



A midnight battle with a giant lobster, armed with powerful claws and worked up to good fighting trim, was fought by Charles McVane, fisherman and resident of Long Island, four miles from Portland, Me., in Casco Bay.

Mr. McVane had been fishing all day with indifferent success and had decided to pull up and start for shore. As he neared Ram Island, which is a barren strip of land with bold, rocky shores and entirely devoid of trees, he spied a large flock of sea ducks huddled together in one of the tiny coves that run up into the shores of the island. The sight of the ducks aroused his sporting instincts and made him forget the cheerful fireplace of his own cottage. To make a long story short, he spent an hour or so among the wary sea ducks sailing about from one cove to another, catching first one and then another flock napping. So ardent did this duck hunter become in the pursuit of his game that he was surrounded by the chilly gloom of an April night almost before he knew it.

McVane is a man of action. With a sweeping glance at sea and sky, and not even stopping to pick up the last duck, he had shot, he turned his boat's bow toward the island and beached it well on a strip of sand.

With a knowledge born of many similar experiences he turned his dory upside down, and, with the aid of the sail and his oilskins, made himself a tolerably comfortable resting place for the night.

McVane had been asleep, as he judges, some three or four hours, when he was suddenly awakened by an icy cold stream of water trickling under him and running up his trousers legs. Scarcely had he regained his senses when this forerunner of the deluge was followed by a mighty onrush of water that took him, his boat, and everything else in its way, pounding up the beach. Such was the force of the wave that a heavy piece of driftwood was hurled against McVane's head with sufficient force to render him unconscious for a few seconds.

When he recovered he was lying high and dry on the beach, but he had a horrible choking sensation, and his neck and throat felt as though clasped in a vice. Clutching with his hand he grasped the hard, cold shell of a monster lobster. He seized the claw that gripped his throat and tried to break its hold, but the sturdy fisherman had been weakened by the blow on the head and the immersion

in the icy water. The giant crustacean clung with tenacity.

McVane rolled over on to his stomach and pinned the lobster under him; then he tried once more to force the cruel jaws apart, but, though he moved them slightly, he was yet too weak to do anything more. For fully five minutes the fisherman and the lobster struggled, one to release himself, the other to maintain its hold.

Perhaps the weight of the man's body was too much for the lobster or perhaps he repented of his midnight assault, for it suddenly relaxed its strangling grip and in a second McVane had released himself and seized the lobster just back of the head and the base of the claws, the safe grip a fisherman knows so well. The exhausted Long Islander managed to carry the huge crustacean to high ground and fortunately found a deep, smooth hollow in the ledge, the slimy sides of which afforded no hold for the prisoner's claws and thus kept it safely until daylight. Then McVane took the lobster to Portland and turned it over to Taxidermist John A. Lord, who has just finished mounting it. This monster measures four feet and one-half inches from the tip end of its tail to the tip of the longest claw, and it weighed 27 pounds.

Significant.

A certain composer abroad had an opera accepted and anticipated for it a great success. On the strength of this supposition he promised each of the musicians in the orchestra a fine supper with wine "ad libitum" at the conclusion of the performance.

To his surprise and dismay the opera at its premiere was a complete fiasco and was all but hissed off the stage.

After all was over he returned into the orchestra to collect some missing manuscript and found there seated one solitary musician—a trombone player.

"Well, my friend," he inquired kindly, "what can I do for you?" The musician looked at him earnestly and replied in tones of significant sincerity: "I liked it."—Short Stories.

English Married Women.

"You may think you know American women with advanced ideas and unconventional modes of living," says a publisher, "but they are not to be compared to their English sisters. There is nothing so demure as an English girl before she is married, but matrimony, somehow or other, seems to change her whole nature, if one may judge from the way she breaks loose."—Philadelphia Record.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

MEMENTO OF THE PRINCE'S VISIT

German Government Has Just Issued a Three-Mark Silver Piece. The mint of the German government has struck off a three-mark silver



piece commemorative of the visit of Prince Henry to the United States.

The coin is about the size of the United States half dollar, but is a trifle heavier. Its value is 72 cents.

On one side are bas-reliefs of President Roosevelt and Prince Henry, which are splendid examples of minting. On the reverse side is a representation of a huge ship in midocean.



Above the engraving are the words (in German), "In Remembrance of the Journey to America, 1902," while in smaller letters beneath this is printed "Lloyd Steamer Kronprinz Wilhelm."

NEW YORK'S VARIED POPULATION

All Nationalities Represented in the Great American Metropolis.

The new Cathedral of St. John, in New York, will, in addition to its main hall, have seven "Chapels of Tongues," where German, Spanish, French, Swedish, Italian, Armenian and Chinese services will be held each Sunday. Nevertheless, by the time the great cathedral is finished it is not unlikely that the crypt and transepts and ante-rooms will be required for other nationalities. A clergyman called on Bishop Potter the other day to ask that some provision might be made for religious services for some Mesopotamian immigrants.

"Really," he replied the bishop, "can not a handful of Mesopotamians be provided for in connection with your Armenian congregation?"

The young clergyman of the tenements smiled. "I do not know what you call a handful, sir. There are some eight hundred families of Mesopotamians within ten minutes' walk of where we are sitting this moment, and as for their attendance upon Armenian services, the languages have about as little in common as Greek and Choctaw."

Boys Fight Pistol Duel.

That romance is not dead in Galicia, Austria, is proved by a report that two boys in the second class at a grammar school at Brezeczany, who had both fallen in love with the same girl, settled their differences by fighting a duel. The weapons used in the encounter were old pistols, charged with powder and pebbles, and fired at a distance of ten paces. One youth received a serious wound in the chest and is thought to be in danger of his life. His adversary was slightly injured.

PORTUGAL'S KING MAY ABDICATE

Threatened Revolution and Bankrupt Country the Causes.

King Carlos I. of Portugal, who, it is said, contemplates abdication owing to the threatened revolution and the bankrupt condition of his kingdom, ascended the Portuguese throne Oct. 19, 1889. Since that time he has been constantly harassed by financial troubles. In 1892 he and the entire royal family gave up a fifth of their income to help out the state. The



queen of Portugal is the Princess Amelle of Bourbon-Orleans, daughter of the late Comte de Paris. King Carlos is 39 years old.

SARPY MAY LOSE HATCHERY.

Fish Commission Objects to Being Tied Down to One Location.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Commissioner Bowers of the department of fisheries, in explaining why the bill for the establishment of the fish hatchery and fish culture station in Sarpy county had been changed so as to include the state of Nebraska, instead of locating the station near South Bend, as Representative Mercer's bill indicated, said congress had not heretofore limited the department of fish and fisheries in the selection of a site. He stated that the establishment of a fish culture station in Nebraska was most desirable, but to be compelled to locate it at some point named by a bill would be detrimental to the interests of the department and he had therefore recommended that the bill be made general in character, so as to provide that a site should be selected by the fish commissioner without limitation in the state of Nebraska.

It was stated today that the committee on merchant marine and fisheries of the house, of which General Grosvenor is chairman, would bring in an omnibus appropriation bill providing for all fish culture stations that have been recommended by the committee and it is thought the bill to locate a station in Nebraska will be included in that measure.

W. B. PRICE IS NAMED.

Succeed J. Sterling Morton on the Purchase Commission.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 12.—Governor Savage has appointed W. B. Price of Lincoln to succeed J. Sterling Morton on the Louisiana Purchase commission. Mr. Price was deputy insurance commissioner during the latter part of State Auditor Cornell's administration. He is a populist. The commission is non-partisan in character, all political parties being represented.

As the St. Louis exposition has been postponed until 1904 the incoming governor and the next legislature may provide for another commission. If this is done the present commission will have nothing to do. The gentlemen now serving have held several meetings, but have done little toward representing Nebraska at the fair.

May Be Nebraska Horse Thief.

WHEATLAND, Wyo., May 12.—The authorities believe that in the arrest of O. J. Young they have secured a notorious horse thief. It is alleged that last March Young stole fourteen head of horses from F. M. Troy, a prominent ranchman of Gering, Neb. The horses were driven to Sidney and there sold and shipped to various points. Young's father lives near Gering, Neb.

