

HOW THEY MADE THUNDER.

It Was Manufactured by the Rolling of Cannon Balls.

The following is an amusing description of how thunder used to be manufactured in a theatre:—

From Jonson it appears that the rumbling of thunder was at that time imitated by the rolling of and fro of bullets or cannon-balls. This plan was in time superseded by more ingenious contrivances. It is curious to find, however, that, some fifty years ago, one Lee, manager of the Edinburgh Theatre, with a view to improve the thunder of his stage, ventured upon a return to the Elizabethan system of representing a storm. His enterprise was attended with results at once ludicrous and disastrous. He placed ledges here and there along the back of his stage, and obtaining a parcel of nine-pound cannon-balls, packed these in a wheelbarrow, which a carpenter was instructed to wheel to and fro over the ledges. The play was 'King Lear,' and the jolting of the heavy barrow, as it was trundled along its uneven path over the hollow stage, and the ramblings and reverberations thus produced counterfeited most effectively the raging of the tempest in the third act. Unfortunately however, while the King was braving, in front of the scene, the pitiless storm at the back, the carpenter missed his footing tripped over one of the ledges, and fell down, wheelbarrow, cannon-balls, and all. The stage being on a declivity, the cannon-balls came rolling rapidly and noisily down towards the front, gathering force as they advanced, and, overcoming the feeble resistance offered by the scene, struck it down, passed over its prostrate form, and made their way towards the footlights and the fiddler, amidst the amusement and wonder of the audience, and the amazement and alarm of the Lear of the night. As the nine pounders advanced towards him, and rolled about in all directions, he was compelled to display an activity in avoiding them singularly inappropriate to the age and condition of the character he was personating. He was even said to resemble a dancer achieving the tapershorean feat known as the egg-hornpipe. Presently, too, the musicians became alarmed for the safety of themselves and their instruments, and deemed it advisable to scale the spiked partition which divided them from the pit; for the cannon-balls were upon them, smashing the lamps, and falling heavily into the orchestra. Maiming exposure to the full gaze of the house, lay prone, beside the empty barrow, the carpenter, the innocent invoker of the storm he had been unable to allay or direct—not at all hurt, but exceedingly frightened and bewildered. After this unlucky experiment, the manager abandoned his wheelbarrow and cannon balls, and reverted to more received methods of producing stage storms.

AN UNHAPPY DUCHESS.

Cecily of York, Mother of two Kings—Wars of the Roses.

'Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.' It lay uneasily in Shakespeare's time, and before his time, it history tells the truth; probably it lies uneasily even now. But it wasn't only the actual head which wore a crown that was uneasy in time past; the head which came too near to wearing a crown had its own sorrows. The Wars of the Roses wiped out most of the nobility of England, though the plain people suffered little; and many well-born mothers mourned husbands and sons slain in the wars. But few, if any of them, had such a succession of sorrows as one who might have seemed born only to enjoy the days of her life—Cecily, wife of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and leader of the White Rose.

Cecily Nevil was granddaughter of 'Old John of Gaunt,' time-honored Lancaster, and so great-grand daughter of King Edward III.; her father was Ralph Nevil, Earl of Westmorland, her mother Joan Beaufort, the Duke of Lancaster's daughter. Cecily Nevil married Richard Plantagenet when she was about twenty years old, in 1440; and they had four sons and two daughters, Edward, Edmund, George, Richard, Anne, and Margaret. For fifteen years no especial sorrows reached her; her sons were strong, her husband was the principal subject in the kingdom.

But in 1455 the Wars of the Roses began with the bloody battle at St. Alban's on May 23, and the Earl of Stafford, the nephew of Duchess Cecily was killed there. At Northampton, on July 10, 1460, her brother-in-law, Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, was killed; and the terrible fight at Wakefield on Dec. 30, 1460, robbed her at once of two nephews, a brother, a son, and a husband. In the battle fell Sir Thomas Nevil and Sir Edmund Bouchier, nephews, and her husband, Richard. Immediately after the battle her brother Ralph, Earl of Salisbury, was executed, and her son Edmund, Earl of Rutland, only 12 years old, was murdered by John Lord Clifford, in cold blood, in revenge for the death of his father in battle.

