

THE LOST TRIBES,

AND THE LAND OF NOD.

AN ORIGINAL NATURAL GAS STORY.

BY A. P. KERR.

"And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the Land of Nod, on the east of Eden."

—GENESIS iv 16

(The Trapper's Story Continued.)

Selecting ten of my brightest scholars from my own household, I told them I should appoint them assistants which would help me, as well as to help them to learn more rapidly, to which they readily agreed. All my lessons were necessarily oral, and progress was, of course, slow. But no teacher was ever blessed with brighter or more eager pupils. In a month they began to talk, and I began to cast about for some means to teach them to write. One day, speaking of my wants to Enoch, after considerable explanation, he comprehended what was wanted—something to write on—and he said he would go into the mountains next day and he thought would be able to find the desired material. They had no written language, and the idea was entirely novel to him. The next evening he brought me half a dozen of smooth slate stones as I had ever seen quarried in the mountains of Virginia, and asked me if they would answer the purpose. I told him they certainly would if we had enough of them. He said he would see that the school was supplied with enough at once, which he did in a day or two, and I began to teach the heathen to write as well as talk, and with the most gratifying results. A row of benches was constructed around the stone baulstre to which was attached a desk at the proper elevation—this being the only place in the building where the light was sufficient; and where heretofore had only appeared the weeping agonized faces of the nearest of kin to the honored dead there now were seen the bright and animated countenances of the eager seekers for knowledge heretofore denied their race.

The school was a great success from the start, and I presume that I am the only professor of a college who ever served for years without prospect or hope of reward other than the approval of his own conscience. Yet could I have foreseen the woe, misery and discontent which this knowledge would entail upon these unfortunate people in the years that followed, I fear that even that approval and reward would have been withheld. And I fear that it is often thus in life. The wealth-endowed and lordly man—the enlightened philanthropist—seeing misery to alleviate and ignorance to enlighten, is moved to compassion, and gives of his time and substance to elevate the down-trodden and oppressed, and is too often rewarded by the discontented complaints of those he has benefited, who, but for his benefactions, would still be in the depths of poverty and the darkness of illiteracy. His benefice has only made the people he sought to elevate more sensible of their lowly condition, and brought to them a more sensitive appreciation of their woes; revealing to them phases of life and possibilities of happiness, to them unattainable, to which they had been strangers before.

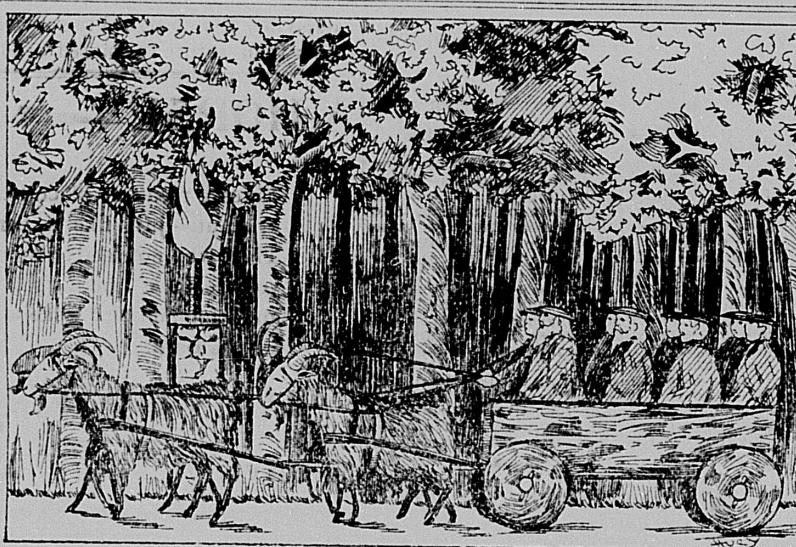
For two years the school was continued with unflagging interest, and with a continual change of scholars. As fast as they acquired the rudiments their places were filled by others. At the end of two years the English language was spoken anywhere in the valley in an intelligent manner and many had become excellent scribes as well. They had under my instructions found a way to make an excellent parchment from sheep skins, and with quill pens and an ink they made from their omnipresent blue dye were in a fair way to establish a literature in a primitive manner.

