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NEW YORK HAS TWO BIG FIRES

One Life Lost and Property Worth $600,000 Is Destroyed

PANIC IN TENEMENTS

Police Arouse Sleepers, Fearing Entire Bronx Block was Doomed—Wild Scramble for Safety Followed by Shivering Assemblage on Snow-Covered Sidewalk

New York, Dec. 20—Two early morning fires in the upper part of New York city resulted today in the death of one man, a watchman, the serious injury of a fireman and property damage estimated at $350,000.

The first fire was in a six-story brick factory building at 494-498 East 124 street the Bronx. The building occupied by Xenus & Company, brass manufacturers, had just ben rebuilt. Eight months ago it was fire swept throughout its interior, leaving little but the heavy walls. Today's fire was literally a repetition and when the flames were under control after three hours' hard work the naked walls stood bare again.

The watchman is believed to have perished in the flames. One fireman, William Kevest, was badly injured, He fell forty feet from the roof of the burning building to the roof of an adjoining tenement. His left arm was broken and he has concussion of the brain.

The fire was in the heart of a populous tenement district and the discovery of the blaze was followed by scenes of panic. Police reserves hurried through the narrow hallways arousing the tenants in the belief that the entire block was doomed. The police had great difficulty in getting some of the families awake but once awakened, the wild scramble of men, women and children for the stairways threatened to result in serious injury to the weaker ones.

Finally the frightened people were assembled shivering in the snowy street and a careful examination showed that no one had been seriously hurt.

A Four Alarm Call

The second fire one of New York's "four alarm" fires, was in a five-story factory building at West 125th street and Morningside avenue. The chief danger was that the fire might communicate with an adjacent dyeing and cleansing establishment where several hundred gallons of gasoline were stored. Eight lines of hose were kept constantly playing over the little structure.

The police said that the loss to the building and the four firms occupying it would probably reach $250,000.

MARRIED IN SUNBURY; SEEKING DIVORCE

Mrs. Mary E. Parlee Petitions in Boston Court—Husband Petitcodiac Man

Boston, Dec. 20—(Special)—Alleging desertionin 1906, Mrs. Mary Parlee, of Boston is petitioning in the superior court for a divorce from Herbert B. Parlee of Petitcodiac. They were married at Salmon Creek, Sunbury county, in 1891 and lived at Millstream, Kings county.

The case will be heard in February.

TERRIFIC GALE AT LAS PALMAS: FEAR FOR SAFETY OF STEAMERS

Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Dec. 20—Some anxiety is felt for the safety of the Woermann Steamship Line steamers Ingebert and Irma Woermann. The latter vessel started out yesterday in the teeth of a terrific gale to succor her sister ship which had been sighted twelve miles off the coast displaying signals of distress and indicating that her engines had broken down.

Since then no word has come from either of the liners and they have not been sighted by incoming vessels.

It is thought that they may have been driven northward by the fierce storm, which still raged today.

The German consul here is aboard the Irma. Both steamers ply between Hamburg, Rotterdam and West African ports.

PORT ARTHUR WIRELESS STATION IN OPERATION

Port Arthur, Ont., Dec. 20—(Special)—The wireless telegraph station is now in full working order. The operator already has conversed over a distance of 1200 miles with stations on the Atlantic coast.

Would it Mean War?

Harbin, Dec. 20—A serious controversy has arisen here between the Russian authorities and the Austrian consul, the consul having permitted the auction of the property of a Russian subject which was mortgaged to an Austrian.

THE WEATHER

Fresh westerly and northwesterly winds, local rain or sleet but partly fair, turning colder today and on Wednesday.

FALLS OVER THE BODY OF HIS FATHER

Jersey City Man's Awful Homecoming After Belated Night Visit to Friends—Murder Had Been Committed

New York, Dec. 20—Ambrose Wilson, a young Jersey City business man, returned to his boarding place in Johnson avenue early today after a belated evening visit with friends and tumbled head first over the body of his father in the hallway.

The aged man's body was cold and he had been dead apparently for several hours.

Examination showed that he had been terribly beaten with some heavy implement and finally killed by a stab in the neck which severed the jugular veins.

The police arrested August Miller and his wife Jane, owners of the house. The two Wilsons, father and son, had boarded with them tor several years. The police lodged a charge of murder against Miller, and directed that the wife be held as a witness.

