

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1923

FOSTER'S OLD KENTUCKY HOME NOW SHRINE; BOUGHT BY STATE

Place Immortalized in One
of the Undying Songs
He Wrote.

By Jefferson L. Harbour in Boston
Transcript

One more song writer of the past has been honored. The State of Kentucky has now purchased the old home where Stephen Collins Foster, while on his honeymoon, wrote "My Old Kentucky Home," and has presented it as a shrine to his memory and to his genius. But it was almost an unnecessary act. Foster's songs can never die. Now and again perhaps, one of them fades a bit from view, but something always happens to bring it back into popularity.

Just now the one on everybody's lips is "Oh, Susannah," that sprightly air that sends men no longer young back to the days of their lost youth when the song was new. Few songs were more popular in the days of the covered wagon and no doubt there were many campfires around which the wayfarer pilgrims of the plains sang: "I come from Alabama with my banjo on my knee, I'm going to Louisiana, My true love for to see. It rained all night de day I left, De weather it was dry, De sun so hot I froze to death, Susanna, don't you cry."

Stephen Collins Foster never rose to great heights as a poet judged from a highly intellectual point of view, but no man ever wrote songs that made a greater appeal to the hearts and the imagination of people. "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Folks at Home" will live ages after songs of much higher value as purely literary compositions have been forgotten. The world owes Foster, the people's minstrel a debt of gratitude it has not paid by raising the monuments to his memory that it has paid to other singers and his native State of Pennsylvania has done little to honor the memory of so famous a son. It has been left to Kentucky to create a State shrine in memory of Foster and there was a great gathering at Bardonia recently when this State shrine was dedicated. It was in this house that Foster wrote "My Old Kentucky Home" while he was on his honeymoon tour. It had been a marriage having in it many fair dreams that came to naught, for his domestic career ended in a separation from his wife because of the poet's habits, the worst of which, however, was an uncontrollable appetite for "the wine that is red."

It would not be easy to name a singer who touched his lute to sing sweeter songs than Stephen Collins Foster sang. When he came into the world on Independence Day in the year 1826 he brought with him the gift of song that will make his name immortal. His early found expression, for he was playing the fiddle and "making up" tunes when he was but 8 years old and he was but 16 when he published and wrote his famous "Oh Susannah" and his "Old Uncle Ned." He was a boy of whom it was said that he was "full of music" to such a degree that he was unfitted for the ordinary occupations and prosaic occupations of life and it must have been with an unwilling spirit that he pegged away as a bookkeeper in Cincinnati when he grew to manhood's years. The gift of making money is seldom allied with the gift of composing poetry and poets have been proverbial for their lack of business acumen in marketing their wares. The publishers of the songs of Foster reaped a far greater cash return from them than he ever received. When he was in his twenty-sixth year Foster left his native Pittsburgh and went to New York to meet the uncertainty of making a living with his pen.

Trifling Sums for Many Songs. There is something tragically pathetic in the author of "Old Folks at Home," "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming," "My Old Kentucky Home," and "Darling Nellie Gray" wandering from publisher to publisher offering his songs for any amount they were willing to pay for them—sometimes for as little as five dollars each. He did, however, receive \$500 from the famous minstrel, Christy for "Old Folks at Home," and it is said that he received in all about \$15,000 in royalties from this beautiful song. He received but trifling sums for "Old Black Joe," "Gentle Annie" and other songs of the more than one hundred of the popular songs of which he was the author. His appeal was always to the common things in the common life of the people. No minstrel show was complete without one of Foster's songs and the greatest singers in the world have loved to sing the simple melodies that won for him recognition by the State in which he wrote "My Old Kentucky Home." No singer since his day has written with such a peculiar power of appeal as Stephen Collins Foster put into songs of the heart.

ONCE RICH, ENDS LIFE IN POVERTY

Former Chicago Diamond
Queen Dies in Squalid
Cottage.

West Haven, Conn., Sept. 5.—Life was stranger than fiction for Mrs. Ellen Hermoine Wallace, who was found dead here in a squalid little cottage near Long Island Sound.

Fifty years ago she was one of the social leaders of Chicago, where the brilliancy of her jewels won for her the title of the "diamond queen." The "Newspaper" Club in that city to which she gave \$500,000, stands as a memorial to her generous heart.

Sudden Disappearance. She was at the height of her career when she suddenly disappeared, leaving her beautiful home and wealthy husband without a single word of explanation. Every effort was made to find her, but complete mystery shrouded her whereabouts until 10 years ago, when she appeared in West Haven and purchased a little cottage on Savin avenue. There to a confident she unfolded her strange life history.

She was born in Royalton, Vt., in 1834. Her parents were Frank B. and Phoebe Pierce Whipple. They were well-to-do people and they gave her every advantage. When old enough she was sent to a fashionable girls' finishing school in the Back Bay district of Boston. There she met a wealthy young business man of Chicago, who married her.

