

## A MILLIONAIRE OF NOTE.

JOHN PLANKINTON, OF MILWAUKEE, AND HIS FORTUNE.

He Began Life as an Ordinary Butcher. The Educational Monument That Will Commemorate Him—His Magnificent Residence.

There are few men in the west whose names are better known to the masses than that of John Plankinton. Within the recollection of many of his neighbors he began life as an ordinary retail butcher, killing his own beef, cutting it up for his customers and very frequently delivering the meat himself. With his family he lived in a few small rooms. A year ago he retired from business the possessor of many millions of dollars. For many years he was the head of the great packing firm of Plankinton, Armour & Co., of New York, Chicago, Milwaukee and Kansas City, the largest concern of its kind in the world, which does a business of \$90,000,000 a year. Mr. Plankinton's name is a familiar one in commercial circles all over the globe.

The news that this commercial giant was dangerously ill of incurable diseases has called attention to his career, which has been in many respects a remarkable one. His painful disorders, paralysis and a complication of other diseases to a man of his age (70 years) render the case hopeless.

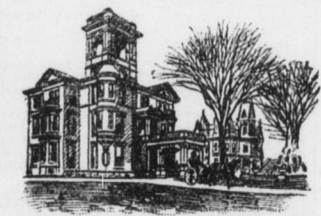
When he retired from business he was desirous of spending the sunset of his life in quiet and ease. For years he had been a slave to his many lines of business, retiring early, rising early, and putting in a long, full day at his office desk. Consequently when he retired and the excitement and strain of his enormous business lessened, he broke down in health, as many a man had done under similar circumstances before him.

The story of John Plankinton's life is not without elements of public interest. He was born amid humble surroundings in a rural district in Delaware on March 11, 1820. In 1832 he removed with his father's family to Pittsburgh, Pa., and from that city in 1844 he removed to Milwaukee, where he has continuously lived ever since. He at once began business as a butcher and retailer of meat, a trade he had learned in Pittsburgh. Before settling in Milwaukee Mr. Plankinton had made arrangements to enter into partnership with a young butcher already located; but finding upon his arrival that his prospective partner had broken faith with him, he resolved, with characteristic independence and energy, to go into business on his own account.

On a capital, all told, of \$4,200 he set up housekeeping, and purchased his first stock in trade, which consisted of one cow, for which he paid, after selling it, the sum of nine dollars, securing as a home a little frame building at a rental of eight dollars per month, and, renting a vacant lot, he erected his first building, a frame structure, that cost \$108. In fourteen days after his arrival in the town he was fully equipped for business, opening his little shop in September of the year he arrived. Being a hard working, economical, honest man, he soon became the leading butcher of the place, his sales for the first year amounting to nearly \$12,000. His business constantly increasing, he was compelled to remove to roomier quarters.

In 1850 he entered into partnership with Mr. Frederick Layton, and the firm, in addition to an extensive retail trade, commenced packing pork for market on a scale limited only by the receipts of the hog at Milwaukee. The business of the firm continued to increase until 1861, when it was dissolved, Mr. Plankinton for the three succeeding years continuing the business alone. In 1864 he formed a partnership with Philip D. Armour, under the name of Plankinton & Armour, with an immense business in Milwaukee, a large house at Kansas City and still another in New York city. The firm embraced also one of the largest packing establishments in the world, the house of H. O. Armour & Co., of Chicago. A few years ago Mr. Plankinton announced that he had all the money he wanted and sold out his interest in the big packing firm to his partner, Phil Armour, retaining only his local branch. This he kept until last year, when he sold it to the Cudahys, who had long been in his employ and who are now rapidly coming to the front as big packers. In less than two score years Mr. Plankinton's \$4,200 has swelled to a fortune of \$8,000,000 or \$10,000,000, and the little one horse butcher became a power in the financial world.

Whatever Mr. Plankinton lacked in education he more than made up in shrewdness. In his day he was regarded as one of the boldest and most sagacious operators in the speculative provision markets in the country. He is a tall, powerfully built man, with smooth shaven face and straight dark hair, which he invariably wears long. His home on Grand avenue is one of the finest in Milwaukee, and is a perfect museum of fine pictures and art bric-a-brac. He lives very quietly with his wife and daughter, his son occupying a magnificent mansion near by. He has always been one of the most public spirited men in the city. When an exposition was planned he gave \$50,000



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outright to it. During the recent national saengerfest in Milwaukee he gave \$1,000 for the best festival composition, the prize going to a composer in Germany. He owns no less than a dozen of the largest and finest business blocks in the city. His great hobby is the splendid hotel which bears his name. It covers a full block, and is one of the best equipped hostleries in the country. He is also the head of one of the solid banks of the city that bears his name.

