### Scandal-Mongers.

Do you hear the scandal-mongers
Passing by,
Breathing poison in a whisper,
In a sigh?
Moving cautiously and slow,
Smiling sweetly as they go.
Never noisy gliding smoothly like a snake,
Slipping here and sliding there
Through the meadows fresh and fair,
Leaving subtle slime and poison in their wake?
Saw you not the scandal-monger
As she sat,
Beaming brightly 'neath the roses
On her hat?
In her dainty gloves and dress,
Angel-like and nothing less,
Seemed she—casting smiles and pleasant words about,
Once she shrugged and shook her head,
Raised her eyes and nothing said,
When you spoke of friends, and yet it left a doubt.

Did you watch the scandal-monger
At the ball,
Through the music, rythm, beauty,
Light and all?
Moving here, and moving there,
With a whisper light as air.
Casting shadows on a sister woman's fame—
Just a whispered word or glance—
As she floated through the dance,
And a doubt for ever hangs upon a name.
You will find the scandal-mongers
Everywhere;
Sometimes men, but often women,
Young and fair;
Yet their tongues dip foulest slime,
And they spend their leisure time
Casting mud on those who climb by work and worth?
Shun them, shun them as you go—
Shun them, whether high or low;
They are but the cursed serpents of the earth

## THE CAVE OF DEATH.

In the early days of the French Revolution the prisons of Lyons were filled with thousands of unhappy victims. Seventy-two prisoners who were condemned were thrown into the Cave of Death on the ninth of December, there to await the execution of their sentence. This could not be the next day, because it was the Decadi.

One of the prisoners by the name of Porral, only twenty-one years of age, of a bold and ardent spirit, profited by this interval to devise a plan of escape. His sisters having, by means of a very large bribe, obtained access to this abode of horror, began to weep around him.

"It is not now a time to weep," said he; "it is a moment to arm ourselves with resolution and activity, and endeavor to find some way by which we can elude our menaced fate. Bring me files, a chisel, a turn-screw and other instruments; bring wine in abundance; bring a poniard, that if reduced to extremity, we may not perish without the means of defense. By this grate, which looks into the Rue Lafond, you can give me these things. I will be in waiting there the whole day to receive them."

The sisters retired; and in the course of the day, at different visits, brought a variety of tools, twelve fowls, and about twelve bottles of wine. Porral communicated his project to four others, bold and active as himself, and the whole business was arranged to his complete satisfaction.

The evening arrived; a general supper was proposed—the last, they thought, that they should ever eat. The prisoners supped well, and exhorted each other to meet their fate the next morning with heroism and fortitude.

At 11 o'clock the associates began their labors; one of them was placed as a sentinel next the door of the cave, armed with a poniard, ready to dispatch the turnkey if, at his visit at 2 o'clock in the morning, he should appear to suspect anything; the others, pulling off their coats, began to make their researches.

At the extremity of the second cave they found a huge door, and on this they began their operations. It was of oak, and double-barred; by degrees the hinges gave way to the files, and the door was no longer held by them; but still they could not force it open it was held by something on the other side. A hole was made in it with a chisel, and looking through, they perceived a wall tied by a very strong rope to a post at a distance.

This was a terrible moment! They endeavored in vain to cut the rope with the chisel or file, but they could not reach it. A piece of wax candle, however, was procured; and being lighted and tied to the end of a stick, they thrust it through the hole in the door and burnt the cord asunder. The door was then opened and the adventurers proceeded forward.

This door they found led only to another vault, which served as a depot for confiscated effects and merchandise. Among other things was a large trunk filled with shirts. They profited by this discovery to make a change of linen; and, instead of the clean ones which they took, they left their own, which they had worn for many weeks. Two doors besides that at which they had entered now offered themselves to their choice. They began to attack one; but they had scarcely applied the file when they were alarmed by the barking of a dog behind.

A general consternation seized the party; the work was stopped in an instant; perhaps the door led into the apartments of the jailors. The idea recalled to their minds that it was now near on to 2 o'clock, the time of his visit. One of the party returned toward the Cave of Death to see whether all was safe, and it was agreed to suspend their labors till his return.

When the scout returned he said that on his arrival at the Cave of Death he shuddered with horror to find the turnkey there already. The man, however, who had been left as a sentinel had engaged him to drink with him; and the scout joining the party, they had plied him so well that he at last reeled off without examining the cave much, and was in all probability laid fast asleep for the rest of the night. This was very consolatory news.

Quitting the door at which they had heard the dog barking, they applied themselves to the other. Four hours were spent in this laborious work, one of which they opened and found themselves in a long, dark passage. At the end they perceived still another door, but, listening very intently, they heard the sound of voices; it, in fact, led to the guardhouse, where several soldiers in their national uniform were assembled! This was, indeed, a terrible stroke. Had they then gone so far only to meet with a worse obstacle than any they had yet encountered? Must all their labors prove, then, at length fruitless?

Only one resource then remained, and this was a door which they had passed on the side of the passage, and which they conceived must lead to the great court of the Hotel de Ville.

