

## Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

Enteric fever is calculated to have killed ten Britishers in South Africa for each one who has fallen a victim to Boer bullets.

The heaviest precious stone is the sircon, which is four and one-half times heavier than an equal amount of water; the lightest is the opal, only twice as heavy as water.

The 38th anniversary of the establishment of a territorial government for Arizona was marked by the dedication of the new capital at Phoenix. Governor Murphy presided.

Pope Leo XIII. has just reorganized his historic bodyguard. These gentlemen always accompany the pope in his walks and attend him at all public functions. Leo XIII. has increased the corps from eighty to 340 in number, and has placed them at the head of the Vatican troops.

The numerous islands of the Patagonia archipelago are covered with evergreen forests capable of supplying immense quantities of valuable timber, while the mountain ranges, being of the same geological formation as those of Chili and Peru, are probably rich in mineral resources.

A passenger train on the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railroad was recently delayed an hour by heaps of Russian thistles which had been blown upon the track by heavy winds. The thistles were caught on the wire fences along the right of way, where they collected in bunches in much the same manner in which snow drifts into railroad cuts.

The king of Italy has just acquired the island of Monte Cristo, the scene of Dumas' thrilling romance, as a hunting ground. It is about six miles in extent, and abounds in fur and feather. There are to be found the wild boar, the wild goat, the mouflon, hare and pheasant. When he was Prince of Naples the king used to often go hunting on the island, which then belonged to the Marquis de Ginori-Lesici.

Colonel James G. Milner, once assistant secretary of the confederate navy, when he died at Milford, O., on Tuesday, had in his trunk a million dollars in confederate bonds and money. Had he sold these to collectors he would not have been so poor that his wife's burial and his own need be at the charge of friends, as was the case. Colonel Milner's wife, 80 years old, died three weeks before him; a neighbor then took him to her home, where the desolate man died at the age of 82.

The board of health of the city of Galveston is arranging for a large supply of oil from the Beaumont wells to be used in fighting mosquitoes. The oil will be distributed in all the stagnant pools in the city, sprinkled on the surface of water in the gutters, and distributed free to owners of open cisterns for use in destroying mosquitoes and the fever-breeding germs which collect in the ponds. Experiments made by the board of health have demonstrated the virtue of crude oil as a sanitary measure if properly used and petroleum water as healthful and nourishing for drinking purposes.

Agents of the German government are scouring Arizona for horses for use in the army. Several days ago they closed a deal with ranchers in the northern and central parts of the territory for several hundred head, and will buy as many more. The Arizona range horse is peculiarly adapted to hard campaigning. The stock comes of excellent blood. Indeed of such quality is the Arizona horse that United States army buyers prefer him when he can be secured, to the product of any other region. The heavy demand, however, of the past three years has drawn heavily on the Arizona horse ranges, and prices have risen. Army buyers are paying from \$25 to \$55 and getting horses from three to five years old.

Pennsylvania is the latest state that is trying to encourage and regulate marriage by new methods. Representative Roth of Lehigh, introduced a bill in the state legislature lately which provides that a male citizen of Pennsylvania over forty years old, making application for a marriage license shall pay to the clerk of courts a license of \$100. This is to be turned into the state treasury for the purpose of maintaining homes for women over forty years old, who have not had a suitable opportunity or offer of marriage and have not means sufficient to keep themselves in clothes and spending money. Any bachelor over forty years old who shall go outside of the state for a wife shall pay \$100 into the state treasury. The act is irrevocable and can never be repealed without the consent of the majority of the old women who have been regularly admitted to the homes established for them.

The negro population of the United States is not diminishing, as many suppose, but is on the gain. The percentage of increase since 1890, according to the census of 1900, is 13.78, which is a greater percentage of increase than that of the previous decade. The actual figures, according to the latest census are as follows: Colored population, 8,500,000; increase, 1,029,960. That is the largest increase shown by any census since 1790, excepting that of 1880, when the gain was 1,700,784.

## CARRY OUT THREAT

Blackmailers Burn the Home of a Kansas Man.

WIFE PERISHES IN THE FLAMES

Demand Made for Money That Was Refused—Woman Escapes From Burning Building, But Returns for Valuable—Other News.

