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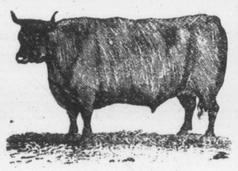

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FAMOUS HOTEL BURNED

The Building Where Jeff. Davis and His Associates Met Laid in Ruins.

ONE VICTIM TO THE DISASTER

John Riley, a Banker, Falls From the Fourth Storey to the Pavement Beneath—Another Man's Fearful Jump—Three Hotel Employes Missing.

NEW ORLEANS, April 30.—The imposing front of the St. Charles hotel, with its spacious portices surmounted by a dome of majestic dimensions and classic architecture in the centre of the block, is all that is left standing of the most famous hostelry in the United States; within whose walls Jefferson Davis, Judah P. Benjamin and the other leading figures of the Confederacy formed the first plans for the establishment of a new republic before they started for Richmond; where no less than six congressional committees have sat trying to solve what became known as the Louisiana question after the war, and where Presidents, Kings and notabilities from every nation on the face of the globe who have visited New Orleans have been sheltered.

The fire, which raged within its walls all Saturday night, started in the kitchen. The flames ate their way along the woodwork with amazing rapidity, and, owing to the inability of the firemen to get at them, it soon became manifest that their efforts would prove futile. The hundred or more guests had about all retired, and though many had been awakened the night clerk sent messengers to every room occupied, and thus there was no possibility of any of them having been cut off from escape, as the flames did not reach the main portion of the structure for fully half an hour after the fire was discovered. Panic seized them, however, and they rushed about frantically, most of them in their night clothes, and although there was ample opportunity to get down the broad stairway it took the efforts of the cooler heads to prevent the most impetuous from throwing themselves from the second, third and fourth storey windows. The only man who did jump from a window was an unknown man, who dropped from a third-storey window to a shed, but was not injured, as he got up and walked of.

John Riley, a banker, occupied a room on the fourth story of the rear portion of the building. A spiral stairway led from this part of the building to the court below. Riley gained the stairway after passing through the flames which swept past his floor, but tumbled and fell. He caught hold of some broken bannisters at the third storey after he had rolled partly off the stairway. He attempted to pull himself up but was unable to do so, and fell with a crash upon the stone pavements beneath. He lived scarcely a minute.

Three employes of the hotel are missing. The hotel register was saved, and all the guests are accounted for.

The total loss on the fire will reach half a million dollars and may go over that amount.

NEW NIAGARA BRIDGE.

A New York Delegation Goes to Washington in Connection With This Scheme.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—A delegation of New Yorkers were at the Capital on Saturday hoping to be accorded a hearing by the House commerce committee in support of the Lockwood bill to construct a bridge over the Niagara river at Grand Island to Fort Erie, Ont. They were introduced to the committee by Representative Daniels of Buffalo, and a brief informal talk followed for a few minutes. The committee could not hear them, however, owing to previous engagements, and next Friday has been set aside as the day upon which they should come before the committee and be heard at length.

SUICIDE AT THE FALLS.

A Buffalo Woman Ends Her Life in the American Rapids.

NIAGARA Falls, Ont., April 28.—Mrs. Mary Finnigan, of Buffalo, 50 years of age, committed suicide here by jumping into the American rapids from Willow Island about a mile from the falls. Her body was carried down to a point near the Cataract house, where, by a peculiar turn, it swung into an eddy and a portion of her dress caught firmly on to some bolts that projected from a submerged cribbing about twenty-five feet from the shore.

Jack McCloy, the guide, made a most daring journey with a rope around his waist and reached the woman, but she was dead.

Springhill Coal Strike Over.

HALIFAX, April 30.—The Springhill strike is over. A committee from the Miners' Association and the managers met in conference on Saturday. The men submitted their grievances and after full discussion a modus vivendi was arrived at and work was resumed at all shops this morning. The men are largely gainers by the strike as most of their demands were conceded in part or in whole.

Incendiarism in Rat Portage.

RAT PORTAGE, April 30.—Lumber lying in the yard of the Western lumber mill, belonging to the Ontario & Western Lumber Company, caught fire on Saturday and none of the lumber can be saved. The yard contained ten million feet of lumber and this all went up in smoke. The damage amounts to $200,000. The fire is beyond doubt the work of an incendiary. The lumber is well insured. The surrounding buildings were saved.

Strike in St. John, N. B.

ST. JOHN, N. B., April 30.—There are forty eight men out on strike in Miller & Woodman's shingle mill, for an increase from $1.74 to $2 per day. Woodman says that owing to the state of the market in the United States he cannot give an increase and will keep the mill closed. Manager Parks posted a notice in the Courtney Bay cotton mills to the effect that the mill will be ready to start on May 7 if the employes are willing to resume work at reduced rates.

