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India Rubber goods of every description.
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EIGHTH YEAR — TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 6, 1887. — PRICE ONE CENT

A HORROR IN A PLAY HOUSE

ONE HUNDRED LIVES LOST IN AN ENGLISH THEATRE FIRE.

What Happened During the Performance of "The Romany Rye" in the Theatre Royal, Exeter — Lamentable Scenes Around the Burning Building.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—A theatre at Exeter took fire this evening during a performance of "Romany Rye." The occupants of the pit, after an awful struggle, escaped, but many of them were greatly injured. There was only one exit from the gallery and the rush there was terrific. Scores were trodden under foot and suffocated. A fire escape was brought to a window and many inside were rescued. Sixty corpses have been removed. The injured survivors were sent to a hospital. The mortality is estimated at 100.

The structure burned was the Theatre Royal. It was built after the latest designs, and was elaborately fitted, being considered one of the prettiest in the kingdom. There was a full house to-night, and everything was all right until the end of the third act, at 10.30, when a drop scene fell, and in a moment the whole stage was a mass of fire.

A wild panic ensued. The occupants of the stage, pit and dress circle escaped after a dreadful crushing, many being badly bruised. The actors and actresses were in their dressing rooms when the fire began and all escaped.

The fire originated in the flies and spread rapidly, filling the theatre with a dense smoke. The occupants of the upper circle and gallery rushed to windows screaming frantically. Many jumped from the windows and were injured. Others were rescued with the aid of ladders. The fire blazed fiercely, lighting up the whole city. People were soon flocking to the scene in thousands enquiring for friends.

The scene inside the theatre, where the fire broke out, was an awful one. Some men impiored the audience to be cool, but it was impossible to stop the frantic rush.

The theatre lamps were brought into use in a few minutes, but the water had little effect on the flames. The actors and actresses were taken from the windows with the aid of ladders. They lost everything except what they were at the time.

Up to the present time—2 a.m.—130 bodies have been recovered, are almost unrecognizable. Thirty injured survivors have been taken to the hospitals. The fire burned through the night. Early search revealed bodies in the ashes and ruins. In many cases every shred of clothing was burned off and the bodies look black and raw.

There are various reports as to the origin of the fire. It is only certain that the flames broke out in the sceneshifters' department. Those who escaped say that the special exit was promptly opened.

THE CZAR AND THE EMPEROR.

It is Affirmed That They Will Not Meet at Berlin or Anywhere Else.

BERLIN, Sept. 5.—To-night's official press confirms the statement made on Saturday that there will be no meeting of the Czar and Emperor William.

The North German Gazette says: "The repeated statements that a meeting is about to take place at Stettin emanated from an Austrian and French source and are based upon pure conjecture. Nothing exists to justify the supposition that the Czar is coming to Stettin. It is idle guess on the part of newspapers to speak of a renewal of the friendship between Russia and Germany expiring this month, seeing that there is no such treaty in existence.

BULGARIA KNOWS RUSSIA.

Therefore She Will Not Permit any Interference With Her Affairs.

SOFIA, Sept. 5.—M. Stambuloff, the Prime Minister, in an interview regarding the proposal of Russia to move a joint Russo-Turkish Commission to visit Bulgaria and arrange her affairs, said: If Generals Emroth and Arten Effendi came as private persons they would be admitted into Bulgaria, but not otherwise. Bulgaria was alive to Russia's objects, and would repel any interference in her internal affairs by any power whatever. If Russia wished to send Gen. Emroth to Bulgaria as her diplomatic agent that would be different. Both he and Arten Effendi would be courteously received as duly accredited diplomats.

THE HAPSBURG KAISER SPEAKS.

Justice Commands Absolute Equality of Rights for all Religions.

VIENNA, Sept. 5.—Emperor Francis Joseph arrived at Neutra, Hungary, yesterday morning. He was enthusiastically received by the populace, who turned out en masse to welcome him. Many addresses were presented to the Emperor. One of them was from the Jewish inhabitants, and in accepting it the Emperor said: "Justice commands absolute equality of rights for all religions." In the evening the Emperor was entertained at a banquet by Archdukes Albrecht, Wilhelm and Joseph. The town was illuminated and the Emperor was serenaded.

THE BEHRING SEA SEIZURES.

The British Authorities in Communication With Washington.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—In the House of Commons this evening Sir Lewis Pelly, Liberal member for Greenwich, asked Secretary Stanley, representing the Foreign Office, said the Government had no information concerning the latest reported seizures of British vessels in Behring Straits, but they had received advices regarding seizures made by Canadian revenue cutters on Aug. 2, 12 and 17. The Government was in communication with the United States Government in reference to the matter.

The Neutralization of the Suez Canal.

PARIS, Sept. 5.—The Temps says that M. Waddington, French Ambassador at London, has delivered to Lord Salisbury France's reply to the latest British proposals regarding the neutralization of the Suez Canal. The reply amounts practically to the acceptance of an agreement with England. Only a few details remain to be settled. The entente includes an understanding relative to the New Hebrides.

The Body Came Ashore.

PORT COLBORNE, Sept. 5.—The body of Mrs. John Fares, the farmer's wife who rowed out in the lake from this place in a small boat last week, was washed ashore on Saturday at Point Abino, about nine miles below Port Colborne. The body was brought to Port Colborne for burial.

American Securities Strong.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—American securities continue strong under the impetus imparted to the stock market by the adjustment of Baltimore and Ohio affairs. Operators on the Stock Exchange were closing their bear accounts to-day.

A Successful Experiment.

PARIS, Sept. 5.—It is stated that the mobilization experiment has shown that all the reserves could be embodied in three days, that all the various regiments are ready to march, and that cartage has been requested for stores.

Abandoned at Sea.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The steamer State of Indiana, which arrived at Glasgow to-day from New York, brought the crew of the American ship Triumphant, from Liverpool for New York, which was abandoned at sea.

Ayoub Khan's Escape.

TEHERAN, Sept. 5.—Ayoub Khan, after his escape, proceeded toward Afghanistan. He was seen at Shah Rood, in the province of Khorassan, traveling in a southwesterly direction.

Committed for Trial.

CONE, Sept. 5.—Dr. Cross of this city, who is accused of poisoning his wife, has been committed for trial.

CHAT ACROSS THE CABLE.

Six cases of suspicious diarrhœal disease are reported in Rome.

The election for members of the Bulgarian Sobranje is fixed for Sept. 27.

Prince Ferdinand has forbidden Bulgarian officers to act as newspaper correspondents.

A German named Koch, who came direct from Frankfort, has been arrested at Gallipo as a spy.

Heavy rains have interfered with the movements of the French army at Toulouse, where the mobilization experiment is in progress.

It has been announced that the Queen will confer the order of knighthood upon Dr. Mackenzie for his services to the German Crown Prince.

An earthquake occurred at Zante yesterday, but did no damage. The inhabitants were panic-stricken, fearing a repetition of last winter's disaster.

Every trace of the Colorado beetle has been destroyed in Germany by the timely use of disinfectants and filling the fields where the pests appeared.

The Rome correspondent of The Paris Monde says that Mgr. Persico, in his report on his Irish mission, dwells upon the necessity for the interests of Ireland of a permanent agent of the Vatican at London.

EXPECTING 'RIAS AND BEN.

Discussing Commercial Union—Opinions of Leading Citizens—The Picnic.

BOWMANVILLE, Sept. 5.—This prosperous little town, the port of entry into Durham County, is in a flutter of excitement anent the commencement of the commercial union campaign. New ground will be broken to-morrow, and Bowmanville will forsake "the even tenor of its way," follow the example of other places and be treated alike to the jollities of a "picnic" and elaborately-prepared disquisitions on C. U. and (probably) annexation.

Though small in size, Bowmanville is an enterprising town, and its 4000 inhabitants take much interest in the topics of the day. Here are large works and well-paid artisans, Mechanics' Institute and Library, some dozen churches of various creeds, good educational establishments and a fair amount of commonsense. It is decidedly a go-ahead place, outstripping many older and more pretentious places, for fifty years ago there were but two or three houses here. Now there are spacious streets, extensive works, commodious stores and handsome villas. All these various interests will be represented at to-morrow's gathering, though the farmers will be the great majority.

The arrangements for the outing have been made by the local Farmers' Club, and in order to suit the convenience of as many agriculturists as possible the verge of the township of Darlington has been overstepped, and the rendezvous will be in Clarke Township. Flaming colored posters announce:

A Monster Farmers' Picnic will be held under the auspices of the West Durham Farmers' Institute, in Robert Colville's Grove, Lot 24, Con. 4, Clarke, on Tuesday, Sept. 6, beginning at 10 a.m. Erastus Wiman of New York and Hon. Benjamin Butterworth of Cincinnati will address the meeting on the subject of "Unrestricted Reciprocity with the United States." Wm. Smith, M.P., and John Dryden, M.P., of Brooklin, Dr. McLaughlin, M.P.P., of West Durham, H. J. Doyle of Owen Sound, Thomas Conant of Oshawa and Valentine Fallis of Hamilton, President of the Ontario Provincial Farmers' Institute, are expected to be present and address the meeting.

A Brass Band will be in attendance and supply plenty of good music.

Seats will be provided for the ladies, and hot and cold water in abundance for the convenience of picnickers.

All who are interested in their country's welfare are earnestly invited to attend.

By order of the committee.

Such is the program: A glorious grove, the charms of music, seats for the ladies, hot and cold water and a torrent of talk. The ladies will not be responsible for cut and dried resolutions, but such are expected and also that a vote will be taken. The result of this would not be uncertain if it were a party meeting, but already it is said the farmers have mooted the question and all but decided the knotty point. The Conservatives will hold back and allow the Grits their fat on the side of the States, alias "Unrestricted Reciprocity." Hope's proverbial flattering tale has always been told, but "we shall see what we shall see."

To obtain an index of the feeling of the manufacturers and merchants of the town The World interviewed more to-day than a dozen of them. The majority were against C.U., some in its favor more or less, and others held the opinion that the masses must be enlightened by the self-constituted apostles of the movement.

The Dominion Organ and Piano Company, limited, is the largest firm in Bowmanville, employing nearly 300 hands. Its business is very extensive in Canada, and it has branches in England, Germany, New Zealand and Australia. Mr. W. S. Russell, one of the partners, said: "I am in favor of commercial union, and I am also a National Policy man. I think it was had unrestricted reciprocity it would be a good thing for our trade.

"At present we are entirely shut out from the American market. The tariff is prohibitory. Canadian manufactures have certainly prospered during the last ten years owing to the policy of fostering the home manufactures and keeping out those of the United States. Now they are afraid of being swamped. I think their fears are groundless."

Mr. John Wesley, another partner in the same firm, was of the opposite opinion. He was afraid that on account of the large factories in the States they would be able to undersell the smaller Candian firms, and that the Americans would get the lion's share of the business. He did not approve of commercial union, which he thought would have the effect of closing up many Canadian businesses.

Mr. George Piggott, also of the Dominion Company, endorsed the views and sentiments of Mr. Russell.

The next largest firm in this town is the Super Canada Furniture Company, which finds employment for well nigh 200 hands. Mr. West, one of the partners, said: "I do not approve of commercial union. I think it would ultimately lead to annexation. A part from this, it could not fail to injure Canadian manufactures. The Americans would probably be able to undersell the Canadians. Even now, with a high tariff, American goods are so much real and other places to the detriment of the Canadian trade. The proposals might perhaps benefit the farmers, but not generally. I think it is more a political question than a commercial one, and it would pave the way for annexation. Canada would be at the mercy of the States. It would be unfair to Great Britain to discriminate in favor of America."

Another merchant thought that the farmers might be deceived as respects the promised higher price for their barley. He had no doubt that annexation was at the bottom of the movement. At all events, the United States in any arrangement with Canada would be sure to get the "long handle," the best of the bargain. It would be a dangerous experiment, and businesses which were now prosperous might be ruined. He thought C.U. would keep" for a long time yet.

McDougall & Metcalf, lumber and coal merchants, said that the manufacturers and some of the merchants in this district were against C.U. The farmers were mostly on the other side.

Mr. J. Lyle, miller, thought that the merchants and manufacturers would receive no benefit but the reverse from unrestricted reciprocity, though the farmers would probably benefit thereby.

Others spoke to a similar effect, opinions being very much divided in the same line of business.

THE LAST DAYS OF POWDERLY.

He Blames the Board for the Condition of the Order.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—A Philadelphia despatch says there has been a marked change of front in the attitude of General Master Workman Powderly toward the trades unions and the opponents of the present administration of the Knights of Labor since the recent elections of delegates to the Minneapolis convention, when anti-administration men were chosen by nearly all of the more powerful district assemblies throughout the country. It is said Powderly is trying to throw the blame for the condition of disorder on the members of the board, and has made overtures of peace to the prominent leaders of the opposition.

A STEAMER ASHORE.

The Chief Justice Waite Hard Aground on Ballast Island Reef.

TOLEDO, Sept. 5.—A special to The Bee late last night says: The excursion steamer Chief Justice Waite, running between Toledo and Put-in Bay, is hard aground on Ballast Island reef. A heavy sea is rolling outside, and, with the wind from the northeast, the steamer is in an ugly position. Two tugs were sent from here early this morning, and will make an effort to release the steamer. There is a large number of passengers on board, but no apprehensions are entertained for their safety.

Military Dictatorship at Honolulu.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 5.—Private advices from Honolulu state that there is much dissatisfaction among the better class of foreigners at Honolulu on account of the military dictatorship which has grown up since the revolution of June. This has extended to the press, newspapers being ever forbidden to publish court proceedings. Business continues dull, owing to a sense of insecurity and unrest. It is tacitly admitted that the new constitution is not a final settlement of the points at issue.

A Great Day for German America.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—Six thousand German warriors marched in procession through the principal streets to-day, then to the camp ground of the North American Kreigberbund. It was the fourth anniversary and grand "come together" of the German born American citizens who ever shouldered arms for the sake of fatherland, especially in 1870 and 1871. Representatives were present from all parts of the United States.

A Forger From Australia.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 5.—John H. Stairenghi was to-day arrested on the strength of a cablegram received from Victoria, Australia, for forgeries committed there aggregating $75,000. He has been staying in San Francisco since July 9 last under an assumed name. He will be returned to Australia as soon as extradition papers are received from Washington.

Politics Drove Him Mad.

GALESBURG, Ill., Sept. 5.—Dr. Lewis Sheldon, the mayor of Knoxville, has been adjudged insane. His insanity is of a violent type, hastened, it is thought, by election excitement. He will be taken to Jacksonville tomorrow.

THE MINISTERS' ABSENCE.

THEY HAVE NOT BEEN SUMMONED HOME IN HOT HASTE.

They Will all be Home at the Time Specified When They Took Their Departure—The Duties on Sugar—A Permanent Exhibition at the Experimental Farm.

OTTAWA, Sept. 5.—A number of Opposition papers are publishing a good deal of rubbish about absent Cabinet Ministers being "summoned home in hot haste" on account of the "unexpected" appointment of Mr. Chamberlain as Chief Commissioner for Great Britain on the Fisheries Commission. The Ministers now absent from the capital are Messrs. White, McLelan, Thompson, Bowell, Chapleau and Sir Charles Tupper. The first three mentioned when they left Ottawa expected to return between Sept. 10 and 15. They will probably be all here early next week, about the time anticipated when they went away. Mr. Bowell will most likely sail from England next week, which is about the time he expected to return, and Messrs. Chapleau and Tupper are not at all likely to come back here before the middle of October. That much for the "hot haste" in getting all the ministers here. They will return about the time they expected when they left, no sooner and no later. As for this "unexpected" part of the matter, the papers brought down last session showed that negotiations were going on in March for the appointment of a commission, so its appointment cannot be regarded as very "unexpected."

The Duty on Sugar.

The Globe and other papers which have been talking about the Government "increasing the duty on sugar," in order to keep out Scotch refined sugar, either don't know what they are talking about or are purposely misleading their readers. The Governor-in-Council can place on the free list sugars of any "class or description" under the Act, but the Government cannot change a higher amount of duty than is prescribed by that act. Parliament alone may increase duties in any way. So far as the manner of arriving at the value of those grades of sugar on which an ad valorem duty is charged, nothing is alleged to have been made, the "fair market value" being still the price taken.

A Reply to Hamilton's Request.

Sir Hector Langevin is understood to have intimated to the Hamilton deputation that he would recommend that the civic authorities be allowed to rent the old postoffice building for $1000 per annum for the time they desire to occupy it while the new city hall is being built.

A Permanent Exhibition.

The specimens of this year's Northwest products, which the Department of Agriculture is receiving almost daily, will go to form the nucleus of the permanent exhibition. It is proposed to erect a suitable building in connection with the Central Experimental Farm. When the new buildings are completed and the collection of products put in chronologic order, the farm will be an additional object of interest to visitors to the capital.

The Military Camps.

The military camp of instruction opened at Aldershot, N.S., to-day. After this had closed the 6th Battalion will go into camp in Cape Breton. Preparations will close the record for the current year. All the camps this year have been well attended, but a general complaint is made that the period of instruction is too short.

The Pacific Cable Scheme.

Mr. Sandford Fleming, who has just returned from England, left for Montreal to-day. Speaking about the subjects discussed at the Colonial conference, he said the Pacific cable scheme had made a deep impression on the Australian delegates, who, before the matter had been discussed in the conference, were unacquainted with its true object and apparent result. They arrive in the States they would be able to undersell the smaller Candian firms, and that the important bulk of such connecting line, and intent on doing what they could to promote its success. His company is now in correspondence with the Australian authorities, and has submitted a proposition for consideration.

More Fitted for Peace than War.

There appears to be great diversity of previous occupation amongst the 300 men who have enlisted in the three companies of infantry and troop of cavalry. Here is a list of their previous callings: Accountants 2, artists 1, bakers 4, blacksmiths 2, book-keepers 4, brass finisher 1, brickmaker 1, builders 2, butcher 1, carpenters 10, carters 2, caterer 1, chairmaker 1, chemists and druggists 4, clergymen 2, clerks 8, confectioner 1, stone cutters 4, designer 1, engineers 3, farmers 22, firemen 1, glass stainer 1, harness maker 1, hatter 1, interpreter 1, joiner 1, labourers 5, linen finisher 1, locomotive foreman 1, lumbermen 9, machinists 43, mattress maker 1, millers 3, molders 2, musicians 4, painters 2, pedler 1, photographer 1, plasterers 3, potters 3, printers 8, scale maker 1, servants 13, shoemakers 4, soldiers 6, spinners 2, steam fitter 1, students 3, surveyors 2, sailors 4, tinsmiths 2, watch maker 1, weaver 1, not specified 22; total 300.

