

## IN THE BLUE-GRASS STATE

Is the Home of Fierce Feuds and Bloody Family Wars

Which Have Been Waged in Clay County Since Its Organization 93 Years Ago.

(From Friday's Daily.)  
The recent lawlessness in the state of Kentucky which resulted in the assassination of Governor Goebel has inaugurated a reign of terror for those who would prefer that peace and good order held sway.

Since the serious trouble in Kentucky of six weeks ago, which, by the way, is as yet far from being settled, the Cincinnati Commercial put its Kentucky feud editor to writing and the following is his first production:

"The feud wars, disorder and lawlessness now existing in Clay county, Kentucky, and which the state authorities are unable to put down make a brief history of them interesting. The country lies in the mountains of south eastern Kentucky and was organized in the year 1807. The 93 years of its existence cover a period that has been filled with bloody feud wars, with very few and brief cessations of hostilities, and the county now is known far and wide as the 'home of the feuds.'"

The first feud battle ever fought there occurred soon after the county was established between the Amies and Callahans, two strong factions who had become enemies on account of a dispute between them over grazing cattle on the mountain range.

On a summer day the factions met up at the ford on the east fork of the Kentucky river and without ceremony began firing into each other. Four or five men were wounded and half a dozen horses killed. This matter was taken to court. The courthouse at that time was a large low structure located at Goose creek, near the present site of Manchester, the county seat. Both factions, heavily armed, came in early on the day of trial and stacked their guns in the courtroom. John Amies of the Amies faction was in the witness box testifying, when John Elkins of the Callahan faction took exception to the testimony he was giving, seized his rifle and with deliberate aim shot Amies through the head, splattering his brains over the judge's stand and the walls of the courtroom. When Amies fell from the witness chair he was the first man ever killed in Clay county.

The fight that followed between these factions caused the court's adjournment sine die. Elkins was hanged. Dr. Abner Baker, who killed John Bates, was the next man to be hanged in that county, and to this day his friends and relatives assert that he was insane at the time and was hanged by "judicial mob."

The feud spirit and feeling have been handed down from father to son as a heritage through these 93 years. The White-Garrard feud, in which two of the largest and wealthiest families of Clay county figured, has lasted for half a century. It was brought on by politics.

The Philpots, the most formidable faction now in Clay county, numbering more than 250 fighters that can be mustered at two hours' notice from their leaders, have within the past few years engaged in a number of important feud battles, among them the famous fight in Pigeon Roost, where several men were killed and wounded. Among their recent battles may be mentioned that against the Griffin faction last July, in which three of the Griffin side were killed and one wounded and one of the Philpot faction killed and two wounded.

It is the boast of this faction that "no man who kills a Philpot can live," and they have had many of their clansmen slain. This feud is still on.

The White Howard-Baker feud sprang up two years ago, and many battles have been fought to the death among them. The leader of the Baker faction was Thomas Baker. He was charged with killing a number of men, was captured and taken to Manchester last June under guard of 100 soldiers to be tried for murder. While standing in his tent in the courthouse yard surrounded by soldiers he was shot through the heart by an unknown assassin concealed in the house of Beverly P. White, which stood across the street in front of the courthouse. White was and is yet the sheriff of Clay county and the alleged leader of the White-Howard faction. The feud still exists.

The present courthouse at Manchester is a brick building around which many feud battles have occurred and in which several men were killed. Great chips of brick and stone that have been shot

out by the heavy guns used in these battles are missing from the walls.

In the early history of the county it was the practice of the feudists to stack their arms in the courtroom when attending court. But now, when opposing factions are called to town, each side secures a suitable building in a convenient place and near the court house, which are used as arsenals. A guard is placed over these, so that the opposing faction may not get possession of the arms. Now the feudists of Clay county do not enter the courtroom with anything larger than 45 calibre Colt's revolvers buckled around them. The latest improved guns are used, which shoot combustible cartridges. It is safe to say that there is not a regiment in the United States army that is more finely equipped with modern firearms than are the Clay county feudists.

A conservative estimate places the number of men killed in these feud battles at considerably more than 100. Twenty have been killed and twice that number wounded within the past six months. Four have been killed and six wounded there in the past ten days. Yet there has been no conviction for any of these within the past year. There have been no arrests for the last few killings.

There is much concern by the state authorities over the situation in Clay county, and the present session of the legislature will be called upon to enact measures looking toward subduing of the lawless bands. There has been much talk by the highest state officials of abolishing Clay county. The feuds there are growing worse each year, and hundreds of people have left their homes, taking their families away for safety.

### Personalities.

Jean De Keske has had a theater built as an annex to his home in Paris, which he intends to use for his guests at private musicales.

Mrs. Louisa J. Cabel, of Lowell, Me., is a justice of the peace, prosecutes pension claims, personally manages a farm and conducts an express business. Senator Bate of Tennessee, like the late Senator Harris, will not disclose his age. He must be 70 or thereabouts, for he was a soldier in the Mexican war, over half a century ago.

Ex Speaker Reed and ex Senator Carlisle will appear in the United States supreme court as counsel for the interests which are testing the constitutionality of the war tax on inheritances. The flag which made Barbara Fretschie famous is owned by Conrad Reno, the eldest son of General Jesse L. Reno of Boston, who was killed at South Mountain. It was given to the general by Barbara, Sept. 12, 1862.

Mrs. William F. Cody, the wife of "Buffalo Bill," always travels about the country with her husband. The pair are always accompanied by their daughter, Miss Irma Cody, for whom Lake Irma, in Big Horn basin, was named.

Among Lord Methuen's decorations is a medal conferred upon him for having gallantly jumped into a Prussian canal and rescued a would-be suicide. It was conferred on him when military attache at Berlin by the emperor in person at a state ball in Berlin.

Anthony Hudson, the first white settler in Pierce county, Wisconsin, is still living, having just passed his one hundredth milestone in life. He is actively engaged in farming and cultivates 30 acres without employing help, his wife lending him assistance in harvest time.

Mr. Moody knew his Bible so well that his eyes and fingers could find any passage that he wanted from Genesis to Revelation in the hurry of rapid speech as easily as the fingers of a musician master can find the notes of a familiar sonata on the keyboard of a piano.

Mme. Yacco, whom the mikado has termed "The Empress of Japanese Drama," is in this country, en route to the Paris exposition. In company with Otto Kawaskami, a well known Japanese actor and playwright, she is making a careful study of the American stage.

Congressman at Large Samuel A. Davenport, of Pennsylvania, has announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election, having accomplished the main object he had in view, the securing of an appropriation for the improvement of Erie harbor. He is now in his second term.

General Longstreet, almost the only survivor in the first rank of southern generals of 1861-5, celebrated his 79th birthday recently in Washington. Colonel Ochiltree gave a dinner in his honor, which was attended by prominent men from all sections, south and north.

### Information Wanted.

An inquiry has been made for Mrs. Louise Blanchard, who was in Dawson last year. Anyone knowing anything of the lady is requested to leave word at this office.

## MANY WILL MAKE MONEY

By Making Hay While the Summer Sun Shines.

Permits to Harvest It Will Be Sought From the Authorities—A Marketable Product.

The authorities will this season be asked for grants or permits to cut all the wild hay that grows along the Yukon for many miles above Dawson, and all that grows on all streams in the mining district. The demand for hay has been so great here this winter that the native hay has readily sold for 10 cents per pound, and is worth much more now. A man who put up four tons of hay last year six or eight miles east of Dawson stacked it on the ground where it was cut and sold it in the stacks at 10 cents per pound early in November. While the ground from which this hay was cut was so rough and full of brush that he could not use even a common mowing scythe, he used a sickle the same as used in the cutting of grain many years ago, and even with the use of this primitive implement he was enabled to secure and save in every four days what made a ton of dry hay, thus realizing, at 10 cents per pound, \$50 per day for his labor.

While native hay is not considered by stock owners to be at any time worth more than from one-half to two-thirds as much as the imported article, yet there is always a demand for it at a price that makes its harvesting a very remunerative business, and those who obtain grants to cut a number of tons of hay this year which can be reached by teams without too much outlay in the construction of roads or trails will be in position to make good sums of the easiest money they ever handled.

### How Hearst Spelled "Bird."

According to Mr. Frye the incident occurred in a mining saloon in the Rockies. On the blackboard back of the bar was the bill of fare, and in it, among other items, "roste birde, \$1." As the future senator saw this he exclaimed: "See here, Blank, that is a great way to spell bird. Don't you know any better than that? You ought to spell it 'b-u-r-d.'"

"It is, is it?" said the barkeeper. "I would have you understand, George Hearst, that I am as good a speller as you any day. I will leave it to the crowd that you can't spell bird right. Yes, I'll bet you a basket of champagne for the crowd on it."

"All right," said Mr. Hearst. "All right," said the saloon man, "but I am not going to have any mistake about it. You have got to write it down on this piece of paper." And he thereupon handed Hearst a slip of brown paper and a pencil.

Hearst took it and rapidly wrote "Bird."

"But that is not the way you spelled it before," said the saloonist.

"Of course it isn't," replied Mr. Hearst. "Do you suppose I am fool enough to spell bird with a 'u' where there is any money up on it?"—New York Mail and Express.

### Jackson's Reindeer.

Dr. Sheldon Jackson, superintendent of government schools in Alaska, denies the report that the reindeer brought to the Territory have starved. A large herd has reached the moss growing region away from the coast and are doing well. Moreover, the Laplanders who came with them propose to bring herds of their own and embark in the business of raising reindeer for sale and for use in transportation.

### Fulda Is Traveling.

Mr. R. M. Lindsey, of the A. E. Co., upon whose shoulders has fallen the mantle of General Manager L. R. Fulda, since the latter's departure on an extended journey over a good portion of the outside world, received a telegram this morning from Mr. Fulda, dated in San Francisco five days ago. On that date the gentleman was to leave San Francisco for the east by way of the large Canadian cities where he will remain on business for a few days, afterwards going to New York. From the latter place he will sail direct for Paris, visiting London and Liverpool on the return trip. When Mr. Fulda left Dawson he thought that probably he could complete his itinerary in time to return over the ice; but Mr. Lindsey says it will not be possible for him to reach Dawson before the middle of June, and possibly not before July 1st.

### Quartz Claim Recorded.

Yesterday afternoon, a quartz grant was issued to Mrs. Louie K. Hill, for the Pacific mineral claim, located on Bonanza creek, near the mouth of Adams.

## The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)  
ISSUED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.  
ALLEN BROS., Publishers

TO EXTEND MAIL SERVICE.

Energetic action has been taken in Seattle and other outside cities to secure from the American government a more extensive mail service for the Yukon country, not only as regards mail destined for Dawson, but for the lower Yukon as well. The Seattle Chamber of Commerce, one of the most active organizations of business men on the coast, has sent a memorial to the postal authorities covering the situation, and the Seattle newspapers, the Post-Intelligencer in particular, have done good work in presenting the facts in the strongest possible light.

No criticism is attached to the efficiency with which the mail has been handled during the present winter, the fact being, on the contrary, that much credit is given the contractors for the excellent service which they have furnished.

The government is asked to make such arrangements as will guarantee the delivery of second class matter, such as newspapers and magazines. As a matter of fact, more or less of such mail has been brought in all winter long, but as the contract has only called for the delivery of a specific number of pounds, the amount of such matter brought in has necessarily been small.

In order that the service should be so extended, an arrangement will have to be made with the Canadian government and a substantial increase given the mail contractors in the sum now called for by the contract.

The American postal authorities have the matter under consideration, and will probably make the desired concessions before navigation closes this year. Meanwhile, during the open season, while the mails are carried on the boats, all classes of mail matter will be handled.

### THE INDIANS' PROTEST.

There is a distinct element of pathos, not unmixed with a tinge of the tragic, in the story of the Indians' grievances, as published elsewhere in the Nugget today.

It will doubtless happen with these Indians as it has happened with every other aboriginal race that we are pleased to term civilization. Civilization will ultimately wipe the Indians out of existence. This is the whole story in a nutshell, and it is apparent that the Indians themselves have a very well defined notion that such will prove to be the case. They see the land, which they considered their own, taken away from them without even their permission being asked. The game, upon which they have been accustomed to depend very largely for subsistence, is being driven back into the mountains, and when the game has all disappeared the Indians see nothing ahead for them but extinction.

The case which Silas advances on behalf of his tribe is a strong one, and the points are remarkably well taken. Silas has a number of innate ideas of right and wrong which lead him to believe that there should be some law of compensation applicable in the case.

Formerly the Indians owned all the ground, all the fish and all the game. Now they own nothing. Then they could do as they pleased, with no one to interfere with them. Now they are liable to arrest for any breach of the law, just as a

white man. How they could lose all they once possessed and get nothing in return, is something they can not comprehend.

The case is worthy consideration from the authorities. Whether or not the Indians possess any legal rights in the premises, there are certain moral obligations involved which should not be overlooked. If there is any danger of actual want among them, the matter should be promptly looked into and relief granted.

Elihu Root, who succeeded Russell A. Alger as secretary of war for the United States, is making a splendid record in conducting the affairs of his office. During Alger's administration Gen. Miles, commander of the army, was studiously snubbed by the secretary, and in consequence there was constant friction and trouble in the department. Root, who combines the qualities of a diplomat with wonderful administrative ability, has straightened out all of Alger's tangles, and the business of the war department is now handled like clock work. By some authorities the position of secretary of war is now classed as being higher even than that of secretary of state, since the administration of all of Uncle Sam's newly acquired territory is conducted through the war department. McKinley seems to have been very happy in choosing the present secretary.

The government organ, in speaking of the rush into the Klondike during the spring of '98 and the demand now being made for representation, has the following to say: "Of this [rush] about 75 per cent or more was of foreign birth. Would it do to enfranchise a mob which had suddenly rushed in here for gold?" We wouldn't like to accuse the Sun of plagiarism, but the above lines bear a very striking resemblance to an extract from a Boer newspaper which we recently saw. You had better be a little careful, captain, about using Kruger arguments. You may yet be accused of publishing a Boer organ.

More people have been afflicted with the idea that there is a fortune in bringing meat into Dawson than have been attacked by any other Klondike disease. There is meat in Dawson for months to come, and still the never-ending procession moves on. Today the dispatches state that 300 sheep and another drove of cattle will soon be en route, and these are probably only the vanguard of what will come at the opening of navigation. Without doubt, there have been considerable sums of money lost in the meat business, but it has resulted in bringing the price of meat down within the reach of nearly everyone.

The citizens' committee has a useful career before it, if harmony and unity of action prevail in directing its movements. The work of the committee is by no means finished. In fact, it has only begun. It is to be hoped that the committee will act as one man in devising the best ways and means for accomplishing the objects for which it was appointed.

The coroner's jury, in returning its verdict yesterday, devoted more space to the local press than it did to the cause of the dead man's demise. If the ideas of a great many people were followed out, the term newspaper would cease to have any significance.