

MORE CELESTE STORY REVIEWED BY RECENT HAPPENINGS AT SEA

A Riddle of Thirty Years Ago Which is Still Unsolved—How Boston Brig's Crew Vanished in Mid-ocean Leaving the Vessel in Perfectly Good Condition.

Propos of the story of the picking up of the Norwegian bark Reval, fully equipped and in good condition, but with not a soul on board, as related in press despatches from New York, the case of the brig Marie Celeste is interesting. The following account of this famous unsolved ocean mystery is taken from Young Canada:

Of all the ocean mysteries ever recorded, none is more baffling and incomprehensible than that of the Marie Celeste. To this day it has never been satisfactorily solved, though various theories have been put forward to account for the extraordinary disappearance of every soul on board in perfectly fine weather, and while the vessel was under full sail.

The Marie Celeste was a well-found brig, which sailed from Boston with a general cargo, destined for Mediterranean ports. The crew consisted of seventeen hands, who, so far as was known, were all steady, reliable men. In addition there was the captain, his wife, and their little daughter; twenty souls in all.

Harmony Prevailed.

The crew had been on board some days before the brig sailed and perfect harmony prevailed amongst them. The captain took a kindly interest in the men, as did also his wife. In fact, they might be described as a "happy family"; and never, perhaps, had a vessel put to sea under more favorable auspices.

She is known to have reached the vicinity of the Azores without any incident of an untoward nature happening. There she was sighted by a passing vessel, to whom she reported "All well." When next seen it was under the most remarkable and even startling circumstances.

Early one morning the Spanish coast authorities near the Straits of Gibraltar noticed a vessel in the offing under full sail. Their attention was attracted to her owing to her extraordinary and erratic movements. Though at first she appeared to be heading for the Straits, she did not hold on a steady course for two minutes together. She "yawed," as sailors term it, from port to starboard, and from starboard to port; while she veered round at every changing puff of wind. The brig, for such she proved to be, seemed to be of a gaudy hand, and left to wander at her own free will.

Boarded by Coastguards.

Observing the eccentric course of the vessel, the coastguards quickly arrived at the conclusion that there was something wrong on board. With a view to investigating matters, they manned a boat and put off from the shore. The brig was still pursuing her aimless and erratic course. The men rowed out towards her; but when they came within a few cables' length they paused in astonishment. They not only perceived that there was no one on the vessel, which was sailing round of its own accord, but, so far as they could make out, was a single soul visible anywhere on deck.

Resting on their oars, they hailed the vessel again and again. They waited, expecting every moment to see a head appear as a man came up from below; but not a living creature was sighted on board.

Vessel Perfectly Sound.

The men continued to gaze on the brig in awed wonder, not untinted with superstition. They felt they were confronted by a mystery. It was all the more remarkable because every sail was trimmed, every boat in its place, and the vessel appeared to be perfectly sound and watertight throughout.

Before venturing to board her, they pulled round under her stern, in order to ascertain her name. They found that she was the Marie Celeste of Boston; but beyond that fact they were in ignorance of everything concerning the brig or the whereabouts of the crew.

Not without considerable hesitation and misgiving they proceeded on board; and here they made a series of the most remarkable discoveries. In the first place, they found that there was not a single human being on the vessel. Every soul on board, down to the captain's wife and his little daughter, had vanished.

None of Boats Missing.

Nor was that all. How, or in what manner, these twenty souls had disappeared was an inexplicable mystery for not one of the brig's boats was missing. They were all in their proper places, swung on the davits, or stowed away on deck. Furthermore, the brig was as trim and sound as on the day she left Boston. Not a rope was out of place; not a trace of water in the hold; and everything pointed to the fact that the vessel had been favored with exceptionally fine weather during her run across the Atlantic.

The boarders continued their investigation, making equally strange discoveries at every turn. In the men's quarters they found the remains of a half-finished dinner, the food still quite fresh, showing that the crew had been disturbed in the middle of their meal, and hastily quitted it in response to a call from deck.

In the captain's cabin the state of affairs was even still more extraordinary. There, also, was found the remains of an unfinished and hastily quitted meal, apart from that, there was not the slightest trace of confusion or disorder. Some medicine bottles upon which the captain's wife had been engaged, were neatly folded up and placed aside, while the skipper's hat was discovered hanging on a nail above his bunk. It was still clean, showing that the vessel must have been deserted within the last 24 hours.

A Complete Mystery.

Mystified by all they had seen, the coastguardsmen returned to the deck, where they made another minute inspection. With the exception of a mark like the slash of an axe or cutlass on the bulwarks forward, they discovered nothing which would tend

to throw the smallest light on the mystery. Everything on deck was in perfect order. If it was a case of mutiny on the part of the crew, as was at first surmised, traces of a fight would have been found, if not of actual bloodshed. Nor could the men have deserted the vessel in sudden panic through fear of her sinking; for, as already stated, she was perfectly sound and seaworthy. Besides, there was the mystery of the boats. How could the crew have made their escape when none of them were missing?

The boarders took charge of the brig, and brought her safely to Gibraltar. There when the facts became known, the case created a remarkable sensation. Hundreds of people came on board to view the vessel, which such mystery was attached to, and which preserved her secret in spite of every effort to unravel it.

Inquiries Made.

Among other things, the American consul boarded the brig, while she lay at anchor, and proceeded to make an official investigation. His examination, however, led to no fresh discovery. Beyond the facts already recorded, nothing came to light which would account for the condition of affairs, or tend to show under what circumstances the crew had disappeared.

The consul drew up a full report of the case which he forwarded to the United States government. In addition he had inquiries made all along the coast, in the hope that those on board the brig might have reached land in some way. Yet weeks and months passed, and nothing was heard of them. They seemed to have vanished off the face of the earth.

The American government instituted extensive inquiries on both sides of the Atlantic, for it was thought that the missing crew might have been taken off by a passing ship. The captain of all incoming vessels were questioned, but they had no report to make. Not a trace of those twenty people who left Boston on board the Marie Celeste was discovered.

Practically the mystery rests to the present day, even though a period of more than thirty years have elapsed.

Possible Theories.

What happened to those on board the brig? The question has often been asked, and various theories have been advanced to account for their disappearance. Sudden insanity has been mentioned; the idea being that every soul went mad and flung themselves into the sea. This explanation, however, appears altogether too far-fetched and improbable.

The theory of piracy seems rather more reasonable; yet pirates do not board a vessel simply for the sake of carrying off the crew. In this case, even if the dreaded Ruff pirates swooped down upon the brig, those on board would certainly have offered a desperate resistance, and traces of the conflict would have been visible everywhere. Again, had it been the work of pirates, they would not have departed without plundering the vessel, and probably scuttling her, as, in some hold, they were frightened away by the approach of another ship.

Seized by Giant Squid.

A startling theory, yet one which would seem to cover the entire facts, has been put forward by one writer. This is the suggestion that the brig was attacked by a gigantic squid, or octopus. The writer in question even goes so far as to conjure up the thrilling scene. He says:

"Imagine it to be noonday; the sea perfectly calm; the brig gliding along under her spread of canvas. All is still on board. The crew have gone below to dinner, leaving only one of their number on deck, the man at the wheel. Suddenly a large octopus rises out of the deep, waving its tentacles aloft. It seizes upon the man at the wheel, and sweeps him bodily from the deck. His cries bring the remainder of the crew rushing up from below. One by one they are engulfed by the waving arms; and then when the monster has secured the last soul on board, it slowly sinks into the depths again, carrying its living freight with it."

If we accept this theory, the lives on the bulwarks would certainly seem like a confirmation. It might well have been caused by one of the crew, seizing an axe, struck furiously at the great slimy arms as they came sliding in over the ship's side.

CASCARETS CLEANSE
LIVER AND BOWELS
No Headache, Bad Taste, Sour Stomach or Coated Tongue by Morning

It is more necessary that you keep your bowels, liver and stomach clean, pure and fresh than it is to keep the sewers and drainage of a large city free from obstruction.

Are you keeping clean inside with Cascarets—or merely forcing a passage way every few days with salts, cathartic pills or castor oil? This is important.

Cascarets immediately cleanse and regulate the stomach, remove the sour, indigestible and fermenting food and foul gases, take the excess bile from the liver and carry out of the system the constipated waste matter and poison in the intestines and bowels.

No odds how badly and upset you feel, a Cascaret tonight will straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep. A 10-cent box from your druggist will keep your head clear, stomach sweet and your liver and bowels regular for months. Don't forget the children—keep little kids clean and healthy with Cascarets, too.

THREE KINGS LANGUAGE IN STATE PRISON

Where British Crown Houses Deposed Cannibal Rulers—Premph of Ashantee Latest Addition to Party.

The Seychelle Isles, off Africa's Indian seaboard, have of recent years been turned into a political prison for those deposed cannibal kings whose kingdoms have, on one excuse and another, been added to the dominions of the British Crown. At present there are three political prisoners of note on the island of Mahé—King Kobangas of Uganda, King Asih of the Gold Coast, and King Premph of Ashantee.

Though all of these ebony royalties were enthusiastic patrons of the cooking pot, King Premph is by far the most notorious and the most interesting personality of the three, for it was his palace at Kumasi that he built of the skulls and surrounded by a neat picket fence made from the leg and arm bones of the people he and his tribesmen had eaten.

Owing to an error of judgment in selecting a British Commissioner as the piece de resistance for one of his feasts, the country annexed to the British Empire, and his ruler forced to exchange his skull-walled palace in Kumasi for a four-roomed tin-roofed cottage in the outskirts of Victoria, the capital of the Seychelles. Here, surrounded by the huts of the chiefs, he lives on the meagre pension granted him by the British Government.

Clad in the flaming cotton robe of red and yellow, which is the West African equivalent of royal ermine, word over a pair of very soiled pajamas, his Majesty received me on the verandah of his little dwelling in the presence of the constable, who guards him and who acts as interpreter when the King's very scanty store of English gives out.

After an awkward pause, during which the King shuffled his feet uneasily and I wiped away rivulets of perspiration, he said something in Ashantee to one of his attendants, who shortly returned with a tin tray holding a bottle of whiskey, a siphon of lukewarm water and a couple of very dirty glasses. After another long and uncomfortable pause the King asked me if I wouldn't have something to drink. Taking it to be a hint, I poured the whiskey into the tin tray and handed it to him. He drank the drink sanctioned by civilized custom.

"In my country," said the King, leaning forward, and speaking in broken English which he had acquired from the Government chaplain, "had men some times try to poison me. So King turn drink other way round." And suiting the action to the words, he turned the tray so as to place before me the bowl of whiskey. I have never been quite certain whether or not there was a twinkle in the eye of that simple-minded cannibal when he literally turned the table on me.—The Last Frontier.

Could Not Heal The Wound

For many years Dr. Chase's Ointment has had an enviable reputation as a means of healing ulcers, sores and wounds that refuse to yield to other treatments.

In this letter you will read of a case in which doctors failed to heal a wound made in operating. All sorts of treatments were tried in vain, until Dr. Chase's Ointment came to the rescue and made a cure.

Mr. G. E. Leslie, brakeman on the C. P. R., and living at Grand Falls, N. B., writes: "I have given Dr. Chase's Ointment a most severe test and do not believe there is any treatment so successful as a healer of the skin. It healed the wound rapidly. So thankful am I for the cure that I want others to know about this wonderful ointment."

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE Beware of Imitations Sold on the Merits of Minard's Liniment.

Forty years in use, 20 years the standard, prescribed and recommended by physicians. For Woman's Ailments, Dr. Martel's Female Pills, at your druggist.

Wm. H. Dunn, 350 St. Paul Street, MONTREAL, Representative for Quebec and Maritime Provinces.

HARRIS is true to its reputation as the HEAVY Best Babbit Metal PRESSURE for all general machinery bearings THE CANADA METAL CO., LTD. Fraser Ave., Toronto

SAINTAL MIDY CATARRH and DISCHARGES relieved in 24 Hours Each Cop must have the MIDY name on it. Beware of counterfeits.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT Used 102 Years for Internal and External Use Are you prepared to relieve sudden cramps and pains that may come any time? Johnson's Anodyne Liniment responds quickly in relieving coughs, colds, bowel troubles, burns, cuts, chaps, etc. 25c and 50c everywhere L. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

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BRIDE OF A CHINESE NOW WANTS A DIVORCE

Finds Herself Unhappy After Brief Experience with the Proprietor of a Chop Suey Place.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 21.—Mrs. Irene Deshaizer, 38, cannot understand how an American girl who is married to a Chinese can live with him. She was married to one worth \$5,000, but "the East is East and the West is West, and never the twain shall meet," at least in so far as Irene's conception of marriage goes. Now she wants a divorce.

In fact, she lived with her celestial mate only thirty-eight days before she fled home to mother, Mrs. James E. Harris, of No. 461 East Thirty-third street.

Mrs. Fong, or Miss Deshaizer, as she now prefers to be called, a slender Southern girl, began her twenty-three years of life in Texas. Reared without the necessity of looking out for her own wants, she was attracted by the courtesy and polished deference of Charles Fong in his chop suey restaurant in South Street. She learned he had \$20,000. She was married to him November 29, 1912.

"Oh, they're just like American men at first," Mrs. Deshaizer Fong said in the office of her attorney, "I will say, however, that they are more kind. But it gets to be an old story soon. 'I don't see how an American girl can get used to their ways, I couldn't. 'I learned to use chopsticks and to cook rice as he liked it—that is, by not stirring the rice—just putting it in water and letting it cook fifteen minutes. I offered to learn to cook other dishes he liked, but he cooked himself if he wanted them. He never had any friends. He never went out with me. 'I don't see how an American girl can get used to their ways, I couldn't. 'I learned to use chopsticks and to cook rice as he liked it—that is, by not stirring the rice—just putting it in water and letting it cook fifteen minutes. I offered to learn to cook other dishes he liked, but he cooked himself if he wanted them. He never had any friends. He never went out with me. 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