When sorrows came to Duchess Cecily, they did not come alone. Another nephew, Sir John Nevil, fell at Towton, March 29,

1461. Then came a breathing spell; but in 1469 Sir Henry Nevil was executed, and a Barnet, April 14, 1471, fell still other nephews—John Nevil, Marquis of Montague, and Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick, famous as the 'King Maker.' On May 4, 1471 the battle of Tewkesbury was fought and immediately afterward Edward, Prince of Wales, who, though a Lancastrian, had married the duchess's niece, the King Maker's daughter Anne was murdered by her sons, the Duke of Clarence and Gloucester. They kept the killing in the family, but it was killing just the same.

Two years later, so that the Duchess should not get unaccustomed to grief, her son-in-law, Thomas Holland, Duke of Exeter, who had had to beg his bread in exile, was found dead on the seashore at Dover, and in 1478 her son, the Duke of Clarence was drowned in a butt of Malmsey, his wife Cecily having been poisoned previously; her son-in-law, Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, had been killed in 1477. Then there was a little respite for the poor Duchess. In 1483 died her son, Edward IV. only 41 years old, the first one of her descendants to die a natural death since 1455—twenty eight years. In the same year her two grandsons, Edward V. and Richard, Duke of York, were murdered by their uncle and her son, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who became King as Richard III. and in his turn was killed at Bosworth Field on Aug. 22, 1485, when only 35 years old. Her son-in-law Sir Thomas St. Leger, was executed in 1483, and a grandnephew, a second Henry-Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, was executed in 1487.

Except for a few small deaths, such as two husbands of a niece, Catherine Nevil, and a grandson, John, Earl of Lincoln, the Duchess lost no more relatives, and died peacefully in 1495. All but the Prince of Wales, of three four, died by violence. Of her children, Margaret, Duchess of Burgundy, was the only one who survived her. During the forty years 1455-95, she had seen twenty-five of her relatives die by violence and three by disease.

But she herself did not rest even after death. When Henry VIII. destroyed the monasteries, the Collegiate church of Eborac was raised to the ground, and the bodies of Richard Plantagenet and Cecily Nevil, Duke and Duchess of York, were exposed to view in their graves. They lay so for several years, until Elizabeth, their great great grandmother, Queen of England in her own right, caused them to be reinterred, with the solemnities befitting the funeral of two such distinguished persons.

So Cecily Nevil, mother of two Kings and grandmother of one King, having died, at last found rest.—N. Y. Sun.

"FELL DEAD."

What More Every-day Heading do you Read in this Paper than that?—They are Legion.

Don't dally with heart disorders. There is but one cure. 'I had been for a number of years sorely afflicted with heart disease. At times my life was despaired of. Doctors had prescribed, and I had taken every known heart remedy made, I had supposed, and did not get any benefit. I read of the wonderful cures wrought by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. I procured a bottle, and in less time almost than it takes to tell it, the distress was relieved. I followed the directions closely and today I am a well woman again, and I shall do all in my power to make known to every one suffering as I did the wonderful cure it worked for me. Mrs. Wm. Burton, Dartmouth, Ont.

Had Expired.

The latest device of a Paris paper for attracting readers, is the engagement of two eminent physicians, to attend, gratuitously, upon its yearly subscribers.

Recently, the manager of the paper gave notice to one of the physicians 'not to prescribe for X any more; his subscription has expired.'

The doctor replied: 'So has X'—Golden Days.

BORN.

Halifax, April 29, to the wife of Wm. King, a son. Salmon River, Apr. 19 James P. Balcom, a son. Truro, Apr. 23, to the wife of David McNutt, a son. Chamcook, Apr. 23, to the wife of John Craig, a son. Middleton, Apr. 24, to the wife of Frank Palmer, a son.

Halifax, Apr. 23, to the wife of William King, a son.

Amherst, April 25, to the wife of Alfred Tardar, a son.

Yarmouth, Apr. 16, to the wife of Clarence Pether, a son.

Yarmouth, Apr. 23, to the wife of J. A. Davis, a daughter.

Maccan, April 23, to the wife of James Downey, a daughter.

Pictou, Apr. 25, to the wife of J. P. D. Reid, a daughter.

