

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

The Western Union Again Suffers a Heavy Loss.

NEW YORK'S BIG FIRE.

FIREMEN'S GALLANT RESCUE.

Seven Persons Driven to the Roof of the Burning Structure.

NEW YORK, July 18.—Shortly before 7 o'clock this morning flames burst from the western corner of the Western Union operating room, on the seventh floor of their magnificent building, corner of Broadway and Bleecker street.

The fire quickly spread beyond control, and the entire sixth, fifth, fourth and third floors of the immense building were soon completely gutted, and telegraphic communication with points outside of the city was temporarily suspended. The offices of the Associated Press, Executive Committee of the Western Union Telegraph company and offices of several brokers were destroyed.

So rapidly did the fire extend to the woodwork that the escape of the employees by the stairway was cut off, and a number were lowered from the windows, by means of ropes, to the tops of adjoining buildings, while others hurried down the fire escape.

A PANIC AMONG THE EMPLOYEES.

The fire completely destroyed the distributing room on the fifth floor, the operating room on the floor above, the Associated Press rooms, and the restaurant on the seventh floor. Seven lives were miraculously saved.

A few minutes before 7 o'clock this morning the operators began to arrive to go to work. About 50 men and young women had reached the operating room. A messenger boy named Matthews saw a puff of smoke under a table on the floor below the distributing room. He scarcely had time to investigate the cause when the wooden table was in flames and the fire was spreading with lightning rapidity. He rushed up stairs to notify the employees that the building was on fire. They were compelled to go through the distributing room to get down stairs.

A panic was the result of the messenger's information, and the young women screamed while the men rushed pell-mell down stairs to escape the flames, which in less than two minutes had spread almost over the entire distributing room, burning up wires, instruments and tables as if they were so much tinder. The entire room, though the panic-stricken crowd passed through it, was filled with a dense, stifling smoke. They fell over each other in their wild efforts to reach a place of safety.

BURNED WITH KEROSENE.

The Horrible Crime of a Husband, Who Commits Suicide.

COLUMBIA, S. C., July 18.—One of the most horrible crimes on record is reported from Columbia county. The crime was committed on Mary's island, an unfrequented spot. Paddy Grant lived there with his wife, Phoebe and another woman, supposed to be too intimate with Grant, frequently visited his wife. Wednesday last Grant informed the relations of his wife that she had been severely hurt the week before by the explosion of a kerosene lamp and was in a bad condition. The relatives found her hanged from her knees up in front of, terribly charred and speechless. She died when an attempt was made to remove her. No traces of oil could be found on the floor or no traces of burning below the knees of the woman. These and contradictory statements caused the arrest of Grant but he escaped from his guards. Having been run to earth again, he requested permission to return to his room for a short while. Almost immediately the report of a gun was heard and it was found that he had placed the muzzle of his musket against his stomach and exploded it, blowing a hole clear through himself. It is thought kerosene was poured over his wife by himself and the other woman, and that she was then set on fire.

HETOMAHAWKED THEM.

An Indian Prisoner Cuts Up Five of His Fellow Convicts.

COLUMBIA, S. C., July 16.—This afternoon an Indian from Indiana Territory, in the penitentiary for 10 years for killing a man, secured a hatchet and commenced to cut and tomahawk his fellow prisoners confined in the idle house. He started in to brain a dozen, and did not stop until he had cut open the head of Jacob Gross, who will likely die; then cut a dangerous hole in Fred Cunningham's head, split open the shoulder of Charles Greeves, made a dangerous gash in the cranium of Mike O'Hara, and cut the nose off of a fifth convict. By this time his wild yells brought the deputy warden, who had the hose turned on him until he weakened, when he was disarmed and thrown into a cell.

The aboriginal was as wild as a lunatic, and his attempted massacre stirred up the whole institution. The physicians will examine him to-morrow when he comes down, as it is thought he is crazy.

A BARGE CUT IN TWO.

The Lake Steamer City of Detroit Did the Work.

DETROIT, July 17.—This evening at 6:30 on the steamer City of Detroit, with three excursion parties aboard, was just within the city limits, her steam steering apparatus gave out and she sheered about and ran into the steam barge Kesota, owned in Cleveland, cutting her completely in two amidships. The Kesota's cargo was iron ore and it slipped into the river. Captain Flick and a crew of 17 were rescued. The mother of the steamer was drowned and the captain's wife was saved by a seaman diving after her as she was sinking.