A couple of years ago Mr. Plankinton was much chagrined over some local gossip to the effect that Milwaukeeans had to go from home to secure first class workmen and artisans in many lines of business. He furrowed and fretted over the matter until he determined to prove to his fellow citizens that there were no finer workmen anywhere than right at home. With this idea in view, he began a couple of years ago the erection of one of the finest houses in the city. It was a year in course of erection, and cost about \$150,000. It is built of undressed stone, and all of the work was done by the day by Milwaukee workmen. It is a beautiful bit of architecture, and the interior is a revelation in wood carving and decoration. An illustration of this mansion is herewith presented.



AN EDUCATIONAL MONUMENT.

It was finally finished, and there is probably no more complete establishment in America. The stables are the finest, the lawns are laid out in flowers, and every detail about the place is complete. But nobody seems to want it. It is entirely closed, and there it stands, a magnificent monument to this man's public spirit. "Let it stand," he said to some one who joked him about the investment, "it is a means of education. It will teach people that our workmen are as good as can be found anywhere."

GEORGE H. YENOWINE.

GEN. SALAMANCA.

Death of the Captain General of the Island of Cuba.

The late captain general of Cuba, Manuel de Salamanca y Negrete, was the great-great-grandson of a former governor general of that island, who represented the Spanish government a century ago. Gen. Salamanca was born about 1830 in Andalusia, in Spain. He was educated in the military school at Toledo, and when he came of age entered the Spanish army. By reason of his birth he was a life senator, and while yet a young man achieved distinction as an orator.

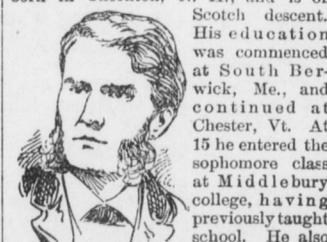
He served with Gen. Cordova in Italy with the army intended to defend the temporal power of the pope. When the Carlist war came on he was made a brigadier general. During that struggle he distinguished himself and was rapidly advanced in rank. At one period, while governor of Malaga, he wrested the key of their position from the Carlist forces on the line of the Elbro, thus forcing their retreat. He was then created a field marshal. Later he relieved Tortosa by running a train at full speed over a railroad which had been abandoned for years. The expedition was so hazardous that he was obliged to place guards over the engineers to enforce his orders.

After the war Gen. Salamanca took his seat in the senate; but he was a natural soldier and gave his attention to the better equipment of the army. About a year ago he was appointed governor general of Cuba. He soon made himself very popular there, though ill health, principally on account of wounds received in the Carlist war, kept him from paying much attention to society. He endeavored to place the island in a perfect state of defense, using modern methods, including new lines of railway, opening rivers before not navigable, and strengthening the fortifications. Gen. Salamanca was a bachelor.

Howard University's New President.

The new president of Howard university, the Rev. Dr. J. E. Rankin, left the pastorate of the Valley church, in Orange, N. J., to assume educational duties as the head of a college. He was born in Thornton, N. H., and is of Scotch descent. His education was commenced at South Berwick, Me., and continued at Chester, Vt. At 15 he entered the sophomore class at Middlebury college, having previously taught school. He also taught while in college, and afterwards in New London, Conn., and Warren county, Ky. After taking his degree at Middlebury he became a tutor there.

In 1854 he was graduated at Andover, and for two years after preached in a Presbyterian church at Potsdam, N. Y. Then he was settled at St. Albans, then at Lowell, Mass., and then at Boston. From 1869 to 1884 he preached in Washington. The rest of his service has been at Orange.



REV. DR. RANKIN.

## THAT ENGLISH MUMMY.

A RESPECTABLE RIVAL OF THE EGYPTIAN ARTICLE.

Real, but Otherwise Perfect—Two Hundred Years Dead—A Famous Place of Worship—The Mummy in His Case. Why They Jabbed It.

