

FROM THE SUNDAY SENTINEL.

GENERAL TELEGRAMS.

Terrific Explosion of Natural Gas—Great Damage to Property, Loss of Life and Other Incidents.

Adverse Report on the Proposed Civil Service Bill—The Oklahoma Boomers—Sleigh Riding Tragedy.

GAS EXPLOSION.

Natural Gas Causes Serious Loss of Life and Much Damage to Property.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 31.—Natural gas is responsible for another terrible explosion, which at this hour seems to involve not only the wreck of houses, but a serious loss of life and maiming, which will follow the victims to the grave. Shortly before 12 o'clock, there was an alarm on the big bell in the Municipal Hall tower, but of such an irregular character that even Chief Evans, who was in the rotunda at the time, was at a loss to know where it came from. In a moment, word was transmitted by telephones at the Mayor's office and engine houses that an explosion of natural gas had occurred at the "forks of the road," otherwise known as Thirty-fourth and Butler streets, and that there had been a serious loss of life as well as great destruction of property.

The meagre details which could be secured over the telephone were to the effect that the explosion occurred in August street, No. 331, Pennsylvania avenue, and that the adjoining building had also been wrecked by the explosion. The concussion which followed, and which occurred in the immediate vicinity, and hundreds of people gathered about, as the ruins had taken fire and it was rumored that a loss of life had occurred. The wreckage of the building was scattered in all directions, and the debris was piled up in the vicinity, and the list of injured was swelling. It reached between twenty and thirty. Several other eruptions followed, and the number of houses embraced was increased to ten or fifteen.

About 12:30 the signal that the fire had been extinguished was sent in, but scarcely ten minutes had elapsed until another alarm was sounded from the same box, and another eruption occurred. The fire was not only not extinguished, but it was spreading in all directions, and the number of houses involved in the general destruction. In the excitement which followed, the names of the injured were ascertained to be: Gibson, car driver; August Horn, an iron worker; and Zinger, a baker. The latter was taken to the office of Clark's Solar Iron works on Thirty-fourth street.

It appears that there were three explosions, one in George Morris's saloon, Mr. Hammerdorfer's meat shop, and George Mueller's saloon. Miss Smulder at 4 Jack Stein, a mill worker, will die; the other injured will recover. Damage to property will amount to \$15,000 or \$20,000.

Complete List of the Injured.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 31.—The complete list of persons injured is as follows: Dr. Seglar, of Allegheny, blown into the air, jaw badly cut and injured internally; William Kola, conductor of the citizens' line, knocked off the car by a beer keg, and badly hurt; George Morris, barkeeper at Mueller's saloon, badly cut, and leg broken; Jacob Stein, severely cut about the head, and probably fatally hurt; August Horn, cut and burned about the head, not seriously hurt; George Kinzer, a baker, eye cut and terribly lacerated about the face, left eye blown out and otherwise dangerously hurt; Willie Oxenhardt, thrown into the gutter and badly injured internally; George Fenhard, burned about the head and badly hurt; Willie Patton, cut on the head and slightly injured; Mrs. Morris, blown against the door in the cellar next to the building in which the explosion occurred, and badly hurt; Annie Mueller, saloon-keeper's daughter, badly cut about the face and head and injured internally; George Gibson, driver of No. 24, knocked off the car and badly hurt; Nicholas, a porter, shot for Herbert Ross' food store, badly cut on the face but not seriously hurt; George Hammerdorfer, cut by flying glass about the face; Mrs. Dr. Evans, cut by plate glass in the face and severely wounded; Lizzie Smulder, injured about the head and face; Lizzie Hammerdorfer, injured about the face and eye; Of these Annie Mueller, Jacob Stein, Dr. Seglar, Lizzie Smulder, Willie Oxenhardt, William Kola and George Kinzer are so badly injured that their recovery is considered very doubtful. Mrs. Mueller, mother of Annie, is missing, and the ruins are being searched for her remains.