In fact, having forced the door, it appeared that they were not mistaken; that they were at the bottom of the staircase which led into the court. It was now half-past 4 o'clock; the morning was dark and cold, while rain and snow were falling in abundance. The associates embraced each other with transport, and were preparing to mount the staircase when Porral cried out:

"What are you about? If we attempt to go out at present all is over with us. The gate is now shut, and if any one should be perceived in the court the alarm would instantly be given, and all would be discovered. After having had the courage to penetrate thus far let us have resolution to wait awhile. At 8 o'clock the gate will be opened and the passage through the court free. We can then steal out by degrees, and mingling with the numbers, we can go away without being perceived. It is not till 10 o'clock the prisoners are summoned to execution; between 8 and 10 there will be time enough for all of us to get away. We will return to the cave, and when the time of departure arrives each of us five will inform two others of the means of escape offered. We shall then be fifteen, and going out three at a time, we shall pass unobserved. Let the last three as they set off inform fifteen others, and thus in succession we may all make our escape.

This plan appeared judicious and safe; it was unanimously agreed to, and the associates returning to the cave, made choice of those who should first be informed of what they had done.

Montellier, a notary, and Baron de Chaffoy, to whom the means of escape were offered, refused to avail themselves of them, the former from a confidence of a pardon, as he had been mistaken for his brother; and the latter, though in the flower of his age, declared that all his ties to this world were broken, and that life had nothing now to offer which could make him desirous of prolonging it. They were both guillotined in the morning.

The fate of the fifteen who fled was very dissimilar, and the escape of the rest was prevented by the imprudence of one of them. The last of the fifteen who, in quitting the cave, was according to the plan arranged, privately to apprise fifteen others, instead of doing so, cried aloud:

"The passage is open; let every one that can, escape."

This excited a great movement among the prisoners. They arose in an instant, doubting whether what they heard could be true, or whether he who uttered these words was not mad. The noise they made alarmed the sentinel without; he called to the turnkey; they hastened immediately to the cave, perceived what had been done, and closing up the doors by which the prisoners had escaped, placed a strong guard before it. Nesple, who had excited this movement, was, with three others, taken and executed. Another of the fugitives took refuge in the house of a friend, in an obscure street; but he was discovered, brought back and guillotined.

It was not thus with Porral, the original author of the plan. He was the first that came forth from the cave. As he passed the sentinel in the court, he said:

"My good friend, it rains and snows very hard; were I in your place I would not remain out of doors such weather, but would go to the fire in the guard-room."

The sentinel thanked him, and, following his advice, the coast was left more clear for the prisoners. Porral took refuge in the house of one who was considered a good patriot, and escaped the observation of a party of commissioners who entered the house. As soon as they were gone, he began to think of making his way out of the city as fast as possible. When he arrived at the Palace Belle-Cour he found parties of the gendarmerie dispersed everywhere. Porral went into a house, and, making known who he was, entreated an asylum.

The inhabitants were women, timid to excess, but the desire of saving an innocent person rendered them courageous. They conducted him into a garret and concealed him behind some planks standing up in a corner.

The gendarmes arrived; they searched the house; they came into the garret where Porral was concealed. Here they found a large cask, the top of which was fastened down by a padlock. They asked for the key; the women went downstairs for it. While they were gone the gendarmes leaned against the planks, while a second one said:

"Twould be droll enough if we were to find one of the fugitives concealed in this cask."

"More likely plate or money," says a third, "for it seems very heavy."

The key at length arrived; the cask was unlocked and was found to be full of salt. The gendarmes swore at this disappointment, visited the roof of the house and then retired. In the evening Porral, dressed in women's clothes, with a basket on his head and another on his arm, passed the bridge of La Guilletiere and quitted the city.

Gabriel, another of the fugitives, concealed himself among the bushes in the marshes of the Trevaux Perrach, where he was nearly frozen to death, but he got away to a place of safety.

One young Couchoux, who was one of the five that had opened the way of escape, made choice of his father, who was nearly eighty years of age, as one of the fifteen, but the poor old man's legs were swollen, and he was scarcely able to walk.

"Fly, fly, my son!" he said; "if thou hast the opportunity fly this instant! I command it as an act of duty, but it is impossible that I should fly with thee. I have lived long enough—my troubles will soon be finished, and death will be deprived of its sting if I know that thou art in safety."

The son assured him that he would not quit the prison without him, and that his persisting in his refusal would only end in the destruction of both. The father, overcome by his dutiful affection, yielded, and, supported by his son, made his way to the bottom of the staircase, but to ascend it was out of his power; he could just drag his legs along the ground, but to lift them up was impossible. His son, though low in stature and not strong, took him up in his arms. The desire of saving his father gave him renewed strength, and he carried him to the top of the stairs. His filial piety was rewarded, and both father and son escaped.

