Sketch of the Life of General Satter-the Man on Whose Farm in Callfornia Gold was First Discovered.

The following interesting account is given of General John Augustus Sutter, who died in Washington a short time ago: General Sutter, whose original name was Suter, was born at Kandern, Baden, February 15, 1803. In his childhood he evinced an aptitude for the military profession, and his ambition was gratified by his parents, who were un-doubtedly well off. He was given a liberal education, and sent to the military school at Berne, Switzerland, where he was graduated in 1829. He went to France and joined the army of Charles X., being commissioned by that king as general. After the revolution of July, 1830, however, he became weary of his military life, and, casting eyes about for some country in which to seek adventure and fame, he chose the new world as offering the best field for his restless spirit, and emigrated to this country. He had but little ready money, but America was but sparsely settled then, and brains and courage were more in demand here at that time than fortunes. The young emigrant settled first in the western part of Missouri, but as the population of that State increased, he moved further West, always flying before the advance of the pioneers, and determined, as he said once, in telling his story, to be the pioneer of pioneers. He finally, in 1837, reached what is now New Mexico, and established himself at Santa Fe, where he began trading with the Indians. His gentle manners and strict honesty in dealing with them soon won the hearts of the savages, and General Sutter prospered in his business with them. He learned their language, took an interest in their welfare, and taught them many useful things. The result was that they confided in the man who trusted in them, and told him of the wonderful beauty of the country across the Rocky mountains, the fertility of its soil, and the mildness and salubrity of its climate. Fired by these reports of his dusky friends, General Sutter finally determined to cross the Rocky mountains, and in 1838 he passed over into Calitornia, which was then under the control of the Mexican government. General Sutter first went to Fort Van-

couver, and from there, spurred on by the restless spirit of adventure which characterized him, he sailed to the Sandwich islands. He saw little chance to win either fame or fortune among the idle and unambitious Kanakas, and he soon left the islands, sailing for Alaska. From here he engaged in a trading trip down the Pacific coast, and this voyage ended July 2, 1839, by his being ship-wrecked in the bay of Yerba Buena, now known as the bay of San Francisco. He had saved a little money from the wreck, but not enough to enable him to fit out for another trading voyage, and he wisely resolved to begin over by engaging in agriculture, and working again with his old friends, the Indians. With great difficulty, because of his ignorance of the country and the natives, he pene trated to the interior up the Sacramento river, and arriving at the point where the city of Sacramento now stands, he saw the advantages of the location, and pitched his camp at once. He chose a site in the Sacramento valley, about three miles back from the river, one of the most fertile spots in all California, and naming it New Helvetia. settled there with the intention of staying. He put in practice his old tactics in his treatment of the Indians; instead of slaughtering them he made friends of and it was this business that called him result of the new member's endeavor to them. He taught them the rude arts of agriculture which were within their comprehension, and also intrusted them with firearms and instructed them in their use. In a remarkably short space of time, New Helvetia was a th iving settlement, and General Sutter, by raising large crops, for which there was always a ready market in Yerba Buena was rapidly becoming a ealthy man.

It was the only white settlement in that section of the country, and the influence of General Sutter was felt far and wide. New Helvetia was the stopping place of all white men who crossed the country, and its commander was very popular with the Russians of the North and the Mexicans who surround-ea him. In 1841 his influence with the Indians had become so great that the Mexican government found it advisable to secure this Swiss farmer as a kind of ally. They made him a formal grant of eleven leagues of land near the junction of the Sacramento and American rivers, on condition that he would keep the Indians in check, and punish them if they interfered with the settlement. this time he had gathered several white men around him, all of whom worked either for him or on shares on his land. When he received the grant of land he transformed his farmhouse into a fort, which soon became known all over the country as "Sutter's Fort," and was the haiting place of all expeditions crossing the country. It was here that General Freemont was entertained with the layish hospitality of the frontier at the time of his expedition across the Rocky mountains. The fort was surrounded with a wall of brick twelve feet high, and mounted with twenty-four cannon purchased from the Russians. It was General Sutter's province to protect the entire northern frontier of Mexico, not only from the Indians, but from the marauding bands of trappers and hunters who visited the valley for purposes of plunder, and he did his work so well that the Mexican government felt perfeetly secure in that part of the State under his charge. In 1845, in recognition of his eminent services, a further grant of twenty-two leagues of land was

General Sutter was now at the height of his power and glory. He was probably the wealthiest man on the Pacific coast, his landed estate embracing, in round numbers, 150,000 acres. He was military commander and Indian agent of a vast territory, and almost literally monarch of all he surveyed. Houses, shops, mills and other evidences of civ- a ilization had sprung up around him, the Mexican government, in revenge for his having encroached on their trapping business, but the effort failed, and after a long investigation that government pronounced General Sutter vindicated completely, and trusted him more im-plicitly than ever. From 1845 to 1848 he was a veritable king, and feeling himself at last permanently established for life, this roving adventurer sent to Switzerland for his wife and family, who soon joined him, and prepared to settle down in the home which he had made. All these plans were frustrated

made to him.

by the discovery of gold on his land. In the fall of 1847 General Sutter was building a large mill at what is now beth.-Notes and Queries.

