

## PARING JAIL BREAKING.

PAADOCK'S REMARKABLE ESCAPE FROM JOLIET.

Most Superhuman Display of Force Exercised by a Convict to Get Out of Prison—Working a Few Minutes Time for Over Two Years.

A section of iron bar was cut from the cell door of Dave Paddock by that redoubtable knight of the dark lantern and "jimmy" on the occasion of his sensational escape from Joliet. For over two years Paddock has schemed and worked to effect his purpose. He was sent up from Rock Island on an eight year term, and was placed at work in one of the shoeshops, where during every minute of the working hours in the shop he was constantly under the watchful eye of his keeper. There was not the least chance to plan an escape from the shop. But, not daunted at this, he determined to find some means of getting out of his cell at night.

To fully appreciate the difficulty of cutting out of a cell it must be remembered that three times every hour during the night, at irregular intervals, a guard wearing padded slippers—called "sneak shoes" by the convicts—makes his rounds, peering into each cell to make sure that all are secure and in bed. Paddock first appropriated a couple of thin bladed shoe knives from his shop, and, concealing them from the guard, took them to his cell, where, by using one as a file, he converted the other into a fine steel saw. Then by slow degrees he collected a large amount of shoe thread from the same shop, with which he braided the rope. All this required months of stealthy work, but in the course of time he had a slender, strong rope, fully fifty feet in length. This he kept carefully hidden in the mattress of his bed.

Next he began sawing the bars on his door a little at a time. Night after night he watched for the passing of the guard, and as soon as that official was beyond hearing distance he would cut a little and then fill up the space with black wax, which he had also obtained from the shoeshop, so that the prying eyes of the guard could not discover by daylight that the door had been tampered with. When the bar had been cut through he carefully wedged it back into place with small iron staples and bits of lead.

REMARKABLE CLEVERNESS. He could now get outside of his cell, but the hardest work was yet to be done. His cell was located high up on the third tier, some sixty feet away from the tower door through which he hoped to make his way. Watching his chance, when the night guard was on the opposite side of the block of cells, he removed the bar from his door, crawled through the opening, and with all the agility of a cat climbed down the railing from tier to tier, ran across the corridor to the tower door, and, with a piece of shoemaker's wax, took an impression of the lock, regaining his cell before the guard appeared on that side of the cell-house.

By careful working he made a key out of lead pipe that a plumber had dropped near his workbench in the shop. Several trips from his cell to the tower door were made during the next few weeks before his key would fit, and then it took him some time to get together enough material to make a "dummy" to put in his bed to prevent his absence being discovered before he could get beyond reach. On the very day that he intended to make his escape, while returning from the shop to his cell, he slipped upon an icy stairway and badly sprained his ankle. This almost discouraged him. His months of anxious toil had come to naught. His scheme would surely be discovered. After three weeks in the prison hospital he was sent back to work, and when he reached his cell that evening was overjoyed to find that his rope, key and "dummy" were still safely concealed in the mattress, and everything as he had left it.

ESCAPE AND CAPTURE. Another week elapsed before his ankle would permit him making the attempt. The night came, however, and along about midnight he was safe inside the tower. A single iron bar still stood between him and freedom, and it would take long hours of hard work to cut through it. Just as daylight began to break the bar gave way. The rope now came into good use, and with its aid he slipped down upon the prison lawn and hurried away to the woods that line the bluff east of the prison. Here he found a thicket or underbrush where he lay hid all that day, and when darkness came again he got away.

His absence was not discovered from prison until the guard went to unlock his cell in the morning. This was without doubt the cleverest escape that had taken place at Joliet, and stamped Paddock as a genius. Extraordinary efforts were made for his recapture. Large rewards were offered, and his description was cast broadcast. A year later it was discovered that Paddock had a mistress in Chicago. A watch was set on her house for several weeks, and sure enough one night Paddock put in an appearance. Captain Simon O'Donnell, of the police department, had the place surrounded and the daring convict was again in the toils. He was taken back to his old quarters at the prison, where he finally completed his sentence, not, however, until he had tried several other schemes for escape, but he was too closely watched to ever again succeed.—Joliet (Ill.) Letter.

Use for an Old Fashioned Caster.

