

"SECOND MESSIAH" LED QUIET LIFE

Cyrus Teed Differed Radically From Other Claimants to Such Honor.

WAS THOROUGHLY SINCERE

Collected Much Money, but Spent It in Developing the Koreshan Faith and Colony—Curious "Scientific" Proofs.

Cyrus Teed, the "second Messiah" of the Koreshan Unity, who died last week at the "city" of Estero, which he founded near Tampa, Fla., was a genius in his particular line. The man, according to his own story, had intended to become a minister of the gospel, but while studying Biblical literature became convinced that the Holy Writ was to be taken literally in all things, and thereafter devoted the remainder of his life to proving the wisdom of his idea.

Teed was sincere in his monomania, and, unlike many another "Messiah," was not in the business for revenue. While he collected large sums of money, he spent practically all of it in an endeavor to prove his peculiar theories, and in private he was a simple and modest in his tastes. To this fact, perhaps, more than to anything else, he owed his escape from newspaper notoriety, the banes and ruin of so many of his fellow-Messiahs.

Teed first came into what may be termed prominence in Chicago in 1882, when he conducted a series of experiments on Lake Michigan to prove the surface of the earth to be concave, instead of convex. This belief, which was one of the basic ones of his philosophy, he found necessary to bolster up Biblical statements which he interpreted to declare that heaven was the center of the universe. Teed had always heard that heaven was above him, and he saw no other way of getting it in the center of things unless he could prove the convexity of the earth, a myth.

"Scientific" Proof Made.

Science told Teed that the surface of large bodies of water was rounded. He therefore erected two posts near the shore line of Lake Michigan, and built between them an accurately level and horizontal crossbar. On the ends of this was affixed a brass plate at right angles to the top level. Against this plate Teed placed a long rod with squared ends, and at the end of the first rod a second similar one was held.

This was continued repeatedly until the last rod, because of the weight of each one interfering with exact adjustment, touched the water. Thus "Koreshan" had what he fancied a horizontal line touching the surface of Lake Michigan at points a half mile apart, and to him this demonstrated the "convexity" of the curve of the lake surface.

The telescope afforded Teed another favorite "proof" of the earth's convexity. He quoted science as saying that the disappearance of a ship from sight was caused by the convexity of the sea's surface, and then asked if that were so why it was that the telescope enabled one to see a ship after the naked eye could no longer distinguish it.

Later in his career Teed conducted a college where his "scientific principles" were taught. In this college the student also learned that heaven was the center of the world, and that the earth, that central abode of bliss was protected from human eyes by alternate folds of black paper and quicksilver, that the stars were minute holes in the outer covering of black with the quicksilver showing through. Hairs, also, was taught a remarkable science, giving a knowledge of a bone in the tongue which began to decay after a person had carried it around for "three score years and ten." This decay, however, giving a Koreshan declared he was immortal because he had this remarkable bone removed.

Performed Miracles, Too.

Teed also performed miracles, as was proper for a Messiah. One of his first ones was turning vegetable matter into mineral matter. This he did in the twinkling of an eye. He took a marble, gave the general address to his audience, and then lit it. After it had partly burned he blew it out, and pointing to the black part, would say:

"And now it is carbon, and carbon is a mineral, so I have changed wood into stone."

Teed also claimed that he could turn the baser metals into gold, but he did not demonstrate this in public.

In 1886 Teed left Chicago and went to Boston, which was at that time suffering from an influx of Indian "Swamis." Here he hired the "back parlor" of a cheap boarding-house, and soon converted the house into a temple, where he gathered his disciples with them at the table. They told their friends of the "second Messiah" they had for a table mate, and the boarding-house was soon converted into a temple of the money the landlady thus took in later went to found Teed's ill-starred colony in Florida, and the better house became a business hereafter, a high priestess in his church.

Teed a Handsome Man.

In appearance Teed was a finely built man of commanding aspect. He was considerably over average height, with a high forehead and strong features. He kept his face smooth shaven, and wore a long black coat and a broad sombrero of the same color, and did not at all have the appearance of a religious crank.

In conversation he was calm and persuasive, and always avoided argument. He stated his beliefs and his proof of them, and allowed his hearers to accept them or not, as they wished.

Shortly after he founded his "New Jerusalem" colony in Florida, Teed became involved in several lawsuits brought against him by converts who became dissatisfied with their life in the South, and who desired their donations returned. Teed did not have the money at hand, and judgments against him multiplied his resources until his colony never fully recovered, and the decline of the movement began shortly afterward.

