

NEARLY TICKLED TO DEATH

HOW TOWN OF TICKLEFOOT OBTAINED ITS NAME.

Operations of a Human Devil - The Reticent Stranger - Two Women Die of "Heart Disease" Within Three Years - Terrible Experience of a Third Wife.

The following curious story concerns a place which is no lake, but has an actual existence. It receives mail by way of Anderson, the county seat of the county named.

Many years ago I heard of Ticklefoot, a small post office situated in the east corner of Grimes township.

Having come to look after our business near there I visited the place, says John A. Caplen, in the Dallas Morning News.

None of the residents farmers near the post office could give me information until I met a veteran of some eighty-four years, who had in early days lived around that vicinity and he related to me the following story:

Many years ago there lived in the vicinity of Ticklefoot a man of middle age, who came there a stranger, from whence no one knew. He was very non-communicative about his early history.

Being pleasant and agreeable in manner and speech, he soon won the confidence of his neighbors. There were, at the time he settled there, several good looking widows who were in good circumstances.

The newcomer bought a small piece of land and prepared to farm. During the time he was fitting up his place he commenced to pay marked attention to one of the widows, and after a short courtship they were married.

For more than a year their married life appeared to be a happy one, as far as the neighbors could see. Shortly after this, the wife was found dead in bed. There was no sign of violence, and the neighbors and friends who came to the funeral supposed that the wife had died of heart disease.

After she was buried, her husband administered on her separate estate and acquired the property that she owned before her marriage to him. In the course of eighteen months he married again. His second wife was also a widow with considerable property.

After about sixteen months of married life, the second wife was found dead in bed without any symptoms of violence. The physician who practiced near by was called to make an examination of the corpse, and after viewing the remains, gave it as his opinion that the woman died of heart failure.

Both the friends of the man and of the dead woman after the burial of the second wife became suspicious and avoided his place. None of his neighbors called upon him for some time. Why the times for mourning had passed, and the twice widower in three years attempted to pay court to another widow his attentions were received coldly. He was shunned by the young ladies in the settlement.

Shortly after these experiences in attempting to get a third wife, he disappeared from the settlement and returned in about three months with a burly woman, who he claimed as his wife. They did not live so happily together as he and his previous wives had done, and stories were frequently circulated in the settlement that they had serious quarrels.

One night about twelve, the third wife of the man awoke her nearest neighbor, who lived about a mile distant, and when admitted to the house, her hair was disheveled and garments torn, and she had a wild, scared look on her face. After being quieted down and asked to explain her unnatural appearance and looks, she stated that her husband had of late frequently attempted to tickle her to death, and last night he almost succeeded. She further said that she believed that his two previous wives had been tickled to death. When asked to explain she told the following:

Her husband was very devoted and kind for a stranger, and she was contented with his life. He continued this nearly every night until she became so nervous that she would laugh if he would point his finger at her. That last night she went to bed before him, tired out, and was soon asleep.

About eleven she awoke and found herself tied down in bed and her husband sitting at the foot of the bed tickling the bottoms of her feet. She attempted to arise and could not, and implored him to leave her, but he continued his hellish work till she could stand it no longer. With almost superhuman effort she broke the bonds with which she was tied and rushed out of the house.

The next morning the whole settlement was aroused, and went to the house to find it deserted. The man had fled. Although search parties were sent out in every direction, he was never seen again. From this story arose the name, Ticklefoot post office.

HARD PLACE FOR MISSIONS.

Japan Also a Land of Sorrows and Toil.

That the fields of Japan are ripe for the missionary harvest that is generally thought is clear, from this letter of a Canadian missionary worker.

"The staff of Trinity, Anglican mission, Naotun, consists of the Rev. C. H. Shortt and J. R. Lyman, of Canada, with Sato Son as catechist. The only other foreign missionaries in this province (Etchigo) are two Roman Catholics and one Congregationalist, all at Niigatae. Yet there are one million eight hundred and fifty thousand people in this province. We look to Canada for more men to occupy the field.

Naotun (pronounced Nowait), the Canadian missionaries' home, has a population of about ten thousand, chiefly poor people, with the exception of the managers of the Standard oil works. The homes are principally built of wood, roofed with small shingles, covered by rows of large stones, or boulders to keep the shingles from blowing away. In a busy place, the women work as hard as the men. A sad sight was a young girl of sixteen, bending over to have a load of bricks piled on her back, as a load-carrier for a new building. The next place is Kakegachi, a small place with one Christian, the station master; Kakegachi, a place of four thousand inhabitants has two believers, a man and his wife; Rashuwaratri is a flourishing town, larger than Naotun; Nagasaki is a city of thirty thousand, where there are five Christians; Niigatae, six hours by train from Naotun, has three Christians; Arai, one Christian. Walking around a circuit of seventeen miles there realize by this what the missionaries have before them.