Among the many narrow escapes reported was that of the passengers on the Citizens' line car, which was passing when the explosion occurred. The windows of the car were shattered and bricks and debris fell upon the platform. A daughter and niece of W. S. Bissell, who were on the car, were covered with a shower of dirt and broken glass, but protected their faces with their hands and escaped injury. People were thrown down nearly a square from the scene of the explosion, and a man named a brick had been thrown very high, and 20 feet. Citizens who reside near where the explosion took place have been very much dissatisfied for some time past, and have even threatened to take up the pipes of the Gas Company. Last week a number of them consulted in regard to taking legal action against the company, compelling it to make the pipes safe beyond any possible doubt. Action of this nature would have been taken in a few days. The indignation against the gas company runs very high, and threats of tearing up the pipes are freely made. State Senator Upperman is engaged in drafting a bill to compel the gas company to take measures for the safety of the people. Messrs. Baumann and Vogie, who own buildings 341 and 343 Penn avenue will also be heard from, for their damage against the Pennsylvania Fuel Company, and many of the injured have already declared their intention of doing the same thing. The cause of the explosion was a big leak in the huge main of the Fuel Gas Company, which runs along Penn avenue close to the curb.

A Small Explosion.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 31.—There was also an explosion of natural gas at an early hour this morning in Millita Township, opposite McKeesport, on the line of the Carpenter Gas Company, who have a line running from Murfreesville well on big pressure, to supply Woods mill at McKeesport. It broke some glass, but fortunately no person was injured.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The Committee Directs an Adverse Report on the Proposed Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Mr.atcher, Chairman of the House Committee on Reform in the Civil Service, has been instructed by his committee to make an adverse report on the bill to prohibit the removal of any honorably discharged Union soldier, sailor or marine, or widow or dependent relative of any deceased Union soldier, sailor or marine from any office in the civil service of the United States, except for specific causes. The committee, in its report, says: "The bill goes further in its control of the power of removal from office than the original tenure of office act, in that, the power of removal in cases restricted by the bill could not be exercised jointly by the President and Senate. Believing that the power of removal from office, if wisely exercised, is necessary to enable the Executive to fulfill the constitutional duty of administering the laws, your committee is of the opinion that the bill is unconstitutional and inexpedient, should the Executive

above the power of removal, or use it for an unworthy purpose, the remedy is with the people, and not with the Executive. The Senate by impeachment, but should the legislative branch, by resolutions upon appointments and removals, so direct the hands of the Executive as practically to nullify the laws, the constitutional function of the Executive to see that the laws be faithfully executed would be seriously impeded. In such a case, the administration of the laws would fall into the hands of a subordinate, for whose appointment the executive was in no way responsible, and who might have become worthy or inefficient while in office. Under the provisions of the bill a Secretary of State, whose ideas and policy would be likely to be contrary to those of the executive, might be retained by him, and this thought the Senate should occur in the propriety of appointing another in his place. Under existing statutes preference in appointment is given to many of this class of persons named in the bill, and the purposes of these statutes would, if liberally construed, be carried out by retaining such persons in office when their general fitness was apparent, or when proper objects of the executive could best be carried out by so doing; but to provide that the executive shall retain only persons when he may think that some other person is better fitted to administer the trust is, in our opinion, unfixed and unconstitutional. Public office may be conferred as a trust and not as a mere reward for past services, however meritorious, and present fitness should be the test of the incumbent. Your committee report the bill adversely, and recommend that it do not pass."

STRUCK BY A TRAIN.

A Sleighing Party Struck by an Express Train, Two Instantly Killed and Three Fatally Injured.

TOLEDO, O., Jan. 31.—A sleigh containing a party of nine persons, while crossing the track of the Lake Shore Railroad, between Oak Harbor and Port Clinton, O., at an early hour this morning, was struck by the West-bound express and two of the number, Stephen S. Hall, of Detroit, and Miss Jeanette, of Waukegan, O., died. Mrs. A. D. Thierwechter, Mrs. John Vogel, Mrs. Charles Vogel, of Oak Harbor, were probably severely injured, and the others were seriously injured, but will recover. The party had been to Port Clinton to attend a ball, and were returning to Oak Harbor when the accident occurred. Mrs. John Vogel was the driver of the sleigh, and was killed by the impact of the train. The other victims were Miss Jeanette, who was killed instantly, and Stephen S. Hall, who was killed by the impact of the train. The accident took place at a point two miles west of Port Clinton, where the wagon road crossed the track obliquely. The night was foggy and the driver of the sleigh did not discover the approaching train until it was nearly upon her. She attempted to cross in front of it. The engine of the sleigh was struck by the engine. Three of the occupants were thrown on the top of the pilot in front of the boiler, and the others were hurled into the snow at the roadside. The train was stopped as soon as possible, when the bodies of the two who were killed were removed, and the bodies of the others were placed in a coach and taken to Oak Harbor. Hall and Miss Jeanette were taken to a hospital at Detroit, and other parties are prominent in business and social circles of Oak Harbor, and the sad affair has cast a gloom over the community. It is believed that Thierwechter and Mrs. Charles Vogel can not recover.

