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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Ottawa has again been visited during the past week by two disastrous fires, and property to the amount of about \$25,000 destroyed. The first occurred on Thursday at one o'clock, in the Carriage Factory of Messrs. Stockdale, on St. Paul Street, destroying the entire building with all its contents; toy's Carding Mill; Skinner's Ornamental iron shop; Mrs. McNamara's adjoining the Carding Mill; Mr. W. M. Somerville's cottage, and Coleman's Livery Stables. The fire is supposed to have originated in the boiler room, which was used in connection with the three manufacturing establishments. The other fire occurred on Saturday morning about six o'clock, in a stable in rear of the residence of G. P. Baker, Esq., on O'Connor St. Fortunately the fire was confined to the stable and to the dwelling house of Mr. Baker. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been from a lighted match thrown in amongst the hay by a smoker. Mr. Baker's furniture was saved, but in a damaged state.

The glorious Fourth of July was celebrated by our Yankee Cousins in the usual style, but with a greater increase of loss of life and property attending it.

The list of minor accidents, affrays, and fires on the Fourth, in New York and Brooklyn, makes nearly two columns of four line paragraphs in the morning papers.

At Paterson N. Y., a boy named Johnson, killed himself with a pistol. Another named Willie Anderson, aged 13, was fatally shot by some companions while firing salutes promiscuously. One of the latter became frightened at the casualty, and ran away, hid into the woods. He has not since been seen.

Another boy had the right hand blown off, and still another was seriously burned by having a bunch of fire crackers ignite in his pocket.

At Toledo, Ohio, five or six residences were burned. Loss \$20,000 to 25,000. The fire was caused by fire crackers.

At Cincinnati, a young girl named Ada House was burned to death by her clothes taking fire from fire crackers.

At Philadelphia, a large number of minor casualties are reported from the same cause.

Chicago, Ill., July, 5.—At Pontiac, Ill., yesterday, a fire caused by fire crackers entirely destroyed the Phoenix Hotel, Court House, with all the records of the County, and the Union Block, the finest in the town, containing seven large stores. Total loss, \$200,000.

In this city yesterday, several serious accidents occurred from the use of pistols in firing salutes.

Four persons are reported fatally wounded.

One person was killed and six others seriously wounded by the explosion of a bottle of gunpowder.

New York, July 6.—The casualties of the 4th of July celebration in this city and Brooklyn, as summed up by the morning papers are as follows:—One riot, six brutal affrays, thirty five fires, forty children seriously wounded, at least three persons killed, outright, and one child burned to death.

Alleghany City, Pa., July 4—A very destructive fire occurred in this city this p. m. A square of buildings, principally dwellings, on the west side of Federal street, between Sampson and Marquette streets, back to Arch street, and three or four buildings on the east side of federal street, were totally destroyed.

At one time it was thought that the whole upper part of the city would be destroyed, as the supply of water was limited and a very high wind prevailed, carrying sparks in all directions, and setting fire to houses two or three squares away, but with the united efforts of the Pittsburgh and City Fire Departments the flames were got under control about seven o'clock this evening.

Over one hundred houses in all were destroyed, leaving many families homeless.

The loss cannot be estimated, but it is thought that it will reach \$300,000.

The fire originated in the carpenters shop of Crosswell & Burgern, it is supposed, from firecrackers being thrown in by boys at play in the neighbourhood.

A Washington special says that thirty-seven houses were unroofed on Pennsylvania avenue in Washington by the hurricane there on the Fourth; 16 were unroofed on S street four on K street, and over 50 in other parts of the city.

The excitement at one time was nearly a panic, and it was feared the whole city would be swept away.

The velocity of the wind for fifteen minutes was 60 miles an hour.

The loss is estimated at over a million dollars.

The five mile single scull race for \$400 a side in gold, came off at Springfield Mass. July the 8th between George Brown of Halifax, N S, and Wm Scharff of Pittsburg, resulting in a splendid victory for Brown who won by three lengths. The Canadians must have won \$30,000. Brown sold on the pools at \$100 to \$80. J. A. Chambers, the principal backer of Scharff, loses at least \$5000. Brown's victory was received with tremendous cheering.

The Canadian Volunteers now at Wimbledon competing for the prizes have presented an address to Sir Garnet Wolseley congratulating him upon his achievements in Ashantee.

Mr. C. C. Roe, of Hamilton, has invented a steam walking machine, and has named it Adam Ironside. It walks upright like a man, and steps more gracefully than many who pass for gentlemen.

The new comet discovered by Coggia was very distinct in the north west heavens last night, and attracted a good number of star gazers; with a telescope of moderate power or even an opera glass the tail of the comet can be seen for about five degrees.

The Government is about to issue, in pamphlet form, the new law for the conduct of elections, and also such portions of the old laws as were not repealed by the recent act, for the information of Returning Officers throughout the country. Models of ballot boxes, for the reception of voting tickets, are also being examined.

A Company has been formed in Liverpool, Eng., under the title "The Canadian Meat and Produce Company," (limited) to import from Canada prime joints of animals, for utilizing the tallow &c Capital £200,000, one half of which will be at first issued.

Despatches from Topoka, Kansas, says there is no longer a doubt that large bodies of Indians are on the war path. A raid has been commenced by the Kiowas, and now comprises war parties from that tribe and Cheyennes and Aripahoes. Three men were killed and scalped near Mozen's ranche in Indian territory, Monday, and one Patrick Hennessey, was tied to a waggon burned alive. A panic still prevails along the border, and settlers are leaving their homes and hurrying into the towns and railroad depots.

By a special from St. Paul, Minn., we learn that Mr. Cunningham of Marquette, died at that city a few days ago.

On Sunday last the Souix massacred five Metis at St. Joseph Village, Manitoba, within half a mile of the Frontier.