### An Old Florida Fort.

Writing about Fort Marion, St. Augustine, some scribe says: This fort, constructed of a shell conglomerate, known as coquina stone, was begun in 1696, and, built by Indian labor, was finished in 1756. It is a model of the military engineering of the time of its construction, and when garrisoned by British troops from 1763 to 1766, it was considered one of the finest fortresses in the British possessions. It covers an acre of ground, and the vaulted rooms, opening off from the central square, furnish accommodations for 1,000 men, and the fort will mount 100 guns. Over Fort Marion have waved the Spanish, English, Confederate and United States flags. The American flag was first raised above its battlements in 1821. In 1836, while a heavy gun was being mounted on the northeast bastion, the terreplein fell in, and a hitherto unsuspected dungeon was revealed. Upon its floor lay a human skeleton, chained to the wall by each wrist. When the military engineer descended into this dungeon, he noticed a large stone in the wall, which, from its appearance, and from the comparative newness of its cement, had evidently had not been a part of the original wall. On removing this stone the explorers entered a second and smaller dungeon, and by the light of their lantern, saw two iron cages, one of which had fallen to the floor, but the other was still hanging by a hook to the wall. Each cage contained the skeleton of a human being, one of which had evidently been a woman. For what crime, or unfortunate incurred anger of one high in authority, or rash political aspirations those victims had been thus walled up alive, will never be known. The thoughts that rush upon the mind of the visitor to these gloomy vaults make him long for the outer world, and when he once more sees the sunlight it is with a feeling of glad relief. It is said that one of these cages, with its contents, which had been broken by its fall to the ground, was buried near the fort, while the other one was sent to the Smithsonian institution. It is believed, however, that it was not allowed to remain in the museum long, but was removed. An old sergeant living near by is the only guardian of the fort, as its rooms are too damp to be inhabited. Therefore the visitor is allowed to roam through it at will, and at night these parapets, which to within a short distance of time have rung to the "all's well" of the sentinel for almost 200 years, now faintly echo the murmured words of fond ones lingering in the tender moonlight—sensible people avoid the malarial night air and stay in the house—or in the glare of the sun the bastioned angles are the subjects of these remarks.

Colonel John A. Sutter, the discoverer of gold, is to have a splendid monument in San Francisco.

## FOR THE LADIES.

### Turkish Wives.

First among the Turkish social topics is that of the harem. The Koran allows a Mussulman to have four wives; and manypersons have consequently imagined that polygamy is a rule in Turkey, whereas it is the exception. A Mussulman may only have as many wives as he can keep in comfort; and it is only the very rich who can afford four. The middle-class Turks have only one wife apiece; the men of the lowest class are often obliged to remain single from not having the means to support a consort in the style which the Moslem law enjoins. Nothing can be more un-Turkish than the Mormon idea of accumulating a number of women to live under one roof, quarreling in the kitchen and parlor and acting as household drudges for their husband. The Turkish wife is not a slave; the chief fault to find with her is that she has too lofty a sense of her own dignity. An advocate of female rights would have some difficulty in persuading her that her lot was pitiable; she has never envied the emancipation of Christian women, whose free ways shock her; while she has noticed that they get much less respect from the men of their faith than that which is invariably vouchsafed to herself. She veils her face with no more regret than a Western lady unveils her shoulders. Turkish women are not shut up. They go out when they please, attended by their odaliks if rich, or holding their children by the hand; and their magpie voices fill the bazaars, for they are noisy talkers. Whenever they pass, men of all creeds stand aside deferentially. If a husband meets a wife in the street he makes no sign of recognition; if he perceives her halting before a draper's stall and gazing significantly at a silk dearer than he can afford he must possess his soul in resignation, muttering "Masshallah." This respect for women prevails also in the home circle, and it comes naturally to the Mussulman, who has been taught from his boyhood to behave courteously to the softer sex. The Western conjugal expression about "wearing the breeches" has its Turkish counterpart in the phrase to "live under the slipper;" and it is to be feared that not a few Turks know the taste of this implement of uxorial persuasion. A hamal (street porter) once came before a cadi to complain that his wife trounced him too frequently. "See what mine does," answered the magistrate, opening his gown and showing some weals on his neck and shoulders. "Go thy way, my son, and thank Allah thou art luckier than I."

### Fashion Notes.

Chenille flowers are embroidered on grenadine gowns.

The mitt will continue in fashion this summer in all colors.

Steel stitching appears on some slippers of new designs.

Stockings shaded from the toe up are the newest folly in hosiery.

Spanish lace is used to trim cloth mantles as well as those of silk.

Flowers are not used on coarse straw hats by good milliners this year.

The striped silks in shaded colors have seventeen tints in one stripe.

The white lace frill basted in the skirts of gowns is not worn in the street.

The draperies of muslin dresses are not hemmed, but turned under and looped.

Satin cord gimps and chenille embroidery replace moss trimmings on summer garments.

After all there is no wrap more beautiful nor more generally becoming than a light Chuddah shawl.

Black bonnets are worn with white and pale tinted toilets, and vice versa white ones with black or dark costumes.

Pretty and inexpensive dresses are made of challies in Japanese designs, on grounds of pale blue, rose, and green or white.

