

BICKEL
NOTEBOOK
COLLECTION

CIRCUS

KEOKUK.

MONDAY, JUNE 4.

P. T. BARNUM'S
GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH.

FOREVER UNITED TO THE

Great London 3-Ring Circus

PARIS OLYMPIA HIPPODROME,

WILD & WOOLISH CARAVAN, HORSE FAIR AND
GRAND MONSTER WORLD'S EXPOSITION.

15. COMPLETE ENORMOUS COMBINED EXPOSITIONS.
Capital \$3,000,000. Daily Expenses, \$6,800. 15



P. T. BARNUM and J. A. BAILEY, Equal Owners.

"A Truly Mighty and Magnificent Exhibition of Wonderful Performances, Marvelous Wonders, Costly Features and Amazing Sights."

Everything, Entirely New, Rich, Original and Bewildering.

Circus, Museum, Hippodrome, Menageries, Aquarium, Horse Fair, Aviary, Artificial Lake.

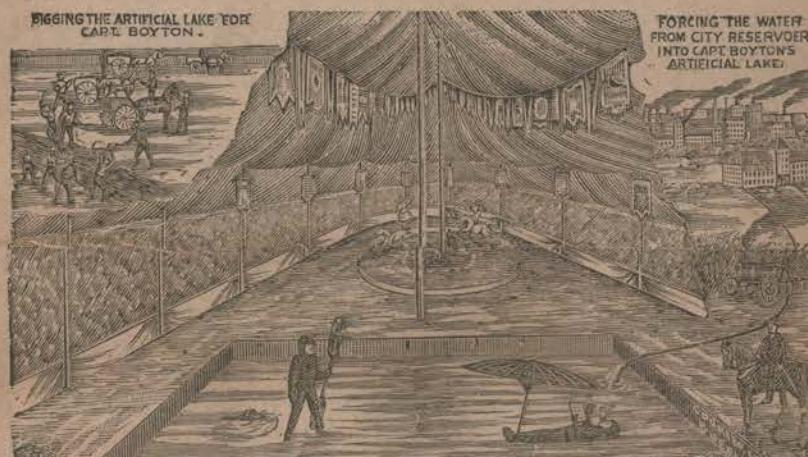
3 Circus in 3 Rings. 2 Menageries in 2 Tents. Horse Fair in Special Tent. Huge Elevated Stage for Special Acts. Elephant Pavilion. Mammoth Museum of Living Curiosities. Paris Olympia Hippodrome with Novel Races and Contests. Magnificent Eastern Entertainment.

MOORS,
CHARMING DANCING GIRLS, HIGH PRIESTS, SLAVES &c.,
WITH WEAPONS, HORSES, ACCOUTREMENTS, TENTS, &c. &c.

FANTASIA,
DEPICTING REAL SCENES OF DOMESTIC LIFE.
DESERT WANDERINGS AND PITCHED BATTLES.

CAPTAIN PAUL BOYNTON,

DIGGING THE ARTIFICIAL LAKE EDGE
CAPT. BOYNTON.



BEDOUINS,
CARAVANS,

FORCING THE WATER FROM CITY RESERVOIR INTO CAPT. BOYNTON'S ARTIFICIAL LAKE.

THE GATE CITY.

HOWELL & DELAPLAIN,
JUNE 13, 1866.

Still They Come!

LAST, BUT NOT LEAST!

Geo. W. De Haven & Co's

IMPERIAL

C I R C U S !

THE LARGEST EQUESTRIAN COMPANY

IN THE WORLD.

The only Company in the West
That Publish the
Names of Their Performers

The Amphitheatres of both hemispheres have been
called to obtain the brightest galaxy of Stars
ever presented to an American public.

At Keokuk,

THURSDAY, JUNE 14.

Doors open at 1 and 7 o'clock p. m. Performances
to commence at 1½ and 7½ o'clock p. m.

ADMISSION.....50 cents.
Children under 10 years of age.....25 cents.

GEO. W. DE. HAVEN.....Manager.
FRED. OLIVER.....Treasurer.
BURNELL BUNNELL.....Equestrian Director.
FRANK JOHNSON.....Master of Circle.
MONS. FRAKE.....Master of Horse.
B. N. HAZEN.....Director of Orchestra.

Pre-eminent among this unrivaled Troupe stands the
beautiful and graceful French lady,

Madame Louise Tournair,

whose daring feats upon her bareback steed have
justly given her the title of the

Performing a series of Wonderful Feats in a Lake of Real Water.

JUMBO.—As Large as Life, and quite as natural, and his big Ivory Boned Articulated SKELETON JAPANESE troupe of phenomenal experts.

A SCHOOL OF TALKING AND ACTING SEALS.

Trained ZEBRAS, OSTRICHES, GIRAFFES, HIPPOPOTAMUS, DONKEYS, PONIES, IMPORTED STALLIONS, PIGS, GOATS, BEARS, and Seven Open Dens of performing Wild Beasts.

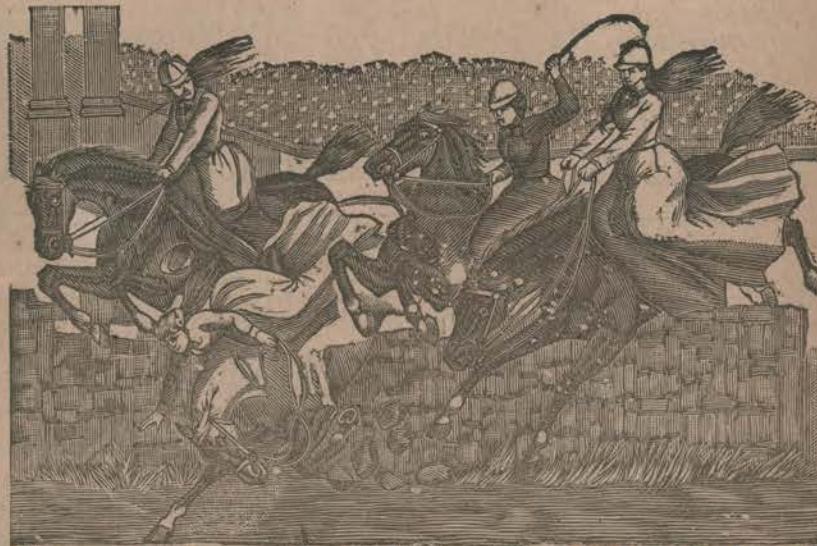
"Another such Grand and Magnificent Show impossible of organization."

Myriads of deeply interesting and phenomenal features, all new and collected at fabulous expense.

HORSE FAIR. Actually 380 Horses on exhibition. 100 Intensely Startling Acts, and breath-taking feats. 300 Phenomenal and Fearless Performers. 100 Foreign Specialists, and Daring Artists.

1,000 New Features and Wonderful Attractions. Positively a dozen acts going on at once.

Tremendous New and Novel Free Street Parade.



THE DAILY GATE CITY.

MAY 20. 1888

Containing "Little Red Riding Hood," "Sisibad, the Sailor," "Sleeping Beauty," "Cinderella," Mother Goose," "Santa Claus," "Old Woman in Shoe," and a mile of rich and rare features never seen before. Will leave the grounds at 9 o'clock a.m.

TWO EXHIBITIONS DAILY, at 2 and 8 p.m. Doors open at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m.
All tents positively remain up till 9 at night.

Admission to the entire 15 Shows, 50 cts. Children under 9 years, 25 cts.

To Accommodate those wishing to avoid the crowds at the wagon, an office has been established at T. R. J. AYRES & SONS' MUSIC STORE, 509 Main Street, where reserved numbered tickets can be bought at the regular price, and admission tickets at the usual slight advance, on the morning of the Show.

CHEAP EXCURSION RATES ON ALL RAILROADS.

Will exhibit in Galesburg June 5.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 5. 1888

SHOW DAY.

Barnum & Bailey's Circus in the City Yesterday—A Splendid Parade and Excellent Ring Exhibitions—Thousands of Strangers in the City.

To the great American public the circus is peculiarly fascinating. The name of Pheneas T. Barnum exercises a magical influence. Combine the two and the attractive power becomes almost irresistible. If base ball is the national game the circus is the national

amusement. As respects the enthusiasm excited and the spontaneous outpourings of the people they are correlative. To the impressionable mind of youth the big white tents and the glittering magnificence of street pageant and ring performance are a source of ecstatic delight, while the adults though they may share a lesser degree of susceptibility are nevertheless captivated. Barnum & Bailey's aggregated shows gave two exhibitions in Keokuk yesterday to audiences of mammoth proportions, it being estimated there were ten thousand people present in the afternoon and between seven and eight

WORLD'S ONLY BARE-BACK RIDER.

In her superb "Manage" she has no rival. To use the language of the celebrated Clown, Wallett: "She is the only living lady that can do it, either in Europe or America. All others are but feeble imitators."

Master Willie Dutton

The young, graceful and dashing Equestrian, whose performances during the last winter in New York city and the West Indies, won for him the reputation of the most accomplished Somersault Rider of the age.

MONS. BURNELL.

(From *la Cirque Napoleone, Paris*.)

The greatest Two, Three and Four-Horse Rider of the age. On the 14th of June, 1858, Monsieur Burnell and his two sons appeared at the Alhambra Palace, London, before their Majesties Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and the Royal Court, where they received various marks of Royal Favor. On the 10th of May, 1859, he also appeared by special invitation, at the city of Stockholm, before King Charles XV, King of Sweden, and the Royal Household. On the 16th day of December, 1860, Mons. Burnell also had the honor of appearing before King Pedro V, at Lisbon, in Portugal. At Paris, during his long engagement at the "Cirque Napoleon," he likewise appeared before the Emperor and Empress, the Prince Eugene and the Royal Court, and received the highest and most substantial rewards from their hands.

Theodore Tournair.

The unrivaled Hurdle Rider, will appear at every performance upon his Wild Prairie steed.

A VISIT TO THE CLOUDS.

At one o'clock p.m.,

Miss Kate Bailey,

The daring Aerial Ascensionist, will perform the thrilling and fearful feat of ascending a slant wire to the frightful distance of two hundred feet—ascending on the outside of the pavilion to the top of the Centre Pole—this astonishing performance being visible to all without charge.

Mr. William Worrell,

The unrivaled and accomplished Clown, after an absence of eight years in Australia and California, where he won for himself the proud title of "Emperor of Jesters," has been engaged at an enormous salary, and will enliven the entertainment with his sallies of wit and sarcasm.

P. H. Seaman.

The old favorite and genial Clown, will also be on hand with his Budget of Fun.

MISS IDA MAY.

The accomplished and talented Danseuse and Vocalist, has also been engaged, and will contribute her part to entertain the public with choice and rare performances.

Messrs. Binehart, Carr, Berdue, Henry North,

Together with the immortal

Bachelor,

Making a Quintetts of the most Accomplished Acrobats of this or any other country, have been engaged at a tremendous expense, and will appear at every performance.

No other company can present such a galaxy of remarkable Acrobats, and a challenge of one thousand dollars awaits the production of their equals.

James De Mott,

The far-famed Equestrian and Gymnast, has also been engaged, and will contribute his share toward the general entertainment.

It did not thousand last evening. The unusual stir and activity manifested on the streets during the early hours of the morning was indicative of the occurrence of no ordinary event. The number of strangers that were in the city was fully seven thousand. They came from every direction and by every conceivable manner of transportation. Northern Missouri was more largely represented than any other section of contiguous territory, the Keokuk and Western railway bringing several thousand visitors from vari-

this respect. Thousands of strangers are in the city. Every train that arrived during the day was crowded, and several of the railroads ran specials upon which large crowds of people were brought to the city. The parade was one of the finest ever seen here. It consisted of about thirty-five chariots and cages of animals, representations of fairy tales, four bands, a herd of elephants, numerous horsemen in armor and in hunting costumes, parties of Japanese and Chinese, clowns, Elolian organ, and last, but not least, the ever-present calliope.

This afternoon the great tents were completely filled and all present united in pronouncing the performance the best ever given by a circus organization in this city. The museum, menagerie and aviary departments are complete and interesting. In the main tent performances are given in two rings and on an elevated stage. Among the many novel and unique features of the performance may be mentioned the trained sea-lions, who talk and act and do musical specialties in an astonishingly intelligent manner. Mlle. Adrienne Ancon does the cleverest and most skilful balance act ever seen in this country, among her other hair-feats being that of standing

a globe about twelve inches in

meter, which rests upon her trapeze bar while the "trap" is swinging. Miss Jennie O'Brien, the champion equestrienne of the world, does an extremely difficult and pretty bareback act that is absolutely new. This is her first season in this country, where she will undoubtedly become as famous as she is in France. Paul Boyton's aquatic exhibition is a novelty in tent performances that is decidedly appreciable. Mlle. Zazel, the celebrated European high-wire performer, frightens the ladies into ecstatic little shrieks by her special mid-air acts and dives; and the three Lawrence sisters, the "winged Mercurys of the high double trapeze" are unequalled in their specialties. The acrobatic acts, trained animals, etc., are fully on a par with the high character of the other acts. The band of Arabs, forty in number, give an interesting exhibition, including dances by the girls, tumbling, horse back riding, etc. These people were an object of great curiosity to the people of this city yesterday and to-day as they walked about in their odd costumes, very picturesque and interesting affairs in which the brightest colors are arranged in the most striking contrasts. The distinguishing feature of this costume consists of the baggy trousers, so generally worn by all the Eastern natives, the "burnouse," or cloak, which is peculiarly an Arab institution, and the turban. The burnouse is woven of

camels' hair, and is a long, heavy, voluminous garment, in brown, purple, red or green, according to the taste of the wearer, and is worn gracefully draped about the figure. The Arab turban is a very unique affair. It is composed of white linen, bound about with various colored camel's hair ropes, and the crown is stuffed with hemp, wool or fiber until it is almost as hard as a block of wood, and weighs from six to ten pounds. This cumbersome head-dress is worn constantly from boyhood, under the burning sun of the desert, and yet the Arab suffers no inconvenience from it. It is worn as a protection against sabre cuts, and will defy the edge of the sharpest sabre or the strongest arm, and, it is said, will even turn a bullet. The Arab is exceedingly vain of his personal appearance, and bestows the greatest care upon his personal adornments, and the accession of a new trinket or peculiarly handsome jacket by one of their number is the cause of the most desperate fights.

But you can't be told of all that is to be seen in the Barnum-Bailey fifteen combined shows in a newspaper notice. A performance will be given to-night for which the doors will be opened at 7 o'clock. If you fail to attend you will surely miss "the greatest show on earth."

attends is sure of receiving courteous treatment. The management permit no short change workers to travel with them, while all kinds of fakirs are barred from the grounds.

The trained horses are pronounced the cleverest ever brought to Keokuk, while the four clowns are acknowledged to be the best in the profession. Several of the clever specialty artists, bareback riders, trapeze performers, acrobats, etc., were with the world renowned Ringlings when they were here.

The entire performance is high class and devoid of all objectionable features. There should be a large attendance tonight and tomorrow, afternoon and evening.

THE EVENING PRESS.

515 MAIN STREET.

THE EVENING PRESS COMPANY.

JUNE 28, 1898.

AN OLD TIME CIRCUS.

Cooper & Co Give an Excellent Show.
Which is Well Attended.

It was a regular old time show, such as our fathers and mothers saw when they were children. None of the features were missing, and several new ones were added. Cooper & Co.'s circus is an excellent one, and well worth many times the price of admission asked. It is a relief to attend one of these old style circuses when only one event is going on at a time. Three ringed shows are all very grand, but the attendant is liable to have a sprained neck for some time to come. But as it was last night, everything is plainly discernible and the spectators enjoy every act, without doing an acrobatic turn themselves to witness the show.

The educated horses are wonderful in their intelligence. They are trained almost to perfection and are beautiful equine specimens. The work of Neola, the juggler, is especially commendable, while equestrian, trapeze and acrobatic feats are as good as any circus on the road provides for its patrons. The acrobat and Chinaman turn on the rotary ladder is one of the funniest things ever seen, and no one can afford to miss it.

A pleasing concert concludes the program. Large audiences assembled in the tent at both performances yesterday and at the matinee today. The tent should be packed this evening.

THE EVENING PRESS.

JUNE 27, 1898.

THE EVENING PRESS COMPANY.

COOPER & CO.'S SHOWS

KEOKUK, TWO DAYS ONLY,

Monday and June 27-28.
Tuesday,

The Largest and Best Popular Priced Show in America.

A HIGH CLASS ONE RING SHOW

The Ladies and Childrens Favorite Everywhere.

Admission Only 10 and 20 Cents.

WATCH FOR STREET PARADE.
Tents located Cor. Fifth and Blondeau Streets.

TWO COMPLETE PERFORMANCES DAILY.

COOPER & CO.'S SHOW.

A First Class Performance Given at Popular Prices.

Cooper & Co.'s show arrived this morning at 9:30 from Macon, Mo., and are giving a first-class performance this afternoon, at Fifth and Blondeau streets. There was an annoying delay in their arrival, because of the pulling out of a draw head on a flat car, necessitating a return to Macon to pick up the other section of the train. Cooper & Co. have a nice, clean show, at popular prices and every one who

DAILY GATE CITY.

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 16, 1873.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.

—Barnum has several sick bears and toothless lions trained to escape from their keepers and roam at large, for advertising purposes. The wild beasts return to the menagerie fold in season for dinner daily.

THE GREAT DUST HEP CALLED HISTORY
R. E. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

ous points along that line. All other cities within a radius of forty miles contributed large delegations that swelled the aggregate. When the hour for the procession arrived the streets were packed with people. It was one of the most attractive circus parades that has ever been witnessed in Keokuk. There were thirty-five cages and glittering chariots in line, among the latter being a golden chariot of Cinderella, Blue Beard, Mother Goose, the marine chariot of Sinbad the Sailor and various allegorical representations. The ring performers and members of the several bands were attired in costly uniforms. Many of the animals were exhibited to public view in their cages, while others were in leash; the Arabian and English thoroughbred horses in line, the Moors and Algerians in their native costumes, the lady jockeys and other features of the parade combined to form a scene of much splendor. The procession was about ten blocks in length and as far as this public feature is concerned it more than surpassed anticipation.

The mammoth tent was crowded at the afternoon exhibition, the program for which was inaugurated with what is termed a "magnificent oriental entree," the pageant moving around the ellipse and presenting the animals and performers that are subsequently introduced in various acts of the show. With such a multiplicity of ring acts occurring simultaneously human vision is incapable of observing all in their entirety, though this can hardly be entered as an objection or criticism. Paul Boynton's aquatic exhibition, including features performed in and on the surface of the water, representing the various methods of utilizing a life-saving rubber suit, was full of interest. He performed a number of tricks, such as firing a gun on the water, lighting a fire, catching a fish and preparing to fry it. The acrobatic feats were quite excellent, especially those by the Schrodes, as were the triple horizontal bar specialties by the Rice Bros. Zazel, an European high wire performer, gave a startling exhibition of her undoubted skill, concluding with a leap through the air from the apex of the tent. The three Lawrence sisters, who are styled the winged Mercurys of the high double trapeze, and the marvelous balancing on the flying trapeze of Adrienne Anceon, were wonderful. One of the most graceful exhibitions of equestrianism ever witnessed under a canvas here was that of Miss Jennie O'Brien, an English equestrienne who recently arrived in America from Europe. The equestrian acts generally were of high standard. Something of a novelty was a performance by three musical seals, who moved around on a platform and beat tambourines and picked a guitar. They were trained by a Northman, named H. Cassa, who has spent

the great portion of his life in the polar regions. No less novel was the performance by three acting pigs, an animal that scarcely has any intelligence and is one of the most difficult to train. Among other features were exhibitions of fancy skating and expert juggling by the Stirk family, lofty ladder originalities by the Shrode Bros., tumbling and somersaulting, military evolutions by a herd of elephants and an exhibition of scientific boxing by the Davenport Bros. There was one innovation observed. Though there were a dozen or more clowns none of them were permitted to regale the audience with specimens of their vocalism nor were exhibitions of original or stolen wit tolerated. Mr. Barnum grows wiser as he grows older. The wild Moorish caravan and oriental entertainment by Moors, Algerians and Bedouins was introduced as a circus sensation. While the exhibition could hardly be accepted as a correct representation of the life of the Moors from the cradle to the grave, or a faithful picture of oriental scenes it was nevertheless quite picturesque and realistic in some respects. The performance was concluded with a number of hippodrome races, the more notable of which were the four horse chariot and double team Roman standing race of ancient days. The race between four full-blooded English Whippets was exciting.

The double-menagerie contained many rare and fine specimens of the animal creation, from the ponderous elephant down to the grimacing monkey.

Barnum & Bailey's daily expense is between \$5,000 and \$6,000. They have 800 people on their pay-roll, carry 500 horses, 120 ponies, their tents cover ten acres of ground and two of them are 300 feet in length.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 3, 1888

Entered at Keokuk post office as second class matter.

Barnum's Circus To-morrow.

The biggest shows which a few years ago used to travel, and of which it is sometimes said they were great affairs, could be placed in the dressing room of the present Barnum-Bailey United Shows, and then there be plenty of room left. The same proportionate difference is to be found in the performances and in the number of features and attractions, in fact in everything; for whereas but a dozen acts were given with these former shows, there are now fully 125 startling displays in the fifteen exhibitions of these enormous shows, requiring three rings, a circular elevated stage, an artificial lake of real water, and hippodrome racing track to present them all, and in addition a network of trapeze and other mid-air apparatus for the aerialists. This is all

exclusive of the grand Wild Moorish Caravan, with its great number of exceedingly interesting features illustrative of oriental life and desert wanderings. Barnum's immense show will spread its tents in Keokuk to-morrow. It is expected there will be eight or ten thousand strangers in the city.

In the Role of Press Agent.

Mr. Warner, Barnum & Bailey's press agent, is sick at St. Louis. In his absence Mr. Paul Boynton, the famous swimmer and "aquatic man," did the honors and extended the usual courtesies. Mr. Boynton well remembered attempting to land at Keokuk seven years ago on his trip down the Mississippi from St. Paul to Cairo. There was such a crowd on the levee that he was unable to make any progress through it. So he jumped in the water and paddled down stream to Warsaw, where he remained during the night. Boynton as a traveller and professional swimmer has had thrilling experiences such as come to few men.

—The St. Louis, Keokuk & North Western railway made a good record on last Sunday in carrying Barnum's circuit outfit from St. Louis to Keokuk, without accident or delay. The total number of cars in the train was fifty-four and was brought up with four engines. The train left St. Louis at 4 a.m. and arrived in Keokuk at 1 p.m.

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.

JUNE 5, 1888

TOOK IN THE CIRCUS.

Immense Crowds of People Attend the Barnum & Bailey Show.

The Exhibition Bigger and Better Than Ever—Far Ahead of all Previous Efforts

—Many Admirable Features Presented—The Picturesque Arabs.

This is Barnum's day. And as is always the case with the coming of this "King of Showmen" the city is crowded with people who have flocked from town, city and country to enjoy the many good things prepared by the people's popular entertainer. The tents of this great exhibition are spread at the show grounds near the park, and they alone are sufficient to attract a visit from any person in the city. Everything about the vast establishment is conducted in a manner to elicit the admiration of all. Quiet, good order and the most perfect system are characteristic of all the departments and operations of "the greatest show on earth" and after one has looked upon the wonderful exhibition in all its immensity he will readily incline to the opinion that the owners are rightfully entitled to their claim in

THE DAILY CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT
MONDAY EVENING, JULY 31, 1893.
THE ONLY BIG SHOW COMING THIS YEAR.
THE MIGHTY MONARCH of ALL TENTED EXHIBITIONS

Its Record Is Unimpeachable, Imperishable, Unblemished, Above the Reach of Rivalry as the Stars are Above the Earth.

COMING IN ALL ITS ENTIRETY.

SELLS BROTHERS

BIG SHOW OF THE WORLD.

Three-Ring Circus, Royal Hippodrome, Huge Elevated Stages, Five Continent Menagerie, African Aquarium, Australian Aviary, Arabian Caravan, Spectacular Pageants and Trans-Pacific Wild Beast Exhibit, at

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

One Day Only--Two Performances.



THE ONLY WILD MONSTERS IN AMAZING ACTS & FEATS OF STRENGTH

Presenting an Unabridged and Unparalleled Program, Exalted in Aim and Pure in Tone. A Perennial, Popular and Pleasing Confederation.

3 Big Colossal Circuses 3

SEPARATE MAMMOTH RINGS

200 ALL-STAR ARENIC ARTISTS 200

100 Sensational and Startling Acts 100

Real Roman Hippodrome Sport! Thrilling and Spirited Races of Every Age and Nation! Heroes and Heroines of Horsemanship! Speedy Sports of Ancient Kingdoms! Races Which Surprise All Turfites!

50 Golden Cages filled with Rare Wild Beasts, embracing every captive Beast known to exist. Present more rare, exclusive features than all other shows combined. 50

The Leading Amusement Enterprise of America and the World, so acknowledged by Press and the Public, owned and managed for nearly a quarter of a century.

SELLS BROS.----ENORMOUS UNITED SHOWS!----SELLS BROS.

The Illustrious Predecessor of all Amusement Alliances.

\$1,000,000—Actually Invested to Perpetuate Its Grandeur—\$1,000,000

Don't fail to see the Mightiest, Richest, Largest and Most Classic, Picturesque and Novel Street Parade ever seen in any city. Prodigious Profusion of Princeely Paraphernalia Proundly Presented in the grand Procession at Keokuk, 10 o'clock on the morning of August 1.

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

EXCURSION RATES ON ALL LINES OF TRAVEL.

Constitution-Democrat.

AUGUST 1, 1893.

THE CIRCUS.

A Splendid Parade Viewed By Thousands of People.

Sells Bros' day in Keokuk was a big one. The circus arrived early this morning on the Rock Island, but there were already plenty of farmers and people from neighboring towns here, and more kept coming, until before noon there were thousands of strangers in the city. The town people, too, turned out in big numbers, and Main street during the forenoon was uncomfortably crowded. The people lined the walks and vehicles occupied the street until it was impossible for one in a hurry to make any headway.

The head of the parade coming down North Sixth street, made its appearance on Main shortly after 11 o'clock. The route was down Main to Second thence to Johnson, thence to Twelfth, thence to Main and down the latter street to Sixth, out which thoroughfare the return to the grounds was made. The parade was one of the best of the kind ever seen on the streets of Keokuk. Its length was nearly a mile, with the riders, cages, elephants, camels and chariots all close together and not spread apart, as is done with many organizations. The vehicles were bright and new looking, the horses well kept and all the paraphernalia and ornaments bright and attractive, making an ensemble of unusual splendor.

This afternoon large crowds made their way to the circus grounds and indications pointed to a full attendance at the afternoon performance. This evening's performance will commence at 8 o'clock, the doors being open one hour earlier.

The State City.

AUGUST 2, 1893.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class

THE CIRCUS.

Sells Bros' Tented Exhibition Pays Keokuk its Annual Visit.

Sells Bros' circus paid Keokuk its annual visit yesterday and pleased as it always does. The tents were pitched near Rand park and it was 11 o'clock before the parade started. This feature of a show always attracts more attention than any other for it is free and costs nothing but patience and a walk down town to see it. And all who had that patience and made that exertion were fully repaid, for the parade was a really meritorious one.

At 1 o'clock the people began streaming out to the show grounds and by 2 o'clock, the hour of opening the performance, the big tent was well filled. The menagerie came in for its due share of attention from the parents who "had to take the children to see the animals"—and everybody else. There were dozens of cages of wild beasts, but greatest interest was centered in the giant

THE BIG SHOW YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING FOR!

SELLS BROTHERS'

Millionaire Confederation of Stupendous Railroad Shows, will most Positively Exhibit at

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, MAY 10th, 1881.



The PROVED \$2,000,000 FEATURE FAIR of Wonderland

Under One-Half a Million Yards of Canvas,

ALL ABLAZE WITH 7 GREAT ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

It proves that it Alone Exhibits

TWO LIVING HIPPOPOTAMUSES!

A Pair of Full-grown \$57,000 Monster Nile Amphibia that cannot be duplicated.

It proves that It Alone Exhibits

2 LIVING WOOLLY ELEPHANTS

The most Extraordinary Animals on Earth, the counterparts of which cannot be found.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

A \$50,000 OCEANIC AQUARIUM,

Containing More Mammoth Sea-Lions and Amphibious Marvels, than all other shows combined possess.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

Twenty Times the Smallest Living Full-Grown Elephant.

36 Inches High! 42 Inches Long! Weight 347 Pounds!

Actually Exhibited Under a Glass Case, worth Nine Times its Weight in Solid Silver, and that another does not exist.



It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

A Monster Rainbow--Hued MANDRILL,

A Monkey of Human Size, More Formidable than the Fabled Gorilla, and the Oddest-Looking of All Animals.

SIX ACTING COLORADO CATTLE.

Which \$18,000 Wild Herd of Superb Bovines has neither counterpart nor parallel.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

LADIES & GENTLEMEN

3a.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, MAY 9, 1881

IT COMES AT LAST.

The Greatest Compliment to the Greatest Show.

We are not accustomed to look at the editors-in-chief of great newspapers, or upon the grave and weighty political page which they exclusively edit, for amusement criticisms, and certainly the wildest aspirations of the boldest manager never would have betrayed him into seeking for such recognition from such a source in the Louisville Courier-Journal, and, least of all, from the influential pen of its great editor. But when it comes to a really good circus, Mr. Henri Watterson, like the rest of us, is very human, and we like him the better and respect him the more that he is so, and not ashamed to acknowledge it in a hearty and manly way, while, moreover, generous enough to extend the encouragement of his influential personal recognition to genuine merit in the arenas, as elsewhere. He visited Sells Brothers' Millionaire Confederation of Stupendous Railroad Shows at Louisville last fall, when it was not near so grand, novel and elegant as now, and here is, word for word, what he was editorially delighted into saying of it, after his city editor had devoted a column to praising it in another page of the paper:

"The attendance at the two afternoon and two night exhibitions of Sells Brothers' Millionaire Confederation of Stupendous Railroad Shows was so remarkable as to be entitled to a special mention. Not less than from five to eight thousand persons were present at each performance. The perfectness of the arrangements and the admirable order preserved were also quite as remarkable as the attendance. The show is a first-class one, and, although the managers make large promises, they abundantly fulfill them. The entertainments gave thorough satisfaction. The circus starts to-morrow on its tour through Kentucky and Tennessee, and the readers of the Courier-Journal in the places it visits will have an opportunity of seeing the best and most complete show in the world."

The great show so signally honored from so eminently a reliable a source, will exhibit at Keokuk on Tuesday (to-morrow) and add yet other thousands to its eulogists and friends.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, SEPT. 25, 1882

FEARFUL FATALITY.

SELLS BROS' CIRCUS FEARFULLY WORSTED.

Several Cars Jump the Track and Roll Down an Embankment Killing Several Attaches.

LANCASTER, September 25.—About 3:30 a. m as the first of the three special trains conveying Sells Bros., show from Richmond was coming around a curve

JAMES RUBINSON

The One Great and Only Hero Bareback Horseman, and Gold Champion-Belted Emperor of all Equestrians, and that He Receives the Largest Salary of Any Man on Earth.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

A PAIR OF FULL-GROWN POLAR BEARS.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

Baughman & Butler,

The Creedmore Dead-Shot Rifle Champions of the World.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

WILLIS COBB'S FAMOUS MINIATURE CIRCUS.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

KING SARBRO'S ROYAL JAPANESE CIRCUS.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits



A \$22,000 Gigantic Two-Horned White Rhinoceros!

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

SIXTY TONS OF EDUCATED BEASTS.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

THE ONLY COMPLETE \$200,000 HERD OF ELEPHANTS, And More CAMELS Than Many Shows Have Horses.

It Proves that It Alone Exhibits

A COLLISEUM-SURPASSING CIRCUS.

It Proves that It Alone Presents

A \$300,000 FREE STREET PAGEANT THAT NEVER HAD A PARALLEL ON EARTH.

It Proves that It Alone

EXHIBITS EVERYTHING IT ADVERTISES.

It Proves that It Alone

PERMITS NO PEDDLING OR IMPORTUNING OF ANY KIND
under its canvases, and allows nothing sold
under its Circus Tent.



One Ticket Admits to All Advertised Shows. Children Under 9 Years, Half Price.

1,000 Reserved Folding Cushioned Opera Chairs, 25 cents extra.

TWO EXHIBITIONS EACH DAY--Afternoon and Evening.

WILL ALSO EXHIBIT AT:

Quincy, Monday, May 9. Burlington, Wednesday, May 11.

May 4, 1875

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300 yards from Point Lick, the fourth car from the engine from some unknown cause jumped the track and rolled down an embankment followed by the balance of the train in its rear consisting of fifteen cars. The cars were loaded principally with the baggage of the company, tableaux wagons, electric light machine, and a cage containing a tiger. Several attaches of the circus were scattered along on the train and destruction to both and life and property was fearful. Three men were instantly killed, three probably fatally wounded, and seven or eight wounded. Two of the killed were attaches of the circus and the third was a boy from Mount Vernon, Kentucky, who was stealing a ride on the train. The electric light and tableau wagons were completely destroyed. The engine with the three front cars escaped uninjured and were immediately despatched to Lancaster for surgeons and coffins. The exact cause of the accident is unknown, there being several reports about it. An official investigation will be necessary to arrive at the truth.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, JUNE 14. 1875

Forepaugh's Show.

Forepaugh struck dirty weather in Keokuk this morning. It was damp, dismal, wet and dreary, and continued to rain at intervals until nearly noon. Notwithstanding the state of the atmosphere, quite a crowd of people lined the streets when the possession moved, which was about half past 11 o'clock.

The street pageant is all that has been claimed for it, and is imposing and well worth witnessing. The wagons and cages are resplendent with gilt and mirrors, and are adorned with the finest carvings and statues. The workmanship on these vehicles is extremely fine, and an inspection of the different wagons, is in itself an attraction, rivalling those exhibited under the canvas.

It was a bad time for a procession, but the people belonging to the show braved it out and made a most creditable display. The elephants and camels attracted a large share of attention, and compose the finest group of animals of this kind in the country.

The mammoth tents, under which this show exhibits, are pitched on the lots in the rear of the High School, and if the weather was bad they contained a large number of people this afternoon who were delighted with the exhibition.

The museum and menagerie contains many new and costly curiosities, and the collection is the most extensive ever exhibited in Keokuk by any similar exhibition. We have not time to enumerate, but can say, and say it freely, that this exhibition is in every way worthy of patronage.

The ring performances are on a par with the rest of the show, are excellent and deserving of the highest praise. Mr. Forepaugh is entitled to thanks for bringing us such a pleasing exhibition.

pair of hippopotami, the seals and sea lions and the Royal Bengal tigers. Two of the latter are the largest in the country, having been obtained in Australia when the show was there three years ago. One of the monsters is the fellow who ate up his keeper during a parade down in Ohio a few months ago and whose ferocity could only be calmed by plugging him full of bullets. He's all right now but could get a good pension if bullets in his hide count as evidence. Then, the litter of 7-weeks-old lion cubs tickled the little folks. The monkeys, elephants, camels, zebras, ostriches and all that were always surrounded with spectators.

In Danny Ryan Sells Bros. have a clown that is the best since the days when your grandfather was a boy. While the crowd was gathering Danny posed as a camera fiend. Attired in a dress suit and a Cleveland hat he took up his station in front of the reserved seat section. He had a tripod and a wooden bar with a tin pepper box in the end as the lense tube. A couple of country lads would come along and Danny would stop them, pose them as carefully as a photographer would, altering their positions time and again until they appeared to the worst possible advantage, then he would pose by his dummy camera, remove the cap, cast his eye skyward in the most sanctimonious manner imaginable, replace the cap and say as politely as a basket of chips, "That will do, thanks," and allow his victims to move on. While the audience yelled he would seek new victims. And would find them coming right behind the country lads. This time it would be some portly city father with his children, who proudly posed "to have his picture took." The spectators' yell would not have died away before a country boy and his best girl were standing in a killing attitude before the dummy. Danny found hundreds of victims and the spectators nearly had spasms for half an hour. Only now and then did he get the cold shoulder and even then he turned the laugh from himself by pointing his dummy at the retreating figures. Once a quartet of Keokuk young ladies of prominence came along and Danny made repeated attempts to induce them to stand for a picture. But they would have none of it and at last one of them drew herself up with great dignity and quietly said, "Let us pass, sir?" It was the only time Danny looked crestfallen and the audience laughed at him heartily and applauded the girls. The clown appeared in various roles during the performance but in none so successfully as the camera fiend.

It is needless to particularize the acts of the tumblers, acrobats, riders and other athletes. A new feature was Woodward's troupe of performing seals and sea lions. These amphibious animals displayed marvelous intelligence, playing drums, banjos, tambourines and cymbals, firing muskets, twirling canes in

their mouths, etc. One played the role of clown and did it masterfully. The fancy bicycle riding of the Stirk family and the statuary posing of the Gilbert brothers deserve special mention. The numerous feats of horsemanship and athletics, the races and all that were all of a superior character, but individual mention is prohibited by space. The evening performance was also well attended.

Colonel Charles Seeley, press representative did the courteous to the press gang. The colonel himself is a feature of the show and without a peer in his line.

the last pair, contributed a thrilling feature seldom seen.

The familiar and ever popular Stirk family gave their always pleasing, odd, and curious exhibition of trick bicycle and wheel riding. In their grand exhibition of ancient and modern statuary, closing with the picture "Famine," an episode of the Siege of Troy, the posings of the Gilbert Brothers was perfect. Mr. Frank Appel's extraordinary and difficult performances on the tight rope, brought him merited applause.

In the hippodrome racing the most exciting were the gentlemen's jockey race, the Roman standing race and the four-horse Roman chariot race, though all were good.

No circus ever carried a better company of clowns than Sells Bros. do this season. Their comicalities are not the old worn-out, thread-bare ones seen year in and year out, but are bright, fresh and side-splitting. Dan Ryan, with his fake kodak, as the camera fiend, kept the audience highly entertained before the performance began, by working on unsuspecting human nature.

Taken all in all, none but highest words of praise can be said for the entertainment offered by Sells Bros., to the public. It is an entertainment which is sustained by merit of the highest order. The show exhibits in Mount Pleasant to-day.

Constitution-Democrat.

AUGUST 2, 1893.

BENEATH THE BIG TENTS.

Thousands Witness Two Very Fine Performances Given by the Sells Bros.' Shows.

Sells Bros.' great circus has come and gone and no amusement aggregation which ever visited Keokuk has left a better impression. Both performances were given before large audiences, that of the afternoon filling every part of the big tent. And each time, for over two hours, the audience was entertained with a performance of the fullest enjoyment, instruction and amusement.

Entering the "grand pavill-yon," as the side show orators call it, one was in the big menagerie tent, containing as good a zoological display as has ever been seen here. Among the most attractive features of this department of the great enterprise, were the pair of giant hippopotami, the sea-lions and seals, the Royal Bengal tigers, and the queenly lioness with her litter of seven-weeks-old cubs.

In the circus proper, from the time the first notes of the band in the grand entree were heard, until the rumbling sound of the chariot wheels, in the last race on the program, died away, there were presented a series of bewildering and thrilling feats that kept the spectators busy to see them all. In the grand triumphal entree, participated in by the entire company, the processional features of the show were exhibited. The much advertised feature, the only pair of trained hippopotami in the world, were then exhibited. Where all was so good it is difficult to particularize but special mention should be made of the performance of Prof. Woodward's performing sea lions and seals. This feature was in itself worth more than the price of admission. These animals, commonly supposed to be almost without intelligence, sang, played drums, cymbals, tambourines, banjos, fired muskets and played clown in a manner that shows what may be accomplished by human skill, patience and kind words, with even the lowest order of animals.

In the riding department should be mentioned Miss Lee in her five-horse tandem hurdle riding, and Mr. Frank Melville in his graceful and finished jockey act. Mr. William Weitzell, who reined, rode and drove twenty-three horses at once, standing on the backs of

No circus ever carried a better company of clowns than Sells Bros. do this season. Their comicalities are not the old worn-out, thread-bare ones seen year in and year out, but are bright, fresh and side-splitting. Dan Ryan, with his fake kodak, as the camera fiend, kept the audience highly entertained before the performance began, by working on unsuspecting human nature.

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Constitution-Democrat.

JULY 19, 1893.

THE POPULAR ALLIANCE.

Twenty-second Annual Tour of Sells Brothers' Enormous United Shows.

On Tuesday August 1 the famous Sells Brothers will visit Keokuk with their entire colossal unity of circuses, menageries, Moorish caravan and spectacular pilgrimage to Mecca, regal Roman hippodrome, Olympian elevated stages, tropical aquarium, aviary, royal Japanese troupe, and splendid free street parade. Had not Adam Fonepaugh made his final exit from morality's great arena (presumably to manage a "galaxy of stars" elsewhere), he would be forced to concede that Sells Brothers now have essentially "the greatest show on earth," and the only legitimate one of its kind left. A menagerie which includes among many rare wild beasts the only pair of full-grown giant hippopotami, worth \$100,000, is something to boast of. Other notable exclusive features are a most singular hairless horse, a whole flock of stately ostriches, and the tiniest pair of cattle ever known—veritable mites from eldom. The program of hippodrome races and general performances is upon a truly imperial scale, and introduces the greatest drivers, riders and athletes of both sexes, including an astonishing troupe of Barber and Bedouin gymnasts.

The great World's fair guessing match is a grand free feature and will undoubtedly be hotly contested. Ten thousand dollars will be awarded to the three persons making the best guesses of the weight of the pair of hippopotami; five thousand dollars to the person

making the nearest guess; three thousand dollars to the second, and two thousand dollars to the third best guess. This is free, and all visitors to the show will be entitled to register their guesses free.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED JUSTICE.
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA



Ella R Ewing
Height 8 ft 4 in
Weight 350 lbs

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.
OCTOBER 2, 1890.

Entered at Keokuk Post Office as second class matter

—A truly remarkable person was a guest of the Barrett house. It is Miss Ella Ewing, the Scotland county giantess. She is accompanied by her parents and is being exhibited as a freak. A GATE CITY reporter called last evening and had an interview with the lady and her parents. This giantess is seven feet, eight and one-half inches high and weighs 232 pounds. The impression produced by the sight of such a human figure can not be described—it must be experienced to be understood. She was born in Lewis county, Mo., March 9, 1872. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ewing and she is their only child. The father is six feet and one inch in height and the mother is five feet three inches. The relatives of each have not been noted for unusual size. They now reside on a farm near Rainbow, Mo. Ella was an ordinary child up to nine years of age, when she began to grow rapidly and has not yet attained her full growth. For her dresses, twenty yards, double width, of cloth are required, while her mother requires but nine yards. She does not take kindly to being exhibited as a freak and the present exhibition tour is expected to be not very extended. From here the family will go to Peoria and from that city to St. Louis and home, stopping at a few intermediate points.

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.
FEBRUARY 25, 1897.

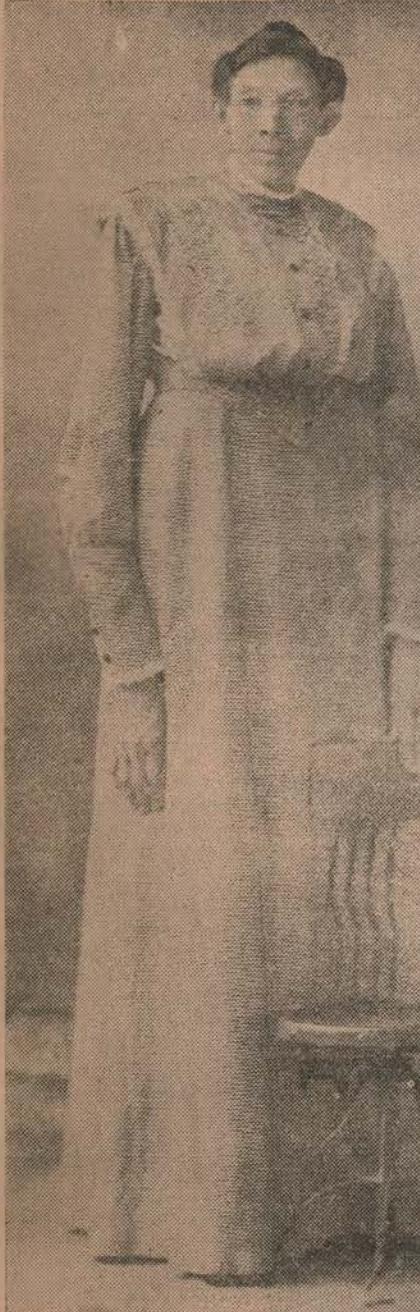
Entered at Keokuk Post Office as second class matter

A Gorin, Mo., correspondent writes as follows of Ella Ewing, who has been exhibited in Keokuk a number of times: "I. V. Streby of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, agent for Barnum & Bailey's show, closed a contract with Miss Ella Ewing, the giantess, whereby she is to exhibit with said show for a term of twenty-six weeks, commencing April 1, at \$125 per week, with her own and her mother's expenses paid, also her father's expenses for six visits to her, at whatever point they may be at the time he may desire to visit her. Miss Ella Ewing is 25 years of age, weighs 260 pounds and stands 8 feet 4½ inches in height. She was born on a farm near Gorin and is never so happy as when at her country home. A modest country girl with a lovely disposition and a good conversationalist. This sum of \$3,250 for six months' work is proof that it pays to be the tallest lady on earth, to which honor Miss Ella is unquestionably entitled. Her many friends here congratulate her on her good fortune in procuring the position. Mr. Streby informs us that Barnum & Bailey's shows will exhibit at Quincy and Keokuk at some time during the summer."

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

GIANT CHECKS UP ON GIANTESS

APRIL 13, 1939



ELLA EWING

GORIN, Mo., Apr. 12—Robert Wadlow, Alton (Ill.) giant, visited Gorin the other day to see W. L. Harker who has in his possession numerous articles which formerly belonged to the late Miss Ella Ewing, Gorin giantess (pictured at left).

Young Wadlow, accompanied by his father, W. D. Wadlow, sought some photographs of Miss Ewing to use in a damage suit against Dr. Charles D. Humbred. The Illinois giant has accused the doctor of including damaging statements against him in an article regarding abnormally tall persons.

Miss Ewing whose specially-built home is near here, died in 1913 at the age of 40 years. She was 8 feet, 4 inches tall, and had appeared with circuses and other shows exhibiting her unusual height as the tallest woman in the world.

Young Wadlow is 8 feet, 8 1/4 inches tall and is said to be still growing.

ly for her height now stands near Gorin, where it draws many travelers on sightseeing trips, as also does the long grave rail at her grave in the Harmony Grove cemetery near here. She passed away 20 years ago.

Funeral services and burial of Mr. Ewing at Harmony Grove, Rev. G. V. Baskett officiating.



Constitution-Democrat.

ELLA EWING HOME.

She Has Returned From Her Trip in the West.

Ella Ewing, the Missouri giantess, who is 8 feet, 4 inches in height, and who weighs nearly 300 pounds, was the center of a curious crowd at the Union depot last night, says Wednesday's Kansas City Times. She was on her way to her home in Gorin, Mo.

With her, in striking contrast, was Commodore Speck, 28 inches tall. They have been traveling with a show company.

Miss Ewing spent last night at the New Albany hotel. She was assigned to room 69, and two beds were prepared for her. One was not enough. J. A. Walsh, the clerk, said that after Miss Ewing went to her room, he ordered Alex Slater, a porter, to take her some ice water. Slater had not seen

the giantess. He took the water and went to room 69. He glanced at the transom and saw a woman's head looking out into the hall. Then the door opened and an arm reached down over the top of it for the water. Slater handed over the pitcher and started for the steps. He hurried. McV. 7-1963

THE GREAT DUSTY LEAF CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BUCKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

DAILY GATE CITY

GIANTESS' FATHER PASSES AWAY AT GORIN, MO.

"Uncle Ben" Ewing Dies at Home of Niece—His Daughter Was 8 Feet, 4 Inches Tall—Special House For Her.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1933

GORIN, Mo., April 14—"Uncle Ben" Ewing, father of the late

Miss Ella Ewing, Missouri giantess, passed away at the home of his niece, Mrs. Albert Dennison, in Gorin. Mr. Ewing was the last of the family to pass away, and had been in poor health for several years, having been blind for about two years. About three weeks ago he suffered a stroke from which he never recovered.

In the year 1871 he was united in marriage to Anna E. Herring and to this union was born one daughter, Ella. His wife preceded him in death 33 years ago.

The daughter, Miss Ella, grew to the height of 8 feet and 4 inches and traveled all over the United States as the Missouri giantess. A special house with doors and windows made especially

NOVEMBER 14, 1900.

ELLA EWING

OF MISSOURI

MADE BY SAW
DATE
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Something About the Earth's Tallest Woman.

Description of a House Built at Gorin, Especially Built to Accommodate Her Highness.

Miss Ella Ewing, the Missouri giantess, who is eight feet four inches high, has at last built a house for herself at Gorin, Missouri. The house has doors ten feet high, ceiling fifteen feet high, with chairs, tables and everything else in proportion. Before this life was a misery to Miss Ewing.

She began growing fast when she was nine years old, and at ten she reached six feet nine inches. She was very unhappy because she had the tastes of a little girl when she was seven feet high. Nothing was large enough for her, and even if things were made especially she rapidly grew out of them. Neither house nor bed nor chair nor clothes would fit her. When she turned eight feet she consented to go away with the circus. She was a home-loving girl, and through all the glamour of circus life she preserved one ideal—to have a house large enough for herself, for she saved up her money and was in time able to realize her ambition fully. She is now happy for the first time in her life because she can go through a doorway without bumping her head, and sit down in an easy chair.

Her experiences with doorways, sleeping cars, carriages and other little things are very novel and entertaining, the point of view of a person four feet above the average height being quite unusual. Miss Ewing tells the story:

"I am the happiest woman on earth. At last I have a home large enough for me to live in. No longer is life an endless torture because I am eight feet four inches high. Now I have doors I can walk through, chairs I can sit down in, windows I can look through.

You have no idea what a terrible thing it is to be a real giantess. One is debarred from all pleasures and amusements of life. You cannot flirt with a young man three feet shorter than yourself. You can't even sit in an ordinary chair, not to speak of occupying a seat at the theater.

I always was a quiet home loving girl. I had no greater ambition than to look after the house and nothing is more hateful to me than to be made a show of. But when I realized what a burden I was to my parents and myself,

SUNDY ACCOUNTS

with my eight feet four inches of length, I knew that the only thing to do was to appear in public. I am very grateful to the good people who have enabled me to become independent, and to save the declining years of my parents from worrying about me.

Before I tell you how I became a giantess and of my many troubles, I will tell you what makes me so happy.

I have just got a little home of my own, with the doorway ten feet high and everything else in proportion. The ceilings are fifteen feet high, so that I can breathe when I move about under them and am not afraid of hitting the chandelier. The tops of the windows are all ten feet high, so that I can look out of them when I am standing. My tables are four and a half feet high, just high enough for me, and not too high for ordinary people who don't mind stretching a little for their food.

I have a bathtub six feet long, which is large enough for me to sit down in.

My favorite bureau is six feet high, with no drawers at the bottom, so that I do not have to stoop down. The closets are as large as ordinary people's bedrooms. My bed is nine feet and a half long. I rest for the first time in my life.

On the piazza I have a hammock fifteen feet long. Not since I was a baby have I been able to get into a hammock. It is delightful.

I have had everything made a little larger than is absolutely necessary, because I am not sure that I have done growing. Some women hate to think they are growing old. What troubles me is the thought that I may still be growing taller.

I was of ordinary size until between nine and ten years of age, when I began to grow at a terrible rate. I kept shooting up until I had outgrown everybody and everything in the most ridiculous manner. When I was ten years old I measured six feet nine inches. My father is only six feet one inch and my mother five feet nine.

When I turned six feet my trouble began in earnest. None of the things made for little girls would do for me. At school my father had a desk and seat made for me, but I soon grew too big for them.

All the little girls ran away from me because of my size. The older girls avoided me because I did not have the same ideas as they did. I was too big for them too. I wanted to have dolls and to do all the things that little girls do, and of course the young ladies could be no companions for me. I was very lonely and unhappy. Besides, I know that I was a burden to my poor father, who was working day and night to make beds and chairs large enough for me. But he could not keep up with the race.

I never had a bed long enough then. I was too tall to see out of the window. I was dreadfully in the way at a dinner party. You see my knees came a foot or so above the table, and once, when I stretched them underneath, I moved them and upset the whole table.

I had to bend double to see my face

in a mirror, and I could hardly get through the doors. After a time I got into the crawling habit in order to accommodate myself to the smallness of things. Often I would forget and brush down chandeliers or put my head through the ceiling.

I nearly broke my back trying to speak to short women. On and on I grew until I was over eight feet high. My parents despaired. They would have hired a ship launching sled for me to sleep in, but they were too poor. I could occupy two rooms of their house at once and still not be comfortable. It was impossible for me to get warm all over in winter, because some portion of me was always a long way from the fire.

Then Barnum & Bailey's circus heard of me and offered me an engagement. I was obliged to take it, for I had outgrown my home. I was frightened at first, but after a while I grew to like it. I was so happy to be with people who did not find my great size a nuisance. I went on growing after this, but those good people did not seem to mind it at all. In fact, I think they were rather pleased. Mr. Tody Hamilton wrote the most beautiful pieces about me.

I had plenty of difficulties on account of my size while traveling around with the circus, but they were of a different kind from the old ones and I did not mind them so much. They were usually regarded as amusing and gave no one any annoyance—well, hardly ever. Several times I was taken to the theater, and although I always removed my hat, I believe the men behind me complained that they could not see through me. That is a trifle, however.

My height was an advantage in looking at bulletin boards.

I had a good many sorrows in New York. I had to look at all the pretty things for women in the New York stores and realize that none of them could I wear. I saw the sweetest dresses and waists and things, but yet I sadly reflected that even if they were made for the fattest woman in New York, they would not be one-fourth my size. To have had ones made like them for me would have cost a small fortune, and I was saving my money to enable me to live in peace and comfort afterward. I had a certain number of splendid dresses specially made for exhibition purposes, but I indulged in no needless extravagance.

Traveling about in sleeping cars was a little hard. You see a berth will not accommodate much more than half of me, and there is not head room enough for me to sleep with my knees up in the air. Therefore I had to sleep doubled up with my feet sticking out of the berth. However, I am of a contented and happy disposition and as long as I had a place to lay my head I did not worry about a little matter of feet.

I could not get into ordinary carriages, where seats are placed opposite to one another. But I had not long been out in the world before I found I could use hansom cabs. By leaving the doors of the hansom open I could

find a reasonable amount of room for my legs. Hansom cabs have given me more happiness than anything in the world, except my new home.

I went all over the country with the circus and also in Europe. It was a grand thing for me. It opened my eyes and filled me with new ideas. But for this I believe I should have died of annoyance at my terrible growth. With the circus I lived in an atmosphere of excitement, of sunshine and flattery. I used to walk around the building twice a day, escorted by Peter the Small, who is only a foot and a half high.

When I went to Europe, of course the berth on the steamship was too short for me. I used to lie diagonally across the floor, and then, by curling up a little, I made myself quite comfortable.

It was fascinating life, but yet I always felt that it was false and was artificial. I yearned to leave the glare of the circus and get back to my quiet Missouri home. So I went on drawing my handsome salary, and in a few years I was able to fulfill my heart's desire. I have built this home wherein I may dwell in peace and comfort for the rest of my life. My relatives and neighbors are all very kind to me, and they look up to me as one who has seen the great world and has been of it."

MISS ELLA EWING

NOTED GIANTESS ON HER WAY
TO KANSAS.

J. AUGUST 24, 1909.

Will Appear in a Western Circuit of
Fairs—Tells of Her Specially
Built Bedstead.

Ella Ewing, 34 years old, 8 feet 4 inches tall, caused everyone who saw her at the Union depot this morning to look twice, says Saturday's Kansas City Star. She has been before the public eighteen years, traveling with most of the big circuses. Miss Ewing weighs 256 pounds. She has no explanation of her unusual size. Her father was 6 feet tall and her mother about 5 feet 4 inches tall. Neither one was unusually large. The giantess was born in Gorin, Mo., where her father still lives and where she makes her home when not traveling.

She is on her way to Iola, Kas., and is showing at the fair circuits this summer. Asked if she did not find it inconvenient to travel, she replied that she had become accustomed to it.

"They usually manage to accommodate me some way," she said. "The hotel keepers are very kind and by placing two beds together I usually sleep comfortably.

"At my home I have furniture made especially for me, and, of course, I'm more comfortable there than anywhere else."

THE BIG CITY SHOW!

THE WALTER L. MAIN'S GRANDEST and BEST SHOWS ON EARTH

Positively pre-eminent in the annals of amusements,
and dwarfing, by comparison, all others.

Will exhibit in all its matchless magnitude at

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, AUG. 20.

AUGUST 18, 1895.



Four trains of specially constructed cars are required to transport this enormous enterprise.

1,000 PEOPLE EMPLOYED.

300 OF THE FINEST HORSES EVER OWNED BY ONE MAN.
A HERD OF ELEPHANTS.

A DROVE OF CAMELS.

5-Continent Menagerie-5

Comprising a countless collection of rare Zoological Wonders.

"WALLACE" THE ONLY REAL RIDING LION.

3 Ring Circus and Elevated Stages.

6 Score of Noted Performers.

PROF. PIERRE PERIER

Makes two dive stunts from a tower 100 feet high, free to all, at 10:30 a. m.
and 6:30 p. m.

Free Street Parade

DAILY AT 10 A. M.

A moving mass of astounding splendor, comprising a full mile of entrancing wonders.

A SCORE OF OPEN DENS OF RARE WILD BEASTS.
10 Kinds of Melodious Music. 5 Distinct Bands of Soloists.

ONE TICKET ADMITS TO ALL THESE GREAT SHOWS.

TWO COMPLETE PERFORMANCES DAILY AT 2 AND 8 P. M.
DOORS OPEN ONE HOUR EARLIER.

Tickets on sale at Ayres & Sons' Jewelry Store on day of Exhibition at Regular Prices.

THE GREAT DUST-HAPPY CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

The Gate City.
= JANUARY 4, 1896. =
Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class
Matter.

CIRCUS CLOWNS' LIFE.

Winter Is the Dull, Hard-Times
Season With Them.

ARE IMPROVIDENT AS A CLASS.

"Old Budd" Hawes Affords a Peep Behind
the Scenes—The Hours Are Short and
the Work Not Arduous—How Many New
Jokes and Scenes Are Invented.

This is the season of the year when life is many degrees removed from the humors for the average circus clown, for now he is "laid off" and is obliged to hustle around for any sort of engagement that will provide a support for himself and his family until the time "when the robins nest again" and the tenting season opens. A clown is not usually a frugal man—a fellow who puts by a certain sum each week to last through the winter, when there is no regular employment for him. At the close of a long tour he considers himself in great luck if he has enough cash on hand to carry him home, buy a few presents for the wife and children and pay the current household expenses for a couple of weeks. Then, and not until then, does he realize that it is necessary to stir about if the members of his family are to continue to consume food with reasonable regularity.

One of the best known clowns in the "perfesh" is old Budd Hawes of Chicago. For more than 20 years old Budd has been engaged in making people laugh, and his travels have taken him from one end of the country to the other.

Very few people know of the everyday life of the clown or his struggle to give the public new jokes, for the clown must not only be a droll fellow himself, but he is also required to work out his own funny sayings.

Old Budd was recently induced to relate some of his experiences as a clown.

"A clown is born a clown," he said, "and he must be an acrobat, a comedian and a natural wit all in one. It's a hard place to fill, and the right kind of man always commands big wages."

"Most people suppose it's a hard life and that when we are through performing we have to go out and pull stakes and help load the tents. It's not so. We have just as easy times as the actors. All my stuff is packed in a big trunk, which is placed in the dressing tent by the property men. It is numbered and occupies the same position every time. I make up at noon for the parade, again at 2 o'clock for the regular performance and at 8 o'clock in the evening for the last performance. I am usually back to my bunk in the car by 11:30. It is a very comfortable life when one is accustomed to it. Of course when there is a big rush and we are all late it sometimes happens that the whole crowd of us have to turn out and help the 'razorbacks' (train loaders).

"There is a good deal in making up funny. The paint pot and baggy trousers have a great deal to do with making the



BUDD HAWES.

people laugh. The clown also practices getting himself into odd positions, and he succeeds best in this by being as awkward and blundering as possible.

"Usually the jokes are all written out and committed to memory, but we are always getting up new ones. It often happens that two clowns in the ring begin bantering each other out of pure fun for themselves and stumble upon jokes which set the people in a roar of laughter. I remember that I was once doing the old barber trick with another clown in Mississippi. The little darkies who come to the circus there always crawl close up to the ring and lie flat on their stomachs in the dirt, with their heads just peeping over the embankment. There were fully 50 of them when lined up, watching with big eyes. My partner was the barber, and I was blacked up as a negro clown. I seated myself in the chair, was lathered and shaved, the black coming off with the soap to the intense delight of the pickaninnies along the ring. When I discovered the condition of affairs, I was supposed to be extremely indignant, and in my scuffle with the barber he threw his big lather filled sponge at me. It missed me and hit one of the little negroes in the eyes. It was entirely unintentional, but it created the biggest laugh of the day. After that we had a row of little negroes along the ring at every performance, and one of them received a soaking from the big sponge. In this way a new attraction was invented.

"A clown must be a good acrobat in order to burlesque the performers, and it takes a considerable time to keep in practice. Altogether it is a life full of enjoyment, and I presume I love my profession just as well as any lawyer or doctor. I have been on the stage a number of times as a low comedian and once took a company of my own on the road. Just before the holidays I spent a week in a shop window but I am not a curbstone clown.

"You would suppose that a clown would be bruised black and blue all over by the number of hard raps and kicks which he receives, but that is not the case. In nearly all instances there is some arrangement to prevent injury. His clothes are padded, and when he is struck at he claps his hands quickly, and the audience thinks the sound is the result of the blow.

"Fights with roughs who hang around a circus are not unusual, and then the clown joins with his fellow performers in shouting, 'Hey Rube!' the warcry of the circus man, and wields his 'clemen fake' just as fiercely as anybody. I remember a time down in Bolivar, Mo., where we got into a fight with toughs. In the melee eight men were killed and as many more seriously injured.

"In winter I put in lots of time studying up new jokes and scenes for the next summer."

Constitution Democrat.

APRIL 26, 1904.

CIRCUS PARADES.

SHOW TRUST HAS DECIDED TO
ABOLISH THEM.

MUST PAY MORE TO SEE THE
WILD KANGAROO.

Free Exhibitions Will be Cut Out in
Order to Save Time and Expense
—Hard Blow to Small Boy.

It will cost money to see the elephant on circus days to come.

No more will camels march with stately strides through town and city streets; no more the clowns and circus girls ride between rows of big-eyed youngsters.

The day of circus parades has passed. The ukase was issued at a meeting held recently.

Representatives of the big circuses—members of the circus trust—met at Springfield, O., and to a unit agreed that free street spectacles shall be discontinued.

There is, they say, too much work attached to parades; too much valuable time wasted; too much money spent, and no revenue received as a result of the exhibit.

Moreover, changes in circus parades and in city conditions have rendered parading a difficult thing. There is much trouble in avoiding electric wires and street cars, and frequently traffic is seriously impeded.

When the Keokuk boys hear the latest decision of the circus trust they will begin to realize the evils of the concentration of industries and capital. Circuses which visit Keokuk next summer are likely to have no free street parades or exhibitions, as the trust has decided that the street pageant takes too much valuable time and does not bring increase of revenues sufficient to justify the cost. Such being the case, it would not be surprising if the boys—and the girls, too, for that matter—because all children love to see the circus parade—inaugurate a boycott against shows which are controlled by the trust, and agree to patronize only those which are not in the trust and which do the right thing in the line of free exhibition, thus preserving the time-honored traditions of the amusement perveyor made famous by the immortal Barnum.

fying and amusing. The entire of all this will be here just as presented, June 13th with the new free street parade in the morning at 9 o'clock.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

, JUNE 10, 1892.

A TRULY WONDERFUL SIGHT.

Magnificent Objects which Defy Description and Which Must be Seen.

"Columbus, and the Discovery of America is bewildering and astounding in its dazzling splendor, the circus is fascinating in its varied entertainment, the double menageries an education in natural history, the whole show is an eagle's flight above all others." That is what a prominent paper has said of the immense exhibition Barnum and Bailey will bring here on Monday, June 13, and which is, in fact, nothing less than the greatest show on earth. Nothing that can be written would convey an idea of its great magnitude and extent. To say that 1,200 people are on its pay rolls, and that those 1,200 persons are all the finest circus, hippodrome, aerial and other wonderful performers, conveys but a faint idea, for among them are operatic, dramatic, tragic, pantomime, scenic, classic, terpsichorean and other accomplished artists, actors, dancers, and experts. The spectacle of Columbus alone embracing nearly every phase of histrionic art from comedy to tragedy, and with the most magnificent ballet ever devised, requiring 300 dancing girls. Then there are menageries of trained and wild beasts, three circus rings, elevated stages, racing track, one monster stage, 150 feet long, enormous tents at least two acres of elegant scenery, and—well, it must be seen, it cannot be described. It will all be here on Monday, June 13th, with a marvelous new, historical, free street parade at 9 o'clock in the morning of the show's arrival.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

, JUNE, 12, 1892.

COLUMBUS AND THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

The Greatest and Grandest of all Spectacular Productions.

The stupendous and magnificent historical and dramatic spectacle, bearing the above title, and which is this season so appropriately presented as an addition to the many other most meritorious, marvelous and instructive attraction of the Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, is not in its scope and purpose a play, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, but rather a most striking and realistic object lesson in that portion of ancient history connected with the wars of Granada and Columbus' voyage and discovery, and a masterly and thoroughly accurate repro-

duction of the thrilling scenes and incidents connected therewith. Months were spent studying the historical documents in the archives of Europe, and seeking old prints and paintings, and inspecting all objects and material in any way relating to the subject and era in which the scenes of the spectacle are laid, and in gathering a wealth of detail concerning the costumes, weapons and customs of that time. Every appliance of photographic art was employed and elaborate plans and drawings made for the guidance of the most thoroughly competent architects, modelers, scenic artists and costumers, resulting in a wonderfully impressive revelation of the early struggles, trials, voyages and final triumphs of the great discoverer, as well as accurate reproductions of some of the old cities of Spain, with their palaces, gates, draw-bridges and battlements, and the arms, accoutrements and manner of warfare of the most glorious epoch in Spanish history. For the presentation of this grand series of living tableaux \$75,000 worth of scenery is required, a stage four hundred and fifty feet in length, 1,200 characters, together with wild beasts and horses and \$250,000 worth of armor, weapons, trappings and devices of the most historically correct designs and expensive material, besides the world's best musical composers and terpsichorean and orchestral directors. Viewed merely as a scenic and living study, and entirely apart from its splendid pageants, impressive spectacles and displays, games, tournaments, contests and realistic combats, it offers a wealth of practical knowledge and permanent information, far beyond the means of ordinary instruction, and calculated to grandly and forcibly impress upon the mind of every beholder the heroism of the first discoveries of the New World. This truly great and remarkable spectacular production is presented as an addition to all the multitude of marvelous wonders of the Greatest Show on Earth, its two menageries, triple circus in three rings upon two elevated stages and the wonderful feats in mid-air and in the hippodrome, and taken in its vast entirety renders it just exactly what the title suggests—The Greatest Show on Earth. It will all be here in its undivided greatness tomorrow with the tremendous new street parade in the morning at 9 o'clock.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

, JUNE 14, 1892.

CAPTURED KEOKUK.

Barnum & Bailey's Aggregation Came and Conquered.

Your uncle from the country was in town in full force yesterday, and so was the buxom lass in a white gown and awe inspiring blue sash, likewise the bucolic swain who spent nickles galore in gauging the

capacity of the blue ribboned charmer for peanuts and soda water; and the small boy pervaded Main street more thickly than the Egyptian locusts.

The prime concomitants of mid-summer bliss were with us yesterday—a torrid heat and a circus. The streets were alive with fakirs who raked in sundry shekels from the small boy, and the soda fountains did a land office business all day. Everybody perspired, a few swore at the heat, but these were chronic kickers who wouldn't be satisfied with a front seat in paradise.

It was a great circus.

No need to say it was Barnum & Bailey's. Everybody knew that, and although old Phineas has long passed to another sphere it is not beyond the bounds of surmise that his lameated shade hovered in the region of the ticket wagon and smiled unctuously upon the panting, perspiring crowd that fought for the blissful privilege of changing good half dollars for slips of yellow pasteboard.

But it was a great circus.

Everybody went and took his own children or his neighbor's, which answered the same purpose. The menagerie was well worth a visit, a finer collection of animals has not been exhibited here, and they were in superb condition. Inside the tent the atmosphere was like the fiery furnaces but nobody cared for the heat. Except the Kicker. The great polar bear sprawled at full length upon a cake of ice, lolled his pink tongue and presumably ruminated upon the north pole, the hyenas snarled and bit and fought among themselves, and the monkeys kept up a chatter that would put to shame the clamor of an afternoon tea.

Then there was Little Tom Thumb, the baby elephant, whose life Jumbo saved at the expense of his own; whole battalions of gayly dressed horsewomen and horsemen on superbly caparisoned horses; "Sultan," the finest African lion on exhibition, who nervously paced his iron-barred cage and covetously eyed Queen Isabella as he licked his chops and longed to have her for breakfast, and a myriad of other wonderful exhibits, from driving zebras to the ever-blooming steam caliope.

It certainly was a great circus.

The small boy said so, and who knows better. Filled to gorged repletion with peanuts and red-lemonade his critical acumen was in no wise disturbed. There was no end of novel features, and also some of the old ones without which no self respecting circus would be complete, and indeed hardly tolerable.

There was the amiable young woman in blue gauze who kindly allowed a vindictive female, also clad in blue gauze, to hurl cheese knives at her, the slack-wire walker who took off his clothes and made himself comfortable while all the rest of the people yearned to follow his example, and the fat woman who looked as if her "too, too solid flesh" were

KEOKUK, MONDAY, :- JUNE 13.

The BARNUM & BAILEY GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH.

Newly Refitted, Modernly Equipped, Accurately Exhibited,
and Joined to all its Wonders, Imre Kiralfy's Sub-
lime Nautical and Historical Spectacle,

COLUMBUS, AND THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

The world's largest, grandest, best amusement institution.
Truthfully advertised. Honorably conducted. Honestly
presented.

Capital Invested, \$3,500,000; Daily Expenses, \$7,300.

P. T. BARNUM and J. A. BAILEY, Equal Owners,



GROUP OF NATURE'S MOST GIGANTIC, CURIOUS AND DIMINUTIVE LIVING SPECIMENS.

THE MOST STUPENDOUS SHOW EVER ORGANIZED.

3 Rings, 2 Elevated Stages, Hippodrome Racing Track, Columbus stage 450 feet long, 2 Menageries, 3 Circus Companies, Magic Illusions, 300 beautiful Ballet Girls, 100 Chariots and Floats, 50 Cages, 400 Horses, 1,200 Performers, 2 herds of Elephants, 2 droves of Camels, 40 Ponies.

THE FIRST VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY.

Sixty-four Railroad cars, 4 trains, 5 advertising cars, 126 agents.—Landing of Columbus in the New World.—Horse Fair, Aviary, Aquarium, Trained Animals; Ferdinand and Isabella's Brilliant Court; magnificent scenery worth \$75,000; elegant costumes worth \$250,000; ancient armor and accoutrements worth \$50,000; horses worth \$150,000.

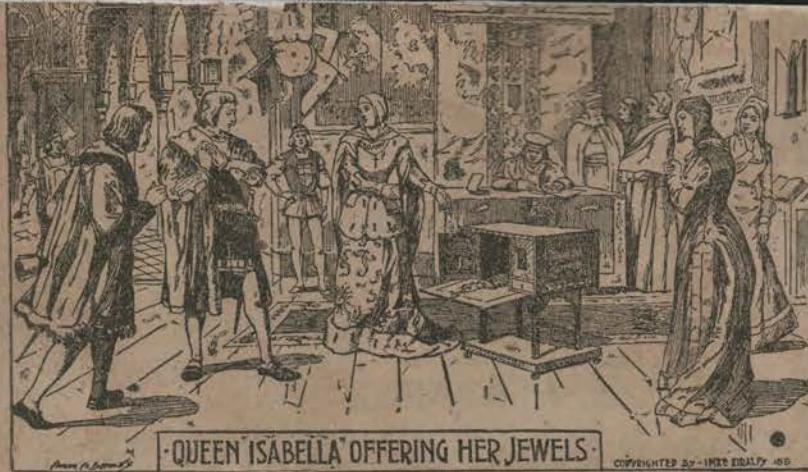
THE DAILY GATE CITY.

ESTD., MAY 14, 1892.

A GREAT SPECTACLE.

Columbus and the Discovery of America
with 1,200 People.

Last season and the year before Barnum and Bailey introduced into the circus the production of great spectacles. It was an original idea with them and they very successfully carried it out for two years. Finding it met with such universal approval, and that it delighted and instructed while bewildering and amazing the whole people, they decided upon continuing so meritorious a feature and have this season produced another, but upon so grand and colossal a scale as to utterly dwarf all their previous great triumphs. The theme, too, is both well-timed and appropriate, occurring on exactly the 400th centenary of the finding of the new world and when the nation is about to commemorate the great event by a world's fair. Columbus and the discovery of America, as its title suggests, is a realistic production of all the circumstances connected with the life of the famous discoverer as well as those parts of history in which he was an important actor. The battles between the Moors and Spaniards are shown with Columbus as a combatant on the side of the cross against the crescent. The ancient cities of Spain are seen with their old walls, turrets, towers, gates and palaces; the interior of the famous Alhambra palace by moonlight is a ravishing scene, with the Moorish dancing girls in their lovely costumes, dreamily and poetically interpreting the wild, weird music and songs of those days. Moorish warriors in all the splendor of steel armor, and high priests in their sacred robes; the chivalry of Spain; the brilliant court of Ferdinand and Isabella, with its rich and noble attendants, cavaliers and courtly dames costumed in a style demonstrating an utter disregard of expense; soldiers armed with cross-bows, arquebuses and other ancient weapons; festivals, fêtes, displays, pageants, triumphal processions, tournaments, on foot and on horseback, games, combats and other exciting features succeed each other with thrilling rapidity until one's mind is lost in beholding them. Then follows the trials of Columbus, his efforts to obtain recognition, his success and first voyage, the discovery of America, the life of the Indians, their dances and games, the return voyage of Columbus, his triumphal entry into Barcelona and—well, there really is so much to see that description fails of half. Suffice it that for grandeur of conception and magnificence of execution it stands without a parallel in the annals of amusements. Besides all this there are three circus companies in three rings, two elevated stages, the hippodrome, mystifying illusions, two menageries, two herds of elephants, two droves of camels, trained animals, 20 clowns, 50 aerialists, 100



GRAND TRIUMPHAL RECEPTIONS & PAGEANTS.

Tournaments on horse and on foot; whole armies engaged in realistic battle; terpsichorean revels and charming scenes; ancient Spanish and Moorish costumes, weapons and armor. Elephants, Horses, Wild Beasts, Performing Animals; Terrific Chariot Races; Phenomenal Tumblers and Leapers.—Vivid Reproduction of Nautical and Martial Events.—Trained Cats, Dogs, Pigs, Goats, Sheep, Geese, Storks, Lions, Tigers, Pigeons, Panthers, Hyenas, Bears, Wolves, Leopards, Elephants, Zebras, Camels, Ponies, Horses and other animals.

A DOZEN ACTS GOING ON AT ONCE.



MOORS PREPARING TO MEET THE SPANIARDS BEFORE GRANADA

Giant Horse, 22 1-2 Hands High; Colossal Ox, 18 1-4 Hands High; Hairless Horse; Dwarf Cattle, 7 Hands High; Bull with 3 Horns, 3 Eyes, and 3 Nostrils.

Admission to Everything, 50 cts. Children under 9 years, 25 cts.

NEW MILLION DOLLAR FREE STREET PARADE,

With elegant floats and living tableaux, illustrating American History, Arabian Nights' Tales and Nursery Rhymes, at 9 a. m., on the day of the show.

Reserved seats for sale at regular price and admission tickets at the usual slight advance at

AYRES & SONS' MUSIC STORE, :--: 509 Main Street.

CHEAPEST EXCURSIONS ON ALL RAILROADS

Will Exhibit in Quincy, Tuesday, June 14.

the magnificent affair is of surpassing worth, wealth and elegance. It will be here on June 13, near Rand Park, with the street parade at 9 o'clock in the morning.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

Entered, JUNE 4, 1892.

OF SURPASSING MAGNIFICENCE.

A Stupendous Spectacle Presented with Historical Accuracy.

To say that children are delighted and instructed, ladies charmed and amused and all others really amazed and astonished, does not convey a title of the feelings created by a visit to Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth. Every beholder of its wondrous features are thrilled and filled with astonishment at their brilliant magnificence. Its immensity is beyond mention, and its magnitude so great it resembles nothing so much as itself—a perfect world of wonders, ancient scenes, rare and costly exhibits and tremendous historical displays. Its great popularity and success is owing almost as much to the fact that it is honorably conducted, honestly presented, truthful, moral and educational, as to the magnificence and historical worth of its performances. The vast number of its wonderful features, and rare attractions also are a large factor in rendering it so successful, but taking in its entirety it stands unequalled in the world's history, the one shining example of the truth of the maxim, "survival of the fittest." To all its great circus in three rings, elevated stage performances, novel and daring hippodrome races, gallery of mystifying illusions, double menageries, herds of elephants, camels, 400 fine bred horses and ponies, curious quadrupeds, and other wonders, the show has been enriched by the addition of the most magnificent spectacle the eyes of mortal ever looked upon. The stupendous historical piece, called Columbus and the Discovery of America, is an achievement in spectacular productions almost beyond comprehension. Twelve hundred characters are represented with 300 of the most expert dancers from the leading theatres of Europe. The life of Columbus is illustrated from the period beginning with his residence in Portugal to the successful termination of his voyage of discovery, with all the principal events in Spanish history during that time. The Spanish sovereigns, Ferdinand and Isabella, with their brilliant court, are reproduced, with real tournaments on foot and on horseback, combats, festivals, and triumphal processions. The seige of the ancient cities of Baza and Granada are represented, with the battles between the Spaniards and Moors. The life of the Moorish kings are accurately shown, with the feasts, novelties, dances, circus performers, 100 circus acts, curious freaks in the animal creation and a thousand novel and wonderful sights as instructive as they are edi-

indeed melting—the old friends were all there.

From the fine street parade to the last act of the spectacle the performance was magnificent.

The horses were superb, the various performers were wonderful in their skill, and the great spectacle of Columbus and the Discovery of America was sumptuous beyond description. The performance and the courteous and efficient managers merit the highest praise. Everybody was satisfied and everything was done as promised and Barnum & Bailey have set a standard that will be difficult to surpass.

Constitution-Democrat. = JUNE 1, 1892. =

THE GREAT SHOW.

How the Business of Barnum & Bailey's is Conducted.

There are five advance advertising cars, each having a corps of twenty bill posters, and there are twenty advance agents with different duties to perform, together comprising what is known as the "advance brigade" of Barnum and Bailey's greatest show on earth. This corps of experienced and competent men are as well drilled as a military organization and to them is entrusted the important business of properly advertising the date of exhibition of the show, which by the way, will be here on June 13.

Contracts are made with various livery stables for teams, with which to reach the surrounding country to post bills and distribute the pretty pictorial books containing the wonderful features of the show, among which is an elegantly illustrated life of Christopher Columbus of thirty-two pages. Contracts are also made for hundreds of pounds of meat, hay, bushels of oats, straw, bran, potatos, vegetables of all kinds, water license, ground, with the bill poster for his bill-boards, with all the hotels, and in fact with nearly everybody in the town who has something to sell, and this is done in every town in the country where the show exhibits, the money paid these things footing up thousands of dollars. Every town where the show goes is enriched to the extent of thousands of dollars. When the money spent by the employes of the show is considered, and by the vast number of people who come to town on that day on the railroads and in other ways, the advent of Barnum and Bailey's greatest show on earth cause thousands of dollars to be put in circulation in such a town. It is to be doubted if any one has ever considered this fact before.

Barnum and Bailey pay cash for everything and all with whom contracts have been made are made richer by their coming, while if you ask any storekeeper he will tell you the receipts the day Barnum and Bailey were in town were ten times as great as on any other day. Railroads, hackmen, omnibus men, cigar stores, hotels, street cars, barber shops, liverymen, storekeepers of all kinds are greatly benefited financially, and the truth of this all one needs is to inquire of any of the storekeepers to be at once convinced. By the way ask the station agent and he will tell you that sixty-four railroad cars are absolutely necessary to carry all the Barnum and Bailey show and that that number of cars will be here. The number of cars always denotes the size of the show, if the cars

are sixty feet long like Barnum and Bailey's.

Constitution-Democrat. = JUNE 15, 1892. =

THE BIG SHOW.

Barnum and Bailey Take the Town by Storm—Thousands Witness a Thrilling and Interesting Performance.

Barnum & Bailey's big circus has taken the town by storm, and the "Greatest Show on Earth" engages the attention of old and young to the exclusion of everything else. The procession Monday morning was a big show in itself. In it important events in American history were illustrated by living figures on costly chariots, and Arabian Nights stories, nursery rhymes, children's fables and childhood's dreams were likewise beautifully pictured by tablœaux.

The first performance was given this afternoon. Crowds surged into the big tent until every seat was occupied. In magnificence and grandeur the spectacle presented surpasses belief, while its wealth of riches and embarrassment of romantic, picturesque groupings and colorings are well nigh incomprehensible. The theme, too, is both well-timed and appropriate, occurring exactly on the fourth centenary of the finding of the new world and when the nation is about to commemorate the great event by a world's fair. "Columbus and the Discovery of America," as its title suggests, is a realistic reproduction of all the circumstances connected with the life of the famed discoverer, as well as those parts of history in which he was an important actor. The battles between the Moors and Spaniards are shown, with Columbus as a combatant on the side of the cross against the crescent. The ancient cities of Spain are seen with their old walls, turrets, towers, gates and palaces; the interior of the famous Alhambra palace by moonlight is a ravishing scene, with the Moorish dancing girls in their lovely costumes, dreamily and poetically interpreting the wild, weird music and songs of those days, and Moorish warriors in all the splendor of steel armor, high priests in their sacred robes, the chivalry of Spain, the brilliant court of Ferdinand and Isabella, with its rich and noble attendants, cavaliers and courtly dames costumed in a style demonstrating an utter disregard of expense, soldiers armed with cross bows, arquebuses and other ancient weapons, festivals, fetes, displays, pageants, triumphal processions, tournaments on foot and on horseback, games, combats, and other exciting features succeed each other with thrilling rapidity until one's mind is lost in beholding them. Then follow the trials of Columbus, his efforts to obtain recognition, his success and first voyage, the discovery of America, the life of the Indians, their dances and games, the return voyage of Columbus, his triumphal entry into Barcelona, and—well, there really is so much to see that description fails of half. Suffice it that for grandeur of conception and magnificence of execution it stands without a parallel in the annals of amusements. The cost to produce it was half a million dollars, no less than \$75,000 being spent for scenery alone, while the costumes cost \$250,000 and the armor, weapons, trappings, etc., \$50,000 more, besides months of time devoted in searching in the archives of

Spain for the historical date. Besides all this there are three circus companies in three rings, two elevated stages the hippodrome, mystifying illusions, two managements, two herds of elephants, two drove of camels, trained animals, twenty clowns, fifty aerialists, 100 circus performers, 100 circus acts, curious freaks in animal creation and a thousand novel and wonderful sights as instructive as they are edifying and amusing.

Constitution-Democrat. = JUNE 8, 1892. =

A POPULAR AMUSEMENT.

More People Visit the Circus Than any Other Form of Entertainment.

The circus is really the most popular form of amusement to be found in this country, much more so even than baseball. To prove it, take the aggregate attendance of the people at the base ball game for a year, and then compare it with the numbers visiting the circus. It has been estimated that seven millions of people in the United States pay to see the circus during the summer months, of which nearly one-third go to Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth alone, and it is, therefore, safe to say that no other kind of amusement is half so popular. There are many reasons to show the truth of this statement, the chief one, however, being that the entertainment provided is always worth more than the price of admission. Take for instance, the wonderful and varied entertainment offered by Barnum & Bailey. In that great institution which has become national owing to the magnitude, system and organization, and the honest, truthful and honorable manner in which its business is conducted, the daily attendance is something enormous, because its patrons are provided with so much amusement and instruction for so small a price. One can see within its spacious water-proof tents, Imre Kiralfy's stupendous historical and thrilling spectacle of Columbus and the Discovery of America, a production which alone requires 1,200 characters, including 300 dancing girls, to interpret, with more elegant scenery and costly wardrobes, trappings, emblems devices, than any hundred theatres. All the principal events in the life of the great discoverer are depicted, as well as the important historical ones connected therewith. Pitched battles between the Moors and Spaniards are realistically reproduced just as they occurred 400 years ago, military triumphs, festivals, songs, dances, games, tournaments, on foot and on horseback, and many other most interesting occurrences are accurately exhibited. The ship that Columbus sailed in, the crews, the pilots, mariners, and the very voyage itself on the ocean, are all truthfully shown, with the primitive Indians, and the latter's games, sports, dances, and diversions. The armor, weapons, accoutrements, such as cross bows, arquebuses and cannon, as well as the picturesque costumes of the nobles and people of old Spain, are seen, and the grandest and most magnificent triumphal processions and royal pageants ever beheld, supplemented by overwhelmingly splendid ballets, performed to the most majestic and original music. To this immense part of the show must be added a circus of surpassing excellence, by three companies in three rings, Olympian sports on two elevated stages, and daring races in the hippodrome. Besides two managements of wild and trained beasts, twenty clowns, two herds of elephants, two

a world of wonders. Is it any surprise then to see a circus the most popular of all amusements, and that the people throng to the Barnum & Bailey great show? It will be here undivided on Monday June 13 with the new and rich street parade in the nine o'clock in the morning.

droves of camels, 400 finely bred horses, 100 cages and chariots, etc., together with the gallery of mystifying illustrations, the curious animal department where are cows with three horns, others of gigantic size, horses without hair, dwarf cattle, etc., and those rare but famous sights offered amid

P. T. BARNUM'S

Great Traveling

WORLD'S FAIR!

In Six Separate Colossal Tents,

WHICH, AT A CHALLENGE OF \$100,000, IS

Ten times Larger than any other Show Ever Seen on Earth,

Will Exhibit in Keokuk

Wednesday, September 4,

AND NOT BEFORE THAT TIME.

One of P. T. BARNUM'S Massive Pavillions (Capable of holding 20,000 People,) is large enough to Swallow Up the whole

BATCH OF INFERIOR TENTS, CAMP AND ALL

Of any other Concert Advertised in the Country.

And this, be it remembered, is only

One-Seventh of the Entire Exhibition!

Of the Millions of People who have Visited

BARNUM'S WORLD'S FAIR

Since it left New York—Transported by Three Trains of 40 Cars each,—there is not a man, woman or child who will not say that it is not only

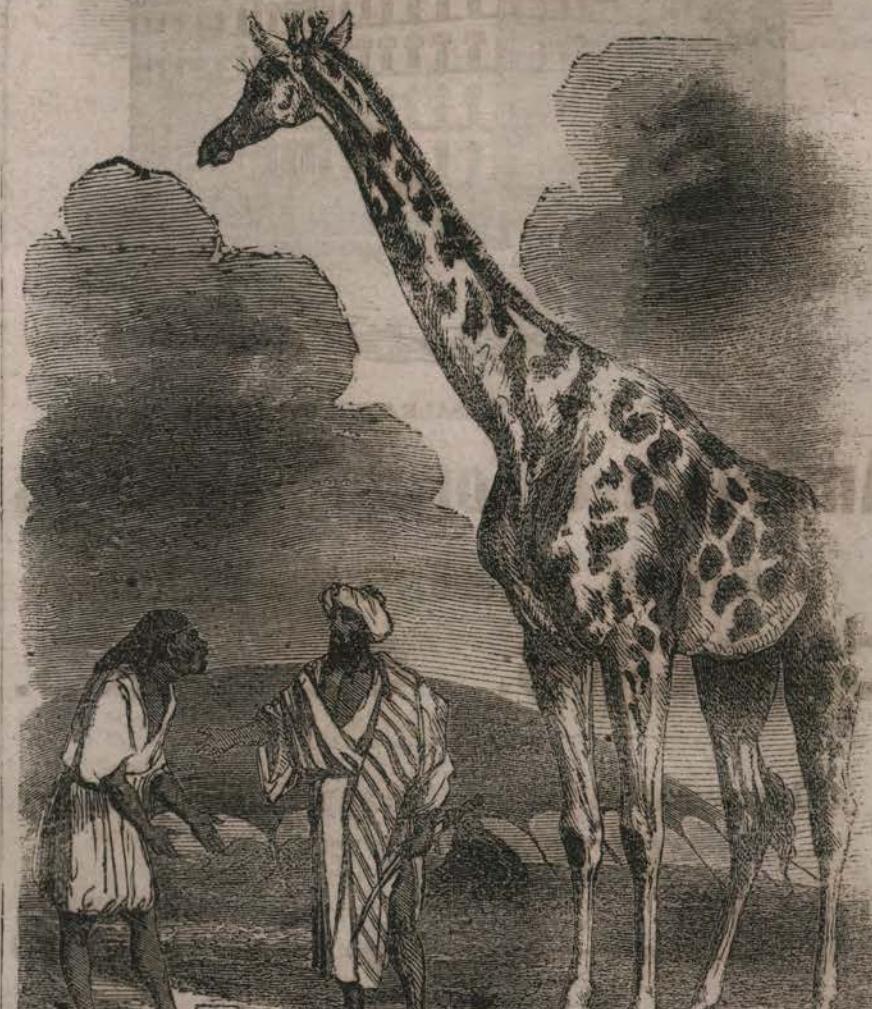
TWENTY TIMES THE LARGEST

The World's Fair in Keokuk.—The first proposition to organize a Word's Fair was offered by one of the members of the British Parliament, we believe in 1845. 1851 gave to the world the Crystal Palace

of London, which for years remained the pride of Eng land, as nothing like it was ever known or attempted in Europe before that time.

New York City followed soon after with one far more extensive and elaborate if pos-

sible, which culminated with immense success. The "Exposition Universelle" and the sensation it caused throughout the world, are fresh in the memory of all, the success of which is among the more brilliant ex-



Unpitonized, most Expensive and Elaborate Combination of Exhibitions ever known, and

FOR THE THOUSANDS OF DAYS

REMAINS ABSOLUTELY

Without a Parallel in the History of the World!

IT IS PRETTY GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD P. T. BARNUM'S

—GREAT—

Traveling Museum

Menagerie, Caravan, Hippodrome, Polytechnic Institute, Grand International Zoological Garden, and

Dan Castello's Chaste and Refined Circus,

To which all Visitors to either Departments will be admitted FREE OF CHARGE, will not Exhibit in KEOUK until

Wednesday, September 4th.

At which time three grand, full and Undivided Exhibitions will be given, morning, afternoon and evening, for the accommodation of the multitude. Extra trains will be run on all the railroads and steamboats to convey visitors to and from the exhibition at half fare.

WILL ALSO EXHIBIT AT

Hannibal, Aug. 23; Quincy, 24; Burlington, 26; Galesburg, 27; Bloomington, 29; Decatur, 30; Springfield, 31; Jacksonville, September 2; Mt. Sterling, 3; Keokuk, 4; Ottumwa,

upon as the extreme of nonsense.

P. T. Barnum very generously comes to the front and saves us the trouble and expense of instituting a gigantic affair, such as the citizens of Iowa would alone be willing to recognize and encourage by a liberal patronage from its gifted sons and fair daughters.

We don't know whether Barnum's World's Fair is built of glass so much as it is of canvas: but because we don't live in glass houses, we will not, therefore, be guilty of throwing stones.

This thing is very evident, however, from all we are able to glean of it, that Barnum's big show, which is exhibited in six separate colossal tents, said to cover as much ground as Napoleon occupied on the Isle of St. Helena, has grown so large and multifarious as to assume the proportions of a great traveling World's Fair. Barnum declares it to have crystallized into a fixed and permanent institution, and as such the whole world shall have the benefit of his capital invested.

Barnum will be here on the 4th of September next, and although we do not expect to see London nor Paris reproduced, yet we shall certainly get the full worth of our money, and see Barnum in the bargain.

BARNUM'S WORLD'S FAIR will arrive in Keokuk on three trains of forty cars each—four locomotives to each train—on Wednesday, Sept. 4th, 1872. The six colossal tents in which the mammoth show will be given, will hold 20,000 people—one fifty cent ticket admitting the holder to all parts of the exhibition.

Nothing like Barnum's grand amusement enterprise has ever been known since the world began. It was conceived, many years ago, in the fertile brain of the world's greatest show projector, and has been carried out by his able corps of managers, agents and assistants, with the ever-present suggestions of the old veteran himself, to the fullest and most elaborate extent, at an actual cost of over a million capital.

No man in the world takes more delight in carrying out gigantic projects than P. T. Barnum. His present entertainments has astonished the whole world, and created such a furor throughout the country as was never known, not even during the most exciting days of the Swedish Nightingale, or the famous Jenny Lind.

Barnum has spent more money for his group of marvelous sea lions, his living giraffes, Fiji Cannibals, riding goat, Digger Indians, and the four or five hundred animals, birds and reptiles alone, than it costs to fix up six ordinary shows. It is a wonder how he can afford in view of his enormous daily expenses, to exhibit all he has for the simple sum of fifty cents. His friends in New York urged him before starting out, that it would be ruinous for him to charge less than a dollar for admission. "I don't care," said Barnum, "I did not go in-

ploys of Louis Napoleon, *le parvenu miserable*. That event did more for France than any one affair since the *coup d'état* of 1851, when Napoleon usurped the management of the French Empire.

Since the famous Crystal Palace of New York, which was so ruthlessly destroyed by fire, nothing like it has ever been attempted this side the Atlantic. To talk of a World's Fair in Keokuk, therefore, would be looked

Doors open at 10 A. M. and 1 and 7 P. M. Hippodrome Performances commence 11 A. M. and 2 and 8 P. M. Admission to the SEVEN COLOSSAL SHOWS ONLY FIFTY CENTS; Children under Nine Years Half Price.

The Museum collection contains over One Hundred thousand curiosities from all parts of the earth. The Monstrous collection of Man-eating snakes, birds, beasts, reptiles, and marine monsters, including

The Only Living Giraffe with King.

Monstrous Group of Monsters, Sea Lions, etc., from all this country, who were captured in the North Pacific by an expedition sent out expressly for the purpose, Mr. Barnum, at a cost of \$3,000.

Three Wild Fiji Cannibals.

Captives of war, ransomed from King Thibet, India, \$10,000.

Barnum, at a cost of Fifteen Thousand dollars.



to this undertaking to make money—only to see what may be done to gratify, amuse and instruct the rising generation, and if I carry to the doors of the people the largest and most attractive combination of exhibitions the world has ever known, surely my object will have been accomplished, even if I sacrifice half a million dollars." This is the way he talks to those doubting ones who have not the energy and pluck of a live man like Barnum. That the public will sustain such a man is daily demonstrated by thousands who are scarcely able, in large cities, to gain admission at all.

The Daily Gate City.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23 1872.

THE BARNUM SHOW.—No one, within many miles of this city, will forget that Barnum's World Fair, the most stupendous amusement combination ever organized in the world, will visit this city on the 4th of September. The show contains the largest collection of animate and inanimate curiosities, the greatest collection of rare animal and novel features, the most extensive and gorgeous outfit and best equestrian and gymnastic company ever seen together. The combination is the equal of any four or five of the largest shows in this country or Europe and gives the public more for the money than any other ever known. Fifty cents takes you through the six or seven mammoth pavillions. Three performances are given daily, one in the morning for the especial benefit of ladies and children, who desire to escape the rush of the great crowd, one in the afternoon and one at night. It is safe to predict that his coming will draw to this city the largest crowd of people ever seen here at one time.

The Daily Gate City.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 4 1872.

BARNUM TO DAY.—The great sensation of the present day and generation in the show line, will be here to-day. Barnum's great traveling World's Fair will be exhibited in six separate tents, to all of which one price of admission, viz: fifty cents, admits each visitor. The people for miles around have been looking forward to its coming ever since it was first announced. Three entertainments will be given, viz: morning, afternoon and evening. There will, as a matter of course, be an immense crowd of people here from all directions to witness the show. It will be the biggest thing of the kind in the history of our city.

The Daily Gate City.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 5 1872.

BARNUM'S SHOW IN KEOKUK—A BIG CROWD OF VISITORS.—Barnum's show has come and gone. There was, of course, an immense crowd of persons to witness each of the three entertainments given here. Those who had their expectations worked up to an extremely high pitch, and who expected to see several times as much as there was to be seen, were disappointed. Those who had made up their minds to be humbugged, were likewise disappointed. Whatever disappointment the public may or may not have experienced, however, and whatever may or may not be said of the show, one thing is certain, viz: that every one who went saw every thing that was advertised and got the worth of his or her fifty cents. But a great many people expected to see a vast deal more than was advertised, and to get several dollars' worth of show for fifty cents. They didn't do it.

On the whole, Barnum's is the largest and best circus and menagerie that has ever visited Keokuk.

The collection of wild animals, although not so very large, embraces some very choice specimens, including the wild Sea Lions, the Giraffe, the herd of twenty Camels, the Elephants, and others which we haven't time to enumerate.

The museum of relics and automatons is large and attractive. The cannibals didn't say anything while we were there about striking for higher wages, and we are inclined to believe the report that they contemplated such a thing [is without foundation.

The Circus department of the show is first-class in every respect, and embraces a number of excellent performers, including Dan Costello and the celebrated Melville family.

The show goes from here to Ottumwa, Oskaloosa and Des Moines.

THE CROWD YESTERDAY.—It is impossible to form any correct estimate of the number of people in the city yesterday. The crowd was simply immense and no doubt exceeded in point of numbers any gathering that we have had in Keokuk since the war. At an early hour in the morning wagon loads of people commenced to pour into the city from every direction. From Illinois they came in multitudes in wagons and buggies, on horseback and on foot. There was an unbroken string of vehicles and people from Hamilton to the top of Main street hill. The Prescott brought large delegations from Nauvoo and Sonora, and the Eagle from Warsaw and Alexandria. Before 9 o'clock Main street was lined on both sides along its entire length.

very low estimate, we find that at least seven thousand people came over from Illinois. From this basis it is safe to estimate that the entire number of strangers in the city was between fifteen and twenty thousand.

Toward noon extra trains on the various lines of railroads brought large additions to the already large crowd. Up to noon about one thousand teams had crossed the bridge. Taking seven as the average number of persons in each wagon, which we think is a

KILLED HER KEEPER.

A Big Elephant Goes on a Tear in Chicago.

SHE POUNDS FRANK SCOTT TO DEATH.

Taken Out for an Airing, She Becomes Unmanageable—A Plucky Woman Wounded—The Beast Tears Down the Side of a House.

Chicago, March 26.—W. H. Harris' big elephant Gypsy became unmanageable at its winter quarters on the West side Wednesday afternoon and before she could be gotten under control killed her keeper, tore down a frame building and created general excitement, which drew thousands of people to the scene.

Killed Her Keeper.

Harris' circus is quartered at the corner of Roby and Jackson streets in a six-story brick building, and Gypsy occupies the greater part of the first floor. Her regular keeper is Bernard Shea, but Shea is at present engaged at the Ak-Sar-Ben music hall in Omaha, and the animal was temporarily in charge of Frank Scott, a lion tamer. Wednesday afternoon early Scott, against orders, took Gypsy out for a ride in the alley. Gypsy did not seem inclined to stop at the boundary of the alley and Scott gave her a jab with an iron hook. The beast became enraged, and, throwing her keeper from her head, where he had been riding, proceeded to pound him with her trunk and succeeded in killing him, knocking him through a board fence.

A Plucky Woman.

Mrs. Harris came to the rescue with a pitchfork. She was knocked down, but pluckily jumped up and commenced battle. She soon had blood streaming from wounds in the elephant's side and the beast ran away towards the end of the alley. Here was standing a large crowd, and many were the bruises received in the scattering which took place when the elephant started out of the alley. Gypsy did not go far, but went back for Scott, who in the meantime had been moved into a wooden building just opposite the elephant's quarters. The animal knocked in the whole side of the building in her efforts to get at the man again.

Fed on Bread and Cake.

During this time Mr. Harris had sent for many loaves of bread and all the cake that could be bought in the neighborhood, and also telephoned for Claude Orton, his horse trainer, who soon arrived. The elephant quieted down somewhat while he was eating 50 loaves of bread, a large number of cakes and other delicacies which were placed before her. After she had finished eating she walked into her barn and the heavy doors were shut after her.

Breaks Out Again.

The door had no sooner been shut than the elephant with one blow shat-

tered it and ran out again. By this time every street in the vicinity was crowded with excited people. Persons were lodged on fences and in trees watching the scene with the elephant in the alley. Three wagon loads of police came to the rescue, but did no good further than keeping back the crowds. None of them wanted to undertake the job of chaining the enraged beast, and it was decided there were not big enough guns in the crowd to kill her.

Went Back of Her Own Accord.

The elephant had her own way for about four hours, when she went back into her stall and allowed Orton to chain her. Harris has owned the animal for five years and has had no trouble with her before.

Frank Scott's right name is unknown. He would never tell who he was, and although he had been with Harris' circus for six years no one knows anything of him except that he went under an assumed name. His body is now in the hands of an undertaker, and he will be buried from the home of Mrs. Harris.

Her Seventh Victim.

Omaha, Neb., March 26.—Bernard Shea, the former keeper of Gypsy, the elephant which created so much trouble in Chicago Wednesday, will take the first train for Chicago to assume his old position. Mr. Shea has been Gypsy's keeper off and on for the past ten years and says he has never had any trouble with her. In an interview he stated that Gypsy is only another name for Empress, the original old Empress, the first elephant imported into this country, and that the killing of her late keeper, Scott, makes the seventh victim of her vicious character.

The first was Harry Cooley, in 1870, at Forepaugh's winter quarters in Philadelphia; then George West had the life crushed out of him in 1874, traveling on the road with Robinson's show. "Jimmy, the Burn," was the next man, at New Iberia, La., in 1882, followed by William Devoe, with O'Brien's show at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in 1886. Patsy Hulligan was the sixth victim, and he had his arm torn out at Cincinnati in 1894, and died two days afterwards.

THE DAILY GATE CITY. MARCH 21, 1889.

A STATUE TO P. T. BARNUM.

Refusal of the Great Showman to Have It Erected Until After His Death.

In the summer of 1884, Mr. P. T. Barnum sat to Thomas Ball, in Boston, for a bust for the Barnum Museum of Natural History at Tuft's College, which he had endowed. Mr. Barnum's partners, Mr. James A. Baily and Mr. J. L. Hutchinson, simply out of gratitude and kindly feeling contracted then with Mr. Ball, of their own notion, to execute a large bronze statue of him, which they wished to present to his family; and his late partners added contributions towards its cost, which is about \$20,000. It was a great surprise to Mr. Barnum, and for once in his life he scarcely knew what to say. He thanked them for their good intentions, but declared he would never see it; nor would he allow it to be shown until he had been "for many years mouldering in the grave."

The statue in plaster, when completed by Mr. Ball in Florence, was sent to

Munich and cast in the Royal Bronze Foundry in that city in 1887. So well pleased were the proprietors of the foundry with the artistic excellence of the statue and their success in casting it, that they placed it in the great Art Exhibition then about to open in Munich. It received the only first-class medal given. In the diploma accompanying the medal, the jury said it was awarded "for the very excellent performance, not only in the artistic but in the technical regard."

The statue represents Mr. Barnum sitting in a cushioned chair, with a memorandum book in his left hand and a pencil in his right. Its height in a sitting posture is eight feet, and its weight is five thousand pounds. It arrived in New York ten days ago and is stored in a fire-proof warehouse. Mr. Barnum insisted that its arrival should not be known, but it seems to me as if a work of art of this quality and magnitude assures at least this cool and impartial notice.

His partners and members of his family expressing a desire to see it, he finally consented to accompany them quietly to the warehouse. The case containing the statue was opened and standing in a good light it was viewed by Mr. Barnum and his wife, his eldest daughter, Mr. D. W. Thompson, several of his grandchildren, his present partner, Mr. James A. Bailey, his late partners, Mr. J. C. Hutchinson and Mr. W. W. Cole, Dr. J. DeVer Warner, Maj. William B. Hincks, Treasurer of the City Savings Bank of Bridgeport, Ct., Mr. E. Bowser, Mr. Barnum's Treasurer, of the same city, and myself. The unanimous opinion was that nothing more lifelike and realistic could be conceived. Mr. Ball's reputation as a sculptor is very great, but he has hardly ever, I think, been more successful than in this work. That the life of the subject may prevent its being seen by the public for a long term of years is the wish of a wide circle, and, no doubt, of the public itself. Where this statue will be erected finally—whether in the Bridgeport Seaside Park or in New York—will be for the future to determine.

JOEL BENTON.

THE DAILY GATE CITY. SEPTEMBER 20, 1894.

Entered at Keokuk Postoffice as 2d class matter

CITY NEWS.

Barnum's show exhibited at Centerville yesterday and the K. & W. hauled about 500 persons to see it. Centerville is regarded as one of the best circus town in the west. Keokuk is not a fruitful field for this sort of enterprise and the circuses have given this town a wide berth this season.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

Entered at Keokuk Postoffice as second class matter

The carcass of an elephant floated down the river, Saturday night. It is thought that it was one of Coup's animals, killed in the accident on the C. & N. W., not long since. Uncle Abe Flansburg says the elephant was going south to spend the summer, as it had a trunk with it. JULY 19, 1881

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

DECEMBER 9, 1837.

JENNY LIND'S BEGINNING.

A Delicate Swedish Girl's First Steps on the Road to Fame.

Early in this century—1820—there was born to a poor Swedish couple a delicate, insignificant looking child. She was christened Jenny, the family name of Lind being added in the register almost as an afterthought, since it seemed hardly possible that the child would outlive its day of baptism. Months passed; the little one lived, but could not be said to thrive. Herr Lind, the father, had a small school in Stockholm. He was assisted by his wife, who seems to have taken almost no interest in her little daughter, for as the baby grew into capacity for walking and moving about, the mother left her entirely to the care of an ignorant woman, who locked the child in a room while she went out to work.

But in the tiny, delicate frame of this baby was something which showed itself even then as a spark of the divine fire. Before she could speak plainly the child could sing—not merely catching a tune and carrying on the melody, but singing so that passers by in the street beneath the window of the room where the child was kept under lock and key would pause to listen to the remarkable birdlike notes. Presently, when the little girl had grown to her 9th year, some one heard this marvelous trilling and vocalization, and entered the house to find out who was the songstress. There she sat, perched up in the window, cold, hungry and pinched looking, with a tiny kitten in her arms, to whom—baby that she was—she was singing in a voice like a thrush, taking every note with a hint of that dramatic finish which made her in later years magnetic to the dullest soul.

This chance inquiry may be said to have decided Jenny Lind's future. I remember her saying to me one day that she regarded all the "accidents of her childhood as peculiar and dramatic." Certainly this one was such, for the casual passer by was Mme. Lundberg, a well known actress in Stockholm, and a woman of sufficient penetration to see that something should be done at once for and with this neglected but inspired child. Forthwith Mme. Lundberg went for Croelius, then the most advanced singing master in Europe, and, taking him to the attic which held the little Nightingale, bade him prepare to be electrified. But it appears that Croelius, with one glance at the child, almost laughed aloud. Poverty, delicate health and loneliness had combined to make her so unattractive that as she stood before him he could not realize that any voice could redeem the awkward form and thin, sallow face, in which the eyes alone seemed luminous, from the first impression which they had produced. But when little Jenny sang, the first phrase sent Croelius' doubts to the winds. He could not restrain his enthusiasm.—Lucy C. Lillie in Lippincott's.

den, in 1853. On both occasions the voice returned to her as it had departed and both times its presence was accidentally discovered. It is well known that she became a singer at the remarkably early age of 10 years. She had spent but one year in a music school in Stockholm when her debut was effected in the Court theatre. For two years she continued to give promise of a great lyric career, when the upper notes of her voice became hard and she was forced into retirement. For four years all thought of a public life was abandoned, when one evening she was called upon to fill an unimportant role in one of Meyerbeer's operas by reason of the illness of the young woman to whom it had been intrusted. To this accident the fame of Jenny Lind is due, for that night she discovered that the sweetness and purity of her voice had returned, and the next night she was invited to sing Agatha in Von Weber's "Freischütz."—Philadelphia Times.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

OCTOBER 28, 1887.

JENNY LIND'S PICTURE.

PROFESSOR BRADY TELLS HOW HE CAPTURED IT.

Noted Characters Before the Camera.
Sontag, Patti and Adelaide Neilson.
Stories of Clay, Calhoun and Webster.
The Lincoln's Little Collar.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—The first picture taken of Jenny Lind during her visit to America was made by Professor M. B. Brady, the famous photographer. Brady is the pioneer of the photographic art in this country. As far back as 1851 he took a medal over the foreign competitors at the great London exhibition as being the best maker of daguerreotypes, and he began his picture taking work in the same room with Professor Morse, then experimenting on the telegraph. His pictures of war views are invaluable, and during the rebellion he accompanied the armies and took photographs of their battles and the leading men engaged in them. He has done more for history in this way than any other man in the world. There is scarcely a noted statesman, a renowned general, or an actress or singer of any fame who has appeared upon the public stage in the past fifty years whose features have not been registered on Brady's camera, and he was for years the court photographer of Washington.

I met him in Willard's hotel last night. A straight, well made man of about medium height, he has a face which reminds you much of that of Louis Napoleon. His hair is thick and bushy. It is combed well up from the forehead, and like his fierce mustache and imperial, it is iron gray. He has bright blue eyes, and these smiled through blue spectacles last night as he told me how he succeeded in getting Jenny Lind's picture. Said he:

"All the daguerreotypers of New York were anxious to get Jenny Lind, and all schemed for weeks before her coming to obtain the first picture. P. T. Barnum was opposed to me, and he did all he could to have her go elsewhere. I secured, however, the assistance of the Swedish consul,

who was a friend of mine, and through him obtained the sitting.



M. B. BRADY.

We commenced arranging for it before Jenny Lind landed, and we got her a day or so after her arrival in New York. My daguerreotype gallery was then on the corner of Fulton and Nassau streets, and

the word had gotten out that I was to take her picture. A great crowd was gathered around the entrance to the gallery, and it blocked up the street for a full square. She came in a carriage, and was very kind in allowing me a number of sittings. I took all sorts of views, about a dozen in all, and when we were through I slipped her out through a back door into an alley, and she thus got away and avoided the crowd. She was not a beautiful woman, but her face was a pleasant one. It was of the Swedish order, square and red and her eyes were beautiful. She had a glint of gold in her hair under the camera, and she took an excellent picture. It was before the days of photographing, and the pictures I made were daguerreotypes of the largest size. I put them on exhibition and the people came by thousands to see them. I sold copies of them to the country daguerreotypers, and in this way the pictures became scattered all over the United States."

"This was about the time of Frank Leslie's coming to this country. He was very poor and he had a hard time to get along. I suggested to him the idea of taking my daguerreotype, engraving a picture of Jenny Lind from it and of putting the engraving on the back of a programme which should be used as an advertisement and sold in the theatres." He did this and traveled with the Jenny Lind company from city to city. When he began his first newspaper work I gave him hints as to the characters the Americans would like to see sketched, and after he had founded Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, I did a great deal of work for him."

"What other noted singers have sat for you, Mr. Brady?"

"Nearly every one who has sung before the American public," was the reply. "The next noted person after Jenny Lind was Catherine Hays, who came here to get some of the money which had been so lavishly showered upon Jenny Lind. She was a fine singer, and after her came Sontag. I remember Sontag's picture very well. She had not a handsome face, and she was short and dumpy. Still she looked very well on the stage, and I asked her how she managed to make her height appear so much greater than it really was. She pointed to her dress, which was rather curiously arranged, and told me that an artist had shown her how to drape it so that the lines and folds would increase her height. I have taken Patti a number of times, and the first time she came before my camera she was not more than 14 years old. She was thin and homely, and showed no signs of the beauties of form and figure which she has now."

"Who is the prettiest woman you have ever taken?"

"The camera," replied Mr. Brady, "is very destructive of ordinary beauty. It brings out every line of feature, and there is no powder or rouge which will stand its scrutiny. One of the prettiest women I have ever looked at through it was Adelaide Neilson. Her face was without a flaw and her form was that of a Venus de Medici. I have never seen Langtry be-

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

NOVEMBER 18, 1887.

Jenny Lind's Voice.

Twice during her life she lost control of her voice. The first time while her career was only budding, the second shortly after the birth of her son while living in Dres-

fore the camera, but she is not the equal of Adelaide Neilson. She is a fine looking animal, but her face lacks strength and is barren of intellectuality."

In speaking of the noted statesmen he has taken Professor Brady says that John C. Calhoun had the most remarkable face of any man he has known. "Calhoun's eyes," said he, "glowed before the camera like those of the tiger in the jungle. They looked like balls of fire. His forehead was low and the hair stood up upon it like that of Andrew Jackson. He had high cheek bones and hollow jaws, and his face seemed the personification of the intellectual. I took him but a short time before he died, and I was surprised to find the extent of his information. The servants would hardly admit me, but I overpersuaded them, and the conversation that I had with Mr. Calhoun lasted two hours, beginning with daguerreotyping. This was but little known then, but I found that Calhoun knew all about it, and before we finished our talk we drifted into politics. He told me that he feared a war between the two sections and spoke feelingly of the horrors it would entail upon the country."

"I have also photographed Henry Clay several times, and his head was a very remarkable one. It was shaped like a sugar loaf and looked much like that of Lamartine. His cheekbones were high and his mouth reached from ear to ear. Clay wore an immense collar and his head stood in this like an ugly flower with a white corolla about it. He had a fair complexion, quick roving eyes, and no one met him without falling in love with him.

"Speaking of Clay's collar reminds me of my first picture of Abraham Lincoln. I took it just after his election when he passed through New York on his way to Washington. I was not pleased with the prospects of a good picture when I saw him. He was so tall, gaunt and angular that I knew it would be hard to get a natural picture. His neck was very long, and when I got him before the camera I asked him if I might not arrange his collar, which was just as much too little as Henry Clay's was too big. With that I began to pull the collar upward, and as I did so President Lincoln said: 'Ah! I see you want to shorten my neck.' That is just what I am trying to do,' I replied, and we both laughed. The picture had a wide sale, and Lincoln afterward spoke of me as the man who first introduced him to the people.

"I have taken all the presidents since Andrew Jackson," Professor Brady went on. "I took Jackson's picture at the Hermitage just before he died, and I got Grant and his cabinet during their administration. My first picture of Grant was taken when he came to Washington as general. Few people at the capital knew him, and I went down with the newspaper men to identify the great soldier for them. I had seen his picture, but had not seen the man. There were no officials present to receive him, and I got a carriage and we rode down Pennsylvania avenue together. During the ride I got a promise from him that he would come the next day and allow me to photograph him. He did not come until 4:30, and the light was so bad that I feared I could not get a good picture. Secretary Stanton came with him, and the photographic establishment was much excited at the arrival of the two. We took half a dozen different cameras and trained them upon Grant in order to get as much as we could out of the fast fading light. I sent a German assistant up to the roof to pull back the skylight to its full length, but the man was so nervous in the presence of Grant and so frightened at the prospect of losing the picture altogether that he stumbled on the sky-

light, broke it and knocked immense pieces of plate glass down to the room below. The distance was considerable, and had any man been struck with one of these pieces of glass he would have been killed. All in the gallery made exclamations and fled back to the walls of the room except Gen. Grant. He did not move from his position, and with the exception of a satirical smile his features did not change. I shall never forget his composure nor his face as it looked that day."

"This incident," Mr. Brady went on, "recalls one in connection with Senator Benton, whose photograph I took in New York. Benton was, you know, full of vanity. He was tall and ponderous, and as he stamped across my studio a big paper shade, which was lying horizontally above, fell and struck him so that his head went through it like a rider jumping through the paper hoops in a circus and the shade caught upon his shoulders. His head looked like that of John the Baptist on a charger. Benton was frightened at first, but when he saw that he was not injured he laughed heartily and sat for his picture."

"Who was the greatest man you have ever photographed?"

"That is hard to say, but the man who impressed me most was Daniel Webster. Jenny Lind said, you know, when she saw Webster, that she felt she had seen a man; and Webster, who first heard her sing at Washington, rose majestically at the close of her first song and made an imposing bow to her, which was the signal for enthusiastic applause. My first meeting with Webster was on Broadway. I did not know him, but I was so struck with his form and features that I followed him asking every one I met who he was. A few years afterward I became acquainted with him, and I took his picture several times. He was a grand man, intellectually, physically and physiognomically. He had a grave, noble, dignified face: large, piercing, dark eyes, full of luster, and a broad, high, full forehead. His face stood the scrutiny of the camera well, and he was a pleasant man to meet."

"I see that Charles Dickens' son is in this country. Did you ever take his father's picture?"

"No, but I knew him, and I tried to arrange to have him lecture in America under my management. This was shortly after he had written the 'American Notes' which made him so unpopular. Dickens feared he might be mobbed if he came to the United States, but Horace Greeley joined with me in pressing him to come, and assured him he would be well treated. Then his troubles with his wife arose, and he could not leave, fearing a lawsuit. The matter was put off until the war broke out and he could not come. Some years later, when he did visit the United States, I met him at a dinner at Delmonico's, and I was much pleased with him. I did not photograph him because he had a cast iron contract with a London photographer who sold his photographs, and who had contracted to take all his pictures."

"Speaking of literary men, I took Edgar A. Poe about forty years ago, when he was editing a newspaper in New York. He had come in with a friend who wanted a daguerreotype taken, and he looked both sad and seedy. His coat was threadbare and shiny, and it was tightly buttoned across his lean form and up about his throat. There was not a shred of linen visible, and if you will notice the pictures which have been published you will note that no linen is to be seen. If he had a shirt on he did not show it, and his throat was wrapped around in a swath of black necktie, which, like his coat, was seedy and full of wrinkles. I knew who

he was and asked him if he would not have his picture taken. He shook his locks and said 'No, no.' I told him there would be no charge, and finally persuaded him to take his stand before the camera.

"I have also taken Fenimore Cooper, and I have been told that Cooper intended to make me one of his characters in a novel, but he died before he carried out the idea. I knew N.P. Willis very well, and I have taken Nathaniel Hawthorne. Took most of the pictures now being published in the war articles in the magazines, and one of the greatest compliments of my life was that which was tendered me by Robert E. Lee in giving me the sitting for the large picture recently published in *The Century*. I took it just after the surrender at Appomattox, and it was, I think, the day following this surrender that Gen. Lee gave me the sitting. I don't suppose a similar instance has ever occurred in the picture taking art in any country."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Sweden Constitution.

OCTOBER 15, 1887

THE SWEDISH SONGSTRESS

WHO TOOK NEW YORK BY STORM
IN 1850.

A Lonely Little Girl, Whose Song to a Cat Brought Her to Fame—How Jenny Lind Won the Hearts of the American People by Her Melody.



N the 1st day of September, 1850, 25,000 people stood upon the wharf of New York city, waiting eagerly for the steamer Atlantic. No such crowd had gathered there since the arrival of Lafayette. These Americans were not there to greet a monarch or a great politician—they were awaiting the arrival of a conqueror, indeed; one who had won the hearts of Europe. They were awaiting a plain and simple Swedish girl; but that girl was Jenny Lind. Public curiosity had been stimulated to an unwonted degree, and the man of many resources, P. T. Barnum, had advertised with an ingenuity rare even for him. Jenny Lind's sad childhood (when she was left alone all day in a tenement house and sang to her cat for company), her romantic girlhood as an eleve in the royal opera at Stockholm, her triumphal tour of the capitals of Europe and the popular ovation on her return to Stockholm, had all been told in fascinating detail in the American papers, and so 25,000 people greeted her at the wharf with long continued cheers.

A week after 3,000 persons gathered in Castle Garden to the sale of preferred tickets—each successive purchaser to have choice of seat and as many more as he would take at the same price. Mr. Barnum had advertised the sale also in his most ingenious manner. The auctioneer had but announced the terms and called for a bid when a voice rang out clear and loud, "Twenty-five dollars!" "Fifty dollars!" was the instant response in a louder voice.

The first bidder was the cashier of the noted Dr. Bradstreet; the second John N. Gemini, a popular hatter. Then, so rapidly that the auctioneer could not utter a word, the rivals ran the price up to \$225, at which sum Mr. Gemini was declared the purchaser. It made his fortune. "Gemini the hatter"

JENNY LIND

THE GREAT DUSTY OLD FABLES
R. J. REED

DON'T FORGET THAT
Adam Forepaugh Shows
 Will Exhibit at
KEOKUK, 1891
FRIDAY, JULY 17.

The oldest, largest, richest, grandest, most novel and in every respect the very best tented exhibition in the whole world. Don't expect us to enumerate the one thousandth part of their vast and varied attractions in this brief advertisement. Read any of our different publications, put out by our Bureau of publicity traversing the country with 4 palace advertising cars, carrying 115 experienced agents and tons upon tons of printed matter and you will find a detailed history of the whole show. Briefly we will jot down a few of the distinguishing features of the Adam Forepaugh **Tremendous 3-Ring Circus—Quadruped Menagerie—Roman Hippodrome—Wild West Exhibition—Liberated Lion Show Trained Animals—Foreign Features.**

Now on our 28th consecutive annual tour of America. Always the largest, now the greatest of all great shows. First season in America of **COL. BOONE** and **MISS CARLOTTA**, who will daily appear in the triple circus with

5 LIONS ALL LET LOOSE



And seen in the steel-girded circus ring riding tricycles, playing see-saw, racing in harness, dancing, leaping, etc. First season under canvas of the great and only

HANLON - VOLTERS
 in their death defying "Leap for Life." Note these items:

200 CIRCUS CELEBRITIES—800 MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN—400 HORSES—150 SAVAGES AND SCOUTS—200 RARE ANIMALS—100 TRAINED BEASTS—2 HERDS OF EDUCATED ELEPHANTS—\$3,000,000 CASH INVESTED—\$5,500 DAILY EXPENSES—50 RAILWAY CARS—14 WATERPROOF TENTS—75 GLITTERING CHARIOTS—\$50,000 TROUPE TRAINED BRONCHOS—3 CIRCUS RINGS—Elevated Stage—5 Bands of Music—Innumerable Acts in the Circus—60 Instrumentalists—15 Fun Creators—20,000 People Daily Attend—Waterproof Tents—\$10,000 Canine Circus—1-4 Mile Racing Course.

Among our illustrious performers we call attention to Col. Boone, Lion King, Miss Carlotta, Lion Queen, salary \$1,000 per week—Hanlon-Volters, salary \$75 per week—Adam Forepaugh, Wild Beast Trainer—Tokio Troupe Japanese Jugglers—French's Troupe Bicycle Artists—Reed Family Equestriennes—Capt. A. H. Bogardus (champion wing shot) and family.

No one dares dispute the fact the Great Adam Forepaugh Shows runs three times as many cars, erects twice as large tents as any other show, gives three times greater circus, daily expenses three times greater than any other show, ten times more famous special features, oldest exhibition in America, makes ten times the best parade, owns and exhibits more wild beasts, employs four times the most people and is the One Truly Tremendous Tented Exhibition of the Universe. Don't miss the

GOLD GLEAMING PARADE

At 10 a.m., of show day. Reserved numbered opera chairs (at the regular prices) and admission tickets at the usual slight advance can be obtained at **AYRES BROS. Music Store** on the day of exhibition. Excursion trains, low fares on all railroads.

THE CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT
JULY 17, 1891
A MODEL SHOW.

J. E. Cooper's Adam Forepaugh Shows
 Larger and Better Than Ever.

A Splendid Street Procession, Waterproof Canvas and Great Entertainment—Largely Attended and to be Repeated To-night.

The first section of railway cars used to transport the Adam Forepaugh Shows moved into this city this morning just as the dawn of day made its inroads upon the shades of night. It was not long before the other sections joined the first, filling side tracks with a railway equipment that cost in itself a fortune. The work of unloading and the transfer to the show grounds was effected quickly and quietly. No loud or boisterous shouts were to be heard. Early slumberers were disturbed by the heavy rumble of the wagons and tramp of hundred of horse's feet. Old veterans turned in their beds and imagined they once more listened to the movement of the army trains. Upon the exhibition grounds the immense waterproof tents were soon in place and by eight o'clock the 800 employees were enjoying an early breakfast served in the canvas dining room.

When the ancient Roman conquerors laid waste the countries around them, from each and every vanquished territory they brought the fairest women and bravest men, the rarest jewels and brilliant offerings. Gathering these to their golden chariots they marched in proud procession through the streets of Rome. It told of victories won with an expenditure of the best blood of the Romans, of jarring arms and clashing spears that left their deadly imprints upon arid mountains and in fertile valleys. All this to produce pomp and glory for the crowned dictators of the people. To-day a pageant passed through the streets displaying the glories of the emperor showman, J. E. Cooper. From every latitude and longitude, from Africa's torrid zone, from Asia's golden sands, from Greenland's icy mountains and Patagonia's chilly clime have been gathered representatives of man and beast in order that the world may see the wonders it contains. No bloodshed or cruelty marks this emperor's triumphal procession. Peace and prosperity, wealth and happiness proclaim its organization. With proud steps and plumed heads hundreds of fine horses carry gorgeously costumed knights and fair ladies. To the inspir-

ing music of the bugle, the drum, the fife, the caliope and many bands marched the amusement host. Massive elephants, ungainly camels, children of the Orient and the aborigines of this country mingled to astonish the on-lookers. Spreading, like ancient and fabulous bird called the Roe, its pinions over our city and glistening with gold and silver, brilliant with precious jewels and massive chariots, Adam Forepaugh's pageant marched proudly, giving freely to the public satisfying delight.

Great as was this free display it was simply a promise of the wealth of attractions which was to be seen within the wonder encircling walls. Its zoological collection was extensive and instructive. Splendid condition marked the appearance of the rare specimens which greeted the eye on all sides. From the giant hippopotamus to the baby camel all deserved thoughtful consideration. The Indian village, and the camp of Capt. Bogardus and Sons, men world famed as expert marksmen, was surrounded by interested visitors. Passing into the extensive hippodrome auditorium the great size at once impressed the guest. Capable of seating no less than ten thousand persons, presenting in its triple rings, upon its elevated stage and broad race track two hundred specially selected artists in a hundred acts it was a grand sight. Again Mr. Cooper soars over old traditions. It has been said that there is nothing new to be seen in the circus. Yet with the Adam Forepaugh shows novelty is ever present. The trained forest bred lions introduced by Colonel Daniel Boone and Miss Carlotta where the great boar hounds Saxon and Spot perform with the kings of the forest is a decided novelty. Within a forty foot circular steel bound cage these savage animals at word of command form pyramids, play at see-saw, ride the tricycle and accomplish such feats as would in the past have been considered an impossibility. Here is demonstrated that the courage and patience of man can subdue all the savagery of the brute creation.

From start of the entertainment to the finish there is a clock work precision and rapidity that economises every minute of time so that for two hours the spectator's constant attention is required. The concert which follows is far above the average, presenting the famous Zazel in her fire jump. This latter gives a practical illustration of her life saving fire net which may at any time be necessary. One of the most important things about the show is its freedom from followers. Mr. Cooper wages continued war against

crooks of all kinds. He employs detectives to protect his patrons who ask the co-operation of the authorities to suppress all games. He is opposed to shows that are used as a cloak for gamblers and thieves and who, in many cases, endeavor for a consideration to have officials close their eyes to their misdeeds. From his employes he exacts politeness and courtesy. Thus by square dealing and faithful performances of promises made the public, Mr. Cooper elevates his chosen amusement profession and deserves the support of the public. Absolutely water-proof tents will protect the visitor in case of rain and at night the same performance in every respect will be repeated.

The circus drew thousands of strangers to the city to-day, several of the railroads running specials for the occasion, and all the regular trains being loaded down with visitors. This morning Main street and the side streets were densely packed with people, all bent on seeing the parade, and when it passed the pageant was witnessed by more people than that of any other circus that ever visited our city.

The Robertson Tea Co. are having special sale on sugar. Call to-morrow and get price.

It is a well known fact that all horses become frightened in the presence of an elephant. A most commendable feature in the Forepaugh parade was the fact that ten or a dozen horsemen rode ahead of or alongside of the elephants and warned all who had horses to get them out of the way. Immediately on any horse showing signs of fright one of the horsemen took his stand by the animal and remained there until all danger was past.

Constitution-Democrat.

MONDAY, JULY 20, 1891.

WHEN Forepaugh's show was in Clinton a week ago and preparations were being made for the exhibition, Harry Barnum, the superintendent, was depressed and filled with forebodings of evil. He pointed out an approaching storm and the story which follows demonstrates that the showman's title for the town, "Calamity Clinton," seems to be well founded. The special correspondent of the Chicago Times was on the ground. He tells the story: Sharp flashes of lightning and rolls of thunder told of the approaching fight. It was the elements battling against the canvas. The great tops groaned, ropes strained,

wind whistled, poles danced, and then the heavens poured down a flood of water. The tents stood, but great openings showed that it had received a few wounds. Through the rain the parade marched. Then the sun again appeared and all was once more smiles. "I hope that ends the trouble," said Henry Barnum. "It was coming into Clinton with the Coup show that we struck a bull and wrecked the train, killing lots of horses and all of Freyer's dogs. The old London was blown down here. Barnum & Bailey's shows had a storm, cut their show and ordered the spectators out in order to prevent a panic. Another small show had an Indian exhibit, and by mistake used loaded cartridges instead of blank ones and killed three persons, besides injuring several others. I tell you boys, there is a fatality about this town."

The performance commenced. Three handsome young men, splendidly formed, with muscles hard as iron were about to enter the arena. The smallest was racing about the dressing room, followed by a stripling youth. They were playing at touch with straps instead of hands.

"That's one on me, Harry French," said the gymnast. "Wait until I come down and I will get even."

Then he rushed out to join his brothers, those with whom for twenty-four years he had performed feats that placed them upon the highest round of the ladder of fame * * *. Within the canvas dressing-room a prostrate form lay, and as the doctors raised their heads from the chest of the body, their voices seemed to echo the words—"All is over."

Constitution-Democrat.

MARCH 1, 1899.

ELLA EWING IS STILL GROWING

She Is About to Start on Another Exhibition Tour, But Says She Prefers Her Home at Gorin.

Ella Ewing is about to go on another tour and her press agent is getting in his work. Some papers have a long article about her which says that after living in retirement at her home for two years she will startle the lovers of freaks with an addition of three inches to her eight-foot stature, this increase in height, having been gained during her long rest.

It was some six years ago that a Chicago traveling man told the manager of a museum in that city of a wonderful giantess whom he had seen while on a business trip through Missouri. The museum man, half incredulous, did not for a time investigate the tale, which was that in the

little village of Gorin, there lived a nineteen-year-old girl who was eight feet tall—and still growing!

At last, after thinking the matter carefully over, the museum man decided to send an agent to Gorin. The little town was found with some difficulty and the agent inquired of the local postmaster if he knew of a giantess in the neighborhood.

"I reckon you must mean Ella Ewing," said the bucolic government official. "She's the biggest gal in these parts and I calc'late that she hain't got her growth yet."

Ella stood exactly eight feet tall in 1892. Since then she has grown three inches taller. Chang, the famous Chinese giant, who made a colossal fortune exhibiting himself in Europe and the United States, was only seven feet eleven inches tall, and Colonel Ruth Goshen, for many years the "star" feature of Barnum's circus museum annex, was but seven feet six inches tall in his thickest-soled boots. Ella can readily look over the heads of either of these men.

Few person who have seen Ella Ewing have thought of her other than as a wonderful curiosity—a freak of nature. But there is another and a serious side of the question. Though surrounded by her personal friends, of an amiable disposition, interested in charitable and religious works, Ella Ewing is sui generis—a human misfit, and has no doubt shed many a bitter tear over the fate which has made her so different from ordinary mortals. She seems out of place everywhere except in the spacious rooms of her new home, which she has built on the site of the modest place of her birth in the village. Its ceilings are twelve feet high, and she has her own furniture—easy chairs, lounges, work table, etc.—all made to order and for her especial convenience.

Miss Ewing talks freely of her life, its joys and sorrows, and makes the discomforts of her size very clear. She said that in Chicago she always lived a few blocks from the museum, as she wouldn't dare walk a long distance for fear of creating a riot. She continued:

"I am always glad to get back to our peaceful Missouri home. Here everybody knows me and I am not considered a 'freak.' I have made money enough to buy a couple of profitable farms, rebuild my home and establish my father in business. We have enough and a little to spare. I've never given matrimony a single serious thought, and have no doubt that I shall live and die an old maid."

WATER CRIMPED LEAF

CREDITS

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEDOKUK, IOWA

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1889.

A Famous Showman Passed Away.

Mr. John V. O'Brien, the showman, who died recently at his residence at Frankford, Pa., was born there in 1836. His father was a stone mason. The boy, at 13, started as a stage driver on a line running between Frankford and Philadelphia, and in 1857 bought out the line and ran it himself for two years. He then sold out, but continued the business for a while in other cities. In 1861 he rented horses to Gardner & Hennings to haul their show over the country, and acted himself as boss hostler. In 1862 he purchased a third interest in the show and became assistant manager. The next year he sold out and organized a company, traveling under the title of Bryans & Mrs. Dan Rice's circus. This interest he sold in 1864 and started the Tom King Excelsior circus. He thus passed rapidly from one enterprise to another, accumulating considerable property, though for two years past he has been somewhat embarrassed. Still it is thought that his affairs will show a moderate fortune.



JOHN V. O'BRIEN.

Daily Constitution.

MARCH 28, 1885.

CIRCUS NOVELTIES HIRED OUT.

Horses, Lions and Other Animals That Make Up the Required Performance.

(New York Mail and Express.)

It has always been a puzzle to the average circus-goer how such mammoth shows as Barnum's and others can be maintained all the year round. When one reads of any person having so large a racing stud or collection of wild animals that even the transportation from distant lands costs a small fortune, he marvels at the outlay required not only to purchase but to maintain such retinue. Barnum's show, when it visits the metropolis, has at least a dozen of the finest racehorses and hunters, and the general belief is that the sleek and fleet-footed animals belong to the great showman. Such, however, does not appear to be the fact. A reporter recently met one of the members of the largest importing firms in the country of wild animals, birds, and in-fact all kinds of curiosities. Referring to the matter he said:

"The race horses Barnum exhibits in his show are not his, or at least a number of them are not. You want to know where he gets them from? Well, I will tell you. The animals are rented from parties in the same business as myself for the time being. Or, in other words, when a large circus, so to speak, pitches its tent where it is to meet the eye of a critical audience such as is to be encountered in New York, it is compelled to appear in a very fine suit of clothes. All the curiosities within reach are gathered together, and what the ordinary costumer does for the habitues of fancy balls or masquerades, even to the silky swallow-tail coats we do for these great showmen to whom we rent our animals, race horses and fancy birds, as well as many other curiosities. In making our contracts we are compelled to be very stringent in the conditions, so as to enforce as much attention, if not more, to our property by the lessee than if it were really their own. Take, for instance, the racing stock. Accidents are

liable to happen to horses running round the ring or taking the hurdles. To guard against any loss and fully protect ourselves, it is clearly stipulated that should any of the animals sustain injuries from which they may be incapacitated for a time, or their usefulness in the ring impaired for good, we place a good round sum on their heads; so large, indeed, that we at once compel the lessor to be ever careful and mindful of them.

"It is precisely the same with lions, tigers, and other valuable animals which even the careless feeding might cause us to lose. When a man stipulates to pay \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$4,000 for an animal, in case anything happens to it while in his charge, he is morally certain to exercise the utmost care in its behalf. The rent of precious show animals is not so much but we can afford to let them out to different parties during the year.

Constitution Democrat.
= SEPTEMBER 19, 1903. =

BATTLE WITH LION

TAMER HAS A REAL FIGHT WITH KING OF BEASTS.

HUGE JAWS CLOSED ON HAND HOLDING REVOLVER.

An Incident Not On the Program at East St. Louis Furnishes Much Excitement.

St. Louis, Sept. 21.—Capt. Ricardo, the lion tamer, who appears several times daily in the act known as the "fight for life" in the program furnished for the East St. Louis fall carnival, had a real fight for life Saturday with McKinley, the untamable lion that appears with him.

In the regular act, McKinley is separated from Capt. Ricardo by a heavy iron bar, when the tamer enters the cage with a revolver in his left hand and a strong iron bar in his right hand.

The last performance was being given at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, when Capt. Ricardo entered the cage. As soon as he fired the pistol and McKinley did not cower growling to a corner of the cage as is his wont Capt. Ricardo realized that the huge animal was angry and there was a fight before him.

He called to the assistant tamer to brace the bar, but it was too late. The bar that is thrust through the cage bars had slipped and before it could be placed securely, McKinley had hurled his 700 pounds of weight against it, bending it and thrusting it aside.

In an instant the animal had reached Capt. Ricardo. The tamer thrust his revolver into the beast's mouth, but the cartridge failed to explode and the jaws of the huge animal closed on the hand.

At the sight of the blood, the spectators realized that there was a realness about the "fight for life" and rushed for the doors, while the assistant keepers rushed to the cage.

Capt. Ricardo, with the assistance of the men on the outside of the cage, beat McKinley back until the door of the cage could be opened.

Capt. Ricardo in private life is R. W. Warner. In October, 1902, he had a narrow escape from death from McKinley's jaws at St. Joseph, Mo. He was also attacked by a leopard at Lemp's park in 1902.

McKinley has claimed three victims. Col. Fred Woodsat was killed September 1901, while trying to tame the beast and Burt Lawrence and Boccaccio were the other victims.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 20, 1889.

Entered in Keokuk postoffice as 2d class matter.

HIS FATAL LEAP.

A Circus Jumper Makes One Leap Too Many.

Duchack's circens exhibited here Saturday. During the evening performance, William Merritt alias William DeLacy, performed his usual jumping feat—that of jumping over five horses and three men and while in mid-air turning a double somersault. This is a very difficult feat, and requires the closest attention of the performer as he catches his knees to make the turns and must calculate very accurately that he may let go at the proper time to light on his feet. Mr. Merritt seems to have lost himself and held too long, nearly making the third turn, an almost impossible feat. As he let go he fell, lighting on the back of his neck, breaking his spine and thereby causing him to be paralyzed. He was carried out and taken to the Hotel Chester. He did not seem to suffer much pain except when moved and then it was intense. Everything possible was done to aid him, but all proved of no avail. At 9 o'clock Sunday evening he breathed his last. During the day he had expressed his intention of making that evening's jump his last in that particular line, and had also said that he felt he would be hurt before he did quit. Just before the jump he turned to one of the men and said, "Jack, I am afraid of this." Undoubtedly these forebodings weighing upon his mind helped to cause him to make a miscalculation and his worst fears were realized. He was taken to Mt. Pleasant Monday morning where the funeral services were held at 10 o'clock.—Fairfield Journal.

**WALLACE & CO.'S
INTERNATIONAL
Railroad Shows
GREAT WORLD'S MENAGERIE,
Double Circus, Musuem
ANNEX OF STARTLING WONDERS
—WILL EXHIBIT AT—
Keokuk, Wednesday, June 4**

Grand Flying Leap From Space!



A terrific tumble from the clouds leaving her swiftly flying Mammoth Aerial Engine when it shall have reached its greatest attainable height. The daring aeronaut will make a thrilling and precipitous descent to earth aided alone by her ingeniously constructed Parachute, and amid the plaudits of the thousands, breathless and awed spectators, will reach the ground in safety. This marvelous achievement has been very frequently attempted by other aeronauts, but it has never been successfully accomplished except by

Miss Dora Montrose.

Come to town early. A new and vast assemblage of earth's living and inanimate marvels and quadruple company of leading and distinguished equestrians, acrobats, and clowns. The best selected menagerie of rare and seldom exhibited living wild animals, beautiful native and gorgeously plumaged exotic birds, monstrous reptilia and amphibia. An alliance of ring artists absolutely without precedent on either side of the Atlantic ocean.

Grand Menagerie of Rare Animals

A herd of elephants of every known variety and species. Daily, at 10 o'clock, rain or shine, a huge gratuitous parade, outrivalling the splendors of the Orient. A great line of golden glitter, moving to exquisite music. Without a doubt among the finest street displays ever in your county.

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1890

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.

THIS IS CIRCUS DAY.

The Tents of the Wallace Show Spread Near Rand Park.

The Wallace show while not exactly "the greatest aggregation on earth," is an excellent one in every department. It arrived in the city at an early hour Wednesday morning and spread its tents on the vacant block near Rand park, to which a large crowd of people went this afternoon to witness the performance. The arena sports were all of a high class and there were many novel acts, new and original. The daring trapeze performance, the sailor act; entirely new, the tumblers, the acrobats, the trapeze performers and the horizontal bar acts, were all of a high class, while the equestrian acts introduced were first-class. A finer lot of horses was never seen with a circus exhibition here than the collection with the Wallace show. Those who witnessed this afternoon's performance, will bear out the statement that it was clean, enjoyable and worth the price of admission. There is one very noticeable feature in connection with the Wallace show, and that is that all the people connected with the exhibition from the proprietors down conduct themselves orderly and properly. The employes and attendants appear to make it their special business to look after the comforts and pleasure of patrons and do everything possible to make a visit to the exhibition thoroughly enjoyable.

Weather permitting, another performance will be given to-night, and you should attend. **JUNE 4, 1890**

The Gate City.

Blondin Outdone--The Latest Sensation.

[From the N. Y. Cor. of the Hartford Press.]

You may recall one De Lave, a tight-rope performer, who a long time ago astonished the natives of Rochester by his feats above the Genesee Falls. He has returned here from many years spent in South America and Mexico, and is going to give the public a new sensation. He proposes to cross the Falls of Niagara on a small wire, as "the American Eagle." To explain, he is now having a large leathern eagle made here in the city, which is to be "stuck full" of feathers and otherwise manipulated so as to resemble a live one of monstrous proportions. This is to fit closely about his body, and on walking the wire he will balance himself by flapping the artificial wings. At the same time a rope is to be suspended by him below the wire, to which his son, a boy eight years old, will cling and go through with various athletic performances as the father advances across the falls. De Lave likewise proposes to walk on a wire over the falls, carrying both his wife and son on his back. This promises to be the great sensation of the season. De Lave has been performing at the City of Mexico, where he occasioned a considerable *furore*. He brings with him a medal received from the Emperor Maximilian.

DAILY GATE CITY JONES, EGG

THE GREAT DUST HELL IN AMERICAN HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, 1000 BROADWAY, IOWA

COUP'S SHOWS.

POSITIVELY COMING!

KEOKUK, Wednesday, JULY 6,

No Sooner---No Later. 1881

A Century Ahead of the Times!

DAILY GATE CITY.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 22, 1874.

A Part of the Continent Off on a Trip.



continued on 22

22 SHE

Positively Coming with 4 Great Rings,

W. C. COUP'S

NEW

MADE BY E
DATE
19

United Monster Shows!

THREE TIMES LARGER THAN EVER,

In Glittering, Mighty and Incomparable Combination, with

THE GREAT PARIS HIPPODROME!



An Immeasurable and Paralyzing Flood of Grandeur

A CONSOLIDATION OF

10 GORGEOUS EXHIBITIONS! 10

UNEQUALED FOR

SIZE!

NOVELTY!
MERIT!

SENSATIONS!

SPLENDOR!
ORIGINALITY!

Combined with the most

Magnificent Parisian Entertainment, and Racing Carnival, making one Vast, Stupendous and Gorgeous representation of all the Sports, Pastimes, Diversions and Recreations of Ancient and Modern times!

The ONLY SHOW IN THE WORLD having

4 GREAT CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME RINGS FULL CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME COMPANIES

—AND—

A Roman Race Track, 40 Feet Wide, and Nearly a Half Mile Round.

Exhibiting at every performance in all the large cities to an Audience of 16,000 People. Thousands turned away from the doors. A Mammoth Tent, covering eight acres of ground. Seats for 14,000; standing room for 2,000.

One Price of admission admits to this entire Confederation of Enrapturing Wonders.



1000 Men and Horses!

EIGHTH ANNUAL TOUR.

THE GREAT FOREPAUGH SHOW
IS COMING!

Menagerie, Museum, Hippodrome Circus
in Two Rings, Oriental Caravan
and Wonder-world Exposition. Is Positively the

Largest Exhibition on Earth!
Will Exhibit Afternoon and Evening, at

KEOKUK,
Monday, August 24.
UNDER A COMBINATION OF
EIGHT CENTRE POLE TENTS
IN THE
ENORMOUS MENAGERIE!



1500 Wild Beasts!

LARGER THAN 20 MENAGERIES!

EXHIBITS A
2-Horned Hairy Rhinoceros!
And the Only Full Grown

LIVING GIRAFFE

IN AMERICA.

HIPPOPOTAMUS!

Three Trained Elephants!
MONSTER EGYPTIAN CROCODILE!

Litter of Nursing Infant Lions!

Horned Horse, Female Kangaroo, Eland, White Camels, 8 Living Lions, Camelopard, Bears, Tigers, Cougars, Addox, Aard, Vark, 50 different Species of Apes, Baboons, Monkeys, &c., &c.

1500 Animals! 1300 Birds!

(See Catalogues and Bills for list of Animals and Birds.) In the

GRAND MUSEUM!

10,000 STARTLING WONDERS!

JULY 6, 1871 - W.C. COUP'S
AUG. 27, 1871 - FOREPAUGH

THE GATE CITY:

SUNDAY MORNING JAN 18
AN ILLINOIS PRODUCT.

The Fattest Boy on Earth—A History of His Remarkable Growth and Travels.

(New York Star.)

DAKE
David Navarro, that is the fat boy's name—is 18 years old; at least his father says so, and he appears like a truthful man. He was born in Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois. "I was born in this city, said the father, "and Dave's mother is a Massachusetts woman. I thought that I would go west and see what I could do. Well, I took a section of Government land, and kept bachelor's hall awhile. Then I married, and eight years afterward Dave was born. Was he an unusually large infant?" asked the reporter. "No. Fact was he was rather small—only weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces. I was disappointed, because he was the first boy. Then he got the chills and fever, and had the whooping cough very bad, and it run him down a good deal. I kept wishing he'd grow, but he didn't. When he was two years old he weighed 16 pounds. It wasn't until he was 5 years old that he began to flesh up. When he was 9 years old he weighed 62 pounds; at 7, 85 pounds; at 8, 112 pounds; at 9, 137; at 10, 171; at 11, 212; at 12, 325; at 14, 475. Then we got scared and called a doctor, an English doctor who had been in the navy and all that; but he was no good. Dave kept right on growing. Then we tried dieting, and we nearly starved him to death. He got so weak that we had to brace up his legs. One day the poor boy was eating his dinner, and asked for more than we usually allowed him. His mother said: 'No, not now, Dave; wait an hour and you can have it. Please let me have it now; I might as well die of fat as to be starved to death, so let me enjoy myself while I live.' And Dave got it. The Doctor said afterward that the boy knows best after all, and he always got what he wanted after that. When he was 15 he weighed 502 pounds; at 17 he weighed 635, and now he weighs 660."

"Is he still growing?"

"Oh, yes, he hasn't got his growth yet."

"Is he healthy?"

"Certainly; feel that flesh and muscle." The elder Navarro gently kneaded the protuberant breast of his son and smilingly nodded.

"Hismother and I thought we'd go to the Centennial and take Dave along. He weighed about 500 pounds then. The weather was pretty warm, too, and the traveling took some of his flesh off. But we got to Philadelphia all right; but when we got to the Centennial Building we couldn't get Dave through the turnstile. I thought we'd better go back, but his mother would not listen to such a thing. She was bound to go in and take Dave along. Dave tried to squeeze through, but stuck fast and blockaded up the way so that there was a great jam. Well, we had to go to the people who managed the thing. They had a meeting and decided that Dave should go in. So they sent a man with a key to the entrance where the teams went in with the goods, and he unlocked the gate and Dave went in."

Yesterday was Dave's first exhibition day in New York. He came from Chicago a few days ago. There was some

delay in starting, because Dave could not get into a common passenger car. Special application was made to the railroad company for some vehicle that Dave could be stowed into. Somebody suggested a postal car. It was just the thing. Dave slid into the side door with the greatest of ease. He had a bed in the car, and came on without a stop or an accident. He is intelligent, and has a handsome, jolly face. He is only 8 feet 6 inches around the waistband and about the same around the chest. His thigh measures twenty-nine inches in circumference, his arm twenty-four inches, and he is five feet, eleven inches high. It takes sixty yards of cloth, single width, to make him a suit of clothes. Sprague, the "living skeleton," called upon a Bowery tailor the next day after Dave arrived and asked him how much he would charge for a suit of clothes for a boy 18 years old. "Thirteen dollars," replied the tailor. "All right," said Sprague, "call round and take his measure." The tailor called yesterday, and then incontinently backed out of his bargain. The boy was Dave Navarro.

and my wife says if you will take your family there she will gladly find you nice apartments at a low rent, and we shall both be glad to render you any service we can." The kind offer was declined with thanks, but it shows the charitable character of this almost angelic woman.

"She has two children, the elder a son. The daughter has a voice which Sir Julius Benedict told me he believed if cultivated would prove equal to her mother's. 'But,' he added, 'her parents are rich, and have no ambition to have her attain musical renown, which would involve such arduous study and practice.'

"Her share of profits in our musical campaign in 1850 and 1851 was \$398,675.09. She sang in ninety-three concerts. She was worth over a \$1,000,000 when she left the United States in 1851, and this sum has been increased by occasional concerts in Great Britain and by the judicious investments of her husband."

42

EAF

Keokuk Constitution.

MARCH 29, 1856. known as
second postage prepaid

The Lion-Trainer and the Actor.

When Edwin Forrest was playing at the old Bowery theatre, in New York city, his piece was followed by an exhibition of lions by their trainer, Herr Driesbach. During their stay there Forrest remarked one day that he never experienced the emotion caused by fright—that he was never scared in his life. Driesbach heard the remark, and one evening took Forrest home with him. They entered a house, and, after passing through long and devious dark passages, Driesbach opened a door and said: "This way, Mr. Forrest."

