

## Men We All Know.

Stories About and Chats With Famous Men.

**Senator Spence Talks of the Wonderful Gold Mines of Picher, Okla.—Hendrick Speaks of Politics in the Northwest—Something About Tom Ochiltree and the Nitrate King—How Ochiltree Lost a Million Dollars—A Reminiscence of Charles Dickens and First Harry—How John W. Wamsutter Fought the Ocean—John T. Shedd and Philbrick Sawyer—How the Latter Was First Elected to the Senate.**

### Special Correspondent of the Deseret News.

I had a chat the other night with Senator Watson C. Spence about the gold regions of Picher, Okla. He says that the output of metal in his state of Washington will probably surpass that of Colorado. He is not interested in the mines himself, for he has all he can do to take care of his property without making new investments. He is one of the richest men of the northwest and his real estate assessments in Seattle amounts to, I am told, about \$1,000,000, and he pays three times the salary of a cabinet minister on them in taxes every year. He has all sorts of interests in the northwest, and among other pet investments is a dairy farm from which he sells for north of milk every day and on which he has some of the best Holsteins you can find in the country. Said Senator Spence:

"These gold regions are about sixty miles from Seattle and railroads are now being built to them. The miners are at work, but they have as yet no means of getting their ore to the markets. One of the largest companies is that which owns the Monte Cristo mine and which has a capital of about five million dollars. They have, I am told, already invested about three million dollars, and they think their lead is one of the finest that has ever been discovered. The men who own this mine are Rockefeller, Colby and Hoyt. They are all rich men. Mr. Colby was the head of the Wisconsin Central railroad, Rockefeller is one of the rich Standard Oil men—I am not sure whether it is John or his brother—and Mr. Hoyt is another rich man, who comes from New York. These men are all level headed. They have made some money in other investments in Washington territory, and they expect to make a fortune out of their mines. There are other camps which have equally good indications, and as soon as the country is opened up there will be a great rush to the gold fields. The Great Northern road will soon be through to Seattle and we expect that the town will jump from now on. It now has about sixty thousand people and it is not much more than ten years old.

Senator Hansbrough tells me that the northwest is picking up and its prospects are bright. He says that a curious thing occurred as to the recent elections which shows how times affect parties. In every district where they had extraordinary

million pounds, was giving his early experience. He told how he amassed his great fortune, and he described the struggles of his early life. He told how he worked and saved to get enough money to take him to Columbia. He described his long and weary journey in a wagon across the Indian grave, past the ruins of the battle of Little Bighorn, and the river in Nebraska. When they came to this river they found a flood had made it almost impossible and they waited for days for the river to go down. The waters, however, increased instead of diminished and they were in despair. At last, said Senator Hearst, "four or five of us concluded to make a raft and get across by it. We tied our wagons, beds together, put our bedding in them and finally had quite a respectable boat made. Then the question was to get a rope across the raging torrent in order to pull the raft over. No one of the party could swim, and for even the bravest swimmers it looked like death.

"We cast about for some time as to what to do until at last a little red-headed, blue-eyed boy came up to us and said that he could swim the river and that he could carry the rope over in his teeth. He was about fifteen years old, and he was confident to let him do it. He jumped into the river and after wonderful exertions reached the bank. Two hours later he came back with the rope, and I never felt so happy in my life. We threw up our hats and shouted for joy, and I never think of my early life but that I remember that red-headed boy. I have looked for him everywhere and I cannot find him. Had he not been there I would have been a failure. He is now, I am told, a successful run in London last summer. Buffalo Bill is also one of the boys of London, and I remember a pretty breakfast that I had last summer at his house. I got a note from Col. Cody asking me if I would not come out to take an American dinner with him. The breakfast hour was 12 o'clock and when I came up to the tent I was received by Gen. George B. Williams, who is the owner of the Equitable Life Insurance Company in London, and who was introduced to him as the cook of the occasion. Gen. Williams' room from which I was to sleep was covered with a big white apron and his cuffs were pushed back in most approved style. He took me into Buffalo Bill's tent and introduced me to the breakfast party. This consisted of Mrs. Brown Foster the actress, Henry Labouchere, the editor of *Truth*, and his wife, T. P. O'Connor, who has taken Fenell's place to a large extent in parliament, and his wife and Col. Ochiltree. Shortly after this we sat down to breakfast and it was a first-class feast of fried chicken, corn dodgers and all the other good things which are so well known in America, but which you cannot get in England. There were all sorts of drinkables from water and milk to champagne and whiskey, and I was surprised to see that both Buffalo Bill and Tom Ochiltree took to milk.

