

## AROUND THE WORLD.

**Encounter with a Cobra Which a Cingalese Captures by Placing a Basket over Its Head.**

**A HERD OF ELEPHANTS SIGHTED BATHING**

**In a River of Ceylon--Crocodiles and Serpents Very Numerous, Over Thirty Species of the Latter Being Found in the Island--Beauties of the City of Kandy and Ceylonese History.**

Concluded from last week.

But it was not to last. I, becoming slightly suspicious, inquired: "Are there any poisonous snakes through here?" In a twinkling of an eye came the reply, "Yes, big cobra a plenty." This sudden information reduced my temperature as the cool chills crept over me, anticipatory to a surprise. This was not a condition conducive to the recalling of poetry, unless it should be the following from a masterpiece:

One impulse from the vernal wood  
May teach you more of man,  
Of moral evil and of good  
Than all the sages can.

The impulse I had from that vernal wood was reactionary, but it taught me more of myself, thereby sustaining the poet's assertion. Surrounded by all the luxuriance of tropical beauty, one does not forget self when the least inkling of danger threatens. The rustling of the leaves makes one halt by the involuntary process long before the thinker has time to act. Examining myself psychically I found that I had halted and grown oysterlike before there was a state of consciousness, indicating that I had even made a decision as to what to do when the leaves began to move. This disturbance was caused by what I considered to be a squirrel. Finding a piece of wood resembling a bench I sat upon it to rest. I had not been there long before something happened not on the program, and right here let me insist that my reader should read no further if a shadow of doubt lurks about his mental horizon as he follows me AROUND THE WORLD.

Right in front of me the anticipated deadly cobra took his position. With uplifted head, hissing mouth and flashing eyes, he swayed back and forth as if angry, like a giant who would whip everything in sight. With unspeakable swiftness I drew my feet up to keep them from becoming the victims of a possible thrust from his swelling and sweeping head. At every raising of his unsightly head, his neck grew larger until it was as large as a pie plate and as flat as a pan cake "like your mother used to make." Perched where I was I had ample time to study him, and never did I think of getting down to argue the question with him on the ground of previous possession. He had the ground and I was perfectly willing to give him all the ground he needed as I sat on my perch with the master of ceremonies before me and America ten thousand miles away. You may laugh, but you would not have laughed if you had been here, neither would you have said your prayers for under such circumstances you would have been in a condition similar to that of the woman with whom a little girl once staid all night. On retiring the little tot undertook to say its prayer and being accustomed to being prompted by its mama, a halt was made when memory failed. As the lady could not help it out of its difficulty, it almost instinctively closed by saying, "Please God, forgive me cause I's fordot, and this lady what I's staying with don't know any prayers." My readers will be more surprised than ever when I assert that the man who was talking with me when the cobra appeared, captured him by getting his head into a basket. His head once in the basket the cobra crawled in of his own accord. Knowing how to do things is worth all the theory in the world. When I saw this Cingalese last, he asked twenty dollars for the cobra and it is quite likely that he will get that sum as the purchasing agents of zoological gardens and shows are always scouring Ceylon for specimens and may be glad to secure such a valuable curiosity. I think I would recognize the fellow if I should meet him on the Midway at the World's Fair in 1904. I hope, however, that I will never meet him again as he is no friend of mine. I was with this man and his prize no farther, but went over to the river in company with an Englishman who has been surveying in Ceylon for several years. We had not gone far when he said: "See there! elephants in the river." I was all eyes for I had endured much for the purpose of seeing such a spectacle, and was despairing lest my efforts should be doomed to final failure. But now volumes flashed anew through the corridors of memory as my eyes feasted on the sight of a lifetime. Not 300 yards away were the giants standing in three feet of water, playing in their daily