As Forrest entered the door was slammed behind him. Forrest felt something touch his leg in the darkness, and reaching down his hand touched what he thought was a cat's back, which he gently stroked. A rasping growl greeted the motion, and he saw two fiery eyeballs glaring at him. "Are you afraid, Mr. Forrest?" asked the lion-tamer, who was invisible in the darkness. Forrest replied, "Not a bit," when the lion-tamer said something, and the growl deepened and the back began to arch. Forrest held out for a few minutes, when he exclaimed: "Now let me out, you infernal scoundrel, or I'll break every bone in your body." The lion king kept him there, and he did not dare to move a finger, while the lion kept rubbing against his leg. Forrest finally promised a champagne supper if Driesbach would let him out, which was done, and the bet was immediately paid.—Unpublished Biography.

Keokuk Democrat

TELEPHONE No. 82.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1888.

NOBLE JENNY LIND.

P. T. Barnum's Chat About the Recently Deceased Cantatrice,

P. T. Barnum has given a New York Tribune reporter some interesting reminiscences of Jenny Lind. Said the veteran showman: "Jenny Lind's natural impulses were most noble and good; I never met a person so susceptible to the wants, needs or sufferings of others. I could at any time make her tears flow by relating some case of want, and her dollars would flow freely with her tears. She could not bear the thought of 'passing by on the other side,' when she could relieve the sorrow of any being, however humble."

Mr. Barnum told a touching story of an incident that occurred when Jenny was singing in Boston. "A poor working girl," he said, "thrust three dollars into the hands of the ticket seller at the Boston Temple for a back seat at Jenny's concert. On receiving the ticket she said: 'There goes my wages for one week, but I must hear that good angel sing.' Jenny's secretary, her cousin Max Hjortzberg, heard the remark and immediately went to the green-room and laughingly told it to Jenny. I shall never forget how she jumped to her feet and exclaimed: 'Oh, this must not be! Poor girl, she shall not lose her money! It is wicked! Max, take this money—handing him a twenty-dollar gold piece—search out that dear creature and put it in her hands, with my love, God bless her!' Cousin Max found the girl, gave her the money and message, and witnessed a flood of grateful tears from the working girl's eyes. If she is alive to-day she will remember it."

"When I was struggling against the Jerome clock debts, in 1858," Mr. Barnum went on, "I took my wife and children to London. One day Jenny's husband, Otto Goldsmith, called on me and said: 'Mrs. Lind, hearing of your financial misfortune, desired me to call on you and say if a few hundred pounds, or a thousand, will serve to relieve your present wants, I am to hand it to you with her kindest regards. We are now living in Dresden,

WEEKLY PLAIN DEALER.

Cleveland, Ohio

Floating Circus Seized.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 9.

Messrs. Spaulding & Rogers have commenced a suit at Baton Rouge, against the Corporation of that place, for illegal seizure and detention of the Floating Palace, for exhibiting without a city license. They refuse to give security to await the result, and have abandoned the boat to the authorities, by advice of counsel, and will institute a new suit every day while the detention continues. They rely upon the opinion of one of the Judges of the U. S. Supreme Court, of most of the State Judges, of the Attorney General, and prominent legal gentlemen of the West, who contend that the customary license of the Floating Palace exempts her from taxation for State and Municipal licenses on the navigable waters of the United States.

Dec. 15, 1852

Coup's Equescurriculum.
Melville's Three Ring Circus.
Middleton's Grand Menagerie.
Fryer's Dog and Pony Circus.
Okenawaka's Tribe of Indians.
Mentor's Anvil Chorus.
Zulu Princess and Warriors.
March of the Monarchs.
Congress of Nations.
Three Grand Entrees.
Eight Acres of Canvas.
Racing Chariots and Costumes, Imported from France.
Seats for Fourteen Thousand People.
Legion of the Best Artists of all Nations.
4 Gigantic Musical Cars, equaling 1200 Musicians.
Everything Positively New.
Animals, Birds, and Reptiles.
King Cetewayo's Daughter.
Famous Egypton Obelisk.

Farini's Paris Hippodrome.
Nathan's Double Circus.
Juke's Automatic Museum.
Hagar's Palace of Curiosities.
Amos' Jubilee Singers.
Nettle, the Leaping Horse.
Nine kinds of Music.
Comic Hit on the Times.
Caricaturing our Great Men.
Living Tableaux, representing American History.
Hippodromatic Processional Spectacle.
Ten Funny Clowns.
Flat and Hurdle Races.
Family of Midget Fairies.
Steeple Chase Races.
Roman Hippodromatic Sports.
Earth's Concentrated Excellence.
Acrobats, Gymnasts, Athletes, Wrestlers, Tumblers, and Gladiators.
\$100,000 Broncho Horses.

And a myriad of enchanting features utterly impossible to enumerate.



THE INTENSELY THRILLING EUROPEAN SENSATION.

LULU,

A Human Being Terrifically Hurled Through the Air from a Huge Iron Catapult, attaining an altitude of Ninety feet, and descending a semi-circle of nearly Two Hundred Feet.
A Daring and Blood-curdling Act, never before accomplished.

The Royal Princess Amazulu and Suite,
Daughter of King Cetewayo, of Zululand.

Watch for the Great Free Street Pageant of Oriental Splendor.
A Classic and Intellectual Feast of

MUSIC. **SCIENCE,** **GENIUS,**
ART, **NATURE,** **TALENT.**

Fortune upon fortune expended to perfect this Culminating Triumph, the grandest ever conceived by man.

Two Exhibitions Daily. Admission Only 50c. Children under 9 year 25c.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS FOR THE MULTITUDES.

Don't forget the Date, - - - Wednesday, Jul

Dwarfs, Gians, Moving Figures, Transformation Scenes, Armor, Statuary, Insects, Fishes, Reptiles, the wonderful

TWO-HEADED NEGRO GIRL!

Lady Bell Ringers, Magic Drummer, Mechanica Leotard, Singing Birds, Double Baby, The Temperate and Intemperate Family, and Representations of Famous Men of Ancient and Modern Times, Rare Co'n's, Antiquities, and in all TEN THOUSAND OBJECTS OF WONDER, far too numerous to catalogue in this Advertisement.



GIGANTIC CIRCUS!

In Two Rings!

Two Performances at the Same Time!

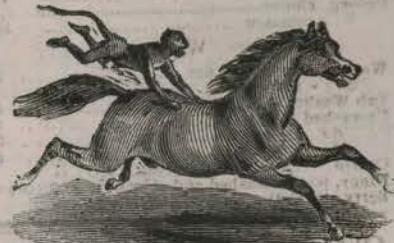
FIFTY TALENTED ACTORS

MALE AND FEMALE. See the GREAT

Performing Animal Show!

Only one in the World!

Trained Rhinoceros, Lions, Tigers and Hyenas, Riding Dogs, Goats and Monkeys.
MASTER AD. FOREPAUGH, eight years old, the only Juvenile Animal Trainer in the world, will introduce his



THREE TRAINED ELEPHANTS

At the Afternoon and Evening Exhibitions.
IS THE

Largest and Most Elegant Circus!

In Existence. Don't fail to see the

GRAND PROCESSION

The Longest and Finest ever made by any Show in existence.

EVERYTHING NEW!

Cages adorned with Statuary, Gorgeous Chariots, Military Bands, 200 Plumed Horses, Elephants, richly Robed Came's in Harness, Doves of Ponies, Herr Darious in an opened Den, PERFORMING WITH LIONS AND TIGERS, Mechanical Leotard suspended from the Hippopotamus Den, Mon'ster Rhinoceros in a Palace Car, Illustrations, constituting the most Dazzling, Solid and Substantial Show Parade ever seen in this Country. Come to town by 9 o'clock, forenoon, to see it. Look at the Procession, count the Cages, visit the how Ground, and behold the Mammoth Tents, and if you don't think we've got a show worth looking at, don't patronize it. Don't forget the name,

"4 PAWS."

Remember, Forepaugh's Aggregation is a Great Overland, Menagerie, Museum, Caravan and Circus, traveling with wagons over the highways, and all can see, as it goes marching on, that the Great Forepaugh Show is the Largest in the World, and that it NEVER DIVIDES.

TWO GRAND EXHIBITIONS.

Observe and Remember, to ALL the Tents the ADMISSION IS ONLY FIFTY CENTS CHILDREN UNDER 9 YEARS 25 CTS. Opens at 1 and 7 p.m. Commences one hour later.

ADAM FOREPAUGH,

Sole Proprietor and Manager.

R. S. DINGESS, Agent and General Director.

WILL EXHIBIT AT

Ft. Madison, Tuesday, Aug. 25.

a 12-w2t-d16-19-20-21-22-23

EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE W. C. COUP GREAT :: SHOW!

Carl Dice's Trans-Atlantic Circus!

Buckley's Educated Horses, Ponies, Dogs and Donkeys!
Japanese Troupe, and a Host of Performers!

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WILL GIVE

2-PERFORMANCES-2

SATURDAY { AFTERNOON
AND
EVENING } SEPT. 1.

KEOKUK OPERA HOUSE.

ADMISSION TO ALL PARTS OF THE HOUSE:

Children Under 10 Years, = = = = 100

Adults, = = = = = = = = = = 200

NO RESERVED SEATS.

Endorsed by Bishop Fowler, the late Gen. Sherman and School Superintendents generally.

AUGUST 30, 1894.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 30, 1894.

COUP'S GREAT SHOWS

Secured for Two Performances at the Keokuk Opera House.

Manager Hughes succeeded yesterday in closing a contract with W. C. Coup, the veteran showman, for two performances to be given at the Keokuk opera house Saturday afternoon and evening. The combination includes Carl Dice's trans-Atlantic cir-

cus, Prof. Buckley's educated horses, ponies, dogs and donkeys, a great troupe of Japanese jugglers and equilibrists, and a host of performers. The performance given by this remarkable combination is described as a marvelous one, of intense interest alike to old and young. Two performances will be given at the opera house Saturday afternoon and evening. Prices have been fixed at 10 and 20 cents to all parts of the house.

The Gate City
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED),
By J. B. HOWELL & CO.

P. T. BARNUM ARRESTED.—Just as the steamer Arabia was about to sail yesterday, Mr. P. T. Barnum, who had taken passage for Liverpool, was arrested on a "Jerome clock note," held, as he says, by a broker, who shaved it at about half its face. Barnum says that most of his persecutors are men who obtained the clock notes at unlawful interest, and he looks to the courts for protection against them. SEP. 16, 1857

CRIMINAL LEAF

CREDITS

FORCE PAWS & S 1894 - 12

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE GATE CITY:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 27

CIRCUS RIDING.

1819

A Gate City Reporter Interviews a Professional.

And is Favored With the Interesting History of Circus Riding Given below

--The Merits of the Various
Artists.

Riding upon horses is an act which belongs to the circus and without which no exhibition could well exist as a circus. A tent show can introduce or dispense with any other act, but it must have the rider and his horse or the audience which gathered to see a circus would complain. In 1876 the experiment of running a tent show under the name of a circus was tried and proved a miserable failure. All other acts, acrobatic, athletic or gymnastic, while they really form features and are part and parcel of the show while they remain can be left out, the riding must remain. While seated under the spacious pavilion of the Great London circus the thought came to the mind of a GATE CITY reporter accompanied by the other thought that a short history of the art, for it is one, would prove of interest to the general reader. With this object in view he sought the Company of William Dutton, a well known and acknowledged star among equestrians, who cheerfully favored him with an account of the business.

To obtain a correct idea of the riding of to-day it is necessary to go away back --say in 1815, when the circus was a small institution, when riders were few and the acts performed simpler. In those days, men rode a saddled horse in the ring, their act consisting of a few tricks exhibiting the proper way of riding a horse. They also gave exhibitions of vaulting into the saddle and vaulting upon a bare back horse. There was the running jump to the saddle and the still jump. To-day their performance would be too common for the smallest show. From this small beginning has grown an art which employs many men who receive good salaries, and who do things that are marvelous when studied. The saddle of that day is the pad of to-day, while the men who then rode bareback in an awkward manner are the forerunners of the graceful artists of the present.

CIRCUS RIDING

is now divided into trick acts, pad acts, jockey acts, juggling acts, scene acts and carrying acts. The two first are the principal ones, standing about equal, presenting the same difficulties, attended by the same dangers, and paid for by salaries nearly similar. In fact, Robert Stickney, a pad rider, has drawn a larger salary for his work than any bare-

back rider save James Robinson. Since the legislation in reference to the society for the prevention of cruelty to children the carrying act has been abandoned in America, for in it was employed children who rode with men, stood upon their hands, heads, etc. It was introduced many years ago, and among those who performed it Martino Lowando, James Robinson, James Melville, Charles Read and Signor Sebastian were the most celebrated. Lowanda, with his two children performed the most wonderful carrying act ever witnessed. The little ones were marvels, standing upon the father's head or outstretched arms while the horse was at full gallop. It was a dangerous performance and the children used were often subjected to cruel treatment to compel them to perform. Its abolition was right. Scenes, acts--such as that of Pete Jenkins and the Shepherd and Shepherdess--have also been abandoned by first-class circuses, so that to-day, we have only trick riders, pad riders, jockey riders and juggling upon horseback. All these are done by males and females, the number being about equally divided. There is not a very large number in active employment, besides whom few more of any ability could be found. The following table, however, of

THE SHOWS NOW OUT,

and the male and female riders embrace almost every rider of note in this country.

GREAT LONDON SHOW.

<i>Male Riders.</i>	<i>Female Riders.</i>
Wm. Dutton.	Mdme. Cordon.
Charles W. Fish.	Addie Austin.
Jerry Bell.	
Frank Melville.	

SELLS' BROS.

Charles Ewers.	Jennie Tournour.
Owen Hollis.	

W. G. COUP.

Wm. Morgan.	Mdme. Poland.
James Melville.	

W. W. COLE.

Willie O'Dale.	
Frank Gardiner.	

BARNUM.

John Barry.	Emma Lake.
Signor Sebastian.	Linda Jael.
	Kitty Stokes.
	Lizzie Marcellus.
	Mdme. Dockrill.

FOREPAUGH.

Woody Cook.	Annie Carroll.
Robert Stickney.	Emma Stickney.
William Gorman.	Sally Lee.
	Jane Beurdeau.

RICE.

James Robinson.	
Clarence Robinson.	

BAT HELDOR & DORES.

Oscar Scaffer.	Mime. Tourneur.
	Mollie Brown.

BURR ROBBINS.

Wm. DuCrow.	Fosaline Stickney.
-------------	--------------------

HILLIARD & HUNTING.

	Miss Josie.
	Mdme. Josephine.

ANDERSON.

George Holland.	Katie Holland.
Harry Cordon.	
Frank Robbins.	

VAN AMBURG.

Willie Showles.	Clarinda Lowanda.
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JOHN ROBINSON.

Fred Barclay.	Minnie Marks.
John Wilson.	Sallie Marks.

TRANSATLANTIC.

Romeo Sebastian.	Miss Aymar.
Wm. Aymar.	

JAMES COOKES.

James Cook.	Mdme. DeBerge.
George Brown.	

CHIRINI.

Hank Sponge.	Jennie Watson.
--------------	----------------

One thing is noticeable about all riders --they are men of small stature, five foot

two being about the average height. Robert Stickney, the tallest rider in America is five foot eight and one fourth. Large men find it too difficult--they must be short, compactly built and have a light frame as possible. James Robinson is five foot two, while Charley Fish is still smaller. Many stories are told about riders being dwarfed in childhood, kept without food, encased in clothes, etc., to prevent their growth. Such is not the case. Like a hundred other stories they are but idle tales. As to the

SALARIES.

received by riders they are the highest paid to any branch of the profession, and some of them have been very large. James Robinson has received the highest ever paid--\$100 a night. This was for a short season. For one year, however, he was paid \$500 per week by Cooper, Bailey & Co. There was a reason for this. They wanted him to go to Australia and India. He did not care about going and demanded this price. They could get no other first-class rider at the time and so engaged him. This is far above the ordinary limit, however. The riders of this season receive from \$50 to \$250 per week for their services, the variation in price being accounted for by the skill of the artist and whether he owns his own horses or not. The men who draw large salaries furnish the horses upon which they ride and the groom who cares for them. All expenses of themselves and horses are paid by the company. A bare back rider is the most desirable, though a good pad rider is preferable to a bad bare back one. Few artists have ever equalled Robert Stickney in grace and ability to please an audience. Pad riders very often give up that style and change to bare back--an artist capable of doing a good pad act being also capable of doing a good bare back act. The best circus riders ever seen in public have been Americans, nearly all

THE CELEBRATED ARTISTS

coming from this country. Among those who have been famous the world over may be mentioned Levi J. Worth, still alive; James Hernandez, buried at Singapore; James Robinson, alive; Omar Kingsley, buried at Bombay; Robert Stickney and Charles Fish. The latter is to-day the best rider in the business, doing more tricks than any man ever did before him. Hernandez earned a widespread reputation in all parts of the world and was the best known of the American riders. Kingsley rode in circuses in Europe, America, Australia and India, under the name of Ella Yoyara, acquiring a wide-spread reputation. His sudden death last May, at Bombay, of small pox, is known to all. Robinson's fame was world-wide, as was his work. In America, where he has ridden in almost every city, town and hamlet, he is well and favorably known. For nearly forty years he has been before the public as a rider, and few men who have appeared, have equalled him in personal appearance, style and ability. He has made two journeys about the world and is almost as well known out of as in America. Robert Stickney is also noted for personal beauty and his easy, graceful style, while Charles Fish, in respect to tricks, has never had an equal. His appearance is somewhat awkward, however, and greatly detracts from his act.

He is very light being a compact piece of bone and muscle and his ability to perform certain acts, and in getting off and on a horse quickly is not equalled. Nearly all female riders do their work upon pad horses, though there are several exceptions. They are far inferior to male riders, but the public prefer them. All of them with two exceptions ride upon one horse, the only female four horse riders seen in America being Madame Dockrill and Madame Cordona. The former came to America in 1872, and, from injuries recently received while performing in Chicago is said to have permanently retired from the ring. Madame Cordona is now traveling for the first time in this country having come from South America last year with Cooper, Bailey & Co. Men have ridden

MANY HORSES,

four and six being the usual numbers, though Martino Lowanda has ridden and managed nine in the ring at one time, the largest number ever handled at once. Among the men who have made their mark in managing four or more horses may be mentioned Ed. Perry (four horse Perry) John Wathans, John Robinson, John Wilson, Nat. Austin, James Cook, Sam Stickney, William Smith, Martino and Abalonda Lowando, Frank Melville and William Monroe.

THE HORSES

used by equestrians are almost as much a curiosity as the riders. They are selected with great care, reference being had to color and size. A gray horse with a broad full back is usually taken. Pure white, black, bay, or other colored horses are not taken because powdered rosin is rubbed upon the back to assist the rider in retaining his footing, and on such horses it could easily be seen by the audience and thus destroy the effect. On the gray horse it is not noticed. The horse having been selected he is put through a course of training, the length of which depends upon the skill of the trainer. Horses have been ridden in public within two months after their selection, while others have not been qualified to appear after a year or more of work. They are run around the ring until they have acquired a steady gait—the gallop—when the rider mounts and gradually by jumping to his knees and then his feet accustoms the horse to the presence of a man upon its back. Then the banners, balloons and other objects are brought in and used about the horse until he understands them. He is familiarized with everything about the ring until the rider and his tricks, with a crowd about him, until he understands what is required. In training horses some use the whip; some kindness, others both. Bareback riders necessarily possess their own horses, because their acts require that they should be familiar with the horse. Pad riders, able to ride almost any horse that is used to the work, rarely keep horses of their own, but depend upon those other various companies they travel with. Frank Melville has this season introduced an act upon the trotting horse, the first of the kind ever seen in America. It has been said by some that the work of the society for the prevention of cruelty to children will prevent any more bareback actors from coming up after those living have retired. Such is not the case, for from Europe, South America and Australia will come riders of as much ability, if not more, than that possessed by our present ones, while riders will always be before the public while the circus exists.

SHEET NO. 25

CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.

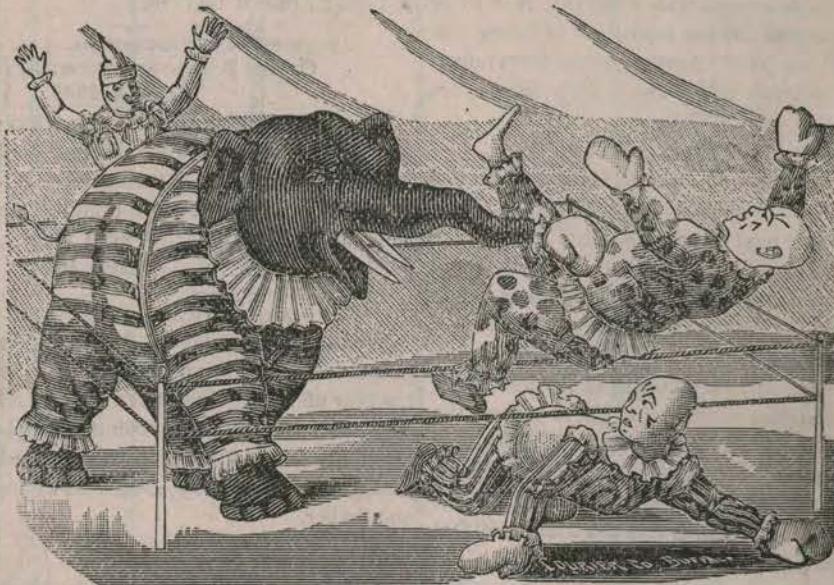
ARISTOCRATIC MONARCH OF THE SHOW WORLD!
ADAM FOREPAUGH'S
NEW AND COLOSSAL
ALL-FEATURE SHOW!

KEOKUK MONDAY, SEPT. 7. 1885

Two Exhibitions Daily at 2 and 8 P. M. Doors Open One Hour Earlier
STARS FROM EVERY GREAT CIRCUS IN THE OLD WORLD.

FUN! 3 Comical Clown Elephants. One rides a Velocipede in mid air. Another traverses a high wire, and another knocks out an expert pugilist in a boxing bout. Little Sandy, the confessed funniest jester that ever set audience and table in a roar. Comedian Pigs, Donkeys and Canines, and 12 Motley Monarchs of Mirth.

AMAZING EXHIBITION OF ELEPHANT SAGACITY.



THE GREAT KABOWLS, Winged Woman Craze of Moscow
In her 35-foot high chair pyramid and her flight about the tents on eagle wings. First appearance,
LARGEST PAVILIONS EVER CONSTRUCTED

Covering Great Meadows and Pastures.

300 Circus performers, carefully culled from every circus and amphitheatre in Europe. First time here. 10 tremendous leaping English Greyhounds from the hunting parks of the British nobility. Museum of savage people and living human freaks. 12 Soudan Arabs. 20 newly imported Russian, Italian and Arabian stallions. Bicycle battles, comical and classic roller skating, and a cyclone of mid air breath-bating deeds in 4 rings and on the grand elevated stage.

University of Wonderful Dumb Brute Graduates, under the able tuition of ADAM FOREPAUGH, JR.

25 Elephants that speak with Eloquent Action. Elephants which demonstrate superior sense. 25 Elephants in Pyramids, Musical Accord, Athletic Contests and whirling in waltz & quadrille. 25

Three Times the Most Stupendous Menagerie Ever Gathered and Exhibited Under Tents.

NOTE! After having witnessed the Superb, Original and Gigantic Performances of this Brilliant Show, there will be no desire left to see more, because there is actually and truthfully nothing left to see.

SEATS FOR 20,000 PEOPLE.
ADMISSION, 50 Cents. Children under 9 years, 25 Cents.
Reserved Numbered Chairs Extra.

For the accommodation of those who desire to avoid the crowds on the grounds, reserved seats can be obtained at Ayres Bros.' Music House the day of exhibition only, at the usual slight advance.

MT. PLEASANT, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

MEMPHIS, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th.

KEOKUK DAILY CONSTITUTION, SEPTEMBER 3, 1885.

The Daily Constitution
SEPTEMBER 25, 1899.

**FAMOUS CIRCUS MAN
STABS HIS RELATIVE**

Orange, N. J., Sept. 25.—Ernest Melville, a famous circus rider, is in jail for stabbing his wife's stepfather, George Heffner. Melville's wife, who is known in circus life as Josie Ashton, was for many years one of the stellar

attraction of ythe Barnum show. Heffner and the Melvilles have lived together since last spring, when the latter returned from Europe. The two men have not been on friendly terms for some time. After some words Sunday afternoon Heffner accused Melville of spying on him, and proceeded to knock the latter down and sit on him. Melville grabbed a carving knife from the dinner table and stabbed Heffner three times as they struggled on the floor. Heffner was taken to the hospital and may die. Melville was arrested. He admits the stabbing but claims it was done in self-defense.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

CIRCUS.

FOREPAUGH AND THE WILD WEST!

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL TOUR.
THREE TIMES LARGER THAN EVER.



4-PAWS GREAT CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.

4-PAW'S DOUBLE ROMAN | 4-PAW'S NEW
HIPPODROME. OLYMPIA

4-PAW'S LIFE-LIKE
CUSTER'S BATTLE,

United With His Great

REMODELED WILD WEST SHOW,

The Most Gigantic Combination of

Genuine, New, Great, Startling Features.

Of the Kind the WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN, Will Exhibit in

KEOKUK, MONDAY, SEPT. 12th.

ADAM FOREPAUGH will stake his professional reputation and honor upon the declaration that his Present Exhibitions, with all the Stupendous Additional Attractions necessary to illustrate, under the Largest Canvas Tent in the World, thrillingly interesting adventures of Border Life in the Wild West, is, in every truthful and essential particular, **FULLY THREE TIMES LARGER THAN EVER.**

After Exhibiting TWENTY-TWO WEEKS to the Largest Audiences ever known in New York City, and having thoroughly familiarized himself with the increased demands of both metropolitan and rural culture for grand, magnificent first-class amusements of a strictly moral and elevating character, he fully determined to completely

Overwhelm All His Former Efforts.

All the features of his Great Triple Circus, Double Jungle Menagerie, Roman and Grecian Hippodrome Races, Oriental Parcours, Spectacular Tableaux, Panoramas, Pyramids, Mimic Battle Scenes, with grandest pyrotechnic displays as climaxes, with mounted soldiers and Indians in sufficient numbers to reproduce to the life the famous

CUSTER BATTLE

Will be brought into requisition to add to the thrillingly interesting attractions of

4-Paw's Great WILD WEST Show

THE PRINCE OF THE HOUSE OF ADAM

Will introduce for the first time in public his great

THIRTY-HORSE ACT,

Grandest Ever Known, Worth Going 100 Miles to See.

He will also appear with his world-famed Performing Elephants, the Quadrille Elephants, Clown Elephants, Pugilistic Elephants, Bicycle-riding Elephants, **BOLIVAR**, the Giant Elephant, the Tight-rope Walking **BLONDIN HORSE**, with positively more circus, olympic and Wild West stars than all the shows in America combined. The "Centennial Emigrant Wagon," 141 years old, and the old harness used by James Buchanan when a boy, and by his grand-father before him will be seen in the great pageant, also in the Wild West. Street pageant will take place at 10 o'clock. In fact, thousands of brand new things will be seen absolutely for the first time in 4-PAW'S SIX CONSOLIDATED SHOWS.

For further particulars see bills, programmes, magazines, scattered everywhere by the million. Excursions will run by all routes on the day of exhibition, at greatly reduced rates. Inquire of Station Agents.

Admission to all only 50c. Children under 9, 25c.

Doors open 1 p. m. and 7 p. m. Performances commence one hour later. Reserved Seats can be had on the day of the exhibition at E. E. Fuller & Sons Drug Store, Sixth and Main, at the usual slight advance.

The Daily Constitution

SEPTEMBER 3, 1887.

THE GREAT FOREPAUGH SHOW.

Look out for the Biggest show in the World.

We take pleasure in announcing the coming on Monday, Sept. 12, of the great Forepaugh show. From all the leading papers of the country this show is spoken of as being the largest and best in the world. Not satisfied with a single circus, a single hippodrome, or a single menagerie, Forepaugh multiplies these popular attractions by four, and then supplements all with a New Olympia, a remodeled Wild West, an ideal Custer battle, a splendid new hippodrome, that more than outrivals the ancient Olympic games. Three first-class circuses, a menagerie that far outweighs the largest of the zoological gardens, equestrian and athletic sports by hundreds of the most famous male and female performers known to fame. Running, racing and trotting matches between the swiftest footed of Mr. Forepaugh's fifty-thousand dollar stud of English thoroughbreds, stupendous acts of multiplied horsemanship, in which one man will ride and drive furiously thirty horses at a time. Trials of speed, feats of strength, cowboy sports, frontier adventures, and Indian encounters in the Wild West. The dog circus, pony circus, the monkey circus, the Blondin horse, the fighting, boxing, clown-playing, double performing, band-playing and quadrille elephants, chariot racing, hurdle, flat, the Roman standing racing, and sharp shooting by A. H. Bogardus and his four sons, champion wings shots, and others; broadsword contests on horseback, feasts of tilting and javelin throwing by expert knights of tourney, so popular in the south and southwest. Polo, cricket and baseball, sparring, wrestling, foot-racing, bicycling, athletic and gymnastic sports; in fact, every species of amusement that can be devised by the ingenuity of man will be furnished by Adam Forepaugh in his New Olympia, soon to be here. All for a trifling price of admission. Is it any wonder that with such an array of stupendous new features, and such a multiplicity of ingeniously blended attractions, that the great showman fairly turns the heads of half the nation?

The New Wild West.

The great feature of Forepaugh's show, which will exhibit in Keokuk, Monday, September 12th, is an improvement upon the illustration of frontier life which Buffalo Bill has made such a great success. The strikingly dramatic scene

of Custer's last stand in the massacre of the Little Big Horn, as shown under canvas, is one of the most realistic and effective ever represented. This battle will always represent the culmination of the struggle of the savages against the advancing tide of civilization. No other historic event in the long annals of Indian wars will live so long or furnish such an endless theme for song and story. It was the last great Indian battle, for there is not likely ever to be another struggle of large proportions with the aboriginal races of America. Besides the Custer massacre there will be various other western scenes, such as the robbery of the Deadwood stage, the bucking mustangs, etc., in which Indians and cowboys are mixed in their picturesque costumes in a most realistic and interesting manner. In many respects this New Wild West of Forepaugh's is an improvement upon that created by Buffalo Bill.

The Daily Constitution. SEPTEMBER 10, 1887.

Parade of the Wild West Show.

Next Monday morning, about 10 o'clock, the combined Wild West and Great Forepaugh shows will make a public parade. The Wild West detachment will move in the following order:

Cowboy Band, Mounted.
Pawnee Indians on horseback.
Troupe of Mexicans with mules.
Squaws, papooses, etc.
Emigrant train drawn by oxen.
Comanche Indians.
Troupe of Cowboys.
The old Deadwood coach drawn by six horses.
Sharpshooters and prairie girls.
Indian chiefs.
Captain Bogardus and scouts.
Wild buffalo and elk.

Then follow all the great features of the circus, such as the performing horses, ponies and a long line of elegant cages, tableaux cars and twenty-five ponderous elephants, half a hundred ladies and gentlemen costumed and mounted upon handsome horses, all the racing chariots, wild animals, loose, opened dens of savage beasts, allegorical chariots, and other special attractions. The parade will be enlivened with three full bands of music. Two exhibitions will be given in Keokuk by the Forepaugh show—morning and evening.

The Daily Constitution. SEPTEMBER 12, 1887.

FOREPAUGH'S GREAT SHOW.

Its Street Parade and the Performance at Sportsman's Park this Afternoon—Many Marvelous Features.

Forepaugh's show is a colossal affair. It arrived in Keokuk at 10 o'clock Sunday morning, on a special train over the

C. B. & Q. from Peoria, Ill., where it exhibited Saturday, and its far-reaching canvas was spread upon Sportsman's park, a grand street parade given this morning, and a performance within the tent this afternoon which was attended by thousands. Main street was crowded during the parade, and as the weather turned fair, thousands of strangers were in the city.

The circus entertainment proper is bewildering in its variety and magnificence. Add to this a great Wild West, fairly rivaling Buffalo Bill's in extent and excellence, and you have one of the greatest shows ever seen in this section of the world.

The grand parade was composed of gaily caparisoned horsemen, gilded chariots, cowboys, Indians, jockeys, clowns, cavalrymen, bands of music, cages of wild animals, and many other things too numerous to mention. Following the grand entree came the Wild West sports, concluding with a spirited representation of "Custer's Last Battle."

Young Adam Forepaugh's great rope walking horse, Blondin, the Melrose family of bicyclists, the trained dogs, John Purvis and his trained donkeys, the Donaldson brothers, Adam Forepaugh, Jr.'s, performing elephants and other features, received their full share of applause. Bob Stickney did some wonderful riding, as a matter of course, both he and Adam Forepaugh, Jr., riding excellent five-horse acts. Millie Tournour was warmly praised by the spectators for her trapeze balancing, while Daisy Belmont, Cressy Stickney, Julia Lowando, Wm. Showles, Honsaburo Sam and Juan Calcedo shared liberally of the applause.

The one great feature of the entire performance, however, was young Adam Forepaugh's thirty-one-horse act. As was promised by the management, we saw, among other things, Indian warfare realistically depicted; we saw the method of capturing wild horses; we saw what we may well believe was a faithful representative of "Custer's Last Rally, or the Battle of the Little Big Horn;" we saw exciting races after the manner of the Roman hippodrome; indeed, many other things both exciting and worthy of applause, but of the many nothing at all compared to young Forepaugh's handling of the great string of galloping steeds. As a feat in horsemanship it is, without question, the greatest in the circus world. It will remain unrivaled for years yet to come.

A detailed description further than this of any such performance as the one

of this afternoon must become not only an endless, but as well a tedious task, both to writer and reader. One must see the show. It is worth both your time and your money.

The Daily Constitution. SEPTEMBER 13, 1887.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE FOREPAUGH SHOW.

The mammoth tent of Forepaugh's was about two-thirds filled at the entertainment last evening. The performance was very satisfactory. The act of driving thirty-one horses by Adam Forepaugh, Jr., was not given at the night performance. Juan Calcedo's performance on the slack wire is the best we have ever seen. The races were close and interesting. Unusually good music was rendered by the band, numbering eighteen pieces. The menagerie embraces a herd of nine elephants, beside several fine specimens of lions, tigers, leopards, panthers, camels, dromedaries, hippopotamus, sea lions, sacred cattle, etc.

CIRCUS CASUALTIES.

Charles Horning, the Boss Canvasman, Severely Injured.

Andy, the twelve-year-old son of Wm. Gibbons, colored, grabbed the leading horses attached to one of Forepaugh's chariots Sunday afternoon, which were trying to run away, when he was struck by one of the horses and badly bruised on the temple and side.

Juan Calcedo, who gives the splendid exhibitions on the slack wire in Forepaugh's shows, during the performance Monday afternoon, fell to the stage below, a distance of ten or twelve feet, striking on his back, and was considerably shaken up. His accident, however, did not prevent his taking part in the evening performance. The accident was caused by the breaking of the pole to which one of the guy-ropes was attached.

About 11 o'clock at night, Charles Horning, the boss canvasman, was struck on the top of the head by one of the centre poles falling and was felled to the earth, receiving an ugly gash. He was able to go on with the show. Carelessness on the part of some green hands was the cause of the pole falling.

THE GREAT DISTINGUISHED FOREPAUGH
BLACKETT VENUE, IOWA

AT KEOKUK, FRIDAY,
AT KEOKUK, FRIDAY,
THE GATE CITY:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, '78.

JUNE 14th!

Beautiful, Costly and Colossal!
A MUSEMENT TEMPLE OF THE WORLD

continued on 28a

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 6, 1878.

'A Truly Great Show.'

Forepaugh's World's Great Show is billed to appear in this city on Friday, June 14th. Of its merits the press are unanimous in speaking in the highest terms of praise, and we do not hesitate to say to our leaders that they will be amply repaid by visiting this great show on the above day. Of it the *Sacramento Record-Union* of April 27th says: Forepaugh's circus and menagerie exhibited here yesterday afternoon and evening. The street parade was very fine, made imposing, indeed, by the superb "allegorical car" drawn by five elephants, and which is said to have cost \$10,000. It is very elaborately carved gilded work in the form of a car, on the top of which is a globe. Men and women handsomely costumed occupy different positions on the car, and are dressed and arranged to symbolize the chief events in the history of America. The parade in all its appointments was the best ever seen here. At the afternoon performance there was a good attendance. At night the spacious tents were filled to the full seating capacity. In the menagerie the animals once before exhibited here were to be seen, all seemingly in good condition. In the circus a good performance was given. It embraced one striking new feature, an opening parade of the entire company, a part of which appears in a grand entry in march outside the ring attired in mardi gras costumes. The bareback and jockey acts by Frank Melville; the exercises of the five trained elephants under direction of Addie Forepaugh, and a good exhibition by skilled athletes on the horizontal bars. Wm. Dutton performed a principal act of riding. The troupe has made its last appearance here as it soon leaves the State for the East. Forepaugh has always given satisfaction here, and leaves for his old fields after two years of very successful tours in California.

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 13, '78.

The Great Forepaugh Show.

The great Forepaugh Circus, Museum, Menagerie, etc., has come and gone. The principal features were the grand Mardi-Gras triumphal street pageant, the rare and curious collection of wild beasts, the Museum and Circus, all of which were very attractive. Animals were exhibited which had never before been seen in San Francisco. To a lover of nature, the Menagerie was a sight never to be forgotten, for never before was there combined together such a large number of varied and beautiful animals under one canvas. The riding of Frank Melville, the Apollo horseman of America, together with the skill of Wm. Dutton, the four-horse rider, the tumbling and trapeze performances, which took place both afternoon and evening in the presence of thousands of people, were pronounced to be first-class. Then the Mardi-Gras procession, with its gorgeous golden chariots, Roman war chariots, its gilded and marble statuary cages, its helmeted horsemen, and a thousand new and attractive features,

formed a sight never to be forgotten by all who witnessed it. On the whole, the Great Forepaugh has brought to the Pacific Coast the only first-class show that we have ever visited in California. He deserves a liberal patronage for having the nerve to bring to this country such a Leviathan show.—*San Francisco Call.*

THE GATE CITY:

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 15, 1878.

Showing Under Difficulties.

Forepaugh's circus and menagerie exhibited in this city yesterday under decided disadvantages. Rain commenced early in the morning and continued at intervals during the forenoon. This undoubtedly kept away thousands of country people who would otherwise have been here to witness the show. In spite of the rain a procession was organized and a highly creditable street parade was given, though not as imposing as it would have been had the weather been pleasant.

But the rain was not the worst of it. The ground was tramped up by horses and people and the performance had to be given in the mud. This, of course, interfered seriously with many of the most interesting features, particularly the riding, as the ring was so soft that the horses would sometimes sink in mud to their knees.

Notwithstanding all these drawbacks everything was done that it was possible to do, and the wonder is that under the circumstances it was done so well. There were many acts in the arena which were worthy of the highest praise. Among them may be mentioned the trapeze performance, the contortionist, the slack wire act, the bare back riding and jockey act of Frank Melville, and others. But the great feature of the performance and one that is alone worth the admission fee, is the performance of the trained elephants, under the management of Addie Forepaugh, Jr. This is one of the most remarkable things ever accomplished in show history.

The menagerie is the largest and finest Mr. Forepaugh has ever exhibited here. Many rare specimens have been added since his last visit here and the cages are numerous and well filled.

The rain and mud did not prevent people from turning out to witness the exhibitions. In the afternoon there was a good attendance and in the evening the pavillion was well filled. Everybody seemed entirely satisfied with the performances. The managers spread hay over the grounds and did everything in their power for the comfort of visitors.

The show exhibits in Fort Madison today, and we can assure the people of that section that it is well worthy of patronage.

Yesterday morning, as the foreman of the wagon brigade of Forepaugh's show was running a wagon off the cars, at the foot of Main street, the wagon turned, throwing him headlong into the mud. He held to the tongue and was dragged under the car, plastering him with mud from head to foot. He escaped without injury.

THE GATE CITY:

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 14, 1878.

Forepaugh's Show.

Forepaugh's circus and menagerie will be in Keokuk to-day and will give two exhibitions, afternoon and evening. This morning there will be a grand Mardi-Gras street pageant, which will be one of the finest ever witnessed in this city. It will include a number of magnificent chariots and tableaux cars, a long line of handsome cages and a parade of the company in costume. It will be imposing in proportions and attractive in appearance.

Forepaugh has never failed to give first class exhibitions, but since his last visit here large additions have been made to all departments of his show, and it is now larger and better than ever. The menagerie embraces many rare specimens of wild beasts, and of itself forms an interesting exhibition.

One of the features of the arena department are the performances of the group of five performing elephants, in which they will be introduced in feats never before presented to the public. The troupe of arena stars includes six clowns, Melville, the Apollo horseman of America, and a host of other celebrities. This will be the finest exhibition the people of this section will have the opportunity of witnessing this season, and those who wish to see a splendid show should not fail to attend.

Of the street parade and exhibition in San Francisco the *Chronicle* says:

The procession of Forepaugh's Circus and Menagerie in our city yesterday was the grandest street pageant ever made in this city. The gilded chariots, shining like gold; the gaily caparisoned horses, the helmeted cavalcade of horsemen glittering in spangles, the banners—all made the most gorgeous procession one could well expect to see, dazzling to the eye and bewildering to the senses. The procession was witnessed by the largest crowd of people that has ever been called out on a like occasion in San Francisco. The tents, mammoth in proportions, were crowded both afternoon and evening, several special trains bringing people from neighboring towns. The menagerie comprises the largest and best collection of animals that has ever been exhibited on the Pacific Coast, and the circus performance was certainly never surpassed, if equalled, in our city.

280

New Golden Chariots,
New Tableau Cars,
New Cages, New Horses,
New Paraphernalia,
New Statuary Cages,
New Palace Dens,
New Wardrobe,
New Wagons, New Dresses,
New Performers,
New Mardi Gras Carnival.



A Panoply of Splendor,
5 Times the Largest,
100 Times More Grand,
Brilliant Ovation!
A Blaze of Gold!
The Largest Elephants
The Smallest Elephants,
Baby Lions and Tigers,
600 Cushioned Opera Seats,
4 Acres of Exhibition Tents.

THE GRAND MARDI-GRAS CARNIVAL!

TWO PERFORMANCES DAILY. DOORS OPEN AT 1 AND 7 P. M.

Admission to the Entire Eight Center-Pole Tents as Usual.

ONLY FIRST-CLASS SHOW EVER IN IOWA!

Everything New, Beautiful and Grand. The World's

GREAT FOREPAUGH SHOW

Circus, Museum, Aquarium, Menagerie, Etc., Etc.

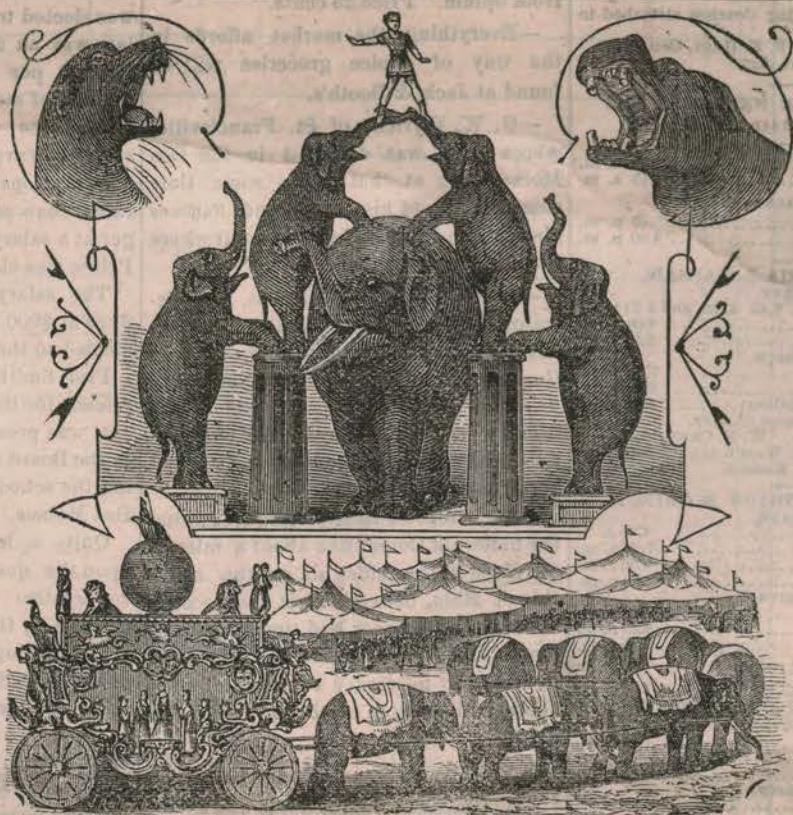
COMING WITH

My Own Thirty-Four Palace Built Cars!

Equal in length to Fifty C. B. & Q. Cars—forming the Finest Private Railway Equipage in America.

The Nursing Baby Elephant Chicago

A Curious Little Creature.



Correct Representation of the Elephantine Pyramid

AT 4 PAWS'S WORLD'S GREAT SHOW.

THE ONLY GROUP of FIVE PERFORMING ELEPHANTS

(Owned by one man in America.)

Performing in the ring at the same time, the most marvelous and wonderful feats ever performed by animals—Dancing, Marching, Drilling, Playing Music, Ringing Bells, Standing on their heads, Walking Erect on their Hind Legs, Comic Pantomime, etc., trained and performed by

Continued on 286

Forepaugh 1878

ADDIE FOREPAUGH, JR.,

Who will also introduce at each performance the World's Wonder, two Comic Elephants in their Infantile Act,

286

SEE-SAW OR TEETERING!

A new feat, never before presented to the public.

Attractive, Interesting, Instructive !

THE WONDERS OF THE MENAGERIE !

Containing many rare specimens of living Wild Beasts, prominent among which are the Mammoth Abyssinian Lions, from the Zoological Gardens of King Theodorus, which are everywhere acknowledged to be the largest ever captured; a beautiful Black Leopard, the only one on this continent; a Vlacke Vark or Abyssinian Wart Hog, first ever seen in America; Sea Lions, Seals and Walrus, from Alaska; Egyptian Crocodiles and Mississippi Alligators; Horse Antelopes; Cow Antelopes; Blese Bock; Harte Beeste; Sea Cow, Sacred Bull; Elephants; White Bactrian and Arabian Camels; Baby Camel; Royal Bengal Tigers; African Leopard; Elands; Gnoos. Nylgau; Polar Bear; Black and Barnean Sun Bear; Asiatic and Thibetian Yaks; Zebras; Giant Kangaroos, eight feet high; Horned Horse; Rhinoceros; Jaguar; Puma; Hyenas; Apes; Monkeys; Baboons; Rocky Mountain Sheep; Antelope; Elk; Anacondas and Boa Constrictors, twenty feet long; beside a collection of minor animals, too numerous to enumerate.

THE BETHMOTH

IT ACTUALLY SWEATS BLOOD!



"Upon Earth there's not its like." A rare curiosity and a study for Naturalists; to be seen only once in a lifetime, therefore the young and old, the student and professor, should well themselves of this, probably their last opportunity, of viewing this Most Wonderful and Curious Creature.

**The Largest and Only Male
\$20,000 HIPPOPOTAMUS
Or RIVER HORSE, from the River Nile !**

(On exhibition in America.)

**CONGRESS OF ARENIC STARS!
SIX FAMOUS CLOWNS!**

AN ELEGANT AND REFINED CIRCUS!
First appearance of YOUNG MELVILLE,
The Apollo Horseman of America, together with hosts of other

ARENIC CELEBRITIES.

Will make their first appearance in this city.

Every Act And Feature First-Class

Four times larger and better than the largest ever organized. It is a

Grand Canvas Opera House

Holding 9,000 spectators furnished with elegant and luxurious drawing room chairs.

MOST ELABORATE MUSEUM

Of living wonders, mechanical triumphs, and rare and curious objects. Look at the Massive Proportions of this great show on the morning of exhibition day.

Trained Animal Exhibition.

AVIARY AND AQUARIUM,

An avalanche of attractions that cannot be equaled by all the tented exhibitions in America combined.



THE CROWNING TRIUMPH !

A GRAND FREE EXHIBITION !

THE MARDI GRAS TRIUMPHAL STREET PAGEANT !

THE GRANDEST SIGHT EVER BEHELD !

A SCENE OF POETRY, BEAUTY AND GAIETY !

At 9 A. M. on each day of exhibition, the Grand Eques-Hippo-Zoo-Mardi Gras Carnival Triumphal Street Pageant of Forepaugh's Great Show, will take place, when will be seen the Grandest Display of Oriental Splendor ever witnessed on the American Continent. Over One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars expended in the entire outfit. Mr. Forepaugh having had years of experience in catering to the tastes of lovers of amusement and Artistic Mechanism, has, for this season, at an enormous outlay in Chariots, Wardrobe, Paraphernalia, Costumes, Armor, etc., with the sole view of eclipsing any and all heretofore attempts, as to Splendor, Beauty and Novelty, will introduce Entirely New and Delightful Features.

\$60,000 WORTH OF COLOSSAL GOLDEN CHARIOTS,

Massive in proportion, artistic in design, richly decorated with carved Zoological, Mythological and Equestrian Figures of life-size—Historic, Representative and Emblematic.

A Gigantic Combination !

All Under Eight Center Poles !

4-PAW'S WORLD GREAT SHOW NEVER DIVIDES.

Representing a Cash Capital of Two Million Dollars.

JOHN A. and ADDIE FOREPAUGH, Managers.

ADAM FOREPAUGH, Proprietor.

WILL EXHIBIT AT FORT MADISON JUNE 15th.

THE GATE CITY:

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 20, '78.

Circus Licenses.

(To the Editor.)

It looks but little better than highway robbery to charge a circus \$50 license to exhibit in this city and then assign them a hole filled with water and mud ankle deep, a place where many people would hesitate to erect a pig sty. Side shows are charged all the way from \$5 to \$25, according to merit. Now as the city receives something from these shows it ought at least to offer them something better than a mud hole. If the city does not care for the Barnums, it should at least care for such citizens as patronize these shows, and not compel them to view the elephants in a bottomless pit. Some elevated position ought to be selected for such exhibitions. If we keep on treating them in this way they will avoid coming here, and we lose that income altogether. By the way what has become of the public park for which this site has been reserved? True, it is not a very airy place, but it would be a great deal better than no park at all.

Constitution-Democrat.

CONSTITUTION MAY 6, 1894.
ESTABLISHED 1883.

Woods Bros.' Circus.

Des Moines Leader: Country people flocked to town today in great numbers to take in Woods Bros.' circus in time to see the parade at 10 a.m. Bigger parades there have been, but that of this morning is highly creditable. The open air exhibition after the parade was about what is usually seen, and the sideshow was particularly interesting and attractive. A good-sized audience witnessed the afternoon show and said it was good. It is a clean show. Everybody can see all there is to be seen and every act, from that of the star rider to that of the least important specialty, is well worth seeing. Careful observation failed to reveal anything but the most irreproachable conduct on the part of all employees. We all like to be well treated, whether it is at a hotel or circus, and polite attention and an evident desire to please will insure success to any undertaking that depends upon public patronage. At Keokuk Monday, May 14, afternoon and night.

Daily Constitution.

TERMS OF THE DAILY.

WHAT CIRCUS PEOPLE EAT.

Breakfast at 11 O'Clock at Night—Food of the Performers.

Mr. James M. Nixon, than whom no living man knows more about a circus, said to an interviewer: "There are no people, excepting plainsmen—the skirmishers over the wild country of the west—who live so hard a life as circus employees, both performers and workmen. Their life is not as hard now, it is true, as it was some years ago, excepting with the small concerns. They are the 'wagon-shows' that travel through the small towns. But even with the big concerns that travel by train it is hard enough now."

"Take the case of a wagon-show that has to travel thirty miles after a night performance to get to the next town, where a street procession is to be made in the forenoon. The workmen, canvasmen, and the like have to take breakfast at 11 o'clock at night. Then they get no meal till dinner, after the procession—say at noon; Wherever they are, the work must be attended to first, and eating is a second consideration. With the performers—gymnasts, riders, clowns, and the like—it is not quite so bad. They get better pay and better food. As a rule they live on the best food there is to be had where they happen to be, and they take a great deal of it. Most of them are great beef-eaters, and are not very particular whether the meat is cold or hot, so long as it is good and plenty. They are very particular, however, about cleanliness. I have seen twenty or thirty of them get up and leave the table because the tablecloth was dirty. And when they want a meal they want it and will have it. I have often seen them leave a hotel where they would have to wait fifteen minutes for dinner that was paid for, and go to a restaurant where they would have to buy another. They won't eat unless they are hungry; but they are always hungry after a night performance, and will not go to bed without a hearty supper. They say they can't sleep if they are empty."

"One thing that is peculiar about them is that they do not take medicine, and they are remarkably healthy. When they are out of sorts they diet themselves, each one according to his own ideas, but I don't think I ever saw \$50 worth of medicine around a circus in all the years I have been in the business. Yes, they drink. Not to excess, but nearly all of them drink when they feel like it. They are very careful of themselves. They have to be or they would not last long."

"As a matter of course, with their irregular habits, they are in a certain sense extravagant. Their extravagance, however, is mainly in the matter of eating. Experience teaches them very soon, if their own sense does not at first, that they must take the very best possible care of themselves physically, and that good eating is a primary consideration.—The Cook.

office of the Colonel. Here the taste of woman has been displayed, and the result is a charming boudoir, blooming with flowers, ornamented with nick nacks, and as handsome as could be desired. It is furnished with Pullman seats, which furnish a spring bed when pulled out at night, and make handsome sofas during the day. The Colonel's desk is here, and he has everything at hand.

The balance of the car is fitted up for the advertising brigade. It is handsomely fur-

nished in oak, and contains every convenience for carrying posters, programmes, pictorials, cuts, paste, brushes, etc., and contains berths for the men. It is supplied with an automatic air-brake—which can be used in case of necessity to stop a whole train—and with water coolers, tanks and apparatus for making paste.

Everything is as neat and orderly as can be, due, we fancy, to the presence of Mrs Toole, who travels with her husband and acts as treasurer, paying out and looking after the odd half dollars and quarters and preventing the Colonel's cash account from coming out short, as it frequently did, as he informs us, before his wife was installed in office. The car is snug and airy, and is cheerfully shown to visitors.

Forepaugh's show, of which this car is the avant courier, will exhibit here on the 14th, and will present more and better attractions than ever.

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KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1878

Forepaugh's Circus, &c.

The prominent advertisement in another column, as well as the display of pictorial printing on the streets, will inform our readers and everybody else of the advent of the Great Forepaugh's Show comprising a first-class Circus. The largest Menagerie traveling, and a wonderful Museum, &c., all combined under Nine Centre Pole Tents, forms the largest combination in the amusement line in America, if not in the world. It is announced to appear in this place on Friday, June 14th, afternoon and evening.

The Virginia City Times says: "A truly excellent show. It is very seldom, if ever before, that the citizens of this city and vicinity have been enabled to witness so truly excellent a performance as that given in this city yesterday by the world renowned Adam Forepaugh's Circus, Menagerie, Museum, &c., under its Nine Mammoth Centre Pole Tents. Its fame has preceded it, and at the opening of the door the eager crowd poured in. Within the menagerie tent were exhibited a large and careful selection of rare and magnificent animals, which were in excellent health and condition, and were not of the second-rate and inferior class of half starved, worthless old heroes of a quarter of a century. Entering the circus arena the seats were quickly filled, attentive ushers seating ladies, children, etc. This system of Mr. Forepaugh's gave great satisfaction, as by it a great many ladies hitherto afraid to visit a circus will now go on hearing that their comforts and safety are so well cared for. Punctually to a minute the procession moved into the Hippodrome Arena, led by the Seven Lordly Performing Elephants. The variety of ring, track and performing show of thorough bred horses, male and female performers, the Mardi-Gras characters in grotesque figures and costumes, the gleam of golden spangles, the floating of gorgeously decorated and costly banners, formed a sight never before equalled in this city. Of the performances in general we take pride in speaking of it in the highest terms of praise, and cheerfully recommend the exhibition of Mr. Forepaugh to the public, and bespeak for them a generous and hearty welcome from the press at all places where this great show may pitch its tents."

The Great Circus called above
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

The Largest Circus in the World

WILL EXHIBIT AT

Keokuk, Saturday, June 1st.

MAY 26, 1872.

JAMES ROBINSON'S Great Circus and Museum.



Emphatically pronounced by all to be the Leading Show of the period, combining all the best riders of the age, among whom is the great and only master.

James Robinson!

The undoubted, undisputed Champion Bare-back and Hurdle Rider of the world.
CHAMPION OF SPAIN—Wearing the Medal of Isabella.

CHAMPION OF FRANCE—Wearing the Ribbon of Napoleon III.

CHAMPION OF RUSSIA—Wearing the Double Eagle.

CHAMPION OF ENGLAND—Wearing Her Majesty's Crest of Honor.

CHAMPION OF HAVANA, CUBA—Wearing the Diamond-studded Golden Belt.

CHAMPION OF AMERICA—Having the favor of the People.

Carrying his Son and Pupil,

MASTER EUGENE.

The most wonderful boy equestrian any age ever has or ever will boast of.



Mr. Frank Pastor,

Who Riding on his Padded or Saddled Horse is second only to that of Mr. Robinson and still on his stripped and denuded courser. Mr. Pastor has won the meed of superiority in every country in Christendom.

Two Grand Exhibitions Daily at 2 and 7½ o'clock p.m. Doors open one hour before.

Admission—50 Cents. Children under 10 years, 25 Cents.

W. C. ANDERSON, AGENT.

The Dally Gate City.

SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 27, 1872.

JAMES ROBINSON'S CIRCUS.—It seems to have been the settled determination of Mr. James Robinson, famed in every land, and

lie daily and nightly crowd his pavilion, whenever and wherever his canvas is spread, and give expression to their delight that promises happily for the young champion rider in his new and suitable position as manager. The equestrian acts of Mr. Robinson and his little sons, Clarence and Eugene, are not only startling but are replete with exquisite pictures, in the reproduction of which a sculptor might immortalize himself. Mr. Robinson's circus will be in Keokuk Saturday, June 1st, remaining for one day only.

JAMES ROBINSON'S GREAT CIRCUS.—The great equestrian of the age, Mr. James Robinson, is to be in Keokuk Saturday, June 1st, at the head of a first-class circus, embodying the leading talent of his profession. As an evidence of the popularity of Mr. Robinson, and of the circus of which he is proprietor, we reproduce the following from the Cincinnati *Enquirer*:

THE CIRCUS.—Robinson's circus was densely crowded last night by an audience that was enthusiastic over every feature of the great show, and actually grew wild over the riding of James Robinson, justly named "the champion horseman of every land." We have often seen the little man ride, but never have become so accustomed to his dangerous feats as to feel quite comfortable until the last rapid dashes around the ring, in which the rider seems to have no hold upon his steed, are safely over. It is not merely skill and daring which enables the man to ride as he does, with the offhand dash of a man who does a thing easy to him, if to no other person; it is no positive affinity to his horse, of whom he might almost be imagined a living part.

JAMES ROBINSON.—On Saturday, June 1st, this great equestrian will surely ride in our city, in connection with his mammoth circus composed of the leading arena artists both of Europe and America. Mr. Robinson is the acknowledged champion equestrian of the world, having had bestowed upon him the highest honors ever granted to any public performer, as the following correct record will show: Presented by Queen Isabella with the medal of Spain; from Napoleon III with the Royal Ribbon of France; also the Double Eagle of Russia; wearing Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Crest of Honor; also the diamond-studded gold belt of Cuba, and champion of America, having the favor of the people. He is, without doubt, "king of the unbridled horse." In connection with the great Robinson, are Shappee and Whitney, the distinguished aerial gymnasts; Mr. Frank Pastor, acknowledged by all Europe and America to be the most elegant and finished pad rider before the public, having ridden in Europe for years. This is his second season in America, after an absence of six years. The wonderful Davenport Brothers are also with this circus. The two French Clowns; Master Eugene, the boy rider; also, young Clarence,

whose reputation is associated with that of his illustrious father; Miss Louise Boshell, "queen" of the floating chord; Granger and Duffield, the wonderful athletes; the celebrated riding dog, "Phil. Sheridan," with a full troupe of riders, tumblers, leapers, gymnasts, contortionists, and jugglers. Billy Burke, the well known grotesque and singing Clown, will appear at each entertainment. Also, Mr. Fred. Willson, the gentlemanly delineator of Shakspelian humor. Don't fail to see the grand equestrian spectacle of ten finished riders at once, in a friendly strife.

JAMES ROBINSON'S GREAT CIRCUS.—Everybody is on tip-toe of expectation to witness the equestrian exploits of the world renowned horseman, Mr. James Robinson, who is to be in Keokuk to-day with his magnificent troupe of equestrians and gymnasts. The unbounded popularity of this exhibition is evinced by the following from the St. Louis *Democrat*:

Large crowds of our citizens have daily and nightly visited the mammoth pavilion of Mr. James Robinson, since his advent among us, and his exhibition has given entire satisfaction to those who have witnessed it. The equestrian acts of Mr. Robinson and his little son Clarence are not only startling, but are truly wonderful, and, together with his excellent array of talent, will insure the best success in the future. The exhibitions will conclude to-day with an afternoon and evening performance, and all who have failed to do so, should avail themselves of the remaining opportunities to see the best show in the country. When James Robinson rode his tremendous bare-back acts, not only in buskins, but actually in boots, last night, he received such deafening burst of applause as was never before heard in a circus in this city. He undoubtedly has the best show in the strictly legitimate circus line, that ever spread canvas here.

JAMES ROBINSON'S CIRCUS.—Notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the weather last evening, the pavilion of James Robinson's circus was filled with an enthusiastic audience to witness the performance, which, in many respects, was superior to anything of the kind ever produced in this city. In his daring and wonderful feats on the horse, Mr. Robinson is without a rival and is conceded to be the champion bare-back rider of the world. His performance last night was received with rounds of applause. His two little boys are remarkable specimens of juvenile skill, and of themselves constitute a feature that is not among the least of the exhibition by any means. In addition to Robinson and his two sons, there are other performers which go to make up one of the very best circus companies now traveling.

THE GATE CITY:

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 21.

IN THE TOILS.

James Robinson, the Circus Rider, In
dicted for Perjury.

Among the indictments found at the last term of the U. S. District Court, in this city, was one against James Robinson, the circus rider, for perjury. The charge is that of making and swearing to a false inventory of his property in a bankrupt case. On Wednesday, Robinson surrendered himself to the authorities in Chicago, as will be seen by the following from the *Times*:

"Jim" Robinson, of circus fame, bulged into the office of United State Marshal Hildrup on yesterday afternoon, seeking some one to place him under arrest. It will be remembered that Robinson worsened a trio of New York blackmailers who followed him to this city less than a year ago, but it now appears that these same parties have recently sworn out a warrant in the United States district court of southern Iowa for his arrest, and in which his bail is fixed at \$2,000. Robinson prefers to have the case tried here, where all the facts are known. One of the trio, who have persistently followed him, is a notorious police-court shyster, another is ex-detective, and the third, a broken-down circus clown. These men, he says, combined some years ago to extort money from him by swearing out warrants upon some bogus charge just upon the eve of his entering into the fulfillment of season engagements. Marshal Hildrup had no authority to place Robinson under arrest, but will probably communicate with the federal authorities in Iowa on the matter.

Col. Root received orders to go and take charge of him, and left for Chicago last evening for that purpose. He anticipates that Robinson will refuse to leave Chicago, but if he does not he will arrive here with him this evening.

—Col. Root, Deputy United States Marshal, returned yesterday from Chicago, where he went after James Robinson, the circus rider, against whom there is an indictment in the U. S. District Court here for perjury. Robinson took his case before Judge Blodgett and the latter admitted him to bail in the sum of \$2,000, which he gave. Col. Root contested the case and undertook to get possession of the prisoner, but the Court ruled against him.

Constitution-Democrat.
JUNE 26, 1898.

CIRCUS TOMORROW

Cooper & Co.'s railroad shows will arrive by special train from Quincy early tomorrow morning and pitch tents at corner of Fifth and Blondeau streets, and remain two days, at popular low prices of admission, only 10 and 20 cents. A high class one-ring

show, comprising the best leapers, tumblers, acrobats, clowns and gymnasts, with Prof. Oatman's wonderful troupe of educated ponies, horses and monkeys.

Seating capacity for 3,000 people. Watch for street parade at 11:30 tomorrow morning.

Constitution-Democrat.
JUNE 25, 1898.

COOPER & CO.'S
RAILROAD
SHOWS,
KEOKUK,

Monday and Tuesday
JUNE 27 and 28

THE LARGEST AND BEST POPULAR PRICED
SHOW IN AMERICA.

HIGH-CLASS ONE-RING SHOW!

30 Great Artists!

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT.

ADMISSION.—Children under 10 years of age, 10c; Adults, 20c. No Higher.

Tents located Corner Fifth and Blondeau streets.

Constitution-Democrat.
JUNE 28, 1898.

COOPER & CO.'S SHOWS

Excellent Performances Given Yesterday
Afternoon and Evening.

Large numbers of spectators found excellent entertainment on yesterday afternoon and evening in attending the first-class performance given by Cooper & Co. in their circus tent on Fifth and Blondeau streets. During the noon hour yesterday a parade was given on Main street in which the concern made a creditable exhibition of their skilled performers and beautiful ponies and horses and this attracted a great many of the children and adults as well, who find enjoyment in a circus, to the performances given afterward. No one was disappointed who attended in the expectation of having a good time and a great many were agreeably surprised at the excellence of the program. This consisted of the usual numbers of trained horses, equestrians, jugglers, aerial performers, clowns, and the numerous other attractions that go to make up the popular circus. All these, however, were devoid to great extent of the sameness and unoriginality that characterizes many circus performances and the enjoyment of the program given by Cooper & Co. was heightened on this account. It is a good clean show and merits a crowd at both the performances given this afternoon and evening.

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THE CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT
P. J. DIXON, PUBLISHER

FIRST TOUR TO THE WEST.

THE WALTER L. MAIN'S
GRANDEST AND BEST SHOWS ON EARTH

Positively pre-eminent in the annals of amusements, and dwarfing, by comparison, all others.

Will exhibit in all its matchless magnitude at

Keokuk, Tuesday, Aug. 20.



Four trains of specially constructed cars are required to transport this enormous enterprise.
1,000 PEOPLE EMPLOYED.
300 OF THE FINEST HORSES EVER OWNED BY ONE MAN.
A HERD OF ELEPHANTS.
A DROVE OF CAMELS.

5 CONTINENT MENAGERIE 5

Comprising a countless collection of rare Zoological Wonders.

"WALLACE," THE ONLY REAL RIDING LION.

3 Ring Circus and Elevated Stages.
6 Score of Noted Performers.

PROF. PIERRE PERIER

Makes two dives daily from a tower 100 feet high, free to all, at 10:30 A. M. and 6:30 P. M.

FREE STREET PARADE

DAILY AT 10 A. M.

A moving mass of astounding splendor, comprising a full mile of entrancing wonders.

A Score of Open Dens of Rare Wild Beasts.
10 Kinds of Melodous Music. 5 Distinct Bands of Soloists.

ONE TICKET ADMITS TO ALL THESE GREAT SHOWS.

TWO COMPLETE PERFORMANCES DAILY AT 2 AND 8 P. M.
DOORS OPEN ONE HOUR EARLIER.

Tickets for sale at Ayres & Sons' jewelry store on day of exhibition at regular prices.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 10, 1895.

A Circus Coming.

We understand the Walter L. Main circus will exhibit in Keokuk on the 20th of August. The coming of such an exhibition is always an important event. A circus is always a benefit to the merchants. Many people come from long distances to see the show and, incidentally, do a good deal of trading while in town. Railroad companies give excursion rates on such an occasion; and we do not believe it a sound or wise policy for any town to impose an exorbitant license tax. We understand that this circus had so much difficulty in obtaining an eligible lot on which they could erect their tents, that the advance agent doubted whether the show could come to Keokuk. We have never given it much thought heretofore, but it seems to us that a town or city that fixes a license for a show to exhibit within its corporate limits, at an unreasonable price, stands in its own light. We feel confident that the coming of a circus at this season of the year will be the means of causing hundreds of people to visit Keokuk from the surrounding country, and the crowd that come to town to see the circus will leave many hundreds of dollars with our merchants and carry home lots of merchandise. Always welcome the circus for the sake of the small boy and the sound business principles, of which we have hinted.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 15, 1895.

MR. FRANK MILLER..

The Famous Rider a Feature of the Walter Main Shows.

Mr. Frank Miller, who is one of the notable features with the great Walter Main shows, is not only the best male rider the world has ever known but is an artist with an international reputation. He has appeared before the crowned heads of Europe, and would never permit his name to be identified with any but the very best tented amusements. Mr. Miller is the embodiment of grace. His work is so cleverly done that it has the appearance of excessive ease. He springs upon the back of a swiftly running horse as readily as the ordinary man mounts a chair. His thrilling riding creates a furor. He conquers his audience by the mastery of his art. Long after the show has come and gone, admiring thousands dilate on the marvel of his performance. This worthy rider is in worthy company. He is surrounded by the strongest array of American and European arena stars ever gathered together. Innumerable great features enchain the attention of the audience. Schools of educated ponies, goats, pigs and baby elephants; a double troupe

of royal Japanese; thrilling aerial acts by the greatest of all serial performers, Stark and Zeno and many others; equestrian acts by more than a score of justly celebrated lady and gentlemen riders; arena sports and pastimes of ancient Rome, together with a real Roman hippodrome. The only elephant riding lion and numerous other features. The entire show will exhibit at Keokuk Tuesday, Aug. 20.

THE DAILY GATE CITY. AUGUST 20, 1895. THE CIRCUS.

The Walter L. Main Big Shows Visit Keokuk Today.

Were Delayed in Arriving But Gave a Parade Just the Same—Excellent Exhibition Given This Afternoon—Performance Tonight.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Walter L. Main big shows were delayed in arriving today, as noted in another column, so complete is the organization and control of this vast enterprise that it was only a short time after the trains arrived before the big tents were erected on the grounds opposite Rand park. Large crowds of people were at the levee watching the cars being unloaded, and at the grounds seeing the big tents go up. Because of the delay the parade was not given until early this afternoon, but it was a most brilliant and fully repaid the big crowds for waiting. The horses were the finest ever attached to any circus which has visited here, and the property throughout has a bright and clean look, showing that it is new and attractive. The aggregation has made a most favorable impression its first visit to Keokuk.

The immense tents constructed to accommodate the multitude are evidences of the crowds the shows have drawn wherever they have appeared. Within them is a wonderful menagerie, including much that is novel and wonderful, such as has not been exhibited in the west before. The hippodrome and museum, etc., are in keeping with the other features of such unusual merit. In the circus tent the performance is far above the average, and all in the exhibition is well worth seeing. The show possesses artists who rank with the greatest of their kind. Wm. De Mott, lately of the Barnum show, is riding better this season than ever before, and the grace with which he accomplishes the most efficient feats of horsemanship is a most thrilling sight to see. Grace Thompson, the lady equestrienne, is a wonderful rider. Stark and Zeno are among the greatest aerial artists in existence and their leaps through space set one's hair on end. Frank Miller and his pretty wife also do great acts—and there are scores of others which fills out a great circus bill. The riding lion is a great feature, and his riding is just as advertised. The beast seems docile

enough and the horse is a hero in the minds of the circus people just as much as "Wallace." He stands the occasional grip of the lions claws without any grumbling.

The second performance will be given tonight and will doubtless be attended by a great throng.

Constitution-Democrat OCTOBER 18, 1904. HALS CIRCUS.

LANCASTER MAN SELLS ONE AND STARTING ANOTHER.

WILL BE CALLED "BILLY HALL'S GREATEST OF ALL SHOWS."

Famous Horseman is Getting Ready for Next Season and Will Spend Over \$100,000.

Lancaster, Mo., Oct. 15.—(Special).—About a month ago Billy Hall of Lancaster, the world's greatest horse buyer, bought out completely the W. H. Harris Nickle Plate show, consisting of seven cars, eleven cages, fifty horses, chariot and hippodrome outfit, tents, wagons, and all other paraphernalia belonging thereto. The show complete is valued at about \$25,000. Mr. Hall's intentions were to make use of this outfit as the beginner of a show second to none in existence.

Wednesday of this week, October 12, 1904, Mr. Hall sold the entire Nickle Plate show to Chiller Brothers of Kansas City, Mo., who will next year tour the country with their property.

When it became known that Mr. Hall had disposed of his show property after a month's ownership, the idea spread that he had given up all notion of embarking in the circus business. This opinion is without any foundation whatever and is entirely erroneous.

Mr. Hall is going into the show business on a large scale. He will begin at once to surround himself with an amusement enterprise which, when completed, will be the swellest circus in America. Everything will be entirely new from the ground up.

Mr. Hall has already determined upon the name of his amusement project and it will be billed under the name "Billy Hall's Greatest of All Shows." It will be a twenty-five car show to begin with and its initial cost will be from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Billy Hall's fame as a horse buyer extends far and wide. It extends far beyond the confines of this country's borders. He is well known among horsemen of Eu-

rope and owns his own stables in South Africa. He is beyond question the world's greatest horse buyer and is so recognized by horse buyers the world over.

He will begin at once to gather together for his own use the finest circus horses on earth, both as regards heavy draft horses and performing horses. He already has a large tent stretched at his Lancaster home under which he has a number of fine horses in training. They are in charge of an expert trainer who is teaching them all the circus tricks, including dancing, cake walking, etc.

He will be an extremely busy anceship with the world's greatest wild animal trainers, Hagenback, and the others, and arrangements will soon be perfected whereby Mr. Hall will come into possession of some great animal features for his show.

Mr. Hall will be an extremely busy man from now on. It means a tremendous amount of arduous work to arrange and perfect all the details, large and small, of a great circus enterprise. He is already figuring on his tour next season and expects to have everything in readiness by January 1, 1905, when he will start on a southern tour going as far as the gulf and winding back in a northerly direction. He fully intends to show at Keokuk during the season of 1905. Lancaster will continue to be his home and here he will make his winter headquarters.

Mr. Hall is very ambitious and fully expects to make his circus as the name implies the greatest of all shows. He said: "I expect to become known and be recognized as the greatest showman on earth, as I am now known and recognized as the greatest horseman in the world."

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, MAY 6.

A Poor Show.

One of the poorest apologies for a circus and menagerie that we were ever unfortunate enough to gaze upon, struck Keokuk yesterday, and gave two performances, afternoon and evening. Everybody and everything connected with the show seemed worn out and miserable, notwithstanding the fact that the outfit has only been out of winter quarters three weeks. The menagerie isn't anything to speak of and the circus is worse. There are about a dozen ordinary performers and four or five ring-horses, and the so-called "clowns" are perfectly sickening. The tent was about two-thirds full at the performance last evening and the wretched "entertainment" didn't last quite an hour. We understand that the show split here, part of it going to Kahoka, but it would be a difficult matter to divide it and have anything left. Cooper, Jackson & Co. had better steer clear of Keokuk and other cities in the future, or they won't be able to keep up appearances even as well as they do now.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
S. RICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

of attention.

A vast amusement enterprise, like that of Ringling Brothers, must be ably managed to make it successful, and that their show is successful is too well known to be questioned. There is no doubt that the personal characteristics of these five famous brothers have been the leading factor in their success as showmen. It is really remarkable to what an extent each is adapted to fill the peculiar place in the management which falls to his lot. It is this fact which has made Al. Ringling, the oldest of the quintette, the greatest equestrian director in the world, and thus insure to the patrons of Ringling Bros.' circus a better performance than can be seen with any other show. And so it is with Otto, the financier of the show; Charles, the general advertising agent; Alf. T., the general press representative, and John, to whose judgment falls the delicate task of successfully routing the show. Each one of the quintette brings to his individual sphere of action qualifications which make success a foregone conclusion. Some idea of the remarkable development of this show may be gained from the fact that within a dozen years it has grown from a little overland circus, the entire value of which was less than a thousand dollars, to the largest arenaic enterprise the world has ever seen. It is evident that a success like this could not have been the result of chance, nor has it been. The Ringling Brothers have won their way to their present eminence by qualities which would have gained success in any sphere of life. Each of the quintette has been endowed by nature with characteristics which, in combination, have given them a superiority over all competitors, and ensured them success where less gifted men would inevitably have failed.

passing out the tent was struck twice with the above results. Fire started but was extinguished.

The scene of consternation which followed the bolt surpasses description and a serious panic was narrowly averted.

KANSAS CITY, June 22.—Latest advices from Perry, Kas., where eleven people were reported killed by a cyclone last night, and more missing, are to the effect no more bodies are found. The storm swept over a space half a mile wide and several miles in length, completely demolishing every structure in its path and killing or seriously wounding every person within the area named. Those killed were found to be horribly mangled when the bodies were gathered up today. Of the injured three will probably die. The old stone house on the bluffs of the Kaw river, formerly occupied by John Brown, the noted abolitionist, was destroyed in this storm.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., June 22.—A cyclone struck Conception, sixty miles north, last evening, wrecking twenty houses and barns, killing John Doyle, wife and an old man living with them.

ELDORA, IA., June 21.—One of the buildings at the industrial reform school were struck by lightning today. Mrs. Leonard, brother and fourteen inmates were knocked down and one dangerously hurt. The end of the building was badly wrecked.

STANBERRY, Mo., June 21.—A terrific wind, rain and hail storm struck here this afternoon. Much damage was done. Judge Maston's house was struck by lightning and burned. William Cummings, a farmer, was instantly killed. Three members of John Doyle's family were killed. Other members of the family were seriously injured.

ing, this is probably not true. The hyena's laugh at any rate is not hilarious, nor is the parrot's imitation of laughter any thing—except in form—like the genuine article.

It is a valid plea for amusement for enjoyment and laughter to say that all nations have provided for these things. The Grecian and Roman games are as famous as any thing else we know of in Grecian and Roman history, and the unburied walls of Pompeii reveal to modern eyes the placards of theatrical and public shows. In Rome, in times of public clamor, the appeal for bread, as the Latin motto shows—was coupled with that for amusements; as if were on an equality with and as necessary as the other.

I think it will be found true that, in any nation where a genuine love of amusement prevails, and where wholesome and rational amusements flourish, you will find a peaceful government and a people that is contented. I believe that if the Czar of Russia should organize monster shows and brilliant spectacles all over his Empire, he would to some extent mitigate the brooding sorrow of his people. I do not mean that joy can take the place of justice; or that injustice should have even this support. But if I were committed to dispensing wrong I should see, I think, that some mitigation of it could be had by promoting gayety and pleasure.

The growth of the public show in this country arose from quite primitive beginnings. Fifty years and more ago the performing bear or single elephant was enough to draw a crowd. The elephant—when he was a show by himself—was driven around from place to place in country towns. It was the habit to take him by night as much as possible; and when he went along the country roads by day he was closely blanketed. He was generally exhibited in a barn for a small fee; and as soon as the eyes of the crowd were satisfied the doors were closed, and the next morning the trainer and keeper, with an assistant, drove him on to another town to repeat the exhibition.

By degrees certain other attractions were joined to the exhibition of the elephant. There were ventriloquial performances, sleight-of-hand tricks, a little magic, and finally the large tent, circus-rider, street procession and clown.

But the stock circus, as it used to be, with a menagerie, or a few animals added later—every body is now familiar with. The change which has come over it now is that of enlargement and purification. And there was need of this, for the old-time clown was sometimes a very coarse personage in public, and in this politer day will not be tolerated. But he was a teller of some good jokes, subtracting the particular quality mentioned, which were worthy of a laugh. He was always a punster and a player upon words. The ringmaster represented authority, with gentlemanly dulness, while the clown was as witty and obsequious as the "King's Fool."

I shall never forget how, as a boy, I enjoyed at the first circus I attended, many of the ante-diluvian jokes of this last personage. The following now very aged chestnut opened my mind's eye then to the queerness of our language,

The Gate City.

JUNE 29, 1893.
Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class
Matter.

KILLED AT A CIRCUS.

Eight Deaths Result From Lightning Striking Ringling Brothers' Tent.

RIVER FALLS, WIS., June 21.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon the large circus tent of Ringling Bros. was struck by lightning while crowded with people, instantly killing eight and injuring more than twenty.

The killed: Clark Mapes.

Eugene Reynolds.

J. A. Glendenning, town clerk of Oak Grove, and son.

O. A. Deans.

O. P. Wiggins.

Curt Aldridges and an unknown boy.

The names of the injured cannot be obtained as they were taken away by friends. While the people were

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 8, 1890
Entered in Keokuk postoffice as 2d class matter

BARNUM ON HIS HOBBY.

He Tells About His World-Wide Circus Experiences.

The Circus Is the Secret of National Happiness—The Elephant as a Moral Force—European Circuses Are Small Potatoes.

[COPRIGHT, 1890.]



T hardly admits a of doubt that in the human race the love of amusement is inherent. Of the many definitions by which man has been described one is that he is "the animal that laughs."

Some one has said, in reply to this that there are other animals that laugh. But, strictly speak-

and may be given as one sample. The ringmaster said to the clown: "Your coat, sir, is very short." "I know it," said the clown, "but it will be very long before I get another." Across one narrow ring all the badinage of these two characters could be easily heard, but now, as the circus of to-day is arranged, conversation of any kind is not either possible or desirable.

What struck me most while abroad, with reference to the public shows that prevail in England and on the continent, was the fact that they are for the most part small affairs. In fact they seemed to me to be repetitions and reproductions of those we have left behind, in America, long ago. There is one show in England which, perhaps, merits a better description than this; but the remark applies very well to nearly all the shows and circuses in Europe. Then, too, they are not as a general thing patronized so much by the wealthier and higher classes as the best circuses are here. The price of admission in England ranges from six pence to three shillings and four shillings, but the more expensive seats are in slight demand. I think the circus and show in Germany and France are generally rather more refined than those in England. It is said, though, that in some countries, especially in France, there are a pair of clowns who are husband and wife, which gives room for situations that are, perhaps, more in accordance with French and continental taste than with our manners.

But none of the performers in circuses abroad command the high prices which are given by my Greatest Show on Earth. The best get only from £20 to £30 per week, while we give many times those prices. For this season whenever we hear of a rare performer in Europe, we can secure him or her against all competition there. When one of my agents is on the search for circus actors, or for curiosities, the showmen there beg us not to take every thing.

On one occasion, when I wanted to procure a number of highly trained black ponies, the owner of them, who was a French showman, said to the agent: "You can't break up my show, for my wife, my two sons, and daughter are among my performers, and you can't hire them. Nor can you buy the black ponies, for they are mine, too." "But," said the agent, "you will sell the horses at some price?"

"No I won't either."

"Why, yes you will, at some price."

"Of course, at some price. You can have them," he said, triumphantly, "for \$90,000."

"I'll take them," said the agent.

"O, you don't mean it! You will break up my show."

But the bargain was made, and there was no help for it. But it is partly the wealth in this country and the good patronage of Americans that enables us to do so much better here with the show as a business. There is performing skill enough abroad and, in fact, all over the world, and we have to go all o'er the world after it.

It may interest the reader to know that a wonderful lady rider, called the best in the world, and who jumps from the ground with her feet alone, landing on her feet on the back of the horse at full speed, is from Buenos Ayres, South America. Her salary, if I were to name

it, would be found about equal in one week to that of high-class clerks in a large mercantile firm for one year.

You have asked me to tell you how performers are made. Well, like journalism, which is its own school, the circus is mainly its own school. You have got to do the thing to know how. Of course, some gymnasium practice is apt to precede the public attempt. But some performers who have taught themselves wholly in an amateur way, begin at once with the smaller circus feats, and go on by years of practice to success. Not every one, however, who tries can be a successful gymnast or acrobat. Nature, in this, as in every thing, has to do its part.

A marked difference between English circuses and the best in America is seen in the way the programme is handled after the opening hour. We begin with a spectacular and lively promenade around the ring. And, after this, specific performance or series of performances follows quickly. The English way, however, is to open slowly, the ring master coming in with a long whip in his hand and with perhaps one or two performers only following him a minute or two later. The whole manipulation of the exercises—as the English do it—would be slow and tedious to us.

Our three rings are a revelation and wonder to English and European eyes. No circus managers in England or abroad ever thought or heard of more than one ring. But they are probably teachable and know at least their own interest. Having seen the egg set on end, they will undoubtedly follow a good example and reap from it greater patronage hereafter with greater profit.

P. T. BARNUM.

Grand Circus Matinee For the Children.

The managers of T. K. Burk's great trans-Atlantic railroad shows, circus, museum, hippodrome, school for educated horses and ponies, etc., etc., will give a grand matinee Wednesday, May 27, to which ladies and children are especially invited. Every child attending will receive a beautiful present and an invitation to a ride on one of the cute little Shetland ponies. Doors open at 1 p. m. Grand entree at 2 o'clock. The full programme will be rendered. The dashing riders, thrilling aerialists, graceful acrobats, funny clowns, exciting hippodrome races, trained horses, cunning ponies, trick mules, etc., etc. Ample seating capacity. Polite ushers in attendance. Popular prices 10 and 20 cents. Show grounds corner of Eighth and Concert streets.

The Gate City.

MAY 26, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

T. K. BURK'S

CONSOLIDATED SHOWS

And Gorgeous Spectacle of
Cinderella and the Crystal Slipper.



The Gate City.

MAY 22, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

The Circus is Coming.

The first and only big show that will visit Keokuk this season will be T. K. Burk's New United Trans-Alantic Railroad shows, double circus, mammoth museum, Roman hippodrome and Prof. Burk's school of educated Arabian horses, 30 in number, in their wonderful military drills, court scenes, etc., etc. This immense aggregation will pitch their tents here for one day only Wednesday May 27.

Two performances will be given. Doors open at 1 and 7 o'clock, performance to begin one hour later. Popular prices will be the rule. Grand street parade at 10 a. m. Ladies and children are especially recommended to attend the Matinee performances, thereby avoiding the vast crowds at night. Seating capacity for 5,000. Everything new and brilliant. Remember the day and date. Prices 10 and 20c. Show grounds corner of Eighth and Concert streets.

At Keokuk

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27th.

Prices 10 and 20c.

Show grounds corner Eighth and Concert streets. Two performances. Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. Grand entree one hour later.

The Gate City.

MAY 24, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

KEOKUK 31st
and
Main St.
ONE DAY ONLY

Fri. May 8
Afternoon and Night

SEILS-STERLING
MIGHTY 4-RING
CIRCUS

Auspices American Legion

Admission
Children 25c Adults 35c
Admits to Everything

DAILY GATE CITY**CIRCUS COMES
FRIDAY; SURE
SIGN OF SPRING**

MAY 5 1936

Scientists tell us spring is here when the sun performs a certain stunt in its annual trek. Nature lovers see spring when the first flowers stick their pretty faces out of the ground. Suburban residents telephone the newspapers that spring is here when they see the first robins searching for their daily meal of worms in the back yard.

The real bonafide, absolutely certain sign of spring is the appearance of the circus billposter. Not until this most important visitor to a town makes his annual appearance, does the small boy know that spring is again with him.

One will say "small boy," because the small boy gets more kick out of an approaching circus than any other member of the family. Not that the older brother or the father himself doesn't get some satisfaction out of the circus. They surely do. When a man gets too old to enjoy the thrills of a circus it is time for him to call his family to his bedside and send for his favorite undertaker.

This is the time of year when flaming posters are glimpsed on all

sides and the small boy in country and city begins to amaze his mother by obeying her every command.

We must admit, that we punished a lot of carpets about circus time, in our boyhood days and, doubtless there are a lot of the old boys who have some recollections of earning their circus admission.

And without a doubt, a majority of us have fallen for that "gag" of carrying water to the elephants or playing chambermaid to a herd of thirsty camels, for a few hours, to get into the "big top." Getting a quarter for a seat at the circus was often times, when we were small boys, a more perplexing problem than paying off the national debt. Maybe it still is.

But what is there in this whole universe, that has more fun, more enjoyment and more merriment, than the "good old" circus? Bringing back those memories of the circus in town. The whole day off, is the young boy's dream of heaven. Rising at daybreak to run over to the grounds, see the tents go up, watch the animal cages hauled into their temporary quarters, and getting a glimpse now and then of "spangle-land." To be a clown has been the height of many a small boy's ambition, the jesters who have made the circus the great American institution it has become.

Undoubtedly some of the instances related, will become true experiences among the juvenile circles of Keokuk when Seils-Sterling 4-Ring circus arrives in town on the morning of May 8 to give two performances, afternoon and night. This will be the first circus to visit our city this year.

DAILY GATE CITY
MAY 6, 1936**OLD ELEPHANT
COMING HERE
WITH CIRCUS**

The oldest known living elephant in America is "Billy Sunday"—property of B. Lindeman, chief executive of the Seils-Sterling four-ring circus, which comes here Friday.

This old elephant is as kind as a small kitten and as harmless. Children often lead Billy around the showgrounds and are permitted to play with him. Some afternoons, the keepers let the little ones ride on Billy's back. This is usually done after the matinee. Billy has traveled with shows in this country for over 75 years and has been exhibited to more people than any other living animal. Your father and mother when they were small children undoubtedly fed this old animal and there is no doubt Billy is the first elephant your parents ever saw. How would it feel for you to feed the elephant your grandfather fed peanuts when he was a little boy. Ask any of the attendants for old Billy and he will be pointed out.

Billy is really showing his age now—there is no telling how old he is, probably 300 or 400 years old, but he is still lively enough to go from the cars to the show

grounds and keep up with the balance of the herd. He also occupies a prominent location in the block-long menagerie tent, housing avenue after avenue of cages, dens, corrals, and enclosures filled with the earth's rarest and finest zoological display.

The "Donzelle Sensation," the greatest thriller of all time, the outstanding feature, an engagement extraordinary, for this season only, and can be seen only with Seils-Sterling four-ring circus, presenting their daring and graceful achievement. "The Plunge of Death," positively at both afternoon and night performances.

DAILY GATE CITY
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1936 =**CIRCUS GIVES
TWO SHOWS ON
GROUNDS HERE**

Seils-Sterling Attraction Arrived This Morning and is Playing Matinee and Night Performances in This City.

The Seils-Sterling Circus, one of the largest of the traveling shows in the country, arrived Friday morning for the two performances to be given here today. The matinee was at 2 o'clock and the evening show at 8 o'clock. All doors will be open an hour before time to begin.

The circus is showing at the usual place on Main street across from the ball park, at Thirty-second street, where a large number were attracted throughout the morning. The unloading and getting ready of a circus never fails to attract a crowd here. The group at the show grounds this morning was mostly grownups, the youngsters being in school.

The big show canvas is new from the side show, pit show and Big Top to the new up-to-date cook house, back of the pad room, or dressing tents, in the back yard.

Fifty specially constructed mammoth new all steel gaudily decorated motor sleeping coaches, baggage, horse, elephant, seat, pole and property big motor trucks of special design, mammoth band wagons, wild animal dens and caliphates are used to transport the big show from city to city. Ten big tents covering ten acres of ground, house this transient city.

A Show of Surprises.

Within the three rings, act follows act, which, as predicted by the management, forms "a show of supremely stupendous surprises." And this is true, for the Seils-Sterling Circus gives a program which is thrilling as well as pleasurable.

ing to young and old.

Outstanding features are The Flying Beckman's in a daring, thrilling trapeze act in the dome of the big tent in which Tom Beckman, America's greatest aerialist, makes a flying leap to a perfect catch by Joe Siegrist while blindfolded with a gunny sack over his head.

Big Time Acts.

Other star big time circus acts appearing on the program are the Riding Hodgini Brothers, Joe and Teddy, assisted by pretty Misses Verna Lindeman, Rose Hiller and Nellie Schrader who do some wonderful riding; the Peasley Trio, three people in a novelty cannon ball juggling act and perch act; Fred Leonard, with the European famous horse, pony and a dog act. Dainty Senorita Morella at every performance does a sensational forward somersault in mid-air from a trapeze, catching by her heels.

Lindeman's famous trained elephants appear in military drills and novelty numbers. Twenty funny clowns appear in all manner of famous cartoon makeups, burlesqueing all acts. Prof. Arthur Heller's concert band furnishes a circus program of fine classical and popular music. Gary Owen, Hollywood film star and cowboy, with his wild west group of cowgirls and cowboys, presents a real old fashioned wild west concert.

KEOKUK

TWO SHOWS DAILY
Free Parking Show Grounds

Wed., May. 4

Victory Park, Foot of Main St.



PRESENTS THE
MASKED MARVEL
IN PERSON

Madame La Belle Lucie

Parelian Sensation of the "Big Cage"
Senorita Theresa Morales
World's Premier Aerialist

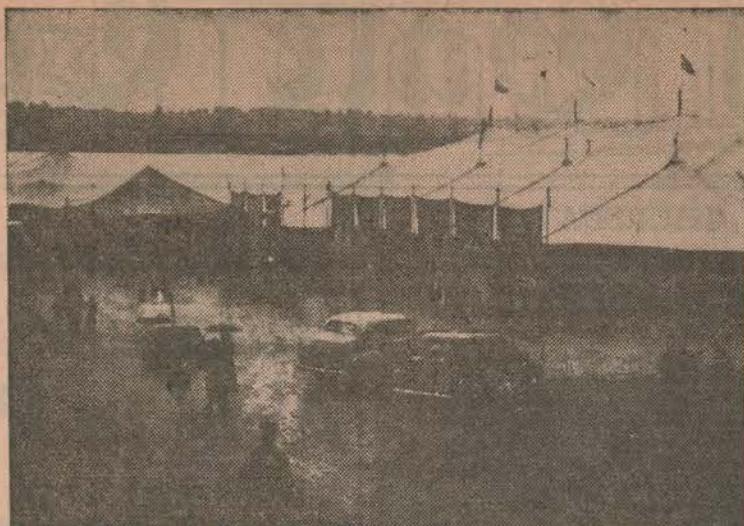
WILL WALLET

Blackface-Riding Comedian

Sponsorship—American Legion

Kiddies—Get your special 15c tickets at Wilkinson Drug Store.

CIRCUS DAY—AND RAIN



THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1938

A deluge of rain early yesterday afternoon and again just before the night show put a deep crimp into Keokuk's circus day. The rain and threatening storm kept a large crowd of cash customers away from Victory park's first river-front show, although a comparatively large number attended on "Annie Oakleys."

The above photo shows the circus grounds, usually a bee-hive of activity, virtually deserted during the rain before the matinee.

DAILY GATE CITY

SEILS-STERLING CIRCUS COMING HERE TOMORROW

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1938

Tomorrow will be circus day in Keokuk, when the Seils-Sterling big four ring show comes to Keokuk and will exhibit in Victory Park. The circus will present two shows, a matinee in the afternoon and an evening show, with complete programs at both performances.

Clowns will make merry, there will be a big calliope to augment the fine circus band which is carried by the show, and everything points to a thriller for the circus fans.

The show moves on 56 new all-steel semi-trailer trucks, employs 758 people, has a block long menagerie, consisting of 36 cages of wild animals, 3 herds of elephants, 16 camels, 11 zebras, 87 head of beautiful ring horses and several dens of tropical reptiles. The actual operating expense daily exceeds two thousand, three hundred dollars; 21 advance and advertising men are employed, 6 big tents, covering more than 7½ acres, the "main" tent with a seating capacity of almost 6,000 people.

A large amplifying system is employed in the "main" tent to broadcast the announcement of the various feature attractions during the circus program.

Four monster electric generators set the entire circus grounds ablaze with illumination. Several modern mechanical devices are

employed, operated by both steam and electric power, used in erecting and tearing down the "canvas city."

Gigantic means are employed to feed this city of Seil-Sterling. More than two thousand meals are served daily to its people alone in a vast canvas hotel said to be one of the largest ever traveled. The giant ranges upon which the fried and broiled foods are prepared are mounted on big wagons weighing upwards of ten tons. It is not unusual to hear the head chef place an order for 5,000 griddle cakes and a proportionate amount of eggs and bacon for a single breakfast. Practically all purchases are made daily in the particular city in which the circus is to exhibit. The average daily expense of running the commissary department is over eight hundred and sixty dollars.

DAILY GATE CITY

CIRCUS HERE IS FIRST TO SHOW IN VICTORY PARK

MAY 4, 1938

Seils-Sterling four ring circus, the first to use Victory Park on the river front as a showground, arrived this morning and set up their tents for an afternoon and evening performance. More than fifty cars were needed to transport the show, and the matinee offered a fine menu of circus features.

Clowns galore are with the circus and offer humorous pantomimes and many funny acts. The oldest elephant in the show business, so it is claimed, is with the

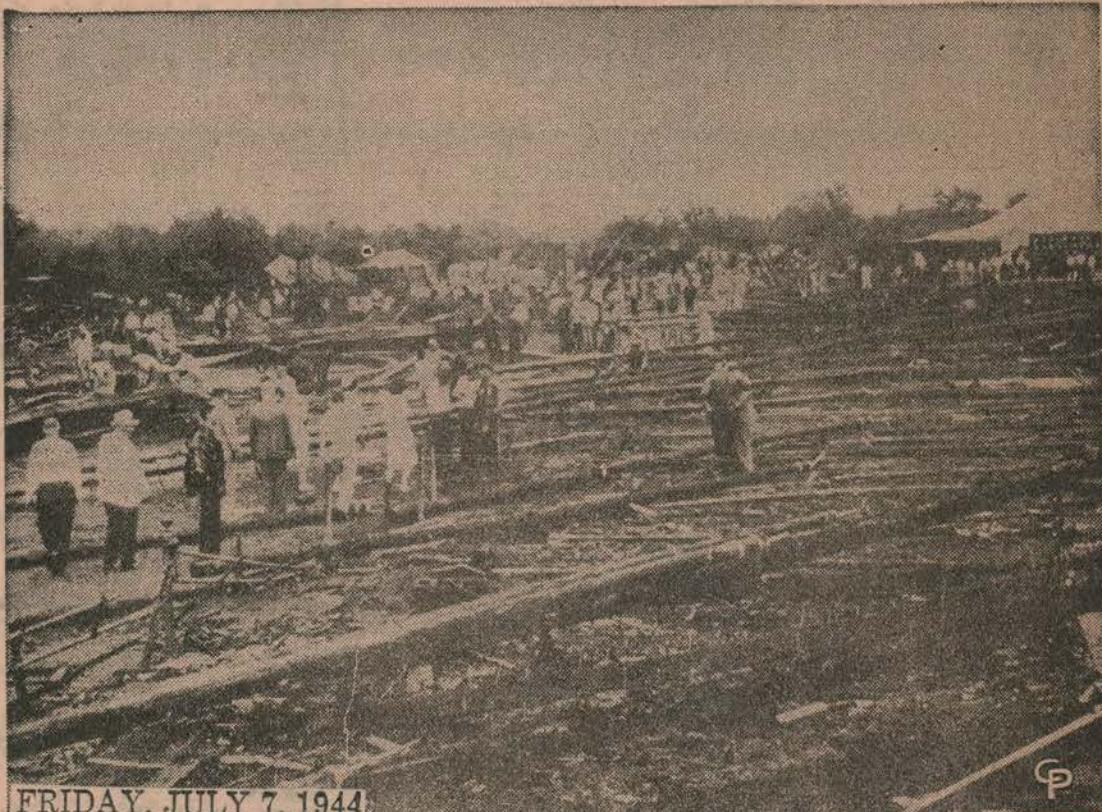
hold-up. Another feature is Mlle Donzelle, billed as the European sensation who does a dive from the top of the tent, without nets. The circus will offer the same program tonight that it presented this afternoon.

show, and the entire production is started off with a stupendous extravaganza featuring the entire cast. A feature of the show is the appearance of the masked marvel who brings to the circus an exciting wild west feature, the stage

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Circus Holocaust Takes 146 Lives

Circus Holocaust Takes 124 Lives



FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1944

CP

A MASS of fire-charred ruins is all that remains of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus at Hartford, Conn., after fire starting from a tiny blaze, swept through the 550-foot "big top" and snuffed out the lives of 124 persons, mostly children. Starting near one of the exits, the blaze swept through the entire tent shortly after the matinee performance began and within ten minutes had reduced the giant canopy to a funeral pyre. 178 persons were injured in the stampede toward the exits. Many of them now in Hartford hospitals are burned from head to foot and are not expected to survive.

(International Soundphoto)

Parents Seek to Identify Bodies; Arrest Officials

BY DELOS SMITH
United Press Staff Correspondent
HARTFORD, Conn., July 7—(P)
—Thirty-six burned bodies, mostly children, lay row on row in the state armory this afternoon, still unidentified in the disastrous burn-

ing of the "big top" which killed 146 persons yesterday in a brief moment of sudden death.

Of the dead, 110 were identified, many with quick gasps of recognition by parents who filed through the big armory, lifting the edges

of blankets to look for their children who went gaily to the circus and died as flames licked across the big tent.

Mosle said about 35 persons were reported as missing by friends and relatives and pointed out that the 36 unidentified bodies checked approximately with that figure.

Seeking to avert any more such disasters, the state police commissioner ordered the World of Mirth shows, appearing at Waterford, Conn., to suspend until the owners could obtain "a fireproof tent and adequate fire-fighting equipment."

A fund was started for families needing emergency relief because of the fire. The Hartford Times donated \$500 to start it.

Any unclaimed and unidentified victims will receive a mass inter-denominational funeral

Windrow of Bodies, Victims of Circus Fire

39



BEFORE AN incongruous row of gaily-painted circus wagons, bodies of the victims of the tragic fire which swept through the main tent of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey circus during its initial matinee performance in Hartford, Conn., are lined up under blankets and cloaks awaiting transfer to identification centers. Hartford police, army and naval personnel aided in the grim task of caring for the injured and collecting the dead. Hartford's armory was converted into a temporary morgue and identification center. Many of the victims were trampled to death in the wild rush toward exits as the flames swept through the giant tent—larger than New York's Madison Square Garden's arena. None of the circus' performers was injured.

(International Soundphoto.)

service. Mayor William Mortensen was arranging the details.

After a night of questioning can-vasmen, performers, roustabouts and spectators, Police Court Prosecutor S. Burr Leikind arrested five circus officials on charges of manslaughter.

They were J. A. Haley, vice president of Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey; Edward Versteeg, chief electrician; David W. Blanchfield, chief wagon and tractor man; George W. Smith, general manager, and Leonard Aylesworth, boss canvas man.

Haley and Smith were released on \$15,000 bail each, the others in bail of \$10,000. Leikind refused to disclose the evidence upon which he based his charge but it was learned that authorities were suspicious of the spotlights which sat high in the corners of the main tent.

All the men spent the night in Hartford city jail and were released on bail shortly before they were arraigned before Justice Court Judge Walter J. Sidor who continued their cases until July 19. They were represented by counsel and all were silent. Photographers popped off scores of flash bulbs in the courtroom.

Police Prosecutor James F. Kennedy told the United Press they had been charged because of evidence of "gross negligence." The

circus' own fire department was "impotent" he said and this despite its menagerie fire in Cleveland in 1942, which, he charged, had demonstrated the department's inadequacy.

The lights were beamed on the "Flying Wallendas" who just had started their high tight wire act in the white, hot glare of the big spots when a flash of flame appeared in the slanting canvas roof.

A second later the red, tiny spot became a mass of flame and panic broke out below despite the attempts of performers and attendants to quiet the crowd.

When the stampeding audience refused to join in the singing and other efforts to restore order, the performers joined in the rescue work and the "sad-faced clown" and other renowned artists began carrying out the bodies of men, women and children they had come to entertain.

Coroner Frank E. Healy subpoenaed the five officials plus 15 executives to an inquest Tuesday when he intends fixing responsibility for the disaster. Under Connecticut law, the coroner has charge of the investigation of violent deaths in the pre-grand jury stage.

Mayor William H. Mortensen headed a committee of nine officials conducting an investigation paralleling the coroner's and early today he issued a public statement making two charges: (1) the circus tent, the largest in the world, "had been sprayed with parafin which had been melted in gasoline"; (2)

a steel runway, used to bring animals in and out of the big top, "closed off an entire end of the oval, obstructing exits."

Approximately 60 bodies were found jammed against the runway, he said.

State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey conducted a third investigation independent of, but paralleling, the other two.

Liekind refused to make public the evidence upon which he based the charge of manslaughter and, under his orders, police were secretive. Liekind said the five men were being "held at the police station." The captain on duty there said he knew nothing about it. Officials of the circus would not comment.

Later, Haley and Smith were released in \$15,000 bail each, and Versteeg, Blanchfield, and Aylesworth in \$10,000 each.

Authorities, it was learned, were concentrating upon the spotlights perched high in the corners of "the biggest tent in the world" belonging to "the greatest show on earth" which at the instant the fire broke out were illuminating. "The Flying Wallendas," a high wire aerial act, in their white, hot glare. A number of witnesses said the fire first appeared directly above one of the spotlights which were so high they appeared to be almost touching the slanting roof of the tent.

At first the fire was merely a red spot, tiny in comparison to the

FIRE-2

THE GREAT DUST BOWL CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, MEDIOLAN, IOWA

great sweeping acres of canvas in which it was an uncontrollable destructive force. One second later it had grown to the size of the roof of one of the small, white cottages of the typical Connecticut countryside which so many in the audience had left to see a dazzling array of death defying performers and laughing clowns and to which they were never to return.

With an audible swishing sound it raced toward the center poles and 50 feet below 10,000 men and women momentarily went insane, stomping, kicking and climbing over one another, and, tragically, hundreds of small children, occupying, as children will at a circus, the very front seats.

It was over in 15 minutes—that rapidly did the flames spread over the acres of canvas and dump their ashy remnants down to set the tiers of seats on fire. Then performers and audience alike rushed into the flame-encircled arena to carry out the bodies of the dead, the dying, and the injured.

Sad-faced Emmett Kelly, one of the circus' three top clowns, mourning "the little children who have for so many years given me my living," carried out many of their bodies. Carl and Herman Wallenda carried out "many, so many," and some were dead. Felix Adler, "the king of the clowns," carried out more and tears streaked his makeup. But the first thing he did was remove his pet pig from the dressing tent to a place he deemed safer. Lou Jacobs, the third of the circus' stellar clowns, was spared the ordeal of his brethren. He was in New York becoming an American citizen.

Almost all of the dead were believed to have died in the panic, of suffocation, of shock induced by acute fright, and of being knocked down and stomped under the feet of thousands stampeding for the exits.

Though the fire swept over the top of the tent with speed of an eye blink, there was enough time for all 10,000 to have escaped unharmed if they had responded to the efforts of the circus people to calm them.

The circus band, directed by that renowned circus maestro, Merle Evans, played on until the part of the audience that hadn't been converted into piles of corpses had fled safely from beneath the sagging sky of flames. And several ring masters shouted: "Let's all sing," and bravely sang away at the first bars of "Old Black Joe" themselves until it was apparent that no one but they intended singing. Even then there was ample time for the singers to escape because the big huge center poles stood, though they were sagging, holding up the flaming canvas.

The center poles sagged more and more until at last they were flat on the ground, but they didn't collapse because their support ropes and braces burned unevenly and though they were scorched, they were not burned and will be used again.

The tent itself, 600 feet long, the length of a city block, 220 feet wide,

weighing 20 tons, was so completely destroyed that reporters on the scene several hours later couldn't find a piece of it more than three inches square, in the mounds of gray ash.

The greatest tragedy was centered in the bodies of 80 children laid out on army cots in the local armory of the Connecticut national guard—or some of the cots, two little bodies—all covered with olive drab blankets from which little feet, some of them bare, some in the well scuffed shoes of active little boys and party shoes of good little girls, protruded.

Parents, fathers and mothers, moved along the rows of cots. A blanket would be pulled back, revealing a white, inanimate face, a mother's lips would sag and her facial muscles would tighten and with a scream, perhaps, but more often, with a dry sob that barely was audible, she would turn away and a coroner's assistant would ask her the name and age and address, write it on a green card and attach the card to the blanket with a wire.

This is a big war industry town, in the heart of industrial New England, and parents don't have time to take children to the circus. Therefore, many of the children had gone unescorted, but in a number of cases the bodies of the father or mother or uncle or family friend who had taken a child to the most thrilling afternoon a child can have, were on cots nearby.

When authorities closed the armory at 1 a.m., 75 of the 135 remained unidentified. The score or so bodies of children not identified were believed to have dead parents nearby. From shortly after the disaster at 2:42 p.m. until the doors were closed, there had been an unending procession of sorrowing men and women up and down the aisle fringed by cots and it resumed when the armory reopened at 8 a.m.

The matinee performance opened in the traditional way—with the grand parade around the tent, accompanied by tumbling clowns, girls on white horses and elephants. The big circular cage in which Alfred Court, master cat tamer, makes lions and tigers bow to his will, was in place in the center ring.

The sleek cats were wheeled up to it in their cages and urged into it and Court entered and for 12 minutes held the 10,000 silently intense in the edges of their seats. Then, after tremendous applause, led by shrieking whistling children who seemed to line the front of the rising tiers of seats forming a continuous oval round the walls of the tent, he took his bows and departed.

Then the spotlights shot upward and picked out a thin wire stretched across the width of the tent, 50 feet above the center ring, where "The Flying Wallendas," glittering in their silken tights, were poised to defy death. It was diversion for the audience while the roustabouts

cleared the lion cage and prepared the three rings for the following acts. Herman rode out on the wire on a bicycle from the left side and Karl rode out on his from the right. They met over the center ring, backed away, advanced again, and it seemed that any instant they would fall, defying gravity as they were. Lovely Helen and Henrietta were posed on the high platforms to leap for flying trapezes and Joe was on a platform of his own.

They never got a chance to perform. As Karl and Herman backed away from one another on their bicycles, the spot of flame appeared and the performance of the greatest show on earth was over, probably for many weeks to come.

Authorities indicated that neither the circus nor any of its property could be removed from the circus grounds until all investigations are completed and that may be weeks.

Circus officials were busy cancelling scheduled appearances in 20 towns—today it was to have performed in Springfield, Mass. They said that when it could, the circus would return to Sarasota, Fla., its winter quarters, to be refitted for what will remain of its summer tour.

The circus lost only its big top and three-fourths of its wooden seats. The menagerie was drawn up in an oval 20 feet from the big top and a little to the right of the main entrance and the inmates of the scores of heavy cages mounted on big wheels and parked end to end, were not disturbed. Their attendants insisted that they weren't even aware of what was happening behind them. The backs of the cages were covered by canvas and behind them strips of canvas, called "sheets," rose on rollers for a height of 12 feet. Because the weather was fine and the circus management wanted to make a quick getaway after the performance that would have been staged last night, the top of the menagerie tent had been left off.

Gargantua, the ape, and his wife, Toto, an ape no prettier than he, were in their air-conditioned cage in which they never hear any outside noise.

Circus headquarters in Sarasota said the big top had been treated to resist fire but, being canvas, could not be made fire-proof. In Evanston, Ill., Robert Ringling, president of the circus, declined to comment on Mayor Mortensen's charge that it had been treated with paraffine, but said the tent was supposed to have been fire resistant.

"Every test we put that tent through showed that it would resist fire; a fire might endanger some of the equipment but would never endanger human life," he said.

Circus officials here said the tent cost \$60,000 and its guys, ropes, and poles were worth \$20,000 more. Except for the center poles, all were lost. It was understood that the circus carries \$500,000 liability insurance and fire and storm insurance on all its equipment.

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY

Death Not With Flying Wallendas, It Was Much to Busy Down Below

By MARY HARRINGTON
United Press Staff Correspondent

HARTFORD, Conn., July 7.—(UP)—A wire the diameter of a pencil and 40 feet below, 10,000 intense, upraised faces.

On that wire were the five "Flying Wallendas"—Herman, Carl, Joe, Helen and Henrietta. Death, according to the circus advertisements, pushed up their nimble feet and rode their shoulders as they tripped along their slender, steel path, "defying the laws of gravity."

But death was not with them. Death was for some of those 10,000 uplifted faces and before the "Flying Wallendas" could invite death to follow them, death was much too busy down below.

Herman Wallenda happened to glance down. At that instant a bright patch of flame hardly larger than a clenched fist appeared in the canvas roof at the point where it joined the canvas wall.

Hypnotized by dread, he saw the flames climb up the roof toward the center poles. Then screams and moans and frenzied shouts laden with lunacy induced by panic burst upward at him like an explosion.

The Wallendas looked down into hell, they said.

"People always looked up at us," Hedman said, "I can never look down at a crowd again without smelling the flames and the burning flesh." He pulled at his red and white tie. It was hours later, but he was sweating.

Herman tried to save his bicycle, but Carl dragged him down the rope ladder and they jumped over the animal cages with Henrietta.

The children, the Wallendas always will remember.

"I will remember them always because a child saved my life," Helen said, holding her brother's hand tightly and weeping a little. She wept all night, Herman said.

Helen ran out of the tent with the crowd fleeing the flames.

"I fell and they stepped on me," she said, "I could feel them over me and I knew I was going to be trampled to death."

A little girl saw the coral fluff of Helen's costume.

"I heard her yell as she covered me with her little body. 'The bright flying lady; help her'—and then an usher came and pulled us out," Helen said.

Herman, Joe and Carl carried water to help put out the fire—a futile gesture, because within 15 minutes flames ate up the huge tent.

"Then we carried out bodies—so many bodies," Herman said. "I went back for more the last time when a man called to me and asked me to help him pull out his child."

"He called from the grandstands, and I reached up toward him—he

fell back into the fire."

The Wallendas thought there would be no more circus this year. Herman's bronzed forehead wrinkled. He hit his lips.

"For 18 years now we have trooped with the circus and the crowds will be afraid now to come—and we never can replace our equipment."

The circus people were lucky, however, he thought. The Wallendas were the only one in the ring and they escaped.

They were in the middle of the ring.

In the "backyard" the space between the dressing tent and the big top, Emmett Kelly, the sad-faced clown who is the star of the circus, was waiting for his cue, his make-up making him pale.

"I heard what sounded like laughter at first and then it turned into a terrible scream—they all sounded like beaten dogs," he said.

Kelly, always dressed in tatters, always looking longingly over a red bulb of a nose at women in the crowd, helped carry out the bodies of the kids who have earned my living for so many years—the little ones who laughed at me."

Felix Adler, "king of clowns," was putting on his false nose when he saw the flames through the opening of his tent.

"I got my daughter, Muriel, (16, and a beauty who rides in parades) out of the danger zone," he said. "Then I thought of my pet pig and went back to get him."

Adler carried out bodies, too.

The four Macs, roller skaters in the biggest show on earth, were greasing their skates.

"The music stopped so suddenly," one Mac said, "the air crackled like gunfire for a few minutes and then there were the screams, pitched high above a steady roar."

They stood on the lot for a while, the performers, their spangled costumes seared and covered with soot and blood.

"I loved the circus always," said Dr. Albert Ostermaier, who stars with his horse act. "Now I almost hate it, because there are so many dead."

The circus grounds, too, were sad. The ring looked like a campfire after picnickers have poured water on it.

The lions' cage, which was empty when the fire started, had collapsed in the center of the smoking circle.

At the railroad yards, the roustabouts sat outside their special passenger cars. They sat on pilings until very late. Pat Waldo, director of performer personnel for the circus, was with them.

"I don't know," he said. "I don't understand it—we made so many people happy, so many kids laugh and now they all are dead."

Big Circus Seeks Court Arrangement To Free Property

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1944

HARTFORD, Conn., July 14.—(UP)

Avalanche with a million dollars in lawsuits from last week's fire which killed 162 spectators and injured more than 200 others, Ringling Brothers & Barnum and Bailey circus was working out an arrangement with the courts today for the release of its properties so it can go back on the road again.

Assets of the circus in Hartford, valued at approximately \$300,000, were under attachment and in the hands of Edward E. Rogin, superior court-appointed receiver authorized to accept all claims against the big top.

Meanwhile hospitals reported that 116 persons still were being treated for burns and other injuries, but that only eight cases were considered critical.

DAILY GATE CITY Circus Fire Trial Is Nearing Finish

At Hartford Today

APRIL 7, 1945

HARTFORD, Conn., April 7—(UP)

Only the summations by the state and defense remained to be heard today before Superior Court Judge William J. Sea decided whether the six men charged with responsibility for last July's circus fire will go to jail or be permitted to change their pleas of no contest and stand trial.

Testimony concerning the future of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., presented during the hearing was expected to play an important part in the court's judgment.

The defendants have claimed they were irreplaceable and that if they were forced to serve their terms the circus would be forced to return to winter quarters and probably go into receivership, thus jeopardizing the claims growing out of the deaths of 168 spectators at the fatal matinee performance July 6, 1944.

However, former President John Ringling North, a witness for the state, testified yesterday that the imprisonments would not effect the operations of the big top. North suggested several men who, in his opinion, could carry on capably in the absence of the defendants.

North admitted that his relations with the present management was "unfriendly," and that he had "no confidence" in the way it was conducting the corporations affairs. He denied he expected to obtain any personal advantage from the plight of the accused officials.

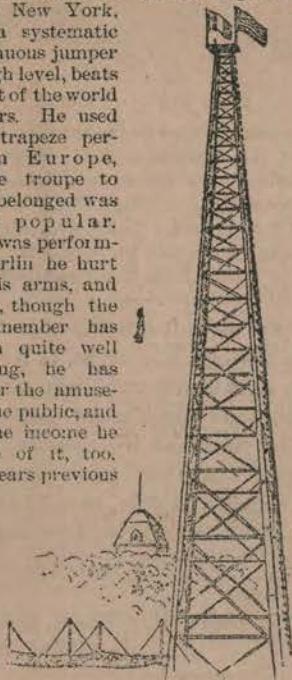
THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Constitution-Democrat

AUGUST 31, 1889

Peynaud, the Jumper.

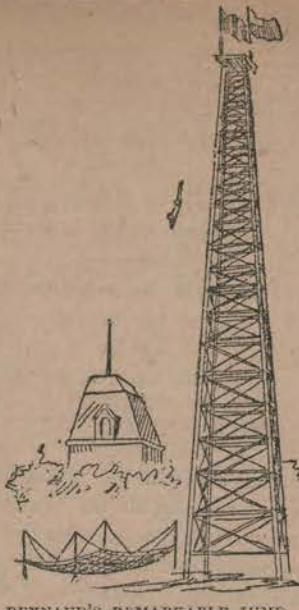
With this is given a picture made from an instantaneous photograph of Baptiste Peynaud, a Frenchman now performing at a resort near New York, who, as a systematic and continuous jumper from a high level, beats all the rest of the world of jumpers. He used to be a trapeze performer in Europe, where the troupe to which he belonged was extremely popular. While he was performing in Berlin he hurt one of his arms, and since then, though the injured member has long been quite well and strong, he has jumped for the amusement of the public, and a handsome income he has made of it, too. For two years previous



THE DESCENT OF PEYNAUD.

to the opening of the present season he had been jumping in Brazil, being summoned therefrom by a brother who is in Baltimore trying to get some property claimed by the family as an inheritance from a deceased uncle.

The tower from which Peynaud jumps is about 150 feet high, surmounted by a small platform. From the platform project two rails, and it is from between these that he launches himself daily into space. He turns before he reaches the bottom and falls on his shoulders and back into a tightly drawn net, from which he rebounds about fifteen feet, and upon coming down the second time is assisted to the ground by his manager. Then he takes a big drink and declares himself in prime condition. The relative size of the man and the tower is graphically shown in the cut.



PEYNAUD'S REMARKABLE JUMP.

It was found that one arm and five ribs had been broken and he had sustained internal injuries. The hospital authorities say it will be impossible for him to recover.

Constitution-Democrat

AUGUST 27, 1889

MARRIED A COWBOY AERONAUT.

A Pretty Connecticut Girl Who Aspires to Make Ascensions with Her Husband.

A telegram from Hartford, says: Miss Alice G. Burnham, a pretty girl of East Hartford, has just been married to Edwin B. Northup, of Keokuk, Iowa, the "Cowboy Aeronaut." At Haven Rock on the Sound, on July 25, Northup made his first jump. Miss Burnham, who saw the jump sought an introduction to him, and expressed her admiration of his daring. Northup proposed a week afterward and was accepted. On the day before the second jump at the Rock they were engaged. Mrs. Northup looks at the profession of parachute jumping in a business light. She is twenty years old and the daughter of a well known farmer in East Hartford. She was in New Haven on a visit when she met her aeronaut. The effect of the marriage upon the appearance of the jumper has already been remarked. His cowboy costume, high boots and Buffalo Bill hat have been discarded, and he wears a business suit and the latest styles in ties and collars. He has been very successful as a professional jumper. Mrs. Northup seems to be inspired with a desire to acquire the art of parachute jumping, and said to-day: "I think with a few lessons I could ascend as high and with as little fear as my husband. And then if anything should happen to him that he would be unable to perform his contracts I could take his place." It is probable that they

will make ascensions together. Manager McKim, who has been traveling with Northup in Connecticut, made an effort to have the marriage take place in Northup's balloon, and then have the pair make a jump as a finale. But the impossibility of finding a minister who would consent to go up in a balloon, even if it were anchored, thwarted the undertaking.

Northup was at one time employed at the packet depot here, and afterwards was editor of the Labor Tribune published at Quincy and Hannibal. Mort McKim, his manager, is well known here, his parents living in this city.

The Gate City.

APRIL 30, 1885.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

THE CLOWN HAS HAD HIS DAY.

The Double Circus-Ring and the Wealth of Attractions Killed Him.

[New York Mail and Express.]

"It is a sad fact," mournfully said a veteran circus manager, "but it is beyond dispute that the days of the joke cracking and song-singing clown are over. He expired when the double circus-ring came into vogue. In his place the horse-play or pantomimic Grimaldi arose."

"How did the double ring kill the witty(?) clown?" asked a reporter.

"The vast audience could not hear him. The miles of canvas, the amphitheatre, filled with 10,000 people, made the great lung power necessary to be heard an utter impossibility. The large railroad traveling circuses have nothing but pantomimic clowns. In the small shows, where actors are few and something must be done to fill in the time for the acrobats or whatever they may be to rest, before they appear in some other daring eat under other dazzling names, the song-singing, punning clown is used. But he is fast going out for other reasons. The newspapers and almanacs contain nearly all the jokes and puns, and to repeat them in the ring over and over again becomes monotonous and tires even those who do not read. Then to supplant this, horse-play was invented."

"What do you mean by horse-play?"

"Broad humor. For instance, the clown sticks a needle in a chair, and the ringmaster innocently sits down on it. He gets up in a hurry. This kind of fun tickles the audience. They see it and understand the point made, but it is not so with a pun or joke. I was a clown before I became proprietor and I know all the inside tricks of the professh. When I traveled in the small towns of 8,000 and 10,000 inhabitants I always managed to pump some garrulous man in the town before the performance, so as to get off a local gag. This always pleased the audience, and occasionally caused a little row if the 'gag' was at the expense of some fellow in the audience. Then I would sing a song and hear all the little boys in the streets singing it afterward. There was some glory in that. But now the clown must be a first-class tumbler and a good pantomimist to succeed. He sinks his individuality with some ten or fifteen others, who come out caparisoned in caps and bells. The lines are drawn and the old order giveth way to the new. Grimaldi's mask has more fun in it than Dan rice's double entendre jokes. Sic transit gloria mundi."

Constitution-Democrat

SEPTEMBER 17, 1889

HIS LAST JUMP.

Peynaud, a Daring Diver, Receives Fatal Injuries at Montreal.

MONTREAL, Can., Sept. 17. — Harry Howard, otherwise known as Prof. Peynaud, jumped from a tower 150 feet high Sunday in this city in the presence of 1,500 people. At the foot of the tower a netting was strung, and underneath the netting was a heavy canvas held by ten men. Peynaud went to the top of the tower, placed his hands close to his side, and jumped, at the same time shouting to his men to keep a good hold of the canvas. Not being used to the work several of the men let go and started off on a run. A cry of horror went up from the spectators. Peynaud went through the ropes with a crash, picked himself up, and started to walk away. A moment later, however, he fell in a faint. An ambulance was summoned and he was conveyed to the city hospital, where

THE GATE CITY.

KEOKUK, IOWA
THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 24.
1866

THE
Great Western Circus
IS COMING.



PALMER'S GREAT WESTERN CIRCUS

WILL EXHIBIT AT

Keokuk, Wednesday, May 30th

THIS TROUPE is newly organized, thoroughly equipped, and at the height of Equestrian Perfection and Artistic Elegance, and is composed of a

Troupe of Star Performers!

Unequalled by any Traveling Company extant!

H. PALMER, - Manager.

An unsurpassed Collection of

RING AND TRICK HORSES,
Ponies and Mules!

The amusement public are respectfully informed that no extraordinary pretensions is advanced by the Great Western Circus. It is neither Nine Shows in One, nor One Grand Consolidated Union Exhibition, but a

Perfect Circus in Itself!

With the array of talent attached to this Model Company, may be found the following galaxy of

Thoroughly Reputed Stars!

MR. OLIVER BELL,
MRS. JENNY BELL,
LITTLE LIZZIE CAMPBELL,
MASTER BILLY MORGAN,
JOE KEYS,
L. LEVITON,
MASTER WILLIE,
THE WILSON BROTHERS,
MR. JEAN PAUL,
SIGNOR WAMBOLD,

Assisted by the Great Shakespearian Clowns

MADDEN & MAY,

With numerous Auxiliaries.

The Educated Horses

LINCOLN & GREY EAGLE,

The Celebrated Trick Mules,

TOM AND JERRY.

The performance on each occasion will be enlivened by music from Lutgen's Celebrated Cornet Band.

Doors open at 2 and 7 o'clock p.m.

Admission, 50 Cts.
Children under 10 years, 25 "
May 22-25 w/wt J. A. DINGESS, Agent.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

43

THE CIRCUS IS COMING TO TOWN

KEOKUK

(Opposite Ball Park)

ONE DAY ONLY

FRIDAY 13 JULY

Children 25c

Adults 50c

Tickets on sale circus day at Wilkinson & Company drug store. Same price charged at show grounds.



TOM MIX

AND TONY

AND THEIR ROARING WILD-
WEST ROUNDUP, HEADING

SAM B. DILL'S BIG THREE RING CIRCUS

SEE

Tom Mix and Tony will positively perform in the main show at every performance.

MONSTER STREET PARADE

SEE ALL FOR ONE ADMISSION

CIRCUS CREW POSTS BILLS HERE TODAY

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1934

In the wee hours of this morning the advance crew of the Sam B. Dill Circus arrived in Keokuk to herald the coming of that show here for two performances, Friday, July 13, at the Main street show-grounds.

Under the direction of Mike Pyne, twenty-two billers have been busily engaged all day, and within twenty-four hours there will not be a cross road within fifty miles of Keokuk at which the coming of this circus has not been heralded.

The Sam B. Dill Circus is augmented this year with Tom Mix Roundup, and features that famous screen star with his likewise

famous horse "Tony" at each performance of the big show.

The circus is carrying 1,009 animals, over 500 people, has a seating capacity of 8,000, and is said to be the largest circus entour, giving a daily street parade, which will be held here at noon circus day.

Among the performers to appear in the three rings will be: The Aerial Daltons, featuring daring Berta Beeson, dancing marvel of the high wire; Flora Carreon, and The Riding Hobsons; Captain Marion Graves, fearless wild-animal subjugator from Germany; Walter Jenier with "Buddy" world's greatest performing sealion; The Flying Espys with Irma Ward, winner of the Lietzel medal; and scores of other daring features.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

KEOKUK **TUESDAY** **MAY** **6th**

The Largest Circus in the World Giving Street Parade

ROBBINS BROS 4 RING CIRCUS



SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1930

Reserved Seats on Sale Circus Day at Wilkinson's
Drug Store—Same Price as at Circus Grounds

CIRCUS HERE WITH PARADE AND THRILLS

MAY 6, 1930

Robbins Bros., Aggregation
Arrives on Schedule Time
This Morning and Pre-
sents Parade and
Big Show.

The syncopated tooting of calliope, the pulse-stirring tempo of red-coated bands, and the insolent comments of jungle beasts on Keokuk and the good natured "asides" of elephants as they lumber along trunk to tail and tail to trunk, all these sounds flung their strident medley against the eardrums this morning when the circus parade wound through the downtown streets about noon.

The long train of the Robbins Bros. circus entered the railroad yards early today, bringing over 800 people, 425 horses and a menagerie of "beasts of the jungle, the plains, the mountains, and the air," as the old-time announcer used to put it.

Soon after the sweep of canvas that is the "Big Top" was raised on the show grounds at Thirty-second and Main streets.

Switchmen in the railroad yards pinched themselves this morning, for soon after daylight sidings which yesterday held nothing more interesting than grimy "gondolas" were filled with trains of orange and black cars, flat cars, palace cars, Pullman cars, cars of special design—proclaiming the Robbins Bros. circus had come to town.

As the switchmen—eyes wide open now—watched engines break the trains for various crossings, running men sprang into action, leading gray and dappled horses already harnessed, down ramps from the cars. Strings of tarpaulin covered wagons were towed down runways at the end of flat cars and hooked onto heavy single-trees of eight-horse teams. Here and there a chugging motor tractor picked up strings of pole and canvas wagons and headed for the circus grounds.

Animals are Impatient. Then came the cages with the mutterings and growlings of the disgruntled beasts accompanying every bump as the tow teams hauled them along the flats to the inclines, the ground and the waiting eight-horse drivers.

Then elephants, camels, dromedaries, bison and all the weird looking beasts that can be led by halter and hooks ambled, sidled, pranced and lumbered from other cars and headed after their caged fellows to "the lot" where breakfast awaited them. The groaning bellow of the hippopotamus, "Miss Iowa," in her huge cage ahead kept them stepping along, for the hippo can smell food farther than the hyenas, and have no souls because they think only of food. The hippo always talks of dieting, but never does, to the disgust of the beautiful black horses who haul her daily in the parade.

The down town streets were crowded with thousands of interested spectators this noon to see the fine mile long street parade with its many dens of wild beasts, glittering gold chariots, handsome lady and gentlemen riders, cowboy and cowgirls, a real band of Sioux Indians, three bands and two calliope furnished fine music, while thirteen elephants and twelve camels brought up the rear.

Following the parade preparations for the afternoon performance went forward at the grounds and the opening show was presented at 2 o'clock. All of the various feats that go to make up a real circus were presented, and will be offered again tonight at 8 o'clock for the evening crowd.

MANY FEATURES IN ROBBINS' BROS. SHOWS

The circus has come and gone with its animals, its thrilling acts and its peanut and balloon vendors. Robbins' Bros. Circus which showed in Keokuk yesterday to two good sized crowds pleased the audiences which attended both afternoon and evening performances.

Prof. O. A. Gilson's concert band of 30 artists-musicians gave a half hours concert of classical, popular and novelty numbers which was a real treat to all lovers of good music. The circus opens with a new sensational musical revue entitled "Mother Goose in Fairyland," written and produced by Equestrian Director Bert Rickman. An interesting feature is a real dancing ballet of thirty pretty young women, a big tuneful chorus and a large cast of principals of 450 people, wonderful scenery and electrical effects, a stunning wardrobe of gorgeous Oriental costumes, with 200 animals, go to make up one of the spectacles.

The Robbins' Bros. Circus brought to this city for the first time America's greatest family of bareback somesault riders, the Hobson troupe of equestrians.

They do sensational somersaults on the backs of their milk white horses while riding at full speed around the ring. They turn flip-flops off their rosin backs to the ground.

The Kato troupe of Japanese do wonderful juggling, balancing and gymnastic acts. Teofilo Calvo, Argentine wonder high wire artist making his first appearance in this country, stands on his head and his hands, also lays down forty feet up in the air on a slack wire. The Aerial Cencello troupe of three people do a thrilling flying trapeze act in which one of their number does double somersaults in midair while blindfolded. Mickey King, "Queen of the Air," does 100 roll-

ups while hanging by her right wrist in an endurance act. Walter Powell, "Wizard of the Silver Wire" turns marvelous back somersaults and does fancy dances on the slender wire. He is ably assisted by charming Mildred Galucci. Kenneth R. Waite, internationally known highest salaried Producing Clown appears with a big army of clowns in all manner of funny burlesque and comedy costumes and make-ups to the delight of the kiddies and grown-ups. Shooting a human projectile "Cliff" Gregg, from a mammoth cannon is another featured headliner. Kate and Tom Smith's performing dogs, monkeys, ponies and Russian wolf hounds present many new and novel stunts. An-

other feature is Captain Schultz with Robbins Bros. elephants, who stand on their heads, form pyramids and play baseball. The troupe of wonderful performing Arabs in sensational acrobatic, gymnastic and tumbling stunts. Buck Owens, world's famous Hollywood screen star and cowboy with his famous pony Goldie and his beautiful leading lady Aneita Austin, assisted by 20 cowboys and cowgirls with a band of 30 real Sioux Indians from Rosebud Reservation presents a real western rodeo. Colonel Fred Buchanan's own original historic pageant "America" closes the show.

45

Bandits Stage Bold Robbery of Circus Car

THE DAILY GATE CITY

HOLD-UP OCCURS ON UPPER MAIN AT NINETEENTH

Treasurer and Superintendent of Robbins Brothers Show Forced to Give Over Grips with Tickets and Money.

MAY 7, 1930

Crowded into the gutter at Nineteenth and Main streets by a big black sedan, three employees of Robbins Bros. circus who were in the coupe belonging to the show, found themselves looking into the muzzles of sawed off shotguns and were forced to give up two grips, one containing tickets and the other the receipts of the show, variously estimated at between \$1,600 and \$2,000 and as high as \$8,500.

The hold-up occurred between 9:30 and 10:00 o'clock last night while the money was being transferred from the circus lot at Thirty-second and Main streets to the circus train in the railroad yards. Charles Meyers, treasurer of the show, and Earl Sennott, superintendent, were two of the men in the circus coupe. There was a third whose name was not given.

According to the story told the officers, the circus coupe with the money and tickets in two grips, and three men in the car left the circus lot as usual to go to the train. As they came out at the boulevard junction and Main street a traffic officer halted the

car, and the men said they were from the circus. He let them proceed, and at the same time the black sedan with at least three occupants, and some stories say there were four in the car, also nosed through, the driver telling the traffic officer they were from the circus, too.

Force Coupe Into Curb.

At Nineteenth and Main streets, in front of the Rockenbach home, the big car is said to have nosed the smaller car into the gutter, and forced it to stop. One of the men in the bandit car is said to have gotten out of the sedan, and running over to the coupe smashed in one window with a blackjack or the butt of his revolver and covering the driver demanded the money.

The other two men in the coupe jumped out, but were covered by another man from the big sedan, and he was said to have been armed either with a sawed off shotgun or a machine gun. He is said to have demanded of the other two men "where is the dough?" and they are said to have answered "in the buggy." The bandits then reached in the circus car and pulled out the two leather grips and put them into their own car, and backing away from the coupe, started down Main street.

Car Turns South.

The big car turned off either at Eighteenth or Seventeenth street, and headed south. Whether they went to the bridge or doubled back is not known, and there seemed to be no way to trace the car outside of the general statement that it was a black sedan. So far as officers can ascertain, no one secured the license number of the car. It was reported a big car burning up the road passed the county home about 10 last night.

The sheriff's office and the police department were notified and a drag net for a radius of seventy-five miles around was drawn by the sheriff who notified all the towns in that radius. Police and sheriff's office worked together in

endeavoring to trail down every clue in the robbery, but they had little to work on. It is believed that the robbers may have been Chicago men who have been trailing the show.

No Insurance Carried.

Officers with the circus stated that they felt the job had been planned, and that the robbers were familiar with the circus routine, and had been keeping the car under surveillance all day. Some of the circus officials said that the amount of money taken was in the neighborhood of \$8,500, while others estimated it more conservatively as closer to \$2,000. No insurance was carried by the circus against such a robbery, it was stated.

Police Quiz Witnesses

According to the police department, the circus employees told that the license number on the car was that of Lee county. One witness, a woman, who was questioned by the officers, said that the affair looked more like a fight than a hold-up, as she seemed to think that the bandit car carried an Illinois license number. Another witness is claimed to have been near the scene of the robbery and to have told the police what was said. Circus employees when asked about the bandit asking for money did not seem to be sure whether he said "dough" or "money." This witness said that the bandit talked in a husky voice.

None of the circus employees questioned by police could give a satisfactory reason as to why they did not use their guns which they had in the car. One of the men ran up the street away from the coupe but was unable to tell why he did it, according to the police.

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Ringlings: Iowa Barn to Big Top

The Cedar Rapids Gazette: Sun., April 24, 1966



THIS FAMILY PORTRAIT of the Ringling family was taken in 1894. In the rear row from left are: Al, Alf T., Gus, Charles, and Otto. In the front row are: John, Mother Salome, Father August, Daughter Ida and Henry.

By Bill Nelson
Gazette Staff Writer

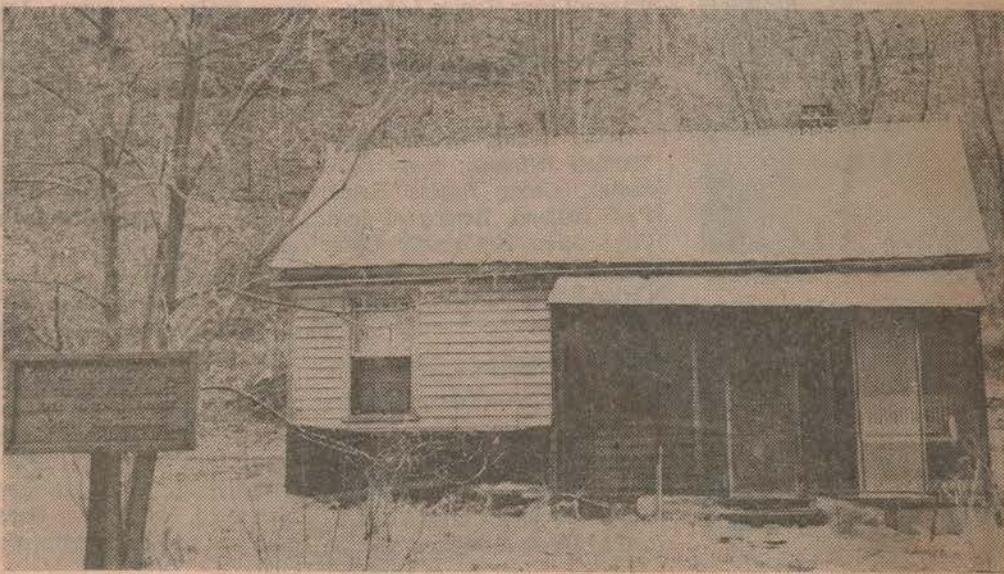
McGREGOR—Any Iowan who gets nostalgic May 2 when he sees the newly-issued American Circus commemorative stamp can also be proud of the state's circus heritage.

The stamp honors the circus which slowly, regrettably, is fading from the American scene. Its issuance also coincides with the 100th anniversary of the Iowa birth of John Ringling, circus showman, promoter and multi-millionaire.

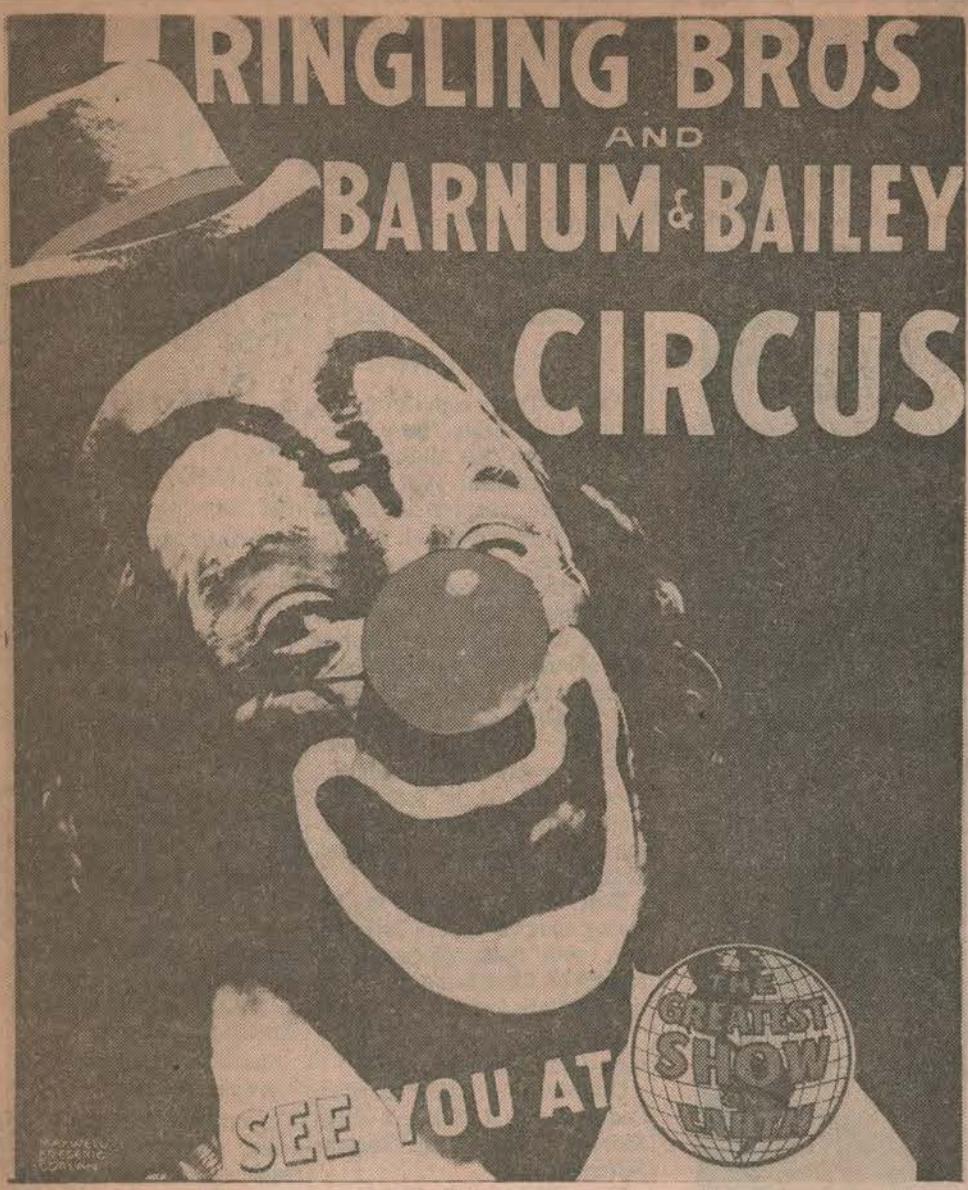
The issuance actually jumps things a bit on Ringling's birth, which was May 31, 1866. The site, as most every Iowan knows, was McGregor.

Circus Boat

The Mississippi river village was visited by a paddle wheel circus boat in May, 1870, during



THE RINGLING HOME in McGregor is shown in the above photo. John Ringling was born here May 31, 1866, and went on to become one of the world's richest men and the foremost circus impresario.



RINGLING BROS AND BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS

SEE YOU AT



the half-light hours before dawn. Shriek sounds rose from its steam calliope as the boat floated through the early morning mist and docked at McGregor.

Most of the village slept, but not the five Rungeling boys (the family name later was changed to the more theatrical-sounding Ringling). They watched closely as the boat was unloaded under shadowy torchlight.

Hearts in their mouths, the boys saw the gilded cages of grumbling jungle beasts come ashore, followed by creaking baggage wagons and gaudy carriages. Then, most exciting of all, came the lumbering elephants.

Those sights and the ensuing circus show provided the stimulus that made the name of Ringling the greatest in the 2,000-year history of the circus.

The seed had been planted

that spring day five years after Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

Family Pass

That day the boys saw the Dan Rice circus, and without spending a cent. Their father, August Rungeling, a German harness maker, had repaired the leather belt of the circus cannonball juggler. As a reward, he received a family pass to the circus.

The five Rungeling boys, Al, 18, Otto, 13, Alf, 7, Charley, 6, and the one who would become the most famous of all, John, 4, were entranced. (Two other Rungeling boys, Gus, 16, and Henry, 2, were not bitten quite so hard by the circus bug.)

Only weeks after the small circus boat had slipped down the river, the Ringlings staged their own version of the circus.

Papa's barn was the site, and panoramas were the highlight. Alf, Charles and little John

solicited customers (admission charge: 10 pins); Otto turned the crank to unfold the panorama, and Al narrated the stories.

Smashing

Was the first show a smashing success?

It wasn't a success, but it was smashing—thanks to a young tough who crashed the gate and started a brawl. Fists flew, women fled screaming, and the panorama was ruined.

But the Ringling boys were undaunted. They put on two more shows in McGregor, and for the last, admission was hiked from 10 pins to a penny.

The Ringlings later moved to Baraboo, Wis., but the circus infatuation never waned.

Papa and Mama Rungeling weren't exactly overjoyed about their boys' "play acting." They wished the five boys would be more like Gus, content to work in the harness shop.

Twelve years after their first McGregor "play circus", the Ringling boys made their professional debut—at Mazomanie, Wis. The going was rough. Lack of money and sparse crowds would have snuffed out the dream of those of less hardy stock.

But the Ringlings plugged on.

They made grueling tours of farm towns in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. They rented empty stores for \$1 and hammered together impromptu stages and seats. They posted their own advertising and staged parades to drum up interest. At night, they performed two hours on stage; then wearily disassembled their props.

Versatile

The Ringlings, who now sported bushy brown mustaches, were versatile performers.

Charles played the violin and sang "topical" songs; the Comic John portrayed the "real live dude" and the Irish comedian; Al was the "great plate spinner"; Alf played the cornet, organ and teamed up with Charles to play 12 instruments in one act. The less flamboyant Otto handled business duties.

In the early years, the circus troupe traveled by horse and wagon. They played such Eastern Iowa communities as Independence, Iowa City, Cascade, Monticello, Cedar Rapids and Tipton and scores of others. Some of its hardest days were spent fighting the mud.

The show gathered momentum and in time became extremely profitable. Travel then was by rail. The Ringling showmen gradually went behind the scenes as the circus grew bigger and bigger.

Ringlings' chief competitor was the famous Barnum and Bailey circus, another giant of the circus world. In 1906, Ringling bought Barnum and Bailey and several other circuses. Thirteen years later, they were all merged to make "The Greatest Show on Earth."

Riches

The multi-talented ex-comedian, John, rose to be one of world's 20 richest men. His fortune totaled more than \$100 million before the stock market collapse.

The circus magnate died in 1936, his place in history firmly emblazoned.

47

never lost the magical wonderment they first felt that May morning in McGregor when the circus boat chugged into town.

without even a written contract. They also evicted buncos men from their circus lots, striving for respectability and "family type entertainment." But, most of all, the Ringlings

How did the Ringling brothers achieve such success in the fiercely competitive circus world? Their closeness helped. The men worked together for years



The smoking ruins of the huge menagerie tent of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey circus are shown, above, just after a sudden blaze swept through the canvas structure, pitched on Cleveland's lake front. It is estimated 35 valuable animals, including performing elephants, which were in the tent at the time, succumbed in the fire or were so badly burned they had to be destroyed. The bodies of three dead camels are seen in foreground lower photo. The blaze occurred just two hours before the scheduled start of the afternoon performance.

THE KEOKUK GATE CITY AND CONST

Circus Carries on Despite Loss of 38 Animals in Fire

AUG. 5, 1942

CLEVELAND, Aug. 5—(P)—The Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey circus carried on last night, although 38 of its animals had just been burned to death or shot because they were hopelessly injured.

Today, circus officials canvassed zoos for more animals, and believed that all except the giraffes could be replaced. The cages, ruined when fire swept the menagerie tent yesterday, will be repaired and rebuilt.

Except for a few missing acts, last night's performance went on as if nothing had happened. Eleven thousand persons attended, 3,000 more than on the previous night.

The clowns were just as funny, the music was just as loud, but on the circus grounds the tragedy, one of the greatest that has ever befallen a circus, was apparent.

Even as sideshow barkers chattered, rifles cracked, put-

ting badly burned animals out of their misery. Clowns, trapeze artists and bareback riders wiped tears from their faces to enter the ring smiling.

Big John Sabo, boss animal man, stood among the charred cages, some of which still held the carcasses of beasts.

"I feel rotten as hell," he said. "I couldn't stand around and see them shot. I knew every trick they could pull. And they knew me."

He walked to a cage in which a panther, face burned, was licking his burned paws. Sabo shook his head and wiped the soot from his face. He had made three trips into the flaming menagerie tent to rescue animals.

Few circus people would talk about it. A roustabout said: "I don't want to talk. I don't know anything. Ask the boss. It was too damned horrible to talk about."

Injured animals stolidly endured their wounds while the show went on. A few elephants swayed in their chains. The crimson welts on their hides gleamed phosphorescently in the semidarkness.

Frank Braden, head of the circus' publicity department, said there "wasn't a dime's worth of insurance on the whole lot, because the business is classed as extremely hazardous, and so the rates are prohibitive."

Ten camels, nine zebras, two midget burros, two giraffes, two gnus, three Indian deer, four lions, two tigers, one puma and three elephants were burned to death or shot by police and soldiers from a nearby armory.

Two lions, three elephants and an ostrich were badly burned. Other animals were injured to lesser extent.

The cause of the fire was not determined, but Fire Chief Louis P. Fritsch said a cigarette or a stray spark might have been responsible.

Whatever the cause, the fire roared through the hay-filled tent as if it had been filled with loose gunpowder. In a moment the animals were crashing about, crying in terror.

AS BLAZE SWEPT WORLD'S BIGGEST CIRCUS



Attendants, working calmly, saved scores of animals. But others were dead before they could get to them, or burned so badly they had to be shot.

John Ringling North, president of the circus, estimated the loss at \$200,000.

* * *

DAILY GATE CITY

FIRST CIRCUS REACHED IOWA 101 YEARS AGO

FEB. 8, 1939

The advent of the American Arena Company circus was the principal entertainment attraction in the Black Hawk Purchase in 1838. Described as a "traveling world of wonders", this colorful circus performed for citizens of Farmington, West Point, Fort Madison, Augusta, Burlington, Wapello, Bloomington, Rockingham, Davenport, Bellevue, and Dubuque. The owners blandly told Iowans their show was "unexcelled by any in the world" and invited gentlemen to pay a visit and be convinced. The story of the visit of the American Arena Company and an account of other homespun amusements is given by Dr. William J. Peterson in the December, 1938, issue of "The Palimpsest."

The spacious arena, with its upper tier of seats reserved for ladies, was arranged in a "most beautiful style" and could accommodate one thousand spectators. The horses were unsurpassed in "agility, muscle, and sagacity" and the distinguished and daring riders included six-year-old Master Howes. Jack May, the "humorous and facetious clown", was also a notable member of the troupe. A military band played during the

performance. The general admission for all this was fifty cents.