Nine Toronto Men in Jail in Buffalo.

BUFFALO, N.Y., April 30.—William Dingman, alias "Dink," of Toronto, and eight others are under arrest charged with burglary and larceny. The gang made a business of breaking into railroad cars on the Lake Shore, Erie, and Western, New York and Pennsylvania and other roads and reaped a plentiful harvest for a time. Dingman confessed.

Mitchell Men Killed in Dunkirk.

DUNKIRK, N.Y., April 30.—William Cathey, of Mitchell, Ont., fell from the roof of a freight locomotive, works yesterday and was instantly killed.

Cargoes for English Ports.

TOLEDO, Ohio, April 30.—Eight Canadian vessels are being loaded here with corn for direct shipment to Europe. The fleet will return for another cargo immediately, and in all about 3,000,000 bushels of corn will be shipped abroad this season during the spring. In the early summer it is expected that about 5,000,000 bushels of wheat will be taken to Europe in the same way.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

TORONTO, April 24.—Sir Oliver Mowat introduced a bill in the Legislature yesterday to make further provisions respecting mortgages in real estate. Hon. Mr. Hardy introduced a bill to amend the Act protecting public interests in rivers, streams and creeks.

These bills were read a third time: To consolidate certain debts of the town of Barrie—Mr. Paton. Respecting the town of Peterboro'—Mr. Stratton. To amend the General Road Company Act—Mr. Wood (Brant). To extend the operation of the Woodman's Lien for Wages Act—Mr. Sharpe. To incorporate the Hamilton Radial Electric Railway Company—Mr. Awrey.

Mr. Conmee moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Separate School Act by providing for the optional use of the ballot at Separate School trustee elections.

TORONTO, April 25.—The morning sitting of the Legislature commenced at 11 o'clock when the Hon. Mr. Fraser rose to resume the debate on Mr. Conmee's bill, making the ballot in separate school elections optional.

The House divided and the motion for the second reading of the bill was carried by 52 to 30. Mr. McNaughton voted for the bill.

After recess Mr. McCallum moved the second reading of his bill to make the ballot in Public and Separate school elections compulsory. He supported it with a brief speech.

The House divided and the motion for a second reading was rejected by 53 votes to 28. Mr. White voted against the bill.

TORONTO, April 26.—The Attorney-General has introduced a bill in the Legislature to place beyond doubt the right of timber license holders sitting in the House.

Mr. O'Connor's bill, to remove doubts as to the assessment of gas pipes and the wires of companies upon the public streets, was considered in committee.

Mr. Meredith moved that the committee now rise. Sir Oliver Mowat agreed with the leader of the Opposition and supported his motion.

The vote was taken and resulted in the defeat of the motion.

Mr. Meredith moved the six months' hoist, which was defeated upon a division of 46 to 33.

Hon. Mr. Gibson moved the House into committee on a bill to amend the Ontario Game Protection Act. The third section permitting the exportation of two deer from the province was struck out.

The bill was reported with amendments.

After recess, on motion to go into Committee of Supply, Mr. White (Essex) moved the following amendment:

"That it is essential to a non-partizan management of the educational affairs of the province that the department should not be under the control of a political head, and that the office of Minister of Education should be abolished."

The House divided, and the motion was rejected by 46 to 27. Mr. McCallum voted with the Opposition and Mr. McNaughton supported the Government.

TORONTO, April 27.—Mr. Tait's bill regarding the Toronto Street Railway Company was sent back to Committee of the Whole House to enable further amendments to be made to it.

Hon. Mr. Gibson moved the third reading of the bill to punish persons guilty of personation at elections.

Mr. Meredith moved in amendment that the bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole to strike out the provision in section 10 and 11 for the payment of $4 to County Crown Attorneys for supplying returning officers with forms.

The House divided and the motion was defeated by 48 votes to 28. Mr. McNaughton voted with the Government.

The bill was read a third time.

On the motion for the third reading of Hon. Mr. Gibson's bill to amend the Division Courts Act, Mr. White (Essex) moved an amendment to the effect that a Division Court judge should not exercise any greater powers of imprisonment than was exercised in similar cases in the higher courts in regard to debtors.

The amendment was declared, lost on division, and the bill was read a third time.

