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THRILLING VOYAGE ON HIGH SEAS

Sailors Fought Fire in Cargo of Coal Many Days.

500 TONS REDUCED TO COKE

Played Cards Betimes While the Cargo Gave Imitations of a Raging Volcano Underneath.

Baltimore, May 14. — "I can't say I have ever played old sledge a-sitting on top of one of those mines like the Russians say blew up the Petropavlovsk, but I have played high, low, jack, day after day on top of a thing quite as dangerous, and with the fuse lit, at that."

Thus it was that Capt. J. A. Amsbury, master of the Roanoke, the biggest wooden sailing vessel afloat, which has reached Baltimore after a cruise of 22,000 miles that took 158 days, started his yarn about the remarkable adventure of the vessel with a fire raging in her cargo of coal.

"We loaded with 5,000 tons of coal at Norfolk for the Government to be delivered at Mare Island and we got around the Cape in good shape and were congratulating ourselves on what an easy thing we were having of it, when, on the second day out of a west coast port where we had put in for supplies, the mate rushed into the cabin with the pleasant information that our cargo was afire.

"Now, a fire in a cargo of soft coal is the meanest kind of a calamity that comes to a ship, especially when bad weather sets in as it did that very day, with winds so heavy that we couldn't turn back and make for the port we had left 48 hours before. When I reached deck smoke was a-pouring out of the for'rd hatch and it was of that nasty black and blue that snowed it had got a good headway and was making gas faster than a coke oven of a hundred batteries.

"We got a steam pump to working as soon as we could, but every minute I expected to hear a roar and see the ship lifted toward the sky, but I kept a pretty calm front—as calm as I could, anyway—and set the crew to work in two-hour shifts. Two men worked the nozzle for the pump and two others manned the wind pump to bring out the water that the other fellows were pumping in. That water went into the hold at a temperature of about 55 degrees and came out at 97 degrees.

"The fire was amidships, but we couldn't see it. I figured that the mass of live coals lay about the middle of the cargo, and I pretty near prayed we might hold it there, for if a bit of flame ever got to the top it was a fond farewell to the Roancke and everybody aboard.

"The wind blowed great guns for two days and then came a week of calm and all the while, night and day, we were keeping a steady stream of water going into the hold and another coming out.

"At first the thing got so onto our nerves that if a seaman dropped his knife at mess the most of them would howl. The slightest noise aboard ship set every heart to quaking.

"But this wore off and after the first four or five days most of us could sleep awhile each day. Finally we got so used to the danger that we actually went on with our card games under the awning we had swung over the quarter deck.

"To relate this seems all simple enough, but when you come to think of it it isn't so funny as it might be. There we were, actually sitting on top of a volcano and trying to get our opponent's jack and count game as though everything was ship-shape, and we were bounding along under a 12-knot breeze.

"It was 16 days before we reached San Francisco, and then came the reaction. No sooner had we pulled into the harbor than six of the crew took to their beds, utterly broken down.

"Their nerves were in the condition of a man who is recovering from a long debauch. They were about as pitiable a lot of seamen as I have ever seen, and I've seen a good many.

"That fire reduced to coke about 500 tons of my cargo, and so effective had been our constant pumping that the dreaded blaze never came within three feet of the top of the coal. Not a timber of the Roanoke was even discolored by the fire. But I don't want to ever see another cargo of coal again, although I may have to, I suppose."

Capt. Amsbury has sailed more than 1,000,000 miles. For 28 years he has sailed the ocean and all that time has been passed aboard three ships.

He was married aboard one ship and for 25 years Mrs. Amsbury sailed with her husband. All his children were born at sea and reared there as well.

On board the Roanoke when she arrived in Baltimore there were 16 Japanese sailors, all of them with their pockets lined with money saved in the two long cruises with Capt. Amsbury. When the ship reached the capes, the Japs, for the first time, learned that the war with Russia was on.

Ten minutes later they moved in a body on the captain and asked for their discharge, then and there, announcing their intention of spending every dollar they had to reach home as quickly as possible by way of San Francisco, that they might take a hand in the fighting. They finally agreed to delay their start three days to help discharge the cargo, and they worked like demons to get the work done.

The moment the big cranes swung idly they got their pay, purchased tickets for San Francisco, and without even stopping to purchase needed clothing, boarded the night express for the west.

MINISTER IN A COLLISION.

Ottawa, May 14.—The department of public works was yesterday morning informed that while passing down Lake St. Francis Thursday evening, the Government boat Eureka, with Hon. James Sutherland, Minister of Public Works, on board, came into collision with a dredge. The forward compartment of the Eureka was staved in, while the dredges and a Dominion Coal Company's vessel were both badly damaged. The dispatch states that the crews escaped injury. Mr. Sutherland was also unhurt.

The Brazilian contract for harbor improvements, involving about thirty million dollars, was awarded to an English firm.

TO LIVE THREE YEARS

Precocity of Child Actress Is Sending Her to Early Grave.

Brussels, May 14.—The soothsayers have decreed that the 12-year-old prodigy, the Countess de Champmoynat, or, as she likes to call herself, "Carmen d'Assilva," has only three more years to live. The mother of the wonderful child accepts the prophecy of the fortune-tellers as gospel, and the child, who is now on a tour of the world, in which she is performing in her own plays, looks anything but well.

"Carmen d'Assilva" has lived a dozen lives in her dozen years, and is now paying for her mental precocity and the terrible drain on her young vitality.

At the age when ordinary little girls play with their dolls, "Carmen d'Assilva" was writing poetry. At 5 she constructed comedies, in which she is now starring. When 9 years old "Carmen d'Assilva" paid a visit to London, and was introduced to court by Lady Churchill, the Queen being unusually impressed by the child's old-young talents.

WHOLESALE BRIBERY

500 of New York's Firemen Purchased Their Situations.

New York, May 13. — A discovery has been made of a strong box taken from the home of Emil Sonner, who is undergoing a short sentence on his confession to having accepted money from seekers for jobs in the police and fire departments of this city. In the box, it is stated, were found the names of over 500 members of the fire department said by Sonner to have procured appointment or promotions by paying money to him and his confederates. Receipts were among the other papers, including one for $10,000 alleged to have been paid by a member of the fire department for his promotion to one of the highest positions in that department, which he holds today. This man will be examined, as also will a physician, said to have paid $3,000 to be appointed a member of the board of police surgeons. Subpoena-servers are now understood to be seeking all those known to have had any dealing with Sonner and a thorough investigation will be made by the district attorney.

LONG HID PALACE FOUND

Five Dwellings of Sardanapalus Disinterred at Babylon.

Berlin, May 14.—The society of German Orientalists report that they have made a historical discovery of the greatest interest in the Valley of the Tigris, where for some years they have been busy exploring the ruins of old Babylon.

This last discovery, consisting of five palaces and a large temple in only slightly damaged condition, will now permit the historian to construct and locate the principal events of the reign of Sardanapalus, of whose hostory only very little has been known heretofore, and this not substantiated by any proofs.

One of the palaces which has now been unearthed is literally covered with inscriptions describing the glorious reign of the famous King of Assyria, the last descendant of Semiramis.

This palace is undoubtedly one of those which Sardanapalus had built in his capital in the seventh century before Christ.

Other very interesting finds have been made, among these a portrait statue of the king, cut in solid rock, and another similar to it, representing King Salmanasar II., covered with the skin of a lion.

Both these are works of art, and will be sent to the Archaeological Museum in this city.

GIANT RIVAL TO BELL TELEPHONE

Monster Long-Distance Service To Be Built by Standard Oil Company.

Chicago, May 13. — Within three months there will be formed in the east, backed by Standard Oil capital, an independent long-distance telephone line company, whose projected lines will cross the continent from the Atlantic coast to Kansas, and which will later be extended to the Pacific coast and to the gulf. The company will be the only rival of the American Bell Telephone Company and its constituent lines in long-distance telephone service.

This information was made public yesterday by a party of officers and directors of the Pittsburg and Allegheny Telephone Company, which is owned and controlled by the Standard Oil interests, who were in Chicago inspecting the tunnel system and equipment of the Illinois Tunnel Company and its telephone department.

