

# MAD CAREER OF BANDIT JESSE JAMES

Death of His Stepfather Recalls Memories of America's Most Desperate Outlaw.

WAS A SLAYER AND ROBBER.

Outrages Upon His Family Incited Him to Deeds of Maniacal Fury.

Recently the death of Dr. Reuben Samuels, of Missouri, has been announced in a line. To the majority of readers this item conveyed no significance. Yet Doctor Samuels was a figure in the guerrilla warfare that made of Missouri and Kansas settings for the bloodiest and bitterest strife ever waged by handed assassins. Samuels was, however, a passive figure, the accidental center of affairs in which he took no part. Conflict waxed about him, its fiery billows surging up to the threshold of his home. For he was the husband of the mother of Jesse James, a woman with the heart of a lioness, loving her own with an intensity as fierce as the hatred she felt for her enemies.

The death of Doctor Samuels recalls the mad career of Jesse, as intrepid a freebooter as ever murdered and robbed; a man who for years, moving in a community where everybody knew there was a price on his head, never flinched in the presence of danger. James was a man of curious paradoxes. He was strong in friendship, terrible, unrelenting in battle, whether under the black flag of Quantrell or warring on the society that had made him an outlaw. To his mother he was always kind and affectionate; to his wife a model husband. His children found in him, so far as their tender senses could appreciate, every desirable element of fatherhood. For a long time he assumed the name of Howard. There was no better citizen than "Mr. Howard," no more thoughtful neighbor. Shortly before he was killed there had been a municipal procession in St. Joseph, marking a local event. At the head of the parade was a platoon of police. Immediately behind the police rode Jesse James on a blooded horse, his little boy Jesse held before him. Such were the chances the bandit took.

There have been attempts to exalt Jesse James. That he was driven into the hard school of Quantrell must be

Bad as was Quantrell, as monstrous his cruelty and measureless his passion, there were bodies opposing him that lacked none of his malignity of purpose, but did lack his leadership. One day the representatives of one of these bodies rode up to the Samuels home. They found Doctor Samuels at work with Jesse in a cornfield. With oaths they demanded the whereabouts of Quantrell. Samuels could not tell them. They hanged him to a tree and kept him suspended until nearly dead. Thrice did the doctor have to submit to this torture, and was left senseless and bleeding. Jesse had been obliged to look on. Then with whips he was scourged up and down the corn rows, prodded with bayonets. Little wonder that there arose within him a tumult of hatred. Unwittingly the visitors were training him for a place with Quantrell, that grim individual who with his own hand had slain thirty out of a band of thirty-two that had killed a brother.

Leaving Samuels to suffer, the interlopers next demanded of Mrs. Samuels that she betray Quantrell. "I am like Marion's wife," she responded, "what I know I will die knowing." They did not kill her. A little later she was



JESSE JAMES.  
(From a Photograph Taken in 1875.)

taken to jail in Liberty, and there, with her daughter, subjected to hardship and grossest insults. She was a Southern sympathizer and, far from denying the fact, gloried in it. In a community aflame with excitement and prejudice, growing accustomed to every expression of violence, this was offending enough.

### Slaughter of Troops.

It was enough, too, to drive Jesse from the perils of his threatened home into the ranks of the Quantrell guerrillas. There he found himself among men fittingly described as crossed between highwaymen and tigers. He was a smooth-faced boy, yet soon there was

a bullet from his unerring revolver that laid poor Johnson low, and many others were accredited to him that dreadful day. The guerrillas lost four men. Such was their usual fortune. By experience of this kind Jesse James was hardened. He was a butcher of men.

### Crime Without Parallel.

An incident characteristic of Jesse James may be related here. After the war, traveling in Tennessee, he found the widow of an old comrade. It happened that a mortgage upon her home was to be foreclosed that day, and she was momentarily expecting the Sheriff and the money lender. The sum she needed was \$500. Jesse had this with him, but no more, and he was far from home, but he gave it to her. Then he secreted himself by the roadside, watched the officials and the lender arrive and depart, and stepping from ambush with leveled pistols, made them disgorge the entire amount, with which he went on his way, happy in having saved the widow's home at the cost of a trifling inconvenience not in itself disagreeable.