Porcupine straws are trimmed with satin ribbon and silk tufts, smooth decorations apparently meant to neutralize their rough effect.

The favorite finish of borders this summer is to cut them into long vandykes supported underneath by plaitings of the materials of the dress.

Lambrequins are made of the Algerian striped goods, fringed at both ends and hung by large rungs attached to the ends of the curtain poles.

The brocade grenadine is only used for mantles now by the best dressmakers. Gowns are made of the plain grenadine, almost covered with Spanish lace.

The new Scotch ginghams are very brilliant in coloring, and the fabric is unusually fine. They are as handsome in appearance as the plaided silks of last season.

Bishop sleeves, with shoulder cap and cuffs of jetted black lace and collars to match, are seen in many of the black lace and black grenadine dresses lately imported.

Chuddah shawls of light quality in all shades of blue, rose, gray and pure white, ivory and cream remain the favorite summer wrap of the most fashionable women.

White cashmere, nun's veiling or vigogne, trimmed with lace and white satin, are favorite materials for graduating dresses. Broad sashes of the white satin fastened with buckles of cut steel are very effectively worn over these costumes.

White petticoats are little worn except with long evening dresses, surah being the most fasionable material for day wear, black surah with narrow flounces edged with lace, and headed by two or three lace insertions over colored ribbon, being excessively fashionable.

### HEALTH HINTS.

A good liniment for cuts, bruises, etc., can be made by soaking common Maywood leaves in alcohol.

As soon as a felon is felt, put a fly blister over it, and in six hours it can be picked out with a needle.

An exchange says an ounce of cream of tartar in a pint of water, drank at intervals, is a certain cure for smallpox. But an ounce of preventive by vaccination is better.

A wash made from the spotted alder is recommended for ivy poisoning. Also the shop water of a blacksmith's trough as a sure cure for poison ivy, and dogwood and strong salt and water as an antidote for the poisoning of sumach.

Contagion is largely propagated by means of the clothing, and clothing is best disinfected by heat. No form of contagion can withstand a dry heat of 220 degrees. The clothing should be placed in a box or a closet maintained at that temperature for perhaps an hour. Carbolic acid will not destroy the effect of vaccine virus but for the time being.

Nine times out of ten the cause of sick headache is in the fact that the stomach is not able to digest the food last introduced into it, either from its having been unsuitable or excessive in quality. A diet of bread and butter, with ripe fruit or berries, with moderate, continuous exercise in the open air, sufficient to keep up a gentle perspiration, will often cure in a short time. One teaspoonful of powdered charcoal in half a glass of water, and drank, sometimes gives relief. And yet the above remedy will not avail in all cases. A sovereign remedy for this disease is not easily found. A correspondent contributes the following: Sick headache is periodical, and is the signal of distress which the stomach puts up to inform us that there is an over-alkaline condition of its fluids; that it needs a natural acid to restore the battery to its normal working condition. When the first symptoms of a headache appear, take a teaspoonful of lemon-juice clear, fifteen minutes before each meal, and the same dose at bedtime. Follow this up until all symptoms are past, taking no other remedies, and you will soon be able to go free from your unwelcome nuisance. Many will object to this because the remedy is too simple, but I have made many cures in this way—*Dr. Haire.*

# NEWS OF THE WEEK.

## East and Middle.

The faculty of Phillips academy at Exeter, N. H., has expelled seven students and suspended three for engaging in a mock serenade of some of the instructors.

Robert Bert and C. H. Deweese, engineer and fireman of a passenger train on the Boston and Albany road, were killed in a collision near Ghent, N. Y.

The assessed valuation of real estate in New Jersey, according to the census, is $436,032,638, and of personal property, $126,215,985. The total State indebtedness is $53,828,247.

The New York State committee of the National Greenback Labor party met the other afternoon in New York city. It was decided that the State convention should be held in Elmira, August 23, at noon.

A statue of Admiral David G. Farragut was unveiled the other day in Madison square, New York, with appropriate ceremonies consisting of a procession, presentation speech by Secretary of the Navy Hunt, response by Mayor Grace and the oration of the day by Joseph H. Choate.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton presided at the thirteenth annual convention of the National Woman Suffrage association in Boston. Prominent delegates from various parts of the country were present.

Commodore Nutt, the well-known dwarf, died in New York a few days ago, aged thirty-five years.

The fifty-second anniversary of the Brooklyn Sunday-school union was celebrated in that city by a parade in which 50,000 children and teachers participated.

More than one hundred prominent business men of Boston met in that city to consider the feasibility of holding a world's fair there in 1885. The result of the discussion was the appointment of a committee of conference, representing the various trades and manufacturing interests of the city.

The "record" in six-day "go-as-you-please" pedestrian matches has again been beaten, this time in a contest in New York in which Robert Vint, a little shoemaker from Brooklyn, covered 578 miles. John Sullivan came second with a score of 569 miles, John Hughes third, 552 miles, and Patrick Fitzgerald fourth, 537 miles.

