

A DEMON OF THE SEA.

CAPTAIN REED STARVES HIS CREW OF SAILORS.

Startling Stories Told by the Survivors When the Schooner T. F. Oaks Reached the Port of New York—Captain Lived on Chicken.

BUFFETED about by the fierce winds of the Pacific and thousands of miles out of her course by the typhoons of the Chinese seas; drifting helplessly where the idle breezes might send her, while her crew was slowly dying of the horrible scourge, scurvy, the American clipper T. F. Oaks was towed into port after 260 days of ceaseless struggle with the adverse winds, the horrors of a floating charnel-house and under control of a mad—or seemingly mad—commander. Two hundred and seventy days from Shanghai for New York is the remarkable record made by this unfortunate vessel. Ten months nearly elapsed from the time she spread her sails and started on her voyage before her sick and dying crew found relief. Twice during all this time she was within sight of some other vessel, but once only did she get within hail. The awful story of alleged cruelty told by the survivors of the crew of the clipper is being put in legal form by representatives of the Seamen's Union. It is understood that it will be used in actions soon to be brought against Capt. Reed and the owners of the ship. The emaciated seamen, now in the marine hospital on Staten Island, alleges that Capt. Reed is directly responsible for the illness of all but two of the crew; that they were kept on half rations during the greater part of the trip, and



CAPT. REED.

that the vessel could have found New York harbor much sooner if the captain had taken advantage of favorable conditions which prevailed during much of the nine months they were on the water.

"We have not decided just what charges we shall prefer against Capt. Reed," said James H. Williams, secretary of the Seamen's Union, "but we shall make the most serious charges against him that we can sustain by the evidence."

Joseph Robinson made the statement which will be used by the union and the other eleven survivors who are with him in the hospital subscribe to it. Several were able to sign their names with difficulty, and one, John Benson, is still so weak that it is a question whether he will recover.

"We were forced to complain about our food before we had been a week out of Hong Kong," said Robinson, "and the entire crew went to Capt. Reed on July 7, only to be refused better provisions. Our conditions became such that at the end of July we determined to make another demand, and again the entire crew complained. From July 31 to Sept. 27 there was an improvement, but on the latter date we were all placed on half rations, and so continued to the end of the long journey. The captain did not supply the ship with enough provisions before leaving Hong Kong. We had been out seventy-four days before we got any fresh meat, and we told the captain it was illegal for him to make no better allowances to the crew. To this he replied: 'I am not afraid of the law. The law can't do anything to me.' There is no reason why we should have been so long in coming to New York from Hong Kong. We had favorable winds much of the time, but the captain would not hoist sails to take the full advantage of them. In good sailing weather he often hoisted sails as most vessels would carry in a gale. He said he took this course because he was conservative. While the men in the crew were growing weak from lack of proper food, the captain was living on chicken and other good things. He had two crates well filled with chickens when we left port and when the Oaks got into New York harbor several chickens were still left. If the captain had killed them and made soup for the crew, even giving it to us but once a week, the men would have been able to retain their strength instead of coming in ill and helpless."

"We were so weak from hunger that often members of the crew had to hold to the railings to keep from falling on the deck. It was next to impossible for us to climb the masts. Our condition was such that three of us could hardly do the work that one properly fed seaman should have done. The chicken soup would have kept away the scurvy. I have been in some pretty hard American ships, but I never was starved as we were on this trip. Six men died on the trip."

George King, one of the dead, was a Union veteran and belonged to Farragut post in Philadelphia. The survivors are especially indignant over his case, and they declare that he was "served to death beyond any question."

King has a wife and two children in Philadelphia and he sent word by Frank Weber to notify the Grand Army men of the circumstances of his death and to urge them to take action in the interest of his family. This message, Weber says, he will deliver as soon as he is able to get out of the hospital. The twelve survivors, although they have gained much strength since they reached port, still show in their pinched white faces the ordeal through which they have passed. Benson, whose case is most serious, is a living skeleton, weighing little more than fifty pounds. Robinson, who weighed 165 pounds when he shipped from New York, now weighs 88 pounds. Anderson, who then weighed 172, now weighs 104 pounds. Carpenter weighed 151 and now weighs 117.

