

A Prey to

River Steamers Nahleen and Louise Totally Consumed

**Possibility That the Night
watchman Has Lost His**

As the Colonist goes to press this morning, fire which originated at no one knows how, is completing the destruction of the steamers Naileen and Louise, while a large dredge anchored near by, together with an immense scow in process of reconstruction on Turpel's ways, are seriously threatened, and may take time at any moment.

The watchman who is responsible for the safety of both steamers had not been on since the first alarm was given, and it is feared that he may have fallen asleep or met with some accident on board the Naileen, where he had a stateroom, and in either case been

This steamer was intended for service this summer on the lower Yukon, and was to have towed up to St. Michael by the Amur, of the same line to-day. She had had steam up yesterday, turning over her engines and ascertaining that everything was ship-shape for the long ocean voyage, and it is suggested that this in some mysterious manner contributed to cause the fire.

Another theory is that the watchman at midnight, while out on duty, cut

The first intimation of the danger of the steamers was given by Constable McGraw, who noticed the reddening of the sky as the flames from the Nahleen burst out. He turned in an alarm at once, but as the railway bridge was burning as usual the firemen had a mile-and-a-half run over execrable roads, and it was not until the morning that the water to work with when the scene was reached.

The chemical in such a case was useless, except to protect adjoining property.

All that the brigade could do was
this direction. There was, luckily, not
breath of air stirring, and the blazing
hleen all but fell upon the Louise be-

The smaller vessel became a prey to the fire.

The sight as the two swiftly but silently hurried to their muddy resting place was fascinating in its uniqueness. The Naahien's timbers hung together well, giving all the effect of a pyrotechnic display, a glimmering skeleton of splintered wood in sea-white fire. And while the flames did their work, reddening the timbers and the walls of adjacent rooms the Indians, there, was absolute silence—broken only at intervals by the roar of a fire bell.

In the very limited time at disposal this morning it is impossible to speak with accuracy of the ownership and history of two lost vessels. The Naahien will be remembered as one of the handsome iron-wheelers built for the service of Klondike Mining & Trading Co. on

Stikine river. She had been laid with the Louise, in the old bonded, since last year, and was only just preparing for service when her destruction was accomplished.

The Louise was an older craft, and her days of usefulness were about an end.

together the burning of the two
moorers must represent a loss of at
least \$40,000.

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PERSONAL EXPERIENCES.

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Interpreting lecture by Rev. Mr. Moore
on Cawnpore and Lucknow.

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Rev. Mr. Moore, one of the veteran chap-
lains of Her Majesty's forces in India,
appeared in St. James's hall yesterday even-
ing to deliver a lecture on the Mutiny at
Cawnpore and Lucknow during the Mutiny.
The speaker, who wore the medal of the
Mutiny, described his own experiences and
the nature of which he had been told by his
friends. His talk was full of
of intense interest.

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beginning at the origin of the Mutiny at

But he traced the history of events in the most vivid and dramatic manner, his story culminating in the awful tragedy of Bannockburn.

His grave full details, affording his audience a vivid idea of the terrible scenes which passed on Nona Sault's beach, then resulted from the events at Bannockburn, describing the precautions taken by the English for the defence of the island, the gallant advance of Havelock and Outram for the relief of the beleaguered garrison, the capture of the island, and the flight of the city where so many brave English and Highlanders lost their lives—and then he took up Sir Colin Campbell's march to the relief of the reinforced garrison, and the final battle of the Marston, and picturing in graphic language the scenes of battles that were necessary before the English could be enabled to march and to give way to the brave Scotch force of five thousand men.

He then related the fortunes of the English fleet at the battle of the Windward, describing their defeat at the hands of the sepoys and the tremendous revenge exacted a few weeks later by Sir Colin's fleet.

The lecture was brought to a close by a

the forces under Campbell took part, and pictures illustrated the lecture, which occupied two hours in delivery.

Mr. Moore was introduced by Bishop Doane, who made a few remarks as to

value of the study of modern history. The close of the lecture the thanks of the audience was conveyed to Mr. Moore.

RECENT INVENTIONS.

Studies' hats are securely held in place by a new opera-chair attachment, composed of a pyramid of soft material which is easily punctured by a hat-pin.

hat being placed on the device and
ed fast,