Nine hundred bicycles, appeared in the first annual procession of the League of American Wheelmen in Boston.

Decoration day was celebrated in New York this year by the usual large parade of the military and civic societies and the decoration of graves at the various cemeteries.

A train on the Pennsylvania railroad near Trenton, N. J., ran into an open switch and three cars left the track, one of them completely overturning. Augustus B. Ritter, a Philadelphia bookkeeper, and Mrs. Lucretia Pennington, an old lady aged eighty-one years, were killed, and about fifteen other persons were injured.

## West and South.

At Anna, Ill., Robert S. Reynolds, a wealthy farmer, was killed by his son with a boulder. The deceased was seventy years old, and only a year ago shot and killed a man named Frazier.

By an explosion of fifteen barrels of Danforth's fluid, stored in a cellar in St. Joseph, Mo., a low drinking saloon overhead was blown to atoms, and of the twenty or thirty negroes in the place at the time four were killed, several were injured and two reported missing.

Two men were killed and three were badly hurt by the explosion of the boiler in a Memphis (Tenn.) foundry. The cylinder of the engine was blown over the county jail and through a brick wall a hundred yards distant.

Farmers in Central Illinois report winter wheat as suffering from chinch-bug and Hessian fly. Thousands of acres will be replanted with corn.

Four children belonging to Andrew Lewis, of West Jefferson, Ohio, were playing in their father's barn, when by some means it caught fire and all the little ones were burned to death.

The youngest daughter of James Westover, aged sixteen, of Markesan, Wis., poisoned herself because her father forbade her beau, Dan Murray, aged eighteen, calling at the house. The young man was so grief-stricken when he heard of the girl's fate that he also committed suicide by taking strychnine.

On "Memorial Day" at Richmond, Va., the Boston Con mandery, Knights of Templars, who were in the city, decorated the statue of Stonewall Jackson with a wreath of evergreens and rare flowers.

The International Grand Lodge of Good Templars has been in session at Topeka, Kan. There are seventy-eight grand lodges and 310,145 members. The next session will be held at Charleston.

A young German undertook to drink a quart of whisky in a Chicago saloon. He forced the liquor down and then dropped to the floor dead.

A shock of earthquake was felt in the vicinity of La Salle, Ill., but no damage was done further than the cracking of a few walls and the opening of a crevice two inches wide for a distance of 600 feet.

The first cotton bloom of the season is announced at Schulenburg, Texas.

The boiler of a locomotive at Chattanooga, Tenn., exploded, killing the fireman. A piece of iron weighing nine pounds struck a man half a mile away, instantly killing him.

The extensive works of the Collier white lead and oil company at St. Louis have been destroyed by fire, causing a loss of about $500,000.

## From Washington.

Mrs. Garfield has been dangerously ill, but Dr. Boynton, the attending physician, announced the other afternoon that the crisis had been passed and that there was no longer any doubt of her recovery.

According to a statement just issued by the postoffice department the total number of pieces of all classes mailed during the year ended December 31, 1880, was 2,720,234,252. The whole number of letters mailed during the year was 1,053,252,876, or an average of twenty-one for each man, woman and child in the United States; 324,556,440 postal cards, 812,032,000 newspapers, 40,148,792 magazines and other periodicals, and 21,515,832 packages of merchandise passed through the mails during the year.

President Garfield has made the following "recess" appointments: Consuls—Jesse H. Moore, of Illinois, at Callao; John M. Bailey, of New York, at Hamburg; Selah Merrill, of Massachusetts, at Jerusalem; George W. Roosevelt, of Pennsylvania, at Bordeaux.

The final footings of the debt of all cities and towns of the United States of over 7,500 inhabitants have been made by the census office. The cities number 309. The following is the result:

| | |
|---|---|
| Bonded debt | $659,846,099 |
| Floating debt | 27,226,340 |
| Total | $687,472,339 |
| Sinking fund | 117,001,066 |
| Net debt | $570,471,373 |

The census bureau furnishes the following statement, giving the results of the first count of the cereal crops of 1879-80: Buckwheat, 851,304 acres; 11,851,738 bushels; barley, 2,005,466 acres; 44,149,479 bushels; oats, 16,150,612; bushels, 407,970,712; wheat, 35,487,061 acres; 459,501,093 bushels; Indian corn, 62,326,632 acres; 1,773,106,576 bushels; rye, 1,814,321 acres; 19,863,632 bushels; giving a total of 118,665,619 acres and 2,716,243,230 bushels, as against 1,387,299,153 bushels the previous year.

Secretary Hunt has instructed Commander Cooper of the steamer Alliance to prepare as speedily as possible for a cruise in search of the Jeannette in the neighborhood of Greenland, Iceland and Spitzenberg.

The secretary of the treasury announces that the limit of the United States registered five per cent. bonds of 1881 for continuance at three and a half per cent. has been reached, and that only until July next will five per cent. coupon bonds of 1881 be continued.

Warned by the terrible disaster in Canada, Secretary Windom has instructed the inspectors of steam vessels to strictly enforce the regulations providing for the safety of passengers.

