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THE NEWS IN LONDON.

POLITICAL ANIMOSITIES CARRIED TO AN EXTREME DEGREE.

THE QUEEN NOT TO GO TO BADEN—"THE TIMES" CRITICISING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT—A GLADSTONIAN ORGAN ATTACKING LORD ROSEBERY—ANXIETY ABOUT MR. STANLEY—MR. SPURGEON ISSUES ANOTHER MANIFESTO—SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.

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London, Aug. 4.—An official denial is now given to the widely current report that the Queen is going to Baden. More's the pity. If she had gone, the German Emperor, according to the same report, would have met her, and a serious effort would have been made to arrange the family troubles. The Emperor is anxious to be reconciled with his mother, but difficulties are made on her side or by her friends. These the Queen might have dealt with. All stories of documents, whether a diary or anything else, having been brought away by the Queen from Berlin, are baseless.

The Parnell Commission bill was duly passed at 1 o'clock on Friday morning under a stringent application of the closure. Every amendment and every attempt by Mr. Parnell and his Liberal allies to narrow the scope of inquiry was pitilessly defeated, and the last vote taken showed a majority of 82 for the Government. The Irish then abandoned the useless contest and the bill went through without further opposition. Nothing has since been heard from Mr. Parnell, either about an action for libel or in answer to Mr. O'Shea's letter. That letter has made some impression, but the Home Rule press prefers to ignore it or treat it as beneath notice. Mr. Parnell presumably takes this line, on the ground that, as the whole case must now come before the Commission, it is useless to deal with particular charges in the press.

The last night of debate, which had gone on continuously since Monday, was enlivened by discussion of a side issue. Mr. Labouchere's attempt to raise a breach-of-privilege debate on a "Times" article was one of the many practical jokes played by this irrepressible jester. Serious men have long since agreed that the time has passed when technical breaches of privilege by the press can or ought to be dealt with by the House. Not a day passes when editors do not use language for which they might be brought to the bar of the House. Nor is the leading journal by any means the worst offender. What "The Times" said was "a coarse and violent flood of blackguardism and foul-mouthed oratory," one of the phrases which might be left to others. To apply the latter to Mr. Gladstone, who is scrupulous in his choice of words, is absurd. But Mr. Labouchere thought he saw a chance of scoring a point against "The Times," and perhaps he did, though nothing came of it but a fresh wrangle in the House, ending in the withdrawal of his motion. A part of this breach of privilege consisted in "The Times's" retort upon Mr. Morley. He had said in the House that if Mr. Redmond's account of a certain incident was true, "The Times" had committed an act of the deepest infamy. "That," replied "The Times," is a scandalous thing to say. Well, if a Member of Parliament may allege in the House that the conduct of a newspaper is infamous while a newspaper may not denounce this charge as scandalous, what becomes of the liberty of the press?

Mr. Redmond's case was that "The Times" accused him of approving the murder of Mr. Burke, because, while condemning in a speech at Manchester the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish, he said nothing of Mr. Burke. Mr. Redmond says he wrote "The Times" a letter explaining that he had not then heard that Mr. Burke had been killed; but "The Times" did not publish this letter, as it certainly was bound to do. This happened six years ago. Every journalist knows it is impossible now to test Mr. Redmond's statement, or ascertain whether his letter was received or not. But Mr. Morley next day withdrew the "if" of the day before and declared that "The Times" had been guilty of an act of the deepest infamy. There was no fresh evidence, but much fresh irritation. On the whole, neither "The Times" nor Mr. Morley comes well out of the dispute.

The feeling of the Home Rule press toward "The Times" is naturally bitter, but is carried to great lengths. One incident is interesting. Lord Rosebery made at Boston one of the strongest speeches yet heard against the policy of the present Ministry; against, especially, their conduct with reference to the Parnell Commission. He said, among other things with reference to "The Times's" charges against Mr. Parnell, that "The Times" was a political organ with a political object. This not being violent enough for present tastes, "The Daily News" next day published an anonymous letter insinuating that there was some secret understanding between "The Times" and Lord Rosebery; and this was strengthened by an editorial innuendo. "The Daily News" is pre-eminently a Gladstonian organ, and it stabs in the back Mr. Gladstone's most intimate friend and most loyal supporter.

