

DIED IN BURNING CONVENT

One Nun, Nine Children and Four Old Women Perish.

SISTERS PROVE THEIR HEROISM

One Gives Up Her Life and Two Others Likely to Perish in Rescue Work.

In the burning of the St. Ann Convent at St. Genevieve, near Montreal, Quebec, one nun, nine children and four women lost their lives and two nuns were seriously injured.

The village had no fire brigade and an effort was made to get Montreal by telephone, in order to secure assistance, but the effort failed and the big building was soon a mass of smoldering ruins.

Scenes of frightful suffering followed, as the night was very cold and a fierce wind was blowing. There were about 100 inmates and as they were taken from the building in their night clothing the villagers threw open their homes and made a refuge for the young and old.

There were about 20 aged women, some of them nearly 100 years old, at the convent, and it is feared that the shock in some cases will prove fatal. Heroism on the part of the sisters marked the occasion.

The pupils who perished were in a portion of the building where the fire had obtained too much headway before the alarm was given to enable those who responded to effect their rescue.

The fire started about midnight in the old ladies' hospice, and the smoke was so thick that the children on the floor above were unable to get down.

As soon as the fire was discovered the villagers hastened to the scene. Bucket brigades were hurriedly formed and every possible effort was made to save the building, but the fire had gained such headway that it was soon apparent that there was no chance to save it from destruction.

The occupants, hurriedly aroused by the smoke, attempted to grope their way out of the building. Notwithstanding all efforts, unfortunately there was a deplorable loss of life.

TWENTY-NINE MEN ARE LOST

Men Who Objected to Going on Ship Perish in the Atlantic.

The British steamer Freshfield has been officially posted as missing and the 29 men who left with her are undoubtedly lost. The crew mutinied against sailing in the ship, but the officials of the British consulate at Norfolk, Va., insisted that they go under peril of imprisonment. The men said that the vessel was unseaworthy.

The Freshfield left Pensacola, Fla., January 29, with a general cargo, for Hamburg and Rotterdam, and on February 4 reached Norfolk with her crew in bad humor. The Freshfield started for sea again on February 5, but was out one day only when she came back almost on her beam ends. Some of her cargo was removed and she again sailed, since which time nothing has been heard of her.

The Freshfield was owned by the Northfield Steamship Co., of Liverpool, and was 13 years old. She had a gross tonnage of 2,730.

MOROS AGAIN IN REVOLT

Secretary to Gov. Scott Ambushed and Killed by Native Band.

The walled city of Jolo was attacked by Moros on April 9 who fired into the officers' club. On April 10 the secretary of Gov. Scott was ambushed and killed within range of the sentries. A datto refugee from Boreno has organized the Moros, who are defying the Americans. Gen. Leonard Wood has arrived at Jolo from Zamboanga and given the Moros 10 days within which to surrender. The refusal to do this is not done he will concentrate a sufficient force to secure a compliance with his demands.

PLOT TO KILL THE CZAR

Officers, Soldiers, and Nobles Said to Have Been Implicated.

A plot to kill the Czar and his kinsmen has been discovered among the troops of the Imperial guard. Many officers are involved, the very men upon whom the imperial family depends for personal safety. Governor General Treppoff's secret agents unearthed the plot and assert that several of the conspirators of noble birth were in possession of large quantities of dynamite. The discovery has unnerved the Czar at Tsarsko-Selo. To insure prompt action in case of demand all officers have been directed to remain in their offices during the Easter holidays and be prepared for any emergency.

KILLED BY THIBETANS?

Rumor That Imperial Chinese Commissioner Was Murdered.

Special correspondents at Shanghai give an unconfirmed Chinese report to the effect that Fen Chuen, the Imperial Commissioner to Tibet, with his whole retinue, has been massacred by Thibetans at Batang.

WAGES ARE INCREASED

Official announcement has been made of an advance in wages to be made by the 60 foundries, machine shops and brass foundries belonging to the Manufacturers' Association of Pittsburgh. The advance will take place June 1. About 6,000 men will be affected. Last June the association reduced the wages of the men and the increase to be granted this year will make the wages about the same as they were before the reduction was made.

