

TRAGEDIES AND CASUALTIES

Mother and Two Children Burned to Death.

Manitoba Farmer Kills His Wife, Three Children and Himself.

Exeter Lady Killed While Crossing a Railway Track—Numerous Drownings.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Letellier, Man., Aug. 30.—Yesterday morning the house of J. Joubenville, two miles from here, caught fire. His wife and two children, aged 2 and 4 years, who were in the house at the time, were unable to get out, and were burned to death.

AWFUL TRAGEDY.

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 30.—News has been received here from Gilbert Plains, a short distance from Morris, to the effect that Frederick Johnston, farmer, shot and killed his wife and three children on Sunday at his home in Gilbert Plains. Johnston afterwards committed suicide. There were no witnesses to the crime. The Johnston family were well known and generally respected. Mrs. Johnston's relations with her family had always been most happy, and it is impossible to find a motive.

AN OLD LADY DECAPITATED.

Exeter, Ont., Aug. 30.—The most appalling accident that Exeter has ever known occurred yesterday about 11:45 a.m. The G. T. R. freight train was shunting a car on a short spur of the track that runs into the yard of the Hutchinson-Lime Company's scave and heading mill, when Mrs. William Phair, a lady between 50 and 60 years of age, while crossing the track fell in front of the train, which passed over her and crushed her head. The most frightful manner. Her son called to her not to cross the track, but she did not seem to hear him. The trainmen rang the bell and did all in their power to prevent the accident. Mrs. Phair leaves a husband and several children to mourn her untimely death.

BROKE THE SAME LEG TWICE.

Sarnia, Aug. 30.—On Monday afternoon a young son of Wm. Percival, teamster, was with his father, who was teaming gravel. With a full load on the wagon the boy climbed on the wheel just as the horses started. His foot slipped through the spokes and the revolving wheel broke the leg between the ankle and the knee. The unfortunate lad fell under the wheel, and it passed over the broken leg causing another fracture close to the thigh.

SUICIDE OF A PRISONER.

Sarnia, Ont., Aug. 28.—Mary Ann Carr, 25 years of age, dived to death from the deck of the steamer Darius Cole into the waters of Lake St. Clair Sunday morning while on her way from her home, Port Huron, to Detroit, in charge of Detective Judson C. Lombard. She was charged with stealing \$35. She gave her age as 23 years, and said her address was 2,612 Stone street, Port Huron. She claimed to be the wife of Robert Carr, and said she had a child living in Port Huron.

SHOT BY A SPARROW-HUNTER.

Simcoe, Aug. 30.—Leigh Curtiss, of this place, was accidentally shot while wheeling past a boy who was shooting at sparrows. Some of the shot which entered Curtiss' hip was extracted at the hospital.

CAR CHECKER KILLED.

Windsor, Ont., Aug. 29.—Arthur Collier, 23 years old, son of Martin Collier, of 13 London street east, met a horrible death yesterday morning at the Michigan Central Railway yards, where he was employed as a car checker. He had just secured a position with the company. He crossed the tracks to get a car number, and as he was returning stepped out of the road of a yard engine bound to the depot, but failed to notice the approach of a road engine that was backing in the other direction and ran him down. His left arm and leg were almost severed and the right foot was crushed to a jelly. There were deep gashes on his head and on other parts of his body. He was carried into a boarding house and expired in a few minutes. The shock to his mother has almost deprived her of reason. Young Collier was well known in Windsor and was popular.

LOST A FOOT.

Cremer, Ont., Aug. 30.—While cutting grain with a bind Monday night, Bert Royal, a boy about 14 years of age, and son of John Royal, residing just outside the town, got off the binder and went in front of it to remove a sheaf, when he was struck and his right foot was caught in the knives and so badly injured that it had to be amputated at the ankle.

TORONTO FATALITIES.

Toronto, Aug. 30.—Alexander McCoppin, a laborer, residing at 28 Wardell street, while at work on the extension of the J. D. King Co.'s factory, was struck on the head by a brick that had fallen three stories, and had his skull crushed.

DROWNINGS.

Smith's Falls, Ont., Aug. 30.—A sad drowning accident occurred here Annie Menagh, daughter of Robert Menagh, and Sophia Gallipeau, daughter of Chas. Gallipeau, two little girls, about 10 years of age, had gone in bathing in the Rideau with other girls, and getting beyond their depth were both drowned.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 30.—Eli Watkins, head sawyer for Smith & Hobbs, Dawson, was drowned at Sixty Mile through the tipping of a canoe.