HENRY POOR GOES TO WALL

Prominent New York Broker Assigns to Creditors.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Henry W. Poor, trading as Henry W. Poor, at 23 Wall street, made an assignment today for the benefit of his creditors. Mr. Poor is a member of the banking house of H. W. Poor & Co., of this city and Boston. The liabilities are \$3,000,000.

A notice posted on the door of the banking offices of H. W. Poor & Co., says that "Henry W. Poor, transacting

WINS NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEST FOR \$25 DOLL.



LOTTIE ADAMS, AGED THREE. Little 3-year-old Lottie Adams is the proud possessor of a beautiful \$5 doll, awarded to her as the winner of a contest held in North Portland. The contest was determined by vote of the neighborhood and was open to children up to the age of 12. It has been on for about one month and interest has been at a high pitch during the week preceding Christmas. Little Miss Adams has held the lead safely during that time, although several other contestants have been but a few votes behind. The total vote finally awarded the winner was 486. The happy little girl is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Adams, who reside at 725 Xavier street.

business at Henry W. Poor & Co., in New York City, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors to Mark T. Cox, of Robert Winthrop & Co., which Mr. Poor, for many years has been a prominent figure in financial circles in this city and Boston. He lives in the magnificent residence at Lexington avenue and Gramercy Park North, which was erected by the late Cyrus W. Field. One of the finest private collections of books in this world was deposited in his home, and a large number of the choicest were deposited in Mr. Poor's hands. He had extensive interests outside of his banking and brokerage business. He is president of the company which published Poor's Railway Manual. He is a native of Bangor, Me., 64 years old and was a member of the class of '65 at Harvard. He is a member of many clubs.

Woman Murderer, Confessed, Calls Prison Her Heaven

Life in Cell Has Worked Wonders for Mrs. Kate Edwards, Husband-Slayer.

READING, Pa., Dec. 25.—(Special).—A visitor in the Berks County Jail here sees in one of the clean, well-lighted cells a woman prisoner, contentedly busy with needlework.

"And what is she here for?" he asks. "Murder," she replies. "She was being hanged for killing her husband, and sentenced to be hanged."

"To be hanged? When?" "Probably never. Death warrants have been read to her half a dozen times, but two Governors have now declined to fix the day for her execution, and it is now probable that she will never go on the gallows. In fact, her guilt is uncertain, though she once confessed it and saved a man from hanging."

Mrs. Kate Edwards has been in Reading jail since July 4, 1901, and has for seven years been under sentence of death. Once a gallows was erected where she could see it from her window. Then came a reprieve.

With her soul already dedicated to its Giver, she once was called upon to part from her little daughter under circumstances of the most dramatic character, and to see the child led away in accordance with a plan by which it could never be traced.

But far and away the most remarkable thing about the imprisonment of Kate Edwards is the metamorphosis that all her life has wrought. She came to the prison vicious to the last degree, a drunkard, unkempt, desperate and incapable. She was like a wild beast. Good women and patient ministers worked years to civilize and reform her, and even brought her to something approaching culture. They have awakened her conscience, taught her something of religion, and have changed the whole flow of her life. Imprisonment has been a godsend to her.

Orphaned when 7 years old, she was married at 17 to John Edwards, a drunken quartermaster. She was absolutely without education, and he was free from principle. He beat her and choked her and made her his beast of burden. Five children were borne to them, and in their miserable lives they were a curse to her.

White neighbors would have nothing to do with them, and Edwards formed an intimacy with Samuel Gresson, a negro fellow laborer. He took the negro to his home and they joined in drunken orgies, in which the woman and his children were forced to participate.

On the morning of July 4, 1901, John Edwards was found dead with his skull crushed. Kate Edwards, her daughter Mary, aged 14, Samuel Gresson, Charlie Thompson (all the men negroes) were at one time or another committed to prison on suspicion of guilt.

Kate Edwards was tried at the September session of the Berks County Court of Oyer and Terminer and was found guilty of murder in the first degree. The death sentence was imposed. In December of the same year Gresson was tried and likewise convicted of first degree murder. He was sentenced to be hanged. All the others were discharged. It is a fact beyond controversy that if the evidence on which the negro was convicted was true the woman's guilt was impossible.

The battle that ensued to save the woman from the gallows is unique in legal history. For four years, upon one allegation or another the case was kept before

the Board of Pardons of the state of Pennsylvania. Over and over again the Board refused commutation of sentence. The Superior Court and the Supreme Court turned back, and finally, in February, 1905, it seemed that both the white woman and the negro must die. Governor Pennypacker signed a document long begging Governor Harrison to interfere in the woman's behalf. A committee of some of the most prominent citizens of Ohio walked on the Governor at Harrisburg on February 11, two days before that fixed for the execution, and presented the petition.

