

ORIGIN OF "MARK TWAIN."

Samuel L. Clemens Quoted as Saying That He Inherited the Name.

New York Sun.

The familiar story of the origin of Samuel L. Clemens use of the name Mark Twain is now declared to be incorrect. It pictures Clemens as a Mississippi river pilot, listening to the men heaving the lead at the bow of a river boat and singing out, "By the mark, three; by the mark, twain." Tableau Clemens smites his brow, and soliloquizes: "There is my nom de plume."

It is true that the name originated with the picturesque cry of the man with the lead, but a man other than Mr. Clemens first discovered the picturesque. That man was Capt. Isaiah Sellers, who furnished river news for The New Orleans Picayune. To Prof. William Lyon Phelps of Yale Mr. Clemens confessed that it was from Sellers he got his name. Prof. Phelps' story is quoted in Professor Henderson's "Mark Twain."

According to this book Mr. Clemens said to Professor Phelps: "Captain Sellers used to sign his articles in The Picayune 'Mark Twain.' He died in 1863 I liked the name—and stole it; I think I have done him no wrong, for I seem to have made his name somewhat generally known."

Professor Henderson records a number of interesting incidents connected with the use of this name. For a while, when he was a miner in Nevada, Mr. Clemens sent to the Virginia City Enterprise humorous letters signed not "Mark Twain" but "Josh."

When he became a regular reporter on that paper and reported the Legislature he signed his reports "Mark Twain." When questioned as to his use of this name Mr. Clemens declared: "I chose my pseudonym because to most persons it had no meaning and also because it was short. I was a reporter in the Legislature time. It was much shorter to say in their debates 'Mark Twain' than to say 'The unprincipled and trying parliamentary reported of The Territorial Enterprise!'"

Mr. Clemens made the name known on the Pacific coast, but the world at large did not hear it for years after the "Jumping Frog," reprinted in hundreds of exchanges without credit, had jumped into such notoriety as is rarely accorded well-mannered frogs. In fact, it's first use in any Eastern magazine was a fiasco.

Mr. Clemens made a great scoop on the Hornet disaster when he was writing up the Hawaiian islands, in 1866, says Professor Henderson. His account of the disaster Mark sent to Harper's Magazine, where it appeared in December 1866. But alas! it was not as "Mark Twain," not as a drawing lovable river pilot sort of person that the world beheld the new author. For he had not written his new pseudonym plainly on his copy, and Harper's cheerfully introduced him to fame as "Mike Swain."

How To Call On The Editor.

Advance to the inner door and give three raps. The devil will attend to the alarm. You will give your name, postoffice address, and number of years you owe for the paper. You will be admitted to the sanctum and will advance to the center of the room, where you will address the editor with the following countersigns: After laying a watermelon on the floor, hold the right hand about two feet from the body with the thumb and fingers clasping a ten dollar bill, which you will drop into the editor's hand, saying: "Were you waiting for me?" The editor will grasp your hand and the bill pressing it, and will say, "You bet!"—Exchange.

Mr. W. F. Woodward brought a branch loaded with persimmons to The News office Saturday. It was one of the largest clusters of "simmons" we have ever seen. Mr. Woodward stated to The News man that the tree was loaded down with just such clusters as he brought to the office. He says this is a sure sign that we will have an unusually severe winter. Mrs. Woodward accompanied her husband to the city to do some shopping.

3,000 WEBBS—ALL DEMOCRATS.

Big Missouri Family Keeps All Its Members In The Party.

From the New York Press.

The reason there are more Democrats in and around St. Louis than near some other big Western towns has just been discovered. There's a woman behind it! When Mrs. Rebecca Webb, of East St. Louis, whose son is the City Attorney there, gathered her clan around her at a big family reunion a few days ago a Republican politician would have thought a Democratic mass-meeting was going on and that the women present, if they could vote, were going to learn how to mark their ballots. There were 3,000 Webbs there and half of them voters. "But the best part of it," said Mrs. Webb, "is that they're all Democrats, and if the women folks could vote there would be more Democratic officeholders hereabouts." Mrs. Webb, although 70 years old, is a pretty lively old lady, and she measures time by the Webb reunions, which she began 19 years ago and has arranged every year since. She is the mother of six boys and six girls and her grand-children never fail to register in the primaries and to put their "Xs" beside the names of the candidates that are followed by a "D." That is, no backslider has been discovered, and if he were it would go hard with him, because the Webbs insist on party unity.

Another One Nailed.