Mrs. Reed, the captain's wife, is said to have acted heroically. As the crew kept dropping off through illness and death, and all hands, with the exception of Mrs. Reed, her husband, and the mates, were compelled to quit, a strong gale jumped from the north. Someone must take the wheel and keep the hunger ship on her course. Mrs. Reed, the companion of her husband in all his voyages, and a sailor from her youth, was the woman for the emergency. Donning tarpaulin and oil skins, she relieved one of the mates at the wheel, and for a double trick, or eight hours in all, held the spokes with a vice-like grip, never swerving until the ship reached port. The captain and his wife say the suffering of the crew was unavoidable, owing to the typhoon winds.

MURDERER A CHURCH MEMBER

Durrant's Name Still on Register of Emanuel Baptist Church.

Although a resident of the county jail for nearly two years, Theodore Durrant is, as far as the register of the Emanuel Baptist church shows, a member in good standing in that organization, says the San Francisco Examiner. Unless some official action is taken to have his name dropped from the roll before he is hanged, he will die a member of that organization. There is some little feeling among the members of the church about Durrant's name being permitted to remain on the roll with those of the members of unquestionable standing. From time to time the question of having his name scratched has been discussed in a general way by the church people, but never has the subject come up at any of the business or mid-week prayer meetings. No one seemed to care about taking the initiative for fear of being charged with showing an unchristian spirit, and the Rev. J. George Gibson has never encouraged his people to display prejudice or hard feeling toward the young man who was formerly assistant superintendent of their Sunday school.

Negro Dies of Fright.

On Friday night Mrs. W. Butler, living a mile from Opelousas, La., was awakened in the middle of the night by a burglar who grasped her by the throat. She freed herself from him, but when he caught hold of her baby and threatened to kill it she agreed to give him all the money in the house. He was a negro. In the morning she gave notice of the burglary, and bloodhounds were procured, who went to the neighboring cottage of a negro named Eli Sanders. Sanders was arrested, but although the house was searched thoroughly, and the garden was dug up in looking for the money, no evidence whatever could be found against him. He was released, but he was so frightened, fearing a lynching, that he went into convulsions and died from fright in a few minutes while the officers were still in the cabin.

Jealous Husband's Double Crime.

Frank Mehan, a resident of Susquehanna, was to the residence of his sister-in-law, Mrs. John Stallock, to see his wife, who had been living apart from him, and on whose account he was



FRANK MEHAN.

jealous. Being denied admission, he shot Mrs. Stallock in the breast, inflicting a serious wound. He then shot himself through the heart, and died instantly.

Father's Trap Gun Kills Son.

Recently Mr. Joseph Youth of Orville, O., who had been troubled by thieves, placed a rifle in the smoke-house, so arranged that should the door be opened the weapon would be discharged. His son, Harry, forgetting about the rifle, opened the door the other day, receiving the load in his stomach and died in 20 minutes.

Death Ends a Long Sleep.

Edna Bain, the twelve-year-old daughter of John P. Bain, living near Kenosha, Wis., who caused wide interest from the fact that she had been asleep since March 15, is dead. Up to the time of her death she continued her sleep and could not be aroused.

A nail-making machine produces as many nails in a given time as were formerly made by one thousand men.

A GREAT COMPOSER.

THE LATE JOHANNES BRAHMS HAD FIRST RANK.

A Short Sketch of His Life—Born a German and an Austrian by Choice—His Best Works—Honored in Two Empires.

JOHANNES BRAHMS, who is generally considered to be the greatest contemporary composer, was born at Hamburg on March 7, 1833. He was the son of a double-bass player in the city theater, and his musical education was begun at an early age. He displayed great talent for the piano, and was also carefully trained in musical theory, at first by one D. Cossel, of Hamburg, and afterward under Edward Marxsen, of Altona. He made rapid progress as a pianist, and appeared in public for the first time at the age of fourteen, playing, among other things, a set of variations of his own composition.

