

THE DAY OF ST. PATRICK.

There is no more illustrious character of whom we have any knowledge whose entire personal history is shrouded in deeper mystery than that of St. Patrick, whose birthday is so generally celebrated on the 17th of March, though it is wholly a matter of conjecture that he was born on that day. A witty Irishman has written on this subject as follows:

On the 8th of March it was, some people say, That St. Patrick at midnight he first saw the day; While others declared it was the 9th he was born, And 'twas all a mistake between midnight and morn, For mistakes will occur in a hurry and shock, And some blamed the baby and some blamed the clock, Till, with all their disputings, sure no one could know If the child was too fast or the clock was too slow.

But both of these factions so positive grew That each kept a birthday, and Pat then had two, Till Father Mulcahey, who showed them their sins, Said: 'No one could have two but a fine pair of twins. Don't always be fighting for eight or for nine— Don't always be fighting, but sometimes combine. Eight and nine add together—seventeen is the mark, So let that be his birthday.' 'Amen,' said the clerk."

This ancient lyric account of how the 17th of March has come to be celebrated as the birthday of Ireland's patron saint is quite as authentic as any other information we possess concerning him, but is not alone the honor of being the natal day of St. Patrick which entitles the 17th of March to most respectful consideration. All the old Irish calendars name this day as that on which Noah entered the ark for the purpose of escaping the flood.

NOAH AND THE COMEDIAN.

It would be as difficult to tell why the 17th of March was selected for the date of that event as it would be to divine why in all the religious plays of mysteries of the middle ages Noah and his wife were always the low comedy characters. Noah was invariably represented as an eccentric old man and his wife as a most volatile shrew. In the play of Noah in the "Townley Mysteries," one of the earliest of these very rare and quaint collections, there is an amusing scene between Noah and his better half, where he tells the latter of the approaching flood which has just been announced to him by the Creator. Mrs. Noah calls her lord a credulous fool and an habitual bearer of ill news, and bitterly complains of the miserable life he leads her. Noah retorts in kind and finally bids his spouse to hold her tongue. But she only becomes more abusive, till at length they fall a-fighting after the manner of our modern Punch and Judy. Noah getting decidedly the worst of it and finally running away to resume his ark building. When the vessel is completed and the waters have commenced to rise Mrs. Noah persistently refuses with the characteristic perversity of her sex, to enter it. She ridicules its appearance and method of construction in most ludicrous terms, saying:

"'T' faith I cannot find Which is before, which is behind."

And goes on to remark, in effect, that the neighbors will be unable to tell whether they are going away or just coming home. The danger at length becomes so imminent, however, that she jumps into the ark of her own free will, but no sooner is she aboard than she picks a quarrel with her husband.

MRS. NOAH GETS A DRUBBING.

Good old Noah resolved to teach her a lesson, gives her a severe drubbing, and she complains of being beaten "black and blue," while the three sons of the unhappy pair lament over the family discord. Many husbands of the present day will heartily join with Noah in exclaiming, as he does, after this rencontre—

"Lord, that woman be crabbed, aye, And none are meek, I dare well say."

All these events are supposed to take place on March 17, and if that date is the correct one it should certainly be celebrated, not only by the admirers of St. Patrick, but by the whole world, for if father and mother Noah had not sought refuge in the ark none of us would now be here to celebrate any thing.

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES AND FRANCE HAVE EACH CLAIMED THE HONOR OF HAVING GIVEN BIRTH TO IRELAND'S PATRON SAINT, BUT THE BULK OF TRADITIONAL EVIDENCE, WHICH IS ALL WE HAVE, SEEMS TO BE IN FAVOR OF SCOTLAND. HIS NATIVE PLACE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN NEMTHUR, NOW DUMBATON, THEN A ROMAN PROVINCE, AND THE DATE OF HIS BIRTH IS GENERALLY THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN ABOUT A. D. 350.

ORIGINAL NAME WAS SUCCATH.