Judge Nichols of Batavia, O., was quite severely injured by the breaking of some shrouds. While the passengers were frightened, there was no panic. The damage to the Detroit's hull is placed at \$20,000, and the Kesota was valued at \$20,000 and is a total wreck.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.

A Pleasure Yacht Run Down and Five People Probably Drowned.

ALEXANDRIA BAY, N. Y., July 17.—The steamer St. Lawrence, returning at 10:15 o'clock to-night from an excursion, ran down the steam pleasure yacht, Cathlene, with 10 passengers on board from Bradford, Pa. Five are missing. The missing are Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Pemberton, Mrs. W. D. Hart and Miss Maggie Henry, all of Bradford, and John Senecal, the fireman of the Cathlene.

THREE MISSING BODIES FOUND.

MINNEAPOLIS, July 16.—A searcher found three missing bodies of the victims of the Lake Gervais cyclone early this morning. They were close together in a marshy portion of the lake, 200 feet from shore. The bodies of Charles Schurmeier and Rev. M. Pfaff are mutilated, but that of Mrs. J. H. Schurmeier was not disfigured.

SHORT CROPS ABROAD.

An Unprecedented Slim Yield in England—The Russian Yield.

LONDON, July 20.—A week ago it was felt that the weather in England since the beginning of June had already become a too grotesquely ridiculous thing to be discussed in ordinary language. Since then there has been the heaviest rainfall known in any one week since 1878, and the whole six weeks' record is the worst since 1815. To have to go back nearly eighty years for a parallel affords the Briton a sort of gloomy pride in the unique character of the summer, but not even a Mack Tapley could pretend to comfort in its contemplation.

The havoc this continuous downpour has worked in the fashionable world of regattas, lawn fetes, and riverside parties is of no lasting consequence, but the direct pecuniary loss to farmers has become something terrible. I came in this morning from Shepperton, some twenty miles up the river, and saw literally a hundred acres of meadows in which soaked hay was four-fifths under water. The Thames is a swollen and muddy flood like the Mohawk in a March freshet, and all the low-lying stretches of land in the valley are swamped. Some grass counties, like Cheshire, already report that practically the whole hay crop is destroyed. Two bright, hot days in the middle of this week revived a hope that the wheat might after all be saved in something not too far below the average crop, but the subsequent tropical rains and the arctic temperature have dissipated this. Everybody admits now that it is likely to be the worst yield since the unprecedented disaster of 1879.

The stock of English wheat is now all but exhausted, and under the influence of this and the evil prospects the growing-crop prices have advanced about another shilling per quart during the week. Much the same stories continue to come from the Continent. The Russian rouble went up on the Berlin Bourse yesterday in sympathy with the general advance in the wheat market, which it is now evident that Russia will largely control.

As to the real condition of the Russian crop much uncertainty exists. The official report of the month makes a very gloomy showing, but it is suspected in Berlin that this is done to favorably affect exchange, and that Russia, in fact, has a tolerable crop. If this be true, Russia ought to make a great deal of money, because all Europe will purchase her buyers.

BETTER TONE IN RUSSIA.

A rather better tone is reported in the Philadelphia market. Shipments for six months have been 7,305 tons, and sales made already cover about three months more of production. Large consumption of paper sustains the price at 17 cents, and manipulation has placed it at 21.50 cents, but lead is dull at 43 cents. Coal is lower. Wood is dull and in limited demand. No definite improvement is seen in the woolen goods market. Little is doing at present in knit goods. The speculative markets have been curiously variable. Wheat is more than half a cent lower than a week ago, notwithstanding some evidence of injury from drought; the stock carried over from the last crop year is estimated at 69,000,000 to 70,000,000 bushels, which, with a yield even smaller than is now expected, will more than meet all probable requirements. Corn has advanced nearly half a cent higher again in spite of favorable crop prospects. Hogs and pork products are weaker, and coffee unchanged, though the distribution was very moderate. Raw sugar has been advanced a sixteenth, though refined is lower and the Sprackles product is offered below that of the trust.

HIS RELATIVES VICTIMIZED.

An Alleged Dead Man Reports That He Is Alive and Well.

TRENTON, N. J., July 18.—A remarkable case of trafficking in the sympathies of relatives has come to light here.

Mrs. Peter Stalman, residing at No. 433 Ferry street, received a telegraph over a month ago asking funds for the burial of her brother Edward C. Bloom, of No. 93 East Street, Kansas City. She forwarded the amount demanded by E. C. Bloom, the undertaker, and requested a decent burial.