FAMOUS ACTOR DEAD

Joseph Jefferson Passes Away After Long Career on Stage.

Joseph Jefferson, the eminent actor, died at his home, "The Reefs," at Palm Beach, Fla., Sunday evening. The end came after a day of unconsciousness and after a heroic struggle of days which had exhausted his vitality. At his deathbed were his wife, his sons, Charles B. and Frank Jefferson; his nurse, Miss Mabel Bingham; Dr. R. B. Potter and his faithful old servant, Carl Kettler.

Joseph Jefferson was born in Philadelphia, February 20, 1829; debut as an actor, Washington, 1833; appeared in Chicago, 1838; with Macready and Booth, 1845; stage manager, Baltimore, 1853; in England and France, 1856; with Keene and Sothorn, 1858; created Rip Van Winkle, 1859; went to Australia and England, 1860-65; died April 23, 1905.

His famous parts: As Rip Van Winkle in "Rip Van Winkle"; as Bob Acres in "The Rivals"; as Caleb Plummer in "The Cricket on the Hearth"; as Mr. Gollightly in "Lend Me Five Shillings"; as Newman Noggins in "Nicholas Nickleby"; as Dr. Ollapud in "The Poor Gentleman"; as Asa Tremchard in "Our American Cousin"; as Dr. Pangloss in "The Heir at Law"; as Marral in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts."

NEW BATTLESHIPS FOR RUSSIA

Will Name Boats Built After Destroyed Ships and Naval Heroes.

The commission headed by Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovitch, which has raised \$5,000,000 by public contributions for the navy, has announced its program. The vessels to be built are as follows:

Three cruisers, four gunboats, ten river gunboats, several torpedo cruisers, one mine transport, 31 torpedo boat destroyers, torpedo boats and submarine boats and 10 coast defense vessels.

The names of several ships destroyed at Port Arthur, like the Bayan and Pallada, will be repeated and a number of the ships will be named after deceased officers, who distinguished themselves by individual exploits at Port Arthur, mostly upon torpedo boats early in the war. One of the cruisers will be named Admiral Makaroff.

WHEAT CORNER COLLAPSES

Price of May Option Drops Over Eleven Cents in a Day.

In one of the wildest sessions ever witnessed in the Chicago pit, the hot wheat fell out of the darling deal in wheat for May delivery undertaken by John W. Gates and his associates. At one time prices showed a loss of 11 1/2 cents a bushel for the day, the price of the option being driven down in a series of sensational rushes to 95 1/2 cents per bushel. The closing quotation was \$1, as against \$1.23 a few weeks ago.

Hats were smashed, clothing torn, and bodies bruised in the fierce struggle among the traders to sell the grain. The frenzied rush began with the sounding of the signal bell and lasted throughout the session. It was estimated that 1,500,000 bushels were sold by one house alone.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

All the members of the pension board of review have resigned.

The main building of the Vanderbilt university at Nashville, Tenn., was gutted by fire. Loss \$200,000.

Four men were killed and two houses demolished by the explosion of a keg of powder at Mt. Sterling, Ky.

The action of France in having the Russian squadron ordered to leave Kamranh bay pleased the Japanese government.

The Doukala, Chadma and Mtonga tribes are in full revolution near Mogador, Morocco. The kaid of the Chadma and Mtonga tribes have been killed.

In a pitched battle with robbers at San Francisco, Thomas Reilly was killed, but the outlaws escaped.

The Russian fleet left Kamranh bay and heavy cannonading was heard at sea later.

Three ships appeared off Corregidor island, supposed to be Japanese vessels awaiting the arrival of Kamimura's squadron.

John Alexander Dowie has appealed to the State department at Washington to put in motion all the machinery of the government to protect his missionaries in China.

The price of bread has trebled in Moscow as the result of the strike of 15,000 bakers. Only municipal ovens are working. It is feared that the struggle will be protracted, although the masters are willing to grant considerable concessions.

Commissioners of Pensions Vespasian Warner has accepted the tenth and final resignation of members of the board of review implicated in the granting of unearned pensions to members of a Pennsylvania Home Guard regiment.

The Massachusetts House passed a bill which provides that any persons or corporations who contract trades in stocks or bonds with a bet or wager depending on the outcome shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than a year.