When fully launched upon his criminal course, Jesse had with him Bill Anderson, the Centralia butcher, and four of the Younger brothers, as well as some others, including his own brother Frank. Frank has been for many years now a reputable, law-abiding individual. He always lacked initiative, and never had a tinge of the singular ability of Jesse. The first act known to have been committed by the gang was the robbery of a bank at Corydon, Iowa, a bold and open raid, which the perpetrators announced to a gathering of citizens as they rode away, firing their pistols. In July, 1873, they robbed a train on the C. R. I. & P. near Council Bluffs, murdering an unarmed engineer. At intervals followed a robbery on the Iron Mountain, netting \$10,000; one on the Union Pacific, where the loot was \$55,000; and another with a \$17,000 haul on the Missouri Pacific. In each instance there was displayed utter indifference as to the killing of trainmen or passengers, although possibly an inclination to leave a few dead to lend impressiveness to the occasion.

With sporadic outbreaks the James gang did nothing especially notable after the Missouri Pacific robbery until September, 1876, when they undertook to rob a bank at Northfield, Minn. The citizens fought a good fight upon learning that the bank cashier had been killed, Bill Chadwell, Clell Miller and Charley Pitts were shot to death and Bob and Jim Younger, with Jesse James, were wounded. The wounded Youngers, together with their brother Cole, were captured and sentenced to prison for life. Bob died in prison. Cole and Jim were pardoned in 1901, and a year later Cole committed suicide. Frank James managed to get the injured Jesse into Dakota and away.

### Killed by Treachery.

Such a life as Jesse James led was bound to culminate in tragedy. Governor Crittenden, of Missouri, disgusted at the futile efforts of officers and detectives to take him, offered a reward of \$10,000 for his capture. One "Bob" Ford, with his brother Charles, determined to secure this sum. They had won the confidence of the outlaws, the solitary instance, perhaps, in which his judgment of men led him astray. These boys had the freedom of the James home. They were both there one warm day in 1882. Because of the heat Jesse had removed coat and vest and then laid aside his arms, a lack of precaution he had never before been known to exhibit. Observing that a picture on the wall was askew, he mounted a chair to adjust it. This gave the Fords their chance. They had edged between Jesse James and the bed on which lay his pistols. Bob then shot him in the back of the head. There were a few gasps and Jesse James, bandit and outlaw, was dead. He lived just long enough to be gathered into the arms of his wife. The revolver that was used for his undoing had been his own gift to the man who used it. The Fords got their money, a pardon from the Governor and the detestation of even the enemies of Jesse James. Thereafter they knew no peace. There was none so mean as to extend a hand to them. Charles Ford committed suicide in Richmond. There were no mourners. Bob Ford drifted to Colorado, became an unwelcome habitue of gambling halls and was shot in a drunken brawl.

For long there has hung in the Samuels home a framed scroll bearing this inscription:

In Loving Remembrance of my Beloved Son  
JESSE W. JAMES  
Died April 3, 1882  
Aged 34 years 6 months 28 days.  
Murdered by a Traitor and Coward  
Whose Name is Not Worthy to Appear Here.

Such is a brief sketch of Jesse James, dauntless, desperate, brutal, a soldier of vengeance, who warred upon society, his hand against every man, his legacy the memory of bitterness.—Henry James in Philadelphia Ledger.

### The Coop.

"This flat is a mere coop."  
"Yes, John," said his wife sweetly, "and the cook has just flew it."—Pittsburg Post.

## BABCOCK MILK TEST.

Simple, Accurate and Easily Mastered With Little Study

By J. H. Frazer, Professor of Dairying, University of Idaho, Moscow.

A great deal has been written about testing milk and a large number of farmers already use the Babcock test; but enough inquiries have come to the writer to warrant the assertion that the subject is not yet fully understood. Many seem to have the idea that the Babcock test is a complicated, and at best an unreliable affair. This is an erroneous idea and should not be allowed to prevail. The test is simple, accurate and easily mastered by anyone who will give the matter a little careful study and attention. It must be borne in mind that the accuracy and value of the test depend not alone on the test, but quite as much on the proper taking of the sample. If that is improperly done the results are of little value. For example, the writer has known of cow-owners who, when desiring to test the milk of an individual cow, have taken the sample by milking directly into the sample bottle. When it is known that the first part of a cow's milk is largely water and the last part of strappings is very rich in fat, it is self-evident that such a sample would yield results of little value so far as determining the actual richness of that particular cow's milk.

The milk to be tested should be poured from one can into another several times or carefully stirred with a stirrer until it is of a uniform mixture. The sample is then immediately taken, preferably with a small, long handled dipper. If the testing cannot be done soon after the sample is taken it must be placed in an airtight jar and some preservative added to keep it sweet.

The Babcock test bottles are graduated on the supposition that an 18 gram sample is taken. Milk varies very little in its specific gravity and a pipette graduated to hold 17.6 cubic centimeters will deliver approximately 18 grams of milk. When the sample is ready for testing, the jar containing it should be placed in warm water and slowly heated to a temperature of about 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix the sample well; especially see that any cream which may have gathered on the side of the jar is carefully mixed with the other part of the sample. The measuring pipette is now filled to the mark. This is done by sucking the milk up into the pipette above the mark; the dry forefinger is immediately placed over the top of the pipette to prevent the milk from escaping. By gently releasing the pressure the milk is allowed to flow out until level with the mark on the stem of the pipette. The pipette now contains the 18 grams.

The sample is now emptied into the test bottle. To do this the test bottle should be held in a slanting position, the pressure on the pipette released, allowing the milk to slowly run into the bottle in such a way as to allow the air to gradually escape from the bottle.

The next step is adding the acid. This is measured in the acid graduate; the exact amount to use will depend largely on the strength of the acid, the temperature of the sample to be tested, etc. If ordinary commercial sulphuric acid is used, 17.6 cubic centimeters will be found approximately correct. With a little individual experimenting the tester will soon notice the proper amount to use. To prevent the burning or charring of any part of the milk the acid is poured slowly down the side of the bottle until all has been added. Now give the bottle a gentle rotary motion, thus giving the acid a chance to act equally on all parts of the milk. Then let it stand three or four minutes, after which it is given another rotary movement and then placed in the tester.

The bottles are placed in the tester in such a position as to keep the machine balanced. The bottles should now be whirled for five or six minutes at such speed as is generally marked on the machine. The machine is now allowed to slow down for the purpose of adding water to the bottles. Enough water is added to bring the contents up to the neck of the bottle, after which the machine is again started and run for two minutes, again stopped and sufficient warm water added to bring all the fat contents up into the graduated part of the bottle. After another whirling of one minute the samples are to be read. It may be well to state that it is preferable to use soft water and that the temperature should be about 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

To read the amount of fat, take one bottle out at a time, hold it upright, the graduated part should be on a level with the eyes. The difference between the highest and lowest limits of the butter fat column is the amount of butter fat expressed in per cent direct. Most milk bottles are graduated up to 10 per cent, each large division indicates one per cent and each small division two-tenths of one per cent of butter fat. To illustrate the method of reading let it be supposed that the top of the fat column is at 8.5, and the bottom at 4.5, then the readings 8.5-4.5 equals 4 per cent fat. This means that in 100 pounds of this kind of milk there would be exactly 4 pounds of fat.

If the testing has been properly done the butter fat column should be perfectly clear, of a brownish yellow color; the line separating it from the acid should be clear and distinct. Too strong acid is apt to cause black or

chared particles to appear in the milk. This same result may also be due to too high temperature of either the milk or the acid. Insufficient amount of acid or too weak acid or too low temperature of the milk may result in a white or cloudy test.

Much more complete directions accompany each outfit—the principal object of this article is to impress upon farmers the simplicity of the test and that there is nothing mysterious or mystifying about it. It is so simple that any one of ordinary intelligence, willing to give it a little time and patience, can easily master all its details. When the farmer fully realizes that it furnishes him a key not only for selecting out his unprofitable cows, but also for checking up his creamery man, he will not be slow to make use of the Babcock test.

## FAMILY HOTBEDS.

Some Good Suggestions for the Small Beginner.

By J. R. Thies, University of Idaho, Moscow.

Some kind of a hotbed is an essential factor if one is to secure crops from plants that require an exceptionally long season for maturing. A hotbed also affords an opportunity to grow certain crops, such as radishes and lettuce, in advance of the season. Such crops as tomatoes, cabbages, celery and cauliflower, practically demand that they be started in the hotbed before they are transplanted to the field, especially in the North. As these crops must ever be regarded as the staple product of every well-balanced garden, the construction and management of hotbeds is a very timely topic for the prospective gardener to consider.

First of all, a hotbed may be defined as an inclosure covered with sash and furnished with artificial heat so that the plants are kept in an actively growing condition. Common stable manure constitutes the main source for securing this heat. There are several requirements that should be noted regarding the kind and quality of manure used for hotbeds. It should be practically the same age throughout, and it should be of such texture that when packed it will neither be stiff nor will it be soggy. On the other hand, it should respond with springy elasticity beneath the weight of a man, without fluffing up when the pressure is removed. Horse manure which has become one-third to one-half straw composing its total bulk will usually be found to provide this requisite texture. Moreover, this manure should be fresh, in order that fermentation may proceed rapidly.