A letter was received last night from the alleged dead man, stating that he was prospering and would be in Trenton within the next five days. This was naturally a revelation to the family of Edward Bloom, who have gone into mourning, and his mother has been made ill by the report of his death.

Besides the letter, announcing the death, a letter signed by Fred A. Marso, of Kansas City, was previously received by Mrs. Stalman, stating that her brother was very ill and wanted funds. Money was sent at once. Later came a letter from C. A. Wright, urging money to be sent for a consultation and an operation that might save his life. This also was sent. Later came the dispatch announcing his death. The family sent in all nearly \$300, and they are now aware that they have been duped by some sharpers in Kansas City who have traded on some information obtained from Edward Bloom.

THE WORK OF BURGLARS.

Sherrodsville, O., Almost Destroyed by Fire, Causing a Loss of \$200,000.

CANTON, O., July 20.—The village of Sherrodsville, in Carroll county, was swept by fire Friday night. The loss is put at \$200,000. John Jenkins and his son were probably fatally burned. Both of them were unconscious when rescued from a burning building. The village was almost totally destroyed and many of the people are living in barns. Three of the burned buildings are supposed to have been plundered and then set on fire by burglars, as two shots were fired at the man who discovered the fire. A reward of \$1,000 has been offered for the incendiaries.

SOFTENS IRON ORE.

A Discovery Announced by a Westinghouse Agent.

ST. PAUL, MINN., July 18.—C. A. Daigh, of the Westinghouse Electric Company, has been in Tower, Minn., at the iron mines for the last week, experimenting with electricity and iron ore in the interest of his company. He declares that he has discovered a process by which he can centre the rays of an arc light upon a piece of iron ore, and thereby soften it to such a degree as to be able to work it with greatly reduced amount of labor. It has not yet been known what success his labors have been met.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

The Latest Reports Received By Dun's Agency.

NEW YORK, July 18.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trades says: The Silver bill has been passed and is signed by the President, but has had scarcely any effect on the market as yet, excepting the advance in bar silver to 5 3/4, followed by a decline to 5 1/2. No change appears in money markets, and foreign exchange remains steady at a point which admits exports of gold, engagements to-day being half a million for Germany. The bank of England lost \$1,500,000 during the week, and the later advices from South America are less encouraging. The industrial outlook is not improved by delays in Congress, nor by drought in some Western States which seems likely to cut down the yield of wheat.

INCREASED VOLUME OF BUSINESS.

The volume of business still continues very large for the season, and the prevailing tone in most every department of trade is confident and hopeful. Western hides are higher, and there is a good retail trade in summer goods, though wholesale trade is quiet. Cotton goods are strong, but wool favors buyers.

The Chicago Board of Trade statistics continue to show a great increase over last year in movement of all grains and flour and in meats, the increase in dressed beef being three fold, and in lard, cheese and butter large, with considerable gain in live stock, wool and hides. Boot and shoe sales are a little slack but dry goods and clothing last year's sales are surpassed and payments are good. Cleveland notes the largest trade since last year, though seasonally quiet at present, and substantially the same is reported from Detroit and St. Paul. Minneapolis increases its stock output of flour above 100,000 barrels, and reports a stronger lumber market. Trade is good at Omaha and Denver, but dull and inactive at Jacksonville. The livestock movement at Kansas City is large, but at low prices.

LETTER TO BE IN RUSSIA.

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THE GIRL WHO WAS KILLED.

The Girl Who Was Killed by the Explosion of a Kerosene Lamp.

The girl was rigidly kept from speaking to another child. Anna's health was naturally impaired by this seclusion. When brought before the court she was almost as much of an imbecile as the mother herself. She could not tell her own name or age, and did not know what a store was. When a dressed doll was given Anna, the child went into ecstasies over it, willingly accompanying the officers when they told her they would take her to play with other children.

WELL GUARDED FROM WITCHES.

A Child Imprisoned Six Years by Her Lunatic Mother.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., July 17.—Elna Stecker, 60 years old, was arrested to-day charged with imprisoning her daughter Anna for the past six years. Anna is 9 years old and an only daughter, and the mother declared that she had locked her up as a means of preserving her from witches. Mrs. Stecker seven years ago lost a son, Joseph. Soon afterwards her husband died, while another son had a portion of his hand removed by accident. Her troubles turned the woman's head.