OKLAHOMA BOOMERS.

Nearly 1,400 Invaders Removed from the Territory Without Bloodshed.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 31.—General Hatch reached Caldwell, Kan., from Stillwater, yesterday. He states that Couch refused to surrender until the order was given for the soldiers to advance upon their camp. Then the boomers agreed to capitulate. The volunteer men, under command of the troops, marched to the Kansas line and crossed to Arkansas City. Here Couch and three lieutenants were arrested. They were taken to Federal headquarters at Muskogee, Okla., and will be taken to Wichita to-day. General Hatch sent a detachment of his troops to intercept a party of 60 boomers on route from Arkansas. He estimated the force altogether at nearly 1,400 invaders in the Territory. All of these have been removed from the Territory, without bloodshed. Guards have been stationed along the streets of ingress, which, it is thought, will prevent further invasion at present. The boomers, however, declare their intention of returning. A meeting was held at Arkansas City yesterday, and addressed by Couch and others, at which resolutions were passed in unmeasured denunciation of the Government, and declaring its intention for an early renewal of the efforts to colonize the Oklahoma country. It was resolved to meet at Arkansas City on the 1st of March, and start again on the following day, equipped with thirty days' rations. It was asserted that their force would then be greatly augmented, and that about eight years, was a prominent old fellow and carried \$2,000 life insurance in that order.

An Important Democratic Conference.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 31.—Vice President-elect Hendricks was accompanied from the hotel to the railroad depot by half a dozen friends, and left for New York. It is understood the Vice President-elect is attending an important conference with President-elect Cleveland and Speaker Carlisle. He believed the discussion concerned the policy of the party, and was designed to bring about a uniformity of action in the policy of the Democratic party. Mr. Hendricks declined to say anything of the conference. It is understood the intention of Mr. Hendricks is to proceed from New York to Washington, and thence go to the New Orleans Exposition.

A New But Familiar Story.

COSHOCTON, O., Jan. 31.—John G. Stewart, banker, of the oldest house in the city, made an assignment to R. M. Voorhees to-day. Mr. Stewart's illness and possible death, caused a run on the bank, which had the effect of closing the bank. Stewart was considered absolutely safe, the balance contained great excitement. The assignee can not make a statement of the bank's affairs yet, but thinks he will pay the depositors in full.

Weekly Bank Statement.

Table with columns: Loans, Increase, Decrease, and various financial figures.

The Deputy Marshal Vindicated.

CHICAGO, Jan. 31.—Julius Yastaw, one of the Deputy United States Marshals, tried on a charge of murder for having killed a man on the day of the recent National election, was acquitted on a State Petit Jury trial. The arrest of Yastaw was made at the instance of the city authorities to make certain of his trial in the State instead of the Federal Court.

Arkansas Elects a Senator.

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 31.—When the Legislature met in joint session at noon, ex-Governor Berry's letter, withdrawing from the Senatorial race, was read. On the first ballot James K. Jones, Representative from the Third Congressional District, was elected to the United States Senate. The vote stood: Jones, 72; Dunn, 49; C. R. Breckenridge, 3.

Killed the Wrong Man.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 31.—Joseph Smith fatally cut his wife near Lincolnton Thursday night in a fit of jealousy. A mob went out to lynch him, but were met at the house by Smith's brother, who was guarding it with a shotgun, and who shot the intruders back. He was riddled with bullets, but Joseph Smith made his escape.

A Batch of Murderers Sentenced.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Jan. 31.—The sentence of death was passed in the United States Court today upon Fred Ray, William M. Meadows, William Phillips, Mason Holcomb, white men, and William Nixon, a negro, for murders committed in the Indian Territory. The condemned will be executed at Fort Smith April 17.

Fatally Stabbed With a Pair of Scissors.

BAY CITY, Jan. 31.—James A. Williams and William R. Evans, colored barbers, had an altercation, this afternoon, in a barber shop, in which

Evans stabbed Williams with a pair of shears three times, twice on the head and once in the left breast, the instrument penetrating the heart. Williams walked out of the shop and was taken home, and died soon after. Evans has given himself up.

SENINEL SPECIALS.