According to the police the Millers had quarreled with the elder Wilson during the evening and a fight ensued. The police are of the opinion that after Miller found that Wilson was dead he carried the body from the upper floor to the bottom of the stairs in an effort to give the impression that the man had fallen down stairs.

KING AND QUEEN TO SANDRINGHAM

Will be Only a Comparatively Small Party—King George to Enjoy Some Shooting

London ,Dec. 20—The king and queen have deferred to the wish of Queen Alexandra, and the royal family will consequently spend Christmas once more at Sandringham, as has been their invariable custom for several years.

It was King George's first intention to pass the holidays at Windsor Castle, as was usually done in the reign of Queen Victoria, and certain arrangements were made to this end, Queen Alexandra, however, greatly desired to have her children and grand-children around her once more, and this is now to be done.

Neither the king nor the queen of Norway will be able to remain in England over the holidays, and will leave Appleton Hall a few days before Christmas, while the princess royal and the Duke of Fife and their daughters will then be in Egypt, so that the family party will only be a small one.

Owing to the mourning for the late king the holidays at Sandringham will be shorn of much of their usual festive character, but, by desire of Queen Alexandra, the huge Christmas tree for the little ones of the party will be erected in the ballroom as usual, and there will be the customary doles of coal, meat, etc., to the tenantry.

King George will spend several of his mornings shooting over the Sandringham preserves, and will be joined in these excursions by the gentlemen of his household. There will be nothing in the way of a house party at Sandringham until the late autumn of next year, when the Kaiser may pay the place a private visit.

RUINED BY THE LURE OF WALL STREET

Youth Robs Employers After Losing His Own Savings in Speculation

New York, Dec. 20—Eager to get rich quick, Ray E. Lindsley, inside salesman for the Brewers' & Bottlers' Supply Company, of Newark, was tempted by the lure of Wall street, stole his employers' money, and was arrested.

Lindsley earned $16 a week. He had read of the fortunes made in the stock market, also of the fortunes lost, and the lives wrecked in the same place, but he felt he could win.

It was in brokerage offices in Newark Lindsley did his gambling. This was proven by receipts for money he had put up as margins, which were found on him. He first used his savings, but they went. Then he took his employers' cash. He has confessed.

A PRETTY STORY OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA

London, Dec. 19—Queen Alexandra has brought joy to seven-year-old Lily Fowler who lies bed-ridden at Terrace-gardens, Watford.

The little child is crippled, and has undergone seven operations. A few days ago she wrote through her mother to Queen Alexandra, saying how sorry she was that King Edward was dead, adding that she was sure he would be happy in Heaven. She wished the queen would come to see her some day.

The following reply was received:—

Miss Knollys has been commanded by Queen Alexandra to answer Mrs. Fowler's letter, and to tell her how sorry her Majesty is to be unable to gratify the wish of her poor little cripple child, but it is unfortunately quite impossible to do so.

The queen is now sending her a box of sweets, which her Majesty hopes she will enjoy and be amused by the little picture on the lid.

The picture is of a page in a ballroom presenting a bouquet to a lady. The child is so delighted with her gift that she will not eat one of the chocolates. She lies before a window all day knitting or looking at picture books.

DEATH OF WM. SWIM, FORMER LEGISLATOR

Represented Northumberland In House at Fredericton from 1874 to 1878—Today's News at Fredericton

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 20—(Special)—In Doaktown, yesterday, Wm. Swim, ex-M. P. P., one of the best known men on the Miramichi, died at the age of 86. He leaves his wife, two sons and five daughters. He represented Northumberland in the legislature from 1874 until 1878. He was a liberal in politics.

In the police court this morning Prof. Washington was convicted on a charge of violating the Sunday law and was fined $10, which was allowed to stand. He will appeal.

The condition of William Aiken, operated upon yesterday for appendicitis, is reported very critical.

MAYOR STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF COMMISSION

Has for Years Been Ardent Advocate of This Form of City Government

Mayor Frink has been an ardent advocate of the system of civic government by commission for a number of years. About four years ago he urged upon the common council the advisability of taking a plebiscite on the matter. Other issues were brought forward at that time, some of the members talking in favor of a board of control and others arguing that existing conditions were all right. In the end the matter was allowed to stand over as the present mayor, who was then an alderman, appeared to be the only member of the council in favor of the system.

Speaking of the matter this morning Mayor Frink said he had never changed his views on the subject, he still thought the commission plan would be the best and most businesslike form of government for the city. "What we want" he said, is a system under which the men responsible for the administration of the city will come down to their offices every day, finish the business of the day and be ready to tackle something else next day. The city's business is getting too important to be dealt with in a satisfactory manner by men who give a few hours a month to it, and may be forget what they did the preceding month."

FINNAN HADDIE RATE ACROSS BAY MUST BE CUT DOWN

Ottawa, Dec. 20—(Special)—The railway commission this morning ordered the Dominion Atlantic Railway Company to reduce the rate on finen haddie from Digby to St. John from twenty cents to eight cents a hundred for car lots and eleven cents for smaller lots.

The case came up on the application of the Maritime Fish Company.

EXPLOSION POSSIBLY DUE TO TRIVIAL CAUSE

New York, Dec, 20—Investigation of the explosion in the New York power house which caused at least ten deaths, the injury of more than 100 persons and a money loss estimated at upwards of $1,000,000, was continued today by city and county authorities.

It may be found that a handful of sand or the different placing of a timber pile would have prevented the catastrophe. It is generally conceded that the first cause of the upheaval was a runaway train of electric cars in the central cut near 50th street and Lexington avenue that crashed over a bumper against the power house breaking a feed pipe and causing a large quantity of gas to accumulate in the power house basement.

This was detonated, possibly by an electric spark from a short circuit. The whole trouble may be decided due to slippery rails or to some apparently trivial cause.

PREFERENCE CREW WERE SAVED BY FISHERMAN

Boston, Dec. 20—(Special)—The three-masted schooner Preference for Elizabethport for St. John with coal was dismasted and abandoned on Sunday off Georges Bank. The crew were rescued by a fishing schooner and landed here today.

THE WEST SIDE WHARVES.

The may intends calling a meeting of the advisory committee appointed by the council to take up the question of the sale of the west side wharves to the federal government as soon as word is received from the minister of public works as to when he will come to St. John. It is proposed that the advisory committee of the council and the committee from the board of trade, appointed to consider the matter, will have a joint audience with the minister to present the matter to him as strongly as possible.

HATTIE LeBLANC IN TOWN

Told Trainman She Would Likely Take $500 Theatrical Offer

MANY PRESENTS

Thirty "Sweaters," Jewelry and Money Given to Cape Breton Girl Freed of Murder Charge—She Talks to the Times—Here for an Hour

"I am very glad the trial is over and that I am going back home. I am as happy as I can be." In this way did Miss Hattie Leblanc, the young Cape Breton girl who was recently acquitted of the murder of Clarence Glover, in Cambridge, Mass., reply to a Times reporter who sought an interview this morning as she passed through the city on her way to her home in West Arichat, C. B.

A few days ago it was said that Miss LeBlanc had passed through the city, the information coming from some of the railway men, who were under the impression that they had seen her on the train. It appears that they were mistaken, however, for she appeared this morning.

She came to St. John on the Boston train, occupying the drawing room in a Pullman car, and accompanied by her sister, father and uncle. Immediately on arriving here the party were taken to one of the private rooms above the baggage room, where they could rest secure from the gaze of the curious ones who crowded about to get a glimpse of the girl who was the central figure in the recent trial for life. Most of the people on the train had learned that Miss LeBlanc was on board, though they had not been able to get a glimpse of her, and the majority of the passengers lingered near the train when they reached here, and finally were rewarded by getting a sight of the party.

Miss LeBlanc is a little wisp of a girl, apparently not more than seventeen or eighteen years of age, and rather attractive looking. She was gowned in a dark blue suit and black hat and wore a long black pony fur coat. She appeared very much composed on alighting from the train and smiled prettily as she thanked the conductor and porter for courtesies they had extended to her en route.

When a Times man introduced himself, she asked, "Are you from a Boston paper?" On being assured to the contrary, she remarked, "Oh, those Boston newspaper men, they wouldn't leave me alone for a minute. We had to go over to Marblehead and take the train from there in order to escape them. I don't know of anything that I can say except that I am very glad the trial is over and that the jury believed my story that I did not commit the crime of which I was accused. I am glad to be on my way home and I never felt happier than I do now."

"Have you any plans for the future," Miss LeBlanc was asked.

"I intend to stay home for a while, but I don't know yet what I shall do."

Miss LeBlanc talks with a pronounced French accent. She seemed anxious to avoid more publicity. One of the trainmen told the reporter that in talking with the girl she had said she would probably accept an offer of $500 a week for an engagement in the theatrical work.