Nebraska Homeopaths.

OMAHA, Neb., May 12.—At the regular annual meeting of the Nebraska Homeopaths in this city the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. E. B. Finey, Lincoln; Dr. F. E. Way of Wahoo, first vice president; Dr. H. R. Miner of Falls City, second vice president; Dr. E. Arthur Carr of Lincoln, secretary, and Dr. O. S. Wood of Omaha, treasurer.

Nebraska at Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Senator Millard has introduced bills appropriating \$40,000 for the purchase of sites for public buildings at Columbus and West Point, Neb.

Representative Mercer has introduced a bill aiming to repeal the law approved July 23, 1888, providing for the sale of the site at Fort Omaha, and the purchase of a new site and construction of buildings.

Big Pension for Nebraskan.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Congressman Stark has the honor of having secured one of the largest back pensions ever granted to residents in Nebraska. Hiram J. Kietland of Arboville, York county, has just had a pension allowed, dating back to March, 1865, and which gives him upward of \$2,700.

Coal Near Fremont.

FREMONT, Neb., May 12.—A second prospect hole has been sunk on the Remele farm to a depth of 218 feet. The same coal vein was struck as in the first hole and at about the same depth.

The comptroller of the currency has issued a call for the condition of national banks at the close of business Wednesday, April 30, 1902.

Under Christian Science Treatment.

OMAHA, Neb., May 12.—Donald, the 15-year-old son of Judge J. W. Eller, died at his father's house under Christian Science treatment, which was being administered by C. W. Chadwick, first reader of the church in this city, assisted by Judge Eller himself. No physician had been called on the case and the boy died in intense agony, after a struggle of hours, without having had medical assistance.

NEBRASKA HAS CANDIDATES.

Circuit Judge Caldwell is About to Reure.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—There is a well defined rumor current in Washington that Judge Henry Clay Caldwell of the Eighth United States circuit is shortly to retire from the bench, in which event there will be a most interesting contest for the vacancy thus created on the part of men well known in the west. Already Judge S. M. E. McPherson of Iowa has announced himself as a candidate for the position and it is understood that Judge William Cather Hook, United States judge for the district of Kansas, will be a candidate, while Nebraska will in all probability present two aspirants for this very distinguished position, Genoa M. Lambertson of Lincoln and Charles J. Greene of Omaha. It is stated that Mr. Greene, should he desire to be a candidate, as now seems possible, will bring to bear upon the appointing power the very strongest recommendations possible. Judge Caldwell was appointed in 1864 United States judge for the eastern district of Arkansas by President Lincoln and in 1890 was appointed by President Harrison judge of the Eighth United States circuit. Judge Caldwell went out from Iowa to the war and became major, lieutenant colonel and colonel, and entered Little Rock, Arkansas' capital, booted and spurred to take his position upon the district bench. He is now 70 years of age and believes that he has reached the retiring period.

WAS GENERAL AND COPIOUS.

Nebraska's Rainfall the Heaviest of the Season.

The recent rainfall in Nebraska was the heaviest of the season. It is regarded as the salvation of the winter wheat, which this year is the most extensive in acreage in the history of the state. Nearly every station reported rain and nearly every one reported at least one inch, but at Curtis the gauge showed two and one-half. Only three stations reported less than half an inch of rain. The record in inches is as follows: Arapahoe, 1.09; Ashland, 1.18; Aurora, 1.50; Benkelman, .50; Bluehill, .74; Burchard, .86; Burwell, .80; Central City, 1.26; Chester, .60; Columbus, .64; Curtis, 2.50; Edgar, 1.10; Ericson, .60; Fairmont, 1.44; Grand Island, 1.32; Greeley, 1.00; Hastings, 1.58; Hickman, 1.10; Holdrege, 1.50; Imperial, .10; Kearney, 1.22; Lincoln, .92; Loup City, .74; McCook, 1.20; Nebraska City, \$1.14; North Platte, .40; Omaha, .94; Palmer, .94; Plattsmouth, 1.00; Ravenna, 1.16; Rulo, 1.04; Salem, 1.00; Schuyler, .70; Seward, .90; Strang, .98; Superior, .52; Syracuse, .80; Tecumseh, .78; Valentine, .44; Wilber, 1.10; Wilsonville, .44; Wymore, .50.

Fire at St. Edward.

ST. EDWARD, Neb., May 10.—The most destructive fire that ever visited St. Edward occurred, resulting in the loss of five business houses and two unoccupied store buildings. The fire started in the restaurant and dwelling of Harry Richmond, who lost all of his household effects and stock of goods. In all seven buildings were burned. The total loss will reach \$15,000.

Lively Reception to Burglar.

GRESHAM, Neb., May 10.—Burglars were given a warm reception at Hylton & Clem's store. Fred Van Gorden, who sleeps in the store, heard a noise and discovered the visitor helping himself to a pair of new shoes, and opened fire on him at short range, but his aim was poor and the thief escaped, leaving his hat and hose behind.

Coal Prospecting Progressing.

FREMONT, Neb., May 10.—The second prospect hole for coal on the Remele farm at Jamestown is now down over 218 feet. The same vein which was struck in the first hole was struck in this one at a depth of 218 feet.

Bright Prospects in Chase County.

IMPERIAL, Neb., May 10.—Chase county has been blessed with a most copious rain. Small grain is looking fine and the farmers are busy putting in corn. The indications are that the crop outlook will be unusually large in this county this year.

Cut Worms Injuring Wheat.

TAYLOR, Neb., May 10.—Prospects for spring wheat in Loup county are quite flattering, but it is said that cut worms are doing considerable damage to fall wheat and rye.

Ex-Convict Held for Robbery.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., May 10.—Chief of Police D. W. McCallum arrested John Armstrong, a former resident of this city, who returned but a short time ago after a protracted absence. The arrest was made upon the request of the authorities at Des Moines, who allege that Armstrong robbed the home of his brother at Churchillville, a suburb of Des Moines. He has confessed to the crime and will be extradited.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.
CATTLE—There was a light supply of cattle, but still it was the heaviest of the week. There was a good demand for beef steers showing quality, and the market on such kinds could safely be quoted stronger. When it came to those that were not quite finished, however, it was a different proposition, and trade on such kinds was rather slow and prices did not look much more than steady. The cow market was active and strong all around. The better the quality the better the demand, but still even the medium and common kinds sold without much trouble at steady to strong prices. The trade is very uneven owing to the rapid fluctuations that have taken place within the last few days, so that some sales look a good deal higher than others. It is a good deal of a catch-as-catch-can market. Bulls, veal calves and stags of good quality all commanded steady to strong prices. There were only a few stockers and feeders on sale, and anything desirable sold at just about steady prices.

HOGS—There were not nearly as many hogs on sale as there were yesterday and as other markets were reported a little stronger, trading at this point started out on a basis of about a 5c advance and closed about 10c higher than yesterday's general market. The market was active, so that the bulk of the offerings was disposed of in good season. The advance was general on all classes, though, of course, the light-weight stuff and common grades were neglected and hard to sell. The same as usual. The bulk of the good weight hogs sold from \$7.05 to \$7.30 and the medium weights went mostly from \$6.95 to \$7.65.

SHEEP—There was a light run of sheep and lambs and as packers all seemed to want a few the market held just about steady. With the exception of a few lambs the quality was nothing extra, but still buyers bought up about everything offered at just about yesterday's prices. It was evident, though, that they were a great deal more anxious for the better grades than they were for those lacking in quality.

KANSAS CITY.

CATTLE—Market steady to 10c higher. Choice export and dressed beef steers, \$6.75@7.25; fair to good, \$5.00@6.75; stockers and feeders, \$3.00@5.55; western fed steers, \$5.00@6.05; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.75@5.05; Texas cows, \$2.75@5.10; native cows, \$2.25@5.50; native heifers, \$3.00@5.95; canners, \$1.50@2.75; bulls, \$3.00@3.45; calves, \$2.00@6.40.