**HOW TOM OCHILTREE LOST A MILLION.**  
During the dinner the conversation was spicy and lots of good stories were told. The subject of money-making came up, and Tom Ochiltree said:

"Did you ever know that I came within an ace of making a million dollars? Well, I did, and I lost it through my reputation for exaggeration. It was at a dinner at John Chamberlain's in Washington, and Senator Hearst, John Russell Young and several other prominent men were present. The talk turned to the time and was trying hard to get a foothold in literature. He had written a number of things that had attracted at-

tention, but had as yet not acquired a literary standing when the cable came announcing the death of Charles Dickens. As the cable was handed him he was given also his mail for the day. Among the letters was one with an English postmark. He opened it and found it to be a letter from Charles Dickens complimenting him on his poem entitled 'The Outcast of Pever.' This in connection with the cable affected him so that he laid himself down on his desk and cried. With tears in his eyes he took his pen and wrote the poem 'Little Nell in Camp.' It came from the south. It was one of the most beautiful things that Harry ever penned and it was given to the public and it came to me through one of the poet's friends from first Harry himself.

**HOW JOHN WAMSUTTER FOUGHT THE OCEAN.**  
I find that a great many people admire Wamsutter for his most recent religious and the incident which occurred at Washington has a striking respect for working Christianity. The Salvation Army is popular among the statesmen, and I believe the agnostics who are gathered here and there through both houses of Congress are not backward in praising those Christians who work. I heard a Congressman say the other day that he had not been to church for a year and that he never visited a Sunday school. He did not appear to have much faith in the sincerity of Sunday school workers until I mentioned Wamsutter. He then said: 'I like John Wamsutter, and I believe he is honest in all his works and that he does good. I am going to visit his home about the next time I am in Philadelphia, and he is the kind of a Christian I like. He has more nerve than any of the preachers, and he is ready to fight anything. Why, Wamsutter is so brave that he would battle with the laws of nature. I have a cottage at Cape May, and he surprised me all three times last summer by making a fight with the ocean and winning. Wamsutter's summer home at Cape May Point is just on the edge of the beach. The ocean has been creeping up to it very rapidly during the past year, and the authorities took action to prevent it. Wamsutter said that he would move back to the cottage. 'I won't do it,' he replied. 'I don't think that cottage is in it, and if there is anything that has to move it will be the ocean.' He then began to move back the ocean. He sent for pile drivers from Philadelphia and sent great piles into the sand along in front of his cottage, thus making a big breakwater, which the ocean cannot cross. His cottage is now high and dry and it is the same with his Christianity.

**SENATOR SAWYER'S REVEREND SON.**  
Senator Sawyer of Wisconsin will probably spend a good part of his winter in Washington. He has made many friendships during his term in the Senate and his income is so great that he can live where he pleases. He has a magnificent house here, which he built for his daughter at a cost of something like \$100,000 and he was worth a half a dozen millions when he was elected to the Senate in 1885. He is one of the best business men in the United States and he has made his fortune since he was thirty years old. At this time he had saved only a little more than \$200,000, and with this he went from his native town in New York to Wisconsin,

and by investment, speculation and hard work, so turned over his \$200,000 that he has now at least \$1,000,000 for every cent that he had then. His rise in the Senate is taken by John L. Mitchell of Milwaukee, a man who, is, perhaps, wealthier than he, and Wisconsin will be represented by a millionaire. Speaking of John L. Mitchell he will be, next to Stanford, the richest man in Congress. He is the son of Alexander Mitchell, a Scotchman, and he is worth like a million a year. He is, with all this, as quiet and unassuming as though he lived upon a few thousands and he shows his Scotch blood in his modest ways. I heard a very curious story of his boy the other day. This boy is about twelve years old and he goes to a private school here in Washington. Among his friends is a young fellow whose father is connected with the Treasury Department and who owns a fine place at Takoma Park, near Washington. Not long ago (only last week) Mitchell went out to see his friend, and when he came he had on a very fine tailor-made suit of clothes and he looked as though he had just come out of a handkerchief. Shortly after arriving he said: 'I don't care to give you a suit of your old clothes? I can't have any suit in these. They are too good to spoil.' 'Certainly,' said Phil, and in ten minutes the millionaire's son was the raggedest and happiest boy in Maryland.

**HOW SAWYER WAS ELECTED TO THE SENATE.**  
Speaking of Uncle Philletta, a Minnesota congressman, who lives close to the Wisconsin line, told me the other day how he came to be elected to the Senate. He has the seat, you know, which was held by Angus Cameron. When Cameron's term expired, he refused to run again, saying that it would cost him too much to be elected United States senator and he could not afford it. Timothy Sawyer did not want the place and he refused to run. He was, however, elected by the legislature and he was elected to the Senate. Sawyer had been in Congress for about ten years. He was known all over the state and he was the most popular man in Wisconsin among the lumber men. It was decided to ask him to accept the nomination, and Uncle Jerry took it. He was elected to the Senate and he was elected to the Senate.

Uncle Jerry called upon Uncle Philletta about it. The legislature was quite close, and it was necessary to have a man who would put some money into the campaign for legitimate expenses. Uncle Jerry called upon Uncle Philletta and he told him that the Republicans of the state wanted him to run for senator. He said Cameron was a good man, but that the only man that could satisfy the people was himself. Uncle Philletta thought about it for a moment and he said: 'Well, I don't object to going to the Senate, and I think I could do some good there.'

But, said Uncle Jerry, 'it will cost some money.'

'Well, suppose it does,' said Uncle Philletta. 'I have made about \$50,000 out of my business this year and I think I would afford to put a little of it into the campaign for the party. I don't suppose it will cost a great amount.'

'Oh, no,' said Uncle Jerry, 'said much. It might cost \$25,000 or \$30,000, but certainly not more than that.'

'All right,' said Uncle Philletta, 'if the expenses are legitimate I will pay them.'

After this nothing more was said about the proposed nomination and the people generally did not know that Sawyer would be a candidate. He began his work at once. He took a trip

up through the lumber regions of Wisconsin, along the rivers down which the logs had to be rafted for sale. He found hard times among the lumber men, but had not said for them. Uncle Philletta knew them all. He would come to a camp where the owners of saws were using their lumber, and about the first thing they would ask him was whether he was, you know, one of the greatest lumber merchants of the state, and he would say in answer to their question: 'I will do what I can. How much lumber have you and what do you want for it?'

'We have so many logs of such a character,' they would reply, 'and we will take such a figure for them.'

'All right,' would be Uncle Philletta's answer. 'If the tally is correct I will take the lumber and you can fix it at once to go down the river.' Then just as he was about to start away, he would say, 'By the way, John,' addressing the leader of the camp by name, 'I want you to run as a candidate for the legislature this year.'

But, Mr. Sawyer, I don't see how I can leave my business, but if you want me to go I will go. To this he replied: 'I would like to have you go. There is going to be some important business done and I think you ought to go.'

'All right,' Mr. Sawyer, 'I'll run.'

The same program would be enacted at the next camp, and Sawyer in this way picked out the legislators from the lumber districts, and without ever mentioning a word of his candidacy for the Senate or saying anything about the obligations of the men to him, the men he selected were among the best men in the state and they were so popular in their districts that they very seldom failed to be elected. Through out his whole life Senator Sawyer has been a very liberal man to all church organizations. I don't think he is given to any idea of future favors, and during this campaign when it was a question of the Democrats or the Republican party carrying the legislature he had only to drop a hint to his clerical friends that he would like to have certain legislative candidates succeed and they went in and worked for those candidates for all they were worth. They had no idea they were working for Mr. Sawyer for senator, and when the legislature came to Madison they of course voted for him, and he had, I think, something like a two-thirds majority. A funny thing about his further speculation was that when he came back to Madison after making this tour he said to a friend there: 'I have been buying a lot of lumber up the river and I have spent \$10,000 for logs upon which I don't know how much I am going to lose. I found the boys hard up, however, and I had to help them.' He did not, however, let the \$10,000 go without trying to sell the logs, and he at once sent his man up the river to see that they were properly stacked down to the markets, and he instructed him to sell them for just what they would bring. Said he: 'I don't want to keep them a day and I want them sold for just what you can get for them.' They were sold, and the result was that he made \$25,000 out of the transaction instead of losing on it, as he expected.

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Deposits 1874, 13,076.72	Deposits 1884, 138,110.04
Deposits 1875, 18,119.70	Deposits 1885, 142,760.12
Deposits 1876, 10,148.02	Deposits 1886, 195,063.68
Deposits 1877, 21,058.84	Deposits 1887, 207,331.50
Deposits 1878, 26,012.71	Deposits 1888, 428,484.79
Deposits 1879, 42,702.50	Deposits 1889, 626,790.52
Deposits 1880, 60,073.01	Deposits 1890, 874,284.97
Deposits 1881, 99,457.39	Deposits 1891, 701,021.11
Deposits 1882, 133,078.06	Deposits 1892, 875,104.54

Deposits January 6th, 1893, \$1,206,260.42.



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