

IMMORAL MEN OF BRAINS

Have Made Records and Died While Young.

Unknown Writer in Cincinnati Enquirer Gives Interesting Facts of Great Men.

Many of the world's most famous men have died before they were two score years old. Not a few have spent their lives in dissipation. There are abundant instances where the sublimest genius has been linked with the most degraded character. Often the brightest lights have been extinguished at an early age by the hand of death. Brains make the man. Age is not a factor in fame. Morality is not necessary to intellectual greatness.

However much we may regret to see a great mind forced to dwell in a corrupt body it cannot be denied that such is necessary in order that all phases of human nature may be pictured. Every one has a place in the world. Some lives are examples of purity for mankind to follow; some of impurity to emphasize dangers.

Alexander the Great holds a place in history that cannot be taken from him. He has given the world an example of daring and physical prowess that it could not afford to be without. But he gave to his age and his people something more than example. He gave them "solid benefits." Unlike Napoleon, he left his country rich and powerful, but, like Napoleon, there were none to take his place.

Alexander's private character we wish to speak. To say he was dissipated is a statement altogether too weak. With his own hand he foully killed his truest friend. The sword was the law with which he ruled his followers. Yet, vile as he was, false as he was, inhuman as he was—all this cannot affect his transcendent glory as the most consummate general of all ancient times, and perhaps even of all ages.

The life of Alexander is the more remarkable for the immature age at which his career began and the early year at which he died. At 16 his father left him in charge of the government at home; at 18 he commanded and was victorious in battle; at 20 he was master of the Grecian world. After 13 years of blood and conquest, of wandering war among the cities and palaces of Persian wealth and Babylonian splendor and the wilds of weeping India, of resplendent triumph and almost matchless gallantry, of crime and dissipation, the great Alexander to whom the world pay homage passed, when he was 33 years of age, from drunkenness to death.

Robert Burns will ever live as one of the foremost characters of the world. Each song from his pen is a lingering lullaby of love, perfumed with the breath of his native mountains and fluted with wild roses that blossom along "the bonnie banks of Ayr." Burns lived in poverty, died, and grew rich in fame. During life his only wealth was love and sentiment; after death the unbounded homage of an hundred million hearts is his.

Burns lived 37 years. To many it is lamentable that Scotland's tenderest bard should have spent his short life in dissipation. We are not quite willing to lament even so sad a thing—sad for Burns and his generation, perhaps, not for us. We certainly would not be without the transcendent riches we have inherited from the Highland "lover lowly laid." Had Burns been a sober man, morally and spiritually pure, he could have done much good for those about him, and something of value might have been left to us. But none will say that under such conditions he would have given the world what it now so proudly possesses.

Edgar Allan Poe is already considered the foremost American poet, and one of the greatest of the world. Every passing year adds to his popularity. The works of his marvelous genius are admired wherever the English language is known. Only a quarter of a century ago, though widely known, Poe's writings were little appreciated. No other poet has been so systematically misrepresented by biographers. The day has come, however, when the truth regarding his life is known, and former feelings of criticism has given place to feelings of unbounded sympathy.

Poe, dissipated, distressed, sang into dissipation. And who wonders that he had recourse to wine to smite care down? There were weak places in Poe's character, but in his weakness he manifested a strength which places him

among the world's intellectual wonders.

Poe's life was filled with unspeakable sadness. His sorrows were like masses of mountains; no mortal man could have borne them. At the age of 40 years Edgar Allan Poe passed from this unkind earth into an endless and unknown eternity. But 40 generations will not efface his name.

Among the literary lights Lord Byron holds an honored place. His works constitute no mean part of our modern literary wealth. Like that of nearly all the poets, his life was a disappointment. At 36 death ended his earthly toil.

Sydney stirred England with his poetry and won her applause by his heroism. At the age of 32 he was killed in battle, while fighting with that bravery so characteristic of his race.

Shelley's poetry is admired on both sides of the Atlantic. He perished in a storm at sea when he was 29 years of age.

This sketch is not intended to defend evil, even in the world's greatest men, but simply to point out, first, that many individuals have achieved greatness notwithstanding their moral impurity; second, that many famous characters have died young, and then to indicate a connection between these two facts. To write the truest sentiments of life, to sing the sweetest songs of love, to preach the brightest gospel of humanity, the author, the bard, the preacher, must know the lowest as well as the highest, the bad as well as the good. And his ability to paint living pictures will be measured by his knowledge of human nature. — Unknown Writer, in Cincinnati Enquirer.

Luck Spelled With "P."

Under the caption "Mining Successes That Were Not All Luck," the February issue of Success contains an article by Robert Mackay on the discovery of the great Comstock property. The way the four great partners got together is interestingly told.

