

Again, he secured the bell of the steamboat which first ploughed the waters of the Hudson; and like the old Egyptians who embalmed the sacred Bull, he has preserved the skull of the first cow he ever owned.

Mr. Starin's public life, which of itself forms a most important episode in his career, began with his appointment as postmaster of Fultonville, N. Y., in 1848, under Polk's administration — an office which he satisfactorily exercised until 1852. In 1876, he became a congressional candidate on the Republican ticket in the twentieth district, New York, a district comprising Montgomery, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga and Schenectady counties. He was elected, served his term, and being renominated by the Republicans in 1878, was re-elected to the Forty-sixth Congress by an increased vote. The majority was 7,000, and when it is remembered that the district has rarely, if ever, given more than 3,000 Republican majority, the great popularity of Mr. Starin becomes apparent. During both of his terms his congressional career was uniformly marked by consistency, moderation, sagacity and an unswerving fidelity to his party. Both while in Congress and since, he was the intimate and valued friend of the late Presidents Grant, Garfield and Arthur; and after their elevation to the presidency, he was frequently consulted by them on affairs of great national moment. His advice, on these occasions, was always highly prized and often taken.

Before the Forty-sixth Congress finished its session he was urged to accept a third nomination. No more fitting exposition of his general political views can be given than the following letter to Mr. A. C. Churchill of Schenectady, N. Y.