

two teachers are known to have been killed—a Miss Anna Marsden and her brother, with from one to four children at each school. Four schoolhouses where school was in session were entirely wiped from the face of the earth, not a vestige left except a few rocks to mark where they stood, and the scholars were carried from a quarter to a half mile, where they were found, some dead and others badly mangled. Horses, cattle and vehicles were buried through the air like chaff, and the country for three quarters of a mile wide by half a mile long is entirely wrecked. The description of the Haggie property and school could be repeated at nearly every farm. It is impossible to give the exact number of the dead and wounded. Eight doctors are in the district and will be kept busy all night. At least forty farm houses were entirely demolished. The fields are strewn with the debris of the storm.

**SIOUX CITY, Ia., May 3.**—A Redfield, S. D., dispatch to the *Journal* says: A severe rain and hailstorm struck here this afternoon. Telegraph wires are down north of here on both the Northwestern and Milwaukee roads, and it is impossible to get returns as to damage done. Reports coming in show that a cyclone passed ten miles north of Redfield, traveling toward the town of Ashton, where it did much damage. The opera house was wrecked. The steeple of the Congregational church was blown down, and many houses unroofed and barns destroyed. The main street of Ashton is strewn with debris. Many farm houses, barns and outbuildings north of Redfield and north of the railroad were blown down. No one is reported seriously hurt.

**MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 3.**—A severe electrical storm accompanied by terrific thunder, heavy winds and rain, passed over Wisconsin today. At Kellnerville, near Manitowoc, John Andela, a 14-year-old boy, was killed by a bolt of lightning while lying in bed. At the town of York, near Neillsville, the house of Joseph Sutherland was shattered by a bolt of lightning. Mrs. Sutherland, who had taken refuge in the cellar, was killed. Her husband was stunned. Near Beloit, the barn of Frank Ensign's farm was struck by lightning and burned. Four houses and thirteen head of cattle perished.

## THE ARIZONA CAMELS.

[Florida Times-Union.]

Along in the fifties, when slavery was countenanced in some portions of our country, there resided in Galveston, Tex., a man named Thomas Watson, who was very wealthy and an extensive dealer in negroes. Not satisfied with the traffic on shore, he resolved to send a vessel, himself, to the coast of Africa to obtain a fresh supply of the blacks and smuggle them into the country. This was a risky piece of business, as the men-of-war of all civilized nations were continually on the watch for the slavers, and the laws of the United States had long forbidden the importation of any more Ethiopians.

But Watson was a man of many resources, and he, in company with his wife, a beautiful creole, devised a

scheme by which it was possible to hoodwink the authorities. They modelled a bark of some 300 tons burden, which was practically one vessel within another. To look down the main hatch she appeared to be a shallow craft, having no "between decks;" the keelson was about fifteen feet between the "deck carlines," and no one but the builders knew that beneath this and between it and the true keelson was a dark hold about five feet deep, to reach which a small hatchway was cut well aft in the "run."

The bark was loaded and despatched to the west coast of Africa, ostensibly as a legitimate trader, but upon reaching the slave country the captain bargained for 500 negroes, all stalwart, healthy fellows, who were at once confined within the dark, damp, subhold of the novel and nefarious vessel.

Then the captain went in search of camels, which he claimed were wanted in America as beasts of burden, but in reality these creatures were to be used as a blind to disguise the true errand of the craft. Fifteen of the animals were procured, which, with their feed and water, comfortably filled the bark's hold.

The passage across the Atlantic was made without special incident, and the slaver entered Galveston with her valuable human cargo undisturbed. The camels were publicly landed, and for several days remained tethered upon the wharf, but the poor blacks were stealthily smuggled ashore and at once sent to northern Texas, where they were disposed of at great profit by Mrs. Watson, who was now a widow.

This was in the winter of '57-'58. The charming creole, whose husband had been a United States senator, prevailed upon the government to purchase the camels, but not until the animals had been taken to several places.

At one time they were in Algiers, opposite the city of New Orleans. From here they were taken back to Galveston by the sidewheel steamer *Fashion*. When they became the property of the United States they were transferred to Mobile, thence to Brazos, and put to work upon the fortifications then being built along the Rio Grande river. While they were in Galveston the animals, or rather one of them, called Lord Nelson, made themselves particularly obnoxious to many good citizens of the place. One day a young American officer of a large ship then lying in port had occasion to pass close by the herd. Without warning Lord Nelson reached forth his ungainly shaped head and seized the unwary seaman by the arm, sinking his teeth so deep as to completely shatter the bone.

At this moment a constable named Wm. Prouse, who has since served as sheriff of Galveston, rode down the wharf, and with the butt of his heavily loaded riding whip beat the animal until he was forced to release his victim, but Capt. David H. Smith, the injured, carries the marks of his encounter with the camel to this day, and any one visiting Boston may call upon the retired sea master at 36 Atlantic avenue and hear from his own lips a verification of the above facts.

Capt. Smith brought suit against Mrs. Watson for his injuries, and was

awarded judgment in the sum of \$1,500, which, however, was never paid for the case was held so long in court that it was not decided until after the breaking out of the late unpleasantness between the Northern and Southern states, and Captain Smith, whose home was in Massachusetts, was obliged to leave Galveston.

At one time Mrs. Watson's wealth was enormous, but reverse of fortune came; all her property was swept from her. She fled to the island of St. Thomas, where she died in abject poverty.

During the stirring times of the war, the camels were allowed to shift for themselves; they wandered away over the plains of Texas and into the wilds of Arizona. The climate and food have agreed with them, and, having been but little disturbed, they have greatly increased in numbers, until now we find nearly four hundred of the progeny of the fifteen camels originally brought to Galveston in the false-bottomed bark built by an ex-United States senator to convey slaves from Africa to this country.

## WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Scipio woolmen, remarks the *Millard Progress*, are realizing about 8½ cents per pound for their wool. The entire wool clip for Scipio will net about \$11,000 this year, while two years ago it brought \$25,000.

The leading lawyers of Butte, Mont., says an exchange, are about to begin war on the shysters and have them disbarred. These men bleed innocent victims by the score, manufacture testimony and pile up the expenses of the courts.

The Ketchum (Idaho) *Keystone* states that the lessees of the Baltimore mine feel more encouraged as work progresses. Six assays made from ore taken at different points in the tunnel went from 160 to 210 ounces of silver with an average of about 50 per cent lead.

Owing to the switching at Leamington being done by the south-bound train, remarks the *Millard County Blade*, it is usually late, and instead of arriving at 3:25, pulls in from one to four hours after due. Twice last week it was nearly sun-down before it arrived.

The *Millard County Blade* reports the census of Millard county as showing 5,022 population. Fillmore, with 1,071 population, is the leading settlement of its twelve precincts in the county. But the western portion of the county is not included in any of these figures.

The *Millard County Blade* has it from good authority, that a 40-foot vein averaging \$7.50 per ton in gold was recently struck on Wild Cat mountain near Indian creek, and is being worked. Picked samples run as high as \$100. The discoverers are John Black of Cove Fort and a Mr. Murray.

Captain H. G. Nickerson, at Lander, Wyo., a few mornings ago discovered a body of oil flowing up through the water of the Big Popagie river a few feet above the main street bridge in the city. The oil in its upward passage though the water is accompanied by gas. The three flowing wells are nine miles from here and this oil is believed