

## A GASOLINE HORROR.

**Knitting-Mill, Filled with Operatives, Blows Up by Gasoline Explosion—Nine Women Burned to Death, and Many Others Injured.**

A terrible gasoline-explosion occurred on the 30th of January in the manufacturing establishment known as the Green Mountain Knitting Mills, of Bennington, Vt., which was nearly as sudden and destructive as the fire building, and sent nine poor creatures unhealed to their graves. The building was a massive brick structure, employing several hundred hands. There was a large "L" in the rear in which was placed the boiler used to heat the building and to supply steam for an engine when the water-wheel did not furnish sufficient power. To light the works, a portable gas apparatus was used, by means of which the ventilation of gas in the building was kept as an illuminant at night. The day the event here spoken of occurred, it was discovered that the pipes connecting the gasoline were leaking, and a man was set to work repairing.

During this operation the vapor of gasoline was allowed to escape and fill the room, and a portion escaped into the "L" containing the boiler. It is well known that the vapor of gasoline, or of any volatile substance, when mixed with atmospheric air in certain proportions, will explode on coming in contact with fire, and this is just what happened in this instance. The vapor mixed with the air in the room, and the fire under the boiler and an explosion followed which in an instant shattered the portion of that building permeated by the gas, which was nearly the whole structure in this instance. The roof was lifted from the side walls which it outward, and when the roof fell it dropped upon the heads of the employees, crushing them to the ground and imprisoning them in the wreckage of the building. The building was wrapped in flames, leaving those who attempted to put out the fire powerless to render aid to the poor creatures who were imprisoned there, and they were rapidly burned to death.

A local account says: "The screams were horrible to hear, and their agonizing cries for help were enough to put energy and courage into the nerves of the bystanders. The efforts were fruitless, and the unfortunate women perished miserably. After considerable time had been spent in subduing the flames, a search was made among the ruins, and the charred remains of nine bodies were recovered. In every instance there was no possibility of recognition directly, and the only guide to the names of the killed was the fact that the remains found were those of the same persons who worked at the benches where these remains were found."

It was a terrible affair, and the moral conveyed by it is sufficient to make the vapor of the commonest comprehension. Alcohol, gasoline, kerosene, and the thousand and one burning fluids and compounds sold for illuminating purposes, will explode if they are coming from a leak, and it is a terrible thing, no matter what their vendors may say to the contrary. If those who necessities compel their use would only remember this fact, and accordingly, take the most careful and uncomminally effective.

According to a recent issue of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Union, a large tiger was killed by a boy on the banks of the St. Johns river, near Jacksonville, Fla. The tiger, the tiger killer, is vanquished.

**SINGULAR MARRIAGE.**

A couple of lovers join hands at midnight over a grave in a lonely cemetery, and are united in the holy bonds by an Atte-ding Official.

MARRIAGE, although an affair of the heart, is usually a serious business. The "business" people who depict the romance of the new relation are very apt to go about it in a "business way." A word or two before a judge or a minister, and the "business" is done. Others are a little more expensive in their "business" notions, and require a fashionable church, with the accessories of music, bismarks and orange blossoms, with a couple of dear perspectives. Others again look upon the ceremony as solely a matter of romance, and strive to surround it with impressive and startling adjuncts, calculated to create what may be termed sensations.

In a recent case, a paper of a recent date appeared an account of an ardent and romantic couple who entered the new relation by telegraph. The ceremony was performed by the telegraph in conveying the questions and responses. Another couple were recently married on the ice, probably because that substance was typical either of the warmth or the strength of their affection. The couple were married in an obscure place on an obscure street, and the ceremony was performed by a man who was only "baptized" on the spot.

But the queerest of all tastes exhibited by candidates for matrimony was that shown by a couple in Princeton, Pa., who very unaccountably, one would think, would not have the chance to wag their tongues, for if there is any period in a woman's life when she dears herself to be talked about, it is when she leaves the matrimonial net, and assumes the honor and dignity of matrimony.

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## USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

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**Hickory Nut-Cake.**—One pound of flour, one pound of sugar, three quarts of water, one egg, two teaspoons of cream, one teaspoon of soda, one-half cup of sweet milk and half a pint of hickory nuts chopped fine.

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**Corn Meal, heated and placed in bags, is recommended as a substitute for hot water bottles, and such like appliances for restoring warmth to the sick.** It is said to weigh less, retain its heat longer, and does not chill when covered.

**Horseshadish in Pickle.**—Horseshadish and mixed with pickle will prevent mold forming on the top of jars. Leaves of horseshadish laid over the top will answer the same purpose. It is said that this pungent root, if grated and mixed with cider, and eaten with the food, will both prevent and cure dysentery.

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**Nutritive Value of Black Tea.**—Tea is not only to be considered as a stimulant, but also as a nourishment. That people who use a little black tea daily, and do more work on an insufficient amount of food, than those who abstain from tea, is a fact which is well known.

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