These bills were then read a third time: Respecting writs of execution—Mr. Garrow. In respect to the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park.—The Attorney-General. To amend the Street Railway Act—Mr. Balfour. Respecting witness fees—Mr. Whitney. To amend the Game Protection Act, 1893—Mr. Gibson (Hamilton). To amend the Agricultural and Arts Act—Mr. Awrey.

Sir Oliver Mowat's bill to amend the Division Courts Act was read a third time.

TORONTO, April 28.—Mr. Joseph Tait moved the House into committee yesterday on the bill respecting the Toronto Street Railway Company with regard to the running of Sunday cars.

Hon. Mr. Gibson favored the adoption of Mr. Meredith's suggestion to make the lists as correct as possible and moved an amendment providing that there might be a new registration of manhood franchise voters prior to the taking of the vote, the expense to be borne by the parties concerned. The amendment was agreed to and the bill was reported.

Hon. Mr. Ross moved the House in committee on the bill to provide for the registration of manhood franchise voters.

The bill created a good deal of discussion lasting through the afternoon and until the House adjourned.

Mr. Meredith moved an amendment to the bill, the effect of which was to make the present list which has been prepared and framed in the presence of both parties, prima facie evidence of the right of the voter to be registered. If it transpired that those parties were not qualified to vote, the names might be stricken off.

The amendment was lost by 32 to 20.

Mr. Meredith moved, as an amendment to the first clause of the bill, that where it was shown to the satisfaction of the registrar that a person claiming to be registered under the provisions of the Act was prevented by illness, absence from the city, or other sufficient cause from appearing in person to be registered, his personal attendance might be dispensed with, and on proof of the other necessary qualifications entitling him to be registered, he should be registered.

The chairman of the committee, Mr. Stratton, ruled the amendment out of order.

The Speaker ruled otherwise, and the amendment was put, being defeated by 41 to 30.

The committee reported progress and the House adjourned until Monday afternoon.

Boy Drowned at Barrie.

BARRIE, Ont., April 30.—Russel Nogar, nine years old, son of Wm. Nogar of Mount Jewett, Pa., was drowned here on Saturday. He was playing with some other children on the Esplanade, when he fell into the lake.

Nellie La Fontaine Disappears.

TORONTO, April 28.—For over a month officers have been searching for the girl Nellie La Fontaine, who is an important witness in the Andrews trial, which has been set for the Criminal Assizes next Thursday. The girl has disappeared and as her evidence will be the chief feature of the case, it is likely the trial will be postponed until she can be procured.

NEWS TOPICS OF A WEEK.

The Important Events in a Few Words For Busy Readers.

Wm. Torrens McCullagh, the well known author, is dead in London.

Bradstreet's reports 30 business failures in Canada the past week.

A project is under way to build a ship canal to connect Sheffield, Eng., with the sea.

Graff & Co., house wreckers of Chicago, have bought the World's Fair buildings from the South Park Commissioners for $37,500.

The "diamond anniversary" of Maryland Oddfellowship was celebrated in Baltimore on Thursday.

Daniel Mercley, a farmer near Westport, was killed by a kick fom a horse on Thursday.

Ald. T. Nesbit Robertson, one of the proprietors of the St. John, N.B., Globe, died on Wednesday.

Ald. Morris, the temperance party's candite in East Hamilton, has decided not to enter the contest.

George Crain, a fisherman from Collingwood, was drowned by the capsizing of a boat near Sault Ste. Marie.

The National Council of Women is at present the subject of a lively controversy in the French-Canadian press.

Twelve Kingston merchants have been fined for selling liquor in less quantities than three half-pints.

Five hundred Newfoundlanders are making enquiries with a view of settling in the Canadian Northwest.

Several anarchists were arrested in Berlin for distributing seditious leaflets. Their papers were destroyed.

George Crain, a Collingwood fisherman, was drowned by the capsizing of his boat in Gaulais bay, Ont., on Wednesday.

Emperor William is credited with saying that Germany's interest in Samoa will not be abandoned under any circumstance.

Mitchael Rogers, the London man who took a dose of ammonia with suicidal intent on Monday night, died on Thursday.

Fifty vessels are tied up at Buffalo owing to lack of coal, though only a few days have elapsed since the miners' strike began.

The Scotch local government bill was introduced in the British Commons on Friday evening and was adopted by a vote of 232 to 207.

There are now 2,400,000 bushels of wheat in Fort William and Port Arthur elevators. At this time last year there were over 3,000,000 bushels.

A bill providing for an eight-hour working day for miners passed its second reading by 281 to 191 in the British House of Commons on Wednesday

H. M. S. Pheasant left Vancouver on Thursday to warn the Canadian fleet of sealers to cease killing seals on April 30. There are 23 schooners in the fleet.