Except for an occasional steamboat excursion, the Iowa pioneers had, however, little imported diversion such as the circus offered. The simple amusements of 1838 were commonly homespun and fitted into everyday affairs. The resourceful frontiersmen utilized every element of their social life as a vehicle for fun. Log raisings were usually accompanied by feasting and drinking, interspersed with wrestling, foot racing, and feats of strength. Housewarmings were generally featured by dancing and games. Quilting bees, paring bees, and husking bees all offered an opportunity for fun and frolic. Spelling bees and temperance lectures were held in schoolhouses or churches. Births, marriages, and deaths afforded occasions for social intercourse. Hunting and fishing supplied food for the family larder as well as sport for local Nimrods. Sleigh-riding and skating were also popular.

DAILY GATE CITY

CIRCUS WORLD IS RULED BY JOHN RINGLING

SEPT. 10, 1929

Rising From Singing Clown, Last of Famous Ringling Brothers Becomes Ruler of Circus World by Extensive Purchases.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—(P)— John Ringling, who started as a singing clown, rules as supreme ringmaster of the circus world today.

Buys Property of Competitors.

By purchase of five of his foremost competitors, the last of the famous Ringling Brothers has acquired control of the largest group of tent shows in the world, including their talent, menageries, equipment and winter quarters.

The shows which have been added to the Ringling group are: Sells Floto, Hagenbeck Wallace Animal Show, Sparks', John Robinson's and the Al G. Barnes Wild Animal Show.

Involves Millions of Dollars.

The properties were purchased from the American Circus corporation in a transaction which friends of the showman said involved several million dollars. The exact figure was not disclosed.

There are about 5,000 persons employed in the newly acquired shows as compared with 1,600 in the present Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey organization.

Will Operate Individually.

The announcement of the purchase said the five shows would be operated as individual units although there might be some interchange of talent.

John Ringling launched into the show business in the early seventies in Baraboo, Wis., with his four brothers, Charles, Al, Otto and Alf T.

Started on Five Dollar Capital.

With a capital of five dollars they offered their first performance in their home village. They spent \$3.70 of the \$5 to print

Two years later they had a one-ring tent show. At was a juggler of skill and John was a clown and could sing. A trick horse and a bear formed the menagerie.

handbills announcing a one night stand of "Ringling Brothers' moral, elevating, instructive and fascinating concert and variety performance." The show played to an audience of 47 in the opera house.

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

21 " " 568

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Constitution-Democrat

JULY 22, 1896.

WIZARDS OF THE AIR.

DaComas, M'lie Irwin and Other Celebrities, With Ringling Bros.' Circus.

There is probably no single feature of a circus program that claims so much breathless attention or that thrills an audience to a greater degree than an intrepid performance upon the flying trapeze. This is particularly true of the DaComas, the wonderful aerial family who will be seen with Ringling Bros.' World's Greatest Shows during the engagement in this city Monday, August 10. This notable family of gymnasts comprises one gentleman and two ladies, and their act is not only unique, but also far superior to anything of the kind ever before seen in this country. They actually fly through space, turning single and double somersaults in mid-air, and never failing to catch each other at the critical moment of descent. The crowning feature of the performance is one in which the younger girl exhibits precision rarely acquired by gymnasts, even after many years of experience and success. Swinging under the immense dome, head-down, forty feet apart, Lewis and Marie toss their sister Fancion across the intervening space, catching her with outstretched hands, and repeating the maneuver until the audience is fairly electrified by the startling dexterity of the performance. The beauty of the exhibition given by the DaComas is greatly enhanced by the physical grace of the performers and the superb manner in which their act is costumed, and while their mid air evolutions are startling in the extreme, they also constitute a series of pictures that attract and delight the artistic eye. In addition to the DaComas, Ringling Brothers offer many other brilliant aerial specialties. The performance of the Three Picardos upon the aerial bars is a novelty and worthy of being classed with the best of high class arenic acts. Europe has never before sent us anything so clever in this line. It is thrilling, unique and entirely new to the United States. M'lie Irwin, known the wide world over as the "human top," is also attracting unprecedented attention. This marvelous lady combines with a fascinating personality and picturesque figure the most astonishing strength of jaw. She is drawn to the dome of the amphitheater on a cable stretched at an angle of 45 degrees, and then, suspended by the teeth, glides to the ground with the rapidity of a cannon shot. Another feature of M'lie Irwin's performance, and the one which, perhaps, arouses the greatest enthusiasm, is the dizzy speed with which she spins while thus suspended high above the heads of the audience, turning with such rapidity that the contour of her figure is lost in a perfect maze of artistic motion. The head-balancing of William Irwin is also a memorable incident of the show, which comprises all the world's greatest riders, the incomparable Nelson family of acrobats, all the world's greatest gymnasts, acrobats, contortionists and arenic specialists; the finest horses, the costliest menagerie, the most resplendent introductory spectacle, the most exciting, realistic real Roman hippodrome and the grandest free daily street parade ever seen in this or any other country.

RINGLING BROS.'

WORLD'S GREATEST SHOWS.

NOW THE BIGGEST AND THE BEST

CAPITAL INVESTED \$3,700,000.

AVERAGE DAILY EXPENSES, \$7,450.

MORE HIGH-CLASS FEATURES THAN ALL OTHER SHOWS COMBINED.

Europe's Greatest and highest Salaried Acrobatic Sensation, **9 NELSONS** A Whole Family of Gymnic Marvels Performing in Evening Dress.

3 DA COMAS Parisian Aerialists.

9 LANDAUERS, Picturesque Posers.

M L E IRWIN, The Human Top.

MONS. JOS. DE FLEUR, Daring Somersault Diver.

Bicycle Experts

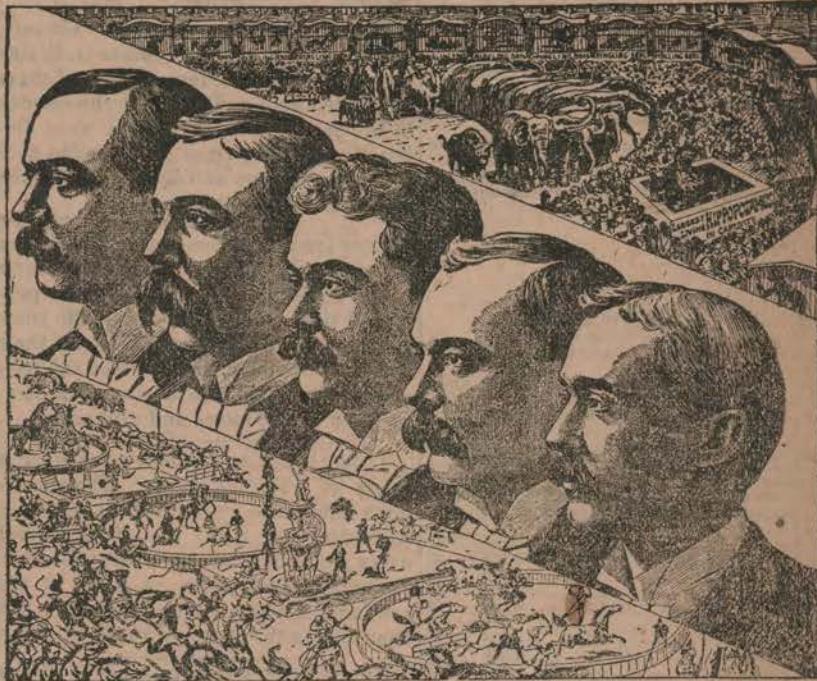
FRENCH FAMILY, Experts

10 CHAMPION RIDERS.

AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER HIGH CLASS ARENIC SPECIALISTS.

Superb Spectacular Festival of Olympus

Produced Upon a Scale of Magnitude Never Before Attempted and Grandly Inaugurating the Most Resplendent Circus Display Ever Seen in This or Any Other Country.



Stupendous Revival of the

ANCIENT ROMAN HIPPODROME.

A Glorious Picture of the Eternal City Under the Caesars, Reproducing, with Startling Realism, the Sports, Gladiator Displays, and Thrilling Races of the Circus Maximus, together with the Racing Glories of the Modern Turf.

MOST COMPLETE ZOOLOGICAL DISPLAY ON EARTH.

A Million Dollar Menagerie, Embracing the Only Genuine Chimpanzee in America, Monster Blood Exuding Hippopotamus, and Hundreds of Other Wild Beasts, Exhibited in Massive Superbly-Carved and Gold-Illuminated Cages.

GRANDEST FREE PARADE Ever Seen on the Streets of Any City, Leaves the Show Grounds at 10 o'clock on the Morning of the Exhibition. Gorgeously Resplendent Spectacle, Passing in Kaleidoscopic Review under the Sheen of a Thousand Shimmering Banners. DON'T MISS IT.

TWO COMPLETE PERFORMANCES DAILY AT 2 AND 8 O'CLOCK.

ONE 50-CENT TICKET ADMITS TO ALL THE COMBINED SHOWS.
CHILDREN UNDER 12, HALF PRICE.

Excursion Rates on All Railroads

WILL EXHIBIT AT

KEOKUK, MONDAY, AUG 10.

Reserved Seats and Admission Tickets Show Day at McGrath Bros.' Drug Store, 500 Main Street, Without Extra Charge. Reserved Coupon Seats only 25 Cents Additional.

WEEKLY CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT:

THE BIG CIRCUS.

Ringling Bros' Show to Visit Keokuk, Monday, August 10

Already there is widespread interest in the coming of Ringling Bros' world's greatest shows to Keokuk, and Monday,

Constitution-Democrat

JULY 29, 1896.

August 10, promises to be a memorable day in the annals of local amusements. Although it has been many years since Ringling Bros' show was here, its progress has been watched with great interest, and its development has been one of the marvels of the amusement world. The public has watched the growth of this enterprise from a small and comparatively unimportant show to the largest combined circus, menagerie, hip podrome and horse fair in the world. They have witnessed its rise from obscurity to a position in which it stands for all that is new and original in the circus world, with a reputation that is international, and a career that is without parallel. They have learned that every promise made by the five famous Ringling Brothers is always kept with the most absolute fidelity; that every advertised feature is seen with the show; that patrons of the exhibition are always sure of kind, courteous and just treatment; that there are no "sharers" to fleece the innocent out of their money, or to take advantage of the unwary, and that, from one end of this broad continent to the other, there is not a city, town or village where a visit from Ringling Brothers' wonderful exhibition is not considered a benefit to the people, and a grand source of pleasure and education to the masses. Beginning the season, as is its wont, at the immense Tattersall's amphitheater in Chicago, where it played for forty-five consecutive performances to the largest crowds ever known in the history of arenaic amusements, it has continued its triumphant tour from city to city, everywhere provoking the most unstinted admiration, and everywhere winning from all beholders the acknowledgment of its superiority to all other exhibitions. The people of the community are to be congratulated upon the opportunity to see such a great show, and the CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT is more than pleased to make the announcement of its coming. Since last season Ringling Bros' big show has been so greatly augmented that it is now beyond comparison with other shows, and the phenomenal array of European and American performers—over 300 in all—which it offers, is sufficient to arouse the greatest interest in the event. Among these features especial attention is called to the Nelson family of nine acrobats, the greatest in the world. A beautiful classic and semi-oriental spectacle, the "Festival of Olympus," is one of the extra displays introduced this year, and those who have seen it declare it is the most gorgeous introductory spectacle ever conceived. The Roman chariot, standing, and other exciting races, are also revived on an unusual scale of completeness and historical realism. The performance will be given in three rings, upon two stages, in mid-air and upon a quarter-mile hippodrome track, and the immense canvas pavilions to be erected during the engagement will be the largest ever constructed.

Constitution-Democrat = AUGUST 3, 1896. = FLOOD IN A CIRCUS.

River at Atlantic, Iowa, Rises and Inundates Ringling Brothers' Big Tent.

ATLANTIC, Iowa, August 3.—Terror overcame the multitude of men, women and children who thronged the tents of Ringling Brothers' circus Saturday night, when, just as the grand cavalcade had finished its circuit of the hip-

podrome course, water began to flood the level ground.

It rose so fast and so evenly that what was at the first alarm just a shining covering to the ground in a few moments became the rippling waves of a lake reflecting the colors of the myriad of lights above.

But the multitude did not stop to look at the colors. With the appearance of the water, which came from the overflowing river near by and covered a vast area of bottom lands, some of which were below the level of the river bank, the menagerie attendants were put into commotion getting ready to move the cages. The animals set up startling and uncanny shrieks and cries, and the elephants, which were just finishing the parade, trumpeted tempestuously as they splashed in the water while leaving the main tent.

The spectators had not been much disturbed by the quietly rising water until the uproar and bellowings of the animals commenced. Then with each rising inch fright increased, and in a moment terrified thousands were splashing their way toward exits. The splendid discipline of the Ringlings was manifested in the care of attendants, which prevented a panic. Their men were at every exit directing the people and whenever possible the tent sides were raised to permit exit. Without, loud-voiced men shouted out the way to higher ground. Before half the vast crowd was out of the tent the water was a foot deep.

They plunged into the shallow pond, which had become thick with mud by skurrying feet, often without regard to trousers or boots, but many took off foot gear and rolled up trouser legs. There was humor in the commotion, as bare-footed men waded along carrying shoes and stockings and often coats upon their shoulders and high above their heads.

A few venturesome and self-possessed women picked up all flowing garments and plunged with shoes and stockings at risk, into water which splashed its muddy stains above their ankles.

But women who were frightened and children alarmed by the uproar hesitated to take to the water. Possibly 1,000 of them were left huddled high upon the seats, when only a few hurrying spectators were picking their way, with bare feet and legs or elevated skirts through the water, which was rapidly becoming two feet deep. Then rescue parties were formed. Big men, with trousers well up to the hips, and lusty circus men, who had not tried to keep clothing dry, took pale women upon their shoulders and little ones under their arms and carried them out to the dry land. Dainty misses, who had recovered from their fright enough to see that nobody was being drowned, and who laughed at the funny sights, put conventionalities aside and laughingly mounted the willing carrier's shoulders and were borne out. There were tears and disgust and laughter in the motley throng when the fair burdens were put down.

Circus people can pack their belongings in a hurry, and the performers prepared to leave upon the first appearance of water, so little real damage was done to the circus property.

Three Herds of Marvelously Educated Pachyderms With Ringling Bros.' Circus.

Three herds of elephants—three herds of marvelously educated pachyderms performing in three separate rings—this is the startling novelty offered in the trained animal display of Ringling Bros.' world's greatest show, which exhibit in Keokuk, Monday August 10. These wonderfully trained animals are a complete exhibition in themselves. They comprise three distinct schools—a troupe of dancing elephants, a troupe of ponderous pyramid forming pachyderms, and the only troupe of performing baby elephants in the world. At the word of command they go through the most difficult military marches and maneuvers, tread the intricate mazes of the wall and stately quadrille and form the artistic groupings, pyramids and tableaux. The work of the baby elephant is particularly adapted to arouse the enthusiasm of the younger element in the audience. They do everything but talk, and in view of their almost incredibly human-like performance, it would seem as though even that was not an impossibility. These little animal actors give a complete play. One sits at table, ordering his dinner and disposing of it with the dainty fastidiousness of an epicure, not forgetting the final glass of wine, the finger bowl and the napkin; another acts as host, and others hurry to and fro in the role of waiters, never failing to linger in the vicinity of the guest and mutely appeal for the customary tip. This wonderful display of trained animal intelligence is a rare feast for the little ones and evokes unbounded enthusiasm. Another feature that never fails to delight the children is Mons. Natalie's trained pig circus. This is, indeed, a wonderful exhibition. There are big pigs and little pigs, and pigs that are neither big nor little, but funny to look at, whether they are following their trainer around the ring or going through their ludicrous performance. One of these pigs is a famous climber. Think of a step ladder, forty feet high, and so nearly perpendicular that any ordinary man would become dizzy climbing it. Well, this wonderful pig climbs just such a ladder, and climbs it quickly and invariably without urging or mishap. The furore that this remarkable exhibition always creates is not confined to the children by any means. It is something to be discussed and marveled at for many days after the show has gone. There are many other trained animal acts—some that are quite as remarkable in their way as those that have been mentioned—but, of course, the educated animals are only one little part of the show. There is the marvelous Nelson family, the greatest acrobats in the world; male and female riders from all parts of the world, celebrated acrobats, aerialists, gymnasts and contortionists from the famous circuses of Europe, a grand spectacular reproduction of the famed classic Festival of Olympus, a revival of the thrilling races of the Roman hippodrome, and the most complete menagerie of rare wild beasts ever seen in any zoological collection in the world. Circus day in this city will be inaugurated with a magnificent parade, in which the immense processional resources of the show will be displayed in all their magnificent splendor free upon the public thoroughfares.

Constitution-Democrat = AUGUST 5, 1896. = ELEPHANTS THAT THINK.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Constitution-Democrat

= AUGUST 8, 1896 =

RINGLING DAY MONDAY.

The Visit of the World's Greatest Shows Rapidly Approaching.

Ringling day is almost here. Nothing is talked of but the Ringling Bros.' World's Greatest Shows, and next Monday, August 10, will be a gala day in Keokuk. Those who have watched the rise and growth of this great amusement enterprise will not be surprised to learn that it is bigger, better and more colossal in all its departments than ever before, and that no other exhibition can now compare with it either in size, costliness, or in the wide diversity of its many mighty features. This great show has always been remarkable for the number of its new and unique features, as well as its vast exhibitional resources, and these characteristics are this season evidenced in many striking particulars. The Nelson family of acrobats, the most remarkable troupe of performers the world has ever seen; the Da Comas, the greatest of all great aerial artists; the Landauer Troupe of nine flexible models; the French Family of expert bicyclists and grotesque roller skaters from Paris; Joseph La Fleur, a wonderful aerial somersaultist who dives from an elevated platform, forty feet in the air, striking upon his hands; Mlle Irwin, the "human top;" Mike Rooney, Wm. De Mott, Elena Ryland, Lizzie Rooney and a dozen other superb exponents of equestrianism, and a complete European circus of imported celebrities. A special feature of the show this season is the large number of trained animals, including three herds of performing elephants and Natalie's laughable pig circus. A profound sensation has also been created by the beautiful introductory spectacle of the Festival of Olympus and the realistic revival of the ancient Roman sports, chariot races and gladiatorial contests. The menagerie is now the largest and most complete in the United States, and the 400 horses owned and used by the show are the finest ever seen with any exhibition. The procession which inaugurates circus day is said to be the finest ever seen in the streets of any city, and as a special concession to the public of this community and vicinity, many of the magnificently carved and gold-illuminated dens of wild beasts will be exhibited openly upon the city's thoroughfares.

Tickets for sale show day at McGrath Bros.' drug store, No. 500 Main street, without extra charge. Reserved coupon seats only twenty-five cents additional.

Constitution-Democrat

= AUGUST 10, 1896 =

CIRCUS DAY.

Ringling Bros' Big Shows Give a Great Parade and a Fine Performance.

This is circus day.

The announcement is really superfluous, for who in Keokuk and vicinity

does not know that today is the one singled out for the exhibitions of the Ringling Bros' world's greatest shows? The hypnotic effect of the red, blue, green, yellow, black and other colored posters has had the effect of imprinting upon the public mind the figure 10, which attached to the various advertisements of the big show, has photographed itself upon the mental cameras of Keokuk's 20,000 inhabitants, to say nothing of fully that number of outsiders. The latter started coming into town at an early hour this morning and before 10 o'clock had taken possession of all the side streets.

Promptly at 10 o'clock the parade made its appearance on the principal down-town streets. The route extended from the grounds down the Plank road to Blondegau, to Fifteenth, to Main, to Twelfth, to Johnson, to Second, to Main, to Twelfth, to Blondegau to Plank road, to show grounds. It was by far the longest street parade ever seen in this city. There were 400 horses in line, several herds of elephants and camels, fine bands of music, glittering chariots, mounted knights and ladies, open dens of wild beasts and at the end of the long line of glittering pageantry the inevitable caliope.

Among the features of the parade were the stylish English T-carts in which the star performers rode. The entire procession presented an appearance of cleanliness and order that was freely commented upon by the multitudes. Many followed the parade back to the show grounds, where Speedy, the high diver, gave an exhibition of nerve and daring, by leaping headlong from a high center pole to a tank of water sixty feet below.

At 1 o'clock the doors to the big show were thrown open, and the crowds began pouring in through the several aisleways of the main entrance. The crowds first viewed the sights in the menagerie. Among the features of this department were the many families of baby lions, tigers, kangaroos and three young coal-black leopards only five days old. Walter, the chimpanzee, attracted the most attention by his comic antics and human-like actions.

At 2 o'clock the circus performance began. The first display was an imposing spectacle representing the Festival of Olympus. The huge sights of joy and victory, pagan pomp and barbaric splendor, with the rumbling chariots of conquest, mailed warriors, chained captives, beautiful dancing girls and high priests, presented a kaleidoscopic review of the heroic age that in its ensemble filled the three rings, elevated stages and flowed out upon the immense hippodrome track and at the same time reminded the 10,000 spectators of an era in the world's history that would have thrilled them had it not been too hot for a thrill of even diminutive proportions.

After this spectacle the circus performance proper began. Among the features of the ring displays the Nelson family easily led for public approval. The family is composed of three generations of Nelsons, namely, father, sons

and grand-children, and their performance surpasses all attempts at description. Attired in full evening dress, the ladies and girls in long skirts, they performed the most astonishing feats of somersaulting and intricate evolutions with the utmost ease and without apparent exertion. The Da Comas, two pretty French girls and their athletic brother, performed astonishing feats upon the trapeze and Mons. Joseph Le Fleur did terrific leaps from a thirty-two-foot ladder, striking upon his hands. Mlle. Irwin, the serial human top, ascended to the dome of the canvas by her teeth and there revolved in space at a terrific speed. The three herds of elephants performing in three separate rings at one time were an indication of the extent of the show which during many of the displays showed from six to eight acts in progress at one time.

The performance concluded with a series of Roman chariot and other racing which differed from the affairs of the kind usually seen on account of the realistic manner in which they were presented.

The doors to the big show will be open again this evening at 7 o'clock, the performance beginning at 8, and the tents will doubtless be crowded, as the entire exhibition is superior to anything of the kind ever before seen in Keokuk.

Constitution-Democrat

= AUGUST 10, 1896. =

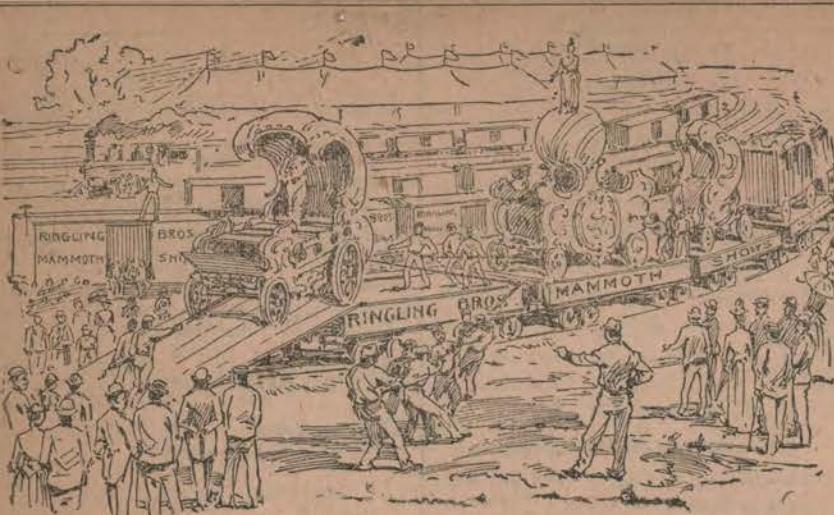
WITH THE CIRCUS.

How the Sabbath is Spent at Ringling Bros.' Show.

No Unnecessary Work is Done and Men and Beasts Have a Rest—Departments of the Big Show.

The modern circus "comes to town" in a far different manner than its ancient forerunner. Then the people were up early to see the caravan come in over the main country road, for they traveled overland in those days. Now if you want to see the entrance of a big circus, like the Ringling Bros., you must go to the levee for they make their entry on heavy and long trains. It was the arrival of this big amusement enterprise which attracted a great throng to the railroad yards Sunday morning. The Ringling show came from Washington, Iowa, making the run during the night. It takes sixty big cars to carry this show and they are hauled in three trains. The first of these arrived about 9 o'clock and the crowd lingered until the last wagon was unloaded and started up the hill. On the last train were six magnificent sleepers on which the performers ride. The Ringling Brothers have a private car, the Caledonia, and it is a veritable palace on wheels.

Sunday with the Ringling show is as



UNLOADING THE CARS.

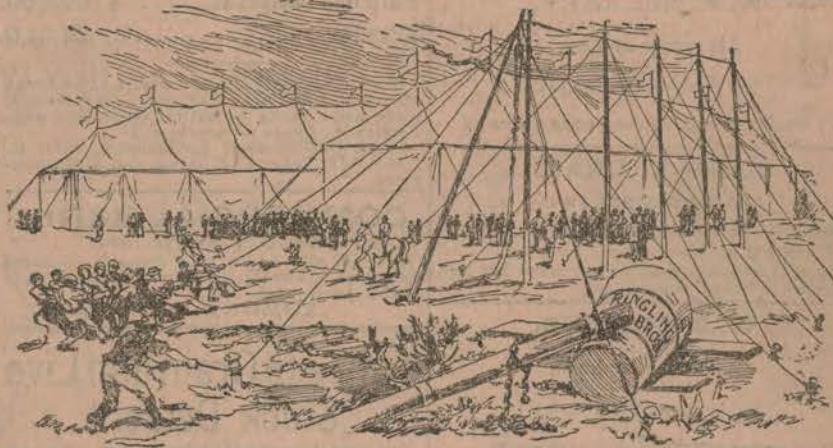
much a day of rest as it is possible to make it. No more work is done than is absolutely necessary. Still a visit to the show ground or the "lot," as it is known in circus parlance, is not without interest. Sunday morning the circus people are not in as big a hurry as on any other day in the week, consequently it is little later than usual when the cook tents are pitched. Here five cooks, three assistants and two coffee boilers immediately start to prepare the morning meal for the 800 people connected with the show, who will soon be along to devour it. The supplies, which cut a big figure in an enterprise of this kind, are given out by the steward. Two butchers cut the meats and prepare them for the cooks. There are two dining tents, in one of which the roustabouts are fed, and in the other the side show performers eat. It takes a corps of eighteen waiters to serve them. The circus performers eat in the dining car attached to the sleepers, or, as is the case on Sunday, go to the city hotels in order to get away from the every day routine of circus life. During the week breakfast is served at the grounds from 6 to 7 o'clock, lunch at 11, and dinner from 4 to 5 o'clock.

The menagerie tent is also pitched on Sunday, and the cages driven in and opened, so that the occupants may have air and rest, and feed and care, and that the cages may be cleaned. This menagerie consists of a large number of cages, besides a large drove of "led" animals made up of elephants, camels, etc. It is a fine collection, the best ever brought to this city. Sunday afternoon men were engaged in washing the cages, for this circus has had muddy weather every day for the past week. Among the many rare specimens in this collection is a baby chimpanzee, eleven months old, whose antics and actions are highly entertaining. His initiative powers are wonderful and he is very like a human.

The side-show tent, which is bigger than the main tent of most of the small circuses which have visited Keokuk, was also put up Sunday and the freaks and curiosities were enjoying a holiday. It was interesting indeed to watch them.

took advantage of the holiday to have their tonerorial needs attended to.

A very important department of the circus is the stables, which are contained in several tents situated on the Orleans street side of the grounds. There are 400 horses connected with the Ringling circus, and it takes a small army of men to attend to them. Sunday must have been welcomed more than usual by these dumb beasts, for the past week has been a hard one on them, the hardest of the season so far. Each day they had to drag their heavy loads through muddy streets, and that, too, when the temperature was high and the humidity almost unbearable. Each day was worse than its predecessor, and the work was harder than usual. Not for a single moment is one of these animals neglected, however. They receive every care and attention. Fresh water is provided in abundance and the best of feed is furnished. They are



RAISING THE BIG CENTER POLES.

The main circus tent, or the "big top" as it is called, was not put up Sunday, there being no use for it, but it was put up this morning. It is the biggest circus tent ever erected in Keokuk and is a sight in itself. The dressing room tent was up, for it is needed. It is a large and roomy affair divided into three compartments. The largest of these is where the horses are made ready for the ring. One of the other compartments is for the male performers. Here their trunks are arranged in rows and each performer's trunk occupies the same place every day in the season. The aisles between the trunks are called streets and each has its name. One of them, the principal thoroughfare, is called "Easy street." The ladies' dressing room adjoins that of the gentlemen, and it is as private as any boudoir. Adjoining the dressing room is the wardrobe tent, where the costumes for the parade are handed out, and where the wardrobes are procured for the pageant which opens the show. In the large division of the dressing room tent is where the performers assemble before they make their appearance before the crowds which throng the big tent. Not far away is the barber shop and this was a busy place Sunday, for the men generally

groomed and washed, and one animal receives as much care as another. Sunday advantage was taken of the fact that there was a pond on the grounds and many of the animals were driven into the water for their scrubbing, which they seemed to enjoy as much as a human would a cool, refreshing bath. Each man takes special pride in his team and they seem to vie with each other to see which can keep his in the best condition.

One little canopied tent, off by itself on the high ground, underneath a tree, was the most enjoyable spot of all Sunday. Here Mr. Alf. T. Ringling, the press agent of the show, spent the day with his wife and baby boy Richard, surrounded by every comfort, and far more comfortable than those who spent the day in the sweltering heat of the city. Both Mr. Ringling and his wife are hospitable people and made the reporter's visit a most pleasant one.

Large crowds of people were out Sunday to look over the grounds and see what there was to be seen. The horse tents were the center of attraction for most of the crowd, while the working of the novel appliances about the cook tents attracted a great many. The stake driving gangs, with from five to nine men all driving a stake at the same time, did not fail to call for their share

RINGLING BROS.

WORLD'S GREATEST SHOWS.

**MILLIONAIRE
MENAGERIE**

**OLYMPIAN
SPECTACLE**

**ROMAN
HIPPODROME**

**3
RING
CIRCUS
AND
2
ELEVATED
STAGES**

**GLADIATORIAL
COMBATS**

**WONDROUS
WORLD'S
HORSE
FAIR**

**TRAINED
ANIMAL
CONGRESS**

**AQUARIUM
OF MARINE
WONDERS**

**SUPERB
MUSICAL
FESTIVAL**

**STUPENDOUS
STREET
PARADE**

**MUSEUM
OF
WONDERS**

**AVERAGE
DAILY
EXPENSE
\$7.450 00**

Europe's Greatest and highest Salaried Acrobatic Sensation, **9 NELSONS** A Whole Family of Gymnic Marvels Performing in Evening Dress.

3 DA COMAS Parisian Aerialists.

9 LANDAUERS, Picturesque Posers.
M'LLIE IRWIN, The Human Top.

MONS. JOS. DE FLEUR, Daring Somersault Diver.

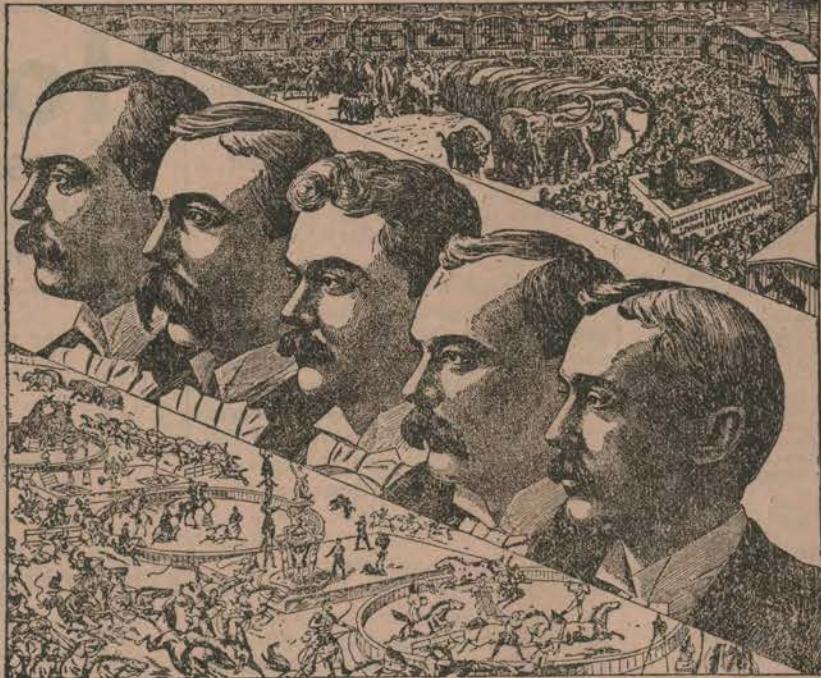
FRENCH FAMILY, Experts
Bicycle

10 CHAMPION RIDERS.

AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER HIGH CLASS ARENIC SPECIALISTS.

Superb Spectacular Festival of Olympus

Produced Upon a Scale of Magnitude Never Before Attempted and Grandly Inaugurating the Most Resplendent Circus Display Ever Seen in This or Any Other Country.



ANCIENT ROMAN HIPPODROME.

A Glorious Picture of the Eternal City Under the Caesars, Reproducing, with Startling Realism, the Sports, Gladiator Displays, and Thrilling Races of the Circus Maximus, together with the Racing Glories of the Modern Turf.

MOST COMPLETE ZOOLOGICAL DISPLAY ON EARTH.

A Million Dollar Menagerie, Embracing the Only Genuine Chimpanzee in America, Monster Blood Exuding Hippopotamus, and Hundreds of Other Wild Beasts, Exhibited in Massive Superbly-Carved and Gold-Illuminated Cages.

GRANDEST FREE PARADE Ever Seen on the streets of Any City, Leaves the Show Grounds at 10 o'clock on the Morning of the Exhibition. Gorgeously Resplendent Spectacle, Passing in Kaleidoscopic Review Under the Sheen of a Thousand Shimmering Banners. DON'T MISS IT.

TWO COMPLETE PERFORMANCES DAILY AT 2 AND 8 O'CLOCK.

ONE 50-CENT TICKET ADMITS TO ALL THE COMBINED SHOWS.
CHILDREN, UNDER 12, HALF PRICE.
Excursion Rates on All Railroads.

WILL EXHIBIT AT

KEOKUK, MONDAY, AUG 10.

Reserved Seats and Admission Tickets Show Day at McGrath Bros.' Drug Store, 500 Main Street, Without Extra Charge. Reserved Coupon Seats only 25 Cents Additional.

**1000
PEOPLE**

**400
HORSES**

**100
CAGES AND
CHARIOTS**

**300
CIRCUS
PERFORMERS**

**100
ACTS AND
CONTESTS**

**3
GREAT RINGS**

**2
ELEVATED
STAGES**

**1 ENORMOUS
RACE TRACK**

**4
RAILROAD
TRAINS**

**10
KINDS OF
MUSIC**

**1,000,000
YARDS OF
CANVAS**

**\$1,000,000
IN NEW
FEATURES**

**LARGEST
TENTS
EVER MADE**

**CAPITAL
INVESTED
\$3,700,000**

JUST AS

EXHIBITED FOR
45 CONSECUTIVE
PERFORMANCES
IN THE IMMENSE
TATTERSALLS
BUILDING

IN CHICAGO

The Gate City.

AUGUST 9, 1896.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

ARRIVES TODAY

The Great Ringling Bros.' Circus Comes This Morning—Monday's Exhibit.

Ringling Bros.' much discussed and long looked for World's Greatest shows will roll into Keokuk on four long trains via the Rock Island this morning. That there will be a big delegation of circus-loving people, big and little, on hand to welcome this popular big show goes without saying. It has been so long since Keokuk had a really first class circus that the coming of this show is in itself an event. The opportunity to see the big circus in Sunday quarters is, however, so unusual that thousands of people will undoubtedly visit the show grounds today and feast their curiosity on the novel spectacle. Ringling Bros. announce that the horse tent will be open to the public, and that their 400 head of fine stock may be inspected today free of charge. Tomorrow is circus day. The announcement seems almost superfluous. The coming of the famous and popular exhibition has been so thoroughly advertised by its enterprising managers that any further comment would seem unnecessary. It may be interesting to know, however, that the five Ringling brothers, whose remarkable success as showmen has been the talk of America during the past few years, and whose personality has placed the show business upon a hitherto unknown plane, will be with the show during its visit to this city, and will personally look after the comfort and pleasure of their patrons. The enthusiasm aroused by the anticipations of circus day is a striking indication of the popularity and fame of this great show; and in view of the fact that this wonderful zoologic, ethnologic, acrobatic, equine and hippodromic exhibition is the largest tented amusement in the world—that it employs more people, runs more trains, has more horses, elephants, camels and wild animals, and exhibits under the largest tents ever constructed—this feeling of enthusiastic expectation can be readily understood. We suggest to rural people the advisability of getting to town as early as possible, so as not to miss the grand street procession, which moves promptly at 10 o'clock, rain or shine. The magnificent tableaux of Moscow's Kremlin Tower with its chiming bells, the golden steam calliope, the long caravan of glittering chariots and superbly carved and gold-illuminated dens, the rare and curious wild beasts openly exhibited in cages of scintillating splendor; the cavalcades of knights and fair ladies, the only giant giraffe in America, the largest hippopotamus in captivity, and the three herds of elephants are alone worth coming miles to see; and, after all, they are

only preliminary to the most remarkable exhibition of aerial, hippodromic and acrobatic marvels that man's ingenuity has ever brought together. The Nelson family of nine marvelous acrobats, the most wonderful gymnastic performers in the world, give an act which is alone worth the price of admission.

Those who wish to avoid the rush at the ticket wagon can secure admission tickets or reserved seats tomorrow at McGrath Bros.' drug store, 500 Main street, without any extra charge. Reserved coupon seats are only 25 cents additional.

The Gate City.

JULY 18, 1896.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

IT'S A THRILLING DIVE.

Joseph Le Fluer Plunges Headlong From Mid-air to the Solid Ground.

Ringling Brothers' Worlds Greatest Shows, the famous organization which exhibits in Keokuk, Monday, Aug. 10, is especially notable this season for the large number of European performers included among its more than 300 high salaried artists. None of these European artists has ever before visited America, and they will return to the continent at the close of the present season. In selecting these foreign performers, Ringling Bros. have been especially careful to secure only such specialists as would prove a distinct novelty in the United States and depart as far as possible from the old, time-worn acts which other shows keep foisting upon their rapidly dwindling audiences year after year. In securing Joseph Le Fluer, the sensational high diver and aerial somersaultist, Ringling Bros. have set a pace which no other management will dare to follow. Le Fluer does not use a tank or a net of any kind. His headlong dives are made from mid-air to the solid ground. Ascending to a platform, elevated 40 feet above the earth, he stands, poised for a moment like a mountain eagle, preparing to wing its flight. Then, like a flash of light, he wheels around, springs into the air, and plunges head downward into space. For a brief second the audience holds its breath in wonder; then, as he strikes the solid earth with his hands, and throwing a somersault, lands upon his feet, the horror of the crowd is turned to admiration and amazement, and the daring Frenchman retires amid a perfect storm of applause. Among the other foreign features which Ringling Brothers have secured for this season are the Nelson family, the surpassingly superior world's greatest acrobats; the French family, the great Parisian bicyclists and roller skatists; the nine Landauers, Germany's troupe of classic posers; the three Le Royes, acrobats; the Picardos, a revelation in aerial bar-

performers, and a long list of other people, including wild Cossack riders, picturesque Bedouins, whirling Dervishes, Japanese equilibrists, and other strange representatives of far-off lands. In addition to these foreign features Ringling Brothers announce hundreds of other high class acrobatic celebrities; the finest and most complete menagerie in the world; a horse fair, embracing 400 of the handsomest horses ever bred; the most exciting hippodrome since the days of imperial Caesar and the most gorgeously sumptuous preliminary spectacle that art has ever conceived or the energy of man ever brought to perfection.

The Gate City.

AUGUST 11, 1896.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

'TWAS A GREAT SHOW.

Ringling Bros.' Circus Comes and Conquers—Every Expectation Fulfilled.

The verdict is unanimous that The Gate City correctly foretold the merits of the Ringling Bros.' circus when this paper said that it was the best show now traveling. Thousands availed themselves of the opportunity of witnessing this superb acrobatic exhibition and all are glad that they were numbered among the attendants.

The big show arrived from Washington Sunday morning and during the day the mammoth tents were erected on the Perry Lots in the western edge of the city. Half the populace either drove or walked out that way Sunday to inspect the outside of the circus and gain some idea of its magnitude. The stables were thrown open to the public and the hundreds of magnificent horses were "at home" to visitors. A finer lot of animals were never before seen in this city.

After this Sunday preliminary glimpse and the fame that had preceded the show, it only remained for the street parade yesterday morning to make certain a large attendance on the acrobatic exhibit. At an early hour in the forenoon the roads leading from neighboring Illinois, Missouri and Iowa were lined with teams driven by farmers bringing their families to town to see the circus and to do a little marketing and trading. The railroads brought in crowded trains. Added to the strangers were the residents, and by 10 o'clock the down town streets were a surging mass of humanity. The parade fully met all expectations and was one of the best ever seen in Keokuk.

The highways leading to the show grounds during the afternoon and evening were thronged with conveyances and pedestrians and the surface of the streets were ground into dust several inches thick. But the discomforts of dust and heat were as naught, when the character of the tented exhi-

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THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

RINGLAUD - 2

bition is taken into consideration.

Ringling Bros.' is a big show; it is an honest show; it is a faithful performance of all promises; it is a clean show; it is an admirably managed show; it is worth any man's money. Every employee is uniformed and military discipline and gentlemanliness is enforced upon all connected with it. The visitor feels that he is in the presence of good citizens when he associates with the Ringlings. These showmen have gone a long ways to elevate, in popular estimation, the character of the traveling circus. They have proven the admirable possibilities of the profession.

The menagerie is large and well selected. Notable features are the genuine and very rare chimpanzee, the largest herd of elephants, the dens of lions of various species, and all the features of the standard menagerie. Many visitors sought in vain for the giraffe advertised. What remains of the animal is in the taxidermist's hands at Chicago, the giraffe having died at Sheldon, Ia., a few days ago of that popular ailment, Bright's disease.

It is in the circus that Ringling Bros.' profess to excell. Not least among the attractions under the big tent is the excellent band, conducted by George Ganweiler. It is worthy to note that all the "cue" music was high class, being selections from grand and comic operas and the greatest successes of modern writers.

The circus performance opened with a grand triumphal pageant, down on the bills as "The Festival of Olympus." It was very pretty and greatly enthused the spectators. It is next to impossible to attempt a detailed description of the various acts in the three rings and on the elevated stage. It was a bewildering mass of excellencies.

Lading features were the acrobatic feats of the Nelson family, nine in number, surpassing anything in that line ever before seen in Keokuk; the statuesque posing of the nine Landeur models, a remarkably beautiful and striking series of living tableaux; the thrilling feats of the three Da Comas, the Paris aerialists; the headlong plunges of Le Fleur; the mid-air accomplishments of Mme. Irwin, "the human top"; Natalie's trained pig circus. This is, indeed, a wonderful exhibition. There are big pigs and little pigs, and pigs that are neither big nor little, but funny to look at, whether they are following their trainer around the ring or going through their ludicrous performance. One of these pigs is a famous climber. Think of a step ladder, forty feet high, and so nearly perpendicular that any ordinary man would become dizzy climbing it. Well, this wonderful pig climbs just such a ladder, and climbs it quickly and invariably without urging or mishap. The furore that this remarkable exhibition always creates is not confined to the children by any means. It is something to be discussed and marveled at for many days after the show has gone. There are many other trained animal acts—some that are quite as remarkable in their way as those that have been mentioned—but, of course, the edu-

enjoy the amusement, instruction and entertainment to be found under their canvas.

Last night the show departed for Hannibal where it exhibits today.

Constitution-Democrat

= AUGUST 1, 1896 =

ELEPHANTS THAT THINK.

Three Herds of Marvelously Educated Pachyderms With Ringling Bros.' Circus.

Three herds of elephants—three herds of marvelously educated pachyderms performing in three separate rings—this is the startling novelty offered in the trained animal display of Ringling Bros.' world's greatest shows, which exhibit in Keokuk, Monday August 10. These wonderfully trained animals are a complete exhibition in themselves. They comprise three distinct schools—a troupe of dancing elephants, a troupe of ponderous pyramid forming pachyderms, and the only troupe of performing baby elephants in the world. At the word of command they go through the most difficult military marches and maneuvers,

tread the intricate mazes of the waltz and stately quadrille and form the artistic groupings, pyramids and tableaux. The work of the baby elephant is particularly adapted to arouse the enthusiasm of the younger element in the audience. They do everything but talk, and in view of their almost incredibly human-like performance, it would seem as though even that was not an impossibility. These little animal actors give a complete play. One sits at table, ordering his dinner and disposing of it with the dainty fastidiousness of an epicure, not forgetting the final glass of wine, the finger bowl and the napkin; another acts as host, and others hurry to and fro in the role of waiters, never failing to linger in the vicinity of the guest and mutely appeal for the customary tip.

This wonderful display of trained animal intelligence is a rare feast for the little ones and evokes unbounded enthusiasm. Another feature that never fails to delight the children is Mme. Natalie's trained pig circus. This is, indeed, a wonderful exhibition. There are big pigs and little pigs, and pigs that are neither big nor little, but funny to look at, whether they are following their trainer around the ring or going through their ludicrous performance. One of these pigs is a famous climber. Think of a step ladder, forty feet high, and so nearly perpendicular that any ordinary man would become dizzy climbing it. Well, this wonderful pig climbs just such a ladder, and climbs it quickly and invariably without urging or mishap. The furore that this remarkable exhibition always creates is not confined to the children by any means. It is something to be discussed and marveled at for many days after the show has gone.

There are many other trained animal acts—some that are quite as remarkable in their way as those that have been mentioned—but, of course, the edu-

cated animals are only one little part of the show. There is the marvelous Nelson family, the greatest acrobats in the world; male and female riders from all parts of the world, celebrated acrobats, aerialists, gymnasts and contortionists from the famous circuses of Europe, a grand spectacular reproduction of the famed classic Festival of Olympus, a revival of the thrilling races of the Roman hippodrome, and the most complete menagerie of rare wild beasts ever seen in any zoological collection in the world. Circus day in this city will be inaugurated with a magnificent parade, in which the immense processional resources of the show will be displayed in all their magnificent splendor free upon the public thoroughfares.

Constitution-Democrat

AUGUST 5, 1896. =

A HORSELESS AGE.

Ringling Brothers' Remarkable Exposition of the Rise of the Bicycle.

If anything was needed to convince the public of the progressive character of Ringling Brothers' World's Greatest Shows, it would be furnished in the latest sensation offered by the tireless managers of this greatest of all great exhibitions. The growth of bicycling, both in this country and in Europe, during the past decade, has culminated in an era that may be fittingly designated as the "horseless age." The improvements in the bicycle have followed each other in such rapid succession that the "wheel" of ten years ago would excite derision if seen upon the boulevards today. With infinite pains and the expenditure of a great deal of money Ringling Brothers have succeeded in perfecting a complete exposition of the bicycle in all its progressive stages, from the crude wooden velocipede of a few years back to the present day of steel-wire spokes and pneumatic tires, and in order to properly illustrate the origin of the "wheel" as well as the marvelous opportunities it offers to the trained rider. They have imported an entire troupe of skilled bicyclists from Europe. This notable troupe, known as the French Family, are the greatest exponents of the bicycle in the world. The family comprises six ladies and gentlemen of matchless skill, who give a complete acrobatic performance upon the "wheel," forming pyramids, turning single and double somersaults, and vaulting from the shoulders of one rider to those of another while whirling around the central stage with the speed of race horses. The slow speed and limitations of the old-time velocipedes as compared with the latest improved bicycle is also shown in an apt and interesting manner. The members of the troupe are all clever mimics, and the exhibition of old-style riding offers many opportunities for humorous caricature that are skillfully taken advantage of. The French family also give a remarkable exhibition of fancy and grotesque roller-skating, including a laughable comedy on wheels, a feature of their act which always creates unlimited enthusiasm and hearty laughter. It requires three

rings, two stages, a world of intricate aerial apparatus and a quarter-mile hippodrome track to properly present the hundreds of features identified with this stupendous exhibition, and even then it is necessary to simultaneously display from five to ten acts in order to

bring the performance within a reasonable limit. Abundant time will be given to the patrons of the show to examine the magnificent zoological collection both before and after the performances, and the comfort, pleasure and proper treatment of the public is absolutely

guaranteed by the five famous owners of the World's Greatest Shows, who will be with the exhibition during the visit in this city, Monday August 10, and personally look after the comforts of their thousands of patrons.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1937

Codona, Former Trapeze Star, Wounds His Divorced Wife and Kills Self at Lawyer's Office

LONG BEACH, Calif., July 31.—

(AP)—Mrs. Vera Bruce Codona, 32, famed circus trapeze artist who was wounded in a double shooting here late yesterday died today.

LONG BEACH, Calif., July 31.—(AP)—A marital squabble and five pistol shots spelled the end today to the sensational career of Alfredo Codona, once internationally known "daring young man on the flying trapeze."

Codona, 43, only circus aerialist ever to do the difficult and hazardous triple somersault, shot and seriously wounded his divorced wife, Vera Bruce Codona, 32, and killed himself late yesterday. Mrs. Codona's mother was the only witness.

The couple was at a lawyer's office to discuss division of their property. The lawyer had stepped outside at Codona's request.

Codona was star performer of "The Flying Codona's," family troupe which made several world tours.

Accidents killed Codona's second wife, Lillian Leitzel, and ruined his own trapeze career.

Miss Leitzel plunged to her death in Copenhagen in 1931 when a ring of her equipment snapped.

In 1933 Codona so seriously injured his shoulder in an act in New

York that he never was able to make a comeback.

Codona had been in the garage business here recently, although he appeared in three films, once as a double for Johnny Weismuller in a "Tarzan" picture.

Codona and Miss Bruce, also an aerial performer, were married at San Antonio, Texas, in 1931. She divorced him a month ago, charging cruelty.

Yesterday, they met at the lawyer's office. Mrs. Annie Bruce, Mrs. Codona's mother, said Codona asked her to leave with the attorney, but she remained.

Mrs. Bruce said Codona lighted a cigaret for her daughter and said: "Vera, this is the only thing you have left for me to do."

Then he drew a pistol, shot her four times and fired into his own head, Mrs. Bruce said.

Mrs. Codona replaced Miss Leitzel in the flying Codona troupe.

After Alfredo's injury in New York, he returned here to recuperate and a few months later started training with the others in an abandoned warehouse under direction of the veteran Eduardo Codona, the brothers' father.

He never regained his old artistry however, and his public appearances became limited largely to benefit shows.

to horse-heaven.

He drove circus teams for years in the shows of Hagenbeck-Wallace, Sells-Floto, John Robinson, Barnum and Bailey and Ringling Brothers, before the two last were combined.

"First three 10-ton trucks the Ringlings bought," he explains, "took the place of 64 horses. This power fleet now does the work of 320, all discarded. We carry only one car-load now to haul floats in the parade."

Elephant Outmoded.

"And how 'bout the elephant for hauling?"

"Okay for short hauls, spotting wagons and cages on the lot, but not for long ones. He soon gets tired, or stubborn, or something, maybe from carrying his own weight around. Our whole herd of 'em could never haul this show from railroad to show lot, a mile or two away. Trucks, tractors and petroleum do all that, come hell or high water."

"Just keep feeding these babies their oil and fuel rations regular, and they haul for us all day, or all night long. They live longer, too, than the average circus horse's life of only 7½ years, from standing too long on hoofs."

"See those four elephants moving one wagon over there? Okay, but here's a caterpillar-diesel hauling four, from tracks two miles away. Here comes a smaller one with a six-horse load of 'blue plank' grandstand seats, right through rain, mud or what have you."

"The Big Show has four 10-ton trucks, 11 of 5-ton size, and two jeeps for moving equipment. For delivering oils and fuel we have our own gas truck. Five each of 45-HP caterpillars, 25-HP caterpillars and 15-HP tractors take on the work of the old train-teams."

On tour, the circus carries 6,000 folding seats, tons of grandstand lumber, poles, stakes, rope and nets, stages and show-ring banks, aerial rigging, decorated floats and animal cages, trunks full of costumes, properties, band instruments, trapezes and bicycles.

Big Top Weighs 12 Tons.

The Big Top, world's largest, 500 by 200 feet, weighs more than 12 tons. It is rolled up into 14 sections, picked up by a derrick mounted on a caterpillar. It handles these rolls like the traditional stork carries a baby, packing them into 10-ton trucks. All this 30 to 60 minutes faster than 20 huskies ever could, even swearing lustily.

Tent city includes 40 units, the big menagerie tent, side shows, horse tops, a doctor's office, dressing tents, and "Hotel de Ringling," where 1,400 hungry mouths are fed thrice daily. All are thoroughly fire-proofed.

Two mechanical marvels are automatic stump pullers and drivers. The latter drives two stakes at a time; the former pulls them up at

THE KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY AND CONSTITUTION

Banished from Farm—THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1948

Old Gray Mare Also Gives Way. To Tractors With Big Circuses

BY CHARLES F. COLLISON

New York Newspaper and Magazine Writer

Just as Old Dobbin is now turned out to pasture on the farm, making way for modern truck, tractor, motor car and jeep, so also the "old gray mare, she ain't what she used to be" on the sawdust trail of today's circus.

'Tis true, beautiful horse-flesh and fine horsemanship drew acclaim from admiring circus fans.... as they always will. Yet the Big Show's heavy hauling chores are now all done by petroleum, not Percheron power.

Ask Dave Blanchfield, veteran rolling stock superintendent of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey combined shows, now on tour:

Work Stock Gone.

"Say Blanch, where's all them

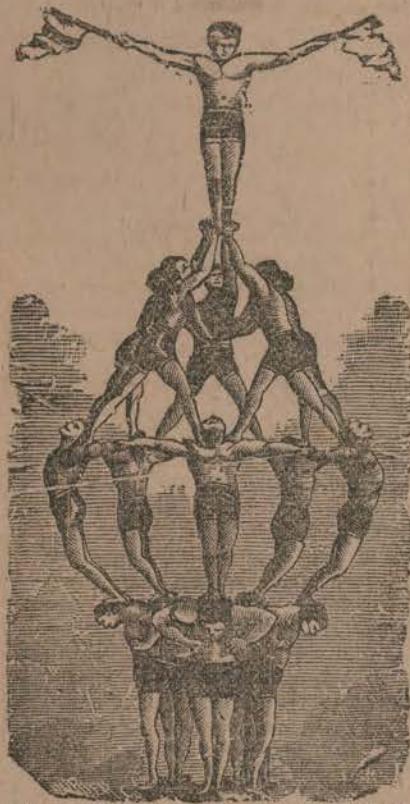
there broadback grays and bays that usedta move the show?" He leads the way to a parking lot, covered with trucks, caterpillars, tractors and jeeps.

"These boys do our hauling jobs now, and many others," he sighs regretfully. As an old-time circus man he is a "hoss-lover," who regrets the passing of his old "work stock" in-

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. SIEBEL KEOKUK, IOWA

END OF PAGE APR 29 1948 -1

**WILL EXHIBIT AT
KEOKUK
ONE DAY ONLY
Monday, August 29
CAMBELL
BROS.
CONSOLIDATED
SHOWS**



Circus, Museum, Menagerie, Hippodrome—The only big circus coming this season.
500 FINEST HORSES ON EARTH
42 DOUBLE LENGTH RAILWAY CARS
20 WORLD'S FAMOUS BARE BACK RIDERS
40 EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN AERIALISTS
30 LADY AND GENTLEMEN ACROBATS
20 HAPPY, JOLLY, FUNNY CLOWNS
17 PERFORMING ELEPHANTS
DOUBLE MENAGERIE. HIPPODROME RACES
700—PEOPLE. ALL TOGETHER—700

**Special Feature
The Marvelous Renollo**

Will positively appear at each performance turning a complete somersault on a bicycle WHILE LEAPING THE GAP.

One price of admission takes you all the way through. Two performances daily, rain or shine. Afternoon show 2 p. m.; night show 8 p. m. Doors open one hour earlier.

The circus is a two-ring affair, with elevated stage and hippodrome and all the usual sideshows. It travels in its own train of 28 cars and employs about 400 people.

**Big Street Parade
10:30 a. m.
LOT, 24th AND MAIN**

THE GATE CITY
PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY

FRIDAY, AUG. 19, 1910.

BIG CIRCUS HERE

MONDAY, AUG. 29

Campbell's Show Will Exhibit at Twenty-fourth and Main for One Day Only.

A California newspaper in speaking of the big circus which comes to Keokuk on Monday, August 29, says:

Campbell Brothers' circus arrived in this city early Sunday morning and soon after the arrival the work of erecting the mammoth tents on the railroad grounds was commenced. No performances were given on Sunday, but this afternoon the circus' people are entertaining a large crowd and this evening at 8 o'clock a second and final performance will be given.

The circus parade this morning at 10 o'clock attracted the usual large crowd and it may be said that the parade was a very creditable one. A "Democrat" representative visited the menagerie this morning at the invitation of Mr. Campbell. He was surprised to find such an array of rare animals. There is a herd of eleven elephants, nine camels and about twenty cages of wild animals in captivity. One cage contains four sea lions recently captured at Santa Barbara. California is also represented by several ostriches purchased in San Diego. In one cage a Bengal tigress and her three kittens, two weeks old, repose. The kittens are born blind and will not have their eyes open until about another week. They are very cute and not much unlike the common household cat. This cage is not open for the inspection of the public, however, for the reason that the mother guards her young so zealously when anybody is around that there is danger of her strangling them. The father in the next apartment is in a very ugly mood, perhaps due to the fact that he is separated from his family.

This is the first trip of Campbell's Shows to California. The headquarters of the circus are in Fairbury, Nebraska. The circus arrived in California in April, and has been playing south and up the coast. Mr. Campbell says that business has been very good and that wherever the circus has appeared they have been well received.

THE GATE CITY
PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY

TUESDAY, AUG. 16, 1910.

**CIRCUS COMES
ON AUGUST 29**

Campbell Brothers Will Show in This City and Will Attract Big Crowds to the Tents.

GIVES FINE PARADE

How Western Newspaper Looked at the Parade When the Circus Struck That Town.

Campbell Brothers' circus will show in Keokuk on Monday, August 29, and will attract a big crowd. When the circus was at Reno, Nevada, on May 28, the Evening Gazette told of its presence in the city as follows:

The circus has come to town and this afternoon and evening there will be crowds making their way to the State park near the eastern limits of the city to take it in. All the children will go and all the grown people too, as those who have not got children or grandchildren to take along as an excuse will borrow some. They will all be sure and be there to see the clowns, performers, the equestrians and equestriennes, the chariot drivers, the freaks and the wild animals. Yes, the circus is here and everyone is filled with the circus spirit.

Long before the break of day Pintos and Washoes from all directions and from numerous camps came piling into the city and long before the hour for the circus parade, the streets were so filled with the red men, their babies and their dogs that it was difficult for a pedestrian to travel. Then a little later the caucasian population of the city and from the surrounding country began to gather in the thoroughfares. Everyone was out with his wife, his best girl or his grandmother and everyone entered into the true spirit of the occasion.

When the first blare of the trumpets blown by eight dashing young

women dressed as heralds and riding on eight large white horses, was heard the people crowded on the street corners where they munched pop corn or peanuts and chewed gum until the procession hove in sight. All were delighted as they witnessed the dancing horses, the ponderous elephants, the shaggy looking camels, the lady in the cage with a bunch of snakes and the zebra direct from the wilds of Africa. It was a gorgeous pageant and was appreciated by the hundreds who witnessed it.

There was a wild west cowboy in the parade and he spent most of his time trying to throw a noose over the head of a clown riding on a mule, much to the enjoyment of the youngsters. Finally while making one last desperate throw with his rope the cowboy's horse slipped and fell to the pavement. In true western style though the cowboy clung to him and arose with him. He then reached gracefully over the horse's side and picked up his hat. This was only one of the side lights of the parade. There were many more.

It is seldom that a circus comes to Reno and when one does it is duly appreciated and well attended.

THE GATE CITY
PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY
MONDAY, AUG. 29, 1910.—
C. F. SKIRVIN.....Manager

CIRCUS DAY ATTRACTS CROWDS

Campbell Bros. Shows Give Fine Parade This Morning and Will Draw the People Tonight.

SOME FEATURE ACTS

Baby Tiger Was Interesting and the Black Ostrich and Quartette of Seals Were Also Seen.

Campbell Bros. Great Consolidated Shows arrived in town early Sunday morning and the large tents were soon erected and all day the grounds were lined with visitors watching the tents being raised, etc. The parade left the show grounds at ten this morning and traversed the principal streets of the city, and it was a very pretty parade.

Three bands and steam calliope furnished the music, and there was a large line of elephants, also camels, cape buffalo or caribou and long line of lady and gentlemen riders in bright and flashy costumes, and all the horses were in fine flesh and showed fine care. The company is quite a large outfit, with over 400 people, 200 fine horses and a train of 30 cars. The menagerie is one of the most complete ever seen in this city with 25 dens, containing lions, tigers, leopards, jaguars, zebra, sacred ox, barbary sheep, and many other rare animals too numerous to mention. The baby tiger attracted the attention of all who visited the circus, and the black Californian ostrich was quite a treat for the ladies, and the four seals from the Pacific ocean received their share of attention. The big herd of elephants beg peanuts from every one that would spend a nickel.

The following are a few of the feature acts of the big show: The four Lamy Bros. in their big aerial return and casting act, with doubles and full twisters made the audience sit up and take notice, and their acrobatic act was very good. Berre & Hicks, who make this city their home, do a very interesting act in backward ladder drops also iron jaw act, and bounding somersault wire act, and their acts were fine and they received rounds of applause.

Morale family, three in number, doing a very interesting act on the trampoline bars with full twisters and doubles, the small boy dressed as a clown kept the audience laughing all through the act.

Dimitri troupe of four Russian Cossack rough riders, giving a very interesting act of rough riding.

Big herd of elephant performers, four in each ring and they certainly do some fine work.

It was a fine show and every promise made was kept to the letter and they will always receive a hearty welcome when ever they come this way again.

THE GATE CITY
PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY
TUESDAY, AUG. 30, 1910.
C. F. SKIRVIN.....Manager

PEOPLE LIKED CAMPBELL BROS.

Large Crowd Saw Show in Afternoon While Big Tent Was One Mass of Humanity at Evening Performance.

NOTHING WAS BRILLIANT

spectacular Acts Were Missing, but Performers Were Clever—Clowns Were Unusually Funny—Acrobats Good.

While there were no spectacular acts seen at Campbell Bros' circus yesterday afternoon and evening, the performances were entertaining throughout, and few of the circus goers were disappointed. In the afternoon the size of the audience was a surprise to the management, and in the evening the big main tent was one mass of humanity, with every seat occupied.

Not a single act of the entire program could be termed brilliant, but all of the performers were clever. The horses were well trained, but entirely devoid of dash, while the riders were only mediocre. The acrobats were much better, especially the tumblers and performers on the high horizontal bars.

The circus clowns, and there were many of them, were possessed of much keener wit than previous circuses have brought with them to the city and their antics were followed with enjoyment by the spectators.

One of the best riding feats of the day was that of a Cossack, who whirled around on his spirited beast hanging from the saddle at all angles.

The elephants were well trained, nine of them occupying the two rings. The circus throughout was a clean one, except for the spectators, who had to bite dust kicked up by the horses, because the rings had not been carpeted with sawdust.

THE GATE CITY.

KOKOK, IOWA
FRIDAY MORNING, OCT. 15, 1869

BOOK AGENTS WANTED FOR STRUGGLES AND TRIUMPHS OF P. T. BARNUM

Written by Himself. In One Large Octavo Volume—nearly 800 Pages—Printed in English and German.

33 Elegant Full Page Engravings.

It embraces Forty Years Recollections of his Busy Life, as a merchant, Manager, Banker, Lecturer and Showman, and gives accounts of his Imprisonment, his Failure, his Successful European Tours, and important Historical and Personal Reminiscences, replete with Humor, Anecdotes and Entertaining Narrative.

It contains his celebrated Lecture on the Art of Money Getting, with rules for Success in Business, for which he was offered \$5,000. We offer extra inducements to Agents and pay freight to the West. Send for 32 page circular, with Specimen Engraving and terms to Agents.

J. B. BURR & CO.,
Publishers, Hartford, Conn.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KECOKUK, IOWA

Keokuk Constitution.

AUGUST 22 1887.

TRIPLE SOMERSAULTS.

THE REASONS WHY SO FEW OF THEM HAVE BEEN TURNED.

Several Attempts Which Resulted in Broken Necks—A 14-Year-Old Boy's Successful Feat—A Circus Man's Bold Offer—The Requirements.

The first remembered attempt to throw a triple somersault in this country was by a performer in Van Amburgh's circus in Mobile, Ala., in 1842. He fell on his head and broke his neck. Another attempt was made in London, Eng., in 1846. It was made in Astley's amphitheatre, then leased to Howe & Cushing, the American managers. In the company were Mr. I. Lipman, a fine vaulter, now in Cincinnati; the late Levi J. North, a famous equestrian; the late William O. Dale, an acrobat and equestrian, who afterwards lost his sight and died at Cincinnati; and William L. Hobbes, a champion leaper. It was previously announced that Hobbes would attempt a triple, and the house was jammed. He tried it, and was instantly killed.

The next to attempt the dangerous feat was John Amor, who was born in the home of Dan Rice's father, near Girard, Pa. Amor traveled for years in this country with Dan Rice's circus, and in that day was considered the greatest gymnast in America, if not in the world. He was said to be the first performer in America to turn a double somersault over four horses. In 1859 he went to England and traveled with a circus all through the United Kingdom. In the same year he attempted to turn a triple somersault at the Isle of Wight, but landed on his fore-head after he turned twice, and broke his neck.

Billy Dutton performed the great feat while a member of Lake's circus, at Elkhorn, Ills., in 1860, at a rehearsal, in the presence of John Lowlow, the famous clown. Dutton was ambitious to have it to say that he did it, but did not make the attempt with the intention of repeating it. He made the leap from a high spring board, and actually turned three times. Dutton was very proud, but sensibly said that he would not try it again, and that his alighting on his feet was an accident, as he could not control his body after turning the second time.

OTHER FATALITIES.

Frank Stark, who was reared by John Robinson, the circus manager, undertook the feat at the fair grounds in Indianapolis in 1870 for a wager of \$100. In the first attempt he turned three times, but alighted on his hands. Everybody was satisfied with the result, and the money was tendered him. He proudly refused it, saying that the feat had not been accomplished; that he would repeat it, and alight upon his feet before he felt sufficiently justified in taking the \$100. He did repeat it, but struck on his head, dislocating his neck, and his death resulted in a few hours afterward.

Bob Stickney, the Apollo Belvedere of the modern arena, accomplished the great feat at the age of 14 years, while practicing in the Hippo theatre, on Fourteenth street, New York, in 1846. William Stein, at the time an attache of the circus, and who now, with his wife, gives a "second sight" performance, was one of the persons who held the common woolen blanket upon which Stickney alighted.

Sam Bernhardt, of Columbus, O., a retired leaper, while traveling with the Cooper and Bailey circus, in 1840, became dissatisfied with the double somersault feat, in which he was an adept, and burned to perform the triple. At Toledo he announced that he would

make the attempt, and he did so, notwithstanding the advice of his friends not to try it. Sam made a splendid high leap, actually turned three times, but landed on his seat instead of his feet.

A BOLD OFFER.

Bob Stickney, who is now traveling with Forepaugh's circus, was interviewed in Detroit last Decoration Day. He said:

"I did it once, as related in your article, and although I have confined myself to riding, and have done no leaping for seven years, I can do it again. I get the highest wages in the profession, \$250 a week, but if any circus manager will give me \$300 a week I will engage to attempt a triple at every stand during the touring season. I do not mean to make the attempt more than once a day, and only in the daytime."

"Would you need any improved or original apparatus?" was asked.

"No. I would simply need the usual spring-board at five or six feet from the ground. But I would need a strong net, with fine meshes. Farina introduced the net when he came to this country in 1878, and in Barnum's circus fired a woman out of a cannon into the air. It was really a very strong spring which elevated the performer. The net into which she fell made the feat possible. If ever the triple somersault can be made a daily performance, it will be by means of the net. If I undertook it I would have a straw mattress, ten feet square and one foot thick, placed on the ground about twenty feet from the spring board. On this I would have a feather mattress of the same length and width, but about two feet thick. On the top of the latter, and touching it, I would have a strong net, with meshes not more than one inch apart, and strained perfectly tight. For \$300 a week I would make a daily attempt at the afternoon performances to accomplish this feat. But it would seem that leaping was going out of fashion nowadays. Since we had a fatal accident at the opening of this season, Forepaugh has discontinued the leaping act altogether."

That a triple somersault was ever accomplished before a circus audience after due announcement, and under the same conditions as double somersaults are performed, may be seriously doubted.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1887.

ROMANCE OF THE RING.

An Aerial Artist in Two Interesting Events.

On the flaming posters used to advertise tented exhibitions a young lady at present in this city is known as "Grace Colton, Queen of the Air." In private life she is of modest, demure and retiring disposition, and one would be loth to believe that clothed in tights and bedecked with spangles she would daily risk life and limb in the attempt to thrill and electrify audiences by daring feats in mid-air.

But such is the case, and it only tends to show that appearances are deceitful. The young lady, who is of prepossessing appearance, with a wealth of golden hair that falls in luxuriant profusion about a face which, although not pretty, is decidedly pleasing, since her arrival in this city has been the central figure of two interesting events. During

the past season she has been a member of the United States circus that was advertised to appear here Monday and Tuesday, but failed to do so. Attached to this circus was a young man named Harry Mohn, who will figure in this tale later on.

The first episode of interest which occurred after "Miss Colton's" arrival here Monday afternoon happened at the depot, where she was accosted by an uncle visiting here, and who had not seen his niece for nearly twenty years. As the young lady alighted from the train, the uncle, G. W. Johnson, felt sure of her identity and addressed her, but she failed to recognize him, and the gentleman for a time was considerably embarrassed by the awkwardness of his situation. He managed, however, to summon sufficient courage to make several inquiries which confirmed him in his belief that he was correct in his surmise, and it was not long until he had convinced the "queen of the air" that he was her "long lost uncle." Then followed a scene that was as surprising to the bystanders as it was enjoyable to the participants. The happy couple, accompanied by Harry Mohn, then proceeded to the home of Miss Colton's mother, Mrs. Helen Elick, who lives at No. 417 Johnson street. Here a scene of great rejoicing was indulged in, for it was the first time mother and daughter had met for several years. And now Harry Mohn comes on for his part in this domestic drama. While the couple had been together during the past summer, an attachment was formed between them which soon ripened into love, and last night a quiet wedding was the result, the contracting parties being Miss Birdie Talbot (Grace Colton) and Harry Mohn, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride's mother, by Rev. J. W. McIntosh, of Topeka, Kansas, a minister of the Independent Holiness Church, who is at present conducting a series of meetings here.

DAILY GATE CITY.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 24, 1874.

A Monster Exhibition Heading this Way.

The great New York and New Orleans Zoological and Equestrian Exposition will reach Keokuk, Wednesday, May 13th. This georgeous establishment is said to be one of the most elegantly appointed now traveling. It comes most favorably noticed by the press in other cities. By a review of the advertisements, we perceive it comes by Rail, using 60 freight cars to transport it from point to point. Has an innumerable number of cages, dens, wagons, etc., to contain its animals, curiosities, luggage, etc. It requires and uses a "city of tents" (so to

60 SHEE

Keokuk, Wednesday, May 13.

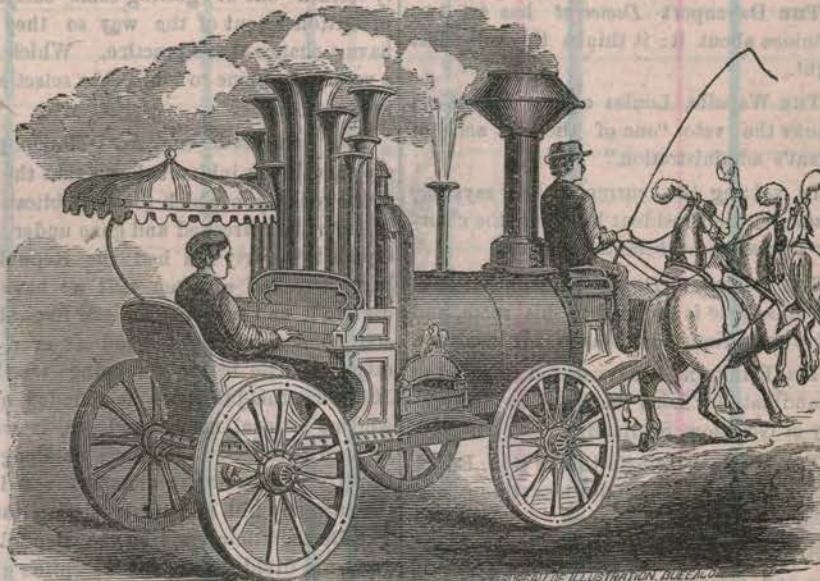
1874.

MADE BY BAR

DATE
19

SECOND ANNUAL TOUR —OF THE— MOST STUPENDOUS EXHIBITION OF MODERN TIMES.

FIRST VISIT TO THE STATE OF IOWA!



BUREAU DE ILLUSTRATION, BUREAU

Great New York and New Orleans ZOOLOGICAL AND EQUESTRIAN EXPOSITION!

Vastly Superior in point of Magnificence! Far exceeding in attraction all predecessors! In Magnitude, Originality, Merit, Strength, Splendor, and Universal Popularity and Success! WITHOUT AN EQUAL! WITHOUT A COMPEER! WITHOUT A RIVAL!

ONE MILLION DOLLARS!

Represented by a multitude of curiosities. A Legion of Animals, numbers of Unparalleled Novelties, Bands of Music, a City of Tents, a Herd of Dromedaries, Den of Serpents, Cages of Crocodiles, Nature's Freaks and Works of Art, Mechanical Musical Instruments, Monster Breathing Sea Lions and Terrestrial Terrors, an Army of Men and Doves of Horses.

IN ITS MENACERIE

Are Gnus, Hartebeests, Blaze Boks, Elands, Giant Ostrich, Malayan Tapir, Manatees, first ones ever exhibited, Kangaroos Four Large Performing Lions, Two Monster Royal Bengal Tigers, Leopards, Zebras, Porcupines, Ibex, Wart Hog, Fourteen Dromedaries, male and female Elephant, Elephants, Myl Gau, MONSTERS & SERPENTS, LIVING CROCODILES, etc., etc., etc. In all NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED LIVING SPECIMENS.



COMING!! COMING!!



Lake's

HIPPOOLYMPAID!

—AND—

Mammoth Circus.

Organized 27 Years Ago,

And added to every year until it has become
THE LARGEST AND BEST CIRCUS
ON EARTH,
Comprising 240 Men and Horses!

ALL BAREBACK RIDERS.

The only Traveling Exhibition in the World
that

Do What they Advertise!

This Champion Company of America

WILL EXHIBIT AT

Keokuk

FOR ONE DAY ONLY,

Thursday, June 11, 1868.

Admission 50 Cts.; Children 25.

Doors open at 1 and 7 o'clock p.m.
June 2 w2t d6t

The Daily Gate City.

KEOKUK, IOWA: (1868)

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 6.

Lake's Circus, which will exhibit at this place on Thursday next, is thus spoken of by the Hannibal Courier of the 4th: "Lake's famous circus company, now exhibiting in Hannibal, attracted very large crowds this forenoon, during its procession through the

1874 13. 1874 CRT NEW YORK & N. ORLEANS.
Lakes' Circus, May 13, 1868.

continued on page 609



Monster Living Alaska Sea Lions!

The largest ever captured, and the ONLY ONES LIVING OUTSIDE THE PACIFIC OCEAN. The largest one, "NEPTUNE," weighing 1,400 pounds. Exhibited in mammoth FORTY BARREL TANKS of Sea Water.

ITS CIRCUS

Has 100 Employees. CHAMPIONS OF EVERY LAND, MALE AND FEMALE.



THE PARADE IS WITHOUT A PARALLEL.

Headed by the Monster Music Car drawn by 14 Dromedaries, after which 20 ladies and gentlemen on priceless steeds, clad as huntsmen "ready for the chase," the Open Lions' Palace, the Monarchs of the Forest, in full view, the Red Knight and his Gua d of Honor in real armor, the Plate Glass Den of Mon'ser Serpents and their capturer, a Real Toy 1 African Snake Subduer; after which the FORTY DENS OF ZOOLOGICAL WONDERS; the whole terminating with the MONSTER MUSIC MARVEL OF THE AGE, THE PARISIAN STEAM CALIOPE, that emits the most ravishing music; can be heard for miles.

"Nothing like it ever seen before. Worth fifty miles travel to see it."—N. O. Picayune.

Daily at a quarter to 1 P. M., THE WALK FOR LIFE. The WONDERFUL ASCENSION FEAT. A young boy ascends a single wire TWO FUNDRED FEET IN MID-AIR!

FREE TO ALL!

This monster establishment travels entirely and exclusively by rail. Its immensity will admit of its exhibition only at the larger towns. Arrangements have been made with the Railroads to carry visitors to the "Great Show" at reduced rates.

Admission to all the tents, 50 Cent.; Children under 9, 25 Cents.

Two exhibitions daily, at 1 and 7 P. M. Circus commences one hour later. Mind the day and date. Make a note of it. No postponement. Remember the name. No delay. No change. Positively exhibits on the day advertised, Rain or Shine.

Wednesday, May 13th, at Keokuk.

FORT MADISON.....	Thursday, May 14.
BURLINGTON.....	Friday, " 15.
MT. PLEASANT.....	Saturday, " 16.
FAIRFIELD.....	Monday, " 18.
SIGOURNEY.....	Tuesday, " 19.
WASHINGTON.....	Wednesday, " 20.
MUSCATINE.....	Thursday, " 21.
ROCK ISLAND.....	Friday, " 22.
DAVENPORT.....	Saturday, " 23.

W. W. COLE, Manager.

d-apr-29, may 8, 10, 12 w-may-6

principal streets. The cavalcade was about a mile long, and included the most of the performers of the troupe in character, and its numerous attaches. The band chariot is the handsomest and most gorgeous in the country. The vehicle alone cost upwards of three thousand dollars. All the wagons in the cavalcade are new and the horses are in splendid order for animals traveling by land. Altogether, Lake makes a splendid turnout; but unlike many others it is not the best part of the show. The principal attraction is inside the tent—there's where persons 'get their money back.' A large and appreciative audience will be on hand to-night.

The Daily Gate City.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1872.

Burning of Barnum's Museum With Most of his Animals.

FIRES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A fire in Barnum's circus commenced about 4 o'clock a. m. In half an hour the entire building, though constructed of iron, was in ruins. The flames quickly spread to the buildings on either side. Grace Chapel, on the easterly side, was burned to the ground, and the Lawrence mansion, on the westerly side, seriously damaged. The fire ran through the block to 31st street, destroying the car and carriage factory of Miner & Stevens and that of T. Grates. The loss will amount to half a million dollars. Another account says the loss will reach a million dollars. The only animals saved from the menagerie are a camel and an elephant. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The following additional particulars of the burning of Barnum's Museum are given by Wies, a police officer:

At 4:16 a. m., while on his patrol, he noticed the fire burning through the roof of the circus immediately over where the giraffes were kept, and immediately after the animals and birds began schreeching and howling in a terrific manner. An alarm was sounded, but the flames spread with such rapidity that almost before the firemen could get water, Barnum's circus was a thing of the past.

The firemen report that the roars of the animals were frightful during the short time that they lasted. Two elephants and a camel were the only only animals saved. When these were led out by their keepers, they were given large space by the crowd witnessing the fire, although the animals were very docile considering the excitement on all sides. The front of the building was two stories and composed nearly altogether of corrugated iron and wood. The structure burned, however, as though a tinder. The firemen and others were unable to stand within 100 feet of the burning building. The heat was so intense that the windows of the Academy of Music were cracked and broken with the heat. The bill boards in front of the Academy were burned. On that side nothing could be done to save any of the animals. Grace Chapel was wholly consumed, only the front walls being left standing.

Tuck's box factory and Funck's piano factory on Nineteenth street, were burned last night. Loss \$40,000.

Batbers' elevator in Brooklyn, burned last evening. Loss \$20,000.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

MAY 15. 1885.

A HERD OF MAD ELEPHANTS.

How Jumbo Saved His Keeper—Halting a Stampeded Herd.

[Philadelphia Times.]

express it) for exhibition purposes, which at night are so brilliantly lit up with gas that everything is as discernable as in day. Among the animals enumerated are "monster living Alaska sea lions, the largest ever captured, exhibited in a mammoth tank, holding 40 barrels of sea water." This will be truly a novel sight, as they are the only ones now alive outside of the Pacific ocean. We notice the announcement of the "blaze bok, the African hartebeest, the gnu or wild horned horse, the wapiti, the giant ostrich, all of which are very rare and interesting animals. Also lions, tigers, elephants, camels, hyenas, kangaroos, crocodiles, sacred cattle, gorillas, manates, (first ever exhibited,) koodoos, condors, vultures, black varks, baboons," in fact a world of animals, birds, reptiles, etc.

Its circus bids fair to outrival any establishment we have ever had, both in point of numbers and scale of merit.

Many English artists, who have an excellent European reputation, and who make their first appearance in America.

Mlle Elise Keyes, the greatest female rider the world has ever produced; Mlle Rosina Cooke, with her stud of Menage and dancing horses; Mlle Adelaide Rosiland, the beautiful character equestrienne; Mr. Harry Welby Cooke, England's champion horseman, who appears for the first time in this country in his extraordinary and original act, entitled the "English Jockey's Pastimes, the greatest achievement in horsemanship the world has ever known; D. A. Seal, the great London court jester, the most versatile ring humorist living; George Adams, the pantomimic wonder and king of the stilts. These are among the English importations for 1874.

There are the native American artists, the most known of whom are Mlle Jessie, slack wire equilibriste; young Leon, the great bareback equestrian; Wm. Batcheller, champion leaper of the world; the Van Zandt brothers, the Bensley brothers, the Austin brothers, Holland, Murray, McIutre, Long, Davis, Hart, and Rice, the extraordinary gymnasts. Many other celebrities are mentioned that we have not space to designate here.

Henry Cooke's great English troupe of performing dogs and monkeys will make their first appearance in this country.

From indications, the parade will eclipse anything and everything ever attempted in that line in America up to the present time.

Fourteen Dromedaries (truly a novel team) will draw a music car at the head. Then appears the ladies and gents, on priceless steeds. Next the open lion den, their tamer seated among them, all of whom are exposed to view. Then the 40 dens of living animals, the largest Zoological collection in this country. Then Zingra and his plate glass den of serpents, the repiles seen coiling around and about him, and obey every word of command. Terminating with the Parisian steam caliope, a musical instrument, played by steam, drawn by ten powerful horses. At the tent, another gratuitous display is offered daily, at 1 p. m. a lady ascends a single wire 200 feet in mid-air from the ground to the top of the pavillion.

Two exhibitions are given daily, at 1 and 7 p. m.

Parties living on the line of the railroads have the benefits of reduced fare on that day. All in all a very pleasurable and memorable occasion will be the exhibition day, May 13th, 1874.

"The bold front of Jumbo, and his monstrous size, seemed to awe Chieftain, furious and revengeful as he was, and he came to a full stop a few feet from the entrance to the tent. Just at this moment Mr. Bailey, one of the proprietors of the show, who had owned Chieftain for several years and had been familiar with him, entered the tent and fearlessly approached the infuriated elephant. He had the narrowest escape of his life. Swinging his trunk around, Chieftain sought to crush him. Thanks to his agility, Mr. Bailey was enabled to evade the stroke, but, seeing that the beast was beyond his control, he crawled under the canvas. By this time nearly all the elephants had broken their tethers and stampeded down the main street of the village. Chieftain, as if thinking twice about joining issue with Jumbo, rushed through the canvas wall of the tent as if it were tissue paper and joined his companions.

"As the herd stampeded down the street they had to pass the hotel at which Arstingstall and Newman were breakfasting. The latter rushed out into the street bareheaded while the herd were within thirty feet of the front door, and holding up both hands, as was his habit when performing them in their military drill, he shouted: 'Halt!' The command was obeyed instantly and the herd drew themselves into line of battle as methodically as though they were in the ring performing before thousands of spectators. In a few minutes they marched quietly back to the circus grounds and submitted passively to being tethered to their posts."

WATER CRIMPED LEAF

CREDITS

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1880

BARNUM'S ILLNESS.

One Thing in Connection With the Great Showman About Which There is no Humbug.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—P. T. Barnum, the showman, has been seriously ill in this city for a week. He came to New York from Bridgeport, Conn., Tuesday last on business, intending only to remain a few hours. While down town he was seized with violent pains in the abdominal region, and it was with difficulty that he was conveyed to the house of S. H. Hurd, his son-in-law, 344 Lexington avenue. Two local physicians were called in, and Dr. Hubbard, family physician of Bridgeport, was summoned. Mr. Barnum was found to be suffering from obstruction of the intestines, and the accompanying agony was intense. His condition was announced to be most critical, and Mrs. Barnum was sent for. Mr. Barnum was placed under the influence of morphia, and kept so until yesterday. It was thought several times during the week that he would succumb, but to-day he is considered out of danger. His show is being wintered in Bridgeport, and his mind is so active about it that the doctors ordered that he should not be allowed to talk about it. Unless a relapse should occur, physicians say he will be about in a fortnight.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Keokuk | Sat. July 31
MAIN ST. OPPOSITE
BALL PARK

WALLACE BROS. CIRCUS

PRESENTS



TOM TYLER

(IN PERSON)



2 SHOWS DAILY
2 P.M. AND 8 P.M.
DOORS OPEN 1 & 7 P.M.

AMERICA'S GREATEST WESTERN SCREEN STAR WITH HIS CONGRESS OF HOLLYWOOD COWBOYS, COWGIRLS, AND INDIANS.

NOWHERE ELSE CAN SO MUCH BE SEEN FOR SO LITTLE.

HERDS OF PERFORMING ELEPHANTS AND CHAMPION ARENA STARS.

ALL
NEW
ALL
DIFFERENT



ADULTS
50¢
CHILDREN
25¢

Tickets on Sale from 9 to 1 Circus Day at
Wilkinson & Co., Drug Store

BOYS! All children not over 16 years of age admitted to matinee performance only for **25c**
GIRLS!

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

WALLACE CIRCUS HERE TOMORROW FOR TWO SHOWS

JULY 29, 1937

Many Acts Are Featured With This Show Which Comes to Keokuk With Many Daring Acts In Its Repertoire.

Tomorrow is circus day and all routes lead to the Main street show grounds opposite the ball park where the big Wallace Brothers circus featuring Tom Tyler, famous Western screen star in person, will erect its tented city of spangles.

With vast spreads of canvas, fluttering pennants, roaring lions and trumpeting elephants, the Wallace Brothers will transform what is today a barren field into a place of glamorous excitement, all the excitement of a cosmopolitan city springing into life under canvas.

Roaring direct from the silver screen to the hippodrome track of the circus big top, Tom Tyler will make his first personal appearance

at Keokuk. With his big congress of Hollywood cowboys, cowgirls and Indians, Tom will demonstrate the exert skill as marksman, roper and superb rider which won him such wide-spread fame in pictures.

Tom Tyler and his wild riders, however, form but one of the many stellar features with which the Wallace Brothers will invade Keokuk tomorrow. Heralded as America's foremost independent circus not connected with any combine, the Wallace Brothers this year have assembled the greatest array of circus features ever assembled under their famous banner.

Trained Elephant Act.

Pretty Helene Rogers and her daring performance with a three ring display of trained elephants never fails to draw a hearty applause from the most discriminating audience. At every performance she takes chances where the slightest miscalculation on the part of her huge pachyderms would mean instant death.

Along about half way through the program the ring master with a shrill blast of his whistle signals the end of the horse section. As the beautiful horses prance from the three rings and the hip-

podrome the tent grows quiet and fearless Viola Rooks is announced. A wave of suspense sweeps the stands as Viola makes her way to the center ring and is drawn to a point high off the ground just under the dome of the big top. Nor is this suspense lessened as Viola goes through her daring performance to end with the inimitable feat of balancing on her head on a swinging, spinning trapeze bar.

A few of the many other highlights of the program in store for the Keokuk circus goers tomorrow will include the following: The Rogintosh Troupe of European bareback riders; the Tanarakai Troupe of Japanese wizards; Col. Lewis and his dancing Arabian horses; the Volera Brothers in a swift moving, high-flying act; Col. George Dalbeanie, Australian equilibristic acrobat; the Vernes Family of noted circus gymnasts and acrobats; the Rogers Sisters and the McIntosh Twins in a unique tight-wire number; fearless Pearl Harris, high aerialist; the Eight Aces; Vern Corriell; Jack and Sillis, Viscount Thomas Shaw; Marion Quinot and scores of other new and novel circus sensations.

DAILY GATE CITY

WALLACE BROS. CIRCUS HERE FOR TWO SHOWS

Tented City is Erected on Main Street with Big Crowds Out for the First Performance This Afternoon.

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1937

The show grounds at Thirty Second and Main streets, across from Joyce Park were the scene of much activity this morning as the Wallace Brothers circus arrived and set up its tented city across the street from the park. The circus will present two shows, the one this afternoon and one at eight o'clock tonight.

Opening with the "Tournament of Stars" in which more than 400 men and women, elephants, horses and camels take part, the program contains one of the greatest array of arena stars ever gathered together under one circus banner.

Viscount Thomas Shaw, who performs on a tight-wire stretched under the dome of the big tent, high off the ground, offers one of the most thrilling performances of the entire program.

Hosts of funny clowns under the leadership of Ed Raymond, famous Continental pantomime artist, cavort in the three rings and on the Hippodrome track in a series of funny antics and capers.

Herds of performing elephants, trained by Captain Thomas Burns, will be seen in three big displays in a series of novel feats.

TWO HOUR PROGRAM.

Other stars of the thrill packed, two-hour-long program include the Corielle family of acrobats; the Rogers Sisters, known as the girls who dance upon the tight-

wire; the Rogintosh troupe of European bare-back riders; Col. Lewis' dancing Arabian horses; Capt. George Dalbeanie, Australian equilibristic acrobat; Miss Pearl Harris, daring young aerialist; the Barrow family, who perform on the swinging trapeze, high up near the top of the circus tent; Jack and Sills, famous gymnasts, the twenty-two acrobatic aces, juvenile tumblers; Weritt Corriell,

America's youngest head balancer who defies death in a slide from the top of the tent to the hippodrome track; "Red" Harris, famous pantomime tramp clown, and a host of others.

Hundreds of children were on hand to get a glimpse of Tom Tyler, noted screen star, when he arrived on the circus lot.

phantoms and several camels. One of the elephants and two camels were killed outright, while the other animals and trainer escaped. With the exception of this car none of the menageries were wrecked, the others demolished containing canvas or wagons, and there was comparatively little excitement among the wild animals.

SCENE WAS HORRIFYING.

Escaping steam and screams and cries of those pinned in were horrifying and aroused the townspeople, who first reached the scene.

A wrecking crew was on the scene in a very few minutes.

The Hotel Richileu was turned into a temporary hospital, and scores of volunteers with stretchers were in readiness to carry the injured there as fast as the rescuers could extricate them.

TERRIBLY MANGLED.

The dead, many of them so terribly mangled that identification seemed well nigh impossible, were carefully laid on the green sward a short distance from the scene.

By 6 o'clock a corps of twelve physicians were operating on the injured and dressing their wounds in the temporary hospital.

BRAKES NOT APPLIED.

The official statement issued by the Grand Trunk road says the air brakes were not applied by the engineer of the second section.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 1, 1886.

Circus Men.

There is something in circus life which seems to develop the brutal instincts of man. The following relative to the appearance of Barnum's show at Youngstown, Ohio, plainly indicates the brutality of the attaches of the concern:

Outside the tent a small boy was standing. Thinking he was looking for a place to "sneak under" one of the men threw a club at him and broke his ankle. Soon after a drunken man near the door made a disturbance. He was set upon by the gang, and beaten, and when last seen was running toward the river pursued by a number of them. The next morning his body was found in the river, a murderous gash on his temple. So much for the "moral" show. Measures have been taken to apprehend and bring back the circus followers who killed him.

It would certainly seem that the safest plan to adopt would be to keep at a respectable distance from a gang whom, it appears, are well up in the catalogue of crime.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

CIRCUS TRAIN MEETS A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT

Was Running in Two Sections and Second One Crashed Into the One Ahead.

TWENTY-TWO KILLED OUTRIGHT AND MANY INJURED

Most of the Dead Were Employes of Wallace Brothers' Show and Were in the Sleeping Caboose When the Fatal Crash Came Through Failure of Air Breaks.

Constitution-Democrat.

AUGUST 7, 1903.

Durand, Mich., August 7.—Wallace Brothers' circus was wrecked in the Grand Trunk yards here early today. twenty-two men, mostly employes of the circus, were killed. Twenty more were injured, seven fatally.

The show was traveling in two sections over the Grand Trunk from Lansing to Lapere. The accident it is said was caused by the failure of the second section of the train to stop on time and which ran into the first at full speed.

The engine of the second section and four cars of the first section were completely demolished and much valuable property destroyed.

Dead:—

JAMES McCARTHY, trainmaster; Grand Trunk road.

A. W. LARGE, special officer of the Grand Trunk, Battle Creek.

JOHN PURCELL, Peru, Ind.

LAFE LARSON, Cambridge, Ohio.

G. THOMAS, HARRY STECKLE, JOHN LEARY, Springfield, Ill.

ANDREW HOWLAND, New York. FRANK THORP, Dundee, Mich. ROBERT RICE.

GEORGE SMITH.

CHARLES SANDS, Peru, Ind.

JOE WILSON, Pittsburg.

W. J. McCOY, Columbus, Ohio.

SEVEN UNIDENTIFIED.

EDWARD YORK, Terre Haute, Ind.

THE INJURED.

Among the injured are:—

W. Cone, Dubuque, Iowa.

Joseph Patterson, Grand Rapids, Mich.

James Coffelmire, Ohio, Iowa. John Collins, Des Moines, Iowa. Joseph Monks, Vassar, Mich.

Fifteen of the injured were taken to Detroit on a special train for treatment.

The wreck according to the statement of the engineer of the second section was caused by the failure of the air brakes to work.

AIR BRAKE FAILED.

It was 3:45 o'clock when the first section pulled into the West End Grand Trunk yards here. Engineer Probst of Battle Creek, who was running the engine of the rear train, says he saw a light and applied the air. To his horror, it refused to work. He reversed the engine, but the momentum of the train behind was too great, and with a crash that aroused all of the town near the yards, the trains met. Three cars of the first section were telescoped and the engine and five cars of the moving train were demolished.

MEN WERE ASLEEP.

The rear car of the first section was the caboose, in which the trainmen were sleeping, and the next two were filled with sleeping circus employes. The greatest loss of life was in the caboose.

One of the wrecked cars of the second section was occupied by five ele-

Welsh & Sands Apr. 30, 1880

WELSH & SANDS' CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

America's Leading Exhibition!

WELSH & SANDS'

Great New Orleans and San Francisco

RAILROAD CIRCUS

And Royal English Menagerie !

THE
LEVIATHAN AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISE

OF THE AGE!



Electric-Lighted!

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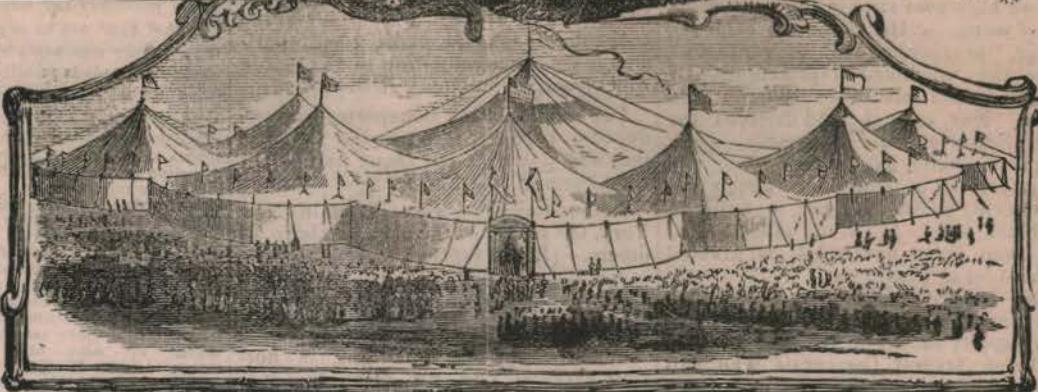
Outshining Anything Before Conceived!

With Truth, Purity, and Liberality for its
Aspiring Motto.

The Only Entirely New Show

Of the Season!

Everything Fresh, Bright, Gorgeous, Regal, Sensational and
Novel. New Animals, New Acts, New Everything,
Not One Old Face or Feature.



The Reverend Clergy heartily approve it, and are cordially invited to inspect its Continents of Living Wonders. The Press of the whole nation applauds it, the Best Class of People patronize it, and thousands upon thousands daily pronounce it the Cloud-Touching Acme of all Aesthetic Excellence.

IT IS MORE
PRODIGIOUSLY PROLIFIC IN NEW FEATURES
Than All Other Shows Combined.

It Has the Largest and Costliest Menagerie Ever Collected on Earth!

It Has the Grandest and Most Classic Circus Ever Seen !



It has more and rarer Wild Beasts, Birds and Reptiles, More Marvelous Living Phenomena, more Curious and Costly Novelties, and more Distinguished Equestrians and Athletes, than were ever before presented at any time or place. It has a Vast and Veritable Metropolis of Separate Stupendous Tents.

400,000 Yards of Electric-Lighted Canvass.

It Travels Exclusively by Rail upon its own Titanic Lightning Express Trains. See them as they thunder along—see its Grand and Lustrous Free Street Parade—see the Great Tanks containing the Sea Monsters—see its Tremendous Herd of Elephants—see its whole Caravan of Camels—see its Gorgeous Chariot Cars—see its Scores of Massive Steel-ribbed Dens—see its Fifty Shetland Ponies—see its One Hundred Star Performers—SEE ALL—SEE EVERYTHING, and you will say, as others have said, "*It is the Big Show, sure!*"

To All of which One Ticket for the Usual Price Admits !
(No extra charge under any circumstances.)

Two Grand Expositions and Performances Daily !

Menagerie and Museum Doors Open Precisely at 1 and 7 p. m. Performances in the Grand Circus Arena one hour later.

Will also Exhibit at CANTON, Mo., Friday, April 23: KAHOKA, April 24.
WEEKLY GATE CITY, THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1880.

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CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT
EVENING, APRIL 1, 1916.

RUTH LAW, QUEEN OF HIGH SKIES

FAMED AVIATOR SECURED FOR KEOKUK FALL CELEBRATION.

MARVELOUS FLIGHTS

ALL ATTRACTIONS TO BE FREE ON MAIN STREET.

Committee Reports That Celebration Is Assured Financially—Two Political Addresses.

The principal free attraction at the Keokuk fall celebration, scheduled for Oct. 3 to 7, inclusive, 1916, is Ruth Law, styled "queen of the air" and the most celebrated woman aviator there is now in the whole land. She makes aerial flights that paralyze respiration. She eats up such maneuvers as that which killed Beachy—that is, making a 5,000-foot vertical drop. This remarkable attraction was contracted for last night at a meeting of the general celebration committee, at which a representative of F. M. Barnes company, of Chicago, an amusement organization, was present.

Two Flights Daily.

In her flights Miss Law uses a ten-horsepower Curtis aeroplane with a speed of ninety miles an hour. She loops the loop, sails upside down like a bird, drops 5,000 feet vertically, and gives the triple back-flop and aerial cartwheels. Two exhibitions will be given daily in Keokuk, in the afternoon and at night. The evening performance will utilize fireworks as accessories, Miss Law writing her name in the sky in letters of fire. Her flights and maneuvers are said to be really marvelous. It is the best attraction of its character that is now procurable in the United States.

It is quite likely that several others of the Barnes company acts will be contracted for. Three other amusement agencies have been communicated with and there will be later announcements.

Political Addresses.

A feature of the celebration will be two political addresses, by the most noted Republican and Democratic orators that can be procured.

There will be no paid shows, with the exception of the single one arranged for and indorsed by the management of the celebration, and which will be presented in a large building similar to the Scoville tabernacle. All the attractions will be free, and no

concessions will be sold on Main street, though there may be some on the side streets.

Money Nearly Raised.

The sum required to insure the fall celebration has been nearly subscribed, about \$500 being lacking in guarantees. The members of the soliciting committees reported last night that there had been about two hundred subscribers and that it was hoped to secure another hundred within the next few days. It was also announced that the jobbers and wholesalers had responded with great liberality and promptitude, even though they will not derive the direct benefit from the presence of big crowds that the retailers will. The financial success of the fall celebration proposition is now assured.

lieve it was because I talked to him whenever I saw him. We were the greatest of friends, and he was so docile that I used to ride on his back. In 1852 I was engaged in mounting a specimen hippo for the Crystal Palace and went into Obach's den to make some measurements. Thinking no evil, I was busy with my tape, when it suddenly slipped, and the brute turned round on me with a furious snort, gnashing his jaws fiercely. I rushed for my life and escaped through the rails, the keeper, who was with me, doing the same. It was a very near thing, indeed, for both of us.

"At present we have only one hippopotamus here—the daughter of Obach—who was born in 1872. Well, one day a stray dog strolled casually into the gardens and stopped before the rails of the hippo's outside inclosure. The day was warm, the pool was tempting, so the dog wriggled through the rails and sprang into the water to his doom. The hippo rose to the surface and, roaring, took the dog into her great jaws, crunching him up to bits.

"The other case that I remember," continued Mr. Bartlett, "is that of a keeper who came home to the gardens very late one stifling August night. He was slightly tipsy and very hot, so he stripped off his clothes and plunged into the pool. Unfortunately, the hippo was also in the pool, dozing away in the dark solitudes. The keeper, of course, thought that he was locked up in his cage. He did not discover his mistake till his hands came in contact with the back of the huge amphibian. The hippo swam after the man, but was not quick enough. The keeper just escaped, and when he wanted a bath afterward he took it elsewhere. Had the brute got at him, only his mangled remains would have been found to tell the tale. When our baby hippo was born the mother was terribly savage. I was afraid she would kill herself and her baby as well. We were compelled to feed them through the ventilator, and never dared to go into the house. But that was an exceptional case, of course."

THE GATE CITY: 1880

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 28.

The Great Circus Day.

As far as our advices reach, everybody is on tip-toe, with eager and well-founded anticipations of a day and evening full of wonderful sights and worlds of fun, on Friday, April 30th, when Welsh & Sands' Great Railroad Show will make its mile or more of gorgeous processionals grand *entree* into Keokuk and open its countless electric-lighted treasures for the education, edification and delight of all. The proprietors of this famous undertaking seem to have exhausted every resource and reached the very verge of furthest limit in perfecting a field entertainment—a genuine family show—of unparalleled size, variety and interest, and if they are ever surpassed it will not be until new species of animals are created and miraculous powers accorded to aspirants for equestrian and gymnastic laurels. How they can profitably exhibit so much for comparatively so small a price—that charged by exhibitions that are but a decimal fraction in comparison with theirs—is a mystery we must leave them to solve, while we enjoy the ample fruits of their limitless enterprise and liberality. Their immense and deserved success is the highest proof that can be afforded of their pre-eminent superiority in the tented field.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

MONDAY, MAY 23, 1887.

TREACHEROUS HIPPOS.

Experience of a Director of the London Zoo With the Huge Amphibians.

A horrible accident occurred recently at the Paris Zoological Gardens. A hippopotamus went mad and attacked its keeper, who was cleaning its cage. Help came too late. The man was dead when they finally dragged him away from the furious animal. The *Pall Mall Gazette* sent one of its reporters to Mr. Bartlett, superintendent of the London Zoo, who said: "We have never had any accidents with our own hippos here, though we have had one or two narrow escapes. Obach, the first hippopotamus that came to the gardens, was presented by the Viceroy of Egypt in 1851. He died in 1878. For some reason or other the brute got attached to me. I be-

Constitution-Democrat.

JULY 4, 1894.
DEMOCRAT—Established 1883.

A Barnum Story.

"The showman Barnum was always equal to a situation," said a Saratoga woman the other day. "Years ago, when Tom Thumb was his only attraction, he came to Saratoga and attempted to give an entertainment. The village fathers, however, scared him away by the price of their license, and he went to Ballston, the next town, and advertised the performance. A special train was run from here, and a great many of us went down on it. When the curtain went up, Barnum came out and made a little speech. 'Ladies and gentlemen,' he began, 'it was my first intention to give this entertainment in Saratoga, but I soon discovered there were some men in that place so much smaller than my famous Tom Thumb that it would be useless to attempt competition with them.' The Saratogans laughed as hard as the Ballston folks, and the hit was retailed for many a day."—*New York Times*.

UNPARALLELED Rush for Life of P. T. Barnum. By himself.

Ida May. By Mary Langdon.
Ten Nights in a Bar Room. By T. S. Arthur.
A Book of surpassing interest. Ida Norman,
By Mrs. Lincoln Phelps, of Patapsco Institute,
Maryland. At GRAHAM & CAVE'S,
Jan. 1, 1855. 2d Street.

COLLAPSE OF A CIRCUS TENT.

Wind Wrecks the Sells-Forepaugh Circus at Sioux City—A Panic Ensues—One Man Killed and a Number Seriously Wounded.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

Entered JUNE 30, 1898. *letter.*

Sioux City, June 24.—A severe wind storm struck the city tonight, blowing down the main tents of the Sells-Forepaugh circus while the performance was in progress. The collapse of the canvas caused a panic, in which a score or more people were injured. One of them, Adolph Halverson, of Sioux City, died soon afterward of his injuries, while Frank Reynolds, an attache of the show, was fatally injured. The day was hot and sultry and the evening threatening, but crowds of country people had come to town and they, with the natives, made up a crowd that almost filled the tents for the night performance. At 9 o'clock a hot wind which had been blowing all the afternoon, freshened and within a few minutes a deluge or rain fell upon the hundreds of pleasure seekers. Pelting through the thin canvass shelter and drenching them. This had lasted but a few minutes when the great center pole began to sway and the guy-ropes creak from the pressure of the wind which had become a gale. Fright took possession of the crowd and a wild scramble for the exit began. Scores of employes attempted to calm the fears of the panic stricken people and to save them from danger they were momentarily making greater by their headlong break for the open air. Many were trampled under foot or bruised by falling timber as the structure collapsed. Employes and cooler persons among the crowd did heroic work in rescuing the women and children from the fallen tents. Fortunately most of the animals in the menagerie had been taken from the tents to the cars before the storm struck. The loss to the circus people is over \$10,000. The list of dead and injured is as follows:

Dead—Adolph Halverson.

Injured—Peter Branch, struck on the head by a pole, face badly skinned and body bruised by being trampled while unconscious; Peter Wilson, shoulder dislocated; Detective Henry Morrison, arm cut by barbed wire; Jack Ryan, serious cuts and bruises about the body; Patrol Driver Ford, leg cut; ex-City Clerk Wianand, arm and leg smashed; A. W. Erwin, contusion of the head, very serious; John Naffziger, three ribs broken and breast crushed; Chas. Zenung, struck on the head by a pole, injury not serious; Mrs. Geo. Lyons, bruised; Dr. Harvey W. Marvin, contusion of the head; Dr. W. W. White, back and

head bruised; F. Runnels, clown, shoulder cut and bruised; Mrs. E. P. Farr, severe cut on forehead; M. Gurney, forearm fractured and badly cut on head; Policeman Frank Harvey, body bruised; two daughters of Frank Sharp, thrown from hack and badly bruised; Henry Newmeier, internal injuries; Chas. Armstrong, leg bruised by being run over by a hack; City Clerk Selzer, head hurt; J. C. Carney of Anthony, Ia., several ribs broken; Miss May Beck, of Leeds; Ia., eye knocked out.

In addition to the above a number of others received minor cuts and bruises.

Sioux City, June 25.—Many new victims were discovered today. The dead number three and the injured thirty-three.

The dead are: Adolph Halverson, Judge A. G. Steiner and an unidentified infant.

The injured are: John Reddy, John Naffziger, Mrs. J. D. Fair, Dr. Harvey Harvim, Fred Reynolds, a circus clown, A. W. Erwin, Wm. Simpson, circus employe, Milbur Bailey, Mrs. Geo. Lyon, Peter Branch, W. W. Wianand, W. P. Keefe, J. H. Carney, Mrs. W. G. Steiner, Mary Beck Frank Harney, Maud Hanchan, Frank Ryan, Henry Mainson, Henry Nuemier, Peter Wilson, Dr. W. W. White, Chas. Tenney, W. E. Lockhart, Ralph Shull, Jack Ryan, Herbert Jenkins, Fritz Seizer, M. W. Gurney, Tom Ford, Miss Allie Wallum, W. J. Hawden, a circus hand, and Dr. F. A. Powell.

The Gate City.

APRIL 8, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

P.T. BARNUM IS DEAD.

The Earth's Greatest Showman Passes Peacefully to the Great Beyond.

After Twenty-One Weeks of Suffering, Death Comes to His Relief—Death of a New York Editor—An Oculist Dead.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., April 7.—The great showman, P. T. Barnum, died at 6:22 o'clock this evening in presence of a grief stricken family. During the period of Barnum's invalidism and confinement to the house, which began twenty-one weeks ago last Friday, there have been frequent fluctuations in his condition, from each of which he rallied, although in each instance with slightly lowered

vitality. The change for the worse, which occurred last night, however, was so pronounced that it convinced his physicians their patient had not many hours to live. During the confinement he had been downstairs only twice, although sitting up much of the time, and being cheerful and conversationally inclined in his walking moments. After the attack which came upon him shortly before midnight, Barnum suffered a good deal pain. He seemed to realize he could not live much longer, and spoke of his approaching end with calmness. During his illness physicians had been careful about administering morphine or sedatives, through fear they might produce ulterior ill effects. Last night Barnum spoke of this, and said when all hope had gone he wished to be given sedatives which would allay the pain and make death peaceful as possible. Mrs. Barnum remained at her husband's side until the final summons came.

Keokuk Constitution.

JUNE 20. 1884.

BARNUM'S LATEST GIFT.

Fifty Thousand Dollar Museum to a College—The White Elephant.

BOSTON, June 10.—At the commencement exercises at Tuft's college the unknown donor of a \$50,000 museum of natural history, received a year ago, was announced to be P. T. Barnum, the showman. The museum will hereafter be known as the Barnum museum. In a letter from Barnum he says: "I have always declared that I took more pleasure in paying my school taxes than any other, for education often tends to lessen vice and crime, as well as to secure to its recipients honor and success. I may be pardoned, Mr. President, if on this occasion I assert that my interest in the higher education of the day has been ever constant and profound. Had my earlier advantages been greater I might have achieved more; but, looking back on a long and eventful career, I confess in no boasting vein, that I have conscientiously labored to elevate and enoble public amusement, which play no small part among the educational agencies of the times. I am happy in the thought that this museum will be another factor in the work of the college, helping on in its high career of usefulness."

The trustees of the college contemplated bestowing on the veteran showman the degree of LL. D., but the proposition did not prevail. It is expected in some quarters that Mr. Barnum will some day add to the above museum the white elephant which he is now exhibiting through the country. The fact that it is undoubtedly genuine and an animal almost impossible to secure for export from its native country, will make it a very desirable acquisition to the valuable collection already donated.

Last of Famous Ringling Brothers Observes 50 Years in Circus Ring

Show Celebrates Golden Jubilee Under Big Top This Year



At left, the Al Ringling mansion at Baraboo, Wis., upper right, famous poster which the five Ringling brothers used until a few years ago.

By KARL KAE KNECHT
Secretary of Circus Fans' Association of America.

SARASOTA, Fla., April 29— "Barnum" and "Ringling"!

Magic words that stand for all that is circus. They're the best known of all circus names the world over.

And 1933 is to be a noteworthy one in the history of the sawdust ring. For it's "The Gold Jubilee Year" of the famous Ringling Brothers.

To commemorate their 50 years in the circus world, John Ringling, the last of the brothers, will celebrate it through the 1933 performance of his Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey Shows, Inc.

The Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey circus will open this, the Golden Jubilee season, in New York City, in Madison Square Garden. After several weeks there they will go to Bos-

ton for an engagement after which they will begin their annual season under tents, which will take them to virtually all sections of the United States and Canada.

Back to Birthplace.
Some time during the summer, perhaps in August, after an engagement in Chicago, during the World's Fair there, the big circus will go to Baraboo, Wis., the boyhood home of the Ringlings. There in addition to the regular performance, the Circus Fans' Association of America will hold its eighth annual national convention. Gov. A. G. Schmedeman of Wisconsin will assist, and a fitting two-day program concluding with "circus day" will be staged.

The Ringling Brothers organized their first circus in their boyhood home in Baraboo, in May 1884. The first title which they used and which blazoned forth from barns and fences during that year

was "Yankee Robinson's Great Shows, Ringling Brothers Carnival of Novelties and DeNars' Museum of Living Wonders." Yankee Robinson was an old-time circus man who was assisting the brothers. He died before the season was over.

In 1888 the Ringlings purchased their first elephant.

The title of the show underwent various changes, but it always contained the names "Ringling Brothers" and it has been used ever since. In 1889 the circus was known as "Ringling Brothers & Van Amburgh's United Shows." That was their last season as a wagon, or "mud" show, for the following year they took to the railroads. They grew by leaps and bounds, and soon became the chief rival of Barnum & Bailey, then the largest circus in the United States.

Buy Barnum and Bailey.

In 1906, at the death of James A. Bailey, the Barnum & Bailey circus was purchased by the Ringling Brothers, as Bailey had requested prior to his death. They continued to operate this circus separately as well as their own. In 1909 they combined these two circuses and, with 92 railroad cars, went forth as "Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows." They have continued as such ever since.

Until they combined with the Barnum show the Ringlings wintered their circus at Baraboo, but after the merger they made use of the Barnum quarters, at Bridgeport, Conn. A few years ago they began to winter at Sarasota, Fla.

John Ringling, the sixth of the seven brothers Ringling, now is the only living brother. Only five of the seven were known as "the brothers," Al, Alf. T., Otto, Charles and John. The brothers "A. G." and Henry, who joined in 1890, worked for the company. Henry became a member of the firm in 1912 when he inherited the share left to him by Otto.

Concert Tours.

For several years, prior to their advent into the circus world, the five brothers, with some assistants, toured the town halls in Wisconsin and adjoining states with a concert company. Al, the eldest, had been a juggler, and had had varied show experiences, and so he became the guiding spirit in forming Ringling Brothers. He was the one who arranged the performances. Otto was the financial genius. Charles handled the advertising. Alf. T. was press agent, and in those early days John, then 18, was a clown. Later he became the guiding expert who routed and contracted the intricate railroad moves. Gus and Henry, when they joined, were associated in advance work, and at the "front door," Alf. T. also led their first bands, and Charles the orchestras, for like the others, all were gifted musicians.

During the nineties the five brothers, as seen on poster pictures, each with standing collars and flowing or smartly curled mustaches, became known to every man, woman, boy and girl from one end of the country to the other.

A. G. "Gus" died in 1907, Otto in 1911. Henry in 1918, Alf. T. in 1919 and in 1926 Charles passed on, leaving John as the sole survivor.

"Mr. John" Less Active.

This Golden Jubilee finds "Mister" John fit and fine, ready to enjoy the plaudits of an appreciative world. And while he will continue to plan and guide the destinies of the great circus, bearing the illustrious brothers' name, he will begin to take it easier. While continuing as president of the corporation, he will turn most of the details over to Samuel W. Gumpertz, of New York, a life-long friend, who will be managing director. Carl Hathaway will continue as active manager.

Mrs. Al Ringling, now 82, who helped her husband and the younger brothers through their trying days as wagon showmen, will be one of the honored guests at the celebration in Baraboo this summer.

In 1929 John Ringling startled the entire show world when he bought the American Circus corporation shows which included the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, the Al G. Barnes Circus, the Sells-Floto Circus, the John Robinson Circus, the John Robinson Circus and the Sparks Circus, all of which were then on tour and which Mr. Ringling continued to send forth for several years. However, this year, 1933, will find only two other railroad circuses on tour, in addition to the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey—the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, greatly enlarged over previous years (opening in Chicago, April 15) and the Al G. Barnes Circus, opening in Alhambra, Calif., April 2.

their father's backyard. John also played the bass viol in these shows.

In the early '70s a wagon show visited Baraboo, bought harness from the Ringling boys' father, and departed without paying the bill. After them went four of the boys to collect. They joined the show instead.

The Classic Concert company was their first real venture in the show business. Successful in this, they formed the Ringling Brothers' Comedy Concert company and a short while afterward bought a full-fledged circus of their own—three old spring wagons, homemade tents, seats, stakes and rigging.

Transportation Genius.

John Ringling showed a genius for transportation details, and it was this faculty that enabled him to enlarge and build up the extensive show business that netted him a fortune.

In 1890 the Ringling venture was mounted on railroad cars labelled "The greatest show in the world," it became a rolling stock from coast to coast. They managed to make every little feature distinctive in some manner.

The merger of the Ringling brothers' circus and the Barnum and Bailey show made famous by the famed Phineas Barnum took place in 1907. The brothers paid \$410,000 for their rival business and soon brought the shows to Madison Square Garden.

His attentions turned to art, and he stocked his Sarasota home with masterpieces, including paintings by Rembrandt, Murillo, Velasquez, and Raphael. From this move grew the art museum he founded there, as well as an art school.

In 1929, he effected the purchase of the Sells-Floto, Robinson, Hagenbeck-Wallace, Sparks and Al G. Barnes' shows. The venture involved several millions of dollars.

His last years saw him involved in numerous lawsuits including an action by the federal government to collect \$3,000,000 in income taxes it alleged were past due. This suit is still pending.

Was Band Leader With Ringling.

FORT DODGE, Iowa, Dec. 2—(P)—Karl King, Fort Dodge band director and nationally known composer of band music, worked with John Ringling as bandmaster for three years while Ringling was managing the Barnum and Bailey circus after its merger with Ringling brothers' circus.

"He was known to all the employees as 'Mr. John' and all the time I worked for him I never had a contract yet he always paid me more than we had agreed upon," Mr. King said today. "We always loved and respected him and had wonderful treatment at his hands," he said.

It was at the request of Mr. Ringling that Karl King composed the march "Sarasota" which Mr. Ringling wanted as a dedicatory number for the Florida town which he was sponsoring and it was while he was associated with Mr. Ringling as bandmaster for the Barnum and Bailey circus that he composed the famous circus march of that name.

Mrs. King also has happy recollections of an acquaintance with Mr. Ringling for she played the air calliope with the circus for two years during his management.

DAILY GATE CITY

JOHN RINGLING, KING OF THE "BIG TOP", DIES

Succumbs to Brief Illness of Bronchial Pneumonia at Age of 70—His "Greatest Show on Earth" Known from Coast to Coast.

DEC. 2, 1936

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—(P)—John Ringling, whose name was synonymous with the "big top," sawdust ring and circus spangles from coast to coast, died today.

The circus magnate succumbed at the age of 70 to a brief illness of bronchial pneumonia, the last of seven brothers whose back yard playtime show in Baraboo, Wis., grew to become perhaps the nation's largest entertainment combine.

At Ringling's bedside at his Park avenue home when death came were Mrs. Ida Ringling North, his sister; John Ringling North, a nephew; Dr. Maurice Costello, his physician; Frank Hennessy, a life-long friend, and his servants.

Had Other Interests.

Funeral arrangements were being made today.

Ringling's interests during his last years were not devoted entirely to the show business, for he owned extensive real estate in Florida, railroad stock, and was a collector of art masterpieces. Sarasota, Fla., became the center of his interests.

Ringling's first wife died in 1929, and in December, 1930, he was married to Mrs. Emily Haag Buck, from whom he was divorced.

The son of a German-born harnessmaker whose name originally was August Rungeling, John Ringling was born at McGregor, Iowa, but his family moved to Wisconsin when he was a small boy.

At the age of five he collected pins for admission to the performances he and his brothers gave in

the news of John Ringling's death. Miss Willson was given a job riding an elephant for the famous brothers in New York in 1921. She applied for a job after watching the circus perform in Madison Square Garden, across the street from her hotel, for five weeks.

Recall Circus Incidents.
MASON CITY, Iowa, Dec. 2—(P)
Many incidents of Ringling Brothers circus as portrayed by Dixie Willson, Mason City author, in her book, "Under the Big Top—and 'Where the World Folds Up at Night'" were recalled here today on

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

The Gate City.

= MARCH 29, 1891. =

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

THE CARDIFF GIANT.

History of the Hoax by the Man Who Made It.

A Public Swindle That Brought to Its Perpetrator Considerable Money—How It Received Its Name.

By the announcement of the recent death of George Hull, styled in the press dispatches "the originator of the Cardiff giant hoax," it was recalled to the memory of a reporter that he had once heard him tell in detail the whole story of that celebrated and marvelous fraud. The reporter, says the Chicago Tribune, was at the time at Binghamton, N. Y., reporting the trial of Edward Ruloff, who was finally hanged in that city for murder. At that time the exposure of the Cardiff giant was a matter of the recent past, and the story that Hull told one January night to a party gathered around the huge open hearth fire in the sitting-room of the hotel had not only the merit of being news, but was likewise entitled to the credit of being highly interesting.

As he gave the story he had the idea of the Cardiff giant in his mind as a good speculation long before he took any practical steps in the matter. Finally he decided to undertake the job of making a petrified giant that would amaze the multitude, puzzle the learned, and fill his own pockets with dollars. Hull had no knowledge of the art of sculpture and was totally ignorant of the science of anatomy. First of all he set himself resolutely to work to remedy these defects. He had considerable natural aptitude with the chisel, and he soon acquired sufficient skill to hew out a figure that was to be put before the public as a relic of an age so prehistoric that nobody would be likely to closely criticise its proportions. But Hull said he knew that no matter how ancient was the era in which his giant lived he had to have pores in his skin to pass the scrutiny of even the unlearned, and it was the making of these pores, he claimed, which required more time and labor than all the other work he did in the manufacture of the giant. His work occupied many weeks, and was all done in an outhouse attached to his home near Binghamton. When it was at last finished he next made preparations for its burial, in order that when brought to public view it might show the proper evidence of antiquity. To effect that he buried it in the side of a hill on his farm and only a few yards from the "studio" where it had been chiseled out of a huge block of stone that had been dug out of that same hill. In all this work, huge and heavy as the uncut stone and the giant hewn out of it were, he had only the assistance of one man, a sled and a yoke of oxen in moving them; the man who helped him move the stone was a newly-arrived German immigrant whom he had employed as a farmhand, and

had no curiosity about the matter, and the one who helped him bury the "statue" was another man of the same kind.

Hull allowed the statue to remain in the ground two years, he said, before he considered it to be in proper condition to be "accidentally" discovered by himself, dug out, and the huge petrifaction brought into public view to amaze and perplex people in general, but to delight the antiquarians who found in it an argument to uphold some of their most cherished theories.

The work of Hull got its name from the fact that near the spot where it was buried and was afterwards resurrected was a small hamlet called Cardiff. Therefore it was as the "Cardiff giant" that the roughly-hewn image began and ended its public career, which was not of long continuance; it was, however, for a period sufficiently lengthy to enable Hull to make considerable money out of the thing. According to his own story as he told it that night he might have made more with much less trouble if he had accepted an offer Barnum made him for the giant soon after its appearance in public. Of course exposure in the end was sure to come and did come, but that would have made no difference to Barnum; as an item in the "great show" it would always have had value, but with Hull the case was different; the truth becoming known the giant was forced into retirement. But he declared to his auditors that night in the Binghamton hotel that the Cardiff giant, which he averred was then lying in the shed where it was made, had brought him more money than he had ever dared hope it would and that he was entirely content with the result of the venture so far as its pecuniary returns were concerned.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 6.

THE BIGGEST MAN IN THE WORLD

Chang the Giant—Nine Feet High and Developed Accordingly—A Chat with Him.

N. Y. Sun, Dec. 2.

Chang has arrived. For years vague rumors have been circulated to the effect that Europe had a giant that the Tritons themselves might envy. If an American, Australian, or Canadian giant was produced, some scoffing foreigner was always ready with "Call him a giant? You just ought to see Chang. Chang can swing his arm over this fellow's head and not touch him."

Yesterday when the City of Berlin reached her wharf the cabmen fell back in dismay at the apparition which loomed up and picked his way carefully down the gang plank. This was Chang. He walked up to a coach with majestic tread and, resting his hand lightly on the seat which was above an ordinary man's head, looked down upon the driver and, smiling, said in perfect English:

"Can you drive my secretary and myself to the Spanish Hotel at 23 Great Jones street?"

"Can—can you get in the carriage?" stammered the hackman.

"Oh, yes, easily," and the giant crouched down until his knees nearly reached the ground, half slid, half crammed himself into the vehicle.

A Sun reporter called at the Spanish Hotel in the afternoon and saw, sitting on an improvised seat of two chairs with a heavy board laid across a presence which seemed to fill the whole room. Chang is unquestionably the largest man in the world. He is gigantic. As he sat there smiling and nodding, his thoroughly Chinese face looked fully as broad as an ordinary man's shoulders and as long, if not longer, than a flour barrel. His cheek bones bulge out and are as large as a full-sized orange. He is 33 years old, is the son of a wealthy silk and tea merchant in Pekin, where he was born, is well educated, speaks, reads and writes English German, French, Italian and Spanish, and is thoroughly courteous and gentlemanly. With Chang is his "secretary," a bustling, busy, earnest little Frenchman named Neand, who looks upon his giant with admiration and delight.

"What kind of a trip did you make?" asked the reporter.

"Extremely rough. The majority of the passengers were quite ill—"

"Oh, but Monsieur Chang was not one little bit sick. Oh! no, no, no," interrupted the little secretary. "We had to have two staterooms made into one, and a berth eleven feet long built expressly for him. He wasn't seasick a bit. He sang a Chinese song for the passengers in a concert on the steamer last Monday with immense success. Oh, he's a great fellow!"

"What is your exact height, Chang?"

"I have never been measured, monsieur. With our people it is a superstition which takes the form of a religious creed, that no man must be measured until dead. I would rather die than allow myself to be measured. In fact, if I were measured I would die at once, I fear. I am, however, somewhere in the neighborhood of nine feet. I will stand up and you can stand beside me and judge for yourself."

Chang rose, and, rising, it seemed as though he would never stop. The Sun reporter stands 6 feet 3 inches in height. He, at Chang's suggestion, put on a high silk hat and walked under the giant's outstretched arm, near the shoulder, without coming within two inches of his sleeve. Then fixing the height of his head about half way between the giant's waist and neck, the reporter checked off three feet at a guess and found that the crown of the Chinaman's head was surely nine feet from the floor. His hands and feet are comparatively small and very well formed. He has exhibited before all the crowned heads of Europe and Australia, and has been the pet of several sovereigns. He wears a solitaire diamond ring, given him by the Emperor of Russia, which is valued at \$1,400. Attached to his chain is a gold medal given him by the Berlin Exhibition, which asserts that he is the largest man of recent times. He also has half a dozen immense diamond rings given him by Rajahs in India, Mayors in Australia and potentates from all quarters of the globe. While talking to the reporter he suddenly dived into his vest pocket, which was large enough to hold an ordinary man's head, and brought forth a ring with the official seal and monogram of Francis Joseph, inscribed to "Chang." He also has a watch given him by Queen Victoria, which weighs two pounds and a

half, and has a chain nine feet long, which barely reaches around his neck and down to his vest pocket.

Chang was brought over by Barnum, Bailey and Hutchinson, the new firm, who give him \$500 a week for one year.

Constitution-Democrat.

CONS. APRIL 15, 1891.

PHINEAS T. BARNUM

The "Prince of Showmen" Breathes His Last.

He Expires at His Connecticut Home After a Long and Severe Illness —His Remarkable Career.

BARNUM IS DEAD.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., April 9.—The showman, P. T. Barnum, passed away at 6:22 o'clock

Tuesday evening in the presence of his wife and family. During the period of Mr. Barnum's illness, which began twenty-one weeks ago last Friday, there have been frequent fluctuations in his condition, from each of which he rallied, although in each instance with a slightly lowered vitality.

The funeral will take place Friday afternoon in the North Congressional church. The services will be conducted by Rev. L. B. Fisher and Rev. Charles Ray Palmer. An effort will be made to have the funeral public, but it is thought Mr. Barnum's wishes for a private burial will be strictly carried out. The body will be placed in a hermetically sealed metallic casket and buried in Mountain Grove cemetery, where several years ago he erected a massive granite monument of simple design.

[Phineas Taylor Barnum was the son of a Connecticut farmer and was born July 5, 1810. As a boy he displayed great business shrewdness. After clerking in a country store for awhile he secured a clerkship in a Brooklyn store, and then returned home to run a store of his own at the age of 18. Three years later he assumed the editorship of the *Journal of Freedom* and subsequently served two or three terms of imprisonment for alleged libel. Barnum dickered in various other enterprises before he went into the show business, which really began when he managed the exhibition of a colored woman 112 years of age. The Jenny Lind engagement, however, was his first great strike, and it netted him \$250,000. From this time on his genius for the show business continued to add to his fortune and fame. It was he who brought out Tom Thumb, who wore the honor of being the first "freak." He first showed Toung, the sacred white elephant of Burmah, and Jumbo, the largest elephant ever seen in this country.

The "Prince of Showmen" cannot be said to have always been lucky. He was particularly unfortunate in regard to fire. In 1862 his museum (the original) at the corner of Broadway and Ann streets, New York, burned. It was one of the greatest fires in the history of the metropolis. Hundreds of wild animals were released, creating the wild-

est consternation among the many thousands of spectators who had gathered. In 1883 his place on Broadway, near Prince street, was burned, and not only many animals, but several persons, lost their lives. He then moved onto Fourteenth street, between Third and Fourth avenues, and that place burned in 1872, causing a large loss of human life. June 5, 1883, his big tent burned in Chicago, it having been pitched on the lake front. Including the loss of his residence "Iranistan" at Bridgeport, Barnum is estimated to have lost \$5,000,000 by fires.

Barnum's great success was undoubtedly due, as he himself said, to liberal advertising, for which he had spent hundreds of thousands of dollars. His estate is worth \$10,000,000 or \$12,000,000. In his will, executed in 1883, he made very large bequests to charity.

Many years ago he and his then associate, Gen. Noble, donated to the city of Bridgeport Washington park, a beautiful grove surrounded by churches and fine residences, which the city would not sell now for hundreds of thousands of dollars. Then he, individually, gave the city \$70,000 worth more of land for park purposes on condition that it would maintain it forever as a park and always have a free bathing ground on its front. In the city cemetery he gave several thousand dollars' worth of lots for a burial plot for the Grand Army of the Republic; as much more for the fire department of Bridgeport; 3,000 single graves for poor people on condition that they should be scattered all over the cemetery, not located in any one place together, where the spot might come to be known by the opprobrious name of Potter's Field, and the further condition that the very poor shall be buried for nothing, and in no case shall more than \$2 be charged, instead of the ordinary rate of \$7. In addition to all that he gave about \$50,000 worth of land for the cemetery. In his native town of Bethel, a few miles from Bridgeport, he erected a fountain that cost him \$10,000 in Berlin, and with the fitting up and ground about it represented \$20,000 at least.

In 1883 Mr. Barnum made his will. In order that there might be no question as to his sanity upon which to ground contests after his death he had eminent physicians examine him and secured their attestation that he was of sound mind. The will and its codicils cover more than 700 pages of legal cap, closely written, and dispose of real estate and personal property of the value of \$10,000,000 to twenty-seven heirs. The property is in New York, Brooklyn, Bridgeport, Colorado and several other places. His bequests for charitable purposes are numerous and large. Among the beneficiaries are the Chapin home, Children's Aid society, Old Men's and Women's home and the Society to Assist Males and Females Over 18 Years of Age of this city, the Bridgeport orphan asylum, Bridgeport hospital and other Bridgeport societies. Mr. Barnum also made provision for certain worthy charities by bequeathing to them a stated percentage of the large annual profits accruing from his share in his shows. To the city of Bridgeport he secures the only water front not already seized by private corporations, with a dock upon it costing \$30,000, for twenty-one years after his death, during which time his executors are forbidden to sell or lease it.

The great showman was a man of broad information and was very popular. He was twice sent to Congress, was twice mayor of Bridgeport, and represented his county in the legislature four terms. Barnum was a teetotaler and at one time declined a nomination by the prohibitionists for president of the United States.]

The Daily Constitution. KEOKUK CONSTITUTION CO.

= NOVEMBER 21, 1887. =

BARNUM'S HEADQUARTERS BURNED.

WILD BEASTS LOOSE ON THE STREETS.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 21.—One of the watchmen of Barnum's circus, while making his rounds at 4 o'clock last night, discovered flames in one corner of the building where horses are kept. He rushed around the building to alarm the other employes, when he was knocked senseless by some one with a club. He lay on the ground unconscious for twenty

minutes, and when he revived half the building was in flames. He awakened the sleepers in the building and some one rushed to the alarm box half a mile away and pulled it, neglecting to sound the alarm from the box located at the entrance of the grounds. This caused a delay of an hour in the arrival of the fire department. When it did come it could do nothing beyond saving the adjacent buildings from being destroyed. Eight men who were sleeping in the building barely escaped with their lives, and one who was sick was dragged off his bed and out into the air. Most of the elephants, which had been let loose, had been corralled. The rhinoceros was taken out of the building, but was burned and cut both by getting out of his cage and by the crowds who seemed possessed to kill all the animals which came out of the building. Only the cat animals were burned, the monkeys and others being in the other buildings. Many of the idols which were exhibited with the show were burned. The cries of the burning animals were heartrending. At 12 o'clock the building was a heap of ruins. Three elephants—Sampson, Jim and Burt—perished in the flames. Hundreds of animals, including elephants, lions, tigers, leopards, camels, and horses were liberated or else broke loose, and for hours a tremendous uproar ensued. Several persons were picked up in the streets by the infuriated elephants and tossed all around. A detail of police pursued a roaring lion and put six or seven bullets into his hide, but with no perceptible result. He was killed later.

Among the animals destroyed were four elephants, among them the sacred white elephant, five lions, seven leopards, six panthers, four kangaroos, six horses and a large number of smaller beasts. One of the larger elephants escaped and this morning was found drowned in the Sound near the light-house, where he had gone in his fright. Daily said this morning that \$100,000 would probably cover the loss; fully insured. The lost animals and all the paraphernalia destroyed would be replaced as soon as possible, and the fire would not interfere with next season's show. The building was 600x200 feet and two stories in height.

Barnum and Guiteau.

We have received the following card from P. T. Barnum, the great showman:

BRIDGEPORT, Jan. 26th, 1882.
To the Editor of the GATE CITY:

I understand that a report to the effect that I have offered a large sum for Guiteau's body in the event of his being hung has gained currency throughout the country by reason of its having been accepted as true and published extensively in newspapers east, west, north and south. As Guiteau's person is one of the things that I see no possibility of making any use of, dead or alive, I will state there is no truth whatever in the report. Guiteau has succeeded in making a far greater show of himself than I or my partners could ever hope to make, even were it not for the fact that his presence under our canvas would have a contaminating influence upon our more legitimate curiosities. P. T. BARNUM.

THE GREAT JUST WAR CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30.
1878

BARNUM AND SANKEY.

The Showman's Views of Future Punishment.

Hartford Evening Post.

At the meeting in the South Baptist church on Thursday night Mr. Moody approached Mr. P. T. Barnum, with the usual question: "Are you a Christian?"

"I think a man is very unwise who don't believe in Christ and the principles of Christianity," replied Mr. Barnum.

Moody—You believe that is the only true road to salvation?

Barnum—Yes, I believe no man can be saved from sin except by turning away from it and practising the precepts of Christ, and nobody can cheat the Almighty. The fulfillment of His laws brings peace, while the infringement of them brings trouble and sorrow.

"That is what I believe," said Mr. Moody, and he passed on.

Soon afterward Mr. Sankey asked a young lady sitting next to Mr. Barnum whether she thought her works would save her. She replied she thought good works would count some toward her salvation.

Sankey—There is where you are mistaken. If your works were piled as high as this church they would be of no service to you. Here is my Bible! Just show me, if you can, where works are ever counted as of any avail.

'Every man shall be rewarded according to his works,' said Mr. Barnum.

Sankey—He that believeth not is condemned already.

Barnum—And this is the condemnation, that light hath entered into the world and men choose darkness rather than light.

Sankey—Do you believe all sinners will be saved?

Barnum—Dare you pray that any shall be saved?

Sankey—I pray that all may *repent* and be saved.

Barnum—Do the angels rejoice over the salvation of that very *last* lost sheep that you sing so sweetly about in "Ninety and Nine?"

Sankey—Of course they do.

Barnum—Well, then, if you and the angels and all good people, pray for the ultimate repentance and salvation from sin of all sinners, will not their prayers be answered? "Do you not pray in faith" without "doubting" as you are commanded?

Here another gentleman asked Mr. Barnum if he did not believe anybody would go to hell.

Barnum—Not to a hell of *endless* torments, sir—for no such hell ever existed. St. Paul in all his epistles and preaching never used the word "hell" in his life, so far as the New Testament testifies, and yet St. Paul said he had "not failed to declare the whole counsel of God;" and that "he had *kept back* nothing that was profitable" to men. There will be no *childless mothers* in the paradise of God. Death and hell are to be finally destroyed; every knee must bend, and every tongue confess. Christ will put all things under his feet, and He has promised to draw all men unto Him. He will render up all to God, and God will be all in all. The way of the transgressor is hard; and those who persist in

"riotous living" will be brought to the husks and the swine, but the Good Father, whose mercy endureth forever and extends over His works, will wait with open arms until that last wandering, bruised and battered sheep, slowly, tremblingly wends its way back to the fold—and then the poor mother who had so long wept and prayed for the return of her wayward son will join all other reunited families and the choir of holy angels in singing anthems of praise and thanksgiving to God, the Savior of the world (not a part of the world) for at last overcoming evil with good and establishing everlasting righteousness.

At this point the gentlemen who accompanied Mr. Barnum reminded him that it was time to go.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13. 1878

NAVIGATION IN THE AIR.

A Flying Machine in Which the Hon. P. T. Barnum is Interested.

From the Bridgeport Standard.

Mr. C. F. Ritchel, of Corry, has been perfecting a flying machine upon a new plan in the Riverside Hotel, East Bridgeport; the machine stands in the hall nearly completed. It consists of a black silk cylinder twenty-four feet long and twelve feet in diameter, holding 3,000 feet of gas, and a car suspended from the silk cylinder by cords and rods. This car is of slender brass rods, and extends the whole length of the cylinder, tapering to a point at each end. In the centre is a platform upon which the occupant sits. In front of the seat are two cranks attached to a wheel, which in turn is connected with an upright shaft, at the lower end of which is a fan similar to the screw of a propeller. This fan is about level with the bottom of the platform, and is made of thin brass plates. At the front end of the long car is another brass fan, which is so constructed that it can be turned in any direction by the feet of the occupant of the car, while the centre fan is at the same time worked by his hands.

A man of ordinary strength can revolve the handle at the rate of 100 a minute, which gives the fan 3,500 revolutions. The silk cylinder, filled with hydrogen gas, which is the lightest that can be used, is to sustain all but a fraction of the weight to be carried, and the central fan is expected to lift the rest by a pressure upon the air similar to that which a propeller wheel has upon the water. The air being much less dense, the fan or aerial screw is given a rapidity of motion sufficient to partially overcome this difference. By reversing the motion of the fan the power is so exerted as to raise or lower the machine at will. The fan at the end of the framework is also revolved with great rapidity by foot power, and can be turned straight ahead or on either side, working on a plan similar to that of the Fowler steering propeller. By the use of this fan the machine can be steered like a ship, and the inventor expects that aerial navigation will be accomplished in the same manner that the ocean is traversed by ships, the gas-filled cylinder serving the purpose of a sail, and the fans guiding the machine through the air.

Mr. P. T. Barnum, who is interested in the invention, was present at yesterday's test. There was a flaw in the steering apparatus,

by which the fan was caught and broken; nevertheless the machine raised as high as the ceiling, and was lowered at the will of the operator. We are informed that the machine was tested a day or two ago in the presence of an expert from New York, and that it worked perfectly, sailing about the room and all the time under the perfect control of the operator. Mr. Ritchel has been working upon the invention since 1871, and is confident he has found the much sought for principle to be safely applied in aerial navigation. He has applied for a patent in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and France. He expects that a larger machine, capable of carrying several men, would work even more successfully than the small one now being tested, as more power could be employed, and he even has hopes of a still larger one, which the motive power will be furnished by a small engine. He informed us that the model of his invention had been shown to the editor of the Scientific American, who said that he believed it might be made so successful that a trip could be taken to the North Pole in it. Mr. Ritchel is a very intelligent looking gentleman, apparently about 35 years of age. He claims that all other inventors have failed with their flying machines because they have trusted entirely to the lifting capacity of the balloon appendage, rising by throwing out ballast, and falling by letting out gas. Another defect has been the placing of the steering apparatus in the centre, where only a comparatively small amount of power could be exercised.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25.

GOSHEN, THE GIANT, ROBBED.

His Priceless Decorations and His Silverware Gone.

New York Sun.

Col. Ruth Goshen, the giant in Barnum's show, is the owner of a farm of 178 acres in Middlebush, Somerset County, N. J. It has everything to make a giant happy, especially a large frame house, which was built by contract after plans prepared expressly by the Colonel, who had often caught cold—so the facetious neighbors said—sleeping with his feet out of the windows of the neighboring farm houses, and was therefore desirous of having rooms large enough to accommodate the whole of his person. On the mantelpiece of his front parlor and in the kitchen pantry adjoining his dining room were, until Sunday morning last, the following: One silver tea set (gold mounted), made by Tiffany, value \$200; one silver tea set (plain), by Starr & Marcus, value \$150; sugar bowl and tongs, solid silver, by Ball & Black, \$120; gold hunting watch, watchchain, and seals, by Bennett, of London, \$150; gold and silverware, by various makers in London, Paris and Vienna, \$75; dress coat, eighty yards broadcloth (off same piece Prince of Wales was married in) by Poole of London \$200; one cross of the Legion of Honor, presented by Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria for valiant conduct "on the field of Solferino," value priceless; one decoration [blue and gold], for valiant conduct at Alma in the Crimea, value priceless; one decoration [crimson], for valiant conduct at Balaklava; gold cross, studded with jewels, presented by Marshal St. Arnaud for chivalric courage at the storming of the Redan, June 18, 1855;

walking stick, presented by the Ahkoond of Swat prior to his demise, \$30; cash, trade dollars, \$28.

"There was more than \$1,000 in gold and silverware and jewelry," the Colonel said, sorrowfully stroking the giraffe's head in the southeast corner of Gilmore's Garden last evening. "But what I most valued," he added, heaving a sigh, "was them crosses and decorations. Money couldn't have bought 'em. Take that cross presented by the Emperor Franz Joseph on the field of Solferino, for instance. Vanderbilt's millions couldn't have got it."

The Colonel went on to explain from his lofty eminence how one John Boss and another ruffian, name unknown, had entered his lofty-roofed home early Sunday morning, and taken the gold and silver valuables mentioned. They broke open the front door, entered the parlor and bedrooms, and searched the closets. Besides the gold and silver and bric-a-brac, they took a rich set of furs, recently presented to the Colonel in return for valuable services, by the Czar. It may be said here that the Colonel, although, as he says, a native of "old Jerusalem," and, therefore, of Syrian extraction, speaks with more of the New Jersey accent than is usual in inhabitants of Palestine. He attributes this to his long residence in Somerset county.

"If I'd a been there," he continued, raising an arm that resembled the walking beam of a Rockaway steamboat, and brandishing it in a manner that caused the nearest elephant to step aside in dismay, "if I'd a been there I'd have killed some of 'em, sure."

"How did you find it out?" the tallest member of the Sun staff asked, standing on tiptoe.

"John Bogart," the giant answered in a voice of thunder, "come along in front of my place at a quarter to 3 o'clock in the morning. John Bogart is my nearest neighbor. He see the door and window open, and hollered 'Thieves!' Just then he see 'em stealing off and chased 'em two miles and a quarter along the road to Brunswick, John Bogart did. They run as fast as they could, dropping the crosses and decorations and things by the side of the road, but hanging on to the bundle containing the gold and silver and furs."

"Was there a fight?"

"Well, no. John Bogart had a pistol along with him, but he didn't have to use it, he didn't. Boss showed fight at first, but the other thief give in and dropped the bundle. John Bogart made 'em walk in front of him all the way to Somerset county jail. He's a bad man to handle, is John Bogart."

The giant added that he had 300 tons of hay and provender on his place; also a blooded colt, that only wanted a little feeding to make him sell for \$1,500.

The crosses and jewels are scattered along the highroad between Middlebush and New Brunswick. The Colonel says that they will "pan out" better than an Arizona mine after the first "salting."

His Fatal Disease—Personal Habits—Temperance Sixty Years Ago—A Cast-Iron Will—What the Showman Has Done for Bridgeport.

[Crofton's Letter]

My neck burned with the unaccustomed sun and my head was heavy with too much of seasides dissipation which we call rest. Into the smoking-car I strolled for an empty seat to lounge in. As I sat down a cheery voice saluted me from the next seat—it was P. T. Barnum. I had not seen him looking so well in twenty years, and told him so—his eye bright, his step elastic, the grasp of his hand firm.

"No," he protested, "I am far from well; I have caught a disease which daily grows worse. The doctors have given me up, and tell me it is incurable."

He placed his hand over the cardiac region and looked at me for sympathy. I thought of malaria, softening of the brain, and the affliction through the medium of which the late Dr. Bright succeeded in immortalizing himself. But I knew he had none of those.

A FATAL DISEASE.

"I've got it bad," he continued, smiling, "all over me. It has, I suppose, some Latin name, but common folks call it 'old age.' It's got me. It's going to carry me off. Old age is the disease that has got its claws on me and is going to fetch me in the end. Yes, as you say, I'm making a good fight of it. I'm 75 years old. I have first-rate digestion. I sleep well. I have recovered from the effects of the sunstroke of five years ago, and am in perfect health."

I asked him about his personal habits.

"Well," he said, leaning back in the seat and reflecting, "let's see. I am economical of my life forces. I try to go to bed at 10 every night. In the morning I answer my correspondence and attend to my tenants and communicate with my partners by telephone and telegraph, finishing up everything before dinner, which I take in the middle of the day. After dinner I generally doze in my chair for a moment. If I can lose consciousness for five minutes it is just as refreshing to me as a genuine sleep. I take a drive mornings and afternoons. In the evening we read or have music, or play cribbage or whist. I am up at 7 in the morning. I never drink nor smoke."

WHEN HE WAS YOUNG.

As I expressed some curiosity about those habits, he said:

"When I was a young man in Danbury, everybody drank. Cider brandy, called 'gumption,' was the favorite drink. Every occasion was the occasion for a 'horn.' Parties and weddings, and christenings and house raisings and husking bees; and even at funerals the clergymen and mourners all drank liquor. At auctions the auctioneer held a bottle of liquor in his hand, and when bidding was slow he would cry out, 'A dram to the next bidder!' lifting his bottle to emphasize the offer. Up would go the bid, and the bidder would take his deadhead dram. Everybody drank. Those who think that the world has degenerated and is fast going to the dogs would not think so if they could remember the times as they were in 1812 as I can. I drank a good deal in those days, for it was the fashion. If this year was 1825 instead of 1835, this smoking-car, instead of being quiet, would be full of noisy roysterer, drinking and carousing. Only there wouldn't be any car then—would there?"

NO NEW SCHEMES.

I asked Mr. Barnum if he intended ever to go into any new schemes.

"No," he said; "anything new would worry me. I think I can see a dozen new ways in which I could make piles of money, if I were twenty, or even ten years younger; but what's the use? I have as much money as I can properly use, and am increasing it

all the time. I shall leave my children and grandchildren more than will be good for them."

"You have executed a cast-iron will," I said.

"Yes; there is so much contesting of wills on the ground of incompetency, that I have done what I could to prevent it. I provided that if any legatee makes a contest he shall by that act forfeit his bequest, and I left \$100,000 to the executors to fight any contestant. Then I had three physicians witness my will, who made oath that I was of sound mind."

We left the cars at Bridgeport, and separated—he for Waldemere on the west, I to find a friend with whom I had business. Next morning he took me out riding (yes "riding," not "driving"—at any rate I didn't drive). Bridgeport has doubled since I was there last, and from being the fourth city in the state, has grown to be the second. I told my friend, as we rode, about the talk with Barnum on the way down from Newport.

AT BRIDGEPORT.

"He's a remarkable character!" he continued. "He is making more money this year than he ever did before in any one year. He'll take, it is estimated, \$150,000 out of the big show as his share. He gets \$25,000 a year as the rent of the big building at Broadway and Houston in New York. He will get \$50,000 in rents here, and as much more in the rise of real estate here. Everything he touches turns to greenbacks. Even his greatest schemes of benevolence have poured money into his pockets. He gave the city more than \$100,000 worth of swamp land for a park which had been recovered from the sea by a dyke on the west of town. Then he naturally and prudently bought all the adjoining land and cut it up into town lots. This row of cottages is his. And that row over yonder. He owns nearly 200 cottages, and has helped workingmen build as many more.

"This end of Bridgeport has been so much made by Barnum that it ought to be called Barnumville, or Phineas, or something suggestive. There was a great old graveyard up here. Barnum got a bill through the legislature authorizing him to remove the dead to a new cemetery. He gave thousands of new lots, and superintended the transfer, cleaned out the old burial ground and cut streets through it, and it is now one of the most attractive spots in the city—that street over there, with prim cottages the whole length."

Keokuk Democrat

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1887.

WARWICK & RANSON,

PUBLISHERS.

The opening chapters of a splendid story for the young, by the famous showman, P. T. Barnum, appears this week in the columns of The New York Family Story Paper. The story describes the adventures of an American boy, whom Mr. Barnum calls "My Plucky Boy Tom," and whom he sent to India in search of wild, fierce, and rare animals to replace those destroyed by the disastrous fire at Bridgeport last month. The reader is thrilled by the hair-breadth escapes of this dauntless American boy when capturing the fiercest and wildest animals ever seen in any traveling show. The New York Family Story Paper is for sale at all news-stands.

Weekly Constitution.
NOVEMBER 11, 1885.

A CHAT WITH BARNUM.

HOW HE MANAGES TO ENJOY SUCH VIGOROUS HEALTH.

