

NINETEEN HORSES ROASTED

A Livery Stable and Contents Burned at Fremont.

A Man Cremated and Thirty Thousand Bushels of Oats Destroyed in New York City - A Church in Flames - Other Fires

FREMONT, Neb., Jan. 16.—About 11:15 o'clock last night the alarm was sounded for a fire in what is known as the Blue Front barn on Broad street, between Second and Third streets. The building was a very large frame structure, occupied by Eugene C. Smith as a boarding and livery stable. When first discovered the fire was about in the center of the building, but soon spread to all parts of it. So fast did the fire of gain headway that nothing was saved. All told there were nineteen horses in the barn, all of which were suffocated or burned to death. Mr. Smith had a large stock of carriages and buggies, all of which were lost. At 1 o'clock the fire was still burning, but by hard work it was confined to the one building where it started, although the office and carpenter shop of Seelye, Son & Co. was within ten feet of the barn and separated from it by an alley. It was very cold, the thermometer showing several degrees below zero, and many of the firemen were frost bitten.

Many of the horses burned were fine driving animals and the total loss will aggregate \$5,000.

FIRE IN NEW YORK.

One Man Cremated and Much Damage Done.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—At 4:45 this morning the blacksmith shop in a wooden building at the corner of Bank street and Thirteenth avenue was discovered to be on fire and with amazing rapidity the whole building was enveloped in flames. The stiff western wind soon blew the flames to the huge seven-story building occupied by the Van Tassel Warehouse company's building and that building from top to bottom was soon aglow with a seething fire. Shortly after the grain warehouse caught two men were seen at a window on the fourth floor looking for a means of escape, one of them, Joseph Speede, managed to gain the grain chute, through which the boats below receive their freight, and slid down in safety to the ground. The other, Frederick Kopf, tried the stairway, but as that means of exit had been cut off by the flames, and as he never was seen again, he was undoubtedly burned to death.

Thirty thousand bushels of oats in the grain warehouse were consumed and the entire loss is estimated at \$250,000. The new brick stables of the Knickerbocker Ice company adjoining the grain warehouse were saved from much damage, but only through the strenuous exertions of the firemen.

By 11:30 the flames were under control and all danger of the fire spreading further had been averted.

The Pumps Got Out of Order.

OSCODA, Mich., Jan. 15.—The most destructive fire Ausable has suffered started in the dry goods store of Dan Rosenthal & Co., at 8:45 last evening and was not gotten under control until 1 o'clock this morning, after nineteen buildings had been burned. All the hydrants within two blocks of where the fire started were found to be frozen up and a delay of half an hour was experienced in getting the first water on, and then the water works pumps refused to work satisfactorily and only very small streams could be thrown. The thermometer stood at zero, and this greatly retarded work, loss, \$75,000.

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES MEET.

One of the Most Important Conventions Ever Held in the West.

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—One of the largest and most important gatherings of railroad employes ever held in the west takes place this evening at Battery D. It will be represented by engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen, operators and carmen, and it has been convened through the medium of a circular distributed broadcast and signed by Grand Secretary Eugene V. Delis, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; Chief Howard, of the Order of Railway Conductors; L. W. Rogers, of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and Mort Shaw, of the Order of Railway Operators. The mass convention has been called to consider "The Northwestern Conspiracy in Its Relation to Organization and Federation," the subject having reference to the strike last spring of the Northwestern switchmen and the filling of their places by members of the Brotherhood of Trainmen.

The committee that has called the meeting is a fairly representative one, even the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which does not belong to the Federation of Railway Employes, having a man on it. The question to be discussed is a most important one, not only to railroad employes but to every labor organization in the country. Although it is announced as "The Northwestern Conspiracy in Its Relation to Organization and Federation," the pith of the discussion will be whether it is right for the members of one organization to take the places of members of another when a strike is in progress. This will have to be answered in open meeting, freed from the red tape and secrecy of grand lodges and supreme councils, and the men most affected by such action will be able to make themselves heard and express their opinions. J. W. Rogers, who signed the bill, was at one time prominently identified with the trainmen, but was among the first to place himself upon record in denouncing the action of his fellow members.

Jim Hall Beats Joe Tansey.

OSHKOSH, Wis., Jan. 16.—Jim Hall, the Australian, and Joe Tansey indulged in a four-round glove contest at the South Side Turner hall last night. Hall appeared to the utmost advantage and bested his opponent handily. He returned to Chicago at midnight.

FIFTY SECOND CONGRESS.

The Senate.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The vice-president laid before the senate at its opening today a communication from the interior department asking an immediate deficiency appropriation of \$150,000, for the support of the Sioux Indians, in transmitting which the authorities of the department expressed an opinion that unless the appropriation was made before February 1, next, the result might possibly be a renewal of the Sioux ghost dances and the disturbances of last year. The communication was referred to the committee on appropriations.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—In the senate today Mr. Gordon, of Georgia, expressed his disapproval of the bill appropriating \$100,000,000 for coast defenses. He thought the country was in more danger from extravagance than from foreign force.

Mr. Paddock reported favorably from the committee on agriculture his pure food bill of the last congress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—In the senate today Mr. Cullom, of Illinois, presented a bill which he said had been forwarded to him by Mr. Rogers, chairman of the railroad commission in New York, who was also a member of the organization saving under discussion.

The House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—In the house today Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, introduced a resolution for the repeal of the retaliatory duties clause of the McKinley bill, and authorizing the president to open our ports to free those countries which adopt our products free of duty.

Mr. Teller presented a concurrent resolution reading that it was the determined policy of the government to use both gold and silver as a circulating medium either under the ratio now established or under any other ratio that might be agreed on and that the president of the United States shall invite the nations of the world to a conference to decide upon a common ratio for the purpose of establishing a bi-metallic money circulation upon a fifty of value between these governments, this conference to be held at such place as the majority of the nations accepting the invitation agreed upon; also authorizing the president, whenever, in his judgment, a sufficient number of nations had agreed upon a ratio, to make an official declaration of that ratio, and to authorize all collectors of the United States to be upon that basis until otherwise ordered.

THE LEAGUE SCHEDULE.

The Season Will Probably Consist of 154 Games—Dahlen's Fix.
CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—President Hart is working on the new schedule, which will be made up of 133 or 154 games, as the schedule committee may decide. If the league concludes to play 154 games the season will open in the south April 13 and close about the middle of October. In such event the first series would consist of eighty-eight and the second of sixty-six games. Each club will then be scheduled to play seven games with every other club on the home grounds, and it is likely that these games will be played on these trips, two games each at first and three on the last visit. The various clubs have furnished the committees with dates that they want and dates that they wish to avoid. The work will be necessarily slow.

Third Baseman Dahlen will eventually be a big loser through his short experience with the Milwaukee club. During the fall, says the Milwaukee Sentinel, Dahlen was signed for Milwaukee at a salary of \$3,000 a year. Prior to this, however, he had signed a Chicago contract for 1893 at \$1,400 a year. He got \$500 in advance from Milwaukee. When the consolidation was made Dahlen reverted to the Chicago club at a salary of \$1,400 and the Chicago club became responsible to Milwaukee for the \$500 advance money paid him. This money will be deducted from Dahlen's salary and the consequence will be that next season he will receive only \$900 instead of the \$3,000 which would have been his had Milwaukee stayed in the swim.

HE SWORE A LIFE AWAY.

The Chief Witness in a Murder Trial Confesses a Conspiracy.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—Arguments are being heard today on the motion for a new trial in the case of Sidney W. Bell, the Columbus, O., boy who last summer was convicted of the murder of Sam Jacobson, a wealthy Hebrew and man around town, the crime having been committed under circumstances that caused a whirlwind of excitement at the time. The motion for a new trial is based largely upon the confession made in Chicago a week ago by the chief witness for the prosecution in the trial, the confession being to the effect that he had been induced by certain police officials to swear falsely and that the real murderer was a man named Henry Schwartz. The confession, which fits in many points that were obscure at the trial, commands considerable credence, and it is regarded as certain that a new trial will be granted. In this event Bell can never again be convicted, as of the two chief witnesses against him on the trial, one has recanted his testimony and the other is dead.