This week's debate in the Lords has attracted little attention in the presence of continual excitement in the House of Commons. It was, however, noteworthy for a protest by Lord Carnarvon against the Local Government bill. That very able and eminent ex-Minister has altogether declined to follow his former chiefs down what he thinks the steep descent to democracy. Lord Salisbury replied that the slope instead of being steep was so gradual that you could hardly tell whether you were going up or down. Nevertheless, Lord Carnarvon, though unheeded by the public, gives voice to forebodings in which no small portion of the Tory party secretly shares.

The naval manoeuvres on the Irish coast, which began ten days ago, continue. Interest in them is mainly confined to the naval public. An idea has got abroad that the Admiralty have so arranged the conditions of the contest that the result is a foregone conclusion, the blockaded squadron having little chance against the too powerful enemy. There is the usual list of casualties to naval machinery.

The latest news from Mr. Stanley has now been carefully analyzed, with a result that is admitted to be depressing. Reports are both conflicting and vague; yet it is clear that Mr. Stanley had not reached Emin Pacha last April. Where he was nobody then knew, nor is anything gained by piecing out guesses. It is, however, believed that Major Barttelot with 900 men is well on his way to support his chief. That the White Pacha is not Mr. Stanley but Dr. Emin seems now the opinion of the best experts. Threatened by the Mahdi, Emin Pacha has resolved to attack, relying on the known hatred of the Mahdi prevailing among his subjects. There is talk of an expedition from Wady Halfa to lend Emin Pacha a hand, but it is most unlikely that the English Government will engage in a new war in the Soudan.

Mr. Spurgeon has again been heard from. He is grieved, yet not wholly cast down. "I have incurred much odium," he writes to the Baptists of Bryn Mawr, "yet am I not discouraged. Though I seem to have spoken in vain, I trust there is yet enough love for sound doctrine among Baptists to prevent these errors having unlimited sway." "These errors" are, of course, those which launched the Baptist Church on the "down grade." It is interesting to know that Mr. Spurgeon considers himself not one jot less a Baptist because he has quitted the Baptist Union.

London is emptying fast. Bad weather kept many in town who usually attend the Goodwood races. They may thank their stars, for backers have had a bad week of it.

Sir William Harcourt has gone to his house in New Forest, which, contrary to reports, neither is, nor is to be, let or sold.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone drove this morning to Berkhampstead, on a visit to Lady Sarah Spencer. To-morrow they go on to Mentmore, where they are to spend Sunday with Lord and Lady Rosebery.

Lord Salisbury, though no better, has remained in London, nor does he expect to leave town next week. Calm is expected to follow this week's Parliamentary storm, nor is the House likely to fill again till the autumn session begins.

Among passengers by the Umbria to-day is Sir Edgar Vincent, financial adviser to the Khedive and one of the rising lights in the financial world. He has long been popular in London for his personal qualities.

Joseph Arthur's American play, "The Still Alarm," has achieved a certain kind of success at the Princess Theatre. The fireman as a hero is hailed as a novelty and the business of the play is liked. The American fire-engine and firemen were alike strange to an English audience. Captain Shaw, Chief of the London Fire Brigade, sat in a private box and applauded. He thought the drill good, but not quicker than that here. The applause for all this was immense, but the play itself was voted weak, the dialogue flimsy, the plot threadbare, and the acting not wonderful. This, like "The Union Jack" at the Adelphi, is a good enough hot weather play and ekes out the dead season, which began some time since and still continues.

Mr. Mansfield's experiment with Mr. Stevenson's "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" is thought a bold one at such a moment, but Mr. Irving is behind Mr. Mansfield, and if anybody knows the British public, Mr. Irving knows it. Mr. Bandmann's version of the same story, after running the gauntlet in court, will be produced on Monday. Everything of Mr. Stevenson's is to be taken out.

Very few theatres are open. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's season of nearly four weeks closed on Thursday prosperously, in spite of the failure of "Francillon" to interest an English audience. Miss Sophie Eyre opens at the Gaiety to-night with still another American play, "Marina," founded on the eternal "Mr. Barnes of New-York." "The Mikado" drags on at the Savoy. "Dorothy" at the Prince of Wales's has nearly reached its seven-hundredth night. Mr. Charles Wyndham still keeps the Criterion open, playing his admirable "David Garrick" to good houses. "Sweet Lavender" holds the boards at Terry's, and "The Arabian Nights" at the Comedy. Mr. Lionel Brough draws well at Toole's. The audiences are in all cases largely foreign and provincial. G. W. S.

