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Klondike Fortune in Court.

Belcher Brought \$200,000 Home to Mother and Sister, Went Back for More, and Died.

In orphan's court at Scranton, at a hearing before Judge Vosburg, the story of Frank J. Belcher's Klondike fortune was for the first time told.

A native of Jermyn, Lackawanna county, returned home from the gold fields with over \$200,000 in gold-dust, and shortly afterward died of fever.

He left an estate the personality of which was inventoried at \$180,000, of which 5 per cent. is demanded by the state of Pennsylvania, because it is claimed that the amount is due under the law that deals with personal property of a decedent who dies without leaving any direct heirs.

Attorney Clarence E. Spencer, the administrator of the estate, had set up the defense that the collateral inheritance tax is due only on the legatee's life interest, and not on the whole amount of the estate.

The story of Belcher's success in the Klondike, where so many have failed and met death, reads like a romance. About three years ago he went from Jermyn to Dawson City, and after remaining there for a year and a half returned with \$200,000, leaving behind interests in valuable claims.

When he left Jermyn he was a poor young man, living there with a widowed mother and only sister. Soon after arriving home he went into one of the Scranton banks, and placing \$150,000 on the counter, told the cashier his name and left the money for deposit.

He was about to leave the bank without even a certificate of deposit, when the cashier called him back, and after a great deal of persuasion Belcher was prevailed upon to go out and get a witness to the deposit.

He did so, protesting that so much trouble was all nonsense. Three months later he returned to the Klondike, taking with him Stephen Whitmore, of Jermyn, and just three months after he reached the gold fields notice of his death was received in Scranton.

Clarence E. Spencer, cashier of the Klondike, and Merchants' Savings bank, of Carbondale, was made administrator of the estate, and Mr. Spencer went to the Klondike, settled up the estate in a most satisfactory manner to the heirs and returned with the money realized from the claims.

Mr. Whitmore also made a large fortune in the Klondike, and so far as known Belcher and Whitmore are the only two men from Lackawanna county who ever made any money in the gold fields.

"Our Immortal Selves"

Markie Welcomes the Troops, But Quarters are Refused.

Lower Luzerne county is occupied by Philadelphia's crack First regiment. In the distribution of supplies, ammunition took precedence even of rations.

For several hours after their arrival officers and men, with their train on a siding waited for some word from the representatives of the operators. Well after sunrise Frank Pardee, representing Pardee Bros. & Co., and John Markie, the leading individual operators drove down and welcomed the soldiers.

Markie, who is in Europe. After the officers' houses and the artillery animals had stepped around in the streets until afternoon, other arrangements were made by the soldiers. Disgust was openly expressed by many of the officers. One of them said:

"These coal magnates, after getting the militia here to protect them first presume to patronize us, they are unwilling to inconvenience themselves in the smallest degree to make us comfortable."

Colonel Bowman established headquarters in the armory of the local militia. Believing that he had swallowed his false teeth during sleep Tuesday morning, and being supported in his belief by the operator of an X-ray machine Frank Buettner, a well-known contractor of Cleveland, O., recently has his esophagus opened to its true length to recover the missing article.

No teeth were found, however, and the operation was a severe one. A search of the bed Mr. Buettner slept on disclosed the teeth between the mattresses. Mr. Buettner's condition is serious. The object which the X-ray expert held to be the teeth was a swelling due to laryngitis.

Traveling Salesman Held on Two Charges. L. M. Miller, the traveling salesman, who was with 15-year-old Agnes Tompkins, at the time she drank the whiskey that caused her death at Pansuawney, last week, was held for trial on the charge of statutory rape and furnishing liquor to minors.

The funeral of Agnes Tompkins took place at DuBois and was largely attended. A Monoplist. "Mamma," shouted little Willie from the nursery, "Johnnie wants half the bed."

Little Boy Shot.

Earl Hile Shot in the Side by Harry Brown Friday Afternoon in Altoona.

A serious shooting affray occurred on the hill back of Willow avenue and Third street Altoona about 5 o'clock Friday evening. Earl Hile, the 12-year-old son of Samuel Hile, of 323 Howard avenue, was the victim of the wrath of Harry Brown, a one-legged man about 20 years of age.

He was shot in the left side, but not seriously wounded, as the ball struck the last rib and glanced off. Had it been half an inch lower it would likely have caused death.

The injured boy, after he came home from school had been sent by his father with some meat for councilman J. P. Stotch, at Howard avenue and Second street. He delivered the meat and with Fred McFall, Paul Gearhart and Sheldon Daniels went back on the hill where they met George Reifsteak, who was displaying to them a lot of toys.

While they were thus engaged a shot was fired from a short distance away. Young Hile was hit in the left side by the ball. It struck his last rib and glanced passed through young McFall's coat, but did him no injury. Hile walked home and was taken to the office of Dr. J. U. Blose, where the wound was dressed.

The ball came from an old Springfield rifle in the hands of Harry Brown. It seems that a crowd of boys had been taunting him until he became angry, and getting the gun came back to the hill and seeing the lads opened fire. He says the gun was only loaded with a wad, but the hole in young Hile's shirt and the wound inflicted seem to have been made by a ball.

Brown was arrested by Patrolman Haley and locked up at the city prison. Samuel Hile, father of the boy, went before Alderman Raymond and made information against Brown, charging him with felonious shooting with intent to kill. There has been no time set for a hearing.

30 Bodies in Cold Storage.

Supposed to Have Been Stolen in Indianapolis—Found in a Louisville Warehouse.

The police of Louisville, Ky., on Wednesday afternoon, found thirty bodies in cold storage across an alley from Watson's ice cream factory, at 629 Eighth street. The bodies were being kept by pipes run underground from the ice cream factory.

The discovery was made on a telegram from the chief of police of Indianapolis, saying that in a letter from Mrs. Mary Jane Smith, of Louisville, she had told him that all the bodies recently stolen from Indianapolis cemeteries could be found in the warehouse. The Louisville police went to the place and after some difficulty forced their way into the warehouse, where the bodies were found. They were nude, and a majority were in a fair state of preservation.

The chief of police of Indianapolis was quickly notified of the discovery, and he telegraphed the authorities that he would come to Louisville, accompanied by representatives of the dead persons and photographs, and would make an effort to identify the bodies. Mrs. Smith says she knows the bodies were brought from Indianapolis.

Members of the faculties of the various medical colleges deny any knowledge of the presence of the bodies and say there is no occasion for them to steal bodies, the state turning over to them all these persons who die in the public institutions of the commonwealth. The owners and attaches of the ice cream factory refuse to talk, except to say that the bodies were not stolen and that their presence in the warehouse will be accounted for in a legal way.

Pennypacker's Latest Blunder.

Lycoming county is one of the strongest temperance sections in the state. At Montoursville the Quay candidate for governor made this remarkable reference to ex-Mayor Mansel, of Williamsport, the most popular man in the county:

"I understand that you have in this district a Prohibition candidate for congress who has been endorsed by the Democrats. Now, that seems remarkable to me. What have the Prohibitionists ever been able to do for the cause of temperance? They are too radical. They are fanatics. They open their mouths and swallow too much."

In the campaign of 1898 one prominent and consistent Independent Republican editor wrote and talked for Jenks, a noble-minded reform statesman, while those who should have joined him went fiddling after Swallow. There will be no such blunder this year. Over one hundred thousand Republicans are enlisted for the war against the machine. They mean to hit the mark this time.

The poll parrot candidate for governor reminds one of his hapless counterpart that escaped his cage and had an argument with the neighbor's dog. As he sat perched on the top of a shutter, with scarcely any feathers left, he scratched his bald head and screeched: "I know what's the matter with me; I talk too much, I do."

"I don't understand that man Pennypacker; he is a riddle to me," indignantly exclaimed a leading Philadelphia editor recently. Just so. The Quay candidate has lost a multitude of friends within the past three months. He stands hopelessly self-condemned.

The Quay machine factory has given out figures of a pretended "preliminary canvass" that even the lightning calculators laugh at. Andrews and Cooper are old hands at cooking up goose food. All hands are badly scared.

It has been a whirlwind tour with the Democratic candidates, sure enough, a hurricane of popular enthusiasm. The people mean to smash gangism in Pennsylvania politics this year for good.

Egypt's Railways.

Most of the railways in Egypt have been built and are owned by the State, and in the Railway Magazine for August, Mr. A. Vale gives some description of them. There is a story told of the old Cairo to Suez line, first opened in 1859, which shows how easily its conductors use to take matters. On one occasion the engine of the mail train was found short of water in the middle of a run.

Consequently it was uncompleted and sent to the next water tank to have the tender filled, while the train was left on the road for an hour or two! Irregularities like these and accidents frequently occurred, which brought the line into discredit, and in 1868, one year before the opening of the Suez Canal, it was—at least temporarily—abandoned. The Alexandria line is now considered the crack line of Egypt.

It is by far the most frequented line in the country as regards passenger as well as freight traffic, and the only one having double track from end to end. There are no fewer than eight trains daily each way between Cairo and Alexandria, besides some local trains between country stations. Of these eight trains four are fast ones, doing the journey in two hours and five minutes, giving an average running speed of forty miles an hour.

The railway stations are small, the one at Alexandria, a place of 350,000 inhabitants—having but two platforms, one of which is very seldom used. The railway from Ismailia to Port Said is characterized by Mr. Vale as "a disgrace." The Suez Canal company, to whom it belongs, officially call it a "steam tramway," which is a more appropriate name for it. The gauge of this toy railway—which was only built as recently as 1893—is but seventy-five centimeters (two feet five inches). The line has some thirty passenger coaches, and eight locomotives—miniature tender engines, with four-coupled wheels of four feet in diameter, and a leading pair of wheels or even bogie, and the trains cover the fifty miles from Ismailia to Port Said in about three hours, the load being sixty to seventy tons, and the road perfectly level. Engines, carriages, rails, etc., are all of French make.

Be Careful With Gasoline.

Vigorous rubbing will ignite gasoline even when there is no fire in the room, but the danger does not even end there. Gasoline is a powerful anesthetic agent and should never be used in a close room. A friend but recently related her experience with it: She used it freely about the walls and carpets with the doors and windows closed. Suddenly she grew faint and dizzy. She staggered out of the room and crawled upon the porch, but did not quite lose consciousness. A physician told her she had done so there would have been no help for her, for as yet, there is no restorative known to medical science. This is the reason its gas will kill insects and vermin.—Ex.

A Murder in Clearfield County.

Thomas Russell, of Grampian, Clearfield county, was shot dead Sunday afternoon at that place by a negro named Moses Taylor. Taylor escaped, but is being pursued by a posse of officers and citizens. The colored man was having some trouble with a small boy and was in the act of chastising him when Russell tried to restrain him. Taylor turned from the boy and pointed a revolver at Russell and fired two shots. Neither struck him, however, and Russell seized the revolver, wrenched it from the negro and walked away. He had gone but a few yards when Taylor drew another revolver from his pocket and shot Russell through the back.

The Price of Brooms.

A letter from Arcola, Ill., says there will be no cheap brooms for the next 18 months. A dealer's canvass in Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma shows that this year's broom crop acreage is 30 to 35 per cent. short of the normal. Last season's stock was used up by September 1st, and new stock will not reach the trade before October 1st. The annual consumption of broom corn is between 34,000 and 36,000 tons. This year's crop will not exceed 20,000 tons. The surplus of 1899 and 1900 helped out last year. Market is now strong at \$110 to \$125 a ton. It is thought new corn will open at \$140 to \$150.

Oil Magnate's Gift to Church.

Col. James J. Carter, a Standard Oil magnate of Titusville, has purchased a \$50,000 residence property adjoining the Titusville Baptist Church and will present it to that congregation for a parsonage. The gift is in the nature of a memorial to his wife, who was a member of the church, and who died several months ago.

Flossie was sent to the drug store to get some dyestuff and forgot the name of it. "What is it folks dye with?" she asked. "Oh, various things," replied the druggist. "Heart failure for instance." "Well," said Flossie, "I suppose that will do. Give me 3 cents' worth, please."

Making and Breaking.

"Boroughs is a genial fellow. He's always making new friends." "He has, but he breaks the old ones, unless they get into him in time." "His life is in peril." "I just seemed to have gone all to pieces," writes Alfred Bee, of Welfare, Tex., "biliousness and a lame back had made life a burden. I couldn't eat or sleep and felt almost too worn out to work when I began to use Electric Bitters, but they worked wonders. Now I sleep like a top, can eat anything, have gained in strength and enjoy hard work." They give vigorous health and new life to weak, sickly, run-down people. Try them. Only 50c at Green's Pharmacy.

Medical.

ALL STUFFED UP That's the condition of many sufferers from catarrh, especially in the morning. Great difficulty is experienced in clearing the head and throat. No wonder catarrh causes headache, impairs the taste, smell and hearing, pollutes the breath, deranges the stomach effects the appetite. To cure catarrh, treatment must be constitutional—alterative and tonic.

"I was afflicted with catarrh. I took medicines of different kinds, giving each a fair trial; but gradually grew worse until I could hardly hear, taste or smell. I then concluded to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, after taking five bottles was cured and have not had any return of the disease since." EUGENE FORRES, Lebanon, Kan.

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