The Union Republican, in its extremity to seize upon something for which to criticize the work of the Democratic legislature, makes a great ado about the law which relates to furnishing medical schools the unclaimed bodies of paupers. The Republican admits that "this exempts the bodies of Confederate soldiers, inmates of the State hospitals and State schools, bodies of travelers or strangers who died suddenly, or inmates of a county home," and notwithstanding this admission criticizes the law with almost frantic vigor. The Republican knows that there is not one pauper in a thousand who is not included in one of the above classes, and that even if he is not his body cannot be turned over to a medical school if it is claimed by a relative within thirty-six hours after death. The Republican is mistaken in saying that The Tribune is "trying to explain away this law." It needs no explaining away, and the only thing we sought to do was to publish it as it is and correct a false impression that has been sent out about it. When the people know the law they will realize that there is nothing in it to criticize—with the exception of a few Republican editors who must have something to howl about.—Concord Times.

LINCOLNTON WATER ANALYSIS.

Laboratory No. B. 4011. Sent by W. L. Kistler, Superintendent of Water Works, Location, Lincoln. Source, Tap. Marked August. Received August 28, 1911. Reported August 30, 1911. Odor, hot, none; Alkalinity, (in terms of Calcium carbonate), 27.5; chlorine 3; nitrogen as nitrates, 0.08; nitrogen as nitrites none; free Ammonia, .018; Albuminoid Ammonia, .026; temporary hardness, 27.5; Colon bacilli in 1 c. c., none; Colon bacilli in 10 c. c., none; total number of bacteria per c. c. 13. No pollution.

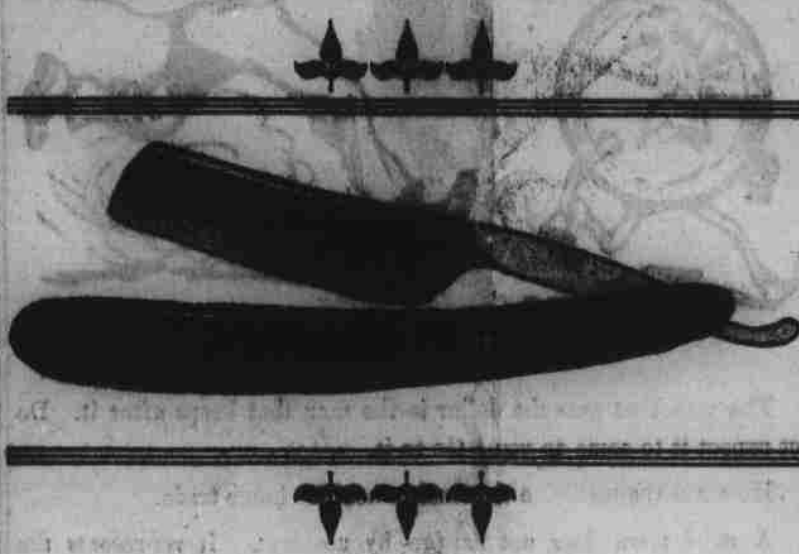
C. A. SHORE, Director.

Government Gives Cotton Report.

Washington, Sept. 1.—A total production of 12,918,200 bales of cotton as the final yield this year is indicated by the Department of Agriculture's official report of the condition of the growing crop on August 25, which the crop reporting board, from reports from its correspondents and agents throughout the cotton belt, estimated today at 73.2 per cent of a normal.

Mr. B. O. Thompson will leave tomorrow for Willington, S. C., where he has accepted a position as principal of the school at that place. Mrs. Thompson will join him there some time next month.

CUT IT OUT!



Heroic treatment for a corn, which has no right to be on the human toe, is to open your handy old corn razor and cut it out.

There are bad habits and practices which people ought to cut out, though no razor is needed for the amputating process. For instance, it is a bad practice to get in the habit of buying things through Mail Order concerns when you can buy to better advantage—the mutual advantage of yourself and your neighbor—at the stores in your own town.

If you have acquired this habit take the Razor of Resolution, hone it on the hone of Mutual Interests, strop it on the strop of Town Improvement and—

CUT IT OUT!

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Miss Linda Ward and Messrs. Jack and Bruce Lander returned Friday from Plumtree, N. C.

Mrs. Saine's private school will open Monday Sept. 18th; hours from 9 to 1. \$1.5t

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Jenkins arrived in the city Saturday and are the guests of Mrs. Alice Lander.

Mr. D. W. Dellinger one of the enterprising citizens of Iron Station spent yesterday in Lincolnton on business.

Mr. James Wideman of Due West, S. C., is spending a few days in the city, the guest of Prof. B. P. Caldwell.

Mr. A. M. Hoke accompanied by little Miss Elizabeth Hoke and Roberta Love spent several days of last week in Atlanta, Ga.

Lightning struck a tree yesterday afternoon in the grove near Mr. J. L. Lineberger's residence and shocked Mr. J. S. Stallings and child so severely that both were rendered unconscious for a few minutes.