Turpentine Combine Formed.

Fifty leading turpentine operators of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, and Texas have formed a combine with a capital stock of \$3,500,000. The combination will be known as the Naval Stores Product Export company. It is understood that the combine will control 490,000 casks of turpentine out of a total production in the country of 650,000 casks. Headquarters will be in Savannah.

EXPLOSION KILLS THREE

Bottle of Gasoline Accidentally Broken Near Fireplace.

PARENTS WERE NOT AT HOME

Returned in Time to See Their Dwelling Destroyed But Too Late to Save Children.

The explosion of a bottle of gasoline in the home of John E. Kunkle, in Maple avenue, Greensburg, Pa., resulted in three children of the family being burned to death and a fourth so fearfully injured that her recovery is a matter of doubt. Five other persons also hurt.

The dead: Paul Kunkle, 7 years old; Alice Kunkle, 5 years old; Louise Kunkle, 3 years old.

The injured are: Catherine Kunkle, 2 years old; George M. Gester, right hand so seriously burned that amputation may be necessary; William McCarthy, overcome by smoke; Jacob Weaver, overcome by smoke; Attorney A. M. Wyatt and John S. Murphy severely burned and cut about the hands and arms by glass, while trying to rescue the children.

Mr. and Mrs. Kunkle, accompanied by two of their seven children, in the early evening attended holy week service in the First Reformed church, leaving their home in charge of Mrs. Kunkle's mother, Mrs. Cordelia Rugh, aged 75 years. The children went to bed after the departure of their parents and were soon asleep. At 9 o'clock, Louise, the next to the youngest child, awakened and calling her grandmother to her bedside asked for a drink of water. In bringing the water to the child the grandmother tripped over a rug and a portion of the water was spilled on the counterpane.

The lights were low in the room and in taking a towel from a mantelpiece, the grandmother overturned a bottle of gasoline. The bottle crashed to the floor just in front of a gas grate. In an instant the fluid was aflame, being thrown to all portions of the room by the explosion which followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Kunkle were on their way home from church when the alarm sounded. They arrived just as the fire was at its height. Before the children had been taken from the ruins of the house the parents were both taken in a swooning condition to the home of a neighbor.

Mr. Kunkle is a member of the Westmoreland bar, being a law partner of ex-Congressman Edward E. Robins. His home, one of the most pretentious in Greensburg, was gutted and its furnishings either destroyed by fire or damaged by water. The loss will be at least \$18,000.

OLD WOMAN WEDS A BOY

After the Ceremony Declares She Feels Thirty Years Younger.

Mrs. N. O. Griffin, a gray-haired woman of 60, widow of a Philadelphia carpet merchant, who left an estate valued at \$1,000,000, leaning on the arm of her sturdy coachman, John Wood, appeared at the Episcopal rectory in Whitehall, N. Y., and told Rev. Mr. Elliott that they wanted to get married. The 42 years' difference in their ages was so apparent that the clergyman used every effort to dissuade them from their matrimonial venture. It was all to no avail, however, and the only answer the woman would make was: "I don't care if Johnnie is only 18. I am 60 and I guess I am old enough to know whether I love him or not."

The minister performed the ceremony. The bride, beaming all over with contentment, as she boarded the train, said she felt 30 years younger, and she looked it too.

After a notable service of nearly eight years in the direction of foreign affairs for France, Theophile Delcasse informed President of the Council Reuivier of his desire and intention to resign.

PLAN GREAT RAILWAY MERGER

Scheme is for Line From Lake Superior to Gulf of Mexico.

The Hollinszimmerman syndicate, in control of the Great Central lines, is gradually acquiring new lines of railway, and when its gigantic scheme of mergers is completed it will dominate a system which will be one of the most important in the world.

The Great Central lines now spread out over Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. The Erie railway deal, long rumored and often denied is to be concluded, and the Erie will become a member of the new group of trunk lines. The Erie railway adds Pennsylvania and New York to the States tapped by the system, and the Louisville & Nashville railway deal, if it is consummated, takes the Great Central from the great lakes to the gulf, adding Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Louisiana to the territory covered.