If you happen to have among the family silver an old fashioned caster, don't frown at it uncompromisingly and wonder if it "can't be melted up into something useful." Take it down from its out of the way nook and unscrew the long handle which holds the crust frame. This will leave when taken out as handsome a table jardiniere for ferns and flowers as your soul can desire, with the trifling addition of a tin basin, which any tinsmith will fit inside.—New York Times.

aged to K. City. hugh, in all very stand- we'd edge civilised at their tribal possessions al horses to each head of a though the majority of their d fetch no more than twenty as apiece out there, even this gives em more wealth per capita than many civilised people can boast. They have managed also to keep much of the savage paraphernalia of other days in the form of buckskin clothes, elaborate beadwork, eagle headdresses, good guns and the outlandish adornments of their iefs and medicine men. Hundreds of miles from any except such small and distant towns as Calgary and Medicine Hat, and kept on the reserve as much as possible, there has come to them less damage by white men's vices than perhaps most other tribes have suffered.

Therefore it was still possible for me to see in some tents the squaws at work painting the clan signs on stretched skins, and making beadwork for moccasins, ponches, "chaps," and the rest. And in one tepee I found a young and rather pretty girl wearing a suit of buckskin, such as Cooper and all the past historians of the Indians knew as the conventional every day attire of the redskin. I say I saw the girl in a tent but, as a matter of fact, she passed me out of doors, and with true feminine art managed to allow her blanket to fall open just the instant it took to disclose the precious dress beneath it.

I asked to be taken into the tent to which she went, and there, at the interpreter's request, she threw off her blanket, and stood, with a little display of honest coyness, dressed like the traditional and the theatrical belle of the wilderness. The soft yellowish leather, the heavy fringe upon the arms, seams, and edges of the garment, her beautiful beaded leggings and moccasins, formed so many parts of a very charming picture. For herself, her face was comely, but her figure was—an Indian's. The figure of the typical Indian woman shows few graceful curves.

The reader will inquire whether there was any real beauty, as we judge it, among these Indians. Yes, there was; at least there were good looks if there was not beauty. I saw perhaps a dozen fine looking men, half a dozen attractive girls, and something like a hundred children of varying degrees of comeliness—pleasing, pretty or beautiful. I had some jolly romps with the children, and so came to know that their faces and arms met my touch with the smoothness and softness of the flesh of our own little ones at home. I was surprised at this; indeed, the skin of the boys was of the texture of velvet.

The madcap urchins, what riotous fun they were having! They flung arrows and darts, ran races and wrestled, and in some of their play fairly swarmed all over one another, until at times one lad would be buried in the thick of a writhing mass of legs and arms several feet in depth. Some of the boys wore only "G strings" (as, for some reason, the breech cloth is commonly called on the prairie), but others were wrapped in old blankets, and the larger ones were already wearing the Blackfoot plume lock, or tuft of hair tied and trained to stand erect above the forehead. The babies within the tepees were clad only in their complexions.—Julian Ralph in Harper's.

Little Happiness in Stately Mansions. "Well, I tell you what has struck me most," said Mr. G. E. Dickinson. "It is the large and magnificent houses in several of our great cities built by millionaires and the small amount of real comfort or happiness which the millionaires seem to get out of them. Dickens, in one of his novels, portrays with vivid touch the real life of one of the city men whose magnificent mansion was the talk of the town. It has often occurred to me that there are many New York millionaires whose peace of mind is no greater than that of the character whom he sets down.

"Somehow there seems to hang over a number of these stately mansions a shadow of gloom. In the west it is the same. Some of those great houses look as deserted as if the men who built them and every relative had been forgotten and the houses were the only reminders that they once existed. To tell the truth, there is too much rush, I believe, over the making of money to enjoy the supposed happiness which it brings."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Value of Amber During the Roman Empire. In such reports was amber in Rome in the time of the historian Pliny that his remarks sarcastically, "The price of a small figure in it, however diminutive, exceeds that of a living healthy slave." He observes also, "True it is that a collar of amber beads worn about the necks of young infants is a singular preservative against secret poison and a counter charm for witchcraft and sorceries." He says further that as an article of personal ornamentation amber was used to produce imitations of precious stones by artificial staining, a use to which it was peculiarly adapted owing to its brilliant luster, combined with the ease with which it could be worked and polished.—Philadelphia Times.

Serve Things Hot.

Serving things hot, too, goes a long way; if cools could only be made to realize that hot food is very rarely criticised they would be more careful in this respect. An experienced housekeeper said the other day, "The real reason that my things are so much liked is not that they are one bit nicer than any one else's, but I always see that each dish is served as piping hot that there is no chance for much criticism of the flavor."—New York Tribune.

Lobsters often travel in regiments, seeking new feeding grounds. Their migrating armies are always led by the biggest and strongest ones, while the maimed and weakly struggle along behind.

scieties in the in the city, are age Chapman. Saturday, we at that time. PRESIDENT.

Best Sugar Convention. Following delegates have pointed by M. B. Murphy, int of the city council, to present the city at the best sugar convention to be held at Lincoln December 17. The list was handed in too late for publication in yesterday's issue: E. S. Grousel, John Davies, Timothy Clark, Claus Breckenfeld, F. S. White and A. B. Knotts.

Will Enforce the Law. Acting Chief of Police Fry, authorizes us to state that the city ordinance forbidding the running of saloons on Sunday shall be rigidly enforced hereafter. He has reasons to believe that men are admitted upon Sundays, in large numbers, and to the end that these violations may be detected he proposes to have the window blinds raised upon those days. The police spoke with an air of determination and judging from the manner in which he has performed his duty in the past there is no room to doubt that he speaks in earnest. He will receive the encouragement of all good citizens in his endeavors to enforce our laws.

Theatre-goers will have an opportunity Monday evening, December 14, of witnessing one of the neatest and best things in the way of legitimate spectacular drama that has as yet been presented in Plattsmouth. Mr. John Palmer's "Last Days of Pompeii," which will be presented at the Waterman opera house on above date, must not be confounded with Mr. Pain's spectacle of the same name, as they are entirely different. Mr. Palmer's play is a stage dramatization of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's delightful romance, "Last Days of Pompeii," and is to be presented by a strong company of dramatic artists, with all the scenery, mechanical effects, stage effects, etc., that are needed to picture the stirring scenes of the famous story.

Last Days of Pompeii. A new treatment of an old theme was offered to the patrons of the Grand last evening, in the production of John Palmer's stage version of Bulwer's beautiful story, "Last Days of Pompeii." The dramatization has been well done and the classic story makes an impressive play. Appropriate scenery and elegant costumes have been provided. Mr. Palmer, who adapted the play to the stage, appears as Arbaces, the Egyptian, and is strong in the part. The play is interesting and picture a que throughout.—Topeka (Kan.) Daily Capital.

At Waterman opera house Monday evening, December 14.

To Exhibit Aborigines.

Anthropologists all over the world are said to be aroused by the proposition of Professor Putnam, of Harvard, to gather at the World's fair in Chicago living representatives of every race of aborigines to be found on the American continent, in their own houses and costumes. Should the proposal be carried out, students of man from all over the world will flock to America for the occasion and seize eagerly this only opportunity ever offered. The cave dwellers, whose mode of life Walt McDougall treats with much historical correctness in fiction, will then be either demonstrated as actually existing or proved to have died out.—New York World.

In Jail for One Hour.

The shortest term of imprisonment ever given in Massachusetts was imposed on Lemuel E. Demelen a few days ago in the United States circuit court in Boston. The prisoner, charged with interfering with a United States officer in the discharge of his duty, was fined \$100 and imprisoned for one hour in the county jail.—Exchange.

The yield of the orange crop in Florida this year was over 3,000,000 boxes, and an average box holds 150 oranges. About half of the crop will be sent by rail to the western states.

If a man abuses his wife in Battle, Mon., half a yard of crape is tacked on his door as a reminder that any trouble in the future will be followed by a call by an undertaker.

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Authors Carnival At Rockwood Hall two evenings Thursday and Friday December 10 and 11. There will be beautifully decorated booths, tableaux and music and many characters from well known literary productions in pretty and appropriate costumes. Supper will be served in the old style and the new; old style supper 25c, new style supper on the European plan. Admission 25 cents. Everybody invited.

Did you see JOES magnificent line of suspenders?

I have been a great sufferer from catarrh for over ten years; had it very bad, could hardly breathe. Some nights I could not sleep and had to walk the floor. I purchased Fly's Cream Balm and am using it freely, it is working a cure surely. I have advised several friends to use it, and with happy results in every case. It is the medicine above all other for catarrh, and it is worth its weight in gold. I thank God I have found a remedy I can use with safety and that does all that is claimed for it. It is curing my deafness.—B. W. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.

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A son of Mr. M. D. Fusser, a merchant of Gibraltar, N. C., was so badly afflicted with rheumatism for a year or more, as to be unable to work or go to school. His father concluded to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm on the boy. It soon cured him and he has since walked one and a half miles to school and back every school day. 50 cent bottle for sale by F. G. Fricke & Co., druggist.

Miss Mable Colvin, accompanied by her roommate, Miss Phillips, is visiting with relatives in the city. These are two young ladies thrown out of school by the recent fire at Shennadoab. They except, however to take up their studies soon at Cotner University.

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