

WARS, REBELIONS AND BLOODSHED NOW GOING ON IN UNHAPPY AFRICA.

"ON EARTH Peace, Good Will Toward Men."

St. Luke, II, 14.

AFRICA has been picturesquely named the "Dark Continent," but it might now be more appropriately called the "Bloody Continent."

A number of bloody outbreaks, of such a character as to interest even Americans unconcerned with European policy, help to call attention at this moment to the perpetual condition of Africa.



PRACTICAL JOKES OF A CLEVER VENTRILOQUIST.

Mr. Hartley Writes of Many Funny Exploits and His Odd Experiences Here and There Around the Town.

Hammerstein's big Olympia was thronged the other evening when I strolled in. Not a seat was to be had at the Olympia that night. While awaiting for the curtain to go up I amused myself at the expense of a part of the audience standing about me.

"Yes, Hello, Dickson! Hello, hello, hello! Well, is that you Dickson? Wait a minute." Then aside to those present he remarked: "Well, upon my word, if can't believe that a hundred years ago we would have all been hanged."

An amusing climax to the War episode happened the next night. Ward was assigned to the station. He had not been let into the joke yet. Operator Collins was much alarmed when he heard from his hinner office a loud pounding in the waiting room.

"I guess he doesn't hear me," remarked Lundstedt to those in the store, forgetting that there were not one-half of ten stories in the building.

Mr. F. N. Bunge is the owner of a hotel bearing his name on upper Lenox avenue. His place has been the scene of many ludicrous episodes, wherein the genial Fred figured as the instigator of mischief.

John Bertram is the proprietor of the big entertainment hall at the corner of Fulton street and Brooklyn avenue, Brooklyn. There is a telephone connected with his place. I had just concluded an entertainment given by the Bravura Council, Royal Arcanum, and was the guest of honor at a pleasant repast given by its members.

There is one peril of the sea which every mariner dreads, because, especially in foggy weather, he is almost powerless to escape from encountering it, and that is the icebergs that break away from the vast glacial masses in the Arctic and are swept by the currents into the track

of vessels. They are most common during the six months beginning with March or April, though the captain of a vessel which came into this port last week reported a narrow escape from one on the way between New York and Liverpool.

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