The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1899. VOLUME XLIII—NO 40

Awful Fire in New York.

Great Hotel Destroyed in Mid-Afternoon With Scores of Lives Sacrificed.

Flames Discovered While Guests Crowded Every Window to See St Patrick's Parade.

Their Spread So Rapid That Escape Was Cut Off for All Upper Stories.

Terrified Rush Through Fire Swept Halls and Down Burning Stairways.

Women in Panic Leap From Windows and Roof to Death on the Pavement.

By Associated Press.

New York, March 17.—Flames which originated from the igniting of a lace curtain burst from the second floor of the Windsor hotel, at Forty-seventh and Fifth avenues, shortly after 3 o'clock, just as the St. Patrick's Day parade was passing the building, and in a few moments they had leaped up to the roof and enveloped the entire Fifth avenue and Forty-seventh street fronts of the hotel. Ten minutes later the flames were roaring through the interior of the hotel, and all means of escape by stairways and elevators was cut off.

There was the wildest scene of excitement within and without the building. Hundreds of guests and employees were in the hotel when the fire broke out, and for many of them escape with safety was impossible. Probably from 10 to 15 lives were lost within half an hour, and 30 or 40 other persons were injured in jumping from windows and in rushing through the roaring flames in the corridors and on the stairways. Many who were injured died later at near-by residences and at hospitals, and others who made wild leaps to the stones were so badly injured that they are still hovering between life and death.

It may be 24 hours or more before a complete list of the fatalities may become known, and it will be longer than that before it can be ascertained definitely how many charred bodies are on the mass of fallen masonry that marks the spot where the hotel stood.

The flames could not be checked, and in two hours from the time that the fire broke out the entire structure was in ruins, and the streets on three sides of the building were filled with debris from falling walls and tall chimneys, while the streams of water being poured upon the interior of the ruins had no other effect than to fill the air with clouds of scalding steam, making it impossible for any one to approach near enough to search for missing bodies.

The fire was the most spectacular affair of the kind that could be imagined. When it broke out Fifth avenue was crowded with people watching the St. Patrick's Day parade, and every window in the front of the hotel facing Fifth avenue was filled with people watching the marching men in the streets. The day was all that could be desired, and large numbers of people were on the streets on that account—a fact which interfered not a little with the movements of the firemen and police.

As soon as the flames were first discovered shooting from the windows, that part of the St. Patrick's Day procession which was near the building came to a halt, and in a few minutes the parade was disbanded, for the police came rushing towards the fire from every direction, and as far as they were able drove the people from the streets. One alarm after another was turned in, and the first of the fire engines were not long in appearing on the scene, and they caused a mild scramble among the paraders and spectators as they rushed along the street and got into position for service. In addition to the regular guests of the hotel the windows were crowded by a large number of spectators, residents of this city, who had congregated there to witness the parade.

Soon after the first alarm was given people in the lower floors of the hotel, those who had easy access to the street, commenced to pour out of the building in great numbers, but it very soon became apparent that a great majority of the occupants of the hotel were either panic-stricken or were unable to make their way to the ground floor. Windows were thrown up on every side and guests, mostly women, in all stages of terror made their appearance and commenced to make frantic appeals for help to the crowd below. As the flames gathered around them they became more and more terror-stricken and presently several of them stood up on the narrow window sills, and beckoned to the spectators below that they were about to leap to the street. The men collected upon the sidewalks ready to offer any assistance they could and in the meantime other women left the window sills and dropped to the street.

In most cases efforts to catch them and break their awful fall were unavailing, for they struck the sidewalk and in most cases broken limbs were the result. As soon as the firemen could get their scaling ladders into position they climbed and entered at every window where there was an unfortunate guest appealing for assistance and many cases of heroic work was witnessed by the throng in the street.

At the corner of 47th street and Fifth avenue directly across from the hotel stands the home of Miss Helen Gould. At her direction the injured were carried in and were attended by physicians and nurses whom she had sent for. In the meantime the chief of police had telephoned to every hospital in the city asking that assistance be sent to the fire sufferers. Ambulances forced their way

frightful leaps from the windows were placed in them and removed to the hospitals.