As a rule we think of Japan as a land of cherry blossoms and chrysanthemums, but it might well be called, also, "The Land of the Snow." It is habitable on January 20th, the snow was piled in the streets ten and twelve feet high. The people have to walk under covered passages, and in some places there are tunnels through the snow from one shop to the next. The Japanese have a habit of reading aloud; in the bank the clerks intone the figures at the top of their voices, without imagining any one could be the least disturbed by it; a school boy learns his lesson orally; the neighborhood can hear him. A curious custom among the women is to have their faces shaved. In every letter we receive, the one appeal is made for our united prayers for workers—men, women and children—gentle, adaptable women, willing to sacrifice themselves for their quiet little sisters, also, prayer for the scattered Christians that their faith may be strengthened and kept firm.

Missionaries since Monday had in their own house an evening to celebrate the Anglo-Japanese alliance, which has so delighted the Japanese people. They sang "God Save the King" first in English and then in Japanese. It was also an evening of thanksgiving for Easter eve two Japanese converts had been baptized.

TRAINING OF KAISER'S SONS.

Germany's Ruler Follows in Denying Them.

Berlin, July 21.—Emperor William has allowed prince Adalbert, his third son, to get up a separate establishment in a house built for him at Kiel. The prince is now eighteen years old and is having his first taste of independence, so far as the enclosure of his instructors permits. He begged his father to allow him four horses for his carriage, but the emperor refused.

The emperor's system of bringing up his children is to deny them as many things as possible consistent with their position, so that they may look forward to something to maintain their zest of life at least until they are grown young. Emperor William's case is finished. Emperor William's case is finished. Emperor William's case is finished.

SOOT AND CANCER.

Medical Circles Considering Increase of Disease.

London, July 21.—There is much interest in medical circles in the suggestion that soot is the principal cause of the recent alarming increase in cancer. The official figures show that the chimney sweep's calling is by far the most dangerous. Next come London inkeepers and others exposed to the influence of arsenical beer.

A Reckless Indian.

Postage La Prairie, Man., July 21.—At the Sioux encampment, several miles east of the town, on Friday, an Indian threw a lighted match into a pile of gunpowder, causing a serious explosion.

Turtle 100 Years Old.

Freehold, July 21.—James Reeves, of Lincoln, near Freehold, has a turtle which he picked up in the woods of James Crawford, the next Lincoln, and which had carved on its lower shell "J.B.C. 1800." It is supposed that the initials were carved by John Browne Crawford, who owned the turtle in that vicinity a hundred years ago. The tortoise had only two legs, and part of its tail was missing.

It was Gordon A. Corkey, instead of Cornelius Corkey, who passed in the county entrance examinations. He headed the list, with 836 marks. The boy is a son of P. Corkey, Barrfield. He is entitled to a three years' scholarship in Swedenham high school.

HOW IT ALL CAME ABOUT

BAND OF FORGERS BETRAYED BY CUPID.

Love Letters Lead to the Arrest of Man Said to be Chief of a Notorious Crowd - A Lively Story.

Chicago, July 21.—Love letters found by detective sergeants Thompson and Gallagher, of the central station, led to the arrest in Genoa, Neb., of Harry Brown, alias Afrah Giles, said to be the leader of a notorious gang of forgers, whom the police are inclined to believe they will be able to connect with the big post office robbery in Chicago last fall, when stamps were valued at more than \$75,000 were taken.

Brown was arrested by sheriff Richards upon the receipt of a telegram sent by Lieut. Rohan and is now held, awaiting the arrival of detective Gallagher, who left last night to bring the prisoner back to Chicago. In his possession when arrested Brown is said to have had two trunks containing a large quantity of stamps in original packages, and it is owing to this information that the police are now working on the theory that they may be able to connect Brown with the robbery.

Brown is wanted in Chicago on many charges of forgery and he is believed to be the leader of the band, which obtained several thousand dollars recently from the Corn Exchange National bank by means of forged cheques. Three other members of the gang were arrested last Tuesday and a short time before Brown was taken into custody. Detectives Thompson and Gallagher arrested Lizzie Tennie, alias Myrtle Brown, in Milwaukee, Wis. Tennie is said to be Brown's sweetheart, and it was through the finding of letters in her trunk which were written by Brown that the whereabouts of the latter became known to the police. Miss Tennie was brought to Chicago by the detectives and closely questioned. She admitted that Brown was in Genoa, Neb., and immediately a telegram was sent to sheriff Richards requesting that he be arrested.

