

DESCENT FROM NOAH

THE DUKE FREDERICK OF ANHALT, CLAIMS THIS.

Fortunes of Family Bound Up With Talisman Toad—Is Devoted to Theatre.

Duke Frederick II., of Anhalt, who is now engaged in celebrating at Dessau his silver wedding to Princess Marie of Baden, puts forward greater pretensions to antiquity than any other monarch in Europe, claiming descent in a direct line from Noah. His patronymic of Anscania is derived from the castle of Anscania, or Ascharia, near the town of Ascherleben, which figures in still existing contemporary records as a powerful stronghold in the 10th century.

The fortunes of the sovereign house of Anhalt are bound up with a talisman toad, or rather with the gift of a toad. The talisman in question instead of being a glass globe, like the luck of Eden hall, the ancient Cumberland family of Musgrave, or the Coulston Pear of the great Scotch house of Hay, or the Lee Penny of Lockharts, is an ancient ring, with an extraordinary history.

According to the latter, a princess of Anhalt had been in the habit every day of throwing out of the window after dinner the bread crumbs for the birds, noticing, however, that in addition to her usual feathered friends a particularly squat looking toad always appeared to join in the feast.

One night, when the princess was on the eve of becoming a mother, a strange woman, bearing a lighted lantern, appeared in her bedroom, intimating to her that the Lady Toad had sent her best thanks for the crumbs, also the promise that the child about to be born would be a boy, who would bring her good fortune to his house, and presented her with a ring, in token of the Lady Toad's gratitude, stipulating, however, that the ring must be kept in the doial palace, so that the family might prosper in the dynasty of Anscania never become extinct.

Finally, before disappearing the woman warned the princess that great care should be taken of all fires on every Christmas Eve, because on that night the palace might take fire and be destroyed.

The ring is still in existence. It is made of gold of a pale color, and adorned with three diamonds. The stones are very old, and not well polished, the two outer ones triangular, and the central one oblong.

The ring is preserved to this day with religious care. It is kept in a small safe, carefully hidden away in the immensely thick walls of the old palace at Dessau, and is only the reigning duke who has the key of the safe. Nor does anyone besides himself and his heir apparent know of its exact location.

Moreover, the warning of the Lady Toad, or, as she is known in Germany, of the "Frau Kröte," is so strictly heeded, that all fires in the palace are extinguished early on Christmas Eve, no matter how freezing the weather, while the grand master of the household, the officers of the guard, and a number of officials, patrol the building from cellar to garret, until daybreak on Christmas morning.

After this it is hardly necessary to add that throughout the length and breadth of the Duchy of Anhalt, toads are treated with marked consideration and kindness by the peasantry, and are perfectly safe from that cruelty which so unjustly falls to the share of these useful but homely reptiles in other countries of the old world and new.

The Duke, whose marriage to Princess Marie of Baden remains childless, devotes large sums of money and much of his time to the Court theatre at Dessau, which has become celebrated throughout Central Europe for the perfection of its operatic performances.

The Duke takes a very active part in the management of this opera, and in lieu of spending his time in drilling his troops, is usually to be found at the opera house rehearsing, experimenting with new lighting effects, discussing the designing of new scenery, and the production of new lyric dramas. The life which he leads is in fact devoted to the art of music.

LAWYER SHOOT TO WIN.

Wheezey Air Gun Proves Harmless and Client Acquitted.

Alton, Ill., July 10.—To win a case Attorney William J. Jones shot his client, H. P. Madrey, in court. Madrey was accused of firing a deadly weapon at Mary Smith. He produced a wheezey air gun which he said was the weapon involved, and, while denying that he had fired at the woman, told his attorney to take a few shots at him to show that the gun was not dangerous. Madrey smiled as the bullets bounced off his skin and the jury acquitted him.

A Big Drop

In the price of Panama hats at Campbell Bros.

The conspiracy charges against Rev. Joseph Elliott and Mr. Macklin were dismissed at Goderich. "Grape Fruit Salt," at Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store.

400 soldiers with fixed bayonets to receive Carson at Belfast.

The Great Favorite for Past 17 Years

Instantly restores gray or faded hair to any color desired, with no application. Easy to apply. No after-washing.

One Dollar Box Free. Empress Shampoo Soap means perfect health to Scalp, Lustrous and Beauty to Hair, prevents reddish tint caused by Hair Dyes.

MAHOOD'S DRUG STORE

TRAP FISHING.

Point Pelee Has an Unusual Piscatorial Industry.

Fishing, as generally understood, means sitting on a muddy creek bank on a warm summer day, with a pole, some bait in a tin can and a lunch basket. The fish themselves are mere incidents of actually landing anything larger than a sucker. To most people, in short, fishing is rather more of a recreation than a remunerative occupation.

Point Pelee fishing and trolling are practically the only methods of capturing fish with which the average angler is familiar. He may have heard of net, lake and deep-sea fishing, but they are pretty much of a mystery and too far removed from one's sphere of life to be of importance.

The method is what is known as the trap system, and the trap is a marsh, of several thousand acres extent, on Pelee Point, that long piece of land that runs into Lake Erie down at the western end, near the Essex and Kent border. Years ago the whole of Pelee Point was one huge marsh, but about twelve years ago the Government drained a part of it and left only the deeper parts for the ducks, muskrats and carp which have taken possession of it as a natural haven.

The trap is built around the idea that fish will fight a current. In the spring of the year large schools of carp roam the lake coast in search of a stream or marsh in which to lay their eggs. They find these streams by coming in contact with the current of fresh water rushing out into the lake, and by nature they turn and rush up the stream as far as they can go, which is not very far sometimes, on account of the many dams which are built on nearly every stream of any size in the whole of older Canada.

The principle just described is utilized in this huge fish trap. In constructing the trap several years ago the first operation was to run a line of poles across the natural inlet to the marsh on which to string a wire net each spring, in order that the fish enticed in could not escape. The next was to dig a ditch four feet wide from the marsh to the lake.

A water-wheel is situated in the concrete masonry which leads from the lake to the marsh, and is used to create the current of water which leads the fish to think they have come to another stream. It is operated by a steam engine in a house next to the wheel, and when it looks like a good day to pump a few thousand fish into the marsh the steam is turned on, and the wheel begins to turn. A current of water, four feet wide by three feet deep, out into the lake. In a short time the fish find it and rush up the current, under the wheel and into the marsh. Oftentimes the ditch will be full of fish, and many will flop out on the ground. When the day's work is done the water gate at the marsh end of the ditch is closed, the wheel stopped and operations are over until the morning, when the wheel is started again and a few thousand more pumped in. Carp are the principal fish caught, as they are the only breed that do well in the semi-stagnant water, so catching operations are stopped at the end of the carp run, and the owners leave their catch for a month or two, until the price of fish is high, and then they are caught again as easily and under the same principle as they were caught from the lake.—J. C. Inman in The Toronto Globe.

Lightning Drew Picture.

The ability of lightning to draw pictures was demonstrated recently at the home of Mr. J. J. Armstrong, of Toronto.

The housemaid was busy cleaning the exterior of the front lower window when a storm commenced to gather and hurried with her work to complete it before seeking shelter indoors. Presently she came into Mrs. Armstrong and stated that there was a mark of her hand on the window and that she could not clean it off. An examination showed that the on the hand had been from the finger prints on the glass, and heavy rained, both from inside and outside failed to remove it. Seen in a dim light the picture is very plain, but loses some of its brilliancy in strong sunlight.

Edvina Among the Greatest.

Since her remarkable performance of the heroine's role in "L'Armure du Tre Re," Montenegro's master piece, in Paris a few weeks ago, Paris music critics are now hailing a Canadian woman as one of the greatest of operatic singers.

Edmonton Grows.

Edmonton population is now over 72,315, according to the official census. The first count gives the total number of persons in the city who have registered as 72,315, but there are a few coming every day.

Last year the official result was given out as 67,243 and this year's census will show an approximately from 5,000 to 5,100, an increase over that of last year. The largest percentage of increase has been found on the southside of the river although this has been a decided increase on the north side.

The people who never make mis takes must lead a mighty monotonous existence. "A Face Chamois free" with each box of Talcum Powder, sold at Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store.

MAN DEVELOPS LITTLE

SKELETON OF ONE WHO LIVED 150,000 YEARS AGO SHOWS IT

Proportions Much the Same—Skull of Prehistoric Individual as Well Formed as That of the Negro of To-day

The Portland Oregonian.

A German geologist, Dr. Hans Reck, has brought back with him from Africa the skeleton of a human being which he estimates to be 150,000 years old. It must have been contemporaneous with the glacial period in Europe, Africa at that time was inhabitable and from the evidence which Dr. Hans Reck, has discovered he may possibly believe that human beings dwelt there. Mammoth teeth were found buried with the human skeleton, some of which were ten feet long.

The remains were disinterred from a deposit which had been made in an ancient lake bed. Sand and chalk gradually covered the bones after they had been finally laid at rest, and in course of time the strata solidified, forming the rock in which the excavations were made by Dr. Reck. The age of 150,000 years which he assigns to the fossil is not excessive. Scientific investigators estimate the duration of human existence upon the globe at anywhere from 100,000 to 200,000 years. Dr. Reck's figures lie between the extremes, and are therefore probable enough.

The skeleton discovered by Dr. Reck is doubly interesting because of its high development. The skull for the most part was formed as that of a modern Negro, in some respects probably better. The fact of the case is that the human race as a whole has not made any marked progress physically since the ice period. Mentally we have advanced but not in our bodily capacities. The skull has about the same shape and size now as it had then, and the same is true of the lung cavity and the limbs. As a material machine the human animal has not become more efficient or more perfect in the last hundred thousand years.

There is a theory that man's mental development, which, of course, cannot be denied, has taken place only in a restricted area. The only nations which have advanced progress very far are those which have inhabited the Mediterranean basin. Most others have become dormant at all ascending to a certain moderate level. This is true of the Hindus, the Chinese, the Japanese and generally true of the African Negroes and the Polynesian races.

BRITISH POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE AGED UNDER STRAIN

Lloyd George's Hair Quite Grey at Fifty-One—Asquith Looks Every One of His 62 Years—Redmond's Locks are White

There is no activity in which a man ages more quickly than in politics. Quite young men in the British House of Commons look prematurely old.

At times even Mr. Churchill, over whose head only 40 summers have passed, has the look of a man of 50; and the tall-tale marks of age under the eyes have registered themselves. His colleague, Mr. Lloyd George, some 11 years older, has the same look, and the alert figure of a well-served man of 50, but his hair, worn thickly at the back, is quite grey.

When the chancellor is vexed the lines on his forehead show out very strongly. Only when he smiles he looks his real age.

Mr. Asquith's hair, or what there is left of it, is quite white. He gives the impression that he has lived very long, and that he has had time to deal with an agreeable world. He is young-looking, however, compared to Mr. Birrell, two years his senior, whose deathly pallor is accentuated by the mass of white hair that always seems away. For a philosopher with an agreeable sense of humor, the Irish secretary has resisted the advance of years. One imagines his career likely to end with the dissolution of the present government.

Thirteen years older than his leader, Lord Merley has aged perceptibly these last few years. His step is slow and measured; his voice, but once rang through the house like a clarion, is low and difficult to hear; the lines on his forehead are the face of a very old man. One sees the difference in time's treatment of others when one notices the all upright, steady figure of Lord Aldwyn, better known as Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, strikingly proud-looking, and so kindly in his ways through the Lords. On him the years have fallen very gracefully. He might be only 60 from that firm air of his, and yet he is 77. With a very few flowers and buttonholes and his well-fitting clothes, Mr. Redmond encourages the belief that he is young, but regarding him in one of those off-moments, when his features assume a settled expression, one cannot help being struck by the time-worn picture he presents. His hair is now quite grey.

Lord Lansdowne makes a brave struggle to resist looking unduly old, and remembering that he is 68 one must admit he has done much better than most contemporaries. A statesman in a parliament. His carriage is remarkably upright, and he shows wonderful vitality, due to the careful way in which he has husbanded his energies. Mr. Balfour, three years younger, has remarkably improved in health and appearance since he relinquished the reins to Mr. Bonar Law. He looks ten years or so the good as compared to the day when the "Balfour English got" was the leading note in British politics. As for Mr. Bonar Law, he seems very well, and one has some difficulty in believing he is really 56. It would seem, therefore, that on the liberal side age comes more quickly than on the unionist. To be in office may be tempting, but it has its penalties.

On Saturday Afternoon.

Take the S.S. Thousand Islander for cruise among the Thousand Islands, leaving at 2:15 p.m. Home early, fare, 50c.

A Toronto coroner's jury finds the chauffeur of the Walter car guilty of manslaughter. In suit on White Rose flour.

FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE.

Mallorytown Matters.

Mallorytown, July 6.—Rev. Mr. Bradfield arrived in the village on Thursday and was the guest of H. Jordan until his household goods arrived on Saturday. Mallory Brothers loaded a car of hogs for Montreal market Monday. Rev. Mr. Bradfield preached his first sermon to Mallorytown congregation on July 5th. Huckleberries and raspberries have been offered for sale in the village.

Presentation at Plevna.

Plevna, July 7.—The paragonage was the scene of a pleasant event on Friday evening, when about forty or fifty of the members of the congregation met to say good bye to Rev. and Mrs. Hall. A valuable and useful present was presented by the president of the Ladies' Aid, and an appreciative address was read by Mr. Albert, recording steward. After a few well chosen words by the pastor and wife, the people returned to their homes.

Frankville Notes.

Frankville, July 9.—Haying is the order of the day. Clover is a good crop in some places, when about forty or fifty of the members of the congregation met to say good bye to Rev. and Mrs. Hall. A valuable and useful present was presented by the president of the Ladies' Aid, and an appreciative address was read by Mr. Albert, recording steward. After a few well chosen words by the pastor and wife, the people returned to their homes.

Centreville Reports.

Centreville, July 8.—The farmers are cutting hay which is a very poor crop, but the grain prospect is looking brighter. George McGill's raising bee last Friday was well attended. A number of people were present. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hogan spent Sunday at E. Q'Connor's. Miss Mary Fitzmurray has come to her home in Napanea for her holidays. All the promotion pupils were successful in passing their examinations. Thomas James and two boys, Kingston, were recent visitors at E. James'. Mrs. J. Dale and two children, Theda, and Joie, and John Bednarski, Toronto, are visiting at C. Ingoldby's. Miss Ella Bell is spending her holidays with Mrs. Mortimer Lockhead. Miss Matta Vannest and Robert Black, were quietly married in Centreville on June 30th.

At Washburn's Corners.

Washburn's Corners, July 8.—The hum of the mowing machine is heard late and early. Help is scarce and farmers have to keep going. Mrs. W. Flood and family of Juneau are spending a few days under the parental roof. Charles Stevens is very ill and there are few hopes of his recovery. After an absence of twenty years, Elmer Reid, Edmonton, is renewing acquaintances here. Mrs. Calcom and Miss Patrick, Glenora, were the guests of Mrs. Scotland recently. Dr. W. Stevens and sister, Miss Anna, from the Canadian west, are here calling on friends and relatives. Frederick Flood has a barn raising to-day. R. Henderson, a former resident of this locality sends this word from Atchafalaya, Sask., where he is living. He has 650 acres in crops. The crop of summer fallow and will break enough to put in 1000 acres next year. The grain is looking fine. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Chambers of Marquette, Sask., have taken the Solack cottage at Charleston lake for several weeks. Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson of Vera Cruz, Mexico, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wallace, Athens.

Chantry Tidings.

Chantry, July 8.—The weather being favorable and crops good the farmers of this vicinity have commenced haying. Mrs. Milton Sherwood and daughter, Mrs. A. Johnston, of Smith's Falls, are renewing acquaintances here. Miss Ethel Earl, Lyndhurst has been spending the last few days in Chantry. The guest of Miss Doreen Davis. George Chant is erecting a new barn which he hopes to complete for fall crops. The junior baseball team went to Phillipsville on Saturday evening. The score was twenty-seven to three in favor of the visiting team. Miss Pearl Seed entertained a few friends on Sunday evening. C. Miss Eccles (Chester) and friend paid a flying visit to Chantry on Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Davis visited relatives in Athens on Sunday. Miss Ethel Earl has recovered after a brief illness. Mr. and Mrs. A. Jenck and daughter spent Saturday in Smith's Falls. T. C. DeWalt assisted the orchestra in Elgin on Tuesday evening. Omar Knowlton spent Sunday with his aunt, Mrs. A. Knowlton. S. Seaman and family have returned home for the summer. Quite a number from here attended the ice cream social in Elgin on Tuesday. The young people are enjoying the new tennis sets, to which all have readily contributed.

HOMESTEADER'S REQUEST

Ask Relaxation of Rules Because of Poor Crops

Ottawa, July 10.—Representations have been made, it is understood, to the interior department from homesteaders in Saskatchewan, asking a relaxation of the homestead laws in view of bad crops this year. The appeals received so far come from the Maple Creek district, which is unusually dry land, and it is claimed that result of lack of rain the crops there will be very light. The request is, therefore, made that the holders of homesteads be allowed to take two months off in the fall to engage in outside threshing and other labor, and that these two months be accepted as part of the homestead duties. Reports on the whole indicate, however, that the western wheat crop will be a good one.

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Saturday Sale Of Men's Fine Worsted Tweed and Navy Serge Suits For \$10.45 The regular prices are \$18.00 and \$20.00. Sale of men's fine worsted and tweed suits, a big range of all the newest patterns cut in the latest style. Greys, browns and fawn in mixed patterns; also navy blue serge. Regular \$18.00 and \$20.00. Sale price \$10.45 Boys' Worst Tweed Suits offered Saturday \$3.95 Sale of Boys' Fine Worst and Tweed Suits, D. B. style, with bloomer pants, a big range to choose from. Regular \$7, \$8. Sale price \$3.95 MEN'S FURNISHINGS Men's Summer Underwear, best that's made. Regular 75c. Sale price Saturday 39c Boys' Shirtwaists, just the thing for hot weather, to fit boys from 6 to 14. Reg. 75c for 50c BOOTS AND SHOES Men's \$4 and \$5 shoes on sale Saturday \$2.75 Big reductions on Ladies' and Children's White Canvas Boots and Shoes.

Louis Abramson The Store Where the Styles Come From Tragedy Ends Honeymoon of Only Four Months. Dayton, O., July 10.—Peter O'Brien, forty-one, a blacksmith, was shot to death at his forge by his four-months bride. The woman came to the shop just as O'Brien was putting on his leather apron and after a few minutes' conversation pulled a revolver from the folds of her umbrella and shot five times, two bullets going astray. The woman gave herself up. She charged her husband treated her brutally. Each had been married before. "For campers" Mosquito For banishes mosquitoes at once. Sold only at Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store. All precedents have been upset by a Denver judge, who holds that divorce evidence must not be suppressed, for besides the man and woman directly concerned the people have an interest in every divorce suit and that the people must hear both sides of the story. It is reported that the sink hole on the edge of Devern Lake, on the lake shore of the C.P.R., dropped down eight feet shortly after a heavy freight train had passed over it. Pianos, picture frames, wall paper by auction, Saturday, Weems Co. "Kodak Films," at Gibson's.

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