By the burning of Philip Schneider's dwelling at Scranton, Pa., on Thursday, three of his children, who were in an upper room, were burned to death.

James Campbell, a tailor, was found dead on Thursday morning in Galt, where he had been looking for work. Two laudanum bottles were found near the body.

At Washington yesterday Senator Brice of Ohio said the Democrats had agreed upon a tariff bill, for which the solid vote of the party would be cast.

A Cornell student named Root was thrown under a Lehigh train at Geneva, N.Y., Tuesday night. Both legs were cut off, and the died next morning.

A London despatch says Adolph and Montague Bernhard were arrested in Finsburg by detectives. They are said to be wanted in the United States to answer charges of larceny and embezzlement.

Floyd Radabout, a farmer, 24 years of age, living near Big Springs, Ohio, hanged his two little children and himself on Friday because of family trouble.

The chief medical director of the Spanish Government declares that the "cholerine" at Lisbon is in reality Asiatic cholera. Some 225 fresh cases were reported Wednesday.

News from St. John's shows that the number of seals caught by thirteen Newfoundland steamers totalled 107,657. Eight steamers yet to return are reported with small catches.

Commander Heyermann and Lieut. Lyman will lose their rank and pay, on suspension for one year, for the loss of the United States frigate Kearsarge on Roncador Reef.

At Kennebunk, Me., on Wednesday Isaac Kimball interfered when his sister's husband, A. L. Burnham, threatened to shoot her. A scuffle ensued, and Burnham was choked to death.

Andrew Ziloth, at one time valet to the King of Sweden, has been arrested, charged by Banker Benedict of New York with stealing $5,000 worth of silverware. Ziloth has confessed.

Word comes from Hayti that President Hippolyte has forgiven his old enemy Legitime, and has invited him to return to the republic. It is said Legitime will be made President in 1897.

The London Times correspondent describes the scenes of the earthquakes in Greece as most appalling. Whole villages have been wiped out of existence. Forty-three worshippers were killed in one church.

Miss Pauline Johnson, the Indian poetess and reader, was tendered a reception in Brantford on Thursday night on the eve of her departure for the old country. A purse filled with English sovereigns was presented to the gifted young lady.

The death occurred at Halifax on Friday evening, after an illness extending over several weeks, of Rev. Dr. McKnight, Principal of the Presbyterian Theological College. He was 68 years of age and had been connected with the institution for many years.

A gang of tramps captured a freight train on the Concord and Montreal railroad, at Concord, N. H., on Sunday and rode over the line. A few of them were put off the train but they mustered strength enough to return and ride as far as they pleased. No arrests were made.

The court martial trial of ten anarchists accused of complicity with Pallas in the attempt to kill Gen. de Campos has begun. The prosecutor in opening up the case said he would demand that Codina, Czereznela, Sogas Bernat, Mir and Villarubia be sentenced to death.

Miss Catherine Richardson, aged seventeen, of St. John's, Nfld., while going to a dance in company with her brother, suddenly fell to the pavement and expired. Death is believed to have been the result of heating, exhaustion and over-wrought feelings.

Rev. James Carmichael, M.A., died at the Presbyterian manse, Norwood, Tuesday night. Deceased had for the past eleven and a half years been pastor of the Norwood Presbyterian church, and for twelve years previous to that was pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Markham.

Burglars in Pickering.

PICKERING, April 31.—The employes of the Spink mills were surprised yesterday morning to find that burglars had forced an entrance into their office and had blown open the safe. The papers were strewn around the floor. The postage drawers were broken open, and a few coppers taken from there was all the booty the intruders got for their trouble.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA, April 24.—Mr. Mulock has introduced in the Commons a bill to provide for the examination of witnesses on oath by committees of the Senate and the House of Commons. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. McMullen moved for copies of all letters, despatches and correspondence between the Government and the High Commissioner of Canada regarding the removal of the embargo on Canadian cattle entering into English ports.

Mr. Featherstone suggested that dead meat shipments from Canada would pay better than shipping on the hoof. People in England would pay more for dead meat than meat alive, especially if the dead meat was shipped by cold storage. If the Government would encourage the dead meat trade it would be in the interests of all the farmers of Canada.

OTTAWA, April 25.—Dr. Sproule introduced his bill in the Commons respecting detective corporations and mercantile agencies.

Hon. Mr. Foster moved the House into committee on ways and means.

Sir Richard Cartwright, in amendment, moved the following: "That whenever any member of the Committee on Public Accounts shall declare in his place in the said committee that he has examined the papers and vouchers submitted in respect of any item referred to the said committee, and that he is convinced that it is necessary in the public interest that all witnesses be examined in reference to the said items should be examined on oath, it shall be an instruction to the said committee to cause such witnesses to be so examined."