He was taken into custody late in the afternoon and Lieut. Rohan was notified of the confiscation of the trunks containing the postage stamps.

MAJOR BLISS WRITES.

Giving Some Interesting Information From South Africa.

Ottawa, July 21.—A private letter from Maj. Bliss, to the deputy minister of militia, contains some very interesting information. One is an order of the field force, authorizing a treat to the Tomnies, which cost \$85,000. The order was originally issued by the commander-in-chief, Lord Kitchener, and reads:

"With reference to chief's telegram of this morning announcing peace, every man in your command will be allowed to draw at the field force canteen anything they like, to the value of eighteen pence per man of the imperial forces. When canteens cannot supply arrangements will be made as soon as possible to supply deficiencies. All G.O.C.'s and column commanders will publish at once in their orders."

The same letter contains a farewell order from Gen. Ian Hamilton to the 2nd C.M.R., under Col. Evans, which reads as follows:

"I am ordered to revert to my past as chief of staff at headquarters and, therefore, bid you and your gallant troops farewell. Please convey to them my hearty good wishes and congratulations from me for having passed a distinguished and leading part in the closing scenes of the South African war, whereby I am convinced you have contributed in a very special degree to the termination of hostilities.

In connection with this it may be noted that Gen. Hamilton commanded the column in which the first Canadian contingent fought from Bloemfontein to Pretoria, and his farewell to the regiment contained very much the same expression of feeling.

RELIGIOUS ZEAL HIS CRIME.

Tried Because He Baptized Convicted Murderers.

Pittsburg, July 21.—Rev. C. D. Patterson, pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist church, Allegheny, before the executive board of the Allegheny Baptist general association to explain why he baptized and administered communion to two negroes recently hanged for murder in the Allegheny county jail. The case is attracting wide interest, and is the subject of much discussion among the local ministers.

The ministers' union of the Baptist general association passed resolutions on Monday concerning the action of Mr. Patterson, declaring that his course was unscriptural and contrary to the usages of the church. He begged the board to be lenient with him, because what he had done was for the purpose of spreading the gospel. The committee will give a decision later.

A COSTLY CARTOON.

Caricaturist in Turkey Sentenced To Twenty Years.

KNOW VALUE OF COLONIES.

First Extra-Parliamentary Speech of Premier Balfour.

London, July 21.—At the opening of the new conservative club of Fulham, on Saturday, the premier, A. J. Balfour, made his first extra-parliamentary speech as premier. He said he believed that, with the cessation of the war in South Africa, a new era of friendly relations between Great Britain and the continental powers had set in and would continue.

The views expressed on the continent during the war regarding the British people and British troops had caused surprise and indignation. But the controversies were now ended. He hoped they would never be revived, and he believed that those who accused the country of wantonly attacking a free people would see in the future of the Transvaal what British ideas of liberty, colonial self-government and purity of administration could do to amalgamate races and make of South Africa what Great Britain had made of so many other portions of the world.

Mr. Balfour, in attributing to the present policy of Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of the colonies, credit for the unprecedented good relations with the colonies, said he was hopeful of good results from the conferences of the colonial premiers.

"If they result," continued the premier, "in anything which will lead to an increase of the empire's prosperity, of powers or defence in time of stress, it will be well. But, even if no formal arrangement is reached, then it will be well, also. We have seen what the colonies can do and are willing to do, and no man hereafter can regard the great collection of self-governing communities of the empire as merely a paper glory."

Referring to Lord Salisbury, the premier said he had left the country at peace with the world, and he (Mr. Balfour) believed they could look forward to ever-increasing good relations with continental nations, and to a prolonged period of international good-will. He trusted that the great family of civilized nations would be what it ought to be, brotherhood, with like interests and like aims.

Tea Table Talk.

Every oleomargarine factory in Wisconsin has been closed up since the color was made into law. The colors of the Emerald Isle have again advanced. Green khaki is to be the fabric for the uniforms of the United States army.

When \$70,000 is paid for a seat in the New York stock exchange, it costs something to "go way back and sit down" in that edifice.

According to the official figures for the fiscal year just ended the exports of the United States decreased nearly \$105,000,000 worth, while imports increased nearly \$50,000,000 worth.

From Rochester to Syracuse, over eighty miles, in fifty-seven minutes is what the Twentieth Century limited did on Tuesday. The breaks all speed records for long-distance runs. It means nearly eighty-five miles an hour.

Salt Lake City seems to be a good place for skilled workmen. Electrical experts make \$300 a month, bricklayers \$7 a day, masons and painters, \$3 to \$5, and few workmen get less than \$2.50 a day.