Burned and dying in intense agony was the fate of Mrs. W. C. Carson, wife of a Cowley county farmer, all because her husband refused to deposit \$5,000 in a place named by unknown blackmailers.

Word reached Topeka of the tragedy, which happened in an obscure settlement away from postoffice and telegraph stations. Three weeks ago, Carson, who is wealthy, received an anonymous note requesting him to bury \$5,000 at the foot of a telegraph pole on the roadside under penalty of having his house burned. The suggestion was ignored. One week later another anonymous note was received stating that if \$5,000 was not deposited within a week his house would be burned and he would be killed in addition.

No attention was paid to the second communication and on Saturday night, while Mr. Carson was enroute to Oxford for mail, the home was fired. Mrs. Carson was found about ten feet from the ruins by Mr. Dunn, a neighbor, horribly burned, and insensible. She was taken home by Mr. Dunn, where she rallied enough before dying Sunday to relate her knowledge of the transaction. She rushed outside when she discovered the fire, but remembered some valuable papers and a treasured old violin, and returned to save them. From that moment her mind was a blank until she awoke in the home of Mr. Dunn. When Mr. Carson returned it is said that he expressed great grief at the loss of his violin, and remarked that if his wife died he would go back to Scotland, his native land.

JESSE MORRISON GUILTY

Jury Returns Verdict of Manslaughter in Second Degree.

An Eldorado, Kan., dispatch says Jesse Morrison was found guilty of manslaughter in the second degree last Thursday for the murder of Mrs. Olin Castle. The penalty is not more than five years or less than three years in the penitentiary. One of Miss Morrison's lawyers immediately filed a notice of appeal. Jesse Morrison was taken to her cell and locked up. There her father, who had been with her, left her. The jury wrangled for nearly thirty hours over the verdict. It is stated that one juror held out obstinately for acquittal.

SET FIRE TO COURT HOUSE

County Treasurer at Minden Assaulted and Robbed.

At 10 o'clock at night, Alfred Norlin, the county treasurer of Kearney county at Minden, Neb., ran out of his office in the court house shouting a fire alarm. The hose companies soon put out the fire which had been set in the treasurer's room. It developed that Norlin was working on his books, and he says some one entered, struck him, knocking him senseless, and, after rifling his pockets and the money drawer, set fire to the building. The extent of the loss is not yet known, nor how serious are Norlin's injuries.

DROP EIGHTY FEET

Four Workmen Drop to Death at Buffalo, N. Y.

As a result of the breaking of a temporary platform, built on a scaffolding inside the bridging on the top of a monster tank in the eastern elevator at Buffalo, N. Y., six men fell a distance of eighty feet. Four were killed, one instantly and the others died within a few hours. Another is at the emergency hospital. He is not expected to live.

The men were structural iron workers and tank builders. They were engaged in building the top of a huge iron tank.

VICTIM OF PICKPOCKETS.

Minnesota Man Robbed of \$4,500 on Omaha Train.

B. Shattick, of Anoka, Minn., was robbed of \$4,500 in drafts on an Omaha passenger train recently. A gang of pickpockets has been traveling over the Omaha road from Omaha to the twin cities for two or three weeks, and it is thought the robbery was committed by one of them.

Dowdies Mobbed.

Four Dowdies who went from Chicago to Evanston to hold an open air meeting were hooted down, rotten eggs and run out of town.

Banker Gets Five Years.

Thomas G. Barker, convicted in the Hudson county court at Jersey City last week of felonious assault upon Rev. John Keller, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the New York state penitentiary.

Bank Shuts Up.

On the advice of its counsel, the Seventh National bank of New York has closed its doors. It is one of the oldest banking institutions in the city. It is claimed the step was taken to protect depositors.

## THE MINDEN ASSAULT CASE

County Treasurer Norlin Tells of the Robbery—Reward Offered.

Minden, Neb., is greatly excited over the assault on County Treasurer Norlin and the looting of the vault of \$9,000. Mr. Norlin, although still in a dazed condition, was able Friday morning to tell about the assault.