When the general scheme is worked out the Great Central system will extend from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico, and from St. Louis to the Atlantic seaboard.

Taft Will Visit Tokio.

On further consideration of the matter as laid before him by Secretary Hoki, of the Japanese legation Secretary W. H. Taft has concluded to visit Tokio while his ship, the Mezachiria, on which he will make his Philippine trip, is coaling at Yokohama. The secretary has made such a visit on the occasion of other like detentions at Yokohama and feels that he could scarcely fail to make an official call on this occasion.

ZEMSTVOISTS BARRED

Congress Called for Next Month Prohibited by Government.

A private circular has been addressed to the Governors of the several Russian provinces informing them that the congress of Zemstvoists called for May 7 has been prohibited and instructing them to prevent the departure of delegates to that congress. The congress of journalists will recommend wide reaching measures toward the liberation of the press, as well as a political programme along the lines of the programmes adopted by the recent congresses of barristers and doctors.

The Juridical Society at Tomsk, Western Siberia, adopted a strong preamble which reads like the Declaration of Independence, proclaiming that all citizens of Russia, without regard to nationality or religion, are equal before the law and entitled to equal protection from the state, and advocating the abolition of all class privileges.

WAGES ARE INCREASED

Blast Furnace Workers Will Demand They Be Given Eight-Hour Day.

Notices have been posted in the various blast furnaces at Youngstown, O., that beginning May 1, the wages of laborers will be increased 5 per cent, and turn men 10 per cent. President James McMahon of the Blast Furnace Workers and Smelters' Union of America, said the advance was but a return of the former wages, received by the men before the independent reduced them a year ago. The United States Steel Corporation is not included.

The men will still make demand for an eight-hour day.

JAPANESE SEIZE COLLIERS

Rojevstevsky With Portion of Fleet Passes Hongkong.

The Japanese are reported to have captured a large number of colliers off the coast of Cochin-China. Since leaving Europe Admiral Rojevstevsky has lost only eight men by disease out of 18,000 with him.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says that Vice Admiral Rojevstevsky, with a portion of his squadron, has been sighted off Hongkong, sailing for the east.

A dispatch from Hongkong says that a portion of the Russian squadron was seen Sunday at Turan bay, about 350 miles north of Kamranh bay.

HONORS FOR PAUL JONES

American Squadron Will Be Detailed to Bring Body Home.

The state department has advised Ambassador Porter that an American squadron will be sent to bring the body of Paul Jones to the United States probably in June. It is expected that the French government will participate in an imposing funeral pageant when the body leaves Paris. Detailed plans have not yet been made but it probably will occur shortly before the French national holiday, June 14. Large forces of French soldiers and sailors will form the escort.

ASK FOR RECEIVER

Gross Frauds Charged Against Equitable Assurance Co.

Charging gross frauds and unlawful manipulation of the funds of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, seven Chicago policyholders brought suit in the United States court against the corporation asking that the great concern be placed in the hands of a receiver.

James W. Alexander, president, and James Hazen Hyde, vice president, are made the subjects of scathing accusations of misappropriation of funds and mismanagement of the business and the sensational controversy now going on among the factions of the corporation is declared to be ruinous.

The complainants express the fear that the business of the concern would be destroyed and dissipated to the tremendous loss of policy holders.

WILL NOT ADMIT DEFEAT

Russian Bureaucracy Forms Plans for Manchuria and Kwantung.

The committee of the far east, under Admiral Alexieff, oblivious of what happened last year, is proceeding daily with the work of elaborating the administration of Manchuria and the Kwantung peninsula.

A school system for Port Arthur has just been completed, its execution being placed in the hands of the minister of education with power to "temporarily suspend" the system, and today the appointment of two justices of the peace for Port Arthur was officially gazetted.

To Aid Poor Colleges.

Gifts amounting in all to \$250,000 will be made this year to small colleges in the rural districts of Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina and West Virginia. This announcement was made by Dr. D. K. Pearsons, retired capitalist and benefactor of many small colleges in the United States.

Agents of the Equitable passed resolutions calling on Vice President Hyde to resign.

District Attorneys Named.