THE FAIR WILL OPEN TO-DAY.

Putting on the Finishing Touches at Exhibition Park—Everything in Shipshape.

When a Worldling tripped out of Exhibition Park last evening he did so with an air of importance. The most important part of the incident, however, was what he had left behind him. The clang of 500 hammers had rung out through the immense buildings in the park all day long and all night as the September sun shone down on a fairer, more picturesque Parkdale than ever before. Everything had been completed for the grand opening at 2 o'clock this afternoon. While there was a great hurrying and bustle all over the grounds, it was done in the most systematic way that the reporter came to the conclusion that the men who were engaged in putting the finishing touches on everything understood their business.

Manager Hill had just time to say to the reporter that "Er-wod-be-er-grandest—exhisbin—in-world" in a 2.10 gait and skip off.

It Mr. Hill had spoken any slower he could not have told the truth any better.

The fair will be a grand one. And don't you forget it!

Preparing for the Illumination.

Yesterday the assistants of Pyrotechnist Paine stretched from pole to pole and lamp post to lamp post on King and Yonge streets the ropes on which the lamps for the five nights illumination will be hung. The first will be to-night.

The Governor General Due this Morning.

His Excellency the Governor General will arrive in the city by the Canadian Pacific Railway this morning. He will stay at the Queen's, open the Exhibition and unveil the Fort Rouille monument in the afternoon, and dine at Government House in the evening. To-morrow he will go east, as he is to give a ball at the Citadel, Quebec, on Thursday night.

A Farmer Burned to Death.

CENTREVILLE, Ont., Sept. 5.—Mr. Thomas Tait, a highly respected farmer in this vicinity, was burned to death this afternoon. He had started a bush fire which spread rapidly, and being alone, it is thought he was surrounded by the fire in trying to stop its spreading. He is one of the oldest residents in the Township of Camden.

Burglary at Flesherton.

FLESHERTON, Ont., Sept. 5.—The postoffice here was burglarized about 2 o'clock this morning. The amount taken is not known, probably three or four hundred dollars. The safe was blown open and the building partially wrecked.

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Items of Interest Received by Mail and Wire.

A bed of fine marble has been discovered near Tilsonburg.

Charles Clindehurst of Stanton, Va., is in custody at Brantford, charged with forgery committed in Virginia.

A detective is searching Montreal for a man named William Small who cleared from New York with several thousand dollars.

A company with a capital of $300,000 has just been formed in Montreal to re-open and operate the beet root sugar factory at Berthier, Quebec, which is expected to be in full operation by next summer.

A farmer at Upper Wakefield, Ottawa county, has discovered a rich iron mine on his farm. He recently paid $1000 for the property, for which a firm of New York capitalists have offered him $5,000.

A man named Lubbin was run over and instantly killed on the Great Western division of the Grand Trunk Railway at Stony Point by a mail train which left Windsor at 6 o'clock on Friday night.

At Mr. Jardine's hop yard at Saltfleet 122 Indians and squaws from the Grand River reservation have been engaged picking hops since Friday. Mr. Jardine will harvest about eight tons from eighteen acres, an unusual yield.

Rain on Saturday checked the bush fires in Loughborough township. Promises to comply, which had been made by the leaders of the fire kings, have been strictly adhered to, and Loughborough township is free from danger for several days on the north side of Loughborough Lake. The flames swept over a track one mile wide, destroying everything in their course.

On Thursday noon Wesley Urquhart, the 17-year-old son of Alex. Urquhart of Eldora, Ontario county, went to mind a bull to the back fields when in some way the brute attacked and killed him. No one witnessed the dreadful occurrence, and the lad was not missed until late at night, when his body was found shockingly mangled. The animal had never previously shown any vicious tendency.

THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.

A Practical Test Made—Everything Proves Satisfactory to the Spectators.

A test was made yesterday afternoon at the Lombard-street Station of the new fire alarm system which two weeks ago superseded the old manual apparatus introduced in Toronto in 1871. There were present Ald. Shaw, Chairman; Ald. Dodds, Frankland, and Swait of the Fire and Gas Committee, Ald. Boustead, Rogers, Steiner, Hill, Galley, Ritchie, St. Lezer, and Wickett; President Henderson and other members of the Board of Underwriters, President Ince of the Board of Trade, and a score or more of well known citizens. The test was conducted by Electrician Donald Gibson and was wholly satisfactory. Alarms were sent in from ten different boxes, in each instance being received clearly without delay.

