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THE READING RAILROAD

The Extraordinary Accidents on this Road a Mystery.

We agree with the North American, of Philadelphia, in saying that it is difficult to conceive the spirit, though possible to imagine the purpose, of the incessant attacks upon the Reading Railroad and its management, as typified by the extraordinary assaults of almost the entire press of New York city and by some journals of lesser consequence. It is not more easy to understand the apparent determination to make the destruction of that property complete and to drive Mr. McLeod personally to the wall, as exemplified in the legal proceedings instituted on behalf of certain clients by Attorney-at-Law John R. Don Pines, of New York, and his associate counsel in Philadelphia, Mr. Charles B. McMichael, and also by the operations and opinions openly ascribed to such rich and powerful bankers as Pierpont Morgan, of New York, and the Brexels. The ethics of the profession of the law, which sanction and make possible the assumption by members of the Bar of the conduct of any legal proceeding not in itself dishonourable without identification of the individual and his cause, may reasonably shield the action of lawyers. It would be subversive of all their duties and habits to assume otherwise. But we know of no such exonerating argument to defend the clients, or the classes not privileged by the halo which defines counsel.

That much of Reading's present misfortune is due to the persistent effort of unscrupulous newspapers, and newspapers as unfair as they have been unkindly, is patent to all men. Whether any of them have been influenced by considerations of a purely personal character we have no means of knowing, for there is no rule of ethics which makes the retaining fee in the case of a journalist an absolution of responsibility to be permanently advertised or exposed. In the main, however, it may be assumed that the sharp criticisms of newspapers adverse to the success of the great project outlined by the Reading Company have been inspired by the virgins of a mercenary jealousy—a jealousy which makes New York believe all undertakings and her own—yet by the impulses of some peculiarly friendly relations with corporations not a friendly with Mr. McLeod's management.

Whether similar to those have impelled Mr. Pierpont Morgan, who, unless common report has strangely belied him, with an unobscured and unobscured endeavor to obtain the Lord by a five hundred thousand dollar gift to endow a cathedral, and with the other, emulating and identifying himself as parallel to the dead Jay Gould, grasp by the throat and tries to choke to death a corporation that will not call him master, we do not know. The morals of commercial life are different in practice and preaching, and the greed of gold does not help to keep men upon the highest plane. The report just made by a committee of Congress desiring that well-known bankers give the use of their names for value received to the corrupt schemes of the Panama Canal Company shows that if "there was money in it" men of the class of Mr. Pierpont Morgan and his plutocratic associates would need no other warrant for their course.

It would have been better for the many thousands of people who had invested some of their savings in Reading Railroad securities if the same bankers who floated the Reading securities a few years ago since had now tried to help the Reading, and better also if the newspapers had been just instead of vindictive. It would be better now for bondholders and creditors to be offering aid to carry the company through the slough of despond instead of harassing it with new irritations and fresh difficulties. We have said that the spirit of all these proceedings is difficult to conceive. At least it is difficult at the same time to maintain a respect for those who animate such tactics.

The North American knows nothing of Mr. McLeod or his designs and plans, past or present, beyond that which has been known to every observer. This paper has not failed to see that all his projects and his ambitions were to lift the Reading Railroad from its lack of consequence as a purely local road gradually being heaved in by unfriendly rivals. It watched his efforts with hope and encouragement, as he reached out in a masterly way to give Philadelphia another great system of railroad with four outlets for her products. It found Mr. McLeod free from the taint of any pecuniary gain for himself upon the construction of the Reading, and its undertakings with which one after another the magnitude of his ideas was demonstrated. It has looked about to see other railroad officials with less of honest opportunity building palaces and living in the splendor of princes, while Mr. McLeod has lived modestly, though as becoming his position. It has recalled that it has often been not the corporations but their hired servants who have been benefited by railroad "booms," and it knows there is no dispute that in one single instance Mr. McLeod was offered for himself more than one million dollars to surrender an advantage he had gained for his company and he refused it.

