ROYAL

BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., Wall St., N. Y.

The Columbian

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Entered at the Post Office at Bloomsburg, Pa., as second class matter, March 1, 1888.

BLOOMSBURG, PA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1888.

CORRECT RAILROAD TIME TABLE.

BLOOMSBURG & SULLIVAN RAILROAD

Taking effect MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1888.

STATIONS.	SOUTH. Ar. P. M.	Ar. P. M.	Ar. P. M.	NORTH. Lv. A. M.	Lv. A. M.	Lv. P. M.	Lv. P. M.
Bloomsburg	6 58	1 05	8 09	8 25	2 25	6 40	
Main Street	6 48	12 53	7 58	8 40	2 36	6 51	
Irondale	6 16	12 50	7 56	8 48	2 42	6 54	
Paper Mill	6 08	12 40	7 48	8 56	2 52	7 04	
Lightstreet	6 05	12 35	7 43	9 00	2 57	7 08	
Orangeville	5 57	12 20	7 35	9 10	3 20	7 16	
Forks	5 45	12 00	7 20	9 25	3 36	7 31	
Tubbs	5 42	11 53	7 15	9 30	3 42	7 36	
Stillwater	5 37	11 45	7 10	9 37	3 50	7 43	
Benton	5 28	11 30	7 00	9 47	4 15	7 52	
Edsons	5 20	11 20	6 55	9 51	4 20	7 56	
Coles Creek	5 20	11 15	6 52	9 56	4 24	8 00	
Sugarloaf	5 15	11 10	6 48	10 00	4 28	8 05	
Laubachs	5 12	11 05	6 45	10 04	4 33	8 10	
Central	5 06	10 57	6 38	10 12	4 40	8 15	
Echo Park	5 03	10 52	6 35	10 15	4 43	8 19	
Jamison City	5 00	10 45	6 30	10 20	4 50	8 25	
	Lv. P. M.	Lv. A. M.	Lv. A. M.	Ar. A. M.	Ar. P. M.	Ar. P. M.	

Trains on the P. & R. R. R. leave Rupert as follows:

NORTH.	SOUTH.
7:22 a. m.	11:04 a. m.
3:42 p. m.	6:20 p. m.

Trains on the D. L. & W. R. R. leave Bloomsburg as follows:

NORTH.	SOUTH.
7:12 a. m.	8:32 a. m.
10:57 a. m.	12:06 p. m.
2:24 p. m.	4:18 p. m.
6:36 p. m.	8:47 p. m.

Trains on the N. & W. B. Railway pass Bloomsburg as follows:

NORTH.	SOUTH.
10:46 a. m.	11:55 a. m.
5.26 p. m.	4:30 p. m.
SUNDAY.	
NORTH.	SOUTH.
10:16 a m	6:30 p m

Personal.

Miss Mildred Knorr of Vassar College is at home on a holiday visit.

H Howard Bidleman is spending the holidays at home.

H. H. Rutter, editor of the Hughesville *Mail*, spent Christmas with relatives here.

James A. Staver is visiting his cousin J. M. Staver.

Harry Chamberlain of Bethlehem is spending a few days with his mother.

Miss Hilborne of Philadelphia is visiting at Mr. I. S. Kuhn's.

Joe Lowenburg is at home for the holidays.

Dr. Ed Jacoby and family of Columbus, Ohio, are visiting their relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Worthington of Roanoke, Virginia, are visiting at Dr. Willitts'.

Mr. and Mrs C. Unangst of New York are spending the holidays in town.

Edward F. Smith has returned from Bellevue Medical College, New York, for a few days visit.

Albert Marr is spending a few days at home. He is now employed in New York City.

Miss Ella Fox, who is taking a course in vocal culture in Philadelphia is at home for a short visit.

W. A. Snyder, a graduate of the COLUMBIAN office, now employed in Wilkes-barre, was in town Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Drinker of Scranton took their Christmas dinner at Irondale with Mr. E. R. Drinker and family.

Miss Edith Reber who is attending school at Lewisburg is at home for the holidays.

Mrs. Benj. Kistler and her son Freas are visiting relatives and friends this week in Montanden and Milton.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ringler of Philadelphia are spending the holidays with relatives here.

D. L. Brown succeeded in drawing the gold watch chanced off at J. G. Wells' jewelry store, as well as the handsome album at Mercer's.

Matthew McReynolds, Frank Ikeler, Fred Ikeler, and John Herring are at home from Lafayette College for the Christmas vacation.

Richard Patterson now of Alden, Luzerne Co., a former student at the Normal School, has been visiting friends here this week.

