

QUEER STORIES

Paper was invented by the Chinese 125 years before the Christian era.

The most thickly populated island in the world is Malta, which has 1,300 people to the square mile. Barbadoes has 1,054 people to the square mile.

While a fire was in progress in a tenement house in Paris, a poodle dashed upstairs, and in a few minutes returned with a doll in its mouth. This doll was then joyfully seized by an eight-year-old daughter of the tenant.

A remarkably clever little woman is Miss Emma Kellogg of Colorado. She wants to be a game warden, and she states as her qualifications that she once lassoed a young bear and brought it home alive, has hunted mountain lions, deer and elk, and is well versed in woodcraft.

The skeletons of dwarf elephants have been found on the island of Malta. One of these, whose teeth and bones showed that they belonged to a full-grown specimen, was less than two feet six inches in height, and could not have weighed over sixty pounds when in the flesh.

Nine successful novels recently published in the United States had a total sale of over 1,500,000 copies. Since the average weight of each book sold was probably twenty ounces, a little calculation will prove that these 1,500,000 books contained approximately two million pounds of paper. A manufacturer of paper asserts that the average spruce tree yields a little less than half a cord of wood, which is equivalent to about five hundred pounds of paper. In other words, these nine novels swept away four thousand trees, and they form but a small part of the fiction so eagerly read by the American public.

The record of old-time droughts shows some extraordinarily protracted periods. The longest drought that ever occurred in America was in the summer of 1702. No rain fell from May 1 to Sept. 1, making 123 days without rain. In that year grain and hay were imported from England. Other serious droughts were 108 days in succession without rain in 1749; ninety-two days in succession in 1750; eighty-two days in 1791; eighty-one days in 1888 and eighty days in 1773. In more recent years there were forty-two days without rain in 1871, twenty-six days in 1875 and the same in 1876 and twenty-four days in 1854. In these latter years the lowest and highest Chicago cash prices were in 1854: \$1.75, 1871, 99¢ and \$1.32; 1875, 83¢ and \$1.39; and 1871, eighty-three and \$1.20.

DOCTORING A PYTHON.

The Big Snake Objected, but Would Not Bite His Surgeon.

Those who happened to be passing a well-known bird store the other day might have witnessed the unusual sight of a surgical operation performed on a large python, a huge snake from the West Coast of Africa. Mr. Snake, so the dealer states, had run counter to a detached wire on the side of his cage and cut a deep gash in his forehead. This the dealer set about doctoring, administering a large application of Balsam of Peru, an old remedy used a great deal by army and navy surgeons and animal doctors for healing purposes. The python was not however, in a humor for being operated upon and tried to dodge and crawl away from the proprietor, who finally caught him, and then the trouble began. The muscular and constitutive powers of these snakes is surprising and the dealer had to call several others to his assistance before he could hold the serpent fast. Not once during the time the dealer was cutting away the loose patches of skin and flesh from about the wound and putting on the balsam did he offer to bite although he tried hard to get his coils around those who were "doctoring" him. Since the application of balsam the wound has healed, and he is now a better snake.

A pet animal and bird store is often the scene of peculiar accidents. This same dealer, in addition to his bird and animal business, conducts a boarding house for birds of all sorts. Whenever a lady enters with a parrot, canary, mocking bird or cardinal, which she does not care to take along to the summer resort, she is certain to ask "Now, Mr. Q., please don't put my bird in cage No. 13; something will be sure to happen to him if you do." The dealer had no faith in the No. 13 superstition, but to humor his patron always consented, so that for some time past cage No. 13 has remained empty.

Several days ago, however, the cage became somewhat congested, and to make room he placed one of his own canary birds in the unlucky cage. The bird appeared to be in good health at the time, but he died before morning since which event the dealer has been somewhat less skeptical about No. 13.

An Early English Habit.

Hengist and Horsa had just landed at the mouth of the Thames.

"Do you expect to deliver Britain from the Scots?" inquired an interviewer.

"No," replied the brothers; "we can't conquer 'em to drop our bloomers 's doncherknow."

Appalled by hearing the cockney dialect for the first time, the canny Scot fled back to their golf links, making battle unnecessary.—New York Tribune.

After all, happiness isn't a question of riches, pie, a good complexion, a love and never, but of contentment.

AGED MAN KILLED

SENATOR SIMMONS FATHER MURDERED BY UNKNOWN.

BODY FOUND NEAR A RIVER

MISSING FOR HOURS BEFORE DISCOVERY WAS MADE.

