

A FAMILY OF GLADIATORS.

The Descendants of Samuel Combe, of Livingstone Manor—The Greatest Fight in the Wilderness on Record.

William Combe, one of the few real veterans of the war of 1812 surviving until this year, died a few days ago at the residence of his son, at Arlington, Minn. He was born at Springfield, Otsego county, New York, in the year 1766.

At the time of William's birth, his father, Samuel Combe, of Livingstone Manor, who had served in the Revolution, was a conspicuous figure on the then borders of civilization, and for many years afterward he and his six stalwart sons bore a prominent part in the many sanguinary conflicts that marked the early history of the Western frontier.

Samuel Combe and his sons were men of great physical strength and indomitable courage. The youngest boy is mentioned in old records of his native county and regions further West, as a giant in stature and a Milo in strength.

William Combe, whose death is just announced, was a descendant of the Combe family, and was with Gen. Winfield Scott at Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, and Fort George; and his gray coat was more than once made a special target by the British marksmen in the fights at Niagara, Queenston, Heights, Rockett's Harbor, and the Creek. At the close of the war he settled at Jordan, Onondaga county, New York, but being of a restless disposition, and fond of exciting adventures, he was ever longing for an opportunity to take part again in scenes such as had been his delight in the past.

When the rebellion broke out, he had having entered the army, the old man shouldered a musket and fought at South Mountain and Antietam.

Only one of William Combe's brothers is known to survive him. He is Charles Combe, now residing at Brooklyn, L. I., and in his 81st year.

The youngest brother, Jonas, mentioned above as the giant, was of a turbulent disposition, and was constantly involved in fights, out of which he always marched with flying colors. His prowess was universally acknowledged. He rarely fought one man at a time, preferring to engage with fewer than from three to half a dozen of good size and weight.

The crowning achievement of his life as he never heard of after the occurrence of the incident he related, was his victory, single handed, over a mob of 150 infuriated and reckless Frenchmen of Detroit, just after the close of the War of 1812. The present city was then a village, or more properly a trading post, inhabited mainly by French Canadians of the ruler class.

WHEELER & WILSON'S NEW NO. 6 SEWING MACHINE.

American Institute, New York—Judges' Report, Nov. 14, 1874.

To the Board of Managers: GENTLEMEN—After a full and impartial examination of the articles described, the undersigned judges make the following REPORT—(ABSTRACT): That Sewing-machine No. 436 (Wheeler & Wilson's New No. 6) was claimed to be so great an improvement, both upon the well-known family machine made by the same company, and upon all other sewing-machines, as entitled it to recognition as a new and valuable invention.

Under these circumstances, an extremely thorough and minute examination became both desirable and necessary, not only of its novelty but of the skill and workmanship manifested in the fitting and adjustment of all its parts. We have risen from such examination with an ample conviction that the claim, in all its essential features, is well founded.

At the commencement of our examination, we were provided with several complete sets of all the working parts as they came from the manufactory, and were at liberty to make our own selection for the construction of a complete machine in our presence. We thus had, to a large degree, a demonstration of the nicety of the manufacture. Every part was formed to fit every other part with exact precision. So accurately, for instance, did the several rotating hooks fit in the same bearing, that while entering it, each one of them, without such contact as required force, manifested complete ease in its way in reaching its proper seat.

The simple and efficient device for producing variable motion for the rotating hook. The independent take-up lever, which secures the tightening of the stitch under the best possible circumstances. The peculiar form of the hook and the use of a bobbin holding a great quantity of the under thread. The facility of applying and using many useful attachments—the hemmer, binder, corder, ruffler, &c.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

Items of Interest from Home and Abroad. William W. White, of North Bergen, N. J. was found dead in his bed. He was one of the old settlers. The Boston Typographical Union elected John Vincent president.

The Problem of Pauperism. Dr. Charles S. Hoyt, secretary of the New York State Board of Charities, gives some exceedingly interesting facts relative to pauperism in the State of New York. He has found that pauperism becomes in one sense a disease.

Another Warning. One more terrible warning against the foolish practice of playing with firearms is contained in the story of the shooting of a police captain in Brooklyn.

Indisputable Evidence. St. Elmo, Ill., July 8, 1874. R. V. Pierce, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y. I wish to add my testimony to the wonderful curative power of your medicine.

Hog-Packing Statistics. The Price Current, a leading authority upon hog-packing statistics, gives a very full preliminary report of the pork packing in the West.

The Wheat Crop. It would appear from a long article in a New York paper, that the wants of Great Britain in the wheat line average about 850,000 bushels per week.

The Congressional Library. The Congressional Library at Washington contains 274,157 volumes, an increase of 18,405 volumes during the past year.

Such Last. Lucy Hooper, in her last Paris letter, says of the German hair trade: "The highest-priced hair is pure white, long tresses of which are sold not by the pound but by the single hair, each hair being valued at about half a cent."

Pepper Vinegar.—Take six large red peppers, slit them up, and boil them in three pints of strong vinegar down to one quart. Strain it, and bottle for use. It will keep for years.

WASHINGTON MATTERS.

A bill was introduced providing for the reorganization of the United States currency by the postmasters of the several cities and towns of the United States.

The House, in considering the Legislative Appropriation bill, rejected a motion to increase the clerical force of the Bureau of Education.

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No Uncertain Sound.

When a man discovers a great truth, it is his duty to proclaim it to his fellow men. The use of Dr. Walker's California Bitters cannot be too strongly recommended.

MUSICAL GIFTS For the Holidays! Fine Gift Editions (Price \$4.00) of these Elegant Collections of Bound Music, entitled GEMS OF STRAUSS. Instrumental.

THE MILLER & MILLWRIGHT. A Monthly Journal of Music, Drama, and the Fine Arts. Published by Miller & Millwright, 150 Broadway, N. Y.

THE WAYS OF WOMEN. A series of articles on the health and beauty of women, published by The Ways of Women, 150 Broadway, N. Y.

THE CHEAPEST AND BEST PAPER IN THE COUNTRY. Published by The Ways of Women, 150 Broadway, N. Y.

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