

## FIRES.

The Northern Pacific Hospital and Old Colony Reception House, at Brainerd, Minnesota, were burned last week. The inmates were all saved, but some of the patients were in a dying state and all suffered terribly from exposure to the cold. A Presbyterian church and a public schoolhouse were burned down at the village of Durham, Nova Scotia, on Monday fortnight. A two-story schoolhouse worth five thousand, and insured three thousand dollars, was burned down in Pictou, Nova Scotia, last week. Many persons have been thrown out of employment by the burning of Walker's flax mills at Portadown, Ireland. Smith's American organ factory in Boston has been damaged to the extent of forty-five thousand dollars. Similar damage has happened to the Opera House at Defiance, Ohio. University Hall at Lelanon, Ohio, has been burned; loss thirty thousand dollars. A train running off the track at Winooski, Vermont, struck a car loaded with kerosene oil, and the oil catching fire and exploding set fire to a large wooden storehouse filled with wool and mill supplies, which was burned to the ground with its contents. The Central Vermont Railway had ten loaded freight cars burned, and the total loss by the fire is placed at two hundred thousand dollars. A hundred thousand dollars is stated as the loss by the gutting of Sweetzer's shoe factory at Lynn, Massachusetts. R. Shore's carriage factory, Ottawa, was burned just as it was ready for work after having been reconstructed. The business part of Forsythe, Georgia, had a severe scorching. The shoe-nail and tack factory of Clark & Dawes, Haverhill, Massachusetts, has been burned, entailing a loss of thirty-two thousand dollars. Peters' woollen factory and Fowler's cotton factory, idle at Hastings, Ontario, have been destroyed. The shoe factory of Martin, Clapp & French, Tapleyville, Massachusetts, and three cottages, are burned with a loss of one hundred thousand dollars. A fire in the Sforza Cesarini Palace, Rome, Italy, a few days ago inflicted a loss of thirty thousand dollars. On the twenty-ninth of January the piano factory of Behr Brothers & Co., Eleventh Avenue, New York, sustained fifty thousand dollars' damage by fire, and Hazleton Brothers' piano factory on University Place in the same city was destroyed, the loss being a hundred and fifteen thousand. A fire occurred in the Female College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, very early on the morning of the twenty-fifth of January. There were sixty ladies sleeping in the building, besides the President and his family and servants, but all escaped, some, however, not taking the risk of waiting to dress. The loss is estimated at ten thousand dollars, covered by insurance, besides individual losses of teachers and students, which must amount to a good deal. Happening so soon after the awful tragedy of the Newhall House burning, this fire created great alarm in the minds of citizens, but with the able assistance of firemen and police all the inmates of the college were rescued without injury beyond that caused by exposure to the cold.

## CRIME.

John M. Falconer, sixty-three years of age, one of the oldest etchers in America, has thrown away at once his moral reputation and a respectable sum coming to his heirs, by yielding to temptation. He has been twenty-two years treasurer of the Artists' Fund, an institution composed of well-known artists, which yields four thousand dollars to the heirs of every member after his death. Having become a defaulter

for something less than nine thousand dollars he resigned, and his interest in the Fund will go to meet his defalcation, but he will not be prosecuted. George R. Eager, Edwin W. Fowler and Abner J. Benyon have been indicted in Boston for misappropriating the funds of the ruined Pacific Bank of that city. Eager has been arrested, and Benyon, who was President, is said to be living near Montreal, and to claim that he was used as the instrument of others and can vindicate himself when the proper time comes. Two English immigrants some time ago arrived in Ottawa and claimed to be wealthy, but soon fell under suspicion of being burglars. They were blamed with "cracking" a safe and stealing merchandise in that city, and were traced up as the authors of burglaries in different towns of Ontario. A gang of forty men was organized and overtook the burglars in the woods. One of them showed fight with a revolver, but surrendered when a revolver and shot gun were pointed at him, and both were secured. A railway laborer was fined seven dollars and costs at Trenton, Ontario, for putting pepper on a stove in a car. An enquiry suggested by the confession of Charles Hooper, recently put in gaol for theft, resulted in the discovery of peculations of a hundred thousand dollars in the Gas Department of Philadelphia. The accounts are in confusion, and it is ascertained that the receiving clerks and auditors had a share in the stealings. Eneas McMaster, late agent of the Glasgow Canadian Land and Trust Company, at Scotstown in the Eastern Townships of Quebec, was arrested at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, recently upon a charge of embezzling fifteen thousand dollars. He had been a highly esteemed resident, and gave up his agency to go to Australia, it is said to inherit a fortune left by a brother. Case Cobb, a desperado in Kansas who had recently murdered a constable, on Saturday before last shot Sheriff Shennan, causing his death that evening, and the villain was held at a farm house until twenty-five armed men took and hung him. Mr. William Nesbitt, the farmer who was shot by a former hired man at his stable at Longue Pointe, near Montreal, on Friday fortnight, died exactly a week afterward of his wound. After death the pistol ball was found in the victim's right jawbone and a paper wad in the muscles of his cheek, the charge having crossed the throat near the principal veins. Mr. Nesbitt was thirty-three years of age and had been married three years. He was one of the worthiest men in the whole community, and his untimely death is generally deplored. Timothy Milloy, the murderer, is in custody and will be tried for murder in March next. A boy named Adams was struck on the head with a billiard cue by a companion named Hewitson, in Toronto, and lockjaw having set in the two lads are in a very grave position. A pensioner in Toronto turned out his wife, who died from exposure, and he afterward dosed a child to death with whiskey. The total amount of the deficit of Polk, the late Treasurer of Tennessee, is found to be eight thousand less than three hundred thousand dollars.