SHOT WITH A SHOTGUN.

Seemingly Clubbed and Shot Several Times Squirrel Hunter Suspected of the Killing.

Newbern, N. C., Sept. 14.—Furri-fold G. Simmons, father of United States Senator F. M. Simmons, was found murdered yesterday on his plantation a few miles from Pollockville, Jones county. He had been missing since yesterday morning. Senator Simmons, who was in Raleigh and Senator Simmons' son James, who is a merchant in Newburg, were notified of that fact, and both went promptly to the old homestead to assist in the search. The body was found near the river. Mr. Simmons had been shot several times with a shotgun. Bruises about the head indicated that he was clubbed also.

Mr. Simmons was a quiet, inoffensive man, about seventy-five years old, and was generally esteemed. The cause of the murder is unknown. A negro named Daniels has been arrested as the assassin.

Another account from Pollockville says Mr. Simmons was killed by an unknown trespasser who was squirrel hunting on his land and whom Mr. Simmons went after when he heard the shooting, and that one arrest has been made.

Knocks Life out of Him.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 14.—Frank Day formerly of California, but of late living in Detroit, was killed in an automobile accident at the state fair grounds late Saturday afternoon while driving a record-breaking machine in a five mile race against time. Day had covered about four miles of the distance, when, upon reaching the head of the home stretch, the powerful machine swerved, ran into the fence and toppled over. As the machine upset Day received a terrible knock on the back of the head which rendered him unconscious and he lay on the track without moving a muscle. The prostrate form was quickly removed and medical aid summoned, but the injured man died in fifteen minutes after he was struck without regaining consciousness.

The accident was witnessed by 3000 persons, among whom were many women. Several of the women fainted and pandemonium reigned for a few minutes. Day was thirty-two years of age. He came here to make the place of Barney Oldfield, who was billed to drive his machine at a record breaking pace, but who met with a serious accident in Detroit early in the week and sent Day in to fill the engagement.

The automobile was running at about a mile a minute when the accident occurred.

Shock Sets It Off.

Bay City, Mich., Sept. 14.—Clarence J. Hopper and Roy Bucher, switchmen of the Michigan Central railroad, were instantly killed by an explosion of dynamite in a car in the yards at West Bay City yesterday. Robert Robinson, engineer, William Noble, fireman, and John Craile, conductor, were injured but not so severely that they may die. All of the trainmen were residents of this city.

The explosion occurred as a switch engine was making up a train. The engine backed down upon several cars the first containing a thousand pounds of dynamite, a consignment of Lee Metford rifles and a quantity of reduced charge shells for indoor rifle practice, and it is said that the force with which it struck the explosive-laden car exploded the dynamite.

Another report has it that one of the shells exploded and set off the dynamite. A big hole was torn in the ground by the explosion, a score of freight cars, and loaded were demolished, and nearly 300 houses in the vicinity suffered broken windows and several were so badly wrecked as to be uninhabitable. The shock was felt in Essexville, three miles from the scene.

Two Killed on Olympia.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 14.—The explosion of a barrel of alcohol on the superstructure deck of the cruiser Olympia, in drydock at the Norfolk navy yard, Saturday killed two men, severely injured several others and set fire to the ship. The master at arms of the vessel is missing. The damage by fire was confined to the deck of the vessel and embroiled the canvas awnings and their fasteners. The decks, however, were slightly injured.

SHIPPING CREW DROWNED

WIND OF CYCLONIC FURY RAGES DURING DAY.

Delaware Breakwater, Del., Sept. 17.—The Schooner *Patia A. Marsh* with a cargo of paving stones from Painters Point, Me., for Philadelphia was dashed on the rocks of the Harbor of Refuge during the storm yesterday. Capt. J. B. Mahaffey and four of the crew were drowned.

The storm which had been coming up the Atlantic coast for several days struck the Delaware capes early yesterday morning with almost cyclonic force. The storm lasted from 3 a. m. until 7 a. m.

In the old harbor, southwest of the maritime reporting station three schooners dragged their anchors and collided. The *Sea Bird*, a two-masted vessel, sank but her crew was rescued. The other schooners were slightly damaged.

The barges *Elmwood*, *Gilberton* and *Kuluia*, laden with coal from Philadelphia for eastern points sank in Delaware Bay westward of the Brown Shoal. Their crews were rescued. The tug *Spartan* which was towing the coal barges *Traverston*, *Hammond* and an unknown barge, is reported to have sunk. There are no tidings of the *Spartan's* crew.