THE GREAT DUSTY YEAR CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

Constitution-Democrat.

MAY 15, 1901.

HE HAS WALKED HIS LAST WIRE

There will be disappointment among many of the people who attended the Keokuk street fair last year and the year before and had the opportunity of seeing the wonderful high wire walking feats of Davenport. It will be remembered that he walked a wire stretched from the roof of the Estes house to the Ayres building across the street, and then ran it as well as rode a bicycle over it.

The report comes that the daring professional met his death recently in one of the eastern cities while trying to perform one of these marvelous feats. It is stated that he happened to come in contact with a live wire while catching himself in a fall and his death was almost instantaneous. Davenport had in his day amazed thousands of people in all parts of the country by some of his dare-devil performances, and there was scarcely a city of any size but that he had been in. He possessed great nerve and he appeared to not know what danger is.

The first year of the street fair, many will recollect, a man appeared in Keokuk under the appellation of "Dare-Devil Ryan" and he made a contract with the fair association to walk the wire stretched from the two buildings named, but when he got on top of the Estes house and looked at the wire and surveyed the height he wailed and quickly abandoned the idea of crossing the wire for any sum. Davenport the following year did it and he repeated the performance last season, adding to that of his feat the year before. Davenport was unquestionably one of the greatest wire-walkers and all-round wire performers the country has known.

Constitution-Democrat.

OCTOBER 6, 1899

A THRILLING PERFORMANCE

Daring Aerial Wire Act of the Noted
Davenport.

Is the American Blondin and a Daring
One—Seems to Extract Keen Enjoy-
ment From His Own Perform-
ances—About His Record.

No attraction in connection with the street fair has aroused more interest or caused more comment than Davenport, the American Blondin, whose thrilling performance on the high wire stretched

from the Ayres building to the Estes house block is a great source of wonder and admiration to a great throng of people every afternoon and evening. The ease and grace with which he performs his wonderful feats, and his apparent recklessness and spirit of daring, makes his work all the more thrilling and hair-raising.

So many stories have been told about Davenport and there is such general interest in his performance, that in order to satisfy public curiosity he was seen by the Constitution-Democrat and induced to talk about himself. Davenport comes from a family of performers, all wire walkers. There were originally five brothers, and of the four living three are engaged in the precarious calling. Contrary to a rumor which has gained quite general circulation, none of the brothers have been killed while performing. The oldest brother died a natural death, but suffered a severe accident during his career. While performing at Toledo, Ohio, on a wire the exact height of that being used here this week, seventy feet, he fell head foremost from his trapeze with such force that his arm was driven between two cobble stones in the pavement and badly broken. He recovered, however, and did not die until twelve years later, having followed his calling successfully for thirty-six years. The pole that was used by this brother during that time is being used in Keokuk this week by the dare devil brother who is entertaining such great crowds.

Davenport's full name is William G. and he has been engaged in his present calling for seventeen years. His home is in Cleveland, Ohio, where he owns and conducts a profitable bookstore at 243 St. Clair street. He says that along about January of each year he gets the fever to get out and perform, so he fixes up his apparatus and looks about for engagements, which he has no trouble in securing, for he is in great demand. Davenport travels alone, relying on local help for the assistance required in handling his apparatus, but of course he personally supervises the work in connection with his performance. All of his work is original, for he copies after no one, and he has several tricks, too, which he has not shown in Keokuk, as they require special apparatus.

The keen enjoyment which Davenport himself seems to get out of his performances has been a matter of general comment. Asked if this was real or assumed, the performer replied that there was nothing in his act that he relished more than to watch the crowd below him, and it was real, thorough enjoyment to him. Especially in his trapeze work, where he makes the fall, catching himself by his feet, he says he enjoys watching the people gazing up in open-mouthed wonder, and to see them when he falls, involuntarily jump back and shriek.

There are two features in Davenport's program, however, during which he has no time to look at the people below, for they demand all his attention and energy. These are the basket walking

and bicycle tricks, which are extremely dangerous. In the bicycle trick a ten-pound weight is used merely to overcome the weight of the wheel, which still leaves all the balancing to be done by Davenport. Toe clips have to be used, for should the man's feet slip from either pedal it would cause a tipping to the opposite side, which would be almost certain to result in a fall.

One must not think that Davenport never has an accident, for such is not the case, but so closely does he watch everything connected with his apparatus and so well prepared is he for an emergency that so far he has not had a fall. Right here in Keokuk the other day one of the blocks which tighten the wire broke, but after looking at it Davenport went on and gave his performance on a slack instead of a tight wire.

Thrilling and dangerous as Davenport's act seems when seen from below it is much more so when viewed from the roof at either end of the wire. Here a closer inspection is possible and the dangers of the performance are more apparent. Everything is business with Davenport when he is at work, but he has time to enjoy the plaudits and exclamations of the crowd below and to joke with the reporter who occupied a roof seat by his courtesy.

Certainly Davenport is a wonder. He is a quiet, unassuming, polished gentleman and a man of wonderful nerve and daring. His performance is an ideal one for a street fair, for which it is so well adapted, and he is well worth all the money it cost to have him here.

For the benefit of the ladies it can be stated that Davenport is unmarried.

Constitution-Democrat.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1899

HE DOVE TO HIS DEATH

Professor Reynolds Fatally Injured
at Burlington Last Night.

The High Diver Has a Broken Neck, But
Is Still Alive — His Next Engage-
ment Was at Keokuk—Partic-
ulars of the Accident.

Professor J. H. Reynolds, the balloonist and high diver who had been engaged for the Keokuk street fair next week, will not appear. He fell in Burlington last night and broke his neck and will probably die. The Hawk-Eye of this morning gives the following particulars of the tragedy:

"The tragedy occurred on Jefferson street, near Front, where, from the fire extension ladder there set up, the top rung being sixty feet above the ground, Reynolds has been doing the high dive act into a net suspended on poles seven feet above the ground. Reynolds alighted in the net on his shoulders, as he

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aims to do, but in the drop from the rebound he alighted sideways upon his head or neck, and the latter was cramped under him. His partner, Professor Jewell, saw at once that something was wrong as Reynolds lay helpless in the net with his head twisted into an unnatural position, and he called loudly for a doctor, at the same time removing, with the assistance of bystanders, the body of Reynolds from the net to the ground. The man was living and able to speak, he even drank a small quantity of liquor given him as a stimulant, but he had no sensation in his limbs or power to use them. When Dr. Leipziger arrived, the injured man was put in the ambulance and taken to St. Francis hospital. There the surgeon made as careful an examination as was possible, and came to the conclusion, judging from the insensibility of the limbs and body to pain, that the neck is broken.

Even if this prove true the man may linger longer before death releases him. Or the very attempt to help him may result in severing the spinal cord and his slender hold on life. If the condition of the patient today warrants and admits of it it is probable that he will be examined under the X-ray to determine the nature of his injury.

Prof. Reynolds came here from his home in Springfield, Ill. He has been a balloonist and showman for eighteen years. He was formerly an acrobat and performed with Barnum's show. He has been doing the high diving act for a few years only that being something of comparatively recent introduction. It is a dangerous calling and his partner, Prof. Jewell, was injured just two weeks ago seriously enough to prevent him performing here, although he has been assisting Reynolds who has had to do double work, with the balloon and high dive act.

Prof. Reynolds was a volunteer in the Cuban army, being a member of Co. C, Illinois Signal corps. He was attached to the staff of General Brooks as balloonist but had no opportunity in Porto Rico to do any ariel work. He was, therefore engaged in building and maintaining electric lines of communication. He was in the March from Ponce to Aroga and was on the firing line at the capture of Guan, August 13.

At Springfield, Reynolds this year did notable work with the balloon as an adjunct of the Illinois militia, signaling with trumpet, heliograph and flag.

Reynolds has been touring in neighboring states since last May, performing in Springfield, Jacksonville, Osceola, Ashland, Beardstown and many other cities and his next engagement was at Keokuk where he was to make ascensions."



Des Moines Sunday Register
May 21, 1967

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At Wisconsin Circus Museum

At Baraboo, Wis., is the Circus World Museum where the history of that legendary entertainment is told in exhibits and re-creations. During the season, May until mid-September, there is a daily show, trained animal acts and a chance to see parade wagons like these. New this year at the museum is an old-fashioned circus parade held at 1 p.m. daily. Also new this summer is a clown display on exhibit in the Ring Barn and among daily entertainment features are calliope concerts.

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Sat., Feb. 26, 1966

The Des Moines Register

Founded in 1849

An Independent Newspaper

Iowa's Claim to Circus Fame

We never thought we'd ask the question, "Where is Iowa?" but we feel compelled to do so. We know where it's located geographically. We know it's bounded on the east and west by the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and on the north and south by Minnesota and Missouri.

What we're really asking, we suppose, is: "Where is Iowa's pride in its native sons? Where are its members of Congress, its Chambers of Commerce, its historians and its stamp collectors?"

They are strangely missing from the ruckus in Washington that has kept the Post Office Department in an uproar for months. The list of embattled pressure groups stretches from Delevan, Wis., across the country to Westchester county, New York, and Bridgeport, Conn., down the coast to Sarasota, Fla., and back to Baraboo, Wis.

It all started a year or so ago when former Postmaster General John A. Gronouski conceived the idea of issuing a commemorative stamp honoring the centennial of the birth of John Ringling and that passing institution, the American circus.

Being a man with strong political instincts, the former postmaster general

recommended Delevan, Wis., in his home state as the site for the first day sale of the Ringling stamp. That's a very prestigious honor in the books of philatelists, Chambers of Commerce and politicians.

Delevan had a claim to the honor. That community was the wintering quarters for several big circuses before it got greedy and chased them out by upping the taxes. But there were some other fairly solid claims to the honor.

Venice and Sarasota, Fla., weren't about to have their more recent records as circus wintering quarters ignored. Somers, N. Y., reminded the Post Office Department that it was the site for the first performance of the first circus elephant imported to this country in 1805. Bridgeport, Conn., raked up some sort of circus history and Baraboo, Wis., has the world's biggest circus museum.

Why do we ask, "Where's Iowa?" Well, where was John Ringling born one hundred years ago? In the little river town of McGregor, in Clayton county, Iowa, as every candidate for the U. S. Senate or for the Second District seat in the House of Representatives should know if he's on his political toes.

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 6, 1896.

Will Positively Exhibit at

KEOKUK

ONE DAY ONLY,

Saturday, May 16.

LEMEN BROS.

World's Best Shows!

Great 3-Ring Circus,
30-Cage Menagerie,
Roman Hippodrome,
and Monster Museum.



A Big Feature in a Big Show,

RAJAH,

the largest elephant that walks the earth.

TWO INCHES TALLER THAN JUMBO!

The only Boxing Kangaroo
in the world.

Positively the only White Sea Lions
on exhibition.

Gorgeous Free Street Parade,
transported on two trains owned by the show.

Remember Day and Date.

2—Grand Performances Daily—2

Cheap Round Trip Excursions
on all lines of travel.

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 11, 1896.

THE COMING CIRCUS.

Lemon Bros.' Show to Visit Keokuk Saturday May 16.

Lemon Brothers is not only the best circus in the world, but also the leading zoological institute of every continent. It has in addition a superb hippodrome, and the only aquarium of deep sea monsters in the country; also many living wonders obtained in its travels that would be impossible for others whose territory of action is limited to frequently not more than a thousand miles from their native village. Lemon Brothers are favorably known wherever civilization extends as the foremost, most enterprising and reliable of managers. The great show will exhibit at Keokuk Saturday May 16. Of this aggregation the Duluth Herald says:

"Lemon Brothers' circus showed this afternoon and gave a good performance. The parade this morning was witnessed by the whole of Duluth, at least the bulk of the population, especially the juvenile portion, seemed to be on Superior street. The parade, while not a very elaborate one, was very fair. It hardly gave an idea of the show, however, for the Lemon Brothers' spend more money on performers than on fancy wagons with gilded ornaments, etc. The ring show is a good one and a clever performance is given.

"Rajan the great elephant, was the wonder of all and is really a tremendous beast. The boxing kangaroo was another feature."

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 12, 1896.

THE GREAT SHOWS.

The Lemen Bros.' Circus Please All
Who See It.

The Lemen Brothers are coming in command of the big show. They have a double circus and hippodrome; the finest horses and greatest performers of Europe and America. A big menagerie of wild beasts; quite a number of wild animals entirely new to America. Then an aquarium of sea monsters in huge tanks. Having traveled all over the world they have accumulated many living phenomena of surpassing interest. Altogether it is unquestionably the very best show in the country. A grand free balloon ascension is given daily. The magnificent spectacular street pageant is highly spoken of. They will no doubt have immense audiences here, judging from the character of the show and the enthusiasm of the anxious public. Exhibitions will be given in this city next Saturday afternoon and evening.

Of this exhibition the Green Bay, Wis., Daily Advocate says:

The attendance at Lemen Bros., circus yesterday afternoon and evening was very large and a better satisfied crowd never attended a circus performance in this city. Among the audience were the children of St. Joseph's orphan asylum, who were present as the guests of little Edna, the child-equestrienne,

and daughter of Mr. Lemen.

The menagerie was not as large as some that have exhibited here, but all the animals were in the best of condition, and Rajah, the monster elephant, was a sight one could not afford to miss. He is truly a mountain of flesh and his keeper states that he will continue to grow for fifteen years yet. He was not exhibited in the parade because of his ugly temper.

The ring acts were all that were advertised and were of the usual order, a marked change being in the boxing match between the kangaroo and his trainer. The ring acts were fine, especially that of Edna and the several acts, were applauded in accordance with their merits.

A particular ~~are~~ ^{were} ~~the man-~~ ^{the manage-} ~~ment~~ ^{ment} should be spoken of, because it is so rare. There were present yesterday none of the grafters, fakirs and confidence men so often found in the wake of the big shows, and no one was subject to robbery, as they are when seeing the usual circus. The management of this show cannot be too highly commended for their action in regard to these scums of humanity.

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 15, 1896.

TOMORROW'S THE DAY.

Lemen Brothers' Big Shows Will Visit Keokuk Tomorrow.

Lemen Brothers' combined circus, menagerie, hippodrome, oceanic aquarium, and congress of living phenomena, will exhibit at Keokuk tomorrow afternoon and evening. Reports from all quarters pronounce these shows the leaders in tented amusements and they cannot fail to interest the masses. That it possesses many rare animals never before seen in this country, the only real aquatic show of sea animals, a great hippodrome, a double circus, and many phenomenal living wonders is without question. Its career has been a triumphal success. It is enthusiastically received and immensely patronized wherever it spreads its tents, and it is said to give more and better show than any other organization in America. The newspapers are unanimous in its praise.

Where there is so much to be seen and such an innumerable array of new features of the greatest interest in tented shows that it would be indvidious to particularize. It is sufficient however, to know that the fame of Lemen Brothers is world wide as the greatest of amusement caterers. The special feature of this their twentieth annual tour is Rajah, largest elephant on earth, two inches taller than Jumbo, and several tons heavier; and "Fighting Tom" the most scientific boxing kangaroo in the world, who will spar four rounds Marquis of Queensbury rules with his trainer, Jack Dempsey, champion light weight of the Pacific coast. These two features alone are worth coming many miles to see. And here, of course, as everywhere, their efforts will be appropriated by the multitude in overflowing canvassae.

Had Artemus Ward lived to see such an exhibition he would not have wondered why it always took three grown-up

persons to take one child to a circus, but would have increased the number of adults to at least a score.

The Gate City.

MAY 17, 1896.

Entered in Keokuk Post Office as Second-Class Matter

TORN INTO SHREDS.

Lemen Bros.' Big Circus Tent

Utterly Wrecked by
the Wind.

LARGE LOSS IS ENTAILED.

More Excitement Among the Showmen

Than Among the Animals of the Menagerie — Evening Performance
Omitted—No One Hurt.

Lemen Bros.' big circus tent was torn to shreds by the hurricane accompanying the terrific downpour of rain yesterday afternoon.

The circus arrived from Kahoka, Mo., during the night and pitched its tents on the vacant lots at the terminus of the park car line. The regulation parade was given during the forenoon and in the afternoon the circus performance was presented before a fair sized audience. It was a fairly good 25 cent show.

The concert was over and the patrons had departed. The side shows were still trying to do business and a number of people with nothing better to do were lounging about, despite the threatening aspect of the gathering clouds. About 5 o'clock the storm burst in all its fury. The wind blew a gale. The loungers took refuge under the awnings. The great canvas heaved and swelled and tugged at the guy ropes. The tent poles creaked ominously. The storm increased in violence. The ground about the stakes softened and now and then a stake was torn up and was whipped about like the cracker on the end of a lash. Like an immense balloon the tent lifted and the side curtains bellied out like sails in a hurricane. Suddenly there was a deafening crash, the center pole snapped like a pipe stem, the great canvas was literally torn into shreds in almost less time than it requires to relate the instance and the whole mass came to the ground.

"Look out for the elephants," shouted the showmen in genuine fear lest the big beasts should, driven by fright, become unmanageable and take a part in the wrecking. A second warning was not needed. Pell-mell out from their shelter, through the flood of rain over to a place of fancied security on

Grand avenue, rushed showmen, policemen and loafers. But the elephants kept a cooler head than did their human companions and made no trouble.

After the rain ceased and the wind died down, the showmen began to disentangle the wreckage. It was out of the question to attempt giving an evening performance and the big, lumbering wagons were set on the move transporting the outfit to the train, preparatory to removal to LaHarpe, Ill., the next stand. Far into the night the showmen were engaged in the mud gathering up the pieces. It only requires such a sight as was presented on the circus grounds last night to acquaint one with just how much of a slave's life the average showman's lot is. All the glitter and tinsel and the plaudits of the multitudes for a season will not compensate for one such experience.

There was no one whom The Gate City reporter could see who could speak with authority as to the amount of damage; but it was variously estimated on the grounds at from \$2,500 to \$4,000, to which must be added the loss of last night's receipts. Luckily no one was hurt. The menagerie tent stood the storm and the animals, though noisy, gave no particular trouble.

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 16, 1896.

THE CIRCUS.

Parade Given This Morning And a Performance This Afternoon.

Lemen Brothers' circus was in the city early today, coming from Kahoka where it showed Friday. The parade was given about 10:30 o'clock and was witnessed by a big crowd, though not so large as one would have expected as there were comparatively few farmers in town.

The parade itself, while not a large and elaborate one, was creditable. This afternoon the tents, which are pitched on the vacant lots near Rand park, contained a good sized crowd to witness the afternoon performance. The program included some very good acts.

Another performance will be given this evening, beginning at 8 o'clock. The doors will be open one hour earlier.

Constitution-Democrat.

AUGUST 17, 1903.

BUSBY BROS.' CIRCUS.

The Decatur Daily Herald says: "Busby Bros.' circus gave two splendid performances in this city and both were well attended. The five thousand quarters that were paid into the show treasury were well and fairly earned, every one of them. We were pleased with Busby Bros.' show, therefore we desire to bestow upon it the commendation it is fairly entitled to. The entire performance was good; from the grand entree to the last hippodrome

KEOKUK AFTERNOON AND NIGHT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

BUSBY BROS.

DOUBLE CIRCUS, ELEVATED STAGE
AND ROYAL ROMAN HIPPODROME.



100 Circus Acts! 5000 Seats for 5000 People.

FINEST HORSES ON EARTH.

POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Two Complete Performances Daily—2 and 8 P. M. Show Grounds—Nineteenth street, between Johnson and Exchange.

race it was one of real merit and absolute worth. Martin & Crouch, the Julian children, the Irwin family, the six wonderful Ashtons, are all recognized performers, having appeared here with Ringling Bros., Forepaugh & Sells, etc. The Herald desires that the Busby Bros. be prosperous—they deserve to be—their show is a good one and will always have full tents on their return to Decatur."

Will exhibit in Keokuk Thursday, August 20th.

Show grounds on Nineteenth street, between Johnson and Exchange.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 1878

One Thing Barnum Cannot Afford.

Barnum, the Great Showman, who will visit us during the season, says in his Illustrated News for 1878:

"I can afford to expend thousands and hundreds of thousands, in searching every part of the globe for novelties. I can afford to purchase these wonders at almost any price. I can afford to show for only fifty cents, ten or twenty times more than was ever seen in a single traveling exhibition, and I can afford to do it at an expense ten times greater than was ever ventured on by any other manager, for the whole country knows that I exhibit truly by far 'the Greatest Show on Earth,' and all the people will patronize 'Barnum's Great Show,' but I cannot afford to give a second rate show. The public always expect the very best from me, and they always get it. If they did not get it, my reputation would be destroyed in two years, and it would serve me right!"

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
S. L. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

The unabridged and unapproachable
ADAM FOREPAUGH SHOWS

will exhibit afternoon and night, at usual hours and prices at

Keokuk, Friday, July 17.

28th year, largest, oldest and richest tented exhibition in the whole world. 3-Ring Circus, 4 Menageries. Wild West, Hippodrome, Trained Animals.



The Rings and Grand Elevated Stage.

200 Circus Performers, novel acts, all bareback riding, fresh bicycle specialties, comicalities by 15 fun creators, 2 herds of educated elephants, \$50,000 stud trained bronchos, three times the greatest circus in the world. First season under canvas of the incomparable

HANLON VOLTERS.

100 TRAINED WILD BEASTS

And 5 Lions all Let Loose and Performed by Col. Boone and Miss Carlotta in the steel-guarded circus arena.

Huge Roman Hippodrome,

And a whirlwind of thrilling races.

MENAGERIE

Three times larger than any ever exhibited on this continent.

REALISTIC WILD WEST

Presenting the fanatical Ghost Dance, Messiah Craze, Slaughter at Wounded Knee Creek, Custer's Last Rally, Hanging a Horse Thief, Virginia Reel on Horseback, Capt. A. H. Bogardus and 100 Plainsmen, Savages and Scouts,

\$3,000,000 Invested.
Daily Expenses, \$5,500.
4 Railway Trains.

The Adam Forepaugh Shows

ALONE IS ABLE to make at 10 a. m. daily, the most brilliant gold-gleaming street pageant that ever delighted human vision. Piles upon piles of glittering gold, worlds of splendors, a deluge of bewilderment sensations, battalions of horses, an army of men, women, children, Indian scouts, vehicles of all nations, 5 martial bands, a three million dollar show parade.

Two grand performances every week-day, at 2 and 8 p. m. Doors open one hour earlier. 10,000 seats reserved numbered chairs at slight advance above the usual price. For the accommodation of the public who desire to avoid the crowds on the grounds, reserved seats (at the regular price), and admission tickets at the usual slight advance can be secured at Ayres Bros.' music store, 509-511 Main street, the day of exhibition only.

The Adam Forepaugh Shows

ARE THE

ONLY GREAT SHOWS **COMING HERE**

J. E. COOPER,
OWNER.

1891

The Gate City.

WM. HANLON KILLED.

JULY 14, 1891.

One of the Celebrated "Volters"
With Forepaugh, Falls and
Breaks His Neck.

Another Terribly Fatal Wreck, This Time
in Colorado—Narrow Escape From
Drowning—Shot by
His Son.

LYONS, IA., July 13.—This afternoon during a performance by Forepaugh's circus the trapeze bar broke and Wm. Hanlon, one of the famous Hanlon Bros., who was performing, fell thirty feet to the ground. His neck was broken and he was instantly killed. He leaves a wife who is in New York sick.

The Gate City.

THE CIRCUS.

Novel and Interesting Exhibition Given by Forepaugh—Some of the Features.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: The Forepaugh shows gave two very satisfactory performances yesterday, and the attendance was large. One striking feature about the circus is that it is the largest, neatest and cleanest looking and best arranged canvas exhibition that has visited the city. The main door opens into the menagerie. Here the surprise begins, for the animal tent is very large, and the hundreds of cages are so arranged that there is abundant room for a large number of spectators. Everybody can see, and the tent is scrupulously clean. The triple rings are so arranged that from every one of the 10,000 seats an uninterrupted view of the whole show can be obtained. The menageries contain a full collection of rare animals and birds a feature being one of the finest herds of elephants ever taken on the road. The management promises several novelties, and it opens with a very surprising one, the performing lions, with Edgar Daniel Boone and Miss Carlotta. The lions' den is backed up to a ninety-foot circular enclosure. Then the man and woman enter, accompanied by Saxon, a German boarhound. The steel ring is nearly twenty feet in height, so that the animals have little chance of getting away. The lions are put through a wonderful performance, doing everything that can be got out of a troop of well-drilled performing dogs. They perform pedestals, work a screw, discharge firearms, ride a bicycle, tussle with Boone, hold a rope for the dog to leap, etc. Boone has never appeared in America before. * * * The closing part of the program is a series of speed tests, men and women of all

nations being introduced in the races peculiar to their native countries.

When and where have intelligent readers of metropolitan newspapers ever before seen such an overwhelming endorsement of anything to equal that which is daily accorded the great Adam Forepaugh shows, on its triumphal march across the continent between the two great oceans, the Atlantic and Pacific. Will show in Keokuk July 17. **JULY 11, 1891.**

CIRCUS DAY.

Forepaugh's Great Aggregation Visits Keokuk and is Enthusiastically Welcomed.

Thousands From the City, Neighboring Towns and the Vicinity, are Guests of James E. Cooper—A Fine Exhibition—Bits of Sawdust.

JULY 18, 1891.

After all this would be a prosaic old world without a circus. Of course some circuses are positively prosaic. But that don't matter. There are some good ones; and among the latter James E. Cooper's great Forepaugh's shows stand away up at the top. To the average inhabitant of the rural districts a circus is the only amusement enterprise outside of Sunday school picnics, church socials and school exhibitions, patronized by them. Once in a great while the farmer or his family come to town and spend the evening at the opera house. But it's a rare thing for them to do. It is the circus—with its great white tents, the glittering parade, the bewilderment of rare and curious beasts, the jollity of the mirth-makers, the lithe and supple forms encased in spangled tights, the daring acts of horsemen, acrobats and gymnasts, the fat woman, the snake charmer, the Circassian beauty, the living skeleton, the magician, the peanuts, the lemonade, the toy balloons, the crowd etcetera ad infinitum—which catches the farmers heart and dollars. It's got to be a mighty rainy day or the crops must be in a very critical condition if the average farmer stays at home when circus day comes. He, his wife and all the children are either bundled into a wagon early in the morning, together with a bountiful supply of good things, or the railway train is boarded for the city.

And what is said of the farmer's love for the circus is equally applicable to city folks. They must either be very sick or in the lock up if they are kept from under the canvas, the only difference is that the evening patronage is largely from the city folks who have themselves or their brothers, fathers and sweethearts have been kept at business all day. But they all go, farmer and townsman. And it's all right if they want

to spend their money that way and can afford to. There is enough of care and worry and sorrow in this world, and a circus is a potent instrument to bring forgetfulness of these dark things of life for a few hours. No matter if we do all go to the circus and come away and say "it's the same thing over again; I shall never go to another," we all enjoyed it while we were there and we will all go to the next one that comes along.

Yet he must have been a fellow hard to suit who was Mr. Cooper's guest yesterday and came away dissatisfied. The free part of the show which interests most of us as much as the part we pay fifty cents to see, the parade, was all that had been promised of it. It was above the average by a great deal and the long line of gilded tableau cars, cages of wild animals, glittering trappings and excellent bands excited admiration along the streets which were densely packed with thousands of people. Under the big tents in the afternoon assembled a throng that more than filled the thousands of seats and the evening attendance was also large. The menagerie was of unusual interest and the diversity of rare birds and beasts held the attention for an hour before and after the circus performance. In the circus tent were two rings and an elevated stage. These were kept full of talented artists all the time and the spectator was rendered positively dizzy in the futile attempt to see everything at once.

After the imposing entree came a startling novelty. In a steel bound ring forty feet in diameter and of sufficient height to prevent the escape of animals that might be confined within it, appeared a gentleman and lady, Col. Edgar Daniel Boone and Miss Carlotta, and two hounds. A moment later a big elephant came walking into the tent pushing a cage of three lions. The cage was backed up to the entrance to the steel ring. The door was opened and the three kings of the forest came bounding down into the enclosure. The people were startled; but apprehension soon gave way to admiration and wonder at the exhibition of the lion trainers' supremacy over their monster pets. The lions formed pedestals, held ropes for the hounds to jump over, played at seesaw, rode a tricycle, fired a pistol, romped with Col. Boone and seemed to enjoy the whole performance. Then came a representation of a series of races on the frontier in which Indians and cowboys participated. Its of no use to attempt to describe the multitude of equestrian acts, Japanese gymnastic and balancing exhibitions, tumbling, slack wire performances, trapez and horizontal bar acts, the wonderful intelligence displayed by the herd of elephants, the hippodrome races, etc. They were all first class.

BITS OF SAWDUST.

By far, the band was the best one that has played at a circus performance in this city for a long time.

Every person connected with the circus, from the manager down to the roustabouts, wore a tuft of black and white ribbon—a symbol of mourning for Wm. Hanlon, who was killed by falling from a trapeze the other day.

James B. Mack, the clown who impersonates the Yankee farmer, is without a peer. His cleverness is illustrated by the fact that at Burlington, Thursday, a policeman arrested him for driving in the parade and throwing kisses at Cleopatra.

Geo. O. Starr looks after the press gang capitally. He is a whole souled gentleman of the highest type.

There was a little excitement when a performer fell from the parallel bar and the netting broke precipitating him to the ground. But when he wasn't hurt the spectators were at ease again.

The show came in from Burlington over the T., P. & W. railway. It was a little bit round about, but got here on time all right. Last night the show went to Ottumwa over the Rock Island.

James McCallister, the circus blacksmith, let a 210-pound anvil fall on his right hand last night. The end of the second finger was so badly crushed that amputation was necessary. Dr. Ochiltree performed the operation.

The lion tamer of Forepaugh's show has been telling the city editor of the Moline Republican Journal that his beasts have been so long caged that they are scared out of their wits when they find themselves at liberty, and that the lion that got out at Rock Island Tuesday afternoon would not have harmed a little child. By which we learn that the highly inflamed bill boards do not tell all the lies about the circus.—Davenport Democrat.

Keokuk Democrat

TELEPHONE NO. 82.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1888.

NOBLE JENNY LIND.

P. T. Barnum's Chat About the Recently Deceased Cantatrice.

P. T. Barnum has given a New York Tribune reporter some interesting reminiscences of Jenny Lind. Said the veteran showman: "Jenny Lind's natural impulses were most noble and good; I never met a person so susceptible to the wants, needs or sufferings of others. I could at any time make her tears flow by relating some case of want, and her dollars would flow freely with her tears. She could not bear the thought of 'passing by on the other side,' when she could relieve the sorrow of any being, however humble."

Mr. Barnum told a touching story of an incident that occurred when Jenny was singing in Boston. "A poor working girl," he said, "thrust three dollars into the hands of the ticket seller at the Boston Temple for a back seat at Jenny's concert. On receiving the ticket she said: 'There goes my wages for one week, but I must hear that good angel sing.' Jenny's secretary, her cousin Max Hertzberg, heard the remark and immediately went to the green-room and laughingly told it to Jenny. I shall never forget how she jumped to her feet and exclaimed: 'Oh, this must not be! Poor girl, she shall not lose her money! It is wicked! Max, take this money—hand him a twenty-dollar gold piece—search out that dear creature and put it in her hands, with my love, God bless her!' Cousin Max found the girl, gave her the money and message, and witnessed a flood of grateful tears from the working girl's eyes. If she is alive to-day she will remember it.

"When I was struggling against the Jerome clock debts, in 1858," Mr. Barnum went on, "I took my wife and children to London. One day Jenny's husband, Otto Goldsmith, called on me and said: 'Mrs. Lind, hearing of your financial misfortune, desired me to call on you and say if a few hundred pounds, or a thousand, will serve to relieve your present wants, I am to hand it to you with her kindest regards. We are now living in Dresden, and my wife says if you will take your family there she will gladly find you nice apartments at a low rent, and we shall both be glad to render you any service we can.' The kind offer was declined with thanks, but it shows the charitable character of this almost angelic woman.

"She has two children, the elder a son. The daughter has a voice which Sir Julius Benedict told me he believed if cultivated would prove equal to her mother's. 'But,' he added, 'her parents are rich, and have no ambition to have her attain musical renown, which would involve such arduous study and practice.'

"Her share of profits in our musical campaign in 1859 and 1861 was \$308,675.00. She sang in ninety-three concerts. She was worth over a \$1,000,000 when she left the United States in 1861, and this sum has been increased by occasional concerts in Great Britain and by the judicious investments of her husband."

BENEFICIARIES OF JENNY LIND.

Some Legacies of the Dead Songstress—Aids for Poor Students.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—The will of Jennie Lind bequeaths to her grandson the cabinet of books presented to her by the New York fire companies; a freehold estate purchased out of \$100,000 which an American settled upon her on her marriage was bequeathed to her husband; a legacy of 50,000 Swedish crowns was bequeathed to the University at Upsala, Sweden, for the maintenance of poor students; the University at Lund, Sweden, receives 5,000 crowns, to be applied to aid poor students who purpose entering the ministry of the Protestant Church. The personal property of the dead singer is valued at £40,630.

1886

THE DAILY GATE CITY.
JUNE 2, 1886.

Entered at Keokuk postoffice as second class matter

DR. W. F. CARVER,

"The Evil Spirit of the Plains"—His "Wild West" Combination to be Seen in Conjunction With Cole's Great Show.

Dr. Carver's appearance here Wednesday, June 16th, with W. W. Cole's circus, will be the only opportunity of seeing this celebrated marksman in this city, as he had perfected all arrangements to take his "Wild West" combination to Europe, opening in London next October. Such an enterprising undertaking involves, of course, some financial risk, but Carver has received so much encouragement from prominent men of the European countries, that he feels sanguine of brilliant success. He has already an established reputation in Europe, having defeated all the crack shots during his sojourn there a few years ago.

Such a combination as the one above referred to is unprecedented in amusement annals. Dr. Carver's exhibition consists of displays of marvellous rifle shooting, lassoing, dare devil riding, cow boy life, on the plains and in camp, Indian dances and customs by a band of braves led by the famous young chief, White Cloud, the thrilling and realistic scene of the attack upon the Deadwood coach and numerous other incidents of border life not shown by any similar organization. And it should be borne in mind that this is to be seen in addition to Cole's great circus, museum and menagerie and all for one price of admission. This is certainly the chance of a life time and King Cole's tents will undoubtedly be crowded on the occasion of his appearance in this city.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 9, 1886.

Entered in Keokuk postoffice as 2d class matter

COLE'S SAWDUST COMEDIANS.

White-Headed Gags Knocked Out by a
"Chestnut Register."

Momus, a merry god, and the deity at whose shrine the major portion of the show patrons of the present day worship, will hold high carnival in the ring performances of W. W. Cole's New Colossal Shows, which appear here on Wednesday, June 16. The array of motley humorists will be something unprecedented, as regards cleverness and number, and if some "new gags" and "business" are not sprung on the people it will be surprising. The list of merrymen is headed by the noted English pantomimic and acrobatic clown, the "Great Ernest," who will tickle the risibilities of the audience.

PARADOXICALLY AS IT MAY SEEM, THE

Fourth of July Comes on June 16 This Year!

(NOTE—The Change has been made on account of W. W. Cole's New Colossal Shows Exhibiting here on the latter date.—Citizens' Committee.)

Two Magnificent, Brilliant Performances, Rain or Shine, at

**KEOKUK,
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16.**

W. W. COLE'S New Colossal SHOWS!

\$225,000 Invested for New Attractions for This Tour.

OUTSPLENDORING ALL THE TRIUMPHS OF THE MEMORABLE PAST.

200 All Phenomenal Circus Stars. 70 Distinct Acts.

DR. CARVER'S

Farewell Tour of America.

He comes no more. Europe Claims Him Next Year. Realistic reproduction of his ROMANTIC FRONTIER LIFE. 100 Noted Scouts, Cowboys, Indians, and Mexican Vaqueros, in

Graphic Illustrations of Life on the Plains.

Marvelous Shooting, Afoot and on Horseback, by Dr. W. F. Carver, Evil Spirit of the Plains "WHITE CLOUD," the Fiercest Living Sioux Warrior; "BIG JIM" RANDALL, the Giant Government Scout; And "RIO GRANDE BILL," King of the Texas Cowboys.

RED RIVER TOM'S COWBOY BRASS BAND, CHARACTERISTICALLY ATTIRE



W. W. Cole's New, Classically Correct, All overshadowing

REAL ROMAN HIPPODROME

Its only satisfactory revival in nearly 2,000 years. Heroic, Soul-Stirring Struggles between 40 Famous English Thoroughbreds and Unconquered Kentucky Flyers. Professional Jockeys and Drivers. Prizes ranging from \$10 to \$50 are awarded the successful contestants. 50 Cases of Wild Beasts. A Universal Reflex of Savage Life. The Strangest of all Physical Phenomenons—The Two-Headed Cow.

THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE MIGHTY **SAMSON**

The Noblest, Gentlest, Grandest, Most Famous and Heroic Elephant that walks the earth to-day.

Unparalleled in the Magnificence of Its Parade!

Which Passes Through the Public Thoroughfares at 10 A. M. Daily. The Most Glorious and Dazzling Spectacular Street Demonstration That Ever Delighted Human Vision.

ADMISSION To the Entire 50c.; Children Under Nine Years of Age, 25c.

Reserved Cushioned Opera Chairs at a Slight Advance. Two Performances Daily at 2 and 8 p. m.

Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. for inspection of Museum and Menagerie Departments.

with his aesthetic donkeys, and ingeniously constructed rubber elephant, "Goodyear." Tom McIntyre, the Chesterfield of Shakespearian wits, will amuse in his own quaint, inimitable style; "Billy" Rollins, one of the brightest jesters that have ever donned cap and bells, will vocalize the latest comic songs, tell rib-tickling stories and introduce his comic little trained pig, "Ben Butler." Ten other high priests of Momus will participate in the revelries. Any clown that springs a musty, hoary-headed chestnuts with whiskers on it, is subject to a fine of \$10. A new feature in connection with clowning will be introduced in the shape of a "chestnut register," a clock-shaped affair, the hands of which record with unerring accuracy every venerable joke which the clowns, while in a reminiscent mood, may unconsciously utter. Everybody will want to see the workings of the "chestnut register."

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 16, 1886.

Entered at Keokuk postoffice as second class matter

Cole's Circus To-day.

To-day will be a red-letter day for the youth of this city. The coming of W. W. Cole's big combination of circus, museum, menagerie, hippodrome and "Wild West" features, which has been so long and pleasurable anticipated, will to-day be an accomplished fact. The general verdict is that Manager Cole has eclipsed his own brilliant record as an amusement caterer, his exhibition this season being remarkable for its rare and unique attractions, as well as for its completeness and magnitude. The newspapers in the various cities where the show has appeared extoll its merits in the most extravagant terms. One fact that the press agree on with great unanimity is that Manager Cole attracts the most fashionable and cultured audiences of any tented show that ever visited their respected cities. Mr. Cole has always been known as the "kid-gloved" showman; the splendid discipline of his employees, and the absence of all reprehensible practices, being one of the most commendable features of his exhibition. The attractions are of such an infinite variety that the most diversified tastes will be fully satisfied. Acrobats, gymnasts, rippers, contortionists, leapers, wire-walkers, jugglers, strong men and jesters will disport themselves in two rings and on an elevated stage; the hippodrome races of ancient Rome will be reproduced on an ellipse that encircle the rings and stage, and Dr. W. F. Carver, "Evil Spirit of the Plains," and his noted "Wild West" combination will also utilize this veritable race track for their representations of frontier life. The menagerie and museum teem with costly and interesting novelties, and the show throughout is a model one in every respect. A grand, spectacular

street parade, exhibiting the immense resources of the establishment, will take place this morning, starting from the grounds at 10 o'clock, and traversing the principal thoroughfares. "Samon," without a rival now that Jumbo is no more, will be one of the conspicuous figures of the procession. Two performances will be given, at 2 and 8 p. m., the doors opening one hour earlier, in order that ample time may be afforded for the inspection of the museum and menagerie departments.

a sight for the sentimental to observe the billing and cooing of these attenuated specimens of Pharaoh's "lean kine."

The outre love affair gave Barnum a business hint, which he was not slow to take advantage of. On their arrival in dear old "Lannon" the showman advertised and heralded the astonishing fact far and wide that on a certain day there could be seen at St. James hall (where they were showing) something that the world had never before witnessed, namely, the marriage of two living, breathing skeletons. He also announced the fact that never before in the annals of show business had such a thing as the wedding of freaks been performed in public. This was a fact too.

Of the enthusiastic crowds which such a unique announcement drew, or the interesting conduct of the living skeletons, wedded in the presence of "assembled thousands," Manager Sackett is silent. But he tells of a fact, however, which is of such interest that it was recorded in medical works, but never before has seen the light of newspaper publication. That was that a year after the marriage of the skeletons the wife bore a child which also was a "living skeleton."

Stranger still to relate—but Sackett stakes his fortune on the truth of it—two other children were also born to Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, and they were also of the skeleton mold. For many years afterward the parents traveled with their unnaturally thin offspring, and added to the stock of the world's astonishment, including both crowned heads and those that were bald. The original Sprague and his wife are dead, but the three skeleton children, now young men, are showing about the country, healthy, happy and rich.

This is the only case or succession of cases in medical annals where a father and mother transmitted the disease of wasting atrophy to their offspring.

Mr. Sackett also tells of another weird case that came under his observation in his peregrinating show days. Major Burnell, a celebrated showman of the sixties, found a pair of freak twins in the south, the offspring of colored people. One of the twins, a boy, was black as Kongo stock. The other, a girl, was a pure albino. The major engaged the twins for his show and exhibited them for years. The albino girl grew up and married an albino in the west. The offspring of the marriage was a baby as black as the ace of spades. Of course this enhanced the showing price of Charley and his albino wife, and Major Burnell increased their salaries accordingly.

D. K. Prescott was the discoverer of the far famed Sleeping Beauty, whom he found in Tennessee in the sixties. He brought her to St. Louis. She was a young girl of surpassing beauty, with but one fault discoverable. She slept nine tenths of the time. She was the greatest puzzle the medical men had ever seen. It was one of these latter who deprived her mother of a fortune and Prescott of one of his most popular curiosities. The young doctor was left alone in the showroom one day while the beauty was sleeping as usual. His curiosity prompted him to take out his

Constitution-Democrat

MAY 16, 1896.

PROGENY OF FREAKS.

SOME RESULTS OF ROMANCES IN THE SHOW BUSINESS.

The First Real Living Skeleton, His Wife and Their Three Skin and Bone Sons. An Old Museum and Side Show Manager Taps His Memory Tank.

According to Manager T. E. Sackett of the Bijou theater, Isaac W. Sprague was the first unnaturally or abnormally thin skin and bones man to be exhibited to the public under the title of a "living skeleton." It was during the palmy days of Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, and while that celebrated showman was raking the continents in search of curiosities in 1864. Incidentally Mr. Sackett was in those days with Tony Pastor. Mr. Sackett was acting as doortender, manager and all around man for Pastor. He had previously been out with Millie Christine, the two headed girl, and had an eye out for freaks. When the Tony Pastor show reached Florida, Stone & Murray's circus came there. The old inhabitants will remember Stone & Murray's show. It was contemporaneous with Dan Rice's, Thayer & Noyes' and afterward with the John Robinson circus. With Stone & Murray was Isaac W. Sprague, the living skeleton. Mr. Sprague had been discovered by Barnum in Massachusetts. He was the first living skeleton on record since the discovery of the world by Adam. And Sprague was a real living skeleton too. He was nothing but skin and bones, yet he was healthy and jolly.

In 1865 Barnum collected several curiosities, including Sprague, and sent them for a tour of the world. Sprague was the big card. Next to him was a skeleton woman, nearly as attenuated as Sprague, whose name has escaped the wonderful memory of Showman Sackett. Among the other freaks with which Barnum expected to and did astonish the world was Joyce Heth, the colored woman he picked up in the south, supposed to be 125 years old; the "woolly horse," and Annie Swan, the first giantess ever on exhibition.

Sprague, on the steamer going over to London, fell desperately in love with the skeleton woman. She returned his affection, and, according to Manager Sackett, who was on the voyage, it was

This ended the showing
of the Sleeping Beauty. Her mother
took her home, and she never slept in
public any more.—Buffalo Courier.

lancet and puncture her arm. The blood started out and the beauty awoke with a scream. Her mother rushed in from an adjoining room. Seeing the blood flowing from her daughter's arm, she

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Constitution Democrat.

AUGUST 7, 1903.

STORY OF CIRCUS.

BIG TENTS HAVE A STRONG HOLD
ON THE PUBLIC.

THE BUSINESS OF A BIG SHOW IS
SYSTEMATIZED.

Improvement in Morals—Daily Routine
Perfected—Many Performers Are
Wealthy—Teaching Animals.

Life in the modern circus is not so strenuous as it has the reputation of being. Many circus performers are men of means and learning, and this fact is plainly illustrated by the regularity and precision that prevails under the big canvas tents. Each man has his work and duties to perform and the daily routine enables him to not only become proficient in his particular line, but also to become most careful and ever on the watch for any little hitch or mishap that might happen, that he may prevent it. In a tented city all is system and order and every little detail is accomplished with the ease and care of any established and systematized business. The stability of a circus and the place it occupies in the world of business is ever a matter of interest to many of the local patrons of these yearly visitors.

A SYSTEMATIZED BUSINESS.

The circus, with its jingling music and atmosphere of mirth and wonder, has made a secure place for itself in American life. Its strong hold upon the public cannot be denied.

Anything that would be enduring must have the support of the masses, and the circus has been so well patronized in the United States that it has come up from a low level to a point of excellence attained by no other country in the world. The executive end of the business has been developed to the highest point of perfection. The tented city, coming in with the gray dawn, rising specter-like out of the mist, revealing its wonders during the day and then disappearing in the darkness, is almost like some trick of magic. The system by which all this is accomplished is quite as wonderful as the astonishing things seen in the ring.

The circus men have perfected the routine of their calling in every possible way. They have the adding machine in the ticket wagon, the cash register at the door, and carry their own electric light plant with them. About the only thing that seems lack-

ing is a portable telephone system to connect the various departments.

The arrangements are so complete and the precautions against accidents so numerous and sweeping in their effect, that, season after season, the big show will traverse from twenty to thirty-five states, unloading and reloading its stuff every twenty-four hours, for nearly two hundred days, without missing a single performance.

CIRCUS MORALS IMPROVED.

Referring to the development of the business, a veteran showman said:

"In order to accommodate our people and prevent hardship to our stock, in case our trains are delayed, we can feed them all while in transit. We have dining cars attached to our trains, and all stock cars are equipped with feed boxes and water troughs. Aside from the humanitarian consideration, this provision assures a great saving in the health and strength of our horses. Another new and fast developing feature of circus life in America is the improvement of the moral tone of the business. One of the highest salaried men with every big show is the detective who directs the work of protecting patrons from crooks. On account of this precaution there is really less thieving done around the big circus nowadays than at any other gathering you can name. We also make strict exactions upon our people for good conduct. It is a part of our agreement with every person whom we employ that his conduct shall be such as not to reflect upon the good name or character of our organization, and a violation of this clause renders his contract void. The people of the circus are becoming more and more ambitious for the good name of their calling and the rapid improvement of its standing is due as much to their own endeavor as to the rigid rules enforced by the management."

The newspapers frequently discuss the affairs of prominent people in the theatrical professions, speculating on the size of their fortunes, but one hears little about success among circus performers. This is evidently an oversight on the part of the editors, for there are instances without number where ring performers have become rich from their earnings.

SOME WHO ARE WEALTHY.

Mr. and Mrs. Lew Sunlin, the latter being known to the profession as Allie Jackson, are probably the richest performers in America. They are with the Wallace show this year, exhibiting the trained bull and the high jumping horse. They have valuable property of various kinds in and around Grand Rapids, Mich., one of their greatest source of wealth being some extensive rock quarries near that city, which were purchased undeveloped with money they had saved from their salaries in the business.

A close second to the Sunlins is Robert Nelson, the venerable head of the Nelson family of acrobats, who owns more property in Mt. Clemens, Mich., than any other individual. He collects

rents from many residences; owns a block of business houses, and is the proprietor of the opera house in that city. His sons are also thrifty business men, and the nimble little Nelsons, who have delighted people all over the world by their clever antics, will one day come into a large fortune.

Probably the highest salaried man with the Barnum & Bailey show this year is Charles Andrews. He started in the show business as a magician, giving performances in the school houses throughout the country, as well as in halls and vacant store rooms in little interior towns. He is now the owner of much valuable farm land in Kansas, as well as quantities of choice Chicago real estate. When Mr. Andrews started with his small show he took with him a little boy of the name of George Wood, who drew the princely salary of \$1.50 per week for peddling programs and making himself generally useful. Wood is now one of the most successful and best known pony trainers in the business. He is with Ringling Bros. this year, and a few weeks ago bought a half section of fine farm land near Topeka, Kan., for which he paid \$15,000 in cash. In addition to this he owns some property near Brighton.

Edward Shipp and Robert Stickey, now appearing with Sells Bros. & Forepaugh, are men of means. Both of them have earned enough so they can retire in plenty whenever they desire.

RISE OF THE FARM HAND.

Harry Potter grew up as a raw farm hand near Quincy, Ill. In the early 80's he joined Tom Baldwin in an acrobatic act. Baldwin afterwards became world famous as the original parachute jumper and earned the largest fortune ever realized by any person from an individual act. Potter's rise was slow but sure. He served his time with the little wagon shows, and gradually improved his act until it was fine enough for the king of England to witness and applaud. Potter is one of the few performers in America who has been paid a thousand dollars a week for his act. He is married and his wife works with him. They are with the Ringling show this season, and the seeming reckless way in which they fling the little Potters back and forth through the air makes every mother's heart in the audience stand still. But the little Potters like it. They have been brought up on it. Baby Potter stays at the car with his nurse while the performance is going on, but she is not a stranger to the dizzy region in the top of the tent. Nearly every morning during the practice hour she goes up safely tucked under the arm of her father or mother, and one of these days her baby lips will part in their first smile of response to the applause that always greets those who perform the daring and the wonderful.

The circus managers are on the lookout for novelties. They will pay almost any price for clever and daring

acts. But when these are contracted for and "played up" in the advertising it is very necessary that the performers live the sort of life that will keep them in good physical condition and appear regularly. There never was a time when good living and close attention to work would bring as good returns in the show business as at present.

TEACHING THE ANIMAL PERFORMERS.

Although the circus is an established institution very little is known about its inside life. The people marvel at its wonders, but few ever gain any more knowledge of it than what they see from the audience. "How in the world do they ever teach the animals to do such clever work?" One bears this question on all sides while the performance is going on. Patience is the first and great essential in the character of the successful animal trainer. The man who can teach an elephant to stand on its head or persuade a horse to do the cake walk could do almost anything else he made up his mind to accomplish. The training of an animal depends in a large measure on its individual intelligence and temperament.

In the Sells & Forepaugh show there is one smart little elephant that learned to stand on its head in one forenoon and appearing in the same ring with him is a stubborn, hard-headed old fellow that had to be lifted 5,000 times with a block and tackle before he caught on to what was wanted with him.

The members of the cat tribe are hard to manage. They are very stubborn. To make a tiger sit on a stool the animal is placed in an inclosure containing nothing but the stool it is expected to mount. The trainers crack their whips and keep the big cat on the move until it is very tired. It jumps over the stool again and again as it rushes about the inclosure. Finally the men close in upon it and the cat takes refuge to the stool. Then it is left alone to get its breath. If tabby is smart she will soon discover that on top of that stool is the only place in the arena where she can have a minute's peace. One cat will comprehend this in a few lessons and another will hold out for months.

Animals learn to do their tricks either from fear of punishment or expectation of reward, the trainer taking advantage of their cowardice in one case and their appetite in the other.

TRICK OF WISE PONY.

Many amusing things occur to show that the animals know what is going on around them, and that they have a high degree of intelligence. A pony with the Sells & Forepaugh show was being taught to lie down in bed, pull a blanket over itself, and then blow out the candle standing on the table at the head of the bed. After the conclusion of the trick the trainer would pet the little performer and give him

a lump of sugar. The pony soon found out that the caress and the sugar came immediately after the blowing out of the candle and insisted on doing that part of the act first.

Every elephant has a grudge against a whip. If the trainer leaves one lying around it will surely be broken or thrown as far as the big animal's strength can send it. To prove this, the trainer carelessly dropped his whip as he walked in front of the line of swaying monsters. He stood apart talking and apparently taking no notice. Big Katy, standing at the end, suddenly caught sight of the offensive object lying in front of her, and in a flash, it was snatched up and sent flying over a row of cages, fifty feet away.

A change of routine is demoralizing to the performance of trained animals. Ringling Bros. have added a pipe organ to their band. It was first used during their St. Louis engagement, several weeks after the opening of the season. When the organ was turned on for the first time, the elephants nearly stampeded and the seals and ponies which were performing at the time were so astonished and alarmed at the unusual rumbling sound that their trainers had difficulty in getting them through their acts.

Any little thing like a strange work hand approaching too near the platform is likely to make a trained seal cry out with fright and to send him floundering between his trainer's legs for protection. The horse trainer when working with new animals in the winter quarters beat tin pans and make all sorts of noise, and then caress their pets to show them that no matter what strange things may occur they are there to protect them.

Great care must be taken to protect and preserve the health of circus animals, as nearly all of them are susceptible to some form of disease. Monkeys take cold easily, and unless quinine is given them at once, quick consumption is almost certain to result. When a monkey has to take quinine it makes a great fuss. This is why a mother tells her young hopeful when he makes a grimace over his medicine: "Come now, down with it, and no more monkey faces." Elephants have rheumatism, camels have skin disease, and all members of the cat family must be given lime juice to overcome the bad effects of stomach trouble.

A COUPLE OF CIRCUS ANECDOTES.

One hot morning the side show men were yelling themselves black in the face shouting, "A dime—ten cents—pay here," when a big fellow who had been standing around with his mouth open, and his arms rammed into his pockets up to the elbows, stepped up and asked: "Say mister, how much does it cost to get in?" The ticket man retorted instantly, "three dollars for one or two for five. How many do you

want?" The countryman hesitated a moment and said: "You're pretty steep this year, aint ye? Guess ye ain't been doin' very well whur ye cum from." Then he walked off. It was a question which one of them had the laugh.

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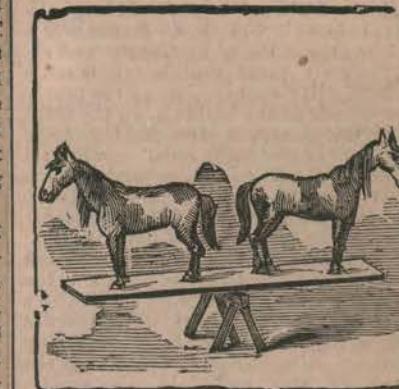
The Gate City.
=SEPTEMBER 20, 1888.=
Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class
Matter.

KING & FRANKLIN'S NEW COLLOSSAL SHOWS!

AND WILD WEST. A mighty congress of world famous features will exhibit at Keokuk,

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

Troupes of performing Stallions imported and educated expressly for this show. 15 Earth's greatest human marvels. Sixteen Lilliputian Ponies in surprising and beautiful performances. Troupe of Gymnasts! Seven tribes of Indians, in their war-like display and wonderful equestrian sports. Life on the plains and thrillingly contrasting the wild west of the new world, with the classic pastimes of the old;



introducing cowboys, western Indians and Mexican vaqueros. The most novel and complete exhibition of the kind ever projected, including every type of manhood known to those who dwell on the wild frontier, or just over the border. An exhibition that is not a show but a fact. Grand Free Street Parade. Admission 10 and 20 cents. Two performances daily at 1 and 7 p. m.

The Gate City.
APRIL 22, 1886.
THE GATE CITY COMPANY,
KEOKUK, IOWA.

KING, BURKE & CO.'S GREAT AMERICAN Allied Shows,

Museum and Trained Animal Exposition, embodying the greatest variety of attractive recreation of any American combination on the road. Will exhibit

**AT KEOKUK, TWO DAYS ONLY,
MAY 7 and 8.**

An extraordinary convection of
Skilled Aromatic Talent,

Associated with an attractive display of living and natural wonders, and an exhibition of the most wonderfully educated animals in existence. Acceptably presenting a canvas entertainment of fresh features in a new and pleasing form.

Remember, One Ticket Admits to Both Pavilions
Admission only 10 cents. Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. daily.

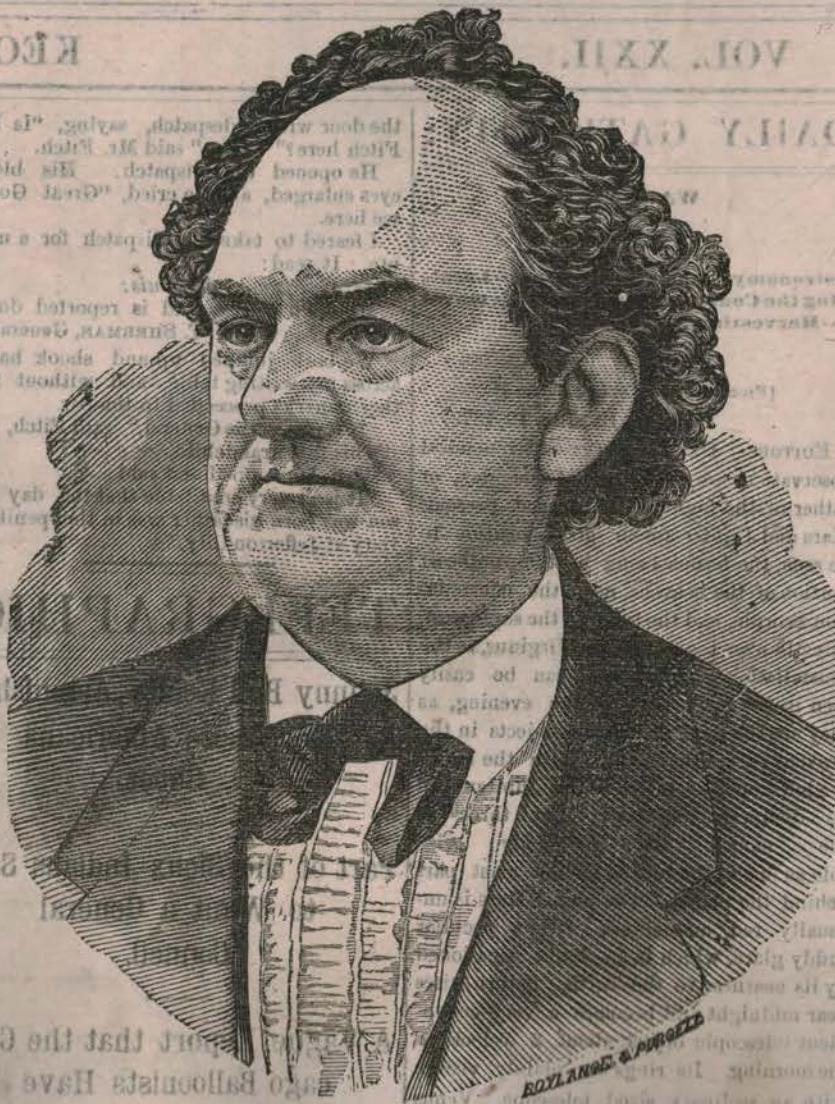
SHOW GROUND,
Bet. Eighth and Ninth and High and Concert sts.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP DAILED HISTORY
. R. L. BUCKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

TEN TIMES THE LARGEST SHOW ON EARTH! ITSELF ITS ONLY PARALLEL!

Crowning Triumph of All!

83



Defying all Limitations!

DAILY GATE CITY.

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 20, 1875.

P. T. BARNUM'S —GREAT— **Roman Hippodrome**

School of Japanese, English, French and American Equilibrists!

Sports of Ancient Greece and Rome, and Historical Pageants in the World!

P. P. BARNUM UNIVERSAL EXPOSITION COMPANY..... Proprietors. | P. T. BARNUM..... President.

Chartered by the Legislature of Connecticut, with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000. The purpose of this organization is to aid Mr. Barnum in attaining the object of his life-long ambition, viz: to elevate, purify and refine the character of public entertainments; to make them merit the support of the moral and religious classes, to blend instruction with amusement, and to essentially promote "Object Teaching." The various exhibitions which this company will produce in Europe and America will be of unprecedented extent and perfection.

**KEOKUK, ONE DAY ONLY,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3,**

On Grounds on Johnson Street, between 17th and 19th.

TWO Performances.

At 2 and 8 P. M.

Doors open an hour previous.

The great Hippodrome's first and only tour through the great West, stopping only at the principal and central points to which excursion trains can be run.

Thousands of people turned away from the doors at almost every exhibition, unable to obtain admission. No such success was ever achieved, and another entertainment of its magnitude will never again be seen in this generation.

Resplendent with all pomp and glory of Caesar's era. Incurring stupendous cost, and without a parallel in any age. It has elicited hundreds of columns of voluntary commendations from the religious and secular press of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and other cities, and the plaudits of nearly 10,000,000 satisfied auditors in the last year, all agreeing such predominant success was never before achieved in the face of the globe.

An amphitheatre, holding 15,000 people, which costs from \$1,000 to \$3,000 to build at every stand; a racing track one fifth mile in length, acres of wide spread canvas, with the largest seating capacity in the world; an army of men, women and children; hundreds of thoroughbred imported horses; gilt and gold-besprinkled chariots and tableau cars; solid silver and jewelled armor; glittering paraphernalia, and the most elaborate, brilliant and expensive wardrobe ever beheld. Historical pageant of The Congress of Nations producing a grand succession of intellectual surprise, embracing the following changes, equivalent to sitting in full view of the Royal Courts of the whole world. Magnificent revival of the sports of Ancient Greece and Rome, with all the exciting races, and many realistic pictures of the olden times. Fete at Pekin, or Celestial Holiday! Indiam Life, or Chase for a Wife, presenting Leonichi's tribe of wild Indians and Mexican Rangers in scenes incident to savage life. Mile D'Atal, Satsuma, and Little All Right, and Lazelle Million, and Master Lazzelli, in a trio of acts—Vision of the Hours. Grand March of the Amazons—Ballot Divertissement—Grand Operatic Chorus, &c.

PROF. W. H. DONALDSON, the distinguished Aeronaut, will make gratuitous ascensions in the air-ship P. T. BARNUM. For this single season's experiments Mr. Barnum pays this renowned aeronaut \$20,000, whose cloud land voyages have made him world-renowned. This is not a common hot-air bag balloon, but the genuine gas air ship, carrying a real weight of ten or twelve people, equivalent to 3,000 pounds.

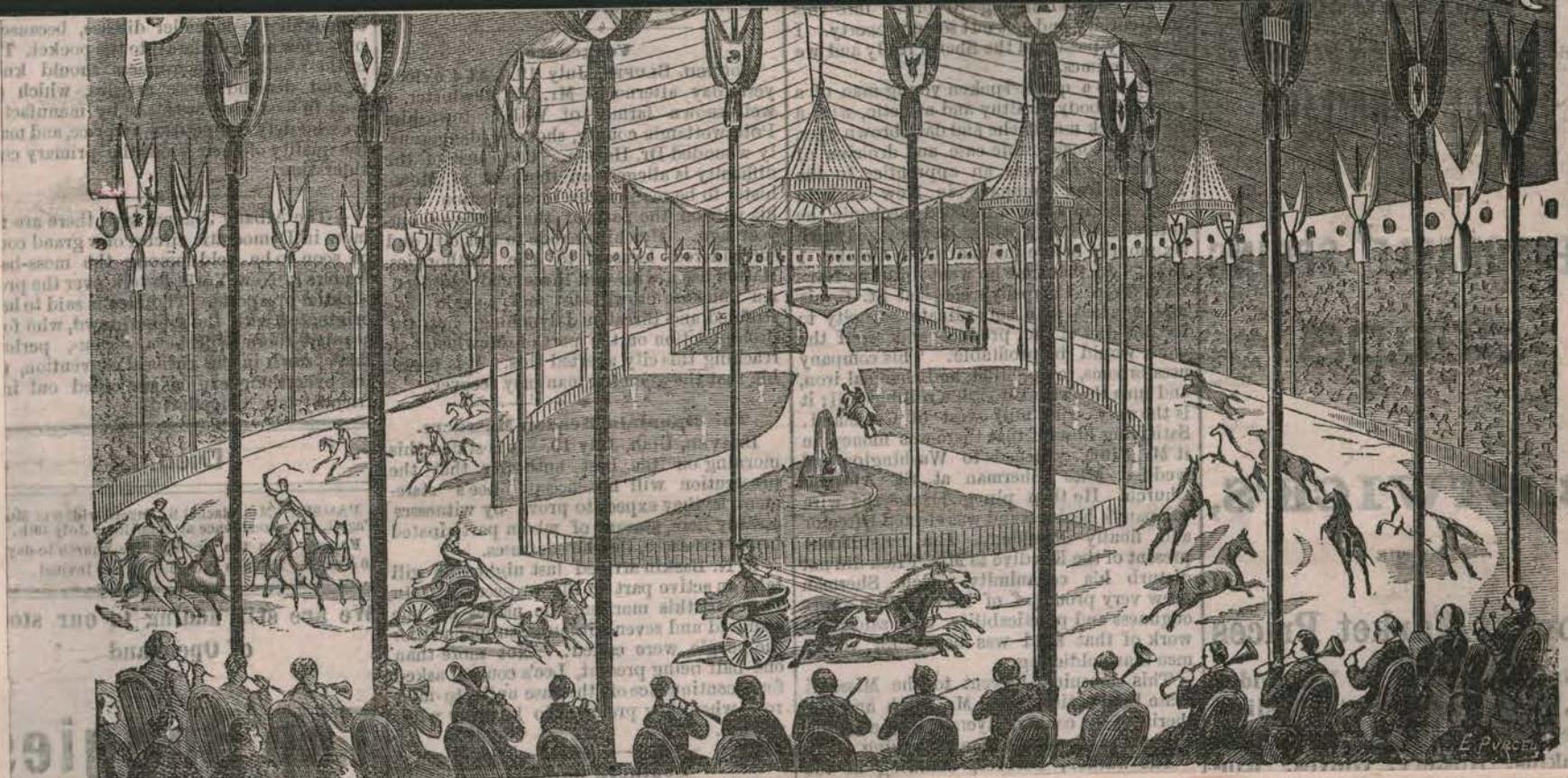
There will be no elaborate display on the streets, as the Gilt and Golden Chariots are too costly to expose to the weather. However, HARTMAN'S SILVER CORNET BAND REED BAND OF FIFTY MUSICIANS, the largest traveling musical organization ever completed, will appear upon the streets at 10 a. m., followed by hundreds of superb thoroughbred and imported horses belonging to the Hippodrome.

On account of the delicacy and value of the jeweled armor and gold and silver laced wardrobe, it is deemed inexpedient to expose it to the weather, but it is produced in the production of the glittering and historical Congress of Nations, which appropriately inaugurates every performance. In order not to over-fatigue the lady riders, charioteers and performers, they will not appear in the street parade. The trained trotting and running thoroughbred and Arabian horses, with the elephants, camels, etc., will make up the display upon the street.

Arrangements are now completed for the transportation of the entire Hippodrome to Europe, where it will open in London on Christmas next.

As the expense of this stupendous establishment aggregates near \$10,000 daily, it will be impossible to stop for exhibition at the smaller towns. Excursion trains can be arranged for and run at such hours as will accommodate the public, carrying passengers to and from the Hippodrome at greatly reduced rates.

P. T. Barnum's Great Roman Hippodrome.



P. T. BARNUM to the Public. I offer the following List of Challenges:

If accepted and proved contrary to truth, I make the condition that the money be appropriated to any Charitable Institution chosen by the Mayor of the city in which they are accepted:

\$5,000 That the Barnum Universal Exposition Company have imported more thoroughbred horses than all the combined shows in America.

\$5,000 That I am now expending more money to erect wooden amphitheaters for the comfortable accommodation of my patrons than the daily expenses of any traveling show on this continent.

\$5,000 That I have more musicians traveling with me than any two traveling shows in America, four times as many as some calling themselves first-class shows, and the finest band that ever traveled with a tent.

\$5,000 That we have more performers than any five shows combined in America.

\$5,000 That the silver armor purchased by me from Messrs. Kennedy, Birmingham, England, cost more money alone than all the wardrobe of any traveling show in America, for either ring or parade purposes.

\$5,000 That we are the only company in America that produces the Congress of Nations as it was produced in England; and

\$5,000 That we produce it better than was produced there.

\$5,000 That I am the only man who ever imported packs of English hounds, whippers-in, and all the

apparatus for a representation of an English Stag Hunt in a Hippodrome in America.

\$5,000 That mine is the only company that produces the grand-spectacular pageant—The Fete at Pekin—no other concern having the wardrobe or balloon to produce it.

\$5,000 That P. T. Barnum has originated and successfully managed more and larger amusement enterprises than any man on earth, and that he now has the largest in the world.

\$5,000 That I originated and produced, and have the only show in America producing a representation of Donnybrook Fair, in which appear two hundred ladies, gentlemen, horses and jaunting-cars. This piece was gotten up at a great expense, my manager having visited the Fair, in order that the representation might be perfect from the knowledge gained thereby.

\$5,000 That our tent is larger than any before erected in the world.

\$5,000 That I have a greater change of programme than any traveling show on earth.

\$5,000 That my organization cost more money than the value of three of the largest show organizations in America.

\$5,000 That our magnificent wardrobe cost more than the wardrobe belonging to all the traveling shows combined.

\$5,000 That the salary list of Barnum's company is more than the entire salary list of three of the

largest tent-shows in America.

\$5,000 That we have a finer stock of horses than any show on earth.

\$5,000 That we are the only company who have imported genuine English Jockeys and Lady Hurdle Riders.

\$5,000 That we are the only company who have imported Mexican lasso thrower and riders, with their mustang ponies and all paraphernalia.

\$5,000 That my Hippodrome is not divided, and the same amount that it is larger than it was in New York.

\$5,000 That I pay my band more money than the entire ring performance of any tent-show in America.

\$5,000 That my Hippodrome tent contains more square yards of cloth than any ten ordinary circus tents.

\$5,000 That my dressing-room tents are in themselves larger than most of the circus tents now in use.

\$5,000 That I use more railroad cars than any show on earth, ten of them built very low expressly to carry my immenses chariots, which are too high for the ordinary railroad cars.

\$5,000 That I have expended more money for new novelties than all the combined shows in America.

\$5,000 That I am the only man who ever gave with a traveling show, each day, where sufficient gas can be procured, a genuine gas balloon ascension, the

celebrated W. H. Donaldson, the most daring aeronaut that ever lived, being engaged for that purpose at a salary equal the expense of an entire circus troupe.

\$5,000 That we carry more canvas-men to erect our varlone Pavilions than are required to run every department combined of any other traveling organization in America.

\$5,000 That we have made more improvements in traveling exhibitions and have been copied more than all other shows in America.

\$5,000 That ours is the largest and finest traveling exhibition ever conceived by man. Other prominent shows have offered to wager large sums that the combination could not be moved from place to place.

Please read carefully, and remember that these Challenges are open to showmen, or any other individuals, under the above conditions. It is the only Hippodrome. It is not the old, old Circus, but every act entirely new and startling, and is under more expense than three of the largest Shows on earth.

The Congress of Nations is not exhibited in the streets. It can only be seen in all its magnificence in the va-t Amphitheater.

P. T. BARNUM.

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL WHO PURCHASE THE LIFE OF P. T. BARNUM, written by himself, down to the present period of 1875, with nearly 1,000 pages and 50 full page illustrations, reduced in price from \$3.50 to \$1.50. For sale within the Great Hippodrome. Uniformed Ushers in attendance.

Admission 60 cents; children under 9 years 25 cents. Reserved seats extra. Doors open at one and seven.

Every facility will be offered the public for procuring tickets in the wagons on the lot, but to accommodate such as prefer to avoid possible delay by obtaining them at the customary small advance, a few tickets will be left for sale at Ayres Brothers' Music House, Nos. 130 and 132 Main street.
Remember the Roman Hippodrome is not a circus, and that every objectionable feature has been removed, so that the clergy and moral classes can safely attend without fear of being annoyed by coarse jests, immodest apparel and by repulsive displays.
NOTICE.—The many thousand feet of lumber from which the amphitheater is erected in every stand will be offered for sale at public auction on the Hippodrome grounds the day after exhibition. The lumber is valuable for building and other purposes, in most cases answering as well as new.

QUINCY, Monday, Aug. 2; KEOKUK, Tuesday, Aug. 3; BURLINGTON, Wednesday, Aug. 4; OTTUMWA, Thursday, Aug. 5.

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DAILY GATE CITY.

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 18, 1875.

Barnum's New York Hippodrome Coming.

This grand aggregation of novelties, precisely as presented in New York nearly seven hundred times, will perform here one day only, Tuesday, August 3d, afternoon and evening. The Chicago papers are loud and hearty in their commendations of the Hippodrome's exhibitions. No great show, no matter how popular, ever received such elaborate and unqualifiedly eulogistic newspaper attention as this last, grandest and greatest triumph of America's typical showman, the unapproachable Barnum. But, if his show is stupendous in its proportions, its success is even more significant than any of Mr. Barnum's former attempts to please the public. This will be an important and profitable pause for the Hippodrome, for the country for hundreds of miles will turn out en masse. A Chicago exchange says:

We cannot here give anything like a full description of the entertainment, but it was so unique and interesting that it seems as though we should never again be satisfied to see horses cantering around the old contracted circus ring, with nothing to vary the monotony but the faces made by the clown, the crack of the ring master's whip, and curiosity to see what shall be handed up for "madame" or "signor" to jump over.

The attendance yesterday afternoon was estimated at 10,000, and in the evening 6,000, and we think it safe to say that every one of this assemblage was fully and completely satisfied. People may couple "humbug" with Barnum's name as much as they please, but it is getting to be well known that he shows just what he says he will, barring accidents, and gives full measure of everything. No one in this city or any other need ever regret the time or money expended in an attendance of one of the meetings of the "Great Moral Show."

DAILY GATE CITY.

SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 1, 1875.

THE HIPPODROME.

Something About the Great Showman's Great Show.

Barnum's Roman Hippodrome will arrive in this city via the St. L. K. & N. Ry. on Tuesday morning and will give two exhibitions here.

While the show was at St. Louis week before last, the *Times* hunted up Mr. Barnum himself and obtained the following information concerning the establishment:

The Hippodrome is owned by a stock company incorporated under the laws of Connecticut with a capital of \$1,000,000. Mr. Barnum owns the largest portion of the stock. W. C. Coup, general manager, super-

intendent and treasurer; Dan Castello, director of amusement; John Nixon, who directs the races, and some others, are also interested in it. Very few have any idea of the Hippodrome. It is 686 feet long, 300 feet wide and capable of seating 15,000 people. There are 109 lady performers, 360 men performers and 568 performing horses. It takes ninety railroad cars to transport them from place to place. These cars are all owned by the company, and marked on the outside, "Barnum's Hippodrome." The probabilities are that the Hippodrome will not go as far west as was originally intended, the expense attendant on it being more than Barnum thinks could be realized on the trip. The cost of getting up the show exceeded \$700,000. Some of the lady riders get a salary of \$200 per week; others get above that sum. The male riders are paid in proportion, so that it can be conceived in some degree what an expense attends the exhibition. After the close of the season, which will be in September, the Hippodrome organization will be taken to Europe to return no more. Three steamers are already chartered for the purpose of conveying them over. Barnum will visit the principal cities of Great Britain and the continent.

The *Globe-Democrat* in a long account of the performance, says:

A stag hunt followed, then a two-horse Roman chariot race, then Madame D'Atalé, the female Samson, fired off a cannon from her shoulder, when a whoop was heard, and in rushed a tribe of Indians, and before the audience could look around the lodges were pitched, a war dance was going on and the red men were occupied in the various pursuits of their nomadic life. A white man was captured, tied to a horse and dispatched. A buffalo hunt took place, in which a young buffalo made good time against his pursuers mounted on fleet steeds. Six young braves indulged in a hurdle race on Indian ponies. There was a race on Indian ponies. There was a race between a man and a horse, in which the biped gained the laurels. The most exciting and interesting part of the entertainment then came in the "chase for a wife." The chief's daughter is placed on a horse and pursued by her suitors, mounted on their own steeds, and according to the Indian custom, she is supposed to become the wife of the man who catches her.

The St. L. K. & N. Ry. has the contract to transport Barnum's Hippodrome from Quincy to Keokuk. The outfit will consist of 7 coaches, 6 box cars, 16 stock cars and 31 flats, making 60 cars in all. The train will be divided into three sections, and will require that number of locomotives to move it. It will leave Quincy after the performance on Monday night, and will arrive here at 6 o'clock Tuesday morning.

The K. & D. M. will run an excursion train to this city on the occasion of the appearance of Barnum's Hippodrome here next Tuesday. The train will leave Summit at 6 a. m., passing Bentonsport at 6:40, Bonaparte at 7, Farmington at 7:30, Croton at 8, Belfast at 8:30 and Sand Prairie at 9, arriving at Keokuk at 10 a. m. Returning the train will leave Keokuk at 11 p. m., after the evening performance is over. Tickets for the round trip will be sold at one and one-third regular fare, and fifty cents addi-

tional for ticket of admission to the Hippodrome, without which no excursion ticket will be sold.

DAILY GATE CITY.

TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 3, 1875.

The Hippodrome.

To-day Barnum's Hippodrome, which everybody has been talking about for the last month, and which pretty much everybody in this section will go to see, will be here, and will give two exhibitions—afternoon and evening. It will arrive from Quincy this morning by the St. L. K. & N. Railway.

No other show that ever visited the West can approach the Hippodrome in extent, style or novelty. It is a stupendous enterprise, and worth all it costs to see it and more. To look inside the great canvas when the seats are filled is a sight seldom witnessed. The entertainment is a novelty in the show line, and while it differs altogether from the old circus it is always interesting and exciting.

After the performance in the afternoon, Prof. King will make an ascension in one of his balloons from the Hippodrome grounds. The Professor is an experienced aeronaut, and the thousands who attend the show will have an opportunity of seeing the ascension, unless a storm interferes, which is not probable.

DAILY GATE CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1875

BARNUM'S HIPPODROME.

The "Boss" Show.

Keokuk and the thousands of people who came here from all directions, witnessed yesterday the event of the season in the show line, and the hugest exhibition ever given in Keokuk. It was Barnum's Hippodrome, the "boss" show of the period.

The magnetic influence which pervades everything that Barnum undertakes had the effect to draw the usual multitudes of visitors. They commenced to assemble here early in the morning and continued to do so until noon. They came in vehicles and on horseback, and every train of cars and steamboat that arrived brought large delegations. The C. B. & Q. came in with five passenger coaches well filled, the T. P. & W. with seven, and the T. W. & W. and St. L. K. & N. with good representations. The Jennie Brown brought good trips from Warsaw and Alexandria, and the

Louisa from Nauvoo. The people along the line of the K. & D. M. were less eager to see the Hippodrome, the special on that road, bringing but two car loads of passengers. At ten o'clock Main street was fairly thronged, and while the procession was passing the sidewalks were almost completely blockaded. Except on the big days of the State Fair, we presume that there hasn't been such a crowd of people in Keokuk since Barnum was here two or three years ago. And of course they all went to the show.

The Hippodrome is a mammoth concern, and nothing but the genius of the great showman could ever have conceived of such an undertaking. It combines novelty, attractiveness and completeness, and is a happy innovation upon anything heretofore introduced. The novelty begins with the street parade which is grand and imposing, but this isn't the best part of the show by any means.

The exhibition is given under an immense oblong pavilion 450 feet in length by 250 in width. Instead of the contracted saw-dust arena of the conventional circus we see a regular race course the shape of the pavilion and nearly as large. Instead of the old-fashioned worn-out circus performance you witness one that is at once novel and exciting.

The performance opens with a grand pageant "The Congress of Nations," which is a procession of chariots, men, women, horses and animals representing nearly all the nations on the globe. This was doubtless the most gorgeous spectacle ever witnessed in this city. Of course the Goddess of Liberty received the loudest applause. The exhibition which follows, consists mainly of a series of races of various kinds—Jockey races, hurdle races, chariot races, pony races and others. For this purpose a stud of sixty thoroughbred horses are used. Many of them are steeds which have distinguished themselves upon the turf. The riding and driving were almost faultless. The lady equestrianism was particularly skilled and daring. Miss Taylor, one of the most dashing and graceful of the lady riders, was engaged to be married to the ill-fated Donaldson, who was lost with the balloon which went up from Chicago.

A number of other interesting and amusing features were introduced, which we find we haven't time or space to enumerate. Suffice it to say that everything was good, and everybody well pleased.

The attendance was very large both afternoon and evening, the amphitheater, which has a seating capacity of eight to ten thousand, being well filled on both occasions.

At the conclusion of the afternoon performance the balloon ascension took place. This was one of the events of the day. Prof. King made an aerial voyage in the balloon "Cloud Nymph." It was expected that a member of the press would accom-

pany the Professor, and it was left with the two daily papers to decide between themselves which should be represented. The GATE CITY reporter cheerfully withdrew from the contest. He didn't relish the thought of bidding a tearful adieu to his friends and setting out on a voyage into illimitable space. He remembered the fate of the Chicago Journal man and was content to remain on terra firma. Tom Eichelberger, of the Constitution, reluctantly consented to sacrifice himself, but a hint from the Professor that the air ship was a little unseaworthy, and that he preferred to have some one along who had had a little experience in the balloon business, easily dissuaded him from his purpose, so an attache of the Hippodrome was detailed to make the trip.

The "Cloud Nymph" was loosed from her moorings at half-past four o'clock, and sailed gracefully aloft, midst the cheers of the assembled throng. The Professor took along a grip-sack and an umbrella, and was evidently prepared for a rain storm or a night's lodging. The balloon took a northeasterly course, and when last seen was over in Illinois somewhere, and still going.

We cannot conclude this notice without expressing our thanks to Mr. D. S. Thomas, the gentlemanly Press Agent of the Hippodrome, for favors shown us. He escorted the members of the press through all the different departments of the institution, and showed them many interesting features which the plebian spectator doesn't have an opportunity of seeing. The Hippodrome is fortunate in having so excellent a gentleman in that position.

HEARD FROM.

Since writing the above a telegram has been received stating that the balloon landed at our neighboring town of Carthage last evening, at 6:30. The presence of the aerial visitor created a big excitement over there, and a big crowd assembled to witness it. Ropes were attached to the balloon and a number of ladies sent up in it a short distance.

DAILY GATE CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1875.

A BALLOON VOYAGE.

From Keokuk to Carthage at an Altitude of Two Miles.

HOW THE COUNTRY LOOKS--MAGNIFICENT LANDSCAPE.

The Landing at Carthage--The Villagers in a Glow of Excitement.

EDITOR GATE CITY: What language can

I use to convey the sensation I feel at this moment. Grand, magnificent, and all the rest of the extravagant adjectives in our language I assure you do not begin to express the emotions my whole being is experiencing. Away down, down, is the earth—now for the first time, witnessed by me from an aerial ship—spread out before me like a map. Immense fields of corn, probably containing a hundred acres, appear like a checker board. I now begin to feel a singular ringing in my ears, caused, as Prof. King explains, by the extreme rarity of the air at this great altitude. Now let me come down to sense and particulars, and tell you what I see.

Your thriving little city of Keokuk looks like a few children's play-houses huddled together, with a silver thread (the Mississippi) furnishing a beautiful boundary on the east. By the use of the glass I can make out what are called on earth people, but from here I must designate them as ants, and very small ones at that. A veil of mist prevents a very extended view west. I am able, however, to trace the Des Moines river for probably twenty miles. Immediately under us, and for probably fifty miles east, is one of the finest views God ever permitted one of His creatures to behold. We can clearly make out Elvaston, Burnside, La Harp, Ferris, Carthage, Quincy, Burlington, &c., &c.

The Professor has just informed me that he has found three different currents of air, and has decided to take the upper one and land in Carthage.

Now we are over the T. P. & W. R. R. The engineer evidently sees us, as he keeps up a constant whistling. Away off to the North I see a large flock of cattle, each of which look about the size of a dot over an i.

The combination of sounds blended together, chickens crowing, cow-bells, an occasional shout from some farm boy, a toot of a locomotive, is, without exaggeration, the sweetest music I ever listened to. If any of your readers have ever visited Europe, the sensation they experienced when, after days of a long and tedious voyage, the first glimpse of land is obtained from the hurricane deck; if they remember the delight and pleasure they experienced on first beholding that welcome sight, I can assure them that, comparatively speaking, that pleasure is but the first letter in the alphabet to what I or any other person feels during an air voyage. No wonder aeronauts love their profession, and will risk their lives to behold these beauties of God's creation. We are now rapidly approaching Carthage. We can distinctly hear men, women and children talking. We are asked repeatedly how we feel up there; "Come down and take a drink;" "Where are you going;" "Ain't you scared," etc., etc. We are now approaching the suburbs, and I can see hundreds of people who are in a state of wildest excitement. I must stop now, and finish after landing, as the Professor wishes me to assist him.

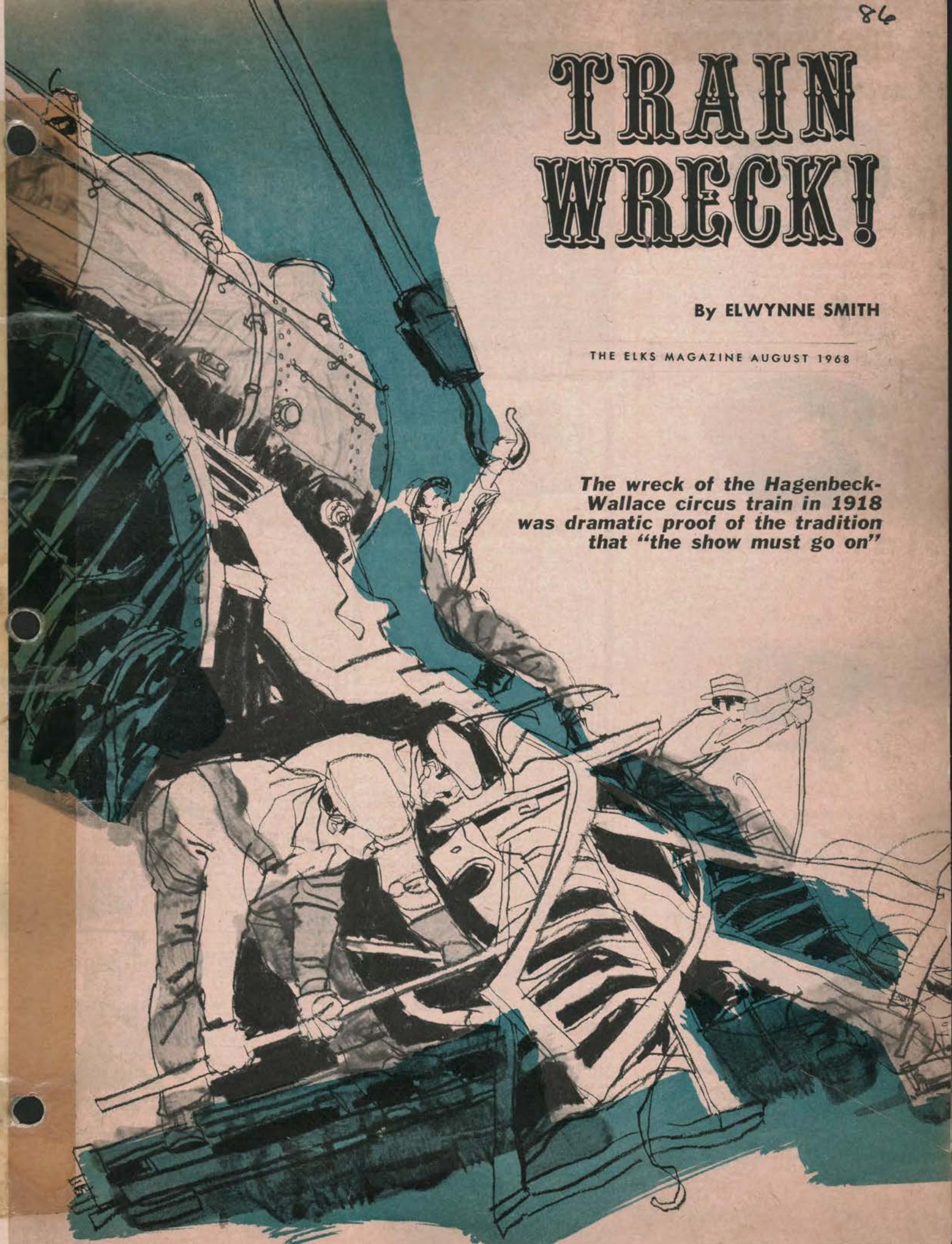
THE GREAT DUST BALLOON CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL
KEOKUK, IOWA

TRAIN WRECK!

By ELWYNNE SMITH

THE ELKS MAGAZINE AUGUST 1968

The wreck of the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus train in 1918 was dramatic proof of the tradition that "the show must go on"



An hour before daylight on the morning of June 22, 1918, the second section of the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus train slowed to a stop at Ivanhoe, Indiana, between Gary and Hammond. A hot box on one of the cars in the train had to be taken care of.

Hundreds of circus people, including all the star performers of the big circus, were asleep in four old wooden sleeping cars, many of them in double bunks three tiers high. The sleeping cars were on the rear end of the train.

Brakeman Oscar Timm went back at once to signal a train that was known to be following on the same track. He fixed a railroad warning torpedo to a rail. He lit and placed a red fusee on the track. He saw the train's headlight appear and noted that the railroad's block signals were showing red.

The train, traveling empty, was one used for carrying servicemen in this last year of World War I. It ran through two block signals. It overran the red warning fusee. It didn't stop. It didn't slow.

Timm lit another fusee and ran down the tracks swinging it. As the train thundered past he managed to hurl the flaming fusee into the engine's cab in a final effort to get the engine crew's attention. He had a glimpse of a shadowy figure in the cab and said later that he felt positive the engineer was dead at the throttle.

Railroad towerman Hamilton Forbes was the only eyewitness to the wreck. From his switch tower at Ivanhoe, he saw the stopped circus train. Then, horrified, he saw the rapidly approaching troop train. "It was traveling fast, very fast," he told reporters later. Forbes saw the troop train plow into the sleeping cars as if they were cardboard. The rear car was split down the middle. The three sleeping cars ahead were simply telescoped and then smashed into fragments as the train's big steam engine crunched into the wreckage.

Mrs. Barney Sams, who lived near the wreck scene, was almost shaken out of bed by the crash. From her window she saw what she said looked like a huge pile of kindling wood. "I could hear people screaming and shouting," she said, "and I knew something terrible had happened."

Her neighbor, Mrs. Bert Moyer, said, "I heard screams of the injured and dying. The cars almost immediately caught fire. Flames lit up the scene. The terrible crash, the screams, and then the crackling sound of the flames added to the awfulness of it."

It was the fire that made the Hagenbeck-Wallace wreck the most frightful railroad disaster in U.S. history. Fire started in several places at once when acetylene lamps used to light the cars were broken. It started slowly. Then, fanned by a strong wind, the flames

"seemed to leap" as one survivor described it, and swiftly engulfed the whole mass of broken wooden cars.

So, many victims were trapped—not fatally injured, but pinned in the incredible tangle of wreckage that piled up when the sleeping cars were shattered. For many of them, the wreck became a blazing funeral pyre.

Circus people who were not injured dragged themselves from the wreckage, then immediately rushed back to pull others free. All around them were shrieks of pain and terror. Rescuers tore their hands to shreds on splintered beams and twisted steel in a desperate, heart-breaking effort to get trapped victims out.

Some were saved. Trapeze performer Eddie Ward, of the famous Flying Wards, and wild animal trainer Emil Schwyer carried at least 20 injured persons from the wreck. A gang of husky circus roustabouts, their heads bleeding, worked as a team in their bare feet lifting parts of the wreck so that people underneath could be moved to safety. After three men had failed to pry heavy wreckage from a screaming woman, a circus wagonman known only as "Blackie" strode in and, with superhuman strength, got her out alive.

But there was too little time. So rapidly did the fire become a holocaust that rescuers couldn't get to several people who were not pinned in the wreckage but who were too badly injured to pull themselves away from the flames. A young circus performer, his clothes burned off, was unable to save his sister from a fiery death. The Great Diericks, circus strongman, lost his life in a valiant effort to rescue still-alive victims.

Flames drove off several men who were struggling to help veteran clown Joe Coyle free his 11-year-old son who was pinned in the wreckage. This was one of the cruellest of the many tragedies that were happening so fast. As Coyle fought to save his son he could see the crushed bodies of his wife and another younger son beneath the trapped boy. The sobbing father tugged and hauled and pulled on wooden beams until flames actually got to the boy, who could be heard crying, "Daddy, Daddy. Can't you get me out? I'm burning. Daddy!"

And Coyle could not get his son free. He would have died trying if co-workers had not dashed in and pulled him away. He was taken to the hospital later, badly burned and in a condition of stunned grief.

The heat became so intense that all rescuers had to get away from the wreck. They could see trapped victims still in the blazing wreckage. They could hear their hideous screams. And they could do nothing except stand there helplessly beside the railroad tracks in the red glare of the fire and

watch their fellow troupers be consumed by flames before their eyes. For many in that group of wreck survivors, this scene of appalling horror was more than they could endure.

Several hysterical women had to be restrained by force from flinging themselves back into the flames. A few survivors suffered such utter shock they were unable to stand on their feet. Others ran wildly away from the wreck scene. They were found hours later wandering, dazed, in a nearby woods.

When the Gary fire department arrived there was little they could do. No water was available at the site. At the height of the blaze it was not possible to get within 150 feet of the wreck. There were no more screams, now, from victims trapped in the wreck. There was just the savage roar of the fire and the hiss of steam escaping from the locomotive of the troop train, derailed but still upright in the middle of that tangle of flaming wreckage.

Eighty-five circus people lost their lives in the Hagenbeck-Wallace wreck; 127 were seriously injured. It was not possible at all to identify 48 of the bodies recovered from the wreckage. These were buried together in a mass grave at Showmen's Rest, a plot furnished by the Showmen's League of America, in Woodlawn Cemetery, Forest Park, Illinois.

The entire nation grieved for the stricken circus. Those who had perished were circus people, and the circus was a much-loved institution in 1918.

The wreck of the circus train took such a high toll in dead and injured because the wooden sleeping cars were old and flimsy and broke up so completely in the collision and then caught fire so quickly. Some who burned to death were almost literally cremated. Their charred remains were picked up with shovels and taken from the wreck scene in baskets.

When the troop train's engine split the rear sleeping car apart, those who were asleep there, many of them, were spilled into the middle, right ahead of the engine. Then they were pushed and ground along the tracks in front of the engine and up against the accumulating wreckage. Railroad workers later picked up severed arms and legs, parts of torsos.

Miraculously, May Curtis, wardrobe mistress for the circus, escaped from the complete disintegration of that last car with only a broken ankle. She was knocked unconscious in the collision and was then somehow tumbled through what must have been a maelstrom of splintering wreckage. "When I came to," she said, "I found hissing steam scalding my arm. I was under the engine. How I got there God only knows."

Circusman Henry Miller, who was asleep in the next to the last car, told

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

how he emerged without a scratch when this car was shattered. "I was pounded into the corner of my berth. Then the train buckled on itself. I felt my car rising as the engine plowed into it. The car roof exploded off. Smoothly and gently, I was lifted up to the top, above all the wreckage."

From his hospital bed, Alex Codd, an acrobat, told what it was like to be almost killed in the collision and then almost burned alive in the wreckage. "The car broke like the cracking of an eggshell. My legs doubled up under the pressure of the walls of the car as they caved in. I couldn't move. Then, the cars were on fire. It became hotter and hotter. Around me was pandemonium. I could feel the fire and hear the shrill cries of those I had worked with so long. Then I lost consciousness."

What about the engineer of the troop train? Had he been dead just before the wreck as the circus train's brakeman thought? Railroad officials at the wreck scene agreed that it must have been a case of a dead engineer in the engine cab. In no other way could they account for the fact that all warning signals were ignored.

Then a trainman reported that he had seen the engineer, Alonzo Sargent, after the wreck. He had been badly shaken up but was alive and uninjured. It was learned that he had left the wreck scene. That evening he was arrested in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Sargent at first told investigators that steam had obscured the block signal behind the circus train. He was reminded that there were two block signals, a signalling brakeman, an exploding torpedo, red lights on the rear of the circus train, a brightly flaming red warning fusee, and another fusee thrown into his engine cab. And he was told that the throttle of his engine was almost wide open when the engine stopped. The engineer finally changed his testimony and admitted that he "must have been sleeping."

The day after the wreck there was a mass meeting of all the circus people—those who were left—on the circus lot in Hammond, Indiana, where the circus had been scheduled to set up. It was decided to continue the tour.

To outsiders, this was an astonishing decision, considering that circus owner Ed Ballard's personnel roster showed red lines drawn through the names of 100 performers. Of the 25 acts in the circus, only one was without casualties in dead or injured.

Circus performers of that decade possessed an unquestioning acceptance of an unwritten law that had been passed on to them for generations. The law said: "When it comes circus time you go in there and put on your act. No matter if the heavens are erupting

and the thunder is crashing or if hurricane winds are whipping or even shredding the white tops . . . still, you go in there and you go into your act."

The tradition of the circus had never been broken. Besides, the circus could roll. Little damage had been done to the circus properties, loaded in baggage wagons on the flatcars up forward on the train. No horses were lost. The menagerie was intact. From other circuses had come offers to help, to loan whole acts, or furnish replacements. This was the Golden Age of the circus and at the time there were a dozen big "under-canvas" circuses.

Four days after the disaster the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus picked up the tour at Beloit, Wisconsin. There were many new faces on the circus lot. There were many bandages under the spangled costumes worn in the opening pageant that day. But every trouper able to walk was there when it came circus time.

To the spectators at that afternoon's performance it was the same wonderful circus as always. They didn't know that Millie Jewell, Queen of the Lion's Den, always rode in that chair high above the purple plumed horses. Today the gilded seat was empty. They weren't told that The Avalons were replacing the McDhu Sisters, circus artists who would not again perform under the Big Top. They couldn't see the tears in the eyes of the clowns, who put on their acts without Johnnie Carter. And Eddie Ward. And Joe Coyle. And Eddie Devoe.

One of the surviving clowns, Lon Moore, had been rescued from the flaming wreckage the night of the disaster. He had suffered quite severe burns. When circus time came it was painful for him to move. Even though his clown routine was a rough and tumble one, the 52-year-old Moore ignored the tortures of his spills and falls and put on his wild buffoonery with the same heartiness as always. After the performance he limped to his dressing tent, his face contorted with pain. But before Lon Moore left the Big Top that afternoon he had succeeded in making every youngster at the circus scream with joy. Such was the magic of a great circus clown.

The Cottrells, famous bareback riders went on without star equestrienne Louise Powell. Bob Cottrell had watched them take the horribly burned body of his partner from the wreckage of the sleeping cars. He had been strangely silent. Now, as he awaited his entrance, he seemed well-composed until the band broke into "Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." This had always been the cue for the petite and popular Louise Powell to dance out into the spotlight in the center ring and begin their fast-paced riding act. Suddenly,

Cottrell threw his arms up and cried, "I can't go on! I can't go on!"

But he did go on. And, flashing recklessly from the back of one horse to another, Bob Cottrell that afternoon put on one of the most magnificent exhibitions of his difficult art.

It was good that the circus went on with the tour. Those who had lost loved ones in the wreck—and that included just about everyone in the circus—discovered there was a healing power in getting back to work. Only when they "went into their act" were they able to forget that awful day in Indiana when the engineer of the troop train fell asleep at the throttle.

DAILY GATE CITY
FRIDAY, SEPT. 7, 1923

WILDEST BEAST IN U. S. WAS AT LANCASTER

LANCASTER, Mo., Sept. 7.—Jumbo, the elephant that escaped from Lancaster, Mo., and who caused a great deal of consternation in the vicinity south of Exline, so much in fact that it was finally deemed necessary to shoot him in spite of his value. He was the wildest pachyderm that ever visited America, according to William P. Hall, his owner.

In a letter Mr. Hall says:

"This elephant I bought at the Siam islands the first of the year. He landed at Frisco week before last and came from there to Lancaster with a bunch of eight. When they unloaded him here he broke his chains and seemed to go wild. I have imported more elephants than any other one man in America and he seemed to be the worst I have ever had. He must have traveled at least sixty miles before he was killed. Of course I hated to kill the animal, but we did all we could to capture him alive and it was simply impossible."

Many are the interesting stories that have been told of southeast Iowa's one and only "big game hunt." In bad mood an elephant will do more peculiar and destructive things than almost any other beast. In one instance the pachyderm is said to have chased a man. The man took to a tree. Then the elephant backed into it with such force that the man was shaken from his retreat, much as a possum would be shaken from a limb. The man hurried into a nearby ditch and the elephant, apparently satisfied, started to chase somebody else.

MY FATHER OWNED A CIRCUS

By

ROBERT H. GOLLMAR

ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS



THE CAXTON PRINTERS, LTD.
CALDWELL, IDAHO
1965

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Gollmar Bros. would be in many more storms, some of which would do more damage to the circus than this one, but they would never be so close to stark tragedy on a large scale again.



Wrecks were another all too common hazard among railroad shows. Traveling as a special train, sandwiched in between trains and often on single-line railroads, the circus was the victim of human error and mechanical defects. The long night runs ended many times with overturned cars, screaming animals, and, sometimes, killed or injured people.

Bert Gollmar remembers several wrecks in his seven years of troup ing. In 1905, at Kempton, Indiana, the runs under the elephant car came loose and fell. The elephant car tipped over and several wagons were thrown off the flats. The stringer wagon sat buried to its axles in a farmer's yard. The flatcars were badly wrecked and were away from the show about two weeks being repaired.

He remembers the wreck at Mandan, North Dakota. Another one was at Detroit Lake, Minnesota. About 3:00 A.M. a car of coal broke loose while switching, ran down the track about a half mile and drove the engine back into the first stock car. Eight horses were killed. Strangely, they were in the center of the car, and the horses on either end were not injured.

Father remembers the wreck at Mandan, which is near Bismarck, North Dakota. This was in 1906 or 1907. Cars were smashed, horses killed, and the damage was great. Fortunately, no people were injured. Included in the horses killed was an eight-horse team

WIND, WRECKS, AND WATER

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driven by Charles Rooney. This Charles (there was more than one Charles Rooney on the circuses) went with Ringling Brothers the following year and was with them a long time.

This was on the Northern Pacific and Ringling Brothers urged Gollmar Brothers not to press their claim for damages. Ringlings were fearful that the railroad might refuse to carry circuses, since some of the railroads considered circuses an unsatisfactory item.

Gollmar Brothers had to rent stock cars, and Father finally negotiated a settlement. The railroad built the circus five new horse cars and paid them six hundred dollars.

In 1918 occurred one of the worst wrecks in circus history, the Hagenbeck-Wallace wreck on June 22, 1918, near Hammond, Indiana. That was the year that Charles A. Gollmar was manager and Fred C. Gollmar was in charge of the advance on the Hagenbeck-Wallace. Many of the old Gollmar troupers had followed the Gollmars to the Hagenbeck show.

The engineer of a troop train apparently went to sleep, ran a red signal, and plowed into the second section of the circus train. Crumpled wooden cars burned in the flash fire that followed. This section carried performers, staff people, and other personnel. Sixty-eight persons were killed, most of them burned so badly that recognition was impossible. Father made the funeral arrangements and they were buried in a common grave. Later a pink marble elephant was erected over the grave.

Since it was impossible to identify the bodies, Father arranged a mass funeral. A Jewish Rabbi, Roman Catholic priest, and Protestant ministers all took part. In

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addition, Masonic, Eastern Star, and Elks burial services were given. The coffins were nameless and each one merely said "At Rest."

My Uncle Charles and his wife escaped out of the car window in their nightclothes. They lost all of their personal belongings but they always considered themselves lucky at that. While Charles could not save their personal possessions, he did get the circus safe out of the window, and saved the owners the \$40,000 that was in it.

The story of this wreck, probably the worst in circus history, has been told in story and movie over and over again. I will not retell it here. I merely give you, for what it is worth, the strange background story that my father tells.

Most show people, circus, stage, and others, have some superstitions. My father's two were thirteen and Friday. He firmly believed, and believes to this day, that no one should begin any enterprise on a Friday.

Hagenbeck-Wallace was owned by the American Circus Corporation group. Of this group Ed Ballard was particularly active in the operation of the Hagenbeck-Wallace show. Father, as I said, had charge of the advance, and this included routing and making and signing railroad contracts. He had made arrangements with the Michigan Central Railroad to put the show in Hammond, Indiana, on Sunday, with performances on Monday, but—the contract was not signed.

Father was in Chicago on a Friday and met Ed Ballard. Ed suggested the contract be signed that day to save Father a trip back on Monday. Father's superstition told him not to sign; he never had signed a railroad

contract on a Friday, and he didn't want to start now. But Ed Ballard was a cold businessman. This was nonsense. He issued an order, and Father signed the fatal contract on Friday and the wreck followed. Coincidence? Accident? Of course, but try to convince my father or the old-time troupers of that.

The first section had gone ahead that night as usual. This was the cookhouse, sideshow, menagerie, and the rest of the equipment. The second section had sixty cars in it, including many sleepers, all of which burned. This was early Sunday morning and by Sunday night Father had borrowed sleepers from the Milwaukee road and other sources and the circus was ready to move. Monday, when they were supposed to show in Hammond, was used for the funeral service. But on Tuesday the circus showed as scheduled in Beloit, Wisconsin. Heartless? No, this was circus life and the performers knew that the show must go on. If half an act was lost in the wreck, the other half smiled, bowed, and acted, even though it might be a surviving husband or wife.

One final comment on the wreck. In the fall of that year the circus had been out west and was heading back into Indiana. Ballard insisted that the circus show Hammond, missed in the spring. Father told him that the people on the circus didn't want to go back there but Ballard insisted, so Father routed the show into Hammond from Aurora on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Again the circus was to Sunday in Hammond and show on Monday. On the Saturday before, he got a call to go to the railroad office. They wouldn't move them out of Aurora unless the circus put up a \$500,000

bond! Now, who was superstitious? No bond of that size was available on Saturday afternoon, and so the circus was rerouted. Monday was lost, Hammond was not shown again, and they moved to Logansport, Indiana, for Tuesday. Many of the performers refused to make the run with the circus train, and it was a skeleton group that rode it through, to be rejoined by their comrades in Logansport.

Ken Maynard was with the Hagenbeck-Wallace that year and writes this comment on the wreck:

"It was the worst wreck in circus history, and I probably owe my life to the fact that I blew the train that night [because of a girl], but did arrive on the scene in time to help in what rescue work we could do. My sleeping car was totally demolished and most everyone in the car either killed or badly hurt."

THE GREAT BUSIEST DAY ON THE RAILROAD
R. BICKEL - BENDIX, IOWA

TRAIN WRECK - 5

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CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.
MAY 9, 1891
A CIRCUS GREEN ROOM

Tent Life Behind a Red Curtain.

The Motley and Cosmopolitan Array Seen
 in the Dressing Room—How
 Circus People Live
 and Move.

A low-roofed tent, through which the rays of an afternoon sun beat softly; the turf trodden into dust under foot; forty or fifty men sitting around upon trunks and stools, changing one picturesque costume for another; a long clothes-line strung around the whole interior and heavily hung with a seemingly endless array of strange apparel; jabbering and chattering from scores of throats, and horses all around neighing and prancing—this is a dressing room of a great circus, as a Blade man found it last Saturday afternoon.

The great public knows of the circus only in its glitter and magnificence, and so reader, you and I, at the suggestion of the Blade's city editor, will travel behind the canvas, and look at the homely and work-a-day life of the circus people. We will take a peep at the performers in their boudoir; the canvasmen in their tents; the grooms, the cooks and the rest of the big army of employees.

First of all, we will visit the mess tent where the workers live. It is just 12 o'clock and the cooks call dinner. The tent is a large one with four tables running lengthwise. The help march in at the call of dinner and each has a ticket, furnished by the canvas boss, or stable boss, or boss of whichever department to which he may belong. A score of waiters are ready, and as the men take their places they are waited upon. Tin dishes are used, and the bill of fare, though not elaborate, is of good substantial food. Soups, roast and boiled meats, potatoes and other vegetables, tea, coffee and milk, with plenty of good bread, are furnished. The tables are covered with red spreads and the men eat with their hats on.

Just outside of the mess tent are the portable ranges, where 400 pounds of meat can be cooked at once. The ranges are guarded from the curious crowd by guard ropes. The mess tent of the performers is not as large as that of the employees, and is fitted for 100 people. The performers enjoy the luxury of china and glassware, and are furnished with napkins. Everything is neat and tidy, and twelve colored boys with white aprons wait upon the per-

formers. At one end of the tent is the table of the Sells family. Here at every meal Ephraim and Lewis Sells with their wives eat. Good, substantial food is here served. At the invitation of Mr. Sells, the Blade's artist and myself enjoyed dinner with the company Saturday. The bill of fare is here given:

Beef Soup.

Roast Beef, Roast Mutton, Corn Beef,
 Mashed and Boiled Potatoes,
 Cabbage, Corn, Turnips,

White and Brown Bread,
 Tea and Coffee.

English Plum Pudding.

Apple and Raspberry Pie,
 Frukt.

The dressing rooms of the performers are in a tent in the rear of the circus. The ladies have a dressing room at one end and the gentlemen at the other. Off of the ladies' dressing room is the private dressing room of Mrs. Showles and Mrs. Dutton, the leading equestriennes. The gents' dressing room is far from roomy, trunks are spread about, and each performer has his own place. In the center is the equestrian director, who has charge of everything. No loud talking, no profanity or card playing is allowed. The rules are very strict and fines are imposed for the most trifling infraction of the rules. Everything in the dressing tent is as decorous and private as in a house. Every lady connected with the show is married and her husband is with the show in some capacity, and usually a performer.

In the center of the big dressing room tent are had the trained horses used in the circus. The little anteroom between the big circus tent and the dressing room, where the entrance is made, is where the performers wait for their call. The tent is full of horses and grooms. Just before the grand entree is made the tent is a scene of confusion. Gaily dressed riders are running about, crowding between the horses. A lady with pink tights picks her way over the turf and stands beside the horse she is to ride, and leisurely reads a fashion book. Near the entrance sits the wardrobe woman, sewing away at a rent garment, unmindful of the restless horses tramping near her. Thus the performers come and go, in and out of the circus green room.

These performers sitting around on their trunks are a cosmopolitan lot. They come from almost every country of the world. They live together and never quarrel. They are great eaters, however, these circus performers, and often engage in friendly contests of skill or strength to back up their pretensions. Many of these men are all-round performers. Athletes while young, advancing years and failing strength or suppleness have compelled them to cut out their work ac-

cording to their physical ability. Thus they take up one thing after another, pertinaciously sticking to the business. They are essentially itinerants. Not only are they continually traveling from one city to another, but they visit all the countries of the earth. Three out of four of these men speak a half dozen languages. The general idea is that circus people are a dissolute lot. Such, however, is not the case. They are not allowed to drink or fight. The performers are a most gentlemanly lot of men and ladies. The ladies are carefully protected from insult.

After the performance is over in the afternoon, the performers lie about in hammocks, reading and smoking, or practice in the circus tent, or do what best suits their fancy until 6 o'clock, when supper is called.

The canvasmen do not have such a hard time as would be imagined. Their work really begins at 9 o'clock at night. The performance is then at its height and the horses dashing about the ring. All of the small and side show tents have been taken down and carted to the cars. The canvasmen and helpers surround the menagerie tent, from which everything has been removed. A shrill whistle is heard. This is the signal for each man to let go his rope, and the big canvas falls to the ground. The seams are unlined and the canvas rolled up and packed in the wagons. No one speaks except the boss canvasman and he does not indulge in any "airy persiflage." The poles are taken down and the tent pins pulled and loaded. As soon as the circus is out, the men take the seats down while the concert is in progress. When this is over everything is removed. A man is stationed at each rope, another whistle is heard, there is a creaking of ropes and the big canvas comes down. Nothing is left but sawdust, programmes and peanut shells, and a half hour later the grounds are deserted—the circus has gone.

With the show there is a wagon that is used for a blacksmith shop, where all the horses are shod and wagons repaired. An experienced blacksmith and helper are employed and kept busy all day. Then there is a harness shop with the show, where all the trappings are repaired and new harness made. The circus has over two hundred horses and carries about three hundred men. The horse tents are separate. Here in one tent are the equestrian horses. They are owned by the riders, and have the best of care. Then there are parade and hippodrome horses in another tent, and lastly two big tents of work horses.

When everything is loaded on the cars

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 1914

the canvas train goes out first, followed by the animals and last by the performers. The cars used by the performers are ordinary Pullman sleepers. The performers are separated. One end is the "married car." Here only the married performers have sections. The proprietors have staterooms in the center of the cars, and the male performers have berths in one end of the car. Each car has a porter and monitor, and the strictest order is kept. The porter reigns supreme, and each occupant of the car is compelled to tip the porter 25 cents each week. For this he blacks their shoes every morning, attends to their laundry and makes up their berths. The circus washing is sent each week to be done at a laundry in some big town.

The circus performer's life is really a very easy one. The parade is the most irksome part of it. An hour a day will cover his work, and the balance of the time is his own.

When one day closes another begins to the circus people, with exactly the same routine, and the canvas is raised each morning the same, the work is done the same, and the canvas drops the same.

A. W. COOLEY.

The Gate City.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13, 1914

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

AMUSEMENTS.

Gollmar Brothers Circus.

"It is dangerous but I like the work and the excitement, and I love my lions, even though they are treacherous and have injured me," Mlle. Marguerite, the lion tamer, in Gollmar Brothers big circus, remarked while she put the finishing touches to her make-up before going out to thrust her head into the mouth of one of the beasts, and otherwise entertain with her group of forest bred lions.

Mlle. Marguerite started life on a farm near Leipzig, Germany, but at the age of 16, tiring of the down home ways, and a circus happening her way, she drifted into the animal training business. Her debut was made in Berlin when she worked with a troupe of bears. Life with the slow going bruins proved too tame for her and she gathered together a number of lions.

Sometimes they furnish excitement as scars on her body testify. In Hamburg last year one of the beasts struck her and then walked away. "Guess it thought I had it coming," she smiled, as she rubbed the faint scars on her wrist.

"This is my fourth year as an animal trainer," she volunteered. "I got tired of the farm, so I got into this

stunt." She snapped her whip and listened to her pets roar in their cages on the stage.

"That's Moxie, my favorite, and the one in whose mouth I put my head," she said. "That's an easy trick, as all you have to do is to get a good grip on his jaws and not lose your head."

Mlle. Marguerite is one of the features of the season with Gollmar Brothers big circus, which comes to Keokuk next Monday.—Advertisement.

GOLLMAR BROTHERS GREATEST OF AMERICAN SHOWS



CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE

A COLOSSAL CARNIVORIAN INSTITUTION

Every Act A Feature

Thousands of Dollars Invested
TWO

PERFORMANCES DAILY
AT 2 and 8 P. M.

Doors Open One Hour Earlier

Street Parade of Living Lavish
Wonders at 10 A.M.

Be Sure And See The Turnout

KEOKUK

Monday 14 September

The Gate City.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14, 1914 =
Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class
Matter.

STREET PARADE THIS MORNING

Big Circus In the Afternoon Attracts
Great Crowds, Who Like
Performance.

The Gollmar Bros. had their big parade on the street this morning promptly at the time appointed and it was fully up to all advertised promises.

Every wagon, den or cage is resplendent in a glittering new coat of paint and gold leaf and showed the work of skillful artists.

The horses are almost all new this year. And the way they pranced and stepped, it seemed as if they realized they were a most important part of the brilliant pageant.

Plenty of good music was furnished by three first class bands and a lot of comical discord by a clown band that was perched on a wagon near the end of the parade.

The procession was fittingly terminated by a large steam calliope, played upon by the virtuoso of that instrument, Col. Phil. Keeler.

The afternoon performance, at Twentieth and Main, started promptly at 2 o'clock and it was one of the best shows ever seen in Keokuk.

The Gollmar Bros. have spared no expense in securing only the very highest class circus acts in the world. And the resulting performance defies description or comparison.

The large crowd which attended the afternoon performance came away speaking of the show in the highest terms and no doubt many of them will go back tonight when a capacity audience will be present.

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THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. L. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

of the Japanese was most wonderful, and nobody should miss seeing them to-night. Most phenomenal features of the entertainment were the aerial feats of the Zorella Bros., and McVey and Ryan on the swinging trapeze. The Guilford brothers gave pleasing pictures of ancient and modern statuary. Cyrene, the emotional Spanish dancer, demonstrated her entire right to the title "great." Her evolutions are accomplished in long skirts, and she is the embodiment of grace and skill. Her dancing is refined and beautiful in the extreme. Her style is her own, not being fashioned after that of any living performer. In all there were sixty-three separate acts, and in addition there were twelve hippodrome races such as were never seen here before. Sells Brothers have a show this season of which they may well be proud, and they have reached a degree of excellence which would be difficult indeed to rival. To-night will be the last opportunity to see the best show which has ever been seen in Keokuk.

The Gate City.

MAY 13, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second Class Matter.

IT HAS COME AND GONE.

Sells Brothers' Amusement Aggregation Gives Its Patrons General Satisfaction.

The Finest Street Parade Ever Seen in the City—A Managerie of Rare Zoological Specimens—An Excellent Circus.

We're never too tired when the big show comes.
No matter how hard they may work us,
And of money we all have sufficient sums
To take our boys to the circus.

An accident in the Wabash railway yards yesterday morning wherein a broken brake beam derailed several cars, considerably delayed traffic and the unloading of Sells Bros.' circus outfit. And as a result the street parade was considerably delayed. By 10 o'clock the streets were lined with people of all classes and conditions in which women and children predominated. As the noon hour approached, and the parade did not, many repaired to their homes. But those who tarried until 12:30 were well repaid. For it was pronounced by everybody to have eclipsed any circus parade ever seen in this city. As the glittering tableau cars, the numberless dens of wild animals, the elephants, the camels, the richly caparisoned horses with gaily attired riders went by in a seemingly endless procession, with bands playing and banners flying, the

delighted people exclaimed "Will it never end?" But it did end at the show grounds near Rand park where a perfect sea of canvass was spread. Thither the people flocked by thousands and waited impatiently for the opening of the doors to the big tent. When about half past 1 o'clock the entrance was unfastened the crowds surged in and by 2 o'clock a goodly portion of the immense seating capacity of the circus tent was taken. Before the grand entree the people spent the time in inspecting the dens of rare species of the animal kingdom. Every animal that the bill boards had promised, including the midget cattle, the giant hippopotami, were found in this rare zoological garden.

At 2 o'clock the bugles of the band sounded a call and then began the grand entree entitled a Pilgrimage to Mecca, in which real Bedouins participated. It was a brilliant scene and was a fitting overture to one of the most meritorious performances ever seen in Keokuk. There were two rings and an elevated stage and in these were constantly some startling or amazing act of gymnastic or artistic skill. In fact, the eye was bewildered by the profusion. Among the especially meritorious features were the equestrianism of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dutton, Miss Polly Lee, Miss Daisy Belmont, Wm. Showles, Wm. Gorman, Geo. Zorella and Arthur Weitzel. It is impossible to particularize and it is sufficient to say that all were excellent and that their work is one of the chief features of the show. Then there was the trick bicycling of the Melrose family; the astonishing feats of the gymnastic Japs; the classic groupings of the Leslie Brothers; Reno and Reno's contortion feats; Robert and Otto Gilford in especially fine models of statuary and their cannon ball juggling; the Arab troupe's marvelous feats of strength and daring; the athletic achievements of the Schrodé Bros. and the trapeze work of Petit, McVey, Regan and the Zorella Bros.; Cyrene's wonderfully graceful dancing; the funny business of the clowns; Fred Leslie's troupe of performing dogs, and a thousand and one other things. The hippodrome races closed the circus proper and were very exciting. After them came the usual concert. In the evening another large audience was present to enjoy the performance.

Col. Charles Seeley, for many years press representative for the show, took the GATE CITY reporter in tow and piloted him through the labyrinth of a circus. Everything from the strong man in the side show through the menagerie, even into the performers' dressing rooms was exhibited and explained by this genial gentleman. There is a wonderfully perfect system about a circus despite its seeming chaos. Everything has its place and has to be there, too, or there's trouble. All work is conducted swiftly, quietly and in order. In the dressing rooms

each performer has his place and never so much as a "cuss word" is tolerated. Card playing, drinking and even heated argument are positively forbidden and effectually prevented by a system of fines.

The circus went to Memphis, Mo., last night and from there goes to Centerville, Iowa.

Constitution-Democrat.

Box AUGUST 10, 1903.

KEOKUK AFTERNOON AND NIGHT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

BUSBY BROS.

DOUBLE CIRCUS, ELEVATED STAGE AND ROYAL ROMAN HIPPODROME



100 Circus Acts! 5000 Seats for 5000 People.

FINEST HORSES ON EARTH.

POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Two Complete Performances Daily—2 and 8 P. M. Show Grounds—Nineteenth street, between Johnson and Exchange.

—Busby Bros.' railroad shows will pay Keokuk a visit, the date having been set for August 20 (tomorrow). Exchanges have nothing but words of praise for these shows. Its high standard of excellence has attracted large crowds wherever it has exhibited. The management of these big and popular shows have made very liberal provisions, the amount of capital invested, the finest caparisoned horses and the superbness and glorious variety of spectacular effects is almost fabulous, arenic meteors who depend upon the greatness of former days will not be among the number. The management of these great shows will present nothing but a talented assemblage of the best and only the best blood of extraordinary proficiency, in the very zenith of their careers vieing with each other to gain the plaudits of the people in a friendly contest for the ambitious ends they seek. Show grounds will be on Nineteenth street, between Johnson and Exchange.

Elephants Carry Away Their Dead Pal

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THE KEOKUK GATE CITY AND CONSTITUTION

C. P. Phonephoto

Two elephants of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus are shown dragging away the eighth pachyderm to die of arsenic poison at Atlanta, Ga. Circus spokesmen declared eighteen of the big performers became sick after leaving Charlotte, N. C., where they fed on grounds formerly occupied by a chemical plant.

MONDAY, NOV. 10, 1941

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER

PUBLISHED BY GALES & SEATON.
THRICE A WEEK.
SIX DOLLARS A YEAR—PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1852.

HOW BARNUM PURCHASED THE MUSEUM.

In an essay which P. T. BARNUM contributed to Freedley's Treatise on Business, he thus alludes to the purchase of the Museum:

"In 1841 I purchased the American Museum in New York without a dollar, for I was not worth a dollar in the world. But I was never disheartened; I always felt that I could make money fast enough if I only set my mind to it. I remember meeting a friend in Broadway a few weeks before I came in possession of the Museum. 'Well,' said I, 'Mr. A., I am going to buy the American Museum. 'Buy it?' for he knew I had no property; 'what do you intend buying it with?' 'Brass,' I replied, 'for silver and gold I have none.'

"It was even so. Every body who had any connexion with theatrical, circus, or exhibition business, from Edmund Simpson, manager of the old Park Theatre, or Wm. Niblo, down to the most humble puppet-showman of the day, knew me perfectly well. Mr. Francis Olmsted, the owner of the Museum building, (now deceased,) a noble, whole-souled man as one often meets with, having consulted my references, who all concurred in telling him that I was 'a good showman, and would do as I agreed,' accepted my proposition to give security for me in the

purchase of the Museum collection, he appointing a money taker at the door, and crediting me towards the purchase all the money received after paying expenses, allowing me fifty dollars per month on which to support my family, consisting of a wife and three children. This was my own proposition, as I was determined so to live that six hundred dollars per annum should defray all the expenses of my family until I had paid for the Museum; and my treasure of a wife (and such a wife is a treasure) gladly assented to the arrangement, and expressed her willingness to cut the expenses down to four hundred dollars per annum if necessary.

"One day, some six months after I had purchased the Museum, my friend Mr. Olmsted happened in at my ticket-office about 12 o'clock, and found me alone, eating my dinner, which consisted of a few slices of corned beef and bread that I had brought from home in the morning. 'Is this the way you eat your dinner?' he inquired. 'I have not eaten a warm dinner since I bought the Museum, except on the Sabbath,' I replied; 'and I intend never to eat another on a week day until I get out of debt.' 'Ah, you are safe, and will pay for the Museum before the year is out,' he replied, slapping me familiarly on the shoulder. And he was right; for in less than a year from that period I was in full possession of the Museum as my own property—every cent paid out of the profit of the establishment. Had I been less economical and less determined, my expenses would have kept pace with my income; I should have lost much valuable time in going home every day to my dinner; and my present situation would probably have been very different from what it is."

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

DAILY GATE CITY
FIRST CIRCUS
WILL BE HERE
ON JUNE 2-3

MONDAY, MAY 23, 1932
 Russell Bros. Will Give Two Performances Each Day and Guest Tickets are Arranged by Local Chamber.

The first circus of the season, Russell Bros. three-ring circus will exhibit in Keokuk two days, June 2 and June 3.

This circus, as most circuses, ordinarily would remain only one day in Keokuk, but on account of the Chamber of Commerce buying fifteen thousand tickets to be used as Guest Tickets, it was thought best to remain over the second day in order that all who wish to accept the hospitality of the Chamber of Commerce will have an opportunity to do so. A special committee of the Chamber of Commerce co-operating with Secretary Fry has worked out a plan whereby it is expected that both days will see immense crowds in Keokuk. An investigation has been made as to the merit of the Russell Circus and only the very best words of commendation have been heard, and press reports from cities where it has exhibited are flattering. It has established a reputation for being a clean, high-class attraction, not tolerating any gambling or anything that might be offensive to any one. Not a single adverse criticism has been heard regarding this circus or its management and the progressive, active members of the Chamber of Commerce are very enthusiastic in their plans to give the people of three counties the privilege of enjoying the circus as their guests. The tickets bought and issued by them will be honored by the circus management for a regular child's or adult's fifty cent ticket.

Not as many shows are on the road this year as usual, for the popular tent form of entertainment has felt the hand of depression, and though the human being of average ambition is as eager to attend a circus as ever, not many of them feel they have the extra change for that pleasure this year—hence the treat by the Keokuk Chamber of Commerce will be all the more greatly appreciated.

The Russell Circus will pitch its city of tents on the municipal showgrounds at Thirty-second and Main Streets and will give at least two complete performances on Thursday, June 2 and Friday, June 3. The management has promised the Chamber of Commerce that if it is necessary to give extra performances to handle the crowds on either day, that they will gladly be given.

Several billposting crews of the circus are in town today and will remain over tomorrow posting the

Keokuk Chamber of Commerce Has FREE Guest Tickets For All To Enjoy the Celebrated

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

Russell Bros.

3-RING CIRCUS

JUNE 2, 1932

KEOKUK
THURSDAY, JUNE 2nd
and FRIDAY, JUNE 3rd

THE HIGHEST CLASS CIRCUS

A Hundred Thrills Superior Features
 Many Acrobatic Wizards. Furiously Funny Fellows
 Score of Beautiful, Daring Female Arenic Stars
 Novelty After Novelty. Surprise After Surprise

CLEAN, THRILLING, HIGH CLASS, NOVEL,
 DIFFERENT

Presented Beneath Rain-Proof and Electric Lighted Tents.

Two performances Daily—2:15 and 8:15 p. m.—Doors Open One Hour Earlier—Thrilling Free Exhibition on Show Grounds at 1:30 and 7:30 p. m.

SECURE FREE GUEST TICKETS NOW FROM

Art Floral Shop	C. H. Rollins & Co.
Bartholomew Bros.	Schell-Demple Co.
Baur & Mullarky	Scott & O'Reilly
J. Burk Coca Cola Bottling Co.	Security State Bank
Central Dry Goods Co.	Stadler Cigar Co.
Conner & Maas	State Central Savings Bank
Doggett's Barber Shop	Shoe Mart
Ewers-O'Brien	Super Oil Co.
Jas. M. Fulton, Jr.	The Vogue
Glasgow Tailors	White House Creamery
Golden Rule	Winger Bros.
Grand Cafeteria	F. W. Woolworth & Co.
Greaves & Hanerhoff	Benner Tea Co.
Home Tea Co.	Duncan Schell Furn. Co.
Irwin Phillips Co.	Economy Furn. Co.
Johnson-Schmidt	Ewers-McCarthy Co.
Keasling-Bergman Drug Store	The Fairway
Keokuk & Hamilton Bridge Co.	H. H. Forrest
Keokuk Savings Bank & Trust Co.	Harrington's Grill
Miss King	H. & H. Cigar Store
H. R. King	J. M. Huiskamp & Son
P. C. King	Mrs. Inman Toy and Art Shop
S. S. Kresge	A. E. Keppel
C. M. Laubersheimer	Keokuk Cleaners
Linquist Bros.	Megcheisen Sisters
Lowitz & Sons	Miller Hatcheries
Maas & Sons	Agnes O'Brien
P. J. Miller	Pearson & Schmidt
Geo. Meister	C. H. Rollins & Co.
Montgomery Ward & Co.	The Shoe Mart
J. C. Penney Co.	Spurgeons
J. E. Peterson	Streeter Lbr. Co.
Power City Cleaners	Sullivan & Auwerda
	Tigue Sales Co.
	Wilkinson & Co.
	Weil & Co.

luring and many colored sheets though the Russell Circus comes of paper. The performance is to Keokuk a stranger, its advance given in three rings which are reports have already made many kept busy most of the time. Al-friends for it.

RUSSELL CIRCUS ATTRACTS LARGE CROWDS TODAY

It's here, the circus, red lemonade, peanuts and all the accessories. The Russell Three Ring circus came to town and wended its way to the usual big show circus grounds at 32nd and Main streets via Exchange and Nineteenth streets, going this route to avoid disturbing traffic on Main street.

The show was in Canton, Mo., yesterday where it showed in a heavy rain to large and appreciative audiences. The entire crowd of circus employees wore a smile when it saw the sun shining on the beautiful show grounds in Keokuk. Circus life is luring on a bright day but in rain and mud, it is a test to the loyalty of those who are with it.

This afternoon the big top is crowded with an enthusiastic audience despite the sudden rain storm about show time. One of the surprises promised by the management proved to be a very high class wire act by Ralph Christy and wife of this city. Sonoro claims the distinction of being the birth place of Ralph and he and his family do not hesitate to proclaim to the world that Keokuk is their home and they are proud of it and after seeing the skillful feats on the slack wire by Ralph and wife today, Keokuk is proud of them.

But the Christy duo are not the whole show with the Russell Circus. They contribute their share, but the circus program which is presented in three rings is replete with very creditable and many unusual acts. The Russell Circus is really worth seeing. It is clean, high class and honorably conducted and it is worthy of the immense business Keokuk is giving it, and the Chamber of Commerce is entitled to much credit for putting the show over.

There will be one and may be two complete performances tonight and two complete shows tomorrow, Friday.

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31, 1951

Wreck Frees Beasts After Circus Death

MOUNT IDA, Ark., Oct. 31—(IP)—A trailer truck transporting two bears and a tiger owned by the same circus whose half-grown lion clawed to death a nine-year-old girl overturned on a highway today, liberating the fierce beasts.

The Campa Bros. trailer truck overturned on what is known as the Mount Foster road in rugged terrain.

Troopers Bag Escaped Cat

THE KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY



MONTGOMERY COUNTY Sheriff Wilbur Tidwell (left) and state trooper Clarence Montgomery display the leopard the trooper machine-gunned in the wild mountain country near Mount Ida, Arkansas, where two of the cats, a polar bear, two other bears, and four monkeys escaped when a circus truck overturned. The second leopard was clubbed to death by a mountain logger, and one of the bears was coaxed into a cage with apples.

FRIDAY, NOV. 2, 1951 (International Soundphoto)

The spot is about 15 miles north of here.

Sheriff Wilburn Tidwell said he was told by circus officials that the three animals, who escaped from the smashed cage, are "fierce."

The accident happened only a few hours after Maria de la Luez was clawed and chewed to death when she approached a lion chained near the ring arena of the circus where other big cats were being prodded into a lion tamer's area.

The laughter of other children, watching the show, drowned out the child's screams.

Sheriff Tidwell and State Patrolman Jack McKinley who is stationed at Hot Springs left for the scene of today's accident and state police in the area were asked to help look for the circus fugitives.

Several persons who attempted to subdue the killer lion last night were injured but none seriously.

The animal suddenly lashed out with a paw and slashed the girl's face. He jumped to the opening and sunk his teeth in her neck, then dragged her outside by a leg.

Attendants at the show were close by, but none of them noticed the lion mangling the child until the animal had fatally clawed and chewed the little girl.

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY
THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 1951

Second Circus

Leopard Shot This Morning

WALDRON, Ark., Nov. 1—(IP)—A burly lumberjack killed a 160-pound circus leopard roving the Ouachita National Park today, first stopping the beast with three bullets and finishing him off with his rifle butt.

M. R. Fair bagged the Leopard, one of a group of wild animals which escaped into the wilderness from a wrecked circus truck yesterday, while the great beast was mauling his 15-pound cur dog, "Tony." The little dog was clawed to death by the leopard which he flushed and tried to fight.

Another leopard was bagged yesterday afternoon, a few hours after the truck piled up when it slipped off a treacherous mountain curve in the Ouachita mountain range of western Arkansas.

A little later a friendly black bear wandered out of the wilds and was taken alive.

Still at large were a polar bear, considered "dangerous;" another black bear and four monkeys.

State Police Sgt. Ben Kent and Montgomery County Sheriff Wilbur Tidwell took charge of the hunt, and Kent told the 40 men who plunged into the wilderness to be concerned only with clearing the circus bears out of the woods.

Frank Fizzell, elephant trainer for Campas Brothers circus, appealed for the gunners to spare the black bears. "They're tame," Fizzell told Kent. "They can be taken alive." The state trooper replied, "you circus guys can go in there and take 'em alive if you want to, but we're only interested in getting them out of the woods the quickest way possible."

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

DAILY GATE CITY

CIRCUS COMING FOR TWO DAYS JUNE 13 AND 14

June 7, 1933

The first circus of the season will exhibit in Keokuk, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 13 and 14, and give two performances at 2 and 8 p.m.

Russell Bros. Big Three Ring Circus closed its season last year in Arkansas, at Little Rock, and is taking the road again this season. This show has been established six years and is strictly a western show, owned and operated by people from the west and exhibiting in western states.

Depression seems to be on the wane according to the views of the circus management, but even during the worst of the depression it seems human nature craves relaxation and amusement and the people of this country seem to recognize the circus as a profitable and an easy way to satisfy that longing.

The Russell Show does not claim to be the largest in the world. It does claim to be as high class in character of performance as any circus on the road and to present a program that is entertaining and amusing, but not offensive. It uses three rings and hippodrome track for its program and as usual with such shows, presents more at one time than it is possible for one pair of eyes to see.

The Russell Bros. Three Ring Show, using water-proof tents and carrying its own electric light plant, will exhibit in Keokuk, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 13 and 14, afternoon and night.

DAILY GATE CITY

CIRCUS PROMISES ATTRACTIIONS IN VARIOUS LINES

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1933

Russell Bros., Here Next Week
For Two Days Will Bring
Galaxy of Stars to Local
Production.

The ever alluring circus will exhibit in Keokuk, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 13 and 14. Russell Bros. Three Ring Circus is new in this particular section but it is well known in other parts of the state. It has been established six years and apparently has more than made good.

There is something about the circus that appeals to all classes and conditions of people. Just as baseball is the national game so is the circus the national amusement of this country. Most every country on the globe has its form of circus entertainment, but in no country is there the magnitude nor the variety in the circus that there is in this country.

The Russell Bros. are modest in their claims but truthful. They do not profess to have the largest in the world, but they do claim to present a strictly moral, high class and pleasing show. They require three rings and a hippodrome track for its production and have much more going on at one time than it is possible for a person to see.

Among the scores of features and surprises offered by Russell's, there is one star who boasts of his age. Generally the public acclaimed the youth, but in this case the performer is seventy-six years old and has been a circus performer for more than fifty years — yet today he performs as difficult feats of contortion, both on the ground and on the trapeze, as a young person could perform. Light living, correct temperate habits and out-door life are the reasons assigned by Daddy Whitlock for his unusual physical condition after he has passed the three score years and ten age.

There will be plenty of pretty women, athletic youths, beautiful horses, cute ponies, lively dogs, funny clowns, trained animals and inspiring music to be seen here when Russell Bros. Three Ring Circus exhibits in Keokuk, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 13th and 14th, under the auspices of the Retail Division of the Chamber of Commerce.

DAILY GATE CITY

RUSSELL BROS. SHOW PLEASES LARGE CROWDS

JUNE 14, 1933

Circus Is Exhibiting Here Again
Tonight Under Auspices of
Local Retailers—Crowds
Enjoy Yesterday's
Shows.

Russell Bros. three ring circus delighted a large crowd of circus goers yesterday with its first performance in Keokuk this season, and will play again tonight when another capacity crowd is anticipated. The circus is being sponsored by the retail division of the Chamber of Commerce, which gave guest tickets for the performances.

The show is given high praise by everyone who attended, and from the grand parade to the thrilling fashion when a man is shot out of a cannon, offered high class and clean amusement. The show was here last year, but is augmented considerably with new acts and features for this year's tour. The consensus of opinion of all who went to the circus was that it is one of the best shows that has been in Keokuk.

The circus carries a number of trained animals which is a feature that always delights the youngsters. There is a seventy-seven year old aerialist in the show who puts on a real performance, and there are numerous other features of the type that interest circus fans.

The circus family is an interesting one with any show, and

Russell Bros. is no exception. The group was augmented yesterday by the arrival of a youngster from Wichita, Kans., who will travel the rest of the summer with his uncle and aunt who are in charge of the show. He is seven years old and made the trip here alone on the train.

The circus is showing at the grounds at Thirty-second and Main streets.

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1934

1,500 Unhurt As Winds Rip Circus Tent

STOCKTON, Kan., —(UP)— A near capacity crowd of 1,500 persons miraculously escaped injury when winds sent the canvas tent of the Al G. Kelley and Russell Brothers circus crashing down on them last night during a performance.

Several bleachers collapsed and hundreds were trapped beneath the canvas. Roustabouts and clowns helped to free them as pandemonium broke out among those caught in the collapse.

Dr. William Smith, physician in this town of 2,000, said only one injury was reported. Walter Ernest suffered a sprained ankle.

Six girls were aloft on the trapeze ropes when the main support began to sway. They were lowered to the sawdust ground just as the wind sent the tent over the heads of some of the audience into the north bleachers.

Rain began as elephants were lined up to clear away the rigging. Wild animals were swiftly caged and mounted on trucks.

Town Marshal Everett Van Horn crawled on his hands and knees beneath the broken bleachers in a search for persons trampled in the stampede. He said he found no one.

Circus officials said damage was confined to the torn tent.

The Keokuk News.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1882

KEOKUK, IOWA.

The first circus in the United States started out of Putnam county, N. Y., in 1828. It had eight or ten performers, as many horses, neither tent nor seats, and advertised only by marching through the village invested, with a man ahead calling out the place of exhibition. The programme included feats of strength, leaping, etc., and riding without saddle, and the ring was pitched in yards wherever convenient. After a time an elephant was added, and from this grew the menagerie addition. In 1832 the first tent was used in New York city.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA



HEADQUARTERS

LANCASTER, MO.

April 6-1920.

Mr Fred C. Custer

Dear Sir,
 Your letter received
 What is your lowest price
 on animals you mention
 Will you please give me
 Description and price by
 return mail I may be able
 to use them. Yours affec Ben D. Burgess
 Your truly
 W. P. Hall

Please make a fair offer.



WILLIAM P. HALL

BY FRED PFENING, III*

William Preston Hall, noted horse dealer of Lancaster, Missouri, supplied several hundred horses for the reenactment of the Boer War, the most popular and successful of numerous outdoor exhibitions at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. This was Hall's start in a twenty-eight-year career in show business.¹

The Boer War had made Hall the "Horse King of the World." The son of William and Sidney Spurgeon Hall, he was born in Schuyler County, Missouri, near Lancaster, February 29, 1864. When he became an orphan at the age of fourteen, he hired out to Josiah Beasley, a farmer, for one dollar a week and his board. His ambition to own a horse was realized after he had saved his earnings for a year. He secured a job at the Stretch Livery Stable in Lancaster where he could learn about horses and their care. Before he was twenty he became the largest buyer and seller of horses in the county.²

In 1882 Hall became acquainted with a Mr. Meng of Philadelphia, an extensive dealer in horses and mules. Recognizing

*Fred D. Pfening, III, is a student at Ohio Wesleyan University. He is an associate editor of the *Bandwagon*, a national bi-monthly magazine devoted entirely to circus history. Pfening has contributed many articles to that publication. His current research project is a study of elephants and traveling menageries in America before 1865.

The article has been reprinted, with some deletions and additions, from the November-December, 1966, issue of *Bandwagon*.

¹ *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, February 16, 1904, and June 1, 1904; *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, June 1, 1904; *Kansas City Star*, April 2, 1933.

² Charles G. Sturtevant, "Who's Who in the American Circus," *White Tops*, XXXV (November-December, 1962), 64.

Hall's ability to judge horses, Meng suggested that he buy on a larger scale and agreed to purchase the first carload. Hall accompanied the horses to Philadelphia. Soon he was shipping to the Chicago stockyards³ and one of his biggest customers was the American Express Company. Hall furnished all the horses for that firm west of the Mississippi River.⁴

In 1895 he opened a sale barn in Richmond, Virginia, under the management of his brother Louis Hall. Soon the European markets were open to him. A pioneer in the trans-oceanic shipping of animals, he spent one year in the late 1890s in Germany receiving shipments and buying foreign horses. During the Boer War he sold all types of horses and mules to the British government for the war effort.⁵ He established a sale barn in Cape Town, South Africa, which was, for many years, managed by his brother Louis. The war made Hall a rich man. In Missouri he was called "Colonel" or "Diamond Billy." Early in his career he purchased \$20,000 worth of diamonds which sparkled on his cuffs and shirtfront and glowed in a large cluster on his broad cravat.⁶ Before Hall went to a town to buy horses, the town was billed as for a circus. Great posters were placed on the boards and thousands of handbills scattered throughout the country. On the day of the sale farmers began bringing in their stock with the dawn. Hundreds came just to see the show. Heavy set, muscular and ruddy faced, Hall, with his high silk hat and gold-headed cane, stood on the square and reviewed the offerings as the owners led them before him.⁷ Locally he was called "the lightning horse buyer." It was said that there was none other in the United States who knew a horse as well or could tell in so short a time what it was worth.⁸

Hall's first connection with circuses was in 1904 when he purchased two elephants, Duke and Mary, from the Carl Hagenbeck show at the St. Louis World's Fair.⁹ Hall was at the fair to deliver his horses to the Boer War show. After the fair closed, the Boer War show was taken into Lancaster at Hall's farm for the winter.

³ *Lancaster Excelsior*, July 7, 1932.

⁴ Floyd King to Fred D. Pfening, III, October 30, 1966.

⁵ John Van Matre, "Diamond Billy Hall, Circus Dealer," *Banner Line*, No. 27 (August 1, 1948), 1; *Lancaster Excelsior*, July 7, 1932.

⁶ *Kansas City Star*, April 2, 1933; *Lancaster Schuyler County Republican*, March 15, 1907.

⁷ *Ibid.*, September 15, 1907; *Kansas City Star*, April 2, 1933.

⁸ *Lancaster Schuyler County Republican*, February 12, 1904.

⁹ Homer G. Walton, "The M. L. Clark Wagon Show," *Bandwagon*, IX (March-April, 1965), 6.

It went out on rails in 1905. Hall may have been one of the businessmen interested in the show, since it wintered in his barns. Although the Boer War show had a successful 1905 tour, it did not take the road in 1906 because of quarreling between the Dutch and English soldiers in the troupe.¹⁰

In the fall of 1904 Hall purchased the first of his many circuses. It was the old Harris Nickel Plate show that had gone broke in Sebree, Kentucky, August 28, 1904. Hall bought the circus from Charles C. Wilson who succeeded W. H. Harris as manager after Harris' death in 1901.¹¹

The Harris Circus was held by Hall less than two weeks when he sold the ten cars of equipment to M. S. McGrew, who was an intermediary for the Schiller brothers, Robert and Richard. The Schillers took the show out under the title of Cook and Barrett Circus in 1905. It had been organized at the Hall farm during the winter and opened at Lancaster, April 22, 1905.¹² The Schiller show was stranded at Harrisonville in October and Hall brought it back to Lancaster for the winter.¹³ Enlarged by six cars, the Cook and Barrett Circus started the 1906 season, but in May the show folded and was sent back to Lancaster where it was reorganized. Hall obviously picked up the mortgage at this point. The show was sold to the firm of Weaver, Cannon and Gun, employees. The "new" Cook and Barrett Circus left Lancaster, July 21, 1906, but the equipment was back in Hall's hands by 1907.¹⁴

Early in January, 1905, Hall bought the twenty-five car Walter L. Main Circus.¹⁵ He acquired all of the show except the baggage stock, elephants and title.

The first negotiations with Main took place at the auction on January 10, of the Forepaugh Sells Circus in Columbus, Ohio. Floyd King recently gave this description of the sale from Main to Hall. King said:

Late in 1904 ads started appearing in the *Billboard* saying that the Forepaugh Sells Circus was for sale and in January of 1905 it went on auction at Columbus, Ohio.

¹⁰ J. Paul Rusk, "The Great Boer War Spectacle—1905," *White Tops* XXXI (July-August, 1958), 23.

¹¹ Charles G. Sturtevant, "Harris Nickel Plate Show," *White Tops*, III (April, 1930), 4.

¹² Lancaster *Schuylerville Republican*, April 28, 1905.

¹³ *Ibid.*, October 20, 1905.

¹⁴ Sturtevant, "Who's Who in the American Circus," *White Tops*, XXXVII (July-August, 1964), 37.

¹⁵ Lancaster *Schuylerville Republican*, February 3, 1905.

Big and little circus men from all over the country were there. Included in this group were Walter Main and William P. Hall. When the auction started the auctioneer said, 'Does anybody want to buy the whole show?' Well, James A. Bailey did, and he bought the whole works without having anyone bid against him. All the other showmen knew that Bailey could top anything they could bid.

Soon after the sale Hall and Main got to talking. Hall said to Main, 'Hell, I came up here to buy some equipment and now there isn't anything to buy.' Now old Pumpkin Main was about as slick as they came and he thought Hall was just some dumb farmer with a little money. Hall worked out a deal in which he would pay Main \$10,000 down on the circus. Walter figured Hall would never come up with the rest of the money, which amounted to about \$20,000. Old Main never thought he would see Hall again, and that he could just pocket the down payment and make \$10,000.

Well, a couple of days later, much to Main's surprise, Hall showed up at the Geneva quarters with the rest of the money. Walter told William P. Hall that he had decided not to sell his show after all. Main went to see his lawyer, but the lawyer said, 'Walter, you dumb SOB, you sold the show when you took the down payment. This man is here with the rest of the money and you can't back out.' Hall undid his money belt and the Walter L. Main Circus became the William P. Hall Circus.¹⁶

Although King was not at the sale to witness the deal between Hall and Main, he knew them both and many of the others who attended the sale and probably heard the story from them.

The equipment was shipped to Lancaster on April 4, 1905. A vivid description of the circus train was published in a Keokuk, Iowa, newspaper:

A real circus train, with its attractively painted cars, glittering cages, seat wagons, canvas wagons, animals and other paraphernalia was in Keokuk last night. It was the great Wm. P. Hall show from Geneva, Ohio, its former headquarters when owned by Walter L. Main, enroute to Lancaster, Mo., its future home. The train was composed of five stock cars, ten flats and six coaches, including the two advances that will herald the coming of this gigantic amusement company. There are fifty head of

¹⁶ Floyd King to Fred D. Pfening, III, October 30, 1966. King is probably America's greatest living circus figure. His career started in 1909 and from 1919 to 1930 he was owner of some of the most colorful circuses ever to play in this country. He is currently the general agent of the Acme Circus Corporation.

horses, eight camels and a Philippine water buffalo with the outfit, besides the numerous cages of animals. Hall has a large collection of animals at Lancaster which he purchased during the winter. . . .¹⁷

After the arrival of the show in Lancaster a local editor commented, "A walk around the square is not unlike a stroll down the Pike during the World's Fair. Representatives of all nationalities are in evidence and it is no more surprising to encounter some kind of wild animal in charge of its keeper going to or changing quarters than to meet an office seeker on the streets of Washington."¹⁸

Hall used the Main equipment and his own horses and elephants to form his only circus, advertised as "The Great William P. Hall Shows—Double Menagerie—Colossal Circus—Elevated Stages and Real Roman Hippodrome."

Some key positions of the show included: W. P. Hall, sole proprietor; Phil Ellsworth, manager; W. R. Musgat, head of advance; W. R. Rice, auditor; Ben Hall, treasurer; Al. G. Gilligham, privilege and legal adjuster; R. J. Parvin, press representative; Tom Fay, boss canvasman; Tom King, boss side show canvas; Whitey Lykens, boss hostler; Mark Monroe, boss animal man; Frank McCormack, lot superintendent; William Coxey, superintendent of lights and announcer; Charles Mitchell, train master; J. F. Brennan, general agent; C. R. Coleman, manager of advance car; Professor Mayo, equestrian director; and Bert McLain, chief ticket seller. This was the start of a lifelong association between Hall and McLain. After the Hall circus days, McLain worked at the Hall farm as head horse buyer until after Hall's death.¹⁹

The Hall circus was scheduled to open May 6, 1905, in Lancaster. The preceding day a local newspaper published this item:

After the services were over at church last Sunday Mr. Hall sent a team of six beautiful spotted horses over to the show ground and hitched them to the calliope in order to test the machine and at the same time allow the team to become accustomed to the shrieking instrument. Mr. Hall bought one calliope with the other paraphernalia owned by W. L. Main, and he also bought another one from Andrew Downey [sic]. Mr. Cox [sic], the Supt. of "Lights" with the show, stripped the two machines

¹⁷ Lancaster Schuyler County Republican, April 14, 1905, reprinted from the Keokuk Gate City, April 7, 1905.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ Harper Joy, "A Visit to Wm. P. Hall's Circus Farm," *White Tops*, VI (November, 1932), 6. -

and with a few extra repairs rebuilt a calliope for Mr. Hall and increased the value of the instrument \$1,000. It is now considered the finest instrument in the country.²⁰

The great crowd of spectators who viewed the parade the next day, gave Hall an ovation which drowned out the music.²¹ His circus boasted a very fine performance. It included the St. Leons acrobats; Orrin Hollis, bareback rider; Kitty Kruger, equestrienne; the DeNova family aerial act; LaBelle Leona, four-horse rider; Bert Mayo and Burns & Burns, slack wire; and the Millette troupe featuring Master Millette, the original boy wonder.²²

After the Lancaster opening the show moved into Iowa and Illinois and then swung back into Missouri. After playing in Hall's home state, the show headed into the Oklahoma Indian Territory and Kansas. It then returned to Iowa and Missouri, closing where it began, in Lancaster, August 30, 1905.²³

Although the show reported good business early in the season, receipts tapered off as the tour progressed. The show train was involved in a wreck, the tent was blown down at least twice, and the stock was rebellious. As evidenced by the relatively early closing, the whole venture turned out to be a dismal failure. In Lancaster it was announced that the show had been compelled to close the season on account of the yellow fever epidemic in the South.²⁴

Hall would never admit that the show had lost money, but his associates said that it did. It has always been agreed that the 1905 tenting season was a poor one, especially in the central states, because of a crop failure.

