

# THE MOUNTAIN FEUDS OF EASTERN KENTUCKY.

## Causes of the Enmity Between the Baker and Howard Families

MANCHESTER, Ky. (Special).—The condition of things in Clay County, where the Bakers have sworn to annihilate the whole Howard and White families, bears such a close resemblance to anarchy that the best citizens have asked Governor Bradley to put the county under martial law and suppress the bloody feud at the point of the bayonet.

The feeling in Kentucky is that the fair name of the State is blackened by the spectacle of three of her large families going into the assassination business on a wholesale scale.

The Baker-Howard feud, while one of the youngest in Eastern Kentucky, is one of the most bitter ever waged. It was all about a \$40 spring wagon that had not been paid for that the feud started. "Tom" Baker had gone into partnership with Israel and Carter Howard to raft logs on shares. Reese Murray held a judgment for the spring wagon against James B. and "Bal" Howard. Murray offered the judgment at a low price to Baker, and Baker bought it. This enraged the Howards, and quarrels followed when Baker tried to collect the money.

Israel Howard and "Tom" Baker met one day at a log pit. Hot words followed and Baker drew a revolver and jumped behind a fence post. Howard drew his revolver and took the other side of the post. They fired around the post at each other until their pistols were empty. Israel's fifth shot was fired over the top of the post and the bullet hit Baker in the back of the neck, producing a flesh wound. Baker fell on the opposite side of the fence and Israel fired his last shot at him through the fence, producing a slight flesh wound in the abdomen.

Some time after from an ambush



MRS. TOM BAKER. (She is training her sons to avenge their father's murder.)

"Bal" Howard, who was riding a spirited young stallion and carrying a Winchester, was struck in the back at the first fire, but managed to hold on to his fleeing horse. The next volley struck Burch Store and knocked him off his horse. The bullet broke his neck and he was dead when he touched the ground. Wilson Howard fell off his horse, shot through the hips. "Bal" Howard escaped to Wilson Howard's house. Two of the attacking party then went back to where the men lay on the road, and shot them both with explosive bullets, which tore their bodies to pieces. Wilson Howard lived long enough to tell that it was "Tom" Baker and Charles Wooton who fired the explosive bullets.

When James B. Howard heard that his brother was killed and that his father was shot badly, he armed himself and rode at a gallop to the scene. At the store of A. L. Howard he

Howard leveled his weapon and fired a bullet into the old man's abdomen, producing almost instant death. Realizing that it would now be war to the knife, James mounted his horse and rode away to the home of relatives in Harlan County. There was a reward of \$250 offered for Howard's arrest, and he surrendered to a kinsman so that the man might get the reward, and came with him to Manchester, where he was turned over to the proper officers. He was released on bail.

Sheriff B. P. White, Jr., summoned one hundred deputies to arrest the



THE RENDEZVOUS OF THE BAKERS IN THE KENTUCKY MOUNTAINS.

Bakers, and they were brought in for examining trials before County Judge J. W. Wright. The trials lasted three days. The Howards swore to seeing the Bakers do the shooting, but the Bakers proved by their witnesses that they were five miles away at the time of the shooting, and Judge Wright dismissed the Bakers from custody.

On the day after the trial, "Sid" Baker, a son-in-law of "Bal" Howard, but no kin to George Baker's sons, overtook Charles Wooton, who was said to have shot Burch Store. They rode side by side for a quarter of a mile, trying to get the "drop" on each other. Finally they both drew their revolvers almost at the same time. "Sid" shot from behind his back as he drew the weapon from the scabbard. Both men rolled off their horses, and as they lay in the road emptied their pistols at each other. "Sid" Baker rode off unhurt, while Wooton, wounded in the back dragged himself into the brush, where he was found by one of the Bakers and taken home, where he died.

William L. White, a brother to the former Sheriff, was soon afterward met by "Tom" Baker, who shot him in the abdomen and killed him.

For this murder, and on the charge of killing Wilson Howard and Burch Store, "Tom" Baker was arrested, an indictment, which included several of his brothers, having been found. Upon motion the trials were transferred to the Knox County Court at Barbourville. The town of Manchester, the headquarters of the feud, was in a condition of such lawlessness that the Governor sent several companies of State militia from Lexington to the scene.

They were charged with the duty of taking the Baker prisoners to the Court House at Barbourville, and also of protecting them from the murderous intentions of the Howards and the Whites. They garrisoned the Baker house. On all sides lurked Howards and Whites, many of them dead shots, waiting for a chance to "plug" a Baker or two.



A. B. HOWARD, LEADER OF THE HOWARD FACTION, AND HIS WOMEN FOLKS.

found a crowd, some of whom had come after the grave clothes of Wilson Howard and Burch Store. James assisted in selecting them, and was on the point of leaving when George W. Baker rode up.

Without stopping to consider that this was the one man in Clay County who never carried a pistol, young

Sheriff White sent his family away and filled his house with his friends. The house looked upon the guard tent where "Tom" Baker was a prisoner. On June 10, while the feeling was at its height and preparations were on the way for the march to Barbourville, "Tom" Baker came out of his prison tent and began talking to his son, Jim,

giving him instructions on how to run the farm while he was in jail. Mrs. "Tom" Baker ran up to advise



TWO OF THE BAKERS, YOUNG, BUT DEAD SHOTS.

(These are sons of "Tom" Baker, who was shot and killed from Sheriff White's house while he was under arrest by the troops, charged with two murders. Their mother has dedicated them to the life work of wiping out the Howards.)

her husband not to allow himself to be a target for the Howards. While she was talking to him a shot rang out from the White residence, and Tom Baker dropped dead before his wife's eyes. The woman hysterically called upon Colonel Williams, who was in charge of the troops, to turn his Gat-

ling gun on the White house and destroy it.

The assembly was sounded and the troops surrounded the White residence. They moved upon it with fixed bayonets, going at double quick, and climbing over the yard fence. Sheriff White came out with thirty armed men to dispute the right of way. Williams gave the order to charge upon the house, and the Howards and Whites fled inside, loudly announcing that they would kill the first man who crossed the threshold. The Gatling gun was then brought up and trained



SHERIFF "BEN" P. WHITE. (He is the leader now of the Howard-White forces. It was from his house that "Tom" Baker was killed, and he was suspected of the murder.)

on the residence, and all those inside surrendered. Sheriff White was arrested for resisting the guards.

The Howard-White faction then tried to mobilize at the house of Daugh White, the circuit clerk, but Colonel Williams occupied it to prevent their using it as a citadel. Meanwhile members of the Baker clan were assembling from all sides and swearing vengeance. The dead man's sons swore that they would kill Sheriff White, who they believed had slain their father.

Who really fired the shot that killed "Tom" Baker no one knows. The Whites were very angry at Colonel Williams and the troops. They sent out and brought in numbers of their sharpshooter friends. They announced that they would wipe out the soldiers and slaughter the Bakers. But the troops marched to Barbourville with their four prisoners—Wiley, Al, Dee and Jim Baker.

Strangely Cured of Stuttering. The curious freaks the Mauser bullet has performed in its courtings through the systems of fighting Americans in the late wars have resulted in some queer tales. The latest is the experience of Private H. E. Redmond, Company C, First Colorado Volunteer Infantry, who, when he enlisted, stuttered so badly that the recruiting officer came near leaving him off the rolls. Private Redmond was wounded in the battle of Mariquina, in the Philippines, on March 31. Now his wound is healed and he stutters no more.

A Mauser bullet struck him in the face, passed diagonally downward through his mouth and made its exit near the back of the neck. It was considered a frightful wound by the surgeons, but Redmond proceeded to recover even faster than patients with less painful injuries. Now all that can be seen of the wound is a small, livid spot to the left of the nose and above the upper lip. Redmond chews hard tack with the greatest zest and tells stories he has not been able to finish in years on account of his halting speech. He insists that the Mauser bullet carried away his vocal impediment

The Famous Paris Healer. A special cable despatch to the New York Herald from Paris says that the authorities have decided to prosecute Dr. Edwards, who claims that he is in some mysterious way the representative of St. Paul, and has been practicing so-called miraculous cures, for



DR. EDWARDS, "MIRACULOUS CURE" WORKER.

which Cleo de Merode, Emma Calve and Lole Fuller vouch among others, while many persons say the man is their savior and they will follow him if he be driven away. Dr. Edwards lives in magnificent apartments in the French capital and his rooms are thronged day and night by devotees who come to be healed of their ailments, real or imaginary. Conspicuous in the front room is a basket overflowing with gold coin to which the patients are required to contribute before they are ushered into the healer's presence.

Hardest Kind of Animal Training.

The hardest thing to train a wild beast to do is to perform with a weak, defenseless animal. In one of the big circuses some years ago an effort was made to persuade a very docile old lion to lie down with a lamb. The idea was certainly a good one, but it took several lambs and also several months before the lion, which was willing to do any kind of trick, would allow a lamb to enter his den with impunity. Twice he killed a lamb in the presence of his trainer, who tried to pull away the carcass. Finally, the lion would tolerate the lamb in the den just so long as the keeper stood over it with an iron bar. But the performance was so evidently forced, and so lacking in smoothness and interest, that it was abandoned after two or three attempts.

The Fastest Times.

The fastest times reported for the mile are: Railway, thirty-four seconds; iceboat, one minute; steam yacht, one minute thirty-five seconds; bicycle, one minute thirty-five and two-fifths seconds; horse, one minute thirty-five and a half seconds; ocean liner, two minutes twenty seconds; running, four minutes twelve and three-quarter seconds; rowing, four minutes forty-five seconds.

The Most Valuable Stone in the World.

The Rosetta Stone is a small basalt stela or tablet bearing a decree of King Ptolemy V., of Egypt, in three languages—hieroglyphics, Greek and demotic, or common speech. It is this stone which has made it possible to decipher the inscriptions on Egyptian

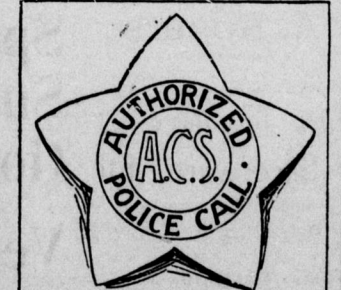


THE ROSETTA STONE.

tian obelisks. This valuable stone was discovered in 1799, near Fort St. Julien, Egypt, by a French officer named Bousard. The stone is now in the British Museum.

Chicago Women Save Horses.

This is the badge worn by Chicago women who belong to an anti-cruelty society. It is an "authorized police



call," and gives the wearer the right to order any policeman to stop a horse-beater from treating his animal cruelly, and if necessary to arrest him.

Great Britain controls 2,570,026 square miles of territory in Africa on which dwell 41,000,000 inhabitants.

# FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Effect of Insecticides on Seed. It is often desirable to soak seeds in some solution to prevent their destruction by such pests as gophers and the like. The Kansas experiment station finds that this soaking is in no way detrimental to the germinating qualities of the seeds. On the contrary there was an increase in the percentage which germinated.

A Good Old Custom. The old custom of whitewashing the body of fruit trees should for many reasons continue to be the practice. There were good reasons why it was done, and those reasons are yet good. It makes the orchard appear neat and clean. Lime is good for the tree and it has the effect of keeping off many damaging insects, and kills the spores of injurious fungi. A wash of lime and sulphur is certainly a most valuable and easy way to prevent many of the injurious visitors to fruit trees and is believed by many to be an effectual remedy for the destruction of fungi and bacteria. When it is acted on by the sun's heat sulphureous gases are expelled so that the sulphur is easily detected by smell.

Thinning Early Apples. Wherever the codling moth is abundant that will attend to the thinning of the early apples, which begin to ripen even while the moth is at work in its first brood. Very few early apples escape the worm, and many fall before they are fit for any use. But one or two entire failures of the apple crop have reduced the codling moth that we think it will pay to go through trees of early apples and take out one-quarter to one-third, according to how plentifully the fruit has set. So soon as the fruit begins to turn a further thinning may be made with profit. Green sour apples make excellent pies, and are none the worse if you put plenty of sugar with them. Green sweet apples are good if thoroughly baked, though we should not dare to eat baked green apples with milk as we can eat baked ripe sweet apples. If thinned before fully ripe the later-ripening fruit will be much larger and better.

The Selection of Farm Animals.

Farm animals are machines by which the raw products of the farm are converted into more finished products, which are more salable or more easily transported to market. In selecting animals for the farm we must consider the kinds of food which we have at hand and also what kind of animals are best adapted to our purpose and will yield most profit for the food consumed.

It is a bad policy to select a breed of animals for the reason that they have a reputation of eking out an existence without much attention and upon a small amount of food, because they are shifty as the stingy farmer says. It is much more economical to select an animal which will consume a larger amount of food but which has the ability to digest his food well and which will yield the largest profit for the food consumed with the least possible waste. It is better to keep just enough animals to consume what food we have on hand and to feed them well than to keep a larger number and not be able to take good care of them. There is as much money in care of animals as in their feed.

Deep or Shallow Plowing.

In preparing the seed bed on the farm or garden there seems to be a difference of opinion about shallow or deep cultivation. Deep plowing has in late years been recommended, and some are inclined to attribute to laziness any attempt to justify shallow plowing. Nevertheless, there are certain soils and conditions where shallow cultivation is better than deep plowing. The seed beds need to be very fine and soft a few inches on the surface, but it does not follow that the same conditions should hold all the way down. The subsoil needs to have much more firmness of texture than the surface of the seed bed. The plants need a soft soil to germinate in; then they require a firmer soil for their roots to get established in. It is the mission of roots to penetrate in the firm soil and to secure a strong soil hold. A too mellow soil might not suit the roots of many plants.

