

WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS.

It is too early yet to locate the responsibility of Johnstown's destruction, and facts sufficiently authentic may never be known to do it.

While right to be thankful for life and all its blessings it is little less than infamous for a man whose wife and children have been ruthlessly swept away, to prate about the good Lord saving his worthless life, which implies that the Lord didn't or rather wouldn't save those of his kin infinitely more deserving of the blessings of life.

The Lord had no more to dowd the building of the destructive dam than He had in erecting a brewery or in constructing a railroad.

Leaving the Divine Being out of the question, that is, so far as holding Him responsible for the horrors and evils, the question still presses itself, where or on whom does the responsibility rest?

To what extent responsible, and in what particular responsible, is a question not so easily answered. Before it can be shown that criminality attaches to them for the destruction of either life or property, it must be proved that they were wilfully indifferent to both, or that they executed the work against proper protestations of the people of the valley.

But if the dam was a constant menace to life and property, as all now believe, what can be said to palliate the conduct of the Johnstown people, and its authorities especially? There is far less excuse for their indifference and neglect in the matter, than for the indifference of the South Fork Club Association.

WHERE DOES THE FAULT LIE?

We regret the necessity of being compelled to write some facts in the management of our affairs that are sadly out of joint. That mistakes and irregularities should occur in distributing supplies so generously furnished by the country, is natural enough in view of the difficulty of distinguishing between the meritorious and impostors, but, that instances of flagrant injustice should be passed over in silence is more than should be expected.

As things begin to assume a more settled state, our people and the liberal hearted donors all over the country will expect and demand satisfactory management in matters pertaining to relief.

In this connection a question discussed by our best citizens is how much of the Relief Fund is being spent in paying big salaries to men who do little efficient work—whose offices resemble mere sinecures. All these things will doubtless be looked into.

CRAZED BY THE FLOOD.

A Young Chicago Helress's Strange Conduct at Broad St. Station, Philadelphia.

Miss Mollie Robbins, one of Chicago's reigning society queens, and an helress to nearly half a million, has been crazed by the Johnstown flood.

Miss Robbins appeared at the Broad street station just before the Western express started out.

"Yes! You may think me crazy, but I am not. I am as sane as you are, but I want to find the safest road to Heaven, and I am told this is one of them."

"I don't want you to have the impression that I am crazy, because I am not—I am looking for the safest road to a heaven of rest for the summer, and if you can direct me I will be very much obliged to you."

While the young woman was rambling on in this strain to the astonished official, an aged, motherly-looking woman, accompanied by a tall young man, stepped up to the young girl and said: "Come, Mollie dear, we missed you."

"The night before the flood she awoke from a sound sleep and startled the whole household by her unearthly screams. It was two hours before we could calm her, and strange to say, when we questioned her we discovered that she had dreamed the dam had burst at Johnstown, and the flood had carried away her intended, who was in that neighborhood, and had washed his body up into a tree, where she could not be wholly quieted, but imagined she was an angel trying to pull the body from the tree, that unless she did so she could not find the pathway to heaven."

But the strangest part is that she plainly described twenty-four hours before the flood exactly as it occurred. Oh, yes, we were disappointed there and spent two weeks last summer in the town. It seems her intended had written to her the day before the flood, telling her he would not be surprised if the dam should some day burst and wash out Johnstown. That was on her mind and evidently influenced her dreams, says the physician.

Chicago has just accomplished the largest scheme of city and town annexation ever achieved by an American city. Half a dozen towns of considerable size were by popular vote incorporated within the city limits, swelling the population to more than a million people.

If the remainder of 1889 is characterized by as many remarkable catastrophes and atmospheric disturbances as have developed during its first half, it will go down in history as a year full of extraordinary events.

A correspondent from Armagh gives an interesting account of a base ball match between two nines, one of which was led by a professor, and the other was championed by a prominent merchant.

A farmer recently discovered in his barn a bird's nest containing a pair of young swallows, says the Chicago Mail. On taking one young bird up in his hand he was astonished to see its leg very thoroughly bandaged with horsehair.

One Hundred Tons of Bone Dust for sale at John Thomas's, 248 Main street, Johnstown, Pa. June 21

BULLET IN HIS BRAIN.

Where for Twenty Years Unknown to Him or His Physicians.

The remarkable case of Anton Merot, the Philadelphia veteran, who lived thirty years with a bullet imbedded in the tissues of his heart, has a parallel in the case of Abraham Delong, a prominent farmer of Van Wert, Ohio, who carried an ounce of confederate lead on his brain for twenty years before it caused his death.

Delong received his wound at the battle of Stone river. The bullet struck him squarely on the nose, well up between the eyes, in such a way as to split the bone, which, closing up again, left only a slight wound that the surgeon declared had been caused by a bullet coming from a side direction and clipping off the skin as it sped by.

Some time before his death, which took place in 1882, Delong got the idea that the bullet that struck him at Stone river had indeed entered his head, and proposed to submit to a surgical operation that would determine whether he was right about it.

The operation was necessarily a dangerous one, they declined to search for the bullet, and the surgeon advised that after his death an examination be made, in order that his widow and children should receive a greatly needed pension, his long period of illness and inability to work having quite eaten up his little fortune.

Men great in deeds are often taciturn. Washington's reserve made him stiff, formal and ill at ease in company, but it also prevented his plans from being betrayed to an enemy, and the country from being deceived by his promises.