Hall didn't travel with his show during the entire tour. It was reported in the *New York Clipper* (an amusement paper), July 22, 1905, that he had left the show to go to his farm to oversee the shipment of 2,000 horses to South Africa.

The "Great William P. Hall Show" never trouped again, although references to the show going out in 1906 "bigger and better than ever" appeared in the trade journals during the winter of 1905-1906.

²⁰ Lancaster Schuyler County Republican, May 5, 1905.

²¹ *Ibid.*, May 12, 1905.

²² "Roster of William P. Hall Show," *New York Clipper*, LIII (June 17, 1905).

²³ Route of The Great Wm. P. Hall Shows compiled by J. A. Haviland from the published route of the show in the *Billboard*, XVII; copy of route in Pleninger Collection, Columbus, Ohio.

²⁴ Lancaster Schuyler County Republican, August 25, 1905.

Lancaster Sat., MAY 6

TWO MATCHLESS EXHIBITIONS.

THE GREAT W. P. HALL SHOWS.

Circus, Managerie and Hippodrome.



THE SMALLEST BABY ELEPHANT LIVING.
BABY CAMELS, BABY LIONS, BABY BEARS.
THE ONLY BISA ANTELOPE IN CAPTIVITY.



THE FAIRY QUEEN—LABELLE LEONA.
CHAMPION LADY PRINCIPAL BAREBACK RIDER.



MONSTER FREE STREET PARADE
at 10 O'clock A.M. RAIN OR SHINE
Performance Starts 2 and 8 P.M.
Doors Open one Hour Early.

The Hall Circus and the Cook and Barrett Show were to be combined after 1905, but this deal fell through, probably because the Schillers couldn't come up with the money. Had the Cook and Barrett and Hall circuses combined, the result would have been one of the finest thirty-five car shows ever to take the road.

Some of the Hall circus was sold to the Schillers. Six cars of equipment were used on the Cook and Barrett Circus in 1906.²⁵ The new equipment brought the size of the Cook and Barrett Circus up to sixteen cars. Some of the equipment was sold to the Smith Greater United Shows Carnival.²⁶ The remainder was left at the Lancaster farm and was leased out during subsequent years.

Starting in 1906 and continuing until the final season in 1913, Gordon Lillie leased four performing elephants from Hall for his Pawnee Bill Wild West Show.²⁷ It can be safely assumed that these elephants were the same ones that appeared on the W. P. Hall Circus in 1905, as Hall had not acquired any circuses with elephants before 1906.

²⁵ *Billboard*, XVIII (February 10, 1906, and March 24, 1906).

²⁶ *Bandwagon*, XI (May-June, 1907), 13.

²⁷ *Billboard*, XVIII (February 3, 1906).

Lancaster Excelsior,
May 5, 1905

In 1909 Ed Baumeister, a Louisville, Kentucky, saloon keeper, decided he wanted to own a wild west show. Early that year he went to the Hall farm and leased ten cars of equipment. Baumeister's offering was titled Cherokee Ed's Wild West. Some of the equipment was from the Cook and Barrett Circus. The Cherokee Ed show failed at mid-season and was sent back to the Hall barns.²⁸

In July, 1909, John H. Garrett's Rice Bros. Circus went on the auction block in East St. Louis, Illinois. Hall was there and he acquired the show's two elephants, Gyp and Pollock, and two lions.²⁹ He may also have purchased two tableaus (carved parade wagons) at the auction.

The year 1909 probably marked Fred Buchanan's first purchase of circus property from Hall. Buchanan bought the old Cook and Barrett bandwagon from Hall some time before the 1910 season, and the winter of 1909 is the most logical date. The tableaus off the Rice Bros. Circus may have been purchased at the same time as the bandwagon, although this has not been verified. This was the first known deal of a large number of mysterious ones between "Col. Fred" and "Col. William."

Hall swung his biggest deal of the year in the fall of 1909. From the firm of Frank Smith and A. O. Perry he purchased the old Lemon Bros. Circus. Perry and Smith had acquired the show the previous February.³⁰

In 1910 Hall traded some baggage stock to the John Robinson Circus for two elephants, some other animals, and one of the famous Robinson cottage cages. The cage Hall acquired never toured again and it rotted down at his farm.³¹

During 1910 Albert Monroe Cauble decided it was time to enlarge his little circus. He went to the Hall farm for equipment. Hall sold Cauble a little punk (elephant) called Baby Bill and some other property. Baby Bill became a white elephant on the Cauble circus.

Cauble made these interesting comments about Baby Bill and Hall:

Baby Bill was a spoiled brat, and he would not let anyone feed or care for him except one roughneck and my-

²⁸ Tom Parkinson, "Circusdom's Historic Personage," *Bandwagon*, X (May-June, 1966), 5.

²⁹ *New York Clipper*, LVII (July 10, 1909).

³⁰ Richard E. Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3, unpublished manuscript in Pfening Collection.

³¹ Richard E. Conover, *Give 'Em a John Robinson* (Xenia, Ohio, 1965), 70.

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self. Bill was happy when one of us was near, but if we walked away he would carry on something awfull I sent Hall word about what trouble Bill was giving me and he sent word back to return Baby Bill and he would let me have any bull in the barn.

When we arrived in Tupelo, Mississippi, we gave the railroad company a lot of grief. I wanted heated transportation for Bill and the rates were three times first class for elephants, crated or uncrated. As it was against the law for anyone to ride in the baggage car, they would not allow me to ride with my baby. They decided to crate him as they could not furnish a heated car for anything less than 300 pounds. I told them Baby Bill would not live through the night away from me, so they might as well knock Bill in the head and give me four thousand dollars. We kept them waiting eight hours wiring the big shots of the road, but finally they loaded Bill and me into the baggage car. I loaded milk, cheese and crackers for food, hay and blankets for bedding, and soon we were on our way and sound asleep.³²

Cauble said he would never forget his arrival in Lancaster. He continued:

It was eleven o'clock at night and cold as the devil, so you can imagine my surprise to see W. P. Hall, himself, at the station. He had his car and driver there and ordered me to turn Bill over to the boys and get into the car. It was hard for me to turn it down, but I persuaded him to let me stay with the baby until I had bedded him down in a warm, comfortable place. He handed me a quart of Yellow Stone liquor and said that he would see me the next morning.³³

Hall must have been quite a person to go to the trouble to assist Cauble, considering that he had no chance of making a profit from Cauble's visit.

After the failure to make the show go with a big parade, the Norris and Rowe Circus went bankrupt and was sent to the Wallace Circus Farm in Peru, Indiana, for auction. This auction on June 18, 1910, turned out to be the biggest gathering of circus men since the 1905 Forepaugh Sells auction. Most of the equipment was purchased by Ben Wallace and Hall. The horse king bought the three big tableaus of the show, a battleship tableau, the elephants,

³² Homer C. Walton, "A. M. Cauble's Wagon Show," *Bandwagon*, VI (January-February, 1962), 21.

³³ *Ibid.*

Hero and Duchess, a cage wagon and a number of the show's horses.³⁴

The big male elephant, Hero, was soon leased to the Lucky Bill Wagon Show by Hall.³⁵

In 1911 A. M. Cauble returned to the Hall Farm to purchase the elephant Tommy along with some other animals. Tommy was one of the bulls Hall had acquired in the trade with the John Robinson Circus the previous year.³⁶

Wade H. Coulter brought his wagon circus, Coulter and Coulter, into the Hall Farm after the 1910 tour. Coulter purchased six flat cars, four stock cars, three sleeping cars, and an advance car from Hall that winter and took it out as the W. H. Coulter Circus in 1911.³⁷

Coulter, an old circus agent, started the management business in 1907 when he and Wade Clark had the Coulter and Clark Wagon Circus. The title was the same in 1908, but after that season Coulter bought out his partner. In 1909 and 1910 the show was the Coulter and Coulter Circus.³⁸ When Harper Joy, a circus historian, visited the farm in 1933 he observed a Coulter and Clark wagon on the grounds. This could mean some of Coulter's earlier ventures were organized or wintered at the Hall Farm.

In 1911 the W. H. Coulter Railroad Circus opened in Lancaster on April 29. Coulter bought out his new partner, William Hoogenwoning, June 13, and the show was combined on July 26 with the Boyd-and-Culbertson-owned Indian Pete Wild West Show, a ten-car outfit.³⁹ Hall was probably not involved in these transactions as the equipment used on the Indian Pete show was built by the Beggs Wagon Company in Kansas City.⁴⁰

After the Coulter-Indian Pete show finished the season early in September, the show went into winter quarters in Lancaster.

Hall, always in the market for elephants, bought two bulls from Jerry Mugivan early in 1911. He immediately sold them to Tom Wiedemann along with some baggage wagons, a pair of flat

³⁴ "The Last Sale," *Billboard*, XXII (August 13, 1910), 20.

³⁵ Photo in Pfening Collection shows Hero on the Lucky Bill Circus in 1911.

³⁶ Walton, "A. M. Cauble's Wagon Show," 22.

³⁷ William H. Woodcock, "Circus Railroad Train Lists," unpublished, in Pfening Collection.

³⁸ *Bandwagon*, II (May-June, 1958), 4.

³⁹ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁴⁰ Photo distributed by J. W. Beggs, Kansas City, Missouri, shows Indian Pete wagons ready for shipping at Beggs Wagon Company in Kansas City.

cars, a camel and eight head of baggage stock for the first season of the Kit Carson Buffalo Ranch Wild West.⁴¹

The Bulger and Cheney Circus out of Sparta, Wisconsin, purchased four car loads of equipment and some ring stock from Hall in April, 1911. The firm of Barrett and Zimmerman acquired the show after the closing, but it appears the Bulger and Cheney Circus finally ended its life in Hall's barns.⁴²

Floyd King recently told how Hall acquired so many shows. When he leased horses or elephants to a show he would ask for the mortgage on the whole show to back up the difference between the down payment and the final balance. King remembered that Charlie Sparks, a showman in the 1910s and 1920s, was almost trapped into giving a mortgage on his two-car show when he leased some horses from Hall. But Mrs. Hall told her husband just to take Charlie's word on the rest of the money. Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Sparks were good friends.⁴³ By getting the mortgage on a circus, Hall often acquired the mortgage on a dollar's worth of equipment for leasing a dime's worth of animals.

Hall reached his peak in the circus world in 1911 when he came very close to buying the fifty-railroad-car Forepaugh Sells Circus from the Ringling brothers. Hall wrote to Charles Ringling about the matter:

In regard to show property, what will it take to buy me Forepaugh Sells Show as it stands today—if the price was, so I could see it out. I might buy it. I do not want to run any show. I would only buy to sell again. If you care to send me an itemized statement of it with price, I will not give any price away if I do not trade with you.

Yours truly,
W. P. Hall⁴⁴

A contract was drawn up, but for some unknown reason, the deal did not go through.⁴⁵

After the Ringlings took the Forepaugh Sells Circus off the road at the close of the 1911 season, some of the equipment was sold piecemeal in the form of a surplus sale list, but it is doubtful if Hall purchased anything from the list.

⁴¹ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁴² *Billboard*, XXIII (April 8, 1911), 23.

⁴³ Floyd King to Fred D. Pfening, III, October 30, 1966.

⁴⁴ William P. Hall to Charles Ringling, October 10, 1911, Pfening Collection.

⁴⁵ Sverre O. Braathen to Fred D. Pfening, III, May 12, 1966. Braathen has the unsigned contract in his collection, Madison, Wisconsin.

In 1912 the Coulter and Indian Pete Show left the Hall Farm as the Cole Bros. Circus. Al. G. Campbell was now Coulter's partner. It was the same show that came into Lancaster after the 1911 tour with the addition of sixty head of Hall horses.⁴⁶

The Cole Bros. Circus opened in Lancaster on April 27, 1912, and closed November 2 at Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The show was brought into the Hall Farm for the winter, where Hall repossessed it.⁴⁷

In 1912 Hall sold the elephant, York (later Babe) to the Toledo, Ohio, Zoo.⁴⁸ York was an old circus bull, but regrettably nothing more is known about her.

Early in 1913 Hall acquired the twenty-six car Campbell Bros. Circus from a Fairbury, Nebraska, bank.⁴⁹ There are some reports in the *Billboard* late in 1912 that Al. G. Campbell purchased the Campbell Bros. Circus, but evidently this was just chatter.

In 1913 Al. G. Campbell, Fred Hatfield and Lee Greer took out a fifteen-car show with Hall equipment titled Cole Bros. Circus. This circus had no connection with W. H. Coulter's Cole Bros. show the year before. The 1913 show used equipment for the most part from the 1912 Campbell Bros. Circus, which Hall had recently acquired, and some from the 1912 Cole Circus.⁵⁰ This show had an unsuccessful season and it was back in Lancaster after the season closed.

On July 22, 1913, the Buffalo Bill-Pawnee Bill Wild West Show went bankrupt in Denver, Colorado. The show was auctioned at the winter quarters of the Sells Floto Circus; the quarters were vacant because the Sells Floto show was then on tour. Hall was at the sale to repossess his four elephants, which had been on the Gordon Lillie shows since 1906. Hall may have purchased the bandwagon used on the "Two Bill Show" in a special parade unit in 1913. He may also have purchased a Rhino tableau wagon used on the Sells Floto Circus up to the 1912 season.⁵¹

Sig Sautelle and his partners, George Rollins and Oscar

⁴⁶ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁴⁷ *Billboard*, XXIV (December 29, 1912).

⁴⁸ *White Tops*, VI (December, 1932-January, 1933), 5.

⁴⁹ Route of the Campbell Bros. Circus compiled by J. A. Haviland from the unpublished route of the show in the *Billboard*, XXIII, notes that the show was in receivership to a Fairbury, Nebraska, bank; copy of route in Pfening Collection.

⁵⁰ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁵¹ Richard E. Conover, "The Great Wallace Running Lion and Rhino Tableaus," *Bandwagon*, X (January-February, 1966), 14.

Lowande, decided to put the Sautelle wagon circus on rails in 1913. They went to the Hall Farm and purchased twelve cars of property.⁵²

Sometime in 1913 the Miller Bros. and Arlington Wild West Show purchased the three big Norris and Rowe tableaus from Hall.⁵³ About this time Fred Buchanan purchased the former Norris and Rowe elephant, Dutch, from Hall.⁵⁴

Late in 1913 Fred Buchanan entered into the first of three extremely mysterious deals with Hall. In the *Billboard* of November 29, 1913, appears an item stating that Buchanan had sold Hall his old equipment. The only two pieces of equipment which have been identified in this deal are the advance car and the old bandwagon used on the Yankee Robinson Circus. It seems certain, however, that much more equipment was included in the transaction.

Hall bought two fairly large shows in 1914. The first one was the Sig Sautelle Circus. The 1914 season had been a poor one for the show, and on August 1, 1914, Sautelle and associates sold out to Louis D. Thilman. Thilman couldn't make a go of the show either, and the Erie Lithograph Company took over the Sautelle Circus. The Erie firm put the show on sale and on October 22, 1914, Hall bought back the same circus that had been organized at his farm the previous year. Hall did not buy the Sig Sautelle title, however. Old "Signor" held on to the rights to his moniker.⁵⁵

The other show acquired in 1914 was Vernon C. Seaver's Young Buffalo Wild West, a show whose only distinction was that it employed Annie Oakley. Hall got all the show's property except the railroad cars.⁵⁶

In the early part of 1914 Andrew Downie purchased some equipment from Hall for his LaTena Circus.⁵⁷

One other event of importance centered around the Hall Farm in 1914. That season George H. Embree and Art Eldridge attempted to reincarnate the W. H. Coulter Circus out of Lancaster. Wade H. Coulter had died in 1913. After the preparations for the

⁵² Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁵³ Photo in Pfening Collection shows the three former Norris and Rowe wagons on the Miller and Arlington Wild West Show in 1913.

⁵⁴ Photo in Pfening Collection shows the elephant Dutch while on the Yankee Robinson Circus.

⁵⁵ *Billboard*, XXVI (October 31, 1914).

⁵⁶ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

⁵⁷ *Billboard*, XXVI (February 7, 1914).



Lot

show were completed, Hall decided he didn't want to lease the equipment and the deal fell through.⁵⁸

It is most likely that Hall leased or sold some equipment in 1914 to the Gillespie Wagon Circus. The equipment ended up at the Hall Farm after the tour.⁵⁹

In January, 1915, J. H. Eschman and D. C. Hawn purchased some equipment from Hall. The report was that they bought a fifteen-car show, but this fact is incorrect since the Eschman Circus had only seven cars in 1915.⁶⁰

The year 1915 was a big one for the Hall Farm. That year Thomas F. Wiedemann and John A. Barton leased seventeen cars of equipment from Hall and put it on the road as Barton and Bailey World Celebrated Shows. This circus was the largest show framed at the Hall Farm. The Barton and Bailey Circus opened in Lancaster and headed north in Nebraska and then went west where the show ran into flood trouble. It closed late in July and was shipped back to Lancaster.⁶¹

In 1915 another circus named Cole Bros. left Lancaster. This one was owned by the firm of Eldridge and Dickey. The Cole Bros. wagon show opened in Lancaster with a reported "sixty wagons, three elephants, ten miniature cages, one hundred and forty head of baggage stock and forty-five head of ring stock."⁶² A reasonable figure could probably best be reached by cutting the above listing by two-thirds. The show failed and Hall put it back in his barn that fall.

At mid-season the Hugo Bros. Circus acquired some of the equipment Hall had leased to the Barton and Bailey Circus earlier in the season. The Hugo Bros. Circus became the nucleus for the Coop and Lent Circus the next year.⁶³

In 1915 George Rollins, who had been connected with the Sig Sautelle failure in 1914, purchased an animal act and a pair of elephants from Hall. Rollins used the animals for a vaudeville act.⁶⁴

⁵⁸ John A. Haviland, "W. H. Coulter's World Famous Shows," 1, unpublished manuscript in Pfening Collection.

⁵⁹ "William P. Hall," *Billboard*, XXXIII (November 5, 1921), 105.

⁶⁰ John A. Haviland, "Record of Circuses on Tour by Seasons," *Bandwagon*, V (January-February, 1962), 26.

⁶¹ Route of the Barton and Bailey Circus compiled by J. A. Haviland from the route published in the *Billboard*, XXV, copy in Pfening Collection.

⁶² "Notes from the Cole Bros. Circus," *Billboard*, XXVII (April 17, 1915).

⁶³ Joseph T. Bradbury, "The Coop and Lent Circus," *Bandwagon*, III (May-June, 1959), 4.

⁶⁴ *Billboard*, XXVII (January 9, 1915).

About this time R. Z. Orton purchased the elephant, Juno, from Hall. Juno returned to the Hall Farm after the failure of the Orton rail show in 1916.⁶⁵

In 1911 Tom Wiedemann bought some equipment and in 1915 J. A. Jones bought two tableaus, three railroad cars, some cages and an elephant from Hall. The property was used on his Jones Bros. World Toured Shows.⁶⁶

Rhoda Royal, another showman, bought two small elephants from Hall in 1915 for a vaudeville act. Con. T. Kennedy and John Backman, two carnival magnates, visited the Hall Farm in 1915 and probably bought some elephants and some other animals. These deals are examples of the type of transactions which probably happened dozens of times without being recorded.⁶⁷

Hall had many dealings with carnivals. In 1914-1915 the Allman Bros. Carnival wintered in Lancaster. The Allman show probably spent some other years at the Hall Farm as that show was acquired by Hall sometime before 1921.⁶⁸

Unlike his circus dealings which are all fairly definite, Hall's carnival transactions are surprisingly vague. Sometime before 1933 the Litts' Carnival and the Heinze Bros. Carnival were purchased by Hall, probably at a bankruptcy sale.⁶⁹ Between 1921 and 1933 the Gifford Bros. Carnival leased some Yankee Robinson railroad cars from Hall. The cars were returned to the farm with, probably, the rest of the Gifford equipment.⁷⁰ Hall acquired a Rice Carnival sometime before 1921.⁷¹

In 1914 World War I started. Hall sold horses to the Allies and more than one source reveals that the war made him a very wealthy person.⁷²

In 1916 R. Z. Orton and family left their usual wagon show in winter quarters and decided to try it on rails. They went to Lancaster and bought thirteen railroad cars of equipment. Most of this equipment had probably been used on the Barton and Bailey

⁶⁵ Mrs. W. H. Woodcock to Fred D. Pfening, III, October 30, 1966. Mrs. Woodcock's father owned the Orton Circus.

⁶⁶ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3; and *Billboard*, XXVII (January 23, 1915), 23.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ "William P. Hall," 105.

⁶⁹ In 1933 William H. Woodcock took a set of photographs of the Hall Farm, that, in recent years have become known as the Hadley Set. In this group these titles appear on the sides of the railroad cars at the Hall railroad siding.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ "William P. Hall," 105.

⁷² *Kansas City Star*, April 2, 1933.

show the previous year, although this cannot definitely be determined because of a lack of pictures of either show.⁷³

The Orton Railroad Circus opened in Glenwood, Missouri, April 29, 1916, but from the start the show ran into trouble. Mrs. W. H. (Babe) Woodcock, whose father owned the show, described the closing in this manner: "My father didn't keep enough money to back the thing and with the weather so bad, they closed it July 4 at Mora, Minnesota. My father bought too big a show."⁷⁴ Hall foreclosed on the show and it was sent back to Lancaster. The "never-say-die" Ortons then brought their wagon show out of cold storage and continued the season, using some Hall horses.⁷⁵

Art Stark and Art Eldridge purchased some of the finest wagons at the Hall Farm and combined the new equipment with the Hugo Bros. Circus to form the Coop and Lent Circus in 1916. They also leased four elephants from Hall.⁷⁶

In 1916 Al. G. Campbell and J. W. Beattie framed a two-car show in Lancaster and sent it to San Antonio, Texas, to open.⁷⁷ This show could have been the Cooper and Robinson Circus, Lancaster, which advertised in June, 1916, in the *Billboard*. If not, then four circuses were framed at the Hall Farm in 1916.

Early in 1916 Hall sold the five-elephant herd leased in 1915 to the Barton and Bailey Circus to Van Leer Black for the twenty-seven car Wheeler Bros. Circus.⁷⁸ Hall sold at least three elephants to Ed Ballard for the Hagenbeck Wallace Circus.⁷⁹ These two deals involved quite a lot of money, since the price of an elephant was about fifteen hundred dollars.

A large sale of property early in 1916 to the Wortham Carnival included some of the wagons that Hall had acquired with the Young Buffalo Wild West.⁸⁰ Sometime after the 1916 season the

⁷³ This theory has been advanced by many circus historians; foremost of these are Joseph T. Bradbury and the late William H. Woodcock. However, the very recent discovery of a set of Orton 1916 pictures tends to disclaim their conjectures. No wagons in this 1916 set appear to have been part of the 1915 Barton and Bailey show.

⁷⁴ Mrs. W. H. Woodcock to Fred D. Pfening, III, October 30, 1966.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, November 8, 1966.

⁷⁶ Bradbury, "The Coop and Lent Circus," 4.

⁷⁷ "Two Car Show Framed," *Billboard*, XXVII (January 22, 1916), 22.

⁷⁸ Joseph T. Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson Circus," *Bandwagon*, IV (May-June, 1960), 5.

⁷⁹ In 1926 the American Circus Corporation, the outgrowth of Hagenbeck-Wallace, issued a list giving the history of the elephants they owned. Copy of list in Pfening Collection.

⁸⁰ *Billboard*, XXVIII (April 29, 1916).

Wortham show returned to the Hall Farm and the owners purchased some old equipment, mostly parade wagons.

During the winter of 1916-1917 the Coop and Lent show returned to Lancaster also, and bought a few more items including a steam calliope.⁸¹

On May 12, 1917, Hall got a real windfall. On that date three of his elephants on the Coop and Lent Circus were lost in a fire in the stock car. One of the bulls survived the fire. The Coop and Lent show was forced to pay Hall \$8,000 for the loss of the animals. To top the deal off, Hall leased two more elephants to the show. They were the famous pair, Jenny Lockhart and Nellie Lockhart, that Hall had recently acquired from the Ringling Bros.⁸²

After the Coop and Lent show folded at mid-season, the three elephants and Hall's trainer, Al Langdon, were sent to the Cook Bros. Circus owned by D. C. Cook.⁸³

Hall leased his Lockhart elephants to the Yankee Robinson Circus in 1919 and probably in 1918.⁸⁴

In September, 1917, the LaMont Bros. Wagon Circus out of Salem, Illinois, was added to Hall's great circus empire. It was reported that C. R. LaMont, the owner, sold out because of poor health and that he planned to rest two years and take out another wagon show in 1920. But the itch got to C. R. sooner than he expected and in 1919 the LaMont Circus took the road again with an elephant named Mabel leased from Hall.⁸⁵

In February, 1917, the J. E. Henry Circus purchased the elephant Toddles from Hall. Toddles died the following November. Hall had acquired the elephant from the Selig Moving Picture Company.⁸⁶

The only transaction in which Hall engaged in 1918 seems to have been the purchase of three elephants from the widow of J. A. Jones.⁸⁷

The Atterbury Bros. Circus, owned by Robert L. (Uncle Bob)

⁸¹ In a letter from Mrs. W. H. Woodcock to Fred D. Pfening, III, November 8, 1966, she mentioned that the Coop and Lent Circus had the calliope used on the Orton Circus in 1916. Since photographs place the calliope with Coop and Lent in 1917, the transaction had to take place during the winter of 1916-1917.

⁸² Bradbury, "The Coop and Lent Circus," 7.

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ A photograph of the elephant line-up of the Yankee Robinson Circus shows these elephants. Copy of original picture in Pfening Collection.

⁸⁵ Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson," 5.

⁸⁶ *Billboard*, XXIX (December 1, 1917).

⁸⁷ Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson," 5.



William Hall and Al Langdon pose with elephants in front of the Hall Farm office.

Atterbury, spent the winter of 1919-1920 at the Hall Farm. The show was outfitted with Hall equipment including the famous killer elephant, Black Diamond, for the 1920 season.⁸⁸

Listed in the January 17 issue of *Billboard* is a "Wild Bill's Wild West & Old Cheyenne Frontier Days Combined; Hall and Roby managers; winter quarters, Lancaster, Missouri." The Hall was not William P. Hall but a "Doc" Hall.

⁸⁸ Burt L. Wilson, "Routes for the 1920 Season," unpublished, in Pfening Collection.

There is some question if the show actually toured because of an advertisement in the 1920 Christmas issue of *Billboard* giving Yuletide greetings from the Hall and Roby Carnival out of Lancaster, Missouri.⁸⁹

In 1920 William Newton, Jr. (Honest Bill) bought an elephant, a trained bear and some horses from Hall.⁹⁰ Although this is the only recorded deal between Hall and the Newtons since 1910, it is almost certain that others took place in the interim.

In February, 1920, Hall made another big sale to Mugivan and Bowers. The three elephants and one hundred head of horses sold were used on the Howes Great London Circus owned by Mugivan and Bowers.⁹¹

In 1920 Hall sold parade equipment, including an elegant bandwagon built in 1868, to Rhoda Royal and D. C. Hawn.⁹² The entire Rhoda Royal Circus disappeared after the 1922 season, and it remains one of the mysteries of circus history.

Hall sold the elephant, Texas, to William Newton, Sr., in 1920.⁹³ Tex turned out to be a bad actor and he was shot on the Atterbury Circus in 1927.

Al. G. Barnes bought the elephant, Mabel, from Hall late in 1920. Her name was changed to Jenny by the Barnes show.⁹⁴

Hall engaged in many transactions in 1920. Early in the year he purchased the four elephants used on the R. T. Richards Circus in 1917. These elephants were part of the same group he had sold to the Wheeler Bros. Circus in 1916.⁹⁵

The Campbell, Bailey and Hutchinson Circus purchased thirteen pieces of equipment in the 1920 season. In this deal, as in all of his equipment sales, Hall sold property previously used on circuses and wild west shows he had bought; there was never any wagon building at his farm.⁹⁶

During the winter of 1920-1921 two big and one moderately large shows were brought to the Hall Farm and reorganized.

Hall bought the twenty-five car Yankee Robinson Circus from

⁸⁹ *Billboard*, XXXII (December 18, 1920), 127.

⁹⁰ Wilson, "Routes for the 1920 Season."

⁹¹ *Billboard*, XXXII (February 21, 1920).

⁹² Joseph T. Bradbury, "The Rhoda Royal Circus 1919-1922," *Bandwagon* V (May-June, 1961), 7.

⁹³ Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson," 5.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3; Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson," 4-5.

Fred Buchanan. Many circus historians believe that Mugivan and Bowers, not Hall, purchased the "Yank" show. But Jerry Mugivan, in a personal interview, said, "We bought from William P. Hall, Jr., the Yankee Robinson Circus."⁹⁷ Why Hall's son's name was used is not known. Another source notes that on November 11, 1920, Hall acquired the Yankee Robinson Circus.⁹⁸ A conflicting report was published November 20, 1920, in the *Billboard*, stating that Edward M. Ballard [agent for Mugivan and Bowers] had bought the Robinson circus from Fred Buchanan.

In regard to this dispute, Richard E. Conover, circus historian, recently wrote: "I have always heard that ACC [American Circus Corporation] owned by Mugivan and Bowers, bought the show [Yankee Robinson Circus] and took it and their 15-car Howe's Great London into Lancaster to reframe it as a 25-car HGL for the following year. However, I have no documentation to support this and to outsiders looking [at] it, it could appear one way and actually be the other way around." This statement probably sums up the problem.⁹⁹

That winter Mugivan and Bowers brought their fifteen-car Howe's Great London Circus into Lancaster instead of wintering at their usual quarters in Peru, Indiana.¹⁰⁰

In a prearranged deal Hall sold a large amount of the Yankee Robinson equipment to Mugivan and Bowers. A few pieces of equipment from the Howe's Great London Circus may have been sold to Hall. The Yankee Robinson equipment, along with some off the 1920 Howe's show were combined to form the twenty-five car Howe's Great London Circus in 1921.¹⁰¹

The third show in Lancaster during the winter of 1920-1921 was the Palmer Bros. Circus. The owners of this outfit were Doc Palmer, John Backman and Al Tinish.¹⁰² The latter two had the Backman and Tinish Circus on the road in 1920 and there is some question whether it was brought into Lancaster or to the regular

⁹⁷ Frank Braden, "An Interesting Interview with Jerry Mugivan," reprinted in *Bandwagon*, V (March-April, 1961), 18.

⁹⁸ John A. Haviland, "Yankee Robinson Circus," unpublished manuscript in Pfening Collection.

⁹⁹ Richard E. Conover to Fred D. Pfening, III, December 1, 1966. On July 3, 1967, Charles Goettman, an employee of Hall's in 1920, told the author that Hall held a mortgage on the Yankee Robinson show and foreclosed on it in 1920. By this means, he sold it to Mugivan and Bowers.

¹⁰⁰ Joseph T. Bradbury's, "Howe's Great London Circus, Season of 1921," *Bandwagon*, VIII (September-October, 1964), 4.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² Conover, "Hall Farm Activities," 1-3.

winter quarters in San Antonio, Texas, after the 1920 season. It is probably safer to assume that the show went to San Antonio. It was only a two-car show.

Some of the equipment not purchased by Mugivan and Bowers was sold to Backman and Company by Hall.¹⁰³ Some of the Buchanan property was held by Hall and not sold at that time. Some was later leased to the Gifford Bros. Model Shows Carnival.¹⁰⁴

The Campbell, Bailey and Hutchinson Circus spent the winter of 1921-1922 at the Hall Farm and left there in 1922 with one more bull leased from Hall. The season of 1922 was the last for the CB&H Circus. The elephants were returned to Hall after the season, but the wagons were never in Lancaster again.¹⁰⁵

The Honest Bill and Lucky Bill Show spent the winter of 1922-1923 in Lancaster rather than at their usual quarters in Ada, Oklahoma.¹⁰⁶

In 1923, after spending the previous year as manager of the James Patterson Circus, Fred Buchanan returned to the ownership field with his World Bros. Circus. Although the show was framed at the Buchanan headquarters at Granger, Iowa, some equipment was purchased from Hall and some elephants were also leased.¹⁰⁷

After the 1923 season World Bros. came into the Hall Farm instead of going to Granger. Ben J. Kubly, an employee, gave this reason for the choice of Lancaster: "I don't know the real reason for taking World Bros. into Lancaster in 1923, except perhaps it could be that William Hall's farm was better equipped to work over the equipment and paint and letter all the wagons and the train from World Bros. to Robbins Bros. for the 1924 season."¹⁰⁸

As Kubly noted the World Bros. Circus, enlarged a bit with Hall railroad cars, opened in Lancaster on April 26, 1924, as Robbins Bros. Circus.¹⁰⁹

In March, 1925, A. O. Perry purchased thirty wagons from

¹⁰³ Joseph T. Bradbury, "The Golden Brothers Circus, 1923-1924," *White Tops*, XXX (January-February, 1957), 3.

¹⁰⁴ In 1933 William H. Woodcock took a set of pictures of the Hall Farm; one of these picture shows a railroad car from the Gifford show. See footnote No. 70.

¹⁰⁵ Bradbury, "Campbell-Bailey-Hutchinson," 14.

¹⁰⁶ *Billboard*, XXXIV (November 11, 1922).

¹⁰⁷ "World Bros. 1923 and Robbins Bros. 1924-26 Advance" *Bandwagon*, VII (March-April, 1963), 14.

¹⁰⁸ Ben J. Kubly to Fred D. Pfening, III, November 21, 1966, in Pfening Collection.

¹⁰⁹ Route of the Robbins Bros. Circus, season of 1924 compiled by J. A. Haviland; copy of route in Pfening Collection.

Hall. Evidently the equipment used on Perry's show was from the Coulter and Coulter wagon circus of 1910.¹¹⁰

In his unsuccessful attempt at a railroad circus in 1925, Frank J. Taylor, Jr., purchased some railroad cars from Hall. Like nearly every other show equipped by Hall, it failed after a few weeks.¹¹¹

Hall secured his elephants from many places. As early as 1906 it was reported that Louis J. Hall, brother of William P. Hall, had just returned from Cape Town, South Africa, with a large shipment of horses for his brother. He would then go to the interior of the continent to purchase fifteen elephants to be shipped directly to Lancaster.¹¹² In the 1920s Hall made three importations of young elephants. In 1925 eight punks were purchased from a west coast firm; in 1925 Hall bought five animals from Louis Ruhe in New York City and in 1926 six more bulls from the same source.¹¹³

Hall purchased the elephant, Major, from the John Robinson Circus in 1925. Major, the first elephant owned by Mugivan and Bowers, turned bad, and had to be executed in February, 1936, by the Cole Bros. Circus.

A number of Hall's elephants were either cripples or bad actors. Spencer Huntley, a Lancaster Hall Farm employee, said in 1944, "A fellow in Lancaster, Mo., would buy the outlaws nobody else would have. Then we'd work over them and kind of straighten them out. In the summers we'd rent them out to circuses and carnivals."¹¹⁴ The list of bad bulls owned at one time by Hall is headed by the infamous Black Diamond, who had to be put to death in 1929.¹¹⁵

Leo Crook and Arthur Hoffman leased four elephants from Hall for the Cook and Cole Circus in 1927. In this herd were two famous elephants, old Major and Boo. Boo was originally named Baby Baraboo on the Ringling Bros. Circus in 1902. She was sold to Hall about 1917, along with the Lockhart pair. When the Cook and Cole show closed after playing twelve dates, the four bulls were shipped back to Hall.¹¹⁶

¹¹⁰ *Billboard*, XXXVII (April 11, 1925).

¹¹¹ Joseph T. Bradbury, "The F. J. Taylor Circuses," *Bandwagon*, VII (May-June, 1963), 8.

¹¹² *Lancaster Excelsior*, November 30, 1906.

¹¹³ Chang Reynolds to Fred D. Pfening, III, December 13, 1966, in Pfening Collection.

¹¹⁴ Joliet, Illinois, newspaper, June 16, 1944, clipping in Pfening Collection.

¹¹⁵ Homer C. Walton, "The Story of Black Diamond," *Bandwagon*, III (May-June, 1959), 17.

¹¹⁶ Bradbury, "The F. J. Taylor Circuses," 11.

In 1927 and 1928 the Orton Bros. Circus leased two elephants from Hall. Before this date the Ortons had purchased the old elephant, Jenny Lockhart, from Hall. After the 1928 season the two rented elephants were returned and old Jenny, considered by many as the kindest elephant in existence, died, December, 1928.¹¹⁷

Hall needed a large group of elephant handlers or "bull men" to train and keep the thirty or so elephants that were always around the farm. For a number of years George Stretch was the head elephant man at the farm. He was in charge of three big elephants used in exhibitions. Other men who worked as trainers at the Hall Farm were Al Langdon, Spencer Huntley, Joe Metcalf, Jack Lorenzo, Bernie Houston, C. H. (Highpockets) Baudendistel, C. S. Jones, Elvin (Sheriff) Welsh, Ike Beard and Col. William Woodcock. Woodcock was the leading historian of the American circus until his death in 1963. Of the remaining trainers, only Jones, Baudendistel and Beard are still living.¹¹⁸ Many other trainers, all big, muscular men, worked at the Hall Farm for a short time. That Hall owned a fantastic number of elephants over the years is shown by the fact that today, nearly thirty-two years after the farm closed, approximately five of his elephants are still traveling with circuses. A few more are in zoos.

The biggest show to be deposited at the Hall Farm after Yankee Robinson was the Buck Jones Wild West in 1929. This show was framed in California and was sent to Lancaster after its failure. The author asked William P. Hall, Jr., why the Jones show came into his father's farm. He replied, "After the show folded it came into Lancaster supposedly to quarter. When it became obvious the show was broke, Dad had to take it over."¹¹⁹

In 1930 when Sam B. Dill was framing the Gentry Bros. Circus at West Baden, Indiana, he leased three Hall elephants and some other animals for the duration. In 1931 he rented three more elephants from Hall for his show, now retitled Robbins Bros. Circus.¹²⁰

For some unknown reason Fred Buchanan's Robbins Bros. Circus came into the Hall Farm for the winter of 1930, just as Buchanan had done in 1923. William P. Hall, Jr., said, "My father had no interest in the Robbins Bros. show when it came into

¹¹⁷ "Jennie Lockhart is Dead," *White Tops*, II (March, 1929), 3.

¹¹⁸ William H. Woodcock, Jr., to Fred D. Pfening, III, February 15, 1967; C. S. Jones to Fred D. Pfening, III, January 25, 1967.

¹¹⁹ William P. Hall, Jr., to Fred D. Pfening, III, November 10, 1966.

¹²⁰ Joseph T. Bradbury, "The Sam B. Dill Circuses," *White Tops*, XXVIII (January-February, 1955), 7.

quarters at Lancaster in 1930. Fred Buchanan may have owed him money for some horses or something like that. I suppose the reason it wintered in Lancaster is that we had the room and would make some money on the wintering, and further, it would be convenient to sell Fred Buchanan horses and animals. I think Buchanan was hard up and looking for something like that. He wouldn't have to advance too much money for a while." Hall's comments are valid, since there are reports that Hall, Sr., did send Buchanan some money to get Robbins Bros. back from the west coast. The year was an extremely poor one for circuses and possibly Buchanan had incurred a great number of debts in Granger, Iowa, his home quarters. It might have been greatly to his advantage to stay away from his home town. There was some shuffling of equipment during the winter. Five railroad cars were cut from the train and the elephant herd was switched around a great deal with a net loss of one bull on the show.¹²¹

The Robbins Circus opened in Lancaster, April 27, 1931. William Hall, Jr., said, "the show opened with Buchanan owing Dad a sizeable amount of money."¹²²

Although the show reported good business most of the season, it suddenly closed in Mobile, Alabama, and was sent home to Lancaster. Some of the show's employees were kicked off (red-lighted) the show train going back to Lancaster. Buchanan got into trouble with the law over the train matter and abandoned his circus career. William Hall, Jr., said that his father picked up the tab to get the show train back to Lancaster. Early in 1932 the *Billboard* reported that Hall had bought the Robbins Circus at auction.¹²³ This "auction" is confusing because he would not have had to buy the show if he had already owned it. The Robbins Circus was the last show quartered at the Hall Farm.

In the early 1930s Hall reached new markets for his elephants. From 1930 to 1934 Hall and later, the Hall estate, had a three-elephant act on the Barnes-Carruthers Booking Agency's list.¹²⁴ He also rented elephants to Hollywood for the large number of circus movies made during the depression. Mrs. W. H. Woodcock said

¹²¹ Joseph T. Bradbury, "Robbins Bros. Circus, Season 1931," *White Tops*, XXXI (November-December, 1958), 5.

¹²² William P. Hall, Jr., to Fred D. Pfening, III, November 10, 1966.

¹²³ *Billboard*, XLIV (February 13, 1932), 59.

¹²⁴ Joy, "Visit to Hall's Circus Farm."

that she and her husband went to Hollywood late in 1932 to work some Hall elephants with Mae West in the picture, *I'm No Angel*.¹²⁵

Hall was ill at this time. He died June 30, 1932, at the age of sixty-eight. Hall was married July 28, 1894, to Miss Sadie E. Mitchell, daughter of a Lancaster doctor. To them were born three children: Sidney, now Mrs. W. F. Bunch of Keokuk, Iowa; Wilma, now deceased; and William P. Hall, Jr., now of St. Louis.¹²⁶

Hall was noted for his love of children. He regularly surprised his children with rare and unique pets and named three elephants for them. Lancaster children could have one of his Shetland ponies "for its board and keep" provided the animal was treated kindly and well kept, until Hall had a call for that particular kind of color.¹²⁷

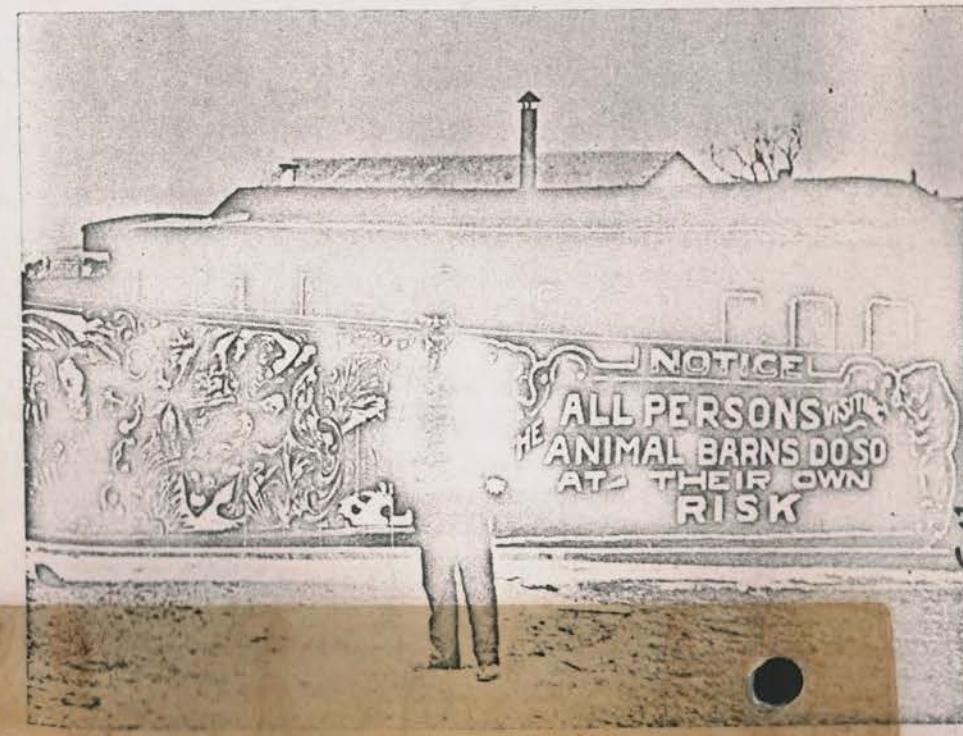
The only thing that challenged his love of children was his love of animals. He never let any maltreatment of his animals take place and if an employee was caught striking an animal without

¹²⁵ Mrs. W. H. Woodcock to Fred D. Pfening, III, November 8, 1966.

¹²⁶ *Lancaster Excelsior*, July 7, 1932; "Col. William P. Hall," *Billboard*, XLIV (July 9, 1932), 42.

¹²⁷ *Lancaster Excelsior*, July 7, 1932.

William P. Hall at his farm near Lancaster, Missouri.



reason he was quickly discharged. Hall once said, "The more animals I have around the better I like it."¹²⁸

Hall built his famous farm around the year 1907. The horse barns may have been built in the early 1900s and the larger barns, used to house the elephants and other circus animals, were built later. Recently a circus fan checked the still-standing floor of one of the big barns and found the date, "1907" engraved on the floor.¹²⁹

The farm consisted of seven barns, four for horses, one for mules, and two for circus property. About a half mile northwest of the farm the less elegant wagons and railroad cars were stored in the open. Most of the good wagons were stored in and around the two big buildings in the front part of the farm. The entire farm was used as grazing pasture for the horses which Hall bought and sold. Hall's office was an old advance car purchased from Fred Buchanan in 1913. This car, which was used on Buchanan's Yankee Robinson Circus, was reputed to have been part of Lincoln's funeral train. But by comparing pictures of the Lincoln train and the advance car it may be seen that this conclusion is erroneous. A huge carved elephant adorned the top of the car.

In 1946 all of the buildings except one of the horse barns were torn down by William P. Hall, Jr. A home now stands where the biggest barn used to be, but elephant rings (used to secure the elephants to the floor) can still be seen on the concrete floor behind the house. Hall's office has been moved from its original location and is now used as a chicken coop.

Before his death Hall tried to turn as much of his holdings as possible into cash. His advertisement in the *Billboard*, in May, 1932, read: "FOR SALE—elephants, cat animals, bears, camels, railroad cars, wagons, cages, tableaus, canvas, seats, etc. Will sell cheaply for cash. W. P. Hall, Lancaster, Missouri." It is doubtful if he had many offers because 1932 was one of the darkest years of the depression.

Hall was reportedly \$50,000 in debt at the time of his death, although he did own a great deal of land.¹³⁰ W. P. Hall, Jr. said, "My father would probably have been better off if he had not become interested in shows."

Mrs. Hall, W. P. Hall, Jr., and Bert McClain attempted to run the farm after Hall's death. From 1932 until 1934 they sold seven

¹²⁸ "William P. Hall," 105.

¹²⁹ David Price to Fred D. Pfening, III, January 9, 1967, Pfening Collection.

¹³⁰ Robert Earl Sams, "An Interesting Account of the William P. Hall Circus Boneyard," *Bandwagon*, I (October, 1942), 2.

elephants and a calliope. By 1934 a great amount of equipment had accumulated at the farm. The Hall family wished to sell this and return to a trade in horses. The break the Halls had been hoping for finally came in December, 1934, when the new Cole Bros. Circus purchased probably the largest amount of equipment ever sold at one time at the Hall Farm. It included fifteen railroad cars, seven cages, twenty baggage wagons, eight tableaus, six elephants, five camels, a group of high school horses, some zebras and a sacred cow.¹³¹ While the show played in Detroit in 1935 nine more Hall elephants were acquired.¹³² After the 1935 season the Cole show returned to Lancaster and bought nearly all the remaining usable property.¹³³ With a few smaller sales, the twenty-two year history of the Hall Farm circus transactions closed.

¹³¹ Joseph T. Bradbury, "A History of the Cole Bros. Circus 1935-1940," *Bandwagon*, IX (May-June, 1965), 11.

¹³² *Ibid.*, (July-August, 1965), 16.

¹³³ *Ibid.*, (November-December, 1965), 34.

A Rare "Jewel"

Jefferson City *Metropolitan*, October 27, 1846.

A young man of Nuremberg, who had no fortune, requested a lawyer, a friend of his, to recommend him to a family, where he was a daily visitor, and where there was a daughter, who was to have a large fortune. The lawyer agreed; but the father of the young lady loved money, and asked him what property the young man had. The lawyer said he did not exactly know, but he would inquire. The next time he saw his young friend, he asked him if he had any property at all. "No;" replied he, "none whatever." "Well," said the lawyer, "would you suffer anyone to cut off your nose if he should give you 20,000 dollars for it?" "Not for all the world," replied the youth. "'Tis well," added the lawyer; "I had a reason for asking." The next time he saw the girl's father, he said, "I have inquired about this young man's circumstances; he has, indeed, no ready money, but he has a jewel for which, to my knowledge, he has been offered and refused, 20,000 dollars." This induced the old father to consent to the marriage, which accordingly took place; but it is said that, in the sequel, he often shook his head when he thought of the highly-prized jewel.

What's in a Name?

Knox City *Bee*, September 1, 1904.

Near Dearborn is a sign on a fence post which reads: "No hunting allowed on these premises. I. Hunt."

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

The State Historical Society of Missouri, heretofore organized under the laws of this State, shall be the trustee of this State—Laws of Missouri, 1899, R.S. of Mo., 1959, Chapter 183.

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VOLUME LXII
NUMBER 3
APRIL 1968

INDIANS WITH 101 RANCH

THE DAILY GATE CITY



WEDNESDAY, AUG. 21, 1929

Indians certainly have the queerest names. Here for instance, is Little Running Brook, son of Leaping Elk, one of the Sioux Indians with Miller Brothers 101 Ranch Wild West shows. Chief Lone Dog and his little papoose, Stag-Track, and his squaw, Slow-Water coming here, and a whole tribe of Indians. We are told that when a little papoose is born in an Indian family the father looks out of the tepee and the first thing he sees furnishes a name for the baby.

If our fathers did that here we surely would have funny names, wouldn't we? Most of us would be called Smoke-Stack or Brick-Wall or Flat-Tire or something of the sort. In any event, we are going to have Indians galore here next Friday.

Among the colorful interesting features of 101 Ranch, enroute to Keokuk, is a brand new prelude

spectacle, "Julius Caesar," which opens the lengthy program this year, superbly designed, cleverly mounted and costumed beautifully, much splendor and color. Herd of elephants, also have to do with this brilliant production.

The occasion of the visit of the 101 Ranch Wild West appeals to these deep-seated partialities. A

patron will live again in the old days of the American West. You will be transported back to the time when the white man plunged into an unknown country, braving with dauntless courage its unknown perils, when the savage Red Men roamed the plains and valleys, undisputed sovereign. You

will cut yourself loose from the engrossing present and travel back far from steam engines and factories to the source and origin of the West of today. You will mingle with adventurous pioneers,

scouts, hunters, chieftains, who aforetime chased fleeing herd or defeated foe, and primitive cowboys who rode the trackless prairie. You will see unfolded before you the roll of their eventful history, and then descend step by step to the living present, as exemplified on the great 101 Ranch, still resisting the encroachments of homestead occupation.

Col. Zack T. Miller, director general of the great 101 Shows, will be in Keokuk. He will personally present his congress of Rough Riders of the world at both performances, 2 and 8 p. m.

11 a. m. is the hour set for the starting of the wonder street parade. As a convenience, downtown ticket office will be established in Wilkinson and Co. drug store, at 422 Main street. Circus grounds on 32nd St. will be the location.

DAILY GATE CITY

101 RANCH IS HERE WITH ITS WESTERN ACES

FRIDAY, AUG. 23, 1929

**Colorful Parade is Enjoyed
by Crowd Which Packed
Main Street and Later
Attended Perform-
ance—To Show
Tonight.**

Three western aces arrived in Keokuk this morning aboard Mill-

er Brothers 101 Ranch wild west show train, along with hundreds of cowboys, cowgirls, Mexicans and Indians.

The illustrious three include Col. Zack T. Miller, millionaire ranchman who owns the show since the death of his two brothers, Joe and George; Jack Hoxie, popular Universal motion picture cowboy star, who appears twice daily in the big show arena and Ted (Suicide) Elder, the world's champion trick and fancy rider who won the title three successive years at Madison Square Garden, New York.

In addition to the trio of outstanding personages, scores of top hands, both men and women, whose names are known wherever rodeos are a popular pastime swung off the sleeper platforms when the big show train pulled into the yards.

Some of the Stars.

Leo Murray, considered the top bucking horse rider of the "horse opery" as the Miller Brothers' organization is known among show folks, Buck Owens, who works

one of the smartest trick horses that ever appeared before an audience, Selma Zimmerman, a slim little miss who works a herd of five elephants with the grace and charm of a dancer, Mary Cardinal, who rides two horses while standing on their backs, Anna Sublette and her famous husband "Red" who has clowned before royalty abroad, Stack Lee, premier sharp shooter, who learned his gunnery taking pot shots at hostile red skins down in Indian Territory, Jack Satchel, who works his mule Beans, his funny contemporary Gray Smith, "Abe" Lunsford, character clown, Red Woods, Hub Whitman, Roland Hunter, Verne Goodrich, Cornelia Manning, June Sergi, Aida Del Andes, Mark Reyner, Rose Herlin, Marie Brown, Jake Brown, the boss cowboy and band soloist, Evelyn Saline and many others.

The program of the wild west show, it was stated, is the same as presented during the record breaking engagement at the Chicago stadium this spring, with the exception of the addition of

FOREPAUGH AND THE WILD WEST!

THREE TIMES THE BIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH!

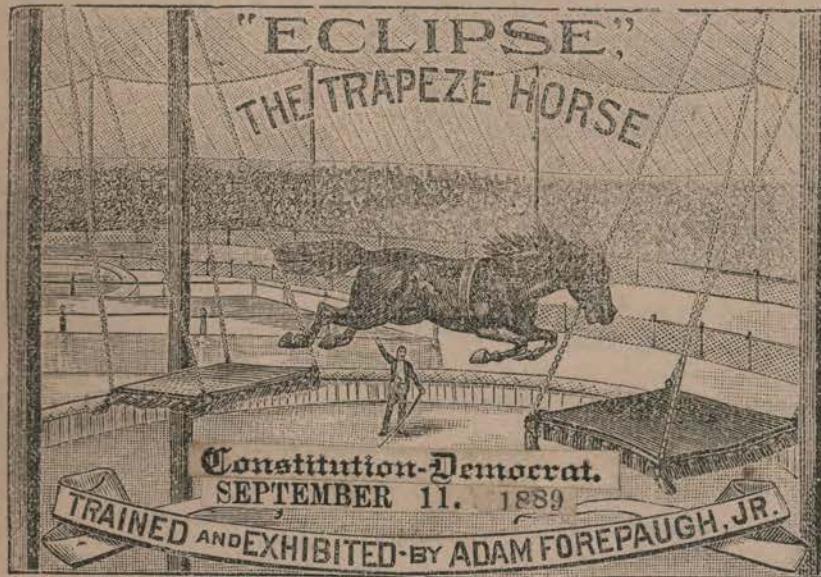
1,400 Men and Horses! 3 Great Railway Train! 200 Savages! 1,000 Wild Beasts! Acres and Acres of Cloud Towering Canvas; Seating Capacity for an Entire County! Tremendous Outpouring of the Public Everywhere! All Lines of Travel Crowded! Schools Dismissed! Stores Closed! Mills Shut Down! All Business Suspended! A General Holiday Everywhere! Six Million Dollars Invested! Daily Expenses a Fortune!

THE MOST MAGNIFICENT AND STUPENDOUS AMUSEMENT COMBINATION THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

A HOLIDAY FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY!

Will exhibit in all its vast entirety at

**Keokuk, Saturday, Sept. 21st,
At 12th St. and Grand Ave.**



Constitution-Democrat.
SEPTEMBER 11. 1889

TRAINED AND EXHIBITED BY ADAM FOREPAUGH, JR.

AFTERNOON AND EVENING, AT 2 AND 8 O'CLOCK P. M., THE GREAT

FOREPAUGH SHOW

Its 26th Annual Tour, and has now joined with it the national and patriotic

WILD WEST

EXHIBITION, AND FIRST SEASON IN AMERICA OF THE GREATLY GRAND
PARIS HIPPODROME

With all its charming, dashing and daring

FRENCH FEMALE CHARIOTEERS, RIDERS AND DRIVERS.

3--COLOSSAL CIRCUS COMPANIES--3

In three separate arenas. Mammoth menagerie of

1,000 WILD BEASTS!

And beautiful birds, including

30 Trained ELEPHANTS!

Lions, Tigers, Hippopotamus, Giraffes, Sea Lions, Polar Bears, Etc.

All in grand combination with the renowned, romantic, realistic WILD WEST EXHIBITION, with all its thrilling and remarkable features—illustrative of civilization's march across the plains—and supplemented with the sensational military frontier spectacle

CUSTER'S LAST RALLY;

Or, the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

200 GENUINE SIOUX INDIANS,

Cowboys, Scouts and Soldiers, are brought into requisition in the reproduction of this tragic and fearful frontier episode, Dr. W. F. Carver as the Hero of the Little Big Horn

Masterly Representation of the Atrocious

MOUNTAIN MEADOW MASSACRE!

Vividly Illustrating the Dangers of Early Immigration Across the Plains!

Indian Chase for a Bride!

Pony Express Riding!

A Virginia Reel on Horseback!

Bucking Horses and Steers!

Cowboys' Sports and Pastimes!

The Famous Sioux Sun Dance!

All the Crack Shots!

Robbery of the Overland Mail!

Indian Fights, Raids and Rescues!

Judge Lynch's Court!

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 7. 1889

FOREPAUGH'S SHOW.

THE ONLY COMBINATION OF THE KIND
IN THE WEST THIS YEAR.

Fred Lawrence, the press representative of Forepaugh, was in the city yesterday. Mr. Lawrence said: "Now I represent a great tented outfit that is moved from place to place on forty-eight cars, nearly all of which are sixty feet in length—twice the length of the ordinary cars. These cars are owned by Mr. Forepaugh, and were built especially for him by the Pennsylvania railroad company. In addition to this great railroad equipment, there are four advance advertising cars, they, too, being the property of Mr. Forepaugh."

"How many employees in the show?"

"The number of employees in various capacities is legion. The list is as follows: 15 agents, 60 bill posters, 125 canvasmen, 100 grooms, 30 property-men, 12 wardrobe men, 10 chandelier men, 40 "razorbacks," or train men; 20 cook-house men, 30 animal men, 15 dining car men, 8 sleeping car porters, 15 elephant keepers, together with one hundred riders, acrobats, vaulters, gymnasts and other acrobatic performers and Professor Ganweiler's military band of 35 musicians. Then there are the jockeys and charioteers of the hippodrome, and the formidable 'Wild West' contingent, embracing scouts, cowboys, crack shots, vanqueros and Sioux and Cheyenne Indians. The executive staff accompanying the show is unusually complete. It includes a manager, with three assistants; a treasurer, with two assistants; boss canvassman, with eight assistants; boss hostler, with six assistants; a superintendent of transportation; superintendent of menagerie; a special press agent, who is with the show daily, and a Pinkerton detective. The sideshow and concert people number about seventy-five people."

"Barnum doesn't come west, does he?"

"No, not this year. You notice that Forepaugh comes west one year and Barnum next. It is a mutual understanding so that each may have a certain territory to themselves and thus reap greater benefits. This year Barnum takes the territory east of Buffalo and Forepaugh gets the west, next year the order will be reversed. The interstate rates has compelled the smaller aggregations to go to the wall and the larger ones, of which there are but two, Barnum and Forepaugh—to come to a mutual understanding. Employees, too, by this method are more easily controlled, as they cannot very well strike for higher wages and so these men can name their own price if they wish, but the salaries to the employees are liberal. You see a few ten cent shows perhaps but no such a collection of animals and hippodrome, and circus performers as Forepaugh has, and the

Wonderful Bow and Arrow Shooting.
Brave Bull's Cowboy Brass Band!
Hanging a Horse Thief!
Wild Western Girl Riders!
Settler's Home Attacked!
Fort Life in the Far West!

Female Sharpshooter.
A Western Cyclone!
Largest Camp of Real Blanket Indians that ever left the Plains—Bucks, Chiefs, Medicine Men, Squaws, and Papooses, together with all their Paraphernalia!

Will introduce for the First Time in this city, his Daring and Unpara lel! Act of Riding and Driving 80 Fiery Horses Three Times Around the Huge Hippodrome Track. The Greatest Equestrian Triumph of the Age! He will also appear with his World-Renowned Troupe of Performing Elephants—the Quadrille, Musical, Pyramid and the Bicycle-Riding Elephants; "Peaninny," the Clown Elephant; "John L. Sullivan," the Pugilistic Elephant; and "Bolivar," the Giant of them all!

ADAM FOREPAUGH, Jr., BLONDIN, The Tight Rope Walking Horse, And A. Forepaugh, Jr.'s, Latest and Most Sensational Novelty.

ECLIPSE, The Trapeze Horse!

A Resson Gifted Animal that Fearlessly, Faultlessly and Grandly Leaps from Swing to Swing, 20 Feet in Mid-Air—the most Phenomenal Exhibition of Equine Sagacity and Intrepidity the World has ever seen!

Increased in Everything Except in the Price of Admission! ONE TICKET Admits to all the Aggregated attractions of the Combined Forepaugh and Wild West Shows, presented under the greatest spread of canvas ever erected on this or any other continent. The Grand and

GORGEOUS DRESS PARADE

of the Mighty Combine takes place at 10 a. m. daily, unfolding to Public View, free as air to everybody, all the dazzling, sensational, unique, picturesque, historical and sumptuous, processional resources of the **Colossal Circus, Wild West, Hippodrome, Menagerie, Trained Animals, Custer Contingent, Etc., Etc.**

15,000 splendid seats. Admission, 50 cents; children under nine, 25 cents. Reserved numbered seats, with back and foot rests, and with magnificent view of Custer Battle and start and finish of Hippodrome Races, extra. Two Complete Exhibitions Daily. Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. The Ring Performances, under the Artistic Direction of Mr. Adam Forepaugh, Jr., begin at 2 and 8. Cheap Round-Trip Excursions on all Lines of Travel.—Consult Local Agents.

For the accommodation of those who would avoid the crowds at the ticket wagon on the ground, tickets and reserved seats can be obtained at

AYRES BROTHERS' MUSIC STORE, at the usual slight Advance.

ADAM FOREPAUGH, Jr., Manager.
Proprietor.

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1889.

THE GREAT FOREPAUGH SHOW.

Attracts a Large Crowd to the City—Tents
Packed This Afternoon.

The great Forepaugh aggregation came in this morning on three special trains of thirty cars each from Ottumwa where it exhibited yesterday. This forenoon people flocked into the city by trains, wagons and carriages from every quarter of the surrounding counties, filling the principal streets and jostling good-humoredly against each other in threading their way along the crowded thoroughfares. The grand parade through the principal streets did not occur until after noon. Three fine bands enlivened the occasion with excellent music, and the special features in the fancy chariots, Egyptian gondolas, Oriental floats, and cowboys, Indians, stage coaches, prairie schooners, a large drove of elephants and many frontier specialties, all went to make up a street exhibition that was witnessed and admired by thousands of people.

Judging from the extent and character of the parade the show will be all that it advertises, including many new and unique features in the circus line. Exchanges from the cities where Forepaugh has exhibited, all speak in high praise of the performances. The tent which were spread near Rand park, a fairly packed this afternoon, and the will be a very large attendance to-mor-

As above stated the great combination was at Ottumwa yesterday, and the Courier said of the exhibition:

Forepaugh has truly the largest and best show on earth, and has justly earned the right to class his "the mammoth circus, menagerie, hippodrome and wild west." The performance opens and closes with the rush of animal life and realistic scenes from pioneer and classic history. Its stirring representation of frontier scenes, of contests between Indians and frontiersmen, was an object lesson never to be forgotten by those who for the first time witnessed it.

The Gate City.

JULY 29, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

WILL HANLON KILLED.

Shocking Death of the Great Athlete at Clinton, Ia.

During the afternoon performance of the Adam Forepaugh show at Clinton, Ia., a short time ago, the crane upon which William Hanlon, of the Hanlon Brothers, was performing broke. He fell to the ground, missing the net, and striking upon his head, breaking his neck. He only lived a few minutes. Drs. McAfee and Burbank said that he probably knew nothing after striking the ground. William Hanlon was thirty-one years old. He was born in London, and has for twenty-four years been associated with the Hanlon-Volters. Last August he had a similar accident at the Academy of Music, New York, falling from the dome and breaking two parquet chairs. His work was upon the horizontal bar in the center, Robert and James Hanlon doing the flying trapeze, and Robert being considered greatest of all gymnasts. The remaining two Hanlons continued the performance, after William's fall in New York. They will remain with Forepaugh through the balance of the season. William left a wife, but had no children. Coroner Myers impaneled a jury, who returned a verdict of accidental death exonerating Manager Cooper from all blame.

entire mammoth and magnificent snow, circus, menagerie, hippodrome and wild west as exhibited this season in Philadelphia, where Forepaugh winters, will be presented here."

"Have you any remarkable specialties?"

"Oh hundreds of them, but they are too numerous to mention. The wild west with Doc. Carver, to be enacted in the hippodrome is a realistic scene, and "Eclipse," the equine aerialist, the horse leaping from swing to swing twenty feet in mid-air is a most wonderful exhibition. We have a couple of pugilistic elephants on whose trunks are placed large boxing gloves and then they have a mill in grand old style. Sometimes just the one John L. has a bout with his manager, young Forepaugh. Then there is a Virginia reel act of four cowboys and as many girls, who go through the mazes of the reel on horseback with music by the cowboy band. But the most wonderful performance to my mind is the quadrille dance by eight light elephants under the training of Adam Forepaugh, jr. They can reason I believe, or else how could they go through the various movements. Mr. Forepaugh does not make a motion. All he does is to give the calls and the elephants respond. Every step, every attitude, is made or assumed in accordance with the rules for professional dancing. They all march into the arena to the inspiring strains of the orchestra, and after saluting each other—the male elephants politely bowing to the females, and the latter gracefully courting in return—the dancing master calls "all promenade," and the command is quickly obeyed; "forward and back," "balance to partners," and instantly the ponderous brutes correctly perform the changes; "right and left, half 'round," "chassez across and turn," and gracefully their ponderous bodies respond to the order. Again the calls are made, "forward four and back," "all hands 'round," "balance to the right," "balance to the left," "right and left all 'round," and so on through all the figures these majestic reason endowed brutes easily and accurately perform every change demanded, guided solely by the voice of their trainer."

"Mr. Forepaugh accompanies his circus everywhere, does he?"

"Yes, he goes with it everywhere and occupies the same position as he did twenty years ago. If he were absent it would be hard to tell which would be the most lonesome, the show without him or he without the show."

"Suicide" Cowboy



HOXIE AND GIRL

Jack Hoxie, who is pictured above with his leading lady, Miss Dixie Starr, is the stellar attraction with Miller Brothers 101 Ranch shows. Both will appear in the final performance tonight at 8:15 o'clock.

Mr. Hoxie and members of his company from Hollywood. The star's leading lady, Miss Dixie Starr, appears in the big show and the after show.

The Big Parade.

The parade passed through the business district between 11 and 12 o'clock. Ted Elder led the procession in a bannered car which heralded the fact that he jumps over a parked automobile twice daily while standing on the backs of two horses.

The procession was colorful and long. The hundreds who lined the curbs were impressed with the great number of fine horses. The Indian contingent was led by Chief Sitting Bull 2nd, who is a direct descendant of the famous chief who out-generated Custer at the battle of the Little Big Horn.

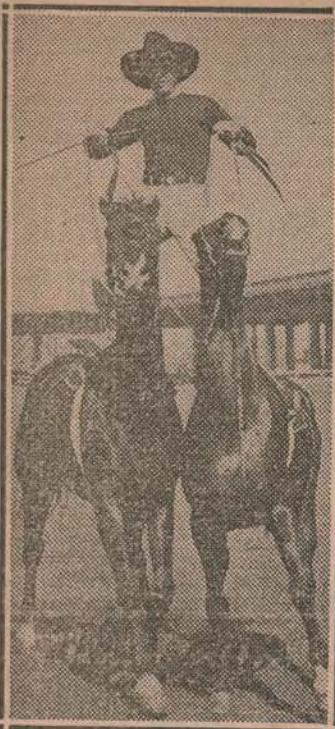
Horse and Dog Stars.

Hoxie did not appear in the parade but his horse Scout, that was featured in "The White Outlaw" working without a rider, was hauled through the streets in a bright red trailer. The splendid white Arabian gelding looked every inch the part of a movie horse.

Hoxie's dog pal, Bunk, the Australian shepherd who played the leading canine role in "The Shepherd of the Hills" and "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," was noticed sitting beside his trainer Bert DeMark who played most of the villainous roles in Hoxie's pictures.

Miss Starr led a column of cowgirls.

The night show will start at 8:15 o'clock. The show grounds are located at Thirty Second and Main.



THE DAILY GATE CITY

Entered in Keokuk post office as 2d class matter

OWNER OF 101 RANCH AND WILD WEST SHOW DEAD

FEB. 2, 1929

George Miller, Showman, Ranch Owner, Killed Near Ponca City, Okla., When Car Overturns on Pavement.

PONCA CITY, Okla., Feb. 2.—George Miller, one of the owners of Miller Brothers 101 Ranch and 101 Wild West shows, was killed this morning when his car turned over on the slippery pavement a few miles south of here, while on his way to the ranch, which is located at Marland.

Found Pinned Beneath Car.

Two men found the showman's wrecked roadster and Miller's body partly pinned beneath it. It was believed Miller had attempted to jump from the skidding car, as the men who found him reported his head was pinned beneath one front wheel. His skull was crushed. Miller was still alive when found but died en route to a local hospital.

Miller was born 49 years ago at Baxter Springs, Kansas.

Brother Died From Gas Fumes.

His death recalls that Col. Joe Miller, brother and associate in the ranch and circus business, was found dead in his garage less than a year ago. Monoxide gas from an automobile had caused his death.

The three Miller brothers, Colonel Joseph C., George L., and Zack T., inherited the 101 ranch, then about 40,000 acres from their father about 20 years ago.

Owned Last Big American Ranch.

With enterprise in ranching and employing modern farming methods they gradually increased the holdings to 110,000 acres which is now said to be the one remaining big ranch in America, and the largest diversified farm in the United States.

Oil discoveries on the ranch greatly increased the Miller brothers' wealth in recent years.

Shows Start on Small Scale.

The 101 Wild West show started on a small scale by the brothers with the idea of preserving the traditions of the pioneer days, has become one of the country's better known circuses, and has made extensive foreign

neighbors for many years, and attracts huge crowds. The circus originated with the round-up. Miller is survived by his divorced wife and a daughter, Margaret, and by his brother, Zack.

Started With Turtle Race. The annual roundup at which is held the "terrapin derby," a turtle race for high stakes, has been the Miller brothers' entertainment for their Oklahoma

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

DAILY GATE CITY
CIRCUS HERE
TO GIVE TWO
SHOWS TODAY

Hagenbeck-Wallace Arrives
Early This Morning and
Presents First Show
This Afternoon Be-
fore Big Crowd.

MONDAY, AUG. 22, 1932

It's circus day in Keokuk! Like a stroke of magic, the circus grounds on Main Street near the ball park, has responded to the touch of veteran and gray-haired circus men, and where last night was a bleak and desolate field, there lies today a veritable tented city with its population hustling and bustling to make everything in readiness for the performances at 2 and 8 p. m. today.

The long awaited, and much heralded Hagenbeck-Wallace Trained Wild Animal Circus, one of the two major outfits in America—that harbinger of joy to every boy's heart and to the grownups as well, arrived early this morning, and soon after, scores of cages and tons and tons of circus paraphernalia was being transferred to the circus grounds.

The huge show carries hundreds of people and hundreds of animals, and the lengthy program, said to be literally alive with new and startling features, puts to rest the idea that there is nothing new in circus entertainment.

The first of the 1932 features introduces "Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt," newly added opening pageant with its maze of people and animals, beautifully garbed in costly wardrobe and trappings. As the lengthy program unfolds such noted stars of sawdust and spangleland as Clyde Beatty, world's greatest wild animal trainer, Poodles Hanneford and his family of bareback riders; the great Billetti Troupe of high-wire artists; Jules Jacot, European wild animal subjugator; the Rudenoff horse acts; the Clarkonians, famous aerialists; Harry McLan, trainer of thoroughbred equines; the Siegrist Troupe, aerialists; the Cronin Sisters, trapeze artists; the Wingert Trio, aerialists, and the Roland Sisters, aerial rings and trapeze performers, appear in a succession of acts.

Beauty And Talent.

These are but a few of the several hundred performers, all of whom will contribute to the thrilling program. The wild animal acts where the trainers undauntedly put their animals through their acts, the acrobatic numbers, and the equestrian displays, the scores of clowns in their comedy numbers, and the huge spectacular events on the spacious stages, in

POODLES RIDES 'EM



THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

FRIDAY, AUG. 19, 1932

POODLES HANNEFORD
World's Greatest Riding Clown

For many years the Great Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus has been known as "the highest class circus on earth." This worthy slogan was acquired only by the presentation of the greatest features and the most extraordinary attractions regardless of cost. This season is no exception, as you'll see when the big show comes to Keokuk next Monday for afternoon and night performances at the circus grounds on Main street opposite the Ball Park.

One of the outstanding features of the 1932 program will be the famous Hanneford Family of bareback riders with Poodles, the one and original riding clown. Poodles is not only the best clown rider

of the present day, but all members of the family are famous as accomplished equestrians. His wife, Grace, his sister, Elizabeth, and his brother-in-law, Ernest Clark, play important roles in the success of the act, which is guided by his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Hanneford.

The show has been greatly increased in size this season, and offers the largest zoological display entour in America. The huge menagerie top alone this year measures 100 feet by 350 feet—the equivalent of a city block. Under this mammoth canvas will be found scores of newly imported wild and ferocious jungle beasts.

addition to the ground and track displays, all go to make the Hagenbeck-Wallace program one of outstanding beauty and talent.

The night program begins at 8 p. m., and the doors open one hour earlier, allowing a visit through the famous Hagenbeck-Wallace menagerie, with its hundreds of newly imported wild animals and jungle beasts, conceded the largest zoological display entour. The size of the 1932 menagerie top,

greatly enlarged this season, will astound even those familiar with the size of the top in former years.

Adding to the variety of features, are Indians, cowboys, and cowgirls, bucking horses and long-horn steers—real wild west, with Oklahoma Curley, champion bronch rider and roper; Billy Keen, famous bronch rider and motion picture star, and many other cowboys and cowgirls of note.

HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN



DAILY GATE CITY



TUESDAY, AUG. 23, 1932

Scenes at the Hagenbeck-Wallace Show which is in Keokuk today for two performances at the lot at Thirty-second and Main streets. The circus arrived from Quincy this morning.

CIRCUS THRILLS TWO BIG CROWDS WITH ITS ACTS

Hagenbeck-Wallace Presents Unusually Attractive Program of Old and New Circus Features in Its Big Tent.

The circus has come and gone, leaving in the minds of those who saw the performance the memory of one of the best shows they

have ever seen. From the gorgeous spectacle of "Cleopatra" with which the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus opens, to the final act when the great Wilno is shot from a cannon, one hundred feet into the air, and lands in a net, there was the colorful pageantry of the circus mingled with feats of daring, spiced with plenty of fun by the vast army of clowns. Two big crowds attended the afternoon and night shows.

The voice of the old time ringmaster has given way to modern methods, loud speakers blaring out the announcements instead of the old familiar figure of the master of ceremonies who used to mount the platform in the center of the arena. Even side-show

barking was done by mechanical means. But behind even the modern innovations there is the spell of the circus of the old days. The circus opened with the colorful spectacle, Cleopatra, and from then on to the final act came a bewildering procession of acts, most of them new and unusual.

Beatty and Hannefords Star.

Outstanding in the wild animal acts of course was the performance presented by Capt. Clyde Beatty and his jungle kings. As marvelous, too, was the presentation of 100 tons of elephants in the center of the arena. Even side-show

horses. In the other fields of circus entertainment the headliners were the Billiettes on the high wire, the casting acts by the Clarkonians and Siegrists and the performance by the nine young women who suspended by their teeth performed sensational in mid-air.

The Hanneford family with "Poodles" in the clown role presented one of the outstanding acts of the circus in the bareback riding program. Mrs. Hanneford, born to the traditions of the circus, serves as ringmaster for this act, which features five bareback riders in many unusual stunts.

Fine Horses Shown.

Ponies and hounds, and elephants and little horses, all figured prominently in the various ring presentations and there was a juggling act of unusual merit, to say nothing of the aerial ladders, the slack wire dancer, the man who allows himself to be carried by his head in an elephant's mouth, and the one who is run over by an automobile.

Everyone who saw the show commented on the unusually fine condition of the horses, and on the spick and span condition of the wardrobes.

Many people watched the circus unload yesterday morning, and there was a crowd out last night in the railroad yards watching them load for the departure to Burlington.

Police handled the crowds well yesterday, and the traffic arrangements at the show grounds were taken care of most efficiently.

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. L. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

DAILY GATE CITY

FRIDAY, FEB. 23, 1934

Nearly 8 Feet Up

Robert Wadlow.

Corn isn't all that grows tall in Illinois. Here is Robert Wadlow, 16-year-old schoolboy giant of Alton. Robert is 7 feet 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches tall, and tips (or breaks) the scales at 365 pounds. In the past year he grew two inches and gained 25 pounds in weight. Usually, boys do not stop growing until they are about 20, so you can make your own guesses as to how Robert will look in a few years.

DAILY GATE CITY

**TALLEST HUMAN
LOLLS IN FRONT
OF ELECTRIC FAN**

JULY 28, 1936

ALTON, Ill., July 28—(AP)—Eighteen-year-old Robert Wadlow, the tallest human of which the world has authoritative record, lolled in front of an electric fan today and complained of the heat.

He was by no means the only person aggravated by the long hot spell but the extreme high temperatures have made it a strenuous summer. And he refuses to budge from in front of the fan except for an occasional swim. For further comfort he kicks off his \$86 shoes—size 39.

The Wadlow family yard stick says Robert measures 8 feet 5 inches tall, which would make him the tallest person in medical history. He weighs 425 pounds, having grown slightly more than one inch since his 18th birthday last February and gained 35 pounds.

Mythology and legend tell of giants as tall as 11 feet, but the largest human ever accepted by medical science is Charles Byrne, the eighteenth century "Irish giant." He measured a fraction over 8 feet 4 inches.

Wadlow has an overactive pituitary gland, pea-sized organ at the base of the brain which controls growth. His parents and four brothers and sisters are normal.



THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

Alton Giant Attracts Big Crowd in Appearance Here

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 1939

Robert Wadlow, 21-year-old Alton, Ill., giant, arrived in Keokuk last evening with his father and two other men and made his scheduled appearance this morning in front of the Larson & Hodge shoe company where a throng gathered to see the tallest man ever to visit Keokuk.

The Alton youth sat leisurely last evening in the lobby of the hotel and did not mind those who gazed at him in utter amazement. The giant towers high above the heads of other men and after being attracted by his staggering height, the observer next is drawn to his shoes, size 37, to be exact. Despite his height the youth apparently is able to get around well but employs the use of a cane to steady his unique height when walking.

Upon retiring to his hotel room last evening, two ordinary beds were placed together, making a 9-foot resting place. Since Wadlow is 8 feet 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches tall, this arrangement made a comfortable resting place for the night and he retired without any inconvenience.

This morning the towering youth and his father, together with the two others accompanying him, had breakfast in the main dining room of the Hotel Iowa. Wadlow sat at an ordinary table with other members of his family. He sat down on one of the dining room chairs and despite his 491 pounds resting on it, the chair gave no evidence of not supporting him. He placed his legs along side the table, which was just a bit lower than the youth's legs. He ordered an ordinary breakfast, one

of the "club orders" including bacon and eggs, and enjoyed his meal in leisurely comfort. After breakfast he walked out into the hotel lobby where a small crowd stood around waiting to see him. Wadlow did not display any self-consciousness because of his size.

The Alton youth is a member of a widely known family in that city, his father being in business there. He is the only member of his family with such unusual height. In school he was studious and endeavored to acquire his education under the same circumstances as any other boy would. He has declined offers to enter the entertainment field or to travel with any amusement company. It is necessary that all his clothes be tailored especially for him. The material in his clothes would make an ordinary man almost two suits. His shoes are built especially for him by the Peters' shoe manufacturing company.

In his appearance this morning in front of the Larson & Hodge shoe company, Wadlow sat on a special platform which consisted of a heavy transfer wagon. A crowd gathered around him and continued milling about the platform throughout his local appearance. Wadlow did not mind the curious eyes fixed on him. He has become accustomed to this type of inspection given him by those not quite his height.

Robert's father acted as master of ceremonies for the youth's appearance in Keokuk, after he had been introduced by another member

of the group traveling with the young man of unusual height. The youth's father asserted that he had the backing of the medical profession in his assertion that Robert is the tallest living human being in the world; that no other man in the United States is even eight feet tall; that one "giant" who claims he is more than 8 feet in height is ac-

tually "several inches" under eight feet. The parent of the Alton giant gave the youth's height as 8 feet 9½ inches.

Crowds jammed around the platform wagon where Wadlow made his appearance and lined both sides of Main street between Fifth and Sixth during the young man's appearance here.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

Town Turns Out—

APRIL 8, 1939.

ALTON GIANT EATS AT MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, Mo., April 8.—The entire town—well, at least 500 people—turned out to see Robert Wadlow, Alton (Ill.) giant, who stopped at a local cafe for dinner Friday.

Schools were dismissed and clerks were permitted to leave their store to get a glimpse at the world's tallest man.

Wadlow left here about 1 p. m. for Downing, Mo., where he appeared at a store later in the afternoon.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

MARCH 11, 1939

Jury Decides Against Alton Giant in Suit for \$100,000



Doorway is okay for father, but not for Robert

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Mar. 11.—(AP)—It will be some time before the famed "tall corn" of Iowa 50 miles north of here again seems tall to the citizens of St. Joseph.

They started recovering only today from a week of tall men—very tall men.

The parade of giants through this city's federal court room, streets and hotel lobbies was climaxed last night when a jury decided against eight-foot, eight-inch Robert Wadlow in a \$100,000 libel suit.

The 21-year-old Alton, Ill., giant had sued Dr. Charles D. Humberd, a self-styled "giant expert." Wadlow's parents asserted an article by the physician in the Journal of the

American Medical Association reflected unjustly on their tall son. A specially constructed chair had

to be moved into the courtroom for its principal attraction.

An ordinary hotel bed or even one of the specials held for occasional tall guests wouldn't do. Two beds were linked together.

Through the crowds that followed the huge visitor about the streets there circulated at mid-week a rumor that two other giants were secretly in town. Some argued you couldn't hide a giant. Others recalled the man who lost the base drum.

The rumor was true.

On the stand to testify for Dr. Humberd appeared one man seven feet, six inches tall, another "over seven feet."

A basketball tournament brought three high school centers more than six-foot, four. To a six-foot, seven-inch sports editor who wired to reserve a long bed, one hotel replied:

"We've got the room. You bring the bed."

One session of court was held in a theater for the showing of films of the Alton giant.

Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, testified on cross examination by the defense:

"We accept that term (freak) as fitting any person who is out of the ordinary. The Dionne quintuplets, giants. xxx Anyone extraordinary because of growth, appearance or deviating from the normal."

"Do you call Robert Wadlow a giant?"

"Yes," Dr. Fishbein said.

Boy Giant Dead



JULY 16, 1940

Robert Wadlow

Robert Wadlow, 22, the world's tallest person (he's 8 feet 9½ inches tall) is dead in Manistee, Mich., from a foot infection.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

THRONG JAMS MAIN STREET TO SEE ALTON GIANT.



—Gate City Staffoto

Shown in this photo is only a portion of the throng which jammed Main street between Fifth and Sixth, Wednesday, to see Robert Wadlow, the 21-year-old Alton giant who stands 8 feet, 9½ inches tall—higher than any other man recorded in medical history. The enormous youth appeared on a platform in front of a local shoe establishment, whose line he advertises. For a time, police permitted a few cars to worm their way through the crowd but later detoured all traffic from the block as the mob grew larger. Wadlow is indicated by an arrow in the center of the picture.

THE GATE CITY MONDAY, JULY 15, 1940

Foot Infection Causes Death Of Robert Wadlow, Alton Giant

MANISTEE, Mich., July 15—(AP)—Robert Wadlow, the 22-year-old Alton, Ill., "giant" who was 8 feet 9½ inches tall and was believed the world's tallest man, died here early today from complications following a foot infection.

Wadlow, who was making a professional appearance as the "world's tallest man" at the National Forest festival here, suffered an infection in his left ankle less than a fortnight ago.

The youthful giant's condition grew steadily worse, and physicians gave him a blood transfusion yesterday and performed a minor operation on his foot last night. His temperature yesterday was reported as "never lower than 106." He died at 12:40 a. m. (CST).

Under the management of his father, Harold Wadlow, the young man was sponsored on his appearance here by a shoe company.

A child of normal size at birth, Wadlow weighed 491 pounds while

making his last public appearance. Medical men said his great height resulted from over-activity of the pituitary gland.

Wadlow suffered his injury July 4. A brace worn on his ankle chafed, and infection set in. He was confined in his hotel rather than a hospital. His condition had become "very grave" yesterday, and he was taking nourishment through a tube.

Father, mother, two sisters and two brothers all were of normal stature. Robert weighed eight and a half pounds at birth, Feb. 22, 1918. By the time Robert reached young manhood the elder Wadlow's shoulders came only to his son's hips.

Scientists classified him as an "acromegalic type," designating a person whose growth has been abnormal because of over-activity of the pituitary, lying at the base of the brain.

tallest man of his country—Robert Pershing Wadlow—was 19 years old and 8 feet 5½ inches tall today.

The youthful giant held "open house" at his home to receive the birthday greetings of his former schoolmates. His father, Harold F. Wadlow, an unemployed oil re-

finery engineer, said friends planned a surprise party for Robert tonight.

The tallest man of authentic record, Robert owes his amazing height to over activity of a pea-like gland, the pituitary, which controls development of the body.

Robert weighs 450 pounds, three times as much as his father, who is 5 feet 11 inches tall. His mother and four sisters and brothers are of normal height and weight.

DAILY GATE CITY

Alton Giant To Stop Here On Wednesday

Robert Wadlow, considered to be the tallest man alive today, will be in Keokuk for approximately an hour tomorrow morning, at the Larson & Hodge shoe company.

Wadlow is 8 feet 8½ inches tall in his stocking feet. He wears size 37 shoe and is twenty one years old. He towers nearly three feet above his father and for that matter, above the rest of his family, too. He weighs 491 pounds.

Wadlow is scheduled to remain at the Larson & Hodge store from 10:30 to 11:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

AUG. 29, 1939

DAILY GATE CITY

Youthful Giant
Has Birthday
2/22/1937.

ALTON, Ill., Feb. 22.—(P)—The

Man Held as 1944 Circus Fire Suspect

COLUMBUS, O., May 19—(P)—Police and fire inspectors today questioned a former circus worker in connection with the Barnum and Bailey circus fire which took 168 lives and injured 682 persons at Hartford, Conn., July 6, 1944.

State Fire Marshal Harry Callan identified the former employee of the circus as Robert Segree, 21, of Circleville, O. He said Segree was picked up in East St. Louis, Ill., Wednesday and brought here for questioning.

Authorities said Segree, who worked for the circus at the time of the fire, so far has made no admission.

However, Callan told the United Press that "we think we'll have a good story by the first of the week when our investigation may be completed."

Callan said Segree was being questioned "about a series of fires in three states" but refused to disclose further details. He assigned Inspector Russell Smith to the case.

Deputy Sheriff Carl Radcliff of Pickaway county said Segree had admitted setting one fire. He refused to disclose the location of the blaze.

Circus at Galesburg Victimizes Many in Shell and Pea Game

GALESBURG, Ill., May 16—(P)—Authorities say many Galesburg residents who attended the circus have been victims of the old shell and pea game. And they say the total take runs to hundreds of dollars.

Police and Knox county officials say the pea and shell game was operated in a concession stand. They say complaints poured in after the circus left town.

One couple, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Duerre reported they lost all their savings of \$600 to the swindlers and another \$50 they borrowed from Duerre's father.

A plumber, Lloyd Anderson, said he lost \$350.

The authorities say the shell manipulators operated a stand at

Youth Says He Set 'Big Top' Fire, Murdered 4 Previously

COLUMBUS, O., June 30—(P)—A 21-year-old youth confessed today to setting the Hartford, Conn., "big top" fire that killed 169 persons in 1944 and to four murders because of "an invisible Indian riding a flaming horse," the state fire marshall announced.

Robert Dale Segee of Circleville confessed he was driven to the acts by the "invisible Indian," Ohio Fire Marshall Harry J. Callan said. Segee is being held in Pickaway County jail at Circleville.

Callan said three of the murders have been verified. The fourth murderer, that of a Japanese boy in Japan, has not been confirmed.

The suspect's trail was picked up after he was returned in mid-May from East St. Louis, Ill. A number of fires in garages, grain elevators and on farms broke out and Segee pleaded guilty to two charges of attempted arson in Circleville.

He was arrested when it was discovered that he associated with two other Circleville men convicted of setting fires in that city.

Callan said Segree admitted that he was responsible for the fire at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Combined Circus show at Hartford six years ago.

In addition to the 169 killed in the circus fire, some 412 persons were injured. Six persons, two of them top officials of the circus, were convicted and jailed on manslaughter charges.

The youth also admitted setting 25 to 30 major fires at Portland, Me., from 1938 through 1946, Callan said.

Segee, according to Callan, said he committed his first mur-

der at Portsmouth, N. H., where he beat nine-year-old Barbara Driscoll to death with a stone on a river bank in September, 1938.

"He said this was his first major crime and that he killed this girl in a fit of anger and that this girl's death preyed on his mind and that it led to subsequent events," Callan said.

The state official said Segee also admitted strangling a watchman in Portland who caught him in the process of setting a fire to a warehouse in 1943, strangling a boy about 12 years of age on the beach at Cape Cottage, Me., in 1943 and killing the Japanese boy while with the armed forces in 1949.

Segee enlisted in the army for three years in 1948 but was discharged after one year upon advice of the army medical corps, Callan said.

Prior to the "big top" disaster, Callan said, two fires occurred at the circus but were extinguished without loss. Both fires broke out after Segee was employed by the circus in June, 1944.

the circus which was in Galesburg Saturday, at Canton Sunday and moved to Peoria yesterday.

Deputy Sheriff Eddy Watkins said he went with Duerre in an effort to arrest the men. But he said when they tried to arrest a man recognized by Duerre, some shouted "Hey Rube" and they were surrounded by circus workers.

During the commotion, Watkins said he was grabbed and slugged and the man they wanted escaped.

**The Keokuk Gate City and
Constitution Democrat**
Page 3 JULY 2, 1952

Tradition Reversed, British Girls Run Away from Circus

ROCKFORD, Ill.—(P)—A story told by two British girls, who ran away from a circus, is being investigated today by immigration authorities.

Twenty-two-year-old Muriel Maxwell and 26-year-old Beryl Smith

took refuge with a British girl in Rochelle, Ill., who ran away from the same circus last year. The aerialists' Rochelle friend was not immediately identified.

The two girls are former members of a 13-girl troupe of aerial ballet dancers with the Mills Brothers circus, now playing at Rockford.

The girls say they were hired in England by a New York agent who promised them \$40 a week. But they say deductions whittled the sum down to \$14 a week. The girls also said the entire troupe was kept locked in a motor-trailer at night.

Immigration officers are investigating charges that the girls' passports were kept from them in violation of federal law. The girls said they were forced to leave their passports with the New York agent. Federal law requires that foreigners carry their passports with them at all times.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. L. BUCKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 6.

SHOW SENSATION.

A Shooting Affray Between Two Attaches of the Inter-Ocean Circus.

Burlington had quite a sensation on Tuesday. A crowd gathered in front of the Barrett House, in the center was Alexis Scarfer, one of the riders in the Inter-Ocean Circus. He was bareheaded, gesticulating and talking in an excited manner. His statement was that he had been playing billiards with Romeo Sebastian, the great bareback rider, when Scarfer supposed he detected Sebastian in counting faster than his play entitled him. A dispute arose, and Sebastian struck Scarfer over the head with his billiard cue. Scarfer then embraced Sebastian to prevent a recurrence of the cue demonstration. They were separated by bystanders, when Sebastian sprang for his coat, near by, and taking a revolver from the pocket, cocked and snapped it at Scarfer. He cocked and snapped it again. He cocked it the third time when it went off and the bullet barely missed its aim. Scarfer had begun to think it was pretty safe to stand in front of the pistol, but at the sound of the bullet whizzing past him, he called into play all the activity acquired in the circus, rushed out of the billiard room without stopping to put on his hat and tore through the hotel till he reached the street, badly frightened. Scarfer went to the police station and swore that his life was worth nothing unless the quieting hand of the law were laid on the too active and enterprising Sebastian. He filed a complaint of assault with intent to kill. The officers could not find Sebastian, but intended to lay for him at the circus, notwithstanding a report that after the shooting Sebastian had been seen to descend leisurely from the billiard saloon, light a fragrant cigar, pay his bill unconcernedly, and afterwards was observed to step aboard a ferry boat and speed to some soil more congenial than Iowa.

The above is condensed from the Burlington *Gazette* of the 4th. The matter was probably settled as the Burlington *Hawkeye* of the day after does not mention an arrest at the circus or the absence of any of the riders.

Constitution-Democrat. AUGUST 8, 1893.

The Nickel Plate.

A vast audience was well entertained and well pleased with last night's program of W. H. Harris' Nickel Plate show. The seating capacity of the tent was taxed to its capacity, while many sat on

the ground in front of the seats. The entertainment lasted over two hours and was interesting from beginning to end. It is only when W. H. Harris' Nickel Plate show comes to the city that Keokuk people can enjoy a good circus performance with many new features, at small outlay. The features of this popular show are many for a one ring circus, and include well trained horses, trick ponies and trick mules, tumbling, a comical clown with new jokes, trapeze feats that are not surpassed by any circus traveling, the big and good natured elephant, "Gipsy" whose performances were beyond expectation, the Shetland ponies with Frankie Harris as rider and driver, unusually good juggling, lady bare back riding and the clown with three fools on a string, the perpendicular feats, the keeper in the cage of trained lions, and many other interesting and laughable features. The closing performance will be given this evening.

The ever popular Harris Nickel Plate shows arrived yesterday and erected their tents on West Second street.

The Nickel Plate shows need no introduction to the citizens of Ottumwa, as they exhibited here before and have always given immense satisfaction. The Harris people have added many new and novel features this year, giving one of the best circus performances ever given under a canvas here.

The Nickel Plate shows are not as pretentious as some, but it is a deal more satisfactory to its patrons, giving them two hours of real amusement in one ring, where every one can see and hear everything that takes place.

They gave an afternoon performance which entertained a good crowd, and will repeat it tonight. Those desirous of seeing a good, clean, moral and meritorious performance should not miss this one.—The Ottumwa, Iowa, Courier, Monday, June 16, 1902.

Constitution-Democrat. AUGUST 4, 1893.

COMING! COMING!
Will Positively Exhibit, Rain or Shine, at
KEOKUK, Two Days Only,
Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 7 and 8

W. H. HARRIS
AND THE GREAT
NICKEL-PLATE SHOWS!

Circus, Museum and Menagerie of Trained
Wild Animals will be here.



BIGGEST AND BEST ONE-RING SHOW IN THE WORLD
FOR 10 AND 20 CENTS.

Doors open at 1 and 7 p.m., performance 1 hour later. Will exhibit just as advertised.

Constitution-Democrat. AUGUST 22, 1903.

CIRCUS HERE MONDAY.

What an Ottumwa Paper Said of it
Last Year.

W. H. HARRIS' World Famous Nickel Plate SHOW

WILL EXHIBIT AT
KEOKUK
ONE DAY ONLY.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

Location: Hubinger's Park.

Largest Popular Priced Show on Earth

All New and Novel Acts and Features for This Year.

Bigger, Better and Grander Than Ever

FREE STREET PARADE AT 10
A. M.

TWO PERFORMANCES DAILY
AT 2 AND 8 P. M.

Doors Open One Hour Earlier.

Constitution-Democrat. AUGUST 24, 1903.

CIRCUS IN TOWN.

W. H. Harris' Nickel Plate Shows
Gives Two Performances.

The W. H. Harris Nickel Plate Shows arrived in the city yesterday and the tents are pitched in Hubinger's Park.

Mr. Harris makes no pretense at having one of the biggest shows, but he does claim to have some of the best acts of any circus on the road, and those who attended the afternoon performance speak in the highest terms of the performance. There is but one ring, and the spectators are given a chance to see all that is going on without breaking their necks.

The parade took place this morning at 11 o'clock. The Nickle Plate show was in a bad wreck recently, and the elephant Gypsey, and the camel ~~and~~, were killed and other ~~and~~ destroyed. The circus is thus greatly handicapped on display but is there with the goods inside the big tent.

This is one of the best popular priced shows on the road, and presents a better performance than many high priced circuses. Today the weather is perfect and a large crowd will undoubtedly attend the performance at 8 o'clock. The afternoon performance was well patronized.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, APRIL 10.¹⁸⁸⁰

A FEARLESS WOMAN.

In a Cage Surrounded with Savage Panthers.

In a menagerie which is kept at present in Philadelphia is a cage of Mexican panthers. In size they are about as large as a full grown setter dog, though their whole appearance is of the cat order, having long claws, sharp teeth, and eye-balls which, in their anger, gleam and quiver like livid fire. "These animals," says the Philadelphia Times, "last Saturday seemed worse than usual. They had been fighting among themselves until their heads and ears were bleeding, and upon the approach of any visitor near their cage they would spring against the iron grating, with gleaming eyes and exposed fangs, with a force that would shake the iron cage from top to bottom, at the same time thrusting their claws through in their efforts to clutch the intruders and bring them within range of their teeth. Even the keepers themselves, after they had prodded up the tigers and leopards, and passed close to their cages in safety, made a detour when they came to the panthers, giving them a wide berth. Presently a young woman, dressed in bloomers, and with her hair tightly done up on top of her head, came along, with a stout whip in her hand.

"She's going in among the panthers; she's training them," said the keeper.

"The girl went close up to the cage, whip in hand, and, with the assistance of the keeper—who was her husband—the panthers were driven back in one end of the cage, the man using a long stick, with the end of which he gave them some sharp raps on the nose. After a great deal of snapping and scuffling among each other they were all gotten back in the end farthest from the cage door. The man then proceeded to unfasten it. The young wo-

man, who had been standing beside him with her whip in hand and a pleasant smile on her face, without a moment's hesitation stepped up, and the next instant she was inside the cage. The moment she got in there was the most terrific screaming of any time yet. The panthers would jump over each other in their eagerness to spring upon her, and would spring half way up the cage, but would get no farther, being held back by fear. They would then spring upon one another and tear each other's ears, and scratch and fight, this being apparently the only means that would satisfy their ferocity.

"Meantime the woman stood perfectly still, holding her whip out and speaking to them in a soothing manner, as though she was pacifying a favorite dog or cat. Gradually the screams began to get lower and lower, and the fighting among one another began to cease. Still they kept growling and looking at her and showing their teeth and snapping now and then until she had advanced a step. Then they began to growl again, and one of them sprang over the others and got nearest to her but had no sooner alighted than he was pounced upon by another, and they again began to fight. Then the young woman, with a bold step, advanced a pace farther, and struck one of the animals with the butt end of her whip, at the same time scolding him. He sprang back to the end of the cage among the others, while the woman, carelessly letting her whip fall, proceeded to soothe and caress the panther nearest to her, patting him on top of the head and stroking his neck until his growls had almost subsided, and then sullenly allowed himself to be petted, winking his eyes and mouthing like a cat. The other panthers meantime having grouped themselves together in the end of the cage looked on with sullen growls. If any advanced she gave them a sharp rap on the head and ordered them to go back, and they obeyed. While she kept petting the one in question she never lost sight of the others, keeping her eyes on their every movement, and being always prepared to use the whip on the slightest provocation.

Sometimes three or four, as though jealous of the other, would spring forward and approach sullenly, as though inviting her to caress them, too. Then she would take one to each hand and pat and stroke them until they became pacified and quiet, and she seemed as much at home with them as though they were as many cats. But this pacific state of things would not last long. They seemed to be taking their caresses under protest, and to be ever on the brink of a revolt. This would be signalized by a deep growl from some one of them, which would instantly communicate itself to the others, and the next instant there would be a quick spring and one of the animals would find himself pounced upon by another, and they would claw and gnash each other until the young woman would raise her whip and give them some sharp blows, which would send them into the corner and make them quiet down for a little time.

"What would be the consequence if she was to show any fear and retreat toward the door?" asked one of the bystanders, who had been almost spell-bound by the scene before him and had not found himself able to speak before.

"The consequence," said the keeper, shaking his head, "would be that every animal in that cage would spring upon her and tear her to pieces in a moment."

THE GATE CITY:

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 6.

THE CIRCUS.

Cooper, Jackson & Co.'s circus will be here to-day and this is what the Philadelphia News says about Zazel:

"This is indeed an age of progress. The world moves: there is "something new under the sun" discovered almost daily. Blondin was a human miracle when he walked on a rope quite as large as a ship's cable, a feat insignificant compared with that performed by an English woman named Zazel, who walks, dances and executes many wonderful movements on a thin wire of steel. More marvellous still is the yet in which she plays the role of a human cannon ball. It is most past belief, but as true as it is astonishing. A great sea mortar of the largest size is loaded before your very eyes with a heavy charge of gunpowder. Zazel is thrust into the cannon, the torch is applied, and in the midst of the reverberation of the discharge Zazel flies through the fire and smoke and alights in a net at the extreme end of the circus tent. This exhibition is calculated to satisfy the most exacting sensation hunter. Zazel, as if not satisfied with these two thrilling exhibitions of nerve, mounts to a platform sixty feet above the audience and plunges head first into a net below. What next? we ask, and our answer is: No more at present. Zazel stay! enough! When one's hair lifts the hat off his head, and your daring sets the heart to beating like a trip-hammer, it is time to cry: 'Hold!' Then again we like to breathe regularly. We admire your pluck, but not your discretion. But then it pays, \$1,000 a week is a good salary, and a deal of money for a pretty woman to have all to herself.

The Circus.

Yesterday was not a good day for a good circus, but for such a one as visited us was far better than it deserved. In this day of vast and gigantic efforts in this direction of amusements such concerns as the Cooper & Jackson's circus should confine themselves to the cross-roads and country towns, and not touch upon territory invaded by such companies as the Barnum, Forepaugh, Coup or Sells. Mismanagement and other incompetency were observable in all the various departments, and the entire affair seemed to lack a directing hand. After the heavy rain of the afternoon no effort was made to put the ring in shape for the evening performance, nor was any attention paid to arranging for the convenience or comfort of their patrons. The menagerie was a tame collection while the ring performance was dismally bad, the different acts lacking novelty and interest. This company has been out but a short time and unless all signs fail will not be on the road much longer.

They may manage to pull through the season if they keep to the smaller towns and villages, but if they continue to strike the larger places with their "snap" circus their days will be speedily numbered.

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THE GREAT DUST HEAD CALLING
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

The Daily Gate City

Origin of Circus Fire Determined, Fire Marshal Says

JULY 12, 1944

HARTFORD, Conn., July 12.—(UP)

The death toll in the circus fire reached 162 today as State Fire Marshal Edward J. Hickey announced that the "origin of the fire has been determined," and the coroner continued his secret inquest to fix responsibility for the disaster.

Hickey, making his announcement jointly with State's Attorney Hugh M. Alcorn, Jr., refused to elaborate on his statement other than to say that his investigation "is progressing satisfactorily."

Only six of between 35 and 40 witness subpoenaed to the inquest were questioned at the opening session yesterday. The five officials of the "big top," under arrest on technical manslaughter charges, will not be heard for at least several days.

Law suits continued to pile up against the circus corporation. So far there have been 29 separate actions, asking total damages of \$478,000 for deaths and injuries resulting from the fire, and many more were reported to be in preparation.

The Daily Gate City

FEB. 21, 1945

Six Sentenced In Circus Fire

HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 21—(UP) Six men charged with responsibility for the circus fire which claimed 168 lives, last July were sentenced to prison and jail terms today by Superior Court Judge William J. Shea.

The defendants, officers and employees of Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., had pleaded nolo contendere, along with the corporation itself, to 10 counts of manslaughter.

The corporation was fined \$10,000.

Vice President James A. Haley was sentenced to one to five years in prison on each of the counts, the sentences to run concurrently.

The others sentenced were: General Manager George W. Smith, two to seven years on each count, concurrent.

Chief Canvassman Leonard S. Aylesworth, two to seven years on each count, concurrent.

Rolling Stock Superintendent David W. Blanchfield, six months in jail on each count, concurrent.

Chief Electrician Edward R. Versteeg, one year in jail on each count, concurrent.

William Caley, a seatman, one year in jail on each count, concurrent.

Execution of the sentences, excepting that of Calay, was stayed until April 6 at the request of Defense Council William L. Madden. He told the court "it would be utterly impossible to put the circus on the road this year without these key men" to supervise the work of reconstruction.

State's Attorney Hugh M. Alcorn, Jr., agreed to the stay. He said it was "an unusually long time, but this is an unusual case."

Judge Shea said that "all of these accused are guilty of involuntary manslaughter where death is caused unintentionally."

"The imposition of sentence in criminal cases is not as a punishment," he added, "but rather as a basis for the reformation of the accused."

"The spirit of vengeance has no place in the administration of criminal law. The sentence imposed is not an expiation or an atonement for offenses, but to prevent their recurrence."

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY

Circus Roustabout Sets Fires Out of Sexual Frustration

JULY 1, 1950

CIRCLEVILLE, O., July 1—(UP) A psychologist said today that Robert D. Segee, 21-year-old circus roustabout who confessed to causing 173 deaths, set fires to burn up memories of sex frustrations.

Bernard Higley, psychologist who worked with Ohio Fire Marshal Harry Callan on the case, said Segee was no "pyromaniac in the usual sense."

Segee has confessed to setting the tragic Hartford, Conn., circus fire in 1944 that killed 169 persons and to four murders since 1938, according to Callan. He also confessed to setting at least 45 other fires in Ohio and the New England states.

The firebug was being held in county jail here while records of his confession were sent to Connecticut authorities. A grand jury yesterday indicted him on two counts of arson and attempted arson in local fires.

Higley said his psychological findings were far from complete. He said Segee "apparently does not get sexual excitement from seeing a fire, as in the usual case."

"The youth seems to believe he rarely gets satisfaction from a normal sex relation—but is frustrated.

In all but one of the ten fires, we have found the fire linked to an unsatisfying sex experience."

Connecticut Fire Marshall Edward J. Hickey said no evidence has been forwarded him by Ohio authorities. Police in the cities where Segee said he committed murders were skeptical but started full investigations.

Callan said last night that investigators have substantiated Segee's confession in at least 10 of the fires he admitted setting.

Callan also said three of the murderers admitted by the slender army veteran have been confirmed. The fourth confessed murder is being checked by U. S. army authorities in Japan. Segee, according to Callan, said he murdered a Japanese youth in 1949 because the boy "angered him."

Columbus police were also interested in the part-Indian for a possible connection with the mutilation-slaying of former carnival queen Mona McBride in Columbus, O., March 31, 1948. Her body was discovered in a hotel and employees reported seeing a "dark, slender man" leave the hotel about the time the coroner said she was murdered and carved with a knife.

The Daily Gate City

2 — KEOKUK, IOWA

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 1966

Great Murillo of Ringling's injured in fall

DETROIT (AP) — The Great Murillo, an aerialist with the Ringling Brothers Circus, never used a balancing pole or a safety net—a feat which "separates the boys from the men," a circus official said.

Luis Murillo, 32, was hospitalized in critical condition with a fractured pelvis and head injuries received Tuesday when he fell 45 feet to the sawdust floor of Detroit's State Fair Coliseum.

Murillo, of Hollywood, Calif., was performing at the annual Shrine Circus. He was walking up a 45-degree slanted wire toward his main performing wire when he fell.

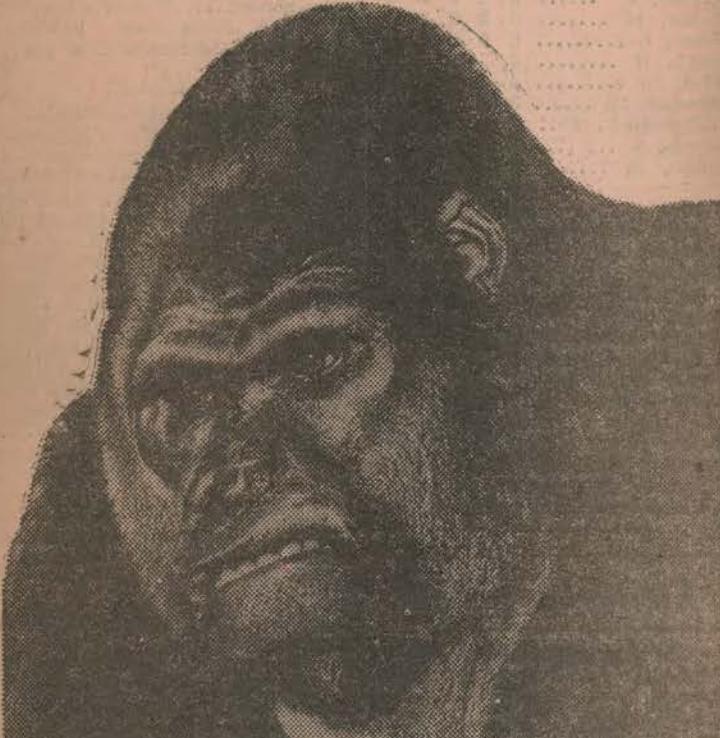
Some 8,000 persons saw him fall.

Murillo's fall occurred just a few feet from the spot where the Flying Wallendas' high wire act, the "human pyramid," crashed to the ground in 1962. Two of the seven-man balancing act were killed.

KEOKUK

Afternoon and Night

TUES. AUG. 23



AL G. BARNES and SELLS-FLOTO
Combined **CIRCUS** Presenting

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey
STUPENDOUS NEW FEATURES

INCLUDING

GARGANTUA the Great

Largest and Most Ferocious GORILLA Ever Seen on This Continent

Bring 'Em Back Alive FRANK BUCK

With His Caravan of Recently Captured BEASTS From DISTANT WILDS

TERRELL JACOBS The Lion King • MABEL STARK The Tiger Queen

UNPRECEDENTED HOST OF CIRCUS CHAMPIONS

10,000 MARVELS — 950 PEOPLE — 450 ARENIC STARS — 70 CLOWNS —
400 HORSES — 837 MENAGERIE ANIMALS — 5 HERDS OF ELEPHANTS —
WORLD'S LARGEST TENT — TRAIN AFTER TRAIN OF DOUBLE-LENGTH STEEL
RAILROAD CARS LOADED WITH WONDERS FROM EVERY LAND

TWICE DAILY 2 & 8 P.M. DOORS OPEN 1 and 7 P.M. POPULAR PRICES

Tickets on sale Circus Day at Wilkinson and Co., 422 Main St., and
at Show Grounds.

CIRCUS CLOWNS QUALIFIED AS INDIVIDUALISTS

AUG. 16, 1938

Once the idea of variety was correlated in the public mind with the numerals 57, but in the clown alley of the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto combined circus, coming to Keokuk Tuesday, Aug. 23, 57 varieties will not suffice for accurate description for there are 70 varieties of funmakers in the contingent drolls. No two are alike in appearance, in technique, in comedy ideas. The clowns are rugged individualists in pantomime, even when they produce their risible sketches in duos, trios and troupes.

Clown alley in the dressing rooms of the big show is an interesting section—long rows of trunks, with mirrors against up-

largest and most ferocious gorilla ever exhibited, will commence at 2 and 8 p.m.

The doors open at 1 and 7, permitting a full hour in which to visit the huge menagerie of 837 rare animals.



turned lids, motley, buskin, pantaloons and other mirrors hanging from clothes-lines stretched overhead, and folding chairs before each trunk. Buckets in groups everywhere. Here the best known and the most expert of the world's clowns make ready to do their stuff in the huge all-star program. Here are heard all tongues, although almost all the foreign joeys now speak English. As these comics, young, middle-aged and a few in their sunset years, stroll into the dressing room, they look like business and professional men. This does not mean that they are solemn, staid, even sad. Not at all. Your business and professional man isn't that way, either. In other words, clowns with the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto circus are widely

traveled, well read men who know what it is all about. They grade well in any company. The performances recently augmented by the stupendous new features of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey circus, including Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck and Gargantua the Great,

AL G. BARNES AND SELLS-FLOTO

THE GREAT DUST HEAP
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1938

MONDAY, AUG. 8, 1938

Al G. Barnes, Sells-Floto Circus Will Show in Keokuk August 23

Deeply disappointed with the withdrawal of the Cole Bros. circus to its winter headquarters in Rochester, Ind., and consequent cancellation of its Keokuk date, local circus fans can now dry away their tears. Another circus of similar magnitude has included Keokuk on its itinerary.

James M. Fulton, Sr., a member of the Circus Fans Association of America, was informed today that the Al. G. Barnes and Sells-Floto circus with Ringling and Barnum and Bailey features, will give two performances in Keokuk on August 23.

To St. Louis.

The big show jumps from Omaha, Nebr., to Ottumwa for a single showing on August 22, comes to Keokuk the next day and then heads south to Hannibal, Mo., enroute to St. Louis.

Keokuk and Ottumwa are thus the only cities in this section of the state to see the big show at this time and Keokuk has a slight edge over Ottumwa in the matter of two performances to one.

Ottumwa Denies License.

On the grounds that its showing in Ottumwa would conflict with the annual Wapello county fair at Eldon the same week, the board

of supervisors in that county denied the Barnes show a license last week. Saturday attorneys for the circus filed a mandamus petition in Ottumwa, seeking a \$500 judgment and authorization to give a circus performance in the county. Named defendants in the action were Wapello county, the board of supervisors and the county auditor.

Will Give Show.

Judge Elmer K. Daugherty, who was closing the April term of court Saturday, declined to sign an order for hearing and directed the circus attorneys to take the matter to Judge George W. Dashiell of Albia, who opens a new term of court the last part of the month.

It is understood here that the circus will show in Ottumwa without a license, even if it means a fine.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY WEDNESDAY, AUG. 10, 1938

Advance Men of Barnes, Sells- Floto Circus Arrive in City

Thirty experts in the art of open air propaganda rolled into the city today on the No. 1 railroad advertising car of the Barnes and Sells-Floto Combined Circus in charge of John Brassil, with the glad word that the big circus will exhibit here on Tuesday, August 23, while in the car's office a press agent laid out his material for the newspapers.

On his round, Jerome T. Harriman, recounted to the editorial room some of the show's outstanding 1938 features.

Giant Gorilla.

First, he told of Gargantua the Great, the giant gorilla, the largest and most ferocious ever exhibited. This is the huge anthropoid ape that tried to kill the executive head of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus last February. It has proved a sensational draw everywhere, the agent states.

Incidentally, the foremost features of the great Ringling-Barnum and Bailey organization have been recently added to those of the Barnes and Sells-Floto Circus, resulting in the most stupendous consolidation of attractions ever witnessed.

Frank Buck.

Heading an imposing list of notables is Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck, here of the jungles and of adventure lovers the world over, the biggest "name" feature the circus world has ever known. He is a smash hit with the crowds, the press man avers, and Buck's caravan of wild animals, captured

for the circus, is a colorful unit in the new and magnificent opening spectacle, in which he is introduced in gorgeous Oriental pageantry. Five companies of Bengal lancers in intricate drills and maneuvers take part in the inaugural feature.

Because of Frank Buck and the savage beasts he has brought to it, the circus is more jungle minded than ever this season, and an unprecedented host of unusual and thrilling wild animal acts are presented in huge steel-barred arenas.

Many Animals.

Performing African lions, Royal tigers, the world's only trained black leopard, African Pygmy elephants, the tallest giraffe in captivity, Lotus, only trained hippopotamus on earth and scores of other notable animal features appear on the gigantic program.

Nearly a thousand persons, including 450 men and women circus stars, five herds of elephants, 837 menagerie animals and hundreds of beautiful horses are now carried by the huge Barnes and Sells-Floto Circus.

Included in the list of big top stars of international eminence are: Terrell Jacobs, the lion king in a startling demonstration with the world's greatest group of ferocious performing jungle bred black-maned lions; Mabel Stark, the tiger queen, fearlessly performing with savage Royal Bengal man-killers; Reckless Ralph Clark in a sensational two-horse Roman standing jump over a standard size automo-

bile.

Aerial Stars.

The Flying Concellos, a company of absolutely fearless performers who fly like winged birds through space, introducing the world-famous triple-somersaulting Antionette Concello; the marvelous Crisitani troupe presenting the ultimate in equestrian thrillers when Lucio performs a double twisting somesault from the back of one galloping horse to another; the world famous Rieffenach Family, with Clarence Bruce, the incomparable riding comic of the highest class riding act on earth; William Heyer, Europe's foremost horse trainer in the most notable display of high school equestrianism ever witnessed; Naitto Troupe with sensational Nio and Ala Naitto, wire wizards who have astounded two continents.

Yom Kam Troupe, Chinese Acrobatic marvels without an equal on the face of the globe; Walkmir Troupe, the zenith in deft and daring high-perch accomplishment; Janet Bay, the world's foremost aerial gymnast in an incredible number of thrilling one-arm plunges; Mitzi-Rose Sisters, beautiful horse-back ballerinas; Ann Merkel in a most startling exhibition of upside-down ceiling walking; Jack Joyce, offering free running Liberty Horses in amazing evolutions, plus hundreds upon hundreds of the world's foremost acrobic stars, 70 world famous clowns cutting capers continuously, gorgeous pageantry, colorful costumes and an aerial ballet of 50 beautiful girls.

Performances will be given at 2 and 8 p. m., the doors opening one hour earlier to allow ample time in which to inspect the world's most comprehensive traveling menagerie.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

HEAR THAT RUMBLE OF WAGONS? BIG CIRCUS ROLLS INTO TOWN

Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck, rugged jungle explorer,

mighty hunter and hero of millions of adventure lovers the world over; elephants in wrinkled hides; 950

AUG. 23, 1938

people in mufti; the world's tallest giraffe in a mottled one-piece suit; and 400 horses in crested harness—these are some of the visitors that came to town early today on special railroad trains of double-length steel cars, lettered with the title that means the greatest amusement "buy" in all history—Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto combined

circus, now augmented with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey stupendous new features.

Wagons Roll.

Shortly after their arrival, the streets leading from the Burlington railroad sidings resounded to the rumble of big red wagons, cages and chariots, to the clatter of hundreds of shod hoofs and the shouts of excited children. In no time at all, the 31 tents of the big show were mushrooming into the air on the circus lot at Twenty-eighth and Main, where performances were scheduled at 2 and 8 p. m. today, opening with the new and revolutionary spectacle, "Far East," in which Frank Buck is the central figure of an Oriental pageant, restyled and streamlined to mark a new era in big top professionals.

Jungle Minded.

Because it features Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck, who has captured scores of wild animals for it, the circus has become more jungle minded than usual. One of the super features is the giant gorilla, Gargantua the Great, the world's most terrifying living creature, who at each performance is introduced to the audience by Mr. Buck. Impressive wild animal acts including the world's first performing black leopard, hitherto believed unconquerable and the largest group of performing African black-maned lions ever assembled are but a few of the imposing array of features on the gigantic augmented program, which is presented in the world's largest tent.

Performances were given at 2 and will be put on again at 8 p. m., the doors opening one hour earlier to allow ample time in which to inspect the world's most comprehensive traveling menagerie.

For the convenience of the public, tickets are on sale at Wilkinson & Co. Drug store as well as at the show grounds.

Following tonight's performance the circus will leave for Hannibal over the Burlington railroad.

DAILY GATE CITY

Circus Gets High Praise From Crowd

AUG. 24, 1938

Despite the terrific heat which had the menagerie animals gasping for breath and the customers alternately swinging a fan and mopping their brows, the Al. G. Barnes, Sells-Floto circus played to a crowd of almost 10,000 persons in its two performances here yesterday.

Augmented by many featured attractions of the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey show, including Frank (Bring 'em Back Alive) Buck and Gargantua the massive gorilla who travels about the country in his individual, glass incased, air-conditioned cage, the

circus was unqualifiedly the best which has appeared in Keokuk for many years.

Without exception the many acts were of the highest calibre and the audience proved especially responsive to the performances of the equestrians who were among the best ever seen here. Many who saw the Ringling circus last year declared that the Barnes show not only had secured most of its outstanding stars but by presenting them in three instead of five rings put on a more enjoyable performance.

Rivaling the throng which saw the big show unload yesterday morning, another crowd jammed the railroad yards at midnight last night to watch the equally fascinating embarkation proceedings. The company left here for Hannibal, Mo., where it shows today and then goes to St. Louis for a longer stay.

Before the circus left Ottumwa, the Wapello county sheriff served a notice on its officials to appear in district court there on a charge of exhibiting without a license. By doing so, county officials state, the company left itself open to a maximum fine of \$500 plus the payment of twice the license fee of \$100.

DAILY GATE CITY

BARNES CIRCUS SCORES BIG HIT IN SHOW HERE

Patrons are Loud in Praise of Al. G. Barnes Unit Which Gives Unusual Performance in Matinee and Evening Shows Yesterday.

AUG. 25, 1938

There are circuses and circuses but in the minds of those who attended either of the two shows here yesterday the Al. G. Barnes production is just about tops for performances under the "big top."

Just as horses, hundreds of them, sleek-coated and spirited, marked the difference between this and the ordinary circus to those who observed the movement of wagons, animals and equipment from the railroad yards to the show grounds yesterday morning, so horses, superbly trained and expertly handled, provided one of the high lights of the performance itself.

Riders Thrill.

Although each of the acts which furnished a full two hours of thrilling entertainment in the three large rings was without exception excellent and of an unusually high

calibre, the equestrian unit of the Cristiani family will be long remembered as the best of its kind ever seen here.

These acrobatic riders were as sure-footed as mountain goats and twice as graceful as they leaped easily upon the broad backs of the splendid horses and, once there, executed difficult feats as a double back chuck from one horse to another, and four riders vaulting into place simultaneously.

The horses used in these acts, in the large liberty display and in the exhibition of gaited steeds were exceptionally well trained and afforded a spectacle which received an enthusiastic reception from the large audience.

Elephants Excellent.

Rivaling the horses in training was the huge collection of elephants which displayed surprising intelligence in their unique act, swinging their ponderous bodies through such dances as the Carioca and Continental and performing other almost human feats as well. The big cats in the wild animal act were remarkably well-kept and attractive and when arranged in their different poses under the direction of Capt. Terrell Jacobs and Miss Mabel Stark added a spice of danger as well as a strange wild beauty to the program.

Another unit which drew thunderous applause was the work of the Canestrellis on unsupported ladders. These artists balanced themselves on upright ladders while they twisted through contortionistic attitudes and then called upon trim little fox terriers which danced up and posed on smaller ladders attached to the large ones. The Canestrellis also returned at tight wire walkers in support of the Webber Trio, easily the finest wire walking acrobats ever to appear in this part of the country. They not only went through the customary acrobatics but danced along the slender thread which supported them high in the air.

Circus Folk Courteous

While comedy jugglers and equilibrists were engaged in the outer rings, Miss Hortense Cristiani and her troupe of teeter board experts held the interest in the center circle. Always a crowd-pleaser, her act was decidedly so as the different members of the unit would soar sommersaulting into the air to land upon the shoulders of another, or drop into the seat of a chair.

The company offered everything traditional with circuses, the elaborate inaugural pageant, trained seals and sea lions, clowns galore, a tiger riding upon the back of an elephant, a mammoth hippopotamus pulling a wagon, jugglers high school horses, weird band music, and entertainment of so varied a nature as to defy description.

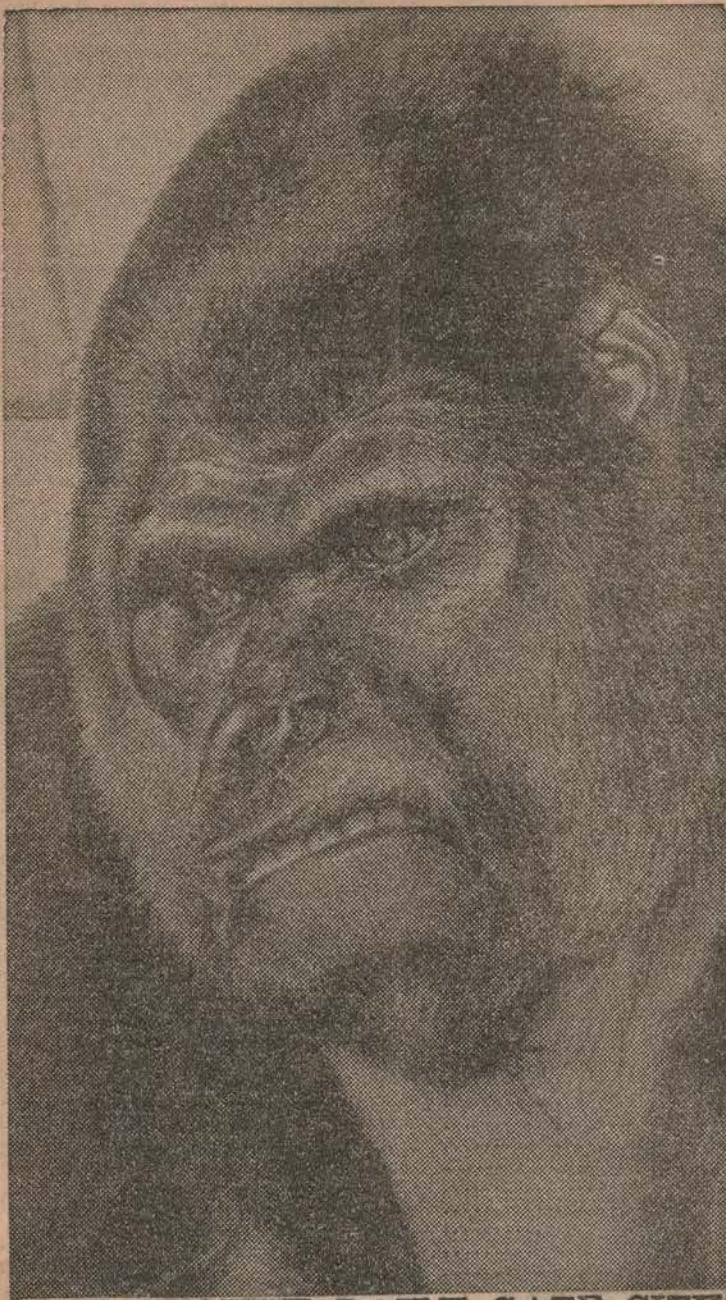
Eminently well pleased with the show as presented in the big tent, those who attended were also loud in their praise of the circus personnel and the courtesy with which their questions about the numerous animals in the menagerie were received and answered. These circus folk seemed eager to serve as informative guides on any and all occasions and always found time to be of assistance.

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"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED KEOUKA"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK IOWA

Gorilla Declares War On Mankind

MONDAY, AUG. 15, 1938

**THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY**

Everyone knows that the gorilla is the rarest and fiercest creature ever held captive anywhere, but almost everybody asks why Gargantua the Great, the largest and most ferocious of them all, is so much more vicious than all others that have ever been captured alive.

When this monstrous hulk of cold, calculating hatred and fury is paraded alive before your eyes during the performance of the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto Combined Circus, coming to Keokuk Tuesday, Aug. 23, you will hear the reason for his ferocity. It is because he is a coastal gorilla, a species much more evilly disposed than the only other species, the mountain primate. Both types hail from the Belgian Congo, the only section in the world where the gorilla is found.

Gargantua is but one of the scores of marvels brought to the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto Combined Circus now augmented with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey stupendous new features.

Gargantua the Great, captured by natives at the age of two and traded to a sea captain, is now 7 years old, stands 5 feet, 6 inches, weighs 450 pounds and has an arm stretch of 9 feet. For 5 years he had been an object of observation by a Long Island doctor of science when he was acquired by John Ringling North, executive head of the Big Show, through the good offices of Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck, who is featured with the circus this season.

For the past year Gargantua has been growing more evil tempered, and now his own keeper for

all of these years, cannot get within range of his powerful hands. The giant ape has declared war on mankind.

Performances will be given at 2 and 8 p. m. To permit leisurely inspection of the enlarged new menagerie, which now includes over 800 rare animals, the doors will open at 1 and 7 p. m.

DAILY GATE CITY
MONDAY, AUG. 15, 1938

Keokuk

AFTERNOON AND

NIGHT

TUESDAY,
AUG.

23

**AL G. BARNES
and SELLS-FLOTO
Combined CIRCUS
PRESENTING**



**Ringling
Bros
AND
BARNUM
BAILEY**
STUPENDOUS NEW
FEATURES

INCLUDING
GARGANTUA The Great

Largest & Most Ferocious GORILLA
Ever Seen on This Continent

BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE FRANK BUCK

with His Caravan of Recently Captured
BEASTS FROM DISTANT WILDS

TERRELL JACOBS, The Lion King

MABEL STARK, The Tiger Queen

AND THE MIGHTIEST MULTITUDE OF

CIRCUS CHAMPIONS EVER ASSEMBLED

10,000 MARVELS—950 PEOPLE—450

ARENIC STARS—70 CLOWNS—400

HORSES—837 MENAGERIE ANIMALS

—5 HERDS OF ELEPHANTS—WORLD'S

LARGEST TENT—TRAIN AFTER TRAIN

OF DOUBLE-LENGTH STEEL RAILROAD

CARS LOADED WITH WONDERS FROM

EVERY LAND

Twice Daily 2 & 8 P. M. POPULAR
DOORS OPEN 1 & 7 P. M. PRICES

TICKETS ON SALE CIRCUS DAY
AT WILKINSON AND CO., 422
MAIN ST., AND AT THE SHOW
GROUNDS.

*World's Highest Hatter Eyes
Mere Man With Lofty Disdain*

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY



WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17, 1938

She's the tallest giraffe in captivity, is Soudana, and she does not have to wear a high hat to be snooty. She has but to drop her eyes to look down on mere humans and Soudana is constantly doing just that in the menagerie of the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto Combined Circus, coming to Keokuk, Tuesday, August 23. Soudana is one of the 887 animals who came along with the stupendous new features now augmented with this circus from the great Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey organization, which lists also Gargantua the Great, the world's most terrifying

living creature.

Soudana's weak spot, however is her affection for beautiful girls. All members of the aerial ballet, which includes some 50 beautiful girls, look upon Soudana as their special pet.

The Big Show, replete with new wonders, features and innovations in its gigantic performances will exhibit at 2 and 8 p. m., starting with the new and epochal spectacle introducing Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck. Doors to the mammoth enlarged menagerie will open one hour earlier to permit inspection of the rare animals.

DAILY GATE CITY
AUG. 23, 1938

CIRCUS LIFE IS NEW FOR FRANK BUCK

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Frank "Bring 'Em Back Alive" Buck is spending his first season on the road, according to an interview with a Daily Gate City reporter this morning.

Although he has had business dealings with various circuses for a number of years he has never before had the experience of being a member of a troupe under the Big Top. Mr. Buck starred with the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey show in April and when it returned to winter quarters as a result of a strike some weeks ago, his performance, with several other feature acts of the show, were sent out with the Al G. Barnes Sells Floto show to cover the previously scheduled Ringling Brothers dates.

Four Pictures.

Frank Buck has been featured in four pictures but at the present has no plans for future films. He will leave for New York City at the close of the circus season, November 8th, to prepare his exhibit for the World's Fair there in 1940. He has an ideal location in the center of the fair grounds with his concession covering two acres, Mr. Buck continued in the interview. At present a portion of his staff is busily employed in Singapore gathering material for the exhibit which will be constructed along native lines and will probably prove to be one of the highlights of the fair.

Takes It Easy.

Mr. Buck does not go to the circus show grounds in the morning but rests at one of the hotels in the city in which the show plays. Interviewed just before lunch today he had plans to meet his wife, enjoy a healthy luncheon and make a leisurely trip to the circus grounds to prepare for his performance.

One of the extra feature acts of the circus showing in Keokuk today, it is very doubtful if people in this locality will ever again have the opportunity to see Mr. Buck as he will be busy preparing and showing his exhibit at the World's Fair for the next three years and after that has plans for a trip again to foreign countries on further expeditions.

In the United States for the last two years this is the first time in the last twenty-eight years that Mr. Buck has spent such a long time in this country.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY
FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1934

HERE TOMORROW

Circus Grounds Opposite
Ball Park
Performances 2:00 and 8:00 P. M.

Doors Open
1:00 and 7:00 P. M.



CIRCUS BRINGS "MENA", LARGEST TRICK ELEPHANT

Imagine a beast with ears over thirty inches across! A huge bulk of flesh weighing nearly five tons—a monster as large as some gigantic prehistoric mammal—standing eleven feet high! Such is Mena, world's largest performing pachyderm, rated as a second Jumbo in elephantine category and the most docile, intelligent of all huge beasts.

Mena, born in India and imported to this country by Henry Bartels, New York dealer in circus animals, was originally purchased, some twenty years ago, for the M. L. Clark circus, an overland show, famous at that time. With this circus, Mena walked from town to town, day after day, year after year. Consequently the exercise fully developed Mena's great muscles, rounding out her powerful shoulders and strengthening her long legs and she matured in growth exceeding the circus men's calculations, to be rivaled only by the great Ned, who also was reared on the M. L. Clark circus to later become the great Tusko, with the Al G. Barnes wild animal circus.

With the passing of Tusko, Mena, whose name is derived from the little town of Mena, Ark., where she first joined the circus, became the elephantine wonder of the time and seemingly enjoys the distinction of being the heroine, literally speaking, of the noted tales of Courtney Riley Cooper.



HERE WITH CIRCUS TOMORROW

Constitution-Democrat.
MARCH 11, 1885.

FRIGHTFUL SCENE AT A CIRCUS.

A Lion Tamer Attacked by One of the
Savage Brutes.

NEW YORK, March 9.—A special cable to The Evening Telegram from Paris says: Sunday night at the Cirque d'Hiver, as Williams, the celebrated lion tamer, was putting eight lions through various leaping tricks in their cage, one of them, a large male, bounded on Williams from behind and seized him by the fleshy part of the back and by the thighs. A terrible struggle followed between man and beast. The spectators, shrieking with alarm, broke into the ring. Women and children fainted from fright. Suddenly the lion relaxed his hold of Williams and crouched to make a final spring at his victim's throat. Williams, with extraordinary dexterity, managed to elude the attack of the infuriated beast, and escaped from the cage. He fell unconscious, covered with blood, into the arms of one of the spectators. His wounds are very severe.

Roberta, noted equestrienne, to appear with the Riding Loyals here tomorrow with the Duggan brothers' big three ring circus. The three rings are fairly crowded with stellar arienic features, bringing noted stars of the white-tops, performing horses, animals and ponies and Mena, the largest of all acting animals.

the celebrated author of circus stories which appear frequently in leading publications. Cooper knows his elephants and he knows Mena, therefore she not only stands in the spotlight of the circus world but is a well known character in American fiction.

Mena will be here to munch peanuts and other circus goodies when Duggan Brothers' circus comes to Keokuk, next Saturday. She will be on hand in the circus menagerie to greet local circus fans and all lovers of animals.

If Fascism ever comes, it will be in this country, punishing capital so much it will not invest in new enterprises.

If business can't get its rights, you must expect it to "lobby."

KEOKUK

One Day Only

Saturday, July 28

Grounds Opposite Ball Park

DUGGAN BROS.
3-RING
MENAGERIE & HIPPODROME
**C 50 SUPERLATIVE &
EXCLUSIVE FEATURES 50**

Including Sensational
WESTLAKES
TERRACE SISTERS
RIDING LOYALS
DAVENPORT'S LIONS
BRUNHOLD'S BEARS
Scores of Other New
Arenic Displays

AFTERNOON AND EVENING 25c TO ALL

SEE MENA!
WORLD'S LARGEST ELEPHANT

Free Pony Ride for All Children
Attending Matinee.

DAILY GATE CITY
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1936

**CIRCUS COMING
ON JUNE 15 IS
ON 84TH TOUR**

Rice Bros., Founded by the Famous Clown Dan Rice, in 1852, Will Show Here Twice That Day.

The circus is coming to town: Already youngsters can be seen gasping in wild-eyed amazement at the pictures on the billboards depicting the "stupendous, colossal wonders gathered from the four quarters of the globe" by Rice Bros. Circus. The big three ring circus will appear at Keokuk Monday, June 15th for two performances.

Founded by the famous clown Dan Rice in 1852 Rice Bros. Circus is making its 84th annual tour, having since its inception exhibited in practically every country in the world, with the result that more thrilling and sensational novelties in the way of arenic and aerial entertainment than were ever before gathered together will be seen when the mammoth canvas city is erected.

An outstanding feature will be the appearance in person of Buck Sells, famed western movie star, who with his cowboys and Sioux Indians will stage a rip snorting panorama of the old time western plains. Bucking steers, bronchos and horses ridden by reckless horsemen will furnish spills and thrills a-plenty.

Madam Bedini, famous equestrienne, heads the list of arenic celebrities, while Mary Miller's aerial ballet reigns supreme in the air. Dancing elephants, trained wild animals, including Jessie, largest lioness in captivity, an army of clowns, Japanese acrobats and jugglers, wire walkers. Lizette, world renowned "Girl on the Flying Trapeze," Sioux Indian village, with braves, squaws and papooses, educated thoroughbred horses, ponies, dogs and monkeys, lovely posing and dancing girls—the whole blending into one vast feast of amusement.

Two performances will be given at Keokuk one day only on Monday, June 15th at 2 and 8 p. m., the doors opening an hour earlier to allow time for visitors to inspect the largest collection of wild animals on earth.

DAILY GATE CITY
ACTIVITY ON
INCREASE AT
CIRCUS QUARTERS
APR. 18, 1931

LANCASTER, Mo., April 18—Increasing activities at the winter quarters of the W. P. Hall circus here indicate that he will begin showing in the near future. These activities include special training of the animals, cleaning up and repairing the old show wagons and the preparation of the other show equipment for the road. Plans are under way for the show to begin its engagements here and then move to Kirksville for a circus there.

In connection with the Hall circus, an interesting feature crops out every now and then. It was learned here recently that

the old railroad coach which is now used by W. P. Hall and Son as an office here, is the Baltimore and Ohio railroad coach which was used to carry the body of Abraham Lincoln from Washington, D. C., to Springfield, Ill., after the assassination. Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth, while attending a play at the Ford theater in Washington, on the evening of Good Friday, April 14. Dying the following morning, he was buried in Springfield where an imposing monument now marks the spot.

DAILY GATE CITY
FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1938

WAIT
FOR THE BIG ONE
NOW! THE LARGEST CIRCUS
IN THE WORLD
ONLY BIG RAILROAD
SHOW COMING TO
KEOKUK
Mon. 22
Aug. 22

Street Parade at 11 a. m.

COLE BROS.
CIRCUS



ALL
STAR
SHOW

With
CLYDE
BEATTY
World's
Greatest
Wild Animal Trainer
BIGGER—BETTER—GRANDER—THAN EVER
AN ECLIPSING EPOCH IN THE
WORLD'S GREATEST
AMUSEMENT INSTITUTION

1100 PEOPLE—
400 ARENIC
STARS—HUGE
DOUBLE MEN-
AGERIE—FOUR
HERDS OF ELE-
PHANTS—500
HORSES—THREE Daring Slackwire Artist

TRAINS OF
DOUBLE LENGTH
RAILROAD CARS
GRETONA TROUPE
THRILLING HIGH-WIRE STARS—
AND MORE THAN 100 OTHERS

TWICE DAILY 2 & 8 P.M.
DOORS OPEN 1 & 7 P.M.
Children Under 12 Yrs.

MATINEE
ONLY 25c
POPULAR PRICES

"THE DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. NICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE GREAT LONDON CIRCUS.

KEOKUK,
KEOKUK,
KEOKUK, } TUESDAY, AUGUST 26th.

The Only Show that Will Visit Iowa in 1879.

"WORTH 500 MILES OF TRAVEL TO SEE IT."

THE ACKNOWLEDGED

LEADING AND RELIABLE SHOW OF AMERICA!

TEN ELEPHANTS---BRUSH'S DYNAMO ELECTRIC LIGHT.

WITHOUT ANY DOUBT, THE LARGEST SHOW IN THE WORLD!

TREMENDUOUS CLUSTER OF GORGEOUS SHOWS!

Dense night converted into dazzling day by the ELECTRIC LIGHT; 18 Electric Light Chandeliers, equal to 35,000 gas jets. Cost us \$15,000. Requiring 30 horse engine, 40-horse power boiler, 900 revolutions per minute, 28,000 yards Insulated Telegraph Wire.

A Hard of Ten Monster Monarch Elephants.

CHIEFTAIN.

Height, 10 feet 10 inches;
Weight, 7,900 pounds.

MANDARIN.

Height, 10 feet 4 inches;
Weight, 7,825 pounds.

PRINCESS.

Height, 10 feet 2½ inches;
Weight, 7,440 pounds.

MAMMA.

Height, 10 feet 2¼ inches;
Weight, 7,435 pounds.

VICTORIA.

Height, 9 feet 10 inches;
Weight, 6,985 pounds.

The famous five great London Elephants.



TITANIA.

Height, 9 feet 3½ inches;
Weight, 6,330 pounds.

KHEDIVE.

Height, 9 feet 7½ inches;
Weight, 6,445 pounds.

JULIET.

Height, 4 feet 4 inches;
Weight, 1,170 pounds.

ROMEO.

Height, 4 feet 6 inches;
Weight, 1,221 pounds.

PRINCE, THE CLOWN.

Height, forty-six inches;
Weight, 300 pounds.

The celebrated Great International Elephants.

THE FEMALE ELEPHANT, VICTORIA, ABOUT TO BECOME A MOTHER,

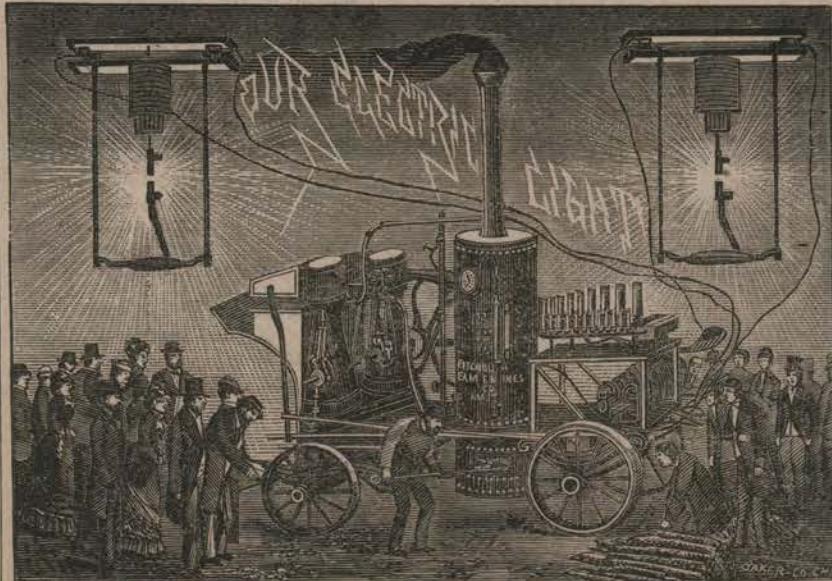
Will be on exhibition daily without extra charge.

The Best Drilled and Best Trained Ten Elephants in existence, forming the only group of Ten Elephants that perform in the ring, at one and the same time, the most marvelous feats ever seen, just as represented in the above cut. \$50,000 will be paid for their equal. AGGREGATE HEIGHT, 83 FEET 2 INCHES. AGGREGATE WEIGHT, 53,117 POUNDS. A double Menagerie of rare brute creatures. A colossal and select Circus company. All under 168,000 yards of canvas.

The Monster Concern of the Universe, in all its Regal Magnificence, will be in KEOKUK AUGUST 26th, without fail, despite wind or weather, and with it comes the greatest feature ever secured by any show in the known world, and a feature that alone and exclusively belongs to this Exhibition, the

GRAND ELECTRIC LIGHT!

No Other Show Has It--Beware of Frauds.



The effect of this truly marvelous light, when it is shown under our

168,000 YARDS OF SNOWY CANVAS.

Equal to the Rays of Four Dazzling Suns,
Illuminating a Radius of Two Miles.
Glowing with a Phosphorescent Effulgence, Worth Traveling Five Hundred Miles to See It.

At last showmen have invented something worthy of the patronage of all classes—a scientific feature. Not the old circus and menagerie commonplace attractions. Messrs. Cooper, Bailey & Co. seem to be progressive. Keeping pace with advancement of science. The new and wonderful electric light has been adopted by them as the illuminating power of their great show. Of its success there can be no doubt, as the press of the entire country speak of this light as wonderful and attractive. This great show is to exhibit at Keokuk on Tuesday, August 26th.

The "Chicago Times" of June 22nd, says:

THE CIRCUS.

The visit of the Cooper & Bailey circus to this city has proven a source of great profit to the managers, and pleasure almost unbounded to the public at large. The exhibitions have been attended by all conditions of people, including a vast number who, previous to last week, had probably not been in a tent for twenty years. The excellence of the ring performance of itself was largely accountable for its success; but more of it might properly be accredited to the care the managers seem to have taken to eliminate some of the worst and most offensive features usually attendant upon shows of this kind, and to their enterprise in using a means of lighting up their canvas that of itself proved a very powerful attraction and excited a very deep interest. The menagerie is a good one, the elephant and camel departments being especially well stocked with valuable animals. It was noticeable that all the creatures on exhibition seemed in fine condition and well cared for. The tigers and lions were as fine specimens as were ever seen in this city.

Some idea of the extent to which these things were appreciated may be gathered from the statement that the main tent, which has seats for seventy-five hundred people, was always well filled when it was not crowded; and that on several occasions the door had to be closed and three or four thousand people refused admission. The managers have spared no money in making their show what it ought to be. The expense must be enormous, but it is so judiciously placed as to bring in handsome returns from a public who know a good thing when they see it.

THE DAILY GATE CITY:

NOVEMBER 22. 1857.

BARNUM BURNED OUT.

Barnum's Immense Menagerie at Bridgeport, Connecticut, Destroyed by Fire.

A Large Number of Valuable Animals Cre-
mated—A Big Blaze at Mound City, Ill.,
Forest Fires—General News
Gleanings.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Nov. 21.—One of the watchmen of Barnum's circus,

is beautiful beyond the power of words to describe. Its soft, mellow, silvery, ethereal rays shed a halo of imperishable glory over all surrounding objects. It is, indeed,

HEAVEN'S OWN GIFT TO EARTH!

It makes the darkest, densest, blackest night into glorious sunlit day. It is like the rays of a dozen dazzling suns concentrated. It melts steel without apparent heat. It illuminates a radius of two miles. It burns brilliantly under water. It causes gas to show its own shadow. It fairly glows with phosphorescent effulgence. Scientists wonder at it, statesmen marvel at it, philosophers are bewildered at it, cynics smile at it, monarchs envy it, frauds dread it, and the whole world adores it. And yet, with all its magnificence, it is but one of a thousand great features belonging only to this.

ONSTER CONSOLIDATION OF SOLID GRANDEUR!

ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY
of the acknowledged world's

Champion, Mr. Chas. W. Fish, Bareback Trick Rider.

Her First Appearance in America,

Senorita Adelaide Codona,
Bareback Principle Hurdle and Hurricane Four-Horse Rider.

\$100,000 CHALLENGE FAMOUS CIRCUS COMPANY.



Eight Champion Double Somersaulters.

The Apollo Horseman,
FRANK MELVILLE,
Greatest Living Somersault Rider.

The Beautiful and Talented
LAWRENCE SISTERS,
Mid-Air Equilibrists, in their Terrific Leap for Life.

WILLIAM DUTTON,
A Wonderful Equestrian.

WM. H. BACHELOR,
The Acknowledged Champion Leaper.

First Appearance in America of the Whirlwind
Rider,
SEÑOR DON GERONIMO BELLE.

Mlle. Hellene,
Mlle. Pauline,
Mme. D'Atalie,
Miss Addie,
Mlle. Alice,
Miss Watson,
Miss Taylor,
Mlle. Niles,

Leo Levere,
G. Austin,
Jas. Murray,
Jas. Donovan,
G. W. Johnson,
Cassim,
J. Berkley,
T. King.

First Appearance in America of
AWATA KATSUNOSHIN,
The Japanese Wonder.

First Appearance in the West of
JOHN LOWLOW,
America's Champion Clown.

THE BROTHERS LEOTARDS.

The Irish Clown,
JOHNNY PATTERSON.

The Beautiful and Accomplished
MISS LOUISE BOSHELL.

Nat. Austin,
N. Lawrence,
A. Livingston,
R. Ellingham,
A. Still,
G. Arstingstall,
G. Bernard,
Crowly & Cladler.

FOUR KING PUNSTERS:
NAT. AUSTIN, JOHN LOWLOW, JOHNNY PATTERSON, WM. BLISS.

The Biggest Menagerie

Ever seen under canvas, comprising representatives of every species of rare, costly and beautiful animals mentioned in Natural History.

Tuesday, August 26th, No Later,

And on the morning of that day the most stupendous, glittering, specular, Mardi Gras street procession ever seen in Keokuk will be given.

TWO MILES OF ENTRANCING SPLENDOR.

N. B.—This is the only show traveling that will not allow candy, peanuts, lemonade, or prize-package peddling in the circus. You will find none of the above with this show, but you will find it with every other. Mark the difference between the politeness, gentility and respectability of the GREAT LONDON CIRCUS, and the rough, uncouth behavior that is part and parcel of all would-be rival exhibitions.

Admission to everything, 50 cents; reserved (opera cushion chairs) 25 cents extra; children (under nine years of age) half price.

Doors open at 1 and 7; commence an hour later.

Mark Well the Date--AUGUST 26 ONLY.

