

# Daily Coast Mail

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P. C. LEVAV, F. X. HOFER,  
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## CARDS, THEN DEATH

### A DOOMED DESERTER WHO PLAYED POKER AND WON.

As a Preliminary to His Execution  
He Had His Winnings Distributed  
Among the Members of the Squad  
That Shot Him to Death.

"It is a curious fact," said a member of Company A, Third Maryland, "that military execution had a peculiar fascination for men who were daily accustomed to see hundreds slain in battle. Men who shovel a breastwork in on a trench full of slain comrades and chew hardtack or eat salt pork while at the job with a consciousness which only such frequent scenes or occurrences would make possible in the human heart became peculiarly sensitive and alive to the solemn parade and formalities of a military execution.

"In our regiment we had a private soldier sentenced to be shot for deserting to the enemy. His name was Thompson, and he belonged to Company K. This man Thompson had deserted off vedette post one night and some two months afterward came into our lines, where members of his own company happened to be on picket duty. Thompson did not calculate on this. His idea in coming in was to surrender as a Confederate soldier and be sent north. It happened near to the Weldon railroad, where our division of the Ninth corps was then posted. Of course, on being recognized, he was taken to headquarters, and a court martial was immediately convened. It leaked out somehow that Thompson was not the humble soldier he seemed, but a Confederate officer and spy. He had been an officer in the United States navy before the war. He resigned and went south, where he secured the commission of colonel of infantry.

"Being a Marylander of family, efforts were made to save his life, but in a quiet way, as his relatives feared to disclose his real identity for fear he would be hanged as a spy instead of shot as a deserter. Friday, the day set for execution in the Army of the Potomac, came around too soon for Thompson and his relatives. The night previous he had been informed that all efforts had failed at Washington. I was on guard duty over him, and my brother was one of the detail of twelve men selected as the firing squad. My brother didn't like the job, and came to the tent where I was on guard to consult with me how to get out of it. Thompson overheard our conversation, and, knowing my brother by name, he broke in: 'Say, Tip, you must not back out. I want you in the squad, as I know you are a dead shot and will save me from the sergeant.'

"It was the practice for the sergeant if the firing squad failed to kill the doomed man with a volley to place the muzzle of his rifle against the temple of the prisoner and blow out his brains. "After Tip had consented the officer of the guard permitted us to play cards with the prisoner. He had a roll of bills, and we were soon in a stiff poker game. Two guards, including myself, my brother Tip and Thompson, composed the quartet. We played until gray daylight, and Thompson skinned the party of every dollar. He had phenomenal luck and watched the game closely.

"In the afternoon he was to die, and about noon he asked to see the lieutenant of the firing squad. Handing the officer \$500, he asked him to divide it equally among the men detailed to shoot him.

"The division was drawn up and formed three sides of a square, the fourth side being open, where the grave of Thompson was freshly dug. The band played the dead march in 'Saul,' and Thompson, at the head of the firing squad, marched around the three sides of the square, with the coffin in which he was to be inclosed carried immediately behind him. Reaching the open space, the coffin was set down. Thompson seated himself on the end of it, facing the firing squad, about twelve paces distant. The death warrant was

read, and the captain tied his handkerchief over the prisoner's eyes. I watched Thompson, curious to note if he would hear the reports of the muskets that killed him. Dressed in the lieutenant's low voice: 'Ready! Aim! Fire!'

"In the next instant Thompson toppled back into his coffin a dead man. The reports of the muskets he never heard, as I saw him swiftly fall over before I heard the guns crack, and so I settled this disputed point to my own satisfaction, and to that extent the execution of Thompson interested me and no more."—Washington Post.

**To Thread a Hair Through a Walnut.**  
To pass a hair through a walnut without boring a hole seems an impossibility, but the feat has often been done. The hull of the walnut when examined with a strong glass is seen to have innumerable small openings, some of which lead entirely through the nut. The trick consists in using a very fine hair and an infinite amount of patience. Pass the hair into one of these minute crevices and urge it gently along. Sometimes it will appear on the other side at the first trial, but if it comes out at the hundred and first you will be very lucky.

**He Had Learned It.**  
"I heard a good story the other day," began the grocery man, "about a certain politician."  
"That will do," interrupted the dis-appointed officeholder. "In the first place, there are no certain politicians."  
—Chicago News.

## CHANGES IN FASHION.

### Ways in Which a Last Year's Gown Can Be Altered.

There is a marked change in the fashion of skirts as well as in that of bodices. It has been threatened for some time past, but the authorities are keeping to graceful, becoming lines, and only occasionally do we see the very wide skirt, and a little fullness to the skirt is a decided improvement; but women, particularly the stout ones, should beware of many folds and shirtings around the hips. Some of the prettiest models of the hour, however, though more trimmed, have the skirts fairly long and rather plain to the knees.

Of course it is difficult to alter a last year's skirt, though it is quite possible



DINNER GOWN.

to make a success of it. The excessive plainness can be taken off by a shaped basque of velvet. Whenever it is possible lift the skirt up at the back so as to gain more fullness and insert a little stiffening. In evening dress this can be obviated by the addition of two long soft sash ends, always an effective mode.

The dinner gown shown is of crepe de chine and alencon lace. The bretelle sash is of pink satin edged with tulle.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

## CLOTH AND FUR STYLES.

**Cloth Coats Trimmed With Strap-pings—Far Models.**

Cloth much trimmed with flat braidings, grouped stitchings or strapplings of the material is quite the fashion for coats, and some models have an addition of fur. Furriers are showing less of the bushy type of furs, and ermine is again modish, but is used chiefly as a garniture for dark furs.

White and blue fox figure on sumptuous evening wraps and as stoles and boas with velvet and fur cloth gowns. The tender gradations of gray shows



## Pleasant Prospect

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greatest pleasure comes from the  
use of the best liquor.

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N T STREET



A TAFFETA STOLE.

In chincheilla and moleskin are more artistic when combined with cloth of sim-ilar tones and relieved by slight touches of color.

The fur coat is mostly becoming in sack form to wear over a tightly fitted skirt, but the petite woman is better suited by a bolero with a well fitted back and shaped belt.

The taffeta stole shown in the cut is composed of a double frill over the shoulders trimmed with lines of open faceting done between bandings of narrow ribbon. The hat is of mohr with a band of silk around the brim to match the stole, which band is orna-mented with ovals of silk braid.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

# Heavy

Dull Feeling After  
Dinner.

Tortures of Death  
From Headache.

Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills  
Relieve and Cure.

"Nearly every day I suffered from severe attacks of headache. They usually began with a heavy, dull feeling soon after dinner. During these spells my head felt as though there was a tight bandage around it; my temples throbbled; I became sick at my stomach, and suffered almost the tortures of death. For two years past I have been taking Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills, and have found sure and immediate relief always. By taking one in time the headache is prevented every time."  
—Mrs. M. E. NOBLE, Carfield, Wash.

"Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills are all right. I can recommend them very highly to anyone who needs a remedy for headache, neuralgia, or pain of any kind. My health is not very good, and I am subject to frequent attacks of severe headache, but since I began taking Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills I do not suffer from them as I used to. They never fail to give relief in a few minutes, and if taken promptly upon the approach of a headache will prevent an attack from coming on."  
—Mrs. Wm. FREDRICK, Gloversville, N. Y.

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills grow in favor with me every day; for, whereas, I used to have sick headache once a week, now, can say that I do not have it any more at all. I never had anything cure me of sick headache before."  
—CLAUDE TUCKER, Wallace, N. Y.

All druggists sell and guarantee first bottle Dr. Miles' Remedies. Send for free book on Nervous and Head Diseases. Address Dr. Miles Medical Company, Elkhart, Ind.

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employment at the  
Beaver Hill Mines.

**The House of the Seven Gables.**  
A cousin of the late Nathaniel Hawthorne, who lives in Salem, says there never was a House of the Seven Gables in that town. He tells the Boston Journal that "Hawthorne came down to visit me shortly before his death, and we rambled about the old haunts of his early days. I was particular to ask him to point out, if he could, the famous House of the Seven Gables, because at that time the controversy existed in some degree."  
"There never was any," was his immediate reply to me. "I never had any particular house in my mind when I wrote the story. It was just a fancy of my own."

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# TIME TABLE

Steamer Flyer Steamer Blanco

LEAVES.	LEAVES.
Marshfield, 8 a. m.	Empire, 8 a. m.
Empire, 10 a. m.	Marshfield, 10:30.
Marshfield, 2:30 p. m.	Empire, 2 p. m.
Empire, 4:30 p. m.	Marshfield, 4 p. m.

Fare from Marshfield to Empire and return 75c.

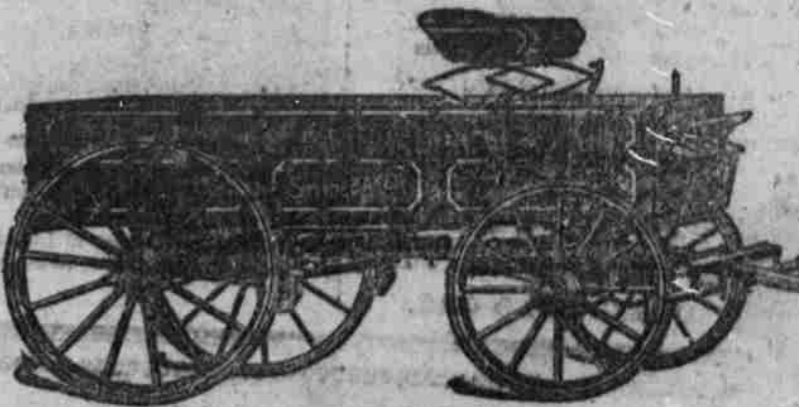
## DEFENSE AGAINST COLDS.

If you let a cold get hold of you, it means ten days or two weeks of discomfort—it may mean peril! Most any cold can now be stopped if treated in time. The remedy is harmless and it renders colds harmless. It leaves you wondering where the cold has gone, and feeling better than before it began. Sengstacken's Laxative Cold Tablets is the remedy. Keep in the house for use as soon as the symptoms of a cold appear. Cost nothing if it ever fails.

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## E. A. ANDERSON Agent For THE STUDEBAKER VEHICLES



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only the hitches you hitch  
em up with--  
That's All

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