

Miscellaneous News Items.

Not one Boston insurance company can show a profit on the business of the first six months of 1878.

Rosa Christian, a little girl bitten by a Newfoundland dog July 7, died on Tuesday at New Orleans of hydrophobia.

The loss ratio of the New York fire companies for the six months ending June 30 was 72 per cent. of their premium receipts.

It is now known that the wheat yield of Minnesota will be better than that of last year, and will aggregate 40,000,000 bushels.

The iron-rail trade has fallen off from three hundred and twenty-four thousand tons in 1873 to two hundred and twenty-one thousand tons in 1878.

Prisoners in the Northampton Co. prison are employed at cutting rags, making brooms, carpet and other light labor.

One of the legs of Michael Ryan, who was killed by the explosion in a stone quarry at Huntingdon some days ago, has been found two miles from the place of the accident.

The increase of flouring mills in the four States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota from 1860 to 1878 was from 1,138 to 3,000.

In a quarter of an hour, Tuesday afternoon nearly one and a-half inches of rain fell in Cincinnati, the heaviest rainfall ever known in that city in the same time.

John Gross, a Richmond negro, got up a lottery in which every purchaser of a ticket at \$2 was promised a hog, a cow or a horse, but no prizes were really given, and Gross has been officially whipped.

Mrs. Dennis McCarthy, of Pittsburgh, during a storm last week was standing in her door holding an infant when she was struck by lightning and instantly killed, while the child was unhurt.

A Sunday school superintendents' association has been formed in Altoona which has resolved that Sunday school picnics are "deleterious to the interests of our citizens and the cause of christianity."

ALTOONA, Pa., August 2.—Mrs. George Newton was burned to death this morning by the explosion of coal oil, with which she was lighting a fire. Her body was burned to a crisp.

The hair of James Gordon Bennett, like Stokes and others who have formed the habit of drinking champagne instead of water, has turned comparatively white. Mr. Bennett's eyes, also, are very singular. He has what a horseman calls "watch-eyes"—that is, the iris of the eye is a light gray, while the pupil or central dot is white.

During a thunder-storm at New Orleans Wednesday several houses were struck by lightning. The topmast of the schooner Martha was demolished. Lightning struck a chimney of the residence of Mrs. Grunewald, and demolished the mantelpiece, clock, &c. The inmates of the room were uninjured.

Hon. Leonard Sweett the prominent criminal lawyer of Chicago, has acknowledged that he presented a bogus surety recently to Judge Drummond, whereby the Revenue Department was defrauded out of a large number of stamps. It is probable that he will be disbarred and prosecuted.

Mrs. Edward A. Bessom, of Lynn, sent out to the apothecary store the other afternoon for some rhubarb. The boy in attendance at the store made a mistake and put up half an ounce of laudanum instead. Mrs. Bessom took the whole dose, and it was only owing to the fact that she had taken an overdose that her life was saved.

Like their fellow laborers all over Great Britain, the Warwickshire miners have been called upon to accept less pay for work done. As they protested, the matter was submitted to arbitration, and it has now been decided that the men must submit to a reduction of ten per cent. As they declare that this means starvation, it seems as though a dead-lock had been reached.

CINCINNATI, O., August 4.—At a late hour last night Mrs. John Howe, the wife of a prominent business man of Cincinnati, and a servant named Anna Brown, fell through the floor of a vault at their summer residence at Covington, and before they could be rescued both were suffocated. Mr. Howe, hearing cries, ran out and jumped into the vault to attempt their rescue, but was overcome, and only by vigorous measures was he restored to consciousness.

There are about 400 stock fire insurance companies in the United States, representing about one hundred million dollars in capital, about one hundred and seventy-five million dollars in assets, and having eight billion, seven hundred and fifty millions at risk. There are about six hundred mutual fire insurance companies, whose assets and amount at risk are not definitely known; but probably they do not exceed thirty million dollars nominal assets, nor seventy-five millions at risk.

WHEELING, W. Va., August 4.—A fire broke out in Volcano, a town of 2,000

inhabitants, in Wood county, this State, early this morning and is still raging fiercely.

