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BONES OF THE BENDERS.

Time and again the fate of the Bender family has been a question warmly debated in all parts of the West. Many people maintain that the family were duly killed by the avengers of Dr. York, whose death first brought to notice the murderous family. Notwithstanding this, every little while comes the report that the Benders are still living and have been captured. There have been discovered no less than a hundred different Bender families, and a collection of the newspaper sentences relative to the discoveries of Benders would prove a most interesting literary curiosity. The latest Bender sensation was a local one, when the detective of this city clapped a guileless citizen into a calaboose, upon the statement of a man named Green. He was discharged from custody a few days afterwards.

The Benders kept an inn on a lonesome road near Cherrysvale, Labette county, Kansas. The road passed through the middle of a prairie, six miles from Cherrysvale, and all the inn travellers often stopped to get lodgings for the night. Travellers stopping there, supposed to have money, were seated at the table, and while they were taking their meals, a curtain which was suspended behind them showed the position of their heads. A blow with the head of an axe, from behind the curtain, would stun or finish them. The bodies were lowered into a cellar underneath through a trap-door, where the pockets would be rifled of money and valuables and then the bodies were

BURIED IN A HOLE,
dog in the lot in the rear of this hospitable tavern. The disappearance of Dr. York led to the discovery of these terrible crimes, and the sudden departure of the Bender family.

Many statements of the manner in which the Benders met their retribution have been made, but the circumstances of the affair have for a long time been enveloped in mystery. A new version of the fate of the Benders sets the matter beyond all doubt. The following statement is made by Captain J. C. Reeves, who was First Lieutenant of Captain Burrows' Battery, U. S. volunteers, and who was living at Independence, Kansas, at the time the Bender family were detected as the murderers of Dr. York and others, was given to Colonel D. W. Wear of this city, who furnished it to the *Republican*. According to Captain Reeves' statement, Dr. York lived in Independence, Kansas, and went from Independence to Fort Scott to sell a house and lot at that place. He negotiated the sale, but the purchaser did not pay any money down. York started for his home in Independence, and was met and recognized at Parsons, Kansas, where he purchased some cigars. He was next met on the road from Parsons to Benders, and recognized by three or four parties, but he never could be traced beyond Benders. Dr. York's wife being indisposed, her husband's return was expected that night. His brother, Colonel York, aware of the delicate condition of his brother's wife, started out after him, and the first trail he struck was at Parsons, which place he learned the doctor had passed through on his way home the day before. From this place he set out on the trail, and heard of his brother three or four times between Parsons and the Bender place. Colonel York stopped at the Bender place and made inquiries for his brother, the doctor. The Benders denied that he had ever been there. Colonel York then went to Independence, Montgomery county, Kansas, and got Sheriff Stone. They both (Colonel York and Sheriff Stone) made a visit to the Benders. On arriving there, the information they got from him was unsatisfactory, but enough was obtained to

ABOUT THEIR SUSPICIONS.

Colonel York and Sheriff Stone then returned to Independence and raised a party of men. They started out to Bender's the very next morning, and when the party arrived at the place it was discovered that the family had all decamped. They then hunted around the house, and finally prosecuted their search in the garden where they found that the ground had recently been disturbed. On removing the surface soil they found the body of Dr. York, and others who had been murdered, in these crude graves. Hon. William Wright and S. S. Peterson, Deputy United Marshal at that time, followed the wagon track across the open prairie to Thayer, Kansas, which is about twelve miles distant from the Bender house. There they found the Benders' wagon and horses, which had been abandoned. They there learned that the Benders had taken the train on the L. L. & G. railroad for the north. The pursuing party telegraphed the conductor of the train and he telegraphed back that the Benders had stopped at Chinutte or New Chicago. They next telegraphed the ticket agent at Chicago or Chinutte. He answered that he had sold the Benders tickets to Chetopa, Kansas, which is just two miles from the Cherokee line. Messrs. Wright and Peterson, after obtaining this valuable information, mounted their horses and rode rapidly back to the Bender place, where they found Colonel York and Sheriff Stone. The four men at once procured fresh horses and started in all haste for Chetopa. At Oswego they again procured fresh horses and started anew for Chetopa, only distant eight miles. Then they ascertained that the Benders had taken a team and wagon, which was swathing them

there, and had gone in a southeasterly direction toward the Grand River, in the Indian Nation. Chetopa is about thirty miles from the Grand River. When the pursuing party reached Chetopa, they were only about three hours behind the Benders. They pushed rapidly ahead, and the four men came up with the fugitives four miles from the Grand River, and there without further ceremony the Benders met the retribution due their crimes. They were all shot to death, and the bones of old man Bender, his wife, John and Kate, lie there in a hole dug in the ground, where they remain at this day.

Mr. Wright is now living in Iowa, and Peterson is a resident of Independence, Kansas. Stone is living in Montgomery county, Kansas. The scene of the terrible murders was visited a year after their perpetration, and the house had disappeared as well as most other evidences of the monstrous crimes committed by the Benders, who in their turn met with swift punishment and a just retribution. — *Missouri Republican*.

A Young Man in Peril.

There is a young man in this county of Wayne, State of Michigan, so, who is going to be terribly astonished before the year 1883 is more than a month old. The law will reach out and clasp his throat just above the Adam's apple, and he will get such a shaking up and mopping around that he will seem to feel his heels beating a tattoo on the back of his neck.

They were in to see a lawyer yesterday—Mary Ann and her mother. Mary Ann was a little embarrassed, but the old woman was calmness itself. When they spoke about a breach of promise case, the lawyer asked:

"What evidence have you got?"
"Mary Ann, produce the letters," commanded the mother, and the girl took the cover off a willow basket and remarked that she thought 827 letters would do to begin on. The other 651 would be produced as soon as the case was fairly before the court.

"And outside of these letters?" queried the lawyer.

"Mary Ann, produce your diary," said the mother. "Now turn to the heading of 'promises,' and tell him how many times this marriage business was talked over."

"The footing is 214 times," answered the girl.

"Now turn to the heading of 'darling' and give us the number of times he has applied the term to you."

"I have figured right, the total is 9,254 times."

"I guess you counted pretty straight, for you are good in arithmetic. Now turn to the heading of 'Woodbine Cottage,' and tell us how many times he has talked of such a home for you after marriage?"

"The footing is 1,395 times."

"Very well. This lawyer wants to be sure that we've got a case. How many times has Charles Henry said he would die for you?"

"Three hundred and fifty," answered the girl, as she turned over a leaf.

"How many times has he called you an angel?"

"Over 11,000 mamma."

"How about squeezing hands?"

"Over 384,000 squeezes."

"And kisses?"

"Nearly 417,000."

"There's our case!" said the mother, as she deposited basket and diary on the lawyer's table. "Look over the documents, and if you want anything farther I can bring in a dozen neighbors to swear to facts. We sue for \$10,000 damages, and we don't settle for less than an eighty-acre farm, with building in good repair. We'll call again next week—good-day, sir." — *Free Press*.

Eli Perkins' Sayings.

Levity is the soul of wit.

A boor is a man who talks so much about himself that you don't get a chance to talk about yourself.

If you get the best of whisky, whisky will get the best of you.

Muzlin' makes a dog safe, while it makes a young lady dangerous—still, in hot weather they both want more lin.

Doing a Great Deal of Good.

Mrs. J. Berry, of Portland, Me., writes—Your HENRY'S CARBOLIC SALVE is doing a great deal of good. Some of my friends have been greatly benefitted by its use. I think it is the best salve I have ever used. Beware of counterfeits.

BAKER'S PAIN PANACEA cures pain in Man and Beast. For use externally and internally.

DR. ROGER'S VEGETABLE WORM SYRUP instantly destroys Worms and removes the Secretions which cause them.

DR. DEWITT C. KELLINGER'S LINIMENT is an infallible cure for Rheumatism, Sprains, Lameness and Diseases of the Scalp, and for promoting the growth of the Hair.

Denton's Balsam cures Colds, Coughs, Rheumatism, Kidney troubles, etc. Can be used externally as a plaster.

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