"We are planning to do for the independent telephone companies of this country what was done for the railroads 25 years ago, when all the small lines were brought together, and it was made possible for people to travel long distances without changing cars," said President J. G. Splane, of the Pittsburg and Allegheny Telephone Company. "At present nearly every city of any consequence has an independent telephone system competing with the Bell Company. They are able to compete in local work, but in long-distance service the Bell Company has no rivals.

"Representatives from nearly every local independent telephone company in the country, forming a joint traffic committee, have been at work for more than a year on a plan to connect these cities by an independent long-distance line. When the plans are completed and we have finished our tour of inspection, the final steps toward forming the independent long-distance line will be made. The long-distance company will not be a merger of the independent telephone companies of the country, but many of them will be financially interested in it. They will each pay for the use of the line on the measured service plan."

A member of the party said:

"Standard Oil capital owns and controls our company and Standard Oil capital will do the same with this new long-distance line."

The Pittsburgers have already visited Cleveland, Toledo and Grand Rapids. They went to Kansas City last night.

NOT WORRYING.

Ottawa, Ont., May 13. — Hon. J. M. Gibson, Attorney-General of Ontario, is in the city today, and is said to be conferring with the federal leaders on the political situation. He was accompanied to the "Hill" by Mr. Alexander Smith, former Liberal organizer. Mr. Gibson said that the Ontario Government is not worrying about elections.

WILL DIE LIKE THEIR ANCESTORS

Port Arthur Garrison Determined to Fight to a Finish.

CHINESE OFFICIALS FOR JAPS

Governor of Fu Chow Declares He Will Behead All Mongols in Service of the Russians.

Liao Yang, May 15. — Nemiovich Danchenko, popularly known as the Russian Archibald Forbes, who is now in the service of the Associated Press, has just arrived here from Port Arthur and furnishes the following chronicle of the events of the first week of the investment of that fortress. Danchenko escaped from the beleagured city by the last train.

"From Thursday, May 5, the powerful fleet of the enemy's cruisers, the Adsuma, Asma, Idsomii, Iwate and another, the name of which is unknown, together with the flagship Mikasa, and the battleships Shikishima, Hatsuse, Asahia, Shima and the Fuji remained constantly in sight at Port Arthur, departing every night and returning at daylight. The Japanese torpedo boats occasionally swept our coast with searchlights at night while their barges lay in waiting off Pigeon Bay beyond our vision on the western horizon and beneath the lofty hills that skirt the Liao Tung Gulf. Apparently the Japanese were watching to see if we intended to interfere with their landing farther north.

"Our communications with the north were broken on Thursday and the following day the telegraph office in Port Arthur refused to accept our messages.

"Japanese cavalry reconnoitered the peninsula from the north to ascertain whether we were safely imprisoned. But this fact did not cause any particular impression in Port Arthur. The weather was beautiful, a band was playing on the boulevard, and there were many people unconcernedly promenading the streets. We heard that the Japanese had fired on the last outgoing train, carrying the Russian sick and wounded, and had succeeded in wounding two of the passengers. Rumors also floated in announcing the destruction of the railroad and the blowing up of some of the bridges. The military, officers and men, talked of nothing except a second siege of Sebastopol, although as a matter of fact Sebastopol had never been cut off from its communications on the land side.

"'We can die like our forefathers' was the universal sentiment expressed. The Chinese continued working as usual for the most part, very few of them attempting to escape.

"It seems that the sole defense of the Russian stronghold is General Kondratenko. He knows no rest, is ceaseless in his activity. The utmost vigilance prevails throughout the fortifications, and the energy betrayed by every one from highest to lowest is marvelous. No one is now admitted to Port Arthur. The women from Dalny, which was doomed to destruction, sought shelter here, but were not allowed to remain any later than Friday of last week.

"The number of Chinese seeking work on the fortifications and as servants is more numerous than ever. As long as there is rice there will be Chinamen. The attitude of the Chinese authorities is changing and becoming threatening. The natives are clearly our friends and the authorities clearly antagonistic. For instance, the Governor of the Province of Fu Chow, northwest of us on the Liao Tung Peninsula, has announced that he will behead all the natives in our service very soon, and that he will burn Wafandian, one of the neighboring towns which has shown itself friendly to the Russians. After the skirmish at Wafandian between the Japanese advance and the Russian guard, the Governor executed the interpreter and the servant of Lieut. Mellmer, the Russian military chief in charge of that section of the railroad.

