LOST IN A CAVE.

FROM AN EXCHANGE

In the southern part of Kentucky there is a cave which, like many in that region, local tradition has made one of the many hiding places of the celebrated Daniel Boone during his years of fierce fighting with the Indians.

The waters of Moore's Valley find an outlet through this cave. In the season of heavy rains the inrushing waters fill the entrance to the cave from side to side, and there have been times when owing to the inadequacy of the outlet, the valley has been flooded. In the dry season there is ample space on either bank for people to enter, and at such time Boone's Cave is a popular resort for picnic parties. Once past the cramped, irregular entrance the cave opens into vast halls, draped with glittering stalactic curtains, branching out of which are great chambers that [illegible] tation dwarf the proudest efforts of human architects.

In the early spring of 1864 a wounded soldier—it matters not on which side he fought—rode over the Cumberland range with his left arm in a sling and a bandage about his head. He entered Moore's Valley, first surveying it from an elevation—and dismounted in a grove before the comfortable home of the Widow Mason. Throwing the bridle over the horse-rack, Mark Brant walked up to the house. Before he had gone half the distance the door opened, and a beautiful, brown-eyed girl came to meet him.

Their meeting was that of lovers, and as Nellie Mason led him to the house, she said:

"I heard you were wounded, and I am glad you came, for now I can nurse you back to strength."

"I am afraid I shall prove a double trouble to you," he said, with a sad smile.

"Why so, Mark?" she asked eagerly.

"My old enemy and rival, Henry Troop, has been chasing me for three days, with his men. My only chance for escape lay in this direction," replied Mark Brant.

The beautiful girl's cheeks became paler and her lips firmer on hearing this, but she spoke no more till they reached the house.

Mrs. Mason, a kindly faced matronly lady, met them at the door, and gave the young soldier as hearty a welcome as if he had been her son.

There were but few men in Moore Valley at this time. All those able to bear arms had taken sides and gone in about equal numbers to both armies. The Widow Mason's two sons were fighting on opposite sides.

Mark Brant's wounds were dressed, and he was sitting by the fire that night talking to Mrs. Mason and Nellie, when a black man, who had been keeping watch, ran into the room in a state of great alarm.

"Sojers! De sojers!" he gasped.

"In the valley?" asked Mark, leaping to his feet.

"Yes, sah! Troop an' his men!" replied the black man.

Mark and Nellie ran to the door and they heard the ring of iron hoofs coming up the road. The horsemen were galloping towards the house and there could be no doubt of their mission.

Nellie turned to the alarmed negro and said:

"Tom, put the oars in the boat. Quick—for your life!"

Tom started off and Nellie sped into the kitchen. She returned in a minute with a cloak about her shoulders, and, kissing her mother, she said:

"I will get him away on the river."

"But the river is up, and the cave!" cried Mrs. Mason, frantically.

The clatter of hoofs, the jingle of arms, the panting of horses and the hoarse shouts of the riders could be heard nearby.

With his pistol in his unwounded hand, Mark Brant followed Nellie Mason through the back door, and down to the foot of the garden, where the swollen stream ran. By the dim starlight he could see the boat, into which one servant was throwing blankets and baskets, while Tom sat amidship, balancing the oars.

"Get in, Mark! Hark! Troop and his men are in the house!"

Nellie forced him into the stern of the boat and sprang in after him.

As they floated off, the shouts of the pursuers could be heard on the bank, and they saw the flash of rifles discharged wildly into the darkness.

The current was very swift and the [illegible] miles below the point from which they had started. About half way down the banks were covered with a dense forest growth, and the margins of the stream were masses of cane reeds. Here Nellie hoped they would find shelter until the pursuit was over. They succeeded in keeping the boat in the reeds till daylight.

Mark wanted to leave them, assuring her that he could save himself by flight across the mountains; but the brave girl would not hear to it.

"It would kill me," she said, "if I had to remain home thinking of poor wounded you flying before Henry Troop and his bloodhounds."

When it was sufficiently light Mark Brant went ashore and ascended a hill nearby. A glance up the stream showed him Troop's men not a hundred yards away. That Troop's men saw him the rattle of a dozen carbines proved conclusively. He ran back and sprang into the boat.

"Lie on the bottom, Mark!" cried Nellie.

He obeyed her; and taking the cloak from her shoulders she threw it over him, so that he could not be seen from the shore. Then seizing one of the oars, she cried out to the servant:

"Pull, Tom! Pull for your life."

Obeying her startling order, and following her example, Tom bent to his oar, and aided by the swift current the boat fairly flew down the river.

At a bend, four hundred yards above the entrance to the cave, Nellie saw a group of mounted men; but unheeding their frantic gestures for her to land she still urged the boat on.

"Come back! Come back!" shouted a man, whom her rapid glance recognized as Captain Troop. "Come back, or you'll be swept into the cave!"

She heard, but did not heed him.

Mark Brant threw off the cloak and begged her to head the boat for shore before it was too late.

"And place you in his power!" she replied. "Better we should die together."

"But see! we are near the cave!" he urged.

Nellie turned and looked at the hill, at right angles to which the swift current ran. She saw the black segment that marked the elevation of the cave entrance above the roaring flood.

"We can pass through," she said, as if speaking her judgment aloud.

With ashy faces the soldiers watched the boat flying to what they deemed certain destruction, its speed increasing as it neared the entrance to the cave.

A moment of breathless suspense; then darkness. The boat had disappeared in the side of the mountain.

"Head the boat against the current, for we must not lose sight of the entrance to the cave!" shouted Mark Brant, helping to carry out his own order.

They turned the boat and saw—like a far-off window in an interminable dungeon—the arc of light that marked the place by which they had entered the cave.

Nellie and the black man pulled till the ashen oars cracked in the rowlocks; but all in vain; they were being swept further and further in. The arc of light dwindled into a star, a speck, then was swallowed up in the awful blackness.

Impenetrable darkness enveloped them; and the vast subterranean halls rang with the thundering echoes of the maddened waters.

"Take both oars, Tom, I have candles, and will make a light."

Nellie Mason gave the black man her oar, and, taking a candle from a basket at her feet, she succeeded in lighting it and fastening it in the bow of the boat.

"We must make for the bank!" [illegible] the danger to the woman he loved and his own utter helplessness.

They succeeded in reaching the "bank," but it mocked at hope of escape in that direction. The candle revealed the white, precipitous wall that hemmed in the subterranean river, rising sheer up, and lost among the overhanging shadows.

The shores of this wonderful river come closer together, adding to the force of the confined current and deepening the hoarse reverberations that went up from every side. To add to the terrors of their situation the roof above the river sank lower and lower until Mark could raise his unwounded arm and touch its surface.

They well knew that if the compression continued the sloats must soon be forced under the water, and all would be over. They had to stoop to avoid the stalactites that, like petrified icicles, hung from the roof, and, at times, scraped the sides of the boat.

Mark Brant took Nellie's hand, certain that the end had come, and Tom began praying in the bottom of the boat, when suddenly the cramped walls expanded into an immense chamber, and the ceiling shot up so far that the dim light from the candle in the bow failed to reveal it. The river widened into a Stygian lake, and the current, as if exhausted by its tremendous efforts, settled down for a rest.

They succeeded in urging the boat to the shore, if shore the irregular rocks rising at a sharp angle from the water could be called. They made the boat fast and as Nellie sprang out she exclaimed:

"Thank heaven, we have escaped them!"

"I would rather fall pierced by their bullets than subject you to the dangers of such another escape," said Mark.

"'Peers to me like," said Tom, as he took out the oars, baskets and blankets, "er if we was a hollerin' afore we got out ob de woods. 'Fore de Lor' I thought we was all gone up shuah. An' heah's I, riz nigh dis cave, an' never dreamt it went on an' on, clar down to pardition."

"The water will soon subside, Tom," said Nellie, encouragingly, "and then we can get back."

"I hope yeh's makin' no mistakes, Miss," replied Tom, and there was that in his voice that told very plainly he did not share in her hopes, and that he never again expected to see the sun, nor his wife and little ones under the green trees.

When the cargo was all landed, Nellie set out a very comfortable breakfast; and Mark asked her how she happened to bring food with her.

She responded:

"I can hardly explain; but the moment I heard your pursuers coming, I thought of the river as the only avenue of escape. Then it flashed through my mind, 'What if we are carried into the cave? I ran to the kitchen and gathering all the cooked food I could find, with candles and matches and blankets, I hurried them down to the boat. We have enough food to last for a week and candles enough to light us. By that time let us pray that the flood may subside."

"You are the bravest girl ever lived," said Mark.

Then, after a pause:

"Were you ever in the cave as far as this before?"

"Never half the distance. As Tom said, I did not dream that it ran back so far."

"And you think the flood will subside in a week?"

"Yes," she said, "if there is not more rain in the outer world in the meantime."

Brave as Mark Brant was, he shuddered at the thought of spending one hundred and sixty-eight hours in these gloomy, water-washed, lightless, lifeless depths. But his dread was for the beautiful girl by his side, not for himself.

Tom, who had not the ghost of a hope that he would ever get out, be-

Continued on next page.

NOTICE!

We have some BARGAINS left of the Casford Stock. We will have a complete line of HARDWARE on hand after this week.

PIERCE HARDWARE CO.

Between

HOUSTON-GALVESTON

Travel via the

ELECTRIC RAILWAY

CARS EACH WAY EVERY HOUR

6 a. m. to 11 p. m.

Houston Station—Main and Texas Streets
Galveston Station—21st and Postoffice Streets
All cars pass new Union Station, Houston.

You Save Money

$2 ROUND TRIP TICKET

PUBLIC SALE

THE CONTENTS OF the Bonus Store at Bonus, Texas, will be sold at auction every Thursday. :: The stock consists of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Implements, Etc. Sale will BEGIN EVERY THURSDAY MORNING.

WALTER ADAMS,

AUCTIONEER

SECTION THREE—NINTH ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

Eagle Lake Headlight.

Bruce W. McCarty, Editor and Proprietor. "NOTHING EXTENUATE, NOR SET DOWN AUGHT IN MALICE." *One Dollar and a Half Per Year in Advance.*

VOLUME IX. Eagle Lake, Texas, Saturday, March 2, 1912. NUMBER 41

No. 7534

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

at Eagle Lake, in the State of Texas, at the close of business, Feb. 20th 1912.

Resources.

Loans and Discounts		191,669.71
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured		6,560.44
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation		20,000.00
Other bonds to secure U. S. Deposits		2,000.00
U. S. Bonds on hand		none
Premiums on U. S. Bonds		none
Bonds, securities, etc		none
Banking house, furniture and fixtures		14,944.07
Other real estate owned		671.00
Due from National Banks (not reserve agents)		15,376.14
Due from State Banks and Bankers		4,230.51
Due from approved reserve agents		55,848.97
Checks and other cash items		435.39
Exchanges for clearing house		none
Notes of other National Banks		455.00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents		88.70
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ:		
Specie	11,433.75	
Legal tender notes	2,935.00	14,368.75
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent of circulation)		1,600.00
Due from U. S. Treasurer, other than 5 percent redemption fund		none
TOTAL		$327,649.58

Liabilities.

Capital stock paid in	75,000.00
Surplus Fund	13,500.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	2,906.89
National Bank notes outstanding	20,000.00
State Bank notes outstanding	none
Due to other National banks	none
Due to State and Private Banks and Bankers	1,675.14
Due to Trust Companies and Savings Banks	none
Due to approved reserved agents	none
Dividends unpaid	none
Individual deposits subject to check	187,868.75
Demand certificates of deposit	25,726.83
Time certificates of deposit	none
Certified checks	none
Cashier's checks outstanding	360.00
United States deposits, postal savings deposits	412.00
Deposits of U. S. disbursing officers	none
Bonds Borrowed	none
Notes and bills rediscounted	none
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	none
Reserved for taxes	none
Liabilities other than those above stated	None
TOTAL	$327,649.58

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF COLORADO, } ss:

I, Fox Stephens, cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

FOX STEPHENS, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of Feb, 1912.

W. F. B. WICKER, Notary Public.

CORRECT—Attest: { Frank Stephens, W. E. Lenhart, W. S. Strickland, } Directors.

RECAPITULATION.

Resources:

LOANS & DISCOUNTS	$198,230.45
BANKING HOUSE AND FIXTURES	14,944.67
U. S. BONDS	22,000.00
DUE FROM U. S. TREASURER	1,000.00
REAL ESTATE	671.00
CASH & SIGHT EXCHANGE	90,803.46
	$327,649.58

Liabilities:

CAPITAL STOCK	$ 75,000.00
SURPLUS	13,500.00
UNDIVIDED PROFITS	2,906.89
CIRCULATION	20,000.00
DEPOSITS	216,242.69
	$327,649.58

Mr. J. D. Morse of Eldridge was a visitor in the city last Saturday and while here ordered the Headlight sent to his address for a year.

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of the

Eagle Lake State Bank

at Eagle Lake, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 20th day of Feb., 1911, published in the Eagle Lake HEADLIGHT, a newspaper printed and published at Eagle Lake, State of Texas, on the 2nd day of March 1912.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts, personal or collateral	$247,739.18	
Loans, real estate	25,114.88	
Overdrafts	6,433.88	
Bonds and Stocks	3,000.00	
Real Estate (banking house)	7,000.00	
Other Real Estate	None	
Furniture and Fixtures	2,000.00	
Due from Approved Reserve Agents	36,975.33	
Due from other Banks and Bankers subject to check	4,468.27	
		41,443.60
Cash Items	643.62	
Currency	23,267.00	
Specie	4,008.65	
		27,919.27
Other Resources as follows:		None
TOTAL		$360,650.81

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid in	$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits, net	13,064.34
Due to Banks and Bankers, subject to check	13,302.08
Individual Deposits, subject to check	246,175.09
Time Certificates of Deposit	2,000.00
Demand Certificates of Deposit	18,846.80
Cashier's Checks	250.00
Dividends unpaid	12.50
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	none
Certificates of Deposit, issued for money borrowed	none
Other Liabilities as follows:	
Bonds Borrowed	2,000.00
TOTAL	$360,650,81

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF COLORADO } ss We, M. E Guynn as active vice president, and J. E. Roberts as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

M. E. GUYNN, Active Vice President.
J. E. ROBERTS, Cashier.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28th day of Feb., A. D., nineteen hundred and twelve.

WITNESS my hand and notorial seal on the date last aforesaid,

T. L. LOUGHRIDGE, Notary Public.

CORRECT—ATTEST:
A. C. McCLANAHAN
JOHN MATTHEWS } Directors.
M. E. GUYNN

RECAPITULATION

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	$282,287.94
Building & Fixtures	9,000.00
Cash & Demand Exchange	69,362.87
TOTAL	$360,650.81

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	$50,000.00
Surplus & Profits, earned	28,064.34
Bonds Borrowed	2,000.00
DEPOSITS	280,586.47
TOTAL	$360,650.81

Mr. A. H. Koennecke has had the machinery at the power plant put in good condition since the accident last week which caused the HEADLIGHT to be issued a day late. He has certainly been "putting the juice to us" this week, and we have been taking advantage of it which will be evidenced by the quantity of reading matter we are giving you this week. Mr. Koennecke insures us that things are now in good shape at the plant and patrons of the fan current can rest assured of excellent service from now on.

If the paper meets with your approval this week, speak a good word for it to some friend. You would be surprised to learn what an edition like today's paper has cost us, but that is not the question, for our one desire is to give Eagle Lake a paper that is just a little better than the average run of country weeklies.

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of the

Farmers & Merchants State Bank

at Eagle Lake, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 20th day of Feb., 1912, published in the Eagle Lake Headlight, a newspaper printed and published at Eagle Lake, State of Texas, on the 2nd day of March, 1912.

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts, personal or collateral	$75,006.28	
Loans, real estate	11,548.54	
Overdrafts	10,008.76	
Furniture and Fixtures	2,646.26	
Due from Approved Reserve Agents	36,438.10	
Due from other Banks and Bankers, subject to check	9,623.10	
Cash items	988.16	
Currency	6,672.00	
Specie	3,936.17	51,337.53
Other Resources as follows:		
Interest in Depositors Guaranty Fund		900.67
Assessment for Guaranty Fund		137.75
TOTAL		$151,605.79

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid in	$40,000.00
Surplus Fund	1,600.00
Undivided Profits, net	5,684.83
Individual Deposits, subject to check	83,812.46
Time Certificates of Deposit	16,883.50
Demand Certificates of Deposit	125.00
Cashier's Checks	3,500.00
Bills Payable & Rediscounts	None
Certificates of Deposit, issued for money borrowed	None
Other Liabilities as follows:	None
TOTAL	$151,605.79

STATE OF TEXAS, County of Colorado, } We, J. R. Westmreland, as vice president, and J. E. Roberts as cashier of srid bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

J. R. WESTMORELAND, Vice Pres.
J. E. ROBERTS, Cashier.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28th day of Feb., A. D., nineteen hundred and twelve.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal on the date last aforesaid.

T. L. Loughridge, Jr., Notary Public.

CORRECT—ATTEST:
W. E. Welford,
A. C. McClanahan, } DIRECTORS.
M. E. Guynn.

RECAPITULATION

ASSETS

Loans and Discounts	$96,563.58
Furniture and Fixtures	2,646.26
Interest in Guaranty Fund	900.67
Assessment for Guaranty Fund	137.75
CASH & EXCHANGE	51,357.53
TOTAL	$151,605.79

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	$40,000.00
Surplus & Profits	7,284.83
DEPOSITS	104,320.96
TOTAL	$151,605.79

Feed of all kinds.
THE FRANK STEPHENS CO.

The writer, in company with Mr. Geo. Herder, Jr, of Weimar, made a visit to the new electric light and water plant last Sunday. The new plant is indeed a fine one. Nothing but the best and costliest of machinery has been installed in the plant and all has been properly set by an expert machinist. The new plant is supplied with machinery that would be a credit to towns many times the size of Eagle Lake, showing that Mr. Herder has great confidence in Eagle Lake's future growth, believing that the best is not too good for our prosperous and rapidly growing city. The new well which is something over five hundred feet deep is said to furnish an inexhaustible supply of water of a most excellent quality.

The Only National Bank in Colorado Co.
United States Depository
Oldest Bank in Eagle Lake
Largest Bank in Colorado County
Largest Gain in Deposits of any Bank in Colorado County in 1911
We Want More Business
Money to Loan on Good Security

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY BY KEEPING IT INSURED.

PUTNEY & WILSON

WE WRITE INSURANCE OF ALL KINDS AND REPRESENT FIRST CLASS COMPANIES ONLY.

Matthews' Lunch Rooms

W. J. MATTHEWS, Proprietor. Opposite Sunset Depot

Everything Good to Eat

and cooked in a tempting manner. Clean and Sanitary.

Ice Cream and Drink Parlor in Connection. Your Patronage Solicited and Satisfaction Must be Yours

To the Customers
Farmers & Merchants State Bank
Eagle Lake and Vicinity

We beg to advise that we have purchased the entire assets and good-will of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, assuming all of their liabilities, and from and after Feb. 20th, 1912, the business of both institutions will be conducted in the Eagle Lake State Bank office under the title of the said bank.

You are thrice welcome to become at once active patrons of this bank and in common with the principal officers of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, who have become actively associated with us, we promise you every reasonable accommodation and most satisfactory and dependable service.

Faithfully yours,

The
Eagle Lake State Bank

WM. GREEN, President *M. E. GUYNN, Cashier*

Give your job printing to The Headlight. Don't send your orders away from home.