The new system was decided upon a year ago, when the City Council voted $20,000 for the purpose. The Board of Underwriters was prominently active in securing the new system, which had then been introduced in several large cities. Gamewell & Co. of New York are the manufacturers of the system, which employs ten circuits, or six more than the one it displaces. The principal improvement claimed for the Gamewell patent is that it is more reliable, inasmuch that it is automatic and no confusion can arise by two or more boxes being pulled simultaneously. Only the alarm from the box first pulled is sounded and the others can only be given after the expiration of twenty seconds. The cost price was $17,000, but as there are some extras to be paid for in the shape of wire, etc., it is expected the whole amount voted by the Council will have to be expended. The apparatus consists of a ten circuit repeater, a large number of standard galvanometers, a large and elaborately worked table, ten electric gongs, with lightning arresters and indicators, and 120 signal boxes. The wire and apparatus formerly used is to be sold by auction next week. The apparatus, Chairman Shaw says, should bring a fair price, as it is not old or broken and is only disposed of as it can no longer be of use in connection with the Gamewell system.

In the conclusion of the test Ald. Shaw explained briefly how the new system had come to be adopted. Under the old plan a person in the fire-less case had to run to send out the alarms, and as the 115 signal boxes were supplied by different makers there was frequently confusion and delay in sounding the alarm. So unsatisfactory was the old system that the Board of Underwriters demanded the introduction of the Gamewell, and the City Council has expended $20,000 for the purpose. He believed Toronto had now the best and most reliable fire alarm system yet invented, and congratulated the citizens on the change. With a system that was all that could be desired, a fire brigade composed of eighty experienced men in the prime of life, and a chief with over thirty-five years' knowledge of the department, with thirteen stations, in each of which there was a hose reel, four hose and hook and ladder trucks, to which number another was soon to be added, at a cost of $5000, as the ladders on the trucks now in the department were not long enough for the purpose of reaching the top floors of the large buildings which are now being built, he felt that there need be no fear of any large conflagrations. Since Jan. 1 there had been 203 alarms of fire, causing a loss of $330,484, on which there was an insurance of $66,355. As the citizens of Toronto had taxed themselves to provide such an efficient fire department, he trusted the insurance companies would see their way clear to a reduction of their existing rates.

President Henderson of the Board of Underwriters was asked by The World if there was a probability of the fire rates being reduced through the introduction of the new system. "I hardly think so," he replied. "When the purchase of the system was being urged, some the Council we discussed the question of its effect on the rates to raise the rates 10 per cent. The system is, I believe, all that is claimed for it, but that will not warrant a reduction in the rates at present."

Prior to the test, Ald. Shaw, Dodds, Frankland and Swait visited the fire halls in Berkeley-street, Jarvis-street, Ross-avenue, Yorkville-avenue and Yonge-street, and made a minute inspection of these stations. At several of them the horses were hitched and the men of them the horses were hitched and the men gave an efficient and interesting exhibition of the manner in which they respond to an alarm.

Ald. Shaw can now congratulate himself on having took the chairmanship of the Fire and Gas Committee he has got the department into real metropolitan shape.

A MANIA FOR KIDNAPPING.

A Boston Woman When Drunk Can't Help Stealing Children.

BOSTON, Sept. 5.—A rare case of emotional kleptomania is exciting the scientists of this city. The culprit, patient or victim, whichever she deserves to be called, is Minnie Nelson, whose age is put down in the police records at 22. She is a Swedish woman, whose strange condition results entirely from excessive use of liquor. She was arrested recently for kidnapping the 3-year-old daughter of Mrs. Donovan of No. 409 Charles-street.

The singular part of her mania is that she never thinks of stealing a child unless she has been drinking. Her mother is perfectly safe in letting her children run around where Miss Nelson is without the slightest fear. Her such moments she could even be trusted in an insane asylum without an attendant being present. But when she is in her cups a close watch is necessary or every children, large or richly dressed, pretty or homely, tidy or soiled, all children are alike to her under these circumstances. The cause of this remarkable mania has puzzled the physicians, and she will doubtless be placed in custody soon and closely watched to see if it is possible to solve the mystery.

What a Game of Pitch-Penny Led to.

PUTNAM, Conn., Sept. 5.—On Sunday afternoon, while pitching pennies in the woods near North Grosvenordale, a boy of 17 named Anderson detected the other player, a Swede named Neilson, cheating. Hot words ensued, and finally Anderson struck Neilson, who knocked his opponent down and kicked him until he was unconscious. A doctor was sent for, but before he arrived Anderson died. Neilson has fled.

Arrested for Forgery.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 5.—Wm. H. Parker of the firm of Logan & Parker, painters, was to-day arrested and placed under $5000 bail to answer to a charge of having forged the names of various parties to seven processory notes which were deposited with and discounted by the National Bank of the Republic.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

A Wonderful Production of "Fantasma"—"The Waifs of New York."

The Grand Opera House opened to a regular season last night, the building was packed to the doors. It was a splendid first night audience. In presenting their great spectacle of "Fantasma," the Hanlon Brothers fully redeemed the pledge given the public that they would show them something in the spectacular line never before equaled in Toronto. Barring a misprint, the program consisted of a series of marvellous effects, always beautiful in color and delight, the 500 ramifications of the properties were beautiful in all respects and encountered no mishap.

"Fantasma," since its production in Toronto last season, has been carefully cut in many places, especially in the mechanical effects. It has been materially enlarged, every addition being in the direction of improvement. As a spectacle it is a success, a dramatic effort there is, in the language of Hon. John Henry Pope, "nothing to it." It is a continual round of pleasing figures, gorgeous costumes, "red fire," scenery, lively stage devils, imps, fairies, terns, science doves and a liberal display of the female form.

As such it pleased the great audience.

"Fantasma" will run all week, and there will be matinees on Wednesday afternoon and on Saturday.

The "Waifs of New York" at the Toronto.

A packed house witnessed the opening of N. S. Woods' engagement at the Toronto Opera House last night. "The Waifs of New York" is a name implies, full plenty of sensation and metropolitanism in it. And as interpreters of this now popular line of work Mr. Woods and his company succeeded in pleasing the large audience. The play runs all week, with matinees this afternoon, Wednesday afternoon and Saturday afternoon.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

The stove moulders' strike at St. Louis has collapsed.

The R. W. and O. depot building at Mannsville Station, N.Y., was burnt to the ground yesterday.

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It is stated that Admiral Luce will be released from the command of the North Atlantic squadron this week and be made president of the college at Newport.

Yesterday fire damaged the five-story tenement house, No. 322 West Fifteenth-street, New York, to the extent of from $6000 to $10,000. All the occupants escaped.

Mrs. Dunlap, living near Pittsburg, tried to start a fire in the stove with oil, and an explosion followed which set fire to her clothing. She and her six months' old baby were burned to death.

Philip Schembs, a baker, committed suicide yesterday morning while confined in the county jail at Louisville, Ky., by cutting his throat and she nails artery in his left arm with a tin bucket.

A freight and a gravel train on the Reading Railroad collided in Williamsport, Pa., yesterday, both engines and a large number of cars being badly wrecked; loss $20,000. Michael Joyce, a brakeman, was killed.

One hundred and fifty of the Veteran Firemen's Association have started from New York on a special train of palace cars for the Pacific Coast. They take with them the Seventh Regiment Band. There are fifty ladies in the party.

At Washington on Sunday Robert B. Morris, a white man, quarreled with Beverley Jones, a negro, and in the fight which ensued the latter lunged at Morris with a knife, the Turtle struck him in the eye, penetrated his brain and killed him.

IT'S BETTER TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE

Ald. Piper Has a Little Fun with His Committee Over the Admiral.

A breeze that at one time freshened into a gale blew through the City Hall corridors yesterday morning. It rose in the small committee room upstairs and Ald. Piper (chairman), Ingham, Frankland, Shaw and Dodds, comprising the Reception Committee, started it thusly:

The committee was called to consider the proposal to welcome Admiral Vignes and his party, now in the city, and also to arrange about helping the Exhibition directors to make the Governor-General feel at home when he is here to-day. The sky didn't indicate that a storm was coming because there had been no opposition expressed beforehand. But the wind it blew and the storm it stormed. Ald. Frankland, Dodds and Shaw were dead against receiving the French Admiral or bothering with the Governor-General, while the chairman and Ald. Ingham were anxious to do the reception act.

Ald. Frankland, ever a true Britisher, said that as no notice had been taken of the visit the other day of Lord Herschell and his lady, the Attorney-General of England, he did not believe in running after a French admiral. The reception business, he intimated, was being run to death and, another thing, he thought the committee should take no part in the Lansdowne reception because the Exhibition directors had thrown cold water on those of the committee who were associated with them, and he had resigned the chairmanship of the joint sub-committee. It was degrading to be on the Reception Committee nowadays. He advised Chairman Piper to receive the Admiral himself, as he did the babies from Guelph a few days ago.

Ald. Dodds pitched into Ald. Piper for making such a fuss over "a phalanx of children from an outlying town," which was nothing but a way of cheaply booming the "circus" at the expense of the rapers. He did not care if the affair was in the name of sweet charity. He was delighted when he heard that Ald. Piper was the only alderman present at the children's parade. Then as to Lord Lansdowne he thought he had been received enough by the City Council. If this thing of giving the people a Sunday school excursion to the city would expect to be "received." Then the people were taking no interest in the Queen's Jubilee and were hinting that their money was spent on cigars.

