

A YEAR OF DISASTER.

An Appalling Record of Death from Accidents and Elemental Disturbances.

Had Prof. Grimm, who a year or two ago predicted dire calamities from the portentous aspect of the great planetary bodies, postponed the disastrous epoch until the present, he could with confidence have claimed that his prophecies of evil had been literally fulfilled. One-fourth of 1883 is yet to come, but its appalling record of death from accidents and elemental disturbances gives to it a ghastly prominence, and it will pass into history as the year of disaster. The great agents of destruction—flood, fire, famine, volcano, earthquake, tornado and epidemic—have each contributed a long list of victims, which seemingly unusually frequent minor accidents on land and sea have helped to swell to frightful proportions.

A statistician, who kept an imperfect record of the first seven months of the year, estimated that the fatalities resulting from extraordinary causes had then already reached the enormous aggregate of 27,000. To this now must be added the awful destruction of life by the overwhelming calamity in the Indian archipelago. But it is to be hoped a more careful survey of the desolated region will reduce the fearful loss of life now reported. At present it is now estimated that from 75,000 to 80,000 human lives were lost. Should these figures, however, not be disproved, the widespread disaster which overwhelmed these tropic isles will prove the most destructive of modern times. Below we give a list of those calamities which have resulted in the greatest loss of life during the first three-fourths of the present year:

- January—By floods in Germany and Hungary about 150 lives were lost.
Jan. 11—Burning of the Newhall House, Milwaukee, and loss of 59 lives.
Jan. 15—A circus building in Poland was burned and 270 people perished.
Jan. 21—By an accident on the Southern Pacific railway at Tehachapi pass, 22 were burned and crushed to death.
Jan. 21—The steamer Cimbrina collided with the Sultan off Berkum Island, and 393 were lost.
Jan. 22—By explosion of powder works at Oakland, Cal., 26 were killed.
Jan. 24—Flooding of a mine in Australia caused the loss of 22 lives.
Feb. 1—Italian steamer Ausonia wrecked on the coast of Tripoli; loss 20.
Feb. 2—Panic in a factory at Bombay; loss 23.
Feb. 8—Steamer Kenmore Castle wrecked in bay of Biscay; loss 32.
Feb. 17—Accident in Diamond coal-mine at Braidwood, Ill., loss 77.
Feb. 21—Fire and panic in a Catholic school in New York; loss 15.
March 5—Steamer Gypsy sunk near New Orleans; loss 18.
March 10—Hull and Yarmouth (England) fishing fleets wrecked; loss 135.
March 11—Steamer Navarre foundered on voyage from Copenhagen to Leith; loss 46.
March 18—Ship Dunslafnage wrecked on Aberdeenshire coast; loss 25.
March 26—Avalanches from Mount Ararat; loss 150.
April 1—Wreck of six Yarmouth (England) fishing vessels; loss 40.
April 2—Boiler explosion at St. Dizier, France; 31 killed, 65 injured.
April 6—Explosion of powder depot at Rome; loss 40.
April 17—Sixty-two persons drowned while engaged in a religious ceremony at Sunderland, India.
April 26—Ship County Aberdeen collided with ship British Commerce; loss 25.
April 26—Explosion of mine at Besseges, France; loss 21.
April 27—Tornado in Mississippi, Georgia and South Carolina; loss 250.
May 4—Steamer Grappler burned in Puget sound; loss 70.
May 6—Large number of persons killed by an earthquake at Tabreeze, Persia.
May 14—Cyclone in Illinois, Ohio, and Missouri; loss 22.
May 18—Cyclone in Illinois and Wisconsin; loss 54.
May 23—Two schooners wrecked on Lake Michigan; loss 15.
May 30—Twelve persons killed and many injured by a panic on the Brooklyn bridge.
June 9—Powder magazine at Scutari struck by lightning; loss 17.
June 17—A panic among school children attending an entertainment at Sunderland, Eng., loss 127.
June 25—Burning of a theatre on Lake Como, Italy, and a loss of forty-seven lives.
June 25—British steamer Hurruai and Waitana collided; loss 25.
July 3—Steamer Daphne, while being launched on the Clyde, capsized; loss 150.
July 23—Pier gives way at Baltimore; loss 76.
July 27—Collision on Rome, Water-town and Ogdensburg; 22 killed, 45 wounded.
July 28—Earthquake at Ischia; between 3,000 and 4,000 killed, and 1,000 injured.
July 29—Explosion in a mine in Sicily; loss 35.
Aug. 21—Cyclone at Rochester, Minnesota; loss 16.
Aug. 26—Steamer Woodburn run down off Eddystone Light; loss 18.
Aug. 29—Volcanic eruptions in Java; loss estimated at from 75,000 to 80,000.
Aug. 31—Storm on the Grand Banks and a reported loss of 80 men.
Sept. 2—By a railroad accident to a train between Berlin and Stelzigt 40 persons were killed and wounded.
It is also estimated that nearly 30,000 people have perished from cholera in India and Egypt. Taking these figures, together with the estimated loss of life in Java, the grand total will reach the frightful sum of over a hundred thousand lives sacrificed to casualty or pestilence.

In the list given above no mention is made of the thousands of minor accidents which in many cases have shocked local communities; and, doubtless, calamities attended by great loss of life in remote countries have been omitted, and no mention has been made of disasters which only resulted in destruction of property.—[Boston Transcript.]

WOMEN AS CASHIERS.

Dr. Hammond's estimate of the moral perceptions and moral courage of women finds a striking contradiction in the case of the wife of the book-keeper of the Northwestern National Bank, who went to President Sturges and confessed her husband's crime as soon as she discovered it. Although hundreds of women hold positions of financial trust in Chicago and elsewhere in the country, we have yet to hear of one of them being guilty of embezzlement or defalcation. Perhaps it is because they do not have the temptations that men in similar positions suffer. Perhaps they are not ambitious "to live beyond their means," and have no opportunity to waste money in dissipation and riotous living. The gambling houses and saloons of the city are not open to them, and their self-respect protects them from the vices to which men are addicted.

These reasons may be advanced in defence of male defaulters, but they are much more forcible as arguments to sustain the position of those who believe that women are qualified morally, physically and intellectually for the handling of money in stores or in banks. General Spinner, who first introduced clerks into the United States Treasury as ladies and accountants, left on record a striking testimonial as to the efficiency and integrity of the sex, and no one ever had a better opportunity to study the question than he, who had at one time one thousand ladies under his direction, engaged chiefly in handling money. He testifies that they count more accurately and rapidly than men; that their ability to detect counterfeiters proved to be superior in almost every test; that they were, without an exception, honest, and were invariably more careful and painstaking in their work. Complaints of inaccuracy and carelessness on the part of men were made frequently during General Spinner's administration of the United States Treasury, but such complaints against lady clerks were few. The shrewdest and quickest detectors of counterfeit currency were women; and in cases of dispute as to the genuineness of money, General Spinner invariably took the judgment of a Miss Grandin, who was for a long time employed in his bureau. In speaking of her ability in this particular one day, General Spinner said: "If I was a believer in clairvoyance I should say that she possessed that power; but as I am not, I call it instinct." There was a rule in the department compelling lady clerks who married to resign their position, and when this lady married the venerable Treasurer asked that the rule be suspended, because the Government could not well dispense with her services.

Although there are several thousand women employed by the Government as clerks, accountants, postmistresses, and in other capacities, not one has ever proved unfaithful to her trust. Many have been discharged for incapacity and for other reasons, but never for dishonesty. These points are worth the consideration of merchants and bankers, particularly now, when there seems to be an epidemic of embezzlement.

"SHAKE SHAKES IN."

"My boy Shake he comes a big shake on me," said a pleasant-faced farmer at the Gratiot-avenue station yesterday. "How was that?" "Vhell, Shake was radder lazy und he eat more on der table as two men. Last vweek he strikes on me for wages." "Is he of age?" "Oh, no. Shake vhos only sixteen. I doan' pelief he can earn his poard mit any farmer, und so I tells him I vhas villing to poard und clothe him, und if some circus comes along I gif him feefy cents. Dot vhas goot enough for a boy mit sooch an appetite. But vhat you pelief Shake does?" "I dunno."

"He comes to town und drinks some beer, und was arrested und sent up mit der workhouse for seesty days. If I take him oud I have to pay ten dollar cash. Dot vhas a big shake on me, und Shake, he laughs all over himself."

"Why don't you leave him in there to serve out his time? He gets his board und clothes, und you have nothing for him to do at home in the winter." "By shiminy, but I never thought of dot before. Dot's so, dot's so! Shake vhas no good at home, und vhas only expense on me. If I doan' pay dot ten dollar den he shtay in."

"And the joke is on him." "Dot's so—dot's so! If I take him out he laugh behind my back mit der poys. If I leaf him in I go oop to see him once a vweek und make some grins und ask him how it vhas so far he goes. Shake shtays in. Ha! ha! ha! I vhas tickled already!"

GERANIUMS DRIVE OFF SNAKES.—Every species of snake may be permanently driven away from an infested place by planting geraniums. In South Africa the Caffre people thus rid their premises of snakes. A missionary of South Africa had his parsonage surrounded by a narrow belt of geraniums, which effectually protected the residence from any kind of snake. A few yards away from this geranium belt a snake would occasionally be found. It is well known that the whole geranium genus is highly redolent of volatile oils—lemon-scented, musk-scented and peppermint-scented. What, therefore, is a very pleasant nosegay for a man, is repugnant to the serpent tribe.

"Do you ever gamble?" she asked, as they sat together, her hand held in his. He replied: "No; but if I wanted to, now would be my time." "How so?" "Because I hold a beautiful hand." The engagement is announced.

THE JONES FAMILY.

Mr. Jones Has an Evening at Home With His Unruly Brats.

"Maria," said Mr. Jones as he sat and enjoyed an evening at home—because he had no place else to go—"it seems to me that on a suspicious occasion like this—and he looked fondly at her—"as is Heaven and home were anonymous terms."

"Sin-onomous," corrected Mrs. Jones, taking several pins and a ball of twine out of her mouth and placing a patch on that part of Willie's pants where it would do the most good. "Jephtha, why don't you read aloud evenings, instead of keeping all the good things to yourself?"

"Is reading allowed?" asked Jones innocently. "I thought you preferred to talk."

"Well, I do," snapped Mrs. J., "when I have somebody to talk to, which ain't very often."

"I'll read," exclaimed Jones, hurriedly reversing the book he held in his hand—"And it came to pass—"

"Save that for Sunday, interrupted Mrs. Jones. "Read some sweet thing about home or the friends; some poetry, I love to hear you read poetry, Jephtha, with a sly wink at nobody."

Thus encouraged, Jones, who is an amateur elocutionist and has fired the neighborhood with his dramatic readings in times past, till the neighbors threatened to fire him, seized a volume of poetry and, in the voice that made "Freedom shriek when Kosciuszko fell," read aloud that touching poem beginning:

"Which shall it be, which shall it be, I looked at John—John looked at me." There was silence which could have been felt with a rolling-pin when Jones ceased to read, and wiped the foam-flecks from his pallid lips, and Maria was in tears.

"I know you've wakened the boys," she said, in a voice that sounded small and still after his, "and they'll want a drink."

"The children!" murmured Jones with fixed eyes, "the dear, sweet children! M-M-Maria, do we 'preciate these dear ones as we ought to?"

"I do," said Mrs. Jones, shortly. "I hear them talking now—where's my slipper?"

"No, Maria," returned Jones, whose soul was melted within him by his efforts in the line of elocution, "I will go and see if the innocent darlings need anything." And he went up stairs softly, repeating with a Salvini-Rossi-Booth effect:

"Which shall it be, which shall it be? I looked at John—John looked at me." The "innocent darlings" heard him coming and desisting from a pillow fight in which they were engaged, they buried their heads in the sheets and were instantly sound asleep, looking like dimpled cherubs, with an occasional snore to assert their relation to the human. Jones wiped the salt tears of love and elocution from his eyes, and bent fondly over them; then he crept out and waited a moment in the hall to listen to their gentle breathing; suddenly it ceased.

Then a dreadful suspicion haunted Jones—they had been playing 'possum, the little wretches; he waited.

"Is the old man gone?" were the words of Cherub No. 1, as soon as he got the sheet out of his mouth.

"Yes," answered Cherub No. 2, "he was a-crying, Willie. Ain't he a duffer, though?"

"I'll strike him for five cents to-morrow; see if I don't!"

"Oh, he'll be himself again to-morrow, Willie; he'll stamp around and say, 'Get out of my way, little imp,' just as he allus does. I don't take no stock in him, I don't."

"Let's play we was pa," suggested Willie. "Where's them boys? I'll teach them to touch my paper! I'll tan their hides for 'em! I'll show 'em who's master in this house!"

When Jones got back to the sitting-room his face was red—very red—and his eyes wore a vengeful glare. Mrs. Jones looked up at him as he stalked in, and asked innocently:

"Swish shall it be, swish shall it be?"

"Both!" shouted the enraged parent. "Of all the unruly brats I ever saw, I do think, Maria, ours are the worst. I'll lather them both to-morrow."

EFFECT OF SALT UPON PORK.

Of the effect of food rich in protein in the production of pork, Prof. McMurtrie, of the Illinois Industrial University, says: "The increase of protein in pork will improve the quality and render it more nutritious. The lean of meat by reason of the acid reaction it acquires and the presence of a small portion of pepsin it contains becomes more tender and digestible by breaking down the myosin; but the methods of preservation may have great influence upon its quality. The digestible albuminoids of flesh are very soluble in solutions of salt, and the use of this agent as a preservative must tend to diminish the digestibility and the nutritive value to a corresponding extent."

The hardening of the fibres by salt also diminishes the digestibility, and hence the flesh should as far as possible be consumed in the fresh, unsalted condition. On the other hand, putrefaction is to be carefully avoided. While it is not always the case, it is not infrequently happens that virulent poisons of an organic character are developed in the putrefaction of pork, and many of the fatal results of its consumption may be referred to this cause, rather than to the trichine to which injurious results of pork consumption are often ascribed."

Historians are hired by the day in New Hampshire. Every town is having its history written, and business is good.

LATEST NEWS ITEMS.

A labor congress will assemble in Montreal next month.

The Mayor of New York has declared evacuation day a public holiday.

General Butler's campaign is said by the Boston Journal to have cost him \$125,000.

The Boston Daily Globe sold an edition of 113,890 copies the next day after the election.

One voter cast his sixty-fourth straight Democratic vote in Pittsfield, Mass., at the last election.

A human skull measuring forty inches around the forehead has been unearthed near Kingwood, Virginia.

The agile starfish has recently knocked a cool \$20,000 out of the value of an oyster bed at Stratford, Conn.

The entire leaf of a Methodist hymn book was found in the spiral of a conch shell fished up at Jacksonville, Fla.

Of the 600 who made the famous charge at Balaklava twenty-nine years ago, one is in jail at Toronto.

Farmers in Champaign county, Ill., report that hundreds of valuable hogs have died from cholera in the vicinity of Fisher.

The Lackawanna iron mills of Pittsburg, Pa., have taken a contract for 30,000 tons of steel rails at thirty-five dollars a ton.

The Luther anniversary services in Milwaukee attracted 14,000 persons to the exposition building, the choir comprising 500 voices.

A white woman is serving a four months' sentence in the chain-gang at Powell's camp, in Greene county, Georgia, for cursing a woman.

The Government stamped envelope works at Hartford, Conn., are running thirteen hours a day, and made over 50,000,000 envelopes last month.

A Baltimore firm of horticulturists have gone into the business of importing and growing the Japanese persimmon. They have planted 100,000 trees.

H. R. Thompson, a student of Camillus, has been convicted of robbing the grave of E. R. Harmon, and placing the corpse in the medical college at Syracuse.

While a marriage ceremony was being performed at Bryan, Texas, recently, some sneak thieves slipped in and stole the wedding feast from the dining-room.

In Lee, Mass., on election day, the Selectmen enforced the law prohibiting any person going nearer the ballot boxes than ten feet to see how another casts his vote.

A cheese three feet eight inches thick, five feet four inches diameter, circumference sixteen feet nine inches, and weighing 5,233 pounds, is on exhibition in Boston.

Richard Arthur, of Fort Atkinson, Wis., has been held in \$5,000 to answer the charge of cleaning canceled postage stamps with chemicals and selling them.

Bar Harbor, Me., objects to railroads because the noise disturbs the summer business, and will protest to the Commissioners against any new roads in that vicinity.

Probably the worst disgusted crowd in Texas was a mob which went to lynch a man a few days ago, and found that another party had already performed the job.

Miss Minnie Hill, niece of the late Georgia Senator, met Todd Read at a fashionable wedding at West Point, Ga., recently, for the first time, and married him the same day.

A man stole three cents in Farmington, Me., recently, and was arrested, tried and sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment before nightfall of the same day.

The Houston Post is responsible for the statement that the enthusiastic admirers of a sensational play set fire to the theater in Fort Worth, Texas, by firing off pistols in applause.

Alabama papers say that the negroes of Alabama are not visibly affected by the Civil Rights decision. They have all along been in the full enjoyment of all the civil rights they desired.

Conductors on the Fourth-avenue cars in New York City are not allowed to "turn" in my coins smaller than five-cent pieces, and are forced to pay out the coppers to their unwilling passengers.

A small flea, supposed to have been brought to that section by Italian railroad laborers, has made its appearance in portions of Ches'er county, Pa., and attacks human beings with considerable severity.

Three couples were married the other day in Chattanooga at the same time. The ceremony was performed once for the whole batch, and now the question arises whether each couple was married sure enough or only one-third.

Farmers in the West predict a mild and open winter this year, because the ground-hog has not yet made his nest in the ground. When a cold winter is coming the animal begins gathering leaves for his nest about September 1st.

A bill for dower has been filed in the Chicago Circuit Court by a lady who says her husband, in 1832 (a year after her marriage to him), sold a lot in Chicago, and that she never joined in the transaction. The property has since passed through a dozen hands, but she wants her third interest, all the same.

Gentlemen in search of picturesque wives should go to Loreto, Italy. The women are dark and lovely. They wear a jaunty costume, consisting of sixteen petticoats on week days, and eighteen on Sundays and holidays. These petticoats are all starched, and some are very richly trimmed with lace and embroidery. A colored shirt is then looped over these balloon skirts, and a stay-bodice confines the waist to its smallest dimensions, over a spotless white chemise.

ARSENIC EATING.

Good-bye Rosy Cheeks—Plump Forms no Longer Fashionable.

"Just take a good look at that lady coming out of the drug-store," said a well-known physician to a reporter, at the same time attracting his attention to a beautiful young girl of twenty-one, or thereabouts, as plump and rosy-checked as only a proper mode of living could make her. She was the very picture of health, her proportions were symmetrical from head to foot, and from a glance the reporter judged that she weighed about 150 pounds. She carried a small package in her hand, and as she disappeared from view the physician, continuing, said: "That girl is as pretty and handsome as any in town, her parents are among the wealthiest, all her wishes are fulfilled, she wants for nothing, and still she is as miserable and unhappy as the poorest woman in the city."

"Some love affair, of course?" said the reporter.

"Far from it," replied the M. D. "She is engaged and about to become the wife of the man of her choice; but the fact of her being a slave to fashion renders her unhappy."

"If it is as you say, she must surely have money enough to move along with the world of fashion?"

"You don't mean to say," said the Doctor, "that you haven't heard of the latest lank and lean craze now existing among fashionable ladies? No? Well, then I'll tell you. A great number of the fair sex nowadays, those who are as finely proportioned as the young lady I have just pointed out to you, and with the flush of health upon their cheeks consider themselves out of fashion, for to be fashionable nowadays one must wear a 'lean and hungry look,' look pale and interesting. Those approaching a reasonable degree of avoirdupois or the possessors of rosy cheeks are looked upon as being vulgar and not entitled to the honor and distinction of moving in the fashionable world. But to return to the young lady who has just left this drug-store. You must have noticed the package she carried in her hand; that was nothing more nor less than a vile compound of drugs, put up for the purpose of reducing a person's weight, at the same time undermining the health of the brainless idiots foolish enough to take it. That lady called at my office last week, and blandly asked me to advise her what course she should pursue and what means she should employ to reduce her weight and remove the color of roses from her cheeks. I had a serious conversation with her, vainly endeavoring to dissuade her from the foolish course she was about to pursue; but it was of no avail; she left my office highly indignant, and said she would never consult me again. I then called upon the young lady's father, who tried to talk seriously to his daughter, but I have since ascertained that she visited other physicians, who gave her the necessary prescription. I know of some ladies in the city, married and single, who don't stop at anything. Eating arsenic is an old failing among the fair sex, but it has lately been revived at a fearful rate, for to gain their ends it is not only necessary to be thin, but pale. How long such a craze generally lasts there is no telling; it may continue for a season or two, and then the wrecks resulting therefrom will endeavor to build themselves up again, but nine-tenths of them will be hopelessly lost and good candidates for the grave. I tell you, sir, it is wonderful to contemplate the sufferings some women are willing to undergo for the sake of being fashionable. I know that you are inclined to doubt my assertions, but some day, when you have the time to spare, take a walk around drug-stores and physicians' offices and you will find that I have told you the truth, without the least bit of exaggeration."

CURE FOR MALARIA.

As there is a good deal of malarial fever about at present, the following item may be of some use.

Now and then I ride up-town on the front platform of a street-car to smoke my cigar in comfort, and very often hear instructive things. The other day, while engaged in this pleasing occupation, a young man, evidently a naval officer, jumped on the platform, and engaged in conversation with the driver. The driver was complaining of suffering from malaria, and the young man, who it turned out, was a navy surgeon, said, as he blew a whiff of smoke from his mouth:

"Malaria, eh? Why, man alive, that is cured easily enough."

"Oh, yes, I know," said the man of horses and brakes. "I have taken quinine until I am drenched with it, and it has done me no good."

"Of course it hasn't. But when you take your 'swig' go to the nearest druggist and buy ten cents' worth each of ground cloves, Peruvian bark and cream tartar, mix them in a quart of gin and take a wineglassful four times a day. That mixture has knocked malaria out of every man in the navy, and it will do the same for you."

As about every tenth man or woman you meet has the malaria, I made a note of the remedy and gave it to suffering humanity. What is the use of riding on a front platform and getting covered with mud if you cannot benefit your fellow-men.

Water is scarce in New Orleans, and in consequence, over \$100,000 worth of property has been burned in less than a month. An exchange says the gutters smell to heaven; only the rich can afford the luxury of a bath; washerwomen have struck; the water-cart has a monopoly at high prices of drinking water, and burglaries of water are committed at night by men armed with buckets.

Hot ends poured around peach trees destroys the yellows.

GHOSTS AND DREAMS.

THE LOST WATCH-CHARM OF A GHOST.

A rounded, grayish stone, about the size of a hen's egg, and bearing the grotesque likeness to a miniature human skull, was picked up from among some graves the other day in Plainville. The eye sockets, nose and mouth cavities are plainly represented, and one strange feature is that it was picked up in the cemetery.—[Detroit Post and Tribune.]

GHOSTS WALKING AROUND.

Monday night about nine o'clock a young married lady was passing the cemetery, with a colored woman as guard, going from her home to a neighbor's, when she heard a terrible groan from among the graves. Both the women were badly scared; when the breeze swayed the evergreens around the towering monuments, and revealed their white forms in the moonlight, they took them for ghosts, and ran for dear life, nearly terrified to death. After the young lady got to the house she was spelt-bound, for it was fully ten minutes before she could tell what a lot of ghosts were promenading in the cemetery.—[Sunter (Ga.) Republican.]

THIS STUFF DREAMS ARE MADE OF.

Roman Fisher committed suicide at Hicksville, L. I., two weeks ago, and his sister, having dreamed of hidden treasures in his house, made a search, which resulted in the finding of \$500 in gold and four bank books showing deposits of over \$5,000.

When George Stryker was at work in the bottom of a well at Fort Hamilton, in New York harbor, a bucket fell and killed him. Before going to work in the morning young Stryker told his friends that he dreamed in the night that a large stone fell on him and killed him, and his uncle cautioned him to take care in the work.

Emma Clark, a handsome girl of twenty, was arraigned in the Common Pleas Court at Cleveland, Monday, for stealing a pocket-book with \$261 in it, from John Flanagan's coat. He had no evidence against the girl, except that she dreamed she had taken the money. Emma, who had been a telegraph operator, in Detroit, was acquitted.

AN ANCESTRAL CURSE.

The fifth death from drowning, believed to be influenced by the curse of a Bavarian ancestor, occurred at Erie, Pa., recently. It is a well-authenticated fact that of the Hensler family the majority who die are drowned. In Germany the Henslers count a number of drownings, and in this country that form of death has removed nearly all who have died in the last twenty years. First came a young daughter, who was drowned while boating. An uncle followed by tumbling through a hole in the ice. A year ago Mrs. Hensler's mother found a watery grave in Lake Erie, and six months later a nephew, Joseph Shoen, was capsized in the Erie Bay, and drowned in the presence of his friends. This morning, when Mrs. Hensler's son arose, he saw from the window two human feet sticking up from a hoghead sunk in the ground for catching water. Upon investigation he saw his mother's face at the bottom, and, gliding over the features, a large lake eel, kept in the barrel to free it from worms, etc. She had gone to get water for some wine, the cup for which was clutched in her hand, and had fallen in head first, and furnished another victim to the alleged ancestor's curse.

A GHOST MATERIALIZED.

A couple of very bad small boys up in Davenport have been trying hard for some time past to get up a real live ghost sensation, but up to the present their efforts have met with overwhelming failure and discouragement. Night before last the older of the two was to attend an evening party with his mother, and they decided to work their little game here. The boy who staid at home was to wait until the folks went to bed, when he was to get the ghost in working order to break up the old lady. The elder bad boy and his mother returned about 9:45 o'clock. All the house was dark, except one back window way down in the kitchen. "I wonder who can be up at this time of night, my son?" said the old lady. "Can't guess," said the young liar, without a pang, and just at that moment there appeared in the kitchen window the figure of a man in shirt sleeves and white drapery, with a tall stove-pipe hat on head. "Law me!" cried the old lady, "what's that? Your father doesn't wear a stove-pipe hat; somebody must be in the house! Let's hurry up, and wake up the folks." "Hold on, ma," said the boy, "maybe it's a g-ghost!" Meantime the man in the window moved about a little, gesticulated spasmodically with his arms, and made a Persian salaam, with his back to the old lady and the boy. "Let's not go in; I'm 'fraid," said the latter, beginning to shiver. But just at this moment there appeared at the window another figure of a man (this time of a verity that of the boy's father); the stove-pipe-hat man collapsed suddenly, and the cries of the younger small boy, as the old man made him jump to the tune of a double song-and-dance, startled the neighborhood. The father, who, with the other members of the family, retired about 8:30, had gotten up again to get a drink from the water-pail in the kitchen, and consequently caught the younger small boy in the act of operating the stove-pipe-hat effigy on a clothes-line stretched from one window to another. Hence the abrupt close of the tableau, which had scared the old lady half out of her wits, and hence, too, the nocturnal uproar which waked early-to-bed citizens for two blocks around.

The brook purls through the meadow, and ashen skies look on the lovely corn-field, over which circles the thieving crow. It is autumn, there is no doubt about that, and if you don't believe it, just try to take an uninterrupted walk in your old straw hat and Oxford ties.