Secretary Blaine and Sir Edward Thornton, British minister, have concluded the prolonged negotiations in regard to the outrages upon American fishermen at Fortune bay, Newfoundland, in February, 1878, and at a later date at Aspee bay, Cape Breton. American claims for losses by the several fishermen aggregated $103,000. The agreement between Secretary Blaine and Sir Edward Thornton is that the British government shall pay $75,000 in gold coin and this government will give a receipt in full. Nearly the whole amount goes to Gloucester, Mass.

## Foreign News.

At 6 o'clock P. M. the steamer Victoria, with over 600 people on board, was returning to London, Ontario, from an excursion to Spring Bank, and when one mile below the city the boat suddenly collapsed, like an egg shell, and became a total wreck level with the water's edge. All the passengers were instantly plunged into the stream, more than half of them being underneath the debris. The first news of the disaster which reached the city was brought by survivors who struggled through the streets, wet and weary. The news fell like a thunderbolt, and a stampede took place from London for the spot. Arriving there a horrible sight met the people's view. Fifty or sixty bodies had already been recovered, and were lying on the green sward some distance up the bank. Those arriving from the city from every direction crowded around anxious to see if any relatives were on board. About 1,000 families were represented on the excursion, and the wail of anguish that arose at the sight of the victims was heartrending. Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters rushed about, panic-stricken endeavoring to identify friends. By 7 o'clock about eighty bodies were recovered from under the wreck. Almost every minute some victim was brought to the surface and conveyed to the bank. The steamer Princess Louise was early brought to the spot and the victims were placed on the upper decks. Fires were lighted on the bank overlooking the river, petroleum torches were brought, and the search was continued until night, by which time about 150 corpses had been secured.

The French minister of agriculture reports that trichinæ are still being found in pork imported at Havre, and that the government will not, therefore, raise the embargo against foreign pork.

The greater part of Pinsk, in the Russian government of Minsk, has been destroyed by fire. Great distress prevails among the inhabitants, who number 18,000, and the loss is enormous.

Mr. Forster, of the British cabinet, said in the house of commons, during a debate on the recent wholesale arrests in Ireland, that the government would arrest instigators of outrages, whether they belonged to the land league, the church or to parliament, and would put down resistance by overwhelming force.

Business is greatly depressed in Russia, particularly in the calico, cotton and iron trades. Many English merchants in the country are winding up their affairs preparatory to leaving the empire.

Von Haulte, a celebrated Amsterdam (Holland) diamond merchant, has failed for $1,600,000.

President Gonzales has been clothed with power by the Mexican congress to sign a contract with General Grant for the construction of the Mexican Southern railway.

The stewards of the Henley-on-Thames royal regatta, have refused to allow the crew from Cornell university (New York) to row, on the ground that they have not entered in time, and that their entry was not accompanied by the proper national certificate as to the character of the crew.

Adelina Patti, the celebrated opera singer, is coming to the United States next October.

The first railway ever run by electricity—recently started in the neighborhood of Berlin—has been so successful that another is to be built.

The French senate has ratified the treaty whereby French authority is established in Tunis.

The Malleable iron works at Hamilton, Ont., were damaged $125,000 by fire.

A number of people were injured at Mitchelstown, county Cork, Ireland, in resisting an attempted eviction by the police and military. It is estimated 10,000 people were present at the time, and much excitement prevailed.

A farmer named Dempsey who had taken an evicted tenant's farm in county Galway, Ireland, was fired at from behind a hedge and killed.

### An Excursion Which Cost Many Persons Their Lives.

The following is a graphic account of the terrible disaster by which about 250 people lost their lives on the steamer Victoria, while returning to London, Ontario, from an excursion. The day was the queen's birthday, a public holiday, and as it was the first day of the season for the steamboats to make regular trips, large crowds of pleasure-seekers were attracted to the river. There are four boats made trips down the stream, a distance of about four miles, to Spring Bank, a place of popular resort, where the city water works are located, and they all took large loads of excursionists at regular intervals throughout the day. At about 4 P. M., the Victoria, of the Thames Navigation Company line, started on her fourth and last trip for the day, with a large load of passengers of all ages, variously estimated at from 400 to 600 in number. All went well on the down trip, although the boat was so heavily laden that she shipped small quantities of water when the passengers surged to either side. How the accident occurred on the return trip is thus told by Mr. William Duffield, president of the London Gas Company:

