

A HAIR-BREADTH ESCAPE.

The St. Louis Globe Democrat says: In the year 1841, the now flourishing city of Steubenville, Ohio, was a very small place. Its population was noted for its quiet and orderly character, and there was a single murder per annum in the place. Crime was very rare, and the Circuit Judge often had occasion to congratulate the people upon not having a single criminal case upon their calendar.

In consequence there was an intense excitement in Steubenville when an early hour in the morning of the 17th of November, the report reached the place that the corpse of a man had been found in the woods within a hundred yards of the last house of the town, and was not a single murder per annum in the place. Crime was very rare, and the Circuit Judge often had occasion to congratulate the people upon not having a single criminal case upon their calendar.

Upon arriving at the scene of the supposed murder, the Sheriff and his companions saw at a glance that a terrible crime had been committed. The dead man lay covered all over with frozen gore, and several wounds apparently inflicted with a sharp knife were found upon his body. His head was still covered with a nice felt hat.

At a distance of about ten yards from the corpse, near an old log, lay a peculiar shaped fur cap. It could not have belonged to the murdered man, for, as we have said before, his hat was on his head.

The ground was covered with snow, and there were a number of light footprints visible in it. These were the only indications of the perpetrators of the horrible deed, and until his arrival, the Sheriff and his companions went to the Ohio tavern, which was situated at no great distance from the scene of the murder.

When the Sheriff told the landlord about the murder and described to him the appearance of the corpse, the landlord exclaimed at once: "Great God! that fellow cannot be anybody else but Mr. Sammis, the Pittsburgh cattle dealer. He was here last night and took supper with another man from Pittsburgh, whose name, I believe, was Belson or Wilson, and who rode on towards Pittsburgh immediately after they had left the stable. Sammis sat in the front room with me and Jack Capon for an hour yet, when the two went out together."

Jack Capon was a dissolute, but very good natured fellow, about thirty years old who had a decided aversion to work, and a still more decided predilection for strong drink.

He could not get any whisky at Steubenville, and he often walked miles and miles in order to obtain a "wee drop" of whisky.

When he was successful he returned with his hat full of bricks to Steubenville where he had frequently been punished by the "Squire" for intoxication with fine and imprisonment. Still everybody liked him because he had an excellent, most unselfish heart, and never forgot a favor done him.

"What sort of a hat did Capon wear last night?" asked the Sheriff.

"Why, no hat, but a fur cap—made of beaver skin—with two ear covers."

"Was this the cap?" said the Sheriff, producing the fur cap which had been found near the corpse of the murdered man, and which he had thus far been holding under his arm.

Coat and shirt?

coats and shirts?" he stammered out at last.

"No, no," you say, murder was committed.

"Come, come, Jack Capon," they replied, "you can't find anybody by character and there was a single murder per annum in the place. Crime was very rare, and the Circuit Judge often had occasion to congratulate the people upon not having a single criminal case upon their calendar."

"You left it near the corpse of the murdered man."

"Was it found there? Great God! Great God!"

He buried his face in his hands and began to cry.

Then he followed the men who sought for him in the woods, and he was seen at the scene of the murder.

Upon hearing this evidence the prisoner exclaimed: "Yes, yes, that's true; I do remember it now. I made a short cut through the woods. Mike Perry's name was on it. There was another man, whose name, I believe, was Belson or Wilson, and who rode on towards Pittsburgh immediately after they had left the stable. Sammis sat in the front room with me and Jack Capon for an hour yet, when the two went out together."

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Queer Things in War.

Men might write for a thousand years on the curious plot of men who will leave the subject fresh. War is a lottery, and the prizes are shot, and shell, wounds and death.

At the next term of the Court, Wilson was sentenced to be hung, the Court saying that the enormity of the crime had been augmented by his cruelly suffering an innocent man to be punished in place of himself.

At the battle of Franklin, the first shell sent from the Union field piece to open fire killed 20 Confederates. The next five shells from this same gun failed to explode or clear the advancing lines.

A most extraordinary natural accident, and one for the discussion of physicians, appeared recently in a young man, in which a needle taken out of the foot of a lady nine years ago worked out of the thigh of her third child, a baby of one year.

At length she was able to get about with the aid of crutches, but she continued to suffer from the needle. The pain decreased gradually from the time she was able to get about, and she regained her former health.

Finally she felt the needle only at periods, when there was a change in the weather. The movement of the needle seemed to be toward, and the point was not stationary, but moved with the needle.

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Silk Waste.

It was quite by accident that Lister conceived the idea of utilizing silk waste. Going one day into a London warehouse, he came upon a pile of rubbish which strongly attracted his attention.

He found that silk waste was treated all the world over as he had seen it treated in the London warehouse—'as rubbish.' He built new machinery and imported skilled workmen, and in the end conquered the difficulties.

By the Northwestern Railway Company, they have spoken of over a hundred thousand dollars in the fight against snow, since October last.

Chicago, April 11.—Selections of the Bow Bow brand of short-horns, raised by the Farm Stock Association, Brantford, Ont., and owned by Hon. Geo. Brown, were sold at auction here yesterday.

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Brother Gardner on Good People.

"Doan be too good," said the old man, as he crossed his hands under his coat-tails.

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PHILADELPHIA, April 12.—The directors of the Texas-Pacific railway held a meeting today, lasting over two hours. The resignation of Col. Thomas A. Scott, president of the road, was accepted...

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