

NEMESIS ON TRAIL OF BOGGS

Former Nebraska Spends Fortunes to Convince Government of His Innocence.

ACCUSED OF ROBBING THE MAILS

Struggles of the Postmaster at Shawnee, O. T., to Keep Out of the Penitentiary—Thomas Lovelady Confesses to the Crime.

At Tecumseh, O. T., there was a hearing yesterday in a case which for aggressive prosecution and stubborn defense has no parallel in the annals of jurisprudence in the west. The parties to the suit are persons who, until a few years ago, were prominent in business and social circles of eastern Nebraska, being well known in Omaha and Blair.

The history of the case reads like a romance, being a fair companion piece for some of the masterpieces of Victor Hugo. In 1896 John W. Boggs was a resident of Blair, Neb., where he had lived for many years. His brother was the late George H. Boggs, a well-known capitalist of Omaha, whose name appears on the plats of several additions to the city. A short time previous to 1896, a bill was introduced in Oklahoma and was instrumental in establishing the town of Shawnee. He succeeded in bringing to the new territory a number of persons from Nebraska and among them John W. Boggs.

After the election of 1896 there was a struggle to secure the position of postmaster at Shawnee. George G. Boggs, a nephew and namesake of the Omaha capitalist, was one of the candidates. He was a stranger in the country, but the record of the family in Nebraska stood him in good stead. Through the efforts of John M. Thurston, J. C. Cowin and other prominent republicans of the state at that time the Nebraska man was given the place, entering upon his duties in the spring of 1897.

Everything went well with the new postmaster until November of the same year. On the night of November 4 a registered letter was mailed at the town of Tecumseh, the county seat of the county, addressed to Guthrie, O. T. This letter contained \$180, represented by nine \$20 bills. By reason of the peculiar system of running trains it was necessary that the sack containing the registered mail for points east of Shawnee be opened at that place and that the mail be transferred to other pouches. The last trace of the registered letter was at Shawnee.

Tracer is Sent Out.

A tracer was sent out and a postoffice inspector put to work on the case. A day or two afterward the nine \$20 bills which were contained in the registered package were found in an unoccupied building wrapped in a note addressed to George H. Boggs, the postmaster. The unoccupied building had been used as the postoffice until a short time before the registered letter was stolen and the note stated that the person who had opened the letter had learned that the numbers of the bills had been registered and therefore no one could pass them; that therefore the thief had taken this opportunity of returning the funds to the government. The inspector who worked on the case was John Beebe, a man well known in the service and considered one of the most able inspectors on the force. He investigated the case thoroughly, according to his idea, and as a result of his discoveries applied for a warrant for the arrest of George G. Boggs on the charge of rifling the registered mail. Boggs was arrested and gave bond for his appearance. The case was tried in 1899 and Boggs was convicted on four counts, being sentenced to the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for a year and a day on each count. An appeal was taken to the supreme court of the territory and the judgment affirmed.

Pending the hearing of the appeal the attorneys for the defense received anonymous letters stating that Boggs was innocent of the crime and that for the sum of \$500 evidence to prove his innocence would be produced. This evidence was not forthcoming and the trial proceeded. Before the case was taken to the supreme court a man named E. A. Jones, a well-known citizen of the district and testified that Thomas Lovelady, a clerk in the Tecumseh postoffice, had confessed to him that he had stolen the money at the Tecumseh office. On this evidence the commissioner issued a warrant for the arrest of Lovelady and he was taken into custody. When the warrant with its endorsements was sent to the office of the United States district attorney for the territory that officer refused to recognize it and wrote a letter to the commissioner scolding him for issuing a warrant and saying that such proceedings should not be permitted to enable the defense to bolster its case. The warrant being ignored Lovelady was released, and the case against Boggs went to trial, resulting, as above stated, in his defense in the lower court and in the appeal proceedings the resources of the Boggs family were exhausted. While out on bond George Boggs was in the employ of the Choctaw Railroad company and his father and brother were in comfortable circumstances. Today they are bankrupt.

When the decision of the lower court was

affirmed George Boggs surrendered to the United States marshal and is now in charge of that office, not having been taken to the penitentiary.

Now comes the remarkable part of the case. When the news of the conviction of Boggs reached Tecumseh Thomas Lovelady was peculiarly affected. For days he was morose and sullen. Finally he went before the United States commissioner and surrendered himself.

In spite of the orders of the district attorney the commissioner again issued a warrant for his arrest and he is now in jail at Tecumseh awaiting the action of the federal grand jury.

Substance of the Confession.

In his confession Lovelady states that he was a clerk in the postoffice at Tecumseh, O. T., in November, 1897. His duties consisted principally of attending to the money order business, but that he frequently engaged in other work in connection with the office. On the night of November 4 he made up a registered package of nine \$20 bills for transmission from the Tecumseh office to Guthrie, which was the office of deposit for all of the offices of the territory. He made out the report in triplicate and signed it in the presence of a real estate dealer of Tecumseh and placed the letter in the pouch, which was transmitted to Shawnee in the regular manner on its way to the territorial capital. He further said that the arrival of the registered sack at Shawnee was at such an hour that its contents could not be forwarded until the day after its arrival and that the custom was to keep the registered matter in the office for twenty-four hours. He then stated that on the night of November 5 he was in the office at Tecumseh with the postmaster when the evening mail arrived and that the pouches when opened showed that apparently a large amount of registered mail had arrived at the office; that the postmaster remained in the office until the regular mail was distributed, but left before the registered mail had been handled; that after the postmaster left he turned to the registered mail and found that one of the packages had been sent by him to Shawnee the night before, the postmaster at Shawnee having by mistake sent it west in the Tecumseh pouch, instead of in the Guthrie pouch. When he saw the package he intended to put it in the safe until the next morning and again send it to Shawnee, but his attention was called to the stamp window. He went to the window and upon returning to the distributing table picked up what he supposed to be another package addressed to Tecumseh and cut it open. As soon as it was opened he saw that he had tampered with the package addressed to Guthrie and became alarmed at the consequence, as the description had gone in by mail of the money in the package, and he feared that he would be made to suffer for his carelessness. Then he resolved to destroy all trace of the mutilated package and with that intention put all of the envelopes and cash into the stove.

Money is Removed.

Before setting fire to it he removed the money, which he buried in the rear of the office, afterward burning the envelopes and letter of advice. He then became alarmed and decided to replace the money, but where to replace it he did not know. After debating the matter in his mind for some time he went to a livery stable and hired a rig, with which he drove five miles to Shawnee, where he wrote the note and put the money in the old postoffice building, as he could find no box to put it in at the new office, the office being closed on account of the lateness of the hour. He then confesses that he resolved that Boggs should not be sent to the penitentiary, but so long as he kept clear of prison he would not confess to the crime. The conviction of Boggs caused him to make public the confession which he had previously made to Jones and to a woman living in the neighborhood.

This confession was not made until early in the present month, but the gist of it was contained in the information furnished by Jones several months ago. When Jones made his charge the matter was taken to Washington with the intention of having the charges against Boggs withdrawn. The trial judge in the district court, the district attorney and the postoffice inspector opposed the former Nebraskan and averred that the testimony of Jones had been manufactured. They secured an affidavit from the postmaster at Tecumseh saying that Lovelady had never prepared a registered letter from the office during the early days of November. Then the defense took a hand. From the records of the office at Shawnee they secured records of registry signed by Lovelady for the postmaster at Tecumseh on the days mentioned, but this did not change the determination of the prosecuting attorney and inspector, and the government refused to interfere. Letters were written to the inspector to make further investigation, and to them he replied that to do that would be a confession of error on his part in the first instance. The defense offered to pay the expense of the investigation, but the local representatives of the government refused to authorize it. In the meantime a change has been made in the office of the district attorney, J. W. Scothern, the appointee of President Cleveland, has retired and Horace Speed, appointed by President McKinley, has taken charge of the office. Mr. Speed seems to be in a matter that will give the friends of Boggs an opportunity to convict Lovelady of the crime on his own confession.

A few weeks ago it appeared that the case of Boggs would have to go by default, as the entire family was bankrupt and could not raise money to pay court costs. Friends in Nebraska were appealed to. The wife of George Boggs was formerly a Miss Lawson of Blair. Her sisters still live there, one of them being the wife of the clerk of the district court and another the wife of a prominent attorney. The people of Blair have been interested in the case since its inception and when Boggs requested assistance the request met with a hearty response. Frank Castetter, a prominent attorney at Tecumseh, an Omaha attorney who is interested in the defense, to push the case to the highest court and to draw on him for all expense. Thus restored to necessary funds, Boggs will carry the case to the supreme court of the United States, if necessary, to clear himself in a case where a self-confessed thief stands ready to take the punishment which the law says shall be meted out to the criminal.

So far as known no such case as this has ever been tried in any court in the United States and Nebraska people are interested in the outcome, particularly so because another former Nebraskan, Judge Hainer, a brother of ex-Congressman Hainer, is one of the supreme court judges who passed upon the case in review. Judge Hainer and one other judge dissented from the opinion of the court, being in favor of overruling the trial judge.

On Tuesday last week a motion was filed in the United States district court at Oklahoma City asking for a new trial. This motion has not been passed upon as yet.

QUAINT FEATURES OF LIFE.

