

THE HOTEL FIRE.

Milwaukee's Terrible Visitation.

Fearsful Scenery Enacted at the Hotel.

The following particulars regarding the great hotel fire at Milwaukee give some idea of the extent of that dreadful disaster:

J. Maxwell, on the third floor, finding his key would not turn in the door-lock, let himself down by means of bedclothes tied together to the roof of the inner court, clad only in his undershirt. The roof was partially glass through which there was danger of falling, and was also covered with snow. Another man was there utterly bewildered, with no clothing on except his drawers. These fell down to his feet. Maxwell then broke into the window of room and entered the hallway which was full of smoke and flames and stifling hot and escaped.

A detective says that the girls came down with a thud, and "we tried to catch each one, only to have the corners of the canvas pulled from our hands." At one time the alley was

A MASS OF GORE, and seven girls were piled there dead, while a number groaned in agony. Men could hear the cries of the dying as far as the corner of Fourth and Chestnut streets. A man crawled from window to window, down three stories and then gave out, fell, and was killed. His clothing was torn in shreds from falling and catching.

Miss Chellis, who perished on one of the upper stories, was within reach of the fire-escape, but was helpless from terror.

Jude, a laugh jumped from the fifth story into the canvas; both his legs were broken, and he was internally injured. He was visiting Allen Johnston, and was agent of the North Western National Insurance Company. He leaves a wife and four children. With a great effort he said to the bystanders:

"My poor wife and baby," and then died.

SEVEN LIVES SAVED BY AN OFFICER. An officer ascended the fire escape to the fourth story and a window, aroused a number of sleeping inmates and conveyed four women and three men down. He did not quit until his own life was in danger.

Milwaukee, Jan. 11.—It is not believed John Gilbert, the actor, whose body perished during the fire yesterday can recover from his injuries. His real name is John Deuninger. Charlie Kelsey (colored), who was burned to death, was Tom Thumb's valet.

AFTER THE TRAGEDY. Milwaukee, Jan. 11.—This morning a large gang of laborers resumed work hunting for the dead in the ruins of the Newhall House. The streets in the vicinity are packed with people. The greatest excitement prevails. The entire fire department are pulling down the walls. The police and firemen are confident that fifty are buried in the ruins, including a number not yet published. Crowds are arriving by every train. The hotels are filled with

TEARFUL ANXIOUS PEOPLE seeking friends or relatives supposed to be in the fire. All the injured are doing pretty well.

Business is all but suspended throughout the city, most of the inhabitants swarming about the ruins.

GREENED AND RECKLESSNESS. The feeling here is intense. The men whose greed and recklessness in part occasioned the calamity receive unlimited censure. The revenue from the rents amounted to \$10,000 a year, yet the management would not employ a night watchman. One man acted as part night porter and watchman, but had to attend two trains, and could not properly watch the building. There were only two fire escapes.

Three years ago repeated attempts at incendiaries, were made in the hotel. Six times in succession a person who was never prosecuted set the place on fire. There is no regular building inspector here. The hotel had no dividing of brick. It was a

MAJESTIC MATCH-BOX, worthy of an Eastern watering-place or frontier town.

The frantic fear with which nearly a dozen waiter girls flung themselves from the fifth story was the most dramatic feature of the disaster. There was one fire escape, but they were too terrified to think of it, and clothed only in scanty night-dress, they appeared at the windows. One leaped out, and whirling over and over, fell a

MASS OF MANGLED FLESH upon the stones. Others followed, and all were killed and shockingly mutilated. Some swung themselves out of the windows, only to drop instantly to the street, shockingly lacerated and crushed. At one time nine of these bleeding corpses, some blackened and shrivelled by the flames, all devoid of clothing, lay one upon another in various sickening shapes.

Six persons hanging from sills on the fifth story on the main street front lost their grip and were whirled down ward, one by one.

TOM THUMB AND HIS WIFE were rescued by an officer who took one under each arm. They were in their night clothes. Mrs. Thumb's husband was killed. The General began mourning the loss of his valuable diamonds and other jewellery. His wife reproved him and then began relieving the sufferers.