MEXICAN NEWS is now nearly all of fights between Indians and whites, and between robbers and soldiers, with some loss of life in both cases; but with the recollection of the false stories of Indian massacres in that country still fresh, all such intelligence from Mexico can only be given for what it is worth. The most startling rumor is that cavalry and infantry had to be hurried to Casa de Jenas, on the Chihuahua frontier, where the people were surrounded by thirteen hundred Apaches.

## THE WEEK.

THE STATE OF KANSAS has a law against railway monopolies, and the Legislature has resolved to use it in preventing a combination of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific Railways in that State.

A NEWFOUNDLAND DOG stole a lady's satchel from a railway station in Bangor, Maine, and after giving a score of men and boys a lively chase for it all over town returned and laid the article uninjured at its owner's feet.

DR. WILLIAM GOWLEIN SCHAUFFLER died in New York lately, aged eighty-five. He was well known as a missionary, was master of nineteen languages and could preach extemporaneously in six.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE has gone to Bermuda and the Marquis of Lorne returned to Ottawa. He was well received in Washington, where both the President and General Sherman gave dinners in his honor.

AN AMERICAN and an English lad were treated badly on a Chilean gunboat, and the consuls of the two countries interposed and procured their discharge. They had been whipped on the bare backs with tarred ropes.

THERE IS A MOVEMENT of considerable strength in Chicago to have bar-room licenses raised to five hundred dollars a year, which, it is calculated, would cut off half the present number and improve the character of the remainder.

THE TORONTO SOCIETY for the Prevention of Intemperance will petition the City Council to limit tavern licenses to a hundred and fifty and shop to fifty, and to require all taverns to have not less than eight bedrooms instead of four as now.

PETER MARVIN, an animal trainer in a circus wintering at Philadelphia, came too near a lion cage a few days ago, when a lioness seized his arm and tore the flesh from it, and then broke out of the cage. The men outside were afraid to go to his assistance, but Marvin with an iron bar drove the infuriated brute back into her cage.

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE, of Nova Scotia, has within the last few years received several munificent gifts from Mr. George Munro, a leading publisher of New York who is a native of the above province, and the latest is the endowment of three new tutorships—Latin, Greek and Mathematics—at one thousand dollars a year each.

THE GOVERNMENT of Tennessee are determined to resist paying the debt of that State. A settlement was not long ago made with creditors at sixty cents on the dollar and six percent interest, but the legislature passed a bill, that has been signed by the Governor, repealing the arrangement. Constitutional government must eventually become an impossibility under a policy marked with such rascally treatment of public creditors.

MR. SARGENT, the American Minister to Germany, writes home that, although the people of that empire are strongly opposed to the exclusion of American pork, the decree to that end will be issued. The cause is not a belief that hogs in the United States are more subject to disease than anywhere else, but simply the selfish object of protecting the hog-raisers at the expense of the hog-eaters of Germany. In other words, it is one protection country's tribute to the wisdom of another one in carrying out a similar policy against the products of the world.

A SCHOONER has been lost at the mouth of Fly River, New Guinea, and the crew of seventeen killed by savages, who cut off their heads and distributed them among the villages. The search schooner "Pearl" was repeatedly attacked by the natives, and she burned their villages and destroyed their canoes.

THE OLD SUPERSTITION that gave healing powers to the seventh son of a seventh son has brought a spike-maker named Andrew Coran, of Troy, New York, into a sudden glare of fame. His house has become so thronged with all kinds of suffering humanity seeking restoration at his hands that he has had to give up his mechanical employment to practise his supposed gift of healing. Coran has a disciple in Charles Brody, a professional base-ball player of Lansingburgh, New York, who claims a similar accident of birth as his credential, and who purposes attacking the physical misery of the race after a course under the Troy teacher.

A UNION of the five republics of Central America is being discussed and warmly supported in each of them—namely, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and San Salvador. They were united in the year 1823, previous to which they constituted Spanish colonies, but the federation broke up in 1839. Later unions were formed but none of them lasted, and a convention that assembled in 1872 to promote a union was unsuccessful. Although the project is now revived, it is believed it cannot be carried out peacefully until better communication is established between the several countries. The new year was celebrated at Panama with bull fighting, in which two men were killed and seven dangerously wounded.

THE STEALING OF CORPSES from rural cemeteries surrounding Montreal has been very common lately, and it was naturally supposed was practised for the supplying of the medical colleges with subjects for dissection. Two students were at length caught in the act of grave robbery, and were taken to Montreal to be tried. On the day of the trial from one to two hundred students mustered at the grounds of one of the colleges and marched through the streets to the court house to show their sympathy with their mates in trouble. They sang English and French patriotic songs and many of them bore human bones in their hands. The trial was only a preliminary investigation before the police magistrate, to ascertain whether there were sufficient grounds to commit the prisoners for trial before a higher tribunal. Some disturbance of the decorum usual to the court room was unavoidably caused by so many entering at once, and the magistrate ordered the room to be cleared of spectators. There were some murmurs at this order on the part of the students, who considered the occasion was a public one at which they had a right to be present. A reluctance to depart was followed by the police enforcing the order, in some cases it is said rather rudely, and the result was a noisy but harmless disturbance outside between the police and the students, the latter shortly retreating with a loss of some prisoners from among those who carried bones. These were, however, released the next day upon the general body of students making peace with the authorities. An amusing fact in connection with the demonstration was that several correspondents of outside newspapers, who saw the students marching and singing, described the occurrence as an agreeable part of the Carnival of Winter Sports that they were in the city to report.

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