

YOUNG GIRL IS AN AUTO-HYPNOTIST

Simple Farmers of Prince Edward Island Thought Her Possessed By Devil

ODD SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA

Nocturnal Fits Follow Strenuous Objection to a Sister-in-Law—Whole Region Hypnotized, Doctor Thinks—Island Wrought Up.

Charlottetown, P. E. I. — The French farmers of New Zealand, a small settlement at the extreme eastern end of Prince Edward Island, have been thrown into a state of intense nervous excitement by a series of supernatural phenomena surrounding a young woman named Chinese. The ignorant farmers believe the girl is possessed of a devil, and the Rev. Father Walker of Rollo Bay, the parish priest, has been impetuously performing the ceremony of exorcism once resorted to for the purpose of curing those possessed of devils.

The girl is about 20 years old. Since the death of her parents she has been keeping house for her brothers, small farmers of New Zealand. Several months ago the eldest brother informed his sister that he intended to marry a young woman in the neighborhood. Miss Chinese immediately burst into a fit of rage and declared that "she would as soon have a devil in the family as that girl."

That night the household was aroused by loud noises, which seemed to come from all parts of the house. Then the voice of the girl, shrieking in agony, was heard from her room. The brother, fearing his sister was being murdered, rushed to the girl's room, followed by other members of the family. When they opened the door, they declare, they saw the young woman floating in the air several feet above her bed.

She was talking incoherently and in language much different from that used by her in ordinary conversation. The girl finally sank back on her bed and fell into a natural sleep. When she awoke the next morning she said she knew nothing of the occurrences. Night after night the same performance was repeated.

News of the happenings soon leaked out among the farmers and these simple people came to believe that the girl by her sacrilegious remark concerning her prospective sister-in-law had given herself over to the evil one. The girl developed clairvoyant powers while in what seemed like a hypnotic trance and told her visitors how much money they had with them. She was also able to repeat the addresses and contents of letters in their pockets, or at least she persuaded them that she could.

The local doctors were called in to treat the girl, but they could do nothing. Next the parish priest's assistance was sought, but earnest prayers seemed to be unavailing. The excitement in the neighborhood became so intense that Father Walker issued a notice to parishioners forbidding any further visits to the home of the young woman.

Several physicians were finally summoned from this city for consultation. Among them was Dr. Peter Conroy, chief of staff at the Charlottetown Hospital. Dr. Conroy declares that there is nothing in the case which cannot be explained by science. His theory is that the young woman is an auto-hypnotist with "obsessive influences."

He also advances the theory that by involuntary hypnotism she creates delusions in the minds of those around her.

All efforts to relieve Miss Chinese having been unavailing, her health has given way under the strain and she was brought to the Falconer Hospital for the Insane in this city. Medical attention will there be given her with a view to ridding her of the strange conditions which have been afflicting her.

SPORTING INSTINCT RESPONDED.

Squire Awoke to Gaze Into Glittering Eyes of Rug Muff.

Richmond, Va.—J. A. Spears, a fox-hunting squire of Southern Virginia, startled passengers on a train coming into Richmond by emitting a wild halloo as he awoke from a nap.

Friends ran to the man, who had leaped to his feet and was staring like a sleepwalker at a handsome gray rug muff carried by a young woman passenger. The glittering eyes of a fox head had met his gaze as Mr. Spears awoke.

Waited Ten Years for Pay Day.

Chardon, Ohio.—Hope of being paid some day never died out in the breast of M. M. Hossler, humane agent, who in his ten years' of service has had to make many midnight drives for arrests and investigation of complaints and pay several hundred dollars out of his own pocket for livery hire. A statute passed in 1896 has just been found that entitles Hossler to \$25 a month.

Her Twenty-sixth Child.

Niagara Falls, N. Y.—Mrs. Philip W. Webster, forty-two years old, gave birth here to her twenty-sixth child. She married at the age of sixteen. Five pairs of twins and one set of triplets were included in the number, but none of them lived.

THE HUSKY WOMAN COMING

Prof. D. A. Sargent of Harvard Says Gentler Sex is by Exercise Becoming Sterner.

Cambridge, Mass.—Prof. Dudley A. Sargent, physical director of Harvard University, famous strength expert, who has tested the strength and endurance of many famous athletes, including Annette Kellerman, Jim Jeffries, Sandow, Eickenschmidt, as well as Jack Johnson and Peter the Great, comes out with the statement that women are realizing gradually the real value of perfect physical development and are in a fair way to overtake the sterner sex in pursuit of this ambition.

"Women," he says, "are coming into their own. They have begun to realize that the surest way to attain both health and good looks is through exercise. The modern woman has progressed physically; many new games have taken her out into the open, such as golf, tennis, horseback riding and swimming. All these things have tended to give the girl's body a chance to develop. Fashion has helped, too, for all their games that have taken women out into the open have been thus decreed by style.

"Of course, the girl of the humbler classes has not the chance to develop that the girl in college has, but the schools that have been providing gymnastics and physical training teachers, even in the lower grades, and by these modern changes the women have more opportunity to aid their physical well being, for they are less retarded than men by worry and business cares. Moreover, the better class do not smoke or dissipate as much as the men. Smoking takes away the appetite and also stops growth. Today our modern woman has made up for a great many of those years in which her sisters stood still."

"PAID TO ENTER HEAVEN."

Former Parishioner Sues Pennsylvania Minister for \$5,000.

Pittsburg.—In a suit for \$5,000 filed against the Rev. William J. Herre, of Bellevue, James Annable, of Rose Point, Lawrence County, a former parishioner, alleges that he gave land worth this amount to the minister five years ago to insure his admittance to heaven.

Annable alleges in his complaint that it was understood the minister was not to dispose of the land until after the soul of Annable had reached heaven. Annable goes on to say that he was forced to take a trip South for his health, and that upon his return he found that the minister had disposed of the property. He naively ends his complaint by saying he has ascertained there is another method to get to heaven, and that this method is much more sure than entrance by purchase.

Black Dolls Hereafter.

Wilmington, Del.—After a lively debate on the question whether colored children should play with and fondle white dolls the same as white children, or use black dolls, as a matter of race pride, the congregation of St. James's A. M. E. Church decided that colored mothers must purchase black dolls for their children.

George W. Benson of this city and the Rev. R. T. Pennington of Clifton Mills Colored Mission presented opposing views, after which the congregation voted for black dolls.

The congregation also came to the conclusion that in heaven negroes would still be black, and that they had better stick to their own color on earth.

SPEAK GENTLY TO CENTRAL.

Copenhagen Telephone Exchange Catches Words on Gramophone. Copenhagen, Denmark.—Exasperated telephone users who have been indulging in harsh language to the telephone girls have been brought to book by the telephone administration.

At first the identification of the offenders was difficult. Then a gramophone apparatus was installed in the central exchange, on which all unseemly language was recorded.

Some of the worst offenders were then summoned to the directors' office. When they denied the charge they were convicted by an exact repetition in their own voices of their hasty remarks.

Telephone manners and language in Copenhagen are now greatly improved.

SAYS STUDENTS USE DRUGS.

College Paper Makes Charge at Washington and Jefferson.

Washington, Pa.—The college weekly at Washington and Jefferson College declares that the students of the institution are widely addicted to the use of drugs. "The habit has grown to an alarming degree," says the paper, "and some measures should be taken at once to stop it."

The publication further charges that the habit is especially prevalent at examination time, the purpose being to sharpen the wits of the men to prepare for the tests.

Owens Litter of Striped Pigs.

West Cape, Manitoba.—In a litter of seven pigs owned by Isaac Harris, a farmer, is one striped lengthwise like a Georgia watermelon, and another striped like a sebra.

Return of Halley Comet

By PROF. DOOLITTLE.

For many months astronomers watched and photographed one bright region of the sky in which they knew this wonderful comet of 1835 would appear.

Finally, on September 11, news received from the observatory at



Edmund Halley.

delberg that it had been photographed by a long exposure of a delicate photographic plate. Photographs were made of it on each of the three following nights at the Lick Observatory, California, and three days later it was first actually viewed with the eye through the great telescope of the Yerkes Observatory, near Chicago.

Thus, there has again entered the sky this wonderful object, which for at least 2,000 years has been steadily pursuing its great path around the sun. Every seventy-six years through the centuries it has reappeared in the past ages always a source of astonishment and terror, but to us a beautiful object which by its orderly motion affords a striking evidence of the perfection to which mathematical astronomy has been brought.

Halley's comet has always been

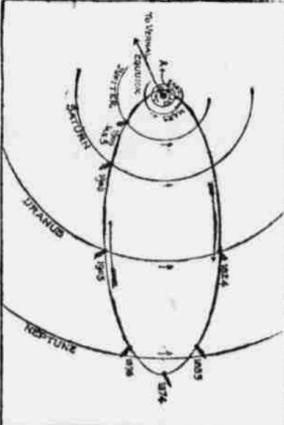


Fig. 2—Path of Halley's Comet About the Sun. On May 18 the Earth Will Be at A and the Comet at B.

brilliant and striking object in the sky. Consequently there are many accounts of it at its successive reappearances, but only from the most recent of these can any information of its real appearance be derived, except the certainty that it was very bright.

Of its appearance in the year A. D. and the amazement of the people are represented on a tapestry 230 feet long, for example, it is said that "in the midst of the holy days of Easter a phenomenon always fatal and of sad omen appeared in the sky. From the



Fig. 3—Halley's Comet from a Drawing Made on Oct. 15, 1835.

time that the Emperor had perceived it he gave himself no rest. A change of reign and the death of a prince are announced by this sign, he said.

Of its appearance in 1066, the comet and the amazement of the people are represented on a tapestry 230 feet long, which was made by the wife of William the Conqueror at this time. But its most celebrated appearance was in 1456, three years after the capture of Constantinople by the Turks. Men then feared that it portended the downfall of Christianity. It was described as large and terrible, extending one-third of the way across the entire heavens, of a brilliant gold col-

or and presenting the aspect of a wavy flame.

At its appearance in 1759 it was very bright, with a tail nearly 50 degrees long, but lying so far south of the celestial equator that it could only be seen to best advantage in the Southern Hemisphere. At its last appearance, in 1835, it was brighter than seventy-six years earlier, but of a smaller size, its trail then extending to a distance of 15 degrees, or about thirty times the distance across the moon.

This was the first comet ever recognized as moving in a closed path about the sun, and of which the return was predicted. This was done by the astronomer Halley, a contemporary and friend of Sir Isaac Newton, who, after allowing for the retarding pull of Jupiter and Saturn, confidently predicted that the comet would again be seen in the spring of 1759.

The positions of the comet in its path are shown in Fig. 2. It will reach the point C, 55,000,000 miles distant from the sun, on April 18. It passes through the plane of the earth's orbit on May 18, on which date its tail will stretch out in the plane of the earth's orbit to an enormous distance, directly away from the sun. One day later the earth will reach this point of its orbit, and as it is then only 13,000,000 miles from the comet, it will probably plow directly through the tail. It is possible that at that time a "strange, yellow, phosphorescent glow" may be noticed in our atmosphere, as was described by one observer when the earth passed through the tail of the comet in 1861, but the enormous tail is so exceedingly rare

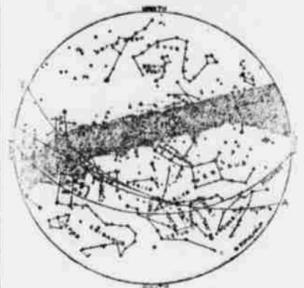


Fig. 4—The Path of Halley's Comet Among the Stars.

of that probably no other unusual appearance will be observed.

The comet is now moving westward in the border of the constellation Taurus, but on account of its great distance from us its motion is very slow. It will follow the path indicated in Fig. 4, moving westward to Pleiades and then turning eastward again, its position during May, while the comet is nearest us, being extraordinarily rapid. It will probably become visible to the naked eye during January.

Since the sun is moving along the path A B and reaches the loop in March, the comet will be seen in the evening sky until March 23. It will then pass west of the sun and very near this body, remaining in the morning sky until May 18. After this date it will again return to the evening sky and run very rapidly eastward. During this time it will probably be a magnificent object, which, by its great brightness and rapid motion, will attract the attention of every observer.

A Disappointing Witness.

Deacon Stephen Potter, one of the pioneers of Utica, New York, was a man of great eccentricity but high moral character. "The deacon will speak the truth and shame the devil," was often said of him.

On one occasion a friend was engaged in a lawsuit in regard to some land a few miles from Utica. He held the land at a high price. During the trial he called Deacon Potter as a witness, to prove how valuable the land was. The deacon was sworn and asked if he knew the land.

"Yes," he replied, "I know every foot of it."

"What do you think it worth, Mr. Potter?" was the next question. The old man paused a moment, and then said, slowly, "If I had as many dollars—as my yoke of oxen—could draw—on a sled—on glaze ice—I vow—I would not give—a dollar an acre for it!"

The Telepost.

This is a new electrical device by which it is claimed that letters can be sent by telegraph for less than the present charge for a ten-word message. This cheapening of the telegraph is made possible, according to the claims of the inventors, because with this device the capacity of the wires is greatly increased and ordinary telephone wires can be used without interfering in the slightest with the telephone business conducted over them. The inventors claim that letters will be sent from New York to San Francisco by telegraph for 25 cents in the near future. Hence the name—telepost. A company has already been formed and the system is being tested in different parts of the country.

The Berbers.