WILLIAM TO VISIT LONDON.

REBUFFED BY HIS ROYAL GRANDMOTHER—VICTORIA REFUSES TO GO TO BADEN.

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Berlin, Aug. 4.—Emperor William's monarchial itinerary, since his interview with Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruhe, has been modified in most important directions. It was supposed that the Emperor, in accordance with a family arrangement, would pay his respects to the Queen of England during her projected stay at Baden. The Queen, however, intimated through the German Embassy at London, that she did not intend to go either to Baden or to any other place on the Continent. Yesterday a formal note was sent by Prince Bismarck through the English Embassy asking that the Queen receive Emperor William, who, the note stated, intended to visit England. If the plans of Prince Bismarck are executed in time, Emperor William will arrive in London in November, during the winter session of Parliament. Under the present circumstances his visit to England will be a state and not a family affair, and the Queen must meet him either in London or at Windsor.

BUSH FIRES THREATENING OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Ont., Aug. 4.—Bush fires are devastating the country in every direction, and the loss will be great. What is known as Stewarton Bush, adjoining this city, is now on fire, and hundreds of citizens have gone out to prevent the flames crossing the city limits. A volunteer brigade has been formed to assist in fighting the flames. Word has just reached here that Eureka, a small village containing fifty houses and stores and a large steam sawmill, has been swept out of existence. The houses were mostly occupied by mill-hands, who lost everything, many of them barely escaping with their lives. Around Pembroke the whole country is reported to be in flames, and settlers are crowding toward the banks of the river for refuge. Several of the most valuable timber limits in the Ottawa river have already been destroyed. The fires are the most severe that have ever visited this section.

FRANCE INCENSED AT ITALY.

Paris, Aug. 4.—The protectorate established by Italy over Zolla has incensed France. The newspapers claim that Zolla belongs to France under a treaty signed by Abyssinnia and France.

London, Aug. 4.—"The St. James's Gazette's" correspondent at Berlin says that in political circles there the tension between France and Italy is regarded as of the most serious character.

THE DEAN OF CHICHESTER DEAD.

London, Aug. 4.—The Rev. J. W. Burgon, Dean of Chichester, is dead.

THE EGYPTIAN COTTON CROP.

Alexandria, Aug. 4.—The Produce Association has issued a report in regard to the Egyptian cotton crop. It says the plant is growing vigorously. Heat has offset the injury done by worms. The cultivated area has increased 18 per cent since 1887.

THE SULTAN'S GIFT TO WILLIAM III.

Constantinople, Aug. 4.—Munir Pacha, the special Turkish envoy to Berlin to present the Sultan's congratulations to Emperor William on his accession to the throne, took to the Emperor an autograph letter from the Sultan and a gold casket set with brilliants and containing a smoking set.

FLOODS IN EUROPE.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 4.—The river Vistula has overflowed its banks and inundated the country around Minsk.

Prague, Aug. 4.—The river Moldau continues to rise. The villages on its banks are submerged and many of the inhabitants have been drowned.

DEATH OF JOHN ROBINSON THE SHOWMAN.

Cincinnati, Aug. 4.—John Robinson, the veteran showman, died at 3 o'clock this morning. He had been for some weeks in a critical condition. He was more than eighty years of age, yet until within a short time he maintained a remarkable degree of vigor. He has spent almost his whole life in the management of circuses, being succeeded by his sons within the last few years. He had amassed a large fortune.

GAY BATHING SUIT AND NOVEL BOTH MUST GO.

Ocean Grove, N. J., Aug. 4.—The sale of novels in this place has been prohibited by the Ocean Grove Association. W. H. Wythe, son of a Methodist minister, last year was given a news and confectionery stand in the Association post office by George W. Evens, his father-in-law, who is secretary of the Association. When Wythe heard that the Association would not permit him to sell novels, in which he had done a good business last year, he refused to accept the stand as a gift. The Association is now endeavoring to lease the stand for $175.

The bathing suit question is again agitating the people at Asbury Park, and Chief of Police Bailey has been instructed to intercept all bathers who attempt to enter the water when not properly attired. Chief Bailey says that he has received numerous complaints from hotel guests and cottage owners.

MOVEMENTS OF NAVAL VESSELS.