A writer in Leisure Hour says that the most dramatic of silent men was Wallenstein, the antagonist of Gustavus Adolphus, and the commander of the emperor's army in the Thirty Years' War.

For nearly eight years the gray head, round shoulders, and indolent, slouching gait of Robert G. Blaine, brother of the secretary of state, have been frequently around the agricultural department and the Smithsonian institution.

"During all this time 'Bob' Blaine, as he is termed, has been rated on the treasury books as curator of the museum at \$1,400 a year. Practically the museum has been the curator of 'Bob' Blaine."

The habitual caution of these intelligent creatures is illustrated when they are traveling from show to show. Should several be in a lot together, one of their number will remain awake on guard while the others are sleeping.

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The opinion is expressed that if all that is promised by recent applications in the use of water gas be verified, electric lighting will be outvalued both in cheapness and beauty of light.—Engineer.

GAY SNAKES CHARM BIRDS.

An Observer Says He Has Seen It Done. How Snakes Charm Swallow Frogs.

Three different incidents of snakes charming birds have fallen under my own observation, says a writer in the St. Louis Reporter. Once I saw a boy charmed by what is commonly known as the "blue racer," and the next was a catbird charmed by a "snake sucker."

I have never seen a snake charm a frog, though I have seen them catch frogs often. They are more than a match for the frog in a foot race; consequently, they have frog legs to eat whenever they wish, provided the frogs can be found.

The most costly leather in the world, said a dealer in fine skins and leathers, is known in Detroit, which collects the secret of making Russia leather, with its peculiar pungent and lasting odor, but the secret of tanning piano leather is known only to a family of tanners in Thuringia, Germany.

A peculiar thing about it is that the skins from which it is tanned are secured almost entirely in a nettle. It is a particular kind of buckskin. The skin of the common red or Virginia deer will not make the leather; a species of the animal known as the gray deer and found only in the vicinity of the great northern lakes, alone furnishing the material.

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Found a Bag of Gold in a Well.

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A burried count showed that \$900 comprised the bag's contents. How much dropped out of the bag is not known, but McGucken does not think more than \$50.

When he got half way to the top the bag—which was rotten from its long stay in the well—split, and the coin started to drop out. With his hand over the hole McGucken was hauled to the top by his companions.

The Indian reformers who have taken to the re-marriage of girl-widows are at a difficulty in obtaining plenty of candidates. Where trouble comes in is at the disposal of the widows themselves.

The reformers feel under an obligation to the widows to soften the severity of the law, and to the best of their ability, and with their object, widows homes have been established here and there.

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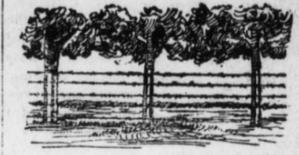
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Wire Fence With Living Posts.

We illustrate herewith a cheap and durable style of barb wire fence and gate, from a sketch and description furnished by G. F. White, Orange county, N. Y., says the American Agriculturist.

Living trees are made to serve as posts. Instead of driving the staples directly into the tree, where they would soon become overgrown, a strip of inch board, four inches wide, is attached to the tree by interlinking staples, and the wires are attached to these strips.



Whoever an opening is desired, the wires are cut and one end of each is stapled to a similar piece of board which, with the panel of wire attached, swings freely like a gate and when closed is fastened in place by hooks.

The little kingdom of Denmark, with less than 15,000 square miles of area, not twice the size of New Jersey, and with a population of near 2,000,000, is a large producer of butter.

Take three pounds each of flowers of sulphur and quicklime. Slack the lime and boil with the sulphur in six gallons of water until reduced to two gallons.

The London brewers having advanced the price of spent grain, cowkeepers are agitating the utilization of dried grains, and by so doing, a very favorable comparison with oats, hay and linseed cake.

Instead of paying the individual to enter creameries or go on farms to learn the business, as is the case in this country, the practice in England and Scotland is to charge a fee for such instruction.

Old and dead cover seed treated with sulphur fumes can be made to look as good as new, and as the very newest, and best seeds. Worthless seed thus treated has been used to adulterate good cover seed in England, but through the exertion of several members of the seed trade one of the offenders has been recently made.

A creamery has been started at Galloway in Scotland at which the manufacture of oleomargarine will be introduced. Genuine butter will be used in connection with other fats.

Some rail the choicest plums and find them profitable, but it is done only by snaking or jarring the trees daily, causing the curculion to clothe and killing him. The snaking consists in the use of a curculion-proof plum, tree-tenders to the contrary notwithstanding.

Implements should be returned to the tool-house, after using, and properly cleaned. If there is no plow-shoe make one. It will save the roads. Spades, hoes and similar tools should be kept sharp, by acquaintance with the grindstone.

A good method to keep a cow from kicking is to bend one of her fore legs at the knee and buckle a strap around it above the joint. This holds up that foot leaving her only three to stand on and none to spare for kicking.

When a man says there is no use in planting shrubbery in the school house yard, because the boys will destroy it, some parents need spanking more than their boys need it.

A steel rake, with long and sharp teeth, is one of the most effective of weeding implements, and if used "early and often" will keep land clean, with little labor.

The Mercers Company of London is thinking of establishing an agricultural college on its extensive farms, and proposes to devote \$300,000 for the purpose.