Ottawa, Aug. 30.—Frank Donohue, 37 years of age, married, was drowned in the Ottawa River Monday. He went down to the river to wash, and while leaning over the water fell in. Donohue's home was in Ottawa East.

A river man named Rochon, of Gracefield, Que., was drowned in the Gatineau. With five others he attempted to shoot the Pagan Rapids in a boat. The craft upset and the others saved themselves by clinging to the boat.

Toronto, Aug. 30.—Wilbur White, aged 28, residing at 159 Dundas street, was drowned yesterday afternoon while at work on the city dredge in the eastern end of the harbor. White slipped and fell. His head struck the deck, and the body fell into the water some five feet deep, and did not rise again.

Bicyclists, young or old, should always carry a bottle of Pain-Killer in their saddle-bags. It cures cuts and wounds with wonderful quickness. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis', 25 and 50c.

ESTERHAZY'S HANDWRITING

Identified in the World-Famous Bordereau.

Experts Give Strong Testimony in Dreyfus Favor.

Tomorrow's Session to Start With Closed Doors for Fear That Military Matters May Become Public.

Rennes, Aug. 30.—At the opening in the Lycee this morning of the court-martial of Capt. Dreyfus, M. Paul Meyer, member of the institute and director of the School of Ancient Manuscripts, was the first witness called. He deposed in favor of Dreyfus. After hearing MM. Moliner and Giry, and M. Picot, a member of the institute, all of whom testified in favor of Dreyfus. Gen. Deloyes spoke against the prisoner on the artillery references. Then the court, on the application of the government commissary, Major Carriere, ordered that the opening of tomorrow's session be behind closed doors, for the purpose of discussing documents relating to the artillery.

Rennes, Aug. 30.—The evidence of MM. Meyer, Moliner and Giry, all of whom are handwriting experts of the first rank, was a strong point for Dreyfus. They were most emphatic in declaring the bordereau was written by Esterhazy, and created a better impression than M. Bertillon by not introducing the fantastic diagrams which the latter deemed necessary. The action of Gen. Mercier in asking to be allowed to reply to M. Moliner, and then getting up and confirming the professor's statement that Esterhazy changed his handwriting since 1884, puzzled the audience. That Esterhazy should have deemed it advisable to change his handwriting since the date of the bordereau appears, at first sight, to indicate that he wrote it, and that Mercier should support Prof. Moliner aroused discussion as to the general reasons for this unexplained interruption. There are some people who see in Mercier's unsolicited testimony yesterday in support of the honorable nature of M. Mathieu Dreyfus' visit to Col. Sandherr in 1894 in behalf of his brother, and the general's move today, an indication of some change of attitude, perhaps a prelude to candid avowal of his mistakes of 1894. On the other hand, many persons think Gen. Mercier, fearing that Saturday's exposure will discredit him altogether with the judges, has conceived the idea of giving way on certain points, which, moreover, are most incontestable, and thus, to some extent, reinstate himself by an affectation of impartiality.

M. Picot related an interesting conversation which he had with the Austro-Hungarian military attaché, Col. Schnieder, mention of whose name evoked a prompt protest from Major Carriere in the name of the government and state. Col. Schnieder, according to this witness admitted that Esterhazy acted as a spy and wrote the bordereau.

Gen. Deloyes repeated his testimony before the court of cassation, relating to the twelve short cannon hydro-pneumatic brake and the Robin shell. Dreyfus, in reply, made a really clear statement, explaining the position of the hydro-pneumatic brake once at Burges, once at the school of war, and that he never saw it used, because while on the general staff, he was never present at firing practice.

Major Carriere then made his application to have the court sit behind closed doors tomorrow, explaining that he desired to submit to the court certain documents prepared by the bordereau bureau, containing information which it was not desirable to discuss in public. The court, after deliberation, granted the application and also acceded to the request that the testimony of the witness Major Hartmann, of the artillery, be allowed to be present, as he would give important testimony showing Dreyfus could not have written the paragraphs in the bordereau concerning artillery.

BAD FOR BERTILLON.

M. Paul Meyer, member of the institute and director of ancient MSS., described his researches in connection with the Dreyfus case, which led to his conviction that the bordereau was not only in Esterhazy's handwriting, but was actually written by Esterhazy. The witness explained that in his evidence before the assizes court, he was unable to be so positive in regard to the writing because he had only seen a facsimile of the bordereau. But at the court of cassation he saw the original bordereau.