"Beyond Cape Terminal the Japanese are landing immense stores of rice and siege guns. The surrounding heights are occupied by their scouters. The Japanese struck the railroad first between Sanshilipou and Polandiel, about 50 miles from here, and blew up a section of the bridge with melinite."

ACCOMMODATING WHALES

Two Hundred Waiting To Be Captured Off Nova Scotia Coast.

Halifax, N. S., May 14. — Almost simultaneously with the legalizing of whale fishing by the Canadian Government, large shoals of the sea monsters have made their appearance on the Nova Scotia coast. They are particularly numerous in the vicinity of North Sydney. Capt. Gordon, of the Government cruiser Gladiator, reports that he has seen over 200 whales off that port during the past three weeks, moving in schools of five or six. They have followed the herring, which are schooling in large numbers on that coast. Their presence so near the coast is considered a good omen for the successful operation of the Canadian whaling industry, which will probably be started this year.

A CORNWALL MYSTERY

Nude Body of Man Badly Mutilated Found in Canal.

Cornwall, Ont., May 14. — The body of a young man was found yesterday in the basin between the locks at the foot of the Cornwall Canal. The body was entirely nude, except for shoes and stockings, and had evidently been in the water some time. The top of the head was terribly crushed, and both arms were gone—one at the shoulder and the other above the wrist. There was a cut on the leg and two wounds in the throat. There is absolutely no clue to the identity of the man, nor how he came to his death. The lockmen are of the opinion that the body came down the canal from the river. Coroner Hamilton ordered the remains to be sent to the morgue.

Chloretone capsules are recommended by English physicians as a preventive of seasickness; also as a cure of insomnia.

THE McCAHILL MYSTERY

Child Supposed to Have Been Kidnapped Died by Accident.

New York, May 14. — An autopsy performed yesterday on the remains of Josephine McCahill, whose body was found in a chimney the night before, disposed of the murder theory. Coroner Jackson said the child's death was due to asphyxia, cause by contraction of the thorax. The compression of this organ came about through the wedging of the body in the narrow chimney flue, and for that reason the child could make no outcry. The physician who performed the autopsy said that she did not live for more than ten minutes after she slipped in the chimney. All indications, said the coroner, pointed to accident, as the cause of death.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Kaiser Has Frequent Conferences With Russian Ambassador.

Berlin, May 14. — Since his return from the Mediterranean, the Kaiser has been visited daily and without formality, by Count Ostensacken, the Russian ambassador.

This fact is exciting great comment in Government and diplomatiuc quarters, and it is suggested that negotiations of a most important character are taking place between St. Petersburg and Berlin.

It is reported the Kaiser is strongly impressed with the reality of the "yellow peril," and regards the success of Japan as an actual menace to all Europe.

Reports that the Kaiser intended to intervene in the war have been current for some time.

Just what form intervention would take is not known.

TROUBLE AT MEAFORD

An Effort Being Made to Unseat a Number of Councillors

Toronto, May 14.—Before the master in chambers yesterday, A. B. Aylesworth, K. C., moved on behalf of William Moore, an electric light contractor, of Meaford, Ont., for an order, unseating Mayor John D. Hamill, and Edward Sewell, Charles Farrer, Wm. W. Stephen, and Matthew W. Snider, councilors, of that town. The motion was made upon the ground that these gentlemen who had been members of last year's council, had exceeded their powers and forfeited their seats in the council by reason of their action in connection with the expense bylaws of the town. After their re-election in January last, the defendants resigned, but were re-elected on March 7. This re-election, it is claimed, is invalid, owing to a two-year disqualification suffered by the defendants by reason of their action in connection with the expense bylaws.

LICENSES IN HARWICH.

Toronto, May 14. — It is pointed out by the officials of the provincial license department that the quashing of the local option bylaws of the township of Harwich, Kent county, does not necessarily mean that the commissioners shall issue licenses. This is a matter in the discretion of the commissioners, and if the commissioners choose to take the vote on the bylaw as an indication of popular opinion they need not issue licenses, notwithstanding the defect in the method of submitting the bylaw.