Whatever may be the outcome of the troubles of the Reading Railroad, whatever may be the result of the vexatious efforts to make Mr. McLeod himself bear the weight of a disaster which a liberal and friendly spirit might have averted, the North American must deplore the fact that these assaults upon the Reading Railroad and its management have been the means of such an impairment of public confidence as to bring the people of Philadelphia seriously near to the dangers of a financial panic. Coupled, happily, to the attempt to prevent the partial completion of enterprises planned for such magnificent and greatly needed facilities of local transit as are exemplified in the building of the new elevated Terminal Railway and commodious Market street station, they have interfered with other projects for such magnificent and greatly needed facilities of local transit as these. Much is still possible, and more doubtless will be done. But the public will not have to thank for it the newspapers and the bankers who have been determined to crush what they could not control. Nor will they owe anything to those who are now seeking to destroy the confidence of the people in the man who might have made the Reading great and powerful and who will, we trust, yet make it so.

FROM AROUND THE STATE

News from all Sections of the Commonwealth.

HAPPENINGS IN MANY LOCALITIES.

The Flory and Richard Power Company Chartered at Harrisburg—Pottsville Boiler Room Publicly Inspected by Lieutenant Colonel Robinson—The Elm Park M. E. Church Burned at Beranton.

POTTSVILLE, March 28.—Company H, Eighth regiment, N. G. P., Captain George A. Harris, was publicly inspected last evening by Lieutenant Colonel Robinson, acting as brigade inspector, in the absence of Major Fitzgibbon, who is ill. The inspection was attended by the line officers of the various companies of the regiment and after the exercises were entertained at a banquet by Captain Harris and his officers. The inspection was attended by the society people in full dress.

It is Truly a Doomed Church. Shenandoah, March 28.—Beautiful Elm Park Methodist Episcopal church, which was partially destroyed by fire last December, a few days previous to the time of dedication, and which had been nearly reconstructed, was again visited by the fire from which still remain destruction yesterday. All the masonry stone walls which withstood the former flames went down before the fire excepting the tower, in which stands the Council memorial chimneys. All the interior work on the reconstructed edifice was about finished ready for the painters and fitters. The loss by the fire yesterday will reach fully \$125,000, with only \$50,000 insurance.

Says the Switchmen Will Not Strike. McKeesport, March 28.—Vice Grand Master John Downey of the Brotherhood of Switchmen, of Chicago, who is here on business connected with that order, says there is no possibility of a strike being precipitated by the Chicago switchmen during the World's Fair. Mr. Downey says his talk of a strike to the Garden City must have originated in the fact as he has heard nothing of that kind talked about in Chicago since the railroad difficulty was settled several weeks ago.

They Found Blood-stained Clothing. Beranton, March 28.—A sensation was created in the vicinity of Third and Broadway streets by the finding in a bath, formerly known as Beale's, of a lot of clothing and bedding saturated with blood. The articles consisted of two beds, a sheet, a pillow, a check shirt and a pair of drawers. Medical Attorney Faxon and Detective Mitchell took charge of the find and will make an investigation.

A Respected Barrister Dead. Reading, March 28.—Wharton Morris, one of the oldest practitioners at the bar, died suddenly of acute disease of the kidneys yesterday. He studied law in Philadelphia with William B. Ewell, and was admitted to practice in 1824. He served one term as district attorney and was the solicitor to the board of directors of the poor for three years. He was a native of this city and about 60 years of age.

New Ventilation for a Mine. Mahanoy Place, March 28.—A new twelve-foot fan has been placed at the Wiggins colliery of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Prior to this the ventilation of this mine has been done almost exclusively by three exhaust pumps. The new fan is operated over an air roadway and is a success.

Badly Injured by a Train. Chester, March 28.—James Mumery, of Mill Creek, Del., was struck at Ninth street station by a Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore train, and badly injured. His right leg was broken and he received a scalp wound. Mumery attempted to jump on a moving train, but fell and was buried against a passing train.

Young Freeman Dies of His Injuries. Reading, March 28.—Irvin Freeman, a lad about 19 years of age, while attempting to cross the tracks of the Reading railroad in front of a train at Leesport, had his leg crushed and was brought to the Reading hospital, where he died of his injuries about five hours later.

The Blockade is Broken. Pottsville, March 28.—The blockade of coal trains at this and other shipping points on the Reading road has been effectively broken. The company succeeded in getting all of the extra coal train men needed, and now the tracks are fairly well cleared of loaded trains.

A Good Maple Sugar Crop. Beaver Falls, March 28.—Farmers of Lawrence and Beaver counties report that the maple sugar and maple syrup product in this section makes the record of many years. Since the season began the sugar camps have been running night and day.

Making a Heavy Casting. Pottsville, March 28.—At the shops of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, a new casting is being prepared. It is a crank shaft, weighing 18,000 pounds, and is to be placed on a screw pump at one of the company's collieries.

Run Down and Killed on a Crossing. Leaver Falls, March 28.—Pearl Hulmer, a 7-year-old daughter of Seth Hulmer, of this city, was struck by a passenger train on the Fort Wayne railroad and killed instantly.

A Finishing Mill Idle. Pottsville, March 28.—The twenty-three-inch finishing mill of the Pottsville Iron and Steel Company is idle on account of a scarcity of iron. This places 200 men idle this week.

Counterfeit World's Fair Half Dollars. Lebanon, March 28.—Counterfeit World's Fair Columbus half dollars have made their appearance in this city. They are well executed and calculated easily to deceive.

A Power Company Chartered. Harrisburg, March 28.—The Flory and Richard Power Company, of Beranton, to supply water power, capital \$50,000, was chartered yesterday.

More Applications Than Ever Before. Washington, March 28.—Owing to the unprecedented amount of applications and other papers in the past office department bearing upon pending appointments, the entire clerical force of the department, numbering about 400 has been ordered to extra duty between four and five o'clock each day, briefing and filing for action.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report. Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

TORSED ABOUT BY OCEAN WAVES. The brig John B. Cranston Sinks a Fearful Hazardous Voyage. Returns, March 28.—The brig John B. Cranston, of New York, Captain Nowell, which has arrived from Philadelphia, had a fearful passage. On March 10, in latitude 34, 36 north, longitude 75 west, she was struck by a heavy gale from the northeast, in which she shipped large quantities of water, causing her to labor heavily and spring a leak. The vessel was run before the gale for twelve hours for safety, the crew being kept constantly at the pumps. The worst storm was experienced on the 17th and 18th of March, during which Captain Nowell was in constant fear that his vessel would founder. The storm was encountered in latitude 35, 56 north, longitude 70, 52 west.

Found His Frozen to Death. CHEYENNE, Wyo., March 28.—James Monahan, "The Educated Section Hand," wandered off into the hills near Clearmont, this state, after a spree and was frozen to death. The body was found after a search of a week. Monahan was educated by several men and received an attack by several men in his chest, arms and very bad wounds on his chest, arms and head. He had been visiting friends, and had an altercation with some of the guests. It is believed that they followed and assaulted him.

Kellner May Die of His Injuries. NEWARK, N. J., March 28.—Louis Kellner, of No. 12 Broome street, while on his way home with his wife at midnight, was attacked by several men and received several stab wounds on his chest, arms and head. He is now in the hospital, and it is believed that they followed and assaulted him.

Was a Relative of ex-Secretary Tracy. SEATTLE, Wash., March 28.—W. E. Wilmerding, until recently chief clerk to the commandant of the Puget Sound naval station at Sydney Port Orford, died of heart disease. Mr. Wilmerding was a member of a well-known family in New York and was closely related by marriage to ex-Secretary Tracy of the navy. The body will be taken to New York for burial.

They Blew Open Two Safes. PETERSBURG, Va., March 28.—Professional crochets broke into the store of Dalton & Co. and blew open two large iron safes. The explosion made a tremendous noise and many of the crochets were awakened. In one of the safes was about \$400 in money and some valuable jewelry. The burglars took the money, but left the jewelry on the floor of the store.

Three White Men Shot by a Negro. FORT WARR, Va., March 28.—Joe Holloway, John Bell and Seth Caribon were returning home from this village when they were met by a negro who immediately opened fire on them with a Winchester rifle. All three were shot through the body. A posse is out searching for the man. The wounded men are in a critical condition.

