

GRANT AS A WRITER.

His Style Was Vigorous and terse, With Little Ornament.

General Horace Porter in "Campaigning With Grant" in The Century expresses the following opinion of Grant as a writer: His powers of concentration of thought were often shown by the circumstances under which he wrote. Nothing that went on around him, upon the field or in his quarters, could distract his attention or interrupt him. Sometimes, when his tent was filled with officers talking and laughing at the top of their voices, he would turn to his table and write the most important communications. There would then be an immediate "Hush!" and abundant excuses offered by the company, but he always insisted upon the conversation going on, and after awhile his officers came to understand his wishes in this respect, to learn that noise was apparently a stimulus rather than a check to his flow of ideas, and to realize that nothing short of a general attack along the whole line could divert his thoughts from the subject upon which his mind was concentrated.

In writing his style was vigorous and terse, with little of ornament. Its most conspicuous characteristic was perspicuity. General Meade's chief of staff once said, "There is one striking feature about Grant's orders—no matter how hurriedly he may write them on the field, no one ever has the slightest doubt as to their meaning or ever has to read them over a second time to understand them." The general used Anglo-Saxon words much more frequently than those derived from the Greek and Latin tongues. He had studied French at West Point and picked up some knowledge of Spanish during the Mexican war, but he could not hold a conversation in either language, and rarely employed a foreign word in any of his writings. His adjectives were few and well chosen. No document which ever came from his hands was in the least degree pretentious. He never laid claim to any knowledge he did not possess and seemed to feel, with Addison, that "pedantry in learning is like hypocrisy in religion—a form of knowledge without the power of it."

He rarely indulged in metaphor, but when he did employ a figure of speech it was always expressive and graphic, as when he spoke of the commander at Bermuda Hundred being "in a bottle strongly corked" or referred to our armies at one time as moving "like horse in a balky team, no two ever pulling together." His style inclined to the epigrammatic without his being aware of it. There was scarcely a document written by him from which brief sentences could not be selected fit to be set in mottoes or placed upon transparencies. As examples may be mentioned: "I propose to move immediately upon your works," "I shall take no backward steps," the famous "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer," and, later in his career, "Let us have peace," "The best means of securing the repeal of an obnoxious law is its vigorous enforcement," "I shall have no policy to enforce against the will of the people" and "Let no guilty man escape."

FIRST WHITE HOUSE BATH.

Van Buren Was Criticized For Introducing the Tub Into the Mansion.

In an article on "The Domestic Side of the White House," in The Ladies' Home Journal, ex-President Harrison gives this interesting view of the home portion of the executive mansion: "Propriety speaking," he says, "there are five bedrooms in the executive mansion, though by the use of two dressing rooms and of the end of a short hall that formerly opened to a large north window, but has now been closed up to make a small bedroom, the number may be increased to eight. There are no suitable servants' quarters. Those provided are in the basement, and only those opening to the south are habitable. The north rooms open upon a damp brick arena and are unhealthy. One of the basement rooms, having a southern exposure, is fitted up as a billiard room, but very plainly."

"It is said that provision for a library for the White House was first made during Mr. Fillmore's term. Neat cases arranged about the room, and most of them are filled with books—old editions of historical and classical works. There is no catalogue, and the library has not been kept up."

"President Adams introduced billiards into the White House, purchasing the first table, balls and cues at a cost of \$61, paying for them out of his own pocket. President Van Buren was charged by a political adversary and scathing critic as being the first of our presidents to discover that the pleasure of the warm or tepid bath are the proper accompaniments of a palace life. For it appears that our former presidents were content with the application, when necessary, of the simple shower bath. Mr. Van Buren's critic then refers with high approval to the salutary side of Mr. Adams' heroic habit of bathing in the Potomac 'between daybreak and sunrise.'"

Color Run Mad.

