A BLAZE IN MOBILE.

The Most Disastrous Fire Since the War.

COTTON WAREHOUSES CONSUMED.

The Fire Starts in a Sawmill, and Warehouses and Wharves -A Number of Steamboats Burned.

MOBILE, Ala., Oct. 27.—A fire began about 12:40 o'clock yesterday afternoon and resulted in the most disastrous conflagration that Mobile has had since the The fire began in a shingle mill and factory near the river front just outside the northern boundary of the city limits. A strong wind from the northeast, perhaps atwenty mile breeze, was blowing. The flames soon communicated to the cotton warehouses which line the river front from Beauregard street, the northern boundary, southward six blocks, and from the river front westward to Magnolia street

From the shingle mill to Goodman's warehouse, on the block bounded by Front, Beauregard, Water and Lipscom streets, the distance is about 600 yards, and almost as soon as smoke was seen issuing from the roof, the cotton blazed up. In Goodman's there was stored about 900 bales of cotton, and the sparks from the cotton, carried by the wind, next communicated the flames to Brown's warehouse on Lipscom street and Water, and running back to Magnolia street to the southwest to the Mobile Oil mills, which was next south on the east side of Front street, and to the wharf front of the Mobile and Birmingham Railroad company, which fronted on the water from Beauregard to Lipscom street.

rapidity, and before 2 o'clock in the afternoon it looked as if the fire would

front of the city.

Before the Mobile Oil mills, in that company's water stip, were two president to abandon his purpose sumsteamers, the Jewel and Mary Elizabeth marily. and also the steamer Helen S, the tug Margaret Lunbard and the government snag boat Warren. Half a dozen men got the boats out of the slip into the stream, saving all but the Jewel and the Mary Elizabeth, which burned to the

The flames swept on down the wharf front of the city. At the next slip front-ing near the foot of Adams street were the river steamer Ruth, two naphtha launches and four or five cotton and timber tugs, all of which were got into midstream with only slight injury, ex-cept the steamer Ruth and the naphtha yacht Gen. Fowler, which were destroyed in a few moments.

The Wharves Burned.

The water front wharves were entirely burned from Beauregard street on the north to St. Louis street, the flames leaping the wharf slips as hurdle racers leap the stone wall. A large amount of cotton which was closely packed in the warehouses and presses, amid the inflammable character of the material which fed the flames made the fire an intensely hot one, and the high wind caused it to spread so rap-idly that it was impossible for the fire department to do more than stand idly by and see it burn.

The fire burned up rapidly among the cotton warehouses and presses. When Goodman's warehouse was in a blaze, smoke was seen is sing from Brown's cotton warehouse roof a square away on the northeast corner of Water street, and at the same moment the Gulf City Oil mill on the east side of Commerce, between Adams and Lipscomb streets, with warehouse which was stored full of cotton. oil, oil cake and meal blazed out, and the firemen and the large crowd of spectators which had gathered in the vicinity had to flee from the advancing flames.

At this writing the property destroyed is 5.620 bales of cotton, three steamers, one naptha launch, eleven freight cars, grain laden, belonging to the Mobile and Ohio rangond company, ave empty box cars of the Mobile and Eirmingham road, two wood and coal yards, and three cotton compressers and eight cot-ton warehouses, the Gulf City oil mill and warehouse, the Mobile Phosphate and Chemical works, the Gage Lyons ice factory, and numerous small business houses in the locality. So far there has been no casualty reported. The wind died away about 5 p. m. It is estimated the total loss will exceed \$500,000.

Never a Drop to Drink.

HARRISBURG, Oct. 25. - Harrisburg had a water famine yesterday. The large supply main leading from the reservoir to the city burst at Cameron and State streets, and in a few hours there was no water in the pipes. Manufacturing establishments were obliged to shut down, and in all places where steam is used work was suspended The annoyance to private families was very great, as they were deprived of their water supply for household purposes, and cooking operations were brought to a sudden end before the noonday meal could be prepared. The break is a very serious one, but will be repaired in a few days. few days.

Engineers Elect Officers. PITTABURG, Oct. 27.— The Brother-hood of Locomotive Engineers elected the following officers: First grand engineer, T. S. Ingraham; second grand engineer, D. Everett; third grand engineer, Ash Kennsdy, of Winnipeg. The latter office was created at this convention. There was no elaction for chier engineer, as Mr. Arthur was elected at the last convention for three

The Oldest Methodist Church. The Oldest Methodist Church.

New York, Oct. 27.—The old John
street Methodist Episcopal church, the
oldest Methodist Episcopal church in
America, celebrated its 124th anniversary yesterday, Rev. B. P. Raymond,
D. D., LL. D., president of Wesleyan
university, preached a most eloquent
sermon at the morning service. At the
afternoon service Hon. Warner Miller
and ex-Postmaster General James delivered addresses.

Not a Bonanza.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 28.—The gold excitement in Arbuekle mountains is abating. Samples of the ores show that nothing profitable can come of the

PATTISON SUES FOR LIBEL.

His Answer to Charges by Harris-burg and Philadelphia Papers. PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 28.—Robert E. Pattison, the Democratic candidate for governor, yesterday had warrants is sued for the arrest of Messrs. McClaurin and W. J. Jordan, of The Harrisburg Call; Mr. Clayton McMichael, of The Philadelphia North American and Messrs. Fed by a Strong Breeze, Quickly
Communicates to the Surrounding

In the papers named, and in others throughout the state, there was published on Saturday last an article which charged that Governor Pattison had been bribed by the Vanderbilts to sign what were known as the South Penn bills of 1883, and that the governor sought out and retained ex-Judge Black to write a veto message, and having received it with the understanding that it was to be sent to the legislature, he changed his mind by the next morning, and without notice to Judge Black approved the bills, and that Judge Black lenounced Governor Pattison for this alleged deception and severed all amicable relations with him. The article also charged that \$50,000 in stock had been paid to Messrs. Pattison and Cassidy for the signing of a bill chartering

a Pittsburg natural gas corporation.

Messrs. McMichael, Elverson and
Heustis were arraigned for a hearing
before Magistrate O'Brien, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. After hearing the evidence the magistrate held the defendants in \$1,600 bail each to answer at court. The case of Messrs. Jordan & McClaurin, of The Harrisburg Call, will

be held to-morrow. This article of The Call, copied in The Inquirer and North American, was followed up in The Inquirer yesterday by an interview with Congressman and ex-State Senator John E. Reyburn, purport-ing to give further confirmation to the essential points in the original story con-Flames Spread Like Lightning.

The inflammable character of the material which fed the flames and a quarter gale of wind that was blowing caused the fire to spread with lightning like rapidity, and before 2 o'clock in the original story concerning the South Penn bills, as he learned of it from ex-Governor Black. It was also stated in The Call that when, upon one occasion, President Cleveland thought of appointing Governor Pattison to the office of secretary of the interior to special Mr. of the interior, to succeed Mr. Lamar, a afternoon it looked as if the fire would secret investigation was made at Har-spread from end to end of the water risburg concerning the South Penn legislation, which developed facts concern-ing the governor which caused the marily.

AN IMPORTANT ALLIANCE.

The Vanderbilts Acquire an Interest in the Reading Railroad-Significance of the Deal.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. - The announcement was made yesterday afternoon that an alliance between the Reading railroad syndicate and the Vander-bilt interests had finally been effected, and that hereafter the Vanderbilts will be represented in the Reading manage-

A meeting of the members of the Reading syndicate (which holds about 400,000 members, or more than a majority of the capital stock of the company) was held, and Mr. W. W. Gibbs, of this city, formally resigned, and his place in the city was, by unanimous consent, accorded to H. B. Hollins, the head of the New York banking and brokerage firm of H. B. Hollins & Co. Mr. Gibbs stated at the meeting that he desired to give his undivided attention to the affairs of the United Gas Improvement company, of which he is president, and that he had therefore concluded to resign from the syndicate.

The Agent of Vanderbilt. The significance of the meeting becomes apparent when it is stated that H. B. Hollins & Co. are the recognized brokers of the Vanderbilts, and that the head of the firm enjoys confidential re-lations with the leading members of the Vanderbilt family. The retirement of Mr. Gibbs and the election of Mr. Hollins means in other words, that the deal between the Reading syndicate and the Vanderbilts has been concluded, and that hereafter the Vanderbilts will take a prominent part in Reading Railroad

The alliance has been effected largely through the instrumentality of Mr. Isaac L. Rice, the New York lawyer who is one of the leading spirits of the syndicate. Mr. Rice has held a number of conferences with the Vanderbilt representatives, the negotiations coming to a termination with the resignation from the syndicate of Mr. Gibbs and the election of Mr. Hollins. The holdings of the syndicate remain intact. Mr. Gibbs held a leave block of the steet and it

tion is materially strengthened and its coal business will be made more profitable. The Vanderbilts will have an outlet to Philadelphia and will be enabled to keep the Baltimore and Ohio within bounds.

The South Penn.

Regarding the South Penn railroad, no definite information can be given at this time. It is no secret among railroad men that Mr. H. McK. Twombley, the son-in-law of the late William H. Vanderbilt, is anxious to build the road, and his anxiety is shared by other members of the Vanderbilt amily. The alliance with the Reading railroad gives the Vanderbilts an eastern outlet from Harrisburg, and the road, if finished, would therefore be an important trunk line and a competitor of the Pennsylvania railread. The building of the road would of course antagonize the Pennsylvania in a substantial way—a feat which, without the Reading railroad, taey would find it difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish.

The friendly relations between the Reading railroad and the Poughkeepsis Bridge company and its allied system of roads are not affected by the withdrawal of Mr. Gibbs will still take an active part in the management of the bridge company and the allied railroads.

A Hotel Keeper's Failure.

The Fraternal Congress. The South Penn.

A Hotel Keeper's Failure.

Bethlehem, Pa., Oct. 28.—The personal property of Simon Buttner, the proprietor of the La Pierre house, in South Bethlehem, was seized by Sheriff Falmer to satisfy a claim of nearly \$5,000 which was held by Kuebler, the brewer, in Easton. The real estate was also seized to satisfy claims of about \$12,000. Several weeks ago Buttner purchased a brewery from an estate at Catasauqua without inquiring into the claims against it, and therefore had to pay several thousand dollars more than the amount agreed to at the sale. This and other investments made his load too heavy.

KEYSTONE NOTES.

Items of Real Interest Presented in Condensed Form.

WHAT OUR NEIGHBORS DO AND KNOW.

Gleanings of Importance from All Fields of News, Picked Up Here and There Through the State. Political, Military and All Other Departments.

T. H. Edgar's planing mill at Stillwater, Luzerne county, was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$9,000; partally insured. Justice McCormick's business block at Irwin was damaged by fire Sunday night. Loss and insurance not reported.

The monument of Company A, Purnell legion, Maryland cavalry, was dedicated on the Gettysburg battle-

The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Methodist Episcopal Freedman's Aid society was begun in Harrisburg on Saturday evening.

Robert Goodwin, who deserted his wife in Allegheny thirty years ago, has paid a visit to that city from his North Carolina home.

Andrew Podito, a Pole, of Scranton, had an axe driven into his skull in a race fight between Hungarians and Poles. He will die.

Messrs. H. E. Seifert, John Snyder, G. C. Kennedy, Hon. C. C. Kaufman and Congressman Brosins spoke at an en-thusiastic meeting at Manheim. Caroline Shirley, a resident of Binghamton, N. Y., has brought an action against Henry Gangwere, of Allentown, charging him with breach of

At a meeting of the directors of the Philadelphia Gas company, held in Pittsburg, it was decided to prohibit

hereafter the use of natural gas in all puddling furnaces. The non-partisan Woman's Christian Temperance alliance, in session in In-diana, re-elected Mrs. H. C. Campbell, of Allegheny, president, and all the other former officers.

The Young Men's Christian association state convention, in session at Dan-ville, adjourned after a series of ser-vices were held in the churches, conducted by the young men.

George Meitel, a porter at the Central Hotel, at Bethlehem, was severely burned by a gas explosion in one of the basement rooms of the hotel. The room and its contents were wrecked.

The annual meeting of the executive board of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church of the United States will begin at Wilkesbarre on Wednesday next and continue in session for ten days. continue in session for ten days

James Oatfield, of Plymouth, while attempting to jump on a train on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad, was thrown under the cars. Both legs were cut off and he was removed to a hospital in a dying condi-Ex-Postmaster Baldridge, of McKees-

port, was found dead in a railroad ditch at Boston, Pa., Saturday night. No marks of violence were found on his person. It is supposed he died from sickness or exhaustion, as he was in poor health. General Master Workman Powderly

has issued a secret circular to the various assemblies of the Knights of Labor giving official notice that Adelbert M. Dewey never had any authority to question the gubernatorial candidates on behalf of the Knights of Labor regarding their intended policy.

The Susquehanna river at Wilkesbarre was seventeen feet above high water mark Saturday The low lands between the city and Kingston are entirely submerged. The street cars running between Wilkesbarre and west stde towns storyed respired to the storyed storyed. side towns stopped running owing to the overflow of water in the roadway.

John B. Robinson, Republican candidate for congress in the Chester-Delaware district, was before 'Squire McCormick, of Clifton, on the charge of asing profane language on the public highway. The prosecutor was George Webb, of South Chester. After hearing the evidence the justice fined Mr. Robinson 67 centa.

the syndicate of Mr. Gibbs and the election of Mr. Hollins. The holdings of the syndicate remain intact. Mr. Gibbs held a large block of the stock and it has now been transferred to Mr. Hollins.

The alliance is of the highest importance and its full meaning will appear in the future. The Reading railroad's position is materially strengthened and its

In Bethlehem on Saturday the index finger of a man's right hand, torn clean out of the socket, was found in the street near the New street bridge, and the door and platform of the toll house were besprinkled with blood. The residents say that Friday night there was considerable disturbance in the alley near by. The whole affair is still very mysterious.

The Fraternal Congress. PITTSBURG, Oct. 28.—Arrangements are now being made for the holding in Pittsburg of the annual convention of the national fraternal congress of the United States. Nov. 11, 12 and 13. The congress is an amalgamation of the in-terests of those representing orders hav-ing beneficial and insurance features.

Lived Longer Than a Century. LANCASTER, Pa., Oct. 28.—Jane Mar-in, an inmate of the county hospital, lied at the well authenticated age of



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