## An Awful Adventure.

In the Teeth of a Tornado-A Thrilling Experience.

We were riding toward the northeast, having been to a ranch lying toward the Vega Pass, though a number of miles this side of it. That feeling which the birds had awakened had proved very transient. My sister suddenly asked in a tone of interest, untinged by fear, if we had noticed the cloud in the southwest, and was it customary for Colorado skies to exhibit such freaks? Upon that we all turned us about, and as Nan, with a quick cry, pulled up her horse, we also stopped our ponies and gazed. Speak ing for myself, I only felt then a keen interest, without alarm, at the sight before me. Until I looked at my couisn's face I did not think of fear. A great way off it appeared to me, I was told afterward it must have been about ten miles distant when we first saw it, was accloud absolutely black. For the first time I knew what the phrase "inky blackness" meant. Neither before nor since have I ever seen a cloud of that colour. It was roughly cone-shaped, the point toward the earth. But even its shape and colour were not the most terrible things about it. The mass was "boiling." No other word applies to the incessant rapid changes in its texture, which all the time preserved its blackness, and through it there were constant flashes of lightning. But we heard no thunder then. I shall never torget the whiteness that came to Nan's face. Without knowing that I saw them, I yet remembered afterward that her fingers clutched painfully about the bridle and that she reeled slightly in her saddle. "Let me think," she said in a low voice.

I did not speak, but my sister, who did not see Nan's face, said in a common-place

men of a cloud ?"

Nan did not apparently hear her; she sat silent for perhaps half-a-minute, then she turned to us and said quickly:

home; what good if we could? There is a narrow gulch about a mile and a half from here. It's the only place I know."

She turned her horse sharply to the right and told him fiercely to go. We followed, riding as I hadnever ridden before. The horses caught fire from us and raced on in that wild way they have, which is not like the manner of horses in the East. In spite of the fear which now possessed us all, there was a certain glorious feeling in that ride. After right at the cloud, which was rushing on fancied was pursuing us, and us alone.

Suddenly there was a thunderous sound toward the west, and looking that way I saw a vast herd of cattle sweeping on, a dark | dead against her, and she pleaded guilty. surging mass, with tossing horns glancing | Many bystanders were touched at the scene white in the sunshine, for the sun was shining brilliantly at tois time. It was a stampede. I never knew wh ther they were frightened by the cloud or had been urged on by the unexplained impulse that some times comes to them to flee madly over the plains. At another time this sight would have been of stirring interest; now I did not care to watch the flight of the cattle. I was too intent on our own race against the cloud. The lightning was playing through the black vapor incessantly. Mere clouds, having the appearance of common "thunder heads," rose and dispersed themselves over the sky, and at last obscured the sun-

abnormally terrific. . Within a few rods of the opening of the gulch I heard a roar, as of oncoming wind. Nan cried out again to her horse, the animals lurched forward yet faster, and in a moment we were all entering the ravine. It was extremely uneven ground, and covered by broken sharp stones. My sister and I were watching Nan; she slipped off the saddle and hurriedly motioned to us to do the same. The instant we were dismounted the horses scrambled rapidly forward further into the gulch, and we did the same, Nan now in the rear, and driving us along That night I found my shoes cut, and a gash in my foot, but I did not feel the wound when I received lt. While we were thus hurrying to get to the deepest shelter of the | ing wheels. In a moment the long line of gully, the roar above us was awful, and was strangely through the ravine. We could not have heard a word had we spoken. We all stopped simultaneously and looked at each other. They were two very white faces that I saw, with strained frightened eyes. Nan made a movement with her head that we were not to go on; and we crouched down against the rocky sides of the earth. The next instant Emma leaned heavily upon me, and silen ly pointed up- strange engine and conjecture as to its posward toward the chasm's opening, were we had entered. The black cloud was just going past our point of vision; it had dilated to twice its former size, but still retained its cylinder shape. If it could be possible it was more dense then ever, and boiling in its blackness. Balls of fire sped back and swapped lies for about a half hour it began forth in the air; or my sight was under a hallucination to that effect. All the phenomena seemed to have their center in that cone of black cloud. The strangest, the most awful thing of all that fearful experience was what I saw now. Behind that black cloud, whether following it or driving it I know not, came a tall cloud of intensest, most dazzling white-a pillar of glory, growing every instant more like a pillar of fire, had passed from our contracted line of vision; they marched on destroying as they went. The crash of timber along a stream not far off, the cannonading of the thunder, which had now opened its forces, and above | pult. all the overwhelming roar of the wind, made us shrink and cower closer together. A fiercer blast caused us to throw ourselves fiat on the stony ground grasping at each other's hands. So ignorant was I that I believed at the time that we were in the full power of the tornade, instead of being sheltered by the walls of the gulch. Afterward I knew that we could hardly have saved our lives had we not been able to reach this

