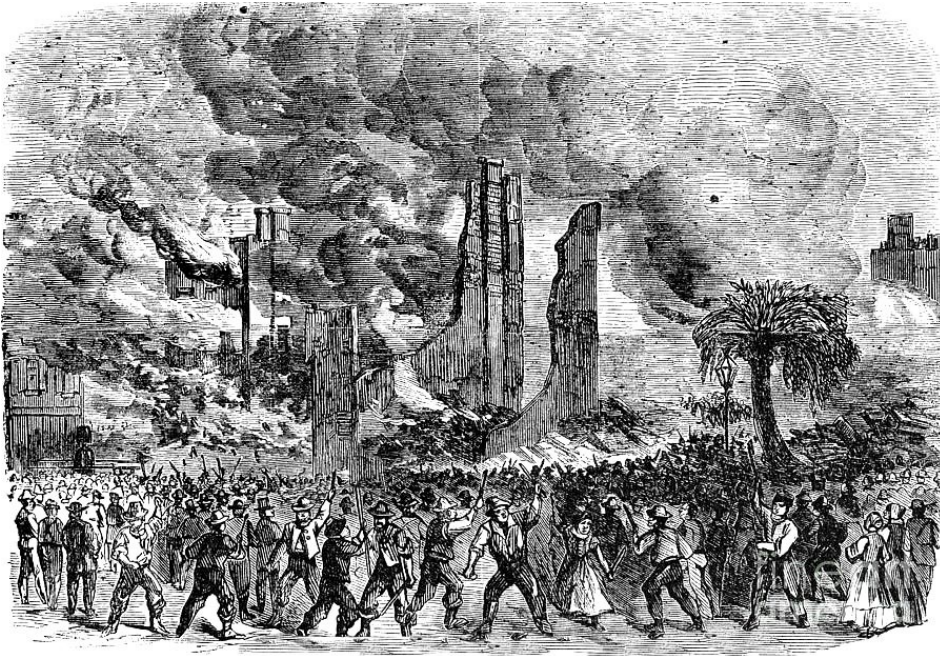


The Journeyman

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FAIRDALE DESTROYED BY THE LIVING DEAD



The unknown disease they claim this woman was infected with seemingly lays dormant until the carrier dies. The corpse then rises up and viciously attacks anyone who crosses its path, intent on consuming the flesh of the living. The L'Enaroussian soldier Michael spoke with claims that the room in the inn that the woman was taken to was identified as the source of the outbreak.

What cannot be denied is that the plague spread quickly, causing panic and disorder. Fairdale does not maintain a militia and it is believed that citizens took to burning houses in an attempt to contain those affected. It wasn't long however before most of the city burned to the ground, forcing panic-stricken survivors to flee for their lives. Some of the survivors reportedly encountered the L'Enarousse forces, enroute to the north, who intervened and fought bravely against the walking-dead for weeks on end in a bid to stop them pouring out of the city and into the rest of the mainland.

Unfortunately this paper has not been able to contact Kenton Blake, allegedly to blame for this incident, he has secluded himself in his manor and has refused to see anyone but his closest friends.

Local gunsmith Peter Davis, spoke up on Kenton's behalf. "The poor man is traumatised by the loss of his friends" he said. When asked whether Kenton had knowingly caused the tragedy, he dismissed the L'Enaroussian claims as 'Outrageous', explaining that "Kenton is a great chap. That is just something he would never do."

Joseph Liberty, father of Kenton's fiancé Charmaine Liberty, was available and granted this paper an interview in which he stated "Kenton's lack of foresight leaves me deeply disappointed. Rest assured that he will be held accountable for his actions."

Doctor Wilhelm Berque, respected researcher of the College of Alchemy and Science, is taking the claims of a new plague seriously. He appeals to anyone with further information about the nature of this affliction to contact the college and leave a message for him in the Medical Research Department. "I have dispatched some researchers to collect samples for analysis which will, I am confident, lead to a cure in the near future."

We hope so, Dr Berque, we really do.

Renowned for leading the way in the arts and philosophy, and famous for its fine foods and welcoming atmosphere, the city of Fairdale now lies in ruins! Several caravan leaders have reported this disturbing news from their supply runs to the L'Enarousse army.

We've all heard the legends of the dead rising from the grave, right? It seems that these fantastical tales are no longer the stuff of fiction.

According to caravan guard Michael Stout, the L'Enarousse seem to be blaming a group of our countrymen for the disaster. They claim that after a hunting party went badly wrong, by bringing a wounded comrade to the city in search of medical assistance, a group of Blightfoot Gunners led by Kenton Blake has unleashed what many people are now calling a 'plague of undeath' upon the once majestic city.

DANGEROUS CRIMINAL APPREHENDED BY AMICITA

The murderous traitor and thief, Ingo Raspatten has once again been arrested by the Elves of the Amicita. We have been informed that the Beastkin has been caught pilfering Jade from the ruins of Sirella, and is using the mineral to power his extremely dangerous inventions. Our sources state that he is creating these devices for the Brotherhood of the Red Wolf, and we trust that he will feel the full force of Amicita justice for his crimes. Ingo Raspatten was previously on trial for the same crime eleven years ago, however he was released with a warning. For the mutilation of an Elven scout during his previous capture he was punished by having his tail hacked off.

The Rat-man was thrown out of Blightfoot Ridge after he sold firearms to Captain Black Hammer and his men; he is also now wanted by the captain for a number of attacks on his crew and for stealing treasure and consumables from them. Ingo Raspatten is extremely dangerous and should not be approached under any circumstances; however it is likely that he will face the death penalty for his further insults directed towards the Amicita.

THE FROZEN NORTH AWAKENS

If you hadn't already had enough of the walking dead, it seems that more of them have arrived from the Realms of the North, but fear not, the Wights as they call themselves, seem to be friendly enough despite their horrific appearance!

Hailing from the realms of Nald and Karthsworn, these creatures rallied together and marched a small army into Fairdale to help the L'Enarousse forces battle the mindless undead. Our sources tell that they cleared the ruins of the city in one night, a feat even Philippe Marsell's army was not

capable of! The leader of the army of five hundred dead men and woman goes by the name of Lord Svelthar, and is said to resemble an Elf. Escorted to Jerrod's Front by Commander Caumont himself, the envoy of the north is currently said to be in discussions with Philippe Marsell.

Many questions surround the appearance of the undead, such as where they came from, what causes a corpse to rise from the grave, and are we really ready to integrate with the inhabitants of the north?



BROTHERHOOD OF THE RED WOLF ON THE RISE



Above: King Morgan Hanstet and his followers torturing an Elf woman by forcing boiling oil down her throat.

It has been seven years since the destruction of the Great City of Netherlye and the appearance of the rifts where the three towers dedicated to the arts of Magik once stood. In this time Morgan Hanstet, former king of Netherlye who was once believed to have been killed in the explosion, has rallied his forces to the extent that they have secured the Redveil Mountains in the north. This vile human being continues to draw bandits, mercenaries and other malicious humans to his cause, and they have now officially waged war against the L'Enarousse and the non-human races of Neothera.

What drives this callous, twisted man on his bloodthirsty quest for power remains to be seen, however there are rumours that the Brotherhood excavations in the Elven ruins of Thard'or have seen them acquire an item of great power.

Perhaps the Brotherhood's discovery of this item is related to recent reports of bizarre mutant creatures bolstering their constantly growing numbers? Although tales of these creatures are likely fabricated to spread yet more fear throughout the realms of Neothera. It is not just the bandits and murderers that are flocking to his banner however, recently the town of Blackwater near Loch Kilosa and the Caddington Estate have officially allied with the Brotherhood of the Red Wolf, and they are said to be preparing an army to descend into the south.

Our military advisor Greg Hart states that it is likely that this alliance could have been prevented if it the L'Enarousse army hadn't had to detour to Fairdale to fight the walking dead, and had managed to achieve their goal of securing Blackwater before the Brotherhood forces arrived.

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