Falls To Pavement.

New York, Sept. 17.—A huge block of stone coping fell from the upper part of the twenty-story flat iron building, Twenty-third street, Broadway and Fifth avenue, early yesterday. The mass landed on the Fifth avenue side of the building with a crash. A large hole was torn in the pavement and fragments of the stone flew in all directions.

One of the pieces struck John Ruppel, a bar tender, as he was passing along the avenue half a block away, and broke his leg. Another fragment hit a passing team of horses and caused them to run away. A Broadway car comfortably filled with passengers was also damaged by the shower of small stones. Half a dozen of the windows in the car were shattered and several of the passengers were slightly injured.

No cause for the loosening of the stone could be given. The flat iron, a comparatively new skyscraper of a peculiar build and twenty-stories high, stands in one of the busiest quarters of the city, and at any other hour the falling stone undoubtedly would have caused several fatalities.

Lawyer Ogden Missing.

New York, Sept. 17.—The World says: "Benjamin Ogden, mayor and leading lawyer of Keyport, N. J., has disappeared; leaving debts of \$100,000 and small assets. He had in his hands numerous large trust estates for settlement. Ogden was largely interested in a cutery factory in Keyport and sank thousands of dollars in it. Up to two weeks ago he was a director in the People's National bank. When he resigned there was a run on the bank, which was weathered. The bank holds over \$11,000 of Ogden's paper, which, it is said is fully secured."

Farmer Commits Suicide.

Minden, Neb., Sept. 17.—Nels Swanson, a wealthy farmer living near Keene, committed suicide Tuesday noon by cutting the artery in his left wrist. He went to the granary to do the deed and when he was discovered by his wife he was beyond aid and died before the doctor reached him. He has been drinking quite heavily the last two months and was quite morose and despondent. There were times when he was mentally unbalanced. The coroner, sheriff and county attorney went to the scene last night and held an inquest, the jury finding that he came to death by an act of his own hand. He has one of the best improved farms in the county and leaves quite a bit of money in the bank.

Woman Murdered.

Lebanon, Kans., Sept. 17.—Mrs. Williamson was murdered and her twelve-year-old daughter and her aged mother, Mrs. H. H. Payne, brutally beaten. Mrs. Williamson's dead body was found out side the house and her mother and daughter in bed unconscious. All had been horribly wounded with a cultivator bar. Mrs. Williamson was suing for divorce from her husband, and a young man of Lebanon who wished to marry her, and whom she refused repeatedly is suspected of the murder.

Heavy Fall of Snow.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 17.—Reports from the northern part of the state are to the effect that a storm has prevailed there during the last twenty-four hours. In a number of places snow fell and the storm approached the proportions of a blizzard. In the mountains it has been snowing for several days. In the neighborhood of Huena Vista a high wind prevailed, causing the snow to drift. In many places it is reported to be ten feet deep.

THE FLAG INSULTED

BRAYED AMONG SOCIALISTS IN PORTO RICO PUNISHED.

GOVERNOR IS THREATENED

ABUSE THE GOVERNMENT IN THEIR SPEECHES AT SAN JUAN

SIX MONTHS IN PRISON

Native Judge Equal to the Occasion and Sends Them to Prison for Six Months—Loyal Men Pleased.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Sept. 16.—Eduardo Conde and Leonidas Fuillot, two socialists, who spoke in a recent meeting of the American federation of labor, were put on trial yesterday for insulting the American flag and threatening the life of Gov. Hunt. Their speeches teemed with abuse of the government. One of the prisoners was accused of advising the workmen, upon the return of Governor Hunt on October 1 from the United States, to parade, carrying black flags and to make demands upon the government. If these demands were refused, the speaker added, the alternative of killing Governor Hunt remained. The other orator was said to have declared that the American flag was a rag fit only to cover rascals and criminals. The accused vehemently denied the charges. They were tried before Justice Kopel, convicted of anarchistic conduct, and sentenced to six months in prison.

Justice Kopel says the flag is higher than the law and anarchists need never expect any mercy in his court. The case has established a precedent in a Porto Rican official warning that attacks on the flag and government must stop. The Americans and loyal Porto Ricans are jubilant, while the socialists are angry at the decision. The convicted men will appeal from the judgment, claiming that Justice Kopel had no jurisdiction, as there is no law covering the offense. The interest in the case is intense.

Shoots Sateonkeeper Dead.