HOGS—Market steady to 5c higher; top, \$7.20; bulk of sales, \$7.00@7.25; heavy, \$7.20@7.25; packers, \$7.00@7.25; light, \$6.50@7.00; yorkers, \$6.50@7.00; pigs, \$5.00@6.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Best steady; others, slow, and native lambs, \$3.40@7.15; western lambs, \$5.75@7.20; native wethers, \$5.00@6.00; western wethers, \$1.50@6.15; fed ewes, 4.80@5.55; Texas clipped sheep, \$4.50@5.55; stockers and clipped yearlings, \$3.75@6.05; Texas feeders, \$2.90@4.75.

MORTON'S DEATH GREAT LOSS.

Tribute is Paid by Former President Grover Cleveland.

PRINCETON, N. J., May 10.—Speaking of the number of prominent men who have died within the last few days, former President Cleveland said to the Associated Press:

"Mr. J. Sterling Morton, who was at one time a member of my cabinet, was the only one I knew personally, so I do not wish to make any comment further than to say that the country has sustained a great loss. The death of the author, Mr. Ford, was a very sad event."

Mr. Cleveland was asked today for his opinion of the effect on the country of the recent effort of the beef combine.

"It looks," said Mr. Cleveland, "as though the packers had overshot the market. I see by the newspapers that the markets are full, and that the farmers' produce is not being used as freely as formerly, and the stock raisers are content to sell their cattle at reasonable prices. I judge the situation is beginning to assume normal proportions."

Iowa Conductor Injured.

IOWA FALLS, Ia., May 10.—Chas. Knoll, a former Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern conductor of this city, narrowly escaped being killed in the railroad yards at Kansas City, Kan. He had gone to the depot to take the train for this city and in crossing the tracks was struck by a switch engine, but luckily escaped with a broken arm and severe injuries on the side and back.

May Get Free Delivery.

IOWA FALLS, Ia., May 10.—The announcement is made that this city is entitled to the free delivery service and that the year ending March 31 showed the receipts of the post-office here had passed the \$10,000 mark.

Cholera in Manila.

MANILA, May 10.—The cholera statistics to date are as follows: Manila, 867 cases and 706 deaths; the provinces, 2,542 cases and 1,955 deaths.

Ware and Evans Meet.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Eugene F. Ware, who is to succeed H. Clay Evans as commissioner of pensions, was at the White House and met the retiring commissioner in the president's room. The three had a pleasant conversation together and it was announced that Mr. Ware would take charge of the office as soon as he is confirmed. His nomination will go to the senate today. Evans will leave for London in the near future.

Crickets Sold on Ascension Day.

Picturesque Custom in Florence

"Crickets! Crickets! Fine singers!" cry the Florentine vendors on Ascension morning. "Two cents, four or five cents for crickets, fine singers!" All day long the streets are cheerful with the call, and with the crickets' songs. For this is the festival which in Florence is dedicated alike to the human soul, and to its symbol, the cricket, whose beginning, life and departure are as much a mystery as the coming and the passing of man's elusive spirit. You may select your own song-bird if you like from the tangled heap in the peddler's net-covered barrel, and you may choose your cage, too, according to your taste and pocketbook. Your cricket you must pick out with care, for the strength and vivacity of its voice will decide your destiny for the coming year. A merry singer foretells good luck, health, and happiness; a sad one augurs misfortune. You will give your pet a fresh green lettuce leaf, therefore, if you are clever.

On Ascension morning devout Florentines go to mass. In the afternoon a merry throng crowds the cafes and the Cascine, the beautiful park which lies sunsetward from the city along the Arno. The common folk sit on the grass and eat "i cannelloni," the large kind of macaroni that is the peculiar delicacy of this feast day. The beau monde promenades up and down the long avenues of the Cascine, swinging their cages and chattering about their respective merits of their song birds. When the hills and villas beyond the Arno have begun to fade from view and Monte Morello and the Appennines on this side have grown dim upon the sight, they let their crickets free.