Truro, Apr. 19, to the wife of J. T. Hallisey, a daughter.

Truro, Apr. 18, to the wife of David Youlds, a daughter.

Wolfville, Apr. 27, to the wife of Frank A. Dixon, a daughter.

Tanket, Apr. 23, to the wife of A. W. Currie, a daughter.

Kentville, Apr. 23, to the wife of James H. Yould, a daughter.

Roxbury, Apr. 26, to the wife of Adelbert Miller, a daughter.

Moncton, Apr. 25, to the wife of William Crozman, a son.

Lower Granville, Apr. 19, to the wife of William A. Ellis, a son.

Halifax, Apr. 27, to the wife of Colonel Brownell Granger, a son.

Gagetown, Apr. 17, to the wife of Rev. Neil McLaughlin, a son.

Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Apr. 19, to the wife of J. E. Jeffrey, a daughter.

East Mountain, N. S. Apr. 23, to the wife of G. S. Archibald, a son.

Upper Stewiacke, Apr. 11, to the wife of C. E. Graham, a daughter.

Bridgetown, Apr. 19, to the wife of George A. Clark, a daughter.

Louisburg, C. B. Apr. 17, to the wife of Rev. R. M. Brown, a daughter.

Amherst Head, April 20, to the wife of James Brooks, a daughter.

MARRIED.

Tiverton, N. S., April 18, Hiram Outhouse to Ethel Outhouse.

Lower Stewiacke, by Rev. L. R. Smith John Routledge to Alice Hall.

Bear River, April 27, by Rev. J. Craig William Taylor to Bessie Miner.

Chipman, April 21, by Rev. D. McD. Clark George Smith to Lillie Downing.

Wallace, April 15, by Rev. A. B. McLeod, George Uighart to Julia McLean.

Yarmouth, April 24, by Rev. E. E. England Joel Madden to Maggie Adams.

Tiverton, N. S., April 14, by Rev. J. W. Bolton John Clifford to Elsie Small.

Halifax, April 28, by Rev. Geo. E. Ross, Blanchard Breton to Ellen P. Fleming.

Plymouth April 22, by Rev. A. W. Currie, Irad C. Moses to Mabel L. Johnston.

Halifax, April 29, by Rev. John McMillan, James N. Thomas to Hattie E. Hall.

Halifax, April 29, by Rev. Allen Simpson Wilson Lively to Margaret Thompson.

Lunenburg, April 15, by Rev. George Haslam, Chas. H. Smith to Evangeline Burns.

North Sydney, April 19, by Rev. Wm. Grant, Alon. McDonald to Bessie McIntyre.

Quebec, April 17, by Rev. Dean Norman, Arthur M. Crofton to Gwendoline Forrest.

North Kingston, April 20, by Rev. J. S. Coffin, Albert L. Robinson to Eunice M. Tupper.

Rockland, N. B., April 23, by Rev. H. D. Worden, Frederick Nevins, to Agnes Dickson.

Cambridge, Mass., April 14, by Rev. R. A. Carder, Pearl L. Carder to Frances M. Desjard.

Clarence, April 27, by Rev. F. M. Young Everett W. Sprout to Mabel A. Sprout all of N. B.

Indianston, April 21, by Rev. T. G. Johnstone, Thomas J. Jandine to Gertrude Davidson.

Dorchester, Mass., April 14, by Rev. A. E. McLeish, John A. Mackay to Annie Ferguson.

Clarence, N. S., April 27, by Rev. F. M. Young, William M. Sprout to Mrs. Emma Sprout all of N. B.

DIED.

Halifax, Apr. 25, George Rent, 52.

Wolfville, April 23, Amos Black, 96.

St. John, May 2, Joseph Frizzle, 90.

St. John, Apr. 29, Charles Clerke, 82.

Windsor Apr. 15, Thomas Redden, 70.

DeBert, April 4, William McCully, 69.

Woodstock, Apr. 21, Fred Carlton, 52.

Beaver River, April 27, Charles Piper.

Baddeck, Apr. 18, Daniel McLean, 36.

Gays River, April 23, William Cook, 81.

Westfield, May 1, Edward Stevenson, 71.

Sable River, April 17, Howard Craig, 40.

