

GUESTS IN A PANIC.

Eastern Hotel Boarders Rotted from Their Beds by Fire.

Prof. Laffin, the Athlete, Flees in Silk Hat and Trousers.

Flames Confined to the Barroom After Doing \$25,000 Damage.

An exciting fire broke out in the barroom of the Eastern Hotel, at Whitehall and South streets, at 2 o'clock this morning.

The fire was first discovered by Proprietor John H. Betts's nephew, Leonard Howard, who was coming home from Broadway.

Night Watchman George Van Arsdale, a descendant of the Revolutionary hero of that name, who was the first to hoist the Stars and Stripes at the Battery, hearing Howard's yell and smelling smoke, quickly turned in an alarm and aroused the 50 odd guests by shouting and pounding at every door in the house.



PROF. LAFFIN'S ESCAPE.

One of the most picturesque escapes was that of John M. Laffin, the celebrated professor of the many art, who enjoys the distinction of having faced John L. Sullivan in the arena.

Prof. Laffin has just arrived from Florida by steamer, and was enjoying a good sound sleep. He dreamed that he was still aboard ship and that she was making futile attempts to get into some port.

"The ship that I dreamt it was on," he said this morning to an "Evening World" reporter, "was tossing and rolling, and I heard her creaking and straining ominously in every joint. The sailors were hurrying about with bloodstained faces, carrying orders in the most dismal voices, and my fellow-passengers all seemed to anticipate that something frightful was going to happen. I, too, was frightened to such an extent that I awoke and ran to the window. There was a terrible commotion on the deck and there was also an odor of smoke in my room.

"I was still half asleep and dazed, and did not get quite comprehended where I was. I thought I was still on shipboard, and she was afloat and letting off steam. It was some moments before I realized that I was ashore and in the Eastern Hotel, and that there was a fire right outside my door. As soon as I knew this I grabbed a white shirt and a pair of pants, and as they were not in my room, I went to the window and down into the street.

"As soon as I recovered my presence of mind I found that my toilet had been made without reference to comfort or decorum. I was dressed in a pair of trousers and an undershirt.

"Fortunately, however, the fire was soon extinguished, and as it had been kept confined to the barroom, and very little damage done to the floor above it, I was not kept shivering long on the street and soon returned to continue my slumbers.

Prof. Laffin is not only an athlete. He is thorough and has made a number of hits as an actor. He once played the part of Charles in the play 'You Like It,' with Rose Coghlan's company.

He is a brother of Police Sergeant Hogan, of the 101st station.

TRIED TO BURN A CHURCH.

Organ Ruined and Floor Burned by a Blaze Started in 00.

Fire in a Pattern Shop.

HUGGED HIS DIVORCED WIFE.

Azabiner Displays His Affection in Police Court.

She Now Threatens to Revoke the Grand Union Hotel's License.

MRS. TOWNSEND NO. 1.

THEIR CASE ADJOURNED.

Three Boys Arraigned on Charge of Arson.

Church Destroyed by Fire.

COAL MIGHT BE \$3.50.

If the Combine Were Smashed It Could Be Sold at That Price.

With the People's Assistance "The World" Will Do the Smashing.

Sales at \$4.50 a Ton Are Increasing Each Day.

Health Board After Them. James Parke Still Missing.

Jobbers Who Sell Spoiled Goods No Clue to Indicate Where He May Have Gone.

Looking for the Man Who Sold Morris' Poisonous Sardines.

Police and His Associates Puzzled by His Absence.

President Wilson, of the Board of Health, said today that he would make a most thorough and rigid investigation into the poisoning of Mrs. Annie Morris and her two children, Lizzie and Annie, aged, respectively, eight and three years, who are in Governor Hospital deathly sick from eating spoiled sardines.

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"This business has got to stop. I'll find out a positively reliable association where these sardines came from, and I will make such an example of all parties concerned as to deter a repetition of the dastardly offense by any other dealers or peddlers."

Dr. Lelelo, chemist of the Health Department, published in an afternoon paper yesterday to the effect that the man who sold the sardines to the Morris family was a man named Parke, who lived in the city and Detroit, but no light was thrown on the case.

Mr. Clay admitted today that he had not the slightest clue which might help to locate the missing man. It was learned that Parke has been recently paying attention to a young woman in his city whose address is kept secret by Mr. Clay. The fact that he was not inclined to be dissipated makes his disappearance all the more mysterious.

City Parks in Bloom.

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She Had Accused Her Mother of Threatening to Kill Her.

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Tr. McMurray, a friend of the plaintiff, called the attention of the court to the fact that Mrs. Williams was mentally incapable of making a will.

She Kicked His Hat Off.

Mamie Garvey Did a Skit Dance Before a Policeman.

Policeman George Mehan, of the Eldridge street station, arraigned a young woman named Mamie Garvey, twenty-two years old, of 24 Forsyth street, in the Essex Market Court today.

The woman was charged with kicking a policeman's hat off during the performance of a skit dance in Canal street at 2 o'clock this morning, and when he approached her she kicked his hat off.

Dismissed the story, but Justice Hogan fined her \$10.

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She Cut Mrs. Fox During a Quarrel Over a Pint of Ale.

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Mrs. Mary Fox, of 10 Water street, was the complainant. Jennie visited her mother yesterday, who lives in the same house with Mrs. Fox, and had an argument with Mrs. Fox over the payment for a pint of ale.

Jennie struck Mrs. Fox with a hatchet and when Mrs. Fox called her half sister, Jennie struck her on the head with an iron, inflicting a ugly looking wound.

Even the Scrubwomen.

They, Too, Must Make Way for Republican Appointees.

The scrubwomen employed in the Hall of Records, Brooklyn, have been notified by the city of their removal.

They were appointed by Democrats and must make way for Republican appointees.

Irwin Wants a Divorce.

Richard J. Irwin has begun to file his affidavit against his wife Amanda, in the Court of General Sessions, and Judge Robinson today gave him an order for a summons by publication to appear for a divorce.

Irwin is a man of some means, and his wife has one son named Edgar, Jr., who is a student in the University of the City of New York.

Irwin's wife had been living with Richard at 212 West Tenth street.

Other readers have seen before being offered such bargains in Brooklyn. It can be had for \$100. C. FLINT CO., 14th St., also this week.

She and Her Husband "Skydiving."

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Her husband, who was with her, was also found in the same condition.

For Keeping a Disorderly House.

Miss Milla, of No. 142 West Tenth street, was held for trial at Jefferson Market Police Court today, charged with keeping a disorderly house at that number.

She was arrested by the West Tenth street station yesterday.

Mrs. Winifred's Sore Throat Suffered from a Cold, Croup, Hoarseness, Ac. 25c.

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B. Altman & Co.

Will offer Wednesday, April 18, in addition to their large assortment of Staple and Fancy

Parasols, The Following Special Values:

Sun Umbrella, with cases, assorted colors, natural wood handles, at 2.10

Gros Grain Coaching Parasols, in assorted colors, at 2.00

Gros Grain Club Coaching, with cases, natural wood handles, at 2.75

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