Beautiful and vivacious, she soon became a favorite in Chicago society. Her husband surrounded her with all the luxury that money could buy. She took a strange delight in diamonds, and these she purchased in profusion. At social functions her fingers blazed with them. They sparkled at her throat and glistened in a magnificent tiara upon her head. She was soon known as the diamond queen.

DROP IN

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Where you are Assured of Prompt efficient service and tasty, satisfying meals from early morning till midnight.

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took a strange delight in diamonds, and these she purchased in profusion. At social functions her fingers blazed with them. They sparkled at her throat and glistened in a magnificent tiara upon her head. She was soon known as the diamond queen.

Interested in Philanthropy. Despite this fondness for diamonds, which seemed to have an unusual fascination for her, she was deeply interested in philanthropy and gave generously to all worthy projects. Of her husband she never spoke. It is believed that some marital estrangement was the real cause of her mysterious disappearance, although she never admitted it. A number of the diamonds which had such a strange attraction for her were still in her possession when she came to West Haven, and by pawing these and selling some of the finery which she wore in her younger days she managed to secure enough to live on. All the jewels were gone, however, before her death. Nothing but pawn tickets remained to tell the story. The little cottage and land on which she lived was mortgaged, so that she seemed to be almost at the end of her resources when death kindly came to her.

Delighted Thousands Attend ST. JOHN EXHIBITION Big Fair Going Merrily

With a new record established for the number and quality of exhibits, with merriment and keen enjoyment the order of the hour, with the Splendid Free Vaudeville and other attractions in full swing, St. John Exhibition is drawing vast throngs of visitors daily.

More and Finer

Exhibits

Big Poultry

Demonstration

Automobile

Show

Health Centre

TODAY'S PROGRAMME

9.00 a.m.—Gates opened.
9.30 a.m.—Judging—continued.
Horses, Heavy—Classes 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 16 A.
Cattle, Beef—Hertford, Class 18.
Cattle, Beef—Aberdeen Angus, Class 19.
Cattle, Dairy—Jerseys, Class 28.
Cattle, Dairy—Special, Class 26 A.
Sheep—Hampshire, Class 30.
Sheep—Southdowns, Class 31.
Sheep—Long Wool Grades, Class 38.
Swine—Berkshires, Class 41.
Swine—Tansworths, Class 42.
Swine—Grades 43.
Cheese, Honey.
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.—Band Concert in Main Building.
3.30 p.m.—Free Acts Before Grand Stand.
5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.—Band Concert in Grounds.
5.00 p.m.—Cattle Parade of Day's Individual Winners.
6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.—Band Concert.
7.30 p.m.—Free Acts Before Grand Stand.
9.30 p.m.—Fireworks, weather permitting.
9.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.—Band Concert in Main Building.

Last Day of

Dog Show

Noisy Pike

and Midway

Aerio Swing

Ferris Wheel

Women's Work

Agriculture—Floriculture—Live Stock—Apiary—Fruits

Bands

ATLANTIC STANDARD TIME

is the Official Time on which St. John Exhibition is conducted.

Art

FAIR DAYS

You Can't
Afford to
Miss It

SEPTEMBER 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Come and
Bring the
Family

SAVES GIRLS IN SURF

Dual Rescue Brings Schoolboy
Life Guard's Total Up to
Seven.

Bay Park, L. I., Sept. 5.—Two girls were rescued from drowning in the surf off Bay Park, East Rockaway, by Montague Macleary, a student of the Lynbrook High School, employed as a lifeguard here. The girls, cousins, are Jennie Lapp, 14, and Rose McGill, 15, both of 25 Butler street, Brooklyn.

