

20th Day of Fire, 2150 Fire - Daukas - Farazar - 2150

- Published & Edited by Ellytinkin Twinfirbling -

CAPITAL THREATENED



Sardian troops settle in for the siege of Denhaven now having secured their supply lines from the sea.

DENHAVEN UNDER THREAT (Denhaven, 20th of Fire, 2150)

Communications from our correspondent in Denhaven brings us dire news this morning, with a report that the Sardian army has moved troops to within ten miles of the capital. Following the surrender of Sunhillow, the Sardians were quick to secure the region and take control of Sunhillow's port. On the 12th of Fire, two units that had so far been held in reserve in Gablehead were landed in Sunhillow; they are the Legion of the Grey Wolf and the Khazlin Guard (the Chancellor's personal regiment). The Grey Wolf was deployed south toward Denhaven, along with the Legions of the Sundered Skull, the Black Widow and the Red Dragon. The Khazlin Guard have remained in Sunhillow to protect the Sardian supply lines from any threat from the Paladin Order of the Knights of Glory – the Elkian elite troops stationed at Thungar, in the east.

It has been reported that the Sardian's commanders had been finding it difficult to



supply their men after the Imperial State intervened in the siege of Darringmoor and cut offall bridges along the Furlflow River. Since the middle of the last March, Sardian patrols have been raiding villages in the southern protectorates for food. However, with the capture of Sunhillow port facility, supplies are now coming by sea.

The Sardian Legions that are advancing on Denhaven have met no opposition, as Lord Protector Farradain has ordered all elements of the Elkian army to rally at Denhaven. As of the 14th of Fire, 5,000 loyal Elkians had arrived in the city and their captains have been in council with the Lord Protector to iron out their strategy for engaging the Sardians. Ambassadors have also been sent to the Imperial State, Llan and the Grant of Lyrie to seek an alliance with our neighbours against the Sardian threat. The Council of Twelve has received no formal response from the Trezkillian Lords of Zaramoor with regards to their support for the war, despite being given a deadline of the 10th Fire by the Lord Protector. It must be assumed that they intend to ally

with a solution. To aid in its fair and equable distribution, this fire retardant paste is rationed to one large pot per family dwelling and a small pot per single. It is suggested that those parts of your dwelling that have no Thirrish visibly present be retouched first and a quick recoat of other parts after, to make our stock last longer. MARCH OF FIRE READINESS with their kin from Sard.

The last news from our correspondent in Denhaven had the Sardians positioned along the Muddlefish Brook just west of Trannish and some ten miles north of Denhaven. They have ceased their march on the capital and appear to be fortifying their position and awaiting the arrival of siege engines that are travelling along the west coast roads. It may also be possible that they are waiting for the Lords of Zaramoor to mobilise and attack join in with a coordinated attack on Denhaven, striking from the south. Things are very tense in the Elkian heartlands and many villagers are fleeing to Denhaven for the protection of the Lord Protector's forces, while others are travelling west and seeking out boats to take them across the Passage of Thungar to the Grant of Lyrie.

[Editor's Note: I have been informed by spies we have in Sunhillow that the Khazlin Guard, who are based there, were accompanied by a number of government officials from Gablehead and that one of them is no other than Grand Chancellor Kharichaan, leader of the Sardian nation, who has come to personally oversee the siege of Denhaven. This is yet to be confirmed – Ellie.]

SARDIAN PRISONERS TAKEN Darringmoor, 19th of Fire, 2150)

Thirteen Sardian soldiers arrived in Darringmoor last night; prisoners under the escort of operatives of the Ormocean Church. We are unable to disclose the names of these heroic individuals at this time due to the security concerns of Saint Farwick. The Sardians were part of a larger force that was involved in looting resources from our southern communities that were engaged by the Ormoceans at Little Briddip, Protectorate of Ainslyn, on the 13th Fire. The Sardians were defeated in a pitched battle and amongst the prisoners taken was a Trezkillian Commander. The prisoners are being held for interrogation in the city dungeons.

Saint Farwick commented, "This is an example of how the hand of Ormocea is at work defeating our enemies. Be they the living or the dead, the Lawgiver is watching over us and it is only a matter of time before his wrath is brought down on all who would bring evil to our land."

Price: 1/4 Copper Piece Fire - Daukas - Farazar - 2150



Fenchy Ganaddams lost through grievous murder.