Being rushed to get out the treasurer's semi-annual report, he had gone to the courthouse after supper and was at work on the report when the assault occurred. He had gone to the hydrant to get a drink and five minutes thereafter there seemed to be a flash and he knew no more until returning consciousness revealed the fact that the papers in the room were ablaze and a robbery had been committed. He staggered to the door and gave the alarm. After the fire company had extinguished the fire, they found the money drawer broken open and the vault looted. A conservative estimate places the money loss at about \$9,000.

None of the valuable papers were destroyed, and the books were only slightly scorched.

The general supposition is that the robbers sandbagged Mr. Norlin, knocking him insensible. They then went through his pockets, robbed the vault and then fired the building to cover up the crime. Three suspicious characters were in town on the day of the robbery, but have not been seen since.

Mr. Norlin is a very popular man in Kearney county, and this is his first term as treasurer. He had previously served four years as deputy under Mr. Andrews.

At a called meeting of the county commissioners a reward of one thousand dollars was offered for the capture of the man who slugged Treasurer Norlin and robbed the treasurer's office.

HOT WEATHER AND WORRY

Combination too Much For an Ohio Man.

The dead body of Fred Fricke was found hanging in a granary on his farm near Ohio Thursday morning. Coroner Canine held an inquest and it was found that he had committed suicide. On account of the hot, dry weather he had become despondent. He had a large number of cattle and his pastures were so dry that the cattle were not doing as well as he thought they should, and he determined to relieve his troubles by taking his life, and let others worry over the care of the stock.

YALE BESTS HARVARD

Prettiest Race in Years Won by Wearers of the Blue.

In a race never excelled on the Thames, Yale's varsity crew won the great inter-university rowing event of the year, in the last half mile of the four mile course Friday by a scant two lengths. The magnificent contest was witnessed by thousands from observation trains, yachts and points of vantage along the bank. The time was Yale, 23:37; Harvard, 23:45.

FATAL FIGHT IN KENTUCKY

Enemies Meet on Roadway and One Dead as a Result.

Henry Garrett was killed near London, Ky., recently in a road fight near Sexton's creek. Henry Turner, William Turner, S., and his nephew, William Turner, Jr., were riding along the road, and met Barrett and engaged in a difficulty. Revolvers were used freely and when the smoke had cleared away Barrett was dead, with three bullets in his body and the three Turners were unhurt.

Husband and Wife Die Suddenly.

The inhabitants of Cumming county, Nebraska, are called upon to mourn the death of two of its oldest settlers. The other evening Mrs. Shaefer, wife of Jacob Shaefer left the bedside of her dying husband to summon a neighbor and upon returning dropped dead of heart disease in the doorway of her home. Within half an hour she was followed by her husband. Deceased lived in Cumming county thirty-five years and leaves a son and four daughters, all prosperously established in life.

Child Falls From Porch.

The five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hunter of Plattsmouth, Neb., sustained a painful fracture of her right arm by falling from a porch. The parents were away from home at the time, and when the mother returned she was surprised to find the child standing on a chair near a cupboard, busily engaged in rubbing camphor on the injured arm. She was afterwards taken to a physician, and the fracture reduced.

Want Mark Hanna for Orator.

Stuart, Neb., is planning for the biggest Fourth of July celebration ever held in Nebraska. As a drawing card telegraphic invitation has been extended to Senator Mark Hanna to deliver the oration. Should he accept the promoters anticipate running special trains to accommodate those who will want to hear the distinguished Ohioan.

Kills a Neighbor.

D. J. Dicky, a prominent and well-to-do citizen of Elk Rapids, Mich., shot and instantly killed Fritz Huegel, a neighbor. The quarrel was over a line fence. Dicky gave himself up to the sheriff and was locked up in jail.

Lightning Shocks Menagerie.

Lightning recently struck the animal tent of the Wallace circus, killing an elephant and stunning the entire menagerie. Many persons were severely shocked. The circus was at Eau Claire, Wis.

## The Scourge of Damascus

A Story of the East...  
By SYLVANUS COBB, JR.

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### INTRODUCTION.

Horam, King of Damascus, then at its glory as the zenith city of the east, bemoaned the coming of old age without prospective heir to the throne. In his younger days he had loved Helen, his queen, but fearing that she was disloyal to him had her cast into the black, swift flowing Phorpar. At the time the story opens Ulin, the daughter of Aboul Cassem, the king's prime minister, three times dreams that she has become the wife of the king and that a son being born to them is heir to the throne. Cassem tells the story to the king. The latter having long admired the many charms of Ulin, seeks an interview with her and on the sixth day following they are to be married. He thereupon abolishes his harem. Within the week Albia, the pretty slave maid-in-waiting to Ulin, tells the story of the tragic fate of Helen. The story makes a deep impression and preys upon the mind of the bride-to-be. But her father urges her on and she now deems it a sacred duty to become the queen. On the morning set for the wedding Ulin's mother dies. According to the laws of Damascus she must go into mourning retirement for thirty days. Horam agrees with her father that she shall pass the period of mourning in a secluded palace in the beautiful Valley of Lycanlus. This valley is the sole possession of the king and can only be reached by one passage through a mighty mountain, capable of admitting but one person at a time. Thither Ulin goes with Albia, where they are placed under the protection of the attendants by the king and Ulin's father. Six days after their entering Horam returns unexpectedly. Ulin acting on the suggestion of Albia, treats him kindly.

### CHAPTER I.

Julian the Scourge.  
She asked if her father had come. "No, my sweet lady," returned Horam. "He was busy. It may appear unseemly for me to come hither alone; but my great love and my deep solicitude for your welfare, must be my excuse. I hope you have found it pleasant here."

The maiden said she could not have asked for a more pleasant place of abode.

The king was charmed by her smiling speech—so different from what she had ever before given him—and he fondly believed that she was delighted with his presence.

Ulin, fearing that the least sign of coldness or reserve might excite the jealousy of the grey-headed monarch, and bring down upon her some terrible evil, exerted all her powers of pleasantness, and wore the smile upon her face while a pang was in her bosom. But Horam's visit was destined to be cut short. While he was, for the sixth time making excuses for his visit the door of the apartment was unceremoniously opened and a black entered—not one of those who had been on guard in the valley but a stranger to Ulin, covered with sweat and dust, as though he had been riding hard and fast.

"Ha!" cried the king, starting to his feet. "How now, Sadak? What is the meaning of this?"

"Pardon, sire. I knew not that you were thus engaged. They only told me that you were here and I stopped to inquire no further."

"Not that—not that Sadak. Why have you come from Damascus in such haste?"

"I came to inform you sire that Julian the Scourge of Damascus is approaching our city!"

"Death and devastation!" cried Horam starting back with alarm. "How know you this?"

"We heard from him by way of a merchant who was in a caravan that he had robbed."

"What caravan?"

"The caravan from Tadmoor, with the riches which were on their way from Bassora."

"Those riches were mine," said Horam.

"Aye, sire; and Julian took them— took all that belonged to you, but spared the poorer merchants. But that is not the worst. He sends word that he will lay Damascus in ashes. Aboul Cassem bade me hasten hither and give you warning."

The king was fairly beside himself with fear and rage. The name of Julian was a terror to him, and at the sound thereof he trembled exceedingly. And he seemed to fear more than the mere physical prowess of the Scourge. There was a mystic quality in his fear—a nameless dread of the avenger.

"Where is the demon now?" he asked, after he had gazed awhile in silence upon the messenger.

"He is not far from the city, sire. Somewhere to the eastward, we think. Your journey back, if you make haste, will be safe."

"I will return," cried the monarch, smiting his fists together; "and I will bring out an army and sweep this terrible Scourge from off the face of the earth!"

He bade Sadak go and make ready for the start, and then he turned to Ulin.

"You will be safe here, sweet one; and it will not be long before our happiness shall be complete."

His words of parting were few, for he was much excited, and his voice trembled as he spoke. He turned back once after he had reached the door, as though he would say something, but finally went away without giving the intended speech. From a window

Ulin watched the royal cavalcade until it had disappeared within the narrow pass, and when the last man had gone from her sight she turned to her companion.