Sir John Thompson said he was willing that witnesses should be examined under oath in individual cases, but he objected to making it a general rule to administer the oath. He said the difficulty which he had found was that what hon. gentlemen opposite contended for was not exactly what was contained in the resolution proposed. He submitted that, as this was after all a mere matter of business, capable of business adjustment, that they ought to agree not to treat it as a matter of politics, but that they should agree to pass an Act removing this subject from the political atmosphere altogether.

OTTAWA, April 26.—Sir John Thompson, before the orders of the day were called, asked attention to a matter affecting the privileges of the House. He referred to an article in the Ottawa Free Press, reflecting on the Speaker's motive for a recent ruling. He then moved, seconded by Sir Adolphe Caron, the following:

"That the article published in the newspaper called the Ottawa Free Press, dated 24th April, 1894, and read by the clerk of the House at the table is a scandalous, false and malicious libel upon the honor, character and integrity of the Speaker of this House, and a contempt of the privileges and of the constitutional authority of the House."

Hon. Mr. Laurier was disposed to agree with the Premier.

The motion carried.

Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper moved that Joseph Pope and certain other witnesses should be examined under oath before the Public Accounts Committee respecting the Behring Sea Arbitration Act.

The motion passed after considerable repartee.

OTTAWA, April 27.—In reply to Mr. Davin in the Commons Hon. Mr. Daly said it is not proposed to establish a buffalo breeding ranch at Fort Smith, on Great Bear river, or Fort Vermillion, on Peace river, but a bill which is to be introduced in the Senate contains provisions for the protection of the buffalo and other fur-bearing animals in those portions of the Northwest territories of Canada, which are not included within the provisional districts of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Mr. Smith (Ontario) asked if it was the intention of the Government to arrange for the presence of veterinary surgeons representing Canada at the examination of the lungs of Canadian cattle slaughtered at the port of debarkation in Great Britain, the President of the Board of Agriculture of Great Britain having stated in the Imperial House of Commons that the removal of the embargo on Canadian cattle will depend on the result of the examinations of such cattle, to be made during the next few days.

Hon. Mr. Foster said that Mr. William Hunting, F.R.C.V.S., had been appointed to represent Canada in any examination of lungs that might take place

In answer to Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. McMullen Hon. Mr. Foster said that the examinations would no doubt commence with the first shipment and proceed until the British minister of agriculture should be convinced that the cattle were free from disease.

Mr. McMullen suggested that the Government should buy lots in different districts and make an immediate shipment. It was highly desirable that the market should be opened as rapidly as possible.

Hon. Mr. Foster said the shipment of specimen lots would hardly meet the necessities of the case. The shipments must be in the ordinary course of trade.

OTTAWA, April 28.—In Committee of Ways and Means yesterday, in discussing the tea duties, Hon. Mr. Foster explained that it was proposed to permit tea and green coffee, when imported direct from the country of production to come in free. The item also included all tea and green coffee purchased in bond in any country where tea and coffee were subject to customs duties, providing satisfactory proof has been given that such green coffee and tea is entered for home consumption in that country. The object of this was to keep out coffee which was prohibited from entering Great Britain as being unfit for use.

In discussing the item of putty Col. Denison said he thought that putty should be admitted free when used for polishing glass as well as for polishing marble, as under the old tariff.

Hon. Mr. Foster said that when the free list came up for consideration it would be seen that the Government had provided for free duty for polishing purposes.

Hon. Mr. Foster, in reply to Mr. Mulock, said the duty on common window glass was for revenue purposes only. The item fixing the duty at 20 per cent. ad valorem was passed.

Sir Richard Cartwright said that spectacles and eye glasses ought to be free instead of a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem. These articles ought to be made as cheap as possible.

Hon. Mr. Foster explained that the object of the 30 per cent. duty was to catch the costly rims and not the glasses.

The item passed.

Mr. Mulock asked that the duty on rubber boots and shoes be further redneed. The duty had under the new tariff been reduced from 35 to 30 per cent. ad valorem, but this reduction, he claimed, was not sufficient. The item, however, passed committee.

Body of a Drowned Indian Found.

CAMPBELLFORD, Ont., April 30.—The body of Alex Comego, the Alnwick Indian who was drowned here five weeks ago under suspicious circumstances, was found on Saturday by J. Fraser while moving logs in the river above this town. Dr. Maccann, coroner for this district, has the case in hand.

THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION