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The Tri-Weekly Kentucky New Era, January 3, 1888

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Recommended Citation

The Tri-Weekly Kentucky New Era, "The Tri-Weekly Kentucky New Era, January 3, 1888" (1888). *Kentucky New Era Tri-Weekly*. 335.
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SWISS LANDSLIPS.

The Frequent Destruction of Villages by the Gigantic Landslides.

Many of the Swiss villages exist almost on a precipice. The avalanche of snow or the sudden fall of earth may at any moment sweep them away, or what is equally ruinous, overwhelm them with the debris of the mountain at the foot of which they are built. In not a few instances the landslide is so slow in its progress that it is only a question of time when the final catastrophe will be precipitated. At Boège, in the Tannus, for example, the base of the mountain is gradually overwhelming the village of Boège. In most cases, however, the calamity is sudden and unexpected.

Such an instance is supplied by the fall of the Rossberg, a well known mountain 5,000 feet high, situated just behind the better known and loftier Rig. In 1806, after a very rainy season, a large portion of the mountain, consisting of beds of hard sandstone and pudding stone, resting on soft sandy layers, suddenly swept across the valley of Goldau, burying four villages, comprising over 400 houses, nearly 300 inhabitants and more than 85 square miles of fertile land. In 1855 a mass of debris slid into the valley of the Ther, over the back of the mountain, devastating the village of San Stefano to the depth of 50 feet, until the drowned village was relieved by means of a hastily constructed canal. Another example of a disastrous landslide is that which, by the sliding of a portion of Monte Cono, the entire village of Plurs, with 2,400 inhabitants, was in 1818 overthrown. For several days before the catastrophe masses of rock had become detached from the mountain, and numerous fissures were observed to form or widen on its sides. But the villagers disregarded the warnings, and were in a few minutes buried with all their possessions beneath sixty feet of rock and earth. All attempts to penetrate the mass proved fruitless, and the town has since been buried. The earth which entombed it is now clothed with a luxuriant forest of chestnuts, but the original name still survives in the little village of Plurs.

It may almost be said that these catastrophes are so frequent that history preserves the memory of only the most disastrous. Such one was the village of Elm, which was overwhelmed only a few years ago. At that time the place contained fifty houses and nearly 250 inhabitants, most of them children and old people. Nearly half of them were killed, while most of the dwelling houses were altogether crushed or buried beneath the debris from that portion of the Tösching Alps, which broke away from its position. Altogether, though the Elm catastrophe was in the loss of life and property, of less magnitude than those which overtook Plurs and Goldau, it is doubtful whether it did not, in the amount of rubbish shot from the mountain side, surpass both of these gigantic landslides. The Swiss geologists who visited the spot immediately after the disaster, calculated that, at the lowest estimate, the contents of the slip measured 10,000,000 cubic meters. That a vast amount of material this pile contains may be grasped by a simple illustration. Zurich is a city of 76,000 inhabitants. Yet in the debris shot from the side of the Tösching Alp there was stone enough to build two Zurich. Some of the blocks are as long as 300 or 400 feet higher than the village of Elm. One is estimated to weigh 3,000 tons, and as these gigantic missiles were precipitated from a height of 2,000 feet the irresistible force with which they fell on the doomed villages can easily be imagined.—London Standard.

Among the Ghilzais.

Before a good many of the tents there stood a rude tripod, consisting of three poles tied together near the top. Suspended to these were goat skin drums, which were operated by two women jerking them smartly back and forth. The art of making such butter as we are accustomed to seems to be unknown among these people; but they obtain from their goat milk a tasteless substitute, called mus-cal, which represents the fatty properties of the milk. Another production obtained from it is a mass, a thick, tartish preparation, which, with bread, forms the staple food of the Ghilzais; in taste and consistency this mass somewhat resembles clabbered milk. A very palatable and sustaining article of food for using on the march is prepared by making meat up into dumplings like balls and drying them in the sun. Biscuits of these portable articles of food were spread out to dry on the drooping roofs of the tents and on cloths on the ground.

By another process is made a very wholesome and refreshing drink called dake. In taste and appearance dake is closely allied to buttermilk, but by some peculiar process is endowed with properties that keep it fresh and wholesome for an indefinite period of time. A Ghilzai starting for a long journey across the desert takes on his camel a goat skin full of this dake and a liberal quantity of the sun dried meat balls. Half a basket of the latter and a skinful of the former provide him with wholesome and appetizing food and drink for a week's journey.—Thomas Stevens in New York World.

City Laundrymen's Wages.

Laundrymen in cities make big wages, for the work of washing is one in which there is less competition than in most others. With steam the work is done more perfectly and quickly than is possible without, and involves less severe labor than many other positions much more sought after. It is very strange that Chinamen have been allowed to take the lead in this work. It is not altogether the cheapness of their labor, but rather their early recognition of the fact that their washing was a work that belonged rather to men than women. And yet, since men have put their hand to the washboard, there has been a wonderful increase in devices for saving labor. It is not now half so hard to make clothes clean as it used to be, but in starching and ironing there has been less improvement.—Boston Budget.

An American Room.

Mrs. Cleveland is fitting up a room at her Oakview mansion in antique style. She has had made for it a rag carpet of a pattern formerly used by her grandmother. It is a combination of the "hit and miss" and "fancy stripe" varieties. The room will be a very unique affair, and Mrs. Cleveland intends to regard it as nearly as possible a room sacred to the purposes of parlor or drawing room in the last generation. There is to be a spinning wheel in a corner, the place is to be decorated with a pair of old fashioned andirons, and there will be all the paraphernalia which went to make up the interior decorations of a country parlor. It will be distinctively an American room.—Syracuse Journal.

Thomas Carlyle.

The great Scotch author, suffered all his life with dyspepsia which made his own life miserable and caused his best and truest friends not a little pain because of his fretfulness. Dyspepsia generally arises from disease of the liver and as Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" cures all diseases of this great gland, it follows that while all cannot be Carlyles, even with dyspepsia, all can be free from the malady, while amulating his virtues.



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Nov. 1887.

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time. Apply to

M. LEWIS, PROP.

Christian Circuit Court

December 19th, 1887.

Geo. W. Rogers (Ex parte.

Notice is hereby given that the above named

parties have this day filed in the Christian

Circuit Court Clerk's office their joint petition

praying that the said Sarah L. Rogers, wife of

said Geo. W. Rogers, may be empowered by

judgment of said court to use, enjoy, sell and

convey for her own benefit, any property she

may or may not own, to wit: her dower, and

all her right, title and interest in and to the

premises described in the petition, and to

execute and deliver all such instruments as

may be required for the purpose of carrying

into effect the provisions of said petition.

It is ordered that publication of notice of fil-

ing of said petition and the object thereof, be

made in the Kentucky New Era, newspaper

published in Hopkinsville, Ky., for ten days, as

required by law. C. M. BROWN, Clerk C. C. C.

South Kentucky College,

HOPKINSVILLE, KY.

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