Out of the establishment of the first public school in the Land of Nod grew another innovation on the phlegmatic habits of the natives; one which they did not at first take kindly to, but which to me was a source of almost endless amusement, and which saved me many weary tramps. As I have said, the natives seemed to be tireless when it came to walking, and hardy mountaineers though I was in those days, they could tire me out when it came to long and continuous exertion in that way. They were not especially strong in other ways but when it came to walking they seemed strangers to fatigue. Finding that walking a distance of thirty-five miles every other day, even in the deliberate way in which I came to accomplish the task, was wearing me out, I began to look about for some method of transportation. An occasional jaunt of thirty-five miles was no great feat, but when it came to be a regular task it was extremely wearisome, and I saw that I must have relief. As previously noted, there were no beasts of burden in the valley—no animals at all save sheep and goats. I explained the difficulty to Enoch, and while he seemed to think I was becoming very particular all at once, he suggested that they could take me in a boat the greater part of the distance. This they did a few times, but it was nearly as tedious as walking and very wearisome to the boatmen, and was not satisfactory to anybody or in any way. Evidently I must find some better way, or take up my residence near the temple. I suggested that they build me a house and told them how to build it out of logs, but when they understood the plan the patriarchs unanimously condemned it—they would not have those sacred shades protracted by any such unheard-of structure. I was at a loss to see my way out of the dilemma. One evening on my return journey from the school to our household, after I had again resumed the wearisome tramps, a herd of goats bounded across the road and disappeared in the gloom of the forest. The goats there grew to a very large size—as well they might on such luxuriant pasture—many of which would have weighed 200 or 300 pounds. At once the idea occurred to me: Why not tame some of these goats, have a wagon built, and train them to draw it, and thus solve the problem that was be-

ginning to worry me very much? I had seen goats drawing children in the East when I was a boy, and as I wearily trudged homeward, the more I thought of the plan the more feasible seemed to be. Here were nearly a hundred miles of stone floor, and a team of four of these large goats, when well trained, would be able to draw quite a load on the vehicle I contemplated having built.

Nothing could be easier, it seemed to me, than for them to haul six or eight persons at a rapid rate over this winding, flame-lit way. The next day I explained the matter in detail to Enoch, and had more difficulty in making him comprehend the idea than anything I had as yet tried to make him understand. Such a thing as a wagon, or a wheeled vehicle of any kind, was unknown, notwithstanding their beautiful road, so admirably adapted to the purpose. And the idea of being pulled rapidly over the road by goats instead of walking in a dignified manner as their ancestors had done for centuries unknown, was an innovation that he did not feel like being alone responsible for. He said that the matter must be decided by the patriarchs, and if he could make them understand, or if they would agree that he should authorize me to go ahead with the project, that he would give his permission with the understanding that the arrangement was not satisfactory when under way that it should be discontinued; and that he would let me know the next day. And he looked at me a long time, evidently wondering what the mysterious stranger would do next—what other new project he would set foot on overturning their time honored customs. Finally he left me, slowly shaking his head, and hope sank within me, for he plainly was already prejudiced against the plan.

The next day being school day I did not arrive at home until very late, having



First Four-in-Hand West of the Rocky Mountains.

made the tiresome tramp in a more leisurely manner than usual. The walk was daily becoming more burdensome to me; but the pupils from our household and from the others on our side of the river, who generally accompanied me, never seemed to think it a task but rather a pleasure, so active and light-footed were they all. Nevertheless, I was determined to have some change, and that soon. If my goat scheme failed, they should build me a house near the temple, and supply me with provisions and all necessities, or else I would dismiss the school. It being over late to discuss the matter with Enoch, when I arrived at home, I retired at once.

The following morning I was surprised to find all the patriarchs from the other side of the river, as well as our nearer neighbors, and my own faithful Enoch, waiting for me, outside of my own door, when I arose. At once Enoch began to tell me that his contemporaries had come to hear the new-fangled scheme of traveling explained. As they did not understand the English language, I told him it was no use to explain it to them. But he insisted, and said he would interpret it to them. So I began and explained minutely my plan for a wagon to be pulled by goats driven with lines, or perhaps to be led by fleet-footed boys until they became well accustomed to the work that would be required of them. As I paused to let Enoch translate my talk I could see that the other nine were more than interested in the matter, and especially the younger patriarch who had so recently been elevated to his position. There was much discussion among them, and finally Enoch said that all were willing to aid the project, but he feared that the contrivance would make too much noise. Continuing, he said, that in no case was I to allow the outfit to go beyond the forks of the road, where the branch left the main road, leading to the temple. Beyond that, he said, was sacred ground, and that the temple never had been approached by living man except on foot, and never must be. That he would tell his people who used tools to work under my orders, and that he would at once have a corral built near the side of the mountain spur and close to our household, into which would be driven a number of goats, that we might at once begin the process of taming them.

After breakfast the men came to me for instructions. Only one or two had learned enough to understand me, and I had great difficulty in explaining to them what was wanted. Their tools were of the rudest description, and were made of copper. How they had managed to finish up mechanical work in as good shape as was to be seen in their houses with such tools, puzzled me. But it was here as elsewhere, more in the man than it was in the tools. A man with true mechanical genius can accomplish more with a pocket knife

tribes who had evidently come for the same purpose. Having attached the harnessed and bleating goats to the novel vehicle, I instructed four boys to each stand at the head of a goat, and to keep their places no matter at what speed we might travel. Having invited Enoch to make the first trip with me, he took his place in the rear seat. All being in readiness, the other seats being filled by the mechanics who had built the wagon, I seized the reins and gave the wheel goats a switch, and away we went in the direction of the temple, the boys keeping close to the heads of the team as directed. For miles many of the people followed us, and I think there must have been 2,000 people assembled to see us off. At a rapid rate we traveled, and after a few miles the boys were directed to fall behind, letting the team be guided alone by the reins. So well had the training been done, and so light was the load, that no difficulty was experienced. We made the trip to the forks of the road and returned in less than five hours. The team was considerably heated but unharmed, and I considered the transportation problem solved. And the natives were delighted, except with the rattling of the wagon, which they complained of as being extremely annoying. Their sense of hearing was unusually acute, and they said they could hear the rattling of the wheels on the hard road for an hour after the wagon disappeared from view. I had considered my own hearing as very good, but, while the outfit made quite a racket, it had not seemed at all annoying to me.

Everything working together so successfully, of course the natives were not slow—that is, not very slow—in improving and following up the lead which I had given them in this matter. Workmen at all the households were at once set to work on other wagons, corrals were built and goats captured, and it seemed the intention of the population to at least make one change in the inherited customs of their wonderful land. In the course of a month I found that all of the households had a similar conveyance to mine, including an extra one at our household. Some slight mishaps were reported to me as having resulted from the process of subjugating the fractious animals. This was contrary to all precedent in the Land of Nod, and Enoch seemed to be greatly worried about so trivial a matter as that an indiscreet native down the river had been summarily butted over while endeavoring to harness one of their teams. I told him the circumstance was no cause for alarm, but he shook his head sadly as if the innovation was likely to bring some great calamity upon the people.

But, as time passed, all went well, and as the other tribes had succeeded in breaking their teams, and had begun to break extra teams, I arranged for a relay at the households enroute to

the temple, and was thereby enabled to accomplish the trip in much less time. And I never lacked for help or company while traveling to and from my school. Scholars from the other tribes, as well as our own, began to arrive in their turnouts, and the building of a large corral, with provisions for feeding at the forks of the road became a necessity. And a stirring, noisy place the forks became, with the assemblage of rattling wagons, bleating goats and yelling boys. The like had never been known, and the noise was viewed with great disfavor by the solemn patriarchs, who often assembled there to devise some way by which the difficulty might be overcome. But the wagons and goat teams had become a necessity, and had taken too strong a hold upon the people to be given up, even if the noise did grate harshly upon the sleepy nerves of the older portion of the people. They suited the young, and had come to stay.

(To be continued.)

The Making of Big Guns.

Think what one of these guns is! It is a piece of solid steel weighing about sixty tons. It has a chamber running nearly its entire length thirteen inches in diameter. At the breech of the gun that chamber is enlarged to a diameter of fifteen and a half inches for six and three-quarters feet. The long tube of the gun is strengthened by an enormous band, reaching almost half its length, and called a "jacket," and in addition it has what is called a hoop or band with the appliances whereby the gun is fastened or locked to its carriage. Inside the tube of the gun there are about fifty spiral grooves, which give the projectile or long bullet a twist as it leaves the gun. That twist causes the projectile to turn nearly seventy-five times a second as it plummets through the air. This projectile weighs 1,100 pounds, and it requires no less than 500 pounds of powder to give it its full force. Every discharge of the gun costs in powder and projectile fully \$600. The cost of one of these guns is not far from \$100,000.

To make one of these implements of war requires not only great skill, but the use of very costly machinery.—Harper's Weekly.

Old England's Shipyards.

Some 20,000 persons are employed in the ship-building and marine engineering yards of the northeast coast of England, of whom half are skilled artisans. The time wage of the iron ship-builders for building is 30s 6d, and in repairing shops 42s a week, but there is probably not a member of the trade in the north-eastern shipyards who does not make more than the latter amount, and the great majority make a good deal more. For, unlike the bulk of trade unions, the Boilermakers' and Iron Ship-builders' Society, encourages piece work. Large numbers of the iron ship-builders make from 16s to 20s a day, and not a few first-class workmen earn \$8 weekly, and more. The iron-platers' helpers, a numerous class, draw from 28s to 31s weekly, when at work. Blacksmiths and drillers earn on piece work about 11s and 1s a day, respectively, while the majority of the carpenters, joiners and fitters are rated on time at about 39s, 38s and 35s a week.

Alone in the World.

A memorial meeting for the late Prof. Sylvester was held in Baltimore recently at which a number of professors in Johns Hopkins University made addresses. Sir Archibald Geikie, who also spoke, said: "I used to see Professor Sylvester very often at the Athenaeum Club, in London, after he had left Oxford owing to failing health and sight. He spent a great deal of time at the club sitting in a corner with his head bowed over a book and a green shade over his eyes. He evidently saw no one. He seemed so solitary that I would always go to him and speak to him. He would answer that he was very unhappy and never expected to be any better. He has left upon me a very distinct and sad impression. He seemed to have many friends, but no bosom friend, no one to look after him. As I stand here, I think I can see him now, sitting in the corner of the Athenaeum Club, with his green shade over his eyes, an old man, alone in the world."

Oatmeal Cakes.

Two cupsful of oatmeal, two cupsful of flour, one-half cupful of sugar, one-half cupful of shortening, suet or butter, one-half cupful warm water, one teaspoonful of salt and one-half teaspoonful of soda. First mix well together the oatmeal, flour, sugar and salt. Melt the shortening and dissolve the soda in the warm water and pour into the flour mixture as quickly as possible. Turn it on to the molding board, and roll smoothly until about one-quarter of an inch in thickness; cut up into small cakes any size preferred. Then roll each cake very thin and bake in rather slow heat until well browned. Let them stand on the baking pan only a moment after taking from the oven. Handle with care, as they break very easily while hot.

Educational Excursions.

It has started a new idea in university education. A body of 350 students, from all the faculties and representing every Italian university, with many professors, spent the Easter vacation in visiting the chief German universities, including Berlin, Leipzig, Heidelberg and Munich, as well as Zurich in Switzerland. In later years it is proposed to visit England and the United States. The excursions are gotten up by the University Association of Pavia,

How To Make Apple Fritters.

Core and pare large, tart apples. Cut them in slices about one-third of an inch thick. Season the slices with nutmeg; then dip them in the batter. Lift them one by one from the batter and drop gently into hot fat. Cook for three minutes; then lift from the fat, drain and serve immediately. Powdered sugar may be sprinkled on the fritters when they are arranged on the dish. Peach fritters are made in the same way.

A New London (Conn.) man was fined the other day for defiling a streetcar and endangering dresses by expectation. It was the first case of its kind tried in the State.

Playin' Possum.

"Playin' possum" comes from the fact that the possum will feign sleep or death when pushed into sudden danger or being captured. But pains and aches never play that kind of a game. They never try to fool anybody, and go to work to wake up people, leaving no chance to feign sleep. On the other hand, there is a remedy known as St. Jacobs Oil that will lull a pain or an ache so that it won't wake up again in the cure that follows its use. Pains and aches are great or less in intensity just in degree as we treat them. Prompt treatment with the best remedy—St. Jacobs Oil—prevents their increase and stay.

All tramps caught in Kissimere, Fla., are put to work on the streets.

Then Sleep Soundly.

You can't afford to lie awake nights. Nothing compensates for loss of sleep. Eight hours of good sleep every night is what you need if you hope to keep healthy nerves in your body and a clear head on your shoulders. Yet you cannot get rest enough while you persist in drinking coffee. No habitual coffee drinker can depend on his sleep. Why not break off the coffee habit and drink Grain-O in place of it? Grain-O is made from pure grains, has the rich seal brown color of Mocha or Java, is nourishing and palatable—a food drink—without any of the noxious properties of coffee. Having used it a short time you will prefer it to the best coffee that was ever set on your table. Two points gained—health promoted, money saved. All grocers. In packages at 15c. and 25c.

A man is never too poor or too worthless to get married.—Atchison Globe.

Shake Into Your Shoes.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. Try it to-day. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail for 25 cents, in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, La Roy, N. Y.

Springfield (Mass.) is building a car to carry fire engines over the electric roads.

Drunk for Twenty Years.

A correspondent writes: "I was drunk on and off for over twenty years, drunk when I had money, sober when I had none. Many dear friends I lost, and numerous gave me good advice to no purpose; but, thank God, an angel hand came at last in the form of my poor wife, who administered to my marvelous remedy, 'Anti-Jag.' To me without my knowledge or consent. I am now saved and completely transformed from a worthless fellow to a sober and respected citizen."

If "Anti-Jag" cannot be had at your druggist, it will be mailed in plain wrapper with full directions how to give, secretly, on receipt of One Dollar, by the Renova Chemical Co., 66 Broadway, New York, or they will gladly mail full particulars free.

The New Hampshire Legislature refuses to approve the bounty on bears.

Mr. Winslow's Ascorbic Syrup for children, softens the skin, relieves inflammation at the mouth, cures wind colic. 25c per bottle.

Church, Dwelling and Farm Insurance.

The Phenix of Brooklyn makes a specialty of these risks, and has agents everywhere.

J. IRVING RIDDLE, State Agent, Terre Haute, Ind.

Hall's Cataract Cure is taken internally acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the Best.

Hall's has at present 2,000,000 acres of coffee.

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Cataract Cure.

We the undersigned have known J. J. Hall for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honest in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by them.

WEST & TRAUX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

W. W. KELLY & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Cataract Cure is taken internally acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the Best.

Prize 1000.

For the cure of catarrh, why not let No-To-Bac remove your desire for tobacco?

Saves money, makes you well and in mood. Cures—guaranteed, 50c and \$1. all druggists.

The notes of the Bank of England cost exactly one half-penny each.

CASCARIS stimulate liver, bokidney and adwells. Never sicker, weaken or gripe. 10c.

No-to-Bac for Fifty Cents.

Open 40 years. Why not let No-To-B