"Albia, what is it about this terrible robber—this Scourge of Damascus? I have heard something about him. I heard my father once speak of him; but my little knowledge of the world did not lead me to be inquisitive. Do you know anything about him?"

"I have heard a great deal of him, my lady. He has been a terror to Damascus for a great many years."

"How many years, Albia? I was thinking that my father said he had not been long known in this section."

"I may be mistaken," said Albia, trying to recollect herself. "I know that he is a terrible Scourge, and that men fear him; but I do not know how many years he has been so. It may not be so many as I thought."

"But who is he? Where did he come from?"

"Ah, there is a mystery, my dear mistress. Nobody knows where he came from; but it is said that he is one whose family has suffered some great calamity at the hands of Horam. He is alone in the world, so far as relatives are concerned, and Horam hath done it; and so he comes to seek vengeance. He has a large body of bold men under him, and twice has he met and overcome the forces which the king had sent out to capture him. He does not rob as common robbers do. He never troubles the poor, or those of the middle class; but the rulers and princes of Damascus he causes to suffer."

"Did you ever see him, Albia?"

"Mercy! no. I would not see him for the world. He must be terrible to look upon. I have heard one of your father's officers say that he could strike a blow with his fist to fell an ox, and that before the lightning of his eye brave men shrank in terror. O, I should be afraid to see him."

"It seems to me that I should like to see such a man," said Ulin, in a musing tone. "I have never seen such men. The man whose arm can strike down an ox, and whose eye flashes forth such power, could not harm a helpless maiden."

"Upon my life, you have a curious taste," Albia returned.

"Because," added Ulin, with a smile, "I never had my taste cultivated. Still, in all seriousness, it does seem to me that I should love to lean upon a strong, bold man. If I were to love a man with my whole heart, I should like him to be so strong and so powerful and so brave, that his very presence would be protection to me. Is that very strange?"

"It is so strange," replied the slave, significantly, "that I fancy the king would feel new cause for jealousy if he should hear you say so."

"When I am the king's wife I shall be true to him, and I shall honor and respect him. I will love him if I can. But, Albia, there is no need of saying more. We will have our dinner, and then we will walk out into the garden."

Suddenly a messenger appears asking for assistance from the guard. With 50 stalwart guards he hurries toward the gates.

"What can it be?" cried the princess, in alarm.

But Albia could not imagine. She could only beg of her mistress to take courage, and hope for no evil.

Ere long, however, another messenger came to the palace, who made his way to the room where the princess was sitting. He trembled with excitement.

"How now, Aswad?" demanded Ulin. "What is the meaning of all this disturbance?"

"Alas, my lady, an enemy is at our gates. The terrible Scourge of Damascus demands entrance into the valley."

"What does he seek?"

"I dare not tell you."

"What seeks he?" cried the princess, authoritatively. "If there is danger, I would know what it is."

"There may not be danger for you, lady. We may beat the robber off. We will do so if we can."

"But the king told me that a handful of determined men could hold that pass against a thousand."

"But these are not ordinary men. This Julian is a very demon, and I verily believe that he hath more than human power. Still we will do the best that we can."

"You have not told me what he seeks. Answer me that question—answer it without further hesitation."

"He seeks the maiden whom the king is to take for a wife."

"Seeks me?" uttered the princess, with a start.

"Yes, my lady. Such is his avowal."

"In mercy's name, good Aswad, protect me. Let not that dreadful robber gain access to the valley!"

"Hurry, hurry!" cried Albia. "Away to your companions, and bid them strain every vein. If they suffer the Scourge of Damascus to gain passage hither they know what the wrath of the king must be."

"Powers of heaven!" cried Ulin with clasped hands and quivering frame "the demon must not find us."

"You are not so anxious to see him as you were," remarked Albia. "I thought your whim was a strange one."

"Speak not of that!" said Ulin quickly and severely. "I meant not that I would have him come to seek me. O Albia, what can he want?"

"Indeed, my mistress, I dare not

think. But let us look in another direction. If he does not find us, we care not why he comes. Ha! See! Here comes Aswad again. He looks frightened."

Aswad entered the chamber with trembling step and seemed afraid to speak; but the demand of the princess opened his lips.

"Lady, I fear that the robber will prevail against us. He is accompanied by fierce, furious men, who fight like lions, and his own sword is irresistible. His body is covered with scales of finest steel and the blows of our men fall harmless upon him."

"But the dreadful man has not yet broken through?" said Ulin eagerly.

"No, lady. Our brave men fight as well as they can."

"Has the robber entered the pass?"

"Not far."

"Then you may hold him at bay yet. O, Aswad, if you would be blessed forevermore let not the Scourge gain the valley!"

"We will do our best, lady; but you must be prepared for the worst. If we are finally overcome you must hide yourself."

"Where? Where can we hide?" asked Albia.

"In the palace or somewhere in the gardens; or upon the mountains."

"There is no hiding place which a keen eye would not detect. I have looked in every direction. So, Aswad, save as by your stout arms."

"I fear the demons will prevail," said Ulin, in a tone of breathless suspense.

"I dare not hope otherwise," returned Albia.

"If they do come, we must find some place in which to hide."

"Alas, my dear mistress, there is no such place. If we go up among the rocks, we not only run the risk of being easily found, but we run the greater risk of starving."

"I would rather starve than fall into the dread Julian's hands," said Ulin.

"It would be a terrible death to starve upon those bleak rocks!" returned Albia, with a shudder. "But I will share your fate, my mistress, let it be what it may."

"And would not death by starvation be preferable to the fate which must meet us if that monster captures us? O, Albia, I cannot think of it!"

Before the slave could reply they saw Aswad again coming toward them; but he did not enter the palace. He struck off into a path that led to the westward, and fled with all his might. Directly afterwards a score of the guards came rushing from the pass, and when they had gained the open space, they threw down their swords and sank upon their knees.

"What means that?" cried Ulin. "Are they killed?"

"No," answered Albia. "They are overcome, and have surrendered. See! there come the victors!"

"Let us flee!" exclaimed the princess, starting to her feet. "O, we must find some place of refuge!"

Albia was more thoughtful. She saw very plainly that flight would be useless.

"My dear mistress," she said, taking Ulin's hand. "We must hope for the best. If we leave the palace, we shall be overtaken at once; for the way to the mountains lies only through the park of fountains. If we flee to the garden in the rear, we shall be surely found, and it may be worse for us in the end. If this dreadful Julian has the least spark of humanity in his bosom, he will respect you more in your own chamber than he would if he found you hiding in the garden."

"Spirits of mercy defend us!" ejaculated the princess, clasping her hands upon her bosom, and sinking back in her seat. "O, Albia, Albia, the presence of the king would now be a blessing!"

The faithful slave crept close to her mistress, and tried to speak words of comfort; but her own fears were too deep and intense to permit comforting power to her words. She could not be calm in view of the coming of that dreadful man, at the sound of whose name even the monarchs trembled.

(To be continued.)

Dress in the Senate.

It is not always safe to judge a man by his clothes, but dress goes a long way in certain localities. If any one doubts our democracy let him spend a day in the gallery of the United States Senate, the least dignified "Upper House" of legislation in the world. "Befo' de wah" all members were clean shaven, wore black frocks and high stocks, beavers, peg-top trousers, and a solemn air of public importance privately expressed. They believed in their hearts that they were statesmen, and the world acknowledged them as such. Dignity was their chief quality, pride their most cherished possession. The old-timers, like Morgan, Teller, Cockrell, Berry, Proctor and Daniel, still wear their before-the-war clothes, dignity and pride, but the post-bellum regiment of politicians is uniformed in the sack suit or the cutaway.—New York Press.

The West Point of Mexico.

In Mexico experience has conclusively shown that officers and even soldiers cannot be improvised, and the very first care of General Diaz has been to establish a good school for instructing scientific officers. The military school of Chapultepec in its actual condition is the fruit of his efforts. Many foreign officers of different nationalities have visited that establishment and believe that it ranks among the first in the comprehensiveness and perfection of military instruction there imparted and in the severe but just discipline to which the cadets are subjected.—National Geographic Magazine.

Not all are asleep who have their eyes shut.