STORIES

About Henry Starr's Alleged Escapades In Oklahoma Lead To Some Others That Are Unfounded, Says Old Timer—Tells Of Career Of Younger Boys

"Some wild stories are being written about Henry Starr and Belle Starr by space writers, who have the faculty of writing good stories but they are woefully shy on facts," said Frank Swift, an old-time cowman who has lived in Oklahoma nearly all his life.

"The story that Henry Starr and Belle Starr are related is absolutely untrue. I have seen in some newspapers where the writers claim that Henry is a son of Belle Starr.

"Belle came to this country in 1871 or '72 with Cole Younger and the James boys. She was the mistress of Cole Younger and lived with him down in the Webbers Falls country. While Younger was on the scout Belle lived with him while he was in hiding in what is now known as Youngers' Bend.

"The lower part of Muskogee county was the hangout of the Younger boys for a long time, and after the famous fair ground's robbery in Kansas City these outlaws left a large sum of money for safe keeping with one of the Blackstones at Webbers Falls.

"Belle Starr was married to a Texas man named Reed. She left him and took up with Cole Younger and later took up with the outlaw, Tom Starr.

"Henry Starr did not become an outlaw until 1891. I remember his first trouble. The Dalton boys were killed in Coffeyville 21 years ago in September and in November of the same year Henry Starr shot and killed Floyd Wilson, seven miles south and east of Nowata. I was working for a big cattle company. He had some horses stolen and I was out looking for the thief. I came along by a house and heard shooting, and saw Henry Starr riding away. Wilson lay dead in the road. Wilson who had before been a deputy marshal and was doing special work for the Iron Mountain, was eating breakfast with a man named Houck. They saw a rider coming up the road and recognized him as Henry Starr. Wilson went out to head him off and the men exchanged shots and Starr succeeded in killing Wilson. Wilson fired the first shot.

"Henry scouted for a long time and was finally arrested, taken to Fort Smith and sentenced to hang. When Cherokee Bill, who was in the Ft. Smith jail, shot and killed Harry Keaton, a guard, Starr took the gun away from Cherokee Bill. For this his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. He was later paroled and lived in Muskogee for a long time."

Pony Starr of the Porum feud fame is probably a distant relative of Henry Starr, but the two never consorted with each other. Henry had been doing time a number of years when Pony first got into trouble.

ENGLAND INVADED FIFTY TIMES SINCE ELEVENTH CENTURY

Free From Attack for 126 Years, English Believe an Invasion Impossible

In the spring of 1909 there was a great outbreak of what was derisively dubbed "German-phobia" in England and many prophets (now of more honor than then) ventured to predict that Englishmen then living would see the hosts of the kaiser on the fields of York or Kent.

Charles Russell, a British statesman advocating stronger measures of defense against the peril from across the North Sea, attempted to smash the smug London merchant's conviction that the British Isles are safe from invasion by showing how easily they had been invaded in the past.

He showed that hostile forces have landed on British soil no less than fifty-three times since William the Conqueror came over from Normandy in 1066.

Some of these invasions soon fizzled, others resulted in the upset of a dynasty. It is true that the two greatest dangers threatening Britain since the Conqueror's time—the Spanish Armada and the proposed expedition across the channel of Napoleon Bonaparte—were successfully parried. But in general it was seldom found difficult to pick a secluded harbor and throw several thousand men ashore before defenders could arrive in sufficient force to do more than put up a more or less perfunctory resistance.

Hostile troops landed 14 times in the eighteenth century, 13 times in the seventeenth century, 8 times in the sixteenth, 11 times in the fifteenth and 6 times in the fourteenth.

The nationalities included were Danish, Norman, French, Spanish, Dutch and American. The last named may be a bit surprising, but the daring Paul Jones carried his sword to the shore of Britain four times in 1778-79 on one occasion destroying the residence of Lord Selkirk. It is to be noted, however, that many of these invasions of Great Britain were aided by British of a faction opposed to the rulers or even had British leaders for their foreign troops.

Since 1798 Great Britain has been free from invasion—126 years. It is this long period of peace which got the British into the confirmed belief that William the Conqueror was the last to invade their land and would stay the last indefinitely.

Here is Mr. Russell's list of the invasions of Great Britain:

1066—William the Conqueror landed at Hastings.

1069—The Danish invasion up the Humber; York sacked.

1101—Robert of Normandy landed at Portsmouth.

1139—Matilda, granddaughter of William the Conqueror, landed at Portsmouth and took King Stephen prisoner.

1215—Louis VII. of France landed at Sandwich, in Kent; marched on London; King John compelled to fly.

1315—Edward Bruce, with 6,000 men, landed at Olderfleet, Ireland; crowned king at Dundalk.

1326—Isabelle, queen of Edward II., landed at Orwell, Suffolk; deposed King Edward.

1377—French attacked Dartmouth.

1377—French attacked Rye.

1377—French attacked Portsmouth.

1399—Henry Bollingbroke, afterwards Henry IV, landed at Ravenspur, in Yorkshire and deposed Richard.

1405—Twelve thousand French landed at Milford Haven and took Carmarthen.

1470—Warwick, the "king-maker," landed at Dartmouth and drove Edward IV out of England.

1471—Margaret, queen of Henry VI, landed at Weymouth.

1471—Edward IV attacked Ravenspur.

1485—Henry Tudor (Henry VII) with 3,000 Frenchmen, landed at Milford Haven; defeated and slew Richard III at Bosworth.

1486—Lambert Simnel landed in Dublin; two thousand German troops under Marshall Swartz crossed to Lancashire.

1487—Simnel landed at Foudray.

1492—Warbeck landed in Cork.

1495—Warbeck landed in Deal with 600 men.

1495—Warbeck besieged Waterford for seven days.

1497—Warbeck landed at Whitesand Bay, Cornwell; besieged Exeter with 3,000 men.

1513—The earl of Arran with 2,000 men landed at Carrickfergus and burned the town.

1557—Thomas Stafford landed at Scarborough and seized the castle.

1559—1,000 Frenchmen landed at Leith and fortified the town.

1579—Philip II of Spain dispatched a force which landed at Smerthwick in Ireland.

1580—Philip II and Pepo Gregory XIII sent a larger expedition of 8,000 soldiers, who landed at Smerthwick.

1601—Spanish fleet, fifty ships and 3,000 men landed and captured Kinsale.

1601—Six other ships of Spanish troops land near Cape Clear.

1650—Montrose landed at Orkney in Scotland.

1650—Charles II landed at the mouth of the Spey, Scotland, with the Dutch fleet; crowned king at Scone.

1667—Dutch fleet under De Witt took Sheerness. Sailed up the Thames and burned Chatham dockyard; sank several ships of war in the Thames.

1667—Dutch fleet attack Burst island in Fifeshire, Scotland.

1685—Argyll lands at Cantyre.

1685—Monmouth lands at Lynn, Dvon, with 6,000 men.

1688—William of Orange with 600 transports, fifty men of war, arrived at Tor Bay, Devon. Entered Exeter with 12,000 men; afterwards crowned William III.

1689—James II landed at Kinsale with 1,300 French and Irish followers.

1690—Lauzun landed in Ireland with 7,300 French troops.

1690—De Tourville's French fleet destroyed Teignmouth, Devonshire.

1691—General St. Ruth landed with French forces at Limerick.

1715—The Pretender landed at Peterhead.

1719—Spanish troops landed at Slenshiel in Ross-shire.

1745—The Pretender landed in the Hebrides.

1745—French force lands at Montrose.

1760—Thurot, otherwise O'Farnell, commodore in the French navy, landed with 1,000 men at Garrickfergus.

1778—Paul Jones landed at Whitehaven.

1778—Paul Jones landed at Kirkcudbright and destroyed the residence of Lord Selkirk.

1778—Paul Jones arrived at Carrickfergus; captured and destroyed the warship Drake.

1779—Paul Jones attempts Leith.

1796—General Hoches, Grouchy and Wolfe Tone entered Bantry Bay with 15,000 French troops.

1798—General Humbert and 1,800 men landed at Killala bay; defeated the English under General Lake at Castlebar and marched on Dublin.

1798—General Savary with 2,000 French troops anchored in Killala Bay.

1798—General Hardie and Wolfe Tone with a large body of French troops arrived at Loch Swilly.

Special Correspondence.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 4.—Judge George E. Page of the district court of this city believes in the old adage that some women drive men to drink. He has prepared ten commandments showing the failings of wives which most frequently cause drunkenness, according to his experience.

"Man is a lover of cleanliness, and when his dream of a tidy, orderly home materializes into a place of dirt and disorder he very often turns drunkard to forget," says Judge Page. He says that, through this failure alone, women bring sorrow and disgrace upon themselves.

"And don't forget the cooking," is his warning. "Many homes have been destroyed because the wife could not prepare a good meal."

Here is the "Decalogue of Judge Page," which gives the causes of drunkenness:

"First—Returning from their daily labors and finding their homes in dirty; untidy condition.

"Second—Returning home and finding wife absent, no meal ready, no preparation made for her return.

"Third—Continued nagging without cause, provocation or excuse.

"Fourth — Continually quarreling with other members of family in presence of husband.

"Fifth—Demanding things beyond the means of the husband and complaining constantly of his inability to furnish them.

"Sixth—Indiscretion in the disposition of his earnings, spending same for unnecessary things and forcing him in debt for necessities.

"Seventh—Incompatibility of disposition, making no effort to make the home cheerful, offering no companionship.

"Eighth—Forcing company on the husband distasteful to him.

"Ninth—Soliciting and permitting interference of relatives in strictly family affairs.

"Tenth—Wilful neglect of the children."