It was also stated that Miss LeBlanc had a very large amount of personal baggage, made up largely of presents that were sent to her during her trial and after her acquittal. Among these gifts it was said there were thirty sweaters, articles of jewelry and a considerable amount of money.

After a wait of about an hour in the train shed here the party resumed their journey to Cape Breton on the Atlantic express.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS

London, Dec. 20—The returns from the three constituencies the polling of which yesterday brought to a close the general elections for the first parliament of King George, were announced today.

James Gilhooly, who, as an OBrienite long represented the West Division of Cork county, was one of the returned, adding one to the Independent Nationalists' total. Gilhooly defeated O. O'Leary, Nationalist.

In the South Division of Kilkenny county, M. Keating, Nationalist, was another re-elected.

Times' Special Cable

Yesterday's returns show:—Cork county west, O'Leary, 1965; Gilhooly, Ind. Nat., 2220.

Kilkenny, Keating, 2265; Murphy, Ind. Nat., 267.

WOULD WEAKEN POSITION OF THE UMPIRES

Ban Johnson Against Allowing Owners of Teams to Pass on Fitness of Men Who Hold Indicator

Chicago, Dec. 20—"When club owners of the baseball leagues decide to pass on the fitness or unfitness of the umpires it is time for a change. An owner would stultity himself were he to dictate how the umpires should be handled and I do not think there is a single owner, in the American league at least, who would cheapen himself by interfering in either picking or retaining the umpires. That function belongs to the head of the league, and if he is not able to handle such matters it is time for the owners to look for somebody else."

This is the comment of President B. Johnson of the American League regarding a suggestion made by the National League magnates that a majority of club owners could, by a vote, dismiss any of the indicator handlers on President Lynch's staff.

President Johnson continued:— "I believe, and I think the majority of fans are with me when I say, that baseball became much cleaner with the added authority of the umpires on the field and the fact that they were backed up in their decisions at all times."

THE LAST ONE OF GALLANT BAND

Sir Anthony Dickson, Who Won Victoria Cross at Lucknow Celebrates 84th Birthday

London, Dec. 20—The last surviving member of the gallant band of Lucknow V. C.'s Sir Anthony Dickson Home, K. C. B., celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday some days ago.

With ten comrades, all of whom are dead, Sir Anthony, in September, 1857, held a house in a Lucknow bazaar against 1,000 Sepoys for a day and night in defence of wounded men. The little band had been cut off from the march of Havelock's relief column into Lucknow Residency.

Sir Anthony was a surgeon then attached to the 90th Light Infantry, and was with the rear guard that could not force its way through to the Residency with the main body of Havelock's men on September 25.

The events of Sept. 26, which gained him the Victoria Cross, are still fresh in the memory of Sir Anthony. "With a guard of 150 men," he said, "I was sent forward to convey the wounded into the Residency. Sepoys were all around us on the housetops firing down, and when we reached a raised bazaar the native bearers of the palanquins in which the wounded were borne, dropped their burdens and fled.

"With four men to help me I dragged some of the wounded into a one-storey house, where other soldiers ran to join us. There were only ten effective men in the house, and outside I calculated 1,000 Sepoys. They massacred the wounded men, shooting and cutting them to pieces. We made a pile of dead to obstruct Sepoys who tried to rush the house and kept up a steady fire.

"During the night there were only seven of us left fit to fight. The terrors of the night were awful, for others of our wounded had fallen into the Sepoy's hands, and they were burnt to death within our sight. When daylight came we had given over hope. All at once, however, we heard the crack of Enfield rifles

"Sure enough, it was a relief force out from the Residency and we cheered like mad altogether. We had looked death in the face for a day and a night."

PANAMA CANAL TOLLS MAY BE $1 NET TON

President Taft Preparing Draft of Bill—Idea is to Get Income of $7,000,000

Washington, Dec. 20—President Taft is having prepared the draft of a bill to carry out his ideas as to collection of tolls on the Panama canal. The president believes that the tolls ought not to exceed $1 a net ton, with a view to obtaining a gross income of nearly $7,000,000.

Maintenance and operation cost are estimated at upwards of 23,000,000 and the president's view is that ultimately, with the normal increase in trade, the income will approximate the interest charges upon the $400,000,000 investment which the United States has made.

Brodie's Daughter Seeks Divorce

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 20—Helen Brodie Hayden, youngest daughter of the late "Steve" Brodie, the famous bridge jumper of New York, has begun suit for divorce against Walter B. Hayden, a Tacoma youth of good family, whom she charges with having squandered a fortune left her by her father and with present failure to support.