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A MAN JUST OUT OF PRISON AND MARRIED AGAIN IN CHARLES.

New York, July 16.—Charles Loeve was a prisoner today in Jefferson Market court on a charge of forgery. He is 24 years old and has served a four-year term in State's prison for forgery. Before he was arrested and sent to prison he met a girl to whom he became engaged. When he was sentenced she promised to be true to him. Four months ago his time was up and he hunted up the girl and a week ago married her. While Loeve was in prison preparations were made for Kemmerer's electrocution, and Loeve was detailed to assist the electrician, who took a fancy to him and promised to get him work when his time was up. He kept his word and Loeve secured employment with the Art Lump Company.

HE WOULD BRING RAIN.

A Young Lunatic Sets Fire to a Church for That Purpose.

NEVADA, Mo., July 16.—James Howard, the 18-year-old son of A. H. Howard of Lake township, near here, who has been deranged for several years, and was at one time confined in the insane asylum here, left his father's house Sunday morning, saying he was going to bring on a rain to save the crops. He went to a country church near by, which he set on fire, and then started a blaze in a number of hay ricks half a mile away. He was detected and arrested. He declared that it was his intention to have burned all the hay in the neighborhood, and also the new town of Richards, in order to bring on a rain. The fire in the church was discovered and extinguished before great damage was done. Howard was taken at once before the probate court, and again sent to his old quarters in the insane asylum.

ESCAPED BY THE ROPE ROUTE.

Three Prisoners Escape From the Workhouse at Dayton.

DAYTON, O., July 18.—Prisoners in the City Workhouse attacked the guard, last evening, and, rendering him powerless and then speared by choking him, took away his keys and revolver.

William Johnson, Frank Wilson and Charles Jackson escaped, but Mrs. Martin, wife of the Superintendent, barred the progress of the others. A trusty prisoner who gave the alarm was attacked by some of his companions and almost killed.

POISONED BY CANNED MEAT.

An Entire Family Taken Down and Five Children May Die.

EAT CLAIR, WIS., July 20.—A poor family named Klingberg, in Shawtown, consisting of father, mother, and seven children, had canned meat for their Sunday dinner this afternoon. Two hours later they were seized with violent sickness. The physician is still working on them. He thinks four or five of the children may die.

AN OLD LADY BEATS TWO BATTERERS.

Gressburg, Pa., July 17.—An old lady named Burger, 80 years of age, who was strolling over the ridge at Laurelsville, came across two high rattle-snakes this morning, each with 11 rattles. The reptiles at once showed fight, and for a while a desperate struggle ensued, but the old lady succeeded in killing them both, and brought them triumphantly to town.

BURNED TO DEATH.

A Mother and Four Children Perish by Flame.

VALPARAISO, IND., July 16.—The residence of John Hamlett, near here, was burned this morning. Mrs. Hamlett and four children, the eldest about 8 years old, were burned to death. The house was totally consumed. No person knows how the fire originated. Mr. Hamlett was absent at Chesterton. He has arrived here and is crazy with grief.

ELEMENTS LET LOOSE.

A Terrific Storm Sweeps Over Parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey.

PHILADELPHIA, July 17.—A terrific thunder and hail storm swept over Philadelphia, Southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey this evening, doing an immense amount of damage. The new agricultural works at Halltown were blown down and John Freeman killed. Lansdale was flooded and several barns struck by lightning and burned. At Trenton, N. J., hail of remarkable size fell. Louis Schlapel and Michael Corcoran were killed by lightning under a tree.

Two passenger trains on the Lehigh Valley Railroad narrowly escaped being wrecked between Bethlehem and Allentown. Both trains had to stop frequently to allow telegraph poles and trees to be removed from the track.

The storm was very severe at Chester, the lightning doing much damage to buildings. The yacht Richmond, with nine men on board, was turned bottom upward off Port Richmond, but all the men were saved. Twenty persons in all were rescued from capsized sailboats.

The Harbour thread mill's stack at Allentown, 529 feet high, was blown down, crushing the engine house. Much damage was also done at Reading.

NORWALK, OHIO, July 17.—A violent wind and rain storm struck Monroeville, this county, at 6 o'clock to-night, doing terrible damage. Lightning struck Otto Geldner's house, killing his three sons, who were sitting on a lounge. The electricity came down the chimney. Kate Smith, a neighbor, who was in the house at the time, was badly burned about the arms.

ETNA, PA., July 17.—A hurricane struck Girard, west of Erie, this afternoon and came near demolishing the whole town. Scores of houses and barns were unroofed, and the Presbyterian Church, a costly edifice, was unroofed and almost destroyed. The damage to trees and farm property in the wake of the storm will be large.

ALTOONA, PA., July 17.—A heavy rain and thunder storm passed over this city about 7 o'clock this evening doing serious damage to property. Many eglars were killed. Train men report a fire at Gallitzin, caused by lightning.

ROCKWAY, L. I., July 17.—During the storm to-night a driver of a wagon was killed and his horse also killed. Several persons were stunned by lightning, and much damage was done to buildings and crops.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA., July 17.—A tornado swept over and through this city this afternoon, the worst ever witnessed here. Many buildings were blown down and many unroofed, but no person was hurt.

THE BUTCHERS STRUCK.

They Would Sell a Town No Meat Till It Changed an Ordinance.

DANVILLE, VA., July 17.—One of the most curious strikes on record has just ended here. Several days ago a butcher was imprisoned for violating a city ordinance, whereupon all the butchers closed their stalls and swore they would sell no more meats until the ordinance was changed. Since that time no fresh meat could be bought in the market for love or money, and the people were put to great inconvenience. The butchers at last decided that they were getting the worst of the so-called strike and all will open at the old stand to-morrow.

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LATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

HOME AND FOREIGN NOTES.

Condensed Items From Many Points of Interest.

The Baltimore & Ohio railroad company will erect the largest transfer sheds in the world on their road 50 miles west of Washington. They will be capable of holding 15,000 cars.

Pierre Miranda, wife and three children were roasted to death in a burning house at Quebec, the firemen being ignorant of their presence and devoting their energies to saving the surrounding property.

Four hundred deaths from smallpox are reported to have occurred at Saltillo, Mexico, in the last three months.

John M. Weber was yesterday nominated for congress from the Twenty-first New York district by the Republicans.

Richard Coker, the Tammany leader, sailed from New York for Germany yesterday morning, being accompanied by his wife and children.

The President yesterday appointed O. L. Spaulding of Michigan assistant secretary of the treasury, vice George C. Tichnor resigned.

New York policemen are searching for a Chinaman named Tseng Ah Jen, who is said to have the leprosy, and whom his friends are concealing.

The Democratic State convention of Wisconsin will be held at Milwaukee on August 27, and that of Michigan at Grand Rapids on September 12.

Four of the Belgian cigar makers who were to have been shipped back as contract laborers, Wednesday, escaped from the steamship Belgeland, and are still in New York.

Fred Medlar, while drunk, was killed by a train at Wheeling.

J. C. Todd's machine and boiler works at Patterson, N. J., were destroyed by fire. Loss \$150,000.

The Serbian Synod has rejected the petition of ex-Queen Natalie for a rehearing as to the legality of her divorce from ex-King Milan.

Wheat and oats are well under way in North and South Dakota, and corn promises finely, but rain is badly needed for small grain.

The large planing mills, factory, lumber yard and sheds owned by D. W. Sherman, at Glens Falls, N. Y., were destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss, \$30,000; no insurance.

Joseph Glesner, dealer in boots and shoes, at Massillon, O., was closed by the Sheriff on an execution issued to satisfy a judgment note for \$2,000 in favor of his wife.

The dead body of a man, supposed to be Moses Silverhorn, of Camden, N. J., was found at Fetter's Hotel, Bethlehem, Pa., Sunday. Death was caused by asphyxiation. It is supposed to be suicide.

A man named J. Kinsey, supposed to be a resident of Greenville, Conn., was killed by being struck by a locomotive at Philadelphia.

Negotiations are about concluded for the transfer of the S. F. Hess & Co. cigarette factory at Rochester, N. Y., to the American Tobacco company.

Dr. R. C. Work, professor of physiology of the Southern Medical College, died at Atlanta, Ga. He was one of the best known physicians in Georgia.

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THE VALUE OF A WIFE.

John Haebler Asks \$50,000 of Charles Beyer.

PHILADELPHIA, July 16.—John Haebler, a soap manufacturer, whose wife, Johanna, committed suicide on June 28, 1885, brought suit to-day against Charles Beyer for \$50,000 damages, alleging that Beyer caused the suicide and thus robbed him of an affectionate wife not only, but of her services, which he deemed very valuable both in his home and in his wholesale soap store. Haebler alleges that because his wife had refused in a civil action to testify against him and in favor of