

### Franklin's Chess Table.

The most interesting piece of furniture in the reception room at the residence of Mrs. E. D. Gillespie is a table which no one nowadays would presume to call a chess table; but such it is, and was the prized property of Mrs. Gillespie's famous grandfather, Benjamin Franklin. Mrs. Gillespie says that her mother, who was three years old when Franklin died, could remember seeing the great philosopher and statesman while away hours over the chessmen. The table is of mahogany and of ordinary height, though rather small.

The top is scarcely a foot square, and it looks as though there was little room for the royal game. There is a sliding piece, however, that comes out just under the top in some manner similar to that of the pieces used in the modern roll-top desk. At the back there is a long, upright sliding frame in which is stretched a piece of silk. This Mrs. Gillespie's mother recalled seeing Franklin raise to keep the wind from blowing out the candle by the dim light of which the game was played.—Philadelphia Call.

### Eloquence Interrupted.

During a political campaign, a well-known lawyer in a western state was addressing an audience composed principally of farmers. Like a wise speaker—and a shrewd candidate—he tried to suit his speech to the occasion.

In a tone which he evidently considered both cordial and honest, and with a winning smile, he began:

"My friends, my sympathies have always been with the tillers of the soil. My father was a practical farmer, and so was my grandfather before him. I myself was born on a farm, and was, so to speak, reared between two stalks of corn."

Here his eloquence was rudely interrupted by the trumpet tones of a farmer in the rear of the hall.

"Jimminy crickets!" he shouted, "if you ain't a pumpkin!"

The house "came down," and the candidate, for the moment, at least, was sadly embarrassed.—Youth's Companion.

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