Are we not losing any innate perception of grace of line and harmony of coloring that we may once have possessed through our weak minded submission to chameleon coated Dame Fashion, who plays pranks that at times are positively sardonic? I saw a woman the other day in a bonnet that boasted three shades of pink, two of magenta, four of green, three of yellow and a fine blob of scarlet like a "little round button at top." And at first I thought she looked nice! It took time to realize that each tint clashed with the other tint, so decadent had become my taste in millinery.—Woman.

Necessarily So.

Maud—Is life worth the living? Ah, that is a great conundrum!
Cynicus—Yes. We all have to give it up.—Brooklyn Life.

A SURPRISED SHARK.

A HINDOO WITH A ROPE PROVED TOO MUCH FOR HIM.

A Swimming Contest In Which the Man Surpassed the Fish—A Thrilling Scene, Upon Which an Immense Throng of People Looked With Varying Emotions.

"Talk about your shark hunters in the south Pacific islands," remarked the old traveler, "but I remember seeing an encounter with one of those long toothed gentry that for cool nerve beat anything I ever read about."

"I was loafing around Calcutta one day, late in the autumn, waiting for the evening train up to the city of Hughli, when I heard a tremendous shouting coming from the direction of the river Hughli, which is practically one of the mouths of the Ganges. Trotting over to the shore as fast as a white man ever traveled in India, I saw a huge commotion. Natives were hurrying away from the bank as if in terror and then running back as if their curiosity had overcome their greatest fears. The river was full of boats. The occupants of the larger ones were screaming with excitement, while those in the small ones were shrieking and jabbering with a considerable amount of fear."

"I soon discovered that the fuss had been created by a large shark which had come up with the tide and had ventured a little farther than it was customary for sharks to do. His dorsal fin was cutting the water here and there, and when occasionally he turned on his back and sent his nose and grinning teeth above the water groans and screams of horror went up in all directions. His shark-ship was evidently out for supper and was casting longing glances at the succulent Hindoo babies, of whom a considerable number were in sight."

"In the midst of all the hubbub a tall, lank Hindoo stepped out upon the roof of a kind of houseboat and in a short speech announced that he would catch the shark."

"Instantly a dead hush fell upon the multitude. The Hindoo stood erect. He was perfectly naked save for a little garment at the loins, which our Texas cowboys call a 'gee string.' He was armed only with a long rope like a lariat, which he held behind his back with his left hand."

"Presently Mr. Shark came to the surface about eight yards from the boat and immediately the Hindoo plunged overboard."

"A chorus of groans and exclamations went up, in the midst of which the Hindoo reappeared, swimming with his right hand. Man and shark faced each other, and I fancied that I saw a pained expression in the monster's eye, as much as to say, 'Well, this is civil, to say the least.'"

"The shark evidently thought he had a 'cinch' on the situation, for he swam leisurely toward the Hindoo, turned slowly upon his back and opened his mouth. The mouth closed with a snap and the people screamed, but the Hindoo had dived, and presently he appeared again on the off side of the shark, snailing and still carrying his rope."

"The big fish looked surprised and then made another gentle dab at the Hindoo. The result was the same, and Mr. Hindoo came up fresh for the third round."

"Then the shark began to grow angry and made a vicious run at the Hindoo, and again he missed. The people on shore and in the boats began to feel confidence in the human champion, and their groans were changed to applause. Every time the man made a point against the fish those heathens would end up a rousing cheer."

"Well, by this time the thing was getting exciting. I never saw such swimming before, and I never will again. The man was a regular water snake. He dodged, twisted, dove and sniped like an eel. The fish made huge after charge. Once his fin grazed the Hindoo's arm, and the water was colored with blood. The man's neck went down a point, but it soon rose again, when the crowd began to say that the fish simply wasn't in it. The man was beating him at his own game. You see, the fish could only go in one direction—straight ahead like an arrow—while the man turned and doubled like a fox."

"Well, by and by the exertion and excitement told on the monster. He got rattled, churned the river into foam, and then became quiet again. At this moment the Hindoo faced him again. It was the last round."

"The shark charged languidly. The man waited, lying in the water until the great mouth was open to seize him. Then, with a convulsive backward leap, he straightened his body and sank, feet downward, like a plummet of lead."

