

THREE BAD FIRES.

Burning of the New Era Exposition at St. Joseph.

Almost Nothing Saved—Destructive and Fatal Fire at Louisville—Loss, \$1,000,000—Medina, N. Y., Burned.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 16.—St. Joseph's New Era Exposition was destroyed by fire last night, and over one quarter of a million dollars is now represented by a mass of smoldering ruins and a heap of ashes.

At 10:30 last night, just as the evening's entertainment in the amphitheater had closed, and while yet 5,000 people were in the grounds, smoke was discovered issuing from the art hall, and before it could be realized the entire collection of buildings immediately adjacent to the main hall was in flames.

From the time the first spark was seen until the fire had worked its will, the local fire department and that of the city were powerless to retard its progress. Constructed of the most inflammable material and filled with exhibits equally susceptible to fire, art hall and main hall burned like tinder.

Art hall was the first to burn and the excitement was heightened by the rumor that Captain Foster, connected with the cereal exhibit, had perished in the flames.

The New Era Exposition Company had provided what they thought to be ample facilities for fighting fire. A fire engine was kept on the grounds and the water mains extending within the grounds.

The distance prevented the city fire department from rendering effective aid, and though they responded promptly to the call, the exhibition was doomed long before their arrival.

Within thirty minutes after the first alarm, the destruction was completed, and, where at eight o'clock stood an exposition never before equaled in the West, nothing but a smoldering ruin remains.

Dr. Wynkoop, Scudder and Wood held an informal consultation yesterday morning at ten o'clock with regard to the condition of Mr. Cox. The result was that they found their patient in a lower condition than Monday.

That Mr. Cox's condition was precarious was established by the fact that it was determined that at no time during the day should he be without a physician at his bedside.

At 11:25 o'clock a message was sent from the sick chamber of Mr. Cox to Deputy Commissioner of Public Works Bernard Martin to the effect that Mr. Cox was sinking fast.

Dr. Wynkoop left Mr. Cox's residence shortly before two o'clock and announced that the patient was slowly sinking.

Samuel Sullivan Cox, the son of Hon. Ezekiel Taylor Cox, of Ohio, and grandson of James Cox, a soldier of prominence, was born in Medina, O., September 20, 1854.

Mr. Cox declined the nomination for secretary of the National Education Association in London in 1883, but shortly after that went to Lima, Peru, in a similar capacity.

Mr. Cox was the author of the appointment plan adopted by the House. In the life-saving service he was also an active worker and through his efforts a bill finally gained passage.

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Mr. Cox wrote a number of books, including "The Buckeye Abroad," "Puritanism in Politics," "Eight Years in Congress," "A Search for Winter Sunbeams," "Why We Laugh," "Free Hand and Free Trade," "Arctic Sunbeams," "Orient Sunbeams," and "Three Decades of Federal Legislation."

A NEW YORK TOWN BURNED. MEDINA, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Fire started in the oven of the pail manufacturing establishment of A. M. Ives & Sons on Main street at about 5:30 yesterday morning.

A Candidate Arrested. CHICAGO, Sept. 15.—Judge Prendergast yesterday morning ordered the arrest of James Ruxton, one of the candidates for alderman in the Twenty-eighth ward.

A Crack in Rome. ROME, Sept. 15.—While Prime Minister Crispi was driving a stone thrown by a man on the roadside struck him in one of his eyes, inflicting painful but not serious injury.

THE LONDON STRIKE. LONDON, Sept. 11.—At a meeting of the striking workmen at Tower Hill yesterday, Mr. Tillet, who founded the dock laborers' union, said that he believed that the mediation of General Manning would result in an early settlement of the strike.

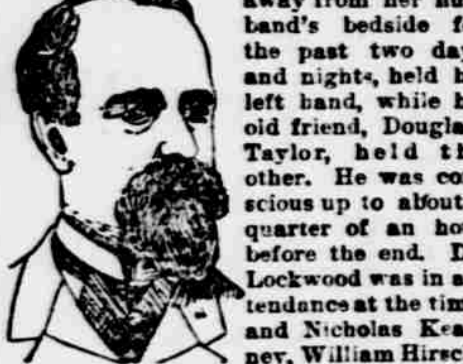
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CONGRESSMAN COX DEAD.

Death Closes the Career of the Well-Known Statesman and Wit—Biographical Sketch.

NEW YORK, Sept. 11.—Congressman E. S. Cox died at 8:30 o'clock yesterday evening. The end was quiet and the dying man breathed his last as peacefully as if falling into a light sleep.



Mr. Cox's last conversation was about the four Territories whose Statehood he hoped to father. He mentioned New Mexico and Arizona, and said something about making a great effort in their behalf at the coming session.

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TANNER RESIGNS.

The Commissioner of Pensions Tenders His Resignation—Various Comments.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—President Harrison has received the resignation of James W. Tanner as Commissioner of Pensions.

In his letter conveying the resignation, it is said, the Commissioner writes that he considers that differences exist between himself and the Secretary of the Interior respecting the administration of the Pension Bureau and that those differences being radical, in the interest of a thoroughly satisfactory administration of the office, he should resign.

One report was that President Harrison had advised Commissioner Tanner to resign. Governor Alger, Commander-in-Chief G. A. R., Governor Foraker and Commander Wilson, of Kansas, are all said to have telegraphed Tanner urging him not to resign.

Mr. Tanner is reported to have said that if her husband resigned the office of Commissioner of Pensions she would choose to take in Washington than that he should accept the office of United States Marshal for New York.

Last night a committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, the District, headed by General Burdette, ex-Commander-in-Chief, called at the White House to see the President in behalf of the Commissioner of Pensions, but it was after he had retired.

Several Grand Army of the Republic friends spent the evening with the Commissioner, but they declined to say what, if any thing, was the result of the conference. The Commissioner steadily denies himself to newspaper men.

The retention, removal and resignation of Commissioner of Pensions Tanner were subjects of protracted conferences at the executive mansion yesterday between the President and most of his Cabinet officers. Informal conferences were held between the President and Secretaries Noble and Tracy, but the formal Cabinet meeting to discuss the matter did not convene until four o'clock and lasted until about six o'clock last evening.

Secretary Noble was with the President as early as two o'clock. He brought with him the report of the committee which has investigated the affairs in the Pension Office during Commissioner Tanner's administration, to be used as an argument for securing the Commissioner's vacation of the office.

Members of the Cabinet are extremely reticent about what happened at the meeting. The President, however, authorized a representative of the United Press to state that "Commissioner Tanner had not been removed, and that he had not asked for the Commissioner's resignation."

GENERAL SHERMAN'S OPINION. NEW YORK, Sept. 12.—General W. T. Sherman was seen by a reporter last night and asked for his opinion in regard to the resignation of Commissioner of Pensions Tanner.

Corporal Tanner's reported resignation from the office of Commissioner of Pensions of the United States, in his opinion, would not affect the allegiance of the G. A. R. either one way or the other, as they are too sensible a body of men to question any acts of the President.

FAVORABLE TO PACKERS. S. B. Armour Before the Committee—A Retail Dealer Gives Testimony Favorable to the Packers.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 11.—The principal witness in yesterday morning's session of the Senatorial meat investigating committee was S. B. Armour, of the packing firm of Armour & Co. The witness fenced with the questions put to him and had quite a lively tilt with Senator Vest.

He said that last year his house made only 33 cents per head on the cattle slaughter.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 12.—F. H. Brice, a butcher, was examined by the Senatorial meat investigating committee yesterday and proved a most interesting witness. He corroborated Mr. Armour in the statement that the determination of the people to eat only the fine cuts of beef was the cause of no apparent reduction in the price of meat at the block.

Mr. Brice has been a butcher for thirty years. He said twenty years ago he got more for round steak than for loin. The people, he said, had been educated to eat the better class of meat by the packing houses. It had been bought about by the packers trimming the fine parts of the beef closer and closer, thus giving the people only the very choicest of meat.

These trimmings the packers, he said, used to can and barrel and this line of beef had been profitable, but he did not know what the price was on this class of product. Before the packing houses did this, the parts of beef termed fine cuts weighed double what they do now.

Mr. Brice said there were from 250 to 300 butchers in Kansas City. There was a sort of a butchers' association. He is longed, but took no active part. This association had nothing to do with fixing the prices of beef. He said but few of the butchers knew their business and none of them were making money. There was but one butcher in the city who killed his own beef.

The reason for this, he said, was the fact that it was cheaper for the butchers to buy the dressed beef. Mr. Brice was positive that the retail price of beef would be higher if the butchers had to do their own killing. The butchers could buy the live cattle for the same price as the packers, but the packers could kill much cheaper. He believed the packing houses were a benefit to the people and were not the consumers so particular about the quality of meat eaten, the price would be lower.

Mr. Brice said he did not believe the packers were making more than a fair profit. He said he knew of no means used by the packers to compel butchers to buy the dressed beef. Butchers bought it because they knew it was cheaper than for them to kill for themselves. Every packer, he said, retained meat at his place of business, but that was the only attempt at butcher shops that he knew of. Eight years ago, he said, the packers tried to run retail shops but soon gave it up as a bad job.

THE ANTIWEP FIRE. ANTWERP, Sept. 12.—Estimates of the loss by the recent fire range from 25,000,000 to 35,000,000 francs. The fire still smoulders over a large area which is surrounded by a cordon of troops. The firemen are working night and day pouring floods of water on the ruins. Ten persons who ventured too near the ruins have met with accidents due to the occasional explosion of cartridges. The vessels in the docks owe their safety to the favorable winds which continue to blow toward the open river, but some steamers in the dry docks are badly damaged about the decks. M. Corvintan, proprietor of the cartridge factory, is charged with homicide by imprudence.

Kossuth at Eighty-eight.

Writing from Turin about her brother, General Louis Kossuth, who is now eighty-eight years old, Mme. Rutkay says: "He is enjoying not only good health for one of his age, but preserves all the faculties of his mind. We live here, close to Turin, in a pleasant villa, surrounded by a handsome garden, which he planted himself and cultivated with the greatest care. Natural science is one of his greatest studies. Botany occupied a good deal of his time as long as he was able to climb the Alps. Now he has given it up, but has a fine collection of plants dried—about four thousand specimens—which he arranged with the greatest care. His sons are well situated and have ample opportunities to exercise their fine talents, improved by a generous education. Francis is director of the sulphur mines of Cosena, in Tuscany. Louis is chief engineer of the Alla Italia railroad line. Neither is married; their father does not desire it, perhaps because they have no opportunity to marry Hungarian women."

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