But on the same Kate Edwards made a confession that changed completely the complexion of the case. In an affidavit she declared that she alone was responsible for the death of her husband, and that the negro, Gresson, was innocent.

Already Gresson's case had three times been before the State Supreme Court. Over and over again his case had been before the Board of Pardons. But, armed with this new document, and with new evidence to support it, Gresson's attorneys went again before the Board of Pardons just 24 hours before the time for execution and a reprieve of one month was secured to permit another appeal to the Supreme Court. As the woman's evidence would be necessary in the new trial, she was also reprieved for a month. The big silver and gold gallows was taken down and the shadow of death for awhile removed.

Again Gresson's case went before the Supreme Court and a new trial was ordered. The jury found a verdict of not guilty and the man who had ten death warrants read to him walked out of prison a free man.

But the same time Samuel W. Pennypacker was still Governor of Pennsylvania. When the women of Ohio, 275,000 strong, implored him to save fellow laborer. He took the negro to his home and they joined in drunken orgies, in which the woman and his children were forced to participate.

MAIL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE OUR PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION



Complete Is Our Showing of Office Furniture

The largest and most dependable line of office furniture shown in Portland, the most reasonably priced—selected for the purpose of meeting the demands of any office—roll-top desks, flat-top desks, typewriter desks, standing desks, office tables, directors' tables, rotary chairs, office chairs, etc.; in the mahogany and golden oak—polished and dull finishes. All improvements that experience has suggested are displayed in our line of desks—in their respective grades they are unexcelled in quality of material, workmanship and finish—with the most satisfactory, and many special features in arrangement and equipment of interiors. The new sanitary designs are extensively shown in the roll and flat-top styles. Sanitary roll-top desks, from \$38.50 up. Sanitary flat-top desks, from \$26.00 up. Roll-top desks in the standard design, from \$23.50 up. Flat-top desks in the standard design, from \$21.00 up. Mail orders and out-of-town inquiries given prompt and careful attention.

New Spring Line of Bigelow Axminster Carpets

Our new and exclusive line of Bigelow Axminster Carpets for the Spring is now ready for inspection. The designs and colorings surpass all previous efforts of this famous mill, and our stock is a careful and varied selection of the most artistic of their productions. The harmonious blending of tans, browns, blues and rose, in Oriental and conventional designs, make these carpets most desirable for general furnishing. We suggest early selection by those who contemplate buying new floor-coverings in the Axminster weave. The Carpet Department.—Sixth Floor.

Art Wall Papers

For the artistic and distinctive treatment of interiors we show an exclusive line of foreign wallpapers and fabrics—art productions from the world's most famous manufacturers. Silk damask and leather effects; Japanese hand-decorated leathers for vestibules, library and living-room friezes and wainscoting; sleeping-room papers, in dainty floral effects, with etronnes to match; dining-room verdure papers in Old English tapestry effects. We employ only skilled workmen in all branches of decorative and drapery work. An expert decorator is at your command for suggesting the most artistic and practical decorative schemes.



"The Malleable" Is the Range Indestructible—Riveted to Airtightness—Will Last a Lifetime

Embodying all that fully meets the demand for the most modern—the most durable—the most economical range; the product of skilled range-builders—made of malleable iron and steel in combination—riveted together like a boiler—unbreakable—can't burn out—no repair expense—saves time and labor. "The Malleable" is the range where the very best results in cooking and baking are a certainty—where every feature of construction combines for comfort and convenience in the kitchen. Those who have in mind the buying of such a range should investigate the sterling qualities of "The Malleable."

Bedding Specials

Monday and Tuesday, in the Bedding Section—Sixth Floor. Feather Pillows in stripe ticking; regular \$1.50 values, at, the pair, .90c. Cotton Blankets—gray, tan, brown and white; regular \$1.40 values, pair 90c. Silkoline and Satine-covered Comforters; full size; reg. \$3.00 values, pair \$1.85. Silkoline-covered Comforters, full size; regular \$1.50 values, the pair, \$1.15.

Sale of Dressers

Three patterns from our line of medium-price Dressers, in the golden oak—these bedroom pieces showing unusually good selection of oak stock, trimmings of cast brass, and the design and construction throughout are the best that is displayed in this grade. Sale Monday and Tuesday. Golden oak Dresser, with large shaped oblong mirror; special \$14.75. Golden oak Dresser, with oval-shaped mirror; special \$14.75. Princess Dresser, in the golden oak; has fancy shaped mirror; special \$14.85.

TULL & GIBBS Complete Housefurnishers. FURNITURE REPAIRING, UPHOLSTERING AND REFINISHING. OLD PIECES MADE LIKE NEW, AND AT MOST REASONABLE COST. WOOD AND COAL HEATERS GAS RANGES IN THE BASEMENT

BIG RUSH, BUT PREPARED

POSTOFFICE MOVES HOLIDAY MAIL MORE EASILY. Greatest Season of Business in History of Portland—Office Open for Two Hours Today.

PHONOGRAPH IS WITNESS

Reproduces in Court the Cries of a Woman for Help.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26.—As a detector of crime the phonograph came into prominence in Pittsburgh, when C. A. Rumstap, through the testimony of a record, was held for court on a charge of assault and battery by Magistrate G. H. England. The information was made by John E. Hinds, of 21 Taggart street, North Side, on behalf of his wife.

When the alleged attack was committed on Mrs. Hinds the screams of the woman were faithfully recorded on a blank record which had been placed in the machine to reproduce a piano solo which Mrs. Ella Rittenhouse, a friend of Mrs. Hinds, was playing. The music suddenly ceased and the sensitive disk recorded cries for help instead.

It is alleged that Rumstap went to the house in Taggart street to get a phonograph he had sold to Mrs. Rittenhouse, formerly a tenant of the house. Mrs. Rittenhouse had sold the phonograph to the Hinds family. Mrs. Hinds explained the facts to Rumstap, and it is asserted that he wanted to take the instrument away.

Mrs. Hinds refused to give up the property and it is alleged, Rumstap attacked her and knocked her down. Mrs. Rittenhouse left her seat at the piano to assist Mrs. Hinds and forgot to stop the instrument.

Burrell and Robert Livingstone, will meet tomorrow at the lunch hour at the club. The committee has not convened for some time, and several matters will come up for discussion and action. No formal programme in the line of business to be transacted by the committee has been prepared, but quite a number of matters brought before it for consideration and recommendation. Employees of the Commercial Club were made glad on Christmas day, when they were the recipients of the annual purse contributed by the resident members of the organization. About \$1500 was contributed, each one giving at least \$1 to the fund.

men who are drunk and is usually well filled. The entire jail is designed to hold only 25 men, but eighty-three were confined there Friday night. The jail was erected when Portland had a population of 12,000. It has not been enlarged a single foot since that time, though the city has grown immeasurably in population. And it is the only branch of the municipal government whose quarters have not been enlarged from time to time as the city grows. It is believed that one of the other men in the crowded cell must have fallen on top of Burns and slept in that position, smothering the man beneath.

NOW IS THE TIME To buy your evening dress coat or cape, at Le Palais Royal. Come early; every one is included in our great clearance sale, 325 Washington street.

W. C. T. U. Reception. The W. C. T. U. will give a reception at 2:30 P. M. on New Year's day at the headquarters, 406 Goodnough building, corner Fifth and Yamhill streets. The programme is in charge of the Y. W. C.

CROWDED CELL IS FATAL Prisoner at City Jail Dies From Being Smothered.

Robert Burns, 27 years old, a machinist, died in a cell in the City Jail yesterday morning as a result of alcoholism and of the overcrowded conditions at the jail. Burns was one of 12 men who slept in a cell 8x3 feet Friday night.

"Because the trains were on time and because we were fortunate in having with us this year, many clerks employed last year, we have been able to handle all of the first-class mail without trouble. The office in handling this kind of matter, has kept up to the minute and it will be only a few days before everything will be cleaned up."

In order to hurry the work of delivering the stacks of registered matter, Postmaster Minto yesterday decided to keep the general delivery window at the general office open an hour longer than usual. The same order will prevail at all of the branch offices. The windows will be open from 10 o'clock in the morning until noon, and this will give those who are expecting presents a chance to receive them should they call.

Executive Committee to Meet. The executive committee of the Portland Commercial Club, composed of T. B. Wilcox, A. L. Mills, William M. Ladd, J. C. Ainsworth, J. Frank Watson, I. N. Fleischer, T. D. Honeyman, Walter F.

Tomorrow Is Washday, Avoid Its Troubles by Sending to the UNION LAUNDRY COMPANY Where Linen Lasts FAMILY WASHING Rough dry 5c a pound, rough dry by the piece 1c up Lace Curtains 30c Per Pair Call Main 398 or A 1123