"The shark settled down over him,ashing the water into a lather foam. They seemed to be grappling with each other. The crowd groaned and screamed, and then became silent."

"For the space of what seemed many minutes the people watched the surface of the water until even the bubbles had disappeared and all was quiet."

"Lost! Lost! screamed a priest, and the mob re-echoed the cry and began to beat their breasts like a lot of madmen. Then suddenly in the middle of it all the Hindoo reappeared, 30 yards up the stream. Both hands were above his head, and he was screaming, 'Tan, tan, tan!' He had slipped the nose of his lariat around the shark's tail and drawn it taut, and he held the free end in his hand."

"In an instant it was ashore, and a score of Hindoos were drawing at it. It took them half an hour to get Mr. Shark ashore, for he pulled like a locomotive, but they finally managed it."

"He proved to be nine feet long and sold for a sum which enabled his captor to live in comfort for nearly half a year."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

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Geo. N. Clark.

Sunny Brae,
Kingston, N. B.
June 7th, 1897.

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In addition to Industrial Agricultural and Live Stock Exhibits, five or more nights of HALL'S Grandest Fire Works, and an hourly programme of Special High Class Dramatic Effect will be given in Amusement Park, making together the best and cleanest special attractions ever brought before the people of the Maritime Provinces.

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SHERIFF'S SALE.

There will be sold at Public Auction in front of the Court House in Richibucto in the County of Kent on Monday the Twentieth day of September next at one o'clock in the afternoon.

All the right, title use, possession, property, claim, and demand whatsoever either at law or in equity of Paulin of, in, out of, or upon the following described land and premises, situated in the Parish of Acadieville in the County of Kent, and bounded as follows:

On the West by land owned by Fabien McZelle, North by the rear line of said lot, East by land owned by Sylvain Henrie, South by land owned by Francois Richard, containing one hundred acres more or less. The same having been seized and taken under and by virtue of a warrant issued by the Secretary of Municipality of Kent County, for the Trustees of the School District, No. 2 Parish of Acadieville against the said Joseph Paulin for non-resident District School Taxes.

A. LEECH, Sheriff.

Dated this 15th day of June A. D. 1897.

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There will be sold at Public Auction in front of the Court House in Richibucto, in the County of Kent, on TUESDAY, the TENTH DAY OF AUGUST next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, all the right, title, interest, property, claim and demand, whatsoever, either at law or in equity, of James Dunlap, of, in, to, out of or upon the following land and premises—all that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Parish of Wellington, in the said County of Kent, Province of New Brunswick and described as follows—All that certain piece or parcel of land lying and being on the north side of Little Buctouche River, being the lot originally granted to John W. Weldon, containing one hundred and twenty acres, reserving six acres for a mill site, together with house, barn and outbuildings and appurtenances to the same belonging, and also all other lands and tenements belonging to said James Dunlap situate lying and being within my bailiwicks. The same having been levied and seized under and by virtue of an execution issued out of the Supreme Court, at the suit of Sarah M. Smith, Edward J. Smith and Henry R. Emmerson Executors and Trustees, under the last will and testament of Sir Albert J. Smith deceased, against said James Dunlap.

AUGUSTE LAGER, Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office, Richibucto, May 4th, A. D. 1897.

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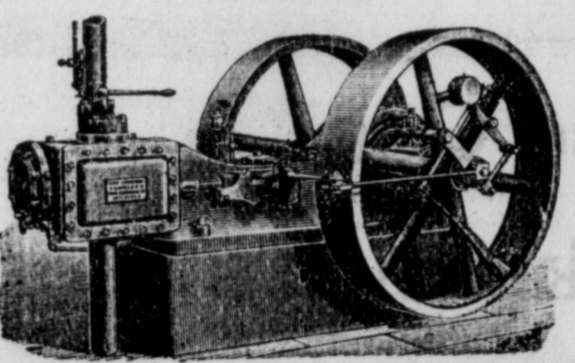
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