Think He Has Gone Over the Falls. NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., March 28.—James Fitzgerald, a retired, well-to-do merchant of St. Catharines, Ont., has been missing two weeks and it is thought that the body is in Niagara river. When last seen he was in this place, sick and despondent.

Richard Croker Hit. NEW YORK, March 28.—Richard Croker, the leader of Tammany hall, is confined to his home by illness. His indisposition is not supposed to be serious.

HE ATTACKED THE GOVERNMENT. The Hon. A. J. Balfour Speaks in the House of Commons. LONDON, March 28.—In the house of commons yesterday Mr. Balfour, leader of the unionists, spoke at length on the motion of which he gave notice last Thursday, that the Irish executive be censured for condoning serious offenses, and thus bringing the law into general contempt. He made his attack upon the government with exceptional vigor and evoked repeatedly loud cheers from the opposition benches. Mr. Morley, chief secretary for Ireland, replied to Mr. Balfour. The discussion was continued by Mr. Gladstone, Lord Randolph Churchill and others.

Arrested for Going Out Sheep's Eyes. PORTLAND, Ore., March 28.—Peter Wetley, a butcher, living near Corvallis, Ore., is in jail charged with gouging out the eyes of two sheep. He had much difficulty in getting the sheep into his slaughter pen, and when he finally succeeded he angrily slashed two and deliberately gouged out their eyes with his thumbs. Another of the helpless animals was served in the same way, and he also tore out two inches of the tongue of a fourth.

Died of Rabies. WHEAT-RABBIT, March 28.—John Mahon, a member employed in No. 1 plant at Nantuxco, entered the face of a black cat yesterday afternoon with a sharp knife and fired a small quantity of gas, enough to set the wooden lattice on fire, before he could get out of the place, he was overcome by the fumes and smoke and died of suffocation. He was found later on. The fire was extinguished after a few moments of hard work.

Died Under the Influence of Ether. RUTLAND, Va., March 28.—Miss Mattie S. Smith of Fairview, died in this city while under the influence of ether administered to her by Dr. H. F. Ford. Dr. Ford, a cavalry and R. C. Smith, who had been engaged to perform a surgical operation upon her. Miss Smith, who was 28 years old, is reported to have been in failing health for some years. The physicians say she had heart disease.

Mr. Herman Hicks of Rochester, N. Y. Deaf for a Year Catarrh in the Head

Hood's Sarsaparilla to all who have Catarrh. HERMAN HICKS, 30 Cortlandt Street, N. Y.

THE BIJOU! Everything modeled after Grand City, Philadelphia. 22 N. Main St., Shenandoah.

JOHN R. COYLE, Attorney-at-Law and Real Estate Agent, Office—Hedden's Building, Shenandoah, Pa.

READING RAILROAD SYSTEM. Anthracite coal used and safe, insuring clean, safe and sanitary. TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 29, 1893.

First National Bank THEATRE BUILDING Shenandoah, Penna. CAPITAL \$100,000.00. A. W. LEISERLING, President. P. J. BERGSON, Vice President. J. R. LEISERLING, Cashier. S. W. YOST, Assistant Cashier.

DR. THEEL 535 North Fourth St. 535 North Fourth St. 535 North Fourth St.

USED BY ALL ROOFERS. J. G. HETZEL'S RUBBER CEMENT! For Slate, Tile, Tin or Iron Roofs.

Twice Told Tales! Are sometimes a bore, but when the people are told twice that at Gallagher's Cheap Cash Store they can buy Flour and Tea at lower rates than anywhere in town they are glad to test the truth of the oft repeated story.

DOCTOR J. B. HOENESACK'S ERRORS HOME YOUTH CURE. Medical Office, 206 N. Second St., Philadelphia, Pa.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT. With Electro-Magnetic SUSPENSORY. Lumbago, Sciatica, Kidney Complaints, Lame Back, &c.

WEEKS Has removed to Bill Jones' old stand 17 SOUTH MAIN STREET. Everything in the Drinking Line.

LLOYD'S SALOON AND RESTAURANT 35 East Centre Street. The best beer, ale, porter, whiskies, brandies, wines and local liquors on hand.

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