LATER.—The fire originated in the store building of Thompson & Barnes. It was discovered about four o'clock. The flames spread rapidly, and reaching some oil tanks they caught fire and burned, the burning oil running through the streets and setting fire to the buildings on either side. There were six hundred barrels of heavy oil burned and ten stores, the postoffice, railroad depot, telegraph office, hotel, printing office, nine dwelling houses, West Virginia Transportation Company's office, Smith's boiler works, one pumping station and several other small buildings. Nearly everything is a total loss. Almost the entire contents of the stores and dwellings were consumed. The loss is estimated at \$75,000; insurance, \$43,000.

A young fellow named Frank Walker presented himself at the District Attorney's office at Wilkesbarre on Saturday, and said that he had traveled from Jeddo, Luzerne county, fifty miles distant, to give himself up to the police for killing a fellow-workman named Thomas Jewers, by striking him in the face with the open hand. Subsequent investigation proved the truth of Walker's story, and he was formally put under arrest.

MEADVILLE, Pa., August 5.—Yesterday morning George Glancy, a farmer residing between Evansburg and Hartstown, went into the woods to do some chopping. Not returning for dinner, Mrs. Glancy became alarmed and went in search of him. She had only gone a short distance when she found his lifeless body. Mr. Glancy was 46 years of age, and leaves a wife and one child. Death is supposed to have been caused by heart disease, but, as no post-mortem examination has been held, this is only conjecture.

A Labor Move.

One of the most significant labor movements recorded for some time is the recent arrival of 150 men, women and children at Bridgeport, Connecticut, from Sheffield, England. This is the advance of 500 workmen, with their families who are to arrive in this country during the next two months, and who are to be established in the cutlery works at Bridgeport. These men are all skilled in the several departments of pocket cutlery manufacture, and have chiefly been employed by Rogers Brothers and Wostenholm, the well known British cutlery firms. At Sheffield the men have for about a year been working on short time. They are brought out by the Bridgeport manufacturers, under no stipulated agreement for wages, but are promised steady work, and pay according to "the current rates of wages" or at a "fair valuation upon the skill" of each artisan. The business is wholly a Yankee enterprise. American steel is used, and these expert Sheffield workmen assert that it is equal to anything they have worked upon abroad. Two hundred more workmen are soon to arrive, and tenements are being prepared in Bridgeport for their occupancy. If the men and their families are contented one thousand will be brought over by the middle of the winter, and the making of shears, razors, surgical instruments and the very choicest cutlery goods will be entered into, with the hope of soon wholly superseding the imported articles. The immigration of these workmen is potent evidence of the advance of the United States as a rival of England in manufactures. It was necessary of course to employ skilled workmen from abroad, but eventually both material and workmen will be American.

Singular Murder and Suicide.

CHICAGO, August 5.—A most astonishing murder and suicide occurred at 87 Polk street this afternoon. Solomon Senn, a partner in the firm of Schillo, Kossman & Senn, iron founders, shooting the foreman of the firm, Conrad Engleman, through the head, and then after snapping the revolver at his own head, retiring to his private office and cutting his throat with a knife. Both men leave families; were sober and industrious, and not quarrelsome. The quarrel was about a pillar which was being cast in the foundry, and which Senn claimed was being spoiled by Engleman. The latter denied this, and after resigning his position on the spot and being paid off, Senn reiterated his charge, when Engleman gave him the lie and the tragedy was enacted.

A Lucky Find.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 5.—Some parties in this city, who have been working up the matter for some time past, have discovered the wreck of the steamer "Brother Jonathan," which foundered off Point St. George, near Crescent City, in July, 1865. She lies in an upright position, in about 22 fathoms of water, and about 23 fathoms from the submerged rock on which she is supposed to have struck. There was about \$1,000,000 in treasury notes and bullion in her safe, and the finders are fitting out an expedition for their recovery. The treasure belonged to the government whose claim is held to have lapsed on the expiration of ten years after the loss.

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July 22, 1879.

ESTATE NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Daniel Fortenbaugh, late of Rye township, Perry county, Pa., dec'd., have been granted to Sarah L. Fortenbaugh, residing in the same township. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment and those having claims to present them duly authenticated for settlement. SARAH L. FORTENBAUGH, [Administratrix. July 8, 1879.]

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