Police men who visited the hotel before the alarm was given detected no indications of fire, and think it is incendiary. ROBBERY OF THE DEAD. A thief tried to take jewelry from the finger and ears of Mrs. Gilbert, a victim of the fire. W. Wiley and W. Lewis, well-known railroad men, are missing, and are believed to be dead. Mrs. Gilbert, before a coroner, was Marie Lutton, and resided at Blo's Depot, Stenton Co., N. Y.

EVIDENCE OF INCENDIARISM. A gang of 12 men was working among the ruins found no evidence up to seven this evening. The fire is growing stronger than the work of an incendiary. A gentleman who occupied rooms in the hotel describes four attempts made within the past two years

to fire the building. The evidence of the watchman and those last about the premises on the fatal morning confirms the dreadful suspicion.

WHAT A WATCHMAN SAW.

Mr. McKenzie, night watchman of the hotel, states that he made his rounds the night of the fire as usual. The bar-room was open until 2 a. m. and Geo. Schiller, proprietor, was there three quarters of an hour after. About half past three the watchman took a man to the top floor by the elevator. The watchman looked around the halls, and got into the elevator to go down when he noticed a little smoke. He immediately started down to see where it came from. By the time he reached the office floor the smoke was so dense he could go no further in the elevator. Throwing open the door, he started for the stairs, shouting to the night clerk there was fire below. When he reached the bottom of the elevator shaft the smoke was stifling. He called to the engineer in the engine room to arouse the servants, and then rushed back to awake the people, for he knew there was no chance to stop the fire alone. By the time he reached the first floor above the office and rapped at Mr. Cramer's door the heat cracked the glass doors of the elevator; and in a moment the flames poured out. In the meantime he rushed into the bank building and aroused as many lodgers in that portion as he could. Afterwards he rendered what help he could saving people. He is positive the fire caught at the bottom of the elevator. There was nothing anywhere around the elevator that could burn so quickly. It might have caught in some of the shops in the basement that back up to the bottom of the elevator, but on the bottom floor of the hotel part there was nothing that could possibly burn that way or have been smoldering throughout the night.

FURTHER ESTIMATES. There were 110 guests and 67 employees in the building; 20 have so far been identified among the dead, 48 are missing and 67 known to be saved, leaving 42 unaccounted for, who are supposed to be in the ruins. The common council this afternoon engaged in a

DISGRACEFUL SQUABBLE over the expenses for the rescue of the dead, some members demanding that the work be stopped if the stockholders of the Newhall House Association are not willing to reimburse the city. The scene created indignation amounting to a riot. The alderman who opposed the work of humanity were Horace Chase, capitalist, one of the pioneers of Milwaukee; Peter Barthol, wholesale liquor; Homiey, contractor. The Council, after two hours' fighting, concluded to go on with the work of rescuing bodies, but made no appropriation for night-work.

Milwaukee, Jan. 13.—During the afternoon work on the Newhall House ruins eight little heaps of charred flesh and bones were found, supposed to represent so many bodies. This makes sixteen exhumed bodies. Lizzie Angland died this evening in jumping from a six story window. Thus far the identified dead number thirty-nine.

Taking the chief clerk's statement of 110 guests and 67 employees as correct, there must be 43 bodies yet in the ruins, 95 are known to be saved, 23 identified dead, 16 charred bodies beyond identification, making the total loss life as near as can be figured, 82.

The worst features of the fire will not be revealed until the excavation has proceeded 15 feet farther. It is predicted that the opening of the court in the centre will reveal a large number of bodies, as the inmates of the rooms there would be forced by the flames to jump from the windows.

The girls themselves say the first they knew of the fire was when Lineham, the engineer, ran up and yelled "wake up," "run out," "follow me, don't wait to dress." He says the halls swarmed full of maid, and he thought they were coming, consequently he made his way down only to find one behind him. It appears the rushing air, the moment that Lineham and one girl got through the separating doors, closed them with a bang and they never opened again. This also prevented the heat and smoke from entering their headquarters, so that those who did not escape met death full realization of what was open, and were half dead from suffocation.

Mary McCauley says she was awakened by the shouts and screams of others, and ran into the hall, which was full of girls rushing madly about, crying and screaming. She rushed to the end of the hall, passed through the door, and saw everything smoke and fire outside. She then ran back, passing a room where seven girls had taken refuge, and joined them, and they all knelt in prayer. One of the girls had a crucifix and a woman prayed out loud. Just as they had given up hope the window was crashed in, followed by the appearance of a fireman with a ladder.