In 1853 Brahms started on a concert tour through Germany with the violinist Remenyi. They visited Hanover, Göttingen, and Weimer, and Brahms, by his playing, attracted the interest of Joachim and Liszt. What especially aroused the former's admiration was the feat performed by the young pianist in Göttingen, when, having to play Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata with Remenyi, he found the piano half a tone flat, and transposed his part, without the notes before him, from A to B flat. A result of his acquaintance with Joachim was an introduction to Robert Schumann, then living in Düsseldorf. There he played to the elder master his sonatas and scherzo for piano, and exhibited several books of his songs. Schumann's enthusiasm at the evidence



JOHANNES BRAHMS.

of Brahms' genius increased with every hearing, and took tangible shape in the famous article in the "Neue Zeitschrift für Musik," entitled "New Paths," in which he announced the coming of a new genius to the musical world, and predicted for him a great future.

In 1854 Brahms accepted the post of music master and choir director at the court of the Prince of Lippe-Detmold, where he devoted much time to study and composition. He kept the post only a few years, and for a time lived in his native city, and afterward in Switzerland, publishing little. He played his first concerto for pianoforte in Leipzig in 1859, but without great success. In 1862 he went to Vienna, where he has ever since made his home, and where he has attained his great fame. In the next year he became the conductor of the Vienna Singakademie, but he resigned the post in 1864. He made frequent short journeys, spending much of his time in quiet towns suitable for hard work, occasionally conducting his compositions. The performance of his "German Requiem" in 1868 at Bremen greatly enhanced his fame. Lesser compositions were frequently coming from his pen at the same time, all tending to raise the admiration of his originality and power. His life in Vienna for twenty-five years and more has been quiet and uneventful, marked only by performances of his compositions, frequently under his own direction, and by his occasional appearance as a pianist, which have been of constantly increasing rarity. In 1872 he was elected conductor of the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Vienna, the concerts of which were made notable by his production of the great choral works of Bach and Handel. He resigned this post in 1875, since which time he had devoted himself almost entirely to composition, spending his winters in Vienna and his summers in Ischl, the center of a brilliant coterie of musicians from all parts of the world.

Brahms' first symphony, that in C minor, dates from 1876, a late product of his genius, bearing the opus-number 68; the second followed the next year, the third in 1883, the fourth and last in 1886. For orchestra he has also written two overtures, two serenades and a set of variations, and two con-

certos for pianoforte and orchestra, one for violin and orchestra, and a double concerto for violin and violoncello, with orchestra. Besides the "German Requiem" there are a number of choral works of smaller dimensions, from elaborate cantatas down to unaccompanied part songs. In the field of chamber music Brahms left a large number of his most characteristic compositions: many volumes of songs, which are among his most esteemed productions, also several sets of short piano pieces, complete the list of his composition. His work represents all branches of music except the opera. He also did considerable annotation and editing of the great editions of the classics published by Breitkopf & Härtel. His published compositions extend to the opus-number 121, the "Four Serious Songs" that were published a few months ago. In 1880 the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred upon him by the University of Breslau, and for his "Academic Overture"—an audacious and amusing piece of musical comedy. He also received various orders and decorations from German ruling princes, and was a member of the Academy of Arts of Berlin.

A Monument for Key.

The state of Maryland has made an appropriation to assist in paying for a monument to the author of "The Star Spangled Banner," Francis Scott Key. The monument is to cost \$15,000, and the state will supply one-third of this. The remainder will be raised by 5-cent subscriptions from the school children of the country. The Key family, it is said, is not particularly pleased at this method of raising funds, and small blame to the Keys for their dislike of it. These popular subscriptions are amazingly like begging, and under all circumstances, save when there is an unstimulated expression of sentiment, undignified. As there is to be a monument, it ought by all means to be a worthy work of art. Before they go too far, the committee in charge of the

Key memorial should consider the experience of the people who erected a monument to Calhoun in Charleston. This monument has been taken down after twenty years, because it was inartistic and inappropriate. If the Maryland committee carries out its present intention as to the design which it has accepted—we reproduce a photograph of the design—the people of Maryland will some day regret that the committee should have been so ill-advised. The pedestal is to be thirteen feet high and the statue of Key nine feet. We need not point out the theatrical pose of the statue. All who have any feeling for art will understand at a glance what we mean when we express the opinion that the proposed work ought



PROPOSED MONUMENT.

not to be completed. It is the purpose of the committee to place it on an elevation near the main entrance to Mount Olivet cemetery, Frederick, Md.—Leslie's Weekly.