ravine. Once I felt a touch on my head, from by, when we had a chance to look. As I re- | the boundary.

call things in a dream, so I recall the incidents of the time while we remained in that refuge. Once, in a glare of the lightning, and while my eyes were open and my head raised, I saw several objects flying over the top of the guich. They were sheep, and their dead, bruised bodies were found, as if they had been flung hard against the ground, after the storm. Once something came down close by me, hitting my hand where I had dug my fingers unconsciously down into the earth. It was a small prairie dog, and it lay still in death, near me. Many prairie hens the next day were found dead, with almost all their feathers stripped off by the wind. While the terror lasted there was hardly a lull in theferocity of it. I thought we had been hours hiding there when at last the rain began to come down heavily, and a moment after the wind sensibly diminished to a hard gale. We were directly soaked thoroughly, bu: I think none of us cared for that. The hurling noise of the storm was still deafening, but we felt that the worst was over, for us at least. That demon cone of cloud was flying further on its road of destruction, but it had left

ADA GREEN'S QUEER HISTORY.

Coming All the Way from Cuba to Go to Jail in Company with her Husband

Ada Green, the young Cuban wife who traced her husband to Virginia some weeks ago, was brought before the court for burglary. Her story, as given in her testimony, is romantic.

"I was born in the West Indies eighteen years ago," she said, "and my occupation is that of a dressmaker. I lest Cuba several years ago and went to Philadelphia. While in that city I became acquainted with William Hicks and married him. He deserted me, and I returned to my home in Cuba. "Is not that rather a belligerent speci- | Some time elapsed before I could obtain any | pital. tidings of his whereabouts, but finally learned that he was in this country and in trouble. I immediately left Cuba and landed in New York. From New York I went "I hope you can ride fast. We can't get | to Philadelphia and Boston and diligently searched for him. At last I heard that he was in Richmond and in prison. I came on to Richmond, passing through Washington, where I put on male attire. When I found that my husband was in jail I set to work to know how I could get to him. I concluded to commit theft that I might be sent to jail, where I could be with him.

The wife told her story calmly, and excited much sympathy in its recital. She had no idea of the enormity of the crime she comwe had turned we could look off at our | mitted. After she got in jail she constantly talked with her husband, and was with him with terrible quickness, and which I now I several times in his cell. She talked so loudly that she was overheard by some of her fellow prisoners, and they communicated their suspicions to the officers. The evidence was The officers of the court will sign a petition requesting the Governor to commute her sentence to twelve months in jail. Even with this commutation her husband will be out of jail some months before her. During part of her varied experience she served as cabin boy on a ship.