Sheridan, Wyo., Sept. 16.—Henry Schroder, a sateonkeeper at Dayton, a town west of here, was shot and killed, and Edward Sims, his bar tender, seriously injured by Jack Hanley as the result of a dispute concerning money lost at cards. At the point of a gun Hanley compelled the employes of a livery stable to saddle a horse for him, and he rode away a posse of citizens overtook Hanley, who refused to surrender. Hanley was captured after his horse had been shot from under him and his leg broken by bullets fired by the posse. He was brought to this city and placed in jail.

Fatal Duel Over a Woman.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Abita Springs, La., says: Frank Allison and Marshall McGhee, two young men at St. Tamary parish, fought a duel to death at the Tallhook camp ground, four miles from Abita Springs today. Both men were rivals for the hand of a young woman and Allison challenged McGhee to a duel. Pistols at ten paces were named, and at the first shot both men fell dead, one with a bullet through his brain and the other a bullet through his heart.

Tom King Yung a Suicide.

San Francisco, Sept. 16.—Tom King Yung, a higher official in court circles at Peking, military attaché of the Chinese legation at Washington and secretary to Jung Bow He, the acting consul general at San Francisco, has committed suicide by asphyxiation at the Chinese consulate. Yung was arrested on a charge of misdemeanor on Friday morning last and this disgrace led him to take his life. He left a letter for the acting consul to this effect:

Stolen Cattle Recovered.

Wood River, Neb., Sept. 16.—The twenty-one cattle stolen from W. H. Farber's pasture near the Platte river Tuesday night were found on the Jacob Sherer farm, three miles north of town, yesterday. The thieves had headed for the bluffs and abandoned the cattle near daybreak. Muddy roads caused the delay. There is no clue.

Tried to Kill a Family.

Washington, Ind., Sept. 16.—Mrs. Belle Fountain yesterday pleaded guilty to assault with intent to kill. She had confessed to chloroforming the Harnish family near Dora last week and was sentenced to from three to fourteen years in the Indianapolis reformatory, whether she will be taken tomorrow. Miss Lola Harnish, of whom the prisoner was jealous, on account of the attentions of Albert Turner, will recover.

Nebraska Notes

A land boom is in progress at Cambridge.

Henry Brush of Gretna who was injured in a runaway will recover.

While schuffling with a friend at Beemer William Drusker made a misstep and broke one of his legs.

Charles B. Carpenter has been appointed regular route carrier at Wayne, with Fred Benchoff as substitute.

Secretary Boyce of the state banking board has issued a call for bank statements at the close of business September 5.

The Rev. B. W. Smith and congregation of the Methodist church at Auburn are preparing to build a new \$10,000 church edifice.

Fred Benson, a twelve-year-old boy, sustained a broken arm and dislocation of shoulder by being thrown from a horse at Litchfield.

It has been decided to postpone the work of erecting the new physics and administration buildings on the university campus until spring.

A Union Pacific freight train was derailed at St. Paul. A defective track is supposed to have been the cause. No one was injured.

Many shocks of oats are reported growing and threshing has again been delayed at Papillion on account of the rain. Corn is looking well.

The meat market of Reynolds & Erickson was destroyed by fire at Hastings. The loss is estimated at \$1,500, with \$800 insurance.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Haines, two old residents of Franklin was entirely destroyed by fire. There was no insurance.

Congressman Burkett will make a tour of Ohio during October for the republican nominees. Senator Hanna and Chairman Dick invited him.

The residence of Morris Norris, three miles south of Stella, was burned to the ground. The family escaped from the burning building with difficulty.

Mabel Rhodes of Ekhorn in stooping to drive a cat from a baby on the floor ran a crochet needle into her side. It was removed after some difficulty.

Mr. Mosher of the Mosher Livery company of South Omaha went to Papillion to try to locate a rig which was hired by Mrs. W. H. Reed, who formerly lived at Papillion.

Charles Shennings, a farmer near Litchfield, was accidentally shot in the head by a boy. The shot entered the left eye and was imbedded in the skull. He will recover.

The store building of James G. Stokes at McCook was struck by lightning and the building and contents practically destroyed. The damage is \$2,000 with \$1,300 insurance.

The county board of supervisors at Loop City resolved to employ counsel to assist in the prosecution of Carl Deusterhorf, accused of murdering his wife. H. M. Mathew of Loop City was recommended as counsel.

The Rev. H. J. Dierks, who has been pastor of the German Methodist church at Osceola, has been assigned by the conference to the pastorate of the First German Methodist church at Kansas City, Mo.

