

# A BREAK AT MORGANZA.

## THE LEVEE GONE AND THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE IN DANGER.

### THE WATER INVADES THE TOWN OF BAYOU SARA.

NEW ORLEANS, April 22.—Governor Nichols received to-day a despatch from Martin Glynn, President of the Police Jury of Pointe Coupee Parish, dated Bayou Sara, saying: We have been overwhelmed by storm and rain. Crevasse numerous along the front. Upper (old) Morganza has broken. Send a boat at once to save people, or there may be great loss of life.

Governor Nichols at once made arrangements with the owners of the steamer Arthur Lambert, and barges, then at Baton Rouge, and the boat started immediately for Pointe Coupee with several barges to render assistance. Other boats will be sent up tonight.

Governor Nichols was interviewed this evening. He was much concerned for the safety of the people in the Pointe Coupee section, and stated that Captain Jackson, President of the International Transportation Company, had placed two steamers with barges at his disposal. He had accepted them, and they are now en route for Morganza. He stated that he had also telegraphed to Colonel Wheeler and Captain John A. Grant, of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, requesting them to place the steamer Wheeler in the same service.

Governor Nichols then said: "Considering the extreme emergency of the occasion and the dire calamity of the Morganza break, I have telegraphed Senator Gibson that such a great disaster was sufficient to cause us to appeal to the Government for aid. I asked him to act as promptly as possible."

A break occurred this morning in the levee near Gardere, ten miles below Baton Rouge, left bank. At last account the crevasse was 25 feet wide and seven feet deep. The crevasse on the Pointe Coupee front will submerge a large section of that parish, and back water will probably affect West Baton Rouge and Iberville.

The *Times-Democrat's* Bayou Sara special says: "After a most heroic struggle to save our city from the flood we had to surrender to the great Father of waters. The guards reported that the levee had given away at the foot of Fountain street. A general alarm was started and the people responded promptly to the call. This break was closed, but on examination it was found that the rising river was running over the levee. All that human efforts could do had been done, and at last the solemn cry went up all along the line: 'Give up, men; we are gone,' and then the confusion of the people can be better imagined than described. Every impromptu boat and raft was brought into position. Lanterns could be seen everywhere, and the efforts of men, women and children attempting to save their effects was a sight that was sickening. Not a house in town has escaped. The beautiful Fisher building, the home of Mayor Irvine, supposed to be the highest in the town, is in ruins. Nothing but chaos and destruction greets the eye at every view. To-day it is raining hard, which makes the picture more gloomy. The water is also running over a large extent of the Pointe Coupee from the Taylor levee, which has given way, and the Fanny Yoor crevasse will probably prove a serious one. The large levees, from the last accounts, are intact, but things look critical.

The *Picayune's* Natchez, Miss., special says: A protection levee in Vidalia has broken, submerging a number of houses. This morning the Lake Concordia levee gave way. At 5 p. m. the break is 150 feet wide, the water going through like a mill race. This break will flood the lower portion of Concordia parish, and cannot fail to be disastrous.

West Melville: Rainfall in past 48 hours, 64 inches. Two crevasse occurred in the Atchafalaya levees to-day—one, five miles above town, 80 feet wide; the other, at Old Churchville, 48 feet wide. The water is running over the levee at a dozen places in this vicinity.

NEW ORLEANS, April 23.—The *Times-Democrat's* Bayou Sara special says: The great heroic struggle is over, and a general surrender has been made all along the line. The Pointe Coupee front has crevassed at Preston, St. Maurice and one just above Morganza, which will, before many hours, take away this grand levee. We have had two days' heavy rain, and the situation is beyond description. The suffering in Pointe Coupee is terrible. It is reported that people are resorting to trees for safety. A relief boat should be sent at once if possible. Skiff loads of people are passing through our inundated streets seeking safety on our hills. The situation in Bayou Sara is frightful; not a house in the town is above the flood.

The *State's* Bayou Sara special says: Another break occurred last night in Pointe Coupee levee, and the indications are that the entire Pointe Coupee front will be submerged. The water now pouring through the crevasses at Morganza and in the vicinity will overflow the greater portion of the country between the Atchafalaya and Mississippi rivers, and extending from Old river, above the Bayou Lafourche, below, embracing about 700 square miles of territory.

No news yet received from the interior of Pointe Coupee Parish, but relief boats are taking care of all those who have reached the levees. As the critical condition of the levees has been known for some weeks, the hope is entertained that all have, in a measure, prepared for the worst and that no loss of life will result from the breaks along the front.