FOOTLESS MAN HAS DISAPPEARED

Aged Swede With Feet Amputated Escapes From Montreal Hospital.

Montreal, May 13.—A mysterious case has developed in the disappearance on Monday from Notre Dame Hospital of an aged Swede named Amundson. The man was not in a condition to leave unaided, but how he got away and where he is at present are questions that the police are trying to solve. He is wanted in Pope County, Minnesota, in connection with the disposition of some property, and the sheriff of that county came here on Monday to take him home. Amundson was found in an unconscious condition near St. Julien on Jan. 11. When brought into the Notre Dame Hospital it was seen that his feet and a part of his legs were badly frozen. In order to save his life it became necessary to amputate a portion of each foot. His feet were accordingly cut off at the instep, leaving just the heels and back part of the feet. He had a promissory note for $50 and a ticket to his home at Greenwood, Minn. When the sheriff arrived on Monday the ticket could not be found, and it has not yet been accounted for. In August last Amundson landed in New York from Sweden, on his way to Minnesota, and his ticket was via Montreal. It is supposed that with his mind slightly upset by age and illness he got an idea that this was Greenwood, and that he set off to walk home, a few miles north. There is record of his having reached here in August. From that time until Jan. 11 his movements cannot be traced. After the sheriff saw the patient at the hospital on Monday he said that he would return later in the day, and that the two would leave for Minnesota together. Meantime, however, Amundson dressed and got away, and when the sheriff returned no trace of him could be found. How a man in his condition could move about Montreal and make it seemingly impossible for the police to locate him is the strangest part of the whole case. The United States consul has interested himself in the matter on behalf of the authorities of Pope County.

BOYLE'S ADVICE.

St. John, N. B., May 14. — Sir Cavendish Boyle, late governor of Newfoundland, who spent the day here, left last night for Montreal, whence he will go to New York, and thence sail for England. Sir Cavendish thinks Newfoundland would do well to enter the Dominion of Canada and share in the prosperity he sees for the Dominin in the future.

The old box-like compartment cars on French railways are being gradually displaced by vestibuled cars of a more modern type.

France's last potato crop was over four hundred and fifty million bushels, valued at about 25 cents a bushel.

KUROPATKIN HAS HIS HANDS FULL

Three Jap Armies Rapidly Approaching Russ Positions.

MAY STRIKE AT LIAO YANG

Grand Duke Cyril Suffering From Displacement of the Heart and Cannot Sail With Baltic Fleet.

St. Petersburg, May 14.—Three Jap armies traveling rapidly are due at their destinations Sunday or Monday. The Russians are in the dark as to the place where to await the Japanese attack. It is considered probable that the northern force will be heavily reinforced and that a simultaneous attack of the south division will clear the railroad to New Chwang and permit the enemy to move directly northward and strike the Russian flank at Liao Yang or Mukden, in co-operation with the force which was at Samatazy Wednesday. The Russians intend to make an attempt to hold one or two stations on the railroad, but which one of these is unknown. They are still in possession according to the latest accounts of Kai Ping, Hai Cheng and Ta Cho Kiau. It is reported that the guns which had been mounted at New Chwang have been taken to the latter place. The valley of the Ta Yang, where a large force of the enemy, strength unknown, is moving westward, is generally hilly, but there are fairly good roads to Feng Wang Cheng, Kai Ping and Sun Cheng at the railroad, and down the east coast of the Liao Tung Peninsula to Pitsewo. There are two fords at the Ta Yang below its confluence with the Sedzih, one at Salidzlypu, 20 miles above Tku Shang, and the other 60 miles lower down the Lun Wan Mia, the latter being for cavalry. No information is vouchsafed regarding the raiding Cossacks who appeared south of the Yalu.

No further particulars are to be had regarding the blowing up of Port Dalny, which is considered to have been necessary, in view of the Japanese complete command of the sea, to prevent the employment of a ready made base of operations against Port Arthur.