Coloma, on the American river. He had laborers at work cutting logs, and early in the winter of 1848 he set about constructing an extensive mill-race. Among his laborers was a man named Marshall, who was engaged in superintending the work. In February some children picked from the dirt thrown from the race some shining particles, and carried them to Marshall to look He recognized them as gold, and rushed to the tort in a state of intense excitement to communicate the dis-covery to General Sutter. He warned the general to keep the secret, but with his characteristic frankness and generosity he made it known to several of his friends, and through them it was published to the world. In that same month of February, 1848, the Mexican war closed, and California was ceded to the United States. A tremendous rush for the new gold-diggings followed. The soldiers of the two years' war and adventurers from every State in the Union poured into the new El Dorado. General Sutter was unacquainted with our laws, or he might have protected himself by taking up mining claims, and realized from them more than the original value of his property. Instead of doing this he sat still while the army of gold-seekers squatted upon his land. They staked off their claims, taking his houses, mills, everything that he pos-sessed, and he had absolutely no redress. They took his cattle for food, destroyed his crops digging for gold, and in three short years this Crossus of the Pacific coast was almost as poor as he was on the day when he first set his foot on the soil of Missouri

During the Mexican war, the Mexican government, realizing the advan-tageous position of Sutter's fort, had ambassador to the general, offering him \$100,000 in cash, besides valuable lands further south, for the establishment of New Helvetia, including the fort. This offer was declined, because General Sutter had many Americans in his employ and in the settlement, whom he refused to turn over to the tender mercies of the Mexicans. His sympathies and active co-operation were on the side of the United States in the struggle, and his fort be-came the nucleus for American military operations in that section, so that Gen eral Sherman had good cause to say or him, as he did a short time since, tha "to him more than to any single person are we indebted for the conquest of California and all her treasures." By the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, which ceded California to the United States it was expressly scipulated that the owners of property therein should retain the same without being subjected to any contribution, tax or charge whatever. One board of land commis-

sioners, appointed for the investigation of land titles in California, confirmed Sutter's claim to the two tracts granted him by Mexico.* The squatters appealed to the United States district court, which affirmed the decision of the board. The squatters again appealed to the supreme court, and that tribunal afreversed the two previous decisions as to the larger grant of twenty-two leagues. General Sucter, meantime, had sold much of the large tract, giving and feeling the necessity of refreshment, warranty deeds, and to make these good used up the smaller grant, and he found himself utterly poverty-stricken. The State of California granted him an annuity of \$3,000, and upon this he lived until it was withdrawn a few years ago. Since then his friends have been between the member and the back of the

General Sutter left California in 1854, a thoroughly heart-broken man, and Leaby's stomach, where he literally retired with his family to Litiz, Penn, stuck, while the house howled at him where he has resided with his aged wife and two grandchildren ever since. He has been president for many years of the "Old Californians," who celebrated the discovery of gold in California by an annual dinner in New York city.

to Washington.

Squeaking Boots.

A correspondent tells in the Musical World an incident about Rubinstein, the famous pianist. The kind of man who was the occasion of the incident is very well known to all concert-goers. The writer says: It was good to see the genuine enthusiasm he awakened, and to hear the applause and almost acclaim which greeted him as he finished. It was well known that he never responded to an encore, but the evident desire of the audience seemed to touch him a little, and he kindly and graciously came back, and, with almost a smile on his face, began that beautifu. "Nocturne' of Chopin's in F sharp. His mood was a very responsive one just then, and he gave to the tender, dreamy thought a new charm. It was a beautiful moment; the player rapt, absorbed; the listeners intensely silent, when suddenly the spell was broken. The inevitable man with the squeaky

boots, who frequents all public entertainments, and who never has the good breeding to sit one out, was here, and just at this impressive moment deemed it his duty to leave. So, during one of the softest and most impressive pas-sages, this individual got up and pre-pared to travel the whole length of the circular gallery. As soon as he started Rub nstein's face lost its rapt look, and he seemed annoyed; but when the man arrived in the center, opposite him, he could bear it no longer, and taking his hands from the keys, and looking up at the disturber said, in audible German:

"What does that stupid tellow mean by his eternal walking about? It is impossible to play!" and he arose and left the piano. It was a just rebuke.

Miles and Milestones.

The mile is not an original English or Teutonic measure of length, but was borrowed from the Romens, with a considerable amount of latiin its application. All our and he was the center of a prosperous community. The Hudson Bay company endeavored to undermine his credit with at five and a half yards, but originally it differed in various parts of the country. The Lancashire perch was seven and a half yards, the Cheshire perch eight yards, the Irish perch seven yards. Forty of these on end constituted a "furrow-lon"," or furlong, and eight furlongs were a mile. Taking the standard perch at five and a half yards, this makes the English mile 1,760 yards. The Roman mile was 1,000 paces, of nearly five feet each, equaling 1,614 yards. The English mile of 1,760 yards was the nearest approximation which our unit of measurement could give to the Ro-man "mille passum." The mile was fixed at 1,760 yards by a statute of ElizaFour Rich Men.

The Liverpool Courier gives some rather interesting particulars as to the four men who are supposed to be the most wealthy living Of these the poorest is the Duke of Westminister, whose ncome is set down at \$3,000,000 a year. Taking it at that sum, the amount which the duke can spend without in-trenching on his capital is \$10,000 a dwy, \$450 an hour, and \$7 50 a minute. The next man in ascending the scale is Senator Jones, of Nevada, whose income is valued at exactly \$5,000,000, giving him the right to spend, if he likes, \$10 a minute out of revenue. The head of the Rothschild family comes next, with a yearly income of \$2,000,000, and the expenses which he can defray thereout are, of course, double as great as those of the senator.

At the top of the list comes Mr. J. W. Mackay, with a revenue of \$10,750,-000, which enables him to disburse \$35,-000 a day, \$1,500 an hour, and \$25 a minute. The fortunes of the other three are insignificant if compared with this gentleman's wealth. For they were the growth of many years, either of successful toil or lucky speculation, or both combined. But Mr. Mackay, as the Courier remarks, was thirty years ago a penniless boy in Ireland. Sixteen years ago he was a bankrupt; and now he is the owner of the richest silver mine that has ever been discovered. There is, therefore, hope for all the pen-niless boys in "ould Ireland," We commend to them the example of Mr. J. W. Mackay, who, it appears, is now only forty-five years old, and if he goes on at the same rate as during the last sixteen years, will have ample time to treble his fortune and possess an income ten times as large as that of the Duke of Westminister. Already the capital-ized value of his property is set down at \$275,000,000, against the modest \$80,-000,000 of the duke. Such figures are piersing to the eye and ear, but the Liverpool Courier does not by any means vouch for the accuracy of the totals it publishes.

Comical Scene in the House of Commons.

Parliamentary etiquette forbids any one to pass between a commoner on his legs and the speaker whom he is addressing. New members are naturally apt to forget the theory that when a man is making a speech in the house of commons he is addressing, not the as-sembly of 400 or 500 gentleman who surround him, but the wig and gown in the canopied chair. The consequence is that new members when they want to move about the house have no scruple in passing between the chair and the member addressing it. Thereupon the house is filled with howls of execration, which are not lessened, since it often happens that the object of rebuke, delightfully unconscious of offense, placidly continues his journey wondering what the unfortunate member on his legs could have said to excite this outfirmed the grant of eleven leagues, but | burst of anger. Recently an outrage unasked a gentleman standing above him, nearer the chair, to fetch him a glass of trying to secure a grant of \$50,000 from bench before him. Now, Mr. Leaby is a Congress to indemnify him for his losses, man of great frontal development. The be useful was that he got wedged in between the back of the bench and Mr. as if it had discovered him flagrante delicto attempting to pick a pocket.

> A young lady graduate was surprised on going into the country to find that beans were vegetables and grew in pods. She thought they were something akin to pork .- Bosion Transcript.

> An unfortunate Indianapolis man, who ost several toes by a car wheel, was onsoled by an Irishman near by with: Whist, there, you're making more noise than mony a man I've see with his head off "

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Bread and Meat.

M . Scheurer-Kestner has discovered the remarkable fact that the fermentation of bread causes the complete digestion of meat. He found that a beefsteak cut into small pieces, and mixed with flour and yeast disappeared entirely during the process of paniscation, its nutritive principles becoming in corporated with the bread. The meat would also appear capable of preservation for an indefinite period in its new state, for loaves of meat-bread made in 1873 were submitted to the French Academy of Science, when not a trace of worms or moldiness was observable, At the beginning of his experiments, M. Scheurer-Kestner used raw meat, but the meat-bread had a disagreeable sour taste, which was avoided by cooking the meat for an hour with sufficien; water to afterward moisten the flour. The meat must be carefully deprived of fat, and only have sufficient salt to bring out the flavor, as salt, by aborb ing the moisture from the air, would tend to spoil the bread. The propor-tion of meat to flour should not exceed one-half, so as to insure complete digestion. Bread made with a suitable proportion of veal is said to furnish excellent soup for the sick and wounded.

After all, some of our old proverbs re pretty correct. It is "better to are pretty correct. It is "better make hay while the sun shines." would be very awkward going out after dark and trying to hold a lantern and swing a scythe. - Boston Post.

Beautiflers.

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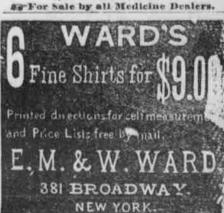
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