His original name was Succath, Patrick being the Roman appellation by which he was known, indicating that he came of a patrician family. Chained by pirates and taken to Ireland in his sixteenth year, he was sold to a petty chief, whom he served as a wineherder for six years, during which time he claims to have been miraculously converted while tending his flocks. Effecting his escape, he went to France, according to some of his biographers, to England according to others, and prepared himself for the priesthood. Of the writing of St. Patrick but two Latin manuscripts have been preserved, his "Confession" and a letter addressed to Coroticus, a Welsh chieftain, who had captured several of Patrick's converts. In his confession he tells us that he was miraculously called by God in a dream to the sacred mission of converting the Irish, a mission in which he was confirmed by Pope Celestine.

Returning to Ireland, he devoted his life to the evangelization of her people, and is said to have founded 285 churches and to have personally baptized 12,000 converts. The date of his death is assigned to various widely sundered years, some writers placing it as early as 433 and others as late as 493.

THE SNAKE STORY.

The miracles, legends, traditions, superstitions and quaint customs and observances associated with the name of St. Patrick would fill many large volumes. One of the best known of his alleged miracles to which it is only necessary to allude, as it has been made universally familiar through the medium of picture, song and story, is his expulsion of snakes and all other reptiles from Ireland, which he is said to have accomplished by beating a drum and driving them before him into the sea. This strange procession had not gone far before St. Patrick beat his drum with so much vigor as to break a hole in it, but an angel instantaneously appearing and miraculously mending it, the march proceeded without further interruption.

St. Patrick may be said, however, to be the means of introducing into Ireland snakes of another and more deadly kind than any that had existed there prior to his arrival, for tradition assigns to him the credit of having in-

structed the Irish in the art of distilling whisky, from which alleged fact it is said to have been called poteen in his honor. But Father Mathew and other Irish advocates of temperance have claimed St. Patrick as a strict prohibitionist, and tell how in A. D. 445 he one day commanded his disciples to abstain from drink until the bell should ring for vespers in the evening. One Coleman, though busily engaged in the severe labors of the harvest field, obeyed this injunction so literally that he did not even taste water throughout the long sultry day, and at length when the vesper bell sounded he fell dead—a martyr to thirst.

ANOTHER FAMOUS MIRACLE.

Another of St. Patrick's most famous miracles is thus commemorated in the old Irish ballad of "Polly Roe." "St. Patrick, as is legend told, The morning being very cold, In order to assuage the weather, Collected bits of ice together, Then gently breathed upon the pyre, When every fragment blazed on fire. Oh, if the Saint had been so kind As to have left the gift behind, To such a lovelorn wretch as me, Who daily struggles to be free, I'd be content—content with part— I'd only ask to thaw the heart, The frozen heart of Polly Roe."

AMERICA COULD STARVE ENGLAND.

If the United States were to suddenly stop the present regular shipments of breadstuffs and meat to England, it would be but a few weeks at the most before the United Kingdom would be suffering from the direct famine, for the United States has England at her mercy in that most vital point in a nation's life—its food supply—is the remark of Mr. J. D. Whelpley, a writer in Harper's Weekly.

Mr. Whelpley's conclusion is well grounded, for during the past year England bought of other countries \$209,000,000 worth of meat and \$225,000,000 worth of wheat, flour and corn. Of this enormous bill for bread and meat, about 60 per cent, or \$233,000,000, was paid to the United States. In the same period the English people consumed all the meat they raised themselves and bought from foreign countries in addition, \$70,000 head of live cattle, 661,959 head of live sheep and 1,600,000 pounds of meat slaughtered abroad. It is in this last item that the United States has recently perfected its hold upon the British meat markets; for it is the American dressed beef which supplies the butchers' stalls of all the large centers of population. Any shortage would be felt in these places first, and it is here the hand-to-mouth class of the population is found—the class from which is recruited in times of stress the unreasoning, dangerous and destructive mob.

England's importations of live butchers' stock have not increased much in the past twenty years. In fact, in 1881, 1890 and 1895 they were greater than for the past year. The importations of dressed meat have gained steadily in

The peasantry of the Galtee or Gaultie Mountains, situated between the counties of Cork and Tipperary, have a legend that when St. Patrick banished the snakes and toads from Ireland he chained a monster serpent in one of their lakes known as Lough Dilyven, telling him he would not be liberated till the following Monday. The serpent has continued chained there ever since, and every Monday morning cries out in Irish, "It's a long Monday, Patrick!"

ST. PATRICK'S JAWBONE.

In the possession of a family residing near Belfast there is a skeleton containing a jawbone which is said to have been St. Patrick's. Great miraculous powers are attributed to this relic. It is believed to cure epileptic fits, to counteract the diabolical machinations of witches and fairies and to avert the baleful influence of the evil eye. It is also used as an extra judicial test of the guilt or innocence of suspected persons, who are required to place their hand upon it and declare their innocence. It is believed that they will be instantaneously visited by supernatural and awful punishment if they then speak falsely or even suppress any portion of the truth.

A quaint old book of folklore published at Dublin in 1799, says that if the wind blows hard upon St. Patrick's eve "it betokens a death among them that are learned, and much fish shall die in the following summer." A point that the United States fish commissioners would do well to "make a note on." The same venerable authority states that an egg laid on St. Patrick's day will bring luck to the possessor if kept.—Cleveland Enquirer.

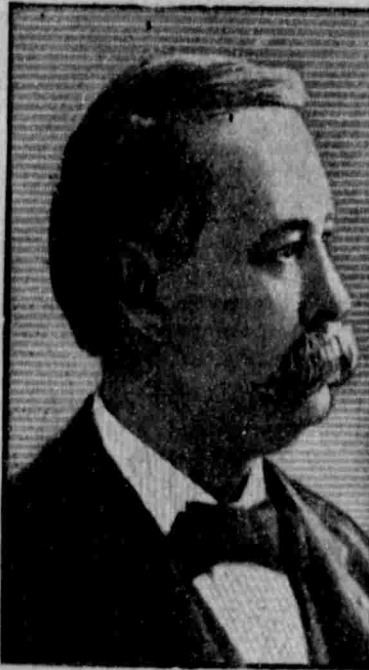
WAR AND DYSPEPSIA.

Campaigning Gives a Man the Stomach of an Ostrich.

One of the good effects of war is that it cures the worst forms of dyspepsia. Many officers, who are the despair of their medical attendants while spending their days between the club and the barracks, come home from a campaign with a stomach like the ostrich's. This, of course, arises from the exercise, the open-air life, the constant mental employment, and very often the short commons. Another good effect is the rather strange one that war cures nervousness of the ordinary kind, as well as headaches and neuralgia. In fact, if a man has any kind of health at the start, nothing braces him up like an exciting campaign. But, on the other hand, if any of his organs are really weak he runs every chance of leaving his bones in foreign parts.

SEVENTEEN TELEGRAMS ONLY.

To mobilize the entire force of the Boer army when war was declared took but seventeen telegrams from General Joubert.



VICE-PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITY.

Amos J. Cummings, member of Congress from New York, who is being talked of as a running mate for Mr. Bryan, should the latter be nominated at the Kansas City convention next July.



SECRETARY OF WAR ROOT.

The most recent photograph of Elihu Root, secretary of war, who is now in Cuba in conference with General Wood. Many matters of importance regarding the future of the island will be arranged before Mr. Root returns to Washington.



ADJUTANT GENERAL CORBIN.

A good picture of Adjutant General Corbin whose military career the Senate is now looking into. The general has authorized Senator Davis to present his resignation if his record shows any trace of unworthiness.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OF

Fire Insurance Companies

REPRESENTED BY

H. J. GRANT & CO.,

THE LEADING INSURANCE AGENTS OF UTAH, AND GENERAL AGENTS OF THE

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah.