"I'll be dead in a week; will you act as a pallbearer at my funeral?" Miss Ella Graham of New Haven to a couple of her neighbors a week ago Monday. The latter laughed, and promised to serve when her time came. It came promptly at the time Miss Graham foretold. Cold, grip and pneumonia carried her off within four days.

Fire Commissioner Diehl stood on a street corner in Trenton, N. J., a couple of evenings ago when he saw something crawl out of a sewer inlet. He tossed a small stone

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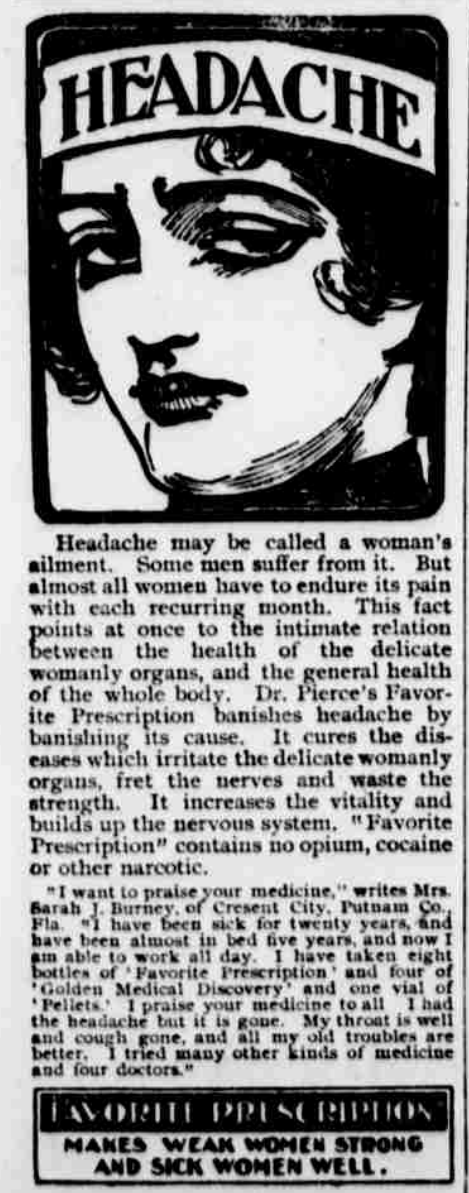
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## HEADACHE

Headache may be called a woman's ailment. Some men suffer from it. But almost all women have to endure its pain with each recurring day. I have taken eight bottles of "Favorite Prescription" and four of "Golden Medical Discovery" and one trial of "Pellets." I praise your medicine to all. I say the headache but it is gone. My throat is well and cough gone, and all old troubles are better. I tried many other kinds of medicine and four doctors.

**WARRANTED PROMISES**  
MAKES WEAK WOMEN STRONG AND SICK WOMEN WELL.

at the creature and then approached it, when the air became overpoweringly redolent. "Skunk," yelled Diehl and fled. Other citizens threw stones at his fragrant, but the animal held its ground until a chemical engine was brought into action. The first squirt from the hose knocked it silly and the capital of Jersey settled back to its normal solemnity.

The will of the late John M. Williams of Evanston, Ill., leaves a number of legacies to missionary societies. The following clause relates to the trustees of the estate: "In case either of the trustees hereby appointed shall become addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, or shall ever become intoxicated or use or take opiates, whether morphine or chloral or any other drug of like or similar effect, or shall gamble in stocks, grains, or other commodities on margin, such conduct or acts heretofore enumerated shall be sufficient cause for his removal as trustee under this will."

W. E. Curtis of the Chicago Record-Herald, who collects many quaint epitaphs, reports that Robert W. Patton of Chicago found an old tombstone in the Center church burying ground of Hartford, Conn., bearing this inscription:  
Proved in the glory of his years.  
He left his wife to drown herself in tears.  
A friend at Grand Island, Neb., found the following in Scotland last summer:  
The earth goes on. The earth glisteneth like gold.  
The earth gives to the earth sooner than it would.  
The earth bulds on the earth castles and towers;  
The earth says to the earth, all shall be ours.

A peculiar case is reported by medical men of Troy, Bradford county, Pa. While handling a penknife forty years ago Dr. P. S. Carpenter let it fall and a blade entered the right wrist and broke off. The wound was painful for a few months, but all efforts to locate the end of the blade failed. The other day the doctor's hand and wrist

became greatly swollen. Dr. Parsons, who was summoned, removed the blade, which had become oxidized and powdered, with the aid of an X-ray machine. Since the operation the hand has improved.

During a thunderstorm at Sharon, Pa., Mrs. Archibald Rankin received a violent shock from lightning and, when restored to consciousness, she was subjected to an intolerable sensation of prickly heat, resembling being punctured by the points of a thousand needles. Some years ago Mrs. Rankin was severely shocked by lightning, since which time she has been exceedingly sensitive and susceptible to its influences. Even the ordinary currents of magnetism which pervade the earth cause her great distress. She has been styled the "Human Magnet" on account of her keen susceptibility to all electrical disturbances. For years she has been compelled to sleep in a bed on the legs of which are glass insulators. She also sits in an insulated chair.