The process of fermentation is started before the manure is placed in the hotbed. To accomplish this the manure is usually piled in long, shallow, square-topped piles; if dry when piled, it is moistened throughout, and if it is apt to become water-soaked, as is the case in rainy climates, it should be piled under shelter, for where so much moisture is present manure will remain cold. The first fermentation is almost sure to be irregular, so it is necessary to fork over the pile, distributing the hot manure throughout the mass, in order to get the heat uniformly distributed. When it is noted that steam is coming from the pile again uniformly, it may be taken as evidence that the manure is ready to place in the hotbed.

After one thoroughly understands the important details of preparing the manure for the purpose of heating, attention should be called to the location and construction of the pit and frames. Pits are usually dug from 24 to 30 inches deep and of sufficient size to admit the frames being placed inside their walls. Such pits should be located near some much-frequented path, in order that they are sure to receive the requisite amount of attention. Always have the hotbed facing the south and if such a site is available, put it on the south side of some building or tight board fence or hill. Protection should also be sought from the prevailing winds, for winds have a decided effect in carrying away the heat. A well-drained location is also an essential requirement.

Hotbed sash are 3x6 feet in size and cost about \$3 each. Frames for these sash are made with the back 12 inches higher than the front, the latter being 10 inches. The number of sash and the size of the frame will depend upon the needs of the family. Usually one frame 3x6 feet will afford sufficient hotbed area for a family of six.

Before the frame is placed upon the pit the fermenting manure is placed in the pit and thoroughly compacted, bringing the level of the manure to within three inches of the surface of the soil. From three to six inches of good loamy garden soil are distributed evenly over the surface of the manure in order to furnish a seed bed. The seed is not planted until the excessive heat of the first few days has begun to subside. By the use of a thermometer the temperature may be accurately ascertained. Tomatoes may be sown at a temperature of 90 to 80 degrees, cabbage and lettuce from 80 to 70 degrees.

Railway whistles inflict torture on so many people that the efforts abroad to check the plague have won approval from the people. Austria has introduced a system of dumb signaling to start and stop the trains. Belgium is trying compressed air whistles instead of steam, and Germany experiments with horn



ROBBERY OF THE STAGE COACH BY THE JAMES GANG.

admitted. His mother was a native of Kentucky, and when the mutterings of civil war were first heard her sympathies were with the South. So were those of Doctor Samuels. In these sympathies it was but natural that the boy should share. Quantrell's guerrilla organization had operated before the declaration of war. It was a sinister group, wholly without mercy, hideous in its methods. Its members made up of social renegades steeped in crime, and bent upon revenge.

### Quantrell's Guerrillas.

Quantrell had a grievance against some of the marauders of the border. Others had sworn to kill all the Federals they could in reprisal against outrages committed by sympathizers with the cause of the North. As Quantrell gained prestige some soldiers deserted the Confederate ranks to join him, impelled by a blood-lust not to be satisfied on the battlefield. They craved the joy of murder. They gave no quarter. No prisoner was spared. As fighters they were demons. They relied upon skill as horsemen and with revolvers. When they went into action it was with a fiendish zest that could not be withstood.

It was the practice of every Quantrell follower to take the reins in his teeth, guide the horse by pressure of the knees alone and, with a revolver in each hand, plunge at full speed into the heart of the enemy. There was no preliminary order, "Trot, gallop!" but the trained horses sprang to the utmost gait on the instant. The rush was a terrifying spectacle, pitiless, awful; a veritable swath of death.

not one of his comrades a more dangerous fighter. He was as good a rider as any, a better shot than any, and the ferocity that had slumbered within him was roused to a pitch that made him as demoniac as the rest of the iniquitous brotherhood of butchery.

The exploits of the guerrillas, in which Jesse soon took active part, were almost beyond belief in their reckless daring, their frenzied brutality. The affair at Centralia illustrates the actuating spirit. One day—it was September 24, 1864—a train bearing twenty-four Federal soldiers, rolled into the little station. Upon the platform awaited Bill Anderson, one of Quantrell's most savage followers, and enough of his associates to overawe the soldiers. The twenty-four were marched out of their car, stood in a line and slaughtered to a man.

Soon after 300 troops under Major Johnson sought to punish this deed, and approached a rendezvous where there were 262 of the guerrillas. Johnson adopted suicidal tactics. Evidently he did not understand Quantrell's way. He caused his men to dismount, and thus they stood awaiting the onslaught. On came the guerrillas like a whirlwind. They could not be withstood. Human courage could not endure against these grinning devils, who rode with teeth bared and holding the reins. After one volley the troops fled. They were pursued as foxes are pursued, and of the 300 only eighteen escaped. The rest were not wounded. They were dead.

In this charge Jesse James, having the best horse, was in the lead. It was