It seems more than curious that his history has not been written. It is simply extraordinary that even his place of residence is known to so few among the many thousands who pass and repass it every day. It is true that for about one hundred and fifty years he was secluded from the world, in fact, dead to it; but for forty years he has been upon exhibition. For forty years he has been a subject of great interest to a comparatively small circle, and during that period he has never shown signs of temper even under circumstances that might be warranted to ruffle the composure of a "bearded lady" at a circus. In various parts of the United Kingdom the mere fact of having been born a century ago is considered sufficient to account for any quantity of notoriety. Yet in this article the intention is to tell something about a person who was born, probably, two centuries ago, and who, it can be easily proved, has not in forty years moved a muscle.

Some days ago a discussion took place in the public prints on the subject of mummies. In a discussion of the kind it could hardly be expected that the Egyptian brand would be overlooked, but if reference had been made only to the Egyptian article little would remain to be said, for Rameses II, as a mummy, has really received quite as much prominence as he deserves.

There is a mummy that can hold its own against all comers on exhibition in a very modest way in the church of St. James, Garlickhithe, or Garlickhythe, or Garlickhythe, for the name is spelt in three ways. It was so named, according to an old chronicle: "For that of old time, on the River Thames, near to the church, garlick was usually sold." The thoroughfare that bounds the church building on the west is still known as Garlick Hill. Not long ago an old house that stood near the church was demolished. In digging a cellar for a modern structure on the old site several piles were found. These piles were of the peculiar greenish hue that wood which has been a long time in salt or brackish water always obtains. The ground in the vicinity of the church is of chalk formation.

So many parishioners were buried in the little church yard that it was decided, about forty years ago, to cover the diminutive cemetery with a heavy coating of concrete. Before this was done a large number of bodies were disturbed. Those engaged in the work were surprised to find that, while the coffins had been reduced almost to dust, the bodies inclosed in lead lining were in a state of almost perfect preservation.

With one exception the bodies were reinterred. The exception had suffered somewhat from exposure to the atmosphere and perhaps from careless handling, but it is today wonderfully well preserved. The identity of this English mummy could not be discovered, for the coffin in which it had been inclosed had crumbled away, and had not been furnished, apparently, with a plate. The soil, it is supposed, had dried up the animal tissue by absorbing every particle of water, and thus prevented putrefaction.

At any rate, the mummy that can be seen at St. James (Garlickhithe) church shows no signs of decay today, though it has been out of the ground forty years, and had been in mayhap 150 years or more. Just within the entrance to the church, on the south or Thames side, is a plain wooden case. It is about 6 feet in height, 2 feet in breadth and 18 inches in depth.

"You want to see the mummy, I suppose?" said the sexton, Robert Sharp, when I presented myself at the church yesterday. Without more ado he opened the wooden case. Inside the wooden door was a glass front that no key would open.

Inside the glass, gazing pensively through eyeless sockets at a flagstone that was a little darker than its fellows, was the English mummy.

The skin would have been white but for a pale yellow tinge. The skin was everywhere smooth and intact. The figure was that of a young man who must have stood six feet in height and been of fine proportions. The shoulders were broad, the arms long and powerful looking. Every finger and toe was perfect. Both hands and feet must have been small. That the figure was that of a young man seems certain from its general appearance, but more particularly from the small size and excellently preserved condition of the teeth. There had been hair upon the head when the body was exhumed, but atmospheric influences had destroyed every vestige of it. Unless the visitor looks closely at the head an impression will be carried away that there is still hair upon it. This impression will be due to a network of cobwebs which is yearly growing thicker. When the body was taken from the ground the teeth were perfectly white. They are gradually turning black.

"The glass front was put in the case," Sexton Sharp said, "to prevent visitors from jabbing the mummy with fingers, canes or umbrellas."

"Why did they jab the mummy?" Sexton Sharp said he supposed "they wanted to hear his insides rattle." He then explained that while handling the mummy he and others had discovered that the intestines had become shriveled, and would make a noise like a kettle-drum when the mummy was shaken.

Not a great many people visit the church to see the mummy, the sexton said. For people who did not live in the city the church was in an out of the way place, he supposed. He had heard that the mummy was 200 years old, but could not certify to that of his personal knowledge, for he was only 43 years of age, and had "been around the church only about forty years."—London Herald.

## A TOUCH OF NATURE.

A little maid upon my knee Sighs wearily, sighs wearily; "I'm tired out of dressin' dolls And havin' stories read," says she.

"There is a book, if I could see. I should be happy, puffy!" My mamma keeps it on a shelf—"But that you cannot have," says she!"

"But here's your 'Old Man of the Sea.' And 'Jack the Giant'?" (Lovingly I tried the little maid to soothe) "The interestin' one," says she.

