

THE DODGE CITY TIMES.

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Living After the Gallows.

The times have been, observes the usurping King of Scotland, that when the brains were out the man would die, and there an end; and a like termination is commonly supposed to attend the operation of hanging. But, if the strange story sent yesterday from Pesth records the establishment of a precedent, we may be on the eve of a great change, and persons who have been hanged will be seen walking about a day or two afterward as if nothing had happened.

We do not mean walking about as Banquo did; for it will be remembered that when the shade of that ill-treated Thane appears to Macbeth it is no more seen by the Queen and courtiers than the Ghost in "Hamlet" is seen by Gertrude. It is in the material, not the spiritual sense, that the resuscitation is to be brought about; in the flesh, and not in the air-drawn picture traced by agonized remorse, that the phenomenon is to be made visible. Thus in time people may even get to hanging themselves as an amusing experiment, and either be revived next day or, like the Swedish philosopher who pickled himself some years ago and is to come to life again, we believe, in the year 2500, resume existence at pleasure at some future period.

The case reported by cable from Pesth is this: A convict named Takacs, who had murdered two women, was hanged. After the usual time he was examined by the physicians and found dead. The body was cut down, and by way of scientific investigation was subjected to an electro-galvanic current for several hours. The supposed corpse then rose and assaulted the persons who had restored it to life with great energy. In the sequel congestion of the brain and delirium set in, but the man lived for some time and died yesterday morning after living, as we gather from the account, about forty-eight hours. It is further announced that the "entire medical faculty" of Pesth are "considerably exercised" over the case, which is apparently regarded as without parallel; and will probably move the friends of executed felons for some time to make similar essays with the hope of even better results.

We believe, however, that instances of surviving the gallows have occurred before, and such is certainly the opinion current among the humbler classes in Great Britain and Ireland and probably elsewhere. There were two or three persons living in Australia twenty years ago who were reported to have been brought to life again after being hanged, and, if we mistake not, there was an authenticated example of such a thing somewhat earlier in Scotland. If the neck is not broken, as the phrase is, and the subject swoons, as often happens, before the drop, resuscitation is not impossible, and what happens in one case may happen in another. Blueskin tried to cut down Jack Sheppard before he choked, but if the redoubtable and devoted housebreaker had lived in our time he would probably have waited and tried the effect of a galvanic battery.

The interesting question is suggested by this grim event as to whether in case of a survival of this nature, the life of the patient belongs to himself or to the law. Can he in such a case be legally executed over again? And if he recovers from a second execution might he properly be subjected to a third? The point is rather awkward, since, by following out its possibilities, the remarkable spectacle might be presented of a man being continually executed and coming to life again for all the rest of his life, an experience that, however valuable to science, would scarcely be conducive to justice.

It is obvious that the garrote, by which Otero, the assailant of King Alfonso, has just suffered, and the guillotine are not open to this any more than to other objections that apply to the gallows, and whatever bearing the frightful incident we record may have upon the general subject of capital punishment, it will manifestly be used as a fresh argument against the infliction of that penalty by the clumsy and uncertain expedient of hanging.—N. Y. Evening Post.

Why She Knew.

THE other day there was a suit in Justice Alley between two Wayne County farmers regarding the ownership of fourteen unmarked grain bags. Each side was prepared to stoutly swear that the bags were his, and each had witnesses to back his testimony. The complainant swore to buying the bags at a certain store on a certain time, and his hired man swore to handling them as they were taken from the wagon. The defendant swore that he purchased them at a certain place at a certain time, and his wife was called to the stand to tell what she knew about it. She was a large, fleshy woman, and very much bewildered.

"Land save me! but I was never in such a crowd before, and I feel as if I should faint!" she gasped, as she took the witness stand.

"Never mind fainting, Mrs. X," said the lawyer. "Tell the jury what you know about those bags."

"Oh! land! but I know all about 'em! We bought 'em on the 10th of November."

"How are you sure it was the 10th?" "Sakes alive! but I know it was, for I boxed Melissa's ears that morning for leaving a spoon in the dish-water, and she was married on the 15th."

"Who asked for the bags at the store?"

"Oh! stars and garters! but I did! I remember it as plain as day."

"What did the clerk say?"

"Oh! stars! but he said, 'certainly,' and he went and got 'em."

"What else do you remember?"

"Oh, lands! but I wanted a calico dress!"

"And you didn't get it?"

"Bless granny! I didn't, and we jawed all the way home."

"And now why are you positive that these are the bags?"

"Oh! dear, oh! but while we were jawing I threw 'em out into the road. Some one lend me a fan, for I'm most dead!"

"Never mind being most dead, Mrs. X. What else about the bags?"

"My husband boxed my ears for throwing 'em out. Oh! stars! I didn't mean to tell that!"

"He did, eh? Well, what else?"

"Oh! dear! but when we got home I kicked the hired man?"

"Kicked the hired man, eh? Well, how can you be positive that these are the bags?"

"Great snakes! aren't you done yet! Yes, I am positive."

"How can you be?"

"I don't want to tell."

"But you must."

"Well, if I must, I must, though I'm sure I shall faint away. That night I boxed Melissa again."

"Yes."

"And husband boxed me."

"Yes."

"And we both boxed the hired man, and we were all so mad we set up all night in our cheers and have had chills and catarrh ever since! Do you suppose we'd have made fools of ourselves over fourteen grain-bags belonging to a man living three miles away!"

That settled the case with the jury, and the verdict was in favor of the defendant.—Detroit Free Press.

A Female Colored Soldier.

A VERY curious case has been developed before Prothonotary Mann, in Philadelphia. A young colored woman who served in the ranks during the war made application for a pension, stating that she believed she was entitled, because of her long service during the rebellion, and having received three or four wounds, one of which kept her in the hospital for a number of months. She is rather a neat-looking colored woman, giving her name as Catharine Hill and her age, as near as she can tell, about thirty-two. She told such a straightforward story, entering into all the details of her service in the army, that it seemed impossible to doubt her, especially as she is able to produce witnesses to substantiate her story. The Prothonotary questioned her closely, and her answers were always ready. The case was such an interesting one that it excited more than ordinary attention. Catharine was in the service between three and four years, and, although her sex was known after she was in the hospital, she was permitted to continue in the service, and at the close of the war received an honorable dis-

charge. She says that she enlisted in the 6th Maryland, and was passed by Drs. Creek and Ferry, of Baltimore. The reason she enlisted was because she got into "a little difficulty." She paid one of the doctors \$150 for passing her.

She was asked, "Were you wounded at any time?"

"Yes, sir," she replied; "I was struck right here" (pointing to the scar on her right cheek), "with a bullet, that knocked two of my teeth out" (and then showed the course of the bullet.) "I was also shot here" (in the thigh), "at Newbern, N. C., and was wounded in the side."

"How long did you serve in the army?"

"I was seven months in the hospital and three years in the field. When I was wounded in the side I went to Newbern, but I was not so bad that I could not go around."

The name she enlisted under was Henry Williams. She said she was handy with a gun, and rose to be a sergeant. She marched with the rest, used a regular musket and bit the cartridges, "although it was pretty hard on the teeth." She kept her hair cut short. When she got into the hospital it was discovered that she was a woman, but when she got well they did not discharge her. There were six men in her mess. Her story is hard to believe, but it is undoubtedly true, and Mr. Mann thinks a pension should be awarded her.

Garden Culture of Strawberries.

EARLY spring is the time to set plants to insure a good and strong growth of plants. Every family having a garden should have a few rows, or a bed large enough to give a good family supply. Select a rich piece of ground free from baking and the standing of surface water; plow the ground and pulverize finely; then make the rows five feet apart and set the plants twelve or fourteen inches apart in the row. Early vegetables may be planted between the rows the first year. A little guano in the bottom of the row is what I use instead of manure, as it has a tendency to start the plants during the wet part of the season. I pick off all the blossoms. I keep them free from weeds by constant hoeing, taking care not to touch the roots or destroy the runners, which I allow to run all they will until the middle of August, but not to take root. About that time I pulverize the ground and set the runners about three or four inches apart, uniform with each other, commencing next the parent plant, taking care not to break the runners loose from the parent plants. I set the plant just deep enough to make it firm, and it will soon take root. The runners of most kinds will be plenty to make the beds full enough.

I cover the beds at the approach of winter with a heavy coat of fine light stable manure; the finer the better. In the spring I loosen it up with a rake, after the vines have grown a few inches high. I take up the young plants that have rooted in the alleys, to make new beds. I then put straw or chaff in the alleys, as this keeps the soil from getting on the berries during wet weather. The manure put on in the winter keeps the soil from the berries in the center of the bed, and the chaff or cut straw holds the moisture and is very beneficial to the crop during a dry season. I have grown from 8,000 to 10,000 quarts per acre, of some good varieties, in this way.

There are a great many good kinds, such as the Sharpless, Cumberland Triumph, Miner's Prolific, and Downing's, and of these I prefer the Sharpless.—G. W. C., in Country Gentleman.

—William P. Gillespie was on his death-bed at Columbus, Ind. The physician told him that he could not live many hours. "Are you sure I can't get well?" the patient asked; "I don't want you to make a mistake about it. Is there a possibility of recovery?" He was assured that his speedy demise was absolutely certain. Then he explained why he was so anxious to get exact information. He had murdered a man twelve years before, and had never been suspected of the crime. He desired to confess and be forgiven if he really was going to die, but not otherwise. He died, and the truth of his statement has been amply sustained.

LADIES who would be artistic and stylish must have a finely painted fan and parasol.

Around the World.

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Feb. 28, 1879.

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Yours truly,
MARY KENNEL.

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