Freddy's Good-By to the Cup.

Lily Langtry's Darling Will Take to Chloride of Gold.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—People in White Plains say that Fred Gebhard, clubman and turfman, is about to take the bicarbonate of gold cure. He has already secured accommodations at the Bronson house, in White Plains, and is expected there tomorrow. He has changed his mind several times, however, and may do so again.

Cardinal Manning's Obsequies.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—It has been finally decided that the funeral of Cardinal Manning should be held at the Brompton oratory on Thursday next. The services will begin at 11 a. m. Requests for mass will be said by Rt. Rev. William Clifford, bishop of Clifton, and the sermon will be preached by the Rt. Rev. John C. Hedley, bishop of Newport.

THE EXILES.

A RUSSIAN STORY.

CHAPTER X.—ALMOST A TRAGEDY.

What was the cause of this frightful conflagration? Who was its author? Should it be regarded merely as a simple accident, the result of some hunter's imprudence, as Yegor had at first supposed, or as an act of aggression?

To explain this episode of our tale, we must recur to some facts already known. Yegor and M. Lafleur, after having hurried down the rock upon the chief of police, thought the latter crushed, buried forever beneath the broken fragments of the block. They were deceived—Yermac still lived.

When he saw the rock totter above him, quickly dropping his horse's bridle, he threw himself against the vertical wall; the latter presented a slight projection at about a man's height which preserved him. However, some fragments wounded him on the right leg. Yermac had only the loss of his horse to regret.

Screened by the pines dragged along by the rock in its fall and, besides, having in front of him the largest portion of the enormous mass precipitated from the sides of the mountain, he was concealed from every eye. As a prudential measure, he remained in this refuge all night.

The next day, thanks to bathing it with cold water, the swelling on his leg diminished; he cut a cane for himself and managed to reach the Yakoutie post, erected on one of the slopes of the Yerkho-Yansk Mountains. He remained there only long enough to take some nourishment and to borrow a Siberian horse. Then, despite his wound, he at once resumed the pursuit of the fugitives.

Shortly afterwards, he met a patrol of Cossacks on horseback. These men, questioned in regard to the fugitives, whom, as Yermac thought, they must have passed, asserted that they had seen no one.

He informed them that he was the chief of police of the government capital, and established his identity by means of documents he bore about him. Then, he directed the Cossacks to notify the chiefs of the posts—ostrogs—that several exiles had fled from Yakoutsik, accompanied by a foreigner, a Frenchman, and gave them the descriptions of Yegor and his companions.

Some hours later, Yermac was walking beside the vast forest in the midst of which the fugitives had taken refuge. He passed it, and then discovering no sign of them beyond it, retraced his steps, convinced that they had penetrated into the forest and had not yet quitted it.

What could they be waiting for, hidden in this spot? Without doubt, they wished to put off the scent whoever might be seeking to recapture them.

How was he to find them? How was he to dislodge them? He was alone and wounded; they were numerous and well armed. He was alone and the forest stretched over an immense space. The struggle was too unequal.

He reflected for a long while, and, at last, thought he had found an auxiliary. Why should he not employ a method used to destroy wild beasts? In his policeman's eyes, these people were criminals—Yegor, Nadege, and the lad, persons condemned to labor for life, and M. Lafleur an assassin.

He at first discarded this idea of setting fire to the forest, but he persistently returned on the succeeding days. He finally became trapped to it, and found it reasonable. The trappers fire the forests to drive away by means of the smoke the swarms of mosquitoes which incommoded them. Besides, the slender supply of provisions obtained from the Yakoutie was diminishing, and, to cap the climax, the horse loaned by the nomad, wearying, perhaps, of its idleness, one morning quitted the grass upon which it was feeding in perfect freedom and returned to its master's outhouse.

While making up his mind what to do, Yermac climbed an eminence. There, overlooking the immense plateau black with pines and larches, pressed and heaped together as if to favor a conflagration, he sought for a spot in which to kindle the fire. Should it be to the east or the west? Two parallel mountain spurs enclosed the vast forest with its insurmountable walls. To start the fire at one of these extremities would be to force the fugitives to make their exit by the other. On the eastern side, flight was possible only by passing through a steep defile with bare sides. The chief saw how easy it would be for him to wait for them there, concealed behind a rock.

When his plan was at last settled upon, he decided to devote the forest to a general conflagration. He piled dry branches and brushwood at the feet of the resinous trees, and, when the night was far enough advanced, set fire to them.

Then Yermac posted himself on the side opposite to the conflagration, in the defile which presented the sole means of free egress. Hidden behind rocks intermingled with dwarf cedars, he watched with an eager eye for the explosion of the volcano.

He had not long to wait; and when the plateau resembled a sheet of fire and the entire sky was as red as blood, Yermac recoiled in terror from his work of destruction. He passed long hours in anxiety, asking himself if he had not gone too far!—if he had not devoted to certain death the unfortunate hidden in the depths of the forest! Finally, the gray of a tardy dawn mingled with the reflections of the conflagration.

The chief of police saw two Siberian horses dash madly towards him—they were Yegor's horses, the third having, doubtless, perished. His suppositions were verified. He could not doubt that these horses belonged to the fugitives. But why did not the fugitives themselves appear?

THE EXILES.

A RUSSIAN STORY.

CHAPTER XI.—THE PRISONER.

At this moment, from behind an undulation of the soil, rose up an enormous animal, a bear with brown fur and black limbs, the shoulders of which were encircled by a white band resembling a collar.

The bear stepped and suddenly showed fearful energy, occasioned, doubtless, by the gnawings of its stomach. It went to the brigand, who lay stretched in death upon the snow tinged pink by the conflagration of the forest. It walked around the corpse, sniffed it, and, taking a convenient position, calmly began to devour it.

When the creature had swallowed the flesh, which it tore to pieces with its sharp nails and crunched with its powerful jaws, it went, dripping with blood, towards the chief of police. Was the latter about to be eaten in his turn? The bear turned the motionless and paralyzed body and, afterwards, methodically, turned it back; then it seated itself upon its haunches, reflected for an instant and decided, like the good economist it was, that, having eaten enough for that day, and even for several days, it should reserve the rest of its provisions for a time of need.

It seized Yermac by the arm and, without sinking its pointed teeth too deeply in the flesh, dragged his body in the direction of a little clump of dwarf trees.

Arrived there, it dug a hiding-place in the earth with its nails, in which it carefully laid the chief of police.

The bear broke some small branches, artfully placed them over the food magazine it had just established, and covered the whole with snow, which it deftly projected with its hind paws, turning its back to the little mound.

This done, it went to complete its digestion somewhat further off, and, perhaps, to scoff at some brown confere having a less keen scent and less activity.

Meanwhile, the fugitives—Yegor, Nadege, M. Lafleur, and the little Pole—after having escaped from the torrent of flames which ran from south to north, were returning, skirting the immense incandescent furnace, over the eastern road, by which Tekel and the liberating sledges would arrive in a few days.

They had heaped upon two of their horses, which they had succeeded in recovering, the pelogoo, some saved provisions, the arms and the clothing, and were progressing, Yegor and M. Lafleur each leading a horse by the bridle. They were advancing slowly by the intermittent light of the conflagration.

An hour after the burial of the chief of police, the fugitives reached the spot where the bloody fight between Yermac and the gold-robbers had occurred. They saw blood scattered about in profusion, and the remains of a devoured human corpse. All stood mute with amazement at this hideous spectacle. On looking closer, Ladislas perceived a trace of blood upon the snow, as if a wounded man had dragged himself away. He imparted his discovery to Nadege.

"There must be a wounded man not far from here!" cried the young girl. "See this blood, Monsieur, and this trodden snow. Oh! if we have come soon enough to save one of our kind!"

"Let us look into this matter," said Yegor.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Cropping of Russian Women's Hair.

In Russia the cropping of hair on the part of women is regarded as a disgrace. In view of this some idea can be obtained to the straits to which the peasants are driven when the young women have in many instances permitted their heads to be shorn, selling their hair to procure food.

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