Several occupants of the hotel appeared at the windows of sixth and seventh stories and even on the roof and made their leaps to the street from these points. Very few of them escaped either instant death or injuries which resulted in their deaths in a short time.

Meantime the entire building was burning. Within 40 minutes after the fire burst out the walls on the Fifth avenue side showed every indications on falling and presently with an awful crash they struck the asphalt covering of the street in front of the hotel and caused the hundreds of people who were standing there to scatter. This weakened the walls on 46th and 47th streets and they followed a moment later. When the walls fell bricks, mortar, twisted girders and corrugated iron filled the streets on three sides of the hotel. The doorsteps and iron fences in front of the houses on the opposite side from the hotel were wrecked by falling walls and the amount of debris piled in the streets was so great that travel will be impeded for several days.

The northeast wing continued to burn for half an hour after the walls of the building fell. The firemen continued to play streams upon the flames, also all adjoining buildings, including Miss Gould's residence, which seemed in imminent danger of catching fire. But the flames were brought under control before they could reach any of them.

There were many thrilling scenes in the hotel during the early stages of the fire.

As soon as the fire broke out a bell-boy discovered the flames while passing along the fourth floor, over rooms occupied by President McKinley's brother, Abner McKinley, and his family. The boy pulled a chain attached to the fire alarm, but the chain broke, and he cried out the alarm of fire and ran to the floor below. The blaze was then lapping up everything on the Fifth avenue side of the building, and the lad, when he got to the floor above the main hall, ran in the dining room and gave the alarm to the guests there. When the boy reached the office floor, W. F. Leland, the proprietor, was in the hall, and the boy shouted to him that the building was on fire. On Mr. Leland's instruction the clerks tried to save all the books and papers, and then the boy rushed down a distant stairway and alarmed the women who were at work in the laundry. It is believed that all of them escaped.

One of the most daring rescues effected by the firemen occurred on the fifth floor on the Fifth avenue side. An elderly woman was seen at a window, and two firemen succeeded in reaching the window immediately underneath. One of them climbed to the coping over the window on which he was standing, and then stepped over to where the woman was waving her hands despairingly. He then swung the woman clear of the window and landed her safely in the arms of his companion, who, with the assistance of several other firemen, passed her down to the street.

The first horror occurred just fifteen minutes after the fire broke out. A handsome woman appeared at the window of a room on the fourth floor. She held out her arms to the crowd below. Then she raised her hands as if in supplication and in a moment climbed to the window and leaped. She turned about like a top and struck the iron railing in front of the hotel. Her body seemed to be impaled there but it fell off into the areaway She was identified as Mrs. Amelia Paddock, of Irvington, N.Y.

One of the most thrilling scenes at a time when the building was a seething caldron of flames was the heroic rescue of several women from the upper stories. One had been carried down from the fifth story. Mrs. A. M. Fuller of Pittsburg, Pa., then appeared with her maid at the window of the fourth story. It seemed like an age before the ladder was lowered. Firemen ran up and with great difficulty and got Mrs. Fuller and her maid down. Just as she was got down from the window it seemed as though she had jumped into the flame below in despair. A hook and ladder man seeing the desperation of the woman seized a scaling ladder and went up story after story through the blinding smoke. He climbed to the coping just as the woman reappeared. The fireman seized her by the waist and holding her tightly to the wall of the building crept little by little on the coping and passed the fainting woman to another fireman who had braced himself to rescue her. There was a dreadful suspense as the fireman drew the woman toward him and finally had her safely on the ladder. A tremendous cheer went up from the crowd.

All of these rescues and many others occurred within a period of a few minutes. Meanwhile terrifying scenes of through the crowds as quickly as possible and injured people who had made frenzied men and women were being enacted on almost every floor of the great building. How many persons are buried in the ruins is not known, but at least three or four persons were seen to jump whose bodies have not been recovered. jumped from the room on 46th street jumped from the roof on 46th strett side of the hotel. Another unknown man jumped on the Fifth avenue side, and two more were seen to jump from the rear. Shortly after that two women jumped from the roof to the court-yard below.

A careful list of the missing, revised at 12:30 a. m., shows 41 persons unaccounted for.