At the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Cradwick, at Blair, John Romans, an old pioneer of this county died from paralysis. He came to this county thirty-four years ago and has resided here ever since. His wife died five years ago. Six children survive him.

In a runaway at Wahoo Carl A. Anderson, the 14-year-old son of Postmaster Anderson was knocked insensible and Mrs. Claude Smith sustained a broken leg and other injuries. They were thrown from the buggy.

Mrs. Dr. W. A. Chapman died at her home in Hastings. Deceased had been a resident of Hastings for twenty years. Her husband died several years ago. Joseph E. Wiles at Miss F.H. Marie Spangler were married at the home of the bride's parents four miles south of Plattsmouth. Mr. and Mrs. Wiles will take an extended trip through the west.

HOPE TO SAVE WOMEN

HAMPERED BY PRESENCE IN BATTLE WITH TURKS. GUERRILLA WARFARE ADOPTED.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Sept. 15.—Warned by previous disastrous experiences the revolutionary leaders have decided to adopt only guerilla tactics in eastern Macedonia.

The policy of occupying towns and villages has proved a mistake, as it has usually resulted in Turkey re-occupying the villages, destroying everything and killing the inhabitants, the insurgents being hampered in their operations by the women and children.

A guerilla warfare is expected to exhaust the Turks much sooner, while the unhampered bands can move more easily and more rapidly. It is hoped that the new tactics will result in the women and children being spared unnecessary dangers.

The insurgents now have nearly two thousand men armed with rifles in eastern Macedonia and thousands of peasants are ready to join their forces when a general rising has been proclaimed. This step is being delayed until the supply of rifles, cartridges and dynamite is received.

New bands, aggregating 1,600 men, are reported to be on their way to the frontier. The Turkish forces now in eastern Macedonia are estimated at 17,000. The bands are experiencing great difficulty in obtaining arms. It is believed that not a single rifle can be found in Sofia, outside the garrison.

The Bulgarian government is reported to have protested against Austria's action in intercepting the 10,000,000 cartridges ordered in Hungary for which Bulgarian money has been paid to the contractor.

A panic prevails in the town of Veles. The soldiers permit no one to leave Veles and the peasants in the surrounding villages have all been killed and their villages destroyed. Complaints made by the civil and military authorities have been without avail.

Nearly all advices given out here tell of very severe losses by Turkish forces and very few of the revolutionaries killed or wounded.

Murderer put to Death

Auburn, N. Y., Sept. 15.—Clarence Egnor of Buffalo, was put to death yesterday in the electric chair for the murder of Archibald Benedict, a keeper in Auburn prison.

Egnor was a convict and had more than once been punished by Benedict for disobedience. On January 9, 1901, Benedict reprimanded Egnor for talking to another convict. Expecting punishment Egnor armed himself with an iron bar and laid in wait for the keeper. When Benedict passed him, Egnor sprang from behind and dealt him a crushing blow on the head, fracturing his skull. The victim sank to his knees, when Egnor applied the butt of his revolver protruding from his hip pocket, which he seized and shot Benedict in the head. Death was instantaneous.

Egnor then surrendered. Egnor served in the war with Spain under another name.

Crook Kills Officer.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 15.—Patrolman Schaneman of the local police force, was shot and killed at midnight by William S. Thomas, one of three men who held up the Villard car Saturday night. Thomas and a companion had been recognized by Schaneman on his beat as answering the description of the highwaymen and he called on them to halt. They took to flight, and Thomas dodging into a doorway, escaped the sight of the policeman. As Schaneman passed pursuing the other man, Thomas fired, the bullet lodging in the policeman's head. Other officers attracted by the shots had eased up and Thomas was brought down with a bullet in his back by Detective Philbrick. Schaneman never regained consciousness and died in a few minutes. Thomas does not appear seriously hurt.

Firemen Organize a Union.

Pittsburg, Sept. 15.—It is learned here that the Pittsburg firemen have secretly organized a union and will receive a charter from the American federation of labor this week. The organization starts with 550 members and the intention is to follow with the unionizing of the Allegheny fire department on Saturday next.

When these two cities are thoroughly organized an international association will be formed by the federation with the object in view of securing better pay, with shorter hours for the fire fighters and a release from all political coercion.

Open Switch causes Wreck.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 15.—Four persons were injured, one Henry Wakefield, Chicago baggage men, probably fatally and many passengers badly shaken up in a collision on the Chicago and Northwestern railroad at Desplains. An open switch is said to have caused the accident, the passenger train westbound crashing into the rear of a freight on siding.