"Piper has paid for the cigars!" exclaimed the chairman as his fist came down with a bang. "If the City Council doesn't want Piper as chairman of this committee, why Piper's pet child, Ald. Dodds' motion, can't get rigged up for Dominion Day! Who's going to pay the fiddler?"

Ald. Shaw was in doubt as to whether the French Admiral wanted to be bothered with attentions.

Ald. Ingham was with the chairman, every trip and he endangered all he had said.

"Eye feel better after that speech!" queried Ald. Frankland.

"I say what I think," was the reply.

All this discussion was done good naturedly but it occupied an hour, at the end of which it was decided that Ald. Piper should pay civilities with the Admiral and that any reception alderman who wanted might join him. So His Naval Excellency will have a half dozen aldermen to call on him in the morning, who will escort him in a drive about town.

THE FIVE DAYS' FIGHT.

The Salvation Army Continues Its War on Badness and the Devil.

The Salvation Army continued its five days' fight against the devil and darkness last evening. Six hundred of them, among whom were sandwiched fife bands, marched through Queen, Yonge and King-streets, after which they returned to the Temple, which was crowded to the doors, the aisles being occupied by the musicians, and the stirring music of the bands the meeting was very lively.

Commissioner Coombes gave an address on "Consecration," which was a description of the progress of the army in Eastern Canada. Mr. Wm. Gooderham spoke of the growth of the cause in Western Ontario. Captain Changin, the French lassie, addressed the audience in French, her speech being communicated to the meeting by the chief interpreter.

At 10 o'clock the soldiers entered upon an all night of prayer.

A MANIA FOR KIDNAPPING.

A Boston Woman When Drunk Can't Help Stealing Children.

BOSTON, Sept. 5.—A rare case of emotional kleptomania is exciting the scientists of this city. The culprit, patient or victim, whichever she deserves to be called, is Minnie Nelson, whose age is put down in the police records at 22. She is a Swedish woman, whose strange condition results entirely from excessive use of liquor. She was arrested recently for kidnapping the 3-year-old daughter of Mrs. Donovan of No. 409 Charles-street.

The singular part of her mania is that she never thinks of stealing a child unless she has been drinking. Her mother is perfectly safe in letting her children run around where Miss Nelson is without the slightest fear. At such moments she could even be trusted in an insane asylum without an attendant being present. But when she is in her cups a close watch is necessary or every children, large or richly dressed, pretty or homely, tidy or soiled, all children are alike to her under these circumstances. The cause of this remarkable mania has puzzled the physicians, and she will doubtless be placed in custody soon and closely watched to see if it is possible to solve the mystery.

What a Game of Pitch-Penny Led to.

PUTNAM, Conn., Sept. 5.—On Sunday afternoon, while pitching pennies in the woods near North Grosvenordale, a boy of 17 named Anderson detected the other player, a Swede named Neilson, cheating. Hot words ensued, and finally Anderson struck Neilson, who knocked his opponent down and kicked him until he was unconscious. A doctor was sent for, but before he arrived Anderson died. Neilson has fled.

Arrested for Forgery.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 5.—Wm. H. Parker of the firm of Logan & Parker, painters, was to-day arrested and placed under $5000 bail to answer to a charge of having forged the names of various parties to seven processory notes which were deposited with and discounted by the National Bank of the Republic.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

A Wonderful Production of "Fantasma"—"The Waifs of New York."

The Grand Opera House opened to a regular season last night, the building was packed to the doors. It was a splendid first night audience. In presenting their great spectacle of "Fantasma," the Hanlon Brothers fully redeemed the pledge given the public that they would show them something in the spectacular line never before equaled in Toronto. Barring a misprint, the program consisted of a series of marvellous effects, always beautiful in color and delight, the 500 ramifications of the properties were beautiful in all respects and encountered no mishap.

"Fantasma," since its production in Toronto last season, has been carefully cut in many places, especially in the mechanical effects. It has been materially enlarged, every addition being in the direction of improvement. As a spectacle it is a success, a dramatic effort there is, in the language of Hon. John Henry Pope, "nothing to it." It is a continual round of pleasing figures, gorgeous costumes, "red fire," scenery, lively stage devils, imps, fairies, terns, science doves and a liberal display of the female form.

As such it pleased the great audience.

"Fantasma" will run all week, and there will be matinees on Wednesday afternoon and on Saturday.

The "Waifs of New York" at the Toronto.

A packed house witnessed the opening of N. S. Woods' engagement at the Toronto Opera House last night. "The Waifs of New York" is a name implies, full plenty of sensation and metropolitanism in it. And as interpreters of this now popular line of work Mr. Woods and his company succeeded in pleasing the large audience. The play runs all week, with matinees this afternoon, Wednesday afternoon and Saturday afternoon.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

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