"I convinced myself," said M. Meyer, "by a magnifying glass that the bordereau was written in a free hand and without hesitation, whereas it is hesitation in the formation of the strokes which reveals the use of a method of tracing. I can affirm that it is in the writing and in the very hand of Esterhazy. That is perfectly clear to me."

At the conclusion of his testimony the witness gave a demonstration of the fallacy of the Bertillon system, showing a number of stitches by Dr. Nichol.

THE WORK OF ESTERHAZY.

Prof. Auguste Moliner, of the school of ancient manuscripts, gave a similar testimony. He said that each fresh examination of the bordereau only served to further convince him that it was the work of Esterhazy. Amid deep attention, the witness demonstrated how the conclusions of the experts who attributed the bordereau to Dreyfus were mutually destructive, and dwelt upon the defects of M. Bertillon's arguments, pointing out the striking resemblance of the alleged doctored handwriting with Esterhazy's writing, who, he added, in every body's opinion, had relations with Schwarzkoppen, the former German military attaché at Paris, and the dissimilarities between the writing of the bordereau and that of the prisoner.

The members of the court-martial were apparently much interested, and asked Prof. Moliner a number of questions, to which he replied, upholding his conclusion that Esterhazy was the writer of the bordereau.

MERCIER AGAIN.

Gen. Mercier requested to speak and called attention to the fact that in his testimony before the court of cassation Moliner said a change apparent in Esterhazy's handwriting was evident after 1894, and asked that the witness' former evidence be read. M. Labori, counsel for the defense, then jumped up and inquired if Gen. Mercier intervened with the object of verifying Prof. Moliner's evidence? Counsel added that it seemed Gen. Mercier intervened less in the character of a witness than as a representative of the government commissary. He therefore would be grateful to the gen-

eral if he would kindly explain the bearing of his remarks. Gen. Mercier replied that on this point he desired to confirm the testimony of Prof. Moliner, which, he said, corroborated M. Bertillon's testimony, that Esterhazy, the man of straw, changed his handwriting in order to replace Dreyfus. In conclusion, Gen. Mercier said: "Having impressed the point in reference to the change in Esterhazy's handwriting in 1897—perhaps before—I am satisfied." (Commotion.)

Prof. Giry, also of the school of ancient manuscripts, traversed ground similar to that covered by Prof. Moliner. He said the bordereau only had a superficial likeness to Dreyfus' handwriting, and asserted that it was certainly the work of Esterhazy. The witness also asserted the bordereau was not written with the aid of key-words.

LABORI ON HAND.

M. Labori asked if the witness had noticed the change in Esterhazy's orthography, and Prof. Giry replied that he had studied the question, but did not think there had been any marked change.

Counsel then asked whether Gen. Mercier had meant to insinuate that Esterhazy's handwriting had become more or less like that of Dreyfus since 1894, to which the general replied that he had not wished to express an opinion, but he reiterated that M. Bertillon had showed that Esterhazy's handwriting had become more like that of the bordereau.

Thereupon M. Labori retorted that in that case, Gen. Mercier should not have repeated the evidence of M. Giry before the court of cassation; as M. Grenier showed Esterhazy's calligraphy had become less like the writing, both of the bordereau and of Dreyfus.

BERTILLON WANTED TO TALK.

M. Bertillon at this juncture said he desired to speak, but the president of the court, M. Jouaust, hastily arose and said, amid laughter: "The sitting is suspended." Then M. Bertillon resumed himself in a state of high indignation.

WHO WAS 'THE FOREIGN AT-TACHE'?

Rennes, Aug. 30.—On the resumption of the sitting, M. Georges Picot, a member of the institute, was called. M. Demange, of counsel for prisoner, explained that M. Picot was summoned because in May last he had written a certain military attaché, during the course of which mention was made of the document inserted in the dossier by Gen. Mercier.

Col. Jouaust recommended the witness to be very cautious in his statements. After promising to exercise care, M. Picot started off by saying he had an interview with the Austro-Hungarian military attaché, and that the president of the court, M. Jouaust, to intervene, saying: "But you cannot continue like this."

Major Carriere, the government commissary, also exclaimed, sharply: "I protest against the name of the government and the state against the indiscretion committed by the witness." M. Picot then recommenced his testimony. He said he had an interview with a certain military attaché and that the conversation turned upon the Dreyfus case. The attaché attached surprise at the incorrect attitude of French officers in doubting the word of foreign officers.