The Lincoln Milling Co., ginned its first bale of the season on last Saturday. The fleecy staple belonged to Mr. R. D. Hauss. The Lincoln Milling Co., bought the bale paying 11 1/2 cents per pound for it.

Ticket sales at the Union passenger station was a record-breaker during August. The sales for this month amounted to \$3,038.52. City Passenger Agent Chitty informs us that that this is the best month since the consolidation of the stations.

Mr. M. Luther Finger purchased a John Deere sulkey plow from Mr. R. M. Roseman on Farmers' Day that will plow sixteen inches deep if necessary. The plow was delivered on last Saturday and created no little interest on the part of the bystanders. Mr. Finger also purchased a corn chopper that cuts two rows at a time. The Western farmer hasn't anything on the Lincoln citizen in the way of up-to-date farming.

Old Soldier Visits Lincolnton.

Mr. Thomas Parkins and wife and daughter of Houston, Texas, are spending a few days here, guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lineberger. Mr. Parkins, having been paroled at Appomattox, visited Lincolnton with a number of comrades in 1865. Although the town was under martial rule at that time, the ladies were undaunted and waved their handkerchiefs to them as they passed through the streets.

Before their return to Texas on the first of November, Mr. Parkins and his family will visit relatives in Catawba county and at Liberty, S. C.

WIRELESS OPERATOR A HERO.

Climbed Rigging of Wrecked Vessel at Risk of His Life and Sent Call for Help.

Charleston, S. C., Dispatch Aug 30

Passengers on the ill fated steamer Lexington, which was beached on Edisto Island during the hurricane Monday afternoon, lived ten years in the space of 24 hours with the ship almost entirely submerged time and again while driven before the gale. This was the statement made by some of those taken from the ship by the revenue cutter Yamacraw. This afternoon the passengers were given the privilege of proceeding to Savannah by rail and then taking passage for Philadelphia, but with the horrors of their recent experience fresh in mind, they promptly declined the offer.

Lack of power to resist the gale caused the Lexington to be beached. With five feet of water in the engine room, every pound of steam that could be raised was used to man the pumps and keep the ship afloat.

With the boat under water Stewart Berlinger managed to cook food for the passengers and creeping on hands and feet served it to them in the cabin where they were unable to move through fear of being washed overboard.

But for the heroism of wireless Operator Sheetz there would have been no chance of rescue. After the storm had wrecked the wireless station, Sheetz climbed into the rigging and adjusted his instruments, flashing the calls for immediate assistance. The signals were caught by the Yamacraw, which hastened to Hunting Island. Sheetz, a 16 year old boy, was in imminent peril of his life, while operating the wireless, the wind almost tearing him from his insecure position. The lad was utterly exhausted by his desperate work.

Passengers incessantly prayed for abatement of the storm and when the government steamer hove into sight a mighty cry of relief went up from the sorely stricken people on the Lexington. When the captain realized the danger of the liner's breaking up at any minute, he had life preservers strapped on every passenger.

\$100 Dollars, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional ailment, Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

CITY FATHERS HOLD MONTHLY MEETING.

Mr. Frank Womack Tenders Resignation Which is Accepted—Mr. Summey Elected to Fill the Vacancy—Routine Business.

The regular monthly meeting of the city fathers was held on last Friday night. All members of the board and mayor were present. The minutes of past meetings were read by the clerk and adopted. The Finance Committee made report of settlement with Tax Collector H. A. Self for the months of June and July. Only a few releases on water and light taxes were asked for. Mr. H. S. Robinson a member of the finance committee stated that the report was an unusually good one, as did also Mayor Simmons.

Mr. John M. Rhodes, on behalf of the citizens of Rhodes' village, appeared before the board and requested that the town place lights to the number of six in this immediate vicinity. It developed in the discussion that the city plant would only stand five more arc lights unless a new regulator and arc transformer was erected which would cost in the neighborhood of \$500. The board felt very kindly toward Mr. Rhodes' request and ordered that the light committee confer with him and erect not less than six or more than twelve 50-candle power lights at the places desired.

Mrs. S. H. Hopkins appeared before the board and requested that she be allowed to connect three of her tenement houses with the water system without the expense of meters. The board granted this request and ordered Mr. Kistler to attend to the matter.

Superintendent of Water Works W. L. Kistler stated to the board that something ought to be done relative to fixing a place for the hose reels. Several of the old sheds now in use are in bad condition, leaky and otherwise and will result in damaging the fire hose. The proper committee was instructed to look into the matter right away and erect suitable buildings or sheds. It was also suggested that the committee confer with the fire company relative to the different parts of the town that the different reels are to be stationed.