Birds in Storms.

Among the birds, swallows and rocks, instead of flying about, remain home when a storm is brewing, and robins hide in bushes or seek the shelter of chimneys. A bee is never caught in the rain and ants, wasps and spiders will be found to prepare their nests against the coming of a storm many hours in advance.

A MYSTIC WOMAN.

MADEMOISELLE DE WOLSKA A TELEPATHIC MEDIUM.

She is Visiting this Country in Company With Emma Calve—Will Build a Home for Defenseless Little Girls of the Breton Coast.



SHE intimate friend and traveling companion of Emma Calve on her present professional tour in this country is Mademoiselle de Wolska, a Polish lady of distinguished attainments and individuality, whose portrait is presented herewith. She is the daughter of Count de Wolska, the exiled Polish patriot whose anti-Semitic book on the Russian Jew was a literary sensation of Paris a few years since. It is well known that Calve is an occultist in matters pertaining to religious and spiritual life. Her friend is of the same persuasion, only more so. Mademoiselle de Wolska is not merely a theosophist: her professed beliefs may be said to begin where theosophy ends. With her, miracles are simply laws of nature misunderstood. The impossible is a matter of frequent occurrence, and mysteries seek her out. She habitually communicates with departed or distant friends by means of telepathy, or thought-transference through space, without material mediumship. In her mind, there is not the slightest doubt that the planet Mars is inhabited, and that shortly we shall not only be in communication with our celestial neighbor, but that visits in the flesh will be exchanged between the Martians and ourselves of this earth. As



MADEMOISELLE DE WOLSKA.

to mundane occupation, Mademoiselle de Wolska has interested herself in improving the condition of the children of the Breton fishermen, many of whom are driven by privation to seek their fortune—too often to find their ruin—in domestic service or as artists' models in Paris. Mademoiselle de Wolska proposes to build a home for these children in a picturesque corner of Brittany. The site was "revealed" to her in a characteristic way. She dreamed of such a place, before the project had taken shape in her mind, and before she had ever visited the Breton coast. Later, coming upon the spot by chance, she recognized it instantly as the site which had been so vividly impressed upon her memory's vision in the dream.

A Frog on the Mizzenmast.

The American ship Iroquois came in to port late this afternoon. In her cabin were the preserved bodies of two strange fish that were caught on the voyage and a frog that came aboard the vessel in mid-ocean. All these were odd creatures, and Capt. Taylor had them preserved to be presented to the Academy of Sciences. The frog was found by one of the sailors clinging to the mizzen topmast-backstay lanyard. When the tar discovered the frog the man was so astonished that he nearly lost his hold on the ratlines. He did not dare to touch the batrachian, but rapidly descended to the deck and reported his find to the captain. The mate went aloft and captured it. The ship was then in latitude 12:54 south and longitude 108:20 west. The officers of the vessel say they have no idea where the frog came from, unless it was scooped off a cloud by the mast. They say it was not on the vessel when she left port. It was just about the time the frog was captured that the strange fish was captured.—San Francisco Examiner.

The Electric Match Promised.

The electric match is the next important invention promised. Before very long the phosphorus tipped wooden splints now in use will be replaced by a handy little tool that may be carried in the pocket or hung up conveniently for striking a light when wanted. Already there is on the market a gas lighter, which affords more than a suggestion of the electric match of the future, a twist of the handle generating sufficient electricity to accomplish the purpose. Also there are several styles of cigar lighters which depend for their supply of electricity upon storage batteries.

Rubenstein's Surprise.

In his posthumous journals Rubenstein tells how he once played in Paris to an audience of 4,000 enthusiastic people, and felt that the world was looking at him. At the door of his hotel he met a friend, who said: "What! Are you in Paris? Since when? We are all kept in ignorance and never hear a word about you. Are you thinking of giving a concert here?" "I was speechless," dryly adds Rubenstein.

