GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS

DEATH OF A WELL KNOWN EDITOR

He Was Noted Both in Literature and Politics. Sketch of His Life.

George William Curtis died Thursday at his home in Livingston, S. I. He was conscious to the last and suffered no pain. Dr. Frank G. Curtis his son, was in attendance, and Mrs. and Miss Curtis were present.

Mr. Curtis was sick about 2 months from some unknown disease of the stomach. He suffered much pain up to two or three days before his death.

The funeral was held on Friday and was private. At the house great privacy was maintained. There was no crape upon the door and the usual signs of mourning were omitted.

GEORGE W. CURTIS.

George William Curtis was born at Providence, R. I., February 24, 1824. After leaving school he was for a year clerk in a mercantile house in New York, and in 1842 went, together with an elder brother, to the Brook Farm Socialistic institution at Roxbury, Mass. In 1846 he went to Europe. Returning to America in 1850, he published "Nile Notes of a Howadji." This was followed in 1852 by the "Howadji in Syria." In the meantime he had connected himself with the New York *Tribune* and had become one of the editors of *Putnam's Monthly*.

The failure of this magazine in 1857, involved Mr. Curtis in financial difficulties from which he was 15 years in clearing himself. He became a contributor to "Harper's Magazine," to which he has, since 1858, furnished a monthly paper under the title of the "Editor's Easy Chair." In 1857 "Harper's Weekly" was established, and Mr. Curtis soon became its principal editor, a position which he held at the time of his death.

Mr. Curtis took an active part in politics, though never aspiring to office. He was a delegate to the New York constitutional convention, was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket in 1868, and was a member of the commission to frame civil service rules. Recently he had become what is called a "Mugwump" Republican. He was president of the National Civil Service Reform League. In 1884 he supported Mr. Cleveland for president in opposition to Mr. Blaine.

CHOLERA CALLS A HALT.

The General Improvement in Business Receives a Check.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

While industry and business were improving daily and prospects were brighter than ever, the sudden alarm about cholera came to cause some hesitation. It is even said that buyers from the South who had started for this city turned back because they were afraid of detention by quarantine here. In all other respects nearly all accounts show actual increase in business over last year. Crop prospects are better, money is in greater demand, with an ample supply everywhere, and industries are producing more than ever.

Fear that the exports may be curtailed by pestilence in Europe, has depressed the markets. Wheat has dropped to 78¼c, the lowest point since 1883, and recovered only to fall off two cents for the week. Corn has dropped 6½ cents for the week, with better Western reports. Cotton rose a shade, but has fallen to 7¼ cents again with sales of 666,000 bales. Oats have declined ¼ cent; pork 50 cents per barrel; lard 37 cents and hogs 90 cents per 100 pounds, and oils five-eights lower.

The greater part of these changes come from the unnatural condition of the markets for some time held up in spite of the extraordinary stocks in sights. Wheat receipts in four days were 4,852,296 bushels, but exports only 993,415. Stocks of cotton on hand in this country equal two months' consumption, and in Europe about three months' consumption of American, while current estimates of the coming crop are constantly rising. It has been evident that Europe will take less of our products this year than last, but pestilence there will not greatly diminish the need of food or clothing.

Manufactures in this country have never been in better condition on the whole than that which reports now indicates. The iron and steel industry rapidly resumes full production, though some mills are yet delayed by repairs. The demand for pig is very good, while mills are pushed for bar, plates, sheets and structural iron. Strikes no longer prevent production except at Pittsburg.

At Philadelphia iron mills are full of orders, wood consumption is greater than ever and improvement is seen in tobacco, chemicals, jewelry and groceries. At Baltimore groceries and the clothing trade are active, dry goods in fair demand, and naval stores steady, but canned goods dull.

At Cleveland trade is good in rolled products, dry goods, hardware and groceries, and at Cincinnati, machine shops and foundries are pushed to their full capacity, exceeding last year's production.

GOOD TRADE IN THE WEST.

Better demand for money is seen at Milwaukee and no injury to corn or tobacco reported. Trade increases at St Paul and Minneapolis, with fine crop prospects, lumber very active and strong.

The business failures occurring throughout the country during the past seven days number for the United States 148, and for Canada 28, a total of 176, against 180 last week and 197 the week previous to last, and 217 for the corresponding week of last year.

RUSSIA'S DEATH RATE RISING.

An Increase or Over 400 New Cases and 200 Deaths in a Day—No Signs of Abatement.

The official returns of cholera throughout Russia for August 30, are: New cases, 5,723, deaths 2,722. Compared with the figures of August 29, this is an increase of 414 new cases and 193 deaths.

The city returns for Saturday give a total of 144 cases and 54 deaths. This is an increase of 21 new cases and 14 deaths compared with Wednesday.

At Moscow the death rate from cholera is increasing, owing to the increasing heat. The number of deaths has doubled within a week.

WEATHER CROP REPORT.

General Condition of the Growing Products in the Different States of the Union.

Following is the weather-crop bulletin issued by the weather bureau at Washington, D. C.:

New England—Rain, with high winds accompanying, did slight damage to corn, potatoes, tobacco, fruit, etc. Cranberries reported half crop in Plymouth county, Massachusetts, a few fields of potatoes rusting and rotting.

New York—Close of the week too wet for corn and grapes, latter rotting; potatoes damaged by rain.

New Jersey—Heavy showers have greatly benefited all crops, especially in southern counties, where everything has suffered from drought.

Pennsylvania—Rains have greatly benefited all crops, which, though not seriously injured by drought, will not be above the average.

Maryland and Delaware—Plowing commenced, but rain needed to soften ground; corn and tobacco cutting begun in southern section and yield will be below average; potatoes are a medium crop in Western Maryland.

Virginia—Late corn, tobacco, grasses and vegetables improved where rain fell.

North Carolina—Drought broken by copious rains. Cotton opening rapidly; large crops of turnips sowed.

South Carolina—But little change in cotton crop and that unfavorable, turned yellow and is shedding fruit; rust reported; immature bolls opening.

Georgia—Cotton picking begun in northern counties, crop is below the average in all directions.

Florida—Rainfall badly distributed, excessive in western, injuring crops, and deficient in eastern portion, injuring plants and groves; thunderstorms frequent; truckers preparing ground for fall crops.

Alabama—Condition of crops slightly improved, cotton bolls rotting, much fodder decayed in fields, public roads in sections greatly injured by wet weather.

Tennessee—Rains greatly benefited turnips, late crops and fall plowing, but damaged cotton in western counties and also retarded haymaking and fodder saving.

Kentucky—Crops generally suffering for rain, serious injury in some sections, corn will be short, tobacco begun cutting.

Missouri—General rain needed to facilitate plowing, crops and meadows.

Illinois—Threshing nearing completion, early crop ripening fast, fruit almost a failure.

Indiana—Corn has improved, is maturing, fast, but needs rain as well as other crops; much fall plowing done.

West Virginia—Rainfall and temperature beneficial; cattle in good condition; fruit crop light; fall plowing progressing slowly.

Ohio—Early corn and potatoes maturing; buckwheat doing well; fall plowing delayed; ground dry and hard; grapes rotting and falling off; rain needed badly.

Michigan—In southern tier of counties drought continues; harvesting and threshing progressing; ground being prepared for fall sowing.

Wisconsin—Threshing began; yield below expectation; cranberries small crop; tobacco excellent; some cutting.

Minnesota—Harvest about completed; stacking and threshing delayed, and wheat in shock badly damaged by heavy rains; corn and potatoes doing well; flax will be a good crop.

Iowa—A favorable week for maturing unharvested crops.

North Dakota—Excessive rain caused much damage; harvesting nearly finished and some threshing being done.

South Dakota—Harvesting of all small grains about completed; threshing general.

Kansas—Weather favorable to corn and pastures; corn excellent in central and northern part and fair in southern portion.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Celebration of His Eighty Third Birthday.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

The genial Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, celebrated his eighty-third birthday at Beverly Farms, Mass., his summer residence, a few days ago. It was a busy day for the aged poet, yet a day of happiness and contentment. "It is the pleasantest event of this sort I have had in recent years," he said. He had a chance to rest in the morning, but in the afternoon his time was fully taken up with visitors. His health is generally good, but his eyesight is failing a little and it interferes somewhat with his reading and correspondence. That is the only evidence of advancing years.

He had several presents and an avalanche of letters and telegrams. Ex-Secretary Bayard was among the guests, and the venerable Robert C. Winthrop called upon him a day or two ago to present his congratulations. Among the gifts were a beautiful basket of flowers from his publishers; set of Charles Lamb's works, beautifully bound, the gift of two lady friends, and a nautilus shell mounted on solid silver. It was indeed a very pretty conceit.

The large nautilus shell of exquisite tints and coloring had been set on a standard of silver. Upon the silver case was inscribed in script the opening line from Dr. Holmes's well known poem, "The Chambered Nautilus," the opening line, which runs thus:

"Thanks for the Heavenly message brought by thee."

The delicate and exquisite gift was from Mrs. William H. Moore, of Chicago, who was one of the early callers. There was a large frosted cake, bearing the letters "O. W. H." upon the top, wreathed with a delicate green vine, and surmounting it were twelve tiny candles. This was from a young miss in the neighborhood, Amelia Calif, who claims descent from Robert Calif of the days of Cotton Mather.

Still another gift was a small bronze piece, representing three corner pillars of a temple in the Roman Forum. There was a pin cushion, done in dainty fancy work, from a lady admirer, and there were sprays and bouquets of flowers from many others.

One gift which he prizes very much came from a friend in Scotland, who sent a facsimile of the first edition of the works of Robert Burns, which have now become exceedingly rare. It is dated 1821.

Washington Gets the Encampment.

The next biennial session of the Supreme Lodge and Encampment of the Knights of Pythias will be held in Washington, D. C. Washington received 62 votes and Louisville 50.

A DARING ADVENTURER.

Captain William A. Andrews, already famous for his daring adventures in small boats on the stormy Atlantic, has again set sail on a novel and interesting voyage.

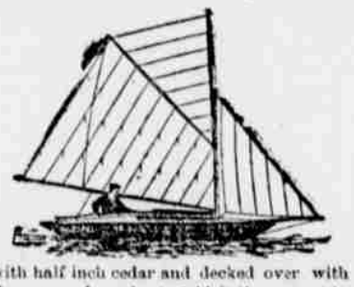
He crossed the ocean twice before, first in the "Nautilus," when he was accompanied by his brother, who has since died, and again in the "Mermaid," both of these trips being made to Land's End, England. A few years ago he again attempted the pas-

sage in a boat called the "Dark Secret," but, after battling with contrary winds, high seas and terrific storms, he reluctantly consented to give up his efforts after a struggle of sixty-two days, and returned to America on a bark which kindly consented to take him and his sea-beaten boat back to New York.

The captain is a very interesting character. He is a man of fixed purposes, very hard to turn from the object he has in view. He has made the subject of small boat sailing such a study that he is prepared to meet every argument against the risks which spring to the minds of his critics, yet the New York *Herald* put the case in a nutshell when it said: "The fact that Capt. Andrews can cross the ocean in a cockle shell merely proves that small boats are safe when a Capt. Andrews sails them. Amateurs should remember this when the wind begins to sing."

The Captain himself says that "half the people who are drowned lose their lives because they do not realize that a boat cannot sink. An iron vessel might, or a ship loaded with a heavy cargo, but a row boat, sail boat or ordinary wooden vessel may capsize, but will, nevertheless, float. The passengers on the great ocean steamers run some risk when they go to sea, but all around the deck they see wooden floats hung up on which they are taught to depend for their lives if the big steamer goes down. These boats are often crushed against the great vessel or are capsized in lowering. I am alone in a wooden boat entirely under my own control, and, in my opinion, far safer than others." An ingenious theory but hardly a fair one.

Capt. Andrews is by trade a piano maker. He built the "Sapolio" at Atlantic City in the presence of hundreds of people, and exhibited it on the Long Pier for several weeks. It is a canvas folding boat lined



with half inch cedar and decked over with the same. In order to fold it there must be three long canvas hinges from stem to stern, and the daring Captain writes by an incoming ship (when he is hundreds of miles from shore) that he finds the "'Sapolio' in a seaway is a scrubber but very leaky." No better proof of his coolness and pluck could be given.

The start was made at 4:30 Wednesday, July 20th, the destination being Palos, Spain. Captain Andrews has instructions to scour the seas until he discovers that port and the starting point of Columbus. It is believed that, sailing in a fourteen foot boat without so much as a hot cup of coffee to vary his diet of biscuits and canned goods, he will, single-handed, eclipse the record of that Spanish-Italian adventurer who almost failed to cross the great ocean with three ships, 150 men, after securing the Queen's jewels to pawn and having the blessing of the Church thrown in. *This* Columbus is sailing in a boat which had never been in the water until the hour when he started on his 4000 mile trip. He has been spoken in mid-ocean several times, scorning all assistance and confident of ultimate success. His effort should interest all Americans as a test of pluck, endurance and good seamanship. That it is not a foolhardy affair is proved by his former success and by the notable trip in which he battled for sixty-two days without reaching the other side. Thousands of people saw the start, his presence at different points on the ocean has been noted by large numbers of vessels, and his landing on the other side will no doubt be made a matter of public demonstration and rejoicing. As he sailed from the pier he said, "In sixty days I will be in Spain," and up to the last reports he had made better time than he anticipated. Every day during the voyage a bottle will be thrown overboard noting the location and other information about the trip.

If Capt. Andrews succeeds in reaching Spain and joining in the October celebrations which will be held in honor of the discovery of America, he will then return in one of the great steamers and arrange to exhibit his boat and the log which he writes up day by day, at the World's Fair in Chicago, where he will be one of the features of the magnificent display which the manufacturers of Sapolio are now perfecting. The assurance, we might almost say the impudence, of these aggressive manufacturers in securing a Columbus of their own is probably without precedent in advertising.

The Best Cheese.

The best cheese is that made from the whole milk. When a brand of cheese is put on the market that is known to be of the best quality it sells readily. When the market is overstocked with cheese it is of the poorer kinds.

A Group of Good Things.

It is a good thing to wear clothes that feel comfortable as well as look stylish.

To change the socks from one foot to the other—unless you wear anatomical socks.

To keep more umbrellas on hand than just barely enough.

To dress your boy as comfortably as you dress yourself.

To wear as high-grade underclothes as you can afford to.

To respect the rights of your feet.

To have a pair or two of fresh gloves in reserve.

To find the collar that suits you and then buy a dozen or two of that kind.

To turn the points of your collars (if you wear that sort) as soon as they come home from the laundry—as it may save time some morning when you are in a hurry.

To wear what is becoming to you, irrespective of whether it would beautify any other human being.

To have night garments that will insure the utmost degree of repose—provided, of course, that bedding and ventilation are also properly arranged.

To keep the head moist while exposed to the sun on hot days. "A cabbage leaf in the hat" was the old-time prescription, and it was a good one, but our gilded youth can substitute rose leaves and do as well, if only they have enough of them.

To have all the clothing loose and light under the fervent heats of summer.

To walk slowly, keep in the shade, carry a sun umbrella, avoid exciting drinks and heated discussions—all on ninety-degree days.

Railway Stations in London.

A Londoner recently in this country, having heard that Chicago had a greater number of railroad stations within its limit than any other city in the world, decided to investigate. He declares that the assertion is ridiculous; that there is no city that can make such a showing as London, with its 400 stations. The reason for London's extraordinary prominence in the matter of depots is not altogether on account of its enormous population; the large number of stations is caused quite as much by the refusal of Parliament to allow street cars to run within the old city limits, or the district bounded by the old London wall, and also to allow rapid transit of any kind in London or any part of it. There is only about a mile of cable road in the great city, and, although there are eight or ten miles of what are known as steam tramways, the terminals of these roads are four miles from the Bank of England, and each car has to be fitted with an automatic brake, which applies itself the moment the speed exceeds eight miles an hour. These restrictions compel the bulk of the inhabitants to go to and from business in underground or overhead railroads, and nearly every suburban district is intersected by three or four roads.

Night Lamps.

No house should be without a glimmer of light at night—a light sufficient to prevent groping and stumbling about in Egyptian darkness if one is obliged to rise. This is especially true of homes where there are little children. The idea that children are in any way benefitted by being made to sleep in absolutely dark rooms is untenable. If the light be sufficiently subdued and of a sort to leave the air quite pure, it is hard to see any harm in it. Gas turned low is never safe, as the fluctuations in the meter may make it go out. An ordinary kerosene lamp turned low is at all times an abomination. Little night lamps, costing 25 cents, with quarter-inch wicks, filled with pure oil and carefully trimmed, can be turned up to their full height without giving too much light or emitting any odor.

Animals Trespassing.

In a recent case tried before Judge Finletter, in which a person was charged with an offense in killing a neighbor's cat which annoyed him, it was decided that this was perfectly lawful; that in any case where animals trespassed to the annoyance of any one, and there was no possible chance of catching and holding them, the person so annoyed was justified in shooting as his only protection against annoyance.

The True Laxative Principle

Of the plants used in manufacturing the pleasant remedy, Syrup of Figs, has a permanently beneficial effect on the human system, while the cheap vegetable extracts and mineral solutions, usually sold as medicines, are permanently injurious. Being well informed, you will use the true remedy only. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co.

A farmer living near Furlong, Pa., dug up 110 stone knives in his garden the other day.

A. M. Priest, Druggist, Shelbyville, Ind., says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure gives the best of satisfaction. Can get plenty of testimonials, as it cures every one who takes it." Druggists sell it, 75c.

It takes 25 seconds for the blood to make the entire circulation of the system.

Shadows Grow Longer,

And the chill evenings produce Hoarseness, Tight Barking Coughs, Inflamed Throats and Bronchitis. Check all these attacks by prompt use of Dr. Boxsie's Certain Croup Cure, the one remedy for colds and coughs that *contains no opium in any form.* Sold by prominent druggists, 50c. Manufactured by A. P. Boxsie, Buffalo, N. Y.

Apples were worth from 35 cents to 50 cents each in the reign of Henry VII.

Scurvy and scorbutic affections, pimples, and blotches on the skin are caused by impure blood which Beecham's Pills cure.

The bronze cents, such as are in circulation now, were first coined in 1864.

One Cent a Belt Wall Paper

Finer, 2cts., 2½cts.; Gold, 3cts.; Embossed Solid Gold, 4cts.

Send stamp for 100 Samples. REED, Wall Paper Jobber, Rochester, Pa.

The silver dollar of 1804 is worth $900.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 25c per bottle.

Institute of Shorthand.

No. 101 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, Pa. Graham and Pitman systems. Private and mail instructions. Special speed classes for all writers. Good positions for competent students.