

SEIZED BY A LIONESS.

A St. Louis Showman's Fearful Struggle for Life.

William Hooper, while feeding a huge lioness, is caught by the brute and has his arm mauled most horribly.

"Death from the bite of a lioness" may be the style of a verdict Coroner Frank, of St. Louis, may be called upon to render within the next few days. William Hooper, an employe of Hall's show, is hovering between life and death from blood-poisoning brought on by the bites he received from an enraged lioness. Hooper was feeding the animals at the time the affair happened. The beast, who bears a very unsavory record for treachery, caught his right arm, and succeeded in chewing his hand and wrist into a mass of broken bones and chopped meat before help came and Hooper was saved. A pitchfork wielded by one of the colored attaches of the show had to be brought into requisition and used very forcibly before the vicious lioness would give up her determination to a dinner of man.

After the incident Hooper was taken to a drug store for repairs, and the apothecary, with the assistance of a neighboring doctor, patched up the lacerated member as best they could. They failed to thoroughly cleanse the wounds, however, and a dozen hours after being bitten Hooper's arm swelled up to a frightful size from the infection of the poison in the lioness' saliva. The other afternoon Hooper was brought to the city hospital. Dr. Marks opened the swollen member in several places and let out a large amount of pus. After this operation Hooper's condition was considerably improved, but he became worse again. A second opening was made, but did not seem to better the patient's condition. In all probability Hooper's entire arm will have to be amputated in order to save his life. Even this may not be sufficient if the gangrene has got too much headway.

"It all happened last Tuesday," said Hooper, as he lay on a cot at the City hospital. "I was employed at Hall's show. My business was to feed the beasts. Hall just bought two lions in Cincinnati. One of them is a cub eighteen months old and the other is a grown female, and a bad one, too. I



HOOPER IN THE LION'S CLUTCHES.

tell you. The old lioness was the one that did it. I heard after I was bit that she has done the same thing to several other unucky fellows who got careless while near her. She bit me at one o'clock in the afternoon when I was giving her meat. I put my hand through the bars and she grabbed it. She then began to leisurely pull my arm through the bars, crunching away on my hand as she did so. I howled for help. Luckily a colored man was standing near with a pitchfork, and he came to my assistance, jabbing the old girl in the face with the tines. For a time it looked as though she was going to eat my arm off before letting go, but the stabs proved too much for her and she let go, taking, as she did so, several good chunks of my hand in her teeth. I got the hand fixed up at a drug store, but the next day it got so bad that I had to come here. It seems to be getting worse and worse now. I got only \$29 a month for working at that show. Elephant Red, the lion tamer, gets \$50 a month for the work he does. His job is a good deal more dangerous than mine. He has to go into the cages two or three times a day.

"This lioness has been the terror of the tent ever since she came, and I heard lots of people say 'I told you so' when I was bitten. I am only thankful that she didn't take my whole arm. I tell you what, when those old teeth came down on my hand and wrist, and those wicked eyes of hers glared up at me through the yellow fur, I thought my time had come. I've been bitten by dogs, but none of them had such teeth as hers. They're sharper and longer than those of any big dog I ever saw, and seem built to hold on to what they catch."

A Fox Terrier's Fast Run.

Albert Gleason, of Woburn, Mass., owns a little fox terrier of which he has always thought a good deal, but which he now values still more highly because of an exhibition of his faithfulness and pluck which the little animal recently gave. Mr. Gleason is the station agent at Woburn Highlands, and the other day he boarded the train there to go to Boston. He entered the last car, and when the train arrived at Cross street he was surprised on looking back to see that the dog was following it and was only a short distance behind. As the train moved on the dog continued to follow at a most astonishing speed, and at Winchester he was only about two hundred feet behind it. The distance between the two towns is one and three-quarters miles, and the little dog had covered it in less than four minutes.

Death of an Aged Negro.
"Aunt Eliza" is the name of the oldest woman in Kansas, is dead. She was born August 10, 1792, in Kentucky.

Why She Wept.

During the wedding ceremony at a fashionable church in Harlem, Birdie McGinnis, one of the bridesmaids, wept bitterly. After the ceremony Dudley Canesucker, who was present, said to Birdie:

"What were you crying about, Miss Birdie? You were not the bride."
"I know it," replied Birdie with a lump in her throat. "That's what broke me all up."—Texas Siftings.

Too Smart a Boy for That.

Mission Sunday School Teacher—Benjamin, I was shocked to see you picking up a half-smoked cigarette on the street as I came down this morning. You ought not to smoke the vile things. They are poisonous, filthy and dangerous to everybody around you.

Indignant Wait—I don't smoke no cigarettes; I gits fifteen cents a quart for de stamps at de factory!—Chicago Tribune.

She Heard It.

The enraptured young man drew the shapely head with its golden hair close, close to his heart.

"Do you hear it throb, darling?" he asked.

"Y-yes, Harold."
"What does it seem to say?" he whispered.

The dear girl listened a moment, and answered softly:

"It says 'tick, tick, tick, tick, tick, Harold.'"—Chicago Tribune.

The Bad Boy.

"Tommy," said the visitor, "have you read your books in your Sunday school library?"

"Some of them," he replied, rather doubtfully.

"Can you tell me what happened to the boy who went fishing on Sunday?"

"Yes. He caught three fatfish and one eel."

"How do you know that?"

"Cos I was him."—Washington Star.

A Man of Affairs.

Mrs. Lookhigh—Mr. Shortpurs is building a new house, and it's ever so much nicer than this old thing of ours.

Mr. Lookhigh—All right, my dear; we'll watch our chance and sell this.

"And build a new one?"

"No, indeed. We'll buy Mr. Shortpurs's, at about half what it cost, when he gets sold out."—N. Y. Weekly.

A Matter of Taste.

Saidso—Chumpley's gallery of ancestors is the bluest of the blue.

Herdso—One would never surmise he had blue blood in his veins.

Saidso—He hasn't; but he knows a good ancestral portrait when he sees one.—Puck.

A Good Man to Know.

Dashaway—I just heard a disgraceful thing about Corkery. He recently became engaged, and hang me if he hasn't borrowed the money to buy the ring.

Travers (eagerly)—Who did he get it from?—Judge.

Pressed to give In.

Maud—You don't mean to say that you surrendered to Jack, and let him kiss you, just because he complimented you on your waist?

Marie—I should not have surrendered, dear, but I was surrounded.—Brooklyn Life.

UNSATISFACTORY.



Boggs—See here, I don't want any duns coming to my house.

Dun—Then why don't you call and pay me?

Boggs—Do you suppose I am going to call on a grocer!—Harper's Weekly.

Better Unsaid.

Paterfamilias (to unexpected guest)—Why didn't you send us word you were coming? Pot luck, you know, my boy! Hope you have managed to make out a dinner.

Unexpected Guest (politely)—Bless you, old man! I hope I may never have a worse one.—Life.

Another Kind.

Old Mr. Tenacres—Call them cows! I never see no cows that looked like them.

Gambosh (who palated them, irritably)—Well, I don't suppose you've seen all the cows in the world.—Boston Globe.

Perplexing.

He—I do not well see how you can be a sister to me.

She—And why not, pray?

He—Because I can't remember ever having been spanked on your account, and you never told any lies for me.—Vogue.

And It Would Remain His.

"What time have you?" inquired the oily pickpocket, approaching the stout man with the heavy watch chain.

"My own," said the stout man, and without taking his watch out.—Chicago Record.

Did Him Injustice.

Old Lady—I heard you swearing just now. You have a bad heart.

Tramp—You do me injustice, mum. It isn't a bad heart; it's a bad tooth.—N. Y. Weekly.

As Hallows!

Leeds (at an auction)—I should think it would require a great deal of courage to go up in a balloon.

Mansfield—Yes, it is necessary to have considerable sand.—Truth.

DIRECTORS' DAY.

The directors of Columbia county met in High School Building, Thursday morning at half past 9 o'clock.

The meeting was called to order by president R. R. Little, Esq., who gave a few timely remarks. J. K. Bittenbender, ex secretary was called upon, and read minutes of last meeting, when the minute book was handed to the new secretary G. Y. Mourey, of Montour township. The president called upon county superintendent Johnston, who addressed the convention. He said that this was one of the most important features of the Institute, and he was glad to see such a large attendance. The schools are in better condition than ever before. More books are used, and better care taken of them. He found all approved of the free text books. The directors should give more attention to the condition of buildings and grounds. He would like to see more directors take the *School Journal*. The teachers generally throughout the county are meeting with success with the possible exception of one, but he thought the exceptional one would also prove a good selection. Teachers holding certificates averaging below 24 should not be given a school. If directors would consult with him he could aid them in the selections, as he could tell them who would be best suited for the grade to be taught. Directors in every district should have monthly meetings, at which time all teachers in the district should meet to receive their pay and report on the work done; if such meetings were held, he (county supt.) would endeavor to meet at least once with each board and confer upon the work.

The president called attention to the matter of calling roll, when objection was made to calling townships and recording names, as it consumed too much time, but rather that each write their name on a slip and hand to secretary—a vote was taken and it was decided to call the roll, the vote stood 30 to 27. The roll was called and the names recorded.

President Little announced that he was ready to proceed with the subjects for discussion. Since no one had been assigned any special topic, if there was no objections the convention would consider all subjects at once, and announced subjects as follows:

1. Care of free text books.
2. Country school houses.
3. Duty of directors to visit schools.

Dr. L. B. Kline of Catawissa, was the first to open the subject of care for text books. He said his district had adopted rules requiring that each pupil be charged with the book they received by number and name. In their district books have covers. He spoke also of the matter of interchanging books, and the danger of spread of contagious disease. He thought that books used in a family where they have any contagion should be disinfected before again brought into the school. This could be done by the use of sulphur burned in a closed room with the books lying open. Dr. Redeker of Scott, replied that he could not understand how books could be disinfected, that if germs of disease should fall between the leaves no disinfectant could reach them, and it would be better to burn the books. The subject of whether pupils should have the privilege of taking books home at night was decided in the affirmative.

The following was appointed a committee to prepare resolutions: Dr. L. B. Kline, Catawissa; J. R. Townsend, Bloomsburg; Dr. A. B. McCrea, Berwick; D. A. Shultz, Madison, and W. T. Vance, Mt. Pleasant.

W. T. Creasy, of Catawissa township, took the subject of country school houses, and said but little improvement had been made in the buildings so far as concerned the general health. Buildings should be erected with a view to heat, light and ventilation, with proper reception rooms or hat and coat rooms. Cellar heaters would

be an improvement over the common stove.

The time having been nearly consumed the president stated that there was some special business to be considered, and he would close the subjects for discussion and call upon some member of the Bloomsburg School District to present the matter to be considered at this time. J. R. Townsend arose, proceeded to the front, and in a concise and most impartial manner introduced the subject. He said that reports touching upon the character of the county superintendent had been circulated, and were first made public in the columns of the *Daily*, published at Bloomsburg, and that subsequently a petition signed by a number of the teachers of the Bloomsburg schools, had been presented to the Board, asking that by reason of the reports circulated, and no answer being made by the county superintendent, that their presence be not expected at the institute. The Bloomsburg board had forwarded a copy of the petition together with a resolution to the county superintendent, but the matter not having been settled, they now presented it to the directors of the county, and wished to be free from the responsibility, and hoped that the directors in session would dispose of it to the entire satisfaction of all.

Immediately upon Mr. Townsend taking his seat, C. C. Evans, Esq., of Berwick, arose and asked for the names and number of teachers who signed the petition and the number of teachers employed by the Bloomsburg School Board. Mr. Townsend then arose and read a lengthy reply of county superintendent Johnston that had been received by the Bloomsburg School Board. As soon as this was completed Mr. Evans again arose and after a short speech moved that the matter be dismissed, which was promptly seconded. J. C. Brown, of Bloomsburg opposed the idea of smothering it, and said that for the good of county superintendent Johnston, he hoped that the directors would not be hasty and would amend the resolution by the appointment of a committee of five to investigate the matter. Mr. Evans again spoke against the amendment, followed by Dr. Kline, of Catawissa, who after seconding the amendment, said that he considered it for the good of Mr. Johnston as well as the schools that such a committee be appointed. Mr. McCollum and Dr. Redeker of Espy, and J. W. Kurtz of Berwick, all made vigorous speeches against the appointing of a committee. Some speaking two and three times. Chairman Little said that as this body of directors had elected Mr. Johnston they likewise had a right to have this matter cleared up. He was a friend of Mr. Johnston, but he was also a friend of the schools. A vote was then taken upon the resolutions resulting in 32 to 26 in favor of the amendment. There was a call for division, but since the vote was taken by a standing vote the division was already ascertained and hence the chair decided the amendment carried. A motion was then made that the committee consist of one from each township, but as the amendment provided for a committee of five, the chair would not entertain any other motion. It was then asked whether some one who voted in the affirmative would not move for reconsideration, but no one seemed so inclined. The chair then announced that he would refer the matter to the same committee he had appointed as

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committee on resolutions. After some sharp words by reason of referring it to the same committee, the chair called for the election of officers for the next meeting which was as follows: President—F. W. Redeker, of Scott; Vice President, J. W. Evans, of Berwick; Secretary—G. Y. Mourey, of Montour.

Meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock. AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was again called to order at 2 p. m.

The committee on resolutions made the following report:

Resolved, That our County Institute should be held before the opening of the school term.

Resolved, That we disapprove of the law enacted at the last session of the Legislature allowing the children of soldiers the privilege of attending school outside of their own districts.

Resolved, That we believe that the rural districts should build school houses with reference to the health and comfort of the pupils and that the State should make a special appropriation for them, erecting new buildings upon condition that they build upon certain specified plans.

L. B. KLINE,
J. R. TOWNSEND,
A. B. MCCREA,
D. A. SHULTZ,
W. T. VANCE } Committee.

Resolutions adopted unanimously.

The question was asked when and how the investigating committee should report. The chair responded that it was entirely in the hands of the committee. Motion was made that the report be made at the next annual meeting. No one seconded the motion. After some discussion it was decided that the meeting adjourn to meet Saturday, December 16, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon in the High School Building, Bloomsburg. The investigating committee will meet at the Exchange Hotel, Saturday, November 24th, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. G. Y. Mourey, secretary was instructed to notify the secretary of each board of the adjourned meeting to be held on the 16th of December.

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