

Riot in Boston

The Fourth of July parade of societies of Boston and vicinity, in East Boston, ended in a pitched battle between some of the paraders and the spectators, in which sticks, stones and revolvers were used with fatal effect. John T. Willis, a laborer of East Boston, one of the spectators, was shot and instantly killed; Michael Doyle of East Boston had his head split open by a club and now lies at the city hospital. A young man named Andrews had his nose cut off with a sabre in the hands of one of the paraders. Patrick Kelly sustained a severe scalp wound, whether from a club or a bullet is not known, and Officer A. S. Bates was hit in the mouth by a brick thrown by an unknown person, and lost several teeth, besides suffering from several lacerations. The trouble all resulted from the persistency of those who managed the parade in introducing as a feature a float presenting "The Little Red School House," the emblem of the American Protective Association. The Fourth of July committee refused to permit this feature to appear in the parade and those desiring to present it tried to have an order passed by the board of aldermen, but failed. So great was the interest excited by this controversy and the expressed determination of the paraders to display the school house, that fully 50,000 visitors gathered at East Boston. The police officials detailed a special squad of 550 men, in addition to the East Boston force on duty, but they marched at the head of the procession. At several points the feeling of the crowd gave vent in hisses at the fifteen hundred paraders and the school house but no further demonstration was made until the rear of the parade had reached "Nam street, when the crowd tried to overturn the last carriage. Word was sent to the front for police assistance, and a squad of 200 officers was sent back. A skirmish followed between the crowd and the officers, and Michael Doyle of 21 Norris street received a fractured skull. He was taken to the city hospital. A man named Stewart, of Brook street, had his nose cut off by a sabre in the hands of Albert E. Andrews of Everett, a private in the Roxbury Horse Guards, who was in full uniform, and who went to the assistance of the occupants of the carriage. By this incident excitement was intensified, and those who had participated in the parade left for the ferry in order to reach the city. A group of between sixty and seventy persons was surrounded on Border street by a crowd who commenced hooting and throwing stones. It is said that a number of the paraders became frightened and lost their heads. A dozen revolvers were drawn, and in response to the fusillade of stones, shots were fired. The firing of the revolvers brought a large body of police to the spot and the mob was soon dispersed. As the scene was cleared the officials found J. W. Willis dead in the street, with a bullet hole in his left side, and Patrick A. Kelly lying seriously wounded about the head. It was learned later that several other persons had been slightly injured, all of whom

were taken away by their friends. The police arrested Harold Brown, of 467 Dudley street, Roxbury district, and John Ross, of 60 Beach street, as the principals who, it is alleged, did the shooting. It is claimed by six witnesses who were taken to the station house that Brown did the shooting which killed Willis and wounded Kelly. Ross is said to have injured several others, who were taken away by their friends. Willis, the murdered man, was a laborer by occupation, and leaves a wife and six children. His home was at Webster avenue. Kelly was a single man living at 2 Tremont court.

Trade and Commerce

The annual report of the Department of Trade and Commerce was submitted to the Dominion Parliament a few days ago. In his report the Deputy Minister says: In submitting this, the second annual report of the Department of Trade and Commerce, I have the honor to call attention to the fact that notwithstanding the world-wide commercial depression which has continued during the year covered by the report it is gratifying to observe that its effect upon Canadian trade has been less marked than has been shown by the figures of almost any other country, that while there has been a falling off in the total value there has been but little reduction in the volume of trade, and that notwithstanding the unprecedented low prices which have prevailed during the year, as respects the products which Canada has exported, the total value of such exports has fallen below that of the previous year only to the extent of \$1,000,000 and still stands higher than in any other year in the history of the country; that the purchasing capacity of the country as shown by a comparison of exports and imports has been fully equal to that of the previous year, the estimated percentage of the general decline in prices of such goods as are imported exceeding the actual percentage of decline in the value of imports; that the prices of the two leading items of exports, viz., lumber and cheese, have been rather more than the average since Confederation; that while there has been a serious decline in the prices of cereals there has been a compensating factor in the prices of several leading articles necessarily imported. As an illustration, take extreme, the average price of wheat as exported in 1873 (the year of extreme high prices) was \$1.37 a bushel; in 1894 it averaged only 65 c. In the same years the average price of sugar as imported was 53 c. and 25 c. as that the bushel of wheat, at its value in 1895, would purchase, within a fraction, the same amount of sugar as in 1873, or taking retail prices a little more than in 1873. At the same time Canada has had more than double the quantity of wheat to spare for export in 1894 than in 1873. While some sections of the country have felt the depression more than others, the fact remains that Canada, as a whole, has not only been fairly prosperous, but relatively, as compared with all countries with which she has trade relations, much more than fairly prosperous during the year under review.

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