

SAW DEATH ANGEL

Apparition That Appeared to Royal Children.

Story Related by Governess of Russian Princesses—Czar and Czarina Believe Supernatural Figure Really Was Visible.

Grand Duke Ernest of Hesse had a very pretty little daughter by his first wife, Princess Victoria Melita of Great Britain and Coburg, now married to Grand Duke Cyril of Russia. This little girl's name was Elizabeth, and on account of her beauty and sprightly cleverness she was a universal favorite and the only tie between her parents after the estrangement. F. Cunliffe Owen writes in the New York World.

While staying with her uncle and aunt, the present czar and czarina, at their picturesque country seat in Poland, she succumbed when seven years old to poison—ptomaine poison, according to some, but according to others drugs conveyed into food or drink by the nihilists for the purpose of taking the life of Emperor Nicholas.

A remarkable account of the affair is given by an English woman of the name of Miss Eager, who, after spending a number of years in the service of the emperor and empress of Russia as the nursery governess of their young children, published on her return to England, with the full authority and approval of their majesties, a volume entitled "Six Years at the Court of Russia."

According to her, little Princess Elizabeth, or "Ella," of Hesse was taken ill one afternoon or night and died before the following morning. Between nine o'clock and ten o'clock two of the little girls of the czarina, who were sleeping together in a room adjoining that of their seven-year-old cousin of Hesse, suddenly alarmed every one within hearing by the most frantic screams.

When the empress, Miss Eager and the doctors rushed in they found the two little grand duchesses standing up on their beds, shrieking and shaking with terror. It was some time before they could be soothed, and then they related that they had seen a man with flowing robes and huge wings in their room. While they were still talking the eyes of both children suddenly dilated with terror, and both pointing in the same direction, they cried: "Look! Look! There he is again. He has gone into Ella's room. Oh! Poor Ella! Poor Ella!"

Neither Miss Eager nor the czarina, nor yet the physicians, could see anything. But a few moments later Princess Ella suddenly sat up in her bed, crying: "I am choking. I am choking! Send for mamma!" Three hours afterward the child, who had immediately after the cry for her mother fallen into a state of coma, passed away, in the absence, of course, of her parents.

Miss Eager expressed her firm conviction that the little grand duchesses had seen a supernatural apparition and that the apparition in question was the angel of death. That the czar and czarina shared her impression is shown by the fact that they had authorized her to publish the story in her book, as well as by the circumstance that she retains their favor and good will and is in receipt of an annuity from them for the remainder of her days.

Not the Man.

Arduppe—My love for you, dear Miss Roxley, is a consuming fire that burns everything in its path.

Miss Roxley—Then I fear it would be unwise to choose such a husband to handle my money.

New Bug Killer.

A new piece of agricultural apparatus has been developed for the purpose of combating the destructive bugs and undesirable vegetable growths by an application of steam to the soil penetrating some distance below the surface. The machine carries a steam generating plant and moves over the surface on a large drum, the periphery of which is staggered with protruding steam outlets in the shape of blades or spines. As the apparatus is drawn over the ground the spines imbed themselves in the soil and while in this position the steam is released and penetrates the soil for some distance around the outlet, killing the worms, larvae and bugs and the undesirable crop of weeds which seed themselves from one season to another.

Four and a Half Ton Mirror.

The 100-inch-diameter reflector for the Mount Wilson observatory in California, which will be finished early next year, will be the largest mirror ever cast. It will be 13 inches thick and will contain, in one solid piece, 4½ tons of glass.—Engineering Record.

BRINGS TALE; LEAVES FOOT

Eskimo Arrives at New York With Thrilling Account of Encounter With Grizzly Bear.

Blubbering with joy, Aswatak, an Eskimo, to be known on the Pennsylvania farm, whither he has gone, by the stern patronym of Morris Levy, was released from Ellis island in charge of Miss Martha Lintner, a nurse at the Grenfell mission, in Labrador, says the New York Herald. Aswatak (until he reaches Pennsylvania) has only one foot. The other, the left, was chewed off by a grizzly bear, wherein lies the story.

Aswatak—which means "the chilly baby"—is sixteen years old, but, according to the story, he's so brave that Labrador is probably relieved to be rid of his daring spirit.

Miss Lintner, who brought him back with her, had trouble getting him into the country, but finally appeals to Washington were answered, and Aswatak is off to the farm.

But to the tale of that missing foot. On a cold, wind-swept night in Bolster's Rock, Labrador, little Aswatak and his mother huddled about the whale oil lamp, wondering if Papa Aswatak, the daring fisherman, was riding the gale. Suddenly from outside the igloo there came a scratching and the hearts of Aswatak and his mother congealed. They knew it was the dread scratching of a polar bear scratching his way in to make a meal off them.

Sundries in the way of dried moose meat and mission tracts were used to bolster the fast weakening wall of the igloo, but all in vain.

Through a ragged aperture gloomed the horrid face of a grizzly bear. He yawned in anticipation of little Aswatak—a plump youth—just as Aswatak kicked with his left foot. The foot reached the open mouth just as it closed, and just as Aswatak's mother dropped the whale oil lamp on the bear's head. With a groan of pain and anger the grizzly loped lightly away, blazing with wrath and whale oil, but still clinging to Aswatak's foot.