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THE BUDGET SPEECH.

The Provincial Treasurer's Happy Exhibit.

The statement of the Ontario Treasurer is a most cheerful one. In bringing down the budget, Hon. S. C. Wood, delivered an able address, of which the following is a synopsis:

In rising to make his annual financial statement, he was received with loud applause. He recapitulated the receipts and expenditures of the past year, and announced that the surplus at the close of 1882 was \$4,825,566.87. (Applause.) It had been said that were it not for the receipts of the crown lands the Government would not be able to carry on the administration of provincial affairs. It was said that they were living upon the capital of the country. Mr. Wood admitted that large sums had been collected from this department, but held that they had been expended in necessary permanent improvements and enlargements. He compared the case of the government to that of a farmer who draws out his capital or sells his timber in order to erect a barn or make some other permanent improvement on his farm. But it ought further to be remembered that the cost of carrying on the crown land department should be deducted from the revenue of that department. During the past eleven years, however, the Government's receipts from that department exceeded the expenditure by \$2,221,941. The requirements of the country had advanced so much since the days of the Sandfield Government, that a comparison with the financial expenditures of the present day might with advantage be made. In 1872 there were no asylums for the blind, no Mercer reformatory, no asylum for idiots, no refuge for girls, no agricultural college, no normal schools, no bureau of industry, no insurance on public buildings, no board of health, no license grant, no inspections of division courts, no school of design. The sole representative now in the house of the ideas of that time was the hon. member for East Grey. Another source of increased expenditure was the agricultural commonwealth. Over the increased expenditure in connection with public institutions, he thought it would be admitted they had no control. He maintained that what the Government were doing now, in view of all the increased requirements, would compare favorably as regards expenditure with what was done ten or twelve years ago. In young and growing country like this, everything like uniformity of expenditure from year to year could not be looked for. He proposed, however, to compare the expenditure since 1879 with that of previous years. In 1873 the total expenditure was \$2,460,212; in 1878 it was \$2,408,532; in 1879 it was \$2,285,282; in 1880 it was \$2,433,663; and in 1881 it was \$2,286,314. He did not think these figures left anybody much to complain of. He went on to compare the cost of administration of government, of legislation, etc., during these years, with what he claimed to be favorable results, holding that the increase, whenever it occurred, was satisfactorily accounted for. It might be interesting, said Mr. Wood, to note how fast we were travelling in the direction of increased expenditure as compared with our neighbors. It would be unfair to choose Quebec for purposes of comparison; and New York and Pennsylvania he would also omit; but there might be a ground for a contrast being drawn between the states of Ohio and Michigan and the province of Ontario. Both of the former were agricultural states, possessing the same public institutions as Ontario. The total expenditure in Ohio in '71 was \$5,259,046, and in 1881 \$6,740,543, or an increase of 14 cents per head, making allowance for the increase of population. In Michigan in '71 the expenditure was \$1,274,364, in '81 it was \$2,302,569, an increase of 39 cents per head, also making allowance for population. In Ontario in 1871 the expenditure was \$1,816,866, and in '81 \$2,286,314, or an increase of 6 cents per head, making allowance for population. (Hear, hear.) Compare the expenditure of the province with that of the dominion government which was \$15,324,881 in '71 and \$25,502,841 in '82. Take the case of the township expenditures throughout the province. Their expenditure had increased from \$1,912,040 in '72 to \$3,878,915 in '80. That of town councils had increased from \$886,666 in '72 to \$1,740,094 in '80. He felt that the expenditure of this government compared favorably with that of the townships and town councils throughout the province. Referring to the government's expenditure towards the development of agricultural interests of the country, Mr. Wood stated that during the past year there had been produced 145,000,000 bushels of all kinds of grain valued at \$94,200,000. The government could not benefit agriculture by adding to the broad acres of the province, or regulate the price of the farmers' grain, but they might assist in bettering the quantity and quality of his products. Mr. Wood went on to specify the various expenditures of the government in this direction, characterizing the agricultural college as "the crowning act of the Morant administration." If any hon. member must lose his seat in any agricultural constituency, let him attack the agricultural college. He concluded by saying that no government in Canada or the United States had done so much to advance agriculture to encourage the tiller of the soil, to increase the value of his labor, or to place his occupation on a higher plane than the government of Ontario. (Applause.)

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