### The Phantom Headlight.

Hank Van Buskirk is one of the bravest and best engineers that ever set foot in a locomotive's cab He is noted for ner e, and the daring speed to which he sometimes urges his fiery steed has made him a sort of The Largest Land Animal in the World. light. It was a relief to me when the sun | a hero among the boys of the C. & A. road, ceased to shine, for the scene seemed less over which he has pulled trains for many years and has been phenomenally successful in avoiding serious accidents. Hank has world of warm friends, but they are mostly railroad chums, and we all know how they delight in joking each other when they ge the age or rubber upon some luckless brother employe. When Hank first began service for the C. & A. he had no silver in his locks and no gold in his handsome pear y ivories. But for a peculiar circumstance that happened early in his career he might still be young and happy. He was pulling the "Denver Express" from Roodhouse to Bloomington a that time, they say, with Conductor Latham on deck. Suddenly the shrill-voiced whistle called a halt and the train slackened its speed as the air brakes pinched the grind passenger coaches came to a stand-still. For increasing every moment. It reverberated | tunately the train was only a few rods from a switch, and it was but the work of a minute to side-track, to allow the approaching engine to pass. The passengers hurriedly dressed and secreted their valuables, think ing that the James brothers were about to make them an early and informal call. The train men all got down with their lanterns to see what the trouble might be. They sat down on the track to await the arrival of the sible mission. Some said it was an extra wild train, but no one could understand why it should encroach upon their time, as they were not late and had not been informed o any such extra. After they had smoked and guessed about the approaching intruder and to dawn upon the boys all was not right The headlight of the approaching engine had veered to the right a degree or so and was considerably higher than it was when first seen. The truth seemed to strike them all at once—it was the silvery moon—and not a headlight. But there it stood right in their way. Hank hung his head and stole quietly into his cab. The whistle sounded dolefully as Hank gave it a feeble pull. When the audisoon appearing to control the inky shape. | switch was cleared the throttle was pulled The roaring noise was now at its height. | wide open, and no engine ever flew over the In a moment the two mysterious shapes | rattling rails as this one did. The train was less upon the track than in the air. It was the best time ever made on that road until the screeching and rumbling and hissing monster shot into Jacksonville like a cata-

For a long time the boys called Hank "Silvery Moon," "Flying Dutchman," and other similar pseudonyms.

Smith-"Does Mr. Jimson live here?" Darkey-"No, sah; he did lib heah, but he moved away de odder night " "Left in bad odor, did he?" "Yes, sah; he had de wust bref yo' ebber smelt, sah."

A paper announces that "men make big and sudden jumps in the United States." which my hat had long since gone. I found Yes, and if they happen to have about their that it was one of the horses. They had all | clothes a few hundred thousand dollars become back from their first run up the gulch | longing to some one else, their jump usually to be near us; the three stood huddled close | brings them down on the Canadian side of

#### STRANGE BUT TRUE.

Stanley, the explorer, says that on several occasions he bought his life of wild tribes for a pound of two-shilling powder.

A woman in Allentown, Pa., goes to sleep every evening at 9 o'clock, and's leeps soundly until 5 o'clock the next afternoon, and has been keeping up this practice uninterruptedly for eighteen months past. Her health is of the best.

The California papers report that a new species of bear has been discovered on Mt. Shasta which is found in no other part of the world. It is about the size of a shepherd dog, is white and very ferocious. Three have been killed lately.

The terrors of the cyclone have materially lessened to a certain Dakota farmer since he arranged a trap door and a system of pulleys so that when he hears a storm coming in the night he can pull a cord and his bed will sink int . the cellar.

According to the observation of an Havana doctor, reported in the annals of the Royal Academy of Science in that city, mosquitoes may be agents for the transier of the germs of yellow feve: and of the parasites which produce elephantiasis.

Some charcoal burners at the foot of a Nevada mountain had a narrow escape from death in a terrific snowslide recently. As the mass descended into the heated atmosphere of the valley it melted almost instantaneously and changed from an avalanche into a roaring terrent, through which the men escaped by wading and swimming.

The healing power of earthquakes is a subject of discussion in the Spanish medical press. The statement is made that in the recent shake up at Malaga most of the patients forgot their diseases and took to the open air. The change agreed with them so well that a few only returned to the hos-

needle into a deep vessel of milk, and then immediately withdrawing it in an upright position. If the milk is pure a drop of the milk will hang to the needle, but the addition of even a small portion of water will prevent the adherence of the drop.

Among the new applications of cotton is its use, in part, in the construction of houses the material employed for the purpose being the refuse, which, when ground up with an equal amount of straw and asbestos, is converted into a paste, and this is formed into large slabs or bricks, which acquire, it is said, the hardness of stone, and furnish a really valuable building material.

Under certain conditions some common articles of household decoration may be sources of danger. An insurance company is reported to have refused risks in houses in which perfectly spherical fish globes or water bottles are kept. The company claims that through the coldest portion of the Winter three fires were started in parlors where articles were in such a position as to receive the direct rays of the sun through plate glass windows. It is said there is no danger if the vessel is oval or slightly flattened. A writer in the Price Current says a fire was started on his library table by the sun shining upon his paper weight made of four glass globes fastened together so that three rest upon the table and one rests above the others.

Since the death of Jumbo various statements have been published as to the exact stature of that giant elephant. The figures range from eleven feet to eleven feet and a half, but whether the height given is that at the shoulder does not appear. If Jumbo was eleven feet six inches high at the shoulder there is reason to believe that he was the largest land animal in the world.

The size of elephants is commonly overestimated. Their stature is almost always exagg rated in those countries where they are tound wild. Even European travellers of scientific training have made notable mistakes in this respect. African elephants which Major Denham, one of the early explorers, supposed to be sixteen feet high proved to be less than ten feet when killed. In Ceylon the native elephant, which was In Ceylon the native elephant, which was formerly thought to be larger than the African animal, is rarely taller than nine feet; and Sir Emerson Tennent in his celebrated work on the natural history of that island says that in the district where the hunters agree that the largest specimens are to be found, "the tallest of ordinary herds do not

average more than eight feet. In India the same tendency to exaggeration prevails. Dr. Falconer was authority for the statement by Prof. Ansted, more than a quarter of a century ago, that "out of eleven hundred elephants from which the tallest were selected and measured with care, on one occasion in India, there was not one whose height equalled eleven feet." At the present day probably no one is better qualified to speak with reference to the size of Indian elephants than Mr. G. P. Sanderson, the officer in charge of the elpehant catching establishment maintained by the British Government at Mysore. He does not believe that there is an elephant in India ten feet high at the shoulder. He has measured a great many, and the tallest was nine feet and ten inches. "The next largest are two tuskers belonging to his Highness the Maharajah of Mysore, each nine feet eight inches, captured in Mysore some forty years ago and still alive." Mr. Sanderson, in his very entertaining work on the wild beasts of India, says that twice round an ele-phant's foot is his height, within one or two inches. Generally this measurement will give the exact stature, but when persons unfamiliar with elephants are asked to guess how many times the circumference of the foot must be multiplied to ascertain how tall the animal is, they say from ten to fifteen times.

Not only may we reasonably conclude that Jumbo was the largest land animal in the world, or, at all events, without any superior in size, but it is safe to say that a much larger walking beast could not be made out of flesh and bones. This is mechanically demonstrable. In order to support a heavier creature, the size of the legs, even with practically solid bones, would have to be so increased as to render progression impossible.

