advertised I began taking it and felt better in a short time. I took six bottles and my health has been excellent ever since." Katie DeWitt, Matamoras, Pennsylvania. Hood's Pills are non-irritating and the only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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