

Sept. 5, 1891.

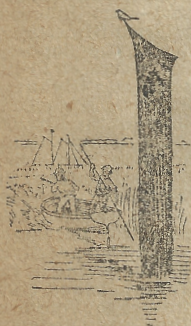
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A RAIL-BIRD SLAUGHTER

President Harrison on the Maurice River Meadows.

A BIG BAG OF FAT VICTIMS.

The Nation's Head Proves Himself
a Doughty Shooter to the Na-
tives of South Jersey.



IN THAT REGION commonly known as "down Jersey" forty-one gay and festive rail-birds yesterday morning disported themselves on the marshes of Maurice River. At 6 o'clock last evening there was not a rail-bird to be seen among the reeds that line the river's bank, but one and forty

rail-birds, baked in a pie, adorned President Harrison's dinner table at his Cape May Point cottage. "And wasn't that a dainty dish to set before a king," sang Baby McKee, whereat everybody laughed.

Much to the surprise of the natives, the President proved himself to be a sportsman of no mean calibre, having had previous experience among the game of his native Hoosier State, when his sign read plain Benjamin Harrison, attorney at law. The expedition had been planned by George W. Boyd, who, with his trusted henchmen, George Settle and C. F. Braune, Immigrant Agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, arranged the necessary details. Both Messrs. Settle and Braune are sportsmen of wide experience. The President handled a No. 12 hammerless shotgun, of the La Fevre make, weighing 7½ pounds. The weapon is handsomely finished, the triggers and all the ornaments being of gold.



[Pushing for Rail.]

The President, Mr. Boyd, and Mr. McKee, known to fame as the father of Baby McKee and son-in-law of the President, left Cape May Point yesterday morning at half-past 6, arriving at Port Elizabeth, on the Maurice River branch, an hour later. Here they were met by Messrs. Braune and Settle, who had preceded them in order to secure the permits to gun in New Jersey, and make the other necessary arrangements.

At the little station awaited a delegation of the natives to welcome the Presidential party. No sooner had the President alighted than a horny-handed son of toil, who had been delegated by his fellow-natives to deliver the address of welcome, rushed up to the distinguished visitor, and grasped his hand with enthusiasm. The President then felt thoroughly at home.



[Polling Them Up.]

By 10 o'clock the boats were all in readiness, and the party set out from Brickstore Landing. Each boat was supplied with a pusher. In the boat with the President was George Settle. Mr. Boyd's boat was pushed by Albert Reeves, Mr. McKee's by Ed. Elliott, and Mr. Braune's by Wesley Branning.

Each of the boatmen received \$5 for their services except Settle, who only consented to push the President at the solicitation of Mr. Boyd, with whom he has been shooting all over the continent. The President had never before indulged in the alluring pastime of shooting rail-birds, and received Mr. Settle's advice as to how to stand in the boat without falling overboard in good part. He proved an apt pupil.

After two hours of this sort of sport, the party returned to Bricksboro Landing, where, on comparing notes, it was found that the President's boat had killed twelve birds, Mr. McKee eleven, while Messrs. Boyd and Branne had modestly stopped at nine. These were placed upon one string, and proudly carried by the President. The party was then driven back to Port Elizabeth by Harry Lore, whose little daughter celebrated her eighth birthday by presenting the head of the nation with a basket of fruit and flowers, which he graciously accepted.



[A Good Day's Work.]

At Port Elizabeth, it was discovered that the special train, through some misunderstanding, had gone on to the junction at Manumuskin. This necessitated driving the party to that place. Upon arriving the President remarked that he was hungry, and luncheon was served in the Pullman car Idlewild. The train left for Cape May at half-past one. Mr. Harrison expects to repeat his performance to-day on the Cold Spring meadows. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd dined at the Harrison cottage, and Senator Squires, of Washington and Colonel James S. Forney called during the evening, and congratulated the President upon his luck.