"Is that high up one!—seems to me The flags you want, just has to be Somethin' you hasn't got; and that's The interestin' one!" says she.

—Annie F. Burnham in St. Nicholas.

Subjugated. The word subjugated is of Latin origin—sub jugum, under the yoke. Although often used in a figurative sense, it might have been applied in all literalness to a certain Maine boy, whose singular experiment with a calf, as described by The Lewiston Journal, may recall to our readers the recently published story of "Bub and Broad."

This farmer had had always taken a special interest in oxen, and delighted to brandish the good stick over his father's good natured pair. His great ambition was to own for himself a pair of steers. Last summer he became the proud possessor of half a pair; in other words, his father gave him a young calf. Of course the steer could not be yoked up by itself. What did the youthful Cincinnatus do, therefore, but place one end of the yoke round his own neck and fasten it there.

The result may be imagined. The other half of the team started, and pretty soon a passing neighbor heard a shrill outcry: "Stop us, Mr. Smith, stop us! We're running away!" The neighbor came to the rescue, and was attempting to unyoke the boy, when he called out: "Tother one, Mr. Smith, tother one! I'll stand!"—Youth's Companion.

An Aggravation.

Charles R. Thorne, the elder, was always a great traveler, and in their early days his three boys traveled with him. The family went all over the world. Once they were coming to America from China on a Pacific Mail steamer, and the ice on board ship practically gave out. What could be saved was carefully put aside for the sick people aboard and the well passengers were compelled to drink the brackish, warm water on hand. Any one of them would have given \$10 for a swig of cold water. One night when the cabin was full Charlie Thorne left his stateroom with a covered tin pail. Pretty soon he walked back through the cabin. He had filled his pail with the warm water, put a tumbler inside and covered it up. The rattling of the tumbler suggested ice, and the parched tongues of the passengers hung out further than ever at the sound. "Where did you get the ice?" asked a particularly miserable party. "It's for a sick friend of mine," he said, and he disappeared in his stateroom. During the evening he made four of these trips through the crowded cabin, and when he finally quit the deception he had made at least twenty men willing to commit murder for a glass of ice water.—Chicago Herald.

What It Takes to Make a Boy.

Dave Evans has a 4-year-old boy who is an inveterate gum chewer. The boy's name is John, and he thinks it is a great hardship to put aside his gum when he goes to bed at night. He is inclined very much to rebel against such discipline. A few Sundays ago he went to the cemetery with his parents. Passing a pasture along the track, little John saw a cow lying down and chewing her cud. He at once exhibited wild alarm and excitedly exclaimed: "Oh, ma, look there. That cow has gone to bed chewing her gum, and you won't let little John do that." One evening John's elder brother and sister were discussing anatomy and looking over a physiological work. John was particularly interested in the pictures of sections of the human being. After they had got through he took the book, and, pointing to the lungs, heart, liver, an arm, a leg and other disassembled members of the human frame, he inquired: "Does it take all these to make a boy?"—Chicago Herald.

Removal of Moles.

In a recent number of The Practitioner, Dr. Jamison writes on the use of sodium ethylate in removing hairy moles on the face. He operated in this way: The hairs were cut off as closely as possible with a very fine pair of scissors, and the mole was then painted over with sodium ethylate, a fine glass rod being used. When the mole had a varnished look the ethylate was gently rubbed in with the glass rod, to make it penetrate more deeply into the hair follicles. The mole had quite a black look when the operation was over. A hard crust formed over it, which was nearly three weeks in becoming detached. When it came off the hairs were seen to be destroyed, and the surface of the mole had a smooth, somewhat cicatricial appearance, of a much lighter color than before; and this favorable condition continued until the mark was scarcely noticeable.—Herald of Health.

Fatal Bravery.

In the sanguinary wars of the Turks in Hungary, Count Ludovic Lodrom, on the eve of a battle, harangued his soldiers in the true martial strain. "That is all very well," said a German veteran, stepping out in front of the ranks. "That is all very well for you who are mounted on a swift horse, and are already thinking of saving yourself. But for us"—Whereupon Ludovic immediately dismounted, drew his sword and hamstringed the animal. Then he exclaimed: "Today, then, comrades, you shall see me as captain and soldier fighting on foot by your side and on the same terms." He was so severely wounded in the fight that the Turks took him prisoner, put him to death and sent his head to Constantinople, believing his recovery impossible and that they could never carry him there alive.—All the Year Round.

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