The Only Local Insurance Company of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah.

The Name and Location of the Company, Home Fire Insurance Company, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
Name of President, Heber J. Grant.  
Name of Secretary, H. G. Whitney.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$250,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 250,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 273,279 15  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 273,279 15  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 44,242 54  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 36,280 65  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 5,998 87  
The amount of risks written during the year 4,211,193 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 8,004,139 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of March, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Hartford Fire Insurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, Hartford Fire Insurance Company, of 85 Grinnell Street, Hartford, Conn.  
Name of President, George L. Chase.  
Name of Secretary, P. C. Royce.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$5,000,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 5,000,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 11,002,588 02  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 7,192,383 52  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 6,690,925 91  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 7,123,005 52  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 4,113,052 42  
The amount of risks written during the year 694,749,682 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 923,600,679 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of March, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Fire Association of Philadelphia.

The Name and Location of the Company, Fire Association of Philadelphia.  
Name of President, E. C. Irvin.  
Name of Secretary, John T. Herkness.  
The amount of its capital stock is 500,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 500,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 6,116,129 42  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 5,107,762 78  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 2,892,381 87  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 2,112,124 19  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 1,896,852 43  
The amount of risks written during the year 208,750,920 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 322,822,707 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

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In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of March, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

EUTONIA INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Name and Location of the Company, Eutonia Insurance Company of Louisiana.  
Name of President, Albert P. Noll.  
Name of Secretary, George Noll.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$500,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 250,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 727,946 93  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 727,946 93  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 424,240 76  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 431,287 49  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 250,685 59  
The amount of risks written during the year 37,646,212 12  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 29,222,997 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

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In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Northern Assurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, Northern Assurance Company, London, England.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$15,000,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 15,000,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 2,927,107 81  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 1,096,682 39  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 1,249,085 77  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 1,203,209 23  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 664,822 75  
The amount of risks written during the year 157,483,020 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 188,474,253 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company, 219 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Penn.  
Name of President, R. Dale Benson.  
Name of Secretary, W. Gardner Crowell.  
The amount of its capital stock is 400,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 400,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 5,371,306 21  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 2,969,400 95  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 1,923,399 52  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 1,976,750 23  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 1,225,528 70  
The amount of risks written during the year 215,821,929 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 370,220,236 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 16th day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

North British and Mercantile Insurance Co.

The Name and Location of the Company, North British and Mercantile Insurance Company of Great Britain, U. S. office, 4 Williams St., N. Y. City.  
Name of U. S. Manager, E. G. Richards.  
The amount of its assets is \$4,037,624 99  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 2,245,786 02  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 2,488,343 73  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 2,639,354 23  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 1,965,139 27  
The amount of risks written during the year 268,186,252 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 381,265,599 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 23rd day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

German American Insurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, German American Insurance Company, Liberty and Nassau Street, New York City.  
Name of President, William N. Kremer.  
Name of Secretary, Chas. G. Smith.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$1,000,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 1,000,000 00  
The amount of its assets is \$1,125,840 42  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is \$1,125,840 42  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 3,126,911 45  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 3,185,687 83  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 1,801,000 34  
The amount of risks written during the year 475,024,968 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 643,948,752 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 27th day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Orient Insurance Co.

The Name and Location of the Company, Orient Insurance Company of Constantinople.  
Name of President, Charles B. Whiting.  
Name of Secretary, James U. Taintor.  
The amount of its capital stock is \$2,000,000 00  
The amount of its capital stock paid up is 500,000 00  
The amount of its assets is 2,461,124 19  
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is 1,227,283 37  
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year 1,412,132 01  
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year 1,538,629 34  
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year 969,637 04  
The amount of risks written during the year 121,405,487 00  
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year 174,075,899 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State.

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.  
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great (SEAL) seal of the State of Utah, this 12th day of February, A. D. 1900.  
JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.