

THE MYSTERY OF GRASLOV

By Ashley Towne

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SYNOPSIS OF The Mystery of Graslov

CHAPTER I.—Prince Neslerov wants to marry Frances Gordon, the charming daughter of an American who is building the Transiberian railroad. Frances is interested in the fortunes of Vladimir Paulpoff, a stalwart Russian blacksmith. She asks Neslerov to use his influence for Vladimir. II.—Neslerov goes to Vladimir's hut. The blacksmith has talent and shows Neslerov a picture he has painted. It is the portrait of a woman of rank copied from a miniature. The prince is excited and asks for the original. Vladimir's father says it has been lost. To Vladimir old Paulpoff confesses that he lied to Neslerov and still has the miniature. III.—Neslerov has the Paulpoffs sent to Siberia as nihilists. IV.—Frances Gordon goes to the forge with books for Vladimir. At the door of the lonely hut she encounters Neslerov. The prince presses his suit violently, and Frances stuns him with a pistol shot in the head. V.—Gordon wishes his daughter to marry Jack Denton, an American bridge engineer. Frances demands that her father intercede with the governor for Vladimir. They start for Obl. Neslerov boards the same train, which breaks in two, and Neslerov has Frances alone in his power. VI.—Neslerov drags Frances before a priest and bids him to perform a marriage ceremony. Jack Denton comes to the rescue. Neslerov is beaten off.

CHAPTER VII. A DUEL.

Neslerov recoiled, and the whirling of his face in pain and fury, together with the long red cut made by the whip, gave him the expression of a demon.

"You! You!" he gasped.

"Yes, I!" said Denton. "Fortunately, I arrived in time to foil this dastardly attempt of yours to take advantage of a defenseless girl. I have been riding along the railway from stream to stream examining the bridges. I reached this place on my horse a moment ago. A boy saw me coming and hurried to tell me what was going on. I had no idea I should find a friend in need of help. But, thank God, I was in time."

"You will never leave this place alive!" said Neslerov.

He plucked a revolver from his pocket and aimed at Denton.

A woman standing near held out her hands and caught the form of Frances and bore it into her home. Denton, with flashing eyes, leaped forward and closed with Neslerov.

"It is a battle to the death between giants!" cried a man in the crowd.

"The pistol fell from the grasp of Neslerov, and the whip before wielded by Denton dropped to the ground.

The iron fingers of the ground would close on the throat of Neslerov, and it seemed as though the struggle would end that moment, but Neslerov would wrench himself free and leap at his enemy with a curse and growl.

"It is you or I! One of us must die!" cried Neslerov.

A swinging, crushing blow from the American's right hand sent the governor to the ground, where he lay as if stunned.

"Take care of him, somebody," said Denton in Russian. "I don't want to kill him."

He turned without a look at the fallen man and started toward the hut into which Frances had been carried.

"Look out!" cried a woman.

At the cry, which was echoed in the crowd, Denton turned suddenly. The dastardly Neslerov had feigned. He had risen to his feet and was creeping upon his enemy with a dagger drawn.

"Oh, you are an assassin, eh?" said Denton as he drew his revolver. "Let me see if we can't settle you once for all."

While it might be that not one of the villagers sympathized with Neslerov, yet his act was not a crime to them. With their sordid understanding of women having no rights, no freedom, no liberties save what their lords and masters gave them, the men of this place looked upon the eagerness of Neslerov to be married to so beautiful a girl as natural.

One of them, realizing that the gov-

ernor's safety was necessary to their own, sprang upon Denton and drove a knife through the fleshy part of his arm.

The pistol fell to the earth near that of Neslerov and two villagers picked them up and hid them.

Like a flash Neslerov was upon his unarmed foe, and his knife was raised to strike, but Denton, with a quicker



And now began a duel.

movement, drew a knife from his belt. He had hidden too often over the tundra to go unprepared for enemies, human and otherwise.

And now began a duel the like of which the banks of the Irish or its branches will probably never see again.

Steel flashed on steel.

The blood from the wound in Denton's arm was flung over the face and clothing of Neslerov, while that from the bruises on the governor's face grew thick and dark, making him truly hideous.

With a grasp as of iron Denton seized the head of Neslerov that held the dagger, but with a wrench the governor got it away and cut to the bone half the length of Denton's finger.

But the American scarcely felt the wound. He was not fighting now for life, nor for vengeance. He was fighting for that girl who lay in the hut. He knew that if Neslerov killed him and was not killed himself, her life would be made such a hell in the power of this monster of brutality that death would be preferable.

A year ago she had told him she did not and never could love him. It had been a quarrel. She didn't want to get married, and he asked her if his rough exterior, the result of years of hard work in rude and dangerous places, was disagreeable to her. He said there were fine gentlemen at Paris, New York, London and St. Petersburg. She had answered that she knew it. She preferred their company to bores. They parted then and had not met till now.

Denton and Neslerov kept fighting on, the villagers too much agitated to step between or utter a word.

Neslerov felt his right arm getting weaker. Denton's knife had slashed through the sleeve of his coat and found the bone near the elbow. An artery must have been cut, for the blood was thrown from the end of the sleeve. Made desperate, he gathered all his strength for a final effort and sprang bodily upon his foe.

Denton, seeing an opportunity and knowing that nothing but a deathblow seemed likely to end the fight, met the plunge and drove his knife into Neslerov's side.

With another curse, a spluttering of blood and a groan the governor of Tomsk sank to the ground at the foot of his adversary unconscious.

"Take care of him, you fellows; no need to let him die," said Denton, examining the wound. "His lung is not touched. Nothing fatal here, I am glad to say. Here, you!"

The old priest came mumbling toward him.

"You know more about surgery than the rest. Get some water, bathe these wounds, take a few stitches in the long cuts and bandage him up."

"Yes, little father," said the priest, trembling. "But what of you?"

"I can take care of myself."

He strode to the bank of the stream, over which he had but a few months before built a bridge, and bathed his wounds. Then he went into the hut to see Frances, as if nothing had happened.

CHAPTER VIII. THE INTERVIEW IN THE HUT.

FRANCES lay on a rude bed, scarcely conscious, and Denton stood a moment looking down solemnly upon the lovely upturned face. He bent over her, touched her brow and felt her pulse. All sense of his own injuries seemed to leave him as he saw her need of immediate care.

Frances felt his touch and looked up at him with about the same expression she might have worn had he been a stern and high priced specialist called in to make an examination.

"You are merely knocked out by the shock," he said, with assumed indifference. "You will probably be all right as soon as we get to Tomsk."

"Yes, if I could get there," she whispered. "My father will be anxious."

"We must relieve his anxiety as soon as possible. You must not worry."

"What will you do? And Neslerov?"

"Never mind Neslerov now. Keep cool. You've got to be braced up a little. I wish I had some wine."

"There was some in the car," she answered. "Neslerov had it. He tried to make me drink, but I would not."

Denton went to the car, still on the main track, and brought from it the remains of the bottle of wine Neslerov had opened. This he took with him to the hut and offered some to Frances.

"I don't want it. I refused it before," she said.

"Oh, don't you want it?" he asked ironically. "I suppose in your keen and subtle mind there is no distinction between a glass of wine offered by Neslerov when you were his prisoner and by me when you are ill."

"I did not mean that," she said meekly. She reached out her hand, took the cup and drained it.

"Now, then," said Denton, coolly seating himself on a stool near her bed. "tell me this whole miserable business from the beginning."

"I haven't thanked you yet, Jack," she said, with a return of color.

"Never mind thanking me. I did merely what any other American would have done, and seeing you in danger, it would not have been manly, indeed, to stand off. I accept your thanks, but let's get to the business. How did you happen to be here with Neslerov?"

"We were in Moscow," she said. "There was a meeting about the new railway."

"Yes, I know. That was what took Neslerov there."

"He had an interview with papa while in Moscow—"

"Why do you hesitate? It is not a new experience to have a man want to marry you, is it? You gave him the usual answer, I suppose."

"Oh, Jack! There was but one answer papa could give him; I do not like the prince, and papa knows I will never marry a man I do not love."

"Everybody knows that—who knows you," said Denton soberly.

"He told him about you—and about Vladimir—and the prince got angry."

"About Vladimir? Who is he?"

"Vladimir Paulpoff, an ironworker, new settler."

"Never mind, we will get to that afterward. You started for the Obl, where Gordon is to take a house in Vashlov."

"No, not yet. I must tell you about Vladimir—poor fellow! I met him in the forge—in his shop—one day while the railway was being put through Perm. Papa and I went there. He is a marvelous man, Jack. You would think as much of him as I do if you knew him. He is so handsome and strong. He is—"

"Do you mean young Paulpoff, the blacksmith of Perm?"

"Yes, Jack. Do you know him?"

"I've had him turn out some iron for small bridges. Well?"

"He is so intelligent, and was so anxious to learn to improve, I helped him. I used to send him books, papers, magazines, scientific works—anything I could get hold of that would help him. He studied hard, poor fellow! He grew to—I think he loved me—"

"Of course you returned his affection. You've done it so—I mean it came quite easy."

Tears glistened in her eyes, and she turned away her head. She had said she would never marry him, and their friendship had been almost cut asunder. But he had saved her from Neslerov. Now he was clinging her.

"One could not know Vladimir without admiring him," she said suddenly, with a great accession of spirit. "I fail to see why I should be put through this catastrophe by you."

"You needn't be if you don't want to," he answered coldly. "This is a nice, quiet village. Neslerov is lying not far away, somewhat out of now, but he will get over that. I could go on my way and leave you if my questions are distasteful. The thing is that there must be an explanation to this affair, and I'd like to know what it is to be. It is no trifling matter to cut the governor of a Russian province to pieces."

"Have you been fighting?" she asked quickly.

"No," he replied, with a tinge of sarcasm. "Neslerov and I indulged in a few pleasantries. He doesn't feel as gay over them as I do; that's all."

"Oh, I see your hand is bandaged—I never noticed it. Oh, Jack, forgive me!"

"We were following a course of inquiry," he said, putting the bandaged hand behind him. "This Vladimir—you met—there was an attachment—so far, so good. Now, how did that lead to this affair?"

"I wanted to see Vladimir and went by train from Moscow to Perm. I found a drosky at the station and was driven to the shops. Shops, however, were deserted. I found Neslerov there with a painting under his arm. He was taking it away. It was a beautiful picture, a beautiful face. I asked the prince where Vladimir was. He said that all the Paulpoffs—father, mother and Vladimir—had been sent to Siberia."

"Sent to Siberia! That big simple hearted fellow! For what?"

"Conspiring with others to kill the czar. We were alone; the drosky driver went out, and Neslerov tried to kiss me. I fought him; I shot him."

"You shot Neslerov?"

"Yes, I shot him. I would again. I then returned to Moscow, but did not tell my father anything about the matter, save that Vladimir was sent to Siberia. We soon after started for the Obl and stopped at Perm. We saw the governor, and he promised that if he discovered that Vladimir was innocent he would help him."

"He might as well have said that if he discovered the moon was cheese he'd give it to you for lunch. Things like that are rarely corrected in Russia."

"When we left Perm, Neslerov was on the train. Of course, as papa did not know anything about the shooting in the house of the Paulpoffs he greeted Neslerov as a friend. Everything went well till we had crossed the border and come into Neslerov's own province. At this place—I had been sleeping—I woke up. The car had become detached from the train. I was alone with Neslerov. He took my revolver from me and dragged me here and ordered the priest to marry us. Then you came."

"Yes, I think I came just in time," said Denton.

Then a stern look came again upon his face.

"Frances," he said, "I do not know, of course, how this matter will end. If Neslerov wishes, he can destroy me. If he finds it advisable to keep silent, then I may find a way to assist this Vladimir. I think we shall soon be on the way to the Obl."

With these words he left the hut and was met at the door by an angry, threatening mob of villagers.

"There he is!" growled an old man, evidently the leader. "He tried to kill his excellency. Kill him!"

"Kill him!" said another. "It is the governor's command. He put the iron road, the bridge, the devil wagons, through our country. The czar does not wish it, and we must avenge the wrong. Kill him!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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The railroads have about decided to again allow the return pass to stock shippers.

The month of May came in like a lamb (on the Plains). It is to be hoped that Madam Spring has at last brought her trunk to stay.

Now that the backbone of the drought has been broken just watch the Plains country blossom. A good healthy bud has already been formed for this growth.

There is in contemplation an establishment of a Baptist denominational weekly paper at Amarillo, the plans formulated arrange for the publication to appear the 8th of June. Rev. Bennett Hatcher, formerly of Dalhart, is to be editor and proprietor of the paper, assisted in the editorial management by his wife.

A Fine Rain!

A fine rain and just at the right time and in the right way fell in Randall county Monday evening. From Canyon City north, east and south and extending as far as heard from it was a downpour and gave the county all it could soak in for several hours. West of this town it was not so heavy but did a great deal of good as far as Hereford.

It was just what the stock interests of the county needed, and it will also give the farmer a good send off. It was good for every body and is thoroughly appreciated. As far east and south as the plains go it wet the county generally.

Rev. J. M. Carroll writes Rev. J. D. Ballard that the committee composed of Revs. J. B. Gambrell, Geo. W. McDaniel, and himself, who were chosen some time ago by the State Educational Commission to investigate the merits of the college controversy in this association, will endeavor to be on the field by the 1st of June, when it is hoped that these influential members of the Baptist denomination will effect a satisfactory adjustment of the deplorable condition of the educational interests on the Plains.

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RANDOM THOUGHTS.

G. A. B.

A certificate from a high school or diploma from a university is not always proof that the one who it was issued has an education. It is merely evidence that the holder has passed through the prescribed studies. As an illustration of this "passing through" the writer several years past, was requested to assist a young lady, who was in the graduating class of a celebrated institution of learning, in the preparation of a paper on history. Consenting he asked this young lady what she knew about the subject when to his astonishment she replied that she had forgotten all about it having "passed through" and "laid it by four years ago." In other words this student had graduated in history—passed its usefulness as it were—and was then "finishing" on higher algebra, geometry, Greek and Latin. Instances of this character are common. We run across them almost every day and they show abundantly the lack of the very thing required to make an education—a solid foundation.

A thorough knowledge of how to "read, write and cipher" are requisites in laying a good foundation. A clear understanding of and the ability to correctly apply the primary branches of our common schools should be first insisted on before an approach should be allowed towards Virgil and kindred studies.

Given the ability to speak, read and write our own tongue correctly with a knowledge of such arithmetic as will enable one to easily solve the every day problems of commercial life and the higher branches—the classics of an education—will come as needed.

"A prophet is not without honor save in his own country." When our Lord used this language he correctly gauged human nature, and not only so with reference to local individual talent, but as pertaining to home institutions. Even to us, of the plains, that which is afar off and of which we actually know scarcely anything offers greater attractions than things of the same nature right at our doors. Take, for instance, colleges. Is there not one of the first class at Hereford, and yet another one at Claremont?

All must and will answer in the affirmative and still many of our boys and girls are sent to other colleges, not claimed to be any better, if as good, in remote parts of the state—our colleges must depend on these remote parts for their students. A fine exchange it may be said, but when it comes to the question of the ages and asks the reason, the only answer that now suggests itself is drawn from our text—that the scripture may in all things be fulfilled—a prophet is not without honor save in his own country.

This sending away to school of college, is frequently attended with many dangers, not considered by parents, when they trust their children among strange surroundings of which they can have no accurate knowledge. In the great majority of cases it is in youth that our characters are formed; "Show me the companions of a boy's youth and I will tell you his future," was the remark of a great Eastern sage, and it has now to a very great extent as well as when uttered in the ages past. Within the precincts of home you can choose the companions of your son or daughter but when you send him or her off to a distant college, this selection, as well as other vital matters which shape the future of young people, is beyond your reach. In far too many instances the youth

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thus cast loose from the "whole some restraining influences" of the home life becomes entangled in the meshes of strange ways, forming habits which once acquired, stay with him and destroy his usefulness in life.

There are few places in Texas where a practical education now cannot be had within easy reach of the home; the classics or finishing touches, if deemed necessary, can be added at an age when the character of the student is already formed.

State Superintendent Le Fevre is accused of having said that the newspapers of Texas present an excellent show in the way of a "field of ignorance," and that on this account and for the further reason that ignorance is the predominant trait of country school trustees, he is unable to succeed with the rural schools as he could wish. Mr. Le Fevre decries having made this charge as strong as many of the newspapers are making it out against him; he did not say it that way, so he says.

But admitting that the question submitted by the State Superintendent the ignorance of Texas rural newspapers and trustees to be "out of sight" is debatable, what about that gentleman himself? Has he proven himself worthy to succeed himself as the head of our educational system? Is he the man for the place? If so we can afford to overlook his egotistical breaks and as Oscar Wilde would have said, his "too utter" way of doing things, and return him to his post as superintendent; if not he should be relegated to those shades of private life in which he is so well fitted by nature to flourish. The sunflower brigade, reasoning along this line and looking over his past course, as State Superintendent, the practical heads of our day must pronounce Mr. Le Fevre "wanting"—he is too divinely esthetic, too so-so, and too "utterly utter" for the present earthly commonwealth of Texas.

West and southwest of us there is a scope of country as large as an European kingdom, and as dry as the proverbial powder house and as long as this condition prevails we cannot hope to escape such visitations as fell to our lot Sunday, April 23th.

Judge Parker is the Belmont-Hill Cleveland candidate. Those

districts in the Empire state which secured him the instructions have always and will now give Republican majorities—the Democratic districts were all or nearly all opposed to Mr. Parker.

"SCISSOR ETTES AND SCISSOR INCUTUMS." As found in Western Publisher. (May No.)

A Missouri teacher put this question to one of the boys in her school: "If your father gave your mother \$7 today and \$5 tomorrow, what would she have?" to which the boy promptly replied, "A 12!"

A worldly minded Missouri editor has won much applause from the galleries by declaring that it is no more hard to catch fish on Sunday than to run down a chicken on that day for the preacher's dinner.

A Georgia preacher defends the large hats worn by women. He says that "they have their faults, but to us they always prove a blessing, for many is the time we have sat behind them in church and slept undisturbed throughout a whole sermon."

A disappointed subscriber was dying and the editor dropped in to see him. "How do you feel?" asked the pencil pusher. "All looks bright before me," gasped the subscriber. "I thought so," said the editor. "You'll see the blaze in about ten minutes."

Merchants should be more prompt in presenting their bills. A druggist brought a young man in this town a bill two years old today and the first part of the bill was a charge for a box of chocolates, and on the latter end was a charge for one nursing bottle. How time does fly.

"Many a woman," says Anna M. Carlson, "who entertained her beef in the parlor to the exclusion of the other members of the family, makes him sit around in the kitchen after marriage because she does not want the parlor cluttered up, and yet she wonders why married folks are not lovers all through life."

A woman in a neighboring town bought a new fangled coffee pot from a peddler. In the evening she showed it to her husband, a hardware dealer, who told her he kept the same thing in his store for half the price she had paid. "Well," she said, "why don't you adver-

tise? Nobody ever knows what you have for sale."

An exchange tells the following story of modern surgery: An old lady, who went to the city to visit her daughter, was met at the door by a servant who said that the daughter had gone down town to have a limona cut out. The old lady sank fainting into the nearest chair and tearfully asked what hospital she had been taken to.

The Moberly Monitor says a certain minister down that way applied for an increase in salary. "Salary," cried one of the pillars of the church, "why, I thought you worked for souls." "And so I do," replied the minister, "but I cannot eat souls and if I could, it would take a good many souls the size of yours to make a square meal."

The origin of this, which is going eastern newspaper rounds is unknown: "I am not much of a mathematician," said the cigarette, "but I can add to a man's nervous troubles; I can subtract from his physical energy; I can multiply his aches and pains; I can divide his mental

powers, I take interest from his work, and discount his chances for success."

"She was a sweet young thing and they had found a cozy corner behind the scenes at the opera house during the last dance. As his arm stole around her monselline de soie waist she murmured: 'Am I the first girl you ever hugged?'" He was a newspaper man and therefore could not tell a lie, so he replied: "No, sweetheart, you are the third edition I have put to press to-night."

An exchange tells of a lady who decided to scare her husband, who was quite a hard drinker, so he would reform. To do this she procured the costume of a devil she had worn in a masquerade. The next time the erring spouse came home feeling happy she quickly donned the costume. As he opened the door she stepped forward and said in sepulchral tones: "Come with me—I am the devil." The result rather startled her as the response which greeted her was: "Zat so? Shake ol' boy; I'm your brother-in-law. I married your sister."

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Local.

S. V. Wirt has had a new windmill erected at his home this week.

J. H. Garrison has been in Plainview several days this week attending to some business matters.

W. B. Powell, of Hubbard City, visited C. N. Harrison and wife several days this week.

Dr. Odell has had a new windmill erected on his premises this week.

Miss Essie Cox, of Swisher county, is visiting M. F. Slover and family this week.

Mrs. Hood and children have been visiting Mrs. J. A. Grundy this week.

It will be money in your jeans to buy of the CANYON LBR. CO.,—and money saved is money made.

Loy Lattimore, a super numerary typo of Plainview, called in to see the News office Tuesday.

F. P. Wilson and family have moved into the house vacated by George Taylor. The property belongs to Heberd Smith.

Mrs. N. J. Bratton, of Brownwood, mother of J. D. Bratton, came in last Tuesday for an extended visit to her son and family.

J. N. Donohoo went up to Amarillo Tuesday evening, where it is alleged he attended another railroad meeting.

Miss Beulah Cavet came down from Amarillo the latter part of last week and spent several days with her brother, H. J. Cavet, and family.

Pursuant to a call from the Tulia Baptist church, Rev. J. D. Ballard will preach at that place one Sunday in each month for some time.

The contract for painting the new school building was awarded to Tom Cochran, by the contractors, Scott & Roland. Mr. Cochran is to furnish the material and do the work for \$300.

Our John Crawford accompanied by Sherman Clayton, of Tulia, left here one day last week for Yuma, Arizona, on a prospecting tour.

Jack Grundy and family, of Cooke county, are here this week visiting J. A. Grundy and family. Mr. Jack Grundy is a brother of our townsman, J. A. Grundy.

Young man bring your sweetheart to the Ice Cream supper at H. W. Key's on the evening of the 10th. Husbands bring your wives, and bachelors bring out the old maids.

Births:—To Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Dockery, April 28th, a boy. To J. L. Prichard and wife, April 10th, a girl. To Mr. and Mrs. H. James, April—, a boy.

R. G. Oldham & Co. are entertaining their friends and customers with the music from a Zonophone, a specie of the Graphophone tribe. If you have not heard it you have missed something.

Dave Winder and family, who have been here for the past three weeks visiting M. F. Slover and family, and other family connections, left for their Oklahoma home last Tuesday evening.

The Cumberland Presbyterians have challenged the Methodists to a spelling match, which takes place at the court house, tonight, May 6, at 8:30 p. m. Admission 10 cts.

Mrs. Carter, of Dimmitt, sister of J. H. Bratton, visited her brother and family for several days this week. Mrs. Carter and husband will in the future be permanent residents of this county, having moved onto the old "Block" headquarters ranch three miles north of town.

W. B. Thompson, at last, Tuesday evening, May 5, 1904, he will enter his business office. While he is conversing, from the recent accident he thinks he can profitably spend his time in helping himself get greater assistance in the business world. His many friends here wish him every success.

J. H. Garrison and James Luna will open up a real estate and live stock commission office in the old Smith-Walker bank building, on north side of square.

Mrs. D. M. Stewart left last Wednesday evening for Denton county where she will visit relatives and friends, for a month or more. She was accompanied as far as Amarillo by the doctor.

The Ladies of the Christian church will serve Ice Cream and Cake at the confectionery store of H. W. Key, on Tuesday, the 10th, inst., beginning at 7 o'clock p. m. Prices: 15c per saucer, or two for 25c.

Mrs. T. H. Rowan, returned from Amarillo Wednesday morning, whither she went to attend the bedside of her father, Elbert Yarbrough, who has been very low with a complication of chronic troubles. Mrs. Rowan reported her father to be improving.

The Republicans of Randall county are requested to meet at the Court House 2 P. M. Saturday, the 7th, at which time a Randall County Republican Club will be organized. The meeting will be addressed by Hon. H. H. Cooper of Amarillo, and others. Everybody invited to be present. Earl Cobb, Co. Ch'm.

The News force was treated to some nice spring vegetables last week—the favor of our former townsman, Jno. A. Womack, now of Whitesboro. He sent a well-filled basket of various kinds of garden truck to Rev. J. D. Ballard, and, as is usually the case with a minister, he had compassion on the long hungry editor and divided up. They were almost as good as those we grow on the Plains.

When the gentle New Mexico breezes which toyed with the Panhandle dirt April 24, reached the Territory and prairie portions of this state, east of the cross timber belt, they developed into storms, straight and twisters, which wrought considerable loss in life and property. High winds the Panhandle may have and when dry, be the breeding place of destructive tornadoes, but we are practically immune from their death dealing force.

The sad news reached town Thursday morning of the death of Harry Wesley, of Ceta, who quietly passed away Wednesday night, after several months illness. The young man has had the best medical aid obtainable, but the stubborn complications arising from an abscess in his chest proved too much for human skill. His remains were interred in the Beulah cemetery, in Armstrong county yesterday. The bereaved family have the sincere sympathy of many friends and loved ones.

J. C. Pipkin returned last Sunday from Tucumcari, N. M., where he had been for several days attending to some business matters. He said that the section of the territory which he visited was very dry and that stock were suffering, in many instances the lambs off the large sheep ranches having had to be killed in order to save the ewes. If they did not receive the rain which visited this country Monday they are indeed unfortunate.

Canyon City badly needs a dumping ground for garbage. Since the decree issued by the "Block" people has put a stop to people using their holdings for a place of dumping refuse, some residents of the town have unthoughtedly, perhaps, unloaded piles of garbage and other refuse within the immediate confines of the town. There is a crying need for a satisfactory adjustment of this garbage question, as evidenced by the request of several of the citizens of the town for the News to agitate the matter. If the News remembers correctly, the question of a crematory was once discussed as a feasible solution to this problem.

Little Bo Peep would have you instructed or lost, and her Pa, who had they bought their lumber of the CANYON LBR. CO.

STRINGFELLOW-HUME HDW. CO.

Stringfellow-Hume Hardware Co.

Dealers In

**Hardware, Implements, and all kinds of Farming Machinery
Wagons, Buggies, Harness and Saddles. Eclipse wood and Steel
Star Windmills, Pipe, Casing and Cylinders, Barb Wire and Nails.
In fact everything that is kept in a first-class hardware store.
Best line of Queensware and Glassware ever brought to Canyon.**

IN SHELF HARDWARE

Our stock is complete and we can supply your wants at a saving to you. Call for what you want in this line—we have it. We can't enumerate the whole line, but suffice to say we are setting the pace for the great Plains country, especially in Price and Quality. What you need to do is to come into our place and let us convince you.

Now is the time for you to think about putting your home in order for the spring and summer. If your house is not fitted with screen doors and windows, you are not in a position to enjoy the balmy breezes, free from the molestation of the flies and hailstorms. We have 'em, in green and galvanized.

The time for farming is near at hand—let us fit you up with the machinery that will make it a pleasure to work. We will take pleasure in showing you our stock.

STRINGFELLOW-HUME HDW. CO.

Last Monday, U. S. Guber caught a 6 lb. bass in the big lake east of town. This is the largest fish that has been caught here this year and Mr. Guber thinks that it will beat any Panhandle fish-catch extant for this season's catch. Mr. Guber is a fisherman that thoroughly enjoys the sport, and he rarely fails to make a haul when he is in a fishing mood.

Dr. S. B. Tadlock has opened up his dental parlor in the Joe Foster house, just north of the postoffice. He has a neat little office in the new building, having the walls profusely decorated with various curiosities, resembling in character the Barnum Museum, on a lesser scale. The doctor will always make you feel at home when you pay him a visit.

Marriage:—On April 28th, at Memphis, Texas, Andy Costley to Mrs. Ruthy Holman. Mr. Costley is well known to most Randall county citizens, having been engaged in the stock business in the county for a number of years. He had advanced to the indifferent age of bachelorhood and his marriage comes as a surprise to his many friends. The News congratulates this couple on their union and wishes them a happy voyage down the stream of time.

Last Monday's rain demonstrated the necessity of cleaning out the sand and other debris that has clogged the avenues of drainage in the business part of town. The culverts especially need attention. In many places about town the water stood in pools of a foot or more in depth long after the rains had subsided. A very little work before the spring rains set in will remedy this.

The delegation from this place attending the District Conference at Silverton last week returned home last Monday evening. Rev. T. W. Sharp, the Methodist pastor at Stratford, returned home with Rev. J. E. Stephens and remained over with him until Tuesday. Some 20 pastors of the District were in attendance and a general good time was had.

Give the News a Chance.
If a book is wanted or a catalogue; a card directory or any other kind of an advertising device, give the News office a chance at it—we can save you money.

What's the use of paying an outsider from \$4 to \$6 per page for advertising in a pamphlet—he doesn't do the printing—he simply lets it out to this or some other print shop at about \$1.50 per page, pocketing for his part not less than one hundred and frequently three hundred per cent on the transaction.

By giving the News a chance at this class of work you can get it at first cost.

Owing to the prevalence of measles in town, and other considerations of alike importance, the program for the Teacher's Institute meeting last Saturday was carried out only in part. The morning session was postponed until 2 p. m., when the meeting was called to order by chairman, A. N. Henson, by making a short address. After the discussion of several interesting subjects as per the program announced in the News, the Institute adjourned to meet at the District Court room at 8 p. m. for the usual entertainment. Here was where the program suffered most, as only a few who were assigned subjects were able to participate. The attendance at the entertainment was much better than at the afternoon session of the Institute.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, the Best Made.

"In my opinion Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best made for colds," says Mrs. Cora Walker, of Porterville, California. There is no doubt about its being the best. No other remedy will cure a cold so quickly. No other is so sure a preventive of pneumonia. No other is so pleasant and safe to take. These are good reasons why it should be preferred to any other. The fact is that few people are satisfied with any other after having once used this remedy. For sale by S. V. Wirt, Druggist.

PUBLIC SCHOOL NOTES.

The Commencement Sermon will be preached by Rev. J. D. Ballard, Sunday, the 22nd of May, at the Methodist church. All denominations are invited to participate.

The song service will be conducted by A. H. Thompson, A. Ernsberger and F. P. Wilson leaders, assisted by the choirs of the different churches.

The graduating exercises and school entertainment will be held at the public school building on the evening of May 24th, beginning at 8:30 P. M. sharp.

An admission fee of 10 cents each will be charged for all the pupils actually attending school up to the close, regardless of age.

Others will be charged 10 cents each under twelve years old, over twelve for those not actually attending school 20 cents.

The object of charging an admission fee is to make it possible for those who wish to attend to have that opportunity, as there is no house in town sufficiently large to hold the school and a large audience of outsiders at the same time.

The money taken in will all be turned in to Judge Buie, the treasurer of the district, and used for the payment of expenses and purchasing books and equipments for

the library in the new building. Said fund can only be drawn out of the treasury on vouchers approved by the school board.

The above arrangement has been approved by the board.
W. J. Lackey.

Do You Want the Earth?

"The Earth" is a new illustrated monthly journal, published by the Santa Fe. Tells the truth about the Great Southwest and California—the truth is good enough. Frequent articles describing your part of the country. Contains letters written by farmers, stockmen and fruit raisers; men who have succeeded and who give the reasons why. Strong editorials and interesting miscellany. A very persuasive immigration helper.

Why not have it sent to friends "back east," to do missionary work for the Southwest? Regular subscription price is 25 cts a year; worth double. Send 50 cents (coin or stamps) with names and addresses of five eastern friends; we will mail "The Earth" to them and you for six months. Write today to "The Earth," 1120 Railroad Exchange Building, Chicago, Ill.

A man in Arkansas was recently tried for assault and battery with intent to kill. The state brought into court of the weapons used a rail, ax, gun, a pair of tongs, saw and rifle. The defendant's counsel exhibited as the other man's weapons a scythe, pitchfork, pistol, dog razor and hoe. The jury decided the case as follows: "We, the jury, would have given a dollar to have seen the fight."

Notice to Breeders.

For the convenience of breeders, Ranger R 31428 will finish the season of 1904 at Tom Roy's Livery Stable at Canyon, Texas. Will be there 6 days in the week, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M.

C. P. Money.

Lee Shifflett will pay you 14c per dozen, in cash, for your good fresh eggs. \$3 to \$4 per dozen for chickens. Also will buy your bones, hides, copper, brass, and old rubber shoes. First house east of Bank, Canyon City, Texas.

One moonlight night last week a News reporter saw two young lads and a young man riding a Mexican burro down one of our streets. They were all perched up on this one little burro,—"Colorado style"—but then most anything "goes" with a burro. After riding said burro until a late hour in the night, the item on the bill of fare read: "Piece de resistance a la burro!" We trust that said burro will not be insulted to thus find his name in the public prints.

To Hog Owners.

Canyon City is in a stock law district and under the provision of the present statute it is a penal offense to permit hogs to run at large here. Various complaints have been made to me and owners of hogs must observe the law or I shall be forced to prosecute them. If you have hogs running loose put them up by May 10th—fair warning.
Berne Wilson, Co. Att'y.

ANOTHER NEW RAILROAD.

The Texas Trade Review, one of the best, if not the best newspaper of its class in Texas, in its last issue contains the following concerning another new railroad for the Plains country:

"Railroad men in a position to know, claim that the charter recently granted to the Oklahoma, Roswell & White Mountain Railway Co. with a capital stock of \$5,000,000, means that the Chicago & Rock Island Co. will, during the present year, build an extension from Mangum, in Southwestern Oklahoma, to Tularosa, N. M. The line will penetrate fourteen Texas counties. Mangum is the southwestern terminus of the Rock Island in Oklahoma; it has been completed about two years and has made a very paying investment, striking, as it does, a rich cotton area as well as the unlimited granite deposits in Greer county. The purpose of the line, as chartered, is to run Southwest from Mangum, and the route selected takes it through the great Texas cattle belt as well as the richest coal field in the Mesquero Indian reservation in New Mexico. Such an extension would prove invaluable to the Rock Island, and would also bring the country through which the road would be constructed many miles nearer the St. Louis and other Eastern markets, and in fact, gives to some of the sections something they have never yet possessed—a railroad. In Texas the new extension will pass thru the following counties: Hardeman, Childress, Cottle, Motley, Briscoe, Hall, Floyd, Lubbock, Hale, Swisher, Lamb, Hockley, Baylor and Crockett, entering New Mexico in Chavez county, the road penetrates the Ruidoso and Curriso River Valleys, one of the richest portions of that territory, and thru the Mesquero Indian reservation to Roswell. A portion of the route is thru the White Mountain district, picturesque and wealthy in mineral deposits. The distance from Mangum to the White Mountains is something over 400 miles, and the first survey of the road has been made."

News Roll of Honor.

Under this heading will be found the amounts received on subscription to the News during the past week, and names of the parties paying. This will serve as a receipt to those of our subscribers forwarding money by mail.

W. E. Bates.....\$1.00
A. C. Thompson......50

The delay in yesterday's train was occasioned by the Tallmadge Immigration movement, two cars of which was pulled down the road by the passenger.

H. E. Hume, Rev. W. H. Younger and W. C. Kenyon were arrivals on yesterday's train.

F. P. Wilson will move his confectionery store into the building vacated by Thompson Drug Co., and add a general "racket store" line to his establishment.

The News office can supply you with visiting cards in blank or printed, also with Linen type writer paper, white or colored. You can also get STAR envelopes

A STORE FOR THE PEOPLE!!

The House from which the new things come

A store that serves you as satisfactorily when you want inexpensive merchandise of reliable quality as it does when you desire the finest and costliest goods made. It occupies a corresponding position in this mercantile world of ours because it deserves to do so. It strives continually to improve the store service, to elevate the standard of merchandising, to make the store more helpful and more beneficial to its patrons in every way; to sell the best class of goods at lowest prices

SPRING AND SUMMER WEAR

There are so many things in our stock for the wear of Spring and Summer, that Ladies are able to find just what they want. They have a novelty and brightness about them which, together with the fact that all the late ideas in weave and pattern may be seen, makes them desirable. We have **Laces, Lawns, Linens, Muslins, Dimities, Silks, Tweeds and Voiles** that we would like to show you.

Our Spring line of Block Bros. & Kilpatrick's celebrated line of trousers has arrived and for fit and style they can't be beat. Will wear like "Buckskin." A look at them will convince you.

WRIGHT, GAMBLE & CO.

HERBERT SPENCER.

He Talked "Like a Book" and Was a Very "Set" Man.

Mr. George Hux in a personal article on Herbert Spencer in the Outlook tells these characteristic anecdotes:

When the philosopher visited America in 1882 he was in his sixty-third year. His fair, ruddy complexion gave little token of delicate health or of the sleeplessness which had afflicted him since 1855, when he completed the "Principles of Psychology." In frame he was rather tall and spare. To casual acquaintances his manners were cold and formal, to his friends he was cordial, and on occasions he could be downright jovial, telling and listening to humorous stories with unbounded glee. From his habit of dictating to an amanuensis he had come to talking "like a book." Most of his sentences might well have been printed just as they fell from his lips. Once in my hearing a friend who had not seen him for years congratulated him on his good health, as evidenced by his rosy cheeks. "Do not," said he, "confuse complete with incomplete relation. Because some healthy people are ruddy, all ruddy people are considered healthy, whereas a red complexion may denote a flabby vascular system." A fair specimen, this, of how he might at any moment drop into generalization. When he was in the critical mood the schoolmaster in his blood came out plainly; his long, bony hand, raised in objection, seemed ready to wield a ferule, whereas I ever rejoiced that I had learned my rule of three under other auspices.

He was a very "set" man. At Montreal I told him that the view from the summit of Mount Royal commands superb stretches of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa valleys. But the view from halfway up the acclivity contented Mr. Spencer. He had found views thus restricted more pleasing than wider vistas, and not one step farther would he budge, although twice invited. Not far away a costly mansion was being finished for a multimillionaire whose fortune had been won with little scruple. When it was suggested that his carriage should pass this mansion he was indignant. "It is largely," he said, "the admiring ostentation of such men that makes them possible. Baron Grant, the fraudulent speculator, sent me an invitation for the inaugural of Leicester square, his gift to London. Before a party of friends I tore the card in pieces. Such men as Grant try to compensate for robbing Peter by giving Paul what they do not owe him."

Another Insurance Fraud.

When the doctor came to see what he could do for the Herlihy family, by whom he had been hastily summoned, he found Mrs. Herlihy in bed, her face and head adorned with plaster and bandages, and Mr. Herlihy sitting in stolid misery at her bedside.

"Cheer up, Tim," said the doctor. "She'll pull through all right. I don't believe there are any bones

broken.

"Don't be trovin' to raise me mind," said Mr. Herlihy darkly, "for it's impossible, doether. Here Oi had her insured against accidents of every kind only four days ago an' paid down me foive dollars as prompt-as-anny man end, an' befoer the week is gone she falls down stairs wid a bucket o' coal, an' now luke at her, marred from ind to ind!"—Youth's Companion.

Citation by Publication.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
To the sheriff or any constable of Randall county, greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon H. S. Burnham by making publication of this citation once in each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your county, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in any newspaper published in the 47th Judicial district; but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial district, then in a newspaper published in the nearest district to said 47th Judicial district, to appear at the next regular term of the Justice's Court of Precinct No. one, Randall county, to be holden at Canyon, in said Randall county, on the 6th day of June A. D. 1904, then and there to answer a petition filed in said court on the 26th day of April A. D. 1904, in a suit numbered on the docket of said court No. 154, wherein Garrison Brothers, a partnership consisting of W. H. Garrison, C. S. Garrison and M. P. Garrison, who reside and are in business at Harford, Texas, are Plaintiffs, and H. S. Burnham is Defendant, and said petition alleging that said Defendant is indebted to Plaintiffs in the sum of \$171.90; as follows: One note for \$155.00 dated Oct. 10th 1903, due Nov. 15th 1903, with 10 per cent interest after maturity and providing for reasonable attorneys fee if not paid at maturity and suit is brought thereon, signed by H. S. Burnham, payable to International Harvester Company, of America, which note has been transferred for a valuable consideration to Plaintiffs. And suit having been brought thereon, alleging the attorneys fees to be of the reasonable value of \$29.90. And an account, sworn to and filed, dated Oct. 10th 1903, for \$11.25, for goods, wares and merchandise purchased of Plaintiffs by Defendant.

Herein fail not, but have you before said court, at its aforesaid next regular term, this writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness, W. J. Redfearn, Justice of the Peace for Precinct No. 1, Randall county.

Given under my official signature at office in Canyon, this 26th day of April, A. D. 1904.

W. J. REDFEARN,
Justice of the Peace,
Precinct No. 1, Randall Co., Texas.

The Colorado Chautauqua for 1904, will be held at Boulder, Colorado, July 4th to August 7th inclusive. The program is

BURTON-LINGO CO.,

Dealers In
Fence Stays,
Lumber, Post, Doors,
Lath, Sash, Shingles,
Building Blocks and Mouldings.

"COOL COLORADO"

The Gem of American Health and Pleasure Resorts and OUR NATIONAL SUMMER PLAY GROUND. Affording every essential for Physical and Mental upbuilding and advancement, may be visited and enjoyed at an extremely low cost

COLORADO

Offers more creditable resorts and health retreats affording accommodations within the limits of moderate purses than can be found elsewhere upon equal area which, with its incomparable climate and matchless scenic grandeur, makes it well nigh irresistible to those possessing a sense of appreciation.

"The Denver Road"

Leading thereto is "The Line of Least Resistance" and provides double daily solid trains with Pullman Palace Drawing Room Sleepers, all meals in Magnificently appointed Cafe Cars (a la carte) at reasonable prices, the privilege of numerous stopovers and schedules saving many hours time. It is shortest by exceeding THREE HUNDRED MILES per round trip (see any map) and is the only line offering solid through trains from the Southwest. Upon postal request we will gladly mail to any address beautifully illustrated information booklets and advice of other special arrangements. Address A. A. GLISSON, Genl. Pass. Agt., Fort Worth, Texas. P. S.—Upon Application any connecting line will ticket you via "THE DENVER." Ask us about Tri-Angle tickets to St. Louis

excellent. Those interested can get full announcement and all other particulars by addressing F. A. Boggess, Secy., Boulder, Colo.

Sprains and Bruises Quickly Cured.

When you get a sprain or bruise valuable time may be saved by promptly applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm to the injured parts. It will cure a sprain in one-third the time required by the usual treatment. Last winter Herb. W. Edwards, of Des Moines, Iowa, got a fall on an icy walk, spraining his wrist and bruising his knees. "The next day," he says, "they were so sore and stiff I was afraid I would have to stay in bed, but I rubbed the parts well with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and after a few applications all soreness had disappeared. I feel that this bottle of Pain Balm saved me several days time, to say nothing of the suffering." For sale by S. V. Wirt, Druggist.

We have just received a large shipment of Ladies, Misses and Gent's Oxfords. Also a full line of Men's and Misses Shoes. Come in and inspect our stock before you buy.

R. G. OLDHAM & Co.

...Best... Passenger Service IN TEXAS.



2 FAST TRAINS DAILY 2 to St. Louis, Chicago and the East....

SUPERB PULLMAN VESTIBULED SLEEPERS HANDSOME NEW CHAIR CARS (Seats Free).

FASTEST TIME TO NEW ORLEANS (COMPARE SCHEDULES).

ONLY LINE RUNNING THROUGH COACHEX AND SLEEPERS WITHOUT CHANGE.

INCOMPARABLE PULLMAN SLEEPER AND TOURIST CAR SERVICE TO CALIFORNIA.

POSITIVELY NO CHANGE.

Rolling Chair Cars (Seats Free) Daily to ST. LOUIS, MEMPHIS AND EL PASO

See any Ticket Agent, or write N. P. HUGHES, Trav. Passenger Agent, Ft. Worth, Tex.

E. P. TURNER, The President and Gen'l Mgr., Gen'l Pass. and Ticket Agt. DALLAS, TEX.

ROCKING CHAIRS!

Golden Oak, Genuine Leather Seat, Top and Center Quartered Oak. Arms 11 inches high and iron rod. An excellent chair; good looking and one that will stand service. We have many other styles at prices to suit. Come in and look at our stock.



THOMAS BROS.

PRICE, ONLY \$4.00.



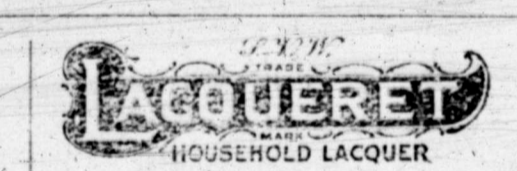
WIDE VESTIBULED, ELECTRIC LIGHTED TRAINS FROM GALVESTON, HOUSTON, SAN ANTONIO, DALLAS, AND FORT WORTH TO

ST. LOUIS KANSAS CITY AND THE NORTH AND EAST

Choice of Routes via Paris or Denison Observation Dining Cars and Harvey Dining Halls all the way W. A. TULEY, G. P. A. FORT WORTH, TEXAS

SLOVER & MAY, THE BLACKSMITHS.

We do all kinds of repairing; Farming Implements, wagons; buggies and guns made like new. First-class material, good workmanship. Give us a trial HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY. Farm and Ranch—sample copies at this office.



MAKES OLD Furniture, Floors and Woodwork, look like NEW.

ANY CHILD CAN APPLY IT! Removes all scratches and other marks of wear and tear and gives new life and lustre to anything made of wood.

For New or Old Floors it is the best Finish on the market. Made in 8 colors and Clear to match all kinds of woods.

FOR SALE BY S. V. WIRT DRUGGIST, PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

ODELL & STEWART

Physicians and Surgeons, Office with Thompson Drug Co. Calls promptly answered night or day

GEO. A. BRANDON, LAWYER.

Eighteen years experience in the courts of Central Texas. Office—Canyon City News-Building.