Just beyond the "divide" two men kept a store. They were James L. Flood and William O'Brien. They had saved some money after a few years of trading with the miners, were ready for a deal in one of the mines, and had faith in Mackay and Fair. So, when Mackay walked into their store one morning and remarked: "Jim Flood, if you and O'Brien will put up the money Fair and I will put up the brains, and I think the four of us can buy the 'Con' Virginia and make something out of it."

"How much do you want, John?" said Flood.

"Eighty thousand dollars."

The deal was closed on the spot. The history of the "Con" Virginia is as well known, almost, as the story of Washington and the cherry tree. Before the four miners had struck the "lead" they had exhausted their money and their credit. There seemed to be nothing in the rock they brought out of the earth. Other miners met them day after day and laughed at their apparently hopeless task. They were jeered and made fun of. But they kept serious faces and sober minds, and were not to be thwarted by the idle talk of idlers.

One morning, when the prospect seemed blackest, a friend said to Mackay:

"John, luck has gone against you. Why don't you quit and go prospecting?"

"The man who figures on luck in mining," said Mackay, "is a fool; the man who figures on doing a lot of hard work and not losing his grit will get something."

The four partners did not lose their grit, nor did they rely on luck. One afternoon the rumor spread over Virginia City that the "Con" Virginia men had struck a body of ore. It spread as wildfire often swept over the Nevada prairies. The four men left their mine at sundown and walked down C street amid a babel of cheers. The next morning the Consolidated Virginia stock had gone from 80 cents to \$250 a share and in another day up to \$500 a share. In three days it was announced that the body of rock was so large that its value could not be estimated. In two weeks the United States government was negotiating with the owners of the mine for the redemption of bonds whose values had been affected by the civil war. In two months the financial centers of old Europe had felt the shock, and about the same time Mackay, Flood, Fair and O'Brien were able to announce that they were millionaires beyond the dreams of avarice.

Africana, Henry Clay, Vallens & Co. imported cigars 25c. Aurora No. 1.

Just in—Ripstein's pork loins, turkey, chickens, veal and fresh creamery butter. Murphy Bros., of Bonanza Meat Market.

Films of all kinds at Goetzman's.

Judging Boer Generals.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Field Cornet Hercules David Viljoen of the Boer army is to speak at the pro-Boer demonstration here. He unbosomed himself to the papers here as to what he thought of many things in South Africa. He is six feet three inches tall, and large in proportion, a Cape Colonist, and therefore a traitor. "I had lived for 18 months at Aliwal North, on the Orange river, when I entered the Boer service," he said, "but had lived all my life before that at Burgersdorp, 30 miles farther south, and was at both places a farmer, devoted to raising stock and grain. It was November 17, 1899, when Gen. Olivier came through Aliwal North to make the first invasion of Cape Colony, and I joined him. When we retreated into the Free State again I got leave to visit my home to move my family. I took them to the Free State, and was pushing on to overtake Olivier's army when I was captured by a part of Brabant's colonial force at Wepener. This happened March 29, and I was taken to the village and locked up. I had a sort of court-martial trial, and the finding was that I should be sent to Aliwal North to be tried for treason. But April 9 Gen. Dewet came along, took the village of Wepener, rescued me, and surrounded Brabant's force on the adjoining hills. I joined him and fought with him for eight days, and then we had to retreat. I had a presentiment when I was captured that I was to be shot, and the prospect was so terrible that it turned my hair gray. Dewet advised me to leave the country. I made my way to Delagoa bay, and sailed for Holland September 27."

"As to their own generals, the Boers had a rather poor opinion of Joubert. He was regarded as too old and too conservative to be of much use. He would do anything a British general asked him to do. Buller asked him for a three days' armistice, and though it was clearly against his interests he replied at once with the utmost courtesy, 'Certainly.' He was much blamed for raising the siege of Ladysmith.

"Botha promised great things for a while, but he seems to have dropped out of sight. He was regarded as a great man for a pitched battle, but never had any reputation as a strategist. The Boers think highly of De la Rey, but he has the reputation of dealing harshly with his own men.

"Gen. Ben Viljoen, my second cousin, a man of 35 or 40 years, who is still fighting with Botha, is highly esteemed. He is called the 'map man,' on account of his spending a long time in the colonies at the opening of the war making maps. He disguised himself as a pedlar, and accumulated such a knowledge of the country that he could lead a commando anywhere as well in the night as the day. He is also considered a man of exceptional bravery.