BARBAROUS MURDER NALOT, Pt LYRIE (Port Lyric, 18th of Fire, 2150)

To the Editor of the Darringmoor Dart, via the Port Lyrie Trireme -In the usually quiet town of Nalot, south of Pt Lyrie by 12 miles, was on Gaidezar evening drawn into a state of intense excitement owing to a report being current that a horrid murder had been committed on a child named Fenchy Ganaddams, between seven and eight years of age. The rumour, upon enquiry, unhappily turned out to be both too true, and, yet sadly still, not.

From particulars obtained and which can be relied on, it seems that three ×Gnomes×, the deceased Fenchy Ganaddams, her younger sister and a visiting relative, named Wangefrecket and approximately the same age as the deceased (which is to say, between 45 and 50), had been lodging temporarily in the respectable public house, Nalot Oakton, and had been examining ferns and lesser flowers in Flood Meadow, at the back of Mr Terririe's tanning yard, a distance of some 400 yards from their abode, when they were accosted between one and two o'clock in the afternoon by a Mr Derric Baffart, a young man of great respectability, clerk to Messrs Meclent & Son, Bonds And Legal Draftsmen, of that town. It appears that Baffart offered the deceased a small antique bracelet to go with him up to a hollow, or old road, leading to the village of Slethon, by the side of a hop garden, and to Wangefrecket was a silver piece given to take the younger sister away and not to come with him and the deceased. Fenchy took the bracelet but declined going with him to the place mentioned, whereupon Baffart took hold of her hand and led her away crying. The two gnomes, not knowing the area, were left wandering about the fields until about ten ASR when they returned to their lodgings.

Her Worshipful Lady Mayor of Darringmoor, Leafrina Hillbone.

A WORD FROM OUR MAYOR (Darringmoor, 20th of Fire, 2150)

As we are nearing the height of the March of Fire, we here at the Council Chambers would like to remind the public to be ever vigilant. Sound the alarm at the first sign of fire or an imminent meteor strike. This will enable our ready volunteers to commence bucket brigades immediately. There is no need to remind you that time is of the essence when dealing with fires.

Remember, as Thirrish has been in limited supply this March of Fire, we have come up

The city guards have asked that the following be readied at all times in the case of fire strike emergency during this March. - Two full buckets water be left outside each

- 1 wo nui duckets water de ien outside each doorway

- All drinking troughs to be maintained at full capacity for the entire season

- Large basket of thick woolen blankets

Bucket brigade practice is a dawn and dusk every day during the season. All able bodied persons are expected to attend in your street. Directions will be given to you by assigned local militia. This is a short drill but essential for our readiness, as anyone who has lost a home to fire would be able to attest to.

Our wonderful Esmian clerics, ever [cont. over]



A Mrs Gardener, residing in the locality, saw them return without Fenchy and wished to know where the deceased was. Wangefrecket replied that she was gone with Baffart up to the hollow mentioned, and was now a cause of concern for the pair remaining as they had been lost in the interim. Mrs Gardener communicated with the Landlord of the Nalot Oakton what the "children" had told her concerning Fenchy, and they started together to search for the missing "girl". After proceeding, they met Baffart returning to the town, close by a gate which separates the hop garden from the meadow. Mrs Gardener enquired of Baffart what he had done with the "child" to which he replied "Nothing". She then said [cont. over]

THROUGH ADVERSITY WE GROW



This page is dedicated to the **Shadow Task Force** and important information pertaining to our new Undead Policy.

In our current situation, the individual's best interests are indistinguishable from the city's best interest. Those who would use individual speech to sabotage the interests of all, will face the

Shadow Court to explain their actions.

Yours in the Light, Saint Farwich Castifin Ormocean Church, Shadow Taskforce

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COURT of SHADOWS REPORT

PREVIOUS RESTRICTIONS

Reporting

Any strange occurrences are to be reported immediately to the **Shadow Task Force** which has a clearly marked booth in the Darringmoor Holy Markets. In particular, people acting peculiarly, suspicious barrels, and strange lights. Further investigations of this information will be followed up by the newly formed Shadow Task Force office in the Holy Market Compound. Failure to report will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face the **Court of Shadows**.

Missing people are to be continued to be reported to the Missing Persons section of the city guards as previously. Failure to do so will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face the **Court of Shadows**. Time and date of flashes of Esmian Wedding Iars must be recorded and immediately taken to the **Shadow Task Force**. Failure to do so will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face the **Court of Shadows**.

Controlled Items

Embalming chemicals are now controlled items. Any sale of such has to be reported. Failure to do so will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face a **Court of Shadows**. The **Shadow Task Force** will be visiting those business dependent on these chemicals to record and track their use.

All necromantic magic must be handed in by the end of the March of Fire. During this time there will be an amnesty. After this time anyone caught with said items will be admitting guilt and will face the **Court of Shadows**.

Restricted Areas

The Darringmoor Cemetery is out of bounds except for sanctioned burials and will be screened by a specialist team of the **Shadow Task Force** in the coming days. Failure to stay out of such restricted areas will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face a **Court of Shadows**. Anyone caught underground without authorization will immediately face prosecution by the **Court of Shadows**.

NEW RESTRICTIONS

Travel and Movement

Travellers moving in and out of the city (citizens or other) will be screened at both ports and city gates. For those whose travel is essential for business, you may, upon approval, be given travel passes, but must carry these at all times on their person and submit to regular screening. Allow extra time when travelling. Anyone failing to adhere to these restrictions will immediately face prosecution by the **Court of Shadows**.

Sedition

Deliberate undermining of lawful authorties through sabotage of new Shadow Court policy or of its members by negative verbal or physical actions will face prosecution by the **Court of Shadows**.

Controlled Items

Total ban on possession of amber and mysteria oil. They are controlled substances and must be handed in as soon as possible. Any sale of such must to be reported. Failure to do so will be an admission of guilt and those accused will face a **Court of Shadows**.

Yours in defense, The Shadow Court.

Name Crime Wyx Shiphand Cursing the name of Ormocea Stymth Player Littering Selene Rawldry Not attending Ormocean Services Byrnie Nails Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Nareek Fishmonger Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Lavyren Stoustephen Walking in the cemetery Forge Payne Not reporting information Not reporting information Maikai Chan Badger Byb Walking in the cemetery P'tar Stance Not reporting information Leeder Rollershy Cursing the name of Ormocea Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Bryand Knifearm Not reporting information Jyeky Blyden Franyne Pych Not reporting information Walking in the cemetery Myrde Hornecarver Chyke D' Lyke Not attending Ormocean Services Flyare Tyment In possession of controlled substance Wellin Tolen Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Jonn Kanter In possession of controlled substance Murdon Yellin Not cooperative with the Shadow Court Orlon Shinner Not reporting information Jarred Franth In possession of controlled substance Dallin Morlon Cursing the name of Ormocea Larsel Morlon Not reporting information Pip Quill Graffiti Garrin Windsail Not reporting information, in a timely fashion Torrin I'saz Not reporting information Not reporting information P'tar Porthand **Oona** Thallendale Not reporting information Tapkin Xarr Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Duffy Phopkins Walking in the cemetery Zade Zorran Not reporting information Ullias Rhancer Not reporting information Varren Pollond Littering Janth Rawldry Walking in the cemetery Slik Dammers Not reporting information Torrin Ghant Graffiti Walin Peasnor Not reporting information, in a timely fashion Salanie Manger Not reporting information, in a timely fashion Norick Harneck Graffiti Ethiasa Neesta Not reporting information Marleece Zaraduch Cursing the name of Ormocea Esme Tallhem Not reporting information Failing to follow the direction of Justicator Kabel Rheenick Isill Cranling Not cooperative with the Shadow Court Maar Wardhar Not attending Ormocean Services Throwing substance at Saint Farwick Castefin Jyb Salamander Gannin Stole In possession of controlled substance Jann Dawnheart Not reporting information Cursing the name of Ormocea P'tar Formythe

[Barbaric Murder - Nalot, Port Lyrie cont.]

did you give Wangefrecket a silver piece to return and leave you with Fenchy? fas reported to the Pt Lyrie Watch The prisoner then said No, I did not. I gave her coin to buy some sweets which I often do with children. Mrs Gardener observed I have a great mind to give you in charge to the constabulary. Baffart rejoined she might do as she liked. The quiet way in which he answered combined with the respectable position occupied by the prisoner, at once threw off any suspicion which might have arisen in the minds of both Mrs Gardener and the Landlord. The consternation of the gnomes at this point merely enjoined Mrs Gardener to send them off to their mother.

ed a hideous sight. Other parts of the body with the exception of an arm and a foot, which were scattered about the garden, were found on that Gaidezar evening. The parts of the body excepted were discovered on Pharianzar morning. The remaining gnomes of the party, on learning what had occurred, became nearly frantic and rushed to communicate with others in Port Lyrie by any means possible. Mrs Gardener, herself, had fallen from excitement and had to be conveyed home. Messengers were despatched to Port Lyrie and local farmhands took it upon themselves to arm and search, to give rough justice to Baffart. fices at approximately one after sunset and told witness of the woman ftMrs Gardener] speaking to him of the "child". He said it would be very awkward for him if "the girl" was murdered. They went over to the (Nalot) Oakton for a glass of ale and Baffart said that he was going away on Draelinzar. Biddle said he would go with him.

Wallwin Walker said he found a large stone in the hop garden (stone given to the Iusticator). There was long hair upon it and it was close to the spot where the head was found. Warder-chief Marshall Channay, of Pt Lyrie, said, having heard of the murder, he went to Baffart's office, that person having been last seen with "the children", and on telling him of the charge, he said, "I know nothing of it."



DARRINGMOOR DART

After waiting until two or three after sunset, the subject of her non-appearance was again raised by the gnomes with the Landlord and was discussed by neighbours of the locality, and, fearing some foul play, a party combined together and went in search. Soon after entering the hop garden previously mentioned, and on looking about, the head of the missing child was picked up with a gash evidently inflicted by some sharp instrument, from the mouth to the ear and another cut across the left temple – it present-

Ormocean Inquest

Nalot, Samrozar evening. This morning, Br Farheld Trebor, the rostered rural Iusticator for this coastal region, opened an enquiry at the Nalot Oakton public house into the cause of the death of Fenchy Ganaddams, now known to be aged 53 years, whose body was found dismembered in a hop garden near this town on the afternoon of Gaidezar last. The jury proceeded to view the remains of the gnome and the accused man was brought in manacled. After hearing evidence as to the finding of the remains, one Marice Biddle, a clerk at Messrs Meclent & Son at Nalot, stated that the accused was in the of

Evidence was given of the finding of two eyes. They were found in the Welland Creek near the place of the murder. The Iusticator then asked the accused if he decided to say anything to which Baffart replied, "No Sir, only that I am innocent." The Iusticator then summed up with great care and returned the verdict of "Willful murder against Derric Baffart for killing and slaying the gnome named Fenchy Ganaddams." The warrant was then made out for the committal of the miscreant to the Pt Lyrie Gaol.



Amazing-Astounding-Affordable

[A Word From Our Mayor cont.]

thoughtful, are erecting extra healing stalls in each district of Darringmoor and will have a ready supply of burn salves. Not to be outdone our local Gurthor priest and river priestess are also on full alert, ready to douse any riverside, seaside fires. Once again a sterling example of how we

here in Darringmoor work together to overcome adversity.

May the gods bless you, Leafring Hillbone

Mayor of Darringmoor City



MIRACULOUS ESCAPE FROM A FIRE (Darringmoor, 18th of Fire, 2150)

On Derelzar night last, an extraordinary and exciting scene was witnessed at Calynn Ietty by the Bay. A fire broke out in the premises of a Mrs Merfacke between three and four ASR. The flames spread with such astonishing rapidity, that in less than half an hour, the basement storey and the one immediately above it were completely gutted. Happily, the occupants of the house succeeded in making their escape, with the exception of a work girl name Najje, who was in the front room in the upper part of the premises. The poor girl ran towards the windows which she opened, at the same time screaming loudly for assistance. Those below implored her not to make any attempt to jump into the street. Ladders were procured but none proved long enough to reach the room occupied by poor Najje. Eventually, a young man named T'mas Calftem, a carpenter by trade, volunteered his assistance. He spliced two ladders together, and at the imminent risk of his own life, ascended, and succeeded in reaching the window, through which the flames were issuing. He contrived to clutch hold of the girl, and brought her safely into the street below, amidst the cheers of hundreds of excited spectators.

Her Honour the Mayor, Leaftina Hillbone, has asked for Master Calftem to meet with her on the morning of the 20th of Fire in her chambers. It is anticipated that a Public Acknowledgement of his efforts will be made.





FARWICK IMPROVES 'Terrible' BRILANE POLICY (Darringmoor, 18th of Fire, 2150)

Saint Castefin Fawick yesterday ordered tighter restrictions on travel to and from Sard as well as compulsory searches of cargo in carts and ships. Saint Castefin Fawick was, he said, canceling Brilane's "terrible and misguided" easy travel and trade policy and setting in place sensible restrictions and controls.

Laying out his new travel policy in a speech in Darringmoor, Saint Castefin Fawick signed a special Ormocean directive rolling back parts of Darringmoor's historical freedom of travel to Sard, Elkia and other neighboring countries. "We will not be silent in the face of this Sirrith incursion any longer," Saint Castefin Fawick told a cheering crowd in Darringmoor's Holy Enclave. "Effective immediately, I am canceling the last administration's completely ineffective policy," Saint Castefin Fawick declared as he made a full-throated assault on his predecessor Brilane outside the Ormocean temple in Darringmoor.

Saint Castefin Fawick's revised approach calls for stricter enforcement of trade cargo, restricted travel in and out of the city, and a nightly curfew. In a series of new restrictions, citizens and travelers will be screened at all gates and ships. Some will be given permission for regular travel as pertains to their work, but must always submit to entry checks and carry said approval paper at all times on their personage.

[Editor: I have to ask some questions. Do these new policies have the effect they are intended or will they have terrible effects on trade? Will they create suspicions between citizens? Are we acting just like the dirty, stinking, rotten elves? -Ellie.]

A WIFE DRIVEN INSANE BY HUSBAND TICKLING HER FEET (Pharidor's Watch, 12th of Fire, 2150)

On Balanzar of Trekillon of this March, a very serious charge was preferred against a man named Malec Ruddidge, who resides in Winstbrush, a small village to the east of Pharidor's Watch, Tarimthol Irl. The circumstances, as detailed before the board of guardians, are of a harrowing nature. It appears that Ruddidge, who has lived very unhappily with his wife, had threatened the life of that lady on more than one occastion. Most probably he had long contemplated the wicked design which he carried out but too successfully about a span past. Mrs Ruddidge, who is an interesting looking young woman, has for a long time past suffered from wandering veinroots on her legs, and it is to this that her husband told her that he possessed an infallible remedy for this ailment. She was induced by her tormentor to allow herself to be tied to a plank, which he placed across two chairs. When the poor woman was bound and helpless, Ruddidge deliberately and persistently tickled the soles of her feet with a feather. For a long time he continued to operate upon his un [cont. over]

THE BURNING OF A SHIP & FIVE HUNDRED Y'SIRANS (Odressi, 15th of Fire, 2150)

Heard before the Ormocean Jury of Guardians:

the Cross-Channel Odressi Mail of the 21st of Light, gives testimony of the survivors of the Y'siran ship Dohun Janno, whose loss at sea with 650 Y'sirans on board has already been reported. Neul Weshaa, a native of Tariziach, twenty years old, describes how he had been kidnapped at Byalliz, forced to sign a contract, and then sent, with others guarded by armed men, on board the vessel. He then said,

"On the second day after we sailed, shortly after our breakfast, there was a fire on board. The fire occurred in the aft part, in a room adjoining our hold. The smoke came into our hold in a great volume; it had a strong smell of alchemist's wares. I heard no explosion whatever, as one might with the ploys of Imaar worshippers, before the alarm of fire. The hatch grating was never opened all the while. The smoke came in very thick and a great many were suffocated. More than one hour after the smoke came into our hold, the hatch grating was torn off, by one of the cooks, I believe. We all made a rush for the hatchway. When I came up, the whole of the ship from the mainmast to the stern was one mass of flames. The foremast had not caught fire then. About twenty men clung to the rigging, and others were holding the bowsprit. I was holding on to the anchor chain. I tumbled into the sea with the anchor. I could swim a little and I swam to a burnt spar. I was carried so far from the burning ship that I could hardly see her. I was picked up by a Southwind Fisher out of Maedori that passed in the evening of the same day as the fire occurred. The fishermen wanted us to give them money before they would pick us up. I paid them the three silver spurs that I had secreted upon my person and they picked me up, but refused to take in my companions, four in number, because they had no money to pay them. My treatment on board the fishing vessel was very good but I could not eat as I was in great pain from my burns."

[cont. over]



Money Lent Privately FROM 10gt UPWARDS, ON BORROWERS OWN PROMISORY NOTE. AT MUCH LOWER INTEREST THAN USUALLY CHARGED.

The Undersigned has been Established Since 2138R, and has always conducted business under HIS OWN NAME. He has always endeavoured to act in a fair and straightforward manner, and has received MANY HUNDREDS OF MISSIVES OF APPRECIATION AND THANKS from those who have dealt with him. NO PRELIMINARY FEES CHARGED. NO BILLS OF SALE TAKEN.



PHOENIX FESTIVAL REVIEW (Darringmoor, 17th of Fire, 2150)

AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

The best festivals are more than merely gaudy peddlers or the annual reprise of tired troubadours. They strive to discover new expression in clasical art forms, they champion fresh talent and, perhaps most importantly, they show the cultural leadership that ensures the longevity of city festivals as an alive and evolving medium.

All these qualities rang true in Darringmoor Phoenix Festival: the Troubadours of the Swan, Zander's Animal Emporium and the Paladin Saviour Puppet Show offered an intriguing perspective on these familiar staples.

The Troubadours of the Swan

The Swan's choice of music came from a who's who of Elian art song, including works by Silvertongue, Ges Monti, and Varalick. All these were given a contemporary twist, using some new instruments, making this a showcase for the Swans. Accompanying this fantastic music was synchronized juggling, whip-smart physical comedy and lyrical dancing of the highest quality.

Paladin Saviour Puppet Show

This well-loved puppet show, presented in the newly erected market puppet theatre, was pantomimic in the best possible way, with moments worthy of full-on belly laughs. However the story, in sharp comparison to the often simple humour, was deceptively complex. The equilibrium between sincerity and silliness was expertly judged by director Sharline Von Pondeium.

Zandar's Animal Emporium

Originally known as "Zandars Menagerie of the Zoological Society of Rhenfar", the Emporium was first opened in 2100, and has travelled the region for 50 years. Zandar's Animal Emporium was an excellent place to visit with young children due to the large number of exotic animal exhibits. While there may have been some disappointingment in that the monkey display is currently empty, there was plenty in every corner to titillate the visitor.

- Ellie.



Darringmoor, 17th of Fire, 2150 - TWICE

FOUND DEAD IN STREETS Br Langtham has provided information of a strange discovery and the unaccountable death of a woman who is supposed to be named Souisa Torrail, aged 33, but whose address is not known. She was found quite dead lying on the pavement outside the Watch Barracks, by a City Watch novice. The duty-Captain had the corpse conveyed to the Esmians on the Temple Mount. The deceased was very stylishly dressed and the feasible conjecture is that she was one of the evening ladies who frequent the neighbourhood.

A BOY MISTAKEN FOR A CROW (Terricks View, 17th of Fire, 2150)

A most unfortunate mistake occurred by which the life of a little boy is imperilled: having climbed a tree at Halting Island, he was accidentally shot by a gentleman, who had taken himself to relax by shooting (his crossbow) and mistook the poor little fellow for a young crow. The boy was removed to the Terricks View Infirmary.

PROMPT ATTENTION TO ENQUIRES.

Prospectuses, pamphlets containing complimentary letters from Borrowers, terms for advances, or any information desired, will be supplied, FREE OF CHARGE, on application, either personally, or by letter, to

GEORGE PAYNE, SCRIBE 22 PEOPLES WALK, D.

IN CHANCERY. HUISH V. HELM.

ALL persons having claims against MR JYHN BAKEWELL HELM, in respect of his business as an Advocate and Scribe, from the 25th day of Light, 2145, to the 24th day of Light, 2150, are requested forthwith to send in their accounts to me, SAMET HOLTINN, Receiver.

No.6, 'Ward-wick', Saltwalk Way, D'moor. 12th of Fire, 2150.

SINGULAR FATALITY

A woman named Glodelle, residing in Calannith Street, the Dimside, whilst removing her household goods on Samrozar, for greater speed, pitched a mattress out of an upper story window. It alighted upon a little boy who was passing, knocked him down, and broke one of his thighs, besides inflicting other injuries.



[A Wife Driven Insane cont.]

happy victim, who was rendered frantic by the process. Eventually she swooned, whereupon her husband released her. It soon became too manifest that the light of reason had fled. Mrs Ruddidge was taken to relatives and then to the Esmian infirmary just outside of Pharidor's Watch, where she was placed with other insane patients. A little girl, a niece of the woman, spoke to one or two of the neighbours saying her aunt had been tied to a plank and her uncle cruelly illtreated her.

An Inquiry was instituted and there is every reason to believe that Mrs Ruddidge had been driven out of her mind in the way described, but the result of the investigation is not yet known.

[The Burning of a Ship cont.]

The fire was apparently lighted with the purpose of forcing all those living overhead to go forward, and thus simply the capture of the vessel. It is said that on being asked through the grating what they wanted, the enslaved Y'sirans declared their intention of taking the ship for themselves. However, improbable as this may appear, it is alleged that the indentured men openly stated their purpose. It is presumed that they expected the fire would be easily extinguished, and that they never anticipated the horrible death in store for them.

ATTEMPTED MURDER ON THE HARBOUR

(Darringmoor, 18th of Fire, 2150)

On Derelzar morning this span at the Ormocean Court, Timous Nimmonds, labourer, was charged with attempting to murder Millmam Manduy aged eighteen. It was elicited that the prosecutor and a companion were rowing across the Kellick Bay when the prisoner got into the boat and attempted to sink it. Manduy prevented him from doing so when Nimmonds suddenly drew a knife and plunged it into the prosecutor's left side. The prisoner was formally committed for trial. Manduy remains in the care of the Esmians.

LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Brother Odeenish Wallop, Rural Ormorcean Justicator

Draelinzar of Hiralien, 28th Day of Earth, 2150R Friars Rest of Jepheth

This morning Eward Morsgathan, (the 'local lad' from far Char Endl) of Nagmorr Green brought his concubine to our Temple and married her. She was a girl of 19, rather nice looking and seemed quiet and modest. She had a pretty bridesmaid and they were both nicely and prettily dressed in lilac and white. After the ceremony, I saw the stout dwarf Ainne Beattvannosk pinning away on bright nosegays.

Gadwyzar of Hiralien.

There came begging through the village today three Gnoll girls, tall dressed in ragged black with naked legs and feet. The eldest was a straight girl with a profusion of curling chestnut in her mane. The second girl was slighter. Her tattered black frock hardly covered her knees, her delicate beautiful furred limbs were bare and whiter by contrast with her black dress, and her clawed pale feet, small and shapely, were bruised and worn with travel.

Tabiazar of Hiralien.

I went to Vern Raww. The sun burnt flercely as I climbed the hills but a little breeze crept about the hill tops. Some barbarian – some routed Sardian looter? – has cut down the beautiful silver birches, planted in honour of Siritar on the Little Mountain near Ceryn Falls.

Gaidezar of Hiralien.

I went up to Tross Foot, turned down the farm lane to the huge Old Hirath Oak which overshadows the farm, and across the meadow to the beautiful green lane which leads down to Cowpetal and Cowpetal Green. At Cowpetal Green, the low garden wall was flaming with Pharidor's Embers, which grow in profusion here in areas that collect the sun but are protected in some fashion from the cool evening breezes. Their luxuriant growth up over nearly half of the wall had almost smothered the gooseberry trees to the side of the wall. Along the narrow garden border nodded a brilliant row of gigantic Nodding Monks.

Within the cottage sat old Part Clerke and the pretty girl lately Eward Morsgathan's concubine, now happily his wife. I had thought Eward had a comfortless, miserable home. I was never more mistaken or surprised. The cottage was exquisitely clean and neat, with a bright blue cheerful paper and almost prettily furnished. A vase of bright fresh flowers stood upon each table and I could have eaten my dinner off every stone of the floor. The girl said, in her now softened Northern accent, no one ever came near the house to see it, and she kept it as clean and neat and pretty as she could for her own satisfaction. The oven door was screened from view by a little curtain and everything was made the most and best of. I don't wonder Eward married the girl. It was not her fault that they were not married before. She begged and prayed her lover to marry her before he seduced her and afterwards. She was very staunch and faithful to him when she was his mistress and I believe she will make him a good wife, in what was now her new land as she would have anywhere. She was ironing when I came in and when I began to read to old P'art, she took her work and quietly sat down to sew. When I had done reading, she had me into the garden and shewed me her flowers with which she had taken some pains, for she was very fond of them. No one ever came to see her garden or her flowers she said. The only people she ever saw passing were the people from the farm (the Upper Bakes where her husband works). They come on Market days

along a footpath through the field before the house. The girl spoke quietly and rather mournfully and there was a shade of gentle melancholy in her voice and manner. I was deeply touched by all that I saw and heard. With a kind carefulness, she put me into the footpath to the Upper Bakes farm, which passes by the solitary barn and over the lofty bridge across the brook and deep dingle. Miss Alten was at home and kindly brought me some cider. Sitting in the window seat, she told me of the almost sudden death after three day's illness of the daughter of Mrs Setavi of The Pentrach, aged 17 – an unfortunate and unremitting inflammation of her gullet. I went on up to Pentoon Forge and had a long chat with Mrs Nott, the blacksmith's wife. She told me her next door neighbour Mrs Millwams was "a wicked woman" and prostituted herself to her lodgers, while her husband, as bad as herself, took the money and asked no questions.

Mrs Nott told me that Lootie of the Coasthills was staying in Presting with her aunt Miss Sevylster, the woman frog. This extraordinary being is partly a woman and partly a frog. Her head and face, her eyes and mouth are those of a frog, and she has a frog's legs and feet. She cannot walk but she hops. She wears very long dresses to cover and conceal her feet which are shod with something like a cow's hoof. She never goes out except to the Hirath chapel near the Binders. Mrs Nott said she had seen this person's frog feet and had seen her in Presting hopping to and from the Chapel exactly like a frog. She had never seen her hands. She is a very good person. The story about this misfortunate being is as follows. Shortly before she was born, a woman came begging to her mother's door with two or three little children. Her mother was angry and ordered the woman away - "Get away with your little frogs," she said. And the child she was expecting was born partly in the form of a frog, as a punishment and a curse upon her.