I. C. Herndon, of Welch, W. Va., and H. Albert Rummel, of Charleston, W. Va., have been appointed assistant district attorneys of the United States. The appointment of Messrs. Herndon and Rummel was made at the request of Elliott Northcott who took the oath of office as United States district attorney of the Southern district of West Virginia.

The Japanese government is about to raise another domestic loan of \$50,000,000.

DEFIANCE TO STEEL TRUST

Five Furnaces in Valley Withdraw from General Trade.

WILL NOT BEG FOR MARKET

Youngstown Iron, Sheet & Tube Company Will Use Production in Bessemer Plant.

An important move in the iron and steel business of the Mahoning valley has just been made in connection with the building of the Bessemer plant of the Youngstown Iron, Sheet & Tube Company. Five of the largest independent furnaces of the valley have gone into a deal and withdrawn from the general market. The furnaces include those of the Brier Hill Iron & Coal Company, the Youngstown Steel Company, the Ohio Iron & Steel Company at Lowellville, the Stewart furnaces at South Sharon and the Pickands, Mather & Company furnaces at Sharsville. These furnaces have a capacity of 15,000 tons a month and in the past this has gone to the general trade, at times the independents begging for market and at other times the United States Corporation begging for pig iron.

When the Youngstown Iron Sheet & Tube Company organized it was intended to build an open hearth steel plant. The ore properties purchased were not suitable for the Bessemer plant and it was necessary to get raw material somewhere. This, when the Bessemer steel plant proposition was proposed, was a critical point. The necessity of securing raw material caused the holding back of the steel plant proposition. When the independents of this and the Shenango valley indicated their willingness to enter into this deal it was a victory for the Youngstown Iron, Sheet & Tube Company. With five furnaces at their command the trust could be defied. Besides, the short hauls in the valleys, which amount to nothing more than transfer charges, not more than 15 cents a ton, give the independents and the Sheet & Tube Company a decided advantage. The shipping of pig iron at \$2 a ton is quite different from the transfer at 15 cents a ton and this makes the position of the company still stronger.

FOUND GOLD IN CABIN

Farmer Accidentally Discovers \$1,600 in Coin on His Premises.

Philip Sessler who lives in Ripped township, Fayette County, Pa., gathered a board from the end of a log in a cabin on his farm and found secreted behind it \$1,600 in gold. It is supposed that the money was hid there many years ago by his grandfather, James Downer. Encouraged by his find Sessler is carefully examining the cabin in the hope of finding more treasure.

Sessler is of a retiring disposition and said nothing about his find until a missionary society gathering at his home, when he displayed the gold to his astonished hearers. Most of the money is in \$10 and \$20 pieces, all of them being dated prior to the sixties. Sessler, who was a favorite, dies.

James Downer, who died a number of years ago, is well remembered by a number of Uniontown people. He was of a peculiar disposition and it is said that he never deposited money in banks. At the time of his death he left a will, disposing of his various was the chief heir, and the cabin where the gold was found is located on a farm which Downer left him.

RUSSIANS CUT CABLE

Russian agents have cut the cable between Foochow and Formosa. Sixteen Japanese cruisers and many torpedo craft have been sighted scouting off Sampooco point. Three strange warships have been sighted at Bantangan in Philippine waters. Minister Grisco has called the state department that Japan has included the Pascados and Taugaru straits in zones of defense.

A Chicago, Johann Hoch, the big-artist and abstract water colorist, was arranged under the new indictment recently returned against him. He pleaded not guilty.

Agents of the Equitable society, in conference assembled, sustained President Alexander and appealed to legislature to use its powers in enabling policy holders to sit in the directorate of the society.

Increases averaging 9.76 per cent. are shown by the gross earnings reports of 37 railroads for the first week of April. Net earnings of 99 railroads for February show an average decrease of 14.07 per cent, but the same roads for eight months show an average increase of 6.87 per cent.

TOOK M'KINLEY STATUE

Sculptor Declares He Has Not Yet Been Paid For It.

In broad daylight C. D. Billman, a sculptor removed from its pedestal in City park at Logansport, Ind., an heroic statue to William McKinley, which had been erected by citizens as a memorial to the martyred President.