Bear River, April 23, Archibald Swift, 32.

Hampton, May 1, Guitford Flemming, 62.

North Sydney, Apr. 28, John B. Moore 73.

Corwallis, Apr. 21, Mrs. Robie Morine, 75.

St. John, April 24, Charles G. Turnbull, 70.

Lynn Mass, April 20, Mrs. Maria Wade, 64.

Salmon River, April 25, Henry Boniface, 88.

Black Point, April 19, Alexander Shaud, 87.

Rockville, April 29, Capt. George Porter, 55.

Golden Grove, May 2, William L. Forter, 70.

Paradise, April 10, Mrs. W. B. Bradshaw, 43.

Cape Sable Island, April 16, John Stewart, 73.

New Glasgow, April 24, Sarah H. Bentley, 69.

Laurencetown, Apr. 23, Rev. T. H. Murray, 59.

Pleasant Lake, April 17, Robert Bullerwell, 88.

Berwick, April 20, Fred, son of Mrs. Taylor, 19.

Halifax, April 23, Mary wife of Henry Fader, 42.

West River, Pictou, Apr. 3, Robert McBeath, 63.

Jacksonville, C. B., April 28, John B. Moore, 75.

St. Peters, C. B., Apr. 26, Lauchlin Morrison, 44.

London, Eng., Apr. 25, Henry H. Bell of Halifax.

Trenton Pictou Co., April 14, Eben C. Laurin, 27.

St. John, Apr. 29, Sarah, wife of Wm. McIntyre, 75.

St. John, May 2, Mary wife of J. F. McDonald, 83.

Hillgrove N. S., April 23, Mrs. H. Tupper Warul, 32.

Truro, April 21, Maggie, wife of John J. Leonard, 54.

DeBert, April 17, Abbie widow of Elisha Stevens, 74.

Lime Rock Pictou Co., April 14, Margaret McDonald, 85.

West Bay, C. B., Apr. 16, Edgar L. Leonard, 3 months.

Halifax, April 24, John child of John Panch, 3 months.

Port George, April 22, Susan, wife of John Bartlett, 77.

McIntyre, Apr. 17, Susan A., wife of Hugh Kerr, 72.

Pictou, April 21, Mary E., wife of Thomas McCarrville, 40.

Charlottesville C. I., April 20, Herbert, son of James Allen, 23.

Windsor, April 22, Martha H., widow of William Cady, 74.

Windsor, April 23, Mary E., widow of Joseph Smith, 83.

Port George, April 19, Phoebe, wife of William Hayes, 74.

Pictou, April 15, Elizabeth H. McCullough (Is) Merriman.

Stirling, Richmond Co. N. S., April 21, John McDonald, 69.

Mariner Harbor, P. E. I., Apr. 16, Rev. J. G. Cameron 52.

Mt. Unisacke, April 24, Martha widow of Thomas Harding, 91.

St. John, Apr. 29, Willie H. child of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Gibbon.

North Sydney, Apr. 19, Laura, daughter of James R. Moore, 18.

Munquash, Apr. 30, Sarah E., eldest daughter of J. H. Adderson.

Gardiner Me. April 20, Colin McLeod of Colchester N. S. 39.

Waterville, April 22, Ella, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Nicolais, 19.

Abercrombie Pictou Co., April 13, Annie C., wife of Donald Fraser.

Dalhousie Pictou Co., April 9, Emma E., daughter of Isaac Lewis, 4.

Gabarus Cape, C. B., April 18, Emma wife of Samuel Sherwood.

St. John, May 1, Capt. David Churchill, formerly of Yarmouth, N. S. 74.

Upper Pictou, April 21, George H. son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Deal, 24.

Brownville, Me., Apr. 20, Edward J. Farren of Machamville, N. B. 27.

South Berwick, April 14, Lydia F., child of Mr. and Mrs. John Coulter, 5.

South Boston, Apr. 23, Bessie, daughter of James B. and Emily Hutchinson.

Westworth, Apr. 15, Halibouton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sweet, 24.

Port La Tour, Apr. 23, Ivan Burnett, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Burnett, 6 weeks.

Villedale, April 22, Stephen, A., son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Nickerson, 14 months.

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