An Arkansas City special says: The Arkansas Valley route between Reedville and Varnor is submerged for the third time during the past five weeks. Trains on that road have been abandoned south of Zinc Bluff.

The northwest wind, which blew very strong again last night, drove in

# FATAL MILL FIRE.

## THE UNICORN SILK MILL AT CATA-SAUQUA DESTROYED

### FOUR DEAD AND MANY INJURED, SEVERAL MORTALLY.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., April 24.—The total destruction of the Unicorn silk mill, the loss of four lives, the probable fatal injury of several men and the injury of about a score more tell the story of the calamity which at an early hour visited the thriving borough of Cataqua, three miles north of this city. The loss of property is estimated between \$200,000 and \$300,000, on which the insurances aggregate probably \$150,000.

It was shortly before six o'clock when flames were discovered in the second floor of the dyeing department. To the alarm of fire the two steamers of the town promptly responded, but were unable to render timely service owing to the nearest fire plug being far away, and the difficulty in getting the engines down to the canal, which is but a short distance from the mill. At half-past seven o'clock the entire building was in flames, and the fire was shooting high into the air and from every window.

Projecting from the south end of the main building is the one-story annex, in which plush machinery was put up. The firemen had entered this annex and were playing a stream from it into the burning interior of the adjacent compartment. Joseph Loteliana, boss of the dyeing department, who had observed the precarious condition of the now tottering walls, entered the annex to assist the firemen of their danger. The words of warning were yet on his lips when, with a great crash, the upper part of the south wall fell upon the roof of the annex, crushing it in and burying those beneath it under an immense mass of brick and splintered timbers. This was at 7.40 o'clock, and it was upwards of an hour before the last of the unfortunates who had been caught in the fall of the debris, was removed. Two of them were dead when found, and two others died of their injuries after having been removed, the one to his home, the other to St. Luke's Hospital, at South Bethlehem.

The following is a list of the dead. Joseph Loteliana, Italian, aged 40 years. He was the first man taken out of the ruins, and was employed as boss silk dyer at the works, and leaves a family consisting of a wife and one child. About a year ago he came on from Paterson. His head was crushed and his body burned shockingly.

John Good, aged 28 years, employed as bookkeeper of New Jersey, was a member of the Phoenix Fire Company and leaves a family. He had just opened the store, and, responding to the alarm of fire, perished in the performance of his duty. A \$500 life insurance policy he had carried for several years he allowed to lapse only a few days ago.

Charles Frick, aged 25 years, leaves a wife and three children. He was a member of the Phoenix Fire Company and was the last man taken out of the ruins. He died at half-past 1 o'clock this afternoon. He was a machinist employed by the Union Foundry and Machine Company.

Ulysses Everett, of West Cataqua, an employe of the mill, aged 25 years. His skull was fractured, and he was frightfully burned all over the body. He was taken to St. Luke's Hospital, South Bethlehem, where he died an hour after his arrival.

The seriously injured are John Paff, aged 22, an oiler in the employ of the Central Railroad of New Jersey. His right leg is broken and the left side of his body so badly burned that the flesh peeled off. His face is badly scalded, and he also sustained internal injuries. He will probably die.

William Feustermacher, aged 30 years, an employe of the Cataqua Rolling Mill, badly burned and bruised, and his skull fractured. One of his legs is broken. His injuries will likely result in his death. He is in the hospital.

Michael Moran, of Water street, Hokenaqua, but about the head and face, and severely injured internally. He is 30 years of age, and was employed in the mill. He is a brother of John Moran, who was murdered at Hokenaqua on the night of March 14th.

Clifford Riegel, aged 22 years, employed as bookkeeper in the Cataqua National Bank, hit on the head with a brick, and painfully injured.

About twenty others were wounded, but their injuries are not of them are suffering great pain from burns, bruises and scalds.

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

## A KNOWING COLLIE.

### An Awfully Smart Dog Who Understands the English Language.

I saw this myself, down in Kentucky, and thereunto I give my hand and seal and can produce my witnesses in proper form. I was visiting a cousin down in the blue-grass region—Conner was his name. He has been a member of the Kentucky Legislature for years. He has a magnificent farm, a herd of fine cattle, good horses, and other possessions that belong naturally to the Kentucky gentleman of the old school. We were sitting out on the old veranda in the shade one hot August afternoon, smoking. A splendid collie lay sleeping on the step. I commented on his beauty.