"My impression," added the witness, "was that he was anxious to assert firmly and unequivocally the absolute innocence of Dreyfus." (Sensation.) "Regarding the orders," continued M. Picot, "the attaché said only three documents, enumerated, were referred to, the real fact being that the others were padded, and meant to swell the dossier."

The witness noticed that the attaché employed the expression "hydraulic brake" and never "pneumatic brake." In regard to Esterhazy, the attaché M. Picot said he considered him a swindler. The attaché also asserted that Esterhazy had relations with Col. Schwarzkoppen, who dismissed him because Esterhazy only brought military orders, and that it was then, continued Picot, that Esterhazy tried to enter the war office and almost succeeded, and it was then that he wrote to Col. Schwarzkoppen, the letter since known as the "Petit Bleu." But on reflection he decided to drop the matter, and the documents, enumerated, were referred to, the real fact being that the others were padded, and meant to swell the dossier.

After Dreyfus had replied to Gen. Deloyes, the court went into secret session to consider war office documents relating to the artillery, and adjourned for the day at 11:15 a.m.

SENSATIONAL REVELATIONS.

Paris, Aug. 30.—Major Tavernier, acting under the rogatory commission issued by Col. Jouaust, president of the court of the Dreyfus court-martial, questioned Col. Du Paty de Clam at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon (Tuesday), but did not continue the examination of him. According to the Matin, Col. Du Paty de Clam made sensational revelations.

JOTTINGS FROM NEAR-BY PLACES

GLANWORTH.

Glanworth, Aug. 30.—Charles Nichol, merchant, met with a serious accident while putting a large pane of glass in the show window. The glass fell from his position, striking him on his right arm, cutting an artery, and necessitating a number of stitches by Dr. Nichol.

The average price of the cheese factory product for July was 9.90c; pounds of milk to make a pound of cheese, 11.5c; 100 cubs, 11.5c.

James Wilcox has leased the farm of Charles Kerr, 100 acres, for three years, at \$200 per annum, including taxes and roadwork.

The gravel pit of Mr. Johnston caved in partially burying Richard Fisher and crushing his wagon. Mr. Fisher and the vehicle were subsequently extricated.

Norman Anderson and his bonnie bride, while out for a drive on Sunday night, collided with a buggy occupied by Dr. Nichol, and two ladies, when the top of the doctor's vehicle was badly damaged and necessitating a number of stitches by Dr. Nichol.

J. C. Coughlin shipped a car load of stockers for the Toronto market last week.

James McCoil is at his maternal home, suffering somewhat from malaria.

Dr. Samuel McCoil, of Bellevue, Mich.; Miss Mary McLearn, returned missionary from the Kiowa Indians; Mrs. J. Currie and Mrs. J. McDonald, of Ottawa, are guests of Elder Duncan McCoil.

BLYTH.

Alexander Ferguson, a railroad man of Chicago, leaves this week for home, accompanied by his wife and two children.

James Geary is about leasing his farm because of his poor health.

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tion. The rector, Rev. C. L. Mills, exchanged pulpits with Rev. G. Abey, of Brussels, who preached appropriate sermons. The church was tastefully decorated with dainty sheaves of grain, fruit, and a profusion of flowers, and a very beautiful appearance did it present, clad in the harvest garb which willing hands wove for her. The sermons were in front of the church called for particular notice. All present pronounced them the most tasteful and appropriate they had ever seen on similar occasions. The whole effect was grand, and reflected great credit on those who assisted in the decorations. In response to an appeal, the offertory was considerably over \$160, while at Belgrave it was close on \$30. The choir rendered appropriate hymns and anthems very acceptably.

ARKONA.

Arkona, Aug. 30.—Mrs. Joe Thorpe is still visiting her parents at Cape.

Mrs. Hugh Ross has returned home after spending some time with her mother in Port Huron.

Mr. Alexander Davidson is quite ill. Mr. Thomas Ticknor, of Parkhill, spent Monday here.

H. Baldwin is holidaying at present. Mr. Charles I. Lumby is home on a visit from Southern Dakota. He is at present in this vicinity calling on his many friends and renewing old acquaintances.

The Methodist Church will give their harvest home festival on Monday evening next. A good programme will be provided.

Rev. Mr. Willoughby, of Forest, will conduct the harvest home services in the Methodist Church next Sunday morning and evening.

Mrs. Hotelling, of Chesaming, who is visiting her parents here, is on the sick list.

H. J. Pettypiece called on Arkona friends on Friday last.

Among those taking advantage of the excursions to the North-west last week were Albert Brown, Thomas Dowden, and George Champion.

The evaporator is almost completed, and business will begin in a few days.

Miss E. M. Morgan has returned to Mount Clemens after spending a few weeks with friends in this vicinity.

The young ladies who have been camping at Valley Grove returned home on Thursday last.

A very pleasant and noteworthy affair occurred on Aug. 27 at the residence of the late C. M. Eastman, it being a birthday dinner given by Mr. Eastman's widow in honor of the 94th birthday of Mrs. Cooper, mother of Mr. Eastman. Mrs. Cooper at present enjoys excellent health, with good hearing and eyesight, and was well pleased with the arrangements on the occasion. She has outlived all her own children, but the bright and happy crowd of grandchildren and great-grandchildren present on this occasion tell in some degree of the love felt for this aged and worthy mother.

Rev. Richard Tyndall, of Ried City, called on old friends in town and vicinity last week.

VANNECK.

Vanneck, Aug. 28.—Dear Sir: I have a stock ranch in the township of Brooke, county of Lambton. It has been fearfully dry there this summer, and between the drought and grasshoppers there is not a vestige of anything green left, and to make matters worse, bush fires have been raging for the last three weeks, and getting worse. The fires run on cleared land as well as the bush. Several barns, with contents, and in one case two horses, were burned. The value of land wood suffered with the loss of thirty buildings a week ago, including three elevators, all the railroad buildings, cattle yard, etc. This fire is supposed to have started from the railroad engines. The bush fires have gone across my ranch twice, running on some 80 acres, burning all line fences, so that some 900 acres is now one field.

Of course, all the fence is not burned, but enough to allow stock to run all over. As there was nothing left for stock to live on, I have had to take all my stock—60 head—home. They are composed of all sizes, ages and sex. Just think of 60 head of cattle to keep on a grain farm for the next two months. I would make a sale of them at once, but every person has more stock now than they can feed, and would not buy more. I will, however, make a sale about the first part of October, and hope rain will fall before then, so things will not look so gloomy. Considering the chance they have had, the stock looks fairly well. I estimate my loss by having to take the stock home, losing 1,200 bushels of the summer in good pasture, at \$400. All the stock got their feet burned walking through the burning ground, for right in the fire they would be, as the smoke kept off the flies.

Some young men, called 'coon hunters,' operated successfully among my pears and apples, and were just beginning a raid on my bees, when they were disturbed, and ran off. They did the bees no harm.

The apple crop is somewhat scarce in certain sections, while other sections have plenty. I have as full a crop as I had three years ago—the year of the food, as I call it. I shall have 800 barrels, chiefly Spys, Baldwins, Greenings and Russets.

Wheat is turning out very poor here, yielding an average of not more than 12 bushels per acre. I had had enough to have returned 1,200 bushels, but have to be satisfied with 480; so you see, if we have not street car strikes in the country, we have dry weather, and had crop strikes, which are even worse, or you mean "walk" if you like, but over our strikes we farmers have no control. Yours truly,

A. C. ATTWOOD.

EAST WILLIAMS COUNCIL

The municipal council of East Williams met at Naim May 21. Members all present. Minutes of last meeting being disposed of the following accounts were passed: Neil McKillop, \$18, grant on C. R. of lot T. John McCormick, \$1, road work; W. C. Nickle, \$95, building abutment and approach to bridge; B. Lundy, work on grader and repairs, \$12 83; Wm. Singular, contract on Fraser's hill, \$150; Charles Post, repairs on scraper, 40 cents; J. N. Stewart, \$4, road work, etc.; A. Johnston, \$4, for plank, etc.; Albert Carr, \$4 35, statute labor, etc.; Geo. Johnston, \$15, repairing bridge; H. D. Ross, overseeing gravel pit, \$1; Wm. McKenzie, \$2, repairing culvert; B. Johnston, \$4, overseeing pile driver; Strathroy Dispatch, ballots, \$3; John Cameron, \$4, repairing bridge; A. Wilson, straightening Wilson's Creek, \$20; David, Harris, washout, \$1; Neil McKillop, 75c, overseeing; L. McLeish, \$5 32, two-third value of sheep killed by dogs. No person will be permitted to take gravel from McGugan's pit without the sanction of council. By-law No. 93, authorizing the reeve and treasurer to borrow \$500 to meet current expenses, was read three times and passed in open council. By-law No. 94, authorizing 2 6-10 mills on the dollar to be levied for county rate, and 2 5-10 mills for township expenditure, passed on the third reading. Next meeting on the third Monday of September at 10 a.m. D. A. Stewart, clerk.

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