

REMINISCENT.

During the campaign A. W. Fletcher called in one morning with a large-size picture of our Congressman, George E. Foss, neatly framed in oak; a symbol of the man's solidity and strength. We hung it up in our sanctum where we can see it every day, not because it is so valuable as a work of art, but because it recalls the olden times back in the '40's, when we went to school over in the Grice school house at Smithville, in the old wood school house, and used to go out to spell in the big class, standing on a crack in the school house floor.

We remember in that class the "Noble girls," somewhat older than we, Orcelia and Marcia. The latter was Congressman Foss' mother, and she "left off at the head" about four times to our once. A few years later she taught her first school in the "Deacon Hibbard school house;" a very successful school it was, too. Some time after she married George Foss, who bought the "Rubler Mill" in Berkshire, where Mr. Rubler, late of the Milwaukee Sentinel, originated and who did more to make Wisconsin a staunch Republican and sound money state than any other man in the commonwealth.

There in Berkshire, at Rubler's Mill, our Congressman was born in 1863, their second son, the elder one being a large, successful and wealthy manufacturer in Jamaica Plain, Mass, a suburb of Boston. Both are college graduates. Like the noble man that he is, Congressman Foss went back up to that little ville of Berkshire, whence his parents moved while he was a small boy, and delivered his first public speech after having graduated at Harvard, and he visits it every season as he goes back to the green hills.

Hence, you see that picture has for us a world of meaning; and every time we look at it some portions of the fifty years pass under mental review. Lowell says, and so truly too, that no spot on earth is so precious to us as that where we first made mud pies.

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