"Yes," said the legislator, "that's the smartest dog in all this country. Every evening at six o'clock, punctual to the minute, he goes by himself and brings the cows from the pasture."

Then the conversation turned upon something else and we forgot all about the dog. In a little while we heard a commotion in the road before the front gate, and there was the collie with the whole herd, which he had roused from their siesta and cud-chewing in the middle of the afternoon. His tail waived like a plume, his ears were cocked, his tongue was lolling out and dripping, his eyes were blazing with pride, and a smile of radiant exultation lighted his handsome face. He said as plainly as ever a man spoke: "There ye see, it's true; I can do it just exactly as I'm bried."

But pride goes before a fall, or something of that sort, a silly old saying whatever it is. Conner looked down the front walk in amazement when he stood up and shouted, as if a six-footer of a Kentuckian can shout: "You, Ranger, take those cows straight back where ye got 'em from."

And the dog understood the English language perfectly. But what a transformation! His ears fell, he hung his head, tucked his tail between his legs, and started off down the road again. He was the most chagrined, dejected and humiliated creature ye ever saw.

## Twelve Millions Wasted.

A photographic photographer writes the *Chicago Tribune*, calling attention to the great amount of money which is absolutely thrown away every year by the photographers of America. He says: It is estimated that there is \$40,000 to \$50,000 worth of nitrate of silver and gold used by the photographers every year in our little city of Chicago alone and as much more in the great State of Illinois, and \$1,000,000 worth of nitrate of silver and gold is a very low estimate for the photographers of the United States to use every year in making their countless millions of photographs. At least \$500,000 of this hard earned money could have been saved that was wasted, thrown away, in solutions in the washing and fixing these millions of photographs. Could all of this waste for the past twenty-five years have been saved, the enormous amount would surprise every one of you, as it would reach the enormous sum of \$12,500,000—quite enough to retire every photographer of America to-day with an independent fortune, to say nothing about the annual interest of this vast sum, which certainly would have doubled the whole amount that has been wasted in the past twenty-five years.

## ROAD HORSES.

When we come to inquire how good roadsters are bred, the answer can be given with more confidence, for the source of their endurance and courage is always found either in Arabian or in thoroughbred blood. These two terms were at one time more nearly synonymous than they are now. A thoroughbred is one whose pedigree is registered in the English Stud Book, the first volume of which was published in 1808, and the English race horse is founded upon the course of the desert. Arabs were imported to England at a very early period, but not in such numbers as to effect any decided improvement in the native breed until the reign of James I. This monarch established a racing stable and installed therein some fine Arabian stallions. Charles I continued the same policy, and the royal stud which he left at Tutbury consisted chiefly of Arab bred horses. Soon after his execution it was seized by order of Parliament, but happily the change in dynasty did not interfere with the conduct of the stud. Cromwell, as is well known, had a sharp eye for a horse, and the best of the King's lot were soon "chosen" for the Lord Protector. Charles II, again, had no less a passion for horses, and almost the first order that he issued after landing in England, was one to the effect that the Tutbury nags should be returned to the royal stables. He and many private breeders besides added to the Arabian stock in England; but it was not until the first half of the eighteenth century that the three horses were imported who have exercised the greatest influence upon the race of English thoroughbreds. These were the Byerly Turk, the Darley Arabian, and, more especially, Godolphin Arabian. The last named was a dark bay horse, about 15 hands high (Arab horses seldom exceed 14 hands), with a white off-heel behind. He is said to have been stolen from his

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## A TORNADO IN ALABAMA.

### HEAVY LOSS OF PROPERTY REPORTED.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 21.—A destructive cyclone passed over a portion of Geneva county, Ala., late Saturday afternoon. No towns were in the path of the tornado, but a number of farm houses with their out-buildings were destroyed. The path of the cyclone was only a few hundred yards in width and about 7 miles long. In its course it swept everything before it.

Owing to the section visited by the storm being remote from a telegraph office the full extent of the damage and the number of lives lost has not been ascertained. It is thought, however, that the loss of life will not be great. The cyclone appeared in the form of a funnel-shaped cloud, which could be seen for many miles, and a number of farm houses were torn to fragments and scattered in all directions. Fences were blown away, cattle killed, and the loss of property will be great.