An unknown man was seen to jump from the roof at the rear of the hotel. His body was not recovered. An unknown child was thrown from a window by its mother, who also jumped from the window, and their bodies have not been recovered.

Regarding the origin of the fire the Herald will say to-morrow that it was caused by a gentleman guest at the hotel. The man referred to was passing along one of the hallways and lighted a match and applied it to a cigarette. He tossed the match aside while it was still burning, and it fell into the folds of a lace curtain. In an instant the flimsy fabric was ablaze, and instantly the flames shot to the surrounding draperies. John Ferry, a waiter in the hotel, is authority for the Herald's story.

Among the reported missing are the daughters of Warren Leland, the well-known hotel proprietor and owner of the Windsor hotel; Mrs. Alfred Decova, wife of the well-known Wall Street banker and broker; Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard Meyers, of London, England. Mrs. Warren Leland is reported fatally injured, and Mrs. Kirk, wife of the Chicago millionaire soap manufacturer, is dead from injuries received in jumping from a window.

NANAIMO NOTES.

Nanaimo, March 17.—(Special) — The steamship Mineola arrived this afternoon for a cargo of coal.

The steamship Al-Ki arrived at Departure Bay this morning with 50 passengers from the North, among whom was Capt. Roberts, of the steamer Dirigo, recently on the rocks.

The steamship Cutch arrived from Skagway this afternoon, and reports the railway strike still on.

PROVOST DULY HANGED

He Killed and Cremated Two Men for Their Money and Almost Escaped.

But Arrested for Another Crime He Convicted Himself of the Double Murder.

By Associated Press.

Port Arthur, Ont., March 17.—"I submit, but you are hanging an innocent man. You are only doing your duty, but I am innocent."

These were Oliver Provost's words to Radcliffe, the hangman, when the latter requested him to hold out his arms to be pinioned before the march to the scaffold this morning.

Oliver Provost, who was condemned to death for the murder of Rene Dabin and Ferdinand Corrier on the 10th of February, 1897, was hanged in the presence of about 25 witnesses, including all the officials. No demonstration marked the execution, other than the gathering of a crowd of men and boys to the number of 150 on the street by the gaol.

The march to the scaffold began sharp at 8 o'clock, and was led by the sheriff followed by Provost dressed in a black serge suit, supported on either side by Turnkey Connor and Hangman Radcliffe, Rev. Father Neasult and Gaol Surgeon Macdonald. During the march Provost's face bore a haggard, yellowish appearance, his lips moved rapidly in prayer, but no sound came from them. The movement of the lips increased as the steps leading to the scaffold were reached and the ascent began. Arrived on the scaffold, words, at first low, but ever increasing in volume and vehemence, fell from his lips, addressed to the Virgin Mary and Jesus, praying for mercy. On the march he walked with a slow movement, faltering, but not sufficient to give those assisting his any trouble. During the adjustment of the black cap and noose there was no cessation of the prayer.

All preparations at the scaffold were quickly made by Radcliffe, and within a half minute from the arrival of the party on the scaffold the trap was sprung. The body shot down out of sight and instantly the rope was taut. Descending the steps and passing around to the side, where a couple of boards had been loosely nailed, Radcliffe quickly went to the inclosure, followed by two doctors, who, four minutes after the trap had been sprung, pronounced life extinct, the pulse having stopped beating. The body was allowed to hang for thirty minutes, when it was taken down and placed on a couple of boards beside the machine that had taken its life. The neck was found to have been broken and death was instantaneous. A jury was empanelled on the spot by the coroner and the usual verdict was returned.

The executed man's body was buried in the angle of the gaol yard by the gaol wall and fence, but an effort will be made to have it buried in consecrated ground, as he became reconciled to the church previous to his death and received the last rites. He made his last confession to Rev. Father Neasult last night. The reverend gentleman and a Sister of St. Joseph passed the entire night in the condemned man's cell, administering to him all the religious consolation the offices afford. The prisoner passed a quiet night, though at times he broke down and sobbed. The early hours were spent with townsmen; at 4 o'clock this morning he fell into a doze, from which he awakened at 5, and from that time on he spent the time in prayers and meditation. At 7 o'clock breakfast was offered him, but he declined to eat anything. The execution was a perfect piece of work, Radcliffe doing his work quietly.