But there are tough soils which require subsoil plowing. All clay and sticky soils need deep plowing. The roots cannot penetrate so well into these, and the drainage is so poor that water cannot percolate through it. The mechanical conditions are such that quite frequent deep plowing is a positive advantage and almost a necessity. On such soil clover will not come up small and patchy. Thus nature's best method of breaking up the soil fails to have the desired effect. On all such classes of soil deep cultivation is beneficial. Application of a few bushels of lime to each acre of such heavy clay soil will always have a good effect. Wood ashes applied liberally will also produce results that will improve the land permanently, and help the crops for this season. But probably better than all will be the regular application of coarse manures. The coarse barnyard manure will add humus to the soil and break up the soil better than anything short of deep plowing.

But on naturally mellow and porous soils deep plowing is not often necessary. Too much of it may prove a positive injury to the soil and keep the plants from doing their best. The roots of all plants need a fairly firm under soil in which to flourish. This

is just as essential as a mellow seed bed in which to start.—American Cultivator.

Tillage and Productivity. There is nothing like good tillage to bring out the full productivity of the soil. This fact never should be lost sight of, although in the discussions of fertilizers all the importance is generally attached to them. No soil, however rich, can do a tithe of its duty unless good, intelligent tillage is given to it each season. Cultivation must begin early and continue late. The more the soil can be turned over and pulverized the more will its productivity be increased. Tillage for the sake of improving the soil should be kept down the weeds. The latter is often the extent to which many farmers go, for when the weeds are killed they consider their duty done.

A recent examination of the soils showed that there were vast quantities of plant food in them that their owners had never dreamed of. They had been indifferently cultivated for years, and their owners classed them as medium soils, neither very good nor very bad. Some of these soils were remarkably rich in nitrogen and potash, and yet they did not begin to yield the results obtained from soils dressed with these commercial fertilizers. What was the difference? Simply that the potash and nitrogen in the soil were not in an immediately available condition, while in the commercial fertilizers they were. The soil needed good tillage to develop the potash and nitrogen so the plants could immediately take them up.

This is about the case with all of our soils. They need cultivation to bring out their possibilities, and to make the potash and nitrogen immediately available. More than this, good cultivation improves the mechanical conditions of the soil so that it performs its functions much better. Most soils are not in a fit condition naturally for our fine cultivated plants to thrive in, and they need good treatment to prepare them as seed beds. Many are so thick that there is no drainage, and the plants suffocate or drown in them. Good cultivation breaks up the soil, pulverizes it and enables the water to percolate properly through it to the subsoil. Thus good tillage is essential to successful farming, and is as important to the soil itself as to the plants.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

The Horse in Summer.

The treatment of the horse in summer should be very different from that usually accorded the animal. Probably from no one thing does the horse suffer so much as from lack of water. We go into the field on a hot day, and take with us a jug of water to quench our thirst. Without this provision, language could hardly describe the sufferings we should endure. But the horse, which is compelled to go without water for half a day, needs it as often as a man does. The animal should be watered frequently, and it would last longer if some means could be provided for watering at least once from morning to noon and from noon to night. It would not be much trouble to provide the means, especially when a wagon is taken to the field. A can should hold enough water to furnish a "sup" for four horses. All that is needed therefore, is a can of this kind and a pail.

The head of the horse should always be protected from the hot sun. It is simply a wonder that more horses are not sun struck. The top of the head is exposed to rays of the sun that heat even brick walls through and through. The harness makers now have a shade that is easily attached to the top of the head, and it furnishes the most convenient means of protection to the horse's brain. A green, broad leaf of some kind, or a bunch of weeds, however, will answer. So will a wet sponge. In our experience, we have found that if the work in the field is abandoned in the middle of the day, on very hot days—beginning early in the morning and working as long as you can see at night—the same amount of work can be done, and done, of course, with much more comfort to both man and beast. If the horse is given an occasional sponge bath in summer, the animal will not only enjoy it but will be benefited by it. Perspiration and the dust fills up the pores of the skin.

It is common to condemn the feeding of corn in large quantities to stock of any kind, except it is undergoing the fattening process. It is barely possible that we go too far in this condemnation. It is barely possible that chemical analysis does not always tell the true value of a food. That is to say, a food whose chemical composition indicates that it is not what either the animal or human system requires, may prove to be, in actual practice, a very excellent food. Recently two distinguished London physicians, after a careful investigation, demonstrated, to their own satisfaction, that white bread was more nourishing than "brown bread." This is such a radical antagonism to the general view, that some will laugh at it, but when the advantages and disadvantages of the two breads were compared by these physicians, they made out a pretty good case. So corn has proved in actual practice a good grain for work horses. But it is a fat forming, heating food, and in summer should not constitute more than half the ration at most. Nor should the horse have too much hay. Grass is always in order. It is possible that we feed too much. As a rule human beings eat too much. They could get along with much less and be better off. Some years ago a New England man declared that a horse could live, keep in good order and have more spirit on one-half of what he was usually fed. It is a matter which experiment can readily determine.—The Epitomist.