CHILD WAS ABLAZE FROM HEAD TO FEET

Eight Year Old Ethel O'Connor Showing Chrisimas Treasures to Baby Sister Fatally Burned In New York Home

New York, Dec. 20—Burns received when her dress caught fire as she was showing her "Christmas shopping" to her little sister, caused the death here of eight-year-old Ethel O'Connor, daughter of Judge K. O'Connor of the municipal court today.

Little Ethel's Christmas purchases consisted of several dolls and pieces of doll's clothes. They were hidden in a small trunk beneath her bed when early last evening she took her six-year-old sister, Josephine to inspect the treasure. It was dark in the room and Ethel struck a match as she stooped to pull the trunk out. Like a flash the sputtering flame caught her light white dress and as she ran screaming from the room the blaze spread from her head to her feet.

A terrified servant in the next room threw up a window and screamed for help. Her cries brought quick response from a passerby who beat out the flames with his coat but not until the girl had been severely burned. She was carried to a nearby hospital, where she died a few hours later.

ZIONISTS TO CONFER IN TORONTO

Hart Green Formerly of St. John, Expected Among Delegates—Large Questions to be Taken up at Convention

Toronto, Dec. 20—The eleventh annual convention of the Canadian Federation of Zionists will be held in this city on December 23, 24, 25 and 26. It is expected that there will be more than 100 delegates present representing the various Jewish societies from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is expected that this will be one of the most important conventions held, as the question of acquiring land in Palestine will be dealt with. It is also expected that the question of immigration policy of the government will be dealt with and perhaps a deputation appointed to interview the government respecting the administration of the law in respect of the entrance of foreigners who do not come direct from the country of their birth.

The convention proceedings will be opened by public service in the University Avenue Synagogue on Friday next, beginning at 5.30 p. m. Rabbi Abramovitz will deliver the sermon in English. Saturday morning service will be held at 10 o'clock at the McCaul street Synagogue. Rabbi Abramovitz will be the officiating rabbi and service will be also held in the Bond street Synagogue, at which Rabbi Nathan Gordon, professor of Oriental languages will be the officiating rabbi. The sermon will be in English.

Saturday night there will be a public meeting in the Lyric Hall which will open the convention. At this meeting Rabbi Kaplan of the McCaul street Synagogue, accompanied by the choir and orchestra, will sing the Jewish National Anthem. The school children of the Zionist Institute will also take part. A number of prominent delegates will speak in Yiddish and English.

Amongst the delegates present will be Clarence I De Sola, consul-general of Belgium, president of the Zionist Federation, Rabbi Nathan Gordon, Montreal; Rabbi Abramovitz, Montreal; Rabbi Kanahavitz of Winnipeg. A special car containing the delegates from Montreal and the east will arrive in Toronto on Sunday morning and be met by the local representation committee, and amongst the delegates there will be present representatives of the Mud Torrah Schools of Montreal, who will address the convention in the ancient Hebrew language.

It is also expected that other matters of importance to the Jews of Canada will be dealt with at the convention, amongst which will be the question of representation in the legislative assembly of the country, and also the making of representations to the government for the appointment of a Jewish senator, there being now over 100,000 Jews in Canada, having large interests in the country. Amongst the delegates expected to be present is Hart Green, the young Jewish member of the Winnipeg and Manitoba legislature.

BRIEF DESPATCHES

Fort De France, Martinique, Dec. 20—Charges of gross frauds in connection with yesterday's elections are made. During the night the office in which the ballot boxes had been locked, was entered and the boxes rifled. Deputy Lagresilliere and his friends have issued a call to arms.

New Orleans, Dec. 20—One woman was drowned and five men narrowly escaped death in the old basin canal here just after midnight, when an automobile in which Jessie Smith and five male companions were riding, plunged over the enbankment into twenty feet of water.

HAMPTON HAS FIRE; LOSS $2,000

Two Buildings Are Destroyed and a Third Suffers Damage

LATE LAST NIGHT

Andrew Armstrong Loses Barber Shop Outfit and Two Pool Tables are also Burned—Michael McGowan's Home Destroyed—An Explosion Was Heard

Hampton, N. B., Dec. 20— (Special)—Fire broke out between 11 and 12 o'clock last night in the barber shop and pool rooms of Andrew Armstrong in Main street, Hampton village. It entirely destroyed the building and contents, including two pool tables, two barbers chairs and full outfit with furniture and a quantity of tobacco and cigars. The fire extended to the story and half house and residence of Michael McGowan, next adjoining, which was also destroyed although most of the furniture was taken out though in a damaged condition. Another adjoining house was also badly scorched.