Mr. Conner an agent of the P. & R. road has been in town the last week, endeavoring to secure the right of way for a connecting track with the D. & S. from Rupert.

Frank H. Sloan came up from Prince Fredericktown, Md., on Saturday to spend Christmas. Capt. J. B. Bunting of the same place, editor of the *Journal*, came up with him as his guest.

Edward F. Ringler came home last week Thursday to spend Christmas with his parents. He is living at Woodville, Ohio, where he is engaged in railroading. This is his first visit here in four years.

B. I. Price, son-in-law of Samuel Neyhard, is the manager of the Denver Optical Company, at Denver, Col. He went from here a couple of years ago, after having established a reputation as a skillful optician.

Don't forget the matinee at the Opera House Friday at 3 o'clock.

Peruse I. Maier, the Clothier's, new advertisement, and learn what he has to say.

For table board go to the new dining rooms corner Main and Centre Sts.

A good house and stable to rent on Main street. Apply to J. R. Evans. tf.

White, Conner & Sloan, Orangeville Pa., offer for sale a full line of bob sleds, hand and power corn shellers, also the celebrated Lion fodder cutter and crusher. [tf

Frank and Katherine Howe, and the Gaiety Theatre Company presented "Our Railroad Men" on Monday, and Bartley Campbell's celebrated play "My Partner," on Tuesday evening at the Opera House. Mr. Howe is a good comedian and Miss Howe was excellent in the entirely different characters she assumed in the two plays. The support was good and two very satisfactory performances were given.

Miss Annie Miller's management of the music of the institute was admirable, and added greatly to the pleasure of the sessions. Her beautiful singing delighted all hearers.

The Knights of the Golden Eagle Thanksgiving supper netted them about $151. The members of the order desire to return thanks to the ladies who so kindly assisted them in making the supper a success.

If you want to see genuine "horse sense" illustrated to perfection, you must see the trained horses which are among the principal attractions in the Little People's entertainment, at the Opera House, Friday afternoon and evening. Don't fail to be there.

Twenty-five cents a day purchases a $3,000 policy in The Travelers, of Hartford, which is payable in event of death by accident, with $15 weekly indemnity for wholly disabling injury. J. H. Maize, agent, second floor COLUMBIAN building Bloomsburg. tf.

WANTED. A resident salesman for Columbia and Luzerne Counties. A man with experience preferred.

FRANCIS JORDAN & SONS,
Wholesale Grocers, 209 North 3rd Street,
Dec. 14 4t. Philadelphia.

Ten fonts of new job type have recently been added to our office. We have nearly two hundred varieties and can do any kind of printing that can be done with type and press. During the past year we have done nearly one thousand jobs of printing, and the number increases each year.

Those of our subscribers who reside outside of this county, who have responded to our request will please accept our thanks. Those who have not responded will bear in mind that our terms are strictly in advance, and that all papers going outside the county will be stopped unless paid up.

Persons contemplating having sales in the spring should fix upon a date, and then notify us so that no one else in the same locality will fix upon the same date. We will publish a calendar of sales about February 1. By the way the COLUMBIAN office is the place to get your sale bills printed, and if you want a good auctioneer, John S. Williams should be secured.

List of letters remaining in the Post Office at Bloomsburg for week ending Dec. 25, 1888.

Miss Katie Horn, R. H. Gahan, Fanule M. Richie.

CARDS.

Mr. L. Lyon.

Persons calling for these letters will please say "advertised."

GEORGE A. CLARK, P. M.

Andrew Madison, a former resident of this town, and for some years book-keeper for McKelvy, Neal & Co., was found dead in bed at the Porter House, Williamsport, last Friday morning. He resided in Moreland township, and was one of the Lycoming county auditors. A coroner's jury found that he died from the inhalation of illuminating gas, as the jets were found turned on. He retired the night before at 11 o'clock and was discovered next morning dead on the bed and partly dressed.

Peck & Fursman's Mrs. Gen. Tom Thumb Company and Prof. Hurlbert's Hippocynagon, will appear at the Opera House Friday, both afternoon and evening. The matinee will take place at 3 o'clock. With the troupe are the Countess Magri, late Mrs. Gen. Tom Thumb, Count Primo Magri, and Baron Ernest Magri, together with Prof. D. P. Hurlbert's school of trained horses and performing dogs, the whole making a wonderful and unique entertainment. Don't miss it.

The county institutes as conducted by Superintendent Grimes have become more and more instructive and entertaining year by year, until they stand second to none in this section. The care and judgment exercised by him in the selection of instructors and the engagement of lecturers have made the institute a decided success. The teachers of the county and the people in this community are indebted to him for giving them an admirable lecture course, and their appreciation is fully shown by the very large attendance at the Opera House for four nights last week.