A despatch from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, says that the river rose 1 1/2 inches during the past 24 hours, and is now 2 1/2 inches above the highest water ever known there. The water is flooding a portion of Front street, and is up in the store of Garig, Reid & Hart. Very little further rise will cause disaster at some point at the levees near there.

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# owner in Paris, and his pedigree was never ascertained. It is the fashion of English writers to decry the Arabian blood, and it is true that the present thoroughbred, owing to many years of good food and severe training, is a bigger, stronger, swifter animal than the Arab; but the latest and perhaps the highest authority on this subject, William Day, makes the significant admission that all the best thoroughbreds now on the English turf trace back to one or more of the three Arab horses whose names have just been mentioned.

The chief reason why a good roadster must have thoroughbred or Arab blood in his veins is that from no other source can he derive the necessary nervous energy. This is even more important than the superior bony structure of the thoroughbred or Arabian. Exactly what nervous energy is, nobody, I presume, can tell; but it is something that, in horses at least, develops the physical system early, makes it capable of great exertion, and enables it to recover quickly from fatigue. The same, or more correctly, a similar capacity is continually remarked in mankind. Readers of Arctic travels for example, must often have been struck by the fact that it is invariably the men, and never the officers, who succumb to the labor and exposure of a sledge journey. Loosely speaking, it may be that in the educated man, especially in the man whose ancestors also have been educated, the mind has acquired a degree of control over the body which cannot otherwise be attained. So also with horses. A thoroughbred is one whose progenitors for many generations have been called upon to exert themselves to the utmost; they have run hard and long, and struggled to beat their competitors.

—H. C. Merwin, in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

## THE COLD-AIR CURE.

### Views of a Writer Who Has Unbounded Faith in It.

A good many people are afraid of cold air, especially at night, shutting themselves in close bed-rooms, where their systems are poisoned and their constitution gradually undermined by breathing the bad air. And even hot or warm air that is pure, air in a room that has ventilation as well as heat, is debilitating where breathed all night. Pulmonary complaints are inevitably and exclusively caused by foul in-door air, and cured by pure, especially by cold, pure, out-door air. The remedial influence of fresh air is so much increased by a low temperature that "colds" are, in fact, far more curable in midwinter than in midsummer. I was shot through the lungs in Mexico, and have ever since been susceptible to the contagion of a "catarrh of the throat," as a friend of mine calls the unventilated school-rooms and meeting-houses of our country towns. In warm weather I avoid such man-traps as I would the pit of a gas well, but in winter I risk their infection in the assurance that its influence can be counteracted by an extra dose of ice air.

On returning from a crowded lecture hall, a stifling sick-room, a stuffy omnibus, etc., I remove my bed to the draft side of the house, and open a window to the full extent of its mechanism, taking care to go to sleep facing the draft. I have often awakened in the morning with my head grizzled with hoar frost, but without the slightest vestige of the catarrh which had announced its approach the night before. Cold is an antiseptic and a powerful digestive stimulant. The hospitals of the future will be ice-houses. Dyspepsia, catarrh and fevers of all kinds can be frozen out of the system, not by letting the patient shiver in the snow-bank, but by giving extra allowance of warm bed-clothing with the additional luxury of breathing ice cold air, which, under such circumstances, becomes as preferable to hot miasma as cold spring water to warm ditch water. I have also found that the best brain work can be done in a cold room, and that stove heat has a tendency to stultify like a narcotic beverage. Warm wraps make fires tolerably dispensable.

## Instruction of the Blind in China.

Rev. W. H. Murry, a missionary at Peking, has devised a system for teaching the blind, and has reduced the Chinese language to 408 syllables. By this system the blind have been enabled to learn to read with marvelous facility. The blind themselves are employed in the stereotyping and printing of books, which are produced at an amazingly low rate, compared with books embossed for the blind in this country. Among the Chinese the blind are regarded with great consideration, and they are watched with interest when they read with their fingers from the books which they carry in their hands.

## Some Peculiar Crabs.

In Bermuda the soldier crab carries heavy shells up the hills to puzzle future geologists. Another species climbs the mangrove trees. A shore crab in the Cape Verde Islands may "be seen running along like a piece of paper blown by a strong wind." In Ascension Island there are crabs which "climb to the top of green mountains, and the larger ones steal the young rabbits from their holes and devour them." The famous robber crab of the Philippines, that cracks and eats coconuts, is itself routed out of its hole and feasted on by the wild swine.