

# THE TENSAS GAZETTE

Gazette Publishing Company, Ltd.

Official Paper of the Parish of Tensas School Board and Fifth Louisiana Levee District.

\$1.50 Per Annum.

NEW SERIES VOL. XVIII.

ST. JOSEPH, LA., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1911.

NUMBER 39.

## DYING MAN'S WISH BARS EVERY WOMAN

NONE PERMITTED TO ATTEND FUNERAL OR LOOK UPON HIS FACE.

### DECLARED ALL TREACHEROUS

Wife's Desertion Made Harness Maker Lifelong Enemy to Those of Her Sex—Tells Friend on Deathbed Why He Cherished Hatred.

Evansville, Ind.—Soured on the fair sex because his wife deserted him in Louisville, Ky., years ago, John Steller, aged 67 years, before he died here made the request that no women be permitted to look upon his face after he had passed away and that they be kept away from his funeral.

"They are mischief makers and as treacherous as a rattlesnake," the old man said on his deathbed.

Out of gratitude for the man who had been his true friend and who assisted him in his last days, Steller left a good farm in Warrick county, near here, to Joe Haas, a grocer and politician.

Years ago Steller came here from Louisville and got employment as a harness maker. He toiled steadily at his bench, and seldom lost a day from his work. Among the large number of employees in this establishment Steller was regarded as eccentric. He talked little, and to none of his fellow workmen did he make any mention of his past life. Most of the men with whom he worked thought he was a bachelor, none knowing that at one time he had a happy home; that he had become a woman-hater because the wife he loved tenderly ceased to love him, and deserted him when the hand of affliction was laid upon him.

In silence and alone Steller bore his burden—and saved his money. He had no one to live for, and cared little about the companionship of his fellows. He lived alone above the



John Steller.

grocery store of Haas, and not until his last illness was the story of his life revealed.

Steller was taken ill and remained in his room. He was ill for several days before any one made inquiries about him. Then Haas, who had not seen the old man for some days, went to his room and found the door locked. He broke in, and there found Steller lying on the bed in a semi-conscious condition, from which he was with difficulty aroused.

When Steller fully realized that the end was near he told Haas that he wanted to talk over some matters with him. Then he told the grocer the story of his life.

He had been married, he said, and was happy with his wife in their home in Louisville. After their son was born his wife asked him to deed over his property to her. He arranged matters so that she could take control of half of it. A short time afterward he became ill with typhoid fever. After strangers had ministered to him, he asked for his wife. He was told she had gone away.

When he sent word begging her to return to him she said she replied that she didn't love him any more and she would have to get along without her. Later he obtained a divorce and came to Evansville to work at his trade.

"Now you know why I am a woman hater," he said. "I hate them all. They are a curse to the race, meddlesome and treacherous as a rattlesnake and as uncertain as life itself."

"I guess it's all up with me now. Before I die I want to make one request of you. I don't want any living woman to attend my funeral. Keep them all away. They would only come through curiosity, anyway."

A short while later he was dead. Haas obeyed the dying request. He alone accompanied the undertakers to the graveyard where the old man was buried. He will erect a monument over the grave and pay for it himself.

Besides the property left to Haas, Steller had a \$1,000 life insurance policy, payable to his son. The son did not attend the funeral. It is said he will collect the life insurance, but will not attempt to contest the will bequeathing the Indiana farm to Haas.

## SENSATIONAL MURDER TRIAL IN VIRGINIA



THE trial of Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., for the murder of his young wife, which is now in progress at Chesterfield, Va., is replete with thrills and sensations. The actual standing of the accused, the circumstances surrounding the killing and the flippant bearing of the alleged murderer have already made the trial a cause celebre. In the picture above are seen (1) Judge Watson, before whom the trial is taking place; (2) the interior of the cell that is occupied by the prisoner; (3) Henry Clay Beattie, Sr., the father of the accused; (4) Sheriff Gill, left; Captain Pollock, center; Beattie with his straw hat partially concealing his face; (5) crowd outside the little court house trying to obtain an entrance; (6) profile view of Beattie.

## BITTEN BY RATTLE SNAKE

### Experience of Oregon Stockman While at Spring.

Struck on Right Arm Between Wrist and Elbow by Snake, Man Makes Desperate Run for Medical Assistance.

Antelope, Ore.—William J. McGreer, who three weeks ago was bitten by a rattlesnake and all but lost his life, is one of the few men in Oregon who have received severe bites and been able to describe in detail how it felt. McGreer was riding the range for horses eight miles east of Antelope. He is a Clarno (Ore.) stockman. He dismounted at a spring to drink and was bitten in the arm. He has nearly recovered, and his story, as printed in Crook county newspapers is as follows:

"Oh, yes, I'm getting along all right; but the snake died as a result of his indiscretion. I've ridden the range so long that no reptile that bites me can survive."

"You can say for me—and I'm an expert now—that rattlers don't always rattle before they strike. This one didn't. I had just got into position to drink from the spring in Galliger canyon when the cuss struck me on the right arm between the wrist and elbow. It felt as though some one had given my arm a hard jerk. The snake hung on by his fangs. I knocked him off with my left hand and killed him. He had six rattles and was about 18 inches long."

"I immediately tore my handkerchief into strips and bound the arm tightly at wrist and elbow. I reached for my knife, expecting to cut the wound. When I found I did not have it with me, I was scared. My arm did not

pain me then—it was in between my shoulders. That negro was right who said it was 'no disgrace to run when yo's scared', so I got on my horse and lit out for Antelope, about eight miles away. By the time I reached a mud hole, about a mile from the spring, I was having excruciating pains all over my body, as though my muscles were all contracting. I dismounted and plunged my swelling arm into the mud."

"I think I must have been crazed by the pain, for here I turned my horse loose and started on foot for Billy Malone's house, a distance of four miles. The only thing I remember from the time I left the mud hole till I got to Malone's house, was eating tobacco. My chaps were found later about two miles from the spring, but my hat hasn't been found yet."

"The horse I was riding was a good one, and if I had stuck to him he would have landed me in Antelope in 20 minutes from the time I was struck. However, as soon as I arrived at Malone's ranch John Malone cut open the wound and Jack Brogan sucked out as much of the poison blood as he could. Undoubtedly this service is all that saved my life until Dr. Bower arrived from Antelope, which was about 15 minutes after they telephoned for him. A drummer (whose name I do not know, but who has my sincere thanks), brought the doctor out in an automobile."

"It was some time after the doctor arrived until he got my arm to bleeding. I was suffering indescribable agony and my arm was swollen to an immense size and was a glassy blue color. Dr. Bower worked with me all night and I understand took two quarts of blood from my arm. The doctor and Jack Brogan took me to Antelope the next morning, where the treatment was continued through the day. My

brothers, George and Ed, had come over from Clarno and looked after me during that night, and then I was under the care of two trained nurses from The Dalles.

"I believe I was bitten about seven o'clock and arrived at Malone's about 9:30. So it was at least two and a half hours before I received medical attention."

### SIX YEARS UNDER A CHURCH

Diver Is Given Silver Rose Bowl for Arduous Labor Under Cathedral—Scheme Cost \$500,000.

London.—The dean and chapter of Winchester cathedral, Hampshire, have presented to W. R. Walker, a diver supplied by Messrs. Siebe, Gorman & Co of London, a silver rose bowl as a memento of his six years' work beneath the cathedral. Working in about 20 feet of water, Walker had to remove the pent and seal down the water in the gravel below the foundations by means of bags of concrete and concrete slabs. This work has been carried on in darkness, and those responsible for the preservation scheme have had to trust entirely to the conscientiousness and skill of the diver, as they could not inspect the work. The scheme, which has cost over \$500,000, is now nearly completed.

### Eighty-Bushel Wheat.

Chico, Cal.—The threshing of 400 varieties of grass has been completed at the government's plant introduction gardens at this place. Some varieties of wheat yielded at the rate of 80 bushels to the acre. This is about twice the average yield of common wheat in California's grain growing district. The varieties producing most heavily are Frietas and Chui wheats. H. F. Blanchard is the expert in charge of the experiments. The propagation and budding of deciduous fruits are now being followed. Corn breeding is also under way.

## MAN WHO STOLE BEES DOES RUNNING STUNT

WOULD BETTER HAVE CARRIED OFF RED HOT STOVE WITHOUT ASBESTOS GLOVES.

Savannah, Ga.—The man whose thievish instincts led him into the taking of a red hot stove without the protection of asbestos has been held up as an example of enterprise in this particular line, but he must step into second place for the man who attempted to steal a bee hive from E. W. Jewett, of this city. The particular hive selected by the thief in the absence of a census of its occupants is estimated to accommodate somewhere in the neighborhood of ten thousand bees.

The hive was found just outside the gate through which it had been taken, its position indicating that it had been left in a hurried manner. When Mr. Jewett found the hive its top and bottom were both off, and the ten



Thief Steals Bee Hive.

thousand bees were circling around trying to repair the damage which had been done. Knowing the resentment that bees show when people knock the top and bottom off their hives and otherwise manhandle them, Mr. Jewett is uncertain just how far the bees chased the thief before returning home to take stock of the damages. Mr. Jewett's theory is that the thief knocked the top off going through the gate, and the bees sallied forth and began to puncture the marauder, causing him to drop the hive and start an extemporaneous effort to set up a few running records.

### BALD EAGLE FIGHTS SOLDIER

Infuriated Bird After Being Wounded Savagely Attacks Man Who Fired the Shot.

LYNN, Mass.—Corporal Thomas Campbell, formerly of New York, of the 147th company, United States coast artillery, stationed in this city, is suffering from injuries received in fighting an American baldheaded eagle here. He was summoned into court charged with violating the game laws of Massachusetts and fine \$20.

Campbell found the bird perched in a tree. He got a gun and fired. The bullet only stunned the bird, which then began to fight. Thomas Egan, who was with Campbell, had his overalls torn from his body while attempt-



Eagle Attacks Soldier.

ing to lasso the bird. It was finally overpowered. The bird is alive and under surgical treatment at the home of Game Warden Thomas Burney. It is six feet ten inches from tip to tip of its wings.

### Burned Her Prayer Book.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—While a sudden electrical storm of great severity was passing over this city lightning struck the Trinity Episcopal church and stunned many of the worshippers gathered inside the sacred edifice. The effect was startling. A prayerbook held by Mrs. W. W. Shryock was burned from her hand, which was blackened by the bolt.

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### WOULD PUZZLE ANY SOLOMON

Pennsylvania Judge Finally Decides That Goose Must Be Cooked and Divided Between Two Women.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—A dispute over the ownership of a goose was settled the other day by Ald. John F. Donohue, who is famous locally for his common sense adjustments of lawsuits.

Mrs. Alice Kreiger of Shickshinny charged Mrs. Louis Pellins with the theft of a goose. Each woman claimed the goose had belonged to her ever since it was hatched, and the evidence on both sides was of equal weight.

"Well," said the alderman, after puzzling over the case, "there is but one way to settle it. Each of you women will go home, will get your flock and each bring one here. Then you will place the ganders on opposite sides of the courtroom and the goose in the middle and let her choose to which flock she belongs."

"Of course," he added, "there is the danger of her being a flirt."

The women objected to this plan because it involved an outlay in railroad fare of more than the value of the goose.

"Then," declared the alderman, "the defendant is sentenced to take the goose home, kill it, divide it exactly in half, and give one half to the prosecutrix."

## ONLY WOMAN JAILER

Veritable Amazon Has Unique Position in Rhone Valley.

Record of Madame Jenny Porchet During Husband's Illness for Three Years, Makes Her Choice for Place.

Berlin.—Woman's rights, indeed! What more could the most ardent suffragette desire than to control the liberties of scores of more men. That is the privilege of Mme. Jenny Porchet, aged 51—the only official woman jailer in the world.

Her prison lies in the pretty town of Aigle, with a population of 4,000. It is the valley of Rhone. It forms part of an imposing range of crystallized buildings, the most conspicuous in that region.

Thirty years ago Mme. Porchet married the chief warden of the Aigle prison. When her husband became seriously ill she acted in his place without the local authorities being aware of the fact. Then after three years' illness, Porchet died and the place of chief warden becoming vacant applications were filed. Several men applied for the post, which is fairly well paid and many of them had excellent credentials. Mme. Porchet, however, presented herself before the local commission, explained that during the three years' illness of her husband she had carried on his duties so as not to lose the place, had introduced several minor reforms which had strengthened discipline,

and at the same time made the prisoners more contented. She concluded that she could carry on the same work without fear or favor if the commission would support her.

"I know it is an unusual request to make, for a woman to rule male prisoners and keep them in order, but I am not frightened of a man or half a dozen of them."

This statement brought smiles and nods of approval from the members of the commission, for Mme. Porchet is a veritable Amazon nearly six feet in height, powerfully built, and in the prime of health. Her face shows a character as strong as her frame, with powerful square jaws, a large mouth and piercing but kindly eyes.

"Gentlemen," she continued, "you may still think that if I were attacked by a prisoner I would be helpless. Will you kindly ask the heaviest guard on the premises to step here so that I can demonstrate to you what I could and would do with a man who dared to attack me."

The president asked Mme. Porchet to retire and after the commission had considered the matter for a quarter of an hour she was informed that it was unanimously agreed to give her a year's trial and if she gave satisfaction the post would be a permanent one.

"Gentlemen, I thank you," she said, "and I am sure that I will give you every satisfaction. I did not want to appeal to your sympathies as I have seven children to bring up and the loss of the position would have meant much to them and me."