bath. To state that they were enjoying it is to put it mildly. In questioning my surveyor friend as to whether they were dangerous, he replied, "They will not molest a person unless you chance to meet a rogue elephant. A rogue elephant is one that is mad." Among other items of elephant lore, I was told that at the last corral or "krall" eighty-six elephants were secured, and were sold at from 200 to 5000 rupees according to size and training. The most popular place for the hunters desiring to shoot such big game is in Hambantota, District of the Southern Province. Elk hunting is regarded as quite tempting in the vicinity of Nuwara, while wild buffalo, bear and leopards are found farther north. Crocodiles are numerous, along with no less than thirty species of serpents. My friend said, "Snakes are plentiful, but we do not hear of Europeans being killed by them very often." Not having the feline possession of nine lives I decided that my security was assured if I could only avoid being killed once. Elephants are used here for all kinds of heavy work. Trees are felled, and the lower end is securely fastened to the giant's back. In this way he drags his burden wherever desired by the owner or operator of the big trust. If the tree is not too large, it is managed by his powerful trunk without resorting to chains. The giant is trained to wrap his trunk about a huge rock at the quarry and act as a ponderous dray. If the rock is too large for his serpentine trunk, the load is encased by means of a harness of chain so arranged that it can be easily grasped and carried.

If I had been asked a week ago in what city of the orient I would prefer to make my home if left to a choice, I would have selected Yokohama, Shanghai or Manila; but now my choice would fall to Kandy, seventy-six miles inland from Colombo. Nuwara is much higher than Kandy, frosts being frequent visitors there, while Kandy is much cooler than Colombo. With a home anywhere along the lake at Kandy, surrounded with scenery that entrances, one could bid defiance to cares as he enjoyed life in that beautiful vale nearly 2,000 feet above sea level. With a population of 22,000 it nestles among the foothills of a veritable Eden. In fact the Garden of Eden has been located there by some visionary enthusiast. The scenery from Colombo to Kandy is pronounced the finest in the world. Celebrated botanists from every quarter of the globe come to this bower of beauty to study their favorite department of science. The Paradise botanical gardens contain the finest specimens of tropical plants and trees known to exist. Those approaching them the nearest are in Java. The Dalada temple was built for the express purpose of holding Buddha's tooth and is better known as the Temple of the Tooth. On visiting this ancient temple I was permitted to step behind the veil and grasp the handles by which the heavy iron doors are swung open leading to the tooth. The doors were locked, however. Upon the wall are frescoes illustrating the punishment to be visited upon those committing the various kinds of sins according to the teachings of Buddha. Speaking of this temple and its association the historian writes: "Proceeding southward for a short distance down Sacred road, the track along which the pilgrims come, and have come for 2000 years, to offer their devotions to the most venerated symbols of their religion, the visitor reaches the enclosure which surrounds the celebrated Bo tree. This tree (ficus religiosa) is the oldest historical tree in the world. It was planted 245 years before Christ, and is therefore now 2130 years old."

Kandy contains many specimens excavated from the ruins of the buried cities of Ceylon. Beyond Kandy there are ruins of cities that rose, flourished and fell uncounted years before written Ceylonese history began. Hundreds of years B. C. China had diplomatic relations with the Cingalese. The ancient cities of Anurhapura, Polanaruwa, Dambala, Kalavewa, Mihintale, and Sigiri have been victims of awful judgements. Destruction has been completed and ages have swept by until towering temples, once piercing the azure sky at an altitude of 400 feet above the foundations, are covered with the dust and the accumulation sent by an avenging destroyer.

Is it not possible that those people and cities have had a revelation which

they refused to obey and have suffered as did the cities of the plains that disobeyed the warnings of their God? Speaking of the ruins of the buried cities of Ceylon, one author has said that New York and Paris are pygmies in comparison with these centres of ancient civilization. E. C. HORN.

### Notice of Sale Under Chattel Mortgage.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a chattel mortgage, dated on the 18th day of October, 1902, and duly filed for record in the office of the county clerk of Box Butte county, Nebraska, on the 25th day of October, 1902, and executed by J. B. Butler to William Moutts to secure the payment of \$25.00 and upon which there is now due the sum of \$27.00. Default having been made in the payment of said sum, and no sale or other proceedings at law having been instituted to recover said debt or any part thereof, therefore I will sell the property therein described, to-wit: One sorel mare, six years old, two white hind feet and white stripe in face, branded L on left shoulder, registered with the Nebraska State Fair, and a bay horse colt, mare weighs 600 pounds, from grantee, at public auction at the northeast corner of intersection of Box Butte and Wyoming streets, in the city of Alliance, in Box Butte county, state of Nebraska, on the 30th day of May, 1903, at 1 o'clock p. m. of said day.

WILLIAM MOUTTS, Mortgagee.

### Petition to Sell Real Estate.

In the district court of Box Butte county, Nebraska, in the matter of the application of T. M. Lawler, guardian of Theodore Peterson, Frank Hood, Agnes Hood, Eddie Hood, Minnie Hood, minors, children of Ina Hood, deceased.

This cause came on to be heard this 24th day of April, 1903, the petition of T. M. Lawler, guardian of Theodore Peterson, Frank Hood, Agnes Hood, Eddie Hood and Minnie Hood, minor heirs, to sell the southeast and southwest quarters of section 15, in township 25 of range 47, in Box Butte county, Nebraska, in which said minor heirs each have a one-fifth interest and the court having fully considered the same and it appearing to the court from the petition that it would be beneficial to said wards that their interest in said real estate be sold, now therefore it is hereby ordered and directed that the next of kin and all other persons interested, shall appear before the district court of Box Butte county, Nebraska at the district court room in the courthouse at Alliance, Box Butte county, Nebraska, at 10 o'clock a. m. on the 9th day of June, 1903, and show cause why a license should not be granted for the sale of said estate. It is ordered that this notice be published in THE ALLIANCE HERALD, a newspaper of general circulation published in Alliance, Box Butte county, Nebraska, at least three successive weeks before day of hearing.

J. J. HARRINGTON, Judge.

### Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of an order of sale issued by the clerk of the district court of Box Butte county, Nebraska, upon a decree rendered by said court in favor of J. M. Reed, creditor, and against Peter E. Shonquest, Mrs. Shonquest, his wife, R. M. Hampton, Mrs. Hampton, U. Connor and Mrs. Connor, his wife, defendants, I will, on the 30th day of May, A. D. 1903, at 10 o'clock a. m. on said day at the west front door of the courthouse in Alliance in said county, sell the following described real estate, to-wit: The southeast 1/4 of section 4, of township 26, north of range 48 west of the 6th principal meridian in Box Butte county, Nebraska, at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said order of sale in the sum of \$945.30, and interest, costs and accruing costs also subject to taxes amounting to the sum of \$57.73.

IRA REED, Sheriff of Said County.

SMITH P. TUTTLE, Attorney for Plaintiff.

First publication, April 24.

### Notice.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss.  
BOX BUTTE COUNTY.

At a county court, held at the county court room, in and for said county, April 20, A. D. 1903. Present, D. K. Spacht, county judge, in the matter of the estate of Mary Brennan, deceased. On reading and filing the petition of John Brennan, praying that administration of said estate may be granted to Chenia A. Newberry as administrator.

Ordered, that May 9 A. D. 1903, at 9 o'clock a. m. is assigned for hearing said petition, when all persons interested in said matter may appear at a county court to be held in and for said county, and show cause why the prayer of petitioner should not be granted; and that notice of the pendency of said petition and the hearing thereof, be given to all persons interested in said matter by public, in a copy of this order in THE ALLIANCE HERALD, a weekly newspaper printed in said county, for three successive weeks, prior to said day of hearing. (A true copy.)

D. K. SPACHT, County Judge.

### Keith L. Pierce.

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Will stand for the season of 1903 at Smith & Keeler's livery barn in Alliance.

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No. 302 Passenger daily from Denver and all intermediate points, arrives at.	10:10 a. m.
No. 43 Local passenger daily from Omaha, Lincoln and intermediate points, arrives at.	5:55 a. m.
No. 44 Local passenger daily, for Omaha, Lincoln and intermediate points, departs at.	4:00 a. m.
No. 303 Daily, except Sunday, for points south and west, departs.	11:00 a. m.
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