NOTICES

HATS! HATS! EASTPORT AND BRACKENDOR'S BEST HATS. HAIRYFOOT & WHITE'S ODRESSI-STREET

HATS, and the patent ANTI-GREASE HAT, now ready, in great varieties. Also, The real MARITAANIN SHAPE HAT, and other makes of superior qualities, from 10s 6c to 16s 6c. Also, the TREBLE STRENGTH HATS, for

Farmers, warranted suitable for any kind of hard wear.

25 Dozen DOG SKIN GLOVES, At 8c per pair, or 7s 9c per dozen, taking ½ dozens or dozens.

HOSIERY, GLOVES, SCARVES, &c. In all the New Varieties.

LATE NEWS

GRAVE FEARS FOR ASHFOLD RESIDENTS (Darringmoor, 20th of Fire, 2150)

This editor has just received news that the sleepy hamlet of Ashfold has been attacked by a monstrous creature. A regiment of Siritar Paladins rode out early, a few days ago, to assess the situation. We have grave fears for the safety of the village. Why had something not been done before this? It would be a great tragedy if there were deaths and, importantly for some, there is the commercial concern of whether the supplies of (real) Ashfold Sweet will dry up. Again I ask:

why is it only now that the authorities are interested?

It has been clear in my mind that there has been a problem for many seasons.

Ellie Tinkin, Editor.

A DANCE GIRL BURNT TO DEATH (Terricks View, 18th of Fire, 2150)

An accident of a deplorable character occurred on Balanzar evening, at Mrs Betten's Concert Hall, Tonboll Street, Terricks View. At about four hours after sunset, when the dance scene, and when all of the young dancers were on stage, one of them named Myfan Smither, struck with a wand a wick of a lamp which was fixed on a pedestal about seven feet high. A portion of the wick, saturated with spirits of wine, fell upon her dress and it ignited directly, and in a moment she was enveloped in flames. She rushed on the stage and then off, and then on again, and was at length rolled in a man's coat, and the flame extinguished, not until she was dreadfully, if not fatally burned all over the body. She was taken to the Esmian Chapel on the waterfront where she now lies in a very dangerous condition. The sight of the girl in flames appeared to cause a panic amongst the audience who rushed wildly to the doors which, fortunately, had been opened to allow the egress of the visitors. The entrance having been lately very much widened, the hall was soon cleared of the greater portion of the audience.

[Editor: It is with feelings of deep regret that we record the death of the ill-fated dancing girl, Myfan Smither, who died last evening, from injuries sustained by burns at Mrs Betten's Concert Hall, at Terricks View – Ellie.]



A WARNING FROM THE GUILD OF THE MAGI (Darringmoor, 20th of Fire, 2150)

A GLORIUS REPRISE

A GRAND MILITARY & VOCAL CONCERT

will be given on ZHARAZAR evening, Fire 22, 2150, under the immediate patronage of

SAINT FARWICK CASTIFIN WAR MINISTER AGAINST the UNDEAD OVERSEER of the HOLY TRINITY of the PROTECTORATE of DARKMOOR, and HERO of ODRESSI.

For the Benefit of the WIDOW'S AND ORPHAN'S FUND, Darkmoor District, of the Independent Order of ODD FELLOWS (Odressi Unity).

And under the Management of Past District Grand Master, W. DREW. CONDUCTOR, MR WOODSWARD.

For particulars, see small Bills.

CROWSON'S

NEW PARCHMENT FOR PRESENTS **CROWSON'S** NEW DIARIES & ALMANACS. CROWSON'S DISPATCH BOXES, & DESKS. **CROWSON'S** FANCY ARTICLES FOR GIFTS. **CROWSON'S** WATERCOLOUR ALBUMS CROWSON'S WATERCOLOUR PORTRAITS **CROWSON'S** PLAIN & FANCY STATIONERY CROWSON'S PICTURE FRAMES & GILDING **CROWSON'S** CIRCULATING LIBRARY

> 3/2, GREEN CIRCLE, LOW RAWLD, DARRINGMOOR.

Naedath, a visiting Wizard of the College of Arcane Science has warned the city authorities that a major firestorm is coming. Naedath claims that the storms of the March of Fire were one of his fields of research that he undertook at that College and that he has been recording temperatures and pyrotechnic events that have been occurring over the past two Spans and his conclusion is that there will be a significant firestorm occurring most likely sometime between the 20th and 23rd Day of Fire. He has asked that the militia be on alert over that period and barrels of water stored at key locations in the city, especially in the light of the shortage of Thirrish this year.

[Editor's Note: It's always doom and gloom when it comes to advice from a Wizard. I doubt there is any truth to what Naedath says and I, for one, will be enjoying those days at my favourite Inn - Ellie.]