The people who are making so much trouble for Spain in Morocco are known as "Berbers," one of the most ancient and fanatical races of whom history speaks. Throughout all the centuries since Christ they have remained, as they were long before Christ came, savage nomads, unconquered, proud, fanatical, their hand against all mankind and living off their plunder, their flocks and their herds. They number about 2,500,000. They have but an apology for a written language, and speak a corruption of Arabic.

THE CURFEW AT CHERTSEY.

Romantic Association of a Surrey Village with the Sundown Bell.

At sundown the little Surrey village of Chertsey, England, will re-echo to the tolling of the curfew bell, which in accordance with ancient custom is sounded every evening from September 29 to March 25.

It is appropriate that Chertsey should thus maintain the custom for the village has interesting "curfew" associations. The curfew bell which hung in Chertsey Abbey tolled for the funeral of Henry VI., murdered in the Tower of London and hurried to Chertsey to be buried "without priest, clerk, torch or taper, singing or saying."

The abbey was also the scene of the romantic legend which relates how Blanche Heriot, to save her lover Neville, nephew of Warwick the Kingmaker, condemned to die at sundown, climbed the curfew tower and held the clapper of the great bell. The story, always popular locally, attained wide fame when Mr. Clifford Harrison embodied it in his poem "The Legend of Chertsey." Since then reciters' audiences have probably had their fill of it.

Wild Horses in France.

The small white horses of the Camargue (delta of the Rhone), now in number some 2,000 only, wander about the seemingly boundless steppes at full liberty. They are captured from time to time and used to thresh the corn. They are supposed to have been first introduced by the Romans and afterward by the Saracens.

But according to M. Huzard, "whatever their origin, whether foreign or native, the horses of the Camargue to-day are the product almost exclusively of the influences of the environment in which they have propagated from time immemorial."

M. Gayot describes the horse of the Camargue as small, agile, good-tempered, spirited, courageous. In the opinion of Prof. Magne, the horse of the Camargue must live in a wild state, and the first effect of improving the sanitation of the island will be the disappearance of its horses.—Nineteenth Century.

Improved Annunciator.

The use of batteries and their attendant inconveniences in the operation of annunciator and bell-ringing systems, is dispensed with by the invention of a new transformer, by which the necessary current is secured from the ordinary lighting circuits. As the transformer has no moving parts, once fixed it will thereafter require no attention. It is adapted to operate on circuits running from 100 to 130 volts, and is provided with taps giving 6, 12 and 18 volts, so as to meet the requirements of various styles and sizes of bells and buzzers.

Could Not Meet in Russia.

A member of the dentists' congress recently held in Berlin writes: "Our plans as to St. Petersburg for the gathering in 1914 failed. Not because there was any objection to the city, but because some of the men who might be delegates would either not be admitted or if allowed to enter the city would be uncomfortable while there. Russia is queer about according rights of residence to former citizens and to people of certain religious views, and having this in mind London was agreed upon as the next meeting place."

Japanese Wood for Sleepers.

The Atchison railroad is about to experiment at Great Bend, Kan., with cocobolo and Japanese oak as material for sleepers. This wood is so hard that it is almost impossible to drive spikes into it, and screw spikes in bored holes will be used. It is expected that the sleepers will last from 25 to 30 years. They cost a trifle more than the American oak delivered in California. The reason for experimenting with them is that native oak is becoming scarce, and it is deemed wise to look in time for a substitute.

The Rare Gift of Courtesy.

Courtesy includes not merely social kindness, graces of speech, absence of business associates and of all the fellow citizens with whom a man of affairs may have business to transact. It is not American to keep one citizen waiting all day at the door because he is poor, and to grant another citizen an interview because it is believed he is rich. Wisdom is not confined in a purse, and frequently much wisdom may be learned from a poor man.

Proof of Success.

If every day we can feel, if only for a moment, the elation of being alive, the realization of being our best selves, of filling our destined scope and trend, you may be sure that we are succeeding.—Bliss Carman.

Just as Bad.

Courtesy over the telephone is a virtue, and it's just as offensive to the girl at the switchboard to be called a Dutch mutt as it would be to be told that her hat isn't on straight.

Poor Opinion of Countrymen.

One of the great intellects of England has stated that not above 50,000 people in all Britain can read and understand the ordinary London newspaper.

Hans Breitman Says:

"Ven a poldishen meks a defekt, he always tries to mek der peoples ashamed of der defekt."—Cleveland News.

Best Seal for Envelope.

When you seal an envelope with the white of an egg it is impossible to steam it open.

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Livery.

LIVERY.—Fred. G. Rickard has removed his livery establishment from corner Church street to Whitney's Stone Barn.

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