

AGED PIONEERS STARVING

Pitiable Plight of Octogenarian Amos Mills and His Invalid Wife.

LIVING IN THE REMNANTS OF A BOX CAR

Mrs. Mills, Suffering from a Chronic Malady, Comes to Omaha for Medical Relief and Falls to Obtain It.

The prosperous majority of Omaha would be amazed were it to behold the hunger, the cold and the general suffering that exists in the squalid home of octogenarian Amos Mills and his wife, who are the most starving and the remnant of an old box car grounded on the common near Thirtieth and Fort streets.

An appeal for help reached Sergeant Whalen of the police department Wednesday morning. It came by telephone from sympathetic neighbors who had investigated the case. The county physician was notified by the police and efforts will be made to give at least temporary relief and other assistance.

The aged Mrs. Mills is an invalid. For several years she has suffered from a chronic affliction that renders useless one of her limbs. Of late the malady became more aggravated, and she is now unable to arise from the poor excuse of a bed that lies under her.

A splinter daughter, well along in years, the only support of the dependent old folks, had to leave her washbasin to nurse her mother, so the only source of income of the little family in the discarded box car has been removed.

Amos Mills a Pioneer. Time was when Amos Mills was as brave a pioneer as ever blazed the way of civilization in Nebraska. He is now the wreck of a once powerful physical organization. But he is 86 years old and his strength has faded. He failed to provide for the proverbial rainy day, and is now at the mercy of the disease of which he has been suffering for many years.

"We bought this house for \$5," said the daughter, "and it does very well for summer, but in fall and winter the wind blows right through it. I don't know who owns the ground. We've never been disturbed."

"The house" which the woman had reference to is a miserable hut. It is part of an old car and the holes in it have been covered with canvas. It is near the old fort and was originally used as a restaurant. The man who started the eating enterprise abandoned it and sold much of the furniture at a time when they could raise \$5. They have patched and patched with four sacks and other odds and ends of cloth until it is all inclosed in a miserable way. At either end of the room—if it may be called a room—there is a bed. About the middle there is a worn-out cooking stove. A table, a few rickety chairs and a handful of cracked and seamy dishes constitute the household furnishings. A fire of chips and chunks and other odds and ends blazed fitfully in the stove when a visitor called there Wednesday afternoon.

Family Bible is Left. On the table, standing out prominently among the debris of this home, an old-fashioned family bible was observed. It is such a book as traveling agents used to sell for \$15 or \$20—a place for family records and a few leaves set apart for photographs, in addition to the apocrypha and the holy writ. "We have sold much of our stuff," said the aged sick woman, "but we still have the old family bible. It wouldn't bring much and we don't want to sell it anyway."

It would be difficult to picture a more devoted lot than that of this aged pioneer and his wife and their daughter. They have received some assistance from the county and city authorities, but are too proud to ask for a continuance of help, and the report of their present dire straits would not have reached Sergeant Whalen but for the kindly act of neighbors who appreciate the circumstances, but are themselves unable to render as much relief as is required.

Mrs. Mills, despite her helpless condition, is spirited and proud. "It's a little bad for us just now," she said, "but I hope to be able to go to work soon." She is 72 years old and the chances for her ever going to work are very slight. If her emaciated appearance may be taken as an index.

Buckler's Strain Salve. The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Kuhn & Co.

VIADUCT CASE IS DELAYED. Injunction Proceedings Will Be Heard Tomorrow Lengthy Affidavits Will Be Read.

The much-talked-of sixteenth street viaduct injunction case, which was set for hearing before Judge Dickinson yesterday, was again postponed until today. Several of the interested parties were not present when court opened and therefore the case was laid over one day. There have

been several changes in the case. The original injunction was granted by Judge Dickinson on the 15th of October, and since that time the case has been in the hands of the court. The injunction was granted to prevent the construction of the viaduct until the case is decided.

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eral Buller's army corps. Now the officials are inclined to predict that low water mark has been touched and that slowly but steadily the rising tide of victory may be expected. The proposal to send out an additional 10,000 troops is highly approved and it is considered probable that fully that number will be required, as all independent reports concur in saying the resistance of the Boers will be stubborn to the last and that not until the resources of the two republics are exhausted will they acknowledge defeat.

More Obliging Than Venetians. The news of a great victory which was circulating last evening is not confirmed and the Boer losses reported by what might be designated "Kaffirgrams" ought to be greatly discounted, as the Kaffirs, knowing the British wish to hear of Boer losses, are likely to supply the news with regard to their losses. However, allowing for all exaggeration, General White appears to have given General Joubert's forces several home thrusts and the war office is justified in its contention today that the news demonstrates clearly that General White is able to more than merely hold his own and can strike blows of such force as not only ensure the safety of Ladysmith, but probably also to have a telling effect on the duration and results of the pending operations of General Buller's army corps. In short the war office officials take a decidedly hopeful view of the entire situation and believe that even the advance section of the British forces at Ladysmith have seen the worst days.

It is hoped that the renewed charges of Boer violations of the sanctity of the white flag originated in the lively imagination of the Kaffirs. Though similar charges have several times been made during the preceding campaign, and though the British report similar practices in the former Transvaal war, there has not been any mention of such actions thus far in any of the official reports received from General White and General Buller, who will surely have formally remonstrated against such conduct on the part of the Boers.

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An experienced British officer says: "Remember that no white troops can operate in the interior of the Transvaal, except by beating them in the last Basuto war, but in reality they gave in of their own will. Unless Lagden can now hold them back by appeals to their loyalty to England they will fight, and this will mean that when our war with the Dutch is over we must engage in an endless and perilous campaign in Basutoland."

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BRITAIN TO FORTIFY ESQUIMAULT. Naval Base in Pacific Will Be Prepared for All Contingents. NEW YORK, Nov. 8.—A special to the Times from Montreal says: England does not intend to be taken unawares in any move that may be made in the Pacific as a result of a possible combination of two or more hostile powers against its interests in that quarter of the globe. It is learned that a strong detachment of marines, whose sailing from England was not announced, will arrive at Esquimault tomorrow, or the day after, to be followed by the British fleet, the strongest British stronghold and naval base in the Pacific ocean. The fortifications at Esquimault are also undergoing considerable strengthening and enlargement and a large number of heavy guns have recently been shipped across the continent to be mounted at the local strength.

The reason for the hurried strengthening of Esquimault lies in the apprehension of the imperial government that Russia may seize the opportunity of the Boer war to attack England in the east. Recent concerted action of the Russian and French fleets in the advance section of the British forces at Ladysmith have seen the worst days.

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KANSAS DIVORCE CASES.

Examples of the Complaints Made in the Courts of that State.

Divorce is the fashion in Kansas. The docket of the district courts are burdened with divorce cases as never before in the history of the state. No good reason has been advanced yet for this state of affairs, but it is the comment of bench and bar. A correspondent gives the following samples of most complaints:

Mrs. Elizabeth Hagerman, aged 73 years, of Coffeyville sues her husband, A. J. Hagerman, aged 83 years, for divorce on the ground that he chews tobacco.

The Reverend J. R. Eubanks, Methodist pastor of their city, sues for divorce, alleging that every time he starts family prayers his wife commences to "curse profanely."

Mrs. Louisa Gatch of Abilene, who has enjoyed four honeymoons and had three divorces, has commenced proceedings for the fourth divorce.

In the divorce suit of Cornell against Cornell at Westmoreland, Mr. Cornell was granted a divorce on testimony that his wife's scolding had become unendurable. The testimony went to show that for several nights in succession she got out of bed, placed herself in a rocking-chair in the middle of the floor, rocked violently and jerked her heels down with a bang at each rock, and for two full hours sang at the top of her voice.

"Oh, won't it be joyful when we part to meet no more."

A Wellington man is suing for divorce because his wife told him she "would rather have the little finger of any other man than your whole body."

George D. Mueller, an old soldier at Leavenworth, is suing for divorce because his wife refused to cook his meals. He offered to give his wife his home and all the property if she will consent to the divorce and make no claim on his pension.

Mrs. Nettie Smith of Topeka filed suit for divorce from her husband, Joel P. Smith, on the ground that he went to bed with his mistress.

Mrs. Ella Davis of Shawnee county asks a decree of divorce on the ground that her husband, Charles Davis, knocked her down and "kicked, cuffed and beat her until she was sick, sore and lame."

A Jewell City woman employed a lawyer to secure a divorce for her. As a preliminary step the lawyer wrote back to investigate the record in the county where her husband resides and he found that his client was already free, a divorce having been granted her husband.

In a divorce suit at Abilene the husband, W. H. Gatch, alleged that his wife courted him, and when he began to find out things after their marriage he found out that she had been married and divorced four times before she had wooed and won him.

Just before noon an Eldorado woman filed suit for divorce from her husband. When the clerk returned from dinner he found her waiting for him so she could dismiss the case.

The wife of Ed Jaquins, the representative from the Winfield district, sued for divorce, alleging, paraphrasing Colonel Jaquins is worth \$100,000 and his wife wants one-half of it.

John Hedge of Topeka sues Mary Hedge, his wife, for divorce. John Hedge is a "jiner" and he alleges that his wife was accustomed to lock the doors when he went to bed, refusing to permit him to enter on his return. Not only did Mrs. Hedge lock the doors, but, so Mr. Hedge claims, nailed them up with ten-penny nails.

In a divorce suit at Atchison Mrs. Martha Jane Brown charges her husband, Henry Brown, with "puncturing every remark with profanity."

In a suit at Leavenworth, Mrs. Wilma Matton complained that her husband stays at his mother's home, refusing to live with her until she goes to school and qualifies herself to be a fit companion for him.

William Beardsley of Topeka, aged 84, sues for divorce alleging extreme cruelty on the part of his wife, who is 80 years old.

Laura E. Downey of Atchison was divorced from her husband, Harrison E. Downey, after a brief marital life. Her chief complaint was that her husband was a gambler, and she alleged that he had gambled away her money, women and children, his skin, to her house and thrust them upon her for entertainment, which was against her wish and was a great expense.

LOST MONEY; GREW FAT. Unusual Course of Fortune in the Life of a Pennsylvania Resident. Residents of Reading, Pa., have just been treated to a surprise by a young man, who, after losing a fortune, put himself on exhibition as a fat man at the county fair.

It was a fat man who had gained about the same amount every year, or 300 pounds for the same entire year, showing that while the loss of his money sorely grieved him he continued to gain in avoirdupois at the rate of fifty pounds for each \$5,000 lost. He now weighs nearly 500 pounds, but continues to grow, and excellent health and is taking on weight monthly.

Owing to his great weight it is impossible for him to work. At the opening of the county fair, Mr. King quietly hired a tent, had his smooth boy's face shaved very close, changed a pair of his enormous trousers for a pair of knickerbockers, had one of his shirts made to resemble a boy's waist and then put up a sign inviting people to see the tent and "See Big Willie, only 18 years of age and weight 725 pounds, born in the state of Ohio and has traveled all over the world."

A sideshow orator took a chair on the outside and when the crowds began coming business soon began. The fat man was crowded all the while. The young man's make-up seemed almost every one. Those who recognized him kept their peace. The fat boy sat on a great chair on a low platform, smiled and appeared happy, answered questions promptly to innocent inquirers and enjoyed the show like greatly. The receipts at a dime apiece averaged about \$20 a day. Those who invested said it was worth the money, no matter who the boy was. The cause of this extraordinary gain in weight of the young man is not known. His parents and his brothers and sisters are of ordinary weight. His wife weighs about 125 pounds and his handsome children are of the ordinary average weight for their years.

RAILROAD EARNINGS. Passenger and Freight Traffic in Europe and the United States. An official statement has appeared of the railroad earnings of Austrian railroads for the first six months of 1899, showing the gross amount of those to have increased 3,674,000 florins, as compared with the first six months of 1898, the number of passengers carried having increased 7,500,000 and the freight carried having increased 2,200,000 tons. These figures are regarded as of considerable importance, says the New York Sun, showing an increase of 15 per cent in the number of passengers carried and of 5 per cent in the amount of freight handled in a country in which the whole number of passengers carried in a year is in excess of 100,000,000 and the number of tons of freight carried in a year is not far below that figure. The Austrian railroads (including together those of Austria and Hungary) earn

Made from the Fresh, Green Leaves

OF THE TASMANIAN BLUE GUM TREE.

No Rancid Oils, No Diseased Fats, No Dangerous Alkali.

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