Washington, Aug. 4.—A telegram received at the Navy Department this afternoon from Rear Admiral Chandler, announced that the Brooklyn sailed from Yokohama to-day for New-York by way of Good Hope.

Lieutenant Commander Emory, commanding the Thetis, reports his arrival at Ounalaska June 21, fourteen days from St. Paul. Kadik, saying that he would sail on June 26, for Unga, Belkopki and other settlements of Huemagin and Sambakli Islands of the Alaskan Peninsula, after which he would return to Behring's Sea, visiting Nushagak and other important settlements in Bristol Bay. He expected that the Thetis would return to Alaska in time to sail for St. Michael's and the North July 15.

CRAFTY SITTING BULL.

HE VISITS THE COMMISSIONERS.

PROFESSING PROFOUND FRIENDSHIP—THE OTHER CHIEFS STILL OBDURATE—THE BLUNT SPEECH OF JOHN GRASS—POWERFUL APPEALS TO PREJUDICE BY ALL THE GREAT CHIEFS AT A WAR COUNCIL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Standing Rock Agency, Aug. 4.—Blood is up among the chiefs at the reservation, over the charges made against them by the Commissioners. They are chagrined and enraged at the attempt of the Commissioners to force them to tell the Indians that they might walk up and sign the paper if they pleased. This was an insinuation that they were no better than the common people of their tribes, and has stung their pride. In his reply to the Commissioners, John Grass said: "You have said many things to shame the Indians. You accuse us of saying that the Great Father in Washington lies. We did not say that; we say that the Commissioners whom he sends to us are liars. We have told you that we do not want to sign the papers, and we meant it. We do not want to sign, because we are not getting enough for our lands. That is just what we mean. You talk too much to us. You tell us many things that are not in the bill; we have had our young men read the bill to us, and we know that you are telling us many things that are not true. You may say that I am not authorized to speak for the Indians. I say I am, and I stand here now talking for all the Indians."

Here the Indians supported Grass in his statement with a big "Ow!" Continuing, Grass said: "You have kept us here many days, and we want to go home and attend to our crops. We have looked at the red paper and at the black, and we can see no difference."

During this speech Sitting Bull was moving around among the Indians, giving them advice. The sensational charge of the Commission, and the spirited speech of Grass created a profound sensation among the Indians, and it was plain that many of the reds were dumfounded. They were surprised and dazed and were placed in a condition of wild expectancy.

To-day being the day for the issue of the rations, all of the Indians of the reservation, squaws and children, were present, and the Commissioners had a great opportunity to work upon their gratitude. It was a good day for explanation, and the Commissioners believe that they have made a break in the ranks of the opposition. The main objections so far advanced by the Indians are that the Government has not observed former treaties, that fifty cents per acre is not enough for their lands, that the present boundary lines of their treaty are not what the Indians were given to understand they would be. They also object very strongly to the Santees and Poncas being brought into their lands to intermingle with them. The Commissioners have told them in reply that the Government has done more than it promised, that their rations were largely increased by the treaty of 1876, and that upon the expiration of the time during which they were to be fed they were fed for four years by the Government. The Indians have been told what the Government has expended for them, and they have been shown as plainly as possible that if they will accept this treaty they will be one of the richest communities on the continent.

At the council of the Indians last night, the chiefs spoke bitterly of the Commission, and asked the Indians if they would follow the advice of men who would insult their chief. Sitting Bull spoke of the vast areas of land that the Indians have given to the whites, and said now they are trying to crowd up upon a pasture not big enough for cows. He called upon the chiefs, whom the Commissioners had told they could not speak for their Indians, to say something to remove the shame which had been placed upon them.

Gall, who is proud and imperious, arose amid the wild applause of the Indians, and said that he had been among them many years, that they knew him as their chief, and knew that he had always been true to them. He asked them if they would follow in the lead of these Commissioners whom they have never seen before, or follow their chiefs, who have led them to battle, and fought for them. He recalled the time that the whites pinned him to the ground with bayonets, near Fort Stevenson, and left him for dead, and said that, with all they had done, he had never been so badly hurt as when these Commissioners tell him that he cannot represent his people. Gall's speech was frequently applauded, and those who heard him say that he swayed the Indians with wonderful effect.