Three weeks before the death of Mrs. Marie Moore Humphrey at New Haven, Conn., early in March, her husband, realizing the near approach of death, concluded to build three coffins in the house where he lived, one for the dying woman, one for his mother-in-law, who is 90 years old, and the third for himself. He had subjected a carpenter in his day, but of late had been in the real estate business. The first coffin made was for his wife. She on her sick bed watched the work progressing on her coffin. Her husband measured her body for a fit, and when the coffin was finished, to make sure there was no mistake in the measurements, he helped his wife get into it and she lay down in the casket just as she would recline in death. Mrs. Humphrey, after settling her body down in the coffin tried to twist her body a bit and said to her husband that it was a little too snug. Her husband thought otherwise, but it was decided to enlarge it. Then the coffin was placed in the bedroom near the bed on which Mrs. Humphrey spent her last days.

## Fashions for the Season

Hints by Mary Lamb.



features of the season and every woman recognizes the special value of a costume that allows of using them in continuous lines. To be tall and slender is to be in the height of fashion. All lines and designs that tend to give the effect are in demand. The charming, yet simple costume illustrated combines the plaits of the skirt with the tucks in the waist, to give a most desirable result, and is made from veiling in dove gray with trimming of point de Venise en applique, and ruffles of the material with chemise and stock of stitched taffeta. With it are worn a hat of rough straw, ribbon trimmed, tie and belt of darker gray peau de soie.

The foundation for the waist is a fitted lining that closes at the center front. On it are arranged the plaistron and the tucked fronts and back, the plaistron being made fast to the right side and hooked over onto the left. The sailor collar, which is a feature, is double, the under one of taffeta to match the front, the upper one of the lace edged with a stitched band. The sleeves include fitted linings which are faced to form cuffs and over which the tucked, bishop portion is arranged.

The skirt is cut in five gores, the front being narrow and the sides widened to allow for the plaits which conceal the seams. The wider portions are fitted by means of shallow hip darts and the fullness at the back is laid in an inverted plait, but can be gathered if preferred.

To cut this costume for a woman of medium size 19½ yards of material 21 inches wide, 9½ yards 27 inches wide, 8 yards 32 inches wide, or 7 yards 44 inches wide, will be required, with 1 yard of contrasting material for plaistron and collar, 1 yard of all-over lace for collar and cuffs and 3-8 yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

To cut the waist alone 2½ yards 21 inches wide, 2 yards 32 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide will be required; to cut the skirt alone, 7½ yards 21 inches wide, 6½ yards 32 inches wide, or 5½ yards 44 inches wide.

3770 Tucked Waist, 32 to 40 in. bust.  
3768 Five-Gored Skirt, 22 to 30 in. waist.  
Tucked waist, No. 3770. Five-gored skirt, No. 3768.  
Tucked and plaits are unquestioned

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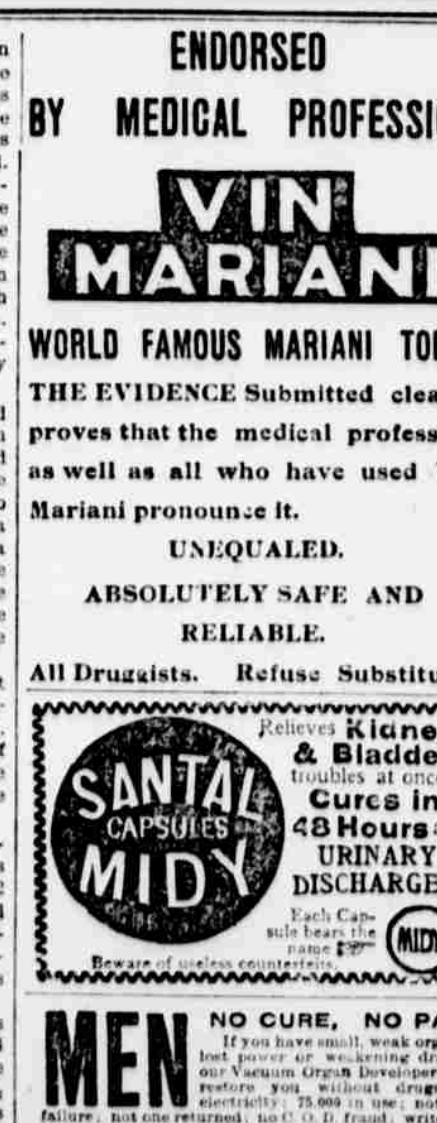
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