

VOICES OF THE NIGHT I

I heard a voice from Mansion fair,
 'Twas anguished with a weird despair—
 "Drink has its victims here."

From Villa, ornate, homelike, sweet,
 A cry with bitter grief replete—
 "Drink has its victims here."

From highest legislative hall
 I heard distinct a trumpet call—
 "Drink has its victims here."

From sacred desk and cloistered cell,
 A fiend-like cry, with laugh of hell—
 "Drink has its victims here."

And from the stately courts of law
 Justice, tho' blind, admits the flaw—
 "Drink has its victims here."

From colleges and schools the cry
 Falls harshly on the passer by—
 "Drink has its victims here."

From Hospital and Prison Cell
 The cry rings out like funeral knell—
 "Most are Drink's victims here."

From Tavern Bars the cry resounds
 These are Drink's favorite training grounds,
 "We drill its victims here."

What from the Licensed Grocers' Shops,
 Where Topers get their morning drops?
 A cry—"We nurse them here."

"Here children come with jug in hand,
 When round the corner, see them stand
 To taste what they get here."

'Sometimes they get a pint of Rye,
 'Tis entered sugar. What care I
 Can't be particular here.

'We're men of business, don't you see,
 Must be obliging, else Dear me!
 We lose them, that is clear.

'I pay my License, and I sell,'
 "But see the evils, friend"—"Ah, well,
 That don't belong to me."

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Hark, from the poor hard-worker's home
 A cry—"Come to my rescue, come,
 Strike now for victory."

ROBT. AWDE.

General News.

CANADIAN.

The terrible storm of Tuesday night has done great damage in many parts of the Dominion.

Henry Dutton, a carpenter, at St. Thomas, fell from a scaffolding of a building on Metcalf street, and broke his leg.

A number of Toronto retail druggists have been fined for contravention of the law requiring them to register their sales of liquor.

The Ontario government has appointed Dugald Brown, of St. Thomas, sheriff of Elgin county.

Mr. Wm. McKenzie, of Petrolia, has finished drilling the salt well at Parkhill. The well is 1,370 feet deep, and the drill penetrated over 150 feet of solid rock salt.

The balance to the credit of depositors in the Government savings banks in the Dominion is \$15,251,226.

The Nova Scotia Legislature was opened last Friday afternoon with the usual speech from the throne. The address in reply passed without division.

At Thorold, as a six-year-old son of Mr. Chas. Collier, was crossing the canal he broke through the ice and was drowned.

Walter Helms, one of the most respected citizens and merchants of Hagerville, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. Death must have been instantaneous, as he was found a short while afterwards life being extinct.

Mrs. McIntyre, of Cornwall, was seriously injured February 18th, by a mass of ice and snow which fell from a roof as she was passing, burying her up to the waist.

Thomas Maloney, 14 years old, son of the Grigg House porter, who resides in London South, was drowned in the Thames. A favorite dog had got into the river and was in danger of drowning, when the boy went to rescue the animal, broke through the ice, and lost his own life.

George Salter, a brakesman on the Grand Trunk railway, living in Montreal, fell between the cars of a westward bound freight train and had an arm and leg taken off and his head badly crushed at Mille Roche. His injuries will prove fatal. He is a married man with a family.

At Shakspeare, whilst a freight train going east was switching into a siding at that station, a freight train going west ran into three of the eastern-bound cars which had not cleared the main track. Four cattle were killed and a number mutilated.

A colored man walking on the railway track near Chatham, was struck by a passing train and killed.

A convention composed of representatives from the municipalities throughout the province met at Toronto on Friday, when a bill providing for the amendments to the municipal and assessment laws and for the abolition of exemptions, etc., was discussed. A committee consisting of Assessment Commissioners Maughan, Toronto; Pratt, Ottawa, and City Solicitor Agnew, of Kingston, was appointed to watch the bill through the House.

Mr. A. W. Lauder, M. P. P. for East Grey, died Wednesday, at his residence in Parkdale. He was taken ill on Monday week last on leaving his house to attend to Parliamentary duties. Physicians were called in next morning. On Tuesday, however, he took a turn for the worse and sank rapidly in spite of every assistance which his medical attendants could render. The deceased gentleman was highly esteemed by all classes of the community.

At London, on Monday a terrible explosion occurred in the wholesale hardware establishment of Hobbs, Osborne & Hobbs, Richmond street, near the Tecumseh House, which shook the business portion of the city for 300 yards around. The cause is assigned to the ignition of about twenty pounds of gunpowder which was kept in the fourth storey of the building for the purpose of filling small cans when required by customers in smaller quantities than a keg. The buildings adjoining—Robinson, Little & Co.'s and Burns & Lewis—were badly shattered, and across the street, the entire length of a block, every vestige of glass was smashed to pieces. The firemen were quickly on hand, but their efforts were apparently misdirected, and when they did get to work a length of hose burst and retarded their exertions. Three men were burned to death.

UNITED STATES.

Tuesday night's storm in the Eastern and Southern States did terrible damage. Houses were torn down, railroad trains overturned, a great amount of property destroyed and scores of lives lost.

During 1883 there was 2,369 fires in New York, involving a loss of \$3,512,000. The uninsured loss was \$136,000.

The strike at Fall River, Mass., thus far has cost the operators \$50,000. Four thousand hands are idle.

Scarlet fever is raging in Ware, Mass. In some parts of the town whole families of children are dangerously ill.

The will of Wendell Phillips leaves his entire property, valued at \$200,000 to \$250,000, unconditionally to his wife.

John T. Bethune, manager for Blind Tom, attempted to get on a moving train at Wilmington, Del., and was killed.

John Mason and John Riser, miners, were killed by a snow-slide near Pitkin, Col.

One of a crowd of mischievous boys at Bellefontaine, Ohio, threw a fire-brand into an oil tank on the Bee line railroad. The tank exploded, and six boys were seriously injured.

Lieut. Kimball, of the United States steamer Tennessee, says work on the Panama canal is being rapidly pushed. If it is continued at the present rate the canal can be opened in five or six years.