The following words in French were found in the cell which Prevost occupied, and were written this morning: "Oliver Provost, 17th March, sentenced for a crime which he did not commit. What is discouraging is to think of dying such a death for which he is not culpable." Rev. Father Neault authorized me to say that Provost died fully reconciled to the church.

PROVOST'S CRIME.

The crime for which Oliver Provost, as he signs his name, was hanged this morning, was committed on the evening of February 10, 1897, and consisted in the killing and burning of Rene Dabin and Ferdinand Corrier, two men who lived a short distance from Port Arthur, where they kept a herd of pigs. They had a little money saved up, and, according to evidence, this Provost coveted. On the evening named, he went to their shack and there shot them. afterwards, with the assistance of a woman's named Gautier, who lived with him as his wife, he robbed the home and bodies. On the following morning he returned and set fire to the buildings, burning the bodies past all human resemblance. Suspicion pointed to Provost, but he was allowed to leave town, taking the woman and children with him. He moved to Oliver township. Leaving there and going East a few months later, he was followed by detectives and arrested at Pembroke for larceny, for which he was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. He then made a confession, in which he charged the woman Gautier with the crime. She was arrested, but turned Queen's evidence, and it was on her evidence that Provost was convicted. Justice Armour presided at the trial, and never were more scathing words addressed to a prisoner than those which Judge Armour uttered when sentencing Provost.

NEW YORK'S HOLOCAUST

One Hundred and Thirty-Nine the Roll of Dead and Injured in Hotel Horror.

Million Dollars of Insurance Soothes Owners of Fire Trap and Furnishings.

Guests' Jewels to Value of Hundreds of Thousands Searched For in Ruins.

By Associated Press.

New York, March 18.—Through the incessant rain to-day, their efforts hindered by a choking smoke that arose from the half-quenched ruins, more than two hundred men from the building, police and fire departments sought, but with only half satisfying results, the bodies of the persons believed to have perished in yesterday's terrible fire at the Windsor hotel.

Most of the time the smoke was so dense that the firemen could scarcely see their hands before their faces, and the heat from the mass of debris glowing red in places held the rescuers almost beyond its limits. Besides the remnants of the walls left standing were so shaky and threatening that it would have been dangerous to allow the workmen to prowl about the mass of riveted iron and bricks. Efforts were concentrated on clearing away the debris, removing weak walls, drilling the chimneys and other parts for the blasting, and making the way safe for the men to dig in the ruins for the bodies.

HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE

No more bodies were taken from the ruins to-day. The latest statement tonight is sixteen dead, sixty-six missing and fifty-seven injured. It is believed the men will be able to proceed with the gruesome search to-morrow with assurance of definite results.

Several fire engines kept their stations all night long throwing heavy streams of water on the ruins. Occasionally a mass of flame would struggles up from some unnoticed spot like a great bubble and burst away as the streams were played on it, while explosions of gas punctuated the continual pumping sound of the engines.

The scene of devastation in the immediate vicinity of the fire can scarcely be imagined. Broken and blackened windows, wrecked doors, smashed railings, and debris generally surrounded admost every house. Thousands of spectators pouring from every street and from every transit line that passed near the scene of the great holocaust, and from private carriages as well, packed the thoroughfares surrounding all day, pressing as close to the ruins as the restraining police lines would permit and straining their eyes in the hope of catching sight of some startlingly spectacle. One hundred policemen held back the crowd.

A MILLION INSURANCE.

Warren F. Leland, the proprietor of the Windsor, had somewhat recovered today, but was still in a feeble condition. He is as yet unable to account for the origin of the fire.

It was learned to-day that Eldridge Gerry had the building, and the furniture that belonged to the hotel fully insured and even the annual rental, for which he indemnified himself with policies aggregating $75,000, Mr. Gerry carried policies aggregating $595,000 on the hotel building and he had insurance for $120,000 on the furnishings. In addition to this Mr. Leland had policies aggregating $100,000 on his own furniture in the hotel.

