

WILL HOLD HIS JOB.

John H. Gear Reelected United States Senator from Iowa.

Started in Life as a Farm Boy and Rose to Be a Man of Business, Governor of a Great State and a National Leader.

Years ago they called John H. Gear, just reelected to the United States senate from Iowa, "Old Business." He was then governor of the state (1878-1882), and he gave the affairs of the commonwealth an attention, a care, a discriminating fidelity such as few governors before him had done. The title has clung to Senator Gear ever since, although he has gone on to higher honors and has become a servant of the nation as well as of Iowa.

Senator Gear is New York born. He belongs to the generation of young men who abandoned farm life and small commercial pursuits in the early years of the nineteenth century and came west to find room for their ambitions and energy in which to work. Born in 1825, at Ithaca, he was 18 when he made his way to Burlington, Ia., taking all the chances of travel of that time and facing poverty for the reward which labor might bring in the years to come. He was a merchant in Burlington when Chicago was a struggling village, before the Union Pacific was constructed, when St. Louis was the commercial mart of the west, when the Missouri was to be the great navigable stream of the middle country, when there was not an operated railroad west of Ohio, nor a mile of telegraph line, nor any means of transportation but steamboat, stages or one's own feet.

Burlington was a town of considerable importance at that time, having a wide trade and a class of merchants noted for their progressive ideas. Senator Gear, beginning with small capital, increased his field of operations until he was one of the best known merchants in the state. He was shrewd in driving a bargain, paid great attention to details, worked incessantly, paid his bills promptly and laid the foundation for



(Re-Elected United States Senator from the State of Iowa.)

The honorable nickname which he now bears. He did not show an aptitude then for political life, nor did he make any effort to enter it. He was a republican as soon as the new party was organized and uncompromising in his attitude on the questions raised during the civil war, but until 1863 he did not solicit the votes of the people, and then only to become the mayor of Burlington, a position which he filled with credit.

When his term expired he retired again to private life, from which he did not emerge until 1872, when party exigencies demanded his election to the legislature, and he was sent to the house. In 1874 he was elected speaker of the house, and again in 1876 the same office was given him. His first term as speaker came at the end of the famous deadlock in the grange legislature of 1874. From the legislature he passed to the governor's chair, where he served four years. Retiring from the governor's chair, he became a private citizen again until 1886, when he was elected to congress and reelected in 1888, practically without opposition.

The landslide against the republican party in 1890 defeated him for reelection to congress with four other congressmen of the state, but he served as assistant secretary of the treasury for some time. In 1892 his party again returned him to congress, and in January, 1894, he was elected to the United States senate as the junior senator from Iowa. His present term will end March 3, 1901. He was conspicuous in congress for his work on the committee on ways and means, where he had charge of the sugar schedule. He is now chairman of the senate committee on Pacific railways, and it was through his efforts that the government was successful in realizing \$117,000,000 from them instead of the \$20,000,000 offered.

Of Interest to Smokers.

The briar pipe is not made of briarwood at all. The word "briar" is a corruption of the French word "bruyere," meaning "heath," and the wood used is really that of the heather. When these pipes were introduced into this country the tradesmen found that the French word was rather too difficult for the ordinary smoker to get hold of, and they soon twisted it into the familiar briar. The supply of this wood from France is now almost exhausted, and is only found in any quantity in the Alpes Maritimes.

also a Church Dignitary.

It is but little known that in addition to being "defender of the faith" by virtue of her position of sovereign, Queen Victoria is also the oldest dignitary of the church by virtue of her position of prebendary of St. David's cathedral, Llandaff.

Lost Human Muscles.

There are many muscles in the human body, control of which has been lost through ages of disuse.

REFLECTIONS OF AN ARTIST.

Pictures of a Poor Quality Are Often the Nucleus to a Fine Collection.

"Many a nucleus to a fine art collection has been laid in a few pictures of poor quality," said a well-known art connoisseur to a Washington Star reporter. "Whenever a man comes to my studio, looks over the pictures and buys the canvas that really pleases him," he continued, "I am fairly well satisfied that he is destined to make a notable collection if he has the necessary means, no matter what bad taste or lack of taste he shows in his first selections. It is only the man who has no confidence in his own judgment, and who buys only what others tell him are good, for whom I have no hope. The fact is a picture is an educator and the man or woman who buys one and studies it is sure, sooner or later, to discover its faults and its fine points, no matter how blind they were to them at first and no matter what flimsy trick of the artist they were attracted by."

"Try it yourself if you doubt the truth of this assertion. You may know nothing of art. Buy a picture that pleases you, hang it where you can see it daily and look at it frequently. You will need no instruction to learn whether it has merit or is filled with defects. Many an art collector has been educated in this way. By and by the dawd is replaced by a better picture, and the novice instinctively becomes a competent judge of what is meritorious or bad in art."

