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White Hand

A Tale of the Early Settlers of Louisiana.

BY AUSTIN C. BURDICK

CHAPTER XVI.—(Continued.)

And so, for the while, that darkest affliction was forgotten; but after Simon's wound had been properly dressed it came back again, and the duel became only a passing cloud that was soon lost in the deeper cause of grief. The excitement was gone, and the soul remembered now to weep over the loss of its loved ones.

For several days Simon Lohde remained in his chamber, not showing himself at all, save to Peter, who waited upon him and when he became able to go out, he seemed to take especial pains not to be seen by the uncle and his guest. As might be expected he cherished a bitter hatred towards Goupert, but yet he had a deep consolation in the remembrance of the heart-blow he had inflicted upon the youth. He knew Goupert's sensitive nature, and he knew how deep and abiding were his affections, and knowing this, he knew how keen must be the anguish of the disappointed lover.

And during all this time Goupert St. Denis was much alone, wandering about in the woods. Of course he had given up the idea of going to Louisiana. If she was married to Lohde, then the companionship he would necessarily have with her under such circumstances could only make him more miserable, and, perhaps, add new pang to his grief.

At the end of eight days Simon set out on his return to New Orleans. He did not see St. Denis, for the youth had purposely withdrawn himself.

"You will bring my child home?" said the old man, in a broken, forlorn tone.

"Of course I shall, and I trust you will receive her kindly."

"Kindly? Alas, poor Louise! She will have need enough of kindness."

"What mean you now, sir?" uttered Simon, angrily.

"Nothing—nothing," groaned the marquis, covering his face with his hands. "Only let me see her once more. You will be kind to her, Simon?"

"Of course I shall be. How could I be otherwise?"

The old man gazed up into his nephew's face, but he made no reply, and when, a few moments later, the youth had taken on his departure, he bowed his head and wept.

CHAPTER XVII.

While the things just narrated were transpiring at the chateau, and at the distant metropolis, how fared White Hand and his dusky princess?

Gradually White Hand became used to the primitive fashions of the Natchez, and though he had many hours of sorrow and grief, yet he showed only content to the warriors. But to his wife he was not so reserved of his true feelings. She sympathized with him in his sadness, and she even went so far as to assure him that if the honorable opportunity ever offered itself for his escape to his own people, she should not oppose his wishes.

Early one morning, the Great Sun received an invitation to visit the nation of the white men, and taking with him an escort of his trusty warriors, he set out. It was past noon when he returned, and his brow was clouded, and his stout frame shaken by a powerful emotion. His first movement was to send for White Hand. The youth went, and found the Great Sun alone with Stung Serpent.

"White Hand," he said, "overcoming all outward signs of his deep emotions, 'you must fast and pray. The hour is dark, and evil comes upon us. The white man's heart is hard, and his soul is base. You remember your pledge. Will you pray?'"

"I will," answered White Hand. And he was then dismissed.

As soon as the youth was gone, the Great Sun started up from his seat and leaped down. His brow grew dark again, and his hands were clenched.

"Stung Serpent," he said, "go and summon your council at once. Summon only the wise men and the tried warriors, for we want no women nor children now. Bid them attend me here."

Stung Serpent asked no questions, but with quick movement he called up the men who were fit for deep counsel, and soon they were all collected in the place of council. They knew that something important had happened, for never were they thus called together save on occasions of emergency.

"The Natchez, listen!" commanded the Great Sun, speaking calmly and slowly, but with a great deal of emphasis. "You know how the white men have abused us—how they have trampled upon us, and how they have proved recreant to every trust we have reposed in them. But you do not yet know the most wicked thing of all. The white chief has demanded the beautiful village of the White Apple! As he says the great salt water in the big village away towards the chief water has demanded it. I told him he could not mean it, but he only laughed at me. I told him he had lived here in peace ever since we settled upon the banks of the mighty river—that our temple was here, and that here, in the quiet vale, we had laid away the bodies of our departed friends. And even at this he scoffed, and swore he would possess our village."

As the Great Sun sat down, a low murmur ran around the room, and angry gestures marked the movements of the dark warriors. Stung Serpent started to his feet, and in a moment all was silent. The towering chief then gazed around with a flashing eye, and when he spoke his voice was like low thunder.

"Let the souls of the Natchez be firm now, and let the hearts of her warriors be strong!" were his first words. "The white man came to us, and we gave him a home. He asked us for land, and out of our abundance we gave him much. He asked us for friendship, and we gave him our whole hearts. But how has he repaid us for all our kindness? Where now is our peace? The white man calls the Indian a secret foe. Why is it so? Because the pale faces are not to be trusted; because they speak fair when they cheat; because they look around; look to your homes, to your sacred temple, and to the graves of your ancestors. Will you give up all? I can read your answers in your

looks as well as in your words. Once more, and I am done. Let the white men be exterminated! Let them be swept from our land at once and forever!"

On the next day messengers came from Goupert, the commander of the French fort, to learn what the Natchez had agreed upon. They were informed that they had not yet been able to agree upon a place to which to move, and the Great Sun asked two months in which to prepare, promising, meantime, to pay a new tribute of corn to the French. This message was conveyed to Goupert, and he agreed to the terms, fondly believing that in another spring his people should share the rich land spoils of this fairest Natchez village.

And now the work went on slowly but surely. Word was sent to every tribe, and all were solemnly pledged. The day was fixed upon which the fatal blow was to be struck; and that there should be no mistake, a bundle of sticks was prepared for each village, corresponding in number to the days that must elapse before the death of the white chief. The bundles were placed in their respective temples, and each day the chief was to go in and take one stick away. And when they were all gone—the day that saw the last stick removed—the avengers were to strike.

From the shores of the Mexican gulf to the Yazo, and from the waters of the Tombecbe to the Sabine, every warrior was armed for the occasion, and eagerly waiting the coming of the fatal moment. The whites were watched at every step, and each red man had his victim marked. Slowly, one by one, as each succeeding sun rolled over, those fatal sticks were removed, and Goupert only waited patiently for his rich prize.

One of the wives of the Great Sun was called "Bras Pique," or Pricked Arm, from the many strange devices which she had marked upon her arms. Pricked Arm loved the French, and she failed not to serve them on every occasion when she could. She saw these secret meetings of the warriors, and her suspicions were aroused. She knew of the demand that had been made for her husband, the White Apple, and she knew that these meetings of the council were touching that matter. She noticed the fierce looks of the men, their angry gestures, and their vengeful glances towards the French fort, and she feared that some calamity was to befall her white friends.

"Pricked Arm," she said, "I will do all in my power to save the French if possible, not only at Natchez, but at all other points; and to this end she must not only put Goupert on his guard, but she must cause the Natchez to give a premature alarm, and thus the whites in other sections would take warning, for she dared not attempt to convey intelligence to other settlements for fear of being detected by her own people. Her first movement was to shake her way to the temple, but she could not gain access there, no woman ever being allowed within the sacred building. Two nights in succession she skulked about the place, but the warriors within, who watched the holy fire, were too vigilant for her. Every white man she thought of White Hand, and late one night she went to him and called him out.

"White Hand," she said, "when they had reached the very tree under which the Great Sun had once before spoken with the youth, 'have you the courage of a warrior?'"

"I have the courage of a man," he replied, in astonishment.

"Then can you keep an oath?"

"If it may be kept with honor."

"The oath which I require may, but I will not ask it of you, for your own safety will hold you. Know, then, that there is a plot on foot for the massacre—for the entire extermination—of every white man, woman and child in the country. And mark me—this plot is deep and well founded, and it moves on to its consummation as surely as the now absent sun moves on towards the morning."

"All—every one?" uttered White Hand, in alarm.

"Yes. Every tribe has the signal, and the one fatal day is set. It is to be on the day when our people pay their tributes of corn. Every white man is marked, and unless something be done to thwart the red men, the terrible blow must fall."

Louis clasped his hands, for his thoughts were of his father and of his sister and of his friend St. Denis.

"Can there be no stop to this?" he asked.

"Yes—if you have courage."

"Then put me to it."

"Listen. I can warn the people at Natchez, but that will not save the other villages. In the temple there is a bundle of cypress sticks. They are hung by two things of bearskin back of the altar. In that bundle there are as many sticks as there are days between now and the fatal blow; could we remove seven of those sticks, the Natchez would make a premature attack. The people at the fort would be prepared. In other places, down the river, and on the great salt lake, the red men will mistrust nothing, and while they wait eagerly for the passing of the next seven days, the alarm can be spread. Do you understand?"

"Perfectly," returned White Hand.

"And will you do it?"

"I will try, even to the death."

"Good. But let it be soon."

By different paths the two returned to the village. Pricked Arm retiring to her own dwelling, while the youth spent some time in walking up and down the place, and his face betrayed the deep anxiety that moved within him. He had marked the stern, angry looks of the stout warriors, and he had noticed their frequent councils, but he did not dream that such a dreadful plan had occupied their thoughts. He fancied they were, at most, only planning some means for self-defense. But now the truth was apparent. His father was in danger—his own countrymen were in danger. Thus he was walking up and down the apartment, when his wife awoke and looked for him.

"White Hand," she said, sitting up in the bed, "why walk you thus when the night is waning?"

"I was thinking of my home, Coqualla."

The princess arose and approached her husband.

"And thou art sad," she murmured, looking up into his face.

"Yes, Coqualla—very sad. I would go into the temple and pray."

"Then why go you not in?"

canst demand admission there, and none shall dare refuse thee. Take thy offering of walnut wood and go. Nay to the guardians there, 'I come as a Sun of the Natchez, and I would pray to the Great Spirit. Accept my offering, and open to me the way.' They will not dare refuse thee."

As Coqualla spoke she went to the fireplace, and from the wood there piled up she selected ten sticks of walnut, from which she removed the bark. It was a religious law, given by the first Great Sun, that only walnut wood should be used for the sacred fire of the temple, and that the bark must be carefully removed before it was carried in. White Hand took the wood in his arm and went to the temple, and when he reached the door, he demanded admission as a Little Sun of the Natchez, and after some questions he was admitted. He carried his offering to the altar, and one of the priests placed some of it upon the fire.

After White Hand had deposited his offering, his next movement was to step towards the back part of the temple and kneel down. The warrior-priest whose turn it was now to watch, stood and gazed upon the youth for awhile, and then turned his attention to his fire. Still kneeling, White Hand looked about him, and close to him, against the wall, he saw the bundle of cypress sticks. Seven of the watchers slept, and only one was awake. Slowly the youth worked his way to the wall, still on his knees. The sticks hung loosely in the thongs; he could reach them where he was. He cast his eyes towards the watcher, and that instant was poking up the fire. Quickly the youth raised his hand and counted out seven sticks. His heart beat quick, but he thought of his father, and his nerves were strong. Silently he withdrew the fatal time-tellers, and hid them behind him. The watcher still worked upon the fire. With a quick movement, White Hand placed the ends of the sticks in his bosom, and forced them down within the clothing until they lay along his side, reaching from the arm-pit to the knee. Then he arose, and having walked about a few moments with as careless an air as he could assume, he left the temple.

After breakfast the next morning Stung Serpent came in, as was his wont. He lighted his pipe, and after smoking for some time in silence, he looked up. His brow was clouded, and his countenance wore a sad, moody expression.

"White Hand," he said, "are the French a very forbearing people in their own country?"

"The youth imagined he saw the old chief's drift, and after a moment's thought, he replied:

"Not under wrong, my father."

"I thought not. But suppose another people should come upon their soil, seize the homes of their subjects, steal their cattle, rob them of their rights and desecrate their temples?"

"Then the French would drive them off, answered the youth, quickly."

"And they would thrust them off with the sword and gun, eh?"

"Yes."

"And put all to death they could find?"

"No, my father—only such as held out in resistance."

"But have not the French put whole great villages to the sword, as they call it, and murdered all?"

"With a shudder, the youth answered in the affirmative. Stung Serpent gazed sharply into White Hand's face, but he could see no mark of suspicion there. He smiled a while longer in silence, and then he arose and left.

"What does he mean?" asked Coqualla, after her father had gone.

"I do not know, unless he desires to know how much consistency my people have," returned White Hand.

"I fear our warriors meditate some revenge upon the whites. But you need not fear, dearest one, for no harm shall come to you."

As the bright-eyed princess thus spoke, she threw her arms about her husband's neck. He kissed her, but he dared not but that he would trust her, but he had sworn that he would not.

(To be continued.)

How to Tell the Time.

People who like to bother over juggling letters and figures will find something for the exercise of their ingenuity in three conundrums resurrected by the Cleveland Leader. One of them, at least, is so odd that it may fairly be considered new.

If a father gave nineteen cents to one of his sons and six cents to the other, what time would it be?

Why, a quarter to two, of course. If a postmaster went to a messenger and was eaten by one of the wild beasts, what would be the hour?

Nothing could be easier. Eight P. M. If a guest at a restaurant ordered a lobster and ate it, and another guest did the same, what would be the second guest's telephone number?

Absurdly simple. 8-1-2.

Her Fingers Came in Too Late.

Oliver Wendell Holmes expressed nothing so much as a clever retort, even if it happened to be at his own expense. One day, at an entertainment, he was seated near the refreshment table, and observed a little girl looking with longing eyes at the good things. With his invariable fondness for children, he said, kindly:

"Are you hungry, little girl?"

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Then why don't you take a sandwich?"

EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Kansas bank deposits now amount to \$20,000,000, or over \$60 for every man, woman and child in the state.

The Methodist Book Concern of New York and the Western Methodist Book Concern of Cincinnati and Chicago.

Nearly \$300 was found in searching a hotel occupied by Patrick Flynn, near Belvidere, N. J. He was 82 years old and a hermit. He was found dead.

Fire which started in the Capital Hotel at West End, a summer resort near New Orleans, La., destroyed that building and a number of business houses. The loss is \$75,000.

Rocks from a blast at a cutting in a Bronx, New York City, street, broke many windows, wrecked a house, injured a baby and scared a woman nearly to death.

Two Hungarians were killed and two injured at Pittsburg in a belated explosion of dynamite at the New Mount Washington tunnel of the West Liberty Traction Company.

The Washington theater at Rome, N. Y., was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$125,000 and \$150,000, about half covered by insurance. A score of people were injured when the walls of the theater fell.

An anonymous letter, threatening to burn the town by fire and dynamite, unless \$2500 is left at a designated place, has caused great excitement at Montgomery, Ind. There have been several incendiary fires there lately.

Four structures in the business part of Wilmington, Mass., were burned, entailing a loss of \$20,000.

The body of Rear-Admiral George F. Balfour was buried with military honors at Arlington cemetery.

Brigadier-General Frank D. Baldwin has taken charge of the Department of the Colorado, succeeding General Frederick Funston.

Governor Penabaz, of Colorado, has ordered the members of the Denver Fire and Police Board to answer charges of malfeasance and misfeasance in office in permitting gambling.

The trial of Dr. Joseph Alexander of Indianapolis, on the charge of grave-robbing, has been indefinitely postponed, because the Negroes under indictment have refused to testify against him.

A tornado in the vicinity of Blocc, Ala., wrecked several houses and did considerable damage to farming property. The towns of Coleator and Jarney also suffered. No fatalities were reported.

John Sherman, a guard on the Chicago Elevated railway, was probably fatally hurt and many passengers were shaken up and badly frightened when the second car of a west-bound train jumped the track.

The Mexican Ambassador has informed the State department that three lots of a lottery sold in this country for a lottery said to be located in San Luis, Mex., where the Ambassador says there is no lottery.

John H. Wisker, the engineer on the New York Central Railroad, whose train caused the fatal accident in the Park-Avenue tunnel, New York, in February, 1902, will be tried for manslaughter. His lawyers will try to show that the directors should have been indicted.

A grain elevator in Chicago, owned by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway, and used by Churchill & Co., grain merchants, burned. Total loss, \$200,000. Fifteen men were employed in the structure, but all escaped. The elevator contained nearly 150,000 bushels of grain.

The democrats of the First Oregon district have nominated A. E. Reams for congress.

A colored porter on an Erie Pull man was found to have the smallpox. The car was quarantined.

Eight new veins of coal have been discovered just south of Wilkesbarre, Pa. With 12 veins underneath them, it is estimated there are 300,000,000 tons in this tract, which is owned by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal Company.

Mandhiak Dube, son of a Natal, South Africa, Zulu chief, has been called on his studies in this country to assume the chieftaincy. His father's health is failing.

Immigration authorities at Winnipeg, Manitoba, have appealed to the military for tents to house new settlers.

Ten skeletons in receptacles of flat stones, uncovered on a farm east of Hopkinsville, Ky., are pronounced by Professor Morehead, of Phillips Academy, those of a race of prehistoric mound-builders.

A pony engine collided with the rear end of a passenger train on the Lake Shore branch line at Ashkhabula, O. Fireman Bogue, of the pony engine, was killed, three trainmen were injured and several passengers more or less hurt.

The falsework of the Panhandle bridge, near Pittsburg, which is being rebuilt, caught fire and was partly destroyed.

Whittaker Wright claims to be a citizen of the United States, and says that the Commissioner who heard his case is without jurisdiction.

Bruce Marcum, a Jackson, Ky., young man of good family, has under the vagrancy law, been sold into servitude for six months. Marcum is so averse to work that the highest bid was \$6.50.

RAINS CHECK FARM WORK.

Winter Wheat Looks Well—Frost Nips Fruit in California.

Washington, April 16.—The Weather Bureau issued the following weekly summary of crop conditions:

In the districts east of the Rocky Mountains during the week ending April 13, the temperature has been highly favorable for growing vegetation, but farm work was very generally retarded by rains in the Lake region, central valleys and Atlantic coast districts, while complaints of lack of moisture are received from portions of the Central and West Gulf states. The conditions of the crop in the Rocky Mountain districts and on the Northern Pacific coast the season is very backward, and Washington and Oregon have suffered from cold, wet weather. In California the conditions have been generally favorable, with the exception of some damage by frosts.

The condition of winter wheat is generally excellent, and it has made splendid progress since the first of the month. In the Upper Ohio Valley, however, the freeze of the 4th and 5th caused some injury. On the whole the conditions of the crop in the winter wheat belt east of the Rockies is more promising than for years. In California the outlook is also promising, but in Oregon and Washington the conditions of the crop are less favorable, especially in the last named state, where about one-third of the acreage will be re-sown.

Spring wheat seeding is nearly completed in Iowa and Nebraska, and is progressing well in South Dakota; none has yet been sown in North Dakota and in Northern Minnesota, but in Southern Minnesota some has been sown on rolling lands. By the close of March, which was a very mild month, all fruits were unusually far advanced. The reports now indicate that many varieties of fruit have suffered severely for the month, particularly the peach.

In California, while some damage has been done by frost, the outlook is favorable; on the North Pacific Coast the season is so backward that fruit has not been exposed to injury.

TWO KILLED BY TORNADO.

Storm Sweeps Over Remote Part of Alabama With Deadly Effect.

Birmingham, Ala., April 16.—A special to the Age-Herald from Evergreen Ala., says:

News has just reached here by telephone confirming rumors of heavy loss of life and property in the neighborhood of Peterman and Burnt Corn wrought by the tornado which passed near there yesterday. Ten persons are known to have been killed, numerous barns and residences and outhouses were swept away, entailing a loss which will reach high in the thousands. On account of the bad condition of the wires communication is difficult.

H. P. Salter, his mother and child were riding along a road and were opposite a clump of trees when the storm overtook them. A heavy tree that was uprooted by the wind fell across the wagon, crushing all the occupants to death. Several residences were demolished. The timber falling on the occupants, killing or injuring all within the buildings.

It will probably be several days before a correct list of the casualties can be obtained, as there is neither telegraph nor railroad connection. The heavy rains have rendered the roads almost impassable. Peterman and Monroe county, and is not within 25 miles of a railroad or telegraph station.

All the news so far received has come over the telephone lines which are several miles from the path of the storm.

WIND SUCKED CREEK DRY.

Freak of Tornado That Visited Illinois—Score of People Injured.

Springfield, Ill., April 15.—One death, a fatal injury and a score or more of injuries resulted from a tornado that swept Logan, Dewett, and Platt Counties this afternoon. The fatality occurred on the Halsadars settlement, a farming community three miles from Atwood, Platt County. The home of Clifford Halsadars was demolished, and after the storm Halsadars' infant son was found dead 300 feet from where the house stood. His wife was hurled across the street and fatally injured.

Mrs. J. B. Martin's home was destroyed and several guests were painfully injured.

Deer Creek, in Logan County, where the storm first struck, was swept dry of water. Reports from this district state that three houses were destroyed and a number of people more or less injured. Supervisor Schanauer's handsome residence was destroyed. The family of several children and a number of visitors, 15 in all, sought safety in the cellar, and the house was torn from over them.

The homes of Samuel V. Baldwin and Gus Knecht were destroyed. Mrs. Baldwin and two farm hands took refuge in a smokehouse in which they were hurled several hundred feet and painfully injured.

Asks Germany to Explain.

Washington, April 16.—The State Department has asked the German Government for a statement of the facts connected with the deportation from the island of Ruk to the island of Ponate, another of the Caroline group, a number of native students of the American Missionary establishment there. The matter was brought to the attention of the State Department formally by Rev. Dr. Judson Smith, secretary of the American Board of Missions.

Flooding Burning Mine.

Sydney, N. S. W., April 15.—Through a sluice cut through a dam opening into the old workings, water is now pouring into the burning colliery No. 1 of the Dominion Coal Company, at the rate of nearly 3,500,000 gallons an hour. The mine is flooded to the seventh level, and there are four more levels to be flooded before the fire is reached. This will require an estimated 450,000,000 gallons of water.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

COAL LIDGE FOUND.

Specimens From Near Willhoit Springs of Excellent Quality.

According to a report brought from the vicinity of Willhoit Springs, 25 miles east of Oregon City, in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, and in Clackamas county, that portion of the county is likely in the near future to prove one of the greatest wealth-producing sections of the county. F. C. Barstow, of that place, has a sample of coal which he says has been taken from a ledge just unearthed on his claim, which he claims to have been looking for for the past 12 months.

The sample that he showed was almost pure carbon, and was as fine as a specimen of the "black diamond" as can be found anywhere between the two oceans. According to his story the vein is from six to ten feet thick and shows every indication of being permanent.

It has long been known that there are fine prospects for coal in that section, and many samples of coal picked up from the hillsides have been exhibited, but it is said that this is the first find of any consequence, and it is now believed that the claims that have not been filed on in that vicinity will soon be taken up.

As the new electric railroad, for which C. D. Latourette recently secured a franchise, is supposed to run to the vicinity of Willhoit Springs, it is believed that this find will be an incentive to hurry up the building of the road.

Settlers for Willowa County.

A party of immigrants, numbering 50 men, women and children, arrived a few days ago from Hinton, W. Va., and will locate. Many will go to Elsin and perhaps to Willowa county, where already many from their state are already located. They are all in search of Government land that can be homesteaded.

Treat for Music Lovers.

The students and citizens of Eugene are anticipating a great musical treat when the State Oratorio Society under its programme in Willard Hall, May 12, 13 and 14.

Financial Condition Good.

The semi-annual financial report of Columbia county officers for the six months ending March 31, has been completed and it shows a total in all of the funds of nearly \$40,000. The total resources of the county are \$45,263.97, while the total liabilities are \$1328.06, the latter consisting of warrants on the general and road funds that have not been presented for payment. There is no such a procedure in that county of indorsing warrants "not paid for want of funds."

Examined Salem Bar.

David B. Ogden, of Portland, an engineer of the Government River and Harbor Department, was in Salem and made soundings in the Willamette River near Salem to ascertain what changes have taken place in the channel. He also made such investigations as will be of use to his office in case it should be necessary to build a retention in order to keep the river in its channel.

Had Good Run.

The four-stamp mill recently installed at the new Kremer & Palmer mine, on Mount Reuben, has been completed and given its trial run, with excellent results. The Kremer & Palmer is one of the richest and most promising mines of Southern Oregon, and is another of the properties of this mineral zone that has arisen from a mere prospect to a paying mine within the course of a few months.

Snow Scars Grant Stockmen.

Three inches of snow fell over most of Grant county last week, causing considerable alarm to the scores of stockmen who had just turned out on the range. Skits of February have been carried into April this season, numerous scant falls of snow being intermingled with chill weather, the combination proving rather trying on stock. Ranchers now are very anxious for things to moderate.

Fears for Clackamas County Fruit.

The heavy hail storm of last week did considerable damage to fruit in different sections of Clackamas county, many of the fruit trees being in full bloom, and the entire blossom being knocked off the trees. The weather of the whole week has been unpropitiously cold, and it is believed that the fruit crop is badly damaged, if not entirely killed.

Wife Murderer Sidelined.