

## Julia Bontz ( - 6 Sep 1870)

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*The Evening Star, July 26, 1869*

### **A Man Cowhided by a Woman**

On Saturday night last about 9 o'clock, a man named Al. Supplee, employed as barkeeper at the Oyster Bay, on Pennsylvania avenue, between 12th and 13th streets, received a cowhiding at the hands of an indignant mother, who encountered him on the corner of 12th street and Pennsylvania avenue, and inquired the whereabouts of her daughter. He denied any knowledge of the daughter's movements, when the irate mother drew forth a cow-hide and applied it vigorously to the head and shoulders of Supplee, who ran through Emner's barber shop to D street, from whence he attempted to effect an entrance to Oyster Bay, through the rear. The gate was locked, however, and the mother was close on his heels, continuing the castigation, while a female companion pummeled S's head in pugilistic style. Lieut. Tait came up and arrested the two women, and took them before Justice Harper, who fined them \$2 each. They paid up saying that they would gladly have paid \$10 for ten minutes more of such satisfactory employment. The mother alleges that Supplee, who is a married man, had for some time back been trying to lure her daughter from home. The parents remonstrated without avail, and on Saturday, the girl disappeared about 11 o'clock in the morning, and not returning at night, her mother armed herself with a cow-hide and accompanied by a female friend, started in search of her erring daughter, and encountered Supplee as above stated. The daughter returned to her home last evening.

*The Evening Star, July 27, 1869*

### **Sad Sequel to the Cowhiding Affair**

We regret to announce that overcome with the shame and confusion which her course had brought upon her, the young lady who was connected with the cowhiding affair published in the Republican of yesterday attempted to destroy herself yesterday by taking laudanum at the residence of her mother. Dr. Daniel Bogan was summoned and by his skillful endeavors antidotes were administered which have had the effect of placing her beyond danger.--National Republican

*The Evening Star, Monday, September 12, 1870*

### **Death of a Washington Girl in Baltimore**

It will be recollected that on July 26th of last year The Star published an account of a cowhiding affair which took place on the premises of a barber on Pennsylvania avenue, near 12th street. The recipient of the whipping was Alfred Supplee, a barkeeper at Oyster Bay, and the person who inflicted it Mrs. Elizabeth Bontz, who was accompanied by Mrs. Virginia Everett. Mrs. Bontz and Mrs. Everett were both arrested by Lieut. Tait and taken to the Central guard-house, and fined \$2 each.

Mrs. B. alleged that Al Supplee, who is a married man, had been trying for some months to lure her daughter Julia away from home, that she had left home that morning about 11 o'clock and had not been heard of since, that she had armed herself with a cowhide with the intention of putting an end to the intimacy as she could get redress in no other manner. Julia returned to her mother's house that night, but subsequently the intimacy, it is said, was renewed.

The infatuated girl left this city for Baltimore some six weeks ago, for what purpose is not known. Rumors are current that she addressed a note to Mr. Supplee from Baltimore requesting to know if he

intended to leave his family and join her, and that his reply was to the effect that he had determined to be true to his wife and child.

A letter was sent to her mother in this city on Monday of last week that Julia was very ill--to come on at once; but the family were absent at a camp meeting in Virginia, and Mrs. B. did not get the letter. On Tuesday morning Julia died, when a telegraphic dispatch was sent to her mother. These papers both lay at the residence of Mrs. Bontz until Tuesday evening, when an opportunity was afforded to send them both to the camp ground by some friend of the family who was going there. As soon as the news reached the family they returned home with all possible speed, and an aunt and brother of deceased were sent to Baltimore on the Wednesday following, where they found the remains had been placed in a coffin and deposited in a vault at Greenmount Cemetery, from whence they were taken and brought to this city on Wednesday night, and taken to the residence of the father of the deceased. On Thursday last, at 10 o'clock a.m. the funeral took place, and the remains were buried in the Congressional Cemetery.

Her grave is located in the new portion of the Congressional Cemetery, and about sixty yards south of the monument to the victims of the Arsenal catastrophe. On the clay mound is the wreath which was removed from the coffin, consisting of white flowers entwined in evergreen, and tastefully knotted with broad white ribbon. At this grave, about twilight yesterday afternoon, could be seen Al Supplee, in company with others, standing around the grave, all serious but apparently unmoved except Supplee, who with handkerchief in hand, looked meditatively on the earthen mound before him. Finally the party walked off, Supplee halting at every turn or bend in the pathway and casting a lingering look at the grave, as if reluctant to leave the spot.