The matter of renting the town farm out next year was disposed of. There were two bidders viz: Messrs. O. A. Costner and Will Campbell. The leasing of the farm was awarded to Mr. Campbell for the sum of \$60.

Next on the program was the election of a successor to Mr. F. P. Womack, night policeman, whose resignation was tendered and accepted. The board went into executive session to act on this matter. There were five applicants, viz: Messrs. L. G. Kelly, J. S. Hallman, K. M. Ramsaur, A. L. Senter and Sheridan Summey. Mr. Summey was elected by a small margin.

The matter of bids for street paving was laid over until a future meeting which will probably be held this week or the first part of next. The usual routine matters were taken up and disposed of.

Enjoyable Party In Honor of Visitors.

On last Friday evening many of the young people of Lincolnton drove out to the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Sumner about a mile and a half east of town. There they were delightfully entertained at a party given in honor of their guests, Miss Mary Bruner and Mr. Whitehead McKenzie of Salisbury. During the evening refreshing ices and cake were served.

Jerry Moore May Well Look to His Laurels.

McCull, S. C., Aug. 31.—Jerry Moore may well look to his laurels. Last week Mr. Harvey Wright exhibited an ear of corn 12 inches in length and yesterday Mr. Felix Stanton, a planter from the Red Bluff section, brought to McCull a cornstalk measuring 16 feet and 2 1/4 inches in length.

Lightning struck a tree in Freedom Sunday afternoon and glanced, striking a water bucket which was carried by Ocie Ashe, colored. The stroke stunned the colored woman and split her thumb.

CULTIVATE BOW LEGS.

Related Commendation of Their Architectural Beauty—Attorney Self Carries Off the Honors. Hickory Democrat.

In the August number of The Budget, a Baltimore insurance paper, appeared the following bright paragraph, full of comfort to a large part of the human race.

"BOW LEGS."

Bow legs are trustworthy. They embody the architectural principle of the arch, which is stronger than two straight pillars. The tortoise who finished first in that memorable marathon with the hare, the bulldog, who whatever the odds will finish first or die, both belong to the bow legs. The important thing, however, is a bow-legged mind. A mind that always moves in straight lines is splendid for speed in level places, but life is not a cinder path. Human progress is due to men of bowlegged mentality, the Roosevelt type, men like Lincoln, or Voltaire, for though these names belong to characters essentially unlike, the character of their growth shows the kinship of their minds. Each at various times in his life was labelled a failure, for each came to understand that in human development the shortest distance between two points is seldom a straight line, so they took a bow-legged gait, learning to sacrifice immediate speed in order to gain the advantage of a side view. At any particular instant they seemed to be going off at a tangent, yet, never stopping, always growing, they steadily zigzagged ahead. Cultivate bow legs.

As one of the comforted, our brilliant attorney, Mr. W. A. Self, wrote the following reply under date of Aug. 1:

Maryland Casualty Co., Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:—To the champion of Bow Legs (August Budget), whoever he or she may be, I bow and lift my hat. I have used a pair all my life; have never attempted to exchange, being convinced that there is no substitute "Just as good," yet, I have not had the courage to proclaim their superlative architectural and artistic merits to this perverse and woefully non-aesthetic generation. Hence this obeisance.

As to the concluding command—I assume that we are not to lose sight of the scriptural admonition, "Let your moderation be known unto all men," which, being interpreted, meaneth, "Have regard for the rule of reason."

Very truly yours,
W. A. SELF.

In reply he received the following from the editor of The Budget dated Aug. 2:

Dear Mr. Self:—In the matter of bow legs I yield first place to you, for while I have but one bow leg the other being indefinitely wavy, you are bow legs its Self, and of Hickory at that. Hence I feel that the propaganda begun by publishing the war cry, "Cultivate Bow Legs," is really your work, and to you I surrender the honor of organizing the first chapter of the Brotherhood of Human Calipers.

CLARENCE STONE,
Editor The Budget.

Drought Affected Cow's Hide.

Mooresville Enterprise.

Mr. W. L. Alexander, familiarly known about town as "Bill" Alexander, who lives southeast of town, was in Mooresville last Friday. In talking to The Enterprise man, he stated that nearly everything in his community had dried up on account of the continued drought. One of his neighbor's cows had given him much concern by getting into his late corn patch, and several days ago he said he took his gun and shot the animal three times. The cow's hide was so parched and dry that the bullet glazed off without making a puncture.

Shuford President N. C. Farmers.

Special to The Charlotte News.

Raleigh, Aug. 31.—W. J. Shuford of Hickory was elected today president of the North Carolina Farmers' convention which closed its annual session at the A. & M. College. There was also the reelection of I. O. Schaub as secretary. The attendance has been about 300.