A Floodthirsty Crowd.

Special to the Sentinel. MADISON, Ind., Jan. 31.—We gave an account last fall of a desperate fight at a Sunday-school celebration at Moorefield, Switzerland County, between the Hights brothers on one side and the Coleman boys and their friends on the other. In the melee the only animal killed was a valuable horse, but the combatants were considerably damaged, with cold steel and hot lead. Last night James Coleman was driving from Brooksburch to Madison in a sleigh, when he was met by Ed Brooks, James Bradshaw and Lawrence Higgins on their way to the west. The two latter immediately presented two large revolvers and ordered him to halt. When he did, when Brooks came up and struck him with a rock, but before any other harm could be done they were scared off by the approach of some men. Coleman shot one of the Higgins last fall, and no doubt, they would have been avenged last night had the coast been clear. There is an indictment now against Brooks in the Switzerland County for assault and battery with intent to commit murder. This morning the trio were about to board the train for western Missouri, when Sheriff Sherier and a bailiff put a sudden stop to their excursion, but the novelty of it was the march from the depot to the jail with the three men in sixty and fifty officers following, with large navy revolvers in each hand. They took from the boys at the west a number of boxes of cartridges, each weighing about half an ounce.

Death of a Prominent Citizen—A Deliberate Murder.

Special to the Sentinel. BRAZIL, Ind., Jan. 31.—E. C. Kilmer, ex-Clerk of this county and ex-Mayor of Brazil, died at his residence in Clay City yesterday, of consumption. He will be buried at the Brazil Cemetery to-morrow by the Masons of which he was a member, and his funeral will be held at his home in Brazil. His death, while not unexpected, will be regretted by his large circle of friends in this and adjoining counties. He was a prominent citizen. Last night — Talbot, son of Dr. Talbot, of Bowling Green, shot and instantly killed George Sanders, who kept a saloon in that town. The killing grew out of a trivial dispute between them in Sanders' saloon, when Talbot became enraged and procured his shotgun, which he thrust through the window of the saloon and fired at Sanders, who fell dead instantly. The shooting seems to have been wholly unjustifiable. Talbot is now in jail at this place.

Secretary Lincoln Complains of Bridges on the Washah—Postal Clerks Appointed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Secretary Lincoln has written a letter to Congressman Steele on the subject of the bridges over the Washah River, between Terre Haute and Lafayette, obstructing the mail. He says that although there are quite a number of bridges, which obstruct navigation between those points, he has no other official authority to move them. He thinks Congress ought to give authority to compel the corporations owning the bridges to remove them, or make draws or dams, so that boats can pass.

Colonel James T. Byer, erstwhile editor of the Louisville Journal, and a prominent Republican politician, has been appointed a postal clerk. He will run between Toledo and St. Louis. Royal H. Hild, of Ripley County, has also been appointed a postal clerk, to run between St. Louis and Cincinnati.

Fair Association Officers—Death of an Old Citizen.

Special to the Sentinel. SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Jan. 31.—The Fair Association met here to-day, and elected the following officers: President, A. J. Gorgus; Vice President, Wood Woodard; Secretary, L. J. Hackney; Treasurer, Cyrus Bishop; Superintendent, Charles Gilton; Trustees, Roy Bennett, Powell D. Wilson, Jerry Dugan, Stephen Whitfield, George Holmes, Carson, and James G. Gorton, J. M. Tyler and E. H. Staal. W. E. Bone, an old citizen of this place, and famous for his long hair, died at his residence here at 2 o'clock this morning, and will be buried here to-morrow afternoon.

Death of a Postmaster.

Special to the Sentinel. RICHVILLE, Ind., Jan. 31.—E. J. Thompson, Postmaster at Glenwood, this county, died yesterday from the effects of a paralytic stroke, and will be buried at Everton, Ind., to-morrow. Mr. Thompson had been a prominent citizen for about eight years, was a prominent old fellow and carried \$2,000 life insurance in that order.

DYNAMITE MATTERS.

A Dynamiter Arrested at Derby—A Dynamite Conspiracy of Some Magnitude Discovers.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Despatches from Derby state that a man was arrested at the Central Station of the Midland Railway, of that city to-day, with dynamite in his possession. The prisoner was held on a charge of conspiracy.

During the examination of Newbold, evidence was produced against him in the shape of letters, received from South England, threatening to blow up the hall in Derby. The prisoner admitted the handwriting on the envelopes containing the letters was his. Newbold, when asked to explain away this evidence, said he could not, although he insisted he was innocent of any wrong. The chief constable was asked to make the Magistrate believe the prisoner declared the detectives were in possession, in an incomplete state, of other evidence against a number of a more serious and circumstantial character than that already produced. Newbold was remanded until February.

Later developments in the Newbold case, at Derby, is exciting much attention, and constantly growing. It is stated that the police have discovered among the prisoners papers and documents which reveal a dynamite plot of considerable magnitude. The principal letter produced at the examination of the prisoner contained details of a conspiracy to blow up the Derby Town Hall. This letter, written by Newbold, is not in Newbold's handwriting, but the envelope contained his address, penned by himself, and the recipient might know where to send an answer.

During the proceedings the prisoner was much agitated. At the time the letter was written and at the time of his arrest Newbold was employed in the Derby shops of the Midland Railway Company, and regularly wore the ordinary clothes of working men.

Further Statements Regarding Goodman.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Goodman, the alleged dynamiter, arrested at his lodging in Westminster District yesterday, is still detained by the police. It is reported to-day that no internal machine was found in the prisoner's room, and the detectives have not yet found anything against the prisoner beyond his peculiar habits and nervous disposition. A detective has occupied Goodman's lodging since his arrest, patiently awaiting callers for the prisoner, but as yet none have appeared. It is now believed the reporters were deceived by the Scotland Yard authorities in regard to the importance of the arrest.

Temple Bar Threatened.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The new law courts, at Temple Bar, are to be dedicated to-day, in consequence of a letter received by the authorities that an attempt would be made to blow up the buildings.

The Prince of Wales at Westminster Hall.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The Prince of Wales to-day visited the scene of last Saturday's explosion at Westminster Hall.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

The So-Called Mutiny on Board the Bark Wellington Being Thoroughly Investigated by the Coroner.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The inquest in the case of Captain Armstrong, killed by his crew on board the British bark Wellington, was resumed at Plymouth this afternoon. The proceedings were much delayed by very suspicious circumstances reported of Wellington. Just as the Coroner was about to commence the inquest, the bark was found stuck fast in the mud at her anchorage. The crew were found and she was pulled to and anchored elsewhere. This morning the craft was found away from the site of her second anchorage and sailed on her way, but directly under Plymouth, between the city and the sound. She was cleared of the third time and anchored, and then placed under surveillance. The police suspect some members of the crew who were more or less implicated in killing Armstrong, but who have fled to other parts of the world, and are endeavoring to help their less fortunate comrades by destroying all possible evidence against them. The Coroner's inquest will be held at Plymouth in the hope that the craft would float out and be wrecked and sunk. The four prisoners, Charles Patterson, first mate; John Summerdyke, Jargon Jorgensen and Charles Jones, were arrested. Summerdyke belongs to New Jersey, in the United States; Patterson to New Orleans. Jargon Jorgensen was at the time of the inquest in the United States, but had been in a state of frenzy from drink, and had been chasing the crew about the ship with a revolver. Witness and three others hid themselves below the poop ladder, and there awaited Armstrong, determined to seize and overpower him. When he descended the ladder, they hauled some one to shoot, they knocked him down, and finding him stunned, they placed him in irons and removed him to the cabin, where he died two hours afterward. Charles Jones testified that at the time of the assault upon the captain he was in the fore-cabin, and saw the crew who struck the Captain after he was down. Patterson swore he had nothing to do with the killing, and protested against the inquest, on the ground that the prisoners were remanded to await the testimony of other witnesses.

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Looks Like a Canard.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Home Secretary, to-day received a letter which alleged that an extensive dynamite plot was being hatched, and mentioned a number of buildings that granitizers intended to blow up. It also gave the names of several plotters and the places where they could be found.

Westchester County, New York, Shaken by an Earthquake.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—Low, rumbling sounds, like distant thunder, followed by a very perceptible trembling of the earth, startled the residents of Cortlandt, Yorktown and other northern towns in Westchester County, at a distance of about 50 miles from New York, on the morning of the 30th. The shocks were thrown from the shelves, and the shock was attended by a strong wind, which has been caused by anything except an earthquake.

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ERIE MEDICAL CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.

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Ag—The genuine has above trade mark and crossed red lines on wrapper. Take no other. Made only by BROWN CHEMICAL CO., BALTIMORE, MD.

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