

# Saint Mary's Beacon

## TALES OF THE SEA.

We were eating dinner one night on the old cargo ship and talking of the happenings at sea and on shore that are called supernatural when the captain said:

'One sees some things at sea not supernatural which are fit to make a nervous person see ghosts. There was that case in one of Green's liners to the colonies, where a man was sent down to clean out the chain locker. The locker had seemed foul all the passage home, and so they hoisted out the chain and sent this fellow down with his brush and soap and bucket, with a lamp, to clean it out. I'll wager he saw ghosts for a year after that, for when he'd got down on his knees to begin scrubbing he found himself bending over the skull of a dead man.'

'It was most likely a man that had stowed away out in the colony and had been caught under the cable when they were running it down quickly, and so had the life crushed out of him.'

'However, I did know of a case that seemed supernatural right enough. It was in the Demerara trade, and I was acquainted with the first officer of the bark where it all happened.'

'In the first place, while she was out there loaded and ready to sail, the captain had trouble with one of the seamen, who drew out his knife and stabbed him to death then and there. The mate afterward took her home, but on the way a passenger took to ailing in some mysterious fashion and up and died very suddenly.'

'Of course she was a haunted ship when she arrived home, and so the owners had her name changed, and she was refitted and painted up entirely different from what she had been. Then she sailed away with a new captain, but on the way out he took to drink, and by the time she reached Demerara he was off his head and killed himself with a revolver.'

'Now she was haunted, sure enough, if you could believe the mate. Mind you, after she was refitted the mate said never a word to the new captain about what had happened in her before, and even when a new captain came out from home to take charge of her, believing that the last captain was naturally a drunkard, instead of one who had taken to it after coming on this ship, this first officer never said a word, because he did not believe in ghosts or even in a future state.'

'However, the first night the new captain was on board the trouble began. The captain at about 9 o'clock went to his room and retired. An hour later he was calling the mate and telling that he had gone to sleep and then had been awakened by a light in the room. On opening his eyes he saw a short, thick-set man, with side whiskers, in the armchair at the desk, holding his head between his hands and saying: 'Oh, my poor head! Oh, my poor head!'

'That was enough for the mate. He left the vessel that night with all hands. This new captain knew nothing of the style or manner of the one who had killed himself, and yet the picture—ghost or what you may call it—in the chair was the image in appearance and dress of the suicide and had complained in precisely the same words and voice of the dead man.'

This brought out the story of an exile from Salvador whom the narrator met in Guatemala. Having got into trouble with the authorities, Senor Don Sebastian Mojarieta saved his life by fleeing to Amapala, Honduras, as many another exile has done, and there taking a steamer, north to San Jose, Guatemala. A friend of his who was involved in like manner was to have reached Amapala by a different route in time for the same steamer, and to prevent any possible delays Mojarieta engaged staterooms and secured passes from the Amapala authorities for his friend and himself as soon as he arrived. But the steamer day came without his friend, and Mojarieta was obliged to sail alone.

'At the usual hour, on the first night out, the story teller went on, 'Mojarieta retired and went to sleep, but had no sooner dozed off than he awoke, hearing his friend's voice, as he says, in the next stateroom, which he had supposed to be empty. Leaving his berth, he went out into the passageway and opened the door to the adjoining room, and there, he says, he saw lying in the berth the body of his friend fully

dressed, but with three bullet holes in the breast of his coat and one in the right cheek.

'At that Mojarieta fainted and was found on the deck by the steward and put to bed again. Thereafter it was a most miserable passage, for the vessel touched at both of the Salvador ports and was about a week reaching San Jose. Mojarieta was sure his friend had been shot and expected a force to come off from each of the Salvador ports to demand him. Moreover, he was haunted continually by that picture of his dead friend.'

'Once in Guatemala he obtained employment quickly and then began to recover something of his former spirits. He ascribed his vision to his over-wrought imagination and was beginning to hope that his friend would yet appear when a letter was received from a relative in Salvador. It not only told that the friend had been shot by the government soldiers, but described the wounds of the body after it was dead. Mojarieta declares that the description accurately portrayed the vision he had of his friend, and he believes that his friend's spirit, being unable to rest or wholly throw off its desire to take passage on the steamer, had come on board and was occupying that berth.'

AFRAID? NOT ME.—At 2 o'clock Tuesday morning, when all the people living on College avenue were fast asleep, there was commotion in one of the beautiful residences along that thoroughfare. It was the home of a merchant, and the commotion broke loose in the sleeping apartment of himself and wife. She started it.

She awakened suddenly and thought she heard some one trying to break in down stairs. She shook her husband, and after some time elapsed succeeded in making him realize the situation. They both listened. There was some noise, sure enough, and a cold shiver crept down his spinal column and even to his toes.

He determined not to get scared, though his teeth were chattering, so he announced that he would go down and investigate.

'Aren't you afraid, dear?' nervously asked his wife.

He took out his revolver, struck a match, lighted a lamp and then looked at her in disgust.

'Afraid! Well, hardly. I never saw the man yet I was afraid of. Now, don't make any noise, but come on.'

The little woman stared in astonishment. 'Do you want me to go too?'

'Do I want you to go? Why, of course I do. You must go ahead and carry the light so I can see to shoot. Do you think I could hit a burglar in the dark? Hurry up, or he'll be gone.'

And that man made the little woman go ahead with the light, while he held the revolver over her shoulder at full cock. They traversed the house from garret to cellar, finally found a stray dog scratching at the back door and came back to bed. He sat up for an hour telling her what he would have done had there been a burglar there.

OPEN CONFESSION.—The preacher was having a sort of a test meeting by asking the congregation questions on their conduct.

'Now, brethren,' he said, 'all of you who pay your debts will please stand up.'

In response to this there was an apparently unanimous uprising.

'Now,' said the preacher, 'all those who do not pay will please stand up.'

One man alone arose.

'Ah, brother,' said the preacher, 'why is it that you, of all this congregation of brethren should be so different?'

'I don't know, parson,' he replied slowly, as he looked around over his friends and acquaintances in the meeting, 'unless it is that I ain't a liar.'—Free Press.

THE THREE HEAVIEST MEN.—The three heaviest men of whom any mention is made in history were Miles Darden, of Tennessee, Lewis Cornelius, of Pennsylvania, and Daniel Lambert, of England. Darden died in 1857. When in health, he was 7 feet 6 inches in height and weighed over 1000 pounds. I have no record of the date of the death of Cornelius, which occurred in Pike county, Pa., but the account says he was born in 1794. When in his prime, he measured 8 feet 2 inches around the waist, was 6 feet tall and weighed 645 pounds. Daniel Lambert was an English freak of the early part of the century and died in June, 1807. He was of average height, but weighed 739 pounds.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gives the best satisfaction of any cough medicine I handle, and as a seller leads all other preparations in this market. I recommend it because it is the best medicine I ever handled for coughs, colds and croup. For sale by Wm. F. Greenwell & Son, Leonardtown, Md.

GOOD FRIDAY'S PHENOMENON.—Astronomers and those who delight in observations of the heavenly bodies are deeply interested this year in a most interesting and extraordinary phenomenon. The heavenly bodies, which own the sun as a centre and gravitate around that great luminary, will, on Good Friday, April 12, be in exactly the same position they occupied in the firmament the day Christ died on the cross, for the first time since that day, 1862 years ago.

The hour of 4:30 o'clock a. m., Paris time, on Good Friday, corresponding to the sixth hour of reckoning at Jerusalem in the days of Christ, astronomers say will witness the planets and stars in the same relation to the sun that they occupied at the hour of the Crucifixion, as then observed by the eager astrologers of that day.

Arrangements have been made by all the principal universities of Europe for observations of this fact, which gives such deep religious significance to this year, and discussions upon the results of these observations will doubtless engage the attention of the students of astronomy for some time to come.

'Perhaps you would not think so, but a very large proportion of diseases in New York comes from carelessness about catching cold,' says Dr. Cyrus Edson. 'It is such a simple thing and so common that very few people, unless it is a case of pneumonia, pay any attention to a cold. New York is one of the healthiest places on the Atlantic Coast and yet there are a great many cases of catarrh and consumption which have their origin in this neglect of the simplest precaution of every day life. The most sensible advice is, when you have one get rid of it as soon as possible. By all means do not neglect it.' Dr. Edson does not tell you how to cure a cold but we will. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It will relieve the lungs, aid expectoration, open the secretions and soon effect a permanent cure. 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by Wm. F. Greenwell & Son, Leonardtown, Md.

Too LITERAL.—'Little boy,' admonished the good man, 'why did you strike your little companion? See how he weeps!'

'Cause he hit me fast. See?'

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UNDERTAKING. Messrs. H. B. Cawood and A. C. Welch have dissolved co-partnership. Mr. CAWOOD will continue the business at Chaptico and will furnish CASKETS that are elsewhere sold for \$50 and \$75 at \$30. Proportionately low prices for COFFINS H. B. CAWOOD, Chaptico, Md. Feb 2, 93-y

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS. Until further notice for the purpose of receiving taxes I will be at Jarboesville, the 1st Monday of each month. St. Inigo's, the first Tuesday of each month. Valley Lee, the 1st Saturday of each month. All who are owing back taxes to me must settle at once. W. W. CECIL, Collector. Dec 22 92-1f

Real Estate Agency. MESSRS. HERBERT F. MOORE, of Leonardtown, and T. J. MOORE, of Washington, D. C., have entered into co-partnership for the sale of real estate. If parties having lands for sale will send full description and the lowest price they will take, we will liberally advertise their lands free of charge and make every possible effort to make speedy sales. HERBERT F. MOORE, T. JACKSON MOORE, Leonardtown, Md. Nov 21-1

FOR THE LEGISLATURE. Please announce Mr. MORGAN RALEY as a candidate for the next House of Delegates. He will be warmly supported by the 7th District. Dec 22 92-1f

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