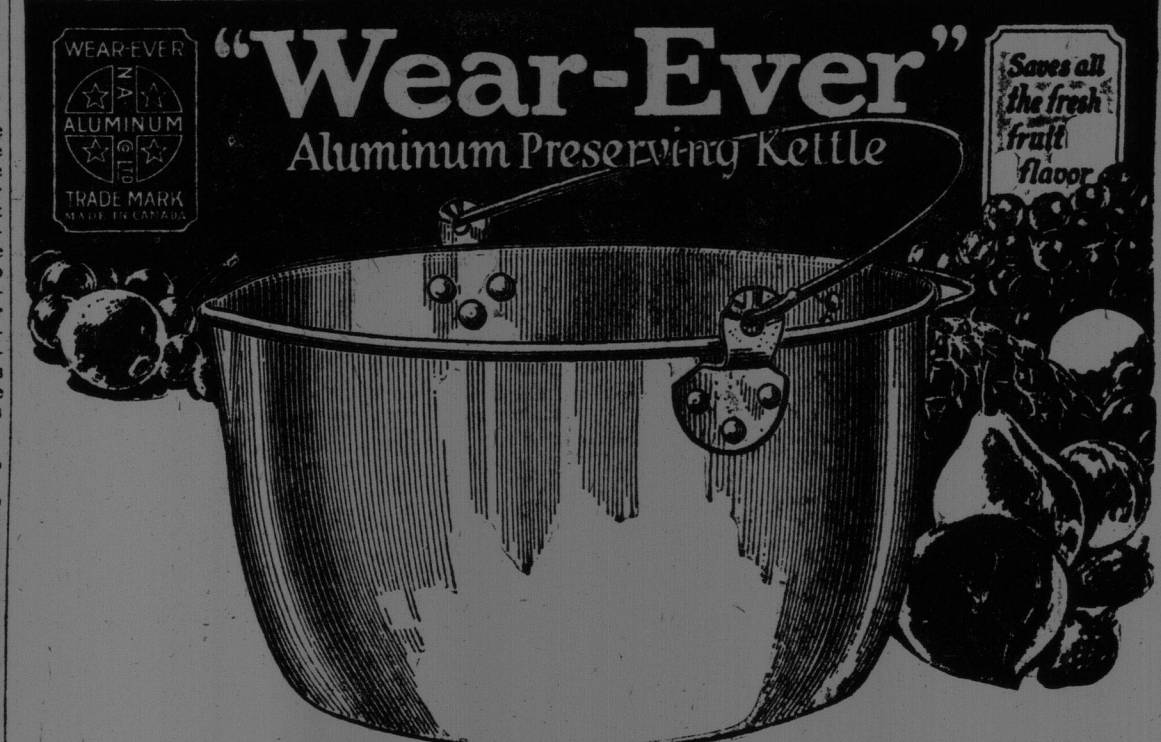
screamed as the tide carried her out. Miss McGill went to her rescue, but in the struggle that followed both went down. Macleary swam out, released Miss Lapp's grip on her cousin and he took her ashore. Macleary, with the assistance of Frank Ryan, then saved Miss McGill.

BUSINESS MEN FOR CHURCHES.

New York, Sept. 5.—Installation of business methods in the Episcopal churches of America is the aim of

Lewis B. Franklin, Vice President of the Episcopal National Council. Mr. Franklin, a prominent New York banker, believes there is no incompatibility between modern business and religion, and he has issued a call for 4,000 volunteers to serve as church business managers. "Business needs more Christianity and Christianity needs more business," Mr. Franklin explained. "Good management and effective organization in church affairs are the results sought for."

A recent school census taken in the State of Washington showed that there were but nine illiterates in the state.



Your Fruits will be Better Cooked in "Wear-Ever"

IMAGINE this big, silver-like, shining kettle full of peaches slowly simmering on your stove. See how firm and nice they are keeping. You are not stirring them—there is no need of that because the heat is being distributed evenly from the sides and bottom of the "Wear-Ever" kettle. They are not mashed or "crushed"—they are just as big and round and plump as they were when you put them in.

This "Wear-Ever" Aluminum Preserving Kettle helps you get your fruits as tempting and tasty as you had fondly hoped they would be.

Get one now—at a special low price from any hardware, department or house-furnishing store where they are not "all sold out."

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TORONTO

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Get your "Wear-Ever" Aluminum Preserving Kettle before our special offer expires—or before your dealer's supply is exhausted.

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at the

FREDERICTON EXHIBITION

September 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

"Single G."

"Margaret Dillon"

"Sir Roch"

The Fastest Stallion,

The Fastest Mare,

The Fastest Gelding

In the World Today

Single G. 1:59

The King of Pacers—"The Horse that Time Forgot"—
Holder of the World's Record for Three Heats in a Race:
1:59—2:00—2:00 1/4
And he also holds the divided heat record of
1:58 1/4—1:59 1/4—1:59 3/4
The only three heats ever raced under two minutes.

Margaret Dillon 1:58 1-4

The Queen of Pacers—Accorded by horsemen who know at the
Champion Race Mare of All Time!
And according to a prominent sport writer, "She heads the batting average of her sex at any gait." During the season of 1922, she tasted defeat but once only, and that once was by

Sir Roch 1:59 3-4

The World's Fastest Pacing Gelding
who divided honors with Margaret Dillon during mid-summer of that year, the three battles between them proving the "Big Line Feature of the Racing World."

WHEN THESE THREE EQUINE

WONDERS MEET AT

FREDERICTON EXHIBITION

September 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

What's Going to Happen
to Down East Records?

COME and SEE!

NOTE:—Dibble's Drug Store, Ltd., offers
ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN GOLD
to the Driver of the Horse beating 2:03 on the Fredericton
Exhibition Track at this

GREAT FREE-FOR-ALL