No Postponement; no change; rain or shine. The only day; remember the date. No paste diamonds with this show. Everything new; everything grand.

All railroads run at Cheap Excursion Rates.

QUINCY, AUGUST 23.

BURLINGTON, AUGUST 25.

OTTUMWA, AUGUST 27.

WILL ALSO EXHIBIT AT

FAIRFIELD, AUGUST 28.

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 29.

SIGOURNEY, AUGUST 30.

while making his rounds at 4 o'clock last night, discovered flames in one corner of the building where horses are kept. He rushed around the building to alarm the other employees, when he was knocked senseless by some one with a club. He lay on the ground unconscious for twenty minutes, and when he revived half the building was in flames. He awakened the sleepers in the building and some one rushed to the alarm box a half mile away and pulled it, neglecting to sound the alarm from the box located at the entrance of the grounds. This caused a delay of an hour in the arrival of the fire department. When it did come it could do nothing beyond saving the adjacent buildings from being destroyed. Eight men who were sleeping in the building barely escaped with their lives, and one who was sick was dragged off his bed and out into the air. Most of the elephants, which had been let loose, had been caroled. The rhinoceros was taken out of the building, but was burned and cut both by getting out of his cage and by the crowd who seemed possessed to kill all the animals which came out of the building. Only the cat animals were burned, the monkeys and others being in the other buildings. Many of the idols which were exhibited with the show were burned. The cries of the burning animals were heartrending. At 12 o'clock the building was a heap of ruins. Three elephants—Samson, Jim and Burt—perished in the flames. Hundreds of animals, including elephants, lions, tigers, leopards, camels and horses were liberated or else broke loose, and for hours a tremendous uproar ensued. Several persons were picked up in the streets by the infuriated elephants and tossed all around. A detail of police pursued a roaring lion and put six or seven bullets into his hide, but with no perceptible result. He was killed later.

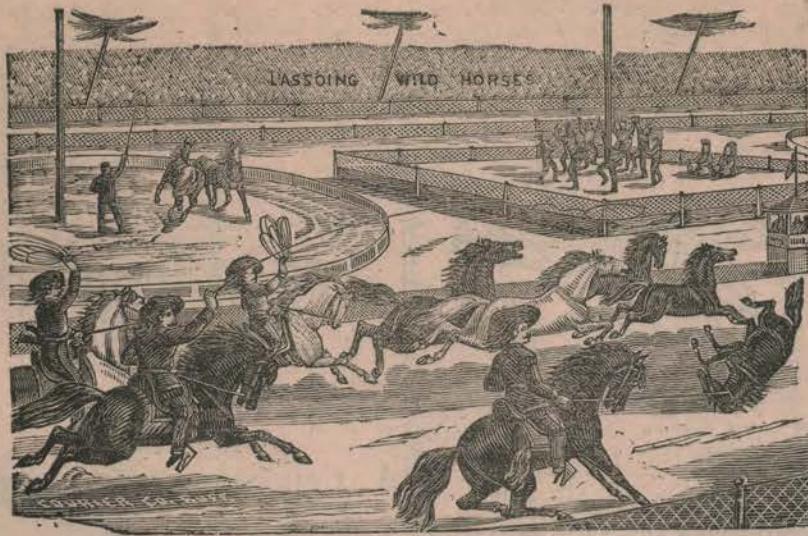
Among the animals destroyed were four elephants, among them the sacred white elephant, five lions, seven leopards, six panthers, four kangaroos, six horses and a large number of smaller beasts. One of the larger elephants escaped and this morning was found drowned in the sound near the light house, where he had gone in his fright. Bailey said this morning that \$100,000 would probably cover the loss; fully insured. The lost animals and all the paraphernalia destroyed would be replaced as soon as possible, and the fire would not interfere with next season's show. The building was 600x200 feet and two stories in height. The origin of the fire is still a mystery, but the general opinion of those connected with the winter quarters is that it was the work of an incendiary.

King, Burke & Co.'s

GREAT AMERICAN

Allied Shows Museum and Trained Animal Exposition,

Combined with the Great Wild West.



Will Exhibit at Keokuk, bet. 8th and 9th Sts. two days only.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, MAY 12th and 13th.

An extraordinary convocation of skilled Aremic talent associated with an attractive display of Living and Natural Wonders, and an Exhibition of the most Wonderfully Educated Animals in existence. Acceptably presenting a Canvas Entertainment of Fresh Features in a new and pleasing form. And Tribes of Indians and Cow Boys, giving an exhibition of life on the Plains.

Remember One Ticket Admits to Both Pavilions Admission only 10cts

DOORS OPEN AT 1 and 7 P. M. DAILY. MAY 11, 1887.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

WARWICK & RANSON,
PUBLISHERS.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1883

The True Inwardness of the Circus Lemonade.

"If I give it away how we make some of that lemonade I am afraid it will hurt our sales, but it's a fact that the public ought to know something about it. Do you know what it costs us to make a barrel—forty-four gallons of lemonade? Just \$2.25. It makes 450 glasses, which bring us \$22.50, giving us \$20.25 profit. On a good day we will sell six barrels, which gives us \$183 profit on \$13.50 outlay. I have done as much in a single day myself. Here are the items: A dozen lemons, twenty-five cents; ten pounds of sugar, \$1.50; tartaric acid, twenty-five cents; extract of sarsaparilla or some other coloring stuff, twenty-five cents. That reduced with forty-three and a half gallons of good Lake Erie water make a forty-four gallon cask of desirable lemonade."

"But is it harmless?"

"Harmless! Why, man, the very cloth that the glasses stood on was turned as black as a coal. What must have been the condition of the stomachs after the owners had downed three or four glasses of the stuff? I would never allow a child to drink it."

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THE DAILY GATE CITY.

Entered MAY 8, 1887. is matter

KING, BURKE & CO'S ALLIED SHOWS

MUSEUM

AND

Trained Animal Exposition

COMBINED WITH THE

Great Wild West

WILL EXHIBIT AT

KEOKUK Between Eighth and Ninth Streets,

TWO DAYS ONLY

Thursday and Friday May 12 and 13.

An extraordinary convocation of skilled Aremic talent associated with an attractive display of living and natural wonders, and an exhibition of the most wonderfully educated animals in existence. Acceptably presenting canvas entertainment of fresh features in a new and pleasing form, and a tribe of Indians and cowboys giving an exhibition of life on the plains.

One Ticket Admits to Both Pavilions.

ADMISSION ONLY 10 CENTS.

Doors Open at 1 and 7 p. m., daily.

The Daily Constitution.
SEPTEMBER 13, 1887

--Probably there is no man in the world who knows the value of judicious advertising better than the great showman, P. T. Barnum, and his remarks on the subject recently printed in his advice to young men, "How to Get Rich," are worthy the careful consideration of every business man. He says: "Be careful to advertise in some shape or other, because it is evident that if a man has ever so good an article for sale and nobody knows of it, it will bring him no return. The whole philosophy of life is, first sow, then reap. This principle applies to all kinds of business, and to nothing more eminently than to advertising. If a man has a really good article, there is no way in which he can reap more advantageously than by 'sowing' to the public in this way. If a man has goods for sale and he doesn't advertise them, the chances are that some day the sheriff will do it for him." Every business man should cut these remarks out and paste them in his hat. They indicate probably more clearly than anything else the secret of the great showman's success.

Daily Constitution.

JANUARY 26, 1885.

The Famous Showman.

[Exchange.]

P. T. Barnum is now 71 years old. He has gone through a wider variety of employment than any other man on record, the range including the sale of lottery tickets, keeping an oyster saloon, editing a paper, tending bar, negro melodist, boarding-house keeper, book canvasser, making bears' grease, Bohemian dramatic critic, preacher, bank president, author, partner in clock factory, Jenny Lind concert manager, museum proprietor, and last of all, traveling showman. He is worth about \$3,000,000.

THE KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY AND CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT

Christy's Find Security on Wire

Buy Building and Billiard Hall With Proceeds From Act

BY ELSIE KELLY

"Life is an accident," Ralph Christy told me leaning across the show case in his billiard room on Main street. "It's like throwing so many corks into a brook. Some flow down stream into the ocean, others become caught between stones, are waterlogged or are otherwise prevented from reaching the sea. That's the way I figure it is with human beings."

Christy, who lives up over 316 Main street and runs a billiard room downstairs, owns the entire building. It wasn't just incidental. He planned it that way when he and his wife and daughter, Mary Lou, were traveling around the country as vaudeville artists.

Born in Nauvoo.

"The stage is for youth," Christy asserted. "I want security for my family and myself, when my wife and I can no longer handle the act."

Ralph Christy was born across the river in Nauvoo 49 years ago. Today he doesn't look more than 39, and says he owes his youthful appearance and good health to the fact he has always taken care of himself. "I don't drink or smoke," he explained. "It doesn't get you any place and only puts lines in your face."

Christy's people have been farmers as far back as he can remember. Ralph didn't want to get any nearer corn than a cob on a plate and as for wheat or grain, he could take it or leave it alone. Finally he left it alone entirely to become a traveling boxer.

Juggled as Youth.

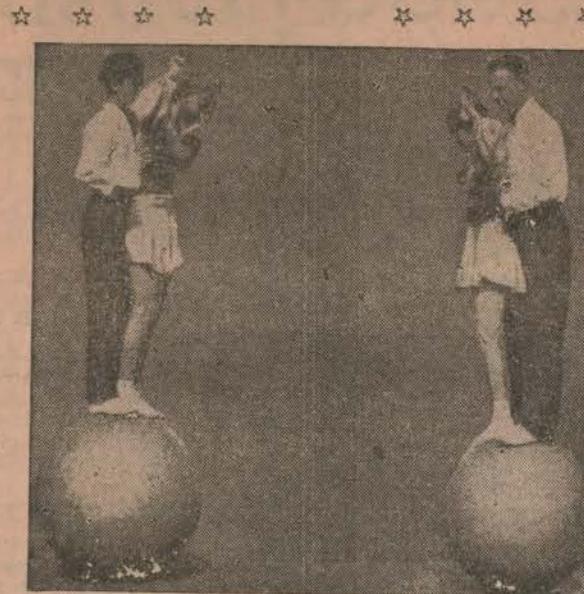
This was his entry into the theatrical profession. Through the back door, perhaps, but it wasn't long before he rose to prominence by owning his own act.

On his father's farm he had amused himself by juggling balls, stones and other odds and ends, balancing chairs and practicing slight of hand was also part of his routine. His first job was to grunt and groan in a wrestling match or make the leather smack convincingly in a square ring.

Later Christy landed a job with a small circus, wrestling and boxing in the concert after-show. Soon he had a chance to do a juggling and balancing act on the regular circus program, then, his ambition properly whetted, he began practicing the tight wire and before long was well on his way as an individual tight wire performer.

Married in Oklahoma.

While he was playing in Texas Cupid joined up with the act in the



Raymond Gilpin, Mary Lou Christy with Sylvia and Ralph Christy on the "Rollie Rollie" an act originated by Mr. Christy.



MONDAY, OCT. 6, 1947

Mary Lou Christy, daughter of Ralph and Sylvia Christy, performing on the tight wire. Mary Lou appears in her parent's act during weekends and on school vacations.

person of Miss Sylvia Alderfer, of Peru, Ind., another performer who had been born on a circus lot. They were married sometime later in Oklahoma.

Mrs. Christy's act was a rolling globe affair. "She gets inside a large ball and by movements of her body rolls it along," her husband explained. "She does a good slack wire act and many show people consider her the best of the lady globe artists."

It was the birth of Mary Lou, their only child, at the Graham hospital, Keokuk, that made the Christy's realize the full and complete meaning of home sweet home. It was all right for them, a couple of kids running here, there and everywhere, but with a baby, that was something different. Ralph and Sylvia put on their thinking caps.

When Mary Lou arrived in the spring of 1931. Daddy had established himself in business to make sure there would be plenty of boots for the baby.

Show During Summer.

Until it became time for her to go to school the Christy's continued their professional engagements on the side, but now they only play during summer vacations and near home on week ends. Mary Lou is a junior in the Senior high school and is a very important part of the act, but her schooling comes first.

Also appearing with the Christy family is a talented Keokuk boy, Raymond Gilpin, to whom Christy has taught his routine in tight wire walking and how to handle himself on the Rollie Bollie. Raymond has

now been in the act three years and is a good performer, Christy says.

"I originated the Rollie Bollie," Christy said, "but I am too old to take the tumbles you have to take while learning a new trick. I taught it to the kids.... Mary and Raymond.... and caught them when they fell off the ball," he explained.

Can Act in High Wind.

Christy's routine consists of fast runs, high jumps, double tricks and sensational balancing with and without the use of an umbrella. He always carried extra rigging and can do a complete act in a high wind.

While balancing on the globe, the Christy's jump rope, come down stair steps, do passing juggling, juggle balls, Indian clubs, climb a ladder and walk in a hoop.

The Great Fussner who was in Keokuk recently with the street fair, is a friend of the Christy's and while he was in town they all went into a huddle discussing old times on the road.

But even the smell of grease paint couldn't lure the Christy's back to the ring permanently; there is Mary Lou and the billiard business to consider....there is a future to be made secure.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

MAY 22, 1885.

HOW A CIRCUS IS RUN.

The "General" of the Show—Studying the Route—The Army of Employees.

[New York Herald.]

Each circus has its general. Talk to him of any city or town in the country, and the thought immediately occurs to him: "Ah, yes; a town of \$2,000 [\$5,000, \$10,000 or \$12,000, as the case may be] profit." He knows almost to a unit the population and how much can be made out of it. He knows also the character of the inhabitants, and he is acquainted thoroughly with the railroad and other facilities for getting into the place. He maps out the route at the beginning of the season, of course changing it as much as possible every year. There are twenty-four advance agents, who follow each other in regular rotation. They look after the advertising, the provender for the animals, the lodgings, and contracts of various kinds. These agents are provided with checks. They give checks on the show for the amounts contracted for. The treasurer takes up and pays the checks so that when the show arrives it has no trouble in any direction. It has happened a few times that the firm has been swindled, but it never refuses to honor a check, "to keep up the credit of the circus." Not one of the great exchanges in New York is better posted as to the monetary condition of any town or city than the managers of the circus. The circus managers well know it is useless going into a place where there is much commercial depression. The characteristics of a town are studied before going into it. For instance, it is known when the miners of Pittsburg are paid off, and right on top of the event, comes the "show." It very rarely happens that a miscalculation is made, but if money is lost anywhere that place is given a wide berth next season.

The weather, too, is watched almost as carefully as it is by the signal-service bureau. The circus never goes farther south than Omaha, Kansas City and St. Louis, or farther north than St. Paul, Minn. There is no money outside of those limits. The great aim of the circus is to strike fair weather everywhere. When it is extremely cold in the north the circus is enjoying the warmth of the south and the dollars of the genial southerners. When it becomes too hot in the south then it wends its way in the opposite direction. Moreover, it never attempts to compete with a cheaper entertainment. If Barnum is billed for Maryville, Miss., and a 25-cent show gets ahead of it the big circus passes on. The general knows, too, how long it is profitable to stay in a town.

The army of employees is divided into five divisions—the performers, the ring attendants, the stable and menagerie attendants, the trainmen (in circus parlance "razor-backs"), and the canvasmen. The canvasmen number 200 out of 700—a large number, but not too many to cope with the huge tent which is put up in the country. On the trains there is a special place for everything and everybody. Indeed, the trainmen could load the train almost blindfolded, the arrangements are so precise, and have been so long in smooth-working order. The canvasmen are the first to be packed off. They touch nothing until the teamsters have arrived on the ground with the canvas, and then, when the tent is up, they sit down and just watch the others "doing their bit." So it is with the train men when they have loaded or unloaded the cars they will not put a hand to anything else, and perhaps if they did they would be only in

the way. Every employee has a special duty to perform and does not consider himself engaged for anything outside of that.

One of the heaviest items in the expenses is the bill for advertising. The huge colored posters seen everywhere in the vicinity of the show are costly. The advertisement bill in the season averages daily \$2,700. Yet the expenditure results in a good return. The salaries vary all the way from \$10 to \$500 a week. What! a circus performer with an income equal to five times that of the secretary of state? "Ah, but recollect," says the circus man, "that this does not last all the year round. Recollect, too, the risks that are run. If a limb is broken then the occupation of the poor performer is gone, and if he or she has not saved enough for a rainy day poverty is the result. These high priced performers, also have to engage others to assist them, and sometimes the engagement of quite a family. The stars provide their own costumes and apparatus."

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 25, 1885.

CIRCUS APPRENTICES.

Ella Zoyara's Mishaps—The Sad Fate of
Billy Morgan, the Famous Hurdle
Jumper.

"There are no circus apprentices nowadays," said W. D. Hutchinson of Barnum's show; "circus proprietors get their talent ready-made, and only want the best. The old way of training for the ring was by an apprenticeship of seldom less than six years. One of the best old-time trainers was Levi J. North, who was in his prime about 1840. At that time circus people were not brought up to do any particular act. A good man was supposed to be able to do everything, to be as good an acrobat as a juggler, or as clever a clown as a bareback rider. The boy apprentice would usually commence by learning to ride a pair of ponies. The method of teaching boys to be bareback riders was almost the same in those days as at the present time. They were first put to work on a 'mechanic,' which consists of a pole set in the middle of a sawdust ring, with a high arm, over which ran a rope. The end of the rope was fastened to the boy's belt as he stood on the horse, and the instructor held the other. As the horse galloped around the ring the pole and arm revolved. If the pupil slipped from the horse's back, he was saved a fall by the rope fastened to his belt. They were made to practice three or four hours a day.

"Levi North's circus performers were made up principally of apprentices, and North himself was a performer in the ring. For practicing on the road where no 'mechanic' could be erected a short rope was tied to the pupil's belt and fastened to a ring in the saddle. This prevented him from falling to the ground. The old gymnasts always had the youngsters with them learning, but in these times gymnasts come from the city gymnasiums, or learned their business in the barn-lofts of the old homestead. Sometimes a performer finds a smart boy, teaches him during the winter, and the next season brings him out in a 'brother' or combination act. There are two large schools for circus riders and gymnasts in the East. One is kept near Paterson, N. J., by J. Eaton Stone, one of the best known of the old riders, and the other by James Cook, an Englishman, who came to this country with L.

B. Lent. They were first established for the use of members of the profession who wished to add new features to their acts or to keep themselves in training during the winter."

"Did the women riders serve apprenticeship?"

"Well, no—that is, not in this country, for most of our riders are foreigners. Yet some of the best and most daring horsewomen we have ever had in the ring were American girls. Alice Lake, who captivated the whole country about 1860 by her riding, was the daughter of 'Bill' and Agnes Lake, of Robinson & Lake's circus. She was taught to ride from infancy, and what she did not know about a circus was not worth knowing, as her father was a clown and her mother a slack-wire performer. In the height of her successes her death startled the professional world.

"Crossing Lake Pontchartrain on a steamboat with her husband and a crowd of friends one day she leaned over the rail watching the water, when a large diamond cross valued at thousands of dollars became detached from about her throat and fell overboard. She clutched for it, lost her balance, fell, and was never again seen.

"Rose and Sally Stickney were great women riders twenty years ago; they served a sort of apprenticeship to Sam Stickney, the rider and general performer. Rose Madigan, another good rider of that time, was also a pupil of her father. One of the pet stories of the old-time circus men is that told about the famous bareback rider, Ella Zoyara, who appeared in this country about 1860 with S. Q. Stokes, an old-time showman. In New York Zoyara's daring riding aroused great enthusiasm. She did things on horseback that no woman had ever yet attempted, and as she was very pretty and of splendid physique she soon had hundreds of admirers. She began a tour of the country, but had not gone far before she met with an accident. It was trivial in nature, but most alarming in its results, for in half an hour the whole show knew that Ella Zoyara, the beautiful woman rider, was—a man! It was afterward found out that her proper name was Omar Kingsley, an American lad. Kingsley afterward married Sally Stickney, the rider, and died in India.

"All the great riders served apprenticeship in their younger days. Jim Robinson, who was famous in 1850 as a bareback rider, served under his father, John Robinson; Bob Stickney, who was a favorite in 1857, was taught by his father, Sam Stickney; 'Billy' Morgan, who was with the European Circus as late as 1873 and who astonished people by his daring hurdle jumping, was another of the old-time apprentice boys. He was murdered by robbers last winter in Texas. Charles W. Fish, one of the finest of modern riders, was apprenticed to Charles Rogers, of the old circus firm of Spaulding & Rogers, and William Dutton served his apprenticeship with 'Bill' Lake."

Eugene Robinson's

3--Floating Palaces--3

MUSEUM, EXPOSITION OF WONDERS AND GRAND OPERA HOUSE

KEOKUK, IOWA,

TWO DAYS ONLY,

Monday and Tuesday, June 17, 18.

HUMAN-FACED THE ONLY LIVING MERMAID!

CHICKEN JUMBO!

A mountain of flesh; heaviest man on earth
weighing 749 pounds.

THE ONLY FIVE-LEGGED COW!

One of nature's strangest freaks.

THE SMALLEST LADY LIVING!

THE HUMAN VOLCANO!

And hosts of nature's strangest works in both the
human and animal kingdom.

Two separate and distinct shows in our

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
Presenting a Select Company of Specialty Stars and a
company of Comeoians in the side-splitting
Comedy in two acts, entitled

"MULDOON'S PICNIC."

The Funniest of all Funny Comedies.

ADMISSION, 50c.
Children under 12 years, 25c.

AFTERNOON at 1 o'clock. EVENING at 7 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1889.

EUGENE ROBINSON'S 3 FLOATING PALACES 3

MUSEUM, EXPOSITION OF WONDERS AND GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

Two Days Only Monday and Tuesday, June 17

Afternoon and Evening.

The Only Living Mermaid

Jumbo, A mountain of Flesh the Heaviest Man on earth. Weight 749 lbs

THE ONLY 5-LEGGED COW, One of Nature's Strangest Freaks.

The Smallest Lady LIVING.

The Human Volcano!

And a Host of Nature's Strangest
Works in both the Human
and Animal Kingdom.

Two Separate and Distinct Shows
IN OUR

Grand Opera House

PRESENTING A

A Select Company of Specialty Stars and a Company
of Comedians

In the Side-Splitting Comedy in Two Acts, entitled,

MULDOON'S PIC-NIC.

The Funniest of all Funny Comedies.

ADMISSION, 50c.

CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS, 25c.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 18, 1889

Entered in Keokuk postoffice as second class matter.

THE FLOATING PALACES.

Eugene Robinson's Museum and Opera
House—A Fine Exhibition Worthy of
Patronage.

An innovation in the amusement business and a successful one is the floating palaces of Eugene Robinson, in which two entertaining and meritorious exhibitions were given yesterday and will be repeated to-day with a change of program. These entertainments, which are an instructive and popular form of public amusement, are given on two commodious covered barges, designated palaces, which are 50 by 150 feet in dimensions. In one of these is the museum and the other an attractive and handsomely decorated opera house with a seating capacity of one thousand and supplied with all stage facilities and theater accommodations. Its appointments were so perfect and convenient as to elicit complimentary references, not the least among which is the incandescent electric light with which both opera house and museum are illuminated. In the later were exhibited an endless array of curious things from every clime, rare birds and animals, a monster fat man, Jennie Quigley, the well-known midget, and several scientific illusions which seemed to puzzle all observers. Among the latter was the three headed lady, the appearance and disappearance of a "live mermaid" and the invisible lady, with whom a conversation is carried on and who answers all questions asked by speaking through tubes concentrating in a hollow-copper sphere, forming an admirable study in acoustics. The museum is stored with novelties of every conceivable description and is certainly worthy of patronage. Last night the theater on the water was crowded and the audience greatly enjoyed the entertainment, which was introduced with Prof. Horn's troupe of performing birds, a most wonderful exhibition which has no superior. Moletamo gave an excellent lightning gun drill and performed the feat of ascending a ladder of sharp edged swords. Miss Jennie Quinley, the midget, won loud applause by her singing. Professor Simonds gave a splendid exhibition of the art of ventriloquism and Fanny Gray in several popular songs made a favorable impression. Sig. Verona's manipulation with fire and flame, in which he applied principles of chemistry, was as good an exhibit in that line as has been witnessed. The entertainment was concluded with Muldoon's Picnic, a two-act farce company, in which Thomas Murray and Steve Malley and a competent cast participated. The stage is supplied with new and attractive scenery and the farce was presented with all opera house accessories.

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This afternoon and evening the enter-
tainment, which commands itself, will
be repeated. W. V. Wall is the busi-
ness manager, who enforces the strict-
est order and requires considerate at-
tention from every employee.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED IOWA?
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA.

BEHOLD THE CONQUERING HERO COMES.
FOREPAUGH'S 6 CONSOLIDATED SHOWS!
 UNITED WITH THE GREAT
REMODELED WILD WEST SHOW.



And CUSTER BATTLE ADDED.

OPEN OUT THE STREETS! MAKE WIDE THE THOROUGHFARES! LENGTHEN THE BORDERS! STRENGTHEN THE STAKES! BEHOLD, ADAM AND

THE PRINCE OF THE HOUSE OF ADAM COMETH!

After the most brilliant and remarkable conquest ever known in the Sawdust Annals of the Spectacular World, Philadelphia's native citizens, father and son, will make their triumphal entrance into the city of

KEOKUK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
 WITH THREE TIMES THE GREATEST ON EARTH.

A Gorgeous Novel Street Pageant, compared with which all former efforts pale and glimmer with a feeble and uncertain light will take place on Monday at 10 o'clock, the route of which will be published hereafter. You may tell it in New York, publish it in Gath and in the streets of Eschalon. Proclaim it from the house-tops and send the joyous news to the uttermost parts of the earth! ... modern Caesar greater in his line than Julius (?), has crossed the Metropolitan Ruin! Rome has caught the spirit of the laconic military message. Multitudes at home and abroad have gathered the inspiration. A million Metropolitan visitors during nineteen weeks in New York will endorse the verdict. VENI. VIDI. VICI!

But what about the show! At the fall of Vicksburg the public did not ask how Grant's soldiers looked, or his commissariat held out. He got there! Enough to know! When Sherman marched to the sea the backbone of the Confederacy was broken. Hail Columbia! Neither night nor Blucher came, but a Waterloo! From that day the Star of Napoleon's Empire began to set. Good night, spirits! Requiescat in pace! How was the victory won? 'Twas simple as twice told tale. The elephants did it. The horses did it. The brilliant equestrian and acrobatic stars did it. The animals did it. The hippodrome did it. The Blondin horse did it. Picanniny did it. John L. Sullivan, the Pugilistic Elephant, did it. He completely knocked them all out! The Quadrille Elephants did it. Even Jack, the Sumersau's Dog, did it, winning the loudest applause, next to the elephants, ever received by any single feature, and yet he is among the least of Adam Forepaugh's great novel attractions! In a word, all the grand aggregated attractions of the Forepaugh Show, the equal of which a million of New York people will tell you candidly were never before exhibited by any show on earth, did it. If only Circus, Hippodrome, Menagerie, Tamed Animals, in New York, could do this thing, what may not they expect when they see added to these Forepaugh's remodeled

WILD WEST SHOW

Grander and more sensational than Buffalo Bill ever dreamed of in his frontier philosophy since the GREAT CUSTER BATTLE DISPLAY has been added at a cost of \$800.00 which will be reproduced to the life at each and every performance and appear grander than in New York. ADAM, JR.'S first appearance

IN HIS GREAT 30-HORSE ACT.

The Climax of Multiplied Horsemanship.

M. XAVIER ORLOFSKI and CHAS. WALSH, late of the Prussian and Bavarian Cavalry and the Black Hussars, in a Broad Sword Combat on Horseback. The famous Emigrant Wagon, 141 years old, which represents a 'prairie schooner' of the olden time, built in Lancaster, Pa., exhibited at the Centennial and at the Cotton Exposition, New Orleans, has been purchased by Mr. Forepaugh. It will appear for the first time in the great parade. Also, a historic harness, used by President Buchanan when a boy, and by his grandfather before him. Age of harness not fully known. Will be seen on the horses drawing the venerable old relic. In fact, thousands of Brand New Things will be seen absolutely for the first time in

FOREPAUGH'S GREAT SHOW.

For full particulars see bills, programs, magazines, scattered everywhere by the million. Two Grand, Full, Thorough and Complete performances every day at 2 and 8 p.m. Doors open at 1 and 7 p.m.

ADMISSION 50 cents. Children under nine years, 25 cents. 20,000 Seats.

Reserved Numbered Chairs Extra.

For the accommodation of the public who desire to avoid the crowds on the ground. Reserved Seats can be secured at E. E. Fuller & Son's Drug Store, Sixth and Main streets, on the day of exhibition, at the usual slight advance. Excursion trains and boats on all routes at reduced prices.

THE DAILY GATE CITY:
 SEPTEMBER 13, 1887.

FOREPAUGH, THE FAVORITE.

A Large Crowd of Strangers in the City to EAT
 Attend the Circus—The Parade and Performance.

Visitation of a circus of such magnitude and proportions as Forepaugh's is invariably the occasion, in Keokuk at least, for the influx of hundreds of strangers. The show yesterday attracted a mammoth crowd from various points in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois and the surrounding country. The stir visible in the early morning, the continuous arrival of wagons and buggies laden with delegations from the agricultural districts betokened the propinquity of an event of general public interest. When 10 o'clock had arrived Main street as far out as Tenth was blocked with people and human locomotion upon the pavements was fraught with discomfort and the attendant danger of personal collision with a hurrying humanity that had nothing in its mind save the circus. Probably the largest number of people came from points along the Keokuk and Western railway, over which arrived an unusually large excursion train.

General satisfaction was expressed with the parade, which more than met public anticipation and was one of the most interesting and attractive pageants of its character that has been witnessed in Keokuk for a number of years. It was headed by a most excellent band of music, while a steam caliope that dispensed stentorian blasts of melody, to the delight and edification of the small boy, completed it. Many of the animal dens were in the parade, and the more interesting of the wild beasts were displayed to public view. A unique feature was the Wild West Show, containing a cow boy band, genuine Indians, scouts, sharpshooters and a squad of men in army uniform, intended to represent Custer's command. Another original feature in the parade was a genuine old "prairie schooner," which were seen in this country many years ago. The various floats, intended to represent the magnificence and glory of ancient times, are of exquisite construction and workmanship, and contributed to the splendor of the pageant.

THE PERFORMANCE.

Forepaugh's huge canvass was spread on the grounds near Rand park. When 2 o'clock, the hour for the commencement of the performance, arrived the main pavilion was crowded with an audience estimated at eight thousand people, representing various nationalities, all political and religious creeds, all stations in life and previous conditions of servitude. The circus is the great common leveler of rank. The man who comes first gets the best seat

—unless the belated arrival has twenty-five cents to pay for a reserved seat. Forepaugh reverses the order of things most circus patrons are accustomed to by introducing the program with the illustration of wild western life, which is sometimes if not generally reserved for the finale. These events are invariably represented as "most realistic and intensely attractive scenes" but somehow the public mind fails in the possession of an india-rubber imagination that would make delusion possible. However, Forepaugh presents as interesting a representation of western life as can be given within the limited space of a tent. Custer's last charge was depicted, together with the method of Indian warfare. Captain Bogardus, champion shot of the world, and his four sons gave an exhibition of superb marksmanship. An interesting feature was the rope walking performance by the famous horse, Blondin. Among other attractions was the turning of somersaults by a dog named Gymnastic Jack, bicycle act, horsemanship of Daisy Bellmont, and the aerial leaps and somersault plunges by two athletes. There were three tumblers who gave a performance that was extraordinary and is one of the best ever witnessed in Keokuk. M'le Tournaire, the equalibriste, performed a balancing feat on the swinging trapeze that seemed to defy the law of gravitation. Without holding to the ropes she gyrated in a circle. Calcedo is probably the most expert high wire performer in this country. His feat is marvelous but was not completed at the afternoon performance owing to the breaking of a pole which sustained the wire. A wonderful exhibition of horsemanship was the driving of thirty-one horses by Adam Forepaugh, Jr., which elicited much admiration. The hippodrome races towards the conclusion of the entertainment seemed to be appreciated and excite much interest. It is an athletic and equestrian exhibition of high standard and uniform excellence. The attendance in the evening was not so large as in the afternoon, but still the tent was crowded.

NOTES.

Forepaugh will remain in the east next season.

Forepaugh has a side-show and museum that is well worth ten cents, the price of admission. The principal attraction is three leopard children from the Congo region in central Africa. Their skin is spotted and above their forehead grows a quantity of wool, which they shed each year. They are intelligent and have been taught to read, write and cipher.

The press agent stated that Forepaugh would never visit Quincy again because of light patronage and the

treatment received from the press in that city.

Juan Calcedo, who gave the wire walking performance, leaves in a few weeks for Berlin, Germany, where he fills an engagement in a theatre during the winter.

The first announcement at the afternoon performance was: "Fans and lemonade will be sold for five cents each. If any in the audience are charged more report it to Adam Forepaugh at the front door."

The snake charmer in the side-show is a charmer of men as well as serpents. She is a lady of surpassing loveliness and exquisitely moulded form. She is the daughter of a Minnesota farmer and has been in the show business only two years.

The Daily Constitution
KEOKUK CONSTITUTION CO.

MAY 11, 1887.

KING, BURKE & CO.'S

Great American

Allied Shows

MUSEUM

—AND—

TRAINED ANIMAL EXPOSITION,

Embodying the greatest variety of attractive recreation of any American Combination on the road will exhibit at

KEOKUK

TWO DAYS ONLY

MAY 12th & 13th

An Extraordinary Convocation of

SKILLED ARENIC TALENT

Associated with an attractive display of LIVING AND NATURAL WONDERS, and an exhibition of the most Wonderfully Educated Animals in existence. Acceptably presenting a Canvas Entertainment of Fresh Features in a new and pleasing form.

Prof. WEBBER'S Silver Cornet Band will parade just previous to the afternoon exhibition in their beautiful Chariot throughout the principal streets.

—REMEMBER—

One Ticket Admits to Both Pavilions
Admission only 10 Cts.

Doors Open at 1 and 7 P. M. Daily

KING, BURKE AND CO.'S CIRCUS.

King, Burke & Co.'s circus will arrive here to-morrow and will give exhibitions that day and Friday, commencing at 2 p. m. and 8 p. m., on the square bounded by Eighth, Ninth, Concert and High streets. The Quincy *Whig* of yesterday says: "King, Burke & Co.'s circus gave their first performances yesterday after-

noon and evening. This show though cheap—only ten cents—is one of the best on the road. The old chestnuts of the ordinary shows are omitted, and in their stead we find a series of really good performances, many of them entirely new. There is nothing vulgar to be seen, or anything that can in any way offend the most refined. Yesterday afternoon the tents would not begin to hold the people who wanted to gain admission, and those who did gain the inside of the canvas were well repaid for going."

INTER CRIMPED LEAF.
CREDITS

The Daily Constitution

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION CO.

MAY 12, 1887.

AMUSEMENTS.

KING, BURKE AND CO.'S CIRCUS.

King, Burke & Co.'s circus arrived here this morning from Quincy, where they have been playing the fore part of the week, and pitched their tents on the vacant square opposite the Concert street school building. They gave their first performance at 2 o'clock this afternoon to a large audience, the tent being filled. The performance is a very meritorious one, being equal to that given by the 50-cent shows. The performers are almost without exception artistes in their lines, and give some excellent exhibitions in ground and lofty tumbling, on the flying trapeze, slack wire, etc. The trained horses were greatly admired, and the illustrations of life on the frontier, with cow boys and Indians, were very interesting. The audience were well pleased and the performance is one well worth attending. Performances at 8 o'clock to-night and 2 and 8 p. m. to-morrow. Admission ten cents.

KEOKUK WEEKLY DEMOCRAT

TELEPHONE No. 82.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1888.

Dan Green, a side showman for many years attached to Forepaugh's circus, and who was arrested and tried here several years ago for a murderous assault on a young man named Boyd, living in the vicinity of Montrose, died at St. Louis this week and was buried there Tuesday. Green's trial was one of great interest. The circus people stuck to him closely and did every thing possible to save Green from the penitentiary. John H. Craig, of this city, defended Green and succeeded in acquitting him. The showman during his several visits to this city after the trial, always remembered Mr. Craig in kindly and courteous ways.

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Forepaugh's New Olympia!

THE MIMIC CUSTER BATTLE

And the Only Legitimate and Thoroughly

REMODELED WILD WEST!

In America, all pretences and claims to the contrary notwithstanding, making absolutely THREE TIMES THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH, will exhibit in

KEOKUK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th,

For one day only, giving two Full, Grand and Complete Entertainments, Afternoon and Night, at 2 and 8 o'clock, Doors open one hour earlier.

Pioneer Difficulties.



1881

Never before in the history of tent amusements on this continent was there a grander show, a more diversified and attractive combination of intensely interesting and instructive entertainments. Neither in the Equestrian, Zoological nor Hippodromic world will a single globe suffice the imitations of

ADAM FOREPAUGH'S MANAGERIAL AMBITION.

In his Titanic grasp a single circus, a single menagerie, a single hippodrome, becomes a mere bagatelle. He multiplies all these by Four, and then supplements a remodeled WILD WEST AND CUSTER BATTLE that pales the ineffectual fires of A VERITABLE BUFFALO BILL.

For nineteen weeks at Madison Square Garden in New York, a week in Philadelphia, and also in Baltimore, Washington, Chicago, and other cities on his way West and afterward THREE WEEKS at EBASTINA, Staten Island,

FOREPAUGH'S + GREAT + MORAL + SHOW

Has been visited not only by the masses, but by the clergy and the best families of all denominations, who have expressed themselves more than delighted with the absolute exemption from every possible feature that could offend, and greatly instructed by the

FAMOUS CUSTER BATTLE

And other vivid picturesque scenes of the WILD WEST. In Washington City the President and Cabinet, Senators, Congressmen, statesmen, military heroes, members of the diplomatic corps of every principality, and power of Europe, Asia and Africa including the Hawaiian Queen and her suite attended the Great Forepaugh Show, to their infinite satisfaction and delight.

The success everywhere is overwhelming. In every large city so anxious are the public to see it that extra police have to be called to prevent mobs breaking through the canvas.

Its movement is like a tidal wave or the tread of an army marching with banners. Every newspaper both East and West where the show has been declared it to be the culminating triumph of Adam's life, while Mr. Forepaugh stakes his professional honor and reputation upon the declaration that his present combined show is **FULLY THREE TIMES LARGER THAN EVER**. All the features of this Great Triple Circus, Double Jungle Menagerie, Rôleaux, Panoramas, Burning White Men at the Stake by Indians, with mounted soldiers and Indians in sufficient numbers to reproduce to the life the famous Custer Battle, with grandest pyrotechnic displays as climaxes.

The Great Thirty Horse Act by Adam Forepaugh, Jr.

Are brought into requisition to add to the thrillingly interesting attractions of 4-PAWS GREAT WILD WEST SHOW.

Stage Coach Robbery, the PONY EXPRESS Bucking Horses, Virginia Reel on Horseback, Indian Fights, Cowboys, Scouts, Guides, Trappers, Buffalo Hunts, Lassoing Texas Wild Steers, and thousands of other Wild West Sports, lend additional attractions to the

LARGEST AND BEST SHOW IN THE WORLD !

Admission—50 cents; Children under 9 years, 25 cents. Reserved Numbered Chairs Extra. For the accommodations of the public who desire to avoid the crowds on the grounds, reserved seats can be secured at E. E. Fuller & Son's Drug Store, Sixth and Main Street, on the day of exhibition.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

Entered at Keokuk Postoffice as second class matter.

Subscription Rates:

CORRECTING HISTORY.

The Indians Outnumbered by Five to One the White Men.

A correspondent writing from the scene of the Little Big Horn battle, where Custer and his command were slaughtered by Indians, says: "History has been corrected somewhat since that dark and bloody page was recorded, and not the least important is that the Indians outnumbered fully five to one all the white men in the country, including the different commands of Custer, Ben-teen, Reno, as well as General Terry's and General Gibbon's commands, then at the forks of the two Horn rivers, on the way up to effect a junction with the Seventh Cavalry. Had they only known it, the savages could have swept everything before them, as they were in superior force, armed with magazine rifles and fighting for their lives, although as a rule our North American aborigines have a wholesome dread of artillery, of which General Terry had one or two pieces along. Another correction should be made in the case of General Custer himself. He did not wear long, golden hair, as has been generally supposed, but had it clipped short before he left his post to take the field. He was also scalped, like all the rest, but he, being slightly bald on the crown of his head, a scalp-lock was cut from further back. The brave man died game, so every redskin admits, and set an example for courage and bravery which was followed by every soldier in his battalion. Many of the white men were sadly mutilated." A vivid representation of Custer's Last Rally will be given in Adam Forepaugh's Great Wild West, which will appear here on Monday, September 12.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1887.

CHIEF GALL'S STORY.

How He Stampeded the Horses of Custer's Command.

The story of Custer's death while old yet it is even new, because of the new incidents which invest it. Chief Gall, who had charge of one of the Indian divisions on the day of the Little Big Horn fight, recently said the main object of his young men was to stampede the horses, which carried the saddle-pockets of which each soldier had stored his ammunition. The troopers had perhaps fifty rounds apiece on their per-

Sept 9 1887

sons, but the main supply was in the saddle-bags, being entirely too heavy to carry on the body. In all, the soldiers were supplied with about two hundred rounds per man for the fight. When the cavalrymen were dismounted to fight on foot one soldier was detailed to hold every eight horses. Gall says he quickly saw the advantage to be gained could the horses, laden with ammunition, be stampeded, so he devised a plan to that end. He sent a score or two of young bucks up a ravine to the rear, and these embryo warriors, unmindful of flying lead and the danger of the job, suddenly rose up with yells and shots just in front of the horses, swung their blankets wildly in the air, and every steed in the outfit broke loose from the holders and scampered down the ravine towards the Little Horn, where they were gathered in by the squaws and old men on the wait for just what had occurred. Many of the Indians were armed with cavalry carbines and United States muskets, so this very ammunition was turned against Custer and his men, and no doubt had much to do with deciding the fortunes of the day.

In Forepaugh's Great Wild West, which will exhibit here on the 12th, the Last Rally of Custer is given with all attention to detail. It should be seen by everybody.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1887.

—Forepaugh's show was in Burlington yesterday and will be at Ottumwa to-day. Forepaugh claims he has lost several hundred thousands of dollars on account of the operation of the inter-state commerce bill and threatens to travel through the country by team next season unless there is a reduction in the exorbitant charges made for the transportation of his circus by the railways.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1887.

FOREPAUGH, THE FAVORITE.

A Large Crowd of Strangers in the City to Attend the Circus—The Parade and Performance.

Visitation of a circus of such magnitude and proportions as Forepaugh's is invariably the occasion, in Keokuk at least, for the influx of hundreds of strangers. The show yesterday attracted a mammoth crowd from various points in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois and the surrounding country. The stir visible in the early morning, the continuous arrival of wagons and buggies laden with delegations from the agricultural districts betokened the propinquity of an event of general public interest. When 10 o'clock had arrived Main

street as far out as Tenth was blocked with people and human locomotion upon the pavements was fraught with discomfort and the attendant danger of personal collision with a hurrying humanity that had nothing in its mind save the circus. Probably the largest number of people came from points along the Keokuk and Western railway, over which arrived an unusually large excursion train.

General satisfaction was expressed with the parade, which more than met public anticipation and was one of the most interesting and attractive pageants of its character that has been witnessed in Keokuk for a number of years. It was headed by a most excellent band of music, while a steam caliope that dispensed stentorian blasts of melody, to the delight and edification of the small boy, completed it. Many of the animal dens were in the parade, and the more interesting of the wild beasts were displayed to public view. A unique feature was the Wild West Show, containing a cow boy band, genuine Indians, scouts, sharpshooters and a squad of men in army uniform, intended to represent Custer's command. Another original feature in the parade was a genuine old "prairie schooner," which were seen in this country many years ago. The various floats, intended to represent the magnificence and glory of ancient times, are of exquisite construction and workmanship, and contributed to the splendor of the pageant.

THE PERFORMANCE.

Forepaugh's huge canvass was spread on the grounds near Rand park. When 2 o'clock, the hour for the commencement of the performance, arrived the main pavilion was crowded with an audience estimated at eight thousand people, representing various nationalities, all political and religious creeds, all stations in life and previous conditions of servitude. The circus is the great common leveler of rank. The man who comes first gets the best seat —unless the belated arrival has twenty-five cents to pay for a reserved seat.

Forepaugh reverses the order of things most circus patrons are accustomed to by introducing the program with the illustration of wild western life, which is sometimes if not generally reserved for the finale. These events are invariably represented as "most realistic and intensely attractive scenes" but somehow the public mind fails in the possession of an india-rubber imagination that would make delusion possible. However, Forepaugh presents as interesting a representation of western life as can be given within the limited space of a tent. Custer's last charge was depicted, together with the method of Indian warfare. Captain Bogardus, champion shot of

the world, and his four sons gave an exhibition of superb marksmanship. An interesting feature was the rope walking performance by the famous horse, Blondin. Among other attractions was the turning of somersaults by a dog named Gymnastic Jack, bicycle act, horsemanship of Daisy Bellmont, and the aerial leaps and somersault plunges by two athletes. There were three tumblers who gave a performance that was extraordinary and is one of the best ever witnessed in Keokuk. Mlle Tournaire, the equalibriste, performed a balancing feat on the swinging trapeze that seemed to defy the law of gravitation. Without holding to the ropes she gyrated in a circle. Calcedo is probably the most expert high wire performer in this country. His feat is marvelous but was not completed at the afternoon performance owing to the breaking of a pole which sustained the wire. A wonderful exhibition of horsemanship was the driving of thirty-one horses by Adam Forepaugh, Jr., which elicited much admiration. The hippodrome races towards the conclusion of the entertainment seemed to be appreciated and excite much interest. It is an athletic and equestrian exhibition of high standard and uniform excellence. The attendance in the evening was not so large as in the afternoon, but still the tent was crowded.

NOTES.

Forepaugh will remain in the east next season.

Forepaugh has a side-show and museum that is well worth ten cents, the price of admission. The principal attraction is three leopard children from the Congo region in central Africa. Their skin is spotted and above their forehead grows a quantity of wool, which they shed each year. They are intelligent and have been taught to read, write and cipher.

The press agent stated that Forepaugh would never visit Quincy again because of light patronage and the treatment received from the press in that city.

Juan Calcedo, who gave the wire walking performance, leaves in a few weeks for Berlin, Germany, where he fills an engagement in a theatre during the winter.

The first announcement at the afternoon performance was: "Fans and lemonade will be sold for five cents each. If any in the audience are charged more report it to Adam Forepaugh at the front door."

The snake charmer in the side-show is a charmer of men as well as serpents. She is a lady of surpassing loveliness and exquisitely moulded form. She is the daughter of a Minnesota farmer and has been in the show business only two years.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1887.

It is the Greatest.

In speaking of Adam Forepaugh's great show, and Wild West, which will appear here on the 12th, the New York Times says:

"There isn't a shadow of a doubt that the 'greatest show on earth' may now be seen at Madison Square Garden. It comprises Adam Forepaugh's circus, menagerie, hippodrome, and trained animal paradox. This aggregation began, last evening, a metropolitan season of from four to six weeks. The performance was given with remarkable smoothness and without accident. The audience was fully up to the capacity of the big amphitheater, and one of the most representative ever gathered under the spacious roof. Many gentlemen in the boxes were in evening dress, and the ladies were radiant with diamonds and flowers. It was a most appreciative audience, and heartily applauded the numerous displays. Even the veteran Forepaugh himself occupied a front box, and seemed to enjoy the whole show with all the earnestness and enthusiasm of a yokel. His face beamed with pride and satisfaction."

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1887.

FOREPAUGH IS HERE.

The Procession To-Day a Fitting Prelude to a Splendid Performance.

This morning Forepaugh's procession wound its way through the principal streets, a moving display of brilliant and interesting features such as are rarely to be seen—a street display that, we believe, has been equalled but two or three times in ten years and which probably has never been exceeded in attractiveness. It was proof that the company has not been shorn of its good parts even in a season not prosperous for that business. The gorgeous cars, picturing ancient glory, and luxury, the splendid specimens of the wild animal kingdom, the more wonderful inhabitants of the sea and air, the perfect specimens of cowboyism, genuine Indians, the old time stage coach, and ark of the desert, the soldiers of the plains, three bands of music, etc., etc., made up a grand caravan of splendor that was seen by many thousand people. It was a magnificent parade, and the show is equally good—we promise this in good faith to our readers.

The spread of canvas made by the Forepaugh show surpasses in extent that of any ever before put up by a tent exhibition in this city. The show arrived here Sunday afternoon, and at once pro-

ceeded with the work of getting ready for the performances to be given to-day. Notwithstanding, the fact that the walks and streets were not in the best condition for pedestrians and driving, nearly the entire population visited the showgrounds during the afternoon and were considerably interested in the work of preparation. The railroad equipment of this show is of the very best, and is of itself worthy inspection.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1887.

THE FOREPAUGH SHOW.

A Good Exhibition Handicapped by a Tongue Crowd of Hangers-on.

The Forepaugh show exhibited here Monday afternoon and evening to crowds that lacked considerable of filling the tents at either performance and at neither exhibition did they have up their full equipment for seating large crowds. The performances given in the rings and on the elevated platform were creditable. The attendance at both performances was mainly made up of city people, the country folks not being nearly as well represented as is usual upon the appearance of the larger circus organizations in this city, and the rural representation was not one-fourth as large as upon the appearance of the Barnum show here one year ago. The truth of the matter is, that while the old Philadelphian has considerable of a concern it isn't a Barnum show yet by a considerable majority, and the name of Forepaugh will never have the draught with the country people that Barnum's has.

ABOUT THE GROUNDS.

It was very kind of Mr. Forepaugh to announce the price of fans and lemonade, but there are a great many people who attended his performances Monday who would have a keener appreciation of his kindness if he had stationed a man at the entrance to the show grounds whose duty it would have been to direct them to the ticket wagon and not have allowed them to fall victims to the sharks who worked the "all through" and "best seat tickets" racket on them. The pair who worked this scheme were insulting to an extended degree. They were given the best location on the grounds and furnished with one of the circus wagons to work alongside of; this giving their operations the appearance of being authorized by the management. Those people who gave this precious pair the exact amount of change would be asked for an additional ten cents for each ticket wanted. If they protested their money

was handed back, but those who handed them more than the price of the ticket or tickets wanted had the extra ten cents held out on them and kick as hard as they might they could not cause the rascals to disgorge. It looks like a petty swindle, but it counts up many dollars for the management every day in the week.

Forepaugh ought to place a muzzle over the mouth of the young man who makes the announcements during the Wild West performance. His slaughter of the English language is far more frightful than the mimic representation of the Custer massacre to which he calls the attention of the public. While he juggles with the parts of speech in a way which shows that he has no regard whatever for the manner in which they shall fall upon the audiences at which he tosses them these slips might be endured, but such breaks as "realistic" for realistic, "calvary" for cavalry and "attacked" for attacked are considerably too elastic to be overlooked.

While there were no burglaries or jobs of any kind done in this city while the Forepaugh show was here the police say that the city was visited by the toughest gang that ever struck the town on circus day. As fast as they put in an appearance the officers would interview the gentry and when the answer came that they belonged to the circus they were admonished to get out to the circus grounds as quickly as possible and unless they wished to sojourn within prison walls during the stay of the circus here they had better remain right close to the concern with which they claimed to belong.

Forepaugh has about him some of the relics of a past that is dead and gone and these antediluvian fossils, who are in all probability pensioners upon the old showman's bounty, imagine that the show could not get along without them. At least this is the impression an outsider would glean from the conceited airs and bombastic talk indulged in by several men claiming to be representatives of the great showman. Forepaugh can certainly not hope to gain anything by having such men come in contact with the newspaper men of this country. One of them visited this office Monday and after informing us that "what he said with the Forepaugh show goes" and that he "did almost everything with the show but appear in the ring" wanted to know what had been said about thieves with the Forepaugh show. He was furnished the information desired and was about to work himself into a paroxysm of wrath when he was told what the city

police had said about the gang. Then he turned his attention for a few brief moments from the newspapers to the police and proceeded to heap abuse upon the force. No men who ever visited this section in advance of a circus have been accorded such rough treatment by the press as Forepaugh's representatives and the show has suffered by reason thereof. The conceit and pomposity of "have beens" who take advantage of their connection with a vast concern to strut and swagger in the belief that they are of some importance will not serve to strengthen the relations between Forepaugh and the press, which has done much to establish the reputation the Philadelphia showman now enjoys. It is an easier matter to unmake a man in the amusement profession than to build him up.

—Some of the Kickapoo Indians of the free exhibition, which has been showing here for several days, accosted some young ladies as they were passing along the street near the grounds and the matter was promptly reported to the authorities. The consequences is that the license to show has been revoked, and there is not likely to be any more free exhibitions given in the city by this combination.

—When Sells Bros. were at Clinton with their show, some of the cowboys in it did some shooting that was a little too real. Several persons in the audience were shot. Suits have been brought in Clinton against Sells Bros., by the administrator of Wallace T. Phillips, who died from his wound, and the guardian of George Harrington, the young man who is paralyzed and helpless from his wound received at the circus. The damages claimed in each case are \$15,000.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

OCTOBER 28, 1887.

—Miss Grace Coulton, the trapeze performer of the United States circus, who came to Keokuk and met an uncle that she had not seen for seventeen years and then wedded a young man named Moehn, who was a member of the show, formerly resided in Mt. Pleasant. She ran away from her home in that city about four years ago, having been seized with the stage fever. She went to Burlington, where the Lights O' London company was appearing and made application to the manager of the combination for an engagement. She was not successful at that time and nothing further was heard of her by the public until she became a circus performer. Her correct name before marriage was Talbot.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

NOVEMBER 11, 1887.

A WICKED ELEPHANT.

PLEASURES OF RAILWAY TRAVEL WITH A VICIOUS BRUTE.

Locked in a Close Car at Night With an Elephant in One Corner and a Drunken Keeper in Another—Lively Times—Put Not Your Trust in Elephants.

"During the time I was with Forepaugh's circus," says James Twitchell, Buffalo Bill's late manager of the London "Wild West Show," "I took part in some exhibitions that were not down on the bills. One in particular I shall not be likely to forget. The show disbanded at Chicago; Bamboo, the trick elephant, was leased to the Kiralfy brothers, who were about to open their season in Boston. Bamboo had established a name for himself as a savage, treacherous brute, who had killed and maimed at least a dozen men. He had a keeper who was in the habit of becoming and remaining drunk. I hadn't much idea of the dangerous character of the journey until we were perhaps a hundred miles out of Chicago. The bottom of the car was thickly littered with hay, in which Bamboo, the keeper and myself were to sleep together. The keeper's bottle was one of my earliest discoveries and discouragements. The novelty of the situation kept me awake pretty much all the first night out, and it was with some dismay that I discovered that the keeper was hopelessly drunk, snoring in the hay. That I would not have minded had Bamboo only kept quiet. But he didn't and wouldn't, and that first night, before I had become in the least accustomed to the situation, was simply a night of horrors. In the still hours of that night, with the train rushing along at the rate of thirty miles an hour, I would at short intervals hear a muffled snort from the monster at the other end of the car, and then feel a gigantic foot shoving against me, or the end of his trunk passing inquisitively over my face. Then I would jump up and yell to the keeper, with energetic kicks to emphasize my remarks.

"Here, you—wake up! That infernal elephant is going to trample us to death!"

"The drunken keeper would get to his feet, swear, give Bamboo an unmerciful prodding with his fork, the great brute would lie down and cry, and we would have peace.

"This scene, with variations, is what happened all the way from Chicago to New York. I wasn't trampled to death by the elephant; why I was not, I do not know.

"About daylight we were in the vicinity of Erie, Pa. Here Bamboo took cognizance of his surroundings in a disagreeable way. Elephant cars, be it understood, are specially built and fitted for the transportation of these brutes, and the car in which we first embarked was not of this kind. It was not high enough nor strong enough. When the vicious brute had thoroughly satisfied himself of these facts, he rose up out of the hay, arched his ugly back, and burst the whole top of the car out.

"We stopped at Erie. There was loud swearing and clamor by the railroad men for compensation for the damage. I told them to send their bill to the Kiralfys, and, in the meantime, if they didn't want the elephant on their hands to take care

of, they had better help me get him to Boston as fast as possible. They took a look at Bamboo, observed his vicious eye, and said they guessed that was so.

"We arrived at Buffalo. A necessity of the trip was a change of cars at this point. The elephant had been well fed and well watered, and might have had the decency to behave himself. The keeper got him out of the wrecked car in good shape and started him for his new quarters in the waiting train. A great pile of blackberry crates was near, but not at all in the way. May I be blamed if that devilish brute didn't make for them and destroy twenty-four full crates before the keeper could restrain him.

"Well, everybody knows the law about elephants and other wild beasts. I had to settle for the blackberries on the spot, and a large hole it made in my \$60.

"The most dangerous and laborious incident of our trip would not have happened but for the fact that when the keeper was sober he would smoke a pipe. His smoking set the hay afire near Syracuse, and before it was discovered the car was filled with smoke, the elephant was snorting and trumpeting, and we couldn't stamp out the fire.

"We had two buckets. I rushed with them through the baggage car, over the tender, got the fireman in the cab to fill them, and ran back with them to our car. This feat, half a dozen times repeated, with the train going at express speed, was no small task. The keeper took the pails at the door of our car and doused the burning hay with the water. Simple business, you would say, to put out such a fire that way. So it would have been but for that elephant. He came near getting us and himself burned up together; for about every second he would swing his trunk around, overset the pails and spill the water anywhere but on the fire. I have heard something of the intelligence of the elephant; this fellow was in a panic until we got that fire out.

"One Sunday morning we unloaded at the Grand Central station in New York, and getting into Broadway, marched triumphantly down. Of my \$60 I had left \$1.50. Bamboo had eaten up and destroyed more than \$50 worth. The keeper was gloriously drunk; but we had passed the larger part of the journey, we had but one stage more, and I had high hopes of getting into Boston Tuesday morning at the furthest.

"With much trouble we got the brute quartered in a barn on Crosby street. We slept with him, and ate cold junk for twenty-four hours. When we marched aboard the sound steamer with Bamboo the next day my \$1.50 was gone, and the keeper and I had left our coats as security for the elephant's board. Yet I presume the crowd on the steamer thought it the correct thing for gentlemen in care of an elephant to appear in their shirt sleeves. So our dignity was maintained.

"The name of Kiralfy, aided, I believe, by a telegram from the management to the captain of the boat, secured our transportation, and I fondly fancied that my woes were over. But let no man put his trust in an elephant! Bamboo was reserving his master stroke for the finish. In the streets of Boston we met a car. The elephant deliberately killed the horse with one blow of his trunk; the car was overturned; the passengers fainted, screamed and ran; a short parley was held with the police, which resulted in a final triumphant procession to the Kiralfy barn. First, a very long distance ahead, walked a squad of police; next came Bamboo, his keeper and business manager; next, at a respectful distance in the rear, a dozen reporters; last, several thousand of the miscellaneous population of Boston anxious to do us honor."—New York Sun.

Keokuk, Friday, June 16,

LOT ON HIGH ST., BET. 8th and 9th.

Unrivaled for magnitude as arranged for the Great Centennial Year!

54th Annual Tour of

OLD JOHN ROBINSON'S



Great World's Exposition!

The acme of greatness reached by the Veteran Manager of America!

This great Exposition of all that is Strange and Wonderful in the Amusement World embraces in its Entirety the most grand and complete Features ever presented to

THE AMUSEMENT WORLD!

The Menagerie is replete in every particular; containing more Cages of Wild Animals than any Show in the World.

Among the Features of this Department will be the PONDEROUS ELEPHANT TEAM Drawing the

Colossal GOLDEN CHARIOT!

The wonderful herd of SACRED CATTLE, driven in harness.

The team of CAMELS and DROMEDARIES, and a team of

FIFTY SHETLAND PONIES!

Among the rare animals will be found the TAWNY, or CHINESE BULL, the smallest of the Bovine species. This animal is the only one of its kind on public exhibition in America. "White as the spotless snow," and is worshipped as a Deity by the Celestials.

THE AQUARIUM

Comprises one of every species of Amphibious Animal.

The Circus is Unexcelled.

The Riders are unequalled. Acrobats who, in their marvelous feats, astonish all beholders. Cows that have gained for themselves renown and fame.

THE GATE CITY

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1876.

Old John Robinson.

The world famed Menagerie and Circus of old John Robinson will visit Keokuk on Friday, June 16, in a style far excelling all his former efforts. Each succeeding year seems to stimulate him to greater exertions in securing novelties, and the lavish outlay of enormous sums of money for this purpose is something remarkable. His vast wealth seems devoted to making this show the greatest one on earth, and his labors are being amply rewarded by the most complete and enthusiastic endorsement of the press and people of the entire country. This season he has added many remarkable animals and sea monsters never before exhibited, among which are immense Giraffes, a Rhinoceros weighing three tons, a giant Ostrich, the largest Elephant in America, a school of Sea Lions and Seals, and many other novelties, in addition to the forty cages and dens of wild beasts of every description.

The Circus has a company of the finest artists that can be found in Europe and America, and the performances are so chaste and classic that church members have become the most delighted patrons. The entire aggregation will be in Keokuk on Friday, June 16th, and we advise our readers to make a note of it.

DAILY GATE CITY.

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 18, 1876.

John Robinson's Show.

Never before, nor years after Friday, June 16th, will our readers have a chance to see such a grand, imposing exhibition as will be given on that day by Robinson's Great World's Exposition. Its immense proportion this year are said to baffle description, and it bewilders an ordinary mind to contemplate the vast concern. Mr. Robinson is, no doubt, the wealthiest showman in the world, and that he may not be excelled by any one in the profession, he has this season outstripped every former effort by making numberless additions to his Menagerie, Aquarium and Circus. The brilliant splendor of the entire outfit is described as something dazzling, and the press everywhere seem loud in their praises of the gigantic enterprise, while clergymen, church members, teachers and families have endorsed it as an exhibition of unprecedented merit. The street parade will repay a day's journey to witness it and we expect people to come to it from miles around. Do not fail to see the grand exhibition, and remember it will be in Keokuk on Friday, June 16th, for one day only.

A Grand Street Pageant

Will be daily presented to the public gratuitously. This procession will form a scene of brilliant beauty, and will surpass any previous effort ever offered to the people, and will certainly take place each morning between 9 and 10 o'clock.

2 GRAND PERFORMANCES, At 1 and 7 o'clock P. M.

Admission no more than is charged by ordinary traveling exhibitions

P. S. A few Reserved Cushioned Chairs with backs and foot rests at Twenty-five cents extra.

We do not advertise in the Keokuk Post.

106, 11, 13, 15 w2t

WHAT A FALL WAS THERE.—Early yesterday morning as the train containing John Robinson's circus and menagerie was hauling up at La Harpe it came to a sudden stop as freight trains sometimes do, and the cars came bumping up against one another with considerable force. A moment thereafter there was a dead sound—a heavy thud as of the falling of some massive body. The ground trembled as if shaken by an earthquake and the train men commenced looking around to find just where it was the meteor had fallen. They were somewhat relieved on making the discovery that neither a comet nor a meteor had struck the earth, but that the violent perturbation was from an entirely different cause. When the train stopped so suddenly it threw the big elephant over against the side of his car with such force as to push it out and he had rolled out on top of it. Simply this and nothing more. And there he lay flat upon his back with his four legs erect like the piling of a bridge, unable to move one way or the other. He was as helpless as a mud turtle in the same position, and they had to roll him over on his side before he could get up. The animal did not seem to have sustained any injury by the fall. He was placed on another car and the train proceeded on its way. It was a part of the performance not down on the bills, but the train men and other spectators enjoyed it hugely, in fact pronounced that feature alone worth more than the price of admission.

assessed value of his show is over one million dollars, and its current expenses are over two thousand dollars per day. He has forty cages of wonderful wild beasts, a magnificent Giraffe, the largest performing Elephant in America, an immense black Sumatran Rhinoceros a giant Ostrich, a school of Sea Lions and Seals, some large Asiatic and African Lions, and numberless other remarkable novelties not owned or controlled by any other concern. On the day of each exhibition, a splendid holiday street parade will be given through the place, and none of our readers should miss seeing it, as it will be a moving panorama of dazzling beauty, containing chariots, cages of wild beasts, dens of strange animals, cars of triumph; performing animals loose in the streets, kept in abeyance by experienced male and female trainers; bands of music comprising forty men, and, in fact, such a show has never visited Keokuk, and no one within fifty miles should fail coming to witness its grandeur. The brilliant street parade, is, of course, free to all, while the admission to the three great shows is only one price, including menagerie, aquarium and circus. The day of its showing in Keokuk is Friday, June 16th. Do not forget the day.

THE CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1876.

—John Robinson's circus was one of the best that ever visited Keokuk. Every performer is an artist in his or her line, the clown was an exceptionally good one, and every act was first class. The menagerie consists of a rare and interesting selection of animals, well worth seeing. We are sorry that the miserable weather prevented a large attendance, as it is not often the people have an opportunity of witnessing as good a show as Old John Robinson's.

THE GATE CITY

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 15, 1876.

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON.—The Great World's Exposition of old John Robinson will be in Keokuk on Friday, June 16, and every man, woman and child within a hundred miles is growing happy at the news. The Cincinnati papers have been recently publishing extensive editorials describing the many additions to the already vast concern, and it seems the great show is now the grandest one on the continent. Old John Robinson is a man of immense wealth, and he spares no money to make his Menagerie, Aquarium and Circus beyond even an attempt at rivalry. His additions and improvements this year outstrip every former effort, and his whole ambition is to sustain his well-earned reputation for having the most complete exhibition on earth. The

(Special Correspondence.)

FORT MADISON, JUNE 21, 1876.

For some reason John Robinson discharged some of his employees at Burlington, and not being able to pay them, they were turned loose to forage on the community and drink corn whisky. A party, numbering five or six, came here, but our enterprising and efficient Marshal found them secreted in a hay mow in the lower part of town and waltzed them up to Joe Nunn's Hotel to spend the night. They have since lit out.

THE CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1876.

—Wednesday night a gang of thieves, following John Robinson's show, went through LaHarpe, entering three or four private houses and getting away with a miscellaneous lot of plunder. During the day a gang of rascals took possession of a hat trimmer's shop, and while the larger portion of the mob crowded into the rear end of the store, thus distracting the proprietor's attention, the balance walked out the front entrance with upwards of sixty dollars worth of goods in their possession.

—The circus procession passing the court room this morning proved too much of a temptation for the grave and wise attorneys there assembled. As the strains of the music, coming from afar, floated through the windows the attorneys commenced to shift uneasily in their chairs. Nearer and nearer the head of the procession approached, and the squirming in the chairs grew worse and worse. Finally the lion was seen riding past, and then the whole bar lost control of itself, threw dignity and decorum to the winds, and leaving one of the profession in the midst of a speech, they broke, as one man, for the different windows, and there they stayed until the procession passed.

The Daily Gate City.

RIVER NEWS.

The steamer Belle Vernon, at St. Louis, has been chartered to Robinson's Circus Company, at the rate of \$2,000 per month, for a trip up the river. APR. 23, 1873

THE GATE CITY:

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 20.

—There promises to be a big run of circuses this season. Welsh & Sands will be here on the 30th inst., Sells Bros. will be in this locality about the same time, Cole's circus is now in St. Louis, and will be up the river next month, and Barnum's "only greatest show on earth" will be along sometime in August; besides these, Forepaugh's and Cooper & Bailey's are on the road.

THE GATE CITY

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 1876

FORT MADISON.

Straggling Showmen—Death of an Old Settler—Other Items.

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APRIL 16, 1889 Class

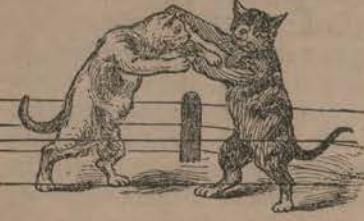
THE CIRCUS IS COMING.

Now Is the Time for Small Boys to Save Their Nickels.

WHAT THE SEASON WILL BRING.

There Will Be Few Novelties in the Rings, but the Old Acts Will Be Multiplied and Newly Dressed—Fresh Ideas in Management—Expenses of a Big Show.

There is always something new at the theater but there is no more anything new at the circus. It is the same old circus. It may be shown in three rings nowadays instead of the one of days of yore, and there may be more of it, but the bewildering whirl is made up of the same ancient and honorable features that the granddads of the rising generation used to sneak under the canvas to see. To be sure one or two



THE PUGILISTIC CATS.

of the biggest shows have strained after novelty and given work to hundreds of shapely young women by tacking a big spectacular show to the tail of their real circus, but that is a subterfuge. It doesn't add novelty to the old show—it only gives us a new one with it for one price of admission.

I have searched for new circus features which will be seen this season, and my search has been fruitless. The most interesting things I've found have been mere details. One of them, however, is worthy of passing notice. Attempts have been made for years to train cats to do tricks of various kinds, but with indifferent success. Troops of the animals have even been exhibited from time to time, but they were sorry performers. The feline tribe is intelligent enough, but it won't do as it's told. It's not amenable to discipline.

This year, however, a patient man will show the result of what must have been a long and exasperating effort. He has actually taught a pack of cats so well that they will do tricks of the most intricate and difficult kind without hesitation or revolt. He harnesses two of them to a tiny hook and ladder truck, and while they trot along with it another sits with paws gravely held on the steering wheel and still another drives. One rides a velocipede. A big maltese does tricks upon a ladder. But best of all are the two that box. Standing on their hind feet in a miniature arena, they cuff and dodge, pummel, advance and retreat in true prize ring style.

The men the children all love so well—the clowns—will be with us again this season with all their oldtime capers, all their oldtime jokes, which no one listens to or could hear if he did, and a few—a very few

—new antics. The desperate yearning for novelty in the breasts of the circus magnates is illustrated by the fact that two clowns will draw enormous salaries this year because they have contrived to make a donkey of themselves in a somewhat unusual way. This is literal. They have had the head, back and tail of an ass built out of papier mache and other "property room" materials. One of them bears this upon his head and shoulders, while the other merrily mounts it and rides like wildfire. The effect as this nondescript runs madly around the ring is very funny. Ergo, they are lucky men, and may buy their wives new sealskin sacks next winter.

The business manager of one of the biggest of circuses gave me, the other day, some startling figures on the magnitude of his show. Investigation showed me that they were not greatly exaggerated.

To begin with, this circus has more than 100 advance agents on the road today. It uses 375 horses in one way or another, employs 111 performers (its total pay roll includes more than 1,000 names), uses a big tent containing 128,700 square feet of canvas and has a dozen small ones carries twenty elephants, spends a quarter of a million this year in printing and as much for costumes, has four brass bands, can put nearly 100 chariots and cages into its street parades, and has at least two



AN UNUSUAL SORT OF A DONKEY.

animals of every kind exhibited in its menagerie. The total capital invested in this vast amusement enterprise is about three and one third millions. It is estimated by its owners that this year the profits will average about \$750 a day during the season. Such profits will necessitate a gross daily income of a trifle more than \$8,000.

While, as with others, there will be few novelties in the three rings of this great circus, there will be several in its management. For instance, no side shows of human monstrosities will be permitted to travel with it, and no vendors of lemonade or peanuts or books will be allowed to clamber among its seats and step on the pet bunnions of its spectators. On hot nights small boys will be sent to sell fans among the audience, and that is all. Its female riders will substitute solid silk skirts for the airy, fluttering tarleton trifles they used to wear in bygone days, and its clowns will not attempt to talk.

And the small boy will be in his glory when the circus comes to town.

EDWARD MARSHALL.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 17, 1888

John Robinson's Will.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 15.—The will of the late John Robinson, the veteran showman, was read this afternoon to the members of the Robinson family in

the common pleas court room.

Boyd Robinson, a nephew, is given \$1,000 in cash.

To the two grand children, James, jr., son of John Robinson, jr., and to Robert Stickney, jr., son of Robert Stickney, the well known bare-back rider, and Katie Robinson, uncle John's favorite child, provision is made that if the subscriber recovered he intended to give each grandchild deeds for a share of his estate, but in case he did not recover or the clause was not revoked then each was to receive \$15,000.

The marriage of Bob Stickney and Katie Robinson was highly displeasing to the old gentlemen, and he further shows his dislike for Stickney by the special provision that he shall not in any way receive benefit under the bequest to his son. The bequest to the grandchildren named are to be held in trust for them.

To the surviving sons of testator, Charles M., Gilbert N. and John Robinson, jr., is left the entire balance of the estate, "share and share alike." The portion, however, of Gilbert is to be held in trust for him by Jack Robinson, who is to pay the income therefrom to Gilbert. In this connection testator shows the dislike he entertained for Emma Lake Robinson, the divorced wife of Gilbert, by a clause providing that she shall not receive any benefit whatever from the bequest of her ex-husband.

The will is couched in plain words, the meaning of which cannot be mistaken, and consumed only a few minutes in reading.

While the estate has been approximated as high as \$3,000,000, conservative judges to-day place its valuation, on a fair cash estimate at \$1,000,000.

DAILY GATE CITY:

JUNE 5, 1890

WALLACE'S CIRCUS.

IT PROVED TO BE A FIRST-CLASS SHOW.

Wallace & Co.'s railroad show was here yesterday and it would seem that that the GATE CITY would be direict in duty if it failed to give just praise. All the rings were up to the circus art and pleased everybody in attendance. The principal bareback trick of Pauline Lee was specially good. The menage act of Miss Jeanette Eldridge received merited applause; while the flying trapeze performance of Miss Lucille and Mr. Jordon was far beyond the average. There are other acts which should have special mention and among these are included, the bicycling act of the Melrose family, the lightning hurdling act of Wm. Gorman, the Roman ladders of the three Albin brothers, the menage act by Miss Rose Anarcan, the pretty equestrienne juggling act by Miss Ros Lee, and the running globe act by Miss Rosina Ovri. The six Spanish performing mules, trained by Chas. Ewers was a feature much enjoyed. The slack wire performance by Clyde Phillips, a Keokuk boy, was an act which everybody enjoyed. He did his part in a most artistic way. The entire circus was good.

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1822} FIFTY-FOUR YEARS AGO {1876 Old John Robinson

Inaugurated the First Combined Circus and Menagerie that was ever seen in America. The Exhibition, as well as the Nation, was

IN ITS INFANCY THEN.

It was a frail bark, launched upon the turbulent tide of public favor, but each year slowly but surely gaining in POPULARITY. For years JOHN ROBINSON struggled manfully on, enduring privations and hardships that almost any other man would have sunk under. But his was an iron will: HE HAD PUT HIS HAND TO THE PLOW, AND WOULD NOT LOOK BACK!

HE WAS DETERMINED TO CONQUER!

And he did! and to-day, as he views the vast organization which proudly hoists the name of

OLD JOHN ROBINSON



AT ITS MAST-HEAD!

His heart swells with a conscious pride that his past efforts and struggles have culminated in a brilliant series of **SUCCESSFUL TRIUMPHS**!

LARGEST COMBINED MENAGERIE & CIRCUS IN THE WORLD.

Old John Robinson's Great World's Exposition

Reorganized and Enlarged to Twice its Former Capacity.

60 Cages, Vans, Dens, Chariots, Carriages, Tableau Cars, &c. The MENAGERIE far outrivals the combined collections of Europe and America. The constellation of **ARENIC STARS** is the most stupendous and brilliant ever congregated under one organization in the world. The Glory and Pride of both Hemispheres have been secured to enhance the imposing magnificence of this, THE ORIGINAL MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS OF THE UNIVERSE. The **GRAND MARCH** of this Ocean of Oriental Golden Magnificence will take place in the public streets of

Keokuk, Iowa, Friday, June 16th, 1876.

Lot on High Street, bet. Eighth and Ninth.

ADMISSION TO ALL CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS

A fine Reserved Cushioned Chair at an extra cost of 25 cents. Doors open at 1 and 7 o'clock P.M.

50 CENTS
25 CENTS

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THE DAILY GATE CITY.

OCTOBER 2, 1886.

Life in a Circus Tent.

There is an individuality possessed by the circus man, especially in the case of the old-time showman who has journeyed on wagons and horseback through the cross-roads and green lanes of the remotest rural districts. He comes in contact with many sorts of people, in every condition of life, and his knowledge of the characteristics of the inhabitants of the different parts of the country is extensive. A reporter of the *Mail and Express* recently called upon a showman at his residence in Brooklyn, and gained much information about the ups and downs of circus tent life.

"I have been out every season for twenty-two years," said he, "and I believe I am able to give as many points about the business as any man you will find in Brooklyn. A circus man who follows the calling for any length of time has abundant opportunities for knowing the country as well as the habits and customs of the people he finds in it. Of course, there are lots of people besides showmen who travel constantly, but the majority of these merely go from one large city to another, and their ideas of the country are such as can be obtained by looking out of car windows. There is little difference in the routine work of a show now-a-days, except, of course, the manner of transportation from one town to another. The first duty after unloading the cars in the morning is to get up the stock and dressing tents. This is done by the drivers and grooms. While this work is going on the cooks and helpers are employed putting up the mess tents and preparing the breakfast. The next act is to get ready for the street parade. All have to take part except the canvas and property men, who get up the big tents. The street parade lasts less than an hour. One object of it is to draw the crowd away from the grounds so the men can have a better chance to work. The duties of workmen who travel with the railroad shows are less arduous than in former years. They sleep on the cars and generally get in early enough for breakfast, but their lives are in much greater danger than they formerly were. Last season six circus men were killed in Michigan, where two sections of a train collided. Another accident, in Iowa, caused the death of one man and wounded many more, and everyone knows the fate of poor Jumbo, in Canada. Scarcely a season passes without fatal accidents happening to circus trains in different parts of the country."

"The boss hostler has about the most responsible position in the working force of a show. He has charge of all the horses and wagons as well as the ring-horses and ponies, together with their trappings. He is held accountable when the show gets on the lots late or misses a train through delay in getting away. The press agent is always the life of a circus, large or small. In a big show there is always one or two cars set apart for the use of the press agent and his assistants. They are usually shrewd, wide-awake, newspaper men who know how to hustle. I can't say who is the best."

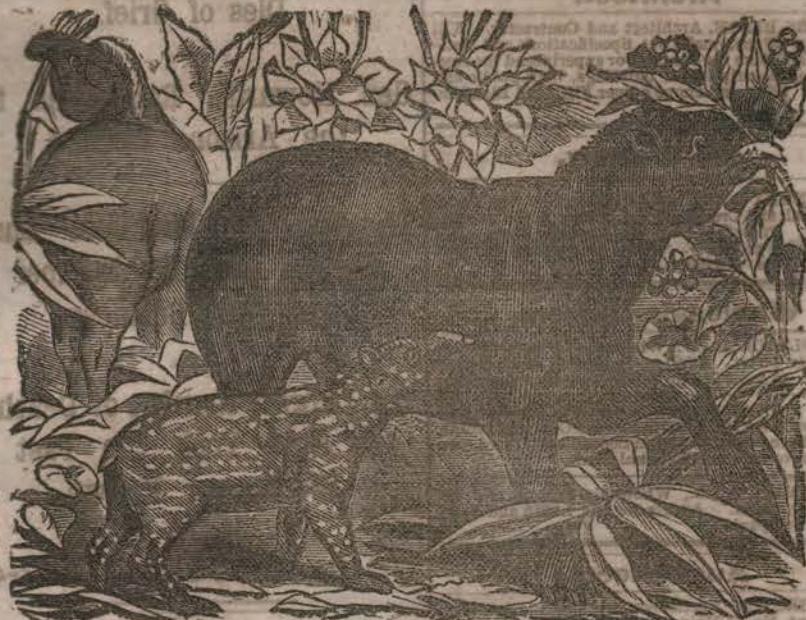
Keokuk, Saturday, July 13th.
JULY 7, 1872.

ONLY REALLY GREAT ZOOLOGICAL TRIUMPH!

A World on Railroad, at an expense of \$2,000 daily, which it leaves in the towns or cities where it exhibits, 470 men and horses, 1,050 animals, 26 Crimson and Gold Cages.

GREAT EASTERN

**Museum, Menagerie, Aviary,
CIRCUS AND BALLOON SHOW.**



.AWO!

Matinee in the Afternoon.

HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN ACTUAL CASH.

Has been expended in completing this mammoth enterprise.

The Monarch Mastodon of the Road!

Requiring 36 cars to transport it from stand to stand. So stupendous is the collection brought together by its experienced projectors, that **Four Immense Pavilions** are required to exhibit this combination of **Twelve Shows**. In one, for the Menagerie, a second for the Museum, a third for the Aviary, and a fourth for the Circus, and one price of admission admits the ticket holder to the four tents.

The Elephant Bismarck.

A drove of Bactrian-Camels, two Lionesses and litters of cubs, a beautiful Sable Antelope, a rare specimen of the Chinkara, King of the Alaska forests. The culminating of the Zoological entertainment is the daring performance of the celebrated Lion King, Herr Elijah Lengel, with his twenty foot den of trained Lions, Tigers and Panthers at every exhibition, af noon and night. He is confessed the greatest animal performer living. A pair of Royal Bengal Tigers, den of Asiatic Lions, African Leopard, Mexican Silver Lions, Brazilian and Black Tigers, Numidian Lions, California or Grizzly Bear, Rocky Mountain or Black Bear, Long-legged Bear of Arkansas, Japanese Goat, East India Goat, Spotted Fallow Deer, Crying or Spotted Hyenas, Laughing Hyenas, Black and Grey Wolves, Coyotes or Prairie Wolves, Egyptian Anti-Bear, African Ant-Eater, Jaeger from South America, Tiger Cats, Black Coon, Imported Rabbits, black and white, Spotted Capia Bear, Australian Kangaroos, Wallabon Jangardos, and a world of Monkeys, and the choicest selection of birds ever on this continent. At an enormous expense the

Champion Leaper of the World, Geo. M. Kelley,

Madam Agnes Lake, Miss Emma Lake, Mlle Carroll, Mlle Cornelia, Laura and Louisa, the great Carroll family, W. B. Carroll, Fred Sylvester, F. Miacco Brothers, Adolph Gonzales, Jerome Tuttle, Tom Ashton, "Chi i," T. V. Watson, Jean Zacco, James Essler, Master George Eddie and Willie. Four Great Clowns.

SAM P. STICKNEY, Jun.

P. H. SEAMAN,

J. WILDOX, and

A. L. MIACCO.

The Daily Gate City.

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 7, 1872.

The Great Eastern Circus and Menagerie will be here on Saturday next. It is one of the most extensive institutions of the kind that has ever visited Keokuk. We clip the following concerning it from the Chicago Post, of May 16th:

The unusually large canvases of the Great Eastern Circus and Menagerie, situated at the corner of Elizabeth and Madison streets, were crowded yesterday afternoon and evening to an alarming extent. The crush of humanity was so great that the ring was broken into and the very breathing places of the wild animals usurped. In vain the elephant went round; in vain the band began to play, the struggling crowd was here, there, and everywhere. It was only when a large number of persons had left the pavilion that the performance could proceed, and then half the programme had to be omitted. The riding is of the most excellent order, and the gymnastic feats and exercises brilliant. The circus will be in the city for a week, and the people will have ample opportunity to see and hear without crushing one another to death. The receipts were about \$4,000.

THE Great Eastern Circus, Museum, Menagerie and Aviary, is the best advertised institution of the kind traveling this season, and is receiving notices from the press of the cities which it has visited that are complimentary in the greatest degree. The Chicago News of May 17th, has this to say of the concern:

"Last evening the tents of the Great Eastern Circus and Menagerie were filled to repletion. Owing to some difficulty the night before, a number of police were on the ground, but their services were not needed, as the audience were very orderly. The performance as a whole is good, their bareback riding being more than the average. The horsemanship of Miss Emma Lake is very fine, and the Miaco Brothers execute some very difficult feats on the trapeze, while the clown, Sam. P. Stickney, keeps the resibles of the audience constantly convulsed. The Chilian, Gonzales, deserves the title of "Champion Tumbler." Owing to the great demand for tickets, the box office will be opened at 9 o'clock this morning."

THE MENAGERIE.—To-morrow one of the greatest shows traveling will exhibit here. The Chicago Sun says:

The Great Eastern Menagerie, Museum, Aviary, Circus and Balloon Show, is a mammoth conglomeration of wonders which will be found well worth a visit. All its departments are of a high order of merit, especially the zoological and equestrian exhibitions. The attendance on yesterday has never been surpassed in Chicago, the number of spectators being limited only by the capacity of the enormous pavilions. One of the unique and striking features of this colossal exhibitions is its daily cavalcade or procession through the streets, headed by the wonderful sream mhsical instrument, the calliope.

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THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 1, 1877.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

8th Wonder of the World!

THE GREAT COLORADO

PETRIFIED MAN!

Recently discovered in Southern Colorado, which has attracted the attention of the scientific world, will be exhibited in this City on

Friday and Saturday,

NOVEMBER 9th & 10th,

AT

PHELPS' CARPET ROOM

On 4th st., back of Bostwick's dry goods store.

Positively for These Two Days Only!

HON. P. T. BARNUM, the Great Showman, has just purchased a one-half interest in the wonder for \$12,000, after a thorough examination by scientific men.

Admission.....	25 cents.
Children under 10 years.....	15 cents.

The Petrified Man.

This recently discovered curiosity which has attracted so much attention in the scientific world will be exhibited at the room on Fourth street formerly occupied by Phelps & Co., on Friday and Saturday Nov. 9th and 10th.

The St. Joe Chronicle of Oct. 18th gives the following description of the giant:

The figure is immense in proportions. The forehead is exceedingly low, and recedes from the eyebrows. The left leg is slightly drawn up, and the left arm extended along on it. The right hand lies on the left breast. The length of the arms and the shape of the feet are most remarkable. The hand reaches nearly to the knee, and the fingers are very long. The feet are flat, the big toe is considerably shorter than the other four. The figure is seven feet five inches long, and it weighs nearly 800 pounds. There is no Cardiff Giant scheme in this. It is either one of two things, a genuine petrification of a human body, or it is a piece of statuary, made by a now extinct race, and in either case is equally interesting.

The petrification was discovered in Southern Colorado. It is claimed that after a thorough examination by scientific men, Barnum the great showman has just purchased a half interest in the wonder for \$15,000. Fred Conant the agent of the petrified man was in the city yesterday and made all arrangements for the exhibition.

THE GATE CITY:

SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 10, 1877.

The Stone Man.

The stone man which was recently unearthed in Colorado and concerning which there has been so much dispute as to whether or not it is a petrification or

THE GATE CITY: AND THE ALEXIS, LONE STAR.

ELEPHANT PONY ROMEO.

In the complete Museum will be found every curious wonder worth seeing, and a grand Musical Calliope, which produces the sweetest music, soft as the melody of the wind harp, through a lately invented method of steam. Its tones exhibit four times the power of the grandest organ, and its harmony as it were, transports the listener to a land of enchantment.

Procession One Mile Long, led by Prof. R. S. Kopas' Brass and Reed Band. Count the long line of Crimson and Gold Trees—see the mounted Cavaliers and Goddesses in Oriental Costume—observe the rich banners, paraphernalia, flags and plumes, and look out for the

Tigers and Panthers Loose in the Streets!

Prior to every exhibition a Gratuitous Balloon Ascension! Be particular to read small bills. Beautifully carpeted seats for ladies. Two performances daily. Doors open at 1 and 6 o'clock. Performance commences an hour after. Don't forget the date.

Admission, 50 Cents.

FORT MADISON,.....	FRIDAY, JULY 12.
QUINCY,.....	MONDAY, JULY 15.

THE BIG SHOW OF THE SEASON.—To-day comes the Great Eastern show. That it will draw a big crowd we have no doubt for it is a first-class institution and is heartily endorsed by the press of Chicago and elsewhere.

This popular establishment, the most colossal and *recherche* in the country, is in the fullest tide of public approbation, and is nightly crowded with the *elite* of the city. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights, hundreds were turned away from the doors, unable to gain admission, and the matinees have been full to repletion.

After all, the public judges best of what it likes, and the immense success attending the exhibitions of this grand arena and zoological entertainment, is the best evidence of its unparalleled worth and merit. The menagerie is large, choice and well selected, and affords an excellent opportunity for the instruction and culture of the young.

The circus part of the performance is *par excellence*.

The startling exhibition of Herr Elijah Lengel in his two dens of lions, tigers, panthers and hyenas, thrilled the audience, and everybody present felt the deepest interest in the safety of the daring man who thus periled his life for the public's entertainment.—*Chicago Times*, May 18.

Professors Schuler or Reps might have detected considerable music in the utterances of the Calliope, but we couldn't. The parade, we must admit, was pretty good. The entire concern—men, horses, wagons, &c.—comprise an immense institution, it taking thirty-three cars to transport them from Fort Madison to Keokuk.

Under the tents the museum, menagerie and circus gave general satisfaction and was largely attended.

GREAT EASTERN MENAGERIE, MUSEUM, AVIARY, CIRCUS AND BALLOON SHOW.—Thousands of people are nightly turned away from this now most popular amusement resort in the city. Thursday and Friday afternoons the immense tents were full and running over with the most elegant and respectable people of the city, and on Thursday night over 10,000 persons were turned away from the doors because there was no room inside, not even to stand on. The behavior was of the best character; and the magnificent arrangement of the seats enabled every man, woman and child to see all that was going on.

We believe in the verdict of the people, and the thousands who have failed to gain admission on account of the crowded state of the tents, testify to the excellence and superiority of the entertainment, and there is but one voice from those who have seen it, and that is of the fullest and most unequivocal endorsement. The startling performance of Herr Lengel, in his two dens of lions, tigers and panthers, the riding, the tumbling, the acrobatic sports and the superb trick horses are all superior.

A grand street pageant will take place from the lot this day at ten o'clock, and the ticket office remains open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. To-day and to-night is the last on the West Side, when the grand caravan and circus will remove to the South Side for the first three days of next week.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*, May 18.

The Great Eastern Circus and Menagerie will be in Keokuk Saturday, July 13th.

The Daily Gate City.

SUNDAY MORNING. JULY 14 1872

THE CIRCUS was the only big sensation yesterday, and considering that Circuses are an old institution, and about one and the same thing, it's a wonder they maintain their popularity, and are able still to produce a sensation every time they make their entry into a city. An hour before the cavalcade appeared, Main street—the shady side, of course—was lined with crowds of people on the tip-toe of expectation, imagining that there awaited a rare treat for their optical apparatus. The treat came and went, and it was only a repetition of what they had often seen before. The particular novelty was a steam musical institution on wheels, which screeched and blared much like the screeching and blowing heard every hour on the Levee. Pro-

the work of an artisan is now on exhibition at the room formerly occupied by Phelps & Co. on Fourth street. Mr. Conant, who made the discovery accompanies the curiosity. He claims that it has been examined under a microscope by scientific men who say it would be impossible for an artisan to preserve the anatomical features shown in this. He also claims the head has been bored into and bone formation and crystallizations of brain taken out.

The figure is seven feet and five inches long, and in addition to the outlines of a man has the stump of a caudal appendage about an inch or two in length which if this is a relic of antiquity, clearly shows that the giants in those days had tails.

Quite a number of people inspected the figure yesterday. Among them was Mr. Thos. Fletcher, the stone cutter, who made a very careful examination and failed to discover any marks of a chisel. If it is a petrification it is a great curiosity; if a work of art it is very skillfully executed. It will be on exhibition today and until 10 o'clock this evening.

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 15, '77.

THE STONE MAN.

A Denver Assayer Says He was Chiseled Out of Sandstone in August, 1875.

The Denver *Democrat* has been interviewing an assayer of that city concerning the stone man recently discovered in Colorado and publishes the following as his statement:

"In August, 1875, five of us were prospecting in the vicinity of Pueblo. In coming upon a sandstone quarry, one of the party observed a sort of likeness of a man drawn upon the rock. The incident occasioned a deal of talk about ancient creations, and the idea of getting up a second Cardiff giant was favorably discussed. The party agreed to undertake the task, and a stone cutter named Saunders, who had been working in the vicinity, and known to be a clever hand at modeling, was at once sought out and an agreement made for the figure. While the plan was in progress one of the party, in a joking way, said the thing ought to have a tail, as in ancient times men had tails six or seven inches long. It was decided among the party that the figure should be known as a petrified Aztec Indian, and that they would resurrect him after six months and impose him on the public as such. The stone cutter not seeing the joke, set to work and made the figure, with a tail appended. The price paid the artisan was \$135. After he had completed the figure it was buried. The 'Muldoon' was made out of sandstone and dried by the cabin fire, which partly accounts for the little noles on the surface. After the burial—two feet from the surface of the ground—the party went their ways to await the resurrection. A few of the prospectors had got

wind of the proceedings and were keeping an eye on the party, and so they dispersed in different directions. Finally they became scattered, some in New York and the remainder in different portions of the country. I had forgotten nearly all about the matter when the discovery was chronicled in the papers. But I considered it best to keep still about it, and it was only through accident that I said anything in regard to the matter."

THE GATE CITY:

SUNDAY MORNING, NOV. 18, 1877.

"THE COLORADO STONE MAN."

What Mr. J. K. Hornish of this City Thinks of it--He is of the Opinion that it is a Cast Made of Slag from an Iron Furnace.

(To the Editor.)

Mr. W. A. Conant who had on exhibition a few days ago in our city "The Colorado Stone Giant," which is represented as a petrified man, has done me the honor of forwarding to me the report of Prof. J. K. Taylor, of Bridgeport, Conn. The able Professor recognizes the Giant as a petrification, and P. T. Barnum claims for it an antiquity of several thousand years. There is also a newspaper expose of this Giant, holding it to be a fraud, and a piece of statuary from sand stone. This expose is simply false, as the material is not sand stone.

The question is petrification, or an artistic model, or statuary of antiquity, throwing light on an Indian ethnology or a humbug, so well concealed as to defy identification with stone as a sculpture.

If it is a petrification, it is a curiosity, but beyond this, science has but little interest in it. If it is a specimen of sculpture belonging to remote ages, it is of immense value in determining the origin and the culture of the primitive inhabitant of this continent of whom our Indians are descendants.

I examined this Giant when it was on exhibition in Keokuk. My opinions may direct attention in future investigations.

1. If this were a petrification it would show some signs of hair some place on its body. Hair is the last part of a dead body to decay, hence no petrification could take place without preserving the hair marks. Especially is this true if, as the model purports, the body was in a transition state from the monkey species to the man. Hair must have been on parts of the body other than the head. But even on the head there are no hair marks. Besides, the head is pitted as the body, showing artistic design.

2. The caudal appendage does not show either hair or a shrinkage inferable from a lapse of time incident to hair having fallen off. Nor is it of such dimensions as to be at all admissible in comparison with a developed man. Sitting would be simply impossible with this tail. It seems to be an addenda for the purpose of illusion.

3. The great toes of the feet are articulated as the thumbs on the hands, another illusion which associates the monkey origin, but unfortunately the heel does not project so as to complement the idea of foot grasping. Nor does the

great toe stand out so far as to give it a thumb action.

4. The left leg is artistically arranged, and the left hand rests on the thigh and the right hand on the left breast. All this is so artistic as to evidently show an imitation of ancient ideas in sculpture and bronze cast. In fact the hands are so arranged as to indicate a sign in ancient Sun religion.

To the above add the fact that the eyeballs are full, as in sculpture, which is never true in a dead body, and you have a strong presumption against the petrification idea.

This Giant seems to me to be either a work of ancient art or it is a modern fraud. If of ancient art the finding should be verified beyond all question. In this case it is of great ethnological value. That the ancestors of our Indians several thousand years ago, possessed a culture and a civilization equal to such a specimen of art, I have not the least doubt. Whenever we read their monuments aright we will soon discard the transition idea from monkey to man.

But is this Giant a specimen of ancient art? It may be but I doubt it. My reasons are as follows:

It is not stone. Prof. Taylor says "it is composed of carbonate of lime, silicate of lime and iron." This is precisely the opinion I formed of it. It is not natural stone, hence is not sculpture. The dents on the body look like punch marks, but they are not so made. They are uniform over the entire body, hence show design. It appears to be a cast composed of slag from an iron furnace, and stained with ochre or a clay paint so as to give it the appearance of the earth. I was shown specimens of its material by Mr. Conant, and then made up my mind against its stone or petrification material, but as I had no right to question Mr. Conant's truth as to its being an honest find, I concluded to say nothing relative to the material of which it was composed. I, however, at the time expressed to Mr. Conant my conviction that it was simply a specimen of art. Of course I avoided the implication of a fraud. But P. T. Barnum now becomes godfather to the giant. Its real merits have become public property. We have now the right to ascertain what it is, and my opinion is that it is a cast made of slag from an iron furnace, that the tail and thumb articulation of the great toe, and the retreating or flat head Indian cranium are designed as illusive marks to fix the mind on the monkey derivation of man, so as to occupy the imagination and lull the judgment to sleep. Yours truly,

J. K. HORNISH.
KEOKUK, Nov. 15th, 1877.

SUNDAY MORNING, DEC. 9, 1877.

—A stone axe weighing seven pounds four and a half ounces was found at the corner of Bluff and B streets the other evening. It was five and a half inches wide and seven and a half long, a relic of the stone age, but the old inhabitant who used to make his wife get up and cut the wood on cold mornings was not found. It is supposed that he went West to grow up with the Colorado stone man, but there is no positive evidence even of that fact, for the axe had no tail. This is the second one that has been found near the same place, and it's not a very good place for axes either.

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.

HOWELL & CLARK, Publishers.

MAY 18, 1882

MONSTERS OF ANCIENT TIMES.

When Elephants Larger than Jumbo Roamed Through the Middle States.

New York Sun.

"Jumbo wasn't a circumstance to the elephants that used to stamp around this country," said a professor of natural history when asked by a reporter of the Sun whether the beast just landed was of extraordinary size. "In 1866, while excavating in Cohoes, N. Y., workmen broke into what seemed to be a big pot hole or well, such as is seen sometimes in the rock bed of rivers. It was full of muck and peaty soil, and at the bottom was found the chief bones of an immense elephant. It was determined that the animal had been washed into the hole when New York state was covered with glaziers hundreds, perhaps thousands, of feet thick. That condition of the country can explain the number of pot-holes from ten to sixty feet in depth near Mohawk river. They were formed by water from the surface of a glazier falling into crevasses and forming cascades, often 1,000 feet in height. The Cohoes elephant was probably half a million years ago, perhaps, entombed in great mass of moving ice, and when thawed out was washed into the hole in which it was preserved so many years.

"In the collection in Rutgers college is a fragment of a tusk that is worn down and polished on one side, showing plainly the peculiar glacial strie. A tusk in the collection of the Philadelphia academy of science, shows similar markings. The American elephant was probably exterminated by the glacial drift. A famous place for these elephants remains is the Big Bone Lick, in Kentucky. In Warren county, New Jersey, some farmers in cutting peat in a bog, found the remains of six animals less than six feet below the surface. The most perfect specimen was discovered at Newburgh, N. Y. The skeleton is now in the British museum. It is twelve feet in height, and the tusks are ten feet in length. The animals roamed the western parts of the United States and Canada, and along the entire line of the Andes from 5 degrees north latitude to 40 degrees south, and remains have been dug up at Quito, nearly two miles above the level of the sea. Their tusks are often plowed up by farmers in St. Catharines, Canada West, Western Ohio, Alabama, Mississippi and Vermont. In Nebraska there was a smaller species. Compared to those animals the elephants of to-day are pygmies. The Newburgh elephant was twenty-five feet in length and more than twelve feet in height, and its feet were two feet across. So perfectly was it preserved that the remains of spruce and hemlock branches that it had eaten were found in the posterior of the stomach.

"Those elephants rarely ranged further north than the latitude of St. Catharines, but beyond this ranged a hairy elephant a third larger and nearly three times as heavy as an elephant of to day. From the end of the trunk to that of the tail it was thirty-five feet in length. The enormous tusks reached out in great

curves were from ten to sixteen feet in length and thirty inches in circumference at the base.

"All along the borders of the Arctic sea the remains of these monsters are found, and within a few months an interesting discovery has been made. A company of men started from Sitka, intending to search for the remains of ancient elephants, on account of the ivory. They followed the shores of the Polar sea for 200 miles, without finding a bone or a tusk. When almost discouraged, disheartened and determined to abandon the search, one of the party, in crossing a glacier, broke through the ice and disappeared. As the mass of ice was more than 1,000 feet thick, he was given up as lost, the nature of the crevasse being well known to the rest. One of the party however, volunteered to attempt to learn the fate of the man. All the rope and cord in the party was bound together, and the searcher was lowered into the hole. When about 100 feet down the rope slackened, and a hail was heard. The searcher was hauled to the surface, and he explained that the crevasse was an enormous room in the glacier, and that the incline was so gradual that with but little work steps could be cut and the bottom reached. The line was made fast, and armed with axes, five of the party were lowered into the chasm. They found a foothold, and soon reached the bottom where the body of their comrade lay. He was only stunned, and was soon restored. It was then, their eyes having become accustomed to the darkness, that the nature of their surroundings became apparent. The room was about 500 feet in circumference. Against the walls of ice dark, irregular-shaped masses appeared. Each minute they became more distinct, until the men saw high above them the indistinct form of a gigantic animal standing erect in the icy mass. Below it, but further in, and fully inclosed, was another, and a short time they traced the forms of thirty-five entombed monsters. Some were standing erect on their massive legs, others were lying on their backs as if they had fallen into a crevice and become wedged in, while one huge monster had its head down, with the body thrown over as if it had fallen headlong into the icy pit. One of the animals was partly thawed out, and the massive head and tusks hung down. From the ponderous trunk depended large icicles, reaching the floor and forming a column for its support. The bodies were entirely covered with a thick, hairy coat resembling jute, but frozen so firmly that it could not be cut. An entire herd had been entrapped in some manner, and was gradually moving in the body of the glacier toward the sea to be some day cast upon the shore. Not one of the creatures, nor even a tusk, could be obtained without months of work, and the men reluctantly abandoned them.

"Early in this century a fisherman living near the mouth of the Lena river, in Siberia, discovered one of these monsters protruding from an ice cliff on the shores of the sea. The trunk, tusks and head were in full view above him. For five successive years he visited the spot, and was finally repaid one spring by finding the huge body on the sands below. It had been partly devoured by bears and wolves, and the flesh was so fresh and well preserved that the meat was cut

away and given to the dogs. Even the brain and the eyes were well preserved, although, according to geologists, these animals have been dead hundreds of thousands of years. The skeleton is in the Museum of Natural History at St. Petersburg. About the same time a gigantic hairy rhinoceros was found in the ice, but it was destroyed by bears before it could be saved."

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY

HOWELL & CLARK, Publishers.

AUGUST 21, 1879.

GREAT SHOW LIGHTED BY ELECTRICITY.

Three Big Circus Tents as Bright at Night as at Mid-Day.

This great Circus, Museum, Menagerie, Aquarium, Aviary and Calisthenic Exhibition will exhibit at Keokuk on Tuesday, August 26th.

It is a new wrinkle to apply the electric light to show tents. Perhaps the first time the new illuminator has been applied to a place of amusement was when, last night, the three big circus tents of The Great London Circus, Sanger's English Menagerie of Trained Animals and the famous International Allied Shows combined, Cooper, Baily & Co., proprietors, at Broad and Wharton Streets were filled with the bright glare of twelve lamps and lit up with the softness of mid-day.

The rapid pumping of an engine is heard as one passes the ticket man. It is this engine of thirty-five horse power that drives the machine from which comes the electricity. All the paraphernalia necessary to produce the light is built upon a large wagon, constructed especially for the purpose, and this is to be "toted" around the country for show purposes. The machine is the largest of the kind yet made, and its success in these tents is regarded as quite an advance toward the general introduction of such lights in amusement halls.

The electricity is conducted from the machine to the lamps by several large cables made of seven strands of No. 16 copper wire, covered with a layer of gutta percha, which is in turn covered by plaited cotton. One light is equal to 3,000 candle power, or nearly 200 gas lights, and is cheaper by seventy-five per cent. than gas or coal oil. By varying the speed of his engine, the engineer can run from one to seventeen lights, and the lamps in any of the departments can be turned off at will and without interfering with the arrangements in the other departments. This is a most decided improvement, and is far ahead of anything that now exists in Europe. For the want of this secret the people of France or England have been forced to use a machine for each separate light required.

Cooper, Bailey & Co., have secured the exclusive right to use the light for traveling purposes, and aside from the scientific interest which attaches to the illustration of the progress thus far made in the use of electricity for lighting purposes, this new idea will prove an attraction more likely to draw than even the many complete departments of which this vast combination is composed.—Philadelphia Record, April 18th.

The Gate City.

JUNE 21, 1900.
THE GATE CITY COMPANY,
KEOKUK, IOWA.

ELLA EWING IS GOING WEST

For Her Health Hoping the California Climate Will Make Her Stronger.

Yesterday the father of Miss Ella Ewing, the Missouri giantess, was in La Grange, where she has been for a few days' visit with her cousins, the Misses Blackwood, with whom she visited Keokuk the other day.

Miss Ewing has had many offers this season to travel with shows, but she has refused all of them.

About the middle of August, she, says the La Grange Indicator, with her father and Miss Teent Blackwood of LaGrange, will go to Lexington, Ky., to attend the state fair. They will visit other cities in that state. Later the three will make a trip to the west, visiting Los Angeles, Sacramento and other principal cities of the west. Miss Ewing has never been further west than Denver and no doubt her trip to California will be interesting to the people out there who have never seen her.

Miss Ewing has not been in good health this summer and consequently her weight has been reduced to 236 pounds, which is considerable less than her usual weight. She is eight feet four inches high.

Constitution-Democrat.

MISS EWING WILL NOT WED.

Clark County Giantess is to Remain Single.

LaGrange Indicator:

A dispatch from Denver Tuesday stated that Miss Ella Ewing, the Missouri giantess, departed that morning for Butte, Mont., where she will be married to Edward Beaupre, a French-Canadian giant. A house in Missouri, belonging to Miss Ewing, will be her present to the bridegroom. The report stated that when Miss Ewing stalked through the crowd at the Union depot that morning there was little of the shy look of the fiancee in her face. Her bridal trousseau had been packed in four huge trunks, and while she busied herself about the checking of these the crowd looked on and "rubbered."

It is thought in LaGrange that the above report is untrue. Miss Ewing is being accompanied on her western trip by Miss Teent Blackwood of this place, and it is a well known fact here that Miss Ewing has never met Mr. Beaupre, the giant. Neither has she ever had any correspondence with him.

It is true that Miss Ewing, accompanied by her father and Miss Black-

wood, were to have left Denver Tuesday for Butte to make a two weeks' stay. From there they will go to the Pacific coast. AVG. 7. 1903

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SATURDAY, NOV. 27, 1937

Ella Ewing, Giantess—

WAS 'BIG' ATTRACTION AT GORIN AND OVER COUNTRY

GORIN MO.—In a search for "big" features for the Gate City's Ninetieth Anniversary, one could not overlook the "biggest" attraction this section has ever boasted—Miss Ella Ewing, modest former world giantess whose amazing size was her fortune.

Although she was born on a farm near LaGrange, on March 9, 1873, Ella is generally claimed as a daughter of Scotland county. When she was only one year old, her parents moved to a farm near Gorin and it was here that she grew—both to womanhood and world-recognition—built her home to her own dimensions and died.

It was also near here that she was accorded the biggest funeral ever seen by residents of the community, and was laid to her final rest.

Normal Baby.

At birth, Ella was a normal baby—weighing 6½ pounds—and she remained a normal girl until after her eighth birthday when she began her rapid and enormous expansion. Within four years she had grown so much that at the age of 12, she and her father went into town and each bought a pair of size 12 shoes. When she reached maturity, Ella wore size 24 shoes, 18 inches long.

Although her father, B. F. Ewing, was a tall man, he looked up to his daughter almost before she had stopped playing with dolls. He was six feet, one and three-quarters inches tall and Mrs. Ewing was only five feet, five and one-half inches tall.

8 Feet, 4.

Ella continued to grow until she was 22 years old and had attained the height of 8 feet, 4 inches. By this time she was in the show business and earning the money with which she and her parents



ELLA EWING

might retire in comfort.

Her first public appearance was at a Fourth of July celebration on the Suter farm near Wyaconda. Ella was to read the Declaration of Independence but she became so embarrassed she could not go on and the famous document was read by another person.

A few years later, however, when she was about 17, it was not necessary for her to orate—she merely appeared before the public gaze and her appearance everywhere drew heavily of the ticket-buying curious.

Made to Measure.

Up to the time she entered the show business, her family was in moderate circumstances but from that time forward the proverbial wolf found the Ewing's door-mat an uncomfortable place to rest. Buying a 120-acre farm near Gorin, in the Harmony Grove community, Miss Ewing built a comfortable home. Doors and ceiling were designed high enough so that she need not stoop and all of her furniture was made to her order.

When she was traveling, she did not find things so comfortable, however, and it required two ordinary beds, placed side by side, for her to sleep away from home.

After working in fall festivals, fairs and carnivals with her manager, D. J. Buford, who now lives at Rutledge, and her lady companion for a season, Ella received a contract with Epstein's Dime Museum at Chicago. Epstein booked her with other museums at a large salary, until she had played in all of the larger cities of the United States and Canada.

After this work she signed a contract with Ringling Brothers circus and traveled with them for two seasons at a salary of \$125 a week and expenses for her and her mother who always traveled with Ella until Mrs. Ewing's death in Chicago, March 23, 1900. Her father remained on his farm near Gorin. He died a few years ago, at nearly 90 years of age.

Miss Ewing's first pair of factory made shoes were ordered by J. M. Suter, who owned a store at Fairmont, and it was necessary to have special blocks made for them. A ring that would fit the thumb of a good sized man would barely slip on Ella's little finger. Her arms, as may be seen in the accompanying photograph, were twice as long as those of a man.

When she was baptized at the age of 27, in 1900, Ella sat on a chair placed in the water and two men helped the Rev. Mr. Dicken tip the chair backwards into the water to immerse her.

Had Many Proposals.

Although she never married, Ella received many proposals during her life. Each of these she refused, believing that her suitors sought only her money.

Miss Ewing died at the age of 40 years, on January 10, 1913, and was buried beside her mother in the Harmony Grove cemetery. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Baker in the Harmony Grove Baptist church and so many people attended that the church and churchyard were filled. Because it was an extremely cold day, two stoves were set up in the yard to warm those who could not get into the church.

Many articles worn by Miss Ewing are on exhibit in the State Museum at Jefferson City. Among unusual needs, with high doorways

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



SILVER NOSE RINGS AND ELABORATE SILVER BRACELETS ARE PART OF THE ATTIRE OF WELL-DRESSED WOMEN ON THE ISLAND OF TRINIDAD



ANNA SWAN, THE NOVA SCOTIAN GIANTESS, WAS ONE OF THE TALLEST WOMEN IN HISTORY - 7 FEET, 5 1/2 INCHES POSED WITH HER IS ADMIRAL DOT - 30 INCHES TALL

them is a shoe which is valued at \$500. There are also some articles owned by Gorin people which are highly prized.

Her home, with its tall doors and high ceilings, is still standing and at her grave in Harmony Grove Cemetery is a full length marker to testify to her great height.

Pounds

Inc., World rights reserved.

Scot 6-17

KEOKUK, IA., GATE CITY AND CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRATIC

Clark County Claimed Tallest Woman of World in Ella Ewing

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1954

(By PEARL GORDON VESTAL)

"What is one's pleasure is another's pain," they say. Do we think of that when we visit a circus, for pleasure, and gawk at persons born to be different, in some conspicuous way, from the average or "garden variety" of human beings?

One nice lady, unfortunate because of her height, was practically a "neighbor" to the Gate City's readers in the "Tri-State" area of Missouri-Iowa and Illinois, until her death, over forty years ago. There are those now living who knew her, in person. To me, she was a photograph, taken by my uncle, who was a photographer in Van Buren county, Iowa, and in Clark and Scotland counties of Missouri.

Born Near Gorin

Miss Ella Ewing was born near Gorin, Missouri. "Scotland county boasted of the tallest woman in the world," says a history of Northeast Missouri. "If any as tall has ever been discovered, the fact has never yet been made known," wrote L. P. Roberts, author of the chapter about his county, in 1913. "She was eight feet, four inches tall, a quiet, modest woman, intelligent and possessed of many accomplishments."

As a girl, Miss Ewing was very sensitive about her unusual height, and cried because passers-by stared at her. As a woman, she was induced to capitalize upon her misfortune and she saw much of the world while employed by the Ringling and other circus companies. The money she thus earned enabled her to build a house more comfortable than the average home could be for her

and a bed and other furniture cut to order for her convenience.

Feared Grave Robbery

Before her death, Jan. 10, 1913, Miss Ewing fretted about the possibility of a grave robbery. Would some one dig up her remains to get her skeleton for exhibition purposes? Would medical scientists covet her body for study? Her request was that she be cremated, but, so the report runs, her father had an aversion to cremation and made what he thought an adequate alternative protection of her body from possible vandalism. The privacy her father gave her was attained by having a sealed casket, of metal, imbedded in a concrete vault. Because those who knew her in person liked her, and others were attracted by her fame, the funeral service was attended by a large number of both mourners and onlookers.

THE GATE CITY:

HOWELL & CLARK, Publishers.

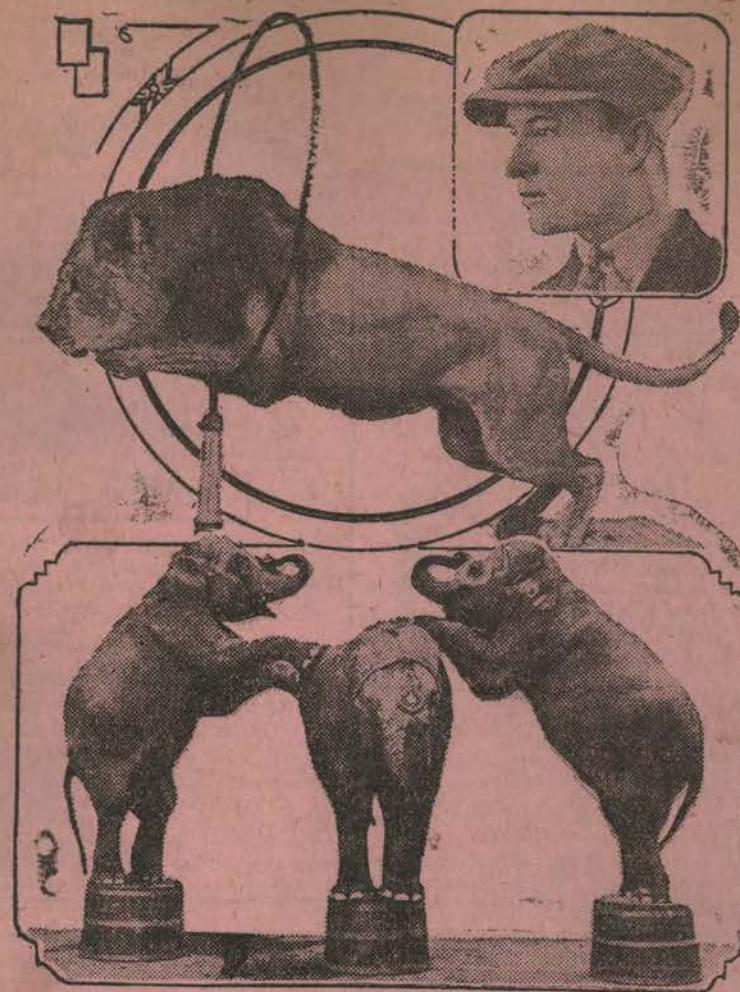
SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 9.

Barnum's Elephant's Depredations.

TROY, Sept. 8.—Mrs. Burnes, one of the women injured by Barnum's elephant Emperor which ran away through the streets here August 3d, died to-day. Patrick Burnes, husband of the deceased, also struck by the elephant has commenced suit against Barnum for \$5,000.

THE GREAT DUST BOWL CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

WITH CIRCUS HERE TODAY



Clyde Beatty and his animals are one of the many big animal acts that are presented by Hagenbeck-Wallace Shows which arrived here this morning for two performances at Thirty Second and Main streets.

Wagon Driver With Circus Loves His Horses—That's Why He Has the Job

DAILY GATE CITY

"Rags" Miller of the Hagenbeck Wallace Shows Talks About His Charges in the Big Circus Family.

JULY 9, 1928

"Rags" Miller, wagon driver for the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus and erstwhile circus follower, seemed more than willing to chat as he watched his horses graze behind the big top. The night performance was going on and it would not be long before he and his horses would be taking the heavy wagons to the train, but just now they were resting.

His team consisted of eight horses, one of the largest teams of work horses in the circus, the mark of a real driver. According to Mr. Miller one can almost tell how long a driver has been with a circus by the number of horses he manages. He had only been

with this circus for three weeks but for the past fifteen years had followed them and had gotten his team through a pull and his long experience in handling horses. "I have been following circuses for the last fifteen years for one thing just because I can't do anything else, I don't know how."

"I have been with almost all of the circuses all over the country. I even spent one winter in Venice, California, with the Barnes Circus. I'll never forget one night I was sleeping on an open wagon in the lion barn with the lions. I awoke out of a sound sleep to see the shadow of a huge lion pacing back and forth across the tops of several of the wagons. It was too dark to make him out clearly. I could just see his outline but that was enough. I left that room in such a hurry that I took the window sash with me. Later I found out that a runway had been made for that lion on top of several of the wagons and heavy wire had been used instead of bars which gave the effect at night of his

being out in the open.

Dwarf Clown Inside Auto.

The chugging of a Ford inside of the big top brought forth a comment from a by-stander who had witnessed the performance during the afternoon. "Yes, that act goes over big every time it is put on," he went on. "Do you know how it is guided? It is that dwarf clown inside who is making it go just where he wants it to. By the way, you noticed that pretty little lady in the side show. She is the wife of the little clown."

The conversation was interrupted by the loud whinnying of a Shetland pony that was being led out of the big top after the pony act. "That horse had a colt the other day and she is anxious to get back to it," remarked the circus man. "Susie is a dandy colt. She was born in Sioux City the other day and before she was three hours old the manager of the side show had bought her for eighty dollars.

Love for Horses a Magnet.

"I do love horses. That is one main reason I travel with shows for a circus is the only place a person can find many horses any more. There aren't many places left where a man can work with horses." Mr. Miller used very good grammar and talked like a man with a good bit of education and not merely one who had picked up driving for a circus as the only job he could pick up. "I always see that my horses have the best that can be had, too. My eight horses are allowed six bales of hay a day but they never get less than seven. That is one of the things that my helper has to see to.

"I may love horses but I certainly do not love lions," he remarked as the cracks and roars issued from the tent, denoting that the cat act was on. "I go in sometimes and watch that young man in that cage. He certainly takes his life in his own hands every time he does that. The crowd think that the beasts are trained to act wild but I have seen them too many times without when there has been no show on and I know. I wouldn't go inside that cage with only one lion in it if they would give me the whole circus." And he meant it.

DAILY GATE CITY CIRCUS ARRIVES THIS MORNING FOR TWO SHOWS

JULY 7, 1928

Hagenbeck Wallace Show is Here and is Entertaining Crowds at the Thirty-second Street Grounds.

The circus is here with all of its pageantry and glitter, with its clowns and its animals, its thrilling acts, and its latest feature exhibits brought from every country in the world.

Hagenbeck-Wallace shows arrived in Keokuk this morning from Oskaloosa, making the 103 mile jump over the Rock Island, with a double header engine attached to the long circus train. There were hundreds of anxious youngsters and as many grown-ups on hand to see the train come and to watch the unloading of the wagons and the animals.

Within half an hour of the time that the big circus train reached the terminal in the Keokuk yards, the wagons were on their way to the circus grounds at Thirty Second and Main streets. The horses used by the show to haul their wagons to the grounds are big handsome animals and their condition is evidence of the attention that is paid them by the circus folks.

Tented City Is Built.

The big tent was unrolled and soon was spread and the menagerie and side-show tents were put up in a jiffy. The menagerie wagons were placed in the tent and the sides taken down exposing to view the wonderful collection of animals that the show carries. Huge tigers and lions, bears, monkeys, giraffes, zebras, hippopotamus and other strange and wonderful animals are in the circus family this year.

The show is giving two performances this year, as usual, one this afternoon and the second tonight at the ground at Thirty Second and Main. Some of the greatest aerial acts in circuscum are being displayed by Hagenbeck-Wallace shows, and there are plenty of feature acts with animals as headliners.

Feature Animal Acts.

The heroes in the Horatio Alger books have nothing on Clyde Beatty, who ran away from high school and returned several years later to his home town, Chillicothe Ohio, as the famous wild animal trainer of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus. Beatty dashed away from classes one day to follow the steam calliope, and he never returned to the school room. When the circus left town that night he was a menagerie attendant and he applied himself industriously to learning the habits of the animals. Later he was given a chance to assist in the training of wild beasts and developed so rapidly that he soon was given a group to work. When the animal trainer retired in 1924 Beatty stepped into his shoes and has continued in the job.

Beatty this season is training the largest mixed group of Black Mane African lions and Bengal tigers ever offered in an arena. Over 30 male and female beasts will appear in this display, which is the biggest ever presented by any American circus.

There was no parade by the

circus, street parades being a thing of the past now, circus men say. Traffic in large cities is such a problem that parades have to be abandoned, and in a case like the one here, where the haul is long, it would be almost impossible in this kind of weather to get the equipment to the grounds, and give the horses enough rest to put them on parade over the long stretch to town and back.

and unloading will start just as soon as the lengthy flats, stock cars and sleepers are spotted on sidings.

Within thirty minutes after the first wagon comes down the "runs" it will be enroute to the circus grounds at 32nd and Main, where the two exhibitions will take place. Hagenbeck-Wallace comes with a bigger and better show than ever and offers a performance sparkling with new acts, novelties and features. The entire

CIRCUS DAY TOMORROW

THE DAILY GATE CITY



FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1928



Circus day, Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus Day is but a few hours away and already the youngsters of this city and also the majority of their elders are making plans to be in the railroad yards bright and early tomorrow morning to witness the unloading of the big show. The circus trains are due here between 5 and 6 o'clock

world was scoured by Hagenbeck agents for new attractions and those who have witnessed the show pronounce it the best ever.

Hagenbeck-Wallace is the first big circus to come here this year and is the only show of any size scheduled for here at present.

THE GREAT MUST HAVE CALLED HISTORY
R. I. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

HAGENBECK-WALLACE

THE DAILY GATE CITY AND CONSTITUTION-DEMOCRAT



TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1924

JUDY DOES HER STUFF!

And Judy has plenty of stuff to do, too. She is one of the most remarkable elephants in existence and the cleverest of the big herd with John Robinson's circus, which will arrive in Keokuk for an afternoon and night performance on Saturday.

KEOKUK WILL BE MECCA FOR CIRCUS CROWDS

John Robinson's Will Show
Here Saturday on the
Main Street Lots with
Many Features.

THURSDAY, JULY 3, '24

CIRCUS DAY FACTS

Arrival—The John Robinson circus trains are due to arrive in Keokuk at 5 a. m. from Quincy, early Saturday over the Burlington. They will be unloaded in the yards, and the cages, wagons and equipment will be immediately hauled to the circus lot.

Show Grounds 32nd and Main Streets.

Parade—The John Robinson street parade, the largest in the world this year, is due to arrive downtown shortly before noon. It will proceed on the main streets.

Performances — Bugles announcing "Peter Pan in Animal Land," spectacular extravaganza and super circus spectacle, employing 1,000 people and animals, will sound at 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.

Downtown Seat Sale—Wilkinson & Co.

Departure—The three trains will leave at hour intervals, beginning at midnight, for Burlington.

DAILY GATE CITY

THRONGS HERE FOR ROBINSON'S CIRCUS TODAY

JULY 5, '24

Fine Parade Viewed and Then Crowd Wends Way Toward Big Tops at 32nd and Main Street.

That endless lure—the circus—visited Keokuk today and the city was filled with visitors, who came from a radius of forty to fifty miles, autos being seen from Fairfield and many surrounding towns and counties. It was John Robinson's circus, and the name of the pioneer of circus makers was upheld to its highest mark by the calibre of the show that visited the Power City.

Arriving in the city from Quincy shortly after seven a. m., the many wagons were hauled to Thirty-second and Main streets, and the big tops went up in jiffy time. Throngs were on hand to see the tents go up, one of the many varieties of lures that the circus has.

Shortly after twelve, the big parade wended its way down Main street, to Sixth and Main, where it turned toward Johnson, then came back to Main again and paraded the whole length of the street back to the circus grounds. It was one of the best parades seen here in years and it took twenty minutes to pass a given point. It was a clean looking parade, with bright wagons, more than the usual number of fine animals, and striking and becomingly costumed men and women. Four bands, funny clowns, steam callophones were other features. The horses and ponies were unusually good looking. The streets were crowded with spectators and all expressed the opinion that it was very fine.

The parade was a good sample of what the circus would be; a crowded tent was assured both the afternoon and evening performance.

DAILY GATE CITY JOHN ROBINSON CIRCUS BIGGEST HERE IN YEARS

Large Crowds Attend the First Big Circus of the Season. Wild Animals Featured.

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1924

The John Robinson circus which appeared in Keokuk Saturday was the best that has been seen in this city for many years. The parade in the morning gave some idea of the immense number of horses, elephants and wild animals and the hundred or more people connected with the circus. It also showed a few of the beautiful costumes which are a special feature of the John Robinson circus, but not until actually witnessing the performance could one get a full conception of the

beauty and magnificence of the production.

Wild Animal Collection.

The animal tent, through which the crowd entered the main tent, was lined with the cages of wild animals of all descriptions, one of the largest collections of animals on tour, as well as the elephants of all sizes, the camels and various other tame animals. One of the most beautiful creatures in the tent was a huge Bengal tiger whose roar was enough to strike terror in the soul of the most hardened circus veteran. He was as ferocious as his roar, evidently, as the following story from the Quincy paper showed:

"Clawed by a tiger as he passed the animal's cage, Henfred Herman, 18 years old, an employe of John Robinson's circus, was painfully injured at Baldwin park Friday morning.

"His neck and the back of his head were slashed open, and his right wrist was lacerated.

Left With Show.

"After receiving first aid and serum treatment at St. Mary's hospital at 10 o'clock he remained a patient there through the day, leaving Friday evening to go to Keokuk with the company.

"Herman was working near the tiger's cage, when the animal extended its huge paws and clawed the youth close to the bars of the wagon in which it was housed. Snarling at its prey, it slashed and bit until other circus employes rushed to Herman's aid. They rushed him to St. Mary's hospital.

Bitten by a Monkey.

"Henfred Herman was one of two circus patients given treatment at St. Mary's hospital Friday. The second was a Chinese actress, who was bitten in the forehead by a too playful monkey, shortly after the tiger assault. The girl gave her name as Melinda Tfeng Der Vei, and her age as 13 years.

"It is believed that the wounds of neither will prove serious, although every precaution was taken to preclude the possibility of infection."

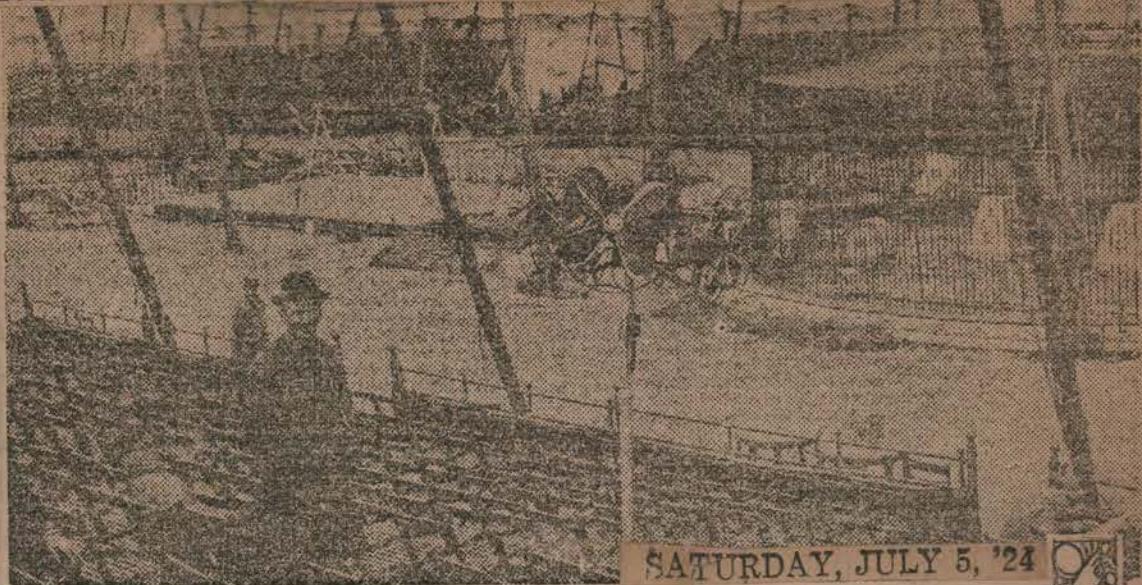
Unusual Opening.

The parade which opened the circus was not at all the ordinary proceeding, but was introduced by a herald in medieval costume mounted on a horse with jewelled trappings. The opening was called "Peter Pan in Animal Land" and created the desired atmosphere of a make-believe Fairyland. Certainly the parade and the acts which followed each other in quick succession, so quickly that one fairly gasped in the effort to see a dozen things at once, were like scenes of some long-forgotten fairy tale for the grown-ups and a veritable Never-Never land for the children.

It would be impossible to begin to describe the John Robinson circus—it will remain a happy memory to those who saw it and a regret to those who missed it.

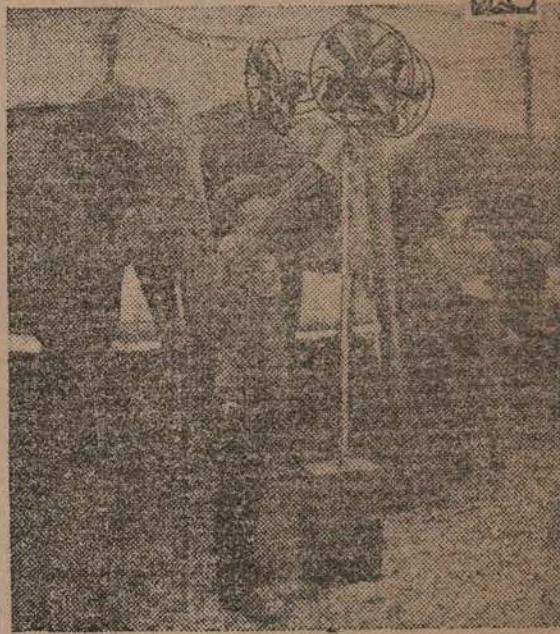
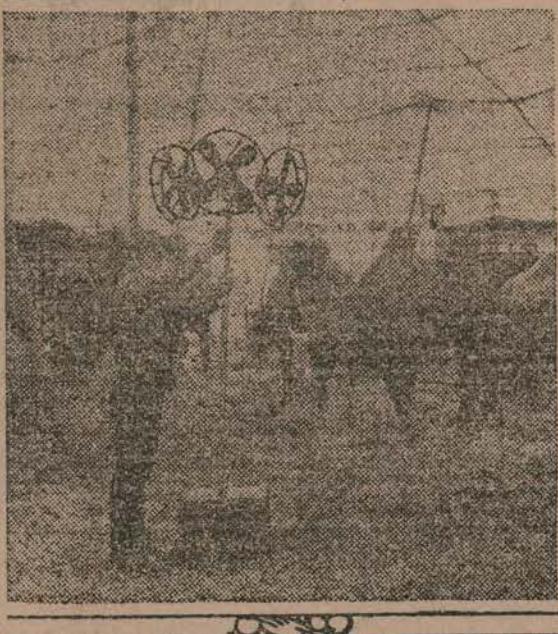
THE GREAT MUST-SEE CIRCUS HISTORY
J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

JOHN ROBINSON JULY 24



SATURDAY, JULY 5, '24

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Some of the Scenes in Keokuk Today

Elephants, camels, lions, tigers 'never'thing are in Keokuk today and being looked at by crowds, which always visit Keokuk on show day. Putting up the big top is an interesting operation, and the top picture shows the circus tent all ready for its visitors. The lower picture shows a typical circus crowd enjoying the performance. The peanut, ice cream cone and ice cold lemonade boys are shown in the foreground in their white coats. The two middle pictures give a glimpse of the menagerie tent and some of its popular residents, the camels and elephants.

KEOKUK

Main St.
Circus
Grounds

Sat. 7th
July

JULY 6, 1928

THE DAILY GATE CITY:

HAGENBECK WALLACE CIRCUS

ORIENTAL EXOTIC
SPECTACLE
"GEISHA"
CIRCUSLAND'S NEWEST
MUSICAL OFFERING

BIG DOUBLE MENAGERIE

FOREMOST TRAINED
WILD ANIMAL SHOW

TWICE DAILY
2 P.M. 8 P.M.
DOORS OPEN ONE HOUR EARLIER



**Prices - Gen. Adm. Adults 75c
Children under 12 Years 50c**

Reserved Seats Extra, According to Location
Downtown Ticket Office Day of Show Only at
Wilkinson Drug Store
Prices Prevail as at Showground.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

CAPTAIN GEORGE WEBB WAS BORN UNDER BARNUM AND BAILEY TENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1938

Captain George Webb, 44-year-old high diver performing with the Crowley Shows here, was born under the tent of the famous Barnum and Bailey Circus and has been in the show business all his life with the expectation of continuing in it.

Webb received his title of Captain from his grandfather who was Captain Matthew Webb, the first man to swim the English Channel, doing so in 1883. Two years later, he met his death while attempting to swim the whirl pool at Niagara Falls.

Own Trapeze Act

The parents of George Webb were with the big show 14 years after which they left with their trapeze act and performed under the canvas of the John Robinson, Walter L. Main and the Mighty House shows. George made his debut when six years of age by becoming the flyer with his parents on their casting act. He was light and easy to handle as well as being very agile so made quite a name for himself as the youngest flyer in the business. On reaching fourteen years of

age, he left his parents and went out on his own with the thought that he could make more money in a single act. He embarked upon his career as a water clown with Dad Meyers at an amusement park in Dayton, Ohio.

Practiced Dive

Meyers had a water show and performed the high dive himself. Webb's circus had closed early that season because of a bad year so he took to practicing his dives in the early mornings, gradually reaching a higher and higher dive with practice. Meyers struck the side of the tank, injuring himself and was unable to continue with his performances, and when looking around for someone to take his place, was informed by one of the park employees that the kid, meaning Webb, was a good diver and had been seen by the park attendant in the mornings putting on quite a performance for himself.

Webb was drafted into the act and a short time later, when Richard K. Fox, owner of the Police Gazette at that time, sponsored a contest for shallow water divers, Webb won it. His winning dive was from a height of 97 feet into 42 inches of water.

Breaks Jaw, 16 Ribs

At the Implement exposition, in Peoria during the year of 1912, Webb had made water dives before he made the one which proved to be a turning point in his life. There was a strong wind blowing which caused him to strike the side of the water tank, breaking his jaw and 16 ribs. He was in the hospital for 11 months and 4 days, and when being released, owed a \$1,600 hospital bill, had no job, no equipment, as there had been no one to take care of it after his fall and his lines and ladders had been destroyed, and was certainly in a deplorable condition. The hospital authorities and doctors gave him a bill paid in full for their work and he went to Chicago where he worked in a restaurant to earn enough to buy new equipment.

No More Water

On his first attempted shallow dive, after recovering from his injuries, he had no difficulty until coming from the tank and then shook like a leaf. From that time to this day he has made no high dives into water other than a few from bridges into rivers. Taking the idea from earlier experience gained in the big top, he decided to jump into a net as he had upon the completion of his trapeze acts. However, to bring more thrill into the feat, it was necessary to make the net small and the dive high, so he started working at 84 feet and at one time made a dive from 105 feet into a 14x14 foot net.

His present dive is from a height of 85 feet into a net measuring 9 1/2 by 11 feet, he says; the net having stretched from its original size of 8 1/2 by 9 1/2 feet.

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HAGENBECK WALLACE CIRCUS

THE GREAT DAILY GATE CITY
J. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

[New York Journal.]

The Gate City.

= JANUARY 31, 1889 =

Entered in U. S. Post Office as Second-Class Matter.

MOVING A GREAT CIRCUS.

A SKILLFUL MAN WHO DOES NOT SHOW IN THE RING.

Brain Work of the Railroad Contractor.

A Man of Large Experience and Burden-some Duties, Who Is Not as Well Known as the Clown.

There has always been more or less mystery surrounding the sudden arrival and departure of all large circuses, and even the newspaper man, who is supposed to know everything and more too, often stands aghast at the will-o'-the-wisp manner in which the great Barnum & Bailey shows manage to make a tour of the continent year after year, exhibiting in a different town nearly every day, scarcely ever missing an exhibition, and always on time.

"How is it done?" asked a Times reporter of an old showman whose hair had grown gray in surveying the tented field.

"Well, it is just this way," replied the veteran, as he lighted a fresh cigar and leaned back in a comfortable position against the wall. "You see, the first man that starts out in advance of the circus is the railroad contractor, as he is termed, and he must not only be a man of vast experience, but a walking encyclopedia as well. Among all the agents and managers connected with the great army of circus and theatrical enterprises, few of them understand the art of successfully piloting a large show over the country and so arranging everything that it is 'plain sailing' for the several advertising cars and the many railway trains that follow afterwards, as in the case of 'Barnum's greatest show on earth.' First of all, the proposed route for the entire season is carefully mapped out by the manager, who must determine upon the territory he wishes to visit, and then the railroad contractor is called in 'to lay out' the route and arrange the order of towns, or 'stands,' as they are called in show parlance.

CONSIDERING ALL THE DETAILS.

"Here begins the brain work of the route agent and the deepest study of the successful manager. It is no easy matter to even take a map and jot down the best and most promising show towns in such a manner as to make the 'runs' easy and practicable. A thousand and one questions will arise, and they must be answered then and there. It will not do to make a 'double run'—that is, pass over two distinct roads in going from one show stand to another—as it usually doubles the price of transportation and often causes serious delays. Therefore the route must be so arranged that only one line is used on the same day, and this often necessitates making peculiar geographical courses in order to bring the towns to be visited in proper rotation, and whenever it is necessary to make a long jump or use two railroads in making the 'run' it must be done on Sunday, in order to give ample time to make the transfers and reach the place of destination before daylight on Monday morning.

"All the while you must be looking far enough ahead to bring the show into a certain part of the country just at the right season of the year—that is, avoiding an agricultural district in planting time or harvest, catching the New England and coast country before the regular excursion and picnic season sets in, swinging back into the wheat growing section after the grain has been gathered and the farmers feel flush and ready for fun, sweeping down through Illinois and

Indiana 'when the frost is on the pumpkin and the corn is in the shock,' and later on wending its way through the southern states just in time to reap a rich reward for the pains and foresight of waiting until the last bale of cotton is marketed and the festive darkies are willing to give up their last dollar for a 'yaller keard to the cirkis.'

"Armed with all this knowledge the railroad contractor sets out to negotiate with the various railway managers for the transportation of the show in the order mentioned. Nothing daunted, he approaches the general manager or general freight agent of a given line—probably renews old acquaintances—and at once proceeds to business. With surprising facility and quick precision he states just what he wants, and often astonishes the railway magnates themselves by giving them information about track facilities and their connections with other roads at certain points, which they could not vouchsafe without calling in the general traffic manager or telegraphing to some distant place for the desired knowledge. He usually knows every side track from Bangor to San Francisco, and by some kind of psychological reasoning is able to tell whether there is a 'Y' at Cranberry crossing and if it is possible to make a transfer of the entire circus train at that point and reach Growler City before 6 a. m.

NO TIME FOR PLEASURE.

"Having ascertained that everything is in perfect order and agreed upon terms, he whiskers out a blank contract, fills it up in short order, gets the official signature of the road, obtains sufficient documents and orders to pass the advance agents and advertising cars over the road, extends his best compliments—perhaps I should say complimentaries—to the officers of the line, bids them good-day, and departs. No, he does not go and play billiards after that. He has no time for such pleasures. The car orders, transportation and other information has to be mailed back to the various agents; the contract and all details of the 'runs' must be sent to the manager, and a letter of instructions written to the master of transportation, who has the show in charge from the time that it is ready to load upon the cars until it is unloaded at the next show stand.

"Then, too, he must consult the maps and 'guides' and determine upon the extent of the excursion routes to be made and notify the excursion agent who follows closely in his wake and arranges with the passenger agents of all lines centering at the place of exhibition for special trains and low rates of fare on the show day. The contractor and excursion agent are closely allied, and much the same methods apply in perfecting the arrangements of both. Few persons unfamiliar with the duties of these dignitaries realize the many details they have to look after or the necessity of immediate action and thorough investigation on their part. They are the forerunners of a great event and as necessary to the circus as the center pole itself. J. A. Bailey, Barnum's equal partner, has always insisted upon having the very best men that money could obtain to fill these positions."—New York Times.

Daily Constitution.

MAY 14, 1885.

ABOUT ELEPHANTS.

WHAT A VETERAN TRAINER HAS TO SAY OF THE BEASTS.

Not One in Six Turns Out a First-Class Performer—Fondness for Whisky—

The Amount Which Constitutes a Dose.

"Elephants! Do you know much about them? Well, I have a right to; I've lived with 'em going on twenty-four years," said George Arstingstall, the veteran trainer, to a reporter the other day.

"I find them pretty agreeable, too, unless once in a while when they get sulky and stubborn and have to be chastised. I tell you when one of these big fellows gets mad you have to keep an eye on him. He's apt to sail into you. I always keep a club handy, and if there is anything more than another that an elephant has a profound respect for it's a club. Of course in the hands of a stranger it would be useless, but they are always more or less afraid of those who handle them."

"How long does it take to train an elephant?"

"Well, that depends on his disposition. You see, elephants have dispositions as variable as men, and some of them would no more learn tricks than some men would take to prize-fighting. We find out when they are young what stuff is in them by means of constant intercourse, and the useless ones are discarded. Not one elephant in six turns out a first-class performer.

"But to come back to the point, I would say that almost any animal can be trained in three months. The first thing to be done is to catch their attention. When their interest is thoroughly aroused you can handle them as you like. Show them a trick and they try to perform it right off. I teach them to waltz, for instance, by first waltzing myself and then taking hold of the animal and yanking him around with me. After, say, the first day they have caught on to the motion and then a very little practice will make them keep time. When a trick is thoroughly mastered they never forget it."

"Trained elephants," continued Mr. Arstingstall, "are comparatively a new product in the show business. Eight or nine years ago there was not one in the country. Hebe (the mother of Columbia), Juno and Pallas were the first group of trained elephants. I brought them out in the spring of 1880, and the people went fairly wild over it. One of their best tricks was to drink out of a bottle. It took them six weeks to learn it. They broke 100 bottles in the experiment and then I hit on a new idea by filling one with whisky. It worked like a charm."

"Are they fond of whisky?" asked the reporter.

The trainer laughed heartily. He went over to Chieftain, the biggest, next to Jumbo, and asked him if he wanted a drink of whisky. The beast pricked up his ears and nodded his head vigorously.

"That ought to settle it," said the showman, smiling, "and Chieftain is speaking now for all the rest. They are crazy for rum. Some of them like it mixed with molasses, but as a general thing they take it straight. They have no use for brandy, though. Of course we never give them strong stimulants except in cases of sickness or when they sometimes, especially in cold weather, take a chill."

"How big a drink can they stand?"

"Oh, you couldn't make an elephant drunk if you gave him a barrel, but that much might kill him. From six to ten gallons is as large a dose as can prudently be administered. It takes no effect on them whatever except to cheer them up a trifle for the time being."

"Has Jumbo ever been sick?"

"Yes, once. He took a severe cold one day last winter and I gave him ten gallons of rum. It cured him. Jumbo is a great toper when he got a chance, but Mr. Barnum, being a stanch temperance man, won't allow him to drink. He also likes tobacco and would chew it by the pound, but he is not allowed to have that either. You see, Jumbo, although a recent arrival, is thoroughly at home in this country and has adopted all the vices as well as virtues of the average citizen."

"Do elephants eat much?" inquired the reporter timidly.

"Scarcely anything. Here's Jumbo, for example, and it gives him all he can do to get away with seventy loaves of graham bread, three bushels of oats, 250 pounds of hay and a barrel of carrots every day. We feed him bread because he likes it and it makes him grow. It costs only \$30 a week to support him. Smaller animals run a board bill of from \$18 to \$25 a week."

The Gate City.

AUGUST 3, 1893.

THE GATE CITY COMPANY,
KEOKUK, IOWA.

COMING! COMING!

Will Positively Exhibit, Rain or Shine, at

KEOKUK, Two Days Only,
Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 7 and 8
W. H. HARRIS

AND THE GREAT

NICKEL-PLATE SHOWS!

Circus, Museum and Menagerie of Trained Wild Animals will be here.



Will Positively Exhibit, Rain or Shine, at
KEOKUK,
TWO DAYS ONLY, MONDAY AND TUESDAY,
Aug. 7 and 8.

ELEVENTH YEAR OF CONTINUED PROSPERITY
CROWNING TRIUMPH OF THE AMUSEMENT WORLD!

W. H. HARRIS'

New Absolutely World Famous

NICKEL-PLATE SHOWS



Positively the Biggest and Best One Ring
10 and 20 Cent Show on Earth!

TAKE HEED AND PREPARE TO VISIT IT!

NOTE DAYS AND DATES ON TOP!

Remember the name and do not confound it with any other. There is but one absolutely world famous Nickel-Plate Show and Harris created it.

Doors Open at 1 and 7 P. M.
Performance 1 Hour Later.
Will Exhibit Just as Advertised.

AT PEOPLES' PRICES—

10 AND 20 CENTS.

Constitution-Democrat

= AUGUST 7, 1893. =

NICKEL PLATE HARRIS.

He is in Town With His Excellent Circus.

Yesterday shortly after dinner there arrived over the Rock Island a heavily laden train composed of animals, outfit and stock cars, eating and sleeping cars for the men, with a private coach attached for the accommodation of the principals and performers of one of the most compact and complete circus organizations on the continent. A reporter visited the grounds yesterday and was struck with the quietness and business like shape of everything in connection with the show. The employees were active and to all appearances looked as

Madam and General Carver were the center of attraction, they having just arrived from Minneapolis, where they closed the season's engagement with Cole & Middleton. General Carver is nineteen years of age, weighs thirty-one pounds and has so far only attained twenty-one inches in height. Madam Carver, mother of the general, is just the opposite, weighing over 300 pounds. The mother and son have been before the public about twelve years and have resided in Clayton, Ill., about five years. They are supposed to be the greatest family contrast on earth. The general is the oldest of five children, very talkative and has a great fondness for pets. He had two white rats with him, a present from an admiring friend, received while on the circuit just closed. The remaining children are all large in proportion to their age.

While in Chicago they were losers in the burning of the Madison street museum, all apparel having been burned, and they just escaping with their lives.

Constitution - Democrat.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1890.

The Lion Tamer's Secret.

The boldest individuals, who put their heads two or three times a day into the lion's mouth, have told me that the best way to withdraw it from the gulf is, first of all, not to open the acquaintanceship with this experiment; and, secondly, to perform it with great nerve. Nerve, that is the great secret of the lion tamer, the sole cause of his authority over his beasts. When he has studied a subject for some time, endeavoring to master its character—and among the higher animals the character is very individual, very acculturated—one morning the man quietly walks into the cage. He must astonish the beast and overawe him at once. As to the training, it consists—and here I quote the words of an expert in such matters—in commanding the lion to perform the exercises which please him; that is to say, to make him execute from fear of the whip those leaps which he would naturally take in his wild state.

There is one fact which no one would suspect—that it is easier to train an adult lion taken in a snare than an animal born in a menagerie. The lion of the booth is in the same position as sporting dogs which play much with children; they are soon spoiled for work. Pezon possesses five or six lions which he has brought up by hand. As a rule they live with the staff of the menagerie on terms of perfect familiarity, but this frequently leads to tragic accidents. Lions, even lions in a fair, will devour a man in fine style. Can I say that the fear of such an accident is ever sufficiently strong to make me pause on the threshold of a menagerie? No. I cherish, and like me, you also cherish, the hope that some day perhaps we may see a lion tamer eaten. This contingency sometimes occurs, in fact more often than is usually supposed. For instance, without leaving the Pezon menagerie, it is not a year since the proprietor narrowly escaped being devoured by his bear Groom, at Chalons-sur-Marne. He would have perished if his son Adrian Pezon had not thrown himself, sabre in hand, between the two combatants and killed the bear on the spot.—Acrobats and Mountebanks.

The Gate City.

MAY 6, 1891.
Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second Class Matter.

A GREAT CONTRAST.

Museum Freaks Off Duty Attract the Attention of Levee Loungers.

Levee loungers were permitted to view a stellar dime museum attraction, yesterday, without putting up the dime. At the Wabash depot,

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THE GREAT BUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. L. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

Keokuk, Monday August 9th

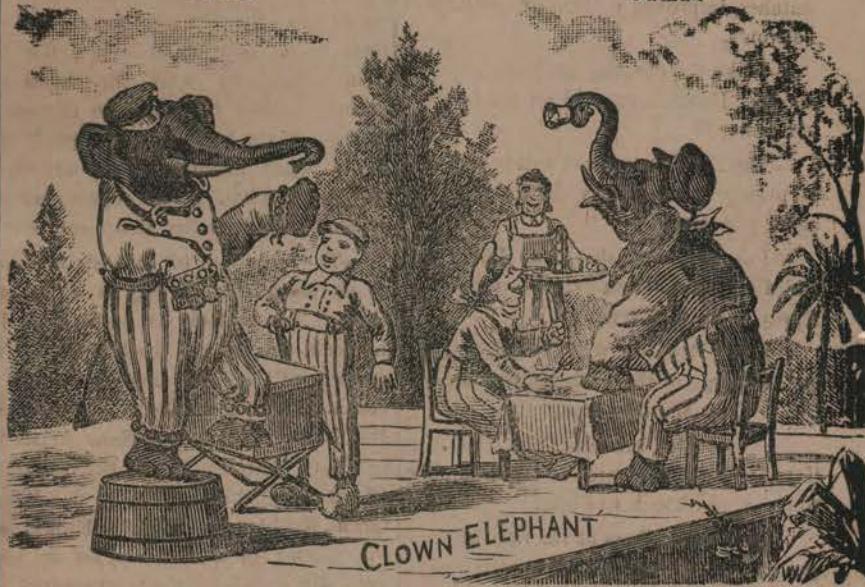
BARNUM & LONDON +UNITED+SHOWS+

Ten Times Larger and Better.

Capital, \$4,000,000. DAILY E-X-P-E-N-S-E-S, \$7,000.

FAREWELL TOUR

◆◆◆ BARNUM'S ADIEU ◆◆◆



I regret being forced to take away from my fellow-citizens an exhibition which they have enthusiastically appreciated and lavishly patronized, but the amusement-seeking people of Europe demand the opportunity of seeing this combination, which has a world-wide reputation, and no counterpart in my country. I have made all arrangements and contracts for its transportation, in its vast entirety, across the Atlantic. My able and experienced partners will conduct this unparalleled enterprise under my personal supervision.

The public's obedient servant,

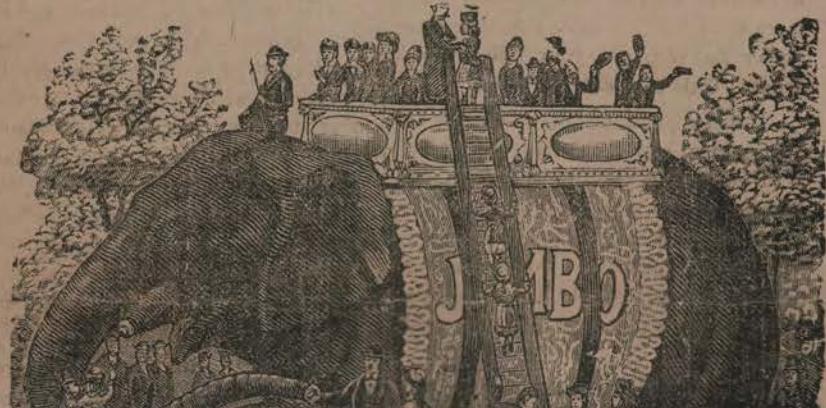
PHINEAS T. BARNUM.

A Truly Great and Wonderful Exhibition
TRIPLE ALLIANCE CIRCUS IN 3 RINGS.
ELEVATED STAGE PERFORMANCES.
AND ROMAN HIPPODROME, with Thrilling Races
TWO DOUBLE MENAGERIES with Rare Beasts.

IMMENSE MUSEUM OF LIVING WONDERS.

Herds of Elephants! Herds of Camels!

500 Horses & Ponies--100 Cages & Chariots.



Daily Constitution.

AUGUST 2, 1886.

P. T. BARNUM IS COMING.

The Combined Shows—Myriads of Attractions and Features.

The present season forms the sixth in the compact that binds P. T. Barnum's greatest show on earth and the great London circus, the two biggest shows this country ever produced, and now and forever more from this time out veritably one inseparable enterprise under the firm name of P. T. Barnum & Co. In presenting the magnificent combination this year, it can safely be said that everything of any value as an object of pleasure, source of amusement and laughter, or that produces delight, affords instruction or causes wonder, creates astonishment or in any way conduces to the innocent recreation of the public is this year to be found within its mammoth tents. \$500,000 has been expended in purchasing novelties, features, wonders, and marvels, which, added to those already possessed by these monarchs of the show world, renders the exhibition truly an immense one in each and all its many departments. To enumerate its myriads of surprising features would be to occupy too much space; suffice it that the show consists of a triple circus with three full companies in three big rings, elevated stage performances, a Roman hippodrome for the exposition of the numberless thrilling races, a museum of living human and other wonders, two monster double menageries of the rarest wild beasts, birds and reptiles, an elephant pavilion containing a herd of those big animals, besides clown elephants and others, all trained. The huge canvas has a seating capacity of 20,000, and covers fully eight acres of ground, while the other tents are simply numberless. Four trains of cars are necessary to transport the stock, cages and material; and the pay roll contains the enormous number of 800 names—truly a mammoth show. 210 persons employed in advance in various capacities, 300 is stated as the number of its performers, who are to be seen in 100 acts of a startling character. The great free street parade will take place the morning the shows arrive, after which two performances will be given, at 2 and 8 p. m. The entire show will be here on Monday, August 9th.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

KEOKUK, IOWA, AUGUST 5, 1886.

BARNUM'S BEST.

His Own and Only Greatest Show on Earth
Coming in all its Grandeur.



JUMBO Natural, as Life,

AND GREAT IVORY BONED SKELETON.

ALICE. JUMBO'S WIDOW AND FORMER PARTNER.

TROUP OF SEMI-BARBARIC ARABS.

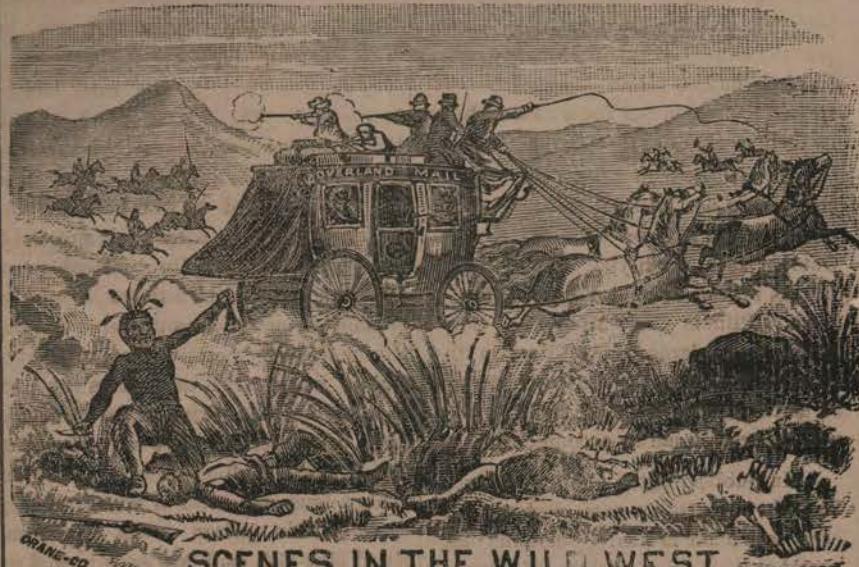
100-STARTLING & SOUL-STIRRING ACTS--100

300-PHENOMENALLY EXPERT PERFORMERS

GREAT CONGRESS OF HUGE LIVING GIANTS.

Great Miramba Band.

THOUSANDS OF ATTRACTIONS, to Bewilder and Charm Everyone.



SCENES IN THE WILD WEST

P. T. BARNUM'S

Last Appearance to his Millions of Little Friends, and presenting the
GRANDEST SHOW OF HIS LIFE.
2 Performances each Day, 2 & 8 P. M.--Doors open an Hour Earlier.

General Admission to Everything only 50 Cents.

Children Under Nine Years 25 Cents.

THE GREAT STUPENDOUS PARADE

With \$1,500,000 worth of rare animals and objects on the morning of the arrival of the Show.

For the accommodation of those wishing to avoid the crowds on the grounds, an office has been established at AYRES & SONS' JEWELRY STORE, 509 Main Street, where reserved numbered tickets can be purchased at the usual slight advance.

Will exhibit at BURLINGTON, August 10th. EXCURSION RATES ON ALL RAILROADS.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JUNE 10, 1866.

GOOD-BYE TO BARNUM.

Farewell Tour of the Greatest Show on Earth.

We have Mr. Barnum's own word for it that the wonderful exhibition with

which his name is identified will visit Keokuk for the last time on Monday, August 9th. The only complaint we have ever heard against the greatest show on earth is that it gives the public not only many times more than any other but always a great deal more than their money's worth. This year the situation appears to be much the same, only

The great Barnum and London millionaire metropolis of capstone marvels, the moral amusement mecca of admiring millions is to visit this city Monday, August 9th. Barnum on the occasion of this, his semi-centennial farewell tour will exhibit the rich results of fifty years struggles, experience, research and triumph, the overwhelming culmination of the largest, grandest and most successful managerial reign on record. Among the many prodigies features that will be displayed will be Jumbo, the Great, now a doubly strong and mighty show; the chief pride of science and the elephantine wonder of the world. Through the knowledge and skill of Prof. Henry A. Ward, of Rochester, N. Y., the lord of beasts looms up as of old. Standing beside the famous African colossal can be seen Jumbo's tremendous skeleton, a companion prodigy without a counterpart. These, it has been truthfully said are the two greatest wonders Barnum in all his successful career as an amusement caterer has been able to present to the nation. Alice, the biggest widow on earth, only second to Jumbo himself in size and frame; a grand international congress of giants, all the earth's biggest and most stupendous people; for the last time in America, Abdallah Ben Saids Bedouin circus of Arabian athletes; Guatimalas great Miramba band; Adelaide Codona, the sensational empress of the arena world, and Barnum's Roman hippodrome, the most famous racing circuit of the world are among the principal novelties promised by this great moral entertainment, that is patronized by thousands never seen at any other traveling exhibition. For this farewell season the entire exhibition has been enormously enlarged, countless new museum, menagerie, circus and ethnological additions from every quarter of the universe, and this will be positively the last chance you will have to see them. Remember the date, Monday, August 9th. Two performances will be given, afternoon and evening, opening at 1 and 7 o'clock and commencing at 2 and 8 o'clock. A single ticket of admission admits you to all of this vast entertainment, and the price of same is no more than that charged by the lesser and inferior traveling exhibitions.

more so. The colossal program includes the three biggest circuses in three separate rings, two largest menageries in two tents, a wonderful museum of rarest living prodigies, an international congress of the biggest giants, a huge elevated stage for the display of olympian games, and a Roman hippodrome, with a course nearly half a mile round, presenting an international circuit of the races and spectacles of ancient times, contrasted with the speed contests of the present kings of the turf—all exhibited under canvases of such enormous size that they would swallow up all other menageries and circuses combined. Prof. Ward, of Rochester, N. Y., has also preserved to us lamented Jumbo, a

doubly greater wonder, for beside Jumbo, as natural as life, and still robed in his own ponderous hide, stands his prepared skeleton—a most prodigious and strange spectacle. Of foreign features there is almost a universal exposition, and the glories and sensations of the vast and splendid free morning street parade will alone attract tens of thousands, to join, heart and soul, in the contagious excitement and hilarity of Barnum's farewell holiday.

The Daily Constitution.

KNOX CONSTITUTION CO.

JULY 31, 1886.

NOTHING LIKE IT.

Barnum's Show Greater this Season than Ever Before.

The grand street parade of the United Barnum and London shows will take place on Monday, August 9th, at 8 o'clock in the morning, to be followed by two performances in the mammoth tents. Never before in the history of amusements in this or any other country has there been so immense and stupendous a show as the one that Barnum will present on that day. The capital of the concern has been increased to \$4,000,000, and every one of the many departments have been largely added to, making the daily expense over \$7,000. There will be three circus companies performing in three big rings, each forty five feet in diameter, and upon the elevated stage sixty by eighty feet; there will be the Roman hippodrome, with its glorious races, as only Barnum knows how to do it; the museum of living curiosities, with famous giants, dwarfs, etc.; the two immense double menageries, the life-like reproduction of dear old Jumbo, with the ivory-boned articulated skeleton; Alice, Jumbo's widow; the Miramba band, troupe of Arabs, and other curious features; and there will be in addition the most interesting and instructive collection of immense human beings ever gathered together in the history of the world, and embraced in the international congress of giants, besides other novelties, wonders and curiosities collected after three years of hard labor by agents in all parts of the world, and enlisting the service of nearly every United States consul in those places. It will certainly be a grand exhibition, and deserves the hearty support of all classes.

The Daily Constitution.

KNOX CONSTITUTION CO.

AUGUST 9, 1886.

THE GREATEST ON EARTH.

THE GREAT BARNUM SHOW EXHIBITS HERE TO-DAY.

Thousands of Visitors in the City—A Magnificent Parade and a Fine Exhibition.

To-day was Barnum's day in this city, and the reputation of Keokuk people for hospitality, our beautiful Rand Park with its cool breezes, and easiness of access, and the other attractions of our city, combined with the great show brought thousands of visitors to the city to-day, the crowd being the largest ever seen here on show day. They began coming in from every direction early in the morning, and large train loads arrived on every road, over forty cars coming in from Albia, Centerville and intermediate points alone, so that by the time the parade was ready to start, Main street was crowded for blocks.

The show arrived early Sunday morning from Quincy, and the wagons were hauled to the base ball grounds near Rand park, where the monster tents were pitched. Hundreds of small boys were around the grounds all day, and many others congregated at the fountain at Twelfth and Fulton streets, where the cages were cleaned and the horses watered.

THE PARADE.

To-day opened bright and clear, despite the predictions that it would "be sure to rain the day Barnum is here." The parade started at 9:20 a. m. and proceeded out Main street. It was the finest circus parade ever witnessed here and was well arranged, showing off the special features to advantage. There was a long line of gorgeous chariots and vans, bands of music, etc., among the more important features being the following: Band wagon drawn by eight horses, twenty knights on horseback, open cage of lions, twenty ladies on horseback, open cage of tigers, open cage of panthers, open cage of leopards, open cage of sea-lions, polar bear in cage, four cages of other animals, chime chariot, six Arabs on horseback, followed by two cages and two chariots, band wagon drawn by six horses, thirteen women on horseback, six horsemen, five cages, pipe organ, four camels, two chariots drawn by four camels, seven cages, twelve elephants, five cages, band wagon, chariot, two chariots drawn by six ponies each, chariot drawn by four ponies, chariot containing clown drawn by one pony.

THE PERFORMANCE.

On arriving at the grounds after the parade preparations were immediately commenced for the afternoon performance. The tents cover acres of ground, the main one being the largest ever spread here.

The menagerie was even finer than in former years, an aggregation of splendid specimens of lions, tigers, panthers, leop-

ards, hyenas, bears of all descriptions, sacred cattle, herds of elephants and camels, sea lions, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, and other interesting animals being shown. They were in excellent condition. Jumbo's skeleton and prepared hide were objects of interest to all. The immense hide is stretched over a wooden frame, made according to an exact likeness of the body of Jumbo when alive. The skeleton looked almost as large as the frame work of a good sized house, and was finely articulated at every joint.

The audience tent is of oblong construction, containing two rings and a stage, is 457 feet in length, 280 feet wide. Taken altogether, this Barnum and London combined show is without dispute the greatest show on earth.

Fully 15,000 people must have witnessed the performance this afternoon, which began at 2 o'clock and lasted two hours. To pick out any one feature of the circus and say of it, "this is better than the rest," would be a difficult thing to do. But to say that all were more than excellent would be the truth in a mild form. All the actors were stars in their particular acts. They were in good trim for the performance and they did their acts in superior form. Barnum has always been noted for his galaxy of actors and actresses, and this year he seems to have surpassed even himself in presenting to the public the talent of the whole world. In this show one is given a short trip into nearly all the countries of the world. Madam Adelaide Cardona, the queen of equestriennes, performed some wonderful feats of bareback riding, and Miss Viola Rivers is second only to her in that part of the show performance. The reproduction of ancient gladiatorial feats and statuesque posturing was beautiful and instructive. The trick pig and monkey rider elicited much enthusiasm from the audience and was a novel and entertaining act. It would be inexcusable in us not to mention the performances of the Julians and of Lolo, Sylvester and Lola. Miss Julian, a young Californian lady, stands alone in her great contortion acts, being the only lady contortionist known. Lolo, Sylvester and Lola in their triple act almost seem like aerial animals of a new sort. The little Lolo flies without wings from one to the other of the remaining two as fearlessly as if she were going out for a walk. The Arabians are a wonderful lot of acrobats, and carry their priest with them, he being one of the performers. The entire performance gave the greatest satisfaction.

Another performance will be given tonight, commencing at 8 o'clock. The show goes from here to Burlington, where it exhibits to-morrow.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, APRIL 1. 1881

The Hippopotamus Dead.

From the New York World, March 20.

Behemoth, the baby hippopotamus of the Aquarium, was found dead in his bed yesterday morning. He had seemed to be in good health on Monday night and had retired in good humor at his usual hour. His guardian, Dr. Oscar Kohn, between whom and himself there existed the tenderest friendship, carefully tucked the clothes in around him and bade him "Good night," and he soon after dozed into a pleasant sleep. A post-mortem examination was made, and it was found that Behemoth had died of consumption. His remains were sent to a taxidermist for preservation.

The baby hippopotamus belonged to Mr. P. T. Barnum's happy family. At the time of his death he was only two years and eleven months old, and weighed 560 pounds. He was born on the banks of the White Nile, and was kidnapped by an expedition very soon after birth. He was brought up on the bottle, goat's milk being used for his food, on account of its superior strength and richness, and he thrived so well that if he had lived until maturity he would have attained the remarkable weight of 6,000 pounds. Behemoth was the only domesticated hippopotamus ever known. He was early taught to open his mouth in order to show the inside of his throat, which was very large, and it is thought that this habit of perfunctory gaping may have had something to do with his death, the raw American weather thus gaining easy access to his internal economy. He shed his milk-teeth about a year ago and was about getting a new set. Mr. Barnum's agent has already telegraphed to Europe for another young hippopotamus from Egypt.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16. 1881

Elephants Playing Possum.

New York Sun.

"There are some very cunning fellows among our twenty elephants," said Mr. Durand, agent for the combined Barnum and London shows, yesterday. "The other day Chieftain and Mandrie, the top mounters in the pyramid, and the most cunning of the flock, suddenly took a shivering chill at rehearsal. The keeper sent out and bought four gallons of whisky, which the monsters devoured rapidly and with great relish. The bill came to Mr. Barnum, whose strong temperance predilections you know. After paying the bill, Mr. Barnum insisted that nobody in his employ, not even his elephants, should drink whisky under any circumstances. In a little while the elephants, when the effects of the liquor had died away, commenced shivering again, and apparently had another chill. They looked longingly at the keeper, and attempted to caress him with their trunks, as much as to say, 'Give us another drink.' The keeper shook his head, and told them positively 'No.' In five minutes every appearance of ague had vanished, and the animals were quietly munching hay, as usual. They had been playing possum."

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY

HOWELL & CLARK, Publishers.

AUGUST 17, 1882.

LION TAMER MARTIN'S METHOD.

His Gift of Control Over the Most Savage Beasts.

Baltimore News.

A curious history, and one that sheds many gleams of light upon the character of beasts in the menagerie, is that of Henri Martin, the lion tamer, who died, 30 years old, quietly at his home "among his collections of butterflies and his books of botany." Martin, according to his own letters, began to cultivate his gift of control over animals in the days when he was connected with a circus, by acquiring an extraordinary power over horses, which he taught every trick known to the profession, and some which have hardly been exactly paralleled. From this he went on to taming wild beasts, and soon after he had started business as part proprietor of a menagerie he had labored eight months in training a royal tiger and had taught a spotted hyena to pick up his gloves. He was never seen with a whip in his hand; but he crossed his arms and gave his animals the word of command to leap on and off his shoulders, and he considered his method infinitely superior to that of the trainers who go through their business chiefly by the terrorism of a heavy whip and a revolver. Their beasts obey them, but, he said, "they are not tamed as mine were, and when one of them rebels you can judge the tragic result from the tragic end of Lucas."

One day Martin told his wife that he anticipated trouble with his lion Cobourg, who was then in a dangerous state of excitement. She begged him to put off the performance, but he said: "No; for if I should do it once I should have to do it every time the animals have caprices." The next night his forebodings were fulfilled. Instead of performing his part properly, Cobourg crouched low and dug his talons into the stage, and his eyes flared. Martin had no weapon at command except a dagger in his belt—"I have said never a whip." Instead of obeying orders the lion leaped at Martin and a combat occurred, in the course of which the lion took Martin up in his mouth and shook him in the air. Martin struck the animal over the nose for a second time and then, feeling his strength exhausted, gave himself up for lost, and turned his back to the beast, so that at the next spring it might attack the back of his neck, and so 'make an end of the business.' * * * But two seconds passed; two seconds that seemed to me an eternity. I turned around; the lion's mood had changed. He looked at the audience; he looked at me. I gave the sign to go. He went away as if nothing had happened."

It was fourteen weeks before Martin could perform again, but then the lion worked as well as usual, and continued to do so for four years without any more caprices. In taming one of his tigers Martin began by taking the brute's attention off the door of the cage, and then, armed with a dagger, went rapidly into the cage and stood looking at the tiger, which, for some minutes, lay motionless, staring at him. Then, feeling a shiver, and knowing that if the tiger saw it all would be over with him, he went swiftly out. At the end of a fortnight he went again into the cage, and this time stayed there half an hour. A third time he paid the tiger a visit of three-quarters of an hour. "The fourth time the tiger, trembling at first, lay down before the pigmy who braved it."

To tame a hyena, Martin wrapped his legs and arms with cords and protected his head with handkerchiefs, and then, walking into the cage, went straight to the animal and offered it his fore-arm. The hyena bit it, and the tamer, looking steadily in its eyes, stood motionless. The next day he repeated the experiment, substituting a leg for an arm, "and all the time Martin's black pupils were flashing into the gray eyes of the hyena. The beast gave up, cringed and smelled the feet of the master." Martin tamed his subjects by his personal influence alone, and Charles Nodier once said of him: "At the head of an army Martin might have been a Bonaparte. Chance has made a man of genius a director of a menagerie."

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, JUNE 7. 1881

THE GREAT SHOW COMING.

W. C. COUP'S MONSTER UNITED SHOW
CIRCUS—MENAGERIE, MUSEUM, AND
REAL PARIS HIPPODROME.

Unparalleled for size; merit novelty, grandeur, sensations and glittering splendor, combined with the greatest and grandest Parisian entertainment—making one vast stupendous and magnificent representation of all sports, pastimes, and diversions of ancient and modern times.

See what the Cincinnati daily papers say: The Daily Enquirer says enormous crowds daily attended; we repeat it is the largest and greatest show in America, if not in the world.

The Gazette says: Best tent show ever given in the city.

The Commercial says: The biggest and best show under canvas—appears to be the verdict of all.

No other show ever produced the profound impression of worth, merit, truth, and all that is splendid, gorgeous, amusing, entertaining and instructive, that the W. C. Coup's show has done on this its annual tour through the west. The earth, in contribution to render this far exceeding all previous attempts to produce so comprehensive, elaborate, magnificent, unequalled, unparalleled, unique entertainment, under larger canvases than were ever before erected. There will be given, by a hippodromic corps, two and four horse Roman chariot races, jockey, steeple and hurdle races, elephant and camel races, on a race track one-half mile in circumference, forty feet in width. Remember no other company on earth has a canvas large enough to contain a race track or does have one. No other show exhibits a hippodrome, either inside or outside of the canvas, or attempt to do so. Their statements that they do are false. Four separate and distinct rings are used during each performance; no other company has so many. Nine different kinds of music are used during the grandest procession of the earth through the streets. Don't forget, at Keokuk; net until July 6th—one day only. Remember the day and date. See future advertisement.

THE GREAT DAY'S WORK CALLED HISTORY.
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

Weekly Constitution.

AUGUST 19, 1885.

THE FOREPAUGH ACCIDENT.

**Even More Serious Than at First Supposed
—Complete List of the Wounded.**

The cause of the accident to Forepaugh's circus train Friday morning was due to a coupling link between two of the cars breaking as the train was pulling out from the water tank, the second section thereby running into its rear cars. Engineer Sack Starkey, who was in charge of the engine on the second section, is greatly blamed for not stopping before he got to the tank, as it was arranged he should do. His engine lost the smoke stack and had the boiler head stove in. The loss to the engine and cars will be \$3,000 to \$5,000. A dog and a horse were killed and several parade wagons smashed. The sleeper Detroit had eighty men in the berths, and was thrown bottom up in the ditch, but none of the men in it were seriously hurt. The following is a complete list of the wounded and the nature of their wounds:

Augustus Smith, slight fracture of the left pelvic bone, with considerable bruising of the bowels.

C. O. Kapp, age twenty-three, injured in chest.

Louis Harter, age twenty-two, incomplete fracture of the left femur and cut on right leg.

Frank Hollands, age twenty, injury to chest and incomplete fracture of left clavicle.

Frank Boyd, Philadelphia, candy seller, age eighteen, complete fracture of left arm and complete fracture of left femur.

Frank Baker, partial fracture of left shoulder; some slight injury to back; flesh wound of right heel.

Lewis Legrand, cut on left leg.

Mike Welch, car repairer, two severe flesh wounds of the scalp.

Sidney J. Eason, clown, Brooklyn, N. Y., has a wife and son, fracture of back part of skull; most dangerously injured of any.

A. F. Peters, flesh wound on top of head.

W. H. Smith, slight injury to head.

C. R. Conway, bruising of ankle.

All the seriously wounded were sent Friday night to the Davenport hospital. The company showed in Ottumwa Friday.

Weekly Constitution.

AUGUST 26, 1885.
FOREPAUGH'S CIRCUS.

A Great and Successful Show.

There seems no abatement in the daily attendance on this immense show, notwithstanding the hard times. The tents are crowded to overflowing at every performance, and the advent of the excellent establishment here on Monday, Septem-

ber 7th, will prove no exception to the rule. The press comments all along the route are the heartiest endorsements, as witness the following from the Chicago Daily Herald, of June 2:

"The great Forepaugh Show opened yesterday afternoon in the tent village at the lake shore before a good house. The programme was much better than that of any great traveling show, consisting of seventeen double numbers in two rings, six numbers for the center stage, and concluding with twelve hippodrome races. Most of the acrobatic, equestrian and gymnastic feats of the programme have never been produced before. Mlle Kabowls' aerial flights, consisting in backward jumps from ten tables piled on top of each other, are decidedly new and daring, their chief attraction being the moral certainty that the petite performer must sooner or later break her neck. Adam Forepaugh, Jr.'s herd of performing elephants is still the marvel of all beholders, and the menagerie attached to the circus is worth seeing. Barnum will not invade the wild west this year, hence Forepaugh has no competitor, as all other shows flee from his route."

Weekly Constitution.

FOR FAMOUS FOREPAUGH.

**THE VETERAN SHOWMAN MEETS
WITH A FINE RECEPTION.**

**An Attractive Parade Monday Morning—A
Novel and Brilliant Performance in the
Afternoon—A Regular Holiday.**

Adam Forepaugh's three monster trains arrived in the city at an early hour Sunday morning, when the circus property was immediately transferred to the grounds at the junction of Eighteenth and Johnson streets. Many people visited the circus Sunday, and viewed with interest the erection of the tents, the feeding of the animals, etc. Notwithstanding the lateness of the season, the tents, wagons, cages, horses, elephants and wild animals appear in first class condition, looking, as one gentleman put it, "brand new." Manager Forepaugh directs the show in person, and was warmly welcomed by his old friends here to-day.

Always a favorite in Keokuk, Manager Forepaugh has added to the esteem in which he is held here by the splendid attractions he presented his patrons to-day. The parade was one of the finest spectacular displays ever seen in the west, and was a fitting prelude to the novel and brilliant arena and zoological features exhibited under the imposing tents. The show throughout bears the stamp of originality, and is a wide and complete departure from the conventional circus. Not alone is the show rich in novel arena attractions, but the museum and menagerie departments abound with the rarest and most unique curios

and zoological specimens attainable. From the massive "Bolivar" down to the diminutive baby monkey every animal possesses an unusual degree of attractiveness. The ring performances were of superlative excellence. Everything run with clock-like precision, and the smoothness and artistic finish of the *ensemble* is particularly pleasing. Many entirely new and sensational acts were given, but our limited space deters a detailed mention of them all. For pure hair-raising and blood-curdling purposes the performance of the young Russian woman, Mlle. Kabowls, is eminently suitable. Ascending a pyramid of tables thirty feet in height, she fearlessly plunges headlong to the stage beneath, turning a summersault and changing her attire while whirling through the air. No only once does she execute this remarkable feat, but repeats it several times. Another big sensation, but of a more humorous type, is the boxing bout between a pugilistic elephant, fittingly named "Sullivan," and Adam Forepaugh, Jr. Although "Addie" showed up in excellent form, and displayed no little proficiency in the use of the mittens, yet the long, swinging blows of Mr. Elephant de Sullivan were too much for him to cope with, and the four legged boxer was declared the victor. It is an infinitely amusing act, and elicited storms of applause. The intrepid aerial act of the "Human Meteors," Dunbar and Vernon; the peerless bareback equestrian displays of Madame Rolland, Miss Lizzie Rolland, Messrs. Jean Irvine and George Rolland; the picturesque acrobatic act of the Martine brothers, who appeared in full evening dress, *a la Craggs*; the elastic evolutions of the Majiltons; the amazing juggling of a simeon-pure "Jap," Houssaburo Sam, and his American partner, Shattuck, together with the almost human performances of the herd of elephants, under the direction of the foremost living elephant trainer, Adam Forepaugh, Jr., were other noteworthy features of the elaborate programme. Strange as it may seem, the "business" of the two principal clowns, Billy Rollins and "Charley" McCarty, was strikingly free from "chestnuts." The hippodrome races were given with a spirit that challenged unstinted applause. All the realism of a veritable race course pervaded these contests, and they completely eclipse any similar display ever seen in this city. Prof. A. E. Menter's military band was an important factor in contributing to the pleasure of the audience.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 7, 1884.

Mailed at Keokuk Post Office as second class matter

FOREPAUGH'S FAVORITE.

His Present Show a Great Success—A Monster Exhibition, a Marvel of Management and a Myriad of Mighty Monsters.

Old is he indeed from whom has departed the charm which lingers long around the average person for the circus and its surroundings. There is a peculiar fascination about the wagons of gold and glitter, the spreading tents, and the many scenes incidental to circus day that proves irresistible and people who fondly imagine that their day for following the little red wagons is past, will, when the music plays and the procession comes trooping its way along, find themselves with the throng, gazing upon its many wonders. The desire is created to again renew acquaintance with pleasures of youthful days and old age joins youth to make merry over the antics of clowns and delight in feats of strength, agility and horsemanship. No man who caters to public taste has kept pace with improvement in his particular line better than has Adam Forepaugh and his great exhibition which was yesterday presented here bears evidence of his enterprise, energy, and daring in the investing of such a sum of money as must be necessary to successfully carry on such a gigantic undertaking. It is indeed a wonder world on wheels. Every part of it is systematically arranged and carried on with a precision and perfection that borders on the marvellous. In the menagerie department may be found many rare specimens of the animal kingdom. Lions, tigers and leopards are numerous, elephants in droves. Forepaugh's pride is "The Light of Asia" the white elephant of which so much has been said and written. The animal is a diminutive one of its species and is about of the color of cigar-ashes. An examination shows it to be considerably different from the others on exhibition, the distinguishing features being the light colored toe nails, pink lined ears, third nostril said to be characteristics of the Siamese elephant. Then there is the blue faced mandrie, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, giraffe, sacred cattle, yak, antelope, hyena and other curious specimens of the animal kingdom. In the circus are two rings and an elevated platform upon which performances are given simultaneously, and if any fault could be found it is in that there is too much of a good thing. It is all a person can do and do properly to keep track of one performance at a time and when three or four performances are going on at the same time one pair of eyes are not equal to the task imposed upon them. Many meritorious features

are introduced. Nala Damajante the Hindoo snake charmer, the Majiltons in grotesque, Little All Right in his familiar slide for life, Herr Jogendorfer in feats of strength, the troupe of Arabs, in their groupings and pyramids the wonderful herd of trained elephants introducing the famous clown Paclydern, the Silbon family, aerialists, being the most noteworthy. There are gymnasts, acrobats and athletes, daring riders, chariot, flat, elephant, Roman and camel races enough of all to satisfy the most diversified tastes. Forepaugh has certainly got an exhibition of which he may well feel proud and is now in a position to dispense with the most obnoxious feature, the offensive and insulting candy butcher.

but that it was the only genuine one in the country.

Mr. Forepaugh always traveled with his show, and even purchased the provisions for his employees' meals. He catered on the route for all the attaches of his circus, the performers, musicians and business staff dining in a special car, and the laboring force in a camp on the show grounds. The following amusing anecdote serves to illustrate his shrewdness: Once, in Holyoke, Mass., he was purchasing a quantity of provisions from a grocer, telling him to charge them to "the steward of the Forepaugh show." When he had completed his purchases he said: "Isn't there something in this transaction for me?" the remark being instigated by the fact that stewards of hotels, steamboats, etc., are frequently bribed by those of whom they make their purchases. The grocer quietly handed him a \$2 bill, and then extended the account to be marked correct by the supposed steward. The circus manager wrote upon it: "O. K., Adam Forepaugh." The grocer gazed upon it and then looked as though he wished the earth would open and swallow him. Forepaugh said nothing, but smiled audibly and walked away. But he put the \$2 note deep down in his vest pocket.

Adam Forepaugh lived in and for his circus. His show was his first thought in the morning and his last at night. Only recently he said: "I have a boy and Mr. Barnum has none. My show will outlast his."

One of the striking things about Mr. Forepaugh was his marked resemblance to Chauncey M. Depew. They looked enough alike to pass for twin brothers, and the resemblance caused considerable amusement to both men, so widely different in temperament and tastes, and yet so much alike in that kind of executive ability that calls for complete management of a great business enterprise.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

FEBRUARY 2 1890

Entered in Keokuk post office as 2d class matter

THE LATE ADAM FOREPAUGH.

A Butcher Boy Who Became a Great Showman.

An ignorant little butcher boy, running errands at a salary of \$1 a week; a self taught bookkeeper earning over \$100 a month; a shrewd horse dealer who got the best of every bargain he made; one of the most successful showmen and business managers ever known—such is the history in a nutshell of the famous Adam Forepaugh, whose death was recently chronicled. He came of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, and was born in Philadelphia on Feb. 28, 1831. He drifted into the show business from his horse dealing transactions. In 1861, when John O'Brien was running his circus by wagons, Forepaugh sold him \$9,000 worth of horses.

When the time came for O'Brien to settle he found himself unable to square up, and Forepaugh, having visited his show and taking a liking to it, bought him out and started in the business himself. He enlarged the concern by buying out Jerry Mabie's menagerie of two elephants and eight wild animals, and secured the versatile Dan Rice for his clown. From then on he constantly increased the attractions and resources of his business, and his one great aim was to successfully rival his antagonist in hippodroming, P. T. Barnum. And it was his proudest boast—although he was not much given to that sort of thing—and his greatest satisfaction that three times he compelled Mr. Barnum to lower his colors and sue for peace, in the bitter wars that raged between them for over ten years. Mr. Barnum every time sought Mr. Forepaugh, and three times were armistices signed by them.

In 1884 the great white elephant clash between the two famous showmen occurred. Mr. Barnum extensively advertised his sacred white animal from Siam as the greatest attraction ever offered to the public. Mr. Forepaugh kept silent, but just before the season opened he sprung his white elephant on the country. The Barnum folks claimed that it was only a vile painted imitation of the genuine article, but Forepaugh secured a certificate from the professor of natural history in Michigan university to the effect that the Forepaugh elephant was not only genuine,



ADAM FOREPAUGH.

CONSTITUTION - DEMOCRAT.

JANUARY 29, 1890 =

ADAM FOREPAUGH.

The Career of the Famous Showman is Ended.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 24.—Adam Forepaugh, the veteran circus manager, died Wednesday night at his residence in this city. Mr. Forepaugh had been ailing for some time past. He was attacked a week or two ago with the prevailing influenza epidemic, which three or four days ago developed into pneumonia.

Mr. Forepaugh was originally a butcher, but many years ago he embarked in the circus business, in which he was very successful, getting together a most extensive circus and menagerie, with which he amassed a fortune which is estimated at more than \$1,000,000. He was a large real-estate owner. Mr. Forepaugh was 58 years old. He leaves a wife and one son, Adam Jr., who will succeed to his immense circus property. The funeral will take place Monday.

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.

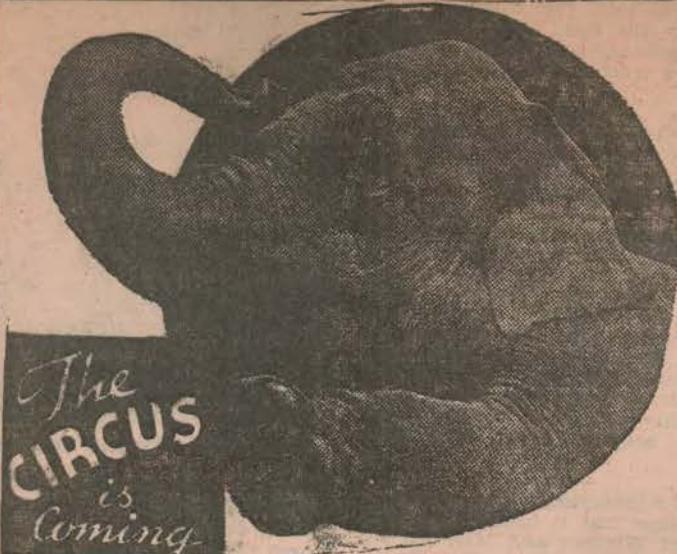
MAY 5, 1881.

P. T. Barnum has sued the Philadelphia *Sun* for \$100,000, for asserting that he (Barnum) had not a single cent invested in the circus, but merely hired out his name.

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THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY
THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1937



Keokuk

Show Ground at
Baseball Park

Friday

Afternoon—Night

APRIL

30

PRICES

This Date Only	
Children	Adults
25	40
CENTS	CENTS

ONLY BIG CIRCUS COMING

**THE FAMOUS
ROBBINS
WILD ANIMAL
CIRCUS**

NOW COMBINED WITH
**BUCK STEELE
AND HIS OWN REAL
HOLLYWOOD RANCH
WILD WEST**

50 Cowboys, Cowgirls and Indians
250 PEOPLE—20 CLOWNS
200 ANIMAL ACTORS
CAPT. SELLS' AFRICAN LIONS

**FIRST CURCUS
OF YEAR COMES
HERE TOMORROW**

APRIL 29, 1937

Famous Robbins Bros., Three Ring
Show Will Arrive Here Bright
and Early For Two
Performances.

Tomorrow is circus day in Keokuk, and bright and early the first section bearing the equipment of the Robbins Circus will move into town with its roaring lions, chattering monkeys, scampering clowns, mountainous elephants, billowing canvass and blaring bands, and will pitch tents on the Ball Park show grounds, where for the day this Circus will hold forth, and will become the mecca for old and young alike.

The famous Robbins Circus comes to Keokuk with the highest praise of both press and public of the various cities and towns in which it has previously exhibited, and all are loud in their complimentary statements as to the clean wholesome entertainment that this big organization offers its patrons.

In the three rings and massive steel arena will be seen such acts as the Wiggin Family, Italian Circus Artists who will make their initial American Circuit appear-

ance with Robbins Circus, Allen Sells, fearless and daring young wild animal trainer who presents his sixteen African male lions in the most sensational wild animal act ever presented in any steel arena or beneath any Circus "Big Top." Robbins herd of performing elephants, troops of trained ponies, dogs, monkeys, bears, sheep and goats. Robbins high jumping and dancing horses. Clowns by the dozen, and in the array of sensational aerial performers will be seen the flying Riddle Family of aerialists, also acrobats, contortionists, troops of Japanese performers and many other high class circus acts.

Two big bands will furnish music for the two hours Circus performance, and doors to the big show will be open at 1:00 and 7:00 p. m., and performances start promptly at 2:00 and 8:15 p. m.

Circus Is 110 Years Old

For more than a century circuses have shown in this country, one hundred and ten years to be exact, for it was in 1826 that the Howe and Turner Shows took to the road under a "big top" canvass, an innovation that marked the beginning of the modern circus.

For more than 100 years prior to that, however, various elements that have been moulded into the present day circus were delighting early Americans; the first lion was exhibited in this country in 1720, presently other strange beasts were brought in, and even-

tually menageries were formed, strolling players, acrobats and clowns traveled through the colonies, equestrienne performances were popular, the museum would open with freaks and animals.

All of these elements eventually came together to form the circus of today, which in spite of a thousand other entertainments still thrill 20,000,000 children of all ages each year.

Lighted at first with pine knots, then with candles, or whale oil lamps and later with gasoline torches, the circus now carries its own electric light plants, and take in at a single performance more money than all the thirty circuses of 1830's hoped to see in a year.

In the 30's Van Amberg thrilled the audience by entering the cage with a living lion, while today Capt. Sells puts a whole group of lions through their paces in a single arena.

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 11, 1881.

Forepaugh's Circus.

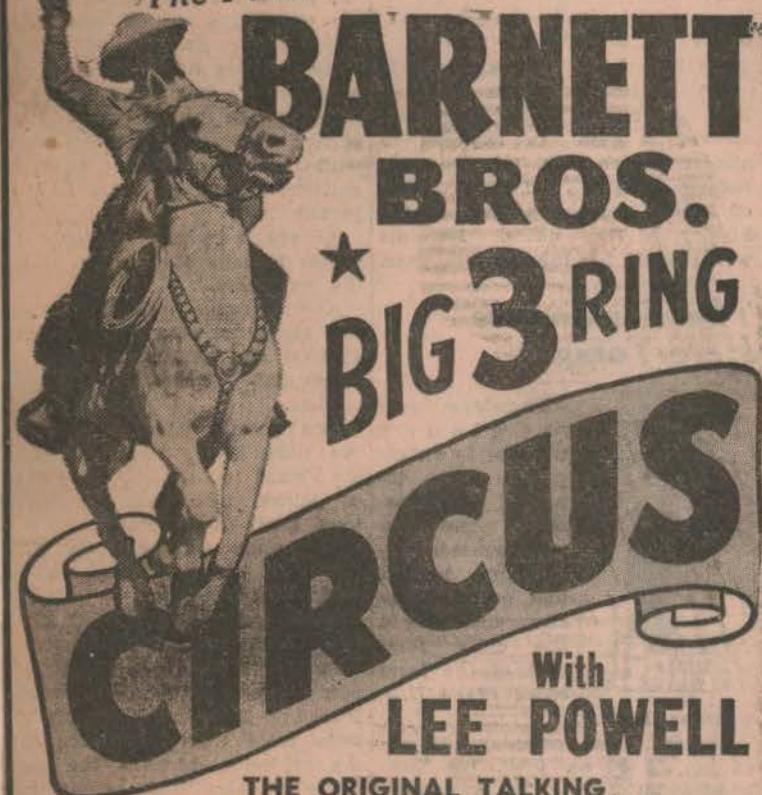
The coming of Forepaugh's show to our city Friday attracted larger crowds from abroad than has the appearance of any similar entertainment except that of Barnum's Hippodrome on its first visit here. People came from all directions, from early morn there being a continual stream of vehicles pouring in from the various avenues leading to the city, while each incoming train was heavily laden with people who were determined to see the circus. Owing to an accident to one of the sleeping cars, the arrival of one of the trains used in transporting the circus was delayed until about twelve o'clock, which rendered it necessary to abandon the usual street procession. This was a great disappointment to the many thousands that had assembled to witness the passing of the loudly heralded oriental street pageant representing the departure from Delhi of Lalla Rookh, and in which the much talked of \$10,000 beauty was to impersonate the fair one of ancient story. In this connection the management are certainly deserving of censure, for when it was apparent to them that it was going to be impossible to present this feature as advertised, they should have taken some method of letting the people know of it and not keep countless women and children waiting anxiously, expectantly, for hours in a hot, broiling sun, for the passing of a procession that it was not calculated would take place. At both performances the immense canvass was crowded to suffocation and the arena performance presented by the numberless equestrian, gymnasts, acrobats and specialty performers enlisted under the Forepaugh banner, entitled this foremost of circus managers to the appellation great in all the term implies. Many new features of a novel and pleasing nature are introduced. Act follows act in rapid succession and the presentation of performances simultaneously in the double ring kept the auditors continually on the alert for fear they might miss some act of a startling character. The acts of the Herberts, Selbini and Villon troupe, Mons. Loyal and Zula and the drove of performing elephants introduced by Master Forepaugh were especially commendable.

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY
SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1939

KEOKUK -- 21
One Day Only—2 P.M. and 8 P.M.
FRIDAY, JULY 21
32nd AND MAIN — CIRCUS GROUNDS

AMERICA'S BEST TENTED AGGREGATION!

The Famous



With
LEE POWELL

THE ORIGINAL TALKING

MOTION PICTURE **LONE RANGER**
TWICE DAILY IN PERSON RAIN or SHINE
EXTRA ADDED FEATURE EXTRAORDINARY

Appears Twice Daily **BARON NOWAK**

THE SMALLEST MAN ON EARTH

Popular Prices — CHILDREN 25c
ADULTS 40c

Reserved seats Circus Day at Wilkinson & Co., from 9:30 a.m.
until 12:30 noon.

**FIRST CIRCUS
HERE JULY 21**

**BARNETT BROS.
WILL EXHIBIT
AT 32ND, MAIN**

Keokuk will be visited by the first circus of the season on Friday afternoon and evening, July 21 when the Barnett Bros. 3-ring

circus will show at the grounds opposite the ball park at Thirty-second and Main street.

Announcements in the colorful circus manner, have been posted in Keokuk in advance of the "big top." The circus comes to Keokuk from Burlington where it is showing on July 20.

Lee Powell, the original talking picture "Lone Ranger," is one of the features. He appears at each performance. Baron Nowak, said to be the smallest man on earth, is also on the circus program. Performances are scheduled for 2 p.m. and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Inasmuch as circuses have been

LONE RANGER HERE JULY 21



Riding high in his silver-plated saddle, astride his wonder horse, Lee Powell, original star of the talking screen epic, "The Lone Ranger," will thunder into the arena of the Barnett Brothers' Circus when the big show comes to Keokuk for afternoon and night performances on Friday, July 21.

Surrounded by his own big company of rangers, cowboys and girls, scores of spirited horses and a group of real American Indians, Lee Powell will appear in person at every performance of the circus as the feature attraction of 1939.

The big show comes here from Burlington and will exhibit here on the 32nd and Main St. grounds, presenting complete exhibitions at 2 and 8 p.m.

The Barnett Brothers' Circus, now in its 16th annual tour, offers this year the most superb of all-star features ever seen under the white tops. Acts include the Riding Lelands, HaiShaik Chinese Troupe, the Morello-Savilla Troupe, Ted Lewis and company of riding stars, the Rogers sisters, supreme ballerinas of the air, the famous Flying Hartzells, Edward Raymond and his coterie of funsters along with scores of other celebrated arena features from every land under the sun.

Hundreds of trained and performing horses, elephants, canaries and a vast menagerie of strange wild beasts make up the 1939 edition of Barnett Brothers' Circus.

An extra added feature attraction will be Baron Richard Nowak, the smallest man on earth. He weighs 17 pounds.

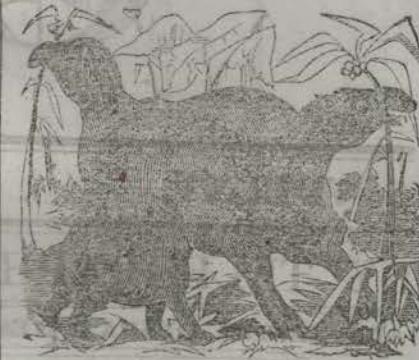
"folding up" and few are on the road this year, excepting the larger ones, this will likely be one of the few opportunities for local persons to see the colorful performance under the "big top."

The Daily Gate City.

KEOKUK, IOWA: *1868*
FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 6.

AT KEOKUK,
TUESDAY, JUNE 23.

Admission 50 cents.
Children 25 cents.
Doors open at 2 and 7 P. M.



JOHN ROBINSON'S
GREAT COMBINATION
Circus & Menagerie

THE MENAGERIE.—An immense concourse of people assembled last evening to see the animals and witness the performances at Hemming, Copper & Whitby's Menagerie and Circus. The company fully sustained its reputation of being one of the very best shows of the kind now in the West. The audience was pleased and even delighted with the entertainment. The performances, many of them, surpassed anything we have ever seen of a similar kind. The company will go down the river from here.

THE GATE CITY

KEOKUK, IOWA *1869*

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 18.

Hemmings, Cooper & Whitby's

EXTENSIVE

MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS!

Most Unique Exhibition Traveling!



The Daily Gate City.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1872.

FOR ONE DAY ONLY.

BACKENSTROE'S

Cosmopolitan Circus

MUSEUM

—AND—
MENAGERIE

AT KEOKUK.

On Monday, May 3,

continued on 169

Forming a Grand Stock Enterprise, consolidating

TEN SHOWS

Of first class selection, in one grand alliance, producing the most stupendous display of wealth, talent and experience ever seen in this country.

THE MAMMOTH Zoological Department

Is composed of the curious and rare

ASIA, AFRICA & SOUTH AMERICA,

Including Ornithological selections of the most beautiful specimens of FOREIGN BIRDS, forming the most extensive collection of

WILD ANIMALS

IN THE COUNTRY, supported by the Largest Company of Equestrians

IN AMERICA, numbering

150 MEN AND 250 HORSES,

Including

50 PERFORMERS,

FIVE LADY EQUESTRIENNES,

THREE POPULAR CLOWNS,

Enabling the management to produce STARTLING ACTS OF HORSEMANSHIP, DARING GYMNASTIC EXERCISES, SPECTACLES OF ORIENTAL GRANDEUR,



With the most dazzling splendor.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

President.....	JOHN ROBINSON.
Superintendent.....	J. F. ROBINSON, Jr.
Business Manager.....	W. H. HOUGH.
Secretary.....	JAMES ROBINSON.
Treasurer.....	G. N. ROBINSON.
Director of Arrangements.....	J. WILSON.
Musical Director.....	THOS. CANHAM.
Historic Lecturer.....	DR. CAMPBELL.
General Agent.....	GEO. MORRISON.
Keeper of the Dens.....	Prof. G. W. JOHNSON.

Features of the Ten Shows.

1. ROBINSON'S GREAT COMBINATION SHOW—Living Wild Animals and Equestrian Selections.

2. WOMBOULD'S MENAGERIE, in two parts—Zoological and Ornithological—from London.

3. MONS. FRANCOIS BOYD'S Parisian School of Educated Horses.

4. SIGNOR ADOLPH CASTELLO'S Italian Troupe of Educated Dogs, Monkeys and Goats.

5. MADAME GEOTRUD DE BOUXARIE'S Speciality, with her magnificent den of performing Lions, "Hero," "Don," "Cruiser" and "Atta."

6. WILSON'S AUSTRALIA. Gymnastic Alliance.

7. SLOMAN'S SOUTH AMERICAN Vaudeville Company.

8. J. F. ROBINSON, Jr.'s School for Training Horses.

9. J. Q. A. HEMINGWAY'S Collection of Native American Wild Animals.

10. G. W. JOHNSON'S Performing Elephant, "Empress."

In the Zoological Department will be found

I HERD OF TAPIRS!



STERLING FEATURES

And embraces in its
ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION

Many beautiful specimens of

Trained Animals

SELDOM PRESENTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION,

Prominent among which are

SIX MONSTER LIONS!

The first ever brought to this country, and a
BABY ELEPHANT!

The smallest, prettiest, and most tractable creature of its kind ever exhibited. This little animal is very sagacious, and performs almost incredible feats under the direction of its youthful preceptor, MISS SUSIE WHITBY.

A SUPERB STOCK OF

EDUCATED HORSES!

AND

TRICK PONIES!

A TROOP OF

COMIC MULES!



AND

LEARN'D MONKEYS.

THE CIRCUS COMPANY

ABOUNDS WITH
Novelty and Attraction!

And includes on its roster the names of many of the
MOST FAMOUS

Male and Female Artists

In the profession, and who are unparalleled as
Equestrians, Gymnasts, Equilibrists, Somersaulters,
Acrobats, Tight Rope Dancers, Voltigeurs,
Jugglers, Tumblers, or Leapers,

IN THIS

PHALANX of ABILITY

Will be found the following Performers:

Mrs. WARNER, formerly Mrs. DAN RICE,
The most accomplished of Manege Riders;

Mr. & Mrs. TOM KING,

In their Great Two-horse Act;

Miss SUSIE WHITBY,

The astonishing Juvenile Equestrienne

Mrs. RICHARD HEMMINGS,
Equestrienne and Slack Wire Dancer

Mr. RICH'D HEMMINGS,
Histrionic and Versatile Performer

Mr. LUKE RIVERS,
The great Four Horse Rider

Mr. PHILIP KINCADE,
The Champion of Champion Tumblers

HERBERT and REDMOND,
The Flying Trapeze Performers

Mr. WILLIAM MYERS,
Equestrian and Scenic Delineator;

Mr. W. H. BATTY,
Posturer and Gymnast

Master GEORGE WHITBY,
Juvenile Tumbler and Pony Rider.



Introducing the most complete company of
Celebrated Artists ever congregated for

Equestrian and Olympian Pastimes!

The extent and variety of talent engaged, precludes
in this space, even a synopsis of the Programme.
Suffice it, that this vast organization comprises the
leading

ACROBATS,
GYMNASTS,
EQUESTRIANS, and
TRAPEZ PERFORMERS

In all over NINETY ARTISTS!

All the rarest collection of
ANIMALS and CURIOSITIES

Ever contained in one Museum and Menagerie trav-
eling in the West.

The arrival of COSMOPOLITAN will be heralded
by the music of the

Monster Steam Calliope!

And the Mammoth Show will make its entry into
town on the morning of the exhibition, with its
beautiful Mounted Chariot, containing Prof. Frank
Spur's Brass and Reed Band, followed by the Liv-
ing Wild Animals in their new and beautiful dress,
gleaming with emerald and gold.

Previous to the Circus Entertainment, Prof. D'
Orville will give a Free Exhibition upon a Tight
Rope, outside the Pavilion, at an elevation of some
200 feet in mid air.

ADMISSION—50 cents; Children under ten years
of age, 25 cents.

Don't forget the day and date
Two o'clock in afternoon and 7 in the
Evening.

ON MONDAY, MAY 13th.

LEWIS MYERS, Agent.

The Daily Gate City.

SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 12, 1872.

THE COSMOPOLITAN CIRCUS.—Backen-
stose's Cosmopolitan Circus, Museum and
Menagerie give two entertainments in this
city to-morrow, viz., at two o'clock in the
afternoon and seven in the evening. The
exhibitions given by this company are
highly spoken of by the press wherever
they have been. The Quincy Herald in its
notice of them says:

The company is unusually strong, and
many of the feats are rarely witnessed un-

A rare and wonderful animal, from the interior of Asia, of the genus Pachypodium Mammal, characterized by a nose prolonged into a movable proboscis; skin very thick and covered with close, short hair, and neck furnished with a stiff mane. Of all animals they have the most acute sense of hearing and of sight, and when attacked they defend themselves with their teeth. The present herd has been imported at an immense expense for ROBINSON'S GREAT COMBINATION, and moreover, they are the only living specimens of the animal ever brought to the United States.

A FLOCK OF AUSTRALIAN EMEUS, or Cassowaries, imported for the Great Paris Exposition, but retained for the Great Combination, enabling the management to exhibit to the searchers of natural historical specialties the most beautiful birds of rare plumage in the world. Various heights of these birds, from seven to twelve feet, being the only specimens in America.



A HERD OF PORCUPINES,

Natives of Africa and Asia, of the genus *Hystrix* of Linnaeus, with pines or quills three feet long, imported at the fabulous sum of \$6,000, being the only herd ever on exhibition, furnishing the most beautiful subject for the study of the naturalist.

THE PERFORMING ELEPHANT, "EMPEROR," introduced by Mr. Johnson. African Lion and Lioness, Ring-tailed Lemur, Ocelot, Wild Dog of Tartary, Civet, Ceylana, Ground Coati, Alpine Marmot, Silver-crested Cockatoo, Zebra, Chacma, Mandrill, Red Monkey, Chimpanzee, Diana Monkey, Great Flamingo, Lyrebird, White-nose Monkey, Persian Lioness, Blue Cockatoo, Alexandrine Parrots, African Leopard, Tiger Cat, Ceylon Tiger, Ishneumon, American White Bear, Russian Cinnamon Bear, Wormbat of Australia, White-headed Parrot, Australian Kangaroo, Grizzly Bear, American Buffalo, African Bison, African Porcupine, Wapiti, Mona, Barbary, Ape, Marmoset, Red Macaws, Rose-winged Parrots, Blue and Yellow Macaws, Banksian Cockatoo, White-eyed Monkey, Goodwit Cassowaries, Long-billed Curlew, Proboscis Monkey, South American Dusky Puma, Golden, Silver and Chinese Pheasants, Agile Gibbon, Ursine Howler.

Prominent among the attractive talent of the arena are such artists as Miss CORDELIA, the wonder of the 19th century, Mlle Frances, Madame Margaret, Madame Gertrude, Mr. John Wilson, Mr. John Robinson, Mr. J. McDonough, Mr. Geo. Sloman, W. H. Ashton & Sons, Mr. G. N. Robinson, Sig. Adolph Brandisi, Mr. John Lowell, The American Humorist and Polite Local Clown; Mr. Frank Robinson, Clown par excellence and Modern Grimaldi; Mr. Archie Campbell, time-honored dispenser of Wit and humor; the Nonpareil Lewis, Mr. Lewis Willis.

First appearance of G. M. KELLY, the Champion Leaper of the world. Magnificent and brilliant tournaments and grand Oriental processions will open each entertainment.

This truly meritorious exhibition of wealth, talent and experience produces, as if by magic, an outfit of such superior magnificence and beauty as to astonish the world.

GRAND GRATUITOUS EXHIBITION!

A gorgeous ancient pageant—the grand chariot of Mars, Oberon and Achilles; living Lions in open dens of gold and bronze; knights and gladiators, in armor of ancient Romans, as escort to the glittering and costly Oriental equipages. This grand and imposing procession will be preceded by the Chariot of Oberon, containing

THOS. CANHAM'S
Oriental Silver and String Orchestra
Of twenty first class Musicians.

TWO PERFORMANCES—At 2 and 7 o'clock p.m. The procession will enter the city at 10 o'clock. Remember the day and date and don't confound small circuses with this Mammoth Combination.



THREE GREAT CLOWNS! PORTER, DE HAVENS & WILLIAMS.

TOGETHER WITH

MILLE ALVIRA,
MRS. J. MANUS,
MILLE CAMILLE,

MRS. WILLIAMS,
MRS. WHITBY,
MILLE CLEMENS.

And a large Auxiliary Force of General Performers, the *toute ensemble* constituting an

Exquisite Gathering of Talent!

The Performances will be of a very marked description, presenting

BEAUTIFUL EQUESTRIAN ACTS!

CLASSIC ATHLETIC GROUPINGS!

BRILLIANT ARENIC DISPLAYS

ASTOUNDING GYMNASTIC EXPLOITS!

DARING BAREBACK RIDING!

MARVELOUS SOMERSAULTING

TERRIFIC LEAPING!



THE GREAT PHELIX McDONALD,

The Lion Tamer!

Will enter the LIONS' DEN, and perform the ferocious monsters in a variety of feats, producing some

THRILLING TABLEAUX!

TRICK HORSES & PONIES

Will be exercised by MR. H. WHITBY, in a number of astonishing and pleasing performances.

The Ponies and Monkeys!

Will also be introduced in the circle by Mr. Whitby.

A GRAND PROCESSION!

Will take place about 10 a.m. on the day of exhibition, when the novel and exciting spectacle of

A Living Lion

Carried through the Streets, on a Magnificent Chariot built for the purpose, will be presented to the public. The parade will be led by the Band Carriage with

SEWELL'S CORNET BAND!

And followed by the Animal Cage, the Baby Elephant, the Lions, Vans, etc., and proceed through the principal thoroughfares to the exhibition ground.

At MONTROSE

Wednesday, July 21st, 1869.

AT KEOKUK

Thursday, July 22d, 1869.

Two Performances—Afternoon and Night.

Doors open at 1 & 7; Commences half-an-hour after.

ADMISSION.....50 Cents.

Children under 9 years.....25 Cents.

By mail, 35 cents.

9691

over the canvas. The feature of the exhibition is the trapeze act, by Harry Clark and Millie Gracie, the latter being the most daring and successful lady gymnast that ever appeared in this city. During the act she held her partner suspended in the air by her teeth, and was favored with well-merited applause. Castileto gave a thrilling and dangerous act, first time here, on a ladder placed horizontally near the top of the canvas. The Holland family, famous for leaping, tumbling and posturing. Samuel Collyer, the champion light weight, with his Indian clubs, Huitt and Hinds, Thomas Clifford and several others in tumbling. Mrs. Kenyon's feats of equestrianism, Frank Ward's bareback riding and various other acts made up the rest of the programme. The performance throughout is excellent, and well worth seeing.

The Daily Gate City.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 25, 1892.

—A Burlington girl got show struck while Backenstose's circus was exhibiting there, and has left with it to learn how to jump through paper balloons.

The Daily Gate City.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 23, 1892.

—The clown in Backenstose's circus is Charley Fowler, who was a member of Co. C, First Iowa Infantry, and was at Wilson's Creek. He is a printer and formerly worked at Muscatine. He has lately returned from a tour in South America.

The Gate City.

APRIL 30, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

BARNUM delighted in children. He once made his circus parade go four blocks out of its way so a sick boy might see it, who in childish faith had written him a request. In the old days, says a writer in the New York Times, the matinee performances in Madison Square garden were Barnum's special delight, because the children were there. He always reserved a box for himself in the center on the south side of the garden. The happiest moments in his life seemed to be those when he was walking across the arena to his box. "There is Barnum," would go around. The children would all clap their little hands and Barnum, taking off his hat, would bow to the right and the left, smiling to the ears. After one of these receptions he remarked with a chuckle, as he took his seat in the box, "I don't value the applause of the adults half so much as that of the children. The clapping of their little hands and their shrill laughter is a whole symphony to me."

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

AUGUST 30. 1884.

FRIGHTFUL FATALITIES.

Ten Circus Employees Lose Their Lives by the Burning of a Sleeping Car.

The Responsibility of the Accident Accredited to the Carelessness of the Employees.

Ten to Fifteen People Meet Their Death by the Sinking of a Steamer.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Ten Circus Employees Cremated by the Burning of a Sleeping Car.

DENVER, Aug. 29.—At 11 last night a train belonging to the Anglo-American circus, Miles Orton proprietor, left Ft. Collins for Golden, via the Greeley, Salt Lake and Pacific road. Forty minutes later, when near Greeley, a sleeping car in which seventy-five men employed as roustabouts for the circus were asleep, caught fire and wholly consumed. Ten men perished, two were seriously and five slightly burned. The fire was communicated from an open torch, with which the car was lighted, to a quantity of gasoline which was being carried, the same causing an explosion. It is impossible to learn the names at present. It is believed the employees of the circus are entirely responsible for the accident.

The burning of the circus car nine miles north of Greeley was attended with indescribable horrors. The burned car was next to the engine in a train of seventeen cars, containing Orton's Anglo-American circus, which left Fort Collins about midnight for Golden over the Greeley, Salt Lake Pacific road. The train was nearing Windsor, a small station near Greeley, running about twenty-five miles an hour, when Engineer Collepriest discovered the car on fire, reversed the engine and threw open the whistle valve. There were sixty men on the car, arranged in three tiers of berths on either side. The forward side door was closed and men in the bunks sleeping against it. The rear side door was also closed, and the men who awoke discovered the lower unoccupied berth next to it containing rubbish on fire, filling the car with smoke, cutting off escape in that direction. The only means of egress was through a small window between the car and engine. Jno. Pine, Edgerton, Wis., and Edgar Millett, Iowa, crawled through the opening and tried to pass in water from the engine tank. Owing to suffocating gases it was difficult to arouse the sleepers. Some were kicked and bruised in a shocking manner and pitched out of the window. The screams of those unable to get through the blockaded aperture were terrifying. The wild glare of the flames, the groans of the suffering victims outside who

were writhing with agony on cactus beds caused the wild beasts in the adjoining cars to become frantic, making the scene appalling. The performers who occupied the rear cars gazed with white faces on the awful spectacle. In the midst of the confusion two or three heroic souls appeared equal to the occasion and bravely cut their way to their companions, to find them already in the agony of death. Albert Lake, in charge of the animals, and his friend Kent, walked over the cactus in their bare feet, pouring buckets of oil on the blistered unfortunates and wrapped them in blankets. An old Pacific coast sailor named McDonald, formerly of Forepaugh's show was terribly burned, the flesh hanging in shreds. The heartrending cries of the men on the prairie drowned the appeals of those dying in the car. The howling of the animals made the scene terrible beyond description. The odor of roasting flesh, the distant cry of the coyotes added to the general horror of the scene. The voices of the dying grew fainter and soon ceased. Meantime the engine had gone to Greeley for assistance, returning with Dr. Jesse Howes president of the state medical association. Many of the rescued in being pulled through the small window had their limbs broken and joints dislocated. Hands and feet were found burned off. Roasted trunks of bodies were found in one place and legs in another and piles of roasted, shriveled carcasses taken out of the ruins. At daylight a flat car carried the remains of the dead to Greeley for interment. The county commissioners buried the remains in a huge coffin seven feet wide by ten feet long, in Greeley cemetery. Rev. Mr. Reed, of the Presbyterian church, conducted the funeral ceremonies. The coroner empanelled a jury, who were unable to learn the cause of the fire, or any important facts, as the managers, with the remainder of the company, left immediately for Golden to fill an afternoon engagement. It is impossible to get a complete list of the dead, as many were engaged a day or two before and the names unknown. The names of the dead, as far as learned, is as follows:

Alex. McLeod, Marinette, Wis.; Thos. McCarthy, Independence, Iowa; John Kelley, New York City. Others were known as Silverthorn, Andy, Frenchy, Frank, George, Smithie, and one unknown.

The following is a list of the sufferers in the circus car fire, now in St. Luke's hospital, this city: E. E. Fairbanks, age 22, arms, legs and face badly burned; Albert Borden, 17, Logan, Kan., arms and face badly burned; Thos. Golden, Detroit Mich., very badly burned on back and legs; M. J. Zimmerman, 18, St. Louis, Mich., arms, legs, back and face fearfully burned; Frank King, Menominee, Mich., badly burned about the hands and feet; Michael McGlinn, 28, Halton, Mich., face and hands badly burnt; Hugh O'Donnell, 56, New Orleans, La., badly burned about the face, arms, hands and back, will probably die. A number of the rescued agree that in the car were two barrels of gasoline which were exploded, either by a spark from the engine or the naked torch which the men were accustomed to light themselves to bed.

THE GATE CITY

PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY

LURE OF CIRCUS LIGHTS TOO MUCH

Sixteen-Year-Old Emma Arnold Longed for Romance and so Joined Campbell Bros. Circus Here Monday.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, 1910

PARENTS WANT HER

Matter Has Been Placed in County Attorney's Hands and Sheriff at Lamoni, Iowa, Has Been Notified.

The lure of circus lights, a good looking young ticket seller and a longing for romance by a sixteen year old girl have brought endless worry to Mr. and Mrs. Miles Arnold, 619 South Second street, who have applied to the county attorney's office for assistance in bringing back their daughter Emma. Emma left with Campbell Bros. circus Monday night and will likely be apprehended by the sheriff at Lamoni, Ia. where the circus is scheduled to arrive Sunday.

When Emma went to the circus in the afternoon she was easily won over by the life of the pretty costumed women who performed in the air and on horseback. And later when she received a note from one of the good looking ticket sellers offering her tickets for the evening performance there was nothing for her to do but to accept. It is presumed that influence was brought to bear and she was asked to join the circus.

Now the family has come to the county attorney for assistance in bringing the girl back to her home. The first stop the circus will make in Iowa is at Lamoni, which is up in the middle of the state. The county attorney has sent a wire to the sheriff there asking that the girl be detained.

The family is given to the belief that their daughter was enticed away by the ticket seller, but it is thought that she left of her own free will, as several other Keokuk people joined the show and left the city with it.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

FEBRUARY 24, 1887.

Entered in Keokuk postoffice as 2d class matter

FOLLOWERS OF THE CIRCUS.

The Miscellaneous Crowd of Swindlers That Followed the Old Time Shows.

Some years ago every circus had its train of camp followers, side show men, monte sharps, thimble riggers, short change operators and miscellaneous scalawags, which most managers sold licenses to, to carry on their operations on the grounds hired by the circus. Some men advertised privileges for sale, and would negotiate with three card monte sharps or anybody else who proposed to do anything to the public short of murder. Circus men who remember when all their traveling was done in wagons tell queer stories about a certain old time manager. They do declare that he sold the exclusive right of robbing clothes lines on the route, and agreed to prevent anybody else with the show from poaching upon that preserve. To another he accorded the gains of going under the seats during the performance and picking up the pocketbooks, handkerchiefs and other articles dropped by spectators. It is said that a professional pickpocket paid him \$1,000 and a percentage for the right to work the crowd after the show was out. The circus man made him promise on his professional honor not to tackle anybody around the ticket wagon, or before the opening of the show, as he wanted to get his legitimate profit out of their pockets first and also give the other fakirs a fair chance. Sometimes this man got bankrupt in a bad season, and his outfit would be sold by sheriff. The next year he would start again without a cent, sell privileges to the fakirs to get a little capital, buy some old circus property, patch up a show and take to the road again. He usually found it desirable to change the name of his circus and disguise the outfit when going over a route the second time.

"That was the kind of thing that hurt the business and gave circuses generally a bad name," says an old showman. "People got so that they expected to be swindled if they went near a circus tent. They never could tell which was the regular ticket office, because there were so many fakirs selling tickets and giving short change. That was about the simplest and most successful way of swindling the public, and there were several variations worked on it. One was to double up a bill in a pile so that both ends would count. Another was to keep a \$1 note concealed in the hand ready for an emergency, and when somebody handed up a ten the fakir would look at it, say he couldn't change a ten, and hand back the one which he had dexterously substituted for the ten. The victim, not having seen the sleight of hand, would pocket the bill without looking at it in the crowd, and pass on to the next ticket stand. He would hand up the bill there, get his ticket and begin clamoring for his change. He would swear that he gave a ten and the ticket man, of course, would swear he didn't. Then there would be a row, and the fakir who stole the ten wouldn't be in it."

I once saw a man go up to a ticket seller four times, hand him a \$10 bill each time and get only \$7 change instead of the \$9, to which he was entitled. After

the last time he said to the fakir: "I've been here four times with \$10 bills and you've beaten me out of \$2 every time. Now, will you tell me how you do it?" The fakir cheerfully said he would and showed the trick. The victim didn't demand his money back. He only wanted to learn the game in order to play it himself, and he considered the information cheap at \$8. But that business doesn't pay in the long run. The shows that encourage it and have a gang of fakirs around all the time, finally go to pieces. The people won't go near them and they don't draw a good class. No reputable manager wants his patrons robbed, and nowadays the most flagrant faking is to be found only among the snap shows that work the country districts and the south. Barnum goes so far as to prohibit even the selling of lemonade, peanuts and song books in the tent, and there are no privilege men outside. He finds that it pays to keep his show clear of even the suspicion of fakirs, and the other showmen are coming around to his plan.

I once knew a circus manager to sell a bogus blind beggar privilege to a fakir, and the fellow collected a pretty good revenue on the grounds and whacked up with the manager. But the queerest arrangement I ever saw was in a show that traveled by rail, and was a pretty big concern. One end of the office car was fitted up for a ticket window and pay office. In the other end was a faro layout, and between were a couple of poker rooms. The manager hired an expert old gambler to deal faro, and that feature of the show was always running. It wasn't intended to catch the public, though. The circus employees used to draw their pay at one end of the car, and go around and blow it in at the other end. Nearly all gambled, and they couldn't resist the temptation of a cozy game right under their noses. Nearly all the salary money came right back into the treasury, and it didn't cost the management anything for talent except the salary of the faro dealer and what he could hold out on the quiet. Uncle Bill in Chicago Herald.

Constitution Democrat.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1910
DEMOCRAT—Established 1883.

ELEPHANT DRUNK.

BROKE LOOSE FROM KEEPERS AND TOOK TO WATER.

SWAM TEN MILES DURING NIGHT BEFORE LANDING.

Boatman Saw Him and Imagined He Had Discovered a Big Sea Serpent.

New York, June 6.—Sambo, a baby elephant performing at Coney Island, got drunk, broke loose from the com-

pound, and reaching the surf, struck out for Sandy Hook. He came ashore at daybreak off New Dorp, Staten Island.

Evidently he figured on swimming back to Africa, but, going the wrong way of the track in the channel, he turned in between Swinburne and Hoffman Islands and was headed for the grassy waters of the Kill Von Kull, when he was sighted at daybreak by Frank Kessler, Jersey City, who was in a boat a mile from New Dorp.

Kessler thought he saw a sea serpent and was in great consternation until Sambo lifted his trunk from the water and trumpeted.

Kessler recognized the strange apparition as an elephant and threw out all his provisions. Sambo gobbled them and, swimming up to Kessler's boat, laid his trunk across the gunwale. Kessler pulled for shore.

Sambo calmly followed Kessler ashore. He isn't a formidable creature standing only 5 feet high and being gentle as a lamb. Kessler led him to Adolph Eberle's Speedway Inn, on the boulevard, back of Midland Beach, and mine host provided his strange guest with a bale of hay. Sambo seemed grateful. Then the police of New Dorp were notified, and they impounded the elephant in the barn back of the station.

Sambo was tired after his night of adventure in the water and soon rolled over and slept. He swam over ten miles in his water journey from Coney Island to Midland Beach. He will hereafter be labeled as the only deep-sea-going pachyderm in captivity.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1886.

MANGLED BY HYENAS.

A Frightful Spectacle at the Parade of Coup's Circus in Winchester, Va.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 17.—Yesterday, while Coup's grand circus was parading in Winchester, the keeper of the cage of hyenas was pounced upon and torn to pieces by the infuriated and treacherous animals. The keeper, who was in the cage at the time, had his back slightly turned toward the hyenas, and was looking at the cheering multitude. The spectators fell back aghast when they saw the whole den of hyenas suddenly pounce upon the man and, throwing him to the floor of the cage, began to mangle him with their teeth and claws. The keeper, whose name was Drayton, made a desperate attempt to save his life, and despite his critical position, assumed his usual cool tone of command, but the beasts, maddened by the taste of blood, did not heed him. The people who witnessed the brave struggle for life, were powerless to help him, as they feared by opening the door of the cage the hyenas would pounce upon them. At length some of the showmen succeeded in rescuing Drayton, but he was so badly wounded that his life is despaired of.

GRAND EXCURSION TO WARSAW!

Free Ride on the Eagle!

Both Ways, Day and Night, to all those who Purchase Tickets to the

EQUES CURRICULUM!

TUESDAY, JULY 12TH, 1864.



The Management respectfully informs the citizens of KEOKUK that in order to allow them to see the **Wonders of the Mammoth Show IN WARSAW,**

Without ADDITIONAL EXPENSE, has chartered the STEAMER EAGLE, Capt. J. W. Bishop, to convey all those who purchase tickets to the Exhibition, FREE OF CHARGE, making the last trip immediately after the termination of all the

Seven Exhibitions of the Equescriculum.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TICKETS.

Our authorized agent will sell tickets in Keokuk, with coupons attached, that will admit the bearer to the Equescriculum and entitle the holder to a *free ride* on the round trip.

THE GREAT MASTODON!
Positively the Largest Exhibition of the Amusement World is Coming.

First Annual Tour of the New Monster

EQUES CURRICULUM!

L. B. RENT, - - - - - MANAGER.

An Establishment entirely Novel and Original in construction, superior in every specialty, and includes the following

IMMENSE AND UNPARALLELED COMBINATION!

I.—MONS. FRANCOIS SIEGRIST'S Great French Circens, from the Theatre, Porte St. Martin, Paris.

II.—WM. DUCROW'S CIRCUS ROYAL, from the Alhambra Palace, Leicester Square, London.

III.—LENT'S BROADWAY CIRCUS, from the Broadway Circus, New York.

IV.—OLD GRIZZLEY ADAMS' Troupe of Acting Bears, from California.

V.—FORREST'S TRAINED BUFFALOES, from the Prairies of the Fur West.

VI.—STEWART'S EDUCATED SACRED BULL, from Hindostan.

VII.—PROF. WALLACE'S CORPS OF PERFORMING DOGS, MONKEYS & PONIES, from all parts of the world.



171 THE GATE CITY.

, MAY 21, 1869.

DAN RICE'S

O. W. N.

CIRCUS!

Specially organized with reference to the

Great Humorist's Farewell Tour

Through the United States, and his

Positively Last Appearance Here.

Will exhibit at

KEOKUK,

FRIDAY, MAY 28th.

With the ORIGINAL and ONLY

DAN RICE AS CLOWN!

Introducing the Loveliest and most Gracefully Accomplished Lady and Girl Equestrian and Terpsichorean Artists; the most gifted, fearless and popular

Riders, Leapers, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Athletes and General Performers,

and the handsomest and most astonishingly intelligent TRIO & QUADRILLE the world has ever seen.

Among the Stars of the first magnitude in this brilliant Constellation are

DAN RICE,

"THE NATION'S HUMORIST."

CHARLES BERD—"The American Centaur,"—whose beautiful, novel and difficult evolutions on the Pad, and terrific Strength and Vaulting feats on his bareback, &c., ed., at once stupre and capital.

BRUNNIEG RUENELL—"The Classic Athlete"—with his talented and versatile Songs.

MISS JENNY PARKER—The fair Equestrian Elister.

MISS ELLA—Young America's F. varie.

MISS S. Q. STOKES—Queen of the Manege.

MISS L. ZEE MA COLE, LUS—The Beautiful Girl Prodigy.

LITTLE EMMA AND KATIE—The Flying Child Spirits.

WM. H. YOUNG—The Aresic Burton and Comic Gymnast.

WM. ROLLAND—Trick Grimaldi, Vocalist and Illusionist.

R. P. JAYNES—The Mercury of the Bar.

MA-THE DICK CLARK—The Pupil Genius.

JHN. TREWILLA—Mr. Rice's Favorite Ring Associate.

PROF. S. Q. STOKES—The Great Tamer and Trainer.

The EQUINE AND ASINING GLASS, head Pupil,

172 Blind Excelsior, Jr.

The magnificent reason gifted horse for which Mr. Rice has refused \$100,000 in gold, and who demonstrates that he is worth more, by doing more, by word prompting alone, than all other trained horses put together can be motioned, lashed, spurred or otherwise driven into performing. He is totally blind, but so incredibly has his marvelous natural aptitude been developed under Mr. Rice's peculiar and humane system of training, that his ears are made to perform the office of his eyes, guiding him by the inward light of human intelligence, and making him truly the equine wonder of the Nineteenth Century.

This most intelligent and valuable of all horses finds fit associates in the Magnificent Arabian Trick Charger

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS,

The Thoroughbred Imported Bassenger Horse,

ANDY CURTIN,

THE STUD OF SCH-LARLY PONIES.

And the Famous Original Comic Mules—

Pete and Barney!

Constitution-Democrat.

MAY 20, 1891.

OLDEST OF CLOWNS.Short Biographical Sketch of the Famous
Dan Rice.

Dan Rice, the old circus clown, has decided to once more travel through the country with a big one-ring circus. He left the business in 1871, since which time he has lived quietly at home. During these years the two great organizations of Barnum & Bailey and Forepaugh have grown up to their present enormous dimensions. For their support not only are large centers of population necessary, but the surrounding country has to be drained by excursion trains or boats. But, says Once a Week, there are many towns unable to furnish an audience for one of the great shows which can easily make it worth a visit to a smaller one. These are the places to



DAN RICE AND WIFE.

which Dan Rice will go. He has with him as a partner Mr. J. H. Allen. The show will be a circus pure and simple and no menagerie will be carried along. The troupe will be small, but the artists will be clever, and then Dan Rice, as a clown, is a host in himself.

Dan Rice began life as a rider of race horses for Samuel Laird, of Colt's Neck, N. J., and for years was connected with horses. In 1841 he owned a share of a livery stable in Pittsburgh, Pa., when a man brought a learned pig to that town. Rice was so impressed by the cleverness of the animal's tricks that he sold out his share of the business and bought the pig. With it he made a good deal of money. He developed into the "Young American Hercules," lifting heavy weights, and from that turned his attention to training wild beasts, in which he had the greatest success.

It was, however, when he entered the circus ring as a clown that Dan Rice really found his vocation. He was quick-witted, a man of genuine humor, he had a good and mellow voice and he wrote his own songs. These were invariably topical in character and full of local allusions. The topical local song has always been popular, but when

Dan Rice, in the tent, and Birch and Backus, on the minstrel stage, introduced them, they were new to the audiences. The patrons of the circus in particular believed that Rice made his songs up as he went along, and the clown was almost unable to get out of the ring when he had once begun to sing.

At one time in his life Dan Rice was a wealthy man, being worth half a million. For nine years he was paid for his services and the use of his name \$1,000 per week. But with him it was a case of "easy come and easy go," and he lost it all. In spite of the fact that his best and most profitable field was in the south "befo' de wah," he was a strong union man. During the late unpleasantness Gen. Fremont seized Rice's steamer, the James Raymond, at St. Louis, and made use of it for government purposes. Rice applied to the government for compensation, and was awarded \$32,000 damages. At his request this money was spent by President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton caring for wounded soldiers and their families.

Of late years Dan Rice has retired from the show business. For a time he lived on his country place at Girard, Pa., just on the edge of Lake Erie. Then he moved to Long Branch, where he resided for some years. He is about sixty-eight years old, but does not look his age; he is as full of fun as ever and his health is perfect.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.
APRIL 20, 1887.**CITY NEWS.**

—Dan Rice, the once celebrated clown, who made and lost several large fortunes in the circus ring, now lives in Cincinnati, old and poor, and dependent on the charity of friends for a living. "Bystander," of the Philadelphia News, says that Rice's first appearance in public was as a pugilist and he has a record of the fact that in 1828 the Pennsylvania legislature adjourned to witness at Harrisburg a boxing contest between George Kensett and Dan Rice.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.
JANUARY 13, 1893.—**A TOUGH HIDE.**

The Buzzards and Medics Alike Made No Impression on Dan Rice's Rhinoceros.

Captain J. W. Cambell, a retired riverman living at Fort Madison and well known all along the Mississippi, writes the Burlington Hawkeye as follows about the drowning of "Old Putt," Dan Rice's circus rhinoceros near Prairie du Chien:

"In August, 1861, I was on the steamer Flora, and the boys, many of whom were my senior in years, called me the 'Old Man,' which nautically implies the chief officer in command. While my boat was ascending the left hand bend of the river, fifteen miles above Prairie du Chien, we were in the act of passing

CITY NEWS.

The Burlington Hawkeye has the following item of local interest: "Auditor Sharts has a relic which he lately found among the effects of his deceased mother, and which he prizes highly. It is an illustrated bill poster advertising the appearance of Dan Rice's circus in Keokuk, in 1869. The poster is about 12x36 inches and is printed on both sides, the wood cut illustrations being those usually employed in that line of advertising. The unique part of the affair is that all the reading matter is in rhyme; to be more explicit, in doggerel, and that of the most atrocious sort."

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1852.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

A Clown Severously Damaged.—Dr. Spaulding, of Albany, recently sued Dan Rice, the celebrated clown, for a libel, in having caused to be printed a series of doggerel verses, which the said Dan Rice has been in the habit of singing during his exhibitions in the ring, to the great annoyance and damage of Dr. Spaulding's character. The jury brought in a verdict of \$1,658 against Dan. [New York Mirror.]

the steamer Luzerne. This boat had a flat boat in tow on which stood a number of cages containing Dan Rice's menagerie, the showman having this boat under charter at the time. But before we succeeded in passing the Luzerne, which was running up the river in a parallel line a hundred yards to our right the Key City, a fast Minnesota packet at this moment came down square across the river two hundred yards above to an intermediate point, then whirled as if on a pivot and charged down between us as if she had been shot from the mouth of a cannon. The waves soon followed mountain high and our boats began to screech and rock as if in the midst of a storm upon the Atlantic ocean. Then it was I beheld the forward cage on the flat boat alongside of the Luzerne plunge headlong into the river, thereby causing the death of a rhinoceros, familiarly known as Old Putt. This was the most important event occurring upon the Father of Waters, since its discovery by Desoto. Dan valued this animal at \$25,000, but gave little heed to this petty loss, as he was rich in thought, being then en route to Erie, Penn., in search of more important game, namely, the securing of the heart and hand of a second bride, a lady prized by him far above a million.

21

"Every effort was made to rescue 'Old Putt' from a watery grave, but the current was too strong against the door to allow it to be opened and, in consequence, he was compelled to submit to his fate. After two hours' delay in trying with capstan and hawser to haul the cage on the flat-boat again, the effort was abandoned and the boat proceeded to LaCrosse, where the circus was to exhibit on the following day. Ten days later the boat returned to the scene of the disaster and succeeded in securing the cage and ejecting the carcass of 'Old Putt', which floated down the river to a point ten miles below and lodged upon a sand bar near the Wisconsin shore, where it remained for several weeks the center of attraction for crows and buzzards, which swarmed around it as numerous as delegates to a national convention.

"But in every instance during their carnival the birds failed to make an impression on his hide and flew away in disgust to distant parts to find more tender tit-bits. Next came some medical students from Prairie du Chien with the intention of dissecting Old Putt and securing his anatomy to present to the Smithsonian institute, but like their predecessors, after applying every instrument known to modern surgery, his carcass still proved invulnerable and they abandoned the hope o' obtaining professional renown and left him again to his fate. There soon after came a slight swell and Old Putt floated off down the river, never to be seen again, and, like De Soto, no man can point to the spot where rests his remains beneath the sands in the bed of the mighty Mississippi."

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, JULY 5. 1881

—On Friday last Coup's circus train met with a serious accident between Bellevue and Sabula, en route to Clinton. The engineer, after crossing a trestle work at slow speed, observed a bull standing on the track in a defiant position. He reversed his engine, but not in time to prevent striking the animal. The engine was thrown from the track and ran fifty feet before being stopped by a large tree. Four of the cars were thrown from the track, completely demolishing them, killing one camel and three draught horses, together with one trick pony. No one was very seriously injured with the exception of the engineer. The elephant car was thrown on its side against a bluff at an elevation of forty-five degrees. When removed from the car they were found all in a heap at one end. The camels in the wreck were so badly frightened, says the Dubuque Herald, that all efforts failed to arouse them, and it was with the greatest difficulty that they were removed from their perilous position, and although uninjured, the

brutes lay apparently as if dead, and they were removed by the united strength of a gang of men, who lifted them from the wreck with ropes. For a time the car of performing horses looked pretty bad, but by skillful management all were rescued, and most of them will be able to perform as usual. The wreck will not interfere with Coup's performance here on to-morrow.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

COUP'S CIRCUS.

AN IMMENSE CROWD OF PEOPLE IN THE CITY TO-DAY.

The Performance This Afternoon an Excellent One.

JULY 6. — 1881

At an early hour this morning the people began to assemble on the streets in crowds. It did not take the populace long to discover that there was to be a circus in town. Hundreds of people greeted the arrival of Coup's immense circus and caravan on the levee this morning at 7 o'clock. The people were as anxious as ever to see the elephant, and displayed the same morbid curiosity as on former similar occasions. At 7 o'clock a large freight train came in on the M. I. & N. loaded with people from various points along that line. There were seven or eight box cars with excursionists on the top. They were bound to get to Keokuk, this mode of transportation cutting no figure with them. Warsaw and Alexandria sent their quota up on the Plough Boy, as well as Hancock county who sent her delegations over the bridge. The tents were pitched this morning at Seventeenth and Johnson streets. The

PROCESSION

was formed at the show grounds at half past ten and moved down Johnson to Fourth street, up Fourth to Main, out Main to the show grounds. The street pageant was a grand affair and attracted much attention. The performance this afternoon opened a little after 2 o'clock. The audience pavilion is immense, the canvas covering seats for 14,000 and three circus rings and a hippodrome chariot race track. There was a large audience present this afternoon and the scene was an animated one. The circus department is strong and varied by the features of three or four, comprising every novelty in ring acts. The menagerie contains a fine assortment of rare animals, reptiles, birds and mammals and inhabitants of the water world. The museum is rich in curiosities, among which may be classed human specimens which more properly belong to the menagerie department. The hippodrome embraces exciting chariot races, riding

races, athletic games and gladiatorial contests, and everything is exhibited as set down in the bills, and nobody can possibly complain of not enough to see, because it is simply impossible for any one to see all the show at one visit. People may blame their eyes, but not the showman, for Coup's doubled and twisted, manifold consolidation and convoluted shows are a reality. Among the leading features of the ring and hippodrome may be mentioned the grand entree, which combines features of a massive procession. The show of trained animals, horses and dogs, is exceptionally good, and embraces a really wonderful leaping and a regular dog hanging match.

One good trapeze act is that of Lu Lu, flying 100 feet through the air. In the hippodrome performance there are several exciting races—one of them, a four-horse chariot race, is very fine. A standing Roman race is one of the best acts. There is a good hurdle race by ladies, a foot race and other manoeuvres by Zulus, and the performance closes with an Indian riding act—chase for a wife, which is good diversion. We must also mention several good riding acts of the ring by George Melville, the Misses Stokes and others. The whole exhibition is thoroughly good in quality and abundant in quantity, and from the interest and delight manifested this afternoon, there is no doubt that the great pavilion will be densely thronged for the entertainment this evening.

The Daily Gate City.

SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1871.

An accident which came very near proving a serious if not fatal one, occurred between Sandusky and Nashville, Friday evening. The Engineers of the Rapids Improvement were returning from their daily trip along the line of the work. At the point above mentioned they came up with a portion of a traveling menagerie, consisting of five camels and an elephant, which were being driven around the Rapids on their way down the river. Just as they were passing the elephant he elevated his trunk to a perpendicular position and produced a noise which very much resembled that of a ponderous engine blowing off steam.

The horses wholly unaccustomed to such an unearthly noise, became frantic and unmanageable. They whirled about, upset the vehicle, and completely demolished it. The driver hung to them however, and managed to run them into the fence, thus preventing a run away which would doubtless have proved fatal to some of the party. All of the eight occupants of the vehicle were more or less injured, but none seriously.

There should be a law placed upon our statute books preventing traveling menageries from occupying our thoroughfares in such a manner as to endanger the lives and property of our citizens.

THE WEEKLY GATE CITY.

HOWELL & CLARK, Publishers.

MAY 18 1882

Coup's Balloon Ascension no Fraud.

The grand double balloon ascension and race announced to take place on the day of the exhibition of Coup's great show, will positively take place unless a violent storm should prevent it. Such announcements are usually frauds made by unscrupulous showmen with the purpose of drawing large numbers of people into town, but so cunningly announced as to leave the impression that the ascensions are not connected with the shows. Coup's announcement is bona fide and if our country friends visit us when Coup's circus arrives they will be sure to see the ascension. Two balloons will be cut loose, and Madame St. Clair and Signora Montefiori will ascend with them, and will perform a number of hazardous trapieze feats "up among the stars." *MAY 18, 1882*

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1882

A 214-POUNDER.

The First-Born Baby Elephant Creates a Sensation in Philadelphia.

A dispatch from Philadelphia announces the birth, in that city, of a baby elephant, the first instance of the kind that has ever taken place so far as is known in these animals in a state of captivity. Heretofore all ideas and theories, written or unwritten, on the subject of propagation among this species of quadruped, duration of the period of gestation, etc., have been more or less speculative. The one fact that seemed well established was that the female elephant would not bear young in her captive state. The event this morning upsets everything in this direction, however, and affords occasion for scientists to shift their position and look at the question from a new standpoint. A queer looking little black animal, not much larger than a Newfoundland dog, with a very diminutive specimen of a trunk, and with a disposition to run at things blindly like a young colt, fairly describe the appearance of the stranger as it waddled about in the large brick stable known as the elephant house, this morning.

The mother, a large, black Asiatic elephant known by the name of Hebe stood in the center chained to two posts. The precaution was absolutely necessary, as will be shown. At the upper end of the stable room about a dozen yards from Hebe, stood six other large elephants, with their heads turned to her, likewise chained to posts. It was a most exciting scene among those elephants when the birth took place. For months past Hebe, on account of her condition, had been chained on the same spot where she stood this morning, away from the other elephants, the room being always in care of a watchman or keeper at night. This watchman was at his post at half past 2 o'clock, when the event by which she distinguished herself occurred.

The baby elephant which at once showed a disposition to make friends with any and everybody, was piloted back to its mother, where the keepers and others who had

been attracted by the general commotion, became at once interested in nursing it. It would run about with its mouth open very much like a young colt. The old elephant would not stand still long enough to suckle it, being constantly swaying and swinging about so that the keepers hit on the happy experiment of procuring a funnel and a rubber tube about a yard in length. Inserting one end of the tube in the baby's mouth, they fed it by milking it to the funnel at the other end, the little newcomer taking its sustenance with a relish until it declared it could take no more by promptly jerking its mouth away. During all the day it was necessary for two or three keepers to be present to attend to it, their great fear being that it might get entangled in the chains which held its mother to the posts and get crushed.

The mother itself is a fine specimen of the Asiatic elephant, being only 23 years old and very large. The sire is "Mandrie," an elephant of about the same size as the mother and two years older. The baby is thirty-five inches high and weighs two hundred and fourteen pounds. The period of gestation is put by scientific authority at twenty months and a half. There will probably be a scientific investigation of the case by Prof. Leidy and others.

The Gate City.

KEOKUK, IOWA: *1860*

SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 19.

Shows.—There have been shows here recently—circuses. Our people have attended them numerously. Wonder, after they were gone, if our people didn't conclude that circuses are a noisy, dusty, disagreeable, money absorbing humbug. Dixon thinks so. Yankee Robinson was at Des Moines recently, and the effect of it was to send Dixon off into sundry philosophical reflections deprecatory of shows. Here is but one of the grievances that appear to him:

"We are down on shows. We vote them a nuisance every time. For two days during the present week Yankee Robinson has been amusing the populace with his ponderous collection of monkeys and Copperhead clowns; and what special good has been accomplished? The show, viewed simply as a show, may have been good enough in its way. We did not go to see, but all shows are bores and public calamities. Let's see about it. An agent comes to town. He posts up his bills, and invites the world to read the announcement that the Great-Duplex-High-Flying Conglomerate-Consolidated-Stupendous Menagerie and Circus of Spitfire & Co. will exhibit in Des Moines on the 14th day of August, 1866. All the little boys and girls go crazy with excitement. They read and wonder. They talk about the show. They think constantly on the same subject. They dream about the show, and are eternally asking their dear Pas and Mas how long it will be before they shall see Messrs. Spitfire & Co. and their lovely collection of Monkeys and Kangaroos. If they attend school, the word "Show" is at the head of every lesson, and in the center of it, and at the end. They can see the same glowing word on their slates, and on their blackboards, and on the walls, and on the ceiling, and on the floor, and on the playground. They read it in the stars at night, and on the margin of the heavens. They hear it whispered among the trees, and among the grasses, and in the fence corners, and along the streets, and in their

pews at church. They say their little prayers at night, and instead of winding up with the reverent termination, as usual in such cases, they proceed from beginning to end as follows:

"And now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
And if I die before I wake—
Let's see the show for mercy's sake.
Yankee Robinson—Amen!"

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Elephants in a Funeral Procession.

From the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer.

The funeral cortege which followed to the cemetery yesterday afternoon the remains of John King, the keeper of animals in Robinson's circus, who was killed yesterday by the elephant Chief, was a somewhat remarkable spectacle. The body lay in a magnificent casket, and was carried to the graveyard in a hearse to which was attached four handsome white horses. Close upon the hearse followed the two pet elephants of the dead keeper, Mary and the Boy, whose stately tread in perfect time with the dirge which the band was playing seemed to indicate that the intelligent animals felt the solemnity of the occasion. The funeral ceremonies took place in the Catholic Church, and the scene there was likewise solemn and impressive. The performers and laborers, fresh from the shouts and glare of the circus, in their rough every day clothes, but with faces respectfully cleared of the dust and paint of the arena, were all present.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

—Muscatine Tribune: "Miss Addie Austin, aged 16, the pretty and daring lady bareback rider of the London circus, caught her foot in a banner which she was jumping, yesterday, and was thrown to the ground, breaking both bones of her left leg near the ankle. She was brought to the city in care of Dr. W. B. Thompson and the fracture set, and she was resting easy last evening. She suffered from a similar fracture last May, and it is the opinion of Surgeon Thompson that she was not skillfully treated, and that when she recovers from her present accident she will have a better limb than it has been since her fall of last spring."

The Gate City.

JULY 11, 1891.

Entered in Keokuk Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

CITY NEWS.

It will be remembered that a colored man of Keokuk sued Eugene Robinson for \$10,000 damages for refusing to sell him a reserved seat in his floating theatre. The manager of the show informed a Pilot representative Saturday that the case had been compromised for \$60, or that the litigation had cost that much.—Warsaw Pilot.

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THE GREAT DUST HEPBURN LISTEN
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

KEOKUK
MONDAY August 25

MILLER BROS & EDWARD ARLINGTON'S

101 RANCH REAL WILD WEST RANCH



550
PEOPLE
& HORSES
CHEYENNE
CHAMPIONS

BARBAROUS MEXICO BULL RING SENSATION



FOOTBALL ON
HORSE BACK
STAMPEDE
ROUND-UP
60 INDIANS

BIG FREE STREET PARADE 10³⁰ A.M.

TWICE DAILY 2 & 8 P.M. RAIN OR SHINE

Reserved Seats on Sale Day of Exhibition at
Wilkinson's Biggest, Busiest and Best Drug Sto
at same prices as at grounds

The 101 Ranch Wild West Show.—The much exploited 101 Ranch Wild West show will exhibit in Keokuk, afternoon and evening, next Monday, Aug. 25.

Before the city is half awake Sunday morning the long trains utilized to transport the paraphernalia of the big show will have rolled into town, been shunted into the C. B. & Q. railroad yards, been unloaded, the scores of vans and wagons and the hundreds of horses and other animals hustled out to the show grounds, where the Wild West is to be domiciled during its stay; early coffee served to the army of workers, the first tents erected and arrangements under way for

the inaugural performances of the engagement.

To the early morning crowd that infests the railroad yards and invades the show grounds, eager for new sensations, it makes no difference whether the show is a wild west or just a plain circus. The incidental sights and scenes have a marked similarity. There is the same army of working people appearing like gnomes out of the mists of the morning; the same energetic handling of stakes and guy lines and canvas; the same hurry to get the animals under cover—for the Wild West buffaloes take the place of elephants and long-horned steers vie in interest with the circus dromedary and must be protected from the ever-

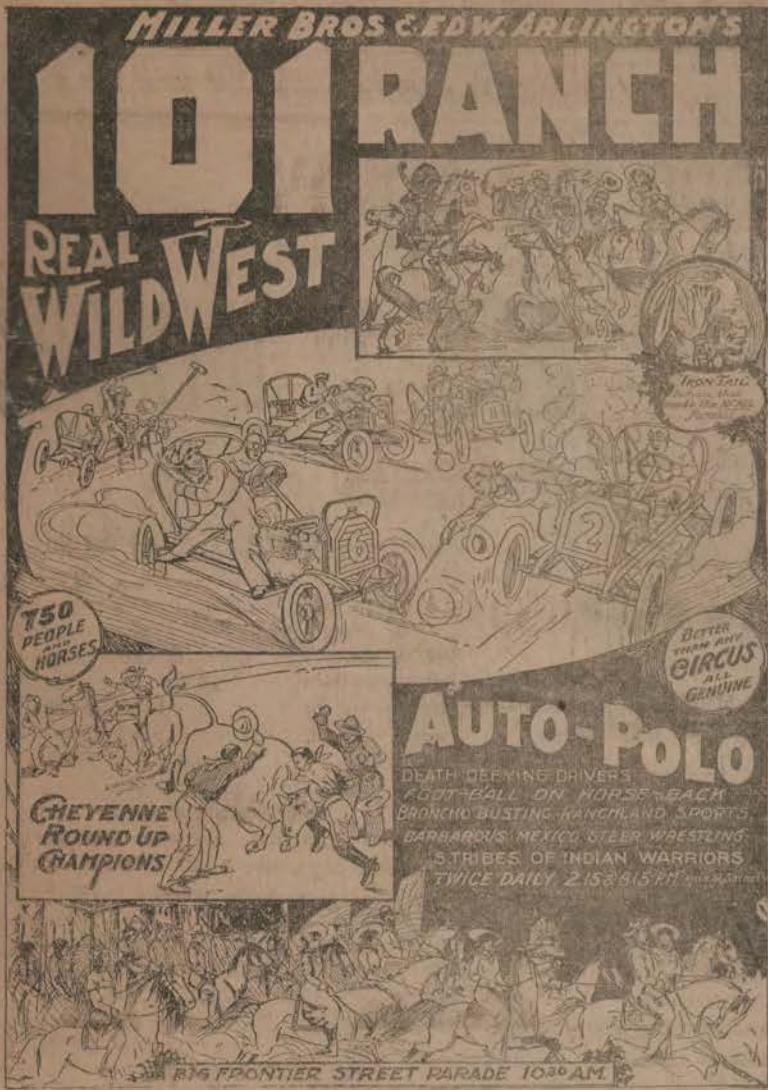
curious and the weather; and, not least, the entrance has the same alluring banners as the circus. The most marked difference is the great open arena, with its canopy-covered seats, and the picturesque every-day garb of the Wild West people, who are always much in evidence in the early hours of preparation.

The afternoon performance begins Monday at 2:15 and the night show at 8:15. Doors will be open an hour earlier to give visitors an opportunity to hear the preliminary band concert and inspect the Indian village, which is a most interesting feature of the show. Very complete and characteristic performances are promised. There will be a review of the Wild West celebrities, strenuous border drama, an Indian attack on a pioneer's camp and their repulse by cowboys and scouts under the direction of Joseph C. Miller, the noted ranchman and one of the owners of the big show; a holdup of the stage coach and the blowing up of the safe; the capture and punishment of a horse thief; "Ursus" Lindsay's remarkable feat of wrestling and throwing a wild steer; a genuine roundup with long-horned steers, exhibitions of fancy and rough riding on outlaw horses, crack rifle shooting and other displays, including the new auto polo sensation.

Wild West on Aug. 25.

The performance given by the 101 Ranch Real Wild West Show which is to be here Aug. 25 is not given in a stifling tent to which many have such a horror. In a large open arena the performance is given and the patrons are provided with seats under sun and water proof canopies. Seats that will accommodate 10,000 people are erected and from every one of these an unobstructed view of the performance can be had at all times. There are no rings thrown up but the performance is given in one huge arena where the horses have the opportunity to show a natural gait and speed that can never be seen in the banked rings. Horses that exhibit in the rings have been taught to one gait only and it is far from a natural one. There are no opportunities to show either speed or naturalness. This is all overcome with the show that is coming here for in the huge arena there are opportunities for both and those who know the class of riders with this show know that they are the riders who never lose a chance to get all out of their horses that are in them. The horses unschooled to any particular gait are not slow to enter into the same feeling as the rider and knowing what is expected of them and having the space in which this feeling can be gratified spectators are given some of the finest bursts of speed that have ever been seen. It is the naturalness of everything about the performance of this show that appears to the patrons. There is a complete absence of

Keokuk AUG. 25
Monday



Reserved seats on sale day of exhibition at Wilkinson's Biggest, Busiest and Best Drug Stors at same prices as at grounds.

the artificial and the absence of the tinsel and spangle has a tendency to bring out the homeliness of the natural and stronger. Every rider with the 101 Ranch Wild West Show is a natural rider and not those who have been taught to ride. They rode from infancy because they were compelled to ride in order to get from one part of the country to another. Riding to them is no accomplishment for it has always been a necessity. It might be truthfully said that they were born in the saddle and should you ask, there is not one of them who would be able to tell you when he or she did not ride.—Adv.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1882

The Showman's Trade.

A showman, after assuring a reporter that nothing pleases the people more than something full of peril and bloodshed, gives the following incident of his career; but we don't vouch for his truthfulness—that is, not quite:

"I ran a whole season on a lion that had eaten a keeper. The people came in crowds, expecting every day to see him make a breakfast of his trainer. Was he actually dangerous? Dangerous! He eat another trainer, and then I lost him. His widder was actually in love with her husband, and she swore the animal should be killed, and the people sided with her; and as the beast was getting old, and the killin' made a paying sensation, I did it. But I made all there was

out of it. I insisted that the husband should have a gorgeous funeral. She said there was nothing to bury, as the lion had eaten her husband. 'But ain't the dear departed in the lion?' If we bury the lion, don't we bury the dear departed?' 'Cert,' she said. And we had it, and it was gorgeous. We had a procession with all our wagons in it, the regular street parade, only all our riders had black scarfs on 'em, and the wagons and horses and elephants and such were draped in black, and the band played a dead march. The widder was in open carriage in full mourning, with a white handkerchief with a black border to her eyes, lookin' on his minatoor. Ther wasn't no minatoor, but she held a case just the same. That night the canvas couldnt hold the people. We run that two weeks to splendid biz. When the woman got over her grief, she went into the lion trainin' herself, ez 'Senorita Agnardeente, the Lion Queen.' I gave her some old lions to practice on, and in less than a month she could do jest as well as the old man. She was a good woman, too. She rid in the grand entree, and rid in 'The Halt in the Desert,' did the bar'l act, did a good pad act, and is now practisin' bareback. She juggles tollable, and does a society song and dance in a side show. When I get talent, I pay and keep it. My treasurer changes the names of my people every season, so as to have fresh attractions. O, I know my biz."

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KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1882

An Elephant on a Spree.

"I saw little Betsey as drunk as a fiddler one day, and she was a funny sight. We were showing late in the fall in Indiana, in very severe weather. Some monkeys and birds and snakes had already frozen, and Betsey showed that she was suffering greatly from the cold. Long John went to Manager Older and said to him: 'You'd better get some whisky for Betsey or she will freeze.' 'How much?' Her ears are beginning to freeze; get three buckets.' Well, they knew that two was for Betsey and one for Long John; but when it came to elephants he was boss, and the whisky was got as he ordered. Only you should have seen the tavern-keeper's eyes stand out when they ordered three buckets of whisky for two drinks. Betsey drank all they gave her, and got staving drunk. She'd stagger, and roll over, and pick herself up, and pick Long John up and toss him on her back, and sort of laugh, and he'd laugh, and it was nip and tuck between them which was the drunker. Elephants are very fond of whisky, or any sort of liquor, especially if it has lots of pepper in it; and they are not only fond of getting drunk themselves, but they are very considerate of drunken men. That Long John, when he was staggering drunk, would go right to Sultan or Canada, when nobody else dared to go near them, and would fool around them, and swing on their tusks, and toss their trunks about, and go to sleep right down by their feet, and they would not only not do him any harm, but wouldn't let anybody else go near him until he chose to wake up. And any real drunken man can do pretty much what he pleases with an elephant.—Recollections of a Menagerie Man.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED THE
R. J. BIGELOW KEOKUK

COOPER, JACKSON & CO.'S

NEW GIGANTIC

RAILROAD SHOW

Which combines in its organization, a

GREAT MORAL CIRCUS!

Introducing the stars of all nations in a supremely sensational selection of the most startling surprising series of Equestrian Gymnastic and Acrobatic Feats ever witnessed in the arena.

NEW! NOVEL! NOTABLE!

And a Refreshing Radical Reform, in fact an entirely new departure in Aesthetic Amusements.

THE COMPANY 100 STRONG!

Is unequalled in number and excels in ability that of any organization now before the public. This Capital Concentrated Constellation is headed by the

BRAVEST WOMAN THAT BREATHES!

Will Exhibit at Keokuk, on
FRIDAY, MAY 5th.

The Beautiful, Danger-Defying

ZAZEL! 1882

FROM THE ROYAL AQUARIUM, LONDON.
Her first appearance in America. For a period of two years ZAZEL set London wild with excitement. ZAZEL was the everywhere theme of conversation. Her name was on the tongue of Prince and Patrician alike. Ships, Horses, Hats, Fer-

James, Cigars, and even Children were named for her. Zazel was all the Rage! Zazel Imperials! If you Limb! Zazel Braves Every Danger! Zazel! Dreads not! Zazel Fears not! Zazel of the Nerves of Steel! Truth is Stranger than Fiction! ZAZEL, as graceful as a fawn, and as light as a fairy, covets upon a high-in-air thread of steel, then sinks into the depths, the yawning jaws of a great sea mortar, you discern only her head, neck and plump round arms. The audience has witnessed the loading of the ordnance; there is no deception; it is real, too real; it FREEZES ONE'S BLOOD! Your pulse stands still, you hold your breath, you are in an agony of excitement. ZAZEL gives the word, Fire! -you attempt to shut your eyes, you can not, you are fascinated; you would look in the opposite direction, you witness the thrilling scene, the most hazardous feat ever performed by mortal man or woman is accomplished.



ZAZEL IS BLOWN FROM THE CANNON'S MOUTH!

What is her fate? She has fallen into the net! The breath must have left her body. What! ZAZEL is on her feet! she is alive! Smiles of triumph wreath her handsome features and tears of joy come unbidden to the eyes of hundreds in the vast pavilion which shelters thousands under its flag decorated canopy. The plaudits of the multitude have not died away before the brave girl again attempts annihilation. Standing upon a tiny platform, ZAZEL takes a calm survey of all about her and at the instant of giving a preliminary cry as a signal, leaps into the air and dashes sixty-feet head-first into a net below.

The Wonderful Fire Horse, "SATAN"

The Equine Salamander of the World, King of the Blazing Zone, a Horse who leaps through six-foot hoops enveloped in flames. The fleetest bred and educated horse on the continent.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

A Free Entertainment "without Money and without Price" on the Day of Exhibition, on the Date below mentioned and place named, at about ten o'clock a.m., will occur a

Grand Public Demonstration

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 18.

CITY NEWS. 1882

—Cooper, Jackson & Co.'s fraud of a circus, that showed in Keokuk recently, has been attached and will bore the public no more—for the present, at least. The Creston Gazette says: Cooper, Jackson & Co.'s circus outfit seems to have fallen into hard lines. The attachment of the property here to satisfy creditors has left the workmen connected with the institution in a deplorable state. They were without food, and Overseer Fahlsing was compelled to provide for their sustenance. This morning he fed sixty of the employees, and the same number will get supper. At the suggestion of the city, Sheriff Blanchard will open the show to-night, the proceeds to be used for the purchasing of provisions.

AT KEOKUK 1883
FRIDAY, MAY 25,
COLE'S | NEW COLLUSAL SHOWS,
— AND THE —
12 PERFORMING | ARABS.
Together with a Champion
CIRCUS IN 3 RINGS.



continued on page 171

SEP 12, 1882 / PURCHASED
MAY 5, 1882
MAY 20, 1883
COLES NEW CIRCUS
1882
1883

Making the Entree of
COOPER, JACKSON & CO.'S
NEW GIGANTIC RAILROAD SHOWS,
WOMBELL'S ENGLISH MENAGERIE,
And Orsini's Oriental Circus and Hippodrome!



Now for the first time combined for the season of 1882, this partial exhibit of the resources of the establishment, creates a

DELIGHTFUL PUBLIC HOLIDAY!!

Congregating Tens of Thousands to line the streets, and drink in the Splendor of the Scene with open-eyed Wonder and Amazement.

MARTIAL BANDS of MUSIC

Fill the air with sweet sounds.

Long Line of Ders and Cages

Contain the Wonders of the ZOOLOGICAL KINGDOM,

BOLIVIAR, THE MIGHTY WAR ELEPHANT!

Fairly makes the ground tremble as he moves majestic, aware of his proud frame of being THE LARGEST ELEPHANT ON EXHIBITION. It is worthy of remark in this connection to state that Boliviar's tusks are 8 feet in length.

BORNE HIGH ALOFT

In the midst of the Gorgeous Free Procession, rides the



QUEEN OF BEAUTY!

**THE \$10,000 PREMIUM LADY,
MISS IDA V. REED.**

This remarkable FREE FOR ALL PROFESSION is but a foretaste of the numberless attractions presented by

COOPER, JACKSON & CO.

Two Exhibitions Daily, Afternoon and Night. Seats for 10,000 People. Popular Prices. No advance on account of the Increased Attractions. Make a note of the Name.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE DATE.

to be **MAY 26, 1883, SCIPIO.**

Cole's Circus.

With such a combination of attractions as the Tiomas orchestra and the great Cole's circus in town upon the same date it was hoped that the elements would have proved favorable for a successful day, but it was decreed otherwise, and what gave promise of being a gala day, one that would have put on a holiday appearance and brought out our people in throngs, and to our city thousands of visitors, was one of the most thoroughly disagreeable of a very bad month and proved a sad disappointment to the many who had looked forward to a pleasant occasion. Notwithstanding the wretched condition of the weather, large crowds were in attendance at both performances of Cole's circus, the crowd at the afternoon show being remarkable for its size when taken into consideration the fact that a mean, drizzling rain prevailed during the entire time the people were congregating. The universal verdict of all who were brave enough to venture out in rain and mud to witness the sports of the arena and gaze upon the collection of birds, beasts, reptiles and curiosities of this colossal

aggregation was that it is the best tent show that has ever appeared here and the performance certainly justified this unanimous good opinion. Two rings and a well built platform are used for the performances, and during their progress many acts of a new, novel and startling character are introduced and in such abundance and with a rapidity that cannot fail to satisfy the most exacting. The trapeze act of Nestor and Venoa has never been equalled here for skill and daring and was loudly cheered by the vast audiences, and the wonderful performances of Mr. Cole's latest importation, those dusky sons of the desert, from far off Arabia, excited the admiration of all. Messrs. Robinson and Young Leon in gallant and graceful acts of horsemanship established their claims for superiority. Innumerable acts of leaping, tumbling, balancing, juggling, contortion, bicycle riding, high rope walking, skatorial feats assist in forming one of the finest ring performances ever seen in this city.

In addition to their superb arena exhibition, the menagerie a large and extensive one, contains many rare and wonderful specimens of the animal kingdom, the hippopotamus introduced in the ring, as playful as a kitten, being an

Menagerie, Thatre, Bicycle Experts, Gallery of Wax Statuary, Russian Roller Skaters, Museum, Encyclopedia of Races.

A Double Circus Company in Three Rings led by the World's Champion Bareback Rider,

Mr. JAMES ROBINSON,

A Theatre with a Portable Stage,

All the Presidents in Wax,

An Enormous Menagerie.

An Encyclopedia of Races,

A Museum of Living Wonders,

Representatives of all Nations,

Wax Statutes of Noted Men,

A Female Snake Charmer,

French Aerial Bicycle Riders,

14 Acts by Lady Performers,

None but Bareback Riders,

Acts Simultaneously in the Ring,

Professor Fryer's Performing Dogs,

Montico's Trained Goats,

Comical Trained Donkeys,

Trained Animals of every Kind,

Nothing identified with the Past,

The present a Revolution,

"Samson" the Giant Elephant,

600 Specimens of the Snake Tribe,

A Drove of Desert Camels,

Tattoed South Sea Savages,

A Herd of Performing Elephants,

8 Reason Gifted Trick Stallions,

Giant Australian Kangaroos,

A Snow White Buffalo.

The Mammoth Kansas Cow,

Giant Emus and Ostriches,

Guiteau, the Assassin, in Wax,

Managerie of Trained Animals

Many Bands of Music,

Dens of Performing Beasts

Admission to all Shows, 50 cents. Children under 9 years, 25 cents. Reserved Opera Chairs 25 cents extra. For further particulars purchase a ticket for yourself.

object of interest, while the towering mass of elephanine greatness, the mighty monarch Sampson was looked upon with wonder. A magnificent street parade and an excellent free show are outside attractions of worthy note To sum up it is perfect in every feature, complete in all departments.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

NOVEMBER 27, 1887.

The animal house of P. T. Barnum's show at Bridgeport, Connecticut, burned Sunday night. Six watchmen were employed. The last inspection was made at 10 p. m. The watchman had barely passed through one end of the building when a flame sprung up behind him. He ran back when a man with a billy knocked him senseless. The fire was in the part where the lions, tigers, panthers and other caged animals were. They made night awful with their roars. They could not be saved, but the elephants were in the remote part of the building and the keepers ran to rescue them. Twenty-seven were loosed and driven into the yard, but four were so violent they would not permit approach and they perished. The building totally burned. The insurance was \$65,000. Outsiders put the loss at \$100,000 to \$135,000. One of the lions escaped and was shot in a cow shed.

BEHOLD THE CONQUERING HERO COMES.
FOREPAUGH'S 6 CONSOLIDATED SHOWS!
 UNITED WITH THE GREAT
REMODELED WILD WEST SHOW,



And CUSTER BATTLE ADDED.

OPEN OUT THE STREETS! MAKE WIDE THE THOROUGHFARES! LENGTHEN THE BORDERS! STRENGTHEN THE STAKES! BEHOLD, ADAM AND

THE PRINCE OF THE HOUSE OF ADAM COMETH!

After the most brilliant and recherche conquest ever known in the Sawdust Animals of the Spectacular World, Philadelphia's native citizens, father and son, will make their triumphal entrance into the city of

KEOKUK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
 WITH THREE TIMES THE GREATEST ON EARTH.

A Gorgeously Novel Street Pageant, compared with which all former efforts pale and glimmer with a feeble and uncertain light will take place on Monday at 10 o'clock, the route of which will be published hereafter. You may tell it in New York, publish it in Gath and in the streets of Eschelon. Proclaim it from the house-tops and send the joyous news to the uttermost parts of the earth! ... modern Caesar greater in his line than Julius (?) has crossed the Metropolitan Rubicon! Rome has caught the spirit of the laconic military message. Multitudes at once and abroad have gathered the inspiration. A million Metropolitan visitors during nineteen weeks in New York will endorse the verdict, VENI, VIDI, VICTUS!

But what about the show? At the fall of Vicksburg the public did not ask how Grant's soldiers looked, or his commissariat held out. He got there! Enough to know! When Sherman marched to the sea the backbone of the Confederacy was broken. Hail Columbia! Neither night nor Blucher came, but a Waterloo! From that day the Star of Napoleon's Empire began to set. Good night, spiritus de profundis! Requiescat in pace! Now was the victory won! 'Twas simple as a twice told tale. The elephants did it. The horses did it. The brilliant equestrian and acrobatic stars did it. The animals did it. The hippodrome did it. The Blondin horse did it. Picabiny did it. John L. Sullivan, the Pugilistic Elephant, did it. He completely knocked them all out! The Quadrille Elephants did it. Even Jack, the Semersault Dog, did it, winning the loudest applause, next to the elephants, ever received by any single feature, and yet he is among the least of Adam Forepaugh's great novel attractions! In a word, all the grand exaggerated attractions of the Forepaugh Show, the equal of which a million of New York people will tell you candidly were never before exhibited by any show on earth, did it. If only a Circus, Hippodrome, Menagerie, Trained Animals, in New York, could do this thing, what may not they expect when they are added to these Forepaugh's remodeled

WILD WEST SHOW

Grander and more sensational than Buffalo Bill ever dreamed of in his frontier philosophy since the GREAT CUSTER BATTLE DISPLAY has been added at a cost of \$600,000 which will be reproduced to the life at each and every performance and appear grander than in New York. ADAM, JR.'S first appearance

IN HIS GREAT 30-HORSE ACT.

The Climax of Multiplied Horsemanship.

M. XAVIER ORLOFSKI and CHAS. WALSH, late of the Prussian and Bavarian Cuirassiers and the Black Hussars, in a Broad Sword Combat on Horseback. The famous Emigrant Wagon, 141 years old, which exhibits a "prairie schooner" of the olden time, built in Lancaster, Pa., exhibited at the Centennial and at the Cotton Exposition, New Orleans, has been purchased by Mr. Forepaugh. It will appear for the first time in the great parade. Also, a historic barn-ses used by President Buchanan when a boy, and by his grandfather before him. Age of harness not fully known. Will be seen on the horses drawing the venerable old relic. In fact, thousands of Brand New Things will be seen absolutely for the first time in

FOREPAUGH'S GREAT SHOW.

For full particulars see bills, programs, magazines, scattered everywhere by the million. Two Grand, Full, Thorough and Complete performances every day at 2 and 8 p.m. Doors open at 1 and 7 p.m. ADMISSION 50 cents. Children under nine years, 25 cents. 20,000 Seats.

Reserved Numbered Chairs Extra.

For the accommodation of the public who desire to avoid the crowds on the ground. Reserved Seats can be secured at E. E. Fuller & Son's Drug Store, Sixth and Main streets, on the day of exhibition, at the usual slight advance. Excursion trains and boats on all routes at reduced prices.

THE DAILY GATE CITY: SEPTEMBER 10, 1887.

SHEET NO.

178

New York and New Orleans
COMBINED SHOWS

The Biggest, Brightest and Best Popular Price Show on the road.

40-STAR PERFORMERS-40

Including the three Marretta Sisters, aerial artists; Miss May Moran, lady gymnast; Parrents Brothers, horizontal bars; Harry Standon, contortionist; The Three Powers Brothers, wonderful trick and fancy skaters and bicyclists; the two funniest clowns in America, The Kennard Brothers, and a host of other equally celebrated artists and performers.

Will Exhibit at 1887

KEOKUK, Sept. 6th & 7th

Cor. Eleventh and Johnson Sts.

Popular prices of admission. Two performances daily. Doors open at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Miss Rose Marretta will make a free high wire ascension at the grounds before each performance.

The Daily Constitution.

SEPTEMBER 6. 1887.

New York and New Orleans Circus.

The New York and New Orleans circus arrived this morning and gave an exhibition this afternoon at Eleventh and Johnson streets. Another exhibition will be given this evening and two to-morrow. The regular price of admission is 25 cents, but they have reduced the price to 10 cents for this city.

The Daily Constitution.

SEPTEMBER 7. 1887.

New York and New Orleans Show.

The New York and New Orleans shows gave an exhibition to a large and well-pleased audience last night at the corner of Eleventh and Johnson streets. The performance was an excellent one, and the price of admission being so low—only ten cents—the company is assured of crowded tents at their concluding performances this afternoon and evening. They are deserving of them as those who witnessed yesterday's exhibition can testify.

The Daily Constitution

JULY 20, 1887.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT

AT SELLS BROS.' CIRCUS.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, July 20.—In consequence of the accidental shooting of several spectators during the Wild West exhibition at Clinton last night, Sells Bros.' circus skipped Dubuque to-day, proceeding to Prairie du Chien, Wis., where they show to-morrow.

ADDRESS

NAME

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

SEPT. 8

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1887.

In visiting Forepaugh's colossal circus, menagerie, museum, hippodrome and Wild West show, all combined, you will see the greatest marksman in the world; you will see Indian warfare realistically depicted; you will see the method of capturing wild horses and buffalos; you will see an Indian village transplanted from the plains; you will see the realistic representation of Custer's last rally, or the battle of the Little Big Horn; you will see every rare animal known to exist in the menagerie, all the great riders and performers in the circus in three rings, and a débâcle of exciting races in the real Roman hippodrome. You will see ten times more show than ever you did before in your life.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1887.

—Forepaugh has had bad luck at Creston. The audience was small, several of his horses strayed away, things inside the ropes did not work well, and even the clown's antideluvian jokes failed to put the show, attaches in good spirits. In the gentleman's race one of the horses fell down in making the turn, and the horse following fell over the prostrate forms of horse and rider. The latter suffered the displacement of his right leg at the thigh, but was placed upon the horse again and finished the race. One of the lady riders was also hurt. In the four horse chariot race one of the horses slipped on the same place the other had fallen, and was dragged over the ground until its harness was pulled off. The horse was quite seriously injured. This accident caused old Adam to appear in the arena and put a stop to the evening's performance.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1887.

The Old Clown's Days Are Over.

Col. W. C. Crum, the advance agent of Forepaugh's circus, says: "The day of the clowns is nearly over. Formerly they were half the show, but now they attract but little attention. The enlargement of the shows is the chief cause. The big shows now have two or three rings, and the circle of seats is so far off that the people cannot hear the jokes of the clowns. In the old days an average clown received from \$100 to \$200 a week. Dan Rice, who was considered the greatest of them all, was paid \$1,000 a week, which was the highest salary a clown ever received. He was a bright, ambitious young fellow,

possessed of much originality, and he reached the top notch of his profession. Once an educated young Englishman, a graduate of Oxford university, who possessed excellent comic talents, was brought over to this country, and he was paid \$500 a week. At the present day the pay of the clowns ranges from \$20 to \$50 a week." —Courier-Journal.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1887.

The High-Trapeze Woman.

The circus woman who rushes into the ring, bows, catches a strap with her teeth, and is hauled to the top of the tent, where she finds rest on a single swinging trapeze-bar, has no sinecure. A New York *Mail and Express* reporter interviewed one of these queens of the air. She said: "The art of balancing on a swinging trapeze is more difficult than active gymnastics. I began to accustom myself to the circus ring at 7 years of age. At 7 I could turn handsprings. My mother was a slack-wire walker, and her ambition was to have me follow in her footsteps, so to speak. Somehow I had an antipathy to the slack-wire, but gradually I was brought to balance on it. At the age of 10 I could do a little walking on the wire, but I always kept the wire swinging to and fro. In a few years more I could do anything on the slack-wire, and grew ambitious to perform other feats. I was between 17 and 18 years old when I first ascended to a high trapeze bar. A network was spread under to catch me if I fell. The more I looked below the more certain I became that I could never get used to the high trapeze. My instructor shouted to me not to look down at all, but to keep my eyes fastened upon the ropes that supported the trapeze bar. I should have known that before, because in balancing on the slack-wire I always kept my eyes fixed on a level in front of me. I obeyed orders, and began to try what is known as the simple balance position. I slipped and wheeled through the air to the netting below. I wanted to give it up then. All my ambition seemed to ooze out of me. But I was made to go right up again and try it over. That angered me, and I became reckless. I succeeded admirably. Day after day I would go up and work four or five hours steadily. Did I ever fall? Yes, once; but, fortunately, I had the network to catch me. How did I fall? I was engaged to be married to an acrobat and rider, and in a foolish moment I turned my eyes down to the ring to see him, and, losing my balance, before I could grasp the rope I tumbled off very gracefully and fell in a heap on the network below. I am married now, so I see enough of my husband without looking at him while performing."

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1887.

CUSTER'S LAST BATTLE.

How It Is Pictured in the Great Forepaugh Show.

The Philadelphia *Press* describes how Forepaugh's men fight again the battle of Little Big Horn, in which General Custer was killed. "Sitting Bull" was not there to give a shocking semblance of reality to the struggle. Reno, too, was missing, as some say he was on the day that the dashing cavalry officer and his men rode into the ambuscade, and fell before the fire of the Sioux. There was enough in the conflict, however, to bring thousands of spectators at Forepaugh's circus to their feet and watch with exciting interest a sham repetition of the famous Custer massacre. To those who had read the story of the struggle in the canyon, the picture revived all the recollections of the story told by the only survivors. The scalping of the Indians by Custer's fearless scouts, the following of the trail by the savages, the trick that brought Custer's men riding fearlessly into the ambush, the raking fire of the Indians after their first fierce onslaught, and the battle to the death by the blue-coated cavalrymen, were all depicted in a manner that sent a thrill of passion through many of the spectators. The Indians were in their war paint, fully armed with rifle and hatchet, and the soldiers were on their horses, just as they were on the fatal morning of the slaughter. The charge of the cavalrymen, the yells of the Indians, the rattle of the musketry, all added to the new feature that is sure to prove one of the best of Forepaugh's attractions. At Keokuk Monday, Sept. 12.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1887.

Cowboys and Rocky Mountain Girls.

The following famous scouts and girl-riders of the far west with the Forepaugh and Wild West combination: Wyoming Jack, King of Cowboys; Dakota Ben, Dakota; Shanghai Bill, Montana; Jake Lawson, Colorado; Jack Curlie, Texas; Cheyenne Charley, Mike Carl, pony express riders; Buckskin Bill, California Joe, Wyoming Reed, Antonio Esqueval, cowboys and bucking horse riders; Sam Southgate, Idaho; Bill Robinson, New Mexico. Girl riders of the Wild West: "Mexis," Mexico; Maggie Reynolds, Colorado; Senora Lowande, Mexico; Prairie Flower (Indian Girl), Oregon; Lizzie Kennedy, Texas. Together with squaws, papoosees, etc., all clad in the Indian garb of their Wild Western homes. Illustrations are also given in the most realistic manner of the solemn ceremony of kindling the council fire; tomahawking and scalping; running the gauntlet; war dances; smoking the pipe of peace; corral of Indian ponies; Indian marriage and funeral ceremonies; herd of wild buffaloes; mountain elk, pack mules, burros, antelopes and coyotes, all grouped in a most appropriate and picturesque manner, and forming one of the most pleasing, novel and instructive object lessons of wild life on the border ever presented to the public. Forepaugh will be in Keokuk to-morrow.

VANWATER CRIMPED LEAF

CREDITS

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY"
R. J. BICKEL, KEOKUK, IOWA

GREAT INTER-OCEAN CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.

**WAIT FOR THE
GREAT INTER-OCEAN!**



The Largest Railway Show on Earth!

It Will Not Exhibit in KEOKUK Until

Thursday, May 6.

When Three Grand, Full and Complete Entertainments will be Given,
Morning, Afternoon and Night.

Twelve Museums, Twelve Menageries and Circuses Combined in One,

Making Twenty Times the Best Show You Ever Saw in Your Life, for

ONLY TWENTY-FIVE CTS. ADMISSION

To the Entire

TWELVE GREAT SHOWS.

A few Elegantly Upholstered Opera Chairs only 25 Cents Extra.

\$50,000 Freely Forfeited if this is not the Truth.



Among the many Wonderful and Interesting features of this Great Exhibition are Groups of

DIGGER INDIANS,

CHEYENNES,

AND

Uncompahgre Utes,

Who, among other performances, will give a Mock Representation of the

Continued on page 180

JULY 13, 1885 BURR-Robins
MAY 6, 1880 GREAT INTER-OCEAN

The Entire Vast Concourse of Pavilions

BRILLIANTLY ILLUMINATED DAY AND NIGHT !

With Arnoux & Hochausson's

BEAUTIFUL ELECTRIC LIGHT,

Generated by Improved Dinamo-Electric Machines, Driven by a Costly Gold and Silver-Plated Steam Fire Engine of Thirty-Five Horse Power, and Producing a Light Equal in Capacity to 165,000 Candles.

Gardenshire's Fiji Cannibals,

Zulu War Chiefs,

Relies and War Implements,

Including the

Famous Assegais with which

the Prince Imperial

Lost His Life.



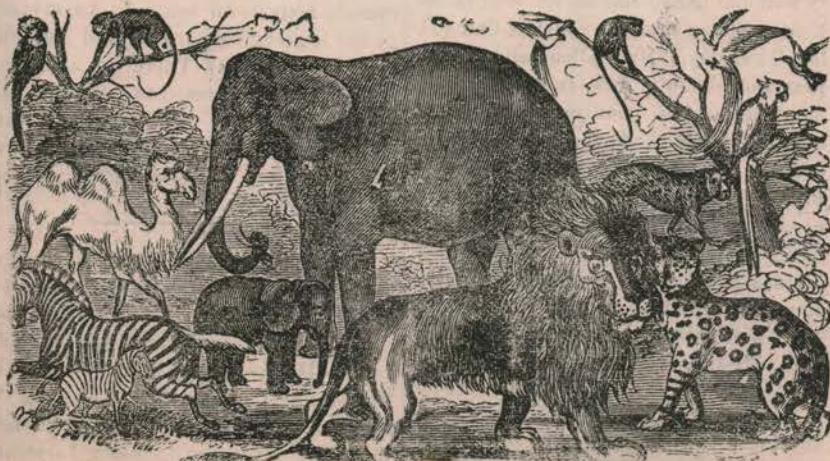
Menagerie and Circus Strictly First - Class.

LARGEST AND SMALLEST ELEPHANTS IN THE WORLD.

The Only White Elephant in America. Gigantic Sea Lions, Sea Elephants and Seals.

Remember, that Under No Circumstances will the Great Inter-Ocean Ever Divide, as is the case with Every Other Show now advertised in this State.

For full particulars of everything connected with this Magnificent Entertainment, see the "Great Inter-Ocean" Colored and Illustrated 16 Page Daily, scattered everywhere by thousands.



A fac-simile, in Alabaster, of

Cleopatra's Needle !

Thirty Feet High.

"THEODORUS"

The White Elephant.

'Empress'

The Largest Elephant ever on this Continent.

Remember, One 25 Cent Ticket Admits You to the Entire Twelve Great Shows.

Excursion Trains and Steamboats run to bring in the multitude.

THE OLD RELIABLE!

THE BEST OF ALL SHOWS COMING TO
KEOKUK, MONDAY, JULY 13TH

BURR ROBBINS'

— NEW —

CONSOLIDATED RAILROAD SHOWS!

Museum, Menagerie and Circus.

The most popular of American tenting exhibitions, and possessing more and better features than any other show.



DENS OF PERFORMING WILD BEASTS

Tigers, Lions, Hyenas, Leopards, Bears, Pythons, Anacondas, Bon Constrictors, etc., with their keepers, all thrown open, with sides down in the MIGHTY PARADE, FREE

40 CAGE MENAGERIE 40

The most comprehensive in the world, surpassing in magnitude the most pretentious of the establishments of Europe, and constantly recuperated from the wreath of Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia, by an organized corps of agents and hunters, distributed over a territory upon which the sun never sets.

OVER 1,000 RARE ANIMALS!

Museum of Living Wonders, and a Vast Collection of Relics of the Olden Age and Modern Curiosities, A herd of Monster Elephants of all ages, sizes and kinds. Every nation represented. Tribes of Hindoos, Hindoo Snake-Charmers, Kurds, Greeks, Cannibals, Aztecs, Arabs, Medes, Japanese, Patagonians, Fejees, Nubians, Egyptians, Malays, Hottentots, and Afghans, all in their native postures in the free parade. More and better features than ever before seen on the tented field. A miniature world gathered beneath the canvas skies.

ADMISSION, 50 CENTS; CHILDREN UNDER 9 YEARS, 25 CENTS.
REMEMBER THE DATE, JULY 13th.

THE KEOKUK DAILY CONSTITUTION,

JULY 7, 1885.

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The Daily Constitution,

OCTOBER 19, 1887

The United States Circus Disbands

The United States circus, which was to have showed in Keokuk Monday and Tuesday, did not put in an appearance here, having disbanded at Des Moines Saturday, owing to some quarrels among the members. Edward Guthrie, the manager and the star performer, is a Quincy man, his mother now being Mrs. Ives, of that city. Miss Grace Colton, the trapeze performer, is a daughter of Mrs. Geo. H. Elick, 419 Johnson street. She arrived here Monday afternoon and is visiting her mother. The man who owns the trained dogs accompanied her. On her arrival at the Rock Island station here Miss Colton was met by her uncle, G. W. Johnson, of California, who is visiting his sister, Mrs. Elick, whom he had not seen since 1870, when he left Bloomfield, Iowa, where he was engaged in the mercantile and live stock business. Miss Colton was assaulted by the bareback rider at Des Moines Sunday, but bystanders quickly interfered and she escaped any serious injury.

The Daily Constitution,

OCTOBER 20, 1887

A CIRCUS ROMANCE.

Marriage in Keokuk of the Owner of the Educated Dogs of the Defunct United States Circus and the Aerial Artiste.

Harry Mohn, of Lancaster, Pa., was married to Miss Birdie Talbot, of Keokuk, Tuesday, October 18th, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Helen Elick, 417 Johnson street. Rev. J. W. McIntosh, of Topeka, Kansas, a minister of the Independent Holiness church, who is conducting meetings here at the Church of the Latter Day Saints, tied the matrimonial knot. The groom is the owner of the educated dogs in the United States circus which recently collapsed at Des Moines, while Miss Talbot—who went by the name of Grace Colton—was the trapeze performer with the same aggregation. While traveling with the show they fell in love with each other, the result being that when the circus went to pieces at Des Moines, Mr. Mohn accompanied Miss Talbot to Keokuk, the romance ending with the wedding above stated.

DATE	19
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ADDRESS

NAME

Daily Constitution.

MAIL OCTOBER 13, 1887 \$6.00

Beef for the Circus Athlete.

In 1833 Aaron Turner's circus was performing on a route through Pennsylvania, and at Pottsville Napoleon Turner, the old man Turner's son, took a fancy to a wretched, starveling-looking boy, between 6 and 7 years old, who was mooning about in the neighborhood of the show. The little fellow seemed to be a nice, intelligent sort of boy for his age, but miserably thin and weak. All his limbs were thin and shapeless as a spider's, except for their clumsy joints. His cheeks were sunken, and his breast seemed to have caved in. Nap found the father of the lad and managed to get the boy apprenticed to him.

The circus men were amazed at sight of Nap's protege, and free to prophesy that he would never amount to anything. "Never mind," replied Nap; "even if he doesn't I'll save him from starving to death, any way." They found that young Whitcomb could not eat meat. He had never eaten any. The smell of it made him sick. The first article of faith in a circus man's creed is that one must eat beef to be strong, and as it was a matter of settled determination in Nap Turner's mind that young Whitcomb should be strong, and as Nap was the biggest, young Whitcomb had to eat beef. He commenced lightly on it, a little at a time, and gradually of his own choice increased the rations.

He was not put to work at anything, but just allowed to loaf around the tent when the other boys were practising, and try to imitate them when he chose to do so. Very rapidly he picked up flesh, and verified the soundness of the circus confidence in beef by growing strong. In a few seasons he grew to be a robust, straight, handsome fellow, good at leaping, tumbling, slack-rope walking, and eventually, under the name of Harry Turner, became famous as one of the best four-horse riders in the country—"thanks to good beef and plenty of it," as Nap Turner used to say.

The Cool.

Daily Constitution.

NOVEMBER 6, 1884

A FIGHTING CIRCUS.

A Company Which Fought Its Way Through Kansas.

A Lively Experience — "Terribly Wearing for Circus Men"—Rows Every Fifteen Minutes—Going to Their Death.

[Caldwell (Kan.) Cor. New York Sun.]

The Orton company circus, which was engaged in the riot down in Burr Oak the other day, is getting along now on crutches, so to speak. Its season has been one of carnage from first to last, and few of the men who started out with it are now of the party.

"We've buried one clown," said the boss anasman here, "two teamsters, and three anasmen, and there are I don't know how many in the hospitals along the route. It has been a hard season. The boss may have made money, but the men haven't."

The performances in this town were about the only orderly ones which the show has

given in a mouth. Many of the performers were disabled, and most of them were a little wild-eyed, but things went smoothly enough. The crowds were large and good natured.

"Things look very different here," said Jim Knight, the door-tender, waving his hand toward the well-filled tent, "from what they have in most of the towns where we've been this summer. This laughing and shouting does me good. It sounds like old times. As a rule we expect the fighting to begin about now.

"It would take me a week to tell you what this show has been through since we started. We caught it the first night, and that's a bad sign. I never knew a circus to get into trouble the first night without going through the season that way; but no other show ever got it the way we have. I've been tending door for sixteen years, and I know what I'm talking about. I've carried a Winchester in every town until I struck this one, and I'd have done it here out of habit if the city marshal hadn't told me it wasn't necessary.

"Up here in Springwells I took my seat on the box, with the rifle between my legs, when the marshal tapped me on the shoulder and said he didn't allow anybody to carry rifles in that town but himself. I told him I had no desire to carry the gun, except for protection, and that if he would guarantee me that I would put it away. He drew himself up as high as he could and said, with great gravity, that he never compromised with law-breakers. If I didn't put up the weapon he would have to pull the show. Well, I didn't want any trouble, so I carried the weapon into the dressing-room, leaving him to guard the door during my absence. While I was gone he let about twenty roughs in without tickets. I found this out, and undertook to bounce them. They resisted, and we had it right there in the ring. Finally the boss came around and told us to let them alone. The performance began just then, and nothing more was done about it. When we came to leave town we found a mob following us, and as soon as we got out on the highway they let us have it with stones, clubs, and fists. It was a bad scrape, but we managed to get away whole. The trouble with that gang, though, was that they followed us for about a week, and never let up until we had killed one of them. It's terrible wearing for circus men to be hunted in that way. Our work is hard enough at best, but with those fellows on our trail we didn't dare to sleep.

"When we got clear of them the boss went around and said: 'Now, boys, this thing is over with. Let's don't get into any more scrapes. They don't pay. Stand everything but murder. We must get along with these people and humor them.' We all agreed that that was the best policy, and the next town we showed in we were all smiles and humility. That was at Wellington. Things appeared to be going all right. I was at the door taking tickets, when I heard a terrible noise over in the side-show, and pretty soon there was a stampede of men, women and children out of the door and under the canvas. Then there were half a dozen shots and some terrible yells. I got one of the men to stay at the door while I went over to the side-show to see what was the matter. On presenting myself at the door, I found a cowboy in charge, and I had to pay him a quarter before I could get in. Once inside, I saw a sight that made my hair stand on end. Six or seven cowboys had gone in to whip the Norwegian giant, and they had done it. He lay on his back, and they had the other curiosities in a procession marching around him, while one of them was turning the hand organ. I got the thing straightened out after a while, and the performance in the main tent went on.

"Down in Chilton we had a fight before we had driven a stake, and rows occurred every fifteen minutes during the day and night. We lost two men there and got out of town badly crippled. At Decatur we found a crowd that insisted on sitting on the ring,

and when one of our riders drove a little too close to them, they began to chase the performers out of the ring. Things quieted down after a little, and the show went along all right to the end. When we were packing up at night, the toughs came for us again, upsetting wagons, and belting the men over the head. Of course we would not submit to that sort of thing very long. Our men pitched in, and we had about the meanest fight of the year. The roughs had knives, and they sliced a few of us in bad shape, but we also laid a lot of them out. We never stopped to inquire to the fate of any of them. We got our own men together and started, leaving a broken wagon behind.

"All these fights come from whisky, but a very lively disturbance that broke up our performance over in a little Missouri town was directly due to the bottle. The clown and the ring master were getting off that old joke of betting a bottle of whisky. The crowd appeared to be deeply interested. After a little, when the ring master lost, the clown insisted on having the stake, and the former sent to the dressing room for the bottle. As the clown took it from the hand of the attendant he pulled the cork, gulped down half a dozen swallows, smacked his lips, gasped rubbed himself with the bottle, and then put it to his mouth again. Just then somebody in the audience yelled out, 'Hold on there; give me just a smell of that!' The clown paid no attention to the interruption until he saw a big fellow climbing over the ropes, and then he ran to the other side of the ring. The ringmaster, noticing the intruder, wound his long whip around his legs, and a moment later there were twenty men on top of him. We came mighty near having a murder right there, but the killing was postponed until after we got to packing up. That's the time they always jump on us ugly.

"We have fought our way through Kansas, and we are going off to the southwest. If we can get in a few days of rest like this in Caldwell we'll be in pretty good shape for a tour in that country. I don't know what's getting into the people. If the folks down that way are as much worse than they used to be as the Missourians and Kansans are, we are going to our death, and I know it."

WINTER CRIMPED LEAF

CREDITS

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. L. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

SHEET
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CLEAR THE WAY!

THE GREATEST AND BEST IS COMING

And will exhibit

In Keokuk, on
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24,

Giving two performances afternoon and evening, at 2 and 8 p.m.

W. C. COUP'S

NEW UNITED MONSTER SHOWS

—AND—

GREAT WORLD'S FAIR

FOR THE SEASON OF 1882.

All Former Years Outdone. The Show of the World.

Eclipsing all in Vastness, Grandeur, Novelty and Attraction, and the opulent variety of its

NEW FEATURES!

To be seen only within this VAST AREA OF TENTS, For one price of admission.



KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1882.

COUP ONLY

HAS

THREE FULL CIRCUSES

Performing in one Gigantic Ring.

COUP ONLY HAS THE GRAND
Historical Tableaux

Depicting with Photographic Exactness

THE ASSASSINATION OF GARFIELD

With 500 Life Like Figures, and perfect portraits of all the persons connected with this TERRIBLE NATIONAL CALAMITY.

MADE BY BAKER-VANT

DATE
19

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1882

Coup's Latest Grand Venture.

Coup's New United Monster Shows will exhibit in Keokuk on Wednesday May 24th, giving performances afternoon and evening, at 2 and 8 o'clock. We have often read of monster shows and monster combinations, but in order to get an adequate idea of what is in store for our amusement-loving readers, we ask them to contemplate the following:

Three full circus companies combined in one, numbering in the various departments the most celebrated performers in the world.

The principal attractions of Coup's New York aquarium.

A grand automatic museum, with hundreds of moving figures run by steam power generated by six steam engines.

A full menagerie of the rarest and most interesting wild animals, including a mammoth hippopotamus and a herd of performing elephants.

Professor White's dog actors and dog circus and Professor Roberts' pony circus. Amos' original jubilee singers and colored band. Kalmuch's Palestine Arabs, Cetewayo's Amazulu princess and suite, a genuine troupe of male and female Zulus, and feasts by a company of Turks, Japanese and Egyptian Mamelukes.

He has beside all these, a feature which must attract universal interest, it being nothing less than a series of historical tableaux, figures and statues, designed and modeled by Wilson MacDonald, Esq., the best of American sculptors, representing the assassination of Garfield by Guiteau, with all the most important scenes and episodes belonging to that terrible event. About five hundred life-like figures are presented, all appropriately costumed, the figure of Guiteau being dressed in the identical suit of clothes he wore at the time he fired the fatal shot. The likenesses of Judge Cox, Judge Porter, Secretary Blaine, the counsel, the jury, the jailors, the sheriffs, bailiffs and all the persons, directly or indirectly connected with the trial, are said to be perfect. Mr. Coup claims that these tableauxs cost him more money than all the features combined in all the shows in the country.

He also presents to us Be Be, the beautiful young lady who created such a sensation in London and Paris last season. She is said to perform the marvelous feat of leaping, at a single bound, to the top of the tent, and after swooping gently down, flies the entire length of the pavilion. She is said to perform other feats equally wonderful.

The great street procession of a hundred golden chariots and animal dens, contains nine bands of music, and four musical chariots, each played by powerful steam engines, equal to a thousand first-class musicians, one hundred performers in three circuses, and fifty male and female riders. The show is preceded by three palace advertising cars, a hundred agents and advertisers, and transported by one hundred railroad cars, all of which are owned exclusively by the proprietor. There has never been anything before to equal this, and we have no doubt but Mr. Coup will be well patronized when the show arrives.

A free balloon ascension and race will occur every day with the two balloons Venus and Jupiter. Madame St. Clair and Signor Montifiori will make ascensions

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continued
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May 24, 1882 W.C.COUP'S

**COUP ONLY HAS THE
IDENTICAL SUIT OF CLOTHES**

Which GUITEAU wore when he fired the fatal shot which sent a thrill of horror around the World, and the identical dress the assassin wore when he was condemned to death.

**COUP ONLY HAS THE
FAMOUS BRONCHOS and the LEAPING HORSE "NETTLE."**

**COUP ONLY HAS
BE-BE, THE SPRITE OF THE AIR!**

Whose tremendous leaps from the earth, at a single bound, to the top-most height of the Pavilion and Bird-Like Flight, the extreme length of the vast tent, make her the sensation of the day.

COUP ONLY EXHIBITS THE

Supreme Wonder of the Age,

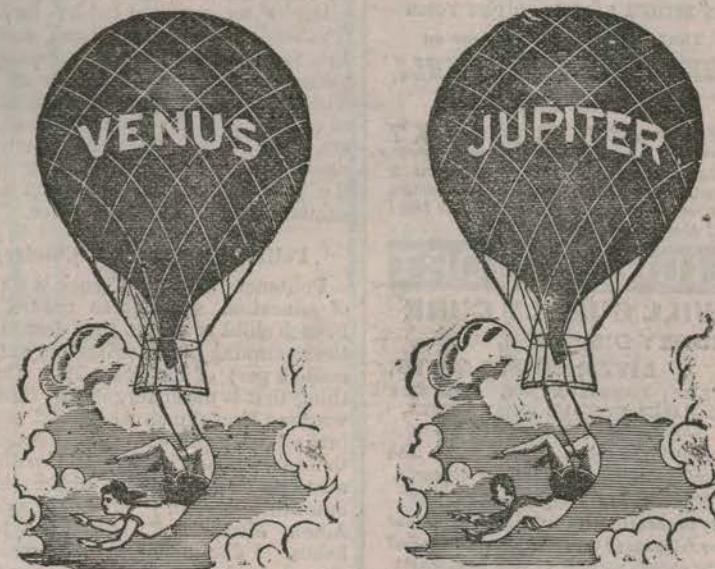
MONS. LOYAL, The Human Projectile,

Who is SHOT FROM A LOADED CANNON charged with powder, and sent whizzing through the air a distance of 75 feet, into the arms of a woman hanging head downward from a lofty Trapeze.

COUP ONLY GIVES A FREE

BALLOON ASCENSION AND RACE

EVERY DAY (when a violent storm does not prevent), when M'LLIE LE CLAIR and SIG'OR MONTIFIORI ascend in their separate Balloons, Jupiter and Venus, PERFORMING ON THE TRAPEZE among the clouds.



**COUP ONLY HAS THE
Zulu Princess !**

The daughter of Cetewayo, with her Maids of Honor and attending Chiefs.

**COUP ONLY HAS
PROF. JOHN WHITE'S DOG ACTORS AND DOG CIRCUS.**

**COUP ONLY HAS
THE LARGEST MENAGERIE IN AMERICA.**

**COUP ONLY HAS
SIX CLOWNS** Led By "Oscar," the Esthetic Sunflower of Life-dom.

Seven String and Brass Bands, A Grand Automatic Museum, Great Marine Aquarium, a Tribe of Wild Sioux Indians, A Grand Mardi Gras Pageant, Comic Hit at the Times and GRAND PROCESSION OF NATIONS.

A THOUSAND UNIQUE FEATURES

Added to his vast Establishment, to amuse and instruct his

Millions of Patrons !

The Grand Street Pageant will occur between 9 and 10 a. m. every day.

DOORS OPEN AT 1 & 7 P. M. | PERFORMANCES AT 2 & 8 p. m.

Admission as usual. Children under 9, half price. Reserved seats for sale at a small advance, at LOWRY'S BOOK STORE. Ladies and Children should attend the Afternoon Exhibition, and avoid the crowds at night.

No Camp followers allowed, nor will any gambling or swindling games be permitted upon the grounds.

Will Exhibit at OTTUMWA May 23d, BURLINGTON, 25th
IOWA CITY, 26th. VINTON, 27th

on a trapeze and perform various perilous feats thousands of feet up in the air.

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KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1882

An Interview With Coup.

Mr. W. C. Coup, proprietor of the New United Monster shows spent an hour at the CONSTITUTION office this morning, and favored us with a very interesting talk about the show business in general and particular. Mr. Coup is a thorough gentleman, courteous, refined and affable, and one whom it is a genuine pleasure to meet and converse with. He gave us a brief history of his connection with the vast amusement enterprises that have borne his name, beginning with the New York Aquarium, which he owned several years since, prior to starting out upon the road. Mr. Coup says that there is no business where such gigantic risks are taken, as in show enterprises. The amount of capital invested and the exceedingly heavy running expenses together, aggregate so much that a man who takes a circus and menagerie out has ninety-nine chances of financial failure where he has one of success. Last year the Coup shows had three circus rings and a hippodrome racing track around all, but the people received this confusion of attractions with disfavor. Where so many performances were going on at the same time, the audience were unable to see anything well, and in trying to fix their attention on everything they missed the best of it all, and thus concluded that they didn't get their money's worth. Accordingly this year the entire circus performance is given in one large ring, and thus better satisfaction is guaranteed to everybody. Mr. Coup says that last season he lost a great deal of money, because he did everything to please his patrons regardless of cost. This year he has an equally fine show, but hopes, now that his fame as a showman has become established, that the people will extend a sufficiently large patronage to remunerate him for the vast expense he has undergone in presenting an exhibition worthy of patronage.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1882

A Poor Show.

One of the poorest apologies for a circus and menagerie that we were ever unfortunate enough to gaze upon, struck Keokuk yesterday, and gave two performances, afternoon and evening. Everybody and everything connected with the show seemed worn out and miserable, notwithstanding the fact that the outfit has only been out of winter quarters three weeks. The menagerie isn't anything to speak of and the circus is worse. There are about a dozen ordinary performers and four or five ring-horses, and the so-called "clowns"

are perfectly sickening. The tent was about two-thirds full at the performance last evening and the wretched "entertainment" didn't last quite an hour. We understand that the show split here, part of it going to Kahoka, but it would be a difficult matter to divide it and have anything left. Cooper, Jackson & Co. had better steer clear of Keokuk and other cities in the future, or they won't be able to keep up appearances even as well as they do now.

The Circus.

Cooper, Jackson & Co.'s circus and menagerie spread its canvass this morning on the old show grounds at the head of Johnson street. Judging from the rather dilapidated appearance of the whole outfit, it is not the largest and most profitable concern of the kind extant. The parade which took place about noon was a poor one, and the much-advertised \$10,000 beauty looked no better than the average variety actress. There is quite a crowd of people out upon the show grounds where the afternoon exhibition is now in progress. The fact of its being the first circus of the season, no doubt, has much to do with the attendance to day.

—Cooper, Jackson & Co.'s circus is truly having a hard time of it. In Creston the whole concern was attacked by the sheriff, and the outfit had to halt right there, leaving the employees perfectly destitute. The town had to give them food to prevent them from starving, and a benefit performance was given under the auspices of the sheriff, to purchase provisions. Of all things, it certainly pays the least to try to "run a snide c."

THE 'GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 25.

AMUSEMENTS.

COUP'S CIRCUS.

It appears as if every day set apart for the advent of a circus into this city was fated to be the most unpleasant and disagreeable of the season, the elements conspiring against the success of any such performance given here thus far. A slow, steady, soaking and cold rain set in yesterday morning and continued during the entire day, but in spite of the dreadful state of affairs existing the canvas was promptly gotten up and street parade made in far better time and in as creditable shape as is done by any of the leading circus organizations under more favorable circumstances. The attendance at both afternoon and evening performances was about equal and far greater than any one expected, the bad weather, fearful condition of streets and the terrible mud that was so plentiful around the circus grounds not having sufficient terror for the admirers of the sports of the arena and those who delight

LIBRARY ENTERTAINMENT.

The Flower Festival to be given by the pupils of the public schools and others, in connection with the pleasing operetta of "Red Riding Hood," Friday evening and matinee performance Saturday afternoon, should be borne in mind by all the friends of the Library and citizens

184 KEOKUK RACES!

OCTOBER 2, 3, 4 & 5.
A GREAT WEEK OF SPORT.

PROGRAM.

TUESDAY, OCT. 2—

2:40 Class Pacing; 2: 5 Class Trotting; Mile and Repeat Running; $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Dash Running; Bicycle race, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, open to Keokuk Cycling Club.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3—

2:40 Class Trotting; 2:25 Class Pacing; $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Heats, Running; $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Dash, Running; Bicycle race, 1 mile, open to Lee county riders.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1894.

THURSDAY, OCT. 4—

2:30 Class Pacing; Free-for-all Trotting; $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Dash, Running; $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Heats, Running; Bicycle race, 2 miles, Open.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5—

2:30 Class Trotting; Free-for-all Pacing; Mile Dash; $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Dash; Bicycle race, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, Open for Boys 13 and Under.

THERE WILL BE

Special Attractions

During the Week, Such as
Chariot Races, Balloon Ascensions, Etc.

ELLA EWING,

The Missouri Giantess, the Largest Woman in the World, will be on exhibition during the week. She is 22 years old; 8 feet, 4 inches in height; weighs 256 pounds. Don't miss this opportunity of seeing her.

COME ONE! COME ALL!

ADMISSION TO CR UND^E, 25c—
Vehicles Admitted Free. Children
Under 8 Years, Free.

Excursion Rates on all Roads. See Agents.

in looking upon the wonders of the museum and menagerie, to keep them away from the show. Great credit is due the management of the exhibition yesterday for the excellence of their performances given under such depressing circumstances and notwithstanding the wretched condition of everything that the water could reach and affect both inside and outside of the great tents, everyone present were fully satisfied with the arctic performances, many of the acts being new, original and difficult. Such weather as prevailed yesterday does not have a tendency to add much to the treasury of a circus company and in a conversation with Mr. Coup we learned that it has been general and that all the companies upon the road this season have fully experienced its discomforts, with the financial losses which it entails. The gentlemen connected with the management of the Coup show are certainly entitled to praise for their efforts to render everything as pleasant as possible for their patrons and for the courteous, polite and attentive manner in which all who visited their tents were treated.

generally, and two crowded houses should greet the little folks, to assist and encourage them in their praiseworthy effort. Seats may be secured without extra charge at box office of opera house, Thursday and Friday, from 10 to 12 o'clock.

DAILY GATE CITY TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1930

Circus Thrills Grip Old Timer Who Goes To All

Circus day has its thrills for the uninitiated, but it lures those who once lived within the atmosphere of the "big top" and the sawdust arena.

"Oliver," who used to drive the black horses in Buffalo Bill's show and who has worked in Keokuk since his days with the circus are ended, arrived in town this morning, and from a vantage point at Ninth and Main streets watched the parade go by.

He is living now at the Lee county home, but every circus day brings him to town, dressed in his best, and every circus performance sees him in his seat living over the old days again this time as a spectator and not as one of the performers.

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2:30 Class Pacing; Free-for-all Trotting; 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Dash, Running; $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Heats, Running; Bicycle race, 2 Miles, Open.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5—

2:30 Class Trotting; Free-for-all Pacing; Mile Dash; $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile Dash; Bicycle race, $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile, Open for Boys 14 and Under.

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The Keokuk News.

KEOKUK, IOWA.

MAY 20, 1882

WATER CRIMPED LEAF

REDITS

HAGER'S ANNEX TO COUP'S SHOW.

So vast, varied, and numerous are the attractions and novelties secured by Mr. Coup for the present season that it was found to be entirely impossible to exhibit them all together, even in the capacious tents; so in order that the public might have an opportunity of enjoying these wonders, he has placed them in a supplementary tent, or annex, where they are exhibited for a trifling sum, only sufficient to pay the cost of transportation and the extra expense attending their exhibition. The Annex is in charge of Mr. W. Hager.

FREE BALLOON ASCENSION.

The double Balloon Ascension which Coup advertises, will occur every day during the season, unless a severe storm renders the ascension impossible, is the most costly outside attraction ever presented to the public. In the first place, the material and the construction of the balloons themselves are very expensive, then there is the outlay for inflation daily—which costs a great deal of money in chemicals and apparatus—and lastly, there are the salaries of the intrepid aeronauts, Madame St. Clair and Signor Montefiori, which, in consideration of their ability and the risks they brave, is necessarily large.

Mr. Coup says of this novel attraction. "For several years past certain unscrupulous showmen have been in the habit of enticing large crowds to the towns where circus exhibitions were to be given, by advertising "Balloon Ascensions," which never took place; stating, however, upon the announce bills, that such ascensions had "no connection with the show." The public were thus deceived: First, in not seeing the promised ascension, and secondly, by being made to believe that the show was not responsible for the deception. Nothing but a storm of such severity as would render the ascent impossible, will prevent me from giving a Balloon race every day."

THE SCHEMING ELEPHANTS.

P. T. Barnum gives this anecdote in a temperance lecture: "Last winter two of my elephants began shaking with chills one morning. The keepers ran down to the village and got six gallons of whisky. Hastily returning, three gallons were given to each elephant. Fortunately it cured them. They liked the artificial warmth it superinduced. Next morning when the keeper came to them he found both elephants shaking with might and main. 'No you don't,' he shouted, 'you are well enough today,' and they stopped shaking."

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE FIRST GRAND SHOW OF THE SEASON COMING IN ALL ITS ROYAL GRANDEUR W. C. COUP'S NEW UNITED MONSTER SHOWS! UNITED WITH THE GREAT WORLD'S FAIR, WILL EXHIBIT IN KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

Afternoon and evening. The vast amusement enterprise of the world. Attraction piled on attraction. Both Hemispheres depleted of Novelties to furnish this Show of Shows. New wonders to astound at every glance. Everything advertised exhibited. The grand Historical Tableaux, representing with life-like fidelity



THE TRIAL OF GUITEAU AND THE VERDICT OF THE JURY.

THE ASSASSINATION OF GARFIELD

FIVE HUNDRED STATUES AND FIGURES of Garfield and Guiteau, Secretary Blaine, Judge Cox, Counsel, Jury, Officers of the Court, Mr. and Mrs. Scoville, and all the persons directly or indirectly connected with the event which sent a THRILL OF HORROR AROUND THE WORLD. The figure of Guiteau is dressed IN THE IDENTICAL CLOTHES WORN BY THE ASSASSIN when he fired the fatal bullet, and the identical clothes in which he was tried and sentenced to death will also be exhibited, together with GUITEAU'S AUTOGRAPH BILL OF SALE, and other vouchers of the authenticity of these interesting relics.

BEE-BEE, THE HUMAN BUTTERFLY

Who leaps, with a single bound, to the top' of the canvas and sails like a bird the extreme length of the pavilion.

MONS. LOYAL,

The human projectile, shot from a cannon charged with powder, into the arms of a lady suspended head downward from an elevated trapeze.

THE ONLY TRIBE OF FEMALE ZULUS

Ever in America, including the Princess Royal, daughter of Chetewayo.

3 IMMENSE CIRCUS TROUPES 3

In one great ring, including the Dual Champions of the world, FRANK MELVILLE and WM. DUCROW, the unequalled bareback riders of Christendom.

A Monster Menagerie.

GRAND DOUBLE

With MDLLE LECLAIRE and SIGNOR MONTIFIORI in their Trapeze Performances Among the Clouds, Free to Public.

One ticket admits to ALL. Prices as usual. Children under 6, half price.

Reserved-Seat tickets at a small advance.

Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. Performances one hour later.

No gambling or swindling games permitted on the grounds.

HENRY BARNUM, Manager.

MDLLE JEANNE,

The foremost horsewoman of her time, and the most beautiful lady bareback rider in the world

175 PERFORMERS 175

"OSCAR," The Ästhetic Clown.

French, German, American, Spanish and Irish Clowns will appear in an opulent programme of great variety.

MAMMOTH MARINE AQUARIUM!

The wonderful and only BRONCHO HORSES:

The Leaping Horse NETTE;

Prof. Robert's PONY CIRCUS;

Prof. White's DOG CIRCUS;

BALOON RACE.

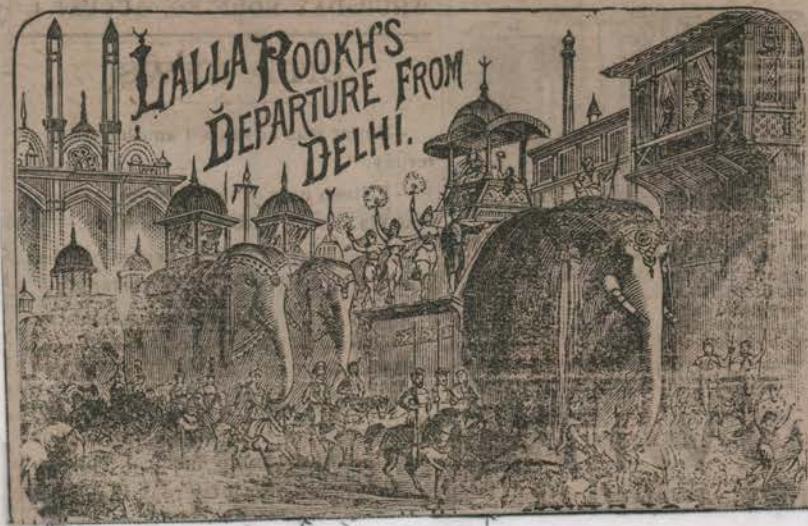
The most Gorgeous Free Open-Air Pageant ever seen since the world began.

No camp followers allowed.

W. C. COUP, Proprietor.

185a

FOREPAUGH'S GREAT SHOWS.



THE GATE CITY:
1881

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 22.

Ella Zoulla, Heroine of the High Wire, Is a French lady. She is Blondin's successful rival, and crosses the high wire with her feet and legs encased in sacks. She also crosses the high wire blindfolded, and traverses it upon stilts, and also carries a heavy man over it upon her shoulders, balances a table set for a feast, poises herself on a chair all on the lofty wire, and eats and drinks upon her swinging perch; and, when not conflicting with legal enactments, will place her five year old daughter in a barrow and wheel it with her youthful along the aerial roadway. She can be seen in the Great Forepaugh Show, which is to exhibit here Friday, August 5th.,

continued on 186

1881

FRIDAY, AUG. 5
AT KEOKUK, 1881
AT 10 O'CLOCK A. M.,

Prepare to behold the Greatest, Grandest

PUBLIC PROCESSION

EVER SEEN IN THIS COUNTRY.

There will be presented at Keokuk a series of the most magnificent Pageants ever beheld upon the streets of an American city, the

Grand, Gorgeous Spectacular Parade,

Introduces (for the first time in America) the Beautiful, Sublime and Fascinating

Oriental Romance of

LALLA ROOKH

REPRESENTING WITH TRULY

Eastern Magnificence, Resplendent Beauty & Loveliness

—THE—

Departure of Lalla Rookh from Delhi for Cashmere

"Who has not heard of the Vale of Cashmere,
With its roses, the brightest that earth ever gave;
Its temples and grottoes, and fountains as clear
As the love-lighted eyes that hang over their waves."

All the scenes of Oriental magnificence and grandeur recited by the immortal author of Lalla Rookh are depicted in this sublime and beautiful pageant, precisely as described by him. In response to advertisements in the leading journals in the principal cities of the United States, and for a princely salary, the

LOVELIEST LADY IN THE LAND

Has been secured to personify the beant ful Eastern Princess, Lalla Rookh, whom Eastern poets have described as "more beautiful than any of those heroines whose names and loves embellish the songs of Persia and Hindoostan; more perfect than the divinest images of the house of Azor." In this gorgeous, glittering pageant, Lalla Rookh is seen reclining in her sumptuous howdah, borne aloft upon the back of a ponderous and kingly elephant—the largest on this continent—whose embroidered velvet trappings touch the ground; a fair, young female slave sits fanning the princess through the rose-colored veils, with feathers of argus pheasant's wings; and the lovely troop of

TARTARIAN AND CASHMERIAN MAIDS OF HONOR

Ride on each side of the Princess upon small Arabian horses. Rajahs and Mogul-lords follow, accompanied by cavaliers, in costly armor. In keeping with the author of Lalla Rookh's description of this grand, glittering, lavish and luxurious spectacle are seen the

GUARDS of the GREAT KEDAR KHAN

With their silver battle axes and maces of gold, followed by the GREAT NAZ'R, or CHAMBERLAIN OF THE HAREM, and the retinue of the Court of Delhi, mounted upon elephants, camels and Arabian horses, decorated in Oriental trappings, and bearing aloft the royal standards—the entire scene recalling to the beholder the glories and grandeur of the distant Indies, the mysterious land of the Vedas, the parent of the modern world, where

* * * The gorgeous East, with richest hand,
Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold."

The whole forming the most MAGNIFICENT, PICTURESQUE and REALISTIC ORIENTAL SPECTACLE ever presented in the New World, requiring an expenditure of \$200,000 in its preparation, eclipsing all displays of pageantry ever produced by any exhibition.

20 ROYAL ELEPHANTS

More than have ever been seen together in any Christian land, follow the superb pageant of Lalla Rookh, and there is also to be seen in this marching mile of magnificence more than half a million dollars' worth of

Sumptuous Sun-Bright Chariots,

"Beautiful in various dyes.
Richer than the opening dawn."

500 PRANCING STEEDS! Three Great Martial Bands!

Followed by the COMMANDER OF THE FAITHFUL, accompanied by his

SULTANA SLAVES, MAILED WARRIORs,

And a royal retinue of richly robed processionists.

DOVE OF BLACK AND WHITE CAMELS.

Gorgeous Car of India.

Behold the monstrous Crystal Cage of Glass, filled with a wriggling mass of Pythons. An

THE GATE CITY:

1881

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4.

THRILLING SCENE.

A Woman Riding a Velocipede Over a Stender Wire One Hundred Feet From the Ground.

The Pittsburg Dispatch thus describes the wonderful performance of Mme. Zuila, the famous Parisienne, who outrivals Blondin in her mad freaks upon the high wire:

"The famous Blondin, in all his famous career, never performed a more thrilling or more inspiring feat than was accomplished by Ella Zuila last night under the canvass of Forepaugh's show. A slender wire was stretched across the large tent at a dizzy height from the ground, and here the dauntless little woman, without a tremor, rode back and forth on a velocipede, while the terrified audience gazed in breathless expectation, every nerve strained to its utmost tension, even the pulsations of their hearts almost stilled, as they watched the mad course of the frail vehicle and its intrepid rider on the almost invisible aerial roadway. As the velocipede stopped, the perilous undertaking accomplished, one hearty prolonged cheer of mingled relief, admiration and congratulation echoed through the tent, thousands of throats rising with each other to swell the chorus, which Mme. Zuila acknowledged gracefully and prettily before dismounting from her giddy steed. This is only one of the many blood-curdling exploits of this queen of the air. With all the grace and carelessness of Morlacchi, or Rigl leading a favorite ballet, she tripped across the dizzy path, repeating her trial with feet clogged by baskets, again blindfolded, carrying a chair which she deliberately placed on the rope when midway, and seating herself in it moved her handkerchief over the heads of her delighted spectators. Another of her performances is the balancing of a table on the rope and dining from it, suspended in mid-air. This was never undertaken by any woman before, is probably one of the strongest tests of the woman's nerve and coolness which she is called upon to undergo."

Mme. Zuila appears at every performance of Forepaugh's Great Show, which is to exhibit here Friday, August 5th, and in herself gives an entertainment in value greatly exceeding the price of admission.

THE DAILY GATE CITY.

JULY 28. 1881.

GRAND GALA DAY

At Keokuk, Friday, August 5th—Twenty Elephants on the Street, Presentation of the Great Original Spectacle, "Lalla

Bear-Constructors.

JEWELLED, GEM-BOSSSED CAR OF FREEDOM !

Illustrating RELIGION, EDUCATION, LAW, VICTORY and PEACE, all surmounted by an allegorical representation of the "Goddess of Liberty," followed by the new monster tableau car of ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON, drawn by 10 ASIATIC, AFRICAN, CEYLON ELEPHANTS, upon the canopy of which stands a

LIVING LIONS LOOSE IN THE STREET !

Roaring, glaring and shaking his shaggy mane at the spectators, while composedly sits by his side the youthful, beautiful and fearless female conqueror of this "Ring of Brutes," with a keen, shining sword drawn and held over the monster's head. Then is seen

OBERON'S FAIRY CHARIOT

Drawn by Plumed and Surpassingly Diminutive Ponies.

Along the line of this moving mass of splendor, appears the Mirthful Mardi-gras Masqueraders, illustrating the ingenious and comical absurdities of the carnival season, succeeded by wide

OPEN DENS OF TERRIFIC TIGERS AND LIONS

Performed by their trainers as the procession moves.

22 Magnificently Caparisoned STALLIONS

And pretty pigmy Ponies next appear in charge of uniquely uniformed grooms. In point of carriage, style and action, they are the finest equine wonders seen.

Forty Gorgeous Golden Chariots

And TABLEAU CARS, in addition to the Many Musical Steam Orchestrons, Caliope, etc., whose tones equal the instrumentation of Twelve Full Brass Bands. There is also seen in this gorgeous old and new world pageant, the

Monster Sea-Coast Mortar

From which is daily blown, amid sulphurous flame and smoke, a human being. The beautiful allegorical representation, from Bertholdi, of

"Liberty Lighting the World."

The whole forming one Unbroken Line of Splendor, unparalleled in its vastness and magnificence.

IT IS FREE FOR EVERYBODY TO LOOK AT AND WORTH MILES OF TRAVEL TO BEHOLD !

At the termination of this Grand Parade,

Two Exhibitions of the Great Forepaugh Show Daily,

Afternoon and evening, at 2:30 and 8 o'clock.



Admission only 50c; Children under 9 years, 25c.

Rookh, Princess of Delhi"—Wild Beasts Loose in the Street, Chariots, Bonds, and Grand Parade of the Great Forepaugh Show.

On the morning of Friday, August 5th, in addition to many other sensational features, there will be presented in the great Forepaugh show parade, a beautiful and realistic representation of the oriental pageant illustrating the departure of Lalla Rookh from Delhi.

The great showman, Forepaugh, whose show is to exhibit at Keokuk on that day, has expended \$200,000 in order to incorporate this spectacular feature in his princely show parade. There will be represented with truly magnificence, resplendent beauty and loveliness, the Departure of Lalla Rookh from Delhi to Cashmere.

"Who has not heard of the Vale of Cashmere,
With its roses the brightest that earth ever
gave,
Its temples and grottos, and fountains as clear
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waves?"

All the scenes of oriental magnificence and grandeur recited by the immortal author of *Lalla Rookh*, are depicted in this sublime and beautiful pageant, precisely as described by him. In response to advertisements in the leading journals in the principal cities of the United States, and for a princely salary the loveliest lady in the land has been secured to personify the beautiful eastern princess, Lalla Rookh, whom the poet describes as "more beautiful than any of those heroines whose names and love embellish the songs of Persia and Hindooostan; more perfect than the divinest images of the House of Azor." In this gorgeous, glittering, oriental pageant, Lalla Rookh is seen reclining in her sumptuous Howdah, borne aloft upon the back of a ponderous and kingly elephant, the largest on this continent, whose embroidered velvet trappings touch the ground; a fair young female slave sits fanning the princess through the rose-colored veils, with feathers of Argus pheasant's wings, and the lovely troop of Tartarean and Chashmerean Maid of Honor ride on each side of the Princess upon small Arabian horses. Rajahs and Mogul Lords follow, accompanied by cavaliers in costly armor, mounted upon

"Steeds with their housings of rich silver spun,
Their chains and poitrails glittering in the sun;
And camels tufted o'er with Yernen's shells,
Shaking in every breeze their light-toned bells."

In keeping with the author of *Lalla Rookh*'s description of this grand, glittering, lavish and luxurious spectacle, are seen the Guards of the great Kedar Kahn, with their silver battle-axes and maces of gold, followed by the Great Nazir, or Chamberlain of the Harem, and the retinue of the court of Delhi, mounted upon elephants, camels, and Arabian horses, decorated in oriental trappings, and bearing aloft the royal standards,—the entire scene recalling to the beholder the glories and the grandeur of the distant Indies, the mysterious land of the Vedas, the parent of the modern world, where

" * * * The gorgeous East with richest hand,
Shows on her kings barbaric pearl and gold." The whole forming the most magnificent, picturesque and realistic oriental spectacle ever presented in the New World. This constitutes but a single feature in the grand procession of the Great Show. More than a mile of chariots, twenty elephants, hundreds of horses, musical bands, mardi-gras masquerade, and a world of famous features make up this grand parade.

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The Daily Constitution
APRIL 11, 1895.

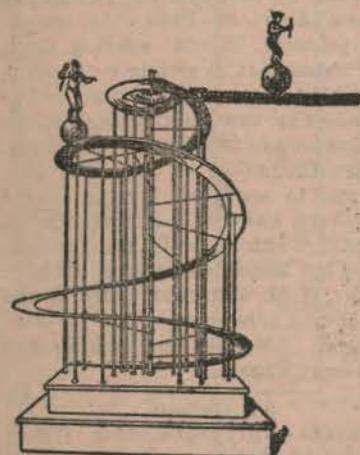
FEAT OF PHILION.

IT HAS AMAZED THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE.

Globe Rolling Up a Spiral—Has Lately Come Over the Atlantic to Astonish Americans — A Clever Frenchman.



HE inventor of anything new in the line of acrobatic performances is a rara avis. Such a variety is Achille Philion, a little, bustling Frenchman, who has invented a new method of climbing towers and traversing dizzily suspended cables. Philion was born in the circus profession. He is permeated with the circus spirit. He likes to do daring things. He loves to ascend to heights that give other people vertigo and perform feats that make his rivals turn four shades of green with envy. Philion began his career by being carried on his father's shoulder while a madly dashing circus horse was doing its best to land them both among the wondering people in the front row of a Paris hippodrome. Then he became a juvenile acrobatic wonder, and made the boys yearn to emulate his example and share in the extravagant plaudits that nightly greeted his youthful efforts. When he got out of knickerbockers he learned to perform on a big globe, and after he had tumbled off a few times and had his neck nearly broken and narrowly escaped getting his spinal column wrenched into knots he astonished himself and everybody else by doing what all the other globe performers had done and many things more. But Philion was



ON THE SPIRAL.

far from satisfied. He worked on his slippery globe and smiled at the crowds and bowed his acknowledgment of their applause, as only a Frenchman can bow, and all the time he was thinking—thinking what he could do that would be different from what anybody else had done; that would be so dangerous that nobody else would dare to do it; that would be so startling all would talk about it, just because they couldn't

NAME

help themselves. He mentally performed feats that nobody ever heard of and nobody ever will hear of, for that matter. He defied the laws of gravity—through the medium of the gray matter—and in his soaring fancy he set the world in such a roaring, unquenchable blaze of excitement that nothing on earth or in the heavens above ever could, would or should, by any hook or crook, extinguish it. Then the Eiffel tower suggested a project. Philion looked at his globe and then at the tower, and in his mind's eye he saw Eiffel's masterpiece encircled by a spiral pathway, and he, Philion, ascending to the pinnacle, rolling the sphere under his feet, with all the world looking on with bated breath and expecting every minute to see him turning involuntary backward somersaults toward the ground.

At last Philion had found what he wanted—an idea. He went to work with the energy of a Frenchman and the nervousness of an enthusiast. With infinite labor and at large expense he developed his project. He could not erect an Eiffel tower, but he could construct something suggestive of its height. When he got through he had a tower sixty feet high, encircled twice or thrice by a narrow spiral, like the thread of a great screw. Then he began to experiment with the globe upon the spiral. His dexterity aided him. Many times he failed, and many a time he narrowly escaped injury. Eventually he succeeded in rolling the globe to the top of the tower. It was a feat. It set Paris talking. When Philion extended a great cable across the auditorium from the pinnacle of the tower and rolled out over the heads of the audience, the Parisians said it was the cleverest act of the kind ever performed. When the lights were turned out and Philion started on his careless return journey, rolling down the narrow spiral with the speed of an express train, with a thousand rockets

amphitheater. The calcium and pyrotechnic effects to be used in connection with the act are said to be unique. Nothing of the kind has ever been seen on this side of the Atlantic, and among amusement lovers a new thing is always appreciated.

LEAF

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1887.

SHOT IN A CIRCUS.

Cowboys in a Wild West Show Seriously Wound Three Spectators and an Indian.

CLINTON, Ia., July 22.—Sells Brothers' circus gave an exhibition here Wednesday night, closing with a "Wild West" show, the concluding feature of which was an attack by Pawnee Bill and other cowboys upon a lot of Indians. The shooting is, of course, done with blank cartridges, but on this occasion, in some unexplained manner, some of the cowboys' revolvers had been loaded with ball. At first the cowboys kept the muzzles of their weapons pointed to the ground, but eventually raised them, and three spectators were shot, as follows: George Harrington, aged seventeen, in the center of the forehead, not expected to live; Mrs. A. W. Lambert, through the lung, dangerous, and Wallace Phillips, under the skull, serious. One of the Indians was also shot, but how serious is not known. The show came to an end amid great excitement, and the circus at once left town. It had been billed to appear at Dubuque yesterday, but omitted the date and crossed to Prairie du Chien, Wis., presumably for the purpose of getting outside this State.

KEOKUK DEMOCRAT.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1887

NEW YORK and NEW ORLEANS

COMBINED SHOWS!

The biggest, brightest, and best, popular price show on the road.

40-STAR PERFORMERS—40

Including The Three Marretta Sisters, aerial artists. Miss May Moran, lady gymnast. The Parrento Brothers, horizontal bars. Harry L. Moran, champion leaper, and ground and infant tumbler of the world.

HARRY BRANDON.

The contortionist; Kennard Brothers, the two funniest clowns in America.

THE THREE POWERS BROTHERS.

In their wonderful bicycle and skating acts, and a host of other equally celebrated and well-known in the profession, will exhibit.

COR. 11th and JOHNSON STS.

Keokuk, Sept. 6th and 7th.

Two performances daily. Popular prices of admission. Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m.

MISS ROSE MARRETTA

Makes a free high wire ascension from the ground to the top of the canvas before each performance.



PHILION.

and Roman candles and a sea of red fire sputtering and hissing about him, he felt that he had done a pretty cute thing. M. Philion is now in this country. He is one of the special features which some circus managers are to introduce to Americans. He has brought his replica of the Eiffel tower with him. There is enough steel in the structure to ballast an ordinary ship. It is a complicated arrangement and requires several days in erection. It will be erected in such a way as to afford a complete view of the tower and the daring performance upon it from all parts of the

THE GATE CITY:

SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 6.

FOREPAUGH'S FORESIGHT.

The Great Showman Believes in Newspaper Advertising and so Expresses His self.

In an interview with a New York newspaper reporter, recently, Adam Forepaugh, the great showman gave his ideas as to advertising, in the following manner:

"Mr. Forepaugh," said the scribe, as you are one of the successful men of the country, I have called to have a chat with you in regard to your business methods—that is, I want to know how you made your fortune, and to what you attribute your success in life?"

"Oh! you want to know how to make money; that is the simplest thing in the world. Keep your expenses below your receipts."

There was a merry twinkle in the showman's eye, and the reporter pushed the interrogatory further.

"If you want to make money advertise," responded Mr. Forepaugh, and then laying aside his pen and wheeling about in his chair he said, "That is a good way to make money. I have spent thousands upon thousands of dollars upon newspaper advertising, and found it profitable. Of course I spend a great deal of money for colored posters and lithographs, but the press is my main dependence. I don't believe so much in hand bills and dodgers as some showmen do. I use them to a limited extent. One cannot keep track of his small printing; its distribution and proper circulation is uncertain, but when I put a flaming advertisement in a newspaper, I know that it is put into the hands of from one thousand to seventy-five thousand purchasers and as many times the number of readers. Why, you take the local paper, with its one thousand circulation; it is the oracle of the country, and when the editor endorses my great show, his readers take his word for it, and patronize me. Then it remains for me to keep faith with the editor and the people, and I have managed to do that for sixteen years."

Zuila to Cross the Falls Niagara.

Manager Forepaugh has arranged for Zuila, the great French female gymnast now performing in his circus, to cross Niagara Falls on a high wire, which is to be stretched from the American to the Canadian shore. The date of this event will be duly announced. She has performed feats equally as dangerous in various parts of the world. She will be here and execute her thrilling feats of riding a velocipede over a high wire, and wheeling a barrow containing her infant daughter across the slender roadway, in Forepaugh's great circus on the 5th of August.

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 28.

Colossal Collection of Wild Beasts Coming to Keokuk.

In connection with Forepaugh's great double circus, which comes to Keokuk August 5, there is exhibited the largest and finest collection of rare animals and birds from every land and clime ever seen in a traveling menagerie. In addition to such rare quadrupeds as the Behemoth, the Unicorn, etc., the great showman has secured the pair of wonderful Woolly Elephants recently captured in Northern India; they are the first of this species ever on exhibition. A recent exchange speaking of this collection of Forepaugh's, says.

"The camels and 20 elephants were, of course, most conspicuous, large herds of which were seen at one end of the tent. In the center stood a tall cage, through the top of which protruded the head and long neck of the giraffe. It is a beautiful and rare specimen, and is kept with great care and caution. It is loose in the cage, which is padded on the entire inside to prevent accidents while traveling. It is docile, and is taken outside when exhibited. The following is a list of some of the rare animals exhibited:

Horse Antelope.	Horned Horse.
Australim Emu.	Australian Kangaroo.
Peruvian Llama.	Shetland Cow.
Sable Antelope.	Ibex.
Black African Rhinoceros.	Casua, a rare bird from Africa.
Hippopotamus or Behemoth.	Giraffe.
Birds—Spanish Macaws.	Albanian White Deer.
Cockatoos, parrots, etc.	Royal Bengal Tiger.
Tiger Cat.	South American Panther.
Happy Family—Dogs, Rabbits, Cats, Monkeys, etc.	California Lion.
Sea Lions.	Lioness Cub, born at Louisville two years ago.
White Polar Bear.	Large Tableau Lion.
Palestine Sheep.	Spotted Hyena.
China Deer.	Jangur.
Musk Deer.	Black Leopard.
Two Cub Bears.	Gold or Spotted Leopard.
South American Tapir.	Striped Hyena, two species.
Asiatic Yak.	Three African Lions and three Royal Bengal Tigers, all in one cage.
Sacred Bull.	Twenty trained Elephants.
Zebra.	African Eland, a large species of Antelope.
African Eland, a large species of Antelope.	Twelve Dromedaries.
Sea Cows or Water Buffalo.	Drove of Shetland Ponies.
African Cugnuck.	One hundred different species of Monkeys.
River Hog, web-footed, very rare.	Pythons.
Pacific or Musk Cat.	Boa Constrictors.
Honey, or Sloth Bear, very rare.	
Grizzly Bear.	

And many other rare animals and birds, the whole forming the very largest and best menagerie on this continent."

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING JULY 21.

Firing a Human Being From a Cannon.

Among the attractions to be witnessed in Forepaugh's Great Show, which is to exhibit at Keokuk, Friday, August 5th, is one which cannot fail of interesting all who visit the exhibition. It is the act of firing from an immense sea coast mortar an intrepid gymnast by the name of Loyal. He is blown sixty feet or more in mid-air, and in his progress is arrested by a lady gymnast, who, suspended head downward from a lofty trapeze bar, catches the "human cannon ball" in his upward and onward journey. The Courier-Journal, of Louisville, thus describes the performance of this thrilling act:

A WONDERFUL AERIAL PERFORMANCE GIVEN BY THEM THE LAST NIGHT.—The performance of Mons. Loyal and Mlle. Ella Zuila last evening far surpassed anything in the line of trapeze work ever before seen in Louisville. Far up from

the ground, near to the top of the canvas, a slender iron bar hung by two fragile ropes, seemingly too weak to bear the weight of a child. Just after 9 o'clock the petite Zoula and Loyal appeared, and were greeted with applause by the expectant audience. Springing lightly into the netting, she was at once followed by Loyal, who ran up the rope to the trapeze with a light and airy grace that could only be equalled by that of the Mademoiselle. Once on the trapeze, far above the heads of the excited audience such feats were performed as caused the most rapturous applause, while at the same time all held their breath, as they feared that the daring couple must certainly be dashed to the ground below. To describe what was done is impossible, as the daring woman was swung through the air so rapidly that the quickest eye could scarcely catch her movements. Only the most experienced performers would dare attempt what was so rapidly performed by this venturesome couple as if they had been on *terra firma* instead of swinging in mid-air. It is not too much to say that as trapeze performers they cannot be surpassed. But the rarest feat is that of shooting Loyal from a cannon into the air, where he is caught by the arms by M'lle Zoula, who swings by her legs suspended from the trapeze. And Loyal places himself in this immense mortar gun, feet downward, the match applied, the powder explodes and, amid the smoke and noise, he is thrown, through the air and caught by the daring little woman. To say that this caused an extreme sensation is stating the case mildly. Great cheers went up from the immense audience as the two venturesome people descended the rope, and repaired to their dressing room.

Our readers should remember that Forepaugh has the reputation of always exhibiting all he advertises.

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RE-VAWTER CRIMPED LEAF

CREDITS

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1882.

Particulars of the Accident to Coup's Circus.

FIRE AND ACCIDENT.

CIRCUS CRASH.

PARIS, August 22.—A terrible accident occurred to Coup's circus Sunday morning near Stoneford, on the Cairo division of the Wabash railroad, and about fifty-three miles out from Cairo. The circus was being transported from Cairo to Delphi, Ind., and the train was run in two sections. The facts, as near as your correspondent gather, were that the two sections of the train were run pretty close together, and when nearing Stoneford the forward section stalled on an up grade, and before a flagman could be sent back to warn the second section of the danger it came round the curve, crashing on to the sleeper on the rear end of the forward section, which contained quite a number of circus performers, killing three or four, while a dozen more were wounded, four fatally. The wounded were taken to Stoneford, where they were cared for by the people of that place, medical aid being secured as soon as possible. The engineer and fireman saved their lives by jumping from the engine before the collision occurred.

THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE ! AT KEOKUK, Monday July 5th.

"Like a Demi-God towering above all Moving Miracles."

W. W. COLE'S

World famous New York and New Orleans

Circus, Menagerie, Aquarium and
Congress of Living Wonders.

The Only Electric-lighted, Sun-eclipsing Big Show that
will visit Keokuk this Season.

All malicious reports to the contrary notwithstanding.



Here you will positively see

THE ONLY GENUINE ELECTRIC LIGHT !

Manufactured by the Brush Dynamo Process, and the Fitchburg Forty-Horse-Power Engine, producing twelve sun-lit and heavenly orbs on one continuous circuit. This one positive and unimpeachable fact brands all pretenders as unworthy your consideration. "False in one thing, false in everything."

HERE YOU WILL POSITIVELY SEE

A Pair of Living Huge Sea Elephants,

or, "Dinotherums of the Deep." The only ones ever seen in captivity. Supposed to be extinct, but here produced.

Here you will positively see THE ONLY MID-OCEAN AQUARIUM owned and transported by any living man, and containing Leviathans from the mighty deep.

Here you will positively see Wonderful Curiosities, Strange Animals, Scientific Marvels, Remarkable Inventions, Startling Acts, Thrilling Performances, Original Representations, forming a massive whole unlike all predecessors.

\$100,000 that every feature advertised will be Produced \$100,000
THEREFORE WE SHALL CONFINE OURSELVES TO
SOLID FACTS BACKED BY SENSIBLE SURETIES.

HERE YOU WILL POSITIVELY SEE

TWO TOWERING GIANTS

Mortal Mountains! Man and Wife!

CAPT. AND MRS. M. V. BATES.

Each 8 feet high, lacking only half an inch.

Here you will POSITIVELY SEE

A TROUPE OF AERIAL BICYCLE RIDERS,

The most phenomenal, daring, and dauntless, French Sensation, now produced for the first time in America. Living men buried through infinite space.

Here you will Positively see **MR. FRANK A. GARDNER**, the Human Hurricane, who successfully accomplishes the most superhuman efforts ever attempted by man—The World's Champion Leaper.

Here you will positively see the **BEST CIRCUS IN EXISTENCE**. 100 French and

THE GATE CITY.

**HOWELL & DELAPLAIN,
. JUNE 3, 1866.**

DAN CASTELLO'S GREAT SHOW

MORAL EXHIBITION

-AND-

Wonderful Wild Animals!

Remodeled, Refitted, and Greatly Improved for the Season of 1866.

JAS M. NIXON, - Manager



At each Performance the world-renowned Humorist and Conversationalist, and the best talker of the day

DAN CASTELLO,

Will appear in his Motley Attire, give his Humors of the Hour, introduce his Magnificent Horse with the "Flowing Mane."

THE RUSSIAN 'CZAR,'

His sagacious Trick Steed

"ANDY JOHNSON"



The irresistible Pony, the smallest and smartest one in the world, "JANUARY!" and those two irreducible Quadrupeds, "THEM MULES,"

Artemas Ward & Brick Pomroy

New and Startling SPECIALTY!

Given for the first time in any Exhibition
in any Country.

Herr Lengel !

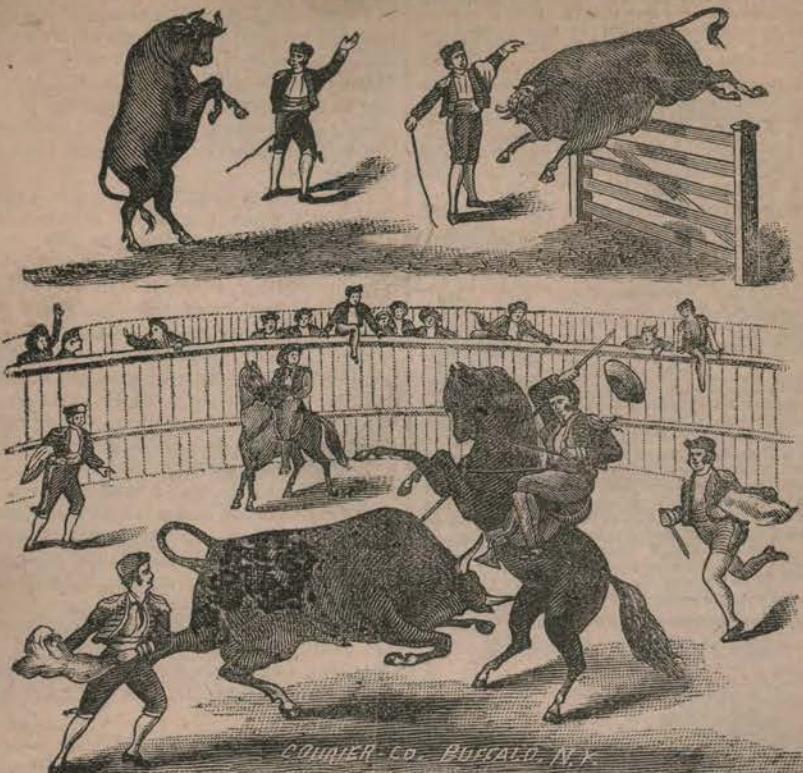
The most daring Artiste who has ever handled the monsters of the Forest, Plains and Jungles, will enter the den with the



Here you will see MILLIONS OF DOLLARS INVESTED, and the finest, best and most beautiful Stock, Wagons, Cars, Vans, Drays, and Kingly Thrones that ever traversed the land.

3 Performances!

Morning at 10 o'clock,
Afternoon at 1 o'clock,
Evening at 7 o'clock. 3 Performances!



COURIER CO. BUFFALO, N.Y.

Here you will positively see A PERFORMING SPANISH BULL, just imported, together with his trainer, a real picador (bull fighter) introducing incredible feats and thrilling performances.

Here you will positively see SIX PERFORMING STALLIONS, surpassing all conceptions of animal training. The most wonderful and best trick stallions in the world. Perfect pictures of equine beauty; costing more and worth more than any stud of so called performing horses in existence. They march like soldiers, sit erect in chairs and pantomime like well-schooled actors.

Here you will positively see the WONDERFUL LEAPING HORSE, clearing the backs of his companions at a single bound.



Here you will positively see a team of twelve Huge Dromedaries, 25 beautiful Educated Horses, a school of Monstrous Sea Lions, 100 French and American artists, representatives of all nations, 5 Famous and Funny Clowns, 8 First-class Bareback Riders, the Cleme's Sisters Females, Acrobats, a herd of Ponderous Elephants, thirty dens of rare animals, the giant mandrill in key, the only tableau stallions, the best show on earth, the greatest street parade.

Here you will positively see the Biggest and Best, how that ever existed, astutely keeping every promise and presenting positive problems.

Here you will positively see a grand and princely parade! assure you, surpassing all previous attempts at American pageantry; in this, as in all things, our greatest of all great shows will overwhelm its imitation.

Here you will positively see a revolution has taken place, a departure made from the old and time worn ruts.

HERE YOU WILL POSITIVELY SEE

A VAST CITY OF CANVASS-CRESTED TEMPLES!
ONE TICKET ADMITS TO ALL.

Admission 50 cents. Children 25 cents.



WILD LIONS AND LIONESSES!

And give a Performance that has created an

Unparalleled Excitement Throughout the Country.

The papers and the people have endorsed and proclaimed it to be the

Greatest Display of Intrepidity,

EVER DISPLAYED BY MORTAL BEING!

The Richmond Whig said—Herr Lengel's feats with the wild animals furnish a wonderful evidence of what nerve, cool courage and determination can achieve. The animals are splendid specimens of the genus feline, and having been but recently captured and caged, retain the major portion of their innate ferocity. All the animals of this species, that "lion kings" have handled were trained, and to a certain extent rendered docile. But these creatures know but little of caressing, and appear to be opposed to either kindness or familiarity. Herr Lengel enters the den with apparent unconcern, and although they growl, spit (cat-like) and strike at him, he makes them keep their distance. He feeds them, and ABSOLUTELY TEARS A PIECE OF MEAT FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE LION. Tis when he is about to retire that the danger becomes so apparent. As he passes through the barred gate they all spring towards it, but failing to catch him, they set up a series of howls and roars that are almost deafening. Great as the performance is, one cannot behold it without a shudder, and experiencing a dread least it might terminate fatally.

The animals will be exhibited in the Circle in a commodious Cage, so arranged that the spectators can, with perfect safety, closely observe every movement made by these noble creatures, which are admitted to be the

Fine Specimens ever Captured

Dan Castello's

TRIUMPHANT PROCESSION

Surpasses in point of Grandeur, Extent and Real Worth, any gratuitous display gotten up. Its magnificence approximates more closely to one of those

Pageants of Royalty and Chivalry

—OF THE—

Glorious Golden Days of the 17th Century!

Than any attempt to emulate Regal Splendor ever undertaken by managerial effort, or induced by proprietary liberality.

The arrival of DAN CASTELLO'S GREAT SHOW will be made known by the booming of the signal guns, the welcoming peals of bells, the flags of all nations flying from the steamer, and the salutatory overtures by

Ollerenshaw's Silver Cornet Band!

The line will start from the landing of the first class light draft steamer that has been adapted and reconstructed expressly to transport all the immense retinue of people, the Horses, Ponies and Mules, Chariots, Bens, Cages, Wagons, Tents, Marques, Costumes, Trappings, &c., &c., of this Gigantic Organization.

Heralds, Ensigns and Cornets, Grand Marshals and Aids precede the Knights of the Silver Crescent, clad in genuine suits of Burnished Steel Armor.

Ladies and Maids of Honor, attend in robe of richness and splendor; Guard of Honor, surrounding the Queen's Carriage of State, a superb Vehicle, a relict of the English Court, purchased in Europe by the Agent of the Great Show, for the accommodation of Herr Lengel

THE LION KING!

This fine equipage will be drawn by six grey horses. Behind it will come the Golden Chariot of the Muses, followed by a Cavalcade of Zouave Horsemen, and the Lion's Den, a massive apartment on wheels, requiring the united powers of four spans of Flemish Steeds to keep it in motion.

The finale will be the blooded Performing Animals among which will be seen the Circassian, with the flow-

No Extra Charge for Giants!

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, JUNE 19.

Sea Elephants.

One of the prominent features of W. W. Cole's great shows is a pair of enormous sea elephants, a species of amphibia which have long been supposed extinct, and noted scientists have frequently argued the point of such a phenomenon at any time in the history of the world, but old seafaring men claim that these monstrous marine animals were plentiful some fifty years ago, although in the past decade they have entirely vanished. The peculiarities of the Dinatherums of the deep are their resemblance to the ordinary African elephant. That is so far as the head and proboscis or the trunk is concerned. They are more than three times as large as the sea lions, and from statistical facts it is learned that one of these monsters will produce as much spermatic oil as a full-grown Arctic whale. The two animals now in Mr. Cole's show were captured on the Pacific coast, and shipped directly to him by Capt. Mullet, the famous marine explorer. It is eminently certain that no such animals were ever placed on exhibition before, and the public will appreciate so great a novelty. Aside from this one marvelous attraction Mr. Cole offers a myriad of wonders, including the daring De Comas, a troupe of aerial bicycle riders. These accomplished athletes produce one of the most sensational acts ever witnessed in this country. Their performances consist of riding a bicycle upon a wire suspended fully fifty feet from the ground, and to this slight vehicle is attached an ordinary trapeze, upon which two of the brothers are carried with lightning rapidity from one end of the canvas to the other, while they execute a series of evolutions that are truly astonishing. Captain Bates and wife, the two famous giants, who reach the enormous height of eight feet, a troupe of trained stallions, a performing Spanish bull, the great electric light, a mammoth ox, that weighs 3,100 pounds, and an exceptionally good circus, are among the many items of interest which will be offered to our citizens on Monday, July 5th.

THE GATE CITY

SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 20.

The Greatest Show of All.

Can such things be,
And overcome us like a summer's cloud,
Without our special wonder? —*Macbeth*.

To herald great events is one of the pleasures especially allotted the public press, and in this connection it is gratifying to allude to the leading amusement enterprise of the present decade, i.e., the world famous show that bears the name of that prince of managers W. W. Cole. This well equipped and unequalled alliance of rare merit will make its appearance in Keokuk on Monday, July 5, thus bringing to our very doors the most complete collection of startling novelties ever placed on exhibition on American soil. A vast acreage of tents are necessary to encompass the world of wonders contained in the zoological

apartments, which is said to be "an open book of nature," revealing choice specimens of the animal kingdom, rarely, if ever, seen outside their native elements. Trained brutes are a special feature in this object-teaching academy, and the management boasts of having the largest, fiercest and most dangerous den of African lions ever brought to this country. Especially engaged as a culmination to the great show are two giants, Captain Bates and wife, the largest people that have ever lived at any age of the world's history—two veritable giants—outrivaling even the great Goliath, or the mythical men of old, who were said to govern nations and hold whole kingdoms in awe by their mammoth proportions alone. The great electric light is used to illuminate the tents; a performing Spanish bull, the mammoth Kansas ox, and the most wonderful troupe of trick stallions are also to be seen. These animals perform together as one horse.

Of the arena performance it may be truthfully said that nothing of so varied a nature has ever been placed within the bounds of a tented circle, it being the particular aim of Mr. Cole to revolutionize this portion of canvas exhibitions. None of the old stereotyped "pad acts" ever go into the ring, and only those skilled riders are engaged who can accomplish the most daring deeds on bareback running horses. Nothing tending to mar the pleasure of patrons is ever permitted, and every objectionable feature is avoided, thus forming an entertainment which in its entirety has no equal on this continent.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 23. 1879

Geo. Smith. H. W. Clendenin. Thos. Rees.
CREMATED MENAGERIE.

An Elephant, Lions, Zebra, Leopard,
Staga and Other Animals Burned.

DETROIT, May 22.—The menagerie establishment owned by J. M. French, five miles north of this city, was destroyed by fire this morning. The elephant Sultan, five lions, a zebra, leopard, staga and many other valuable animals were cremated. Loss heavy; insurance small.

When the fire was first discovered, Mr. French and his men were at work in an adjoining field, and before any efforts could be made to stay the progress of the flames, the whole establishment, consisting of animals, barn, two dwellings and a blacksmith shop, was a mass of flames. While endeavoring to rescue the famous trick elephant "Sultan," Mr. French was knocked senseless by the frightened animal. Loss \$15,000; insurance \$1,000.

ing mane, the model of beauty, the wonder for instinct the accomplished horse CZAR.

This demonstration will be found, with all its grandeur, to be a fair index to the internal superiority of this Show to all other traveling institutions.

WILL EXHIBIT AT

KEOKUK

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6th.

One Day and Night only.

ADMISSION.

Adults and Children over ten, 50 Cts.
Children under 10 years, 25 "

No deviation from this observation of prices.

RICHARD P. JONES,
Director of Publications,
Benj. Crosby, Agent.

May 27, 1879.

DAN CASTELLO'S GREAT SHOW.

On Wednesday next, the 6th inst., Mr. Dan Castello will visit us with his renowned "Moral Show." Preceded as it has been, by a liberal and judicious advertising, and with a reputation for respectability and refinement that few, if any, establishments can claim, let alone enjoy, we feel warranted in anticipating for Mr. Castello a success, and a patronage that our citizens are wont to bestow upon entertainments of tone and character.

The management, of whom Mr. James M. Nixon is a prominent member, have spared neither money nor labor to permanently secure for the "Great Show" a corps of performers who, either collectively or individually, cannot be surpassed. Excellence as well as novelty they aimed to acquire; from what we have heard said, we think they have got all they desired.

Mr. Dan Castello is a favorite in this section of the country, being very popular as a man, always acceptable as an *artiste*. He is the leading clown, and his associates in the arena, are compelled to observe that character of speech and decorum of action, that give to the circus that patent of decency that we often have seen most lamentably outraged or else lost sight of entirely. Circus proprietors and performers should have discovered, long ago, that a polite people will not tolerate either rude remarks or lewd jests. Mr. Castello, whilst true to the natural impulses of a gentleman, has shown a commendable and politic tact in discarding all traces of indecency from his programmes.

There are several features at Mr. Castello's command that will not only attract, but please. The horse Ozar's performance is one. This animal is handsome, docile, and, to a certain extent, educated, executing all the "tricks" his trainer has taught him with an ease and elegance that is remarkably pleasing, and without wonderful.

Herr Lengel and his exotic pets, the lions and lionesses, are, we see, quite extensively quoted in the official advertisements. We opine that this part of the programme is highly sensational, startling enough, but most too daring to be pleasant.

The procession is arranged on a grand scale, enabling the public to gain a very correct idea of the strength of the institution. Those who like to attend a good show, will not absent themselves from Mr. Castello's canvass on Wednesday next, the 6th inst.

No Extra Charge for Giants!

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, SATURDAY, JUNE 19.

Sea Elephants.

One of the prominent features of W. W. Cole's great shows is a pair of enormous sea elephants, a species of amphibia which have long been supposed extinct, and noted scientists have frequently argued the point of such a phenomenon at any time in the history of the world, but old seafaring men claim that these monstrous marine animals were plentiful some fifty years ago, although in the past decade they have entirely vanished. The peculiarities of the Dinatherums of the deep are their resemblance to the ordinary African elephant. That is so far as the head and proboscis or the trunk is concerned. They are more than three times as large as the sea lions, and from statistical facts it is learned that one of these monsters will produce as much spermatic oil as a full-grown Arctic whale. The two animals now in Mr. Cole's show were captured on the Pacific coast, and shipped directly to him by Capt. Mullet, the famous marine explorer. It is eminently certain that no such animals were ever placed on exhibition before, and the public will appreciate so great a novelty. Aside from this one marvelous attraction Mr. Cole offers a myriad of wonders, including the daring De Comas, a troupe of aerial bicycleriders. These accomplished athletes produce one of the most sensational acts ever witnessed in this country. Their performances consist of riding a bicycle upon a wire suspended fully fifty feet from the ground, and to this slight vehicle is attached an ordinary trapeze, upon which two of the brothers are carried with lightning rapidity from one end of the canvas to the other, while they execute a series of evolutions that are truly astonishing. Captain Bates and wife, the two famous giants, who reach the enormous height of eight feet, a troupe of trained stallions, a performing Spanish bull, the great electric light, a mammoth ox, that weighs 3,100 pounds, and an exceptionally good circus, are among the many items of interest which will be offered to our citizens on Monday, July 5th.

apartments, which is said to be "an open book of nature," revealing choice specimens of the animal kingdom, rarely, if ever, seen outside their native elements. Trained brutes are a special feature in this object-teaching academy, and the management boasts of having the largest, fiercest and most dangerous den of African lions ever brought to this country. Especially engaged as a culmination to the great show are two giants, Captain Bates and wife, the largest people that have ever lived at any age of the world's history—two veritable giants—outrivaling even the great Goliath, or the mythical men of old, who were said to govern nations and hold whole kingdoms in awe by their mammoth proportions alone. The great electric light is used to illuminate the tents; a performing Spanish bull, the mammoth Kansas ox, and the most wonderful troupe of trick stallions are also to be seen. These animals perform together as one horse.

Of the arena performance it may be truthfully said that nothing of so varied a nature has ever been placed within the bounds of a tented circle, it being the particular aim of Mr. Cole to revolutionize this portion of canvas exhibitions. None of the old stereotyped "pad acts" ever go into the ring, and only those skilled riders are engaged who can accomplish the most daring deeds on bareback running horses. Nothing tending to mar the pleasure of patrons is ever permitted, and every objectionable feature is avoided, thus forming an entertainment which in its entirety has no equal on this continent.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 23.

GEO. SMITH. H. W. CLENDENIN. THOS. REES.
CREMATED MENAGERIE.

An Elephant, Lions, Zebra, Leopard,
Staga and Other Animals Burned.

DETROIT, May 22.—The menagerie establishment owned by J. M. French, five miles north of this city, was destroyed by fire this morning. The elephant Sultan, five lions, a zebra, leopard, staga and many other valuable animals were cremated. Loss heavy; insurance small.

When the fire was first discovered, Mr. French and his men were at work in an adjoining field, and before any efforts could be made to stay the progress of the flames, the whole establishment, consisting of animals, barn, two dwellings and a blacksmith shop, was a mass of flames. While endeavoring to rescue the famous trick elephant "Sultan," Mr. French was knocked senseless by the frightened animal. Loss \$15,000; insurance \$1,000.

THE GATE CITY.

SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 20.

The Greatest Show of All.

Can such things be,
And overcome us like a summer's cloud,
Without our special wonder?—*Macbeth*.

To herald great events is one of the pleasures especially allotted the public press, and in this connection it is gratifying to allude to the leading amusement enterprise of the present decade, i. e., the world famous show that bears the name of that prince of managers W. W. Cole. This well equipped and unequalled alliance of rare merit will make its appearance in Keokuk on Monday, July 5, thus bringing to our very doors the most complete collection of startling novelties ever placed on exhibition on American soil. A vast acreage of tents are necessary to encompass the world of wonders contained in the zoological

ing mane, the model of beauty, the wonder for instinct the accomplished horse CZAK.

This demonstration will be found, with all its grandeur, to be a fair index to the internal superiority of this Show to all other traveling institutions.

WILL EXHIBIT AT

KEOKUK

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6th.

One Day and Night only.

ADMISSION.

Adults and Children over ten, 50 Cts.
Children under 10 years, 25 "

No deviation from this observation of prices.

RICHARD P. JONES,
Director of Publications,
BENJ. CROSBY, Agent.

[May 27-88-1871]

DAN CASTELLO'S GREAT SHOW.

On Wednesday next, the 6th inst., Mr. Dan Castello will visit us with his renowned "Moral Show." Preceded as it has been, by a liberal and judicious advertising, and with a reputation for respectability and refinement that few, if any, establishments can claim, let alone enjoy, we feel warranted in anticipating for Mr. Castello a success, and a patronage that our citizens are wont to bestow upon entertainments of tone and character.

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There are several features at Mr. Castello's command that will not only attract, but please. The horse Czar's performance is one. This animal is handsome, docile, and, to a certain extent, educated, executing all the "tricks" his trainer has taught him with an ease and elegance that is remarkably pleasing, and without wonderful.

Herr Lengel and his exotic pets, the lions and lionesses, are, we see, quite extensively quoted in the official advertisements. We opine that this part of the programme is highly sensational, startling enough, but most too daring to be pleasant.

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KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1880.

THE BOSS SHOW.

KEOKUK'S FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

The Last to Come but Not the Least,
and All Its Promises Will be
Faithfully Kept.

Keokuk will have a Fourth of July celebration after all, but it will be due to the favor of W. W. Cole, who will be here with his mammoth show on the 5th of July, the 4th this year coming on Sunday. This show is a whole celebration in itself. It will make an attraction that will draw crowds of people to our city, and will give our own citizens an opportunity to enjoy themselves hugely on that day.

The advance agent of the "big show" was here yesterday to make the preliminary arrangements. Remember Monday, the 5th of July, will be the big day. The Indianapolis Sentinel, of May 9th, speaking of W. W. Cole's circus, which gave an exhibition in that city on the 8th, has the following very complimentary notice:

If the last two attractions in the circus line drew immense audiences, W. W. Cole certainly outdid all their efforts in his performances yesterday. The procession was one of the finest ever given by any circus; the paraphernalia all new; the wagons freshly painted; the horses in good condition—thus forming one continuous line of glittering splendor. The afternoon performance found the canvas filled to overflowing, and in the evening hundreds of people were turned away unable to gain admittance. And what is the cause of all this rush? Simply because Mr. Cole does all he advertises, and more, too. In the menagerie may be found the sea elephants, which are at present attracting so much attention from the press and public. The large Kansas ox is there, as large as pictured on the bills; the performing den of lions, the wild boar, monkeys of every age from three days old upward—a feature seldom witnessed in any traveling combination. Captain and Mrs. Bates, the giants fully eight feet in height, were to be seen seated on a huge platform, ready and willing to impart any information to the vast throng constantly gathering around them. This department is above the ordinary exhibition in point of attractions, and possesses features not shown by any other. Passing into the circus ring the visitor meets with a finer ring performance than we have seen this season. The bicycle act, by Messrs. Comas, three in number, is certainly daring, and drew a hearty applause. The trained ox performed unusually well and the trained stallions were the admiration of every one. Nowhere have we ever seen their equal, and this one performance is well worth the price of admission. The electric light worked to the satisfaction of everybody, and proved the fact that Mr. Cole has the only genuine electric light, everything

being as bright as day. Taking it as a whole, it was the "boss" show of the season, and should Mr. Cole return again he might as well enlarge his canvass, for the present one will not hold half the attendance. No objectionable feature was witnessed during the whole performance. One feature we almost overlooked; the aerial act on flying rings by Miss Maggie Claire is worthy of special mention. It is certainly daring, and she performs it very gracefully and satisfactorily.

way superior to anything heretofore seen in the "sawdust circle." A special and absorbing point of interest will be the two giants, Capt. and Mrs. M. V. Bates, who have excited the world during the past five years by their phenomenal size, each being eight feet in height and weighing something over 500 pounds, and who are, beyond a doubt, the largest people that have ever lived at any time in the world's history. In addition to these mortal marvels Mr. Cole has secured the mammoth Kansas ox, which weighs 3,100 pounds and stands 6 feet high; and as an adjunct to these he has a performing Spanish bull, which has been trained to a wonderful degree of perfection. The recently perfected electric light is used to illuminate the vast canvas, and everything is arranged on a scale of grandeur never before achieved. Another fresh and foreign feature will be the introduction of six imported and educated stallions, who perform the most marvelous evolutions, obey the word of command, drill like soldiers, and one of them, as if to astonish his companions, finally jumps over four of them at a single bound. But it is impossible to enter into the details of this leviathan organization, as nearly every nook and corner of the globe is represented—the earth, the sea, the sky, all contribute to the vast collection of world wonders, the full particulars of which will appear in these columns. It travels by rail, using its own cars, which have been built expressly for transporting the ponderous vans and paraphernalia necessary for this gigantic enterprise, which will reach Keokuk, July 5th.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1880.

The Great Electric Light.

W. W. Cole, the well-known showman, has introduced this wonderful invention to the public and now uses it to illuminate the vast tents of his famous show, and it will be on exhibition both afternoon and evening during the sojourn of his mammoth circus and menagerie in Keokuk. This marvelous invention bids fair to eventually supersede all other modes of illumination, and the fact that it is to be presented to the public view in a thorough and practical manner, will prove gratifying to the thousands of visitors who daily witness this great show. A thirty horse power engine is required to furnish the electric current, and seven huge chambers are used, which produce a luminous, luxuriant light, in comparison with which all other illuminations are but gloomy and shameful shadows, while this wondrous agency diffuses a halo of light more than equal to 30,000 gas jets, and under its sunlike rays every object becomes as distinct as though it were mid-day. Aside from this

this phenomenal feature, Mr. Cole promises more new and novel attractions than any three shows that travel. There are those mighty giants, Capt. Bates and wife, who reach the enormous height of eight feet; a troupe of six trick stallions, which have been educated to a wonderful degree of excellence; a performing Spanish bull, the first ever on exhibition; a den of ferocious performing lions and tigers, and rare wild animals from nearly every zone on the face of the wide world, while the press throughout the land pronounces his circus the best one in existence. Over a million dollars are invested, and all its beauties are made doubly beautiful by the great electric light.

This excellent combination will exhibit in this city on July 5th, and will give one of their gorgeous street parades.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

JUNE 23, 1880.

The Great Show Coming.

It is gratifying to announce that Keokuk is soon to be invaded by W. W. Cole, the king of circus managers, who promises to bring the grandest show that ever pitched its tents on the American continent, embracing, as it does, more rare curiosities in the animal world than any two concerns that ever visited this section of the country, while the attractions to be presented in the arena will be in every

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1880.

W. C. COUP'S SHOW COMING.

A Novel Exhibition.

W. C. Coup has completed his arrangements to exhibit here on Wednesday May 24. His show is said to be three times larger than ever before, and contains many new and original features, among them the beautiful Flying Woman Be-Be, said to be the prettiest woman in America, "Loyal" the Human Cannon Ball, and many others, besides a very fine Menagerie. The wonderful Broncho Horses, a Sea Aquarium, the Leaping Horse "Nettle," an Automatic Museum and three full Circus Companies, who all perform in one immense ring. The most interesting feature will be found in the life-like statutes and figures, said to be five hundred in number, representing the assassination of Garfield by Guiteau, and all the important incidents and events connected with the assassination and the trial. The Washington (D. C.) Republican says:

The curiosity of Americans regarding the assassin of Garfield which has been shown by the numberless requests received for his autographs, photographs, locks of his hair, and other coveted mementoes, is in a fair way to be satisfied. Yesterday Mr. H. A. McCartney, the manager of Coup's New United Monster Shows, visited the jail and concluded negotiations which have been pending since March 20,

by which, in payment of \$350 to Guiteau, Mr. McCartney secured from him the suit of clothes worn by him on the fatal 2d of July, and the suit he wore during his trial. The following are copies of the bill of sale and

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE SUITS.

W. C. Coup, proprietor New United Monster Shows, to Charles Guiteau, Dr.

To suit of clothes marked suit No. 1 and described in the annexed paper, \$250. To suit of clothes marked suit No. 2 and described in the annexed paper, \$100—\$350. Received payment.

CHARLES GUITEAU.

UNITED STATES JAIL, March 31, '82.
SUIT NO. 1.

To the Public:

I hereby certify that the clothes which are described as follows and marked suit No. 1, I wore on July 2d, '81. I this day sell them to W. C. Coup, proprietor of the New United Monster Shows: The coat is a cut-a-way, single-breasted one, badly torn in the breast by the bullet which Mason fired at me into my cell Sept. 11, '81; the vest is single-breasted, and buttons to my throat. The coat, pants, and vest are dark and of fine material. They were made by a first-class New York tailor for seventy dollars, and have been somewhat damaged by being worn in jail.

CHARLES GUITEAU.

UNITED STATES JAIL, WASH., D. C.,
March 31, '82,

SUIT NO. 2.

To the public:

I hereby certify that the clothes which are described as follows, and marked No. 2, I wore during my trial for removing James A. Garfield. I this day sell them to W. C. Coup, proprietor of the "New United Monster Shows." Dark clothes—coat, pants and vest—of heavy material. The coat has a cut on the left arm at the elbow, made by Jones' bullet, fired at me when I was in the 'van,' returning to jail from court in November 1881.

CHARLES GUITEAU.

UNITED STATES JAIL, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 31, 1882.

Mr. Coup will also have another morsel for the curious to gloat over.

M'DONALD, THE SCULPTOR, of the Custer and Sedgwick monuments, at West Point, N. Y., has been here all winter for the purpose of making figures of the late president, Guiteau and all connected with the late trial, etc. He has visited the jail frequently and has taken a cast of Guiteau's head, the dimensions of his body, and has completed a *fac simile* of the miserable coward. He has figured him standing, with right arm extended, and, to make the thing more realistic, has placed a pistol in his hand. When the circus starts on its summer trip there is little doubt the ticket sellers will be kept busy."

The horses and other stock of this show are unusually fine, and the equipments throughout excellent. Thousands of people lined the streets as the procession passed along.

The entertainment this afternoon was all that could be expected or desired. The vast pavilion was well filled, and the exhibition from first to last was enthusiastically applauded. The grand entree was really a beautiful sight, followed by a still more interesting and pleasing scene in the way of an elephant performance. The "Princess," the most wonderful performing elephant in the world, delighted the audience with her fine acting.

The finest equestrian performances ever seen in Keokuk were given by Romeo Sebastian and Miss Mollie Brown. The Siegrist children in their marvelous acrobatic feats carried the audience by storm.

The bounding jockey performance by Mr. Scarford was a brilliant feature of the entertainment. But why try to enumerate all the points of interest? We haven't the space. Go to-night and see them for yourselves. It is an immense show and only costs 25 cents. The pavilion will be illuminated by a grand electric light. Don't fail to go.

show closed, a couple of the canvas men got into a row and began swearing in loud and unseemly tones and waved their fists wildly in the air. They were on the war path in awful earnest and thirsted for gore. After executing a series of war dances, one picked up a big club and knocked the other nearly twenty feet. The fallen man raised himself as speedily as possible and made the air resound with the plaintive notes of "Nuff." The knight of the club was too magnanimous to strike a prostrate foe, and withdrew from the field of action in good order. The squelched party bandaged his cranium, and went on his way with no rejoicing whatever.

Shortly after this a Keokuk citizen, loaded with forty-rod whisky, conceived the brilliant idea of licking somebody. He chose, at random, Jonathan Chandler, and kindly offered to thrash him in a minute. Mr. Chandler was modest about accepting the offer, and retired a short distance. Then the fuddled warrior waxed brave, said he was the worst man in the world, could whip anybody and would wear out the earth with Mr. Chandler's body.

The interference of friends stopped his warlike demonstrations and he staggered away "the best man in Keokuk."

Shortly after this a lot of "hoodlums" raided N. P. Bogue's lemonade stand, on the corner of Concert and Eighth streets, with the intention of "cleaning him out." They knocked over the lamp, and under cover of darkness made a rush for the stand. Mr. Bogue reached for his revolver and told them he would shoot the first man that laid hands on anything. Not wishing to tackle an able-bodied pistol in the hands of a resolute man, they retreated a short distance and began to throw stones at Mr. Bogue. They made the missiles fly like hailstones, but fortunately did no serious damage. Mr. Bogue thinks their object was to take a lot of money lying on the shelf, and the lemonade and other refreshments in the stand. After yelling around like savages for a few minutes they slunk away.

After the fights were all over another excitement occurred on the levee.

The circus wagon containing the horned horse went tearing down Johnson street hill, trying its best to jump over four of the worst scared horses that ever ran away. It appears that the brake on the wagon got out of order and the hold back accommodations of the harness were insufficient to keep the wagon from running with great force against the wheel horses. The crowd on the levee heard the noise and became greatly excited, some thinking the elephant was on the rampage and others that a lion had broken from its cage. The wagon capsized just as it passed Barniscom's saloon, and threw the driver upon the ground, injuring one of his arms quite severely. The wreck was gathered up and the outfit loaded on the cars. It was thought that the horned horse received no particular injury, but they did not wait to examine him.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1882.

The Inter-Ocean.

The great Inter-Ocean menagerie and circus, which has been the subject of much interest of late, reached the city this morning. At an early hour the streets were thronged with spectators, all anxious to get a glimpse of the show. The street parade this forenoon was quite large and by all odds the best of the season.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1882.

RED HOT.

A DISH OF FIGHTS AND ACCIDENTS.

Hoodlums Attempt to Burglarize N. P. Bogue's Refreshment Stand near the Show Grounds.

Yesterday was a big day in Keokuk—a "powerful day," and one enthusiastic old gentleman says "the doin's beat a council meetin' all holler."

The fun began in earnest, however, late in the evening. Just after the

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DAILY GATE CITY

OWNER OF 101 RANCH AND WILD WEST SHOW DEAD

George Miller, Showman,
Ranch Owner, Killed
Near Ponca City,
Okla., When Car
Overturns on
Pavement.

FEB. 2, 1929

PONCA CITY, Okla., Feb. 2.—George Miller, one of the owners of Miller Brothers 101 Ranch and 101 Wild West shows, was killed this morning when his car turned over on the slippery pavement a few miles south of here, while on his way to the ranch, which is located at Marland.

Found Pinned Beneath Car.
Two men found the showman's wrecked roadster and Miller's body partly pinned beneath it. It was believed Miller had attempted to jump from the skidding car, as the men who found him reported his head was pinned beneath one front wheel. His skull was crushed. Miller was still alive when found but died en route to a local hospital.

Miller was born 49 years ago at Baxter Springs, Kansas.

Brother Died From Gas Fumes.
His death recalls that Col. Joe Miller, brother and associate in the ranch and circus business, was found dead in his garage less than a year ago. Monoxide gas from an automobile had caused his death.

The three Miller brothers, Colonel Joseph C., George L., and Zack T., inherited the 101 ranch, then about 40,000 acres from their father about 20 years ago.

Owned Last Big American Ranch.
With enterprise in ranching and employing modern farming methods they gradually increased the holdings to 110,000 acres which is now said to be the one remaining big ranch in America, and the largest diversified farm in the United States.

Oil discoveries on the ranch greatly increased the Miller brothers' wealth in recent years.

Shows Start on Small Scale.
The 101 Wild West show started on a small scale by the Millers with the idea of preserving the traditions of the pioneer days, has become one of the country's better known circuses, and has made extensive foreign tours.

Started With Turtle Race.

ADDED ATTRACTION

Famous
Western
Film Star

JACK
HOXIE
IN PERSON

And His
Wonder
Horse Scout

KEOKUK MAIN ST. FRI.
GROUNDS AUG. 23

MILLER BROS.

101 RANCH

WILD WEST

1100 PEOPLE - 600 ANIMALS
REAL INDIANS - COWBOYS

ALL NEW STREET
PARADE
11 A.M. DAILY

WORLD'S CHAMPION TRICK RIDERS!

TICKETS ON SALE,
SHOWDAY AT WILKINSON'S 422 MAIN ST.

NOT IN THE CIRCUS TRUST

The annual roundup at which is held the "terrarin derby," a turtle race for high stakes, has been the Miller brothers' entertainment for their Oklahoma neighbors for many years, and attracts huge crowds. The circus originated with the round-up.

Miller is survived by his divorced wife and a daughter, Margaret, and by his brother Zack.

DAILY GATE CITY
= AUGUST 13, 1929 =

Fought Custer

There's been much written of the majestic mien of the American Indian, and this picture of White Calf, famous Sioux warrior, bona fide survivor of Custer's Last Stand, the world-famous fight at the Little Big Horn in '76, seems to support the ballyhoo, doesn't it? White Calf, with Eagle Elk, another veteran of the battle, heads the Sioux contingent with the 101 Ranch Real Wild West, coming to Keokuk Friday, August 23, at the Main street show grounds. The 101 Ranch has gone Sioux this season, for the members of this hard-riding, hard-fighting plains tribe have proven during past seasons far better attractions to the public than have the other riding plains Indians. Hence, two-thirds of the braves with the show are Sioux.



COMING**LEMEN BROS.' WORLD'S BEST SHOWS!****3 RING CIRCUS, MONSTER MENAGERIE AND ROMAN HIPPODROME.**

Positively Presenting More Absolute Meritious Features and High Class Arecic Specialists than all the circuses of America can combine to produce. A Company of 300 Arecic Stars, comprising only the Recognized Acknowledged Accredited Champions in every line.

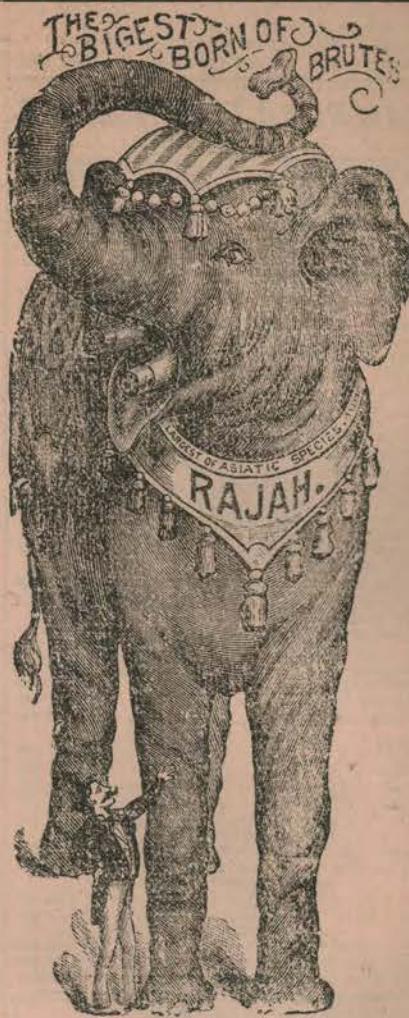
Rajah!

**The Largest Elephant
That Walks the Earth!**

Two inches taller than Jumbo, and weighing 800 pounds more than any elephant ever in captivity. A traveling giant of his kind.

EDNA,

The Champion Female Backward and Forward Somersault Rider of the world. \$10,000 challenge to any show that can produce her equal! The world celebrated rider, Jas. Robinson, says: "No such rider ever seen in America as the little wonder Edna." Be sure and see this arecic marvel.

**The La Rose Family,**

Arecic Aerialists Par Excellence. Unquestionably presenting the most thrilling sensational midair return act ever attempted by human beings. Double somersaults from dizzy heights through empty space.

Miss Kittie Kruger,

The Beautiful and Fascinating Champion Four and Six Horse Rider is beyond a doubt the most dashing, graceful and artistic Equestrienne in new displays of skill and nerve in America.

The Sparring Kangaroo,

The Australian Menagerie Sensation--FIGHTING FITZ. The Kangaroo in question which appears in the ring at every performance is a boxing wonder and never fails to win rounds of applause by his scientific fistic contest with his trainer.

Don't Forget we have the only Living Wonderful BOVALAPUS, that strange Amphibious Beast of Land and Sea.

An Army of the Most Noted Tumblers and Leapers in the profession. 20 Clowns and Merry Knights of Mornus.

GRAND ROYAL ROMAN HIPPODROME
Truthfully Portraying the Sports and Pastimes of the Ancient Ages.

A 3 RING CIRCUS!

Filled with Foreign and Home Artists.

MOST COMPLETE MENAGERIE IN EXISTENCE!

Largely added to during the past winter. An instructive educational department. Fully in keeping with the high standard of merit that prevades this world's best shows.

FREE TO ALL.

Every day at 10:30 a. m. and 6:30 p. m. the Sensational High Diver, Capt. Marion, will leap from a fire department ladder 100 feet high into his life-saving net. Truly an awe inspiring feat. Remember this is FREE TO ALL at the show grounds.

Absolutely and Undoubtedly the Greatest All Feature Shows

Ever conceived by the mind of mortal man.

Grand Street Parade at 10 a. m. 2 Performances Every Day at 2 and 8 p. m.

EXCURSION RATES ON ALL RAILROADS.

Will exhibit in all its entirety at..... **KEOKUK, MONDAY, MAY 10.**

KEOKUK**Tues., July 17****One Day Only!**

59th Annual Tour of

**M. L. Clark &
Sons****CIRCUS**N. Main St. near Rubber
Plant**2:30 and 8 P. M.**

The Cristiani Troupe
America's Greatest Acrobats
4 Boys and 4 Girls

The Riding Rooneys
Greatest Bareback Riders
of All Times

Prof. William Newton's
\$10,000 Educated Pony,
Cupid

The Flying Clarks

Scores of Funny Clowns
and Beautiful Girls

FREE PARKING

HEY, KIDDIES

Clip this coupon out and with 30c tax included will admit any child under 14 years of age to M. L. Clark's Circus, Tues., July 17. Save 30c. Regular price 60c.

AFTERNOON ONLY!

lithographers and bannermen with panel trucks made a complete coverage of both the city and its surrounding communities. This is the time of the year when flaming posters are glimpsed on all sides and the small boy, in his mother's arms, begins to amaze him by obeying every command.

The number one advertising crew of the M. L. Clark and Son circus visited Keokuk several days ago to put up posters calling attention to the first circus of the year. It will be held Tuesday, June 17, afternoon and evening in the grounds near the Rubber Industries plant.

A crew of expert sign posters

will be here to do the work.

Keokuk to See
Circus July 17

P. T. BARNUM'S NEW AND ONLY GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

Transported by Rail Upon three Immense Special Excursion
Trains of its Own Solid Steel Cars,
Will Exhibit, in All Its Overshadowing Vastness, in the City of
KEOKUK, THURSDAY, AUG. 30.



continued
on
page

top

#b1



Beyond Comparison, by far the Largest Amusement Enterprise in the World and囊括着 many acres, will exclusively showing more New and Important Features, more Marine Monsters, more and rarer Wild Beasts, Birds and Reptiles, more Marvelous Human Prodigies, more Curious and Costly Mechanical Wonders, more Distinguished Equestrians and Athletes, and more Educated Animals and Magnificent Trick Horses than were ever before presented in any age or place.

50 50 50 50 50

!! Magnificent Pictorial Cages !!

An Additional Half Million Dollars Have Been Invested, in Famous Foreign Features, Including a **\$30,000 Stud of 6 Superb Educated "Trakene" Stallions,**

For whose equals I will cheerfully pay \$50,000. Introduced altogether, they simultaneously, and as one Company, execute the most astonishing acts and evolutions, with all the activity, precision and intelligence of army drill; even standing as erect as soldiers. Their performances beggar description.

MISS JENNIE LOUISE HENGLER'S
Original and Electrifying

DOUBLE MENAGE ACT!!

Introducing TWO MAGNIFICENT \$10,000 STALIONS RIDDEN and DRIVEN TANDEM, For the counterpart of which I will also pay \$50,000.

The Tattooed Greek Nobleman,

CAPTAIN COSTENTENUS,

Tattooed from Head to Foot, in Chinese Tartary, as punishment for engaging in rebellion against the King. 588 figures, necessitating over 7,000,000 blood-producing punctures.

I will give \$50,000 for the production of half as extensive and perfect a piece of Tattooing, or for the correct deciphering of the hieroglyphics upon his body.

ONE 50 CENT TICKET!

Admitting to every Tent and Department—Children under 9 years, half price.

Each Morning about 9 O'clock

A Triumphal Golden Street Procession!

FREE TO ALL!

Far Eclipsing in Magnificence and Size any Lord Mayor's Show and well Worth going one hundred miles to see.

HUGE ELEPHANTS

In harness, drawing Titanic Tableau Cars and Colossal Chariots of Golden Glory; an endless vision of Animals, Art and Arene Pomp. Monster Lions in their Gilded Lair, performed in public as they pass by Mlle Dumas, the European Empress of the Dens; Stupendous Serpents seen encircling the Hindoo in their Crystal Den. A Jeweled and Bannered Army, Moving in Majestic Splendor through the thronged

Barnum's \$25,000 Biblical Behemoth,

ADMIRAL DOT!

A living atom among pygmies, and the smallest and most intelligent Dwarf ever known.

A Grand Field Museum!

of life-sized Automatons and Mechanical Wonders, operated by a Solid Silver Steam Engine.

\$2,000.00 Per Day in Salaries

To over 100 Peerless Principal Circus Celebrities including the

Two Super-Eminent Bare-Back Riders of the Universe.

Free admission to all who purchase my Life, or my new book "Lion Jack," the story of wild men and beasts, showing how Menageries are made. These books are sold at cost, \$1.50 each.

Including a Free Ticket.

Doors open at 1 and 7 p.m. Grand Spectacular, Animal and Arenic Entree one hour later.

For the accommodation of those desiring to avoid the crowds usually congregated at the ticket wagons,

Tickets & Reserved Seats

May be obtained at the usual slight advance, at Central Drug Store, Cor. Main & 6th.

streets. Bring all the Ladies and children and Secure good places to See.

The Museum, Menagerie & Circus

BEING EACH EXHIBITED IN

ENTIRELY SEPARATE MAMMOTH TENTS !

Returning more than ten times the price of Admission.

Arrangements have been made for Excursion Trains, at Reduced Rates to the Great Show.

Chas. W. Fish,

The unchallenged bareback single horse and Trick-Champion of Europe and America and

MARTINHO LOWANDE,

The hurricane horseman of Brazil, in his unapproachable double bareback carrying act, with his son Tony, the centaur child wonder; and in his terrific 4 and 7 horse bareback performances.



BUREAU OF ILLUSTR. BUFFALO N.Y.

The Greatest Show on Earth Will Also Exhibit in All Its Vast Entirety at

9161

Quincy, Tuesday,
Burlington, Friday,

August 28th, 1877.

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 16.

Barnum has secured all the bill boards, and thus shut Dan Rice out of Keokuk. He will stop at Warsaw on his way down the river, however, and will be at that place next Monday. The Wild Boy will run so as to carry excursionists, and in the evening will make an extra trip, leaving here at 7 and returning leave Warsaw after the show, giving people an opportunity of attending the show and a moonlight ride on the river at the same time.

THE GATE CITY:

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17.

BARNUM'S ADVERTISING CAR - Barnum's Advertising coach came in on the Keokuk Route from Hannibal yesterday morning, bringing the advertising agents and paste brigade of the show. As Barnum believes in advertising, it is not strange that he should have a nobby outfit for carrying on this branch of his business. The car is a long one, built expressly for this purpose, having drawers and apartments for posters, lithographs and the like, and all the appliances for putting them up. Berths and other conveniences are provided for those who travel with it.

The outside of the coach is gaily decorated in Barnum's inimitable style, with pictures of wild animals and a portrait of the veteran old showman in the center. The car stood on the levee all day, and was inspected by hundreds of visitors.

P. T. Barnum's Feast of Features.

The greatest showman of his own, or any time, has always been keen enough to act upon his own shrewd observation that "no people in the world are as liberal to liberality as Americans;" hence, the liberal character of the success which always has and will continue to attend his gigantic amusement undertakings. The only exhibition which he now owns, which he personally manages, and which will exhibit at Keokuk on Thursday, August 30th, is the perfected reflex of his expressed opinion, and comprises a museum, menagerie and circus of an extent, variety, value and interest quite indescribable and well-nigh incomputable. Of distinctive foreign features, for the first time seen in America, there are enough to make a dozen fifty-cent shows; as for example, Capt. Costentenus, the noble Greek Albanian, decorated by Chinese Tartar art and vengeance from head to foot with tattooing, and for whose "counterfeit presentment" Mr. Barnum will cheerfully pay \$50,000; the \$30,000 imported stud of performing "Trakene" Stallions, for whose peers, in either beauty or intelligence, Mr. Barnum

will also pay \$50,000; Miss Hengler's astonishing double manege tandem stallion act, for the parallel of which a like liberal sum is offered; and the only living Hippopotamus in America, a Biblical Behemoth, which cost Mr. Barnum \$25,000 on the Nile. Two thousand dollars per day to a host of bareback riders, Chas. W. Fish, and a fine parade, alone worth a long trip to town to see, more than fill the bill, and will be certain to fill the immense canvass.

THE GATE CITY:

TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 21.

P. T. BARNUM

To His Millions of Patrons.

Healthful amusements and innocent recreations must be classed among the absolute necessities of a well balanced life, and happy is he who can feel that he provided this repast, free from all poisons to mind, heart and conscience.

An ancient poet has said: "The noble art which a humin being can attain is the power to confer happiness on others."

For nearly half a century I have followed my life-long motto, "We study to please." I have cheerfully devoted my energies and all that I could command to providing public amusements which should prove instructive and profitable to the age in which I live.

My ambition, also, has ever been to give the public as much as possible for their money. The result of these efforts, I am gratified to say, has been a patronage unprecedented and a prosperity and success unparalleled in the world of amusements. This liberality of the public has enabled me to compass the entire globe in search of novelties, and to procure them without the slightest regard to expense.

An examination of the newspapers, my Illustrated News, programmes, posters and various advertisements, will show you that I have secured numerous entirely new features, just imported from Asia, Africa and Europe, never before seen in this country, and enabling me to place before you, so far as a combination of traveling exhibitions, beyond all question the greatest show on earth, which will be exhibited, complete and undivided, in all its stupendous entirety, at Keokuk on Thursday, August 30th.

I never advertise nor promise what I do not exhibit and perform, and always, and in all places, present my entire combination of entertainments precisely as in New York and all the larger cities.

I shall travel most of the season with this, my only exhibition, and, hoping to take by the hand many of my millions of patrons, I feel assured that they will acknowledge it is worth going with their children a hundred miles to see, and that, in all probability, they will "never look upon its like again" The public's obedient servant.

P. T. BARNUM.

THE GATE CITY:

WEDNESDAY MORNING AUGUST 22.

Barnum's Great Show To-morrow.

Mr. Barnum's confidence in public appreciation seems to be as great as his great show; in fact, unlimited, and yet well founded. Each succeeding year is signalized by an increase on the preceding colossal size and cost of his exhibitions, and in the attendance of such crowds of delighted people as to alone constitute a show. So, when he reaches Keokuk to-morrow with his three immense trains of solid steel cars, and puts up his acres of teeming tents, Fourth of July, General Training, and Fair Day combined, will have to retire into the profound obscurity of a total eclipse. Half such a menagerie, including the \$25,000 Hippopotamus, was never before moved; such a museum, with an automatic department, operated by a solid silver steam engine, never before collected, and such a surprising array of circus talent never before heard of. There are many single features which are alone 50 cent shows, at least, such as the \$30,000 stud of educated "Trakene" Stallions, introduced all together in the arena; Capt. Costentenus, the wonderfully tattooed illustration of barbaric hate and vengeance; Miss Hengler in her dauntless, original double manage act with her two superb stallions, and Charles W. Fish, the most renowned of bareback equestrians. We don't say come, for of course you will do that, but we do say come early.

THE GATE CITY:

THURSDAY MORNING AUGUST 30.

BARNUM'S SHOW.

The Attendance in St. Louis and What the People of the City Think of It.

Barnum's big show will arrive in Keokuk over the St. L. K. & N. R'y from Hannibal this morning, and in addition to the street parade in the forenoon, which will be very fine, will give two exhibitions, afternoon and evening. From the advertisement and notices which have appeared, our readers have no doubt been impressed with the magnitude and magnificence of the show. Wherever it has been the newspapers freely accord to it all that is claimed for it. It was at St. Louis all last week, and the *Times* of that city has the following concerning the exhibition and the attendance:

Barnum's show left early yesterday morning for Jacksonville, Ill., where two performances will be given to-day. Last week in St. Louis 87,000 people, or fully one-sixth of the total population of the city, visited the show, and had it not been for the two rainy days the number would have reached 100,000. From the opening performance it was apparent that the show would "take" in the city. Many had predicted that hard times would prove too much for Barnum this time, and leave him out of pocket at the end of the week. Forepaugh had showed here early in the season, when

money was more plentiful, and played to losing audiences from the beginning. But these prophets had not taken into account the magic in Barnum's name. Barnum has visited St. Louis almost annually for many years and had always presented a good show, and his reputation was strong enough to draw people out at the opening. The show was a good one, and the people patronized it. Times are hard, but people must enjoy some recreation, and they patronize that which gives them the best return for their money. Monday, the first day, 11,000 attended the show. Tuesday the number increased to 14,000, and Wednesday's rain forced it down to 10,000. Thursday 16,000 went, Friday 16,000 and Saturday 17,000.

The show and all its appurtenances belong to P. T. Barnum, who entrusts the management to Mr. Bailey, formerly of Cooper & Bailey, circus managers. Mr. Barnum organized the show and opened in the spring in New York City, where it was very successful. Ben Maginley, who is very well known in St. Louis as a dramatic manager, is equestrian director.

THE GATE CITY:

1877

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 30.

BARNUM.

His World of Wonders--The Show of the Period--A Grand Parade and Two Exhibitions To-day.

The irrepressible, the invincible Barnum and his great show are with us.

This gigantic amusement enterprise closed a most brilliant season at the Hippodrome in New York on the first of May, and thereafter commenced its journey Westward. Its progress thitherward has been one continued ovation. Wherever it has appeared, schools have been dismissed, courts adjourned, all business suspended, and everybody,—old and young,—from town and country, have turned out to visit this colossal show.

Barnum says it is the "crowning effort of his menagerial career"—and our exchanges from places where he has exhibited affirm that, great as have been his former efforts in catering to the amusement loving public of the country, yet his exhibition for the present season entirely eclipses all his former efforts in the line of talented exhibitions.

Barnum deserves all the success that attends his efforts. He has a keen appreciation of what the public desire in the way of amusement, and is always ready to engage any and all attractions that are not detrimental to good morals, and are calculated to amuse or surprise his millions of patrons.

Not only is he liberal in this respect, but in the matter of calling public attention to his exhibitions Barnum pursues a most sagacious policy.

Unlike nearly every other manager,

Barnum does not attempt to dole out a shilling with one hand and expect to grasp a dollar with the other.

He advertises liberally, persistently and continuously throughout the entire year. He pays a fair price for his advertising and when times are "hard" he *increases* instead of decreasing his advertising. He is bound the whole country shall know what he has to exhibit that is rare or wonderful, and the metropolitan press and the country papers are all used to spread the name and fame of his great show and its distinctive features.

Barnum attributes all his success in life to "printer's ink"—and there is many a man in and out of business to-day, who could make a fortune for himself and all his posterity by imitating Barnum in the matter of advertising.

Barnum always presents to his fellow-citizens a first-class exhibition—his patrons always get the worth of their money, and more too—and everybody is made to know this fact through the medium of the press. Here is the secret of his success, all through life.

His great show is here. With its myriad of museum wonders, its vast collection of beasts, birds and reptiles, and its gigantic circus Our exchanges tell us that it is the largest and finest tented exhibition ever presented to the public. We believe such is the case.

A magnificent street parade will be made this morning—the whole show will appear in processional order, with its magnificent chariots, caparisoned horses and elephants, and a host of new and sensational features.

Exhibitions will be given this afternoon and evening, and here, as elsewhere, crowded pavilions will reward the great showman for his efforts in amusing and instructing his fellow citizens. Go early and secure a comfortable seat.

THE GATE CITY:

1877

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31.

BARNUM.

The Big Show of the Boss Showman--A Fine Exhibition and an Immense Crowd to Witness It.

There is a wonderful magnetism about the name of Barnum and the shows which bear it. People will travel miles to see his exhibitions when they wouldn't think of leaving home for anything else of the kind. They have learned from experience that whenever he comes he brings something novel and attractive, that his show is always worth coming a long way to see and several times the amount charged to see it.

Early in the day yesterday it was apparent that this was to be no exception in the matter of attendance. People poured in from every direction. They came from Hancock and Adams county in Illinois, Clark county in Missouri, and Lee county in vehicles and on horse back, and from a much greater distance on the railroad and steamboat lines. The M. I. & N. ran an excursion train and the Wild Boy

came up on her first trip with about 700 visitors. A special on the K. & D. M. arrived at 9:10 with seven coaches, containing 500 people. The T. P. & W. ran a special from Bushnell, and brought 200 excursionists and the passenger No. 3 landed about 300 more. By 10 o'clock Main street was lined from one end to the other with strangers.

Owing to the little mishap and the consequent delay in the arrival of the trains it became necessary to abandon the street parade. This was quite a disappointment to many as it was to be one of the attractive features of the show. But it did not detract from the merits of the exhibition itself or prevent people from going to see it. Notwithstanding it was nearly noon when the train reached the city, the large force of men connected with the institution was put to work in earnest and before 3 o'clock everything was in readiness. The crowd flocked thither, and nearly all the seats in the immense pavilion were filled. It is estimated that between three and four thousand people attended the afternoon performance, and a still greater number the evening performance.

The exhibition is a decided success, and many pronounced it even better than the last one Barnum had here. Among the interesting features that are entirely new is Captain Costentus, the Greek Albanian, who was tattooed from head to foot in Chinese Tartary as a punishment for engaging in rebellion against the king. This is probably the greatest curiosity ever exhibited here. Every inch of the man's skin is covered with figures of beasts, birds, reptiles, and hieroglyphics, which are worked into the skin by puncturing it and staining it with indigo and cinnabar. It is a work of barbaric art on a grand scale, many of the figures being true to life and quite artistically executed. The operation required three months, of from four to six hours work per day. During all this time the man suffered a living death and has since undergone indescribable torture from the effects of the tattooing. The Captain speaks pigeon English, talks freely about his infliction and gives every one an opportunity to examine the work, but gets terribly out of humor if any one attempts to question the genuineness of it.

The museum and menagerie present many other attractions. The automatic figures, particularly those in Gideon's Band, are about the best ever exhibited here.

The menagerie embraces a large collection of choice specimens, among which is the baby hippopotamus, captured and trained by Dr. Kahn, who takes great pride in exhibiting his pet. Then there is the giraffe, sea lion, rhinoceros and many others.

Another object of interest is the stud

of eight Trakene stallions, imported at a cost of \$30,000. These are all jet black and of remarkable uniformity in size, weight and build. They are from five to seven years of age, about 15½ hands high, and weigh about 1,150 pounds each. While standing in the tent they are very docile and tractable, but when in the arena under the stimulus of the music and the whip, they are full of life and spirit and present a magnificent appearance.

Commodore Dot circulated among the audience and we only had time to dot down that he is the smallest man we ever saw.

The arena performance possesses many features worthy of mention, among which are the feats of the Miacos, Millie De Granville, the woman with the cast iron jaw, whom we wouldn't care to have "jaw" us more than once, the bareback riding of Lowande and his infant prodigy, Tony, and of Chas. Fish, the Tandem act of Miss Hengler with the two Trakene stallions, the act of Mons. Oscar with the six performing Trakene stallions, and several others. The ring performance was generally pronounced tip-top.

Mr. Barnum is fortunate in having for his press agent such a clever gentleman as Mr. Fred. Laurence. He takes pains to show the newspaper fraternity around and knows how to make them feel at home. We are indebted to him for courtesies and attention.

THE GATE CITY:

SUNDAY MORNING SEPT. 2, 1877.

The receipts of the bridge from vehicles and foot passengers on show day were \$164.40, which was just ten cents less than on the day Barnum was here the last time.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30.
1877

The Show.

Barnum's show has been here, and it is to be hoped that the patronage was large enough to satisfy the enterprising managers. The tents were crowded, good weather prevailed, and the performance was more than had been anticipated—so that altogether the show was a great success. No one can describe in detail the wonderful things which Barnum exhibits; the number and variety are so great that hours can be spent in the menagerie and museum tents alone, and the circus performance is better and longer than that given by any other troupes now traveling. It will well repay any one to witness the bareback riding of Fish and Lawondhe, the trials of strength by "the woman with

the iron jaw," and the skill and daring displayed by other artists. But even if there was nothing of this kind, the other attractions would, each, more than repay the expense of going to see the whole show. Among these are Capt. Costentenus, the Greek Albanian, who is tattooed from head to foot. He is the most wonderful curiosity in the world. Upon his body are over 500 representations of birds, animals, reptiles, human beings and hieroglyphics, done in indigo and cinnabar. The operation of tattooing took three months, ten hours every day, and the fearful punishment it was may be imagined from the fact that two other men tattooed at the same time that Capt. Costentenus was, died under the operation. That was fifteen years ago. The Captain has been with Barnum for eighteen months. He receives the patrons of the show pleasantly, but he don't like to be pinched by the incredulous who imagine he is painted.

Another wonder in the show is the hippopotamus, something which cannot be seen in every menagerie that comes along; and the giraffe, as well as other animals in this tent, are among the rarest of beasts. Barnum also has his stud of "Tarkene" stallions, which perform in the ring to the delight of everybody. In fact, there is nothing that he advertises which he does not show, and no one can visit his exhibition and go away and say he has been swindled by false representations. As he gets the largest audiences, he is fully entitled to them by the merits of his show, and the energy and courtesy of his agents and employes.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION.

KEOKUK, MONDAY, AUGUST 20. 1877

Barnum's Big Show.

"P. T. Barnum's New and Only Greatest Show on Earth" is moving this way, on three special trains of his own solid steel cars, and will pitch its acres of tents in Keokuk, Thursday, Aug. 30th. Everybody wants to know all about Barnum's big show, and it is easy to begin writing about it; but where to stop? "Aye, there's the rub!" For new features, fresh novelties and constantly arriving accessions roll in upon the bewildered reporter like a tidal wave, all seemingly deserving equal attention. There is enough of the rare and wonderful in each of the Museum, Menagerie and Circus divisions of the colossal unity to keep a fellow's pencil going all day at Zebra speed, and then get left far behind. Hoyle says: "When in doubt lead a trump," and as we are in a decided dilemma, we will get out of it by editorially leading a few only of the big trumps in Barnum's full pack of marvels, and trust the balance to the big bills and advertisements.

There are, then, the six superbly beautiful and wonderfully trained performing stallions, which have been the one great circus sensation of Europe, for which Mr. Barnum paid \$30,000 in gold, in Paris, and for whose equals in their line he offers \$50,000. They are introduced all together, by their distinguished trainer, Mons. Oscar St. Ormond, and simultaneously execute incredible feats of intelligence and agility. Added to these horse heroes are the

two magnificent stallions driven tandem, in an extraordinary original double manege act, by Miss Hengler, England's dauntless sidesaddle queen, and Mr. Barnum has another \$50,000 to present to her successful imitator. The "blue glass" theory is nowhere side of Capt. Georges Costentenus, who is blue all over, from the crown of his adventurous head to the soles of his restless feet, with tattooing inflicted as punishment for engaging in rebellion against a Chinese Tartar king. Such indisputable authority as Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes pronounces him a human marvel without a parallel, and Mr. Barnum has \$50,000 ready for half as blue and hieroglyphic a prodigy. Admiral Dot is so small that he can scarcely be seen in print. The only living Hippopotamus in America, which cost Mr. Barnum \$25,000 on the Nile, is a whole animal show alone. There are baby baboons, lions and camels, recently contributed by propitious Nature. The Great Lowande and Charles W. Fish, the unchallenged champion bareback rider, heads a \$2,000 per day company of equestrians, gymnasts and clowns. As for the Museum, "there's millions in it," and a multitude of manikins are kept moving by a silver steam engine. Elephants as big as hay-stacks draw golden chariots as large as houses through the streets, lions and anacondas are publicly performed in procession, and—and—well, more than ten times the price of admission is returned by the greatest show of the greatest showman that ever lived, and a distinguished lecturer, author and philanthropist to boot.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM P. T. BARNUM

To His Friends and Patrons in Keokuk and its Vicinity.

Relying on my reputation of half a century as a Manager of Innocent and Instructive Amusements, and appealing to my millions of patrons for proof, that no other manager ever dared to expend a tithe of the money which I lavishly pay out every year in extending my truly Colossal Combination of Curiosities and Performances, and in view of the numerous entirely new and marvelous features just imported from the old world, and never before seen on this continent, I most conscientiously declare that grand and expensive as some of my former exhibitions have been, they do not compare with my present one, which will exhibit at Keokuk on Thursday, August 30th, in all its overshadowing vastness, complete, undivided and unapproachable and which I claim by far the best, the most beneficial, and the greatest show on earth.

Please examine the wonder details, and the truly astonishing new attractions as announced through the press, and in my Illustrated News, programmes, posters, and advertisements. Also please remember that I never advertise a thing without exhibiting it, or make a promise without fulfilling it. This is my own and only show. I always, and in all places exhibit the whole of it, and the public may place implicit reliance upon the assurance that it will be exhibited here, precisely as presented in New York, Chicago,

your children a hundred miles to see, and returns ten times the price of admission in direction, "wonderful and enchanting, and friendless amazement to solid old fashioned easy reading." This Biblical Sellof design put on paper
An open & free

St. Louis, and all the large cities. I shall take pride in traveling with it, most of the season, in the most attractive and graceful manner. A million of dollars in the purchase of this Museum, Menagerie and Circus combination, etc. I assure you that it is North America with

KEOKUK

KEOKUK

THURSDAY, JULY 18th

Beautiful, Costly and Colossal Amusement Temple of the World!

COMING ON 3 SPECIAL TRAINS.

FIFTH TOUR OF THE CONTINENT BY RAILROAD!

A Congress of Bewildering Attractions!

10,000 Separate and Distinct Novelties!

The Earth, the Sea, the Sky, are all represented in

A VAST WILDERNESS OF EXHIBITION TENTS.

ONE TICKET ADMITS TO ALL!

W. W. COLE'S

Great New York and New Orleans

CIRCUS, MENAGERIE, MUSEUM

THE TALLEST MAN AND WOMAN ON EARTH

Capt *and* Mrs. M. V. BATES.

AT THEIR RECEPTION
BY HER MAJESTY
QUEEN VICTORIA.



Continued on page 198a

TOP LOADERS - 3225
LIGHT IMPRESSIONS
NY



And Congress of Living Wonders.

A Mammoth Museum!

A Stupendous Menagerie!

A Famous Circus!

W. W. COLE,

Sole Proprietor

The Proprietor of this vast and unparalleled consolidation of interesting and attractive features has for the season of 1878, through a life-long experience and a lavish outlay of money, the pleasure of placing before the public the GRANDEST EFFORT OF HIS LIFE, by procuring all the attainable novelties of the BRUTE CREATION from all

Continued on page 1281

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quarters of the world, and in connection therewith will be found the most conspicuous Riders, Gymnasts, Grotesque and Acrobatic Male and Female Artists to be found in any part of the world. This grand and classic entertainment is wholly exempt from the inelegancies and coarseness too frequently permitted in most of tent exhibitions. In this Great Show there is nothing ever presented that a gentleman would hesitate to bring his family to witness, or the most exacting take exceptions to.

Our Superiority over any other Show in America!

The Wonders and Beauties of Nature! Ocean Marvels! The Gaucho Horsemen of the Pampas! Superb Display of Arenic Prowess! Monarchs of the Rivers and Jungles of India, Africa and South America!

I CHALLENGE THE WORLD TO EQUAL MY NEW AND GREAT SHOW!

\$100,000

Worth of Golden Tableau Cars and Chariots, Extraordinary Features just added at an like Mountaintops of Burnished Gold in Sunlight. Expense, for the Season, exceeding

\$20,000

I have arranged with

THE TWO GIANTS!

Capt. M. V. BATES AND WIFE, to give their Levees in my Show.

They are the Tallest Man and the Tallest Woman living upon the face of the earth. Veritable Giants, towering above all mankind. Each are 8 feet high (lacking only one-half inch). Combined weight, one-half ton. They are recently from Europe, where they amazed all, including the Royal Family; now, for the first time, upon exhibition here, and at no extra charge—will be exhibited in my Main Tent. One Ticket admitting to Circus, Menagerie and Giants. I back my assertion with Ten Thousand Dollars that they are the Two Tallest People that at present exist, and that no authentic record can be brought of there ever having existed two people of such enormous size. Perfect in form and feature, they are undoubtedly now the Greatest Curiosities to be seen in the world.

LIVING ALASKA OCEANIC LIONS!

(The only Specimens of Real Fur Seals ever upon exhibition.)

Baby Elephants, Baby Camels, Baby Dromedaries,
Baby Sea Lions, Baby Leopards, A Herd of Elephants,
Den of Monster Serpents, (Some of which are 50 feet long.)

Baby Monkeys, Baby Lions, Baby Tigers,
The Walrus, A Drove of Bactrian Camels,
A Sea Elephant, Trained and Performing Wild Beasts,
(Captured in the South Sea.) (A specialty in this Great Show.)

30 CAGES, DENS AND CORRALS OF RARE AND CURIOUS ANIMALS!

THE MOST GORGEOUS STREET PAGEANT EVER SEEN!

More Wild Beasts, more Men and Horses, more Curiosities, Magnificent and Gorgeous Wardrobes, Heralds, Kings, Knights, Body-Guards, Ladies of the Court, Soldiers, Battlemen, Horseguards, clad in armor of Silver, Steel and Gold Platings, forming a SCENE OF SPLENDOR never before equalled.

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To Circus, Menagerie, Avairy, Museum, Aquarium, Giants, and Trained Animal Exhibitions of Wonders.

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1,200 Cushioned Opera Seats.

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Will also exhibit at CARTHAGE, Friday, JULY 19th, and QUINCY, Saturday, JULY 20th.



1985

Clues

WINTER 1966—VOL. 15 NO. 1

Editor:
JOHN J. DABROWSKI

CLUES is published by the Ford Division of Ford Motor Company and distributed by Ford Dealers. It provides helpful information to all truck owners, whether they drive Fords or trucks of any other make. CLUES is our way of thanking Ford owners for their business; others for their interest. Address: CLUES, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York.

One of the most spectacular, hazardous and enduring feats in show business is the human-missile act performed by the famous Zacchinis, who first developed it in Germany almost half a century ago.

Today its stars are Emanuel and Marcia Zacchini, grandchildren of the inventor of the act, Hildebrand Zacchini. Hildebrand developed the first "cannon" and was fired from it until 1922. His wife replaced him then and served as the human projectile until 1934 when his son, Emanuel, took over the chore until 1952. Emanuel himself developed the X-15 "double shot" rocket and trained his two children, Emanuel Jr. and Marcia, to act as the "space twins."

The cannon projects the acrobats with a force

THE ZACCHINI

ROCKET TWINS

—by ROBERT SIMMONS

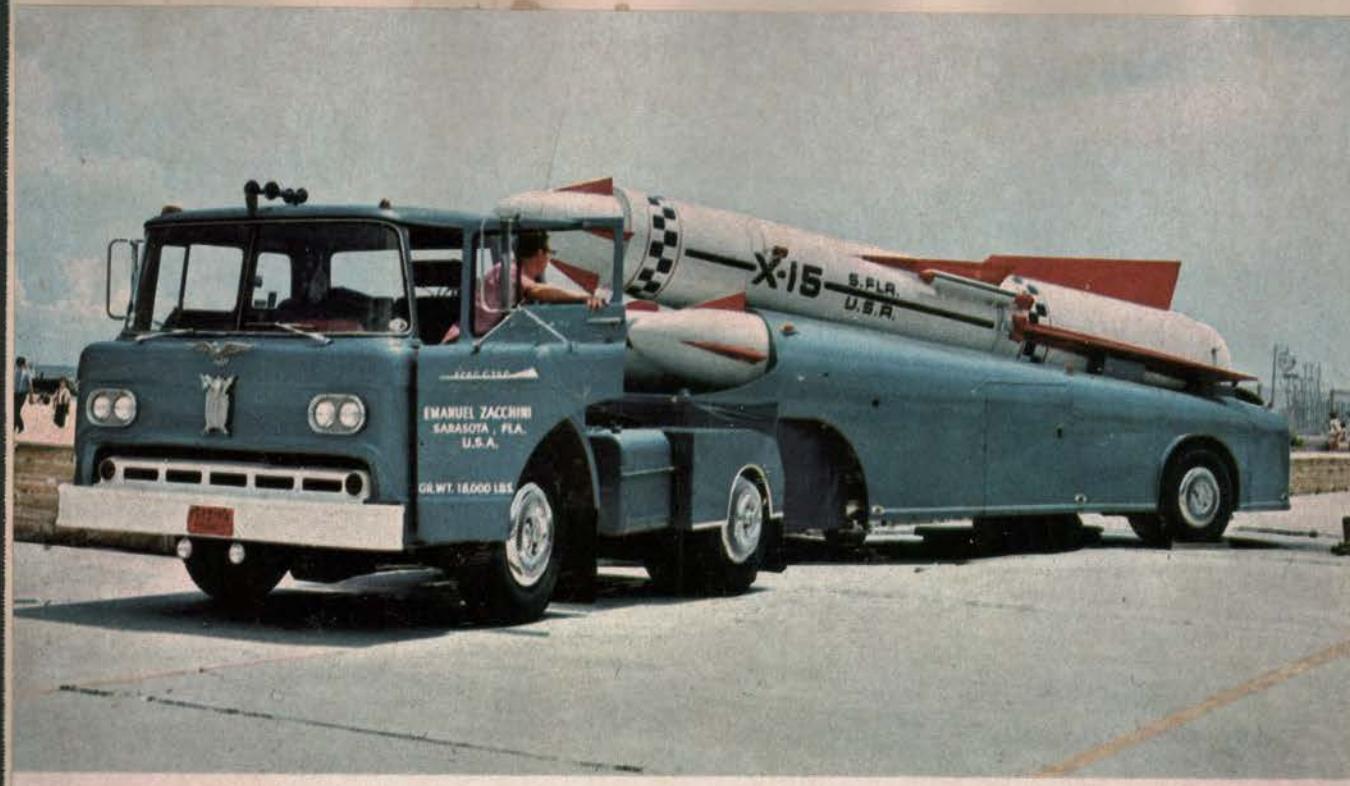
199

equivalent to eight "G's" and carries the performers at an initial exit speed of 125 miles per hour.

Emanuel Jr., a strapping 190-pound blond, is 21, and his attractive young sister, Marcia, is 19. This is their second season with the act, and so far neither has suffered a serious injury.

Each year the Zacchinis roll up thousands of miles touring the U.S. and Canada. For the ground they cover, they need a truck they can depend on every mile of the way. According to the elder Emanuel, their Ford C-750 comes through nicely. "What's more," he adds, "this Ford looks good, too. In show business, appearance is an asset to any act . . . including our own."





Arriving at New Orleans' Pontchartrain Beach midway, Emanuel Zacchini, Sr. backs the X-15 rocket on trailer, drawn by a Ford C-750, into position for night performance. Preparing for shot from rocket (left), Emanuel Jr. and sister Marcia walk toward muzzle of cannon. With an ear-shattering roar (below) the "Gemini Twins" streak across sky to landing net.



DAILY GATE CITY:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5, 1874.

COMING TO KEOKUK.—On Monday, the 24th, Adam Forepaugh's great combination of menagerie, museum and circus, is to exhibit here. There is not a tented exhibition in the world surpassing in magnitude and merit Forepaugh's world-famed show. The present is its eighth annual tour of the United States, and while it has visited every principal town and city in the West during that time, it has never honored Keokuk with a visit.

The establishment moves over the country with 1,000 men and horses, exhibits under eight combined centre pole tents, has 2,500 beasts and birds, prominent among which is a full grown living giraff, 10,000 pound rhinoceros, a double circus troupe, and the finest traveling museum in the United States.

The entire press east of the Mississippi pronounce it the largest and finest show in existence, and the first visit of this world-famed combination to this city, will be the event of the season.

DAILY GATE CITY.

TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 25, 1874.

FOREPAUGH'S SHOW.

Large Attendance and Fine Exhibitions

Forepaugh's Circus and Menagerie have come and gone. Nothing has attracted so much attention or excited such a curiosity to witness it since the advent of Barnum's show two or three years ago. Of the two we think those who went to see Forepaugh's were the best satisfied, as it evidently possesses more of genuine merit and makes comparatively less of its exhibition on the bill boards.

At an early hour, yesterday morning, the people from the country commenced to arrive in large numbers, and by 9 o'clock the streets were lined with teams and pedestrians. Shortly after this the procession made its appearance. This was unquestionably the finest street parade ever witnessed in Keokuk, and was of itself an exhibition worth going a considerable distance to see. The procession extended nearly the entire length of Main street, and many of the outfitts were extremely attractive.

The tents were spread on Eighth street, between Concert and High, and occupied pretty much the entire block. The Menagerie was exhibited under an oblong pavilion, supported by six center poles. The collection of wild animals is one, the equal of which has seldom if ever been shown here. It embraces such choice specimens of

the Zoological Kingdom as the African Eland Harbebeeste, African Bengal tigers, lion and lionesses, king kangaroo, Seyer leopard, rhinoceros, spotted and striped hyenas, panther, a huge African lion, a silver lion, black tiger, cub lions, moose, antelope, deer, ibex, black bear, sacred bull, Albino deer, wild hog, alapaca lama, white Polar bear, Indian sloth bear, zebra, lopus and, last but not least, the giraffe. The latter attracted much attention, as it is a curiosity rarely seen in these parts.

The elephants Romeo and Anna occupied a position in the center of the pavilion with the dromedaries and the Happy Family.

The automatic figures were fine exhibitions of mechanical skill and ingenuity.

The wax figures were admired by those who appreciate that kind of art. We don't belong to that number.

The arena exhibition was alike creditable and received its merited share of praise from those who witnessed it. The grand *entree* was a particularly brilliant and attractive achievement in that line. The trapeze performance was the most remarkable thing of the kind we have ever seen. The equestrian, acrobatic and gymnastic performances were also very fine and elicited much applause.

The circus pavilion, which probably seats from five to seven thousand people, was crowded both morning and evening, so that from twelve to fifteen thousand persons witnessed the Combination while here. From here it goes to Fort Madison. We take pleasure in commanding it to the public everywhere as one worthy of patronage.

THE CONSTITUTION.

By S. H. CLAGETT.

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1876.

Row at a Circus.

From a Keokuk traveling man who was in Albia last Monday when Cooper & Bailey's circus exhibited, we learn of a serious row that occurred. A miner approached the doorkeeper in company with a boy about 13 years old and wished to pass the lad in free. Of course, the doorkeeper refused. The miner's blood was hot, and during the wrangle that ensued he drew a revolver and fired at the doorkeeper four or five times. There was a dense crowd of people in the vicinity at the time, and as the bullets whizzed by the head of the man at the entrance and flew about among the crowd, they excited quite a panic. After the miner had emptied his weapon the man who takes the pasteboard, began to grow just a little out of patience, and pulling out his weapon he delivered one shot, which took effect in the miner's arm. The latter turned and fled, followed by a crowd of circus men who chased him behind a freight

car, and beat him nearly to death, with clubs.

The showmen were very uneasy that night, fearing a raid from the miners of the vicinity, whom, it was reported were about to descend on the show in force; but they didn't, and the circus got out of town without further trouble. The miner will recover from his injuries, and we can't help thinking he got just what he deserved. A man who will fire into a crowd of people, ought to feel thankful that he is not swung to the nearest tree.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1881.

PUBLISHED BY THE
KEOKUK CONSTITUTION COMPANY.

Blown From a Cannon.

Forepaugh's great combination of trained wild beasts, circus and menagerie, which is to exhibit on August 5th, will present one of the most daring sensations ever seen under canvass. It consists of what is technically known as the "cannon act," performed by the originator, Mr. George Loyal, assisted by the renowned French female gymnast Mlle Zulla. The New York Sun thus alludes to this feature in a recent issue: A cannon of tremendous size, mounted in a nearly upright position on a low truck, is hauled into the arena. Loyal climbs a ladder to the mouth of the cannon, and slides down into it until his head is only left visible. Zulla, who is an active and daring little French woman, climbs a rope up to a small trapeze at the top of the canvass and hangs by her feet head downward, with her arms extended. Loyal and Zulla wear solemn faces, and the spectators are wrought up to a feeling of dread.

"Fire!" cries Loyal.

An assistant touches off the cannon, there is an explosion, a flash of fire, a puff of smoke, and Loyal is shot to the top of the canvass, where Zulla, hanging head downward, catches him; they both descend to the arena, all the audience applauding.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1881.

Zulla's Leap for Life.

Ella Zulia, whose gymnastic feats have created such a furore all over Europe, during the past few months, has been engaged by Adam Forepaugh whose great combination of circus, menagerie, etc., will exhibit here on Friday, August 5th. While the heroic little woman is flying through space, blindfolded and enveloped in a sack, so perilous is the feat that many persons actually turn away and cannot witness it. After performing

the perilous blindfold trapeze feat, Mme. Zuila, with the agility of a squirrel, after darting around in mid-air for a moment, seats herself upon a broad board that is arranged for her near the top of the canvas, sixty feet from the multitude of upturned faces below. After carefully viewing the situation for a moment, she drops her handkerchief as a signal that she will soon follow, and in a moment bounds head foremost through space, and in her rapid descent turns a somersault in mid-air, and finally lands safely in the net that is stretched a few feet above the ground.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, MONDAY, JULY 25. 1851.

Colossal Collection of Wild Beasts.

The following is a list of some of the rare animals exhibited at Forepaugh's Great Show, which will be here on the 5th of August: Horse antelope, Australian emu, Peruvian llama, sable antelope, black African rhinoceros, hippopotamus or behemoth, birds—Spanish macaws, cockatoos, parrots, etc., tiger cat, happy family—dogs, rabbits, cats, monkeys, etc., horned horse, Australian kangaroo, shetland cow, ibex, casua, a rare bird from Africa, giraffe, Albanian white deer, royal Bengal tiger, South American panther, California lion, lioness cub, born at Louisville, two years ago, sea lions, white Polar bear, Palestine sheep, China deer, musk deer, two cub bears, South American tapir, Asiatic yak, sacred bull, zebra, African eland, a large species of antelope, sea cow, or water buffalo, African cugmuck, river hog, web-footed, very rare, Pacific or musk cat, honey, or sloth bear, very rare, grizzly bear, large tableaux lion, spotted hyena, jauger, black leopard, gold or spotted leopard, striped hyena, two species, three African lions and three royal Bengal tigers, all in one cage, twenty trained elephants, twelve dromedaries, drove of Shetland ponies, one hundred different species of monkeys, pythons, boa constrictors, and many other rare animals and birds, the whole forming the very largest and best menagerie on the continent.

A Mother Wheeling Her Infant Across a Wire, 100 Feet From the Ground.

Forepaugh's specialties are all they are advertised to be, and all unusually attractive in their own peculiar way, but perhaps none more so than the thrilling performances on the high wire by Madame Zuila, the French lady gymnast in the wheelbarrow act. A wire is stretched 100 feet above the ground and the performance referred to consists in wheeling her little daughter Lula, in a barrow along this wire, across the arena! When everything was in readiness, obedience to a sign from her mother, the little one picked up a basket of flowers and clambered into the

clumsy vehicle as composedly as though it were her baby carriage, and she about to be trundled across the park. The little one is wheeled up and down the wire, and the whole performance is simply blood-curdling. On August 5th, Forepaugh's great show is to exhibit here, and all who attend have an opportunity of witnessing Zuila in her wonderful act.

JULY 25, 1851. cont.

KEOKUK CONSTITUTION

KEOKUK, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18.

CITY NEWS.

An exchange says the cannon trick in Forepaugh's show was badly given away at Prairie City, Illinois, the other day. When the performance of shooting the man from the cannon was announced the powder did not ignite. The spring worked however, and the man got into the air and was caught by a woman who hung from trapeze for the purpose. The spectators who really believed that the force of the gunpowder was what sent the man flying into the air were in breathless suspense awaiting the deafening report.

THE GATE CITY:

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 23.

HORRIBLE OUTRAGE.

A fourteen-year-old Girl, in Pennsylvania, Dragged into a Circus Tent and Repeatedly Outraged by Fiends Belonging to the Show.

PITTSBURG, July 22.—The proprietors and fifty attaches of Boyd & Peters' circus have been arrested here, charged with the horrible crime of abducting and outraging Miss Salome Burkitt, aged 14 years. Her testimony shows that she was forcibly dragged into the tent, and under savage threats compelled to submit to treatment too outragous to chronicle. The men repeatedly outraged her in turn, until she was rendered insensible. Her story, as told in court was straightforward and convincing. She recognized three of the men in court. All of the prisoners were bound over to July 30th. The excitement at Somerset, Miss Burkitt's home, is intense, and the friends of her father have raised funds to prosecute the fiends. The unfortunate girl was found partially demented on the road to Somerset.

WEEKLY PLAIN DEALER.

Cleveland, Ohio

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W. E. MCLAREN, Local Editor.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1853.

[For the Daily Cleveland Plain Dealer.]

THE BITER BITTEN;
Or, Dan Rice and the Hoosier.

Like all other celebrities, Dan has some funny tales afloat about him. Among others is the following. Connected with his hippodrome he has two comic trained mules, whose performances are the source of a great deal of amusement to the visitors of his show.

One of these animals, both of which are very small and active, Dan has trained to throw all who mount him, and it is his usual practice to invite some one of the audience to show his equestrian abilities by riding the donkey,—sometimes offering a reward to any who will attempt it,—which generally results in an amusing scene to the audience, and ends by the adventurous individual's being thrown, which is of course the climax of the joke.—None enjoys the whole proceeding more than the great clown himself. But once in a while the mule meets with a hard customer, on which occasion Dan becomes a little excited.

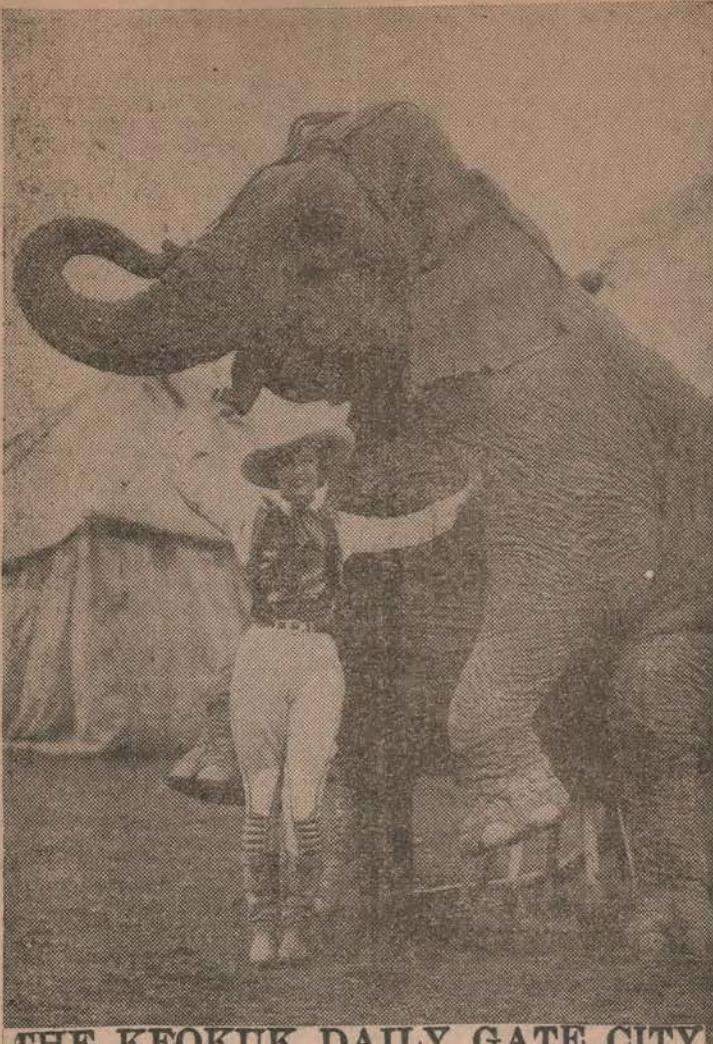
On the occasion we are about to mention, the mules were brought in as the after piece. Among the audience was a tall, lank, and awkward looking individual, who, by reason of sundry imbibings of spiritual comfort, had become a little joyful and up to fun, and after one or two boys had been thrown, concluded he would like to try a chance with the mule. So he stepped into the ring, and asked Dan's permission to mount. He received it, and mounted, and mid the laughter of the audience rode around the ring. Suddenly the mule paused in his mad career, and our adventurer found himself on the ground, where he had been safely landed, he could not exactly tell now. Nothing daunted, however, he wished to try again, and being somewhat spunk, pulled out his pocket book, and offered to bet \$25 that the mule could not throw him a second time. Yielding to the cries of the audience, and his own love of fun, Dan accepted the wager, and the money was staked. The Hoosier was once more seated, and this time wound his long legs beneath the belly of the animal, and off he started around the ring.

Contrary, however, to all expectation he resisted every effort of the mule to dismount him. Dan became excited. The mule turned and twisted, jumped, ran at full speed, stopped suddenly, jerked, and did everything he could to throw his rider; but like an incubus he stuck to him. Dan was completely at fault, stopped his efforts, and scratching his head, looked first at his mule and then at the rider, the donkey seeming to strive to convey to his master the idea that he thought this time they had caught a Tartar. At a signal from Dan, the mule suddenly dropped on the ground, and rolling over and over, strove thus to rid himself of his tormentor. But like the old man in Sindbad the Sailor, he still clung to him. At last the mule gave it up as a bad job, and rising to his feet doggedly refused to make another effort, while the Hoosier very composedly put the tip of his thumb to the end of his nose, and working his digits, while with the other hand he performed sundry hand organ gyrations in the air, mumbled out "you can't come it old hoss, so hand over the flimseys."

Dan, with a most comical, lugubrious countenance, in which good nature and vexation struggled for the mastery, acknowledged himself beaten, and giving the money to the winner, shook hands with him, and invited him to his boat after the performance. With loud huzzas for Dan Rice and his mule, of which the Hoosier came in for a share, the audience departed, and the last that was seen of the jester and his new friend, they were arm in arm, searching for a place where they could procure something to drink to a better acquaintance.

"THE GREAT DUST HEAP CALLED HISTORY."
R. J. BICKEL, KEDRUK, IOWA.

Vacations With Her Father's Circus



THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

Not every young lady just out of college has the chance to spend her summer vacation months on the road with a circus. It so happens that Ruth Mix, daughter of the famous cowboy star, Tom Mix, has that opportunity, and Ruth makes the most of it, for she is considered to be a grand little trouper besides, she can ride, rope and handle a gun in real Mix style. Ruth Mix will be in Keokuk with the Tox Mix circus, Friday, July 29.

JULY 25, 1938

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY

TOM MIX HERE WITH CIRCUS ADMITS FILM ROLES LURE HIM TO COME BACK

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1938

In an exclusive interview with The Gate City—this morning Tom Mix stated that in all probability he will not disappoint his thousands of young admirers by withdrawing from moving pictures entirely, but expects to enter the picture game again this winter. "The Life of Sam Houston" will probably be the story filmed with his taking the leading role as there has been a nation wide demand for this film.

Mix also told of how many of the scenes in the modern pictures are faked to give the motion picture public the extraordinary

and spectacular scenes. In an underwater fight, he told, the men battling are on one side of a large glass tub which is filled with water and a few small fish and the camera is on the opposite side. In a canoe upset in one of his pictures, he grappled with the villain of the picture for some time presumably under the water, but did not have to hold his breath because of the picture being taken in this manner and in fact did not even get wet. He went on to tell that there are about 15 camels in Los Angeles

and yet the public sees herd after herd of them on the screen; there is very little reality in the modern picture, Mix says, even the scenery being faked. Herds of buffalo are taken at long distance shots with wild cattle from some of the ranges in the west wearing a pad on their backs while a herd of approximately 150 buffaloes are used for close-up shots.

AT ST. LOUIS FAIR

Tom Mix has been in the amusement world since a lad of 12 and was in his first circus at the World's fair held in St. Louis in 1904; in 1905 he joined with a wild west show and played at the larger fairs throughout the country and joined his first road show in 1906, becoming a trouper in the Walter L. Main shows. He was three years with Sells-Floto circus and has owned his own show for about the last five years. Mix says that the responsibility of owning a circus is a heavy strain both mentally and physically and that if the show ran longer than the usual six months he fears that the ordinary man would break under said strain.

It had been two years since Mix made a picture, his last film being "Miracle Riders," a serial. He was unable to appear in pictures last year as his business contacts and large ranches kept him too busy as well as desiring a little rest in the off months from the circus schedule.

IS PHILOSOPHER

Mr. Mix is quite a philosopher, able to discuss present day affairs from the motion picture industries to politics with a knowledge rarely found in even the highest class of troupers. He travels in a \$38,000 palace on wheels which has every comfort and convenience of the modern home including a sitting room, bathroom, kitchenette and dining room all elaborately equipped.

The show is not as might be thought, just a wild west affair, but incorporates three rings under a huge tent seating 7,000, aerial acts, clowns and gives a well balanced performance with neither too much going on in the top of the tent to offset the ground work or vice versa. Tony, Mix's famous horse, being 34 years of age is spending his old age on Mix's Arizona ranch, but is represented by Tony Jr. Miss Ruth Mix, 22-year-old daughter of the famous Tom, performs on Tony Jr., displaying her extraordinary inherited horsemanship while Tom Mix rides a beautiful white steed, "Warrior."

DAILY GATE CITY

JULY 27, 1938

Mix Here On Friday With His Own Show

There is only one Tom Mix. He will be in Keokuk next Friday

heading his own big circus, America's most beautiful 3 ring show. In fairness to this famous personage he has no namesake or relatives in the motion picture business or with any circus, other than his 22 year old daughter, Ruth Mix who appears with the Tom Mix circus. Any person using the name of Mix to beguile the public are merely imposters, according to Tom Mix's personal representative, Joe Bowers, who is in Keokuk today arranging for the star's appearance here Friday.

The Tom Mix circus is 6 times larger than a 20 car railroad show, employs 400 people, hundreds of horses and presents new and brilliant features from almost every land.

The big top accommodates 10,000 spectators. Two electrical lighting plants are used to illuminate the interior and circus grounds. Uniformed ushers are in constant attendance to cater to ladies and children. The circus brings its own postmaster, hospital, with a doctor and nurse, a barber shop, two blacksmith shops, feeds its army of employees three times daily and during the course of the season will travel 22,000 miles in a coast to coast trek from border to border.

Mix rides his newest mount, Warrior, a 4 year old Arabian thoroughbred, trained and broken by Johnny Agee, noted horseman, whose boyhood home was Canton, Mo. The circus uses a hundred handsome show horses.

Feature acts include the Riding Clarks, the Flying Arbaughs, the Aerial Arleys, the Ray Goody trio of high wire dancers, Irma Ward, noted aerial gymnast, the Moreno Savillo troupe, Les Cotelletis troupe of equilibristic marvels and scores of other features.

THE GATE CITY
MONDAY, OCT. 14, 1940

TOM MIX KILLED AS CAR OVERTURNS

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Oct. 14—(P)—There's sadness in the low country today—grief among thousands who were are small-boy followers of western movies—heartaches through Hollywood. Tom Mix is dead.

The nation's cowboy No. 1 was killed Saturday when his automobile overturned at high speed, near Florence, Ariz. Mix, 60, was on his way from Tucson to Florence as advance agent for a circus. In the car and on his body authorities found jewels, \$6,000 in cash and \$1,500 in travelers' checks.

Paul Mantz, aviator friend of the actor, brought the body to Hollywood. It will lie in state all day tomorrow, and will be buried at Forest Lawn cemetery in nearby Glendale on Wednesday.

Star Clowns in Big Circus Have Slight Edge on Mates

THE KEOKUK DAILY GATE CITY



SATURDAY, AUG. 20, 1938

There are clowns and clowns, but there are no wide gaps in laugh-getting ratings among the funmakers of the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Flooty combined circus coming to Keokuk Tuesday, Aug. 23. This season, for the first time in history, this great amusement enterprise is augmented with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey stupendous new features and for this reason the 70 chalk-faced comics must have what it takes before they waddle into the great hippodrome track.

Clowns come to the largest circus from European music halls and permanent circuses, from the Argentine and from Mexico and from American vaudeville, but none has ever come from the Orient, although the unconscious clowning of a Hindu wire artist once won more laughs in Madison Square Garden than the famed "rabbit-dog" and the clown hunters. That is, it did until the management informed the Hindu that he was there to thrill and not to amuse.

But, as was said above, there is no great difference in artistry between the star clowns and the supporting clowns, for all are professionally capable and seasoned. However, there is no denying that the stars have an edge on the rank and file, and that's why they get top pay and attention.

With more than 450 men and women circus stars of international fame and a host of amazing new features never before witnessed in America, the big show will give performances at 2 and 8 p. m., with the new spectacle, introducing Bring 'Em Back Alive Frank Buck. The doors will open at 1 and 7, allowing a full hour's time in which to view the world's largest traveling menagerie.

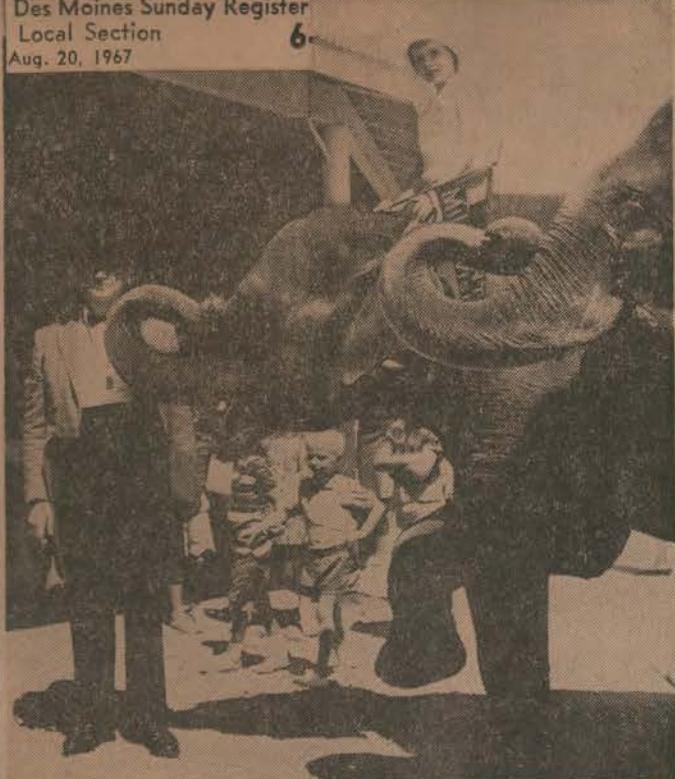
GARGANTUA IN TOWN



This giant gorilla, Gargantua the Great, and one of the world's most terrifying living creatures is paying his first visit to Keokuk today. Along with some 10,000 other marvels the giant primate arrived in town with the Al G. Barnes and Sells-Floto combined circus, through recent augmentation with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, now the greatest show on earth. Gargantua the Great weighs nearly 500 pounds. He travels in

a nine ton air conditioned cage. His arm spread is nine feet and his teeth ring, for he's only seven years old and may live to be 20, is a truck tire. The big fellow, for his daily diet downs 16 bananas, a dozen oranges, several heads of lettuce, six large onions (of which he is very fond), and half a crate of celery. For a wash-down he tosses off three quart sized milk shakes. Only meat he ever eats is a half pound of calf's

liver brought to the boil. Despite the fact he lives on vegetables, fruit and milk he's no sissy. Bring 'Em Back Alive' Frank Buck, who introduces the great hulk at each performance, estimates he has the strength of 27 men. And the circus takes no chances. Although Gargantua the Great is behind chilled steel bars and panes of non-shatterable glass, six guards, armed with high powered rifles, patrol night and day outside his moving Alcatraz.



Little Iowan Is Circus Guest

A little Iowa girl, Elaine Sparrow, 6, of Zearing, had a big day recently at the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wis., when she became the "one-millionth visitor" as she walked through the gates. Elaine, her two sisters and two brothers and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sparrow, were guests that day of the museum. Among Elaine's treats — she sat atop the trained elephant, Topsy, steered the goats in the circus parade, had her picture taken with a clown. The Circus World Museum, which opened in 1959, is owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin as a nonprofit organization. On the grounds are colorful collections of circus wagons, exhibits and displays from historic circuses, a trained animal circus. There are steam calliope concerts.

Wisconsin Fete For Circus Stamp

DELAVAN, WIS. (AP) — The five-cent circus stamp, commemorating an entertainment tradition reaching back into the vanished world of wagon shows and the big top, went into the mail Monday with an appropriate flourish.

"It was in Delavan that the circus as we know it today developed into the greatest show on earth," Assistant Postmaster General Richard Murphy said at opening of the two-day program honoring this southern Wisconsin community as "mother of circuses."

Addressing some 1,400 youngsters and 200 circus buffs, Murphy said the Post Office Department "had to do a lot of tightrope walking" in picking the cradle of the big show.

Delavan won out over five other strong contenders — Baraboo, Wis.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Sarasota, Fla.; Venice, Fla., and Somers, N.Y. — for the honor of putting its name on first day cancellations.



Des Moines Sunday Register
Nov. 12, 1967
General Section

5-G

'Greatest Show' Changes Owners

ROME, ITALY (AP) — Among the ruins of Rome's Colosseum, birthplace of the circus, "The Greatest Show on Earth" — Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey — changed owners Saturday.

The circus was sold after 97 years of Ringling family ownership to Judge Roy Hofheinz of Houston, Tex., and Irvin and Israel Feld, of Washington D.C., for a price described as "in excess of \$10 million."

The new owners said that the name of the circus would be retained and that John Ringling North, the former owner, would continue as producer and Henry Ringling North would continue as vice-president. The offices will be transferred to Washington, D.C., where the Feld brothers have operated the Carter Barrow Amphitheater for the last 14 years.



The Daily Gate City

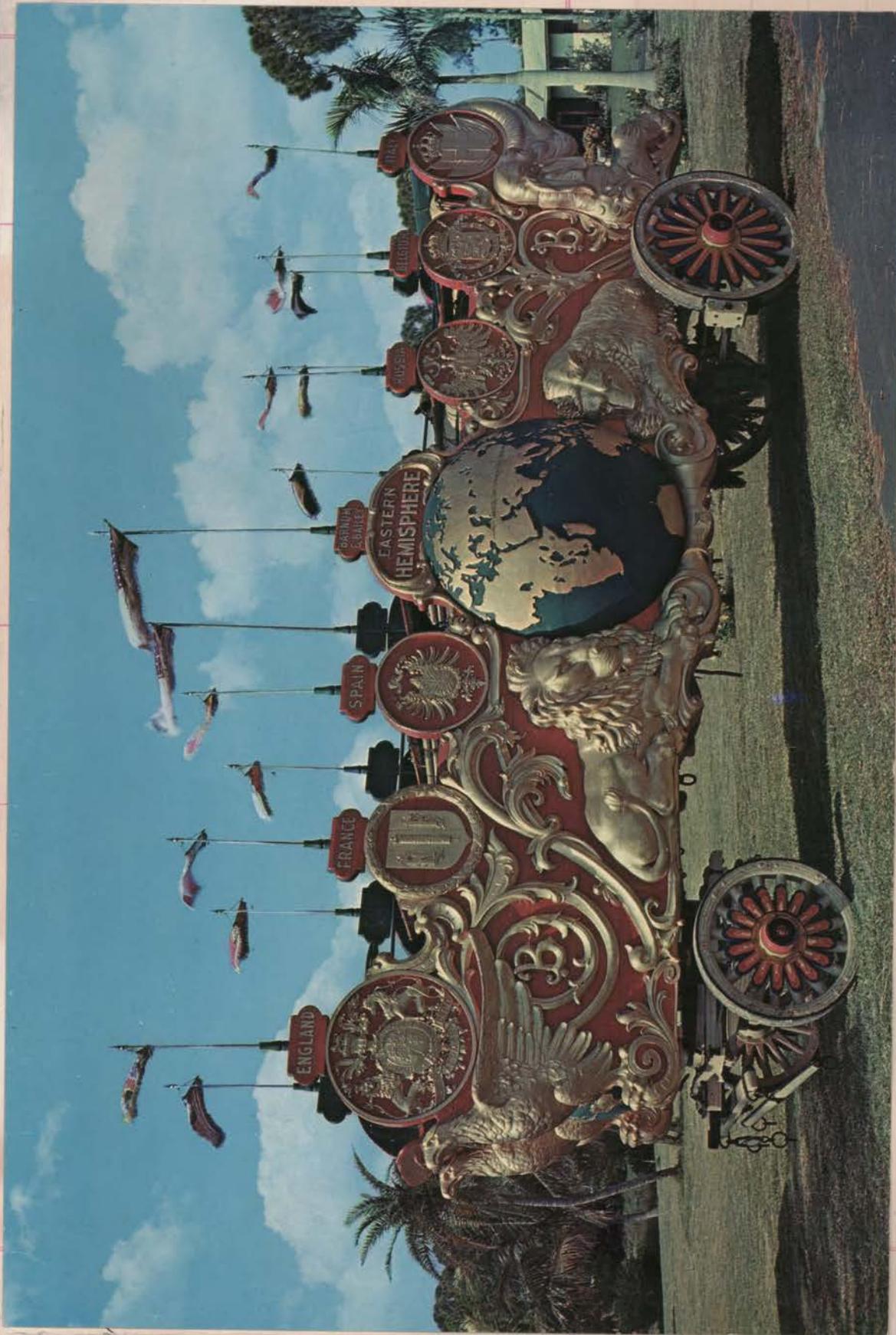
KEOKUK, IOWA

TUESDAY, NOV. 14, 1967 — 5

"THE GREATEST SHOW" CHANGES HANDS — John Ringling North, right, signs an agreement in Rome turning over Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus, "The Greatest Show on Earth," to new ownership. In center is Judge Roy Hofheinz of Houston, Tex., and at left is Irvin Feld of Washington, D.C., two of the new owners. The signing took place among the ruins of Rome's Colosseum, birthplace of the circus. The lion cub was given by North to the new owners as a symbolic gift. (AP Wirephoto via cable from Rome)

THE GREAT CIRCUS HAD A HISTORY
R. J. BICKEL KEOKUK, IOWA

The Two Hemispheres Bandwagon on display at the CIRCUS HALL OF FAME in Sarasota, Florida. It is the largest circus wagon ever built and was drawn by 40 horses. Featured in every Barnum & Bailey street parade from 1902 to 1918. It was a gift to the Circus Hall of Fame from Col. B. J. Palmer.



leeder los.

Despite his awkward appearance, the camel can gallop at 35 miles an hour. But camel races have never been a common circus feature. Mounting and dismounting a camel is hard, slow, and dangerous if the animal is unwilling. Trained camel acts are seldom seen because the beast is obstinate and rather unintelligent. The camel proved the most useful in the circus's great street parades. It especially added color to the colossal pageant — known as "the spectacle" — with which the tent circus began.

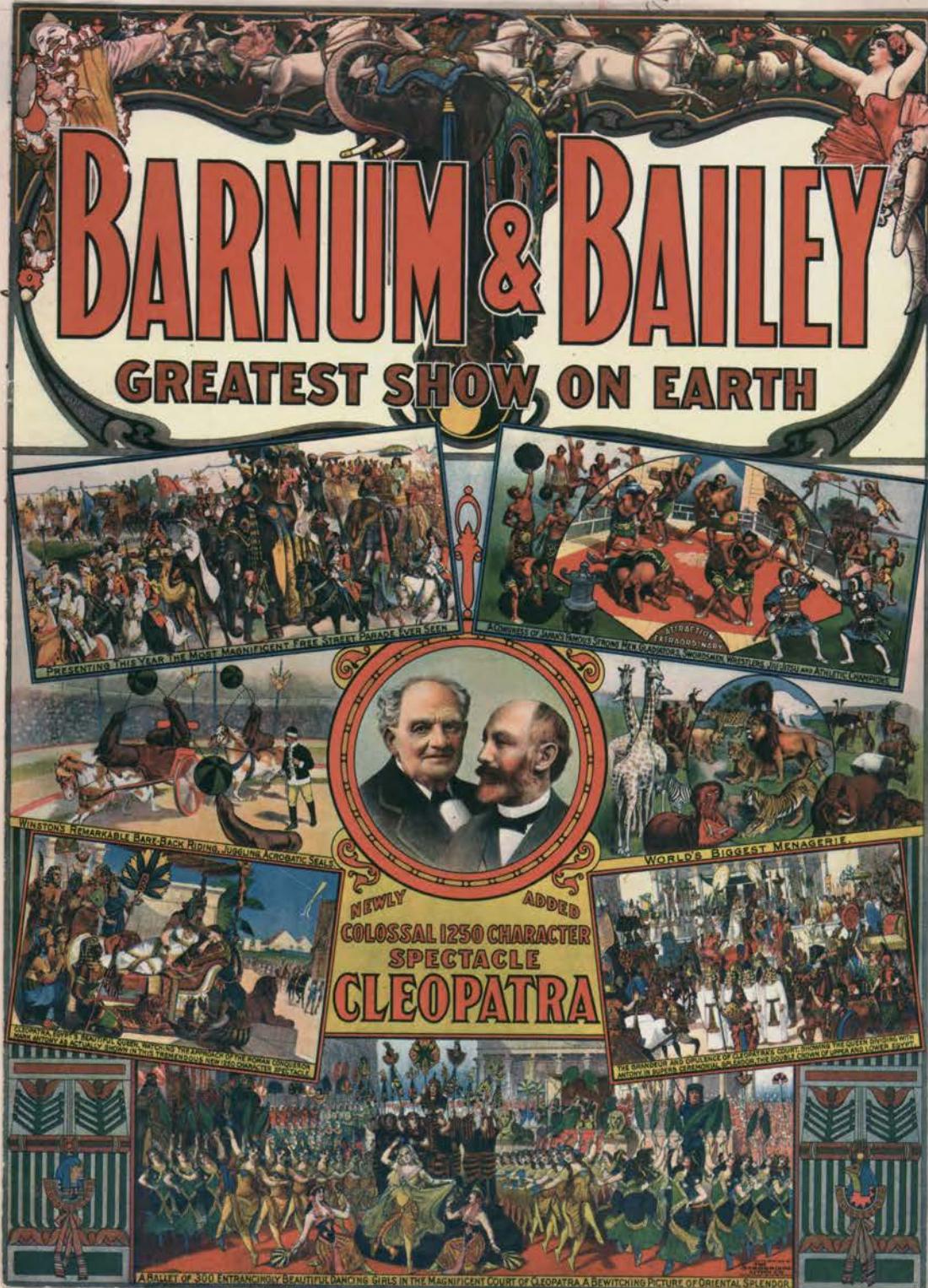
SELLS BROTHERS' ENORMOUS UNITED SHOWS.

MAGNIFICENT THREE RING CIRCUS.
FIVE CONTINENT MENAGERIE, HUGE ELEVATED STAGES.
AUSTRALIAN AVIARY, AFRICAN AQUARIUM,
ROMAN HIPPODROME,
SPECTACULAR PAGEANTS, ARABIAN CARAVAN AND
TRANS-PACIFIC WILD BEAST EXHIBIT.

CAMEL RACES A UNIQUE AND INTERESTING DISPLAY, NEVER WITNESSED IN AMERICA OUTSIDE THIS EXHIBITION. EXEMPLIFYING THE CAPACITY OF THESE BEASTS FOR CARRYING, AS WELL AS THEIR EXTRAORDINARY BURSTS OF SPEED.

THE GREAT SELL'S BROTHERS CIRCUS
R. L. BROWN ALASKA, 1074

As with big stock brokerage firms, the name Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey came about through many mergers. The circus began with P. T. Barnum, who started his first road show at the age of 61. Called the "prince of humbug" by his rivals, Barnum merged his show with James A. Bailey's in 1880. The Ringling Brothers purchased Barnum & Bailey in 1907. Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey led the way in streamlining and modernizing "the greatest show on earth." It was the first circus to use portable grandstands, the first to operate its own electric power plant and, sadly, the first to fold its tent and move indoors.



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Balancing and tumbling acts, like those of the Paldrens, have been a part of the circus throughout its history. The Great Unus once captivated audiences by balancing on his index finger. The Rubio Sisters became famous for the upside-down ballet they performed while standing on one hand. Bruno Weise balanced a pole 30 feet in height on his shoulder — not touching it or using any kind of brace — while two boys shinned to the top to stand on their heads. Alfred Fullgrapp was a master of the "Risley Act"— lying on his back with his feet upraised, he balanced and tossed not one, but two companions.



THE GREAT DUSH HEAP CALLED HISTORY
R. A. BICKEL HEOKUK, IOWA

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