

The Fire Front.

PONTIAC, Mich., Dec. 28.—Fire was discovered in the north wing of the Eastern Michigan insane asylum at 11 o'clock Saturday morning. The flames spread with fearful rapidity, and with the limited facilities at hand the firemen were powerless. Fifteen minutes after the first alarm was sounded the occupants of the wing, 500 women, were turned loose. Screaming frantically with terror, the maniacs surged through the corridors, where the air was already filled with smoke. The flames were visible through it all, and the sight filled the demented creatures with terror. Some

RAN LIKE WILD ANIMALS, tramping upon their slower companions, in their mad effort to escape. Others were paralyzed with fear and stood rooted to the spot, with eyes staring horribly into the roaring fire. The attendants performed deeds of heroism in the endeavor to rescue the helpless. Rushing hither and thither, dragging the hesitating ones from the rooms, they drove the insane women into the open air. When some were once outside they would break away and rush for the building again.

ALL PROBABLY SAVED.

Superintendent Burr and his assistants on the medical staff gave directions for the removal of the inmates and by their excellent and valiant labors all, it is believed, were rescued alive. Nevertheless some say that several women were seen at the windows after the patients were supposed to be all out. They had torn every vestige of clothing from their persons and were laughing in hideous glee at the approach of the flames. By 11:30 the entire north wing was wrapped in flames. The attendants had done all in their power and nothing was left but to try to save the rest of the asylum from the flames. The spectators declare they heard shrieks of anguish from the awful pyre, as of demented victims yielding their lives to the flames, but in the confusion it was impossible to distinguish the screams of the frightened maniacs without from the expiring outcries of the victims within, if any there were. Strenuous efforts were made to convey the patients to cottages for safe keeping. This was accomplished with the utmost difficulty. There was great fear lest the fire should make across to the south wing, where nearly 700 men were confined. Preparations were immediately made to remove the men if it became necessary. Inside the south wing, from the moment the flames came in sight, the wildest excitement prevailed. The 700 crazy men tore about their rooms.

YELLING LIKE DEMONS.

Hundreds of people from Pontiac and vicinity joined in the fight with the flames at this juncture and by a most stubborn resistance the wing was saved. Aside from this, everything save the chapel, hospital and engine house was destroyed. A number of the women who were in the section of the building first destroyed were severely burned in being removed, but prompt attention averted any serious consequences.

NARROW ESCAPE OF BRAVE MEN.

James Lyon, Fred K. Linton and another attendant, whose name could not be learned, had a narrow escape while fighting the flames on the fourth floor. Unknown to them the fire surrounded the spot at which the men were working, and only when they found every avenue of escape except one small window closed did they think of their safety. When the flames were nearing them a long ladder was secured and the men were rescued just as they were on the point of falling back into the raging furnace. A number of other narrow escapes occurred and but few of the attendants escaped without severe burns or other injuries.

LOSS HALF A MILLION.

It is difficult to obtain accurate figures on the loss. One of the board of trustees of the asylum estimates it at not less than \$500,000. The patients must, for several days at least, suffer great hardship. The kitchen is among the destroyed buildings, and some time must elapse before the culinary department can be re-established and the lunatics properly fed.

Burned to Death.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Annie Kellis, a widow aged forty-five, was burned to death Saturday morning in her grocery store. A kerosene lamp that was standing on a barrel in the store exploded, and egress was cut off by the flames. She was suffocated and burned before assistance could arrive. The woman weighed 280 pounds and it is supposed that she could not get the bars removed from the door in time to escape.

Still Improving.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 28.—Secretary Foster continues to improve slowly.

Ben Butler's Health is Good.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 28.—General Butler was at his office in Ashburton place Saturday, for the first time since his illness. He has been well enough to come to town for some time, but he remained at home to complete his book. His health is now very good.

A Frightful Panic.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A theater at Windgate Head, county Durham, Saturday night, was the scene of a frightful panic, in which, according to the reports received here, at least ten persons, including nine children, were killed outright, and many were injured. The sight of the slight blaze, caused by a man in the audience dropping a lighted match on the sawdust covering the floor caused some one to start the cry of fire, and a terrible panic at once ensued. There was immediately a wild rush for the doors, which, owing to the savage crush and struggle, quickly became so blocked that only a few succeeded in at once getting out. There was a specially violent rush for the staircase leading from the gallery. The passage giving access to this staircase became blocked almost at once with persons who were striving their utmost to escape, while the staircase itself was filled with a straggling mass of humanity from the top landing all the way to the outlet.

A check taker was killed in the midst of his heroic efforts to save others' lives. In trying to retain the crowd in its mad behavior he was thrown to the floor and crushed to death beneath the feet of the panic stricken people.

When the panic had subsided so that an examination of the premises could be made the bodies of nine children, whose lives had been literally crushed out, were found lying on the staircase, or near a door leading to it.

WEDGED IN THE STRUGGLING MASS.

A constable who came to assist in the work of rescue on dragging out a boy who was wedged among the struggling people discovered that the lad was his own son. The boy although living when rescued was terribly injured and died on his way home.

The performance which was so terribly interrupted was the second one of Saturday, the attraction being the pantomime "Aladdin." The theater was literally crammed with people. At 10:30 o'clock the shout of fire created a fearful scene. The whole audience rose to their feet en masse, and there was dire confusion in the midst of which were heard the shrieks of women, many of whom fainted. The lessee of the house then displayed the most creditable presence of mind. Stepping on the stage he shouted to the audience beseeching them to remain seated and solemnly assuring them that there was no real danger if they would do so. At this juncture many others of the men present also showed that they retained presence of mind by forcibly striving to restrain the mad rush of the crowd for the doors, but their brave efforts proved of no avail.

The occupants of the pit and the spectators whose seats were in the better part of the house succeeded in escaping safely to the streets. It was a sudden bond in the gallery staircase which caused the fearful jam that exit. People who had fallen and were lying in heaps there screaming and groaning were trampled upon. At last so many of the struggling people had fallen that all passage for exit was effectively blocked by a mass of writhing human beings and those still remaining on their seats were forced to seek other means of escape.

ACTS OF HEROISM.

The occasion was made doubly memorable by several acts of heroism. One man who had occupied a gallery seat jumped from the gallery railings to the balcony below and slid thence to the stage, all the time holding to a child by his teeth. Other men rescued some women by similar means.

Meanwhile the fire was easily quenched. The police sought medical aid and assisted in extracting the victims from the staircase—a matter of the utmost difficulty. One child, after calling out piteously, "Save me, save," died before it could be reached. The corpses were laid in adjoining buildings, and the injured were taken to hospitals and other institutions.

The news of the catastrophe spread rapidly and soon throngs of people were rushing to the scene to ascertain the fate of friends and relatives.

NAMES OF THE DEAD.

Within a few hours, eleven of the dead were identified. All were between the ages of 13 and 16. The names were: Casely, Robinson, Gregg, Oarlen, Watson, Casely, Bainbridge, Robinson, Murphy, Waddington, Foster. The last named was the check-taker.

The audience numbered 1,200 persons. The company members escaped in their costumes and when they returned they found that their dressing rooms had been robbed of their ordinary clothing. The lessee of the theater announced that he will give the proceeds of the performance to the bereaved, and will close the theater pending an investigation.

A Millionaire Dies.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 28.—Charles Mayer, a pioneer of Indiana and a millionaire wholesale merchant, died, aged 70 years.

A Fatal Mistake.

ALBANY, Ga., Dec. 28.—Friday Josephine Jones, a woman from the country, was indulging in the celebration of Christmas by exploding fireworks. She held an immense cannon cracker in her hand while it exploded. Her hand was torn off and she was carried to a doctor. While the doctor was dressing the wound he ordered an attendant to give the woman a drink of whisky from a bottle in the office. The man by mistake took a bottle of carbolic acid and gave it to the patient. In a few minutes the woman was dead.

Three Mysterious Escapes.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 2.—This evening while Keeper Griffith was feeding the prisoners in the county jail, three of them seized him, bound him securely with cords, put a gag in his mouth, took his keys and escaped. It was an hour before Griffith liberated himself and gave the alarm.

The escaped prisoners are Charlie Miller, the 16-year-old boy who in September, 1893, killed two companions, Ross Fishbaugh and Harvey Emerson of St. Joe, who were traveling with him in a freight car. Miller was sentenced to be hung, but was granted a stay of execution. This case is now before the supreme court. He escaped from jail on September last, but was recaptured. The second prisoner was William Kingen, a notorious cattle thief who lived in Nebraska and raided the Wyoming cattle ranges. He was captured by officers of the Wyoming Stock Association and carried by force into Wyoming, where he was legally arrested, tried and convicted. His case is now before the supreme court. Kingen's being kidnaped to a demand by Governor Thayer of Nebraska for his release, which was refused by the governor of Wyoming. The third prisoner is William Johnson, convicted of selling whisky to the Indians.

Said He Was G. deon Marsh.

ELKTON, Md., Jan. 2.—A fine looking man of rather large frame, wearing a handsome black moustache and side whiskers and dressed as if he were accustomed to move in good society, entered the Elkton house here at 9 o'clock Tuesday night. Accosting the proprietor, Charlie Phillips, he begged the privilege of remaining in the bar room until the closing hour. When closing time came he started out, remarking that he would have to tramp it again. Mr. Phillips offered him a room in the hotel without cost, which the stranger after some persuasion, accepted. Before leaving he said he was Gideon W. Marsh late president of the Keystone bank of Philadelphia but asked Mr. Phillips not to say anything about it. He also said that he had a wife and two children, but had not called to see them in passing through the Quaker city. He had left his valise, with its contents, in New York to pay a hotel bill of \$25, reserving the right to take from it a bible which his mother had presented him, acknowledging at the same time that he had not read it. In his cravat was a handsome diamond pin, which he said was a gift, and under no circumstance would he pawn it. The man did not act like one who had been drinking or was a crank and answered very much the description of Mr. Marsh. At 7:30 o'clock yesterday morning he started down the railroad track in the direction of Baltimore.

Anxious for Peace.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Santiago de Chili correspondent of the Times today affirms, or what he declares to be the highest authority, that Chili would not feel humiliated in helping to the utmost of her power to terminate peacefully and in a manner honorable to both herself and the United States the conflict which but for the lengthy and secret form of criminal procedure followed in Chili, which allowed false and constant reports hostile to a good understanding to be propagated abroad, could never have attained such exaggerated proportions. The correspondent says it is evident there are firebrands who are anxious for the inauguration of a war which would be disastrous to the best interests of both the countries concerned.

The Graves Trial.

DENVER, Colo., Jan. 2.—Judge Furman began his address Thursday morning in the Graves trial, maintaining that the state had made out a weak case. He continued his speech to the jury in the afternoon, and concluded at 6 o'clock in the evening. He spent a large portion of his time in discussing the law and protesting against the ridicule and abuse of counsel for the state. He did not attempt to justify the contradictory story of Dr. Graves told on the stand. He said he did not have to do so. The only burden resting upon him was to show the guilt of the defendant. The state was obliged to subvert the presumption of innocence. He endeavored to influence the sympathy of the jury, quoting extensively from the bible. All his illustrations were drawn from scripture. He pictured awful mistakes that had arisen from convicting a man on circumstantial evidence. It was true, the state had brought witnesses from various states and the question was asked how they could manufacture the circumstances that fit so nicely. It was done, he said, through the Pinkertons. He spent more time showing the fallacies of the evidence of Mrs. Hickey and other witnesses. Mr. Stevens will conclude for the state Saturday and then the jury will decide the fate of Dr. Graves.

Smothered to Death.

KENTLAND, Ind., Jan. 2.—While playing in the Cunningham elevator here Thursday afternoon Matthew, son of Hotel Keeper Hubertse, in company with A. Hellman, jumped into a bin containing 15,000 bushels of shelled corn which was being transferred into another bin from a valve at the bottom. The boys were testing their ability to extricate themselves after being drawn down part way with the running corn when young Hubertse got in too deep and was smothered to death.

Herrick's Story.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Timothy Herrick, the father of Albert Herrick, the fugitive New York Central brakeman, saw his son in New York Saturday and had a long talk with him. He says he urged his son to go to the railroad officials and tell his story, but he would not do so because of the excited state of public feeling. Then the father got him to make a written statement, which was sent to Superintendent McCoy. In it young Herrick says that when his train slowed up, but while it was yet moving, he dropped off and placed two torpedoes on the rail and then ran back to the train, which was moving, but as it slowed up more he took his lights and started down the track to stop the Croton local, then nearly due.

When half way down he placed one torpedo on the rail and then walked on to the station. When he got there he placed his lights on the platform, the red light showing south, and went in to ask how the local was. The agent did not know and Herrick sat down and remained there three to five minutes, when he heard a train coming and started for the door, believing it to be the local. As soon as he saw the train he knew it was the express, grabbed up his light and attempted to attract the engineer's attention, but it was too late.

He followed on up the track and soon met a man who told him about the wreck. He did not deem it prudent to go to the wreck, so he turned about and came to New York. He adds that he fully realizes the awful position he is placed in and can only say that he felt sure that the train to come first was the local.

From those who were in the caboose it was learned that upon hearing that several persons were killed, young Herrick lost his head and raved wildly. After a time he quieted down and stripping off his coat threw it down and put on a pea jacket which he carried. He sat in the corner for a time and then said, abruptly: "This ends my railroading. I guess I'll skip."

With that he disappeared. The New York police seem to think that Herrick is not far from this city and do not credit the suicide theory.

Murdered His Wife.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 30.—Intelligence is received of a terrible Christmas tragedy near Goldfast, on the Mississippi river. Shirley Wakefield, a farmer, became involved in a difficulty with his brother-in-law, James Pale, when Mrs. Wakefield walked up to her brother and dismissed him and then went up to her husband and took hold of a loaded gun he held. Wakefield told her if she did not release her hold on his gun, he would kill her. She continued to hold the muzzle of the gun, when he pushed her from him and shot her through the stomach, killing her instantly.

Horsewhipped a Masher.

SHANGHAI, Pa., Dec. 30.—Solomon Haas, a well-known resident of this place, was publicly horsewhipped by John Snyder, proprietor of the Philadelphia Novelty store, for insulting his 13-year-old daughter. Haas met the girl and made improper proposals to her. Snyder purchased a cowhide and going to Haas' place of business gave him a severe flogging. Snyder has been arrested. The affair is the talk of the coal regions.

The Graves Trial.

DENVER, Dec. 30.—In the Barnaby trial Dr. Graves was called to the stand and his cross-examination was resumed by Stevens. The doctor thought he was in Denver after his brother's death two or three days. He did not meet Judge Furman while there. Mrs. Barnaby was a kind woman, but not easily influenced.

Dr. Graves admitted, when shown certain letters, that what he had told his wife about people from the Adirondacks talking about Mrs. Barnaby was false. He denied having told Mrs. Hickey that if Mrs. Barnaby took her money out of his hands he would have her sent to an asylum. Several other points about his dealings as agent for Mrs. Barnaby he could not remember at all.

The defense caused some surprise by introducing Daniel Smith as a witness. He was the hostler who cared for Worrel's buggy the night it contained the bottle of whisky. Smith previously appeared as a witness for the prosecution and swore that he had not tampered with the package containing the bottle while it was in the livery stable. Apparently contrary to the expectations of the defense, he reiterated that statement. The defense introduced three witnesses to impeach his testimony, but did not succeed to any great extent.

Clancarty Twins.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The countess of Clancarty, formerly known as Belle Bilton, the concert hall singer, has become the mother of twins, both boys. These births amply provide for direct succession to the earldom of Clancarty and several other titles which belong to the holder of that earldom. The friends of the countess are more than delighted, for it is believed the event will lead to a complete reunion of the family, the relations of which were badly strained by the marriage of the present earl.

They Have to Stay Married.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—Judge Withrow gave his decision in the divorce case of Sarah G. Darrow against Constantine C. Darrow, the young couple from New York who were married on a banter, and who now wish to be separated. Judge Withrow rules that the marriage cannot be dissolved and that the parties must remain man and wife. Mrs. Darrow is a handsome young lady seventeen years old and is the daughter of Judge Gaskell of Lockport, N. Y.

The circumstances of the marriage brought out at the hearing of the case were, that the young lady, while not yet sixteen years old, had several admirers. Among them were Constantine C. Darrow, a young law student. Darrow was jealous of all the young men who sought Miss Gaskell's favor, and it was stated that he challenged his sweetheart to prove that she was not married to some of the other young men by going to a church and marrying him. She took the banter, it was stated, and they went to an Episcopal church at Lockport, N. Y., and were married.

The young lady returned to her parents and young Darrow resumed his law studies and nothing was said about the marriage. Mature reflection and a little time seemed to have cured their fancy for each other. Darrow came west about a year ago and began the practice of law in Buchanan county, Missouri. After his departure from the east the minister who performed the ceremony informed Mrs. Gaskell, the young lady's mother, and steps were taken to secure a legal separation.

Bishop Loughlin Dies.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 31.—The Right Reverend John Loughlin, bishop of the Catholic diocese of Long Island, and one of the best known prelates in the country died Tuesday afternoon. He had been ill but a week, a complication of diseases, and although in the morning his condition was considered serious, it was thought he would pull through. All day he was perfectly conscious and recognized the many devoted priests who knelt around his bedside and offered up prayers in his behalf. His great vitality stood by him to the last and when the end came shortly after 4 o'clock he was in full possession of his mental powers.

Bishop Loughlin was seventy-four years of age. He was born in Down county, Ireland, in 1816, and came to this country at the age of seven years. He studied for the priesthood at the Albany academy and finished at Chambly, Canada. He was ordained a priest October 18, 1840, and was at once assigned to the diocese of New York. His charge was a small parish in Utica, N. Y. On October 30, 1853, he was made bishop of the diocese of Long Island and was formally installed on the 10th of November. He was then thirty-five years of age.

Last October Bishop Loughlin celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood, and it was made a memorable event by the Catholics of Brooklyn.

Accused Her Father.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 31.—Marcene and Dave Beatty and Owen Bowden of Feltres county are dead, and Edward Harris, their murderer, is a fugitive from justice. The trouble was the result of a charge made by Mary Beatty that her father was also the father of her child, which was born three months ago. She had gone away from home and was living with the Harris family. Monday while returning home from Jamestown, where she had gone to testify before the grand jury against her father, Clairborne Beatty, she was intercepted by her brothers and Bowden who demanded that she return home. One of the brothers was abusive using a whip to the girl, who said she would rather die than live with her family again. Young Harris then took the part of Miss Beatty. He pulled a revolver and fired at the party, killing three of them. The Beattys are well known and respected. The daughter is an educated and strikingly handsome woman of twenty. A report that Miss Beatty and Harris were married some time ago is current, but cannot be confirmed.

A Disastrous Collision.

CHILMARK, Mo., Dec. 31.—By a mistake in train orders a disastrous collision occurred between two freight trains on the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad, seven miles east of here, resulting in the death of four trainmen and the fatal wounding of two others. The dead are Engineer Busbee, Fireman Barry, Fireman Price and Brakeman Gilmore. Brakeman Bell and Engineer Mannan will die. Eleven cars of cattle were wrecked. The wreck caught fire and the animals were slowly roasted to death.

NEBRASKA ST.

The grippa is making a leap year dance a Fremont. Win. Francis of the hog last week. A conservatory of opened at Haldrege. A Norfolk merchant in his store window. The people of Pallas to build a union church. The Gretta brass band with new instruments. A young man languish in jail for the theft of a Blair has the only still used as such in the town. The town board of erect a town hall in the Engineer Halliday of crutches because of a Judge E. M. Coffey quitted by the bar of the Beatrice board of number of new enterprises. Many Washington at present engaged in Adams county farmers to be holding their prices. Jake Palmer, a farm Gretta, sold 19000 for \$685. The store of Milligan Dodge was broken open \$100 stolen. Young boys in Hartman allowed to spend in the street. The telephone company painting the poles and of their wires. The property owners avenue, Hastings will the street paved. A ten days gospel meeting at the M. E. church in beginning January 3. The Polk county cream quantities of butter to morning by express. A number of business expected to occur in David ginning of the new year. The pavement of St. Hastings has given expected twenty-five to fifty men. Hon. John L. Means of a prominent bridge construction to Ponca, Cal. A young man named Blair, was thrown from breaking the bones of a Frna Foxler, Free started August 16, 1890 the world and arrived W. H. H. Mills who has been running the Ha now engaged in public cal forum. A convention of Sunday ers of Juniata township, will be held at the Ash January 2. Alexander Buchanan City was arrested for wife cording to report he whap day or two. L. J. Gillis of Hastings days ago for Adria, Married, lost his trunk containing yardrobe. Beatrice has a number who are rapidly becoming the Democrat calls upon to take them in hand. The citizens of the new Boyd county, are huddled back. Within the last have erected thirty-six place. It is reported that O. Red Cloud, will investigate the defunct Press at Fr continue its publication of the new party. Fremont contains a habit of making in sure of his person before on their way to school. a tar and feather factory. Ord is going to have a posed of business men and of the town. The attorneys have volunteered to give week to the students. The chance for Ord young idea of the law. At a meeting held at the organization of the Poland China association with George Mosher president. D. R. Wagner, secretary, embrace Furnas, and Phelps counties. At an indignation held in Eggle in which the zans participated passed that steps be taken to gambling and the liquor in the city. An agreement was made pledging stand by each other through thin financially or physical pression of the evil. This thirty citizens, composed of iest and heaviest taxpayers. unity. On adjournment zans meeting the signers agreement met and effect order league, with J. Q. A dent and George F. Keefe.