"I need hardly say that Dewet is the idol of the Boer army. He has been spoken of here as a butcher from Cape Colony, but he was born at Cronstadt, in the Free State, and is a member of the Volksraad. He is a farmer, and it is his brother Piet who was a butcher. The name of Dewet is in everybody's mouth just now on account of the report that he has two peace commissioners shot. I think the report is true, and I think he did exactly right, as they were traitors, and ought to have been shot. We did not begin shooting this kind of Boers soon enough. If Joubert had shot a few these would be no necessity of shooting any now.

"Cronje went into the war with as fine reputation won in the war of 1881 and the Jameson raid, but soon lost it. He was brave enough, but he was unaccountably wooden-headed and obstinate. The very night before the end came he sent Dewet the following message: 'Quite safe here; have provisions for a month; am doing a lot of harm.' His surrender played havoc with the Boer army, and the leaders kept it a secret for two weeks, in dread of the effect they knew it would have."

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Pan-American Exposition.

An act to encourage the holding of a Pan-American exposition on the Niagara frontier in the state of New York, beginning on the first day of May, 1901, and closing on the first day of November, 1901, was passed by congress, and approved March 3, 1899.

The purpose of the exposition is to fittingly illustrate the marvelous development of the western hemisphere during the 19th century by a display of the arts, industries, manufactures and products of the soil, mines and sea.

It is believed that such an exposition, held in the near vicinity of the great Niagara cataract, within a day's journey of which reside 40,000,000 people, would be of great benefit, not only to the people of the United States, but of the entire hemisphere.

The federal government has made ample provision for an exhibit from

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the executive departments, the Smithsonian institute and National museum, the United States commissioner of fish and fisheries, the department of labor, and the bureau of American republics, of such articles and materials as illustrate the function and administrative faculty of the government in time of peace, and its resources as a war power; and its relation to other American republics, tending to demonstrate the nature of our institutions and their adaptation to the wants of the people, and has appropriated therefor \$500,000.

The president of the United States, in his annual message to congress in December last, made the following reference to this subject:

"The exposition of the products and resources of the eastern hemisphere to be held at Buffalo next year promises important results, not only to the United States, but for the other participating countries. It is gratifying that the Latin-American states have evinced the liveliest interest, and the fact that an international American congress will be held in the City of Mexico while the exposition is in progress encourages the hope of a larger display at Buffalo than might otherwise be practicable. The work of preparing an exhibit of our national resources is making satisfactory progress under the direction of different officials of the federal government, and the various states of the union have shown a disposition toward the most liberal participation in the enterprise."

Reported Dying.

J. Belcher, of 23 Eldorado, who will be remembered as the plaintiff in the Blecher-McDonald case now being tried in the territorial court and upon the decision of which large properties are at stake is reported to be dangerously ill. He is suffering from pneumonia and it is feared will not recover.

Africana, Henry Clay, Vallens & Co. imported cigars 25c. Aurora No. 1.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor Pioneer Drug Store.

For the convenience of their customers the A. E. Company has sent to the Forks several boilers and hoisting engines. Can be seen at Orr & Tukey's or at Harry Say's claim, 6 above Bonanza.

At the present rate of consumption, the white fish the Pacific Cold Storage Co. brought in for the lenten season will all be gone long before Easter.

Beef, chechako, 13c by the side, at P. O. Market, Third street.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE: One 35 horse power Scotch Marine engine boiler, and one double Denver engine hoist with fittings. Enquire of Orr & Tukey's.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

LAWYERS
CLARK, WILSON & STACPOOLE—Barristers, Attorneys, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Office Monte Carlo Building, First Avenue, Dawson, Y. T.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. Aurora No. 2 Building, Front street, Dawson. Telephone No. 30.

MACKINNON'S NOEL, Advocates, Second St., Upper Bank of B. N. A.

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Office, A. C. Office Building.

N. F. HAGEL, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc., over McLennan, McPeck & Co., hardware store, First avenue.

PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Office, Rooms 1 and 2 A. C. Office Bldg.

BELOUCOURT, McDONALD & SMITH—Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, etc. Office at Dawson and Ottawa. Rooms 1 and 2 Chisholm's block, Dawson. Special attention given to Parliamentary work. N. A. Belcourt, Q. C. M. P.; Frank J. McDougal, John F. Smith.

MINING ENGINEERS.

J. B. TYRRELL—Mining Engineer—Mineralist—out or managed. Properties valued. Mission St., next door to public school, and 44 below discovery, Hunter Creek.

SOCIETIES.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION of Yukon Lodge, (U. D.) A. F. & A. M., will be held at Masonic Hall, Mission street, monthly, Thursday or before full moon at 8:00 p. m. C. H. Wells, W. M. J. A. Donald, Sec'y.

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