John Grass also spoke of the affront that he and the other chiefs had received from the Commissioners, and said that this alone was sufficient to prevent the Indians from signing. Mad Bear and Big Head also spoke, and Rain-in-the-face moved about on his pony, urging his friends to do as the chiefs advised them. It is now a war of influence between the chiefs and the Commissioners, and the fight is being waged with all known tactics on both sides.

Sitting Bull is by far the most cunning of the tribe, and is either doing all he can to deceive the Commissioners, or he is deceiving his own people. He called on the Commissioners to-day. He is the only chief that has made a call upon them, and has endeavored to gain their confidence. He told them that the other chiefs were very foolish, and that they did not know what they ought to do. He endeavored to convince the Commissioners that he is their friend, and that he will do all he can for them. This, together with his speeches to the Indians, puts old Bull in a very strange predicament, and if his call upon the Commissioners becomes known to the other chiefs, there will be a lively row in camp, unless it is the result of an understanding between all the chiefs. From the fact that nearly every known Lieutenant of Bull is opposed to the treaty, and that they have worked vigorously against it, the sincerity of his words to the Commissioners is doubted.

VOORHEES SPEAKING AT TERRE HAUTE.

HIS REVERENCE FOR THE GREENBACK—THE TARIFF AND WORKING PEOPLE.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 4.—Senator Voorhees tonight at Terre Haute opened the Democratic campaign with a speech, in the course of which he said:

"I propose to show that the history of the Republican party on the subject of taxation is the history of premeditated crime against the laboring people of the United States. Every movement in the machinery of Government set in motion by Republican leaders and managers has been to swell and bloat the gains of the rich and to increase the burden of the poor, to deprive labor of its honest reward and to reduce the industrial classes on the farms, in the workshops and in the mines, to the state and condition of serfs paying tribute to their rapacious masters. The Republican conspiracy to fasten the fangs of the money power in the struggling body of American labor and to enable gigantic usury and legalized robbery to suck the blood of every American industry took its first great step when, in authorizing legal tender currency in 1862, the greenback, the immortal and glorious greenback, was discriminated against and degraded in the money markets of the world by being made non-receivable for duties on imports and for interest on the bonded debt of the United States. In all the annals of nations, no financial measure was ever more wilfully wicked in conception and design, nor more far-reaching, oppressive and destructive to the rights of labor in its results than this."

The Senator declared that this act enabled the "Bull-Bondists" of Wall Street to realize a profit in "naked speculation" with the bonds and currency of the Nation of nearly $1,600,000,000.

Senator Voorhees then entered upon the tariff issue, and, among other things, said:

"For nineteen years the Republican party has caused the people to pay the manufacturers at least a hundred millions a year in consideration of a tax paid by the manufacturers to the Government, not a dollar of which tax during that time was paid. Nearly two billion dollars have thus been wrenched from the toiling masses."

THREE OF A FISHING PARTY DROWNED.

Dubuque, Aug. 4.—A triple drowning is reported from Fayette County. A party came to Motor, a small town on the Turkey River, yesterday to fish. Three of the number got into a deep hole and were drowned. Their names were Charles Ray, Mary S. Wales and John Martin. The two former were to be married next week. The other was a boy of fourteen. His father and mother stood helpless on the bank and saw him drown.

ARRESTED FOR MURDERING A FELLOW BOARDER

Binghamton, N. Y., Aug. 4 (Special).—As a result of the investigation by the Coroner's jury, District-Attorney Curtis at a late hour last night directed the arrest of J. D. Crandall, Arthur Howard, Deforest Lord, and John Heath, associates and fellow-boarders of "Fred" Stevens, the fireman who was found lying fatally injured before the boarding house of Mrs. S. C. Lord, No. 20 Sand-st., on Sunday morning. It is said that others are implicated and that more arrests may follow.

HEAT TEMPERED BY A STORM

NINETY-FIVE DEGREES IN THE SHADE REGISTERED.

TWO VIOLENT DOWN-POURS OF RAIN WITH VIVID LIGHTNING AND LOUD THUNDER IN THE EVENING—SEVERAL CASES OF HEAT PROSTRATION, NONE FATAL.

Happy they who yesterday could get out of the city—the hot, reeking, stewing city—and go where cool breezes whisper to the pines on mountain tops, or where the surf laughs and leaps, and hoary old Father Neptune grants to all the privilege of using his bath tub. That fiend infernal, humidity, held possession of the town and with old "Sol" