

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.

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 exceptions 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 Reszke 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 Fritchie 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.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

Chewing tobacco \$1 per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn.

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.

Arctic Brothers Joyful.

Camp Dawson, No. 4, A. B., will meet tonight at McDonald hall in social session. A splendid program has been arranged and it is safe to say that the Arctic Queen will smile benignantly upon as jolly a gathering as ever met in Dawson.

The camp has ordered the expenditure of a considerable sum of money for the occasion, and, once a month in the future it is the intention of the order to give the members an opportunity to gather in social session with mirth, music and good fellowship as the watchword of the hour. All Arctic Brothers are cordially invited to attend, whether members of Camp Dawson or of any other camp.

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.

Private dining rooms at the Holborn.

The Star Clothing House, A. S. Levine, manager, announces that until further notice he will sell spring suits for \$15, hats, all styles, \$3.

See the electric display of the Star Clothing House on Front street, the finest in the city. Suits are selling for \$15; hats \$3. A. L. Levine, manager.

Bargains in
Spring Footwear
Buy Now
Large Stock...
Reducing Prices to Make Room for Summer Goods.

D. A. C. & C. Co.

John McDonald...
Merchant Tailor
Full Line of New Suitings.
FIRST AVE. OPP. S.Y.T. WAREHOUSE

Fresh Beef
The Only Fresh Beef in Dawson.
Pat Galvin..
Market...
Sold at Reasonable Prices

Wholesale and Retail
Depot, First Avenue
T. & E. Co. Building
H. I. MILLER, Prop.
NOTE—This beef has been brought in over the ice from Selkirk, where 119 head of choice stall-fed cattle were slaughtered.

MOHR & WILKENS,
DEALERS IN
"The Finest Select Groceries"
IN DAWSON
S. E. Cor. Third Street and Third Avenue
Opposite and Klondike Bridge

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A Steady
A Satisfactory
A Safe
Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.
Donald B. Olson, Manager.
City Office Joslyn Building.
Power House near Klondike. Tel. No.

Full Line Choice Brands
Wines, Liquors and Cigars
Chisholm's Saloon
TOM CHISHOLM Proprietor

Yukon Hotel Store
FRONT STREET.
We Want to Close out Our Stock of
Groceries, Provisions
Choice Hams and Breakfast Bacon
Just in Over the Ice.
J. E. BOOGE, Manager.

Mitchell, Lewis & Slaver Co.
OF SEATTLE, WASH.
Mining Machinery
Of all Descriptions.
Pumping Plants a Specialty
Orders Taken For Early Spring Delivery
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....Dawson Agents.
Seattle Office 607 First Ave.

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Try the Sanitarium Baths...
For All Physical Ailments
Ford's Club Baths The Only Health Resort in Dawson
Third Ave., bet. 3rd & 4th Sts.
BERT FORD Proprietor

Changed: Hands.
Having Purchased the Business of the
Juneau Hardware Co.
We Beg to Announce We Are in a Position to Supply all Wants in the Hardware Line
Just Received Over the Ice:
Patent Bush Shives, 6 and 8 in. Globes Valves, Bit Stock Drills, Stillson Pipe Wrenches, also a Nice Line of Assorted Whips.
M. H. JONES, Manager

Buy Your Meat From
The City Market
And Get the Best in Town
Largest Wholesalers
Miners Call and See Us. We Will Meet at Competition and Give the Best. Orders Promptly Filled.
C. J. Dumbolton & Co.
Second Ave. Opp. S.-Y. T. Co.

Why Buy Meat in Town
When you can get Fresh Meat at Dawson Prices at the
Grand Forks
Meat Market
FRED GEISMAN, Proprietor.
.....Opposite Gold Hill Hotel.

Received Over The Ice
Full Line of
Globe Valves
and Steamfitters' Supplies
McLennan, McFeely & Co. Ltd.
DAWSON, Y. T.