

TRAIL OF BLOODHOUNDS.

The most remarkable case that I know of in which beagle hounds were employed in the interest of public justice, says a writer in the New York Sun, occurred in Barnwell district, South Carolina, about 50 years ago.

Mr. Porteous, a childless widower, possessed of a large estate in land and slaves, lived on his plantation, where his cousin, a woman of about 50 years of age, and her daughter of 17 or 18 kept house for him.

Although it was his custom to have himself called every morning at 8 o'clock by his body servant, who aided in dressing him. One morning the servant knocked at the bedroom door as usual, and receiving no answer, after repeating his loud knocks many times, and the door being locked, he reported the strange occurrence to his mistress.

A neighbor was summoned, and, at his suggestion, the door was forced. On entering the room they were horrified to see Mr. Porteous lying dead upon his bed with his throat cut. A bloody razor lay close to his right hand, and clearly indicated that he had committed suicide.

On searching a brown sack coat that hung in the wardrobe a small scrap of letter paper was found, on which the words, "In the name of God, amen," were written in blue ink.

THE ALIBI. Although it was midsummer a fire had been made in the room, and on searching in the ashes a small piece of shirt cuff was discovered. Cathcart well knew the resolute man with whom he was dealing, and they knew him as the nephew and heir-at-law of Mr. Porteous, he having resided with his uncle in their neighborhood for eight years.

On the arrival of the family physician, who had been sent for, he proceeded to make an examination of the body. As his practiced eye caught sight of the finger prints he exclaimed: "Mr. Porteous was murdered. The four finger-marks and the thumb-mark on the left arm were made with the left hand."

through the carriage-gate into the public road. Seven well mounted men, in addition to the keeper, rode with the hounds. The sun went down and the stars came out, yet the faultless and untiring, though speechless, detectives still hung upon the invisible trail.

They followed the trail for 50 miles. It ended at the stable door of a handsome country house, about six miles from Waynesboro, Ga. Among the horses in the stable was a thoroughbred sorrel mare with a broad white blaze in her forehead. The dogs took a trail at the stable and ran it to a cabin in the negro quarter, where the hostler was found. In reply to inquiries he stated that the sorrel mare belonged to Dr. Cathcart and that the doctor had ridden her home the afternoon before after being out all night, and that he was then in the house.

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A careful inspection of the window blinds showed that the catch on one of them was much worn, and did not hold to the iron cleat on the sill, and that the blind could readily be pulled open when apparently fastened. The bedroom was in the second story of the house, and it was observed that the window with the loose catch could be reached by a man climbing out on a limb of an oak tree that grew near.

The day dawned at 4 o'clock in that season of the year, and as the murderer must have done his bloody work before that hour, he had at least 12 hours' start, and the trail was cold. There were five beagles in the pack. Their keeper tapped on the shoe track with a stick, and they put their noses to it and seemed perplexed as they sniffed and murmured over it. He urged them on by calling out to the leader: "Git him, Trump!"

ON THE TRAIL. Wellington's order to the Forty-second Highlanders, as the French infantry were closing in upon his right at Waterloo, was not more inspiring to the gallant Scots than was that call of their keeper to the hounds. They took up the trail, though slowly, and followed it about 70 yards to the border of the woods, but there it ended. As they came to the end of the trail they gave a few sharp, quick barks and looked at their master, as if for further orders.

He saw at once that a horse had been hitched to a limb of the tree at which the hounds had halted, and he stated that it was a light sorrel horse with some white spots upon it, for he had discerned hairs of those colors sticking to the bark of the tree where the animal had rubbed against it.

on this very spot, the prophet said to the King. "As the Lord liveth, in this place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood—even thine"—when suddenly, right into the marmalade there dropped what I took for a large grasshopper. It was yellow and green with long jumping legs and a big head, and while I was taking it out of the jar two others fell into a plate of soup, and half a dozen more of the same kind upon a dish of salad.

At the same moment my horse stamped violently, and I saw more of these grasshoppers pelting his hocks and haunches. Turning round to find whence this insect shower came, I witnessed what was to me an extraordinary spectacle, though common enough, of course, in the East. A large cloud, denser in its lower than its upper part, filled an eighth part of the western hemisphere. The remoter portion of it was as thick, as brown and brumous as a London fog.

The nearer side opened suddenly up into millions and billions, and trillions and sextillions of the same green and yellow insects pelting in a close-winged crowd quite as thickly as flakes of snow upon all the hillsides far and near. You could not stand a moment against the aggressive and offensive rain of these buzzing creatures. The horses even swung themselves round and stood with lowered crests, taking the storm upon their backs and flanks.

You had to turn up the collar of your coat to keep them out of your neck, and button the front not to have your pockets filled with the repulsive swarm, which in two minutes had so peppered the whole scene round about that its color and character were entirely altered. Every little creature of the interminable flight on alighting veered himself round head to wind on the earth, just as if he had dropped anchor and swung to the breeze; and it was curious to notice that the general tint of the ground of their countless bodies was brown if you looked to windward, and green if you gazed to leeward.

But very quickly the only green to be seen round about was the hue afforded by this sudden invasion. Even while we prepared to yield up the spot to them and pack our lunch baskets for departure they had cleared off grass and leaves and every verdant thing around; and when they arose again from the soil, or from any clump of trees, in a hungry throng, the place they quitted had already assumed a barren and wintry aspect. The Syrian peasants passing along the roads were beating their breasts and cursing the ill fortune of the plague. Some of them, none the less, gathered up a clothful of the noxious things; for the locust is distinctly odible.

Half in wrath and revenge, and half for a novelty in diet, the Arabs to this day eat a few of them, roasting them in wire nets or in earthen vessels over a slow fire till the wings and legs drop off and the locust becomes crisp, in which state it tastes, as I am able to say from personal experiment, something like an unsalted prawn. But it seemed as if, had all Syria and the globe itself taken to living on locusts, they would have hardly made a sensible mark upon the extraordinary number that drifted that day over our heads.—London Daily Telegraph.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Wednesday, February 28, 1893. William Suttler, of Cumberland, was frozen to death in West Virginia.

Dr. Alden S. Miles, who is charged with abducting Maud Atkins, of Lansdowne, Baltimore county, was arrested in Pittsburg.

President Cleveland has nominated as consul to Stratford, Ontario, Mr. Albert Fowler, of Cumberland, Md., a brother of Chief Judge Fowler, of the third Maryland circuit.

The rumor that Mr. Gladstone had resigned was revived in London yesterday and was received with credence by politicians. Failing eyesight, necessitating an operation, is said to be the cause of the resignation. Earl Spencer is said to have been appointed premier.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The inquiry into the wreck of the United States corvette Kearsarge is in progress at the Brooklyn navy-yard.

Mr. Bryan introduced a bill to permit in civil cases the verdict of three-fourths of the members of a jury to stand as a verdict of the whole jury.

The House committee on naval affairs agreed to report favorably a bill appropriating \$45,000 to raise the United States warship Kearsarge, wrecked off Ronador Reef.

The House committee on judiciary will report favorably a bill permitting the relatives or legal administrators of deceased persons to carry on their business until the expiration of the license, and also allow a licensed business to be moved if notice is given to the internal revenue commissioner.

The democratic majority of the Senate resumed conference on the tariff bill, and during the discussion Mr. Hill attacked the income tax. Friends of the Wilson tariff bill in the Senate regard Senator Gorman as an opponent of the measure.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

A delegation from Somerset county waited on Governor Brown to seek redress through the Executive for the recent capture of Maryland oyster vessels in Tangier sound. At the suggestions of Attorney-General Poe a joint resolution on the subject was agreed to and afterward introduced in the Senate. Oyster troubles are reported in the Annapolis and Commander Howard was ordered to the scene in the steamer Governor Thomas. The assessment bill was reported to the Senate, and the amendment exempting mortgages from taxation was defeated by a tie vote. It is proposed to add an immigration department to the bureau of industrial statistics. The ways and means committee of the House considered the amendments to the bill for the payment of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal claims. Senator Gorman has written a letter in which he favors compensating Sidney I. Waller for his services as State agent in the collection of the direct tax from the general government. The general oyster bill is now in the Senate engrossing-room. As soon as transcribed it will be reported. A delegation from the State's attorneys appeared before the judiciary committee of the House in behalf of the State's attorneys bill. A bill will be introduced by Senator Carrio consolidating the Washington City and Point Lookout Railroad and the Washington and Potomac Railroad. In the Senate last night Mr. Brace's home-rule bill was defeated by a vote of 9 ayes to 14 nays.

Thursday, March 1, 1894.

The Maryland Penitentiary convicts contributed \$435 for the poor of Baltimore city.

The special Maryland legislative committee will go to Richmond today to demand restitution for two Maryland oyster-boats which were seized by the Virginia police. President Cleveland and party, on the steamer Violet, spent Tuesday night at Long Point, N. C., near the foot of the Albemarle canal. Yesterday morning the party passed North river light into Albemarle sound. Jesse Kickman, a farmer, cut down a tree near his home, in Glasgow, Alabama, yesterday while his two daughters were standing near. The falling tree struck both girls, killing one instantly, and so injuring the other that she died yesterday. The old man has become insane.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

The Senate got into a snarl and tangle over the assessment bill and voted down a motion to engross it for a third reading, its further consideration being postponed until today. The House committee of ways and means has favorably reported the bill for the settlement of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal claims, with the proposed amendments. Comptroller Marion DeK. Smith indicates he is taking steps for the protection of the treasury of the State. Extraordinary appropriations may go unpaid. The Senate passed the bill providing for the suspension of sentences. In the House Mr. Perry introduced a bill for a return to the old salaries for judges throughout the State on grounds of economy. Mr. Mackall, of Montgomery, introduced a bill to foster and encourage agriculture in the State. A bill for the establishment of insurance corporations on the Lloyd system was introduced by Mr. Fitzgerald.

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