No estimate has been made of the precious metals and gems which had withstood the flames and lie hidden in the embers and wreckage of the great hotel. One family lost jewelley valued at $2,000 and the total will run up somewhere near a million. How much has been picked up and carried away can never be known.

Mrs. Nancy Kirk, who lost her life, and her daughter, had at the hotel jewels valued at more than $200,000. Scores of other wealthy families lived in the hotel, and they have lost jewels worth thousands of dollars.

Warren Leland, jr., said early to-night that of all the persons reported missing he had heard that only one, Miss Craig, was safe. He had not been notified of any other persons having been found. He said he had given up Frederick Leland, the room clerk of the hotel, and his cousin. The bodies of Mrs. Leland and Miss Helen Leland will be taken to Chicago to-morrow for interment.

HUGE PILE OF DEBRIS.

The work of removing the debris was begun late to-night, when a gang of about 200 experienced workmen were put to work. The timbers and bricks were so hot and the smoke so thick that the work proceeded slowly. Electric lamps were kept alight in various places. The men devoted most of their time to the Fifth avenue and Forty-sixth street side. As they cleared away the outer portion of the debris and got to the building proper, they found portions of the ground floor still intact. Up to a late hour to-night the only articles found to reward the laborers were three battered trunks, partly filled with clothing. In front of the hotel, where the balcony had stood, and where the structure had been eight stories in height, there was a pile of bricks and twisted iron supports 40 feet high. The men who are clearing the wreck away will work in shifts, and be assisted by the police and inspectors to guard against the possibility of making away with any valuables they may find.

JEWELS IN THE WRECK.

Nearly every guest who saved his life lost expensive jewellery, and several lost many thousands' worth. It will be the work of the police to prevent any wealth being appropriated by those who may find it. In front of the building a one-story frame house has been erected. This will be the office of the contractors and the police headquarters, and to this all valuables will be taken. When the hour to change shifts arrives, the men coming off duty will be called into this place and searched for valuables. No laborer will be permitted to leave his work and go outside the lines or communicate with a person outside the lines while at work. The men will be under strict surveillance.

The last will and testament of Benj. E. Jones, executed May 17, 1894, was found this afternoon. It disposed of a quarter of a million in property. Attached to it was a codicil which provides for the disposition of other property, and dealt with property mentioned in the will proper, which had been disposed of by the testator since the drawing of the instrument. Near the same spot some railway bonds were picked up. They were wet and badly burned. The numbers were destroyed

The home of Helen Gould was a point of interest to-day to sightseers. Hundreds who managed to get inside the lines waited around in hope of catching a glimpse of the woman whose charitable acts yesterday and to-day have made her famous. The police have a guard around the house. It has been slightly damaged by fire. Miss Gould and her brother Frank occupied the house during the night, although they had permitted it to be turned into a hospital and morgue during the fire. To-day three workmen were slightly hurt while working about the walls. They were taken to the Gould home and waited there for the ambulance.

THE KNOWN DEAD.

The following is a list of victims as corrected up to 9 o'clock:

Connolly, John, employee of hotel, burns and internal injuries, died at Flower hospital.

Garson, Mrs. Addie, 35 years of age, Cincinnati, Ohio, shock, died at Murray Hill hotel.

Goodman, Eleanor Louise, 17 years old, daughter of Samuel Goodman, of this city, fractured skull, died at Bellevue hospital.

Grandy, Miss Lazelles, of Elizabeth City, N. C., here on a shopping tour, burned to death in fire.

Kirk, Nancy Anna, widow of James S. Kirk, soap manufacturer, of 35 Ridge avenue, Chicago, died at Bellevue.

Leland, Mrs. Warren, wife of proprietor of hotel, burns on body, died at Flower hospital.

Leland, Miss Helen, daughter of proprietor of hotel, found dead at fire, body taken to East Fifty-first street station and identified there.

Pardock, Amelia, 35 years old, Irvington, N.Y., died at scene of fire, body taken to East 51st station.

Sullivan, Mary, died at Bellevue.

Henry, Mrs. Mehitable, widow of Dr. Morris L. Henry, internal injured, died at Roosevelt hospital.

Flanagan, Kate, 40 years old, chambermaid, died at Flower hospital.

Unknown woman who jumped from a Fifth avenue window, died at Helen Gould's hospital.

Unknown man jumped from roof at rear of hotel, body not recovered.

Unknown child thrown from window by mother, body not recovered.

Unknown woman, mother of child, jumped from hotel window, body not recovered.

Unknown woman jumped from hotel window, died at 19 East 46th street.

THE MISSSING.

The following compiled at 9 p.m. is a corrected list of those missing since the fire:

Anglin, Mrs. Mary, 45 years old, wife of T. Anglin, this city.
Adams, Miss E. C.
Bruit, Jane, 40 years old.
Bradley, Miss, of Plainfield, N.J.
Boyce, Flossie, 8 year old, daughter of W. W. Boyce, said to have been rescued by father and disappeared afterwards.
Brush, Mrs. M. G.
Boyd, Mrs. and daughter.
Clair, Mary.
Dedorasch, Mrs., 70 years old.
Dresler, Eva, chambermaid.
Eagan, Miss.
Ford, Charles.
Fuller, Miss Margaret, daughter of A. M. Fuller of Philadelphia.
Guyon, Warren, elevator boy.
Hoffman, Miss Dora, of Baltimore.
Jose, Miss, servant.
Johnson, Mrs. D. J.
Johnston, Alex. B. and wife, of Newburyport, Mass.
Kelly, Alice, New York city.
Leland Fred, room clerk, cousin of Warren Leland.
Lynch, D.
Lowry, Miss Maggie.
Lawrie, Harry, 12 years old, this city.
Lannie, Mary.
McDonald, Mrs. Isabella, 42 years old, widow, family living at Toronto.
Morgan, Miss Annie Taylor, 40 years old.
Morgan, Miss Catherine.
McConnell, Kate.
McNulty, Miss M. C., 55 years old, this city.
McDonald, Lizzie, this city.
McCarthy, Catherine V., this city.
McCarthy, Henry.
McKenna, Jennie, 36 years old, chambermaid.
Morat, Jennie, 30 years old, chambermaid.
Nash, Mrs. Nellie, known at hotel as Annie Miller.
Patterson, Mrs., wife of Judge Patterson, of Colorado.
Salamon, Mrs. D. S., widow.
Salamon, Miss Rosona, 27 years old, daughter of above.
Shea, Kate, 40 years old, servant.
Stokes, Mrs. James H., this city.
Simpson, Miss Adele, 20 years old, of South Orange, N.J.
Sleeman, Mary, 22 years old, this city.
Soy, Mary, 23 years, laundress.
Upham, Annett, daughter of ex-Senator Upham.
Vanveletchen, Mr. A. V. W., of this city.
Vanl, Miss H., of Purdys Station, N.Y.
Wabh, Mary, servant.
Ward, Annie, chambermaid.

THE INJURED.

New York, March 18.—At the hospitals the names of the injured were fairly well ascertained this morning. At Bellevue the following list was given out:

Miss Alice W. Price, sister of Governor Chandler of Georgia, fractured leg, sprained back, not serious.

Kate Roach, domestic in the hotel, burns on face, broken ankle, will recover.

Mrs. C. Simons, resident of the hotel, burns, shock; condition doubtful.

Mrs. Nellie Thomas, assistant housekeeper, shock; condition doubtful.

Mrs. Leo Rosenthal, resident of hotel, slight injuries.

At Roosevelt hospital the following injured were reported:

Mrs. Ellen Brewer, resident of hotel, burns, broken right leg; condition serious.

Mrs. Catherine Bailey, Chicago, burns; condition serious.

Mrs. Louise Waldo, New York, burns; not serious.

At the Presbyterian hospital: Adelaide Wheeler, burns on back, improving.

Dorothy Wheeler, burned hand, shock; improving.

Miss Vonspiecel, broken leg and ribs; improving.

Mrs. F. Hirsch, burned face and hands; improving.

Edward Skelton, burns on face; improving.

At New York hospital: William T. Love, clerk of hotel, burns on face and head; improving.

