

A CELLAR FIRE.

A New York fireman's Graphic Account of a Thrilling Experience.

There is an article on "The Risks of a Fireman's Life" by Charles T. Hill in St. Nicholas. Mr. Hill says: While speaking of cellar fires, let me relate an incident that happened to some companions in the downtown district at a fire of this description. It occurred in Barclay street, in the sub-cellar of a crockery and glass warehouse, amid the straw used to pack the glassware. It sent forth a dense, stifling smoke, and was an ugly sight to fight. I will relate it in the rather characteristic way in which it was told me by a fireman in one of the companies that were summoned to subdue it. The story gives an idea of what the firemen in the business part of a big city may have to face at any time.

Plantation Life.

All plantation life is to a considerable extent patriarchal, except that, instead of the woman being subordinated to masculine pleasure and agrarianism, as with the patriarchs of old, they are set on a pedestal and practically worshipped. It makes little difference to this modern patriarch of the cotton belt if his cuffs are frayed and his coat rusty so long as his wife and daughters wear suits to church that are as stylish as his crops can pay for and their village dressmaker can devise. It is a feature of the day in the south as elsewhere that women are being better educated than men. In the Northern States of the Union this higher culture is tending manifestly to effluence, but in rural localities through the South the girls come back from academies and colleges and accept the young men who stayed at home to work the plantations, the same ones they would have married had not they gone away for the education the parents sacrificed so much to bestow. They know what splendid material these men are made of, and in the attraction between the eternal womanly and the eternal manly the question of book learning counts for little. To lead a patriarchal life without a patriarch would be all in vain, and it must be said that it requires courage of a superior order to remain single in a situation which would offer little aim and stimulus outside of wifehood and maternity after youth has waned. For this reason youth is considered the high prize, the valuable capital and stock in trade. The women fade no earlier than their Northern sisters, but owing to an inherited habit of thought, the label of decay is respectfully fastened on them by the popular mind while they are still in their prime and in the Northern and Eastern States would be accounted capable of all things, even of marrying well.—Lippincott's Magazine.

Weeding Out the Ditches.

A simple device for removing weeds from an irrigation ditch has been used at North Loup, Neb. Two oak timbers, each six inches square and four feet long, were connected at one end by a heavy chain about two feet long, between the timbers. A mowing machine wheel was attached to the chain as a weight. The timbers were extended up opposite banks of the canal and with a span of horses attached to each timber, and a man to each span, rapid progress was made in breaking down the weeds. Later the weeds and grass were burned. Before using the machine the weeds were broken down by hand.—Omaha Bee.

THOUGHT THE BEAR A CALF

Adventure that Might Have Had a Very Unpleasant Ending.

"When I was at college," said on host of the evening, "I thought I knew everything, but time changed my foolish opinion of myself, and it does me good to recall some of the occasions when I was tumbled down without much ceremony from my high altitude. "One of these was when I was spending my vacation at home with a college mate who was as premature as myself. We were in that dreadful dilatory state when we addressed each other in the dead languages and made life a burden to everybody by the long words of our colloquies. "My father generously placed a couple of horses at our disposal, perhaps in the hope that we would break on foolish necks, and one evening when we mounted after sunset for our evening ride, he asked us to look up a stray calf which had escaped from a pasture near the house. "It's a black critter," said my father, "and as frisky as they make 'em. You can best run him in an' not give him time to get the turn on you, an' I'll be down to open an' shut the gate." "We had our ride, and we found the calf. By that time it was dark—no Egyptian darkness, but the dusk of a starlit summer sky. The calf was browsing on the edge of a lonely piece of woods and at first paid no attention to our attempts to start it homeward. Our horses shied at the animal, and I was all we could do to manage them. My friend suggested that one of us dismount and drive the 'bovine.' "Excuse me," I answered, "I never had any love for farm amusements, of which driving unwieldy calves is the least enticing. If we can't drive Mr. Calf with our present force we'll leave him in the lurch. I am strongly inclined to do that as it is." "Don't be disagreeable, Tom," said my friend, "it's the first favor the governor has asked of us. Let him go that way we will." "With that he whipped up his horse and I followed suit, so the calf had to move on or be run over, and something indignantly he trotted on ahead, his withers so many divisions after sweet spots of clover and other delicacies that we thought we had an all-night job. "At last we sighted the gate, and as we reached it we closed up on the calf in such a way that we run him through it and past the old man before he had a chance for one of his clumsy double and twisted jumps in another and opposite direction. "But what was our surprise to see the governor take to his heels with the agility of a boy and no springing at the line to the house like a prize runner, setting inside of the porch and pulling the door closed after him. "Who is going to put the calf in the pasture?" I shouted after him. "Calf!" he roared out of the porch window, "he's your infernal fool—that's a big black bear, and he'll chew you into sausage meat if you say one word there!" "It was a fact, and the bear story getting out, we college boys got such a roasting that we shortened our vacation and went back to the halls of learning, where they didn't know any better than we the difference between a bear and a calf."—Chicago Times-Herald.

The "Charm" of Serpents.

Any popular so-called prejudice, if long continued, probably is founded upon some matter of fact, although this may not have been demonstrated, writes Dr. Henry Lee, in the London Lancet. That some animals have the power of paralyzing others which they prey upon is a matter of direct observation. A rabbit will remain perfectly motionless in the presence of a stout and without moving will allow a hole to be made through the skull at the back of the head. We may suppose that the power of feeling, as of motion, is for the time gone. Dr. Livingston felt no pain when seized by a tiger. I have seen a mouse remain perfectly motionless under the gaze of a cat. When excited the cat's pupils become dilated. On one occasion in the evening I saw a cat in an excited state retire to a shady place where it could no longer be seen, but presently I saw two small red globes fixed upon me. I once saw the same, less defined, in the eyes of a kitten, but it is very difficult to get their eyes fixed when near. A general officer who has seen long service in India informed me that on one occasion a serpent had got into a house and taken refuge in a cellar. Being a soldier it was suggested that he was the proper person to dislodge the intruder. He took a spear and looked through a hole in the wall of the cellar, but saw no serpent. Presently two small red globes were fixed upon him. These he supposed to be the serpent's eyes and thrust his spear, as he thought, between them. The spear caught the serpent just behind the head and killed it.

To Keep Moths Away.

Try putting tansy leaves in the winter blankets when packing them away. In former generations moth balls were not known, but tansy leaves were freely sprinkled among the furs, blankets and woolen clothing put out of harm's way during the summer months, and such things always came out fresh and sweet in the fall.—New York Sun.

Canadians to Invade Africa.

It is said that a Canadian bicycle maker is figuring with a team of men to go over to Africa next winter. South Africa has no professionals, but has a number of racetracks that are said to be good. This team would be well received, so it is reported, and would be given the best of everything, including large purses for the races.

Kill a snake, and turn it on its back, and there will be a rain before night.

TALKING LOUD

London Newspapers Indulge in Some Bitter Comment.

CALL SECRETARY SHERMAN A LUNATIC

Editor of English Press is shown up in vivid light—Big bluff about Uncle Sam and His Staff.

LONDON, Aug. 10.—Commenting on the interview of the New York World with Secretary Sherman, the St. James Gazette this afternoon says: "Secretary Sherman's utterances afford no material for denial by his friends of the statement that he is suffering from senile decay. But after all, Mr. Sherman represents America, and we are certain all international courtesies will be observed."

Continuing the St. James Gazette refers to the Kalmouk incident, when it says: Austria properly severed diplomatic relations with Great Britain, and Mr. Gladstone apologized for his attack on the dual monarchy, and asks why there is one law in Europe and another in America.

In conclusion, the St. James Gazette repeats its recent warning that this is a dangerous line of policy to follow and that "some day Great Britain may call upon Washington to back its bluff."

The Westminster Gazette referring to the same matters remarks: "The interview is a frisky example of Sherman's saloon style."

The Globe on this subject says: "Secretary Sherman had better rid himself of the idea that Uncle Sam is going to boss the show, either on the gold fields or in the fisheries. We are not ready to follow every quarrel with blows; but when we strike we strike hard, and the idea of our being afraid of a third-rate naval power like the United States could only have occurred to a lunatic, or to Mr. Sherman. Judging from his latest performances we may charitably assume that the rumors that Mr. Sherman is suffering from mental disturbances are correct."

The utterances attributed to Secretary Sherman upon which the comment of the London papers is based, was as follows:

England is a great country, but it is not always safe to assume that she is ready to follow up every quarrel with blows. She quarrels oftener than she fights. It would be exceedingly difficult for her to fight as all alone, about our sea catching, Russia and Japan are in a similar position. Any quarrel between the United States and England on this score would in all probability involve those other two countries."

To E. Sagasta Also.

LONDON, Aug. 10.—A special dispatch from Madrid, received here yesterday, says:

The Spanish government was aware that a meeting of anarchists was held early in July and that it was decided to murder Senor Canovas del Castillo before August 15 and to assassinate Senor Sagasta before August 31.

PARIS, Aug. 10.—The French newspapers say they do not anticipate any political complication in Spain as the outcome of the assassination, and they do not think the conservative government will be displaced.

That the agitation against Canovas was widespread is further evidenced by the fact that the police of this city recently tore down from La Vators, in Paris, placards inscribed "Down with Canovas; mayrars will be avenged; long live anarchy," and other expressions in Spanish grossly insulting to the queen regent and Canovas. In addition the officials of the Spanish embassy here have recently received many threatening letters.

It is stated that at a recent meeting of the Spanish refugees at Grenoble capital of the department of Isere, one of the speakers declared that the anarchists would soon pay his debts with his blood.

The Matin yesterday publishes interviews with a number of Spanish anarchists. They are quoted as declaring that they had no previous knowledge of the crime which has just startled the whole world. Persons interviewed also claimed that the assassin was provoked by the persecution of the anarchists.

Negro Hung Up.

VICKSBURG, Miss. Aug. 10.—John Gordon, alias Lewis Nelson, the negro who murdered William Allen at Brunswick on July 15, by clubbing him with a gun barrel, and who was captured in Louisiana yesterday, was hanged by lynchers some time Sunday night. No inquest has been held so far, and details cannot be had.

Gordon killed Allen, a much respected white citizen, in a treacherous manner. He was captured by three negroes while engaged in a game of craps after a desperate struggle.

He was brought to Brunswick Sunday evening, and when the steamer Annie Laurie passed there Monday morning at 5 o'clock, his body was seen dangling from a pecan tree.

Hit the Mark.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 10.—Ex-Secretary of State Will A. Strong, who is now serving in Ouachita parish as a deputy sheriff, shot and mortally wounded A. S. Cook on the streets of Monroe Monday morning. Cook is a fugitive from justice and Strong arrested him yesterday morning. While the warrant was being read to him Cook made a dash for liberty, but Strong ran him for two quares, bringing him down with a bullet.

ONCE RICH; DIES A PAUPER

William Randall Roberts Passes Away in a Charitable Institution.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—William Randall Roberts, a former merchant prince of New York, who was also a politician of international reputation, died Monday, a charity patient in Bellevue hospital. Roberts was United States minister to Chile in Cleveland's first administration. On May 18, 1888, Roberts was stricken with paralysis in Santiago, and in the following year was brought back to New York by C. M. Sieberts, former secretary of the legation, and lived with him, although he had a wife and son here, ever since, until the 21 of this month. On that date he was sent by Sieberts to Bellevue. Mr. Roberts was born in county Cork, Ireland, in 1820. He received an academic education and came to the United States in 1849. He secured employment with Stewart, and eventually went into the dry goods business for himself on the bowery, when that thoroughfare was the great shopping district. His store was called the Crystal Palace and was well known as the most typical establishment of its kind in New York.

Roberts did an immense business and he retired with a fortune that passed the million dollar mark, in 1889. His real estate holdings were extensive. After retiring from business, Roberts went into politics, and to this his widow ascribes the loss of the greater part of his fortune. In 1890 he was elected a representative from this city to the Forty-second and Forty-third congresses. In 1877 he was elected alderman-at-large and he was president of the board of aldermen that year and the next. Roberts was a leader of Tammany hall up to the time of his going to Chile. He held office until Patrick Egan replaced him under the Harrison administration. Roberts was also prominent in Irish national matters. He was president of the Fenian brotherhood at the time of the raid into Canada by General John O'Neill in June 1866. For the part he took in the famous international episode he was arrested by order of the president of the United States.

Demands a Change of Blood.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 13.—Placards printed in Arabic characters have been found posted upon the walls of all the ministries, demanding a change in the system of government in the Turkish empire and threatening violence unless this is effected. The placards declare that otherwise blood will flow as during the Armenian massacres.

The ministerial commander for war, Riza pasha, has sent a circular to all the Turkish commanders directing them to watch their officers strictly. This step is attributed to the increasing piecemeal visible in Turkey against the present government.

Route of Sherman.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—The Westminster Gazette yesterday afternoon publishes a long leading article, in the course of which the opinion is expressed that if Secretary Sherman should be first to retire from the cabinet he will "make Ohio too hot for Senator Hanna."

It is awful to contemplate the results of Mr. Hanna being done out of his price for president. Some innocents may object that if Sherman is too senile to hold office he must be too senile for the senate, but as a matter of fact no one has yet estimated how incompetent a man must be before the senate is closed to him. In this he shares the advantage of the house of lords." In conclusion the Gazette remarks:

"We are rather sorry if Secretary Sherman is to be superseded, as in his own rough way he expresses a phrase of American feeling which it is important for us to know."

Keeping Cool Cool.

DENVER, Aug. 13.—Railroad men are greatly interested in the discovery which is alleged to have been made at La Junta, Colo., that the Santa Fe Railroad company is shipping coal to eastern points in refrigerator cars. According to the report, four refrigerator cars were sidetracked at La Junta for repairs. The cars were marked and sealed and the contents were billed as perishable freight, which traffic, except mail and fast passenger service, is the most privileged. It was necessary for the workmen to enter the cars in order to make the repairs. The seals were broken and the cars were found to be filled with coal from mines of Colorado and New Mexico. Refrigerator cars are said to have been going out of the state on a very extensive scale for two or three weeks past.

A Twelve-year-old Bride.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 13.—A Star special from Mexico, Mo., says: Ernest Crosswhite ran off with the twelve-year-old daughter of Thomas Pickerson and went to Halliday, where they were married. The father of the girl started in pursuit and secured the young bride and will try to hold her until age. Mrs. Crosswhite is probably the youngest bride in the state if not in the United States.

Swiss Bank in Prison.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.—An application has been received by the bank commissioners of this state for a license to do a banking business in this city from a corporation formed by a number of well known capitalists. It is to be a branch of the Swiss-American bank of Luzerne, duty organized under the laws of the republic of Switzerland. The local branch has an authorized capital of \$1,000,000 of which \$300,000 has been paid up by the incorporators.

FEAR A FAMINE

Rush of Gold Hunters to the Klondyke Causes Alarm.

TOO MANY PEOPLE AND LACK OF FOOD

Likelihood of Many Dying of Starvation if Strong Unless Supplies can Reach the Interior.

DYEA, Alaska, Aug. 4.—Via Seattle, Wash., Aug. 12.—The British steamers Islander and Gees have arrived with about 500 prospectors, which increases the number of the Dyea and Skagway trails fully 1,500. Later reports have come in to the effect that the Skagway route is open to the lakes and that it is about forty-five miles long. It is a zig-zag course over the mountains and the road is very soft. There are 200 or 300 head of horses in the trail and they will soon tramp its road in a deplorable condition. The possibility of one man in ten reaching the Klondyke is remote. Old Alaska prospectors, some of whom have wintered in the Yukon and know what to expect, are becoming frightened and turning back, not that they fear the hardships, but that they are apprehensive of a famine on account of so many men rushing headlong to the mines without enough provisions to last them two months.

The best evidence that those upon the ground regard the situation with more or less alarm is the fact that many are paying 20 cents per pound to have freight packed across Dyea pass. This is an increase of 3 cents per pound since the sailing of the Alki, at which time 16 and 18 cents were charged. Twenty cents is the regular rate over the Dyea or Chilkoot pass route. This increase is an exorbitant charge due to a scarcity of horses. Without pack animals of some description it appears to be next to impossible at this season to get freight and outfits across the divide.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 12.—A special to the Post-Intelligencer from Dyea, Alaska, dated August 4, says: Although the United States statutes strictly prohibit the importation of liquor into Alaska for other purposes than for medicine, yet there are thousands of gallons of alcohol, whisky, and brandy being landed every week. A large part of it is being shipped to the Klondyke. The worst kind of whisky finds ready sale to Indians for \$3 a bottle. In almost every bay or nook of lands where Indians live are sloops from which whisky is sold in abundance. At Dyea and Skagway, as well as Juneau, Wrangell and Sitka, are found many saloons running wide open. The government issues internal revenue licenses and at the same time prohibits the importation and sale of liquors.

An Irrigation Scheme.

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 12.—Colonel Belmont of Wall street, New York, arrived in Denver yesterday to make arrangements for carrying forward a gigantic irrigating project in western Colorado and Utah, in which he has become interested. He has been investigating the ground to be covered by the irrigating system. The plan is to irrigate Mesa county, Colorado, and Grand county, Utah. The canal will start at the head of Platte creek, above Grand Junction, following the Grand river and branching off to the west, then running through a now practically arid section. In the first six miles the canal will irrigate 80,000 acres in Colorado alone and 200,000 in Utah, provided the Utah state government consents to build a two-mile tunnel through which the waters will be conveyed.

A Swift Saver.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12.—News has just been received here that the record for the fastest transpacific ocean trip was made by the royal mail steamship Empress of Japan on its voyage from Vancouver to Yokohama. The time consumed was ten days, three hours and thirty-nine minutes. The distance covered was 4,270 knots. Heretofore the quickest passage was made by the Pacific mail steamer China from San Francisco to Yokohama in ten days, eleven hours and forty-eight minutes.

Deaths.

BRAZIL, Ind., Aug. 12.—The miners' executive board met here yesterday and gave out the report that there were 7,187 persons in the mining camps of this district that were in actual need of food. The largest distribution given yet has not exceeded 7 cents per capita.

PEORIA, Ill., Aug. 12.—A number of mines in this district have resumed work this week, and the ranks of the striking miners seem to be breaking badly. All the mines along the Peoria and Pekin union are working, and two mines at Pekin and one at Elmwood have resumed operations. Most of the men have gone back at increased wages.

Seth Low a Candidate for Mayor.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Convinced that those who have been urging him to accept the candidacy for mayor represents a majority of the republican voters of Greater New York, Seth Low has entered the race and will assist in the canvass that is being made for him.

British Soldiers Win a Battle.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—An official dispatch from Simla reports that the British force of cavalry, infantry and artillery which was sent from Peshawar Monday to punish the rebels in this Mohammedan country, who under the Mullah, attacked at Shabkadar, eighteen miles from Peshawar, Saturday, has overtaken them and defeated them after a hard fought engagement. The losses of the British were twelve killed and forty-eight wounded, the latter including three officers.

DARING ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE

A Murderer Tries to Flee From Prison. Helped by his Brother.

BOSTON, Mass. Aug. 11.—Everett Willis arrived at the state prison yesterday forenoon to pay a monthly visit to his brother, Herbert, a murderer. He was admitted by the usual officials. Herbert was escorted to the guard room to meet him. Five other visitors were in the rotunda at the time. The brothers had been conversing in a low tone, sitting apart from the others in the guard room, for about half an hour, when Officer Witham saw Everett pass a revolver to his brother and together they ran towards Turkey Daring, evidently intending to secure his keys.

A guard named Witham rushed to Darling's assistance, and as he did so the brothers opened fire. One bullet struck Darling in the thigh. Witham returned the fire, but missed. Officer Abbott saw the trouble and grappled with Everett Willis and both brothers then began to beat him. Officer Townsend, from the office door, then fired a shot which penetrated the back of Everett and a second later Officer Benjamin fired a shot through the bars, wounding Everett in the head.

Meanwhile Herbert Willis fired several shots, to which the officials responded. One shot struck Herbert in the head, while another found lodgment in the back of the murderer's head. Herbert was then secured and removed from the scene. Everett was also taken away and the wounded officers were given prompt medical attention. It is thought none of them will suffer seriously, except, probably, Darling, who is of advanced age.

Herbert Willis is in a precarious condition as a result of his wounds and there is little hope that he will survive. His brother, though seriously wounded, it is thought, has a chance of recovering.

Killed in the Chair.

DANVER, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Frank C. Conroy, the Ogdensburg wife murderer, was executed by electricity at Clinton prison yesterday. Conroy was pronounced dead four and a half minutes after the first shock. He met his fate calmly.

On the morning of May 20, 1895, Frank Conroy returned to his home in Ogdensburg from Montreal. Waking into the house he accused his wife of unfaithfulness. Angered at her denials, he snatched up a carving knife and hacked her head and throat on it she was dead. Conroy's two little daughters witnessed the butchery. Conroy gave himself up, saying he was satisfied to take his punishment.

Death in His Bath Room.

BELMONT, Mass., Aug. 11.—Henry F. Marcy, president of the Fitchburg railway, was found dead in the bath room at his home yesterday. Death was due to apoplexy. Yesterday it was developed that a shortage of from twelve to fifteen thousand dollars had been found by experts at work on the books and these facts, it is stated by friends of Marcy, brought on the fatal stroke.

Jumped For Their Lives.

OAKLAND, Cal., Aug. 11.—Paul Corrosso and his family had a narrow escape in death early Tuesday morning when a building at Temescal in which he lived burned down. The first occurred shortly after 2 o'clock. Corrosso was awakened by the smoke and escape seemed entirely cut off. Outside his window, but a considerable distance below and to one side, was a platform used as an approach to the roof garden. The Italian took his four children and threw them to the platform, landing each one safely. He and his wife then leaped to the ground, the room behind them being entirely in flames.

Train Wreckers at Work.

PHILADELPHIA, N. J., Aug. 11.—Train wreckers on the Central railroad of New Jersey Tuesday night for the fourth time in as many months accomplished the wreck of two last freight trains, the blocking of the tracks until 5 o'clock yesterday morning and the loss of at least \$50,000. Monday night a train running at fifty miles an hour struck a pile of ties. The engine left the track and landed down an embankment, a complete wreck. Fourteen cars were also derailed, piled up in confusion and their contents scattered along the track. Engineer Shupp miraculously escaped with his life. Conductor Mattress was seriously hurt. The fireman jumped.

Another fast freight, composed of cars loaded with fish and peaches, ran into the debris. The engine and two cars of fish were demolished. Engineer Struble and Conductor Moyalhan were badly injured.

Mother McKinley Travels.

LORAIN, O., Aug. 11.—Mrs. McKinley mother of President McKinley, Mrs. Helen McKinley and Mrs. A. J. Duncan sisters of the president, arrived here Monday from Canton, guests of Editor and Mrs. S. L. Bowman, with whom they will remain several days. Mrs. Bowman is a niece of the president.

After a Noisy Departure.

WILLIAMSON, W. Va., Aug. 11.—Wild stories are being circulated about the officers who are going to capture "Cap" Hatfield, the desperado who escaped last week from jail. The Hatfields are said to be strongly encamped in a mountain pass and have recently killed Deputy Sheriff Johnson and four other deputies, but none of these reports is confirmed. The officers are in hot pursuit and Judge Doolittle insists on the sheriff capturing Hatfield at any cost or risk.