Aswatak was taken to the hospital at St. Anthony's, where he recovered sufficiently to be brought to this country. So goes the tale of Aswatak as told by himself.

Preventing Soil Erosion.

Soil erosion is doing business damage constantly, and few people know how to apply preventive measures. In the annual report of the bureau of soils of the department of agriculture a simple method of handling one class of erosions is described. This is the case where the soil is being washed away in gullies, and the remedy is to build a dam across the incipient gully, through which a sewer pipe is passed, connecting with an upright pipe situated at the upper side of the dam. The hollow formed by the dam will fill with water in flood conditions until the top of the upright pipe is reached, when the excess of water runs off quietly into the next field or into another impounding space below. The cutting current of the draining water is stopped and the sediment carried by it settles above the dam, thus tending to repair the damage previously done. A suitable tile drain located under the dam will dispose of the water impounded below the opening of the upright pipe.

Realistic Maneuvers.

The Turkish army might possibly be putting up a better fight just now had it been trained according to the methods adopted by one of its earlier commanders. Lord Broughton notes in his diary of January 18, 1833, that he "met Nahrnek Pasha, the Turkish ambassador, at the lord chancellor's dinner table. He gave us an account of the present grand vizier, whom he described as being very 'vif' when maneuvering his troops in sham battles; so lively, indeed, that he made them fire bullets, and charge with bayonets and kill one another, although in private life he was a mild man."

Says His Wife Could Tell.

Most men are queer, but some are queerer, especially in New York. A prize winner in the second class drew the eyes of the entire company upon him in amazement as they sat around a table in a downtown restaurant at luncheon. They had been discussing apartment house life, when one of the party turned to the man next to him and asked: "By the way, Jim, how many rooms have you in your flat?" New York flats are so small you would imagine that any man who had to pay rent for one could answer right off. But Jim said: "Blessed if I know, my wife can tell you—I can't. Never counted 'em." "Well," whispered a man opposite, "isn't he a bird. Wonder if he knows how many fingers and toes he has?"

For Sore Feet.

Wash the feet with soap and water and dry them gently, without rubbing. Then dip a piece of soft cotton in methylated spirits and apply except where the skin is broken. When dry, dust the feet with a powder composed of equal parts of starch and boracic powder.



IN A KERRY VILLAGE

THE historical and political importance of Ireland has created in the minds of many Americans an exaggerated idea of the island's physical proportions and the density of its population, two vital factors in England's task of suppressing the rebellion which had its inception in the capital and largest city, Dublin. According to the National Geographic society's bulletin the whole of Ireland embraces an area slightly less than the state of Maine, but with a population almost six times as dense. In comparison with the governing country, it is three-fifths as large as England and Wales, with one-ninth the population. The island is one of the very few sections of the civilized world where the population has shown a marked decrease during the last century. The first census of the island, taken in 1821, recorded a population almost 50 per cent larger than at the present time, while the census of 1841 showed the high-water mark of more than eight millions, nearly twice the present population of 4,375,000. This remarkable decrease, due largely to emigration, began after the famine brought about by the destructive disease which attacked the potato crops of 1845. This calamity resulted in the withdrawal of more than a million acres from cultivation within two years. Incidentally the potato, which has played such an important role in the life of Ireland during the last 300 years, is not indigenous to the island, but was one of the food gold mines discovered by the Spaniards in their conquest of Peru. The country is directly indebted to Sir Walter Raleigh



TORC CASCADE

for its "Irish" potatoes, as it was he who brought them from what is now North Carolina and planted them on his estate near Cork in 1585.

Mountains, Bogs and Lakes.

Ireland lies on the western rim of what was once a part of Continental Europe. It has numerous mountains, the highest being the McGillicuddy Reeks (3,414 feet), in the Killarney region, but there is no mountain chain or elevated "backbone." There is a more or less well-defined central plain, however, the distinguishing feature of which is its bogs—the black bog producing the famous peat fuel,

differentiated from the brown bogs of the mountains. If the whole island were brought to a mean level it would rise 400 feet above the sea.

The lakes, or loughs, of Ireland are among its most widely appreciated physical characteristics, their scenic beauty being the inspiration of poets, painters and musicians. Nor have the Irish rivers been overlooked in appraisals of the island's beauties. The Shannon, which flows for 250 miles from the county of Cavan in the northwest to the Atlantic in the southwest, is the longest water course in the United Kingdom. It is navigated by large steamers for half its length, and is connected with Dublin by means of the Grand and Royal canals.

Although coal is found in most of the 32 counties into which the island is divided, and there is considerable iron ore, mining is not an important industry. Gold was being mined in a modest way in County Wicklow at the time of the rebellion of 1798, but the works were destroyed and the source of the metal has never been re-discovered.

Industries of the Island.

Agriculture and stock raising are the chief occupations of the inhabitants. At one time the woolen manufactures of the island were formidable rivals of English factories, but hostile legislation gave the industry a check from which it has never recovered. As the Irish have raised flax for centuries the manufacture of linen early became one of the important industries of the country. Irish whisky is an important article of export and one of the largest breweries in the world is located at Dublin. The island's production of beer is three and a half million barrels annually.

Shipbuilding in the great yards at Belfast is one of the most widely known of Irish activities, and the deep-sea and coast fisheries afford a livelihood for many thousands.

Thanks to the temperate influence of the west winds from the Atlantic, the thermometer rarely reaches freezing point in winter, while the average for a summer day is 60 degrees.

At Toor Head on the north the distance to Scotland (Mull of Cantire) is only 13½ miles. The Giant's Causeway, a short distance to the east of this point, is the outcropping basaltic formation which in a former age joined the two islands.

Water Seemingly Flows From Tree.

At Mount Lowe, Cal., the thirsty visitor has only to turn on a faucet projecting from a large tree near the hotel and water begins to flow. No water pipes are to be seen, and curiosity is aroused at once. The lower part of the tree is hollow, and the pipes are run underground and up through the hollow part to a knothole, where a faucet is attached. Around the faucet the hole is plugged up with cement which looks like the tree itself.

Wise Practice of the Incas.

The Incas, ancient rulers of Peru, were one of the earliest authentic examples of the high eugenic development of the human race. Their system of choosing each year the finest physical specimens of young womanhood from all classes to become "brides of the sun," or wives of the ruler, having quite an opposite effect to that of the limited and unfortunate matrimonial customs of present day royalty.

ALL CHARGED UP TO BROWN

Janitor Had Lost Nothing and Had Made Something of a Reputation for Urbanity.

One day Brown lost his temper and determined to discipline the janitor.

"Why is it," he said, "that every time anybody in this building loses anything you ask us if we know what has become of it?"

"Because," the janitor replied, "you are the only folks that never lose anything."

Next morning Brown shouted down the dumbwaiter shaft: "We're short a bottle of milk; where is it?"

"I don't know, sir," the janitor answered humbly. "I'll see if I can find it."

"Why," said Mrs. Brown, "we got our milk."

"Don't worry," said her husband. "Of course he can't find it, but it will do him good to stew around a little."

About 15 minutes later Brown was summoned to the dumbwaiter.

"Here's your milk," said the janitor. "I'm sorry I made a mistake."

Brown was bewildered. "Now, where on earth did the fellow get it?" he said.

"He has taken it from one of the neighbors," wailed Mrs. Brown.

Next day Brown complained of the loss of a package of sugar, which, though purely imaginary, so far as the Browns were concerned, very soon materialized in the hands of the resourceful janitor. Even Brown got uneasy then; but, being bent on vengeance, he subsequently reported as lost bread, a head of lettuce, and a bag of potatoes, all of which were immediately produced by the janitor.

When Brown paid his grocery bill for the month, Mrs. Brown, who is a systematic housekeeper, scanned the account.

"Why, they have made a mistake," she said. "They have charged us for milk and sugar and things we never got."

Brown went back to the grocery to inquire.

"It's all right," he said; upon his return. "We got the stuff. The janitor ordered it."

Activities of Women.

Russia has over 3,000 women physicians.

The Woman's Trade Union of America has over 65,000 members.

Three out of every four nonagenarians in Berlin, Germany, are women.

Miss Jean T. Moehle, an automobile saleswoman, recently showed that she could handle machinery as well as sell cars. In a leather apron and blue jean coat she stood on a platform in a New York salesroom and dismantled and assembled a motor taken from a car she had driven over ten thousand miles.

The wearing of a skirt which was so tight that it interfered with the free use of her limbs caused Mrs. Della Wilson of Kansas City to lose her suit for \$5,000 damages against the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad. The jury contended that a skirt which was only 32 inches wide was entirely too narrow for free use of the feet in boarding a train.

Wonderful New Resistance Alloy.

A new alloy for use in making electric resistance was put on the market in Germany shortly before the war and is said to be of great use in case the resistance wires or strips need to be worked at a high heat; for the new alloy of chromium and nickel can be run at even a bright red heat without suffering damage, and such heating does not make the metal brittle upon long use.

Specific gravity of the alloy is 8.25, and it has a specific resistance per meter length and square millimeter section of 1.10 ohms. It can support a temperature of 1110 degrees C. on constant run. The melting point is 1400 degrees C.

The Exception.

A noted English suffragette said the other day to a New York reporter: "Your idea of us militants is that we are vixens, tartars and man-haters, but, as a matter of fact, we have in our ranks some of the most elegant and fascinating women in London society."

"No, the militant is not like Mrs. Blanc, who said to her daughter one day:

"I am certainly easy on shoes. Look at this pair of elastic sides. I've worn them three years and they're still as good as new. I'm easy on clothes, too. There's my tweed—just as fresh as the day I bought it seven years ago. And hats, gloves, stockings—in fact, I'm easy on everything."

"Except father, eh?" said the daughter, without looking up from her book.

Looked Pretty.

Patience—Folly said they had a highly-polished hardwood floor up where she called.

Patience—And did she say it looked pretty?"

"Why, of course. She said she could see herself in it."