THE YOUNGEST FREEMASON.

Ceremony of Adoption Performed When He Was a Month Old.

Upon Master Sydney Frederick Forbes has been conferred, by the lodge of which his father was a foundation member, the title of the "youngest mason in the world," says a contributor to the St. Louis Republic. While the universal constitution of the masonic order provides that no one shall join the order until he becomes 21 years of age, Lodge Jubilee of Barberton, South Africa, working under the Dutch constitution, performed for him the ceremony of adoption when he was a month old. The lad was born Nov. 3, 1888, of English parents. His father, William Forbes, was then secretary of the Barberton stock exchange, and is at present the manager of one of the valuable mining properties at Johannesburg. The small apron used for the ceremony was made from the skin of an African kid for the occasion. It is the chief treasure of Master Sydney's collection of valuables dear to juvenility. The press of the Transvaal commented at length and enthusiastically upon the unique rite. "On Sunday last," said one of the leading journals, "was performed in Masonic hall a ceremony which, we believe, has never before been witnessed in South Africa, if at all. The ceremony in question was no less than the adoption by Lodge Jubilee, working under the Dutch constitution, of the infant son of one of its foundation members, F. W. Forbes. By the ceremony of adoption the infant is admitted as a 'Lewis' in free masonry, the oaths and obligations being taken on his behalf by the wardens of the lodge as sponsors of the lodge itself, and all its members acting in that capacity, and undertaking the masonic guardianship of the child in much the same way as sponsors at a baptism. At the age of 21 years the 'Lewis' may enter and take part in the working of the lodge without undergoing any of the usual initiatory ceremonies.

An Eagle as An Alarm Clock.

Mr. W. Le C. Beard in the April St. Nicholas tells of a tame eagle he had as a pet in Arizona. Mr. Beard says:

The half-breed in whose charge he had been left told us that he was far better than an alarm-clock for no one could sleep through the cries with which he greeted the rising sun and his notion of breakfast time; and while an alarm would ring for only half a minute, Moses was wounded up to go all day, or until he got something to eat. But his guardian treated him kindly, and Moses grew and thrived, soon putting on a handsome suit of brown and gray feathers, which he was very proud of, and spent most of his spare time in preening; and he was beginning to think seriously of trying his wings when an accident put off his flying for a long time. Having known, thus far, nothing but kindness from man, he was absolutely without fear, and, as it turned out, rather too much so.

A Lively Dead Man.

Right Hon. Sir Mountant E. Grant Duff, in his recently published "Notes from a Diary," records this incident: During the Franco-German war I took up a book which was lying on the table at the Athenaeum, upon Diebitsch's campaign in Turkey. It had been translated by some one at the time when all eyes were fixed on the lower Danube in 1853-54, and the translator had prefixed to it a short note in which he or she mentioned that the original was by a Prussian officer, the Baron von Moltke, who was now dead. Some one had written on the margin, "For a dead man he is surprisingly active, 1870."

A Memorial of the Revolution.

The recent dedication of the monumental cairn shown in the accompanying picture, on Payne's Hill, at Quincy, Mass., recalls an historic anecdote of the war of the Revolution. When the colonists were fighting the battle of Bunker Hill, Abigail Adams, wife of John Adams (who became subsequently the second President of the United



MONUMENT ON PAYNE'S HILL.

States), watched the soul-stirring scene from Payne's Hill, which is situated about ten miles from Charlestown.

What College Women are Doing.

Out of the college women recently interrogated, 169 are teachers, 47 librarians, 22 nurses, 19 journalists and 19 clerks, while the remainder are distributed around in various unclassified positions. The majority of a given number of women, asked in regard to the matter, said they received less pay than men for the same kind of work. A small number were found who get the same pay, and a very tiny fraction of the number received more money than men in similar positions.

Ice Cream for Hiccoughs.

Thomas Kaywood, of New Brunswick, N. J., hiccoughed for three weeks and was on the verge of death when some ice cream was given him. The hiccough immediately stopped and he is rapidly recovering.