The second annual meeting of the Farmers' Institute will be held in the Opera House, Millville Pa, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 9, 10 and 11, 1889. The Institute will be opened at 1:30 Wednesday afternoon with an address by Frances M. Eves, of Millville. Essays and addresses will be given at each session, following which any one present may ask any proper questions referring to the subject under discussion. Any information upon the Institute may be had by addressing Chandice Eves, Millville Pa. A cordial invitation is extended to all to come and participate in the exercises.

Sudden Death.

The community was startled Christmas morning by the announcement that Mr. John C Jones had been found dead in his bed. Mr. Jones for some little time past complained of a slight trouble near the heart, but had no thought of anything serious. The day previous he butchered two large hogs, each of them dressing about 300 pounds. He did a hard day's word but did not complain, except in the evening when he said he felt a little tired. After dark he prepared a block for holding a Christmas tree for his grand children, and after taking it to Mr. G. A. Herring's, his son-in-law's home, he returned home, and when about ready to retire said he would get up early in the morning and go up and see what his grandchildren had in their stockings. He slept alone and in the morning his eldest daughter Sarah, awakening first, went down stairs quietly, thinking perhaps her father was tired and she would not awaken him. When breakfast was ready her father was called, but as he did not answer, his room was entered and he was found cold in death. It was then about eight o'clock. A physician was summoned and everything done to restore him, but to no avail. His heart evidently ceased to beat in the midst of his slumber, as he was found wrapped in the clothing just as he retired, and with a smile on his face. Death may have occurred soon after midnight. Twice has this family had a sad Christmas; seven years ago they anxiously watched their daughter Laura during Christmas day while she tossed with typhoid fever, and in the early morning death claimed her. Mr. Jones was about 61 years of age, and leaves a loving wife, two daughters and two sons to mourn his loss. Five brothers, Evan, Eli, Thomas, Peter and Frank survive him. Funeral services will be held at the house Friday morning at 10 o'clock. Interment in Rosemont cemetery.

To All Who Are Concerned.

We hereby state we did not discharge Elmer Mears from our employ on account of dishonesty, and that whatever may have been said by us was not intended to reflect upon his reputation in any respect.

WM. M. WEAVER,
H. A. PORTER.

Witness present, J. H. Maize.
Bloomsburg Pa., Nov. 19, 1888. 2t.

Fine Cabinets in vignette or scroll.
tf M'Killip Bros.

A Trio of Little People.

An appreciative audience assembled last evening at the opera house to see Mrs. Gen. Tom Thumb, Baron and Count Magri in their delightful comedy of "Two Strings to Her Bow, or Which Shall Win Her." These little folks are certainly very wonderful people, and presented to the audience a very beautiful sketch introducing their various musical specialties, together with the pantomime entitled, "The Poet in Distress." Professor Hurlburt's troupe of trained horses are beauties, and justly is he entitled to the high encomiums that have been bestowed upon him by the press in the different cities where they have exhibited. The dogs come last—not least—and are wonderful leapers, three leaping over seven horses. The entertainment is repeated at a matinee to-day at 2.30 and this evening at 8. The entertainment is of the highest order and has to be seen to be. —*Harrisburg Patriot.*

The above attraction will be at the Opera House Friday afternoon and evening, Dec 28.

"It's only a question of time," and a short time, too, as to when your rheumatism will yield to Hood's Sarsaparilla Try it.

East Benton.

December 18, 1888.

A sad accident is reported to the effect that last week a son of John Coles was seriously wounded by the discharge of a gun which fell from its usual hanging place.

Mr. Thomas Ash of Benton and Miss Sarah Anna Beishline of Huntington, Luz Co., were united in the bonds of holy wedlock by Rev. A. Houtz last Tuesday a week.

Several strangers have arrived in our locality in a state of helpless destitution, but prompt arrangements were made for their comfort happiness and domestication and it would not be surprising to hear one of them call Olly papa before many years.

It has the appearance of an open Winter, but the best is, to prepare for a hard one. At all events there will be winter enough for all of us.

"Railroads go where they please when they can; but Mr. Asbury's railroad egg has not hatched worth a cent thus far. If it should even break the shell, it then might yet go with the "gapes." Best never to count the chicks before they are hatched.

We understand that Charley Moore of Van Camp has taken charge of the Cambria Academy, C. C. Hughes having accepted a call from Philadelphia. The community should never allow this school enterprise to be abandoned.

Consumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York. [sept-21-1y

Some Large Hogs.

Thomas Boucher of Wapwallopen, Luz Co., killed three hogs last Thursday morning at the age of fifteen months, which dressed as follows: 610 lbs, 582 lbs, and 537 lbs. They were bought of Mr. A. B Croop about one year ago, and were of the Chester White breed.

Not every woman, who arrives at middle age, retains the color and beauty of her hair, but every woman may do so by the occasional application of Ayer's Hair Vigor. It prevents baldness, removes dandruff, and cures all scalp diseases.

A Convenient Calendar and Stand

The most convenient, valuable, and novel business, table, or desk calendar for 1889, is the Columbia Bicycle Calendar and Stand issued by the Pope Mfg. Co., of Boston, Mass. The calendar proper is in the form of a pad containing 365 leaves, one for each day in the year, to be torn off daily. The leaves are 5½ x 2¾ inches, a portion of each is left blank for memoranda, and as the leaves are not pasted, but sewed at the ends, any entire leaf, as well as the memorandum blank, can be exposed whenever desired. The pad rests upon portable stand, which takes up very little room, and when placed upon the desk or writing table, the entire surface of the date leaf is brought directly, and left constantly, before the eye, furnishing date and memoranda, impossible to be overlooked. The upper portion of the stand is made of pressed pulp, with the word "Columbia" in raised letters at the top, the whole being handsomely gilded, and practically indestructible. Besides the month, the days of the month and week, the number of the days of the year passed and to come, are specified; and upon each slip appear quotations pertaining to cycling from leading publications and prominent writers on both sides of the ocean Although this is the fourth year of the Columbia Calendar, the quotations are fresh and new, and mention the notable events in cycling, opinions of medical authorities and of clergymen and other professional gentlemen, the rights of cyclers upon the road, cycling statistics, records the benefit of tricycling to ladies, advice about costumes, interesting to the cycler in particular, and to the public in general A departure is made this year in that a portion of the quotations pertain to typewriting and stenography, with occasional reference to the new Becker type-writer made by the Pope Mfg. Co. The information contained on the calendar would, if placed in book type, make a fair sized volume.

Many an otherwise handsome face is disfigured with pimples and blotches, caused by a humor in the blood, which may be thoroughly eradicated by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is the safest blood medicine in the market, being entirely free from arsenic or any deleterious drug.

The Harrisburg Patriot.

ALL THE NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

THE HARRISBURG DAILY PATRIOT, containing full Associated Press news and attractive special matter, will be sent by mail to any address at the following rates; $5.00 per year; $2.50 for six months; $1.25 for three months; or 45 cents per month, cash with the order.

THE HARRISBURG WEEKLY PATRIOT, a large double sheet, with latest news to date of publication, literary, agricultural, scientific and miscellaneous reading, will be sent by mail to any subscriber at the rate of $1.00 per annum, cash with the order.

Stamping of all kinds done to order New York's latest styles of pattern used Rock Street, 2nd door below Market St., Bloomsburg. tf.

Imitation crayons in gold frames only $10.
tf M'Killip Bros.

A BOY'S TERRIBLE CRIME.

He Beat His Mother and Sister to Death with a Club.

MUSCOGEE, I. T., Dec. 26.—A terrible double murder occurred on the Rogers farm, five miles west of here. A widow named Sarah Johnson and her family of four children occupied the farm. The eldest of the children was a desperate boy named Charley. The others were a girl of 12, a boy of 10 and a baby of 3 years. The 10-year-old boy visited a neighbor, and when he returned home he found his 10-year-old sister lying dead on the steps. Terrified at the sight he hastened to a neighbor's house and gave the news. A crowd was quickly assembled, and hastening to the widow's a heartrending scene met their gaze. Not more than twenty steps from the door lay the widowed mother, her head beaten into a jelly. By her side lay an oak club covered with blood, with which the terrible crime had been committed. Near the door step, on the opposite side of the cabin, was found the mangled remains of the 12-year-old daughter. The 3-year-old baby was still in the house alive. The eldest son has not been seen since the crime, and he was known to have had frequent quarrels with his mother. It is supposed that he was the perpetrator of the horrible crime, or at least an accomplice to it.

MURDERED ON DECK.

A Schooner's Mate Stabbed and Thrown Overboard by a Deckhand.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 26.—John Martin, the white mate of the oyster schooner Annie Carl, of Fair Haven, Conn., was murdered last night by Andrew Grimes (colored), of Norfolk, aboard the schooner, which is lying at anchor in the inlet. The mate had gone below to wake up Grimes, who had been drinking during the day and neglecting duty. They had a few hot words, and the mate went on deck again.

Grimes stealthily followed him and plunged a four inch knife into his shoulder, and then stabbed him in the breast and neck. The captain of the schooner, Albert E. Newton, was ashore. When he returned he found Grimes covered up in bed and feigning sleep. He was handcuffed and taken on deck, when it was found that he had thrown the body overboard. Grimes was taken to the city hall, where he had a hearing. He declined to make any statement other than that the mate and he had a row.

KEYSTONE LABOR NOTES.

Notes of Various Labor Organizations and Manufacturing Industries—T. B. Barry's New Order—K. of L. Losses.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—At the headquarters of the Knights of Labor it was reported that assembly No. 531, of Reading, composed of blacksmiths in the Reading shops, had disbanded. It formerly had a membership of 400, but had dwindled to twenty-seven.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 26.—The three local assemblies of coopers in the two cities are on the verge of withdrawing from the Knights of Labor. They comprise some 500 members, and their action will be a serious blow to District Assembly No. 3. The scheme on foot at the present time is to form a national union of coopers, to be connected with the Federation of Labor. The Pittsburg coopers are all against Powderly. They are with George Schilling, of Chicago, and are in favor of any move that he may suggest.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—It is authoritatively stated in labor circles that Thomas B. Barry will visit this city in a few days, and will take final steps towards the formation of his new Brotherhood of United Labor. Philadelphia will probably be the headquarters of the new order, owing to the many dissatisfied Knights, principally railroad men, who live here, and because of its proximity to the coal regions. Barry's organization will be largely officered by former Knights of Labor.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Iron manufacturers in this city say that the manufacture of iron is now almost without a profit, and that some works will certainly have to shut down if the price of their necessaries go any higher. During 1887 the price of coke was $2 per ton, but at that time the iron mills were active, and the demand was exceedingly large. When operations became dull, the price was reduced to $1, subsequently being raised to $1.25. The manufacturers add that there is nothing to justify a further rise.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Beginning early in January, the Adelaide Silk mill, of Allentown, will have in operation 400 broad silk looms, 200 ribbon looms and 100 braiding machines. It will then be the largest silk weaving mill in this country.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 26.—National Trade District Assembly No. 143, Knights of Labor, is composed of 2,300 green bottle blowers. A movement is now on foot to bring into it the Green League of New Jersey, which numbers about 2,000 members. This league has never been recognized by any labor organization, and has recently been refused admission into the flint-glass workers' union. At present the bottle-blowers are divided into four organizations, the green glass blowers, the prescription bottle blowers, the bottlemen in the "Flints," and the Green league of New Jersey. They are continually cutting under each other. The "Flints" are the strongest, numbering some 6,000 men. The prescription blowers number about 2,000. Influences are now at work to consolidate these organizations.

A HUSBAND'S AWFUL REVENGE.

He Shot and Beat to Death His Wife's Assailant in a Shocking Manner.

CONNERSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 26.—Two or three weeks ago a young fellow named Hawkins, of slender build and genteel manners and dress, came into the neighborhood of Brownsville and obtained board and lodging with Milton Bainbridge. Hawkins came to the house drunk and began to abuse Mrs. Bainbridge, finally striking her and knocking her down. Her sister then ran out and called in the husband, who seized a shotgun, and at once opened fire upon his wife's assailant. The first load riddled Hawkins' arm, whereupon he turned and ran out of doors. The husband seems to have become frenzied. He followed Hawkins, and at the corner of the house emptied another load into his back. The victim fell dying upon his hands and knees, and Bainbridge, with the ferocity of a maniac, jumped on his prostrate form, and with the gun clubbed and beat his head out of all resemblance to humanity. Worse than this, the mangled corpse was left lying where it fell for forty-eight hours, and the neighbors who got wind of the affair had to chop it loose from the frozen ground.

A Brakeman Killed.

CORRY, Pa., Dec. 26.—Elmer Muncie, a freight brakeman on the Philadelphia and Erie railroad, was killed here while coupling the engine to his train. Muncie was 37 years of age and resided in Erie. He leaves a widow.

A Toy Cannon's Deadly Work.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Dec. 26.—Seven young boys were badly burned while firing a toy cannon here. All had their clothing burned off and their faces badly scarred. One had the flesh torn from his hands.

Some Boys in Pennsylvania.

CANONSBURG, Pa., Dec. 26.—The following White Cap notice was found posted at the entrance to the postoffice:

To William Enlow:

You are hereby notified to leave the town and community on or before New Year's day, or you will be dealt with according to the methods of the Canonsburg division of the White Caps.

The notice caused great surprise, as it was not known that there was an organization of the kind in this section. Mr. Enlow will disregard the notice.

What Hayti's Indiscretion Cost.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 26.—The Haytien Republic was released on Thursday by the Haytien authorities to the American fleet in command of Rear Admiral Luce. The indemnity for the owners of the vessel amounted to $200,000, and that for the ship's crew was $150,000. No shots were fired during the release of the Haytien Republic. All has been quiet since the surrender of the American vessel.

Murder Results from a Quarrel.

GREENSBURG, Pa., Dec. 26.—George Fori and George Kunc, both Hungarians, quarreled at Mammoth about the division of some meat. Suddenly Kunc drew a long bladed knife and plunged it into Fori's breast. The latter bled to death in a few minutes. Kunc made his escape.

Hanged Himself.

JERSEY CITY, Dec. 26.—Adam Bubb, aged 75 years, a German saloon keeper at No. 349 Palisade avenue, hanged himself in his bedroom. Business troubles led to the suicide.

Sunk in Three Minutes.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Dec. 26.—The passenger and freight steamer Silver Star, of Bar Harbor, was sunk at 2 o'clock near Whale's Back light, having struck a sunken wreck, which staved in a hole amidships. Capt. W. H. Parker and the crew of eight men escaped in boats, but lost everything except what clothing they had on. The vessel sank in three minutes. She had been refitted at Boston and carried no passengers. She was valued at $11,000.

DEATH IN THE FLAMES.

An Awful Christmas Morning on the Mississippi.

A VESSEL BURNED LIKE TINDER.

The John H. Hanna, Cotton Laden, Destroyed in a Few Minutes—Thrilling Scenes and Acts of Bravery—Terrible Death of the Captain and a Pilot.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—The steamer John H. Hanna, loaded with cotton, from Onachita, burned at Plaquemine, nine-five miles north of here, yesterday morning. The boat and cargo are a total loss. The number of persons who perished is estimated at thirty, and the loss of life may be much greater, as the boat had nearly 100 persons on board, and only about a dozen so far have been accounted for.

At the time the fire was discovered the crew were at their posts. Capt. Jolles was at the wheel, and in the pilot house with him was Bob Smith, a famous Mississippi river pilot, who was one of the men on the Robert E. Lee when she burned to the water's edge some years ago. Second Engineer Merriman was in the room on duty, and Capt. J. S. Holmes, one of the finest steamboat men on the river, was in command of the steamer.

The boat left Monroe Sunday morning well laden with cotton. She picked up freight all along, and when she got out of the Ouachita and into the Mississippi she had over 2,300 bales of cotton.

It was just before Christmas day was being ushered in when the fine steamer caught fire. She had reached a point a short distance above the town when a negro roustabout near the boilers ran aft and cried out that the boat was all afire. John Cullen, a stoker, was near the place at the time, and seeing the flames bursting forth from big tiers of cotton near the boiler, ran hastily to the engine room and gave the alarm. Immediately Engineer Merriman took in the situation, and at once sounded the alarm by blowing the steam whistle and ringing the bells. In an instant the flames shot through the cabin and over the sides of the cotton, wrapping the entire boat in fire.

Top Clerk Powell was up stairs at the time, and when he saw the flames he heroically ran through the smoke filled cabin and tried to arouse the sleeping passengers. He kicked at the doors of the staterooms, and in a short while everybody was awake.

Then there was confusion worse confounded, and the frantic persons on the boat ran to the different exits to make their escape, but the boat was piled high with cotton and the passageways were filled with blinding smoke. Many dropped before they were able to get to the forward part of the boat, and were dead when the steamer went down.

As soon as the fire was discovered Engineer Merriman set the steam pumps working and tried to battle with the flames, but the fire swept through the boat like a blaze on the prairie, and the engine room was soon in flames. Then, to add further to the consternation, the steam pipe burst and filled the place with scalding steam. Merriman was forced to abandon his post, and he, the stokers and others ran to the sides and climbed through the pitman, in order to save their lives.

When the smoke and flames began to shoot over the sides of the boat Capt. Jolles swung the wheel around and headed her for the shore. A full head of steam was on at the time and the boat was soon run into the bank. Before she did, however, she was doomed, and there was scarcely a bit of timber that was not furiously burning. When the Hanna struck the bank she bounded away again and swung around, drifting down as she burned. Then Capt. Jolles jumped out over the cotton, and, springing into the river, swam ashore. Floating cotton, charred timber and other debris filled the river, and many people were struggling desperately in the water for their lives. Some of them were able to swim ashore, but nearly all were badly burned or so exhausted that they struggled but a few moments and sank to rise no more.