A colored temperance orator at Syracuse said that "what we need is more hen-footed Christians. You see a hen's got a claw sticking out behind on her foot so she can't go backward, and that's what some Christians need so they can't backslide."

There are consumed nearly 50,000,000 pounds of hops annually in the United States in the manufacture of beer. Now that beer has been pronounced beneficial in cases of consumption, the hop crop may be increased.

Because a breakfast was overdone in Brooklyn boarding-house the other day, the boarders asserted their right of revolution and before the police were laid prostrate. That boarding-house was a tenement, even though it was not in the Tenderloin.

Grandma. Frank Beard is the man's home. Grandma sits in her rocking chair, watching the sun go down. There's a yellow glow on her snow white hair. As she sits on the porch in the open air, that seems like a golden crown.

Watching the clouds with dreamy eyes— I wonder what grandma sees? Is she watching the pasture in the shade? The clouds and fade as the sunlight dies. Above the distant trees?

All her life she has done her best To walk in the narrow way? Which leads to the mansion of the bright. More long her heart and peaceful rest In never ending day.

And now she is old and her work is done, Her tremors and aigh almost run. Her earthly battles are fought and won And Heaven draws nigh.

What does she see in the summer sky, Watching the sun's last ray? Or bright that brighter grows as the days fly by. And ends in perfect day.

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It is reported from San Francisco that champion pugilist Jeffries is ill.

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By remembering this, delay and expense will be avoided. If sent at the old rate the Whig will have to pay double postage; delay will also occur in delivery of the copy.

Sp. J. Neal, Wilmington, Delaware, was sent Neal in the city, with his mother.

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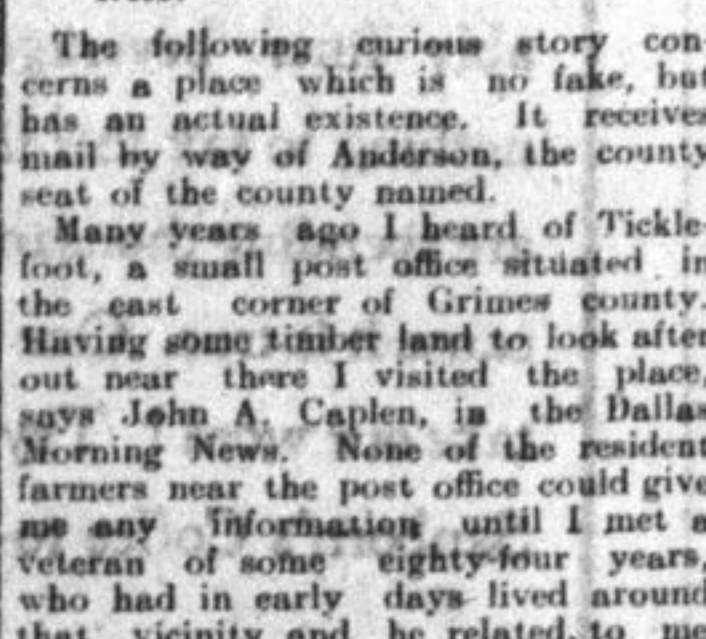
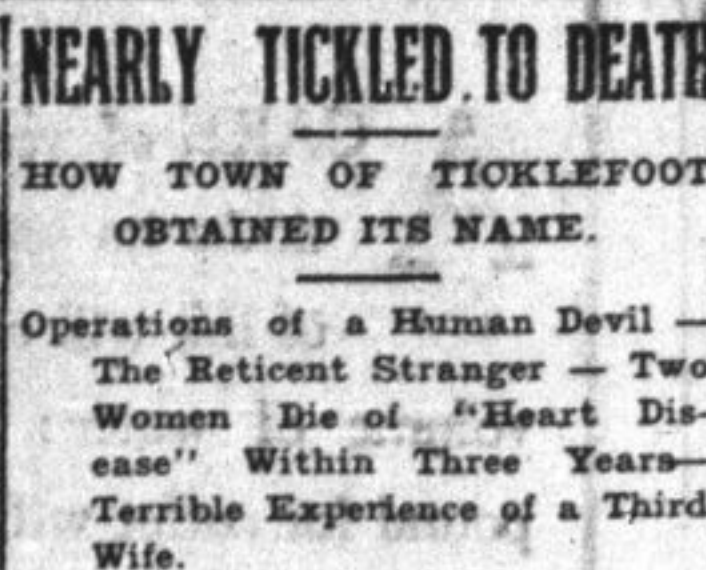
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