"I saw that the upper deck was too full, but had no idea that the lower one was in the same condition. I afterward noticed that on both decks the people were standing as thick as my fingers. There was not room enough between them for one to move from one end of the boat to the other. The lower deck was sunk to the water's level, and in the heaving motion which was set up water rolled in among the people's feet, which caused them to change their base, and this increased the lurching motion of the craft. At the fatal moment the boat gave a lurch, which displaced the boiler, which was not set on the lower deck, without any other support or fastening, as I believe, than the rod connection fore and aft. When the boat careened the boiler and connections slid off into the water, cutting away the timbers supporting the upper deck and carrying it along. There was just one great screech, mingled with a hissing sound, as the boiler went down, and then an appalling silence ensued. The transformation that took place was almost like a flash. I found myself standing up to the middle in water on a small part of the steamer which formed a raft. My two boys were near me. One of them said: 'My God, pa, look at those few saved out of such a large crowd.' I turned round and saw two small groups of survivors, one on a portion of the wreck, and the other on the bank. The number saved altogether looked very small as compared with the crowd that had been on board. I felt nerved with the strength of a lion, and succeeded in raising up with my back a portion of the deck and holding it propped up with a piece of board. Then I put my hand down and picked up people in all conditions, one after another. While standing in the water I felt my legs grasped by many hands, which seemed to be reaching out wildly for something to take hold of. My son Willie told me he had the same experience. A woman took him by the leg with one hand and by the coat with another. Her head was underneath the water, and seemed to be held there by something. She died before she could be torn loose. After a while you could see the people coming up to the surface in every direction; some from among a lot of the matchwood into which the boat's hull had been splintered, some out from under the deck resting on the water. I thought at one time that I should be dragged under by the weight of the persons who had hold of my legs. I could not get released until they all must have died, and I was powerless to save them."

Mr. Alex. Hardy, a medical student, said: "I was on the bow of the lower deck of the Victoria when the accident occurred, and when I saw the boat was sinking I climbed to the upper deck and dived from there to the London side. A man coming behind, I threw a post to him and he grabbed it, and I got him to shore. He again fell into the water, and I pulled him out. When I looked around, I saw the people crawling on the hurricane deck, and in one instance a little boy caught a woman around the neck and pulled her back. We threw in some long pieces of fence, by which means a great number of lives were saved. I cut my shoe laces, threw my shoes off, and swam back to the wreck and saved Mrs. Joseph Reeves, wife of Mr. Joseph Reeves, of the fire department. Procuring a boat, I saved Miss Meredith, of London. Seeing where Mr. Meredith went down, I tore up that part of the hurricane deck, but he was too far gone to be resuscitated."

Mr. Nicholas Wilson had a desperate struggle for life. When aware of the danger he told his newly-married wife to cling to the railing, and a moment later he found himself in the water. Strange to say, Mrs. Wilson was thrown directly into his arms, and seizing her firmly he struck out for shore. On the way a strong, big man seized him by the throat, and hung there for dear life. The whole three must inevitably have sunk but for Mr. Wilson's presence of mind in seizing the fellow's hand with his teeth and biting with all his force. The hold was then relaxed, and with weakened strength and still bearing his wife in his arms Mr. Wilson struggled toward the shore. A few feet had been passed, however, before he was again seized with a death-like grip by a drowning man, and in the struggle he lost his wife. He reached the shore exhausted, and looked about for his wife saved in some unaccountable way, and by his side. Both then became unconscious.

A graphic narrative is given by Mr. James Drennan, a printer. He says: "At about 5:30 P. M. we were coming very slow by Griffith's dam, and I went up to Captain Rankin and said: 'You have a big crowd to-day, captain.' 'Yes,' he replied. 'I couldn't keep the people off. They would crowd on, although I told them there were too many for the boat to carry.' I left him then and had hardly turned away when I saw the water rushing in over the lower deck. As I looked down the staircase, I saw the water ankle deep down below. The crowd seemed excited, and kept rushing from one side to the other. Captain Rankin told them repeatedly to stand still and not crowd so much to the side. The boat began to rock, and the passengers all rushed to the north side. Then the boat went over on her side, and a terrific crash followed, the whole of the upper deck going down with a crash. I was hurled into the water, and my companion with me. I never lost my presence of mind, but grasped something, and by a desperate effort pulled myself up to the roof, where I found I had a small breathing space of a few inches between the water and the roof. I was comparatively safe in this position, notwithstanding that an aged man and others who were struggling in a heap were pulling and hanging on to me. The steam and hot water now poured along the roof, scorching my face and taking my breath away. I became unconscious and let go my hold and sank, to the bottom of the river, but touching the solid bottom it seemed to give me fresh energy, and I struggled through a lot of bodies, and what was worse, a lot of wires, which got tangled in my feet and pulled me frequently under water. I got clear of these and once more attempted to reach the shore, and became unconscious, and would have perished in the struggling mass had not some kind hand pulled me ashore."

The Princess Louise soon arrived after the catastrophe and moored against the north shore close to the wreck. A gangway was projected from her deck to the shore, and at about 7 P. M. the work of rescuing the bodies was begun. As fast as they were recovered they were ranged on the upper deck, which was soon thickly covered, in some instances the bodies of children and infants being placed on top of those of adults. The spectacle was one that sent a shudder through the spectators, and stout men were seen to turn aside and weep.

In one spot two babies lay side by side, their faces turned toward each other, and were not for the surroundings one would imagine they were sleeping peacefully. In another place a gray-haired man lay motionless in death and a fair-haired girl alongside of him, while in another direction lay a woman, with a frightful gash in her forehead, caused, no doubt, by the crashing timbers of the upper deck of the Victoria when she capsized. As soon as the upper deck of the Princess Louise was covered with corpses the lower deck was used, and about 175 bodies had been recovered and were brought back to the city. Here a most heart-rending scene ensued. The bodies, as fast as they were transferred from the steamer, were laid in rows on the grass by the river side, all in their holiday attire, and with the aid of torches the faces were eagerly scanned by hundreds of anxious friends looking for their missing ones. A goodly proportion of the drowned are men in middle life, and many are children of tender years. Many were the wails of sorrow which followed the identification of a relative. Perhaps it was a mother who discovered her child, or the children a parent. One man was heard inquiring for four children. As fast as the corpses were claimed they were taken in charge by their friends and removed to their houses.

Many prominent citizens and their families are included in the number of the drowned. Among them are Mr. J. C. Meredith, clerk of the division court, and father of W. R. Meredith, M. P. P.; William McBride, city assessor and secretary of the Western Fair association; W. H. Millman, commercial traveler of Montreal, and two sons; Nellie Morrison, John Morrison, Bertie Morrison, children of James Morrison, of London, East; Mrs. Matthews, wife of the night editor of the *Advertiser*, and two children; Mary McPherson, aged fifteen, daughter of Mr. Archibald McPherson, of Lang & McPherson; a son of Dr. Oronyatekha, an Indian chief; Mr. Herbert, proprietor and son of the manager of the boat; Mr. A. B. Powell and two nephews; Manager Robertson, of the Bank of British North America; Mrs. Smart, wife of H. Smart, of the *Free Press*, and two children; Mr. J. C. Siddon, of the customs, and Lizzie Skinner, daughter of Alderman Skinner.

Many were the heartrending scenes that occurred on board the boat. Geo. Evans, of Maitland street, went on board where the bodies were lying, fearful that his family might be among the lost. After searching for a time he was about to turn away when he discovered the corpse of his golden-haired little girl. He took her in his arms and sank down with grief. Beside the body lay that of another little child, whom Mr. Evans did not recognize. An hour later, however, he took his handkerchief, and on wiping off the little face he exclaimed: "My God, here's another little one of mine." Sitting nursing and weeping over the forms of his two dead children, he remained for another hour. Near by lay the form of a woman, well dressed and comely. Searchers for friends came along, one by one, peering wistfully into the upturned faces, and at length some one suggested that the watch of this lady be examined for initials. As the chain was being drawn out Mr. Evans said: "I know that trinket. Merciful God, it's my wife! Then my two other children are still in the water."

Mr. Thomas Smith of London, West, who had charge of the refreshment stand, saw the approach of the disaster, and caught hold of his little brother-in-law, John McDonald, saying: "I'll save you, Johnny, if I die myself," at the same time telling him to jump on his back. While thus making his way for the shore a man caught hold of Smith's leg and the two were landed in safety. Smith then turned and rendered noble service in taking the lifeless bodies out of the water, nor did he cease until he almost dropped from sheer exhaustion.

Charles Matthews, the night editor of the *Advertiser*, was on board with his wife and two children. When the disaster occurred he sprang off into the water with one child, and succeeded in reaching the shore. His wife, however, and the other child were found among the drowned. Every effort was made to restore life, but in vain, and the frantic husband went sadly home with his only remaining child.

Mr. H. Blaton, the hatter, was nearly in the center of the deck when the boat capsized, and, taking a child in each arm, he sank below the surface. In the struggle of the next two moments he lost his little charge, and found himself was drowning below the deck when he felt the body of a woman move past him. Seizing hold of the dress, he was drawn out. Some one had broken a hole in the deck. His two little children were lost.

In another case, a mother, whose child had been torn from her by the crash, saw its clothing appear above the water. With a cry of "There's my darling!" she ran waist deep into the water, and clasped her dead child in her arms. Two men dragged the mother and child ashore. This was no sooner done than the mother pressed her dead babe to her bosom and, with a cry, ran up the bank and was soon lost to view. It was evident that her reason was temporarily dethroned by the catastrophe.

### Lobster Factories.

The lobster factories are very numerous, and can hardly escape the notice even of the fashionable visitor to Maine. He is confronted by one, for instance, at the landing of Harpswell, the principal island of Casco Bay, another at the historic old town of Castine, another at Southwest Harbor, Mount Desert, besides the one at Green's Landing. Deer Island has factories at Oceanville and Burnt Cove, forming part of a series twenty-three in number, which belong to one firm, and stretch all the way down to the Bay of Fundy. They cannot be called intrinsically inviting, owing to their wholly utilitarian character, although they are apt to have redeeming features in an occasional touch of the picturesque.

The factory opens at one end on the wharf, close to the water. Two men bring in the squirming loads on a stretcher and dump the mass into coppers for boiling. At intervals the covers are hoisted by ropes and pulleys, and dense clouds of steam arise, through which we we catch vistas of men, women and children at work. Two men approach the coppers with stretcher and scoop-nets, and they throw rapid scoopfuls