Billman alleges that he has not yet been paid for the statue. Taking advantage of the absence of all city officers at a municipal league meeting this afternoon, Billman backed a wagon against the base of the monument, with block and tackle, transferred the monument to the back yard of his home.

To Harass Japan's Shippings.

A dispatch from the far east states that Admiral Rojevstevsky has detached three of his fast auxiliaries, which formerly belonged to the Hamburg-American line to harass Japanese shipping and to raid undefended parts of the Japanese coast, hoping to compel Admiral Togo to weaken his fleet by sending cruisers to chase them.

Predicts Disaster.

Dr. J. MacDonald, an astronomer of Binghamton, N. Y., in his almanac just published, says the solar conjunction and sun spots indicate severe earthquakes in many sections, especially from Florida to Nova Scotia. New York city will suffer most. He predicts a number of buildings will be shaken down, and the loss of life will be terrible. Japan, he says, will be nearly wiped off the earth by earthquakes, and a great tidal wave.

CORTELYOU CHANGES RULING

Postmaster Will Not Be Allowed to Act as County Chairman.

An official circular will be issued soon by Postmaster General Cortelyou that will circumscribe the political activities of postmasters. This document will set forth that for the good of the service a postmaster should not act as chairman of a county committee.

This ruling will be made in response to a letter from the Pennsylvania Republican state committee. It appears that former Postmaster General Payne advised the Pennsylvania Republican state committee that there was no objection to postmasters being selected as delegates to the national convention and the purpose of the present inquiry is to ascertain whether a county chairman will be treated in the same manner by the postoffice department. It is understood that while Postmaster General Cortelyou will sustain his predecessor's ruling as far as being delegate is concerned that he will rule it is not advisable for them to act as the head of the county organization.

This action will not be based upon the grounds of offensive partisanship, but that the duties of a chairman have become so extensive it is feared they will interfere with the official duties of a postmaster.

BANKERS PLEADED GUILTY

Cashier, Teller and Bookkeeper Sentenced to Penitentiary.

E. F. Kaneen, former cashier of the closed Citizens Savings bank of Lorain, pleaded guilty to embezzling the funds of the bank and was sentenced to serve seven years in the penitentiary. H. B. Walker and Dana Walker, teller and bookkeeper, respectively, of the bank, also pleaded guilty and were each sentenced to two years and six months in the penitentiary.

Of the four indictments against Kaneen, two were nolle. The indictments against the Walkers were also nolle. In pleading guilty Kaneen admitted that he was entirely to blame for the Walkers' downfall. The prisoners were taken to the penitentiary immediately after sentence was passed.

Boston Wool Market.

Heavy sales of foreign wool and the reports from the West as to the urgency in the making of contracts have been the features of the wool market. Quotations on domestic wools are about as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 33@34c; X, 30@31c; No. 1, 36@37c; No. 2, 37@38c; fine unwashed, 24@25c; quarter blood unwashed, 30c; % blood, 30@31c; half blood, 29@30c; unwashed delaine, 27@28c; unmerchantable, 23@24c; fine washed delaine, 34 1/2@37c; Michigan fine unwashed, 22@23c; quarter blood unwashed, 28@30c; % blood, 30c; half blood, 28@29c; unwashed delaine, 25@26c.

Charged With Embezzlement.

Cashier D. W. Tyrone of the Spartansburg, (Pa.) bank which failed in March, has been arrested, charged with embezzlement, on complaint of W. B. Rice of Chicago. Rice alleges he is a manufacturer of chairs and that he contracted with Tyrone for the erection of a chair factory at Spartansburg. He claims he paid Tyrone \$1,500 to be used in conducting the business. He states that Tyrone diverted the money to his own use, never building the factory or buying the machinery.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

A fight occurred between strikers and mill guards at Wheeling, in which a number were seriously hurt.

The commander of the president's yacht Sylph reported to the navy department that his call for help was ignored by the captain of the steamer Oteri.

The Panama canal commission contracted with the American Locomotive works for 24 engines to be used on the Panama railroad.

A Chicago, Johann Hoch, the big-artist and abstract water colorist, was arranged under the new indictment recently returned against him. He pleaded not guilty.

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Wisconsin woman who claims to be the original Mrs. Hoch has made her appearance.