Ellen Curren, domestic of the hotel, burns on arms and legs, not dangerous.

Polly Doonan, a domestic, who was taken to Harlem hospital suffering from burns about the face and hands, has been taken to her home, as her injuries are not serious.

Aside from those who jumped, the women badly hurt received their injuries through the manner of using the rope fire escape. At least half a dozen started to slide down while grasping the rope in their hands. The rapid progress for 20 or 25 feet burned and tore the flesh to such an extent that the unfortunates let go their hold and fell. Some fell upon the iron points of the fence and sustained frightful injuries; others fractured their skulls, while a few escaped with broken limbs. Mrs. Henry, who died at the hospital this morning, attended by her nieces—Mrs. Bingley and Miss Adeline Lanthier, of Boston—was one of these.

Mrs. Mary Haskings, daughter of Mrs. Kirk of Chicago, became hysterical when she heard of her mother's death. Mrs. Haskings said all her own and her mother's jewellery was lost in the fire. She placed the total loss at $200,000.

A FAMILY'S ESCAPE.

The cool courage displayed by Edward P. Wells, who with his wife and daughter was a guest at the hotel, was the means of saving all three. He is past middle age, and is a resident of Jamestown, N. J. They had hardly time to realize that something had gone wrong when the smoke rolled through the corridor, and their escape was cut off in that direction. The window was now the only hope, and Mr. Wells, having first paid out the fire escape rope in the room until he saw it would reach the ground, hauled it back and securely fastened it about his daughter's waist; then he lifted the girl to the window ledge and slowly lowered her. Bracing his feet against the wall of the room, he passed out the rope, at the end of which dangled the almost inanimate body of his daughter. Smoke and flames shot out at intervals from the window below, but the passage of the girl was not retarded, and in a few seconds she had reached the ground. She was quickly taken care of by the firemen, who released her and the rope was hauled back by Mr. Wells, and the same performance gone through in the case of his wife. For the third time Mr. Wells pulled the rope back and made preparations for own descent. He carefully tied up his hands with towels; then clambered out on the window sill, and swinging clear, shot down like lightning. There were ready hands below to break his fall, and when the bandages had been removed from his hands it was found he had not even blistered them.

A WOMAN'S RESCUE.

Another thrilling occurrence following the outbreak of the flames held the crowd in breathless suspense, and its successful issue threw them into hysterical cheering. A woman appeared at a fifth floor window and made preparations for a leap. The spectators warned her to wait. Just at this instant a fireman came into sight on the roof above her with a rope. Roaring his instructions above the crackling and hissing noise he dropped the rope before her. The woman kept her wits and soon had it tied about her as ordered. Then obeying further orders she sprang into the air and the fireman lowered her. The crowd was just beginning to cheer when flames burst from a window below the woman, and their shouts turned into cries of horror, as she plunged into them. She seemed to strike wildly with her hands, and then the body swung round with feet toward the building. She doubled up her legs and gave a mighty shove as she plunged out into the air a distance of 15 or 20 feet. Her rescuer, who had been endeavoring to stop her fall into the flames dropped her into the arms of some firemen waiting below. She was not seriously burned, and got away through the crowd before her name could be learned.

A FIRE TRAP.

Thomas J. Brady, commissioner of buildings, says not only was the Windsor hotel unfit to be used for hotel purposes, but also in the city there are at least a dozen houses where patrons take equal risks with their lives. "The lesson of the Windsor hotel fire is now known," said Commissioner Brady. "It simply illustrates the helplessness of this department with reference to old buildings. The Windsor was built under the old laws of 1871, and did not have fire escapes on it until 1885. In 1882 the owners were ordered to put up fire escapes, but did not comply with the order for nearly three years. Again, in 1892, this department directed that additional fire escapes be put on, but the order was not obeyed until 1893. I did not consider that the Windsor hotel was a safe place for people to live, for the reason that it was built under laws which made cheap buildings possible and protected that sort of work. We cannot touch fully a dozen hotels that would go up as quickly as did the Windsor. If we should say anything against them there would promptly be talk of blackmail. Then the laws also take particular care of vested rights."

PAIN IN THE BACK.