These considerations indicate that we shall never see a larger land animal than

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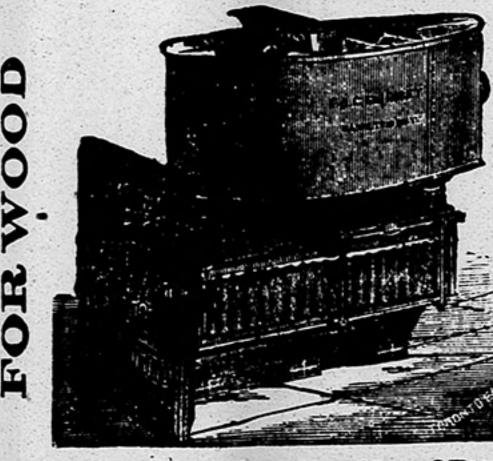
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worn out creature his once brigh a Collier's only child—they called him to see the briny tears fast flowing do

The Collier's Dying Chile

up a prayer in thought! Si e might waken one she loved far deare and all a mother's heart that wretch ser's bed, God will spare her boy and ta w her answer from the child-soft fe' ar I the angels do so smile, and beckon

moisten poor Jim's lips once more more than do not cry ! rentle, trembling haste, she held a tea fled to thank her—then he took thre father when he comes from work' I said w that he was dying ! the child she love ward the last words she'd ever wished to entiage door is opened—the Collier's s ther and the mother meet, but neither word; all was over .. he knew the child ok the candle in his hand, and stood besid nivering lip gave token of the grief he'd

the mother joins him ! the stricken o

harts bowed down by sorrow they humbl

wen, once more that they may meet their

the Author of "THE FLOWER GI LOVELY LADY LYNHURST," &c., &c.

CHAPTER VII.

he little village of Midhurst was thr the wildest state of excitement neion when the tragical fate of Cap thwaite became known.

is usual in such circumstances, t strange rumours gained currency, widow Lane drove a roaring trade, of ding the honours with the landlord Gray Parrot, during the few days p e one fixed for the Coroner's icque wild and improbable as those corj were, they all fell short of the truth It's only just what might have been ed!" Meg Smith declared, with a scr coss of her untidy head. . "I al'ays ood'd come of her gallivantin' about betters; and now my words 'ave co

Ay, poor lass; but it was hard for e man made a fule of her. I've he as how the Capt in could be awful tin' when he chose, and it's not surpri n if he turned the gal's head!" one go

Pooh!' rejoined Meg, who appeared n one of her most vindictive mod e'd been warned often enough; but too grand for poor folks like us, and ys a hankering after 'igh folks. I d -with a harsh laugh-"it did m seel a bit mad when she found the Ca meant nothin' for all his soft words; a to think that she, who was sucl k-up piece of goods, should actua ekilled the Capt'in! I declare it ma feel quite creepy when I think of it ! Stay!"interrupted a deep voice at t "It would be well, Meg Smith, sy things you cannot prove, or you n etting your self into trouble. No a right to accuse Dolly Jarvis of any

Oh it's you, Tom Larkins, is it?" qu Meg, with a little disdainful shrug of alders. "Of course we all know ld stand by Dolly, even if she had co ed murder !' dark red flush rose to the young ma

No one who deserves the name of mar man would strike another in the dark ried hotly. "Dolly Jarvis ought no condemned unheard and—and she is at this moment to defend herself or to matters "

Ay, ay !"
That's right, my boy !" Tom say's the truth !" and the little group, who eviden pathised with the young smith, gath loser around him. "Do you say she is ill?" question

Lane anxiously. "Shall I's and and see her?" "N-o, thank you!" Tom answered de confusion apparent in his manner. your pardon," he added quickly; Bu she does not wish to be disturb

Adam will admit no one." "Of course not!" Meg sniffed spitefu t wouldn't do to have any eavesdropp was a general cry of "Sha

"Oh you may pretend to be shocked like!" she said. "But, for all that D you all think you as I do, that Do one could answer this the girl had stalked off, leavin uncomfortable impression beh

had been whisperings, and mut shaking of heads and uplifting of heads and uplifting but, until Meg gave utterance words, no one had dared to speak thoughts. Now, however, the ice of it soon became an accepted fact words tolks that Dolly had really kill ched its officer. But the ched in climax when the day fixed for

the grand old dining-room at the H combled to consider the circumstances death. The viewed the body in the adjoining room