The fire was first seen by Allan Frost, the undertaker, who was up doctoring a sick horse. Seeing a reflection of fire he gave the alarm, and as he passed the barber shop saw that it was a mass of flames. The best efforts of the town firemen combined with those from the station department, who hastened over with their chemical engine were insufficient to save the premises, although they were able to prevent the fire spreading beyond the two properties referred to.

The cause of the fire is unknown, although an explosion was heard by neighbors, and it is supposed that it arose from an accumulation of gas being ignited from the stove in the shop.

The barber shop was owned by John L. Coleman, butcher, who held insurance for $200 in the Atlantic Mutual. He also owned one of the pool tables, valued at $90, which was uninsured. Andrew Armstrong's loss is very heavy for nothing was saved, and his insurance was only $1,300 in an office of which Mr. Baxter, of Norton, is agent. Mr. McGowan's loss is also heavy, as he had only $500 on his building with The Liverpool, London & Globe. The total loss is estimated at more than $2000.

FIGHTERS GO FREE

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 20—Sam Langford, Bob Armstrong, and Porky Flynn were discharged in the police court this morning with consent of the Rev. Geo. R. Lunn, D.D., reformer-preacher-editor, who swore out the warrants resulting in the raid on the American Athletic Club last night. Jake Carey, the promoter, alone was held on $500 bail for trial on Dec. 29.

HONOR BY EMPEROR TO AMBASSADOR'S WIFE

Washington, Dec. 20—Baroness Hengelmuller, wife of Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, has just been made the object of special attention by Emperor Francis Joseph, who has conferred upon her the title of Lady of the Palace, with the rank and privileges of the court. This is a coveted honor and one given by the emperor only on rare occasions.

The Baroness

Baroness Hengelmuller has resided in Washington longer than any other diplomatic hostess, Baron Hengelmuller having been appointed the diplomatic representative of his government here fifteen years ago. The baroness is a favorite at court in spite of her long residence in this country and returns each summer to spend a part of the year in her own home.

Baroness Hengelmuller now ranks other women of the diplomatic set, as her husband succeeded to the position of dean of the corps upon the retirement from this country of Baron Mayor des Planches, recently Italian ambassador.

WOLF LOOSE AMONG AUDIENCE; WOMEN AND POLICEMAN BITTEN

New York, Dec. 20—During the progress of melodrama in a theatre in Brooklyn last night, a wolf in a wire enclosure on the stage escaped and, jumping over the footlights and into the auditorium, attacked Mrs. Florence Baumgartner, and Miss Tessie Vernalter.

The brute leaped about, snapping and snarling. Policeman Cosgrave, with sturdy blows from his night stick, quelled the animal but not before he also had received a laceration of the hand. When the wolf had been caged again, the show proceeded.

THE TIMES' NEW REPORTER

HIRAM WAS PLEASED.

"Say," said Mr. Hiram Hornbeam to the Times' new reporter this morning, "I see they're talkin' about goin' back to the old ways in the market. This is the greatest town fer spasms I ever heard tell of. I cal'late it'll wake up some day an' turn the hose on. No, I aint sellin' Christmas trees. I aint in a hurry to git rich.

"I staid down las' night," pursued Hiram, "to go to that concert in the opery house. Wasn't it fine? It made me proud to see the people turn out like that on a sloppy night, to show they wanted Mr. Spencer to know he had friends—whether they was acquainted with 'eem er not. I've heard some singin', an' some readin', an' some playin' in my time, but you kin put it down fer me that I never got more solid enjoyment out of an' evenin' of that kind than I did las' night. You got some smart people in St. John. I was jist thinkin' as I sot there an' looked at that crowd—aint it better to be doin' some feller a good turn than to be all the time grabbin' fer yourself? Hey, what?"

The new reporter observed that Hiram had expressed the Christmas spirit with clearness and force.

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AN EXPLANATION.

The citizens were much surprised yesterday by the sudden change in the temperature. The mercury rose with almost startling rapidity. It was caused by the meeting of two aldermen, one of whom favors market reform and the other the old system and the old officials. The superheated atmosphere in their immediate vicinity quickly communicated its warmth to a large surrounding area. It was hotter than a furnace.