

CURSE ON ONE WHO HIDES THIS

Letter Purporting to Be Work of Christ Has Interesting History—If Kept in House It Will Bring Joy and Health.

A letter purporting to have been written by Christ after the crucifixion and deposited by him under a stone at the foot of the cross is being given wide circulation by the newspapers of the country. A resident of this city has clipped the letter from the Denver Post and has asked the Mail Tribune to publish it.

An injunction to have the letter published has frightened some into whose hands it has fallen, and like the old chain prayer it threatens misfortune on those who deliberately withhold it from others. The belief that Christ really gave the letter to be spread broadcast has inspired many to aid in giving it publication. The story is that a little child turned the stone under which the letter was hidden and that the document was given to a convert to the Christian faith.

Must Be Printed.

This convert kept it as a sacred memento of Christ and down through generations in his family it was until 1000 years were passed. Misfortune attended the family always, according to the tale, and at last one of the members came to America, bringing the letter with him. Mrs. Fannie Wortman of Marion, Ind., claims to know the history of the document from that time on. According to her, the owner of it went to Virginia and after a series of misfortunes the last of the family passed out. A Mrs. Thompson, a neighbor of the family, took the letter and had it published in the Rome, Ga., Tribune of October 31, 1891. Mrs. Wortman cut it out and kept it in her home. She made no attempt to have it published until lately and says that she was punished for her failure to give it publicity. Mrs. Rubin Crutchfield of Trezevant, Tenn., is another who says she suffered misfortune until she printed the letter. The document reads:

Sabbath Observance.

Whosoever works on the Sabbath day shall be cursed. I command you to go to church and keep holy the Lord's day without any manner of work. You shall not idle or mispend your time in bedecking yourselves in superfluities of costly apparel and vain dressing, for I have ordered it a day of rest. I will have that day kept holy that your sins may be forgiven you.

You will not break my commandments, but observe and keep them, they being written by my hand and spoken from my mouth. You shall not only go to church yourselves, but also your man-servant and maid-servant. Observe my words and learn my commandments.

You shall finish your work every saturday at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, at which hour the preparation for the sabbath begins. I advise you to fast five Fridays in the year, beginning on Good Friday and continuing the Fridays following, in remembrance of the five bloody wounds I received for you and mankind.

Blessings Promised

You shall love one another and cause them that are not baptised to come to church and receive the holy sacrament—that is to say, baptism and then the supper of the Lord, and be made a member thereof, and in so doing I will give you long life and many blessings. Your land shall be replenished and bring forth abundance and I will comfort you in the greatest temptation, and surely he that doeth to the contrary shall be cursed.

I will also send hardness of the heart on them, and especially on hardened and unpenitent unbelievers. He that hath given to the poor shall find it profitable. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day, for the seventh day I have taken as a resting day to myself.

And he that hath a copy of this letter, written by my own hand and spoken from my own mouth, and keepeth it, without publishing it to others, shall not prosper, but he that publisheth it to others shall be blessed by me, and if their sins be as many as the stars at night, and if they truly believe that they shall be pardoned, and they that believe not this writing and my commandments will have my plagues upon you, and you will be consumed with your children, goods, cattle and all other worldly enjoyments that I have given you. Do but once think of what I have suffered for you—if you do, it will be well for you in this world and in the world which is to come.

Whosoever shall have a copy of this letter and keep it in their house, nothing shall hurt them, neither pestilence, lightning or thunder, and if any woman be in birth and put her trust in me she shall be delivered of her child. You shall hear no more news of me, except through the Holy

WOMAN KNOWN HERE, IS HEROINE

Mrs. William Avery, Formerly of Medford, Saves Chico Boy From Dog's Attack by Her Bravery and Presence of Mind.

The many friends of Mrs. William Avery of this city will be interested in the following account of her bravery in rescuing a boy from a ferocious dog in Chico recently. Mrs. Avery was formerly a resident of Medford:

Ray Johnson is in bed at his home on Third street with his body swathed in bandages, livid scars show on his arms and legs, and Mrs. T. A. Huff is recovering from an attack of nervous prostration, all as the result of a sudden and vicious attack by a spotted bulldog yesterday afternoon. The animal was killed shortly after the attack by Officer Henry Bowers.

According to Ray Johnson, who is the 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Johnson, he was playing in the yard at the Wynnham Avery residence near his home. He had been playing with the dog, but had ceased a few minutes before the animal sprang at him.

Without warning the canine suddenly dashed at Johnson and hurled his teeth in the lad's arm. The boy fought him off and succeeded in getting to the door of the Avery home. Mrs. Avery, hearing his screams and the growls of the dog, rushed to the scene and grabbed the boy, pulling him inside the house. As she did so the dog again buried his teeth into the youth's flesh. This time he secured a good grip on his left thigh and clenched his teeth. Mrs. Avery succeeded in getting the door shut on the dog's neck and pushed against the door so hard that the dog let go his hold.

Young Johnson was dragged into another room and Mrs. T. A. Huff came downstairs with a bottle of peroxide with which to dress the lad's wounds. At this juncture the infuriated beast sprang against the screen door and managed to get it open. He leaped into the room and grabbed hold of Mrs. Huff's skirt as Scripture, until the day of judgment. All goodness and prosperity shall be in the house where a copy of this letter shall be found. Finished.

she fled up the stairs. Mrs. Huff was saved from injury by closing a door on the dog, which tore off a piece of her skirt. Once in her room Mrs. Huff collapsed.

The animal was then beaten off by the women. C. B. Swain, who lives near by, was summoned and he aided in making the dog a prisoner until the arrival of Officer Bowers, who killed it.

The bulldog belongs to Mark Strong, and previous to yesterday the dog had always been a pet in this neighborhood.

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