Being troubled off and on with pains in my back, caused by constipation, I tried several kinds of pills I had seen advertised, and to put the truth in a nutshell, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are the only pills that have proved effectual in my case. I can heartily recommend them.

JNO. DEVLEN.
Unionville, Ont. *

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL

Fraternal Societies Inquire About Bill Affecting them Promised by Government.

One Hundred Thousand Indians in Canada and Number Slightly Increasing.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, March 17.—An order has been issued from the militia department requiring officers commanding districts to obtain from the secretaries of rifle associations which receive aid from the government in their respective districts, and to forward to the chief staff officer not later than the 31st instant the following information: Number of members of the association who belong to the active militia; number of members, if any, who are civilians; name of president of association and of chairman of executive committee.

D. F. Macwatt, of Barrie, solicitor for the Fraternal Societies Association, is here enquiring about the bill which the government promised to bring down last session affecting fraternal organizations. The government has not yet given any indication that it proposes to bring down such legislation this session.

The annual report of the Indian department shows that the Indian population last year was 100,093, an increase of 729. In the territories 9,886 children appear on the rolls of the industrial schools.

A large contingent of members went to Brockville to-day to attend the funeral of the late Hon. J. F. Wood.

KAIULANI DEAD.

The Young Hawaiian Princess Victim of Recent Attack of Inflammatory Rheumatism.

Honolulu, March 10.—(Via San Francisco).—Princess Kaiulani died on March 6 of inflammatory rheumatism contracted several weeks ago while on a visit to the island of Hawaii. She was a daughter of Princess Miriam Likelike, a member of the Hawaiian royal family.

Kaiulani was born in 1875. In 1891 she was proclaimed heir apparent to Liliuokalani, who was on the throne of Hawaii. The funeral of the dead princess will occur on Sunday, March 12, from the old native church, and will be under the direction of the government. The ceremonies will be on a scale befitting her rank. The body is lying in state at Aniahau, the Princess' old home. Thousands of people, both natives and whites, have gone out to the place, and the whole town is in mourning. Flags on the government buildings are at half mast, and on the residences of foreign consuls. Bishop Willis, of the Church of England, will conduct the funeral service.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Regina Standard Office Destroyed—Galician Found Guilty—Fatal Fall from Bridge.

Winnipeg, March 18.—(Special)—At the Winnipeg assizes this afternoon Guzejack, the Galician, was found guilty of the murder of Bojectzko and four children at Stuartburn last October. His alleged accomplice in the crime will come up for trial on Monday.

At Regina to-day the Standard office owner by Mayor McInnis, was completely destroyed with all contents. The plant was worth $6,000, the stock including library $1,000, and the buildings, $1,000. The insurance is $4,000, divided between the Guardian and Lancashire. One press and a quantity of type was quite new.

Octave Howe, aged 18, fell from the railway bridge on Winnipeg river at Norman and was drowned.

A verdict of manslaughter was returned at Portage la Prairie this morning against Henry Cole, charged with the murder of Wm. Hubbell at Dauphin, and he was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

ON SPEAKING TERMS AGAIN.

United States and Spanish Warships Exchange Courtesies Off Gibraltar.

Gibraltar, March 18.—As the United States cruiser Raleigh sailed from here for New York this afternoon, homeward bound from Manila in order to be put off commission, she hoisted the Spanish ensign and fired a salute while passing the Spanish squadron commanded by Admiral off Algeciras. The Spanish flagship Carlos Quinto thereupon hoisted the American ensign and returned the salute.

Madrid, March 18.—The Paris Republican says it believes it to be certain that the Duke Arcos, the former Spanish minister to Mexico, will be appointed minister of Spain at Washington.

FRANCIS JOSEPH CONSOLED.

Austria's Bereaved Emperor Planning to Marry a Youthful Princess.

London, March 17.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily News says: It is rumored here that the Emperor Francis Joseph, when the period of mourning for the late Empress Elizabeth is ended, will marry Princess Marie Isabelle Defrance, sister of the Duc d'Orleans, with a view of securing the Austro-Hungarian throne to a direct descendant. The Princess is in her twenty-first year.