Grand Duke Cyril is suffering from displacement of the heart, resulting from extreme weakness and necessitating complete rest for a long time. It is doubtful if he can accompany the Baltic fleet to the far east. The grand duke says he owes his life to his aide-de-camp, Lieut. Von Kube. They were standing together on the bridge of the Petropavlovsk and Von Kube, who shielded the grand duke from a flying stanchion, was killed on the spot. The grand duke says that although the Petropavlovsk sank at once by the bows, the momentum carried the flagship forward, so that when he dived and came up he found himself floating astern.

CANNOT INDORSE ZIONISM

Pope Does Not Consider It Satisfactory Solution of Question.

Rome, May 14.—Cardinal Merry del Val, secretary of the Holy See, who some time ago received in special audience M. Hort Steiner, editor-in-chief of the official organ of the Zionists, in an interview explained the position of the Pope in regard to the teachings of Zionism.

"It is impossible," he says, "for the Catholic Church to indorse Zionism entirely. It is clear that to deliver Palestine, the country where the Saviour was born, into the hands of the Jews cannot be a very satisfactory solution of the Jewish question to the Vatican, though the objections to the Mussulman's possession of the holy country are equally as strong.

"The Catholic Church does not want to protest against the establishing of Jewish colonies in Palestine, but would strongly object to the holy country as a sovereign independent Jewish state."

GERMANS USE WIRELESS

Herreros Cut Telegraph But the Messages Got Through.

Berlin, May 14.—The wireless telegraph has proved of immense value to the German authorities in Southwest Africa. In the beginning of the insurrection of the Herreros, the military telegraph lines which were the only means of connection between the field and headquarters were continually being cut down and destroyed by the natives, and the fact that calls for reinforcements could only be sent safely by a messenger was the reason for many of the defeats suffered by German forces.

During the last few months, however, every detachment of troops in the field has been provided with wireless instruments and has been in constant communication with the commander-in-chief. Because of this success the German war department has now decided to establish a new army branch of expert wireless telegraph operators under the command of a high officer of the general staff.

PRINCE PLAYS NURSE

Wales Kindness to Maimed Footman —Princess Helps Girl Pupil.

London, May 14.—Instances of practical good, done in a quiet, unaffected way by the Prince and Princess of Wales, are of almost daily record. Here are two of the latest:

Edward Smisson, a footman in the service of the prince, slipped and suffered a fracture of the ankle. Twenty-four hours passed before he notified the prince of his accident. An hour later he was in a private ward of St. George's Hospital under the care of Sir Francis Laking, the Prince of Wales' doctor, and the broken bones were set. Smisson, sitting up in bed and comfortably reading, heard a familiar voice pleasantly greeting him by name. He looked up to see the Prince of Wales standing by his side. Accompanied by an equerry the prince had walked to the hospital, and simply saying, "I have just looked in to see one of my men who has had an accident," made his way to the ward. For fifteen minutes he sat by the footman's bedside, chatting with him and the attending nurses and doctors.

Almost at the same moment the Princess of Wales was over at the new St. Paul's girls' school at Brook Green. Hammersmith, enjoying a delightful afternoon with the girl pupils. She walked from desk to desk, looking over the exercises, stopping here and there to "help out" with a difficult problem, condoling with a tearful 12-year-old miss who was wrestling with Latin declensions, and recalling some of her struggles with the same exercises.

GIVES HAY TO WAR FUND

Russian Peasant Drives Into St. Petersburg With His Offering.

St. Petersburg, May 14.—The news of the continued disasters to the Russian arms in the far east has aroused the patriotism of all classes, and everybody, no matter how poor, is ready to make the greatest sacrifices for sake of the country.

The other day a poor peasant entered the office of the imperial commission, which is receiving gifts for the Red Cross in the name of the Czarina. This peasant, who was exceedingly poorly clad, too modest to enter the office of the commissioners, remained in the vestibule nearly all morning, but finally, gathering up all his courage, he approached the table where the officials were sitting.

"What do you want, son?" asked one of the officers.

"I have traveled sixty versts to bring you ten loads of hay," was the answer.

"But we are not buying hay," replied the officer.

"Oh, no! I did not come here to sell my hay. I want to help to defeat the heathen Japanese."

"Then you offer us your hay as a gift?"

"You have it, little father. I come to offer it to my country, because God told me in the night that it was my duty to do so."