As the burning boat struck the bank of the river the crew and passengers who had been able to reach the forward end of the boat sprang ashore, some of them with scorched faces and bruised limbs, and many of them with scarcely any covering. Among those who managed to get off were Capt. Holmes and Bob Smith, the unfortunate pilot of the ill fated Lee, who was a passenger on his way down to this city. Both men were burned nigh unto death. When the captain jumped ashore he was horribly burned, and in his frantic desire to be relieved of the pain he was suffering he buried his face and hands in the soft mud, and begged most piteously for some one to help him. Smith was just behind, and lay down beside the dying captain. Nothing could be done for the suffering men, and the two died together on the river bank.

The death of John Crofton was a sad one. He was in the upper part of the boat struggling to get near the front end. The flames were twisting and sweeping all about him, and soon enveloped him. He tried to reach the bow, but he dropped and burned to death before the eyes of persons who were not able to render him any assistance.

When the discovery was made that the Hanna was burning the entire population of the town of Plaquemine flocked to the river bank and watched the vessel burn. The struggling unfortunates who reached the shore were taken care of, and doctors and others came to their assistance and tried to alleviate their sufferings.

The following are known to have perished: Captain J. S. Holmes, in command, burned to death; First Clerk Samuel R. Powell, drowned; Robert S. Smith, the old pilot of the J. M. White; Mike O'Neil, Joe Crane, Monroe Deck, Jack Duff, Jim Watson, John Crafton; twenty deck hands.

The engineers and pilots were all saved.

No reliable estimate as to how many people were lost can be obtained. One of the deck hands who escaped says that they had a crew of nearly 100, and only about a dozen can be found.

None of the men could say what was the origin of the fire. The general impression is, however, that some careless smoker threw a cigarette among the cotton and thereby caused the disaster.

J. W. Hanley, chief engineer of the boat, arrived in this city with the rest of the crew. He said the fire started in the cotton just aft of the boilers a little before 12 o'clock. Hanley continued: "I think that of the crew of the Hanna and that of the Josie W., who were passengers, the loss of life is from twenty to twenty-five. The boat, when burning, was lying at the bank of Plaquemine, and the people of that town treated us with great kindness, and furnished us liberally with food and clothing. Among the lost was a negro child. Her mother and two colored women were on the boat and were saved."

STILL ANOTHER STEAMER FIRE.

Burned to the Water's Edge—Six Lives Lost in Puget Sound.

SEATTLE, W. T., Dec. 26.—The steamer Leif Erickson was burned to the water's edge off Alkalia point, five miles west of this city. Six lives were lost, perhaps seven.

The Erickson was a propeller, twenty-four tons burden, and plied between Seattle and Sidney, Mason county, and was en route to Sidney when the accident occurred. The fire broke out in the pilot house. It is believe to have been caused by the explosion of a lamp.

There were thirty-three persons aboard. The fire spread instantly throughout the interior cabin. Capt. John Niube, the owner of the boat, was in command. He left the wheel house for the purpose of launching the life raft, but found passengers trying to put the raft overboard. In the struggle to rescue the raft from the passengers Capt. Niube fell overboard with it.

Meantime the passengers, putting on life preservers and seizing firewood or anything else that would float, jumped overboard. Capt. Niube saw his niece, Miss Annie Tollner, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Tollner of Sidney, struggling in the water about 150 feet from him. He did his utmost to push the raft towards her, but she drowned less than 100 feet away from him.

The steamer Skagit Chief, en route to Tacoma, came to the rescue and saved seven persons. The steamer Mountaineer saw the burning vessel four miles away, and headed straight for her. Half a mile from the Erickson the Mountaineer found people struggling in the water. Small boats were lowered, and nineteen persons were saved. An unknown man was taken from the water and died in a few minutes. He said just before he died that his wife was lost from the steamer.

The list of the lost is as follows:

Miss Annie Tollner, of Sidney; J. H. Nerons, of the Nerons Brickyard Company, Sidney; Jack Simmons, a half-breed fisherman; T. Smith, of Smith, Taylor & Co., Colby; a man and wife, whose names are unknown.

Christmas Suicides.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—William Weissman, a butcher, who has been unable to obtain work for some time, shot himself and will die. William H. Reagan, a salesman, tried to commit suicide at the Astor Place hotel by turning on the gas. No cause is assigned.

A SAD CHRISTMAS STORY.

Being a Strong Commentary on the Alleged Public Charities in New York—Shivering and Starving in the Midst of Plenty.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Early on Christmas morning Mrs. Annie Kelly, 22 years old, walked into the Church street police station and handed her babe, born a month ago, to the officer in charge, saying calmly: "It is dead."

The baby had died of exposure to cold in the doorway of a Washington street tenement house, where the parents had crept for shelter, having no home. The mother had wrapped her shawl—the only covering she had—around the child, but it grew colder and colder, and died in her arms.

The father, Joseph Kelly, when the police said they would care for the mother and send the dead babe to the morgue, walked away to renew his search for employment.

Mrs. Kelly, when her strength was somewhat restored by the food and attentions given her by the matron, told her story. She was married in Dublin eight months ago, her husband having a little work in Guinness' brewery. He thought he could do better here, and they came here six months ago. He could get no work, though sober and steady, and in the whole six months had succeeded in obtaining only two days' work along shore. They were soon penniless. Mrs. Kelly finally found work in a cheap lodging house, but while scrubbing stairs one day she fell and received injuries which caused the premature birth of her child while she was in Bellevue hospital. The fact that she had a baby to care for prevented her getting work thereafter.

All the clothing the couple could part with went to the pawnbrokers. Finally this source of food was exhausted, and they could no longer pay fifteen cents for a night's lodging. They did not apply for lodging at the police station, for the rules do not allow the admission of children. They drifted along the streets until exhausted, and at last took refuge in the miserable hallways. Cold, and weak from hunger and fatigue, they heard the chimes of Trinity peal out the glad advent of merry Christmas, and watched the child die.

Mrs. Kelly is a good looking and intelligent woman. She says she applied to Father Kelly, of the Mission of the Holy Rosary, for assistance before the baby was born. He could do nothing, and said he could not understand why people should bring children into the world when they were unable to take care of them. She applied to the commissioners of emigration after the child was born, but they could not find employment for a nursing mother. She also applied in vain to the Sisters of Charity, in Barclay street, and to the Trinity mission, in Fulton street. She had never begged before. Her father, Michael Doyle, was a well to do horse dealer in Dublin, and he took good care of her and gave her an education. It was not her husband's fault that they had had misfortune. They had tried to get work, and there was none—that was all.

THE POOR REMEMBERED.

Fifteen Thousand Waifs Richly Entertained at St. Louis.

ST LOUIS, Dec. 26.—Fifteen thousand poor children gathered in music hall at the Exposition building to see the gigantic Christmas tree and accompanying entertainments provided by a popular fund amounting to $10,000, raised by the Post-Dispatch through contributions from 50,000 of its readers. The management of the entertainment was entrusted to a committee of the most prominent citizens of St Louis. The choirs of some of the most fashionable churches sang the Christmas carols, while welcome songs to Santa Claus were given by select choirs from the kindergarten of St. Louis public schools. A gymnastic performance was given by the members of the Missouri gymnasium.

Every child was given a present of toys, candy, fruit, etc., while the bulk of the fund of over $10,000 was reserved for the distribution of more substantial presents among the worthy poor during the holiday week. It was one of the most picturesque and effective charities ever undertaken in this city.

Public Indignation Finds Vent.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., Dec. 26.—Intense feeling prevails in this county against the board of poor directors, who at a recent meeting for the election of steward displaced Jackson Lambertson, against the express wishes of nine-tenths of the citizens in the county. So intense is this public indignation that the offending poor directors have been hanged in effigy in the almshouse yard, and open threats of violence have forced them to keep in the strictest retirement since they ignored the will of their constituents

FRESH EUROPEAN TOPICS.

Future Government of Scotland—A Famous Historic House.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Marquis of Lothian, secretary and keeper of the Scotch privy seal; Mr. Charles T. Ritchie, president of the local government board; Mr. Balfour, chief secretary for Ireland; Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, and Mr. J. H. A. Macdonald, lord advocate of Scotland, have been appointed a government committee to sit during the parliamentary recess for the purpose of hearing the testimony of government officials with regard to the present and possible future government of Scotland. The aim of this committee will be to draft a bill based on the testimony taken formulating a scheme for local government in Scotland, which will be presented to the house of commons in the early part of the next session of that body.

York house, Twickenham, the residence of Sir Grant Duff, in which Mr. Lawrence Oliphant, the celebrated writer, died, is the historical home of the famous Lord Clarendon, grandfather of Queen Anne, the last sovereign of the house of Stuart. In this house Queen Anne was born, and it became the residence of the Comte de Paris after the latter's return from America, where he served in the army during the war of the rebellion. He sold the seat to Sir Grant Duff in 1877. Mr. Oliphant will be buried at Twickenham at noon on Thursday next.

It is asserted that the position of British minister to Washington, made vacant by the dismissal of Lord Sackville, has been offered to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and refused by that gentleman. It is understood that Mr. Chamberlain intends living in high state next summer at his house at Prince's gate, which, it is expected, will become a Mecca for wealthy Americans.

The alliance of the Orleanists and Opportunists in France is greatly to the advantage of Gen. Boulanger, whose political star is still rapidly ascending. At a recent soiree, given in the general's honor,