EXHIBIT BY THE NEGRO.

I Will Have a Place in the United States Sociological Department at Paris.

Under the auspices of the United States government, the American negro is to have a distinctive exhibit at the Paris exposition. Thomas J. Calloway, of Washington, a prominent colored man, has been appointed to prepare this exhibit.

A limited space has been set aside in the United States exhibit in sociology for this feature. It is aimed to show that "the people of African descent in America are civilized, Christianized, possessors of vast educational privileges. They are owners of perhaps half a billion dollars' worth of property. They are engaged in every industry and pursuit common to white Americans, and universally accredited with rapid progress. America can therefore furnish Europe with much evidence of the negro's value as a laborer, a producer and a citizen, that the statecraft of the old world will be wiser in the shaping of its African policies."

The leading colored intercolonial institutions of the United States are arranging for creditable exhibits.

There are more than a dozen other structures of negro exhibit underway.

Every New England state will be called upon to contribute toward the exhibit.

OFFICIAL BATHTUBS.

From This Account We Learn How the Legislators Indulge in Their Abatements.

Away down in the basement of the capitol, in the midst of the winding and mysterious passages of this subterranean section, are located the congressional bathrooms, where the statesmen cleanse their cuticles at the expense of Uncle Sam. There are about 15 tubs on the house side, and when congress is in session they are patronized at all hours of the day. The representatives who take their periodic tubbings in the capitol bathrooms are not bound by any particular hour or rule of bathing. They start in at any hour of the day (or night, if the house sits late), and are scrubbed and rubbed down by strong-armed attendants at government expense. The fact that the tubs are almost constantly occupied indicates the extent to which the privilege of a free bath is appreciated. In many of the hotels of the city patronized by congressmen a charge is made for the use of the bath, and the thrifty representative can get around this expense by making his ablutions at the capitol, says the Washington Star.

In both the senate and house wings of the capitol there are barber shops, where statesmen are shaved, and hair tonics, perfumes and soaps furnished by the government, so that if one has a mind to, the usual expenses of the barber shop can be avoided.

The Bicycle Among the Hindus.

In an article, "A Hindu Home," in the December number of the Nineteenth Century, Hon. J. D. Rees tells how "at the sixth mile we meet the raja mounted, not on an elephant, but on a bicycle, and, but an attendant with a broad gold sash over his shoulder runs in front and another behind, you might almost take him for common clay on a bike." Arrived at the palace, he finds that the rani is, from a domestic point of view, monarch of all her surveys, and her Brahmin husband bears the same relation to her that the late prince consort bore to Queen Victoria. The rani tells Mr. Rees that after breakfast "you can ride my son's bicycle in the courtyard, and my little boy, aged five, will ride his tricycle, and when I get a bicycle for my big daughter the party will be complete."

ARMORED TRAINS.

Armored trains, which are taking such an important part in the present campaign, usually consist of a powerful engine, three iron tracks, a water tank and a passenger car. The sides are raised six feet, with three quarter-inch boiler plates, and perforated with horizontal slits for the accommodation of rifles and Maxim's. Each vehicle is capable of holding 50 or 60 men easily.

It is some consolation to know, gasped the dying man with his last breath, "that it took three doctors to kill me."—N. Y. Journal.

HIS TRUTHFUL STATEMENT.

"You told me," she said, tearfully, "that I was the only girl you ever loved."

"It's true," he asserted.

"But I have just learned that you were once engaged to Maud Mugins."

"Well," he replied, "I never told you that you were the only girl I ever thought I loved, did I?"—Chicago Post.

INHUMAN CONDUCT.

"What do you think?" said one sensational actress. "My latest husband refuses to help advertise my next production by letting me get a divorce."

"Outrageous!" said the other. "If there were any law in the country that fact would of itself constitute sufficient ground for a separation."—Washington Star.

BARRED OUT.

Dashaway—Hello, old man, what makes you look so sad?

Billboard (the tragedian)—A friend of mine who lives in a town in Connecticut has asked me there to take dinner with him, and I can't go.

Dashaway—Why not?

Billboard—I acted there last month.—Harlem Life.

A MECHANICAL REPLY.

Judge—And what did the prisoner say when you told him that you would leave him arrested?

Complainant—He answered mechanically, yes, honor.

Judge—Explain.

Complainant—He hit me on the head with a hammer.—Tit-Bits.

A CRAFTY FELLOW.

First Girl—There goes Mrs. Newlywed; her husband is so careful of her health that he will not allow her to go shopping on a wet day.

Second Girl—Hum! He probably fears she might get near enough to the counters to buy something.—Judge.

FORTIFYING ACCIDENTS.

Severe Father—Clara, what is the meaning of the diamond ring on your finger?

Clara—Oh, it is a sign that Harry has something to ask you that it will do no good to refuse.—Jeweler's Weekly.

A MAN'S REVENGE.

"Mrs. Skinner has had to give up all the five clubs she belongs to."

"Has she nervous prostration?"

"No; but every time she went out of the house her husband moved all the furniture around."—Indianapolis Journal.

A NECESSARY REQUISITE.

Dorothy had never seen any pumpkin pie until her first visit to the country, and to her grandmother's asking her if she'd have a piece of the little girl replied: "No, I thank you. I never eat pie without a roof on it."

Judge.

LOTS OF THEM.

Pat—An honest man is the noblest work of God.

Mike—Thrice fer ye! But there's lots av honest men that wouldn't be so honest if they would only tell the truth about themselves!—Puck.

WONDERFUL PROSPERITY.

New York Man—I hear you've had prosperous times in the west.

Ohio Man—Well, I should say so!

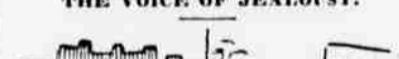
Why, potatoes grew so large this year, that they're mistakin' 'em for pumpkins.—Yonkers Statesman.

PRIVATE.

The young man tried to kiss the girl. And she, fearing he might fall,

Did just what he intended to—She gently drew the veil.—Chicago Daily News.

THE VOICE OF JEALOUSY.

 A woman is shown in a bathtub, looking out of a window. She is wearing a towel and appears to be in a state of distress or anger.

He thinks her lips are sweet as sugar, does he? Well, dey oughter be, stuck up wid 15 cents' wort' of me candy."—N. Y. Journal.

UNUSUAL.

Dora—I wonder why Ernest has never thought seriously of getting married?

Fred—Perhaps he has thought of it too seriously.—Brooklyn Life.

THE TWO 'FLUENCES.

"It's influence that counts in politics," said the voter.

"Yes," answered the practical politician; "but not so much as affluence."—Washington Star.

COLD AND CRUEL.

Giles—Don't you think she is rather statuesque?

DeGarry—Decidedly. When I proposed to her last night she gave me the marble heart.—Town Topics.

AN IDEA TO REVOLVE.

"Pauline, what made you cut young Noodleton just now?"

"Oh, his face looked so vacuous; I thought I'd give him something to think about."—Detroit Free Press.

HIS OWN FAULT.

Houlihan—Clancy is forever tackling a bigger man than himself and getting licked!

Cahill—Yis! Clancy is his own worst enemy!—Puck.

HARD TO KILL.

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A GRAVEYARD PROMOTER.

An Enterprising Missourian Who Has Become a Plutocrat in the Business.

"You eastern people are not the only enterprising inhabitants of the globe," said an enthusiastic man in a New York business house, according to the Sun of that city. "I have a neighbor in Pemiscot county, my state, Missouri, who is a sort of plutocrat in graveyards. Some years ago he opened a tombstone factory in his part of the state, and as he marked down the price, he had quite a boom in his business. In a short time there was a monument or headstone at every grave in the cemetery, and as live people do not buy tombstones, this man's business was hit by what your Wall street folks call a flurry. What does he do but go to another town not far away and buy a graveyard of his own, and put down the price of lots. This caused quite a cemetery boom until all the lots were disposed of. As soon as some of the people began to die the enterprising tombstone dealer was again in the whirl, or, as my old friend Wilbur F. Storey was wont to say of his paper, on the top crest of the advancing wave. In a year or so he had every grave in the cemetery marked with his goods, and another third hit his business. But he rallied, went to another town, invested in another graveyard site, and manipulated this scheme as he had the others, and with like results.

"That makes three cemeteries he has started, filled and marked, and the last time I saw him he told me he was looking for another. He is now known as a graveyard promoter."

DOMESTIC TRAGEDY.

Mrs. Grimes—How in the world do you get rid of your stale bread?

Judge—You have to throw lots of mine away.

Mrs. Smarte—There's no need for you to do that. Why not do as I do? I just hide it away from the children.

Mrs. Grimes—Hide it away from the children? What then?

Mrs. Smarte—Then the children find it, and eat up every morsel of it.—Tit-Bits.

A CAUSE OF ACTION.

"Uxory has sued Soaksem, the ferrrier, for alienating his wife's affections."

"You don't mean it! Why, I didn't suppose Mrs. Uxory ever knew him."

"She doesn't. But he exhibited the finest sealskin ever in this town in his window, and she won't speak to Uxory because he won't buy it for her."

—N. Y. World.

THE BEST OF ALL.