The hay was accepted with the greatest gratitude, and the Czar, who was informed of the incident, sent the poor peasant a letter of thanks signed with his own hand.

RELICS OF ISABELLA

Art Work of Late Royal Spaniard To Be Put Up at Auction.

Paris, May 14. — Many of the effects of the late Queen Isabella of Spain, who died recently in Paris, will be offered for sale. Among them is a painting that has a romantic history, revealing some of the good traits of this most reckless Queen.

Before her exile, when as Dowager Queen she was causing all manner of political and social troubles in royal circles, she received a visit from the painter Antonio Gisbert, who had been ruined financially by some political upheaval in Spain. Isabella lent him $160,000, taking no security. Gisbert afterward achieved fame as a painter of historical subjects and some portraits.

Gisbert never acquired wealth enough to repay the debt to the generous Queen, but after his death some years ago his children found among his papers a memorandum of the loan and promptly offered her several of his best works. The Queen selected only one and returned the remainder, saying that the debt was canceled.

This painting is a striking one, representing the Emperor Francis I. meeting his betrothed. It is now valued at $10,000.

The opening of the annual exhibition of the Society of French Artists, usually called the old Salon, was the art talk of last week. It is customary for the President of the Republic to be the first visitor on varnishing day, escorted by the leading artists of France. But owing to his absence visiting the King of Italy, President Loubet was not present on the first day. He made amends, however, by looking at the pictures yesterday, cleverly praising the right ones, and saying that it was one of the best exhibits he had ever seen.

Much different is the verdict of the London critics, who say that while the Salon displays much admirable talent, there are many pictures on the wall that would never be accepted by the Royal Academy in London.

The opening of the autumn Salon is fixed for Oct. 15.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT MONTREAL

Twenty Dwelling Houses Burned in St. Henri, One of the Suburbs.

Montreal, May 13. — The town of St. Henri, adjoining Montreal, was the scene of a bad fire this afternoon. The fire started in a stable in the rear of a number of brick dwellings, which were soon in flames. The St. Henri fire brigade was quickly on the spot and was later reinforced by companies from the St. Cunegonde and Montreal fire brigades. The water pressure was very bad and the firemen had great difficulty in fighting the flames.

The people in the dwelling houses were panic-stricken by the wide sweep of the flames, and in many cases had all they could do to escape with their lives, and were able to save but few of their effects. The fire swept a large portion of Beaudern street and extended to Emily and Margaret streets. Altogether some twenty dwellings were destroyed. The dwellings were small brick structures, occupied for the most part by working people, and over thirty families were rendered homeless by the fire.

The damages extended to about $150,000.

Mayor Guay at once took prompt measures to relieve the distressed. The town hall was placed at the disposal of the burned-out families and the authorities opened a relief fund. It was the worst fire this town has had for many years.

QUEBEC CORPORATION.

Montreal, Que., May 14. — The executive of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association has communicated to the Government of Quebec a request to reconsider the decision to license extra provincial commercial corporations and joint stock companies.

A WIARTON DROWNING.

Wiarton, Ont. May 14. — Alexander Blake was drowned while fishing at Pike River yesterday morning. There were two men in the boat when it capsized, Harry Brown and I. Lee. Brown reached the shore with difficulty. Blake could not swim and sank before he could be reached. His body has not yet been found. Blake was employed as clerk in the Commercial Hotel here, was unmarried, and came here from Philadelphia, Pa.

Joseph Pulitzer in his article in the North American Review on "The College of Journalism" makes this pathetic allusion to his blindness: "If my comment on these criticisms shall seem to be diffuse, and perhaps repetitions, my apology is that — alas! — I am compelled to write by voice, not by pen, and to revise the proofs by ear, not by eye — a somewhat difficult task."

SUED FOR HUG THAT BROKE RIB

Young Man Institutes Peculiar Suit for Damages.

HUGGER TOO ENTHUSIASTIC

Defendant Puts Forward a Super-Affectionate Temperament as an Excuse—Says Plaintiff Liked It.

Lockport, May 13.—Walter Lorraine, of Riga, Monroe county, has brought an action against Marie Du Calm, of Niagara Falls, to recover damages. It is charged by Lorraine that Miss Du Calm hugged him so tightly as to break one of his ribs. Within a few days a motion will be made to transfer the place of trial from Monroe county to Niagara county, and according to the papers in the action the trial of the case will be entertaining.

It appears that last winter the plaintiff was visiting in Ottawa. While there he met the defendant, who was visiting an aunt in the Canadian city. Mutual subjects of interest drew the young people into an acquaintanceship that speedily developed into an attachment of a deeper nature. Lorraine overstayed his original time, and the young woman also found it more agreeable than she had anticipated in the province. The ice carnival was at its height and the young people decided to go to Quebec to visit it and also to secure a number of photographic views, both being ardent amateur photographers.

The visit was made and conversation was punctuated with the click of the kodak. Lorraine was to return home on the following day, and it was decided to develop the negatives that night. At the home of the defendant's aunt there had been fitted up a temporary dark room for the use of Miss Du Calm while she was visiting, and the room was fitted with the regular ruby lamp. That's where the red rays enter into the case.

Several negatives had been developed and one in particular appealed to the enthusiastic nature of the defendant. As she saw the image of the gay scenes which they had witnessed earlier in the day, she was completely carried away. With a gurgling, "Oh, Walter, doesn't anything like that make you love nature? I'm just going to give you a big hug," she hurled herself at the plaintiff. As her arms encircled him there was a cracking sound and Lorraine uttered a cry of pain.

Interest in the negatives terminated and the plaintiff was assisted into an adjoining room. His pallor alarmed the defendant and she had a physician summoned. He decided that Lorraine had suffered a fracture of one of the ribs on the right side. Lorraine underwent the usual treatment, and under the pain incident to the knitting of the fractured bone his affection rapidly cooled.

Upon returning to Riga he talked the matter over with his friends, and they urged the bringing of an action to recover for his injuries. The advice of his counselors prevailed, and he wrote and suggested that the expense incurred in treatment of his injuries be paid for by the defendant. She refused to listen to any such proposition, and then the law was called in.

In defense of her action, Miss Du Calm sets up that she is of an affectionate and clinging nature, that that fact was well known to the plaintiff, and that up to the time of the unfortunate incident or accident that led to the estrangement the plaintiff had shown no disinclination to submit to caresses.

Furthermore, it is set forth that the action of the defendant at this time complained of was involuntary and due to the effect of the red rays of light resulting from the use of the ruby lamp, that it is a recognized scientific fact that the red rays are the most strenuous and likely to provoke excitability in one of ardent temperament and their effect upon the defendant is and was at the time alleged in the complaint known to the plaintiff, wherefore judgment is asked that the complaint be dismissed with costs to the defendant.

STOLE $750,000

German Thief Finally Located in a Japanese Regiment.

Montreal, May 14. — One of the most enterprising prisoners ever held in Montreal arrived in the city yesterday, in company with H. Von Nestor, of the German secret service. He was a contractor in the German army, and is accused of the theft of $750,000. After securing the money he left Germany, and it took the German detective service over six months to catch him. When located he was serving in the Japanese army, and on the arrival of the detective was in Tokio, in a regiment that was just being sent to the front.

SWANSEA AND CANADA

Efforts Being Made to Establish a Direct Line of Steamers.

London, May 14. — A gathering of representative business men was held Thursday in Swansea Guild Hall, to meet Forster, the C. P. R. agent for the West of England, in reference to a direct Canada-Swansea service of steamers. The mayor of Swansea, presiding, said if an effort were made to attract a Canadian direct service he was sure cargoes would be forthcoming. He promised on behalf of the harbor trust every facility.

Mr. Forster wished to hear the views of those present before committing himself definitely. The general superintendent of the harbor, said there was Swansea's population and ten times as many within a radius of 50 miles, all of whom would be consumers of Canadian goods shipped direct to Swansea. Forster wished the meeting had said something more definite, and suggested that a sub-committee be formed to go into the question and report. The suggestion was adopted.

It is announced that the Dean of Peterborough will shortly make a tour of Canada.

London cabmen pay from about two dollars and fifty cents to three dollars a day for a hansom, according to the season. A driver's profits average nearly three dollars a day.