

COL. FRED'S LITTLE FINGER.

The Story of How Gen. Grant's Oldest Son Shot It Off by Accident.

The colonel has a handsome, well-shaped hand, of which he is somewhat proud, and naturally hides the defect as much as possible when in the company of others. The story of how he lost his finger was related to the correspondent recently by one of his former juvenile companions at the time the Grants occupied the little two-story brick on High street in Galena, Ill., in 1862. Fred was then about 10 years of age, and being a favorite of his grandfather, Jesse R. Grant, had been presented with a handsome single-barreled shot-gun, an article which he had long coveted and pleaded for with his father in vain. Jesse maintained that his grandson, Frederick, was old enough to handle a gun, and should have one; and so, when the youngster's birthday came around, he got the weapon, together with a liberal supply of ammunition.

His first practice shots were upon the border of a tree in the barn of L. S. Felt, his next neighbor. However, in shooting off his little finger by accident, the gun having been prematurely exploded while he was standing with his left hand over the muzzle. The finger was almost entirely severed by the charge, and hung out on a strip of skin. With great caution and the plucky Fred took out his knife and cut the shroud which held the finger, and placing the amputated member in his pocket he slung the gun over his shoulder and leisurely trudged into the house to his mother, to whom he broke the news of the disaster, with characteristic motherly affection, dread, and characteristically, and nearly went into hysterics over it, so great was her grief at the misfortune which had befallen her beloved boy.

Fred took the matter philosophically throughout, and consoled his mother as best he could, telling her that she ought to be thankful it was not worse. His father, then Capt. Grant, was sent for, likewise the family doctor. Both arrived in due time, and the wounded hand was ere long properly dressed and placed in a sling, after which operation the dismembered finger was buried in the yard of the Haines premises by the troop of juveniles who were present when the accident occurred. The affair came off with great solemnity and due pomp, Fred being present as chief mourner. Funeral chants were sung, Miss Susie Felt now Mrs. J. Allen Barber, of Chicago, and Miss Mary A. Haines now Mrs. G. W. Penderbury, of Galena, leading the choir. When Capt. Grant reached home on the day of the accident his only remark was, after examining the nature of the injury, "Well, Fred, this will disqualify you for admission to West Point. But it didn't however, as subsequent events showed.—Boston Budget.

Some Facts Concerning Mormons in Utah. Judge Baskin, of Utah, tells me that though Brigham Young left over a million, his children are fast going through it. Many of the girls have not turned 21, and in his opinion, the majority of the children have the ability of their father. I came across a curious fact in connection with Brigham Young the other day, and that is that his children acted in the Salt Lake theater when it was first started. The Mormons are not proud of this, and when I asked Mr. Caine about it one day he evaded answering the question.

Judge Baskin tells me that Utah would be a thousand per cent better off if it had never seen a Mormon. He says the territory contains some of the best land in the United States—land which will produce four hundred or five hundred bushels of wheat to the acre, and other things in proportion. He says the talk of the Mormons making the desert blossom like the rose has been originated by Mormons, and there is nothing in it. He says all the land needed was irrigation, and the streams of Utah are such that this could be easily gotten. Irrigation is better than rain, and any other class of Americans would have brought forth better products and a larger population than the Mormons. Had the Mormons kept out of Utah it would now have a thriving Gentile population. Salt Lake City would be larger than Denver, and the territory would be a state filled with some of the most enterprising men of the west.—Camp in Cleveland Leader.

Some Peculiarities of Plant Growth. The shape of the root system has much to do with the stress which a plant can bear without giving way. In some plants the roots strike down, in others they extend in a nearly horizontal direction, and in others, and perhaps the largest number of cases, they pass downwards in an oblique direction. The buttressed trunks found in the tropics illustrate a common method by which great power of resistance is given to the stem. In these there is a series of projecting flanges, which are their best aid, and which extend outward and downward from the trunk to the roots. Training plants of all climates further illustrates economy in building materials. In water plants there is very little need of mechanical support, as the water bears a large part of the burden. Hence, as we might expect, plants of very great size are met with in quiet seas. In the Pacific one kind of seaweed is said to attain a length of more than 1,000 feet. But some of the rattan palms of the jungles, resting on the tops of other vegetation, are said to creep along for a distance seven times that length. The food is used for growth rather than for mechanical support.—Boston Budget.

The Cost of a Modern Saloon. I am acquainted with a dispenser of combustible fluids, who recently referred to the business after having retired for some years. He says: "Thirty years ago I opened what was called one of the handsome bars in the city. It cost me, stock, fixtures and all, \$1,500. I have already put out \$14,000 on this place. The wood work alone cost nearly as much as my whole bar, liquors and all. I have paid more for plate-glass than I did for the fixtures of my old place, and the cupboards and other brassy figures me as much as my stock did then. About the only thing that hasn't changed much is liquor. They remain about the same, but you have to carry more now and keep a regular drug store behind the bar. I've got a full line of cocoa and beef extracts, quinine, bicarbonate of soda, and callaya. I believe there are some other physics there, too, but I don't remember their names. To-day a man wanted some arnica to rub on his wrist for rheumatism. He got mad when he found we didn't have any, and threatened to take his custom away.—New York "Ebbels."

One Way to Stop a Runaway. Two horses hitched to a back, in which were two women, ran away in Westfield, Mass., recently. Jack Mahoney, a well-known local ball-player, ran after them, caught on behind, yelled to the frightened woman not to jump out, and then, while the carriage swayed and jolted, climbed over the slippery roof, reached the driver's seat, leaped over the dashboard, grabbed the reins and brought the runaway to a standstill. No one was hurt.—New York Sun.

Table with columns for names and amounts, organized by townships: UNSEATED LANDS FOR TAXES FOR 1884 AND 1885, BURNERSIDE TWP., MARRION TWP., MILES TWP., CURTIN TWP., FERGUSON TWP., GREGG TWP., HAINES TWP., HAYES TWP., SPRING TWP., SNOW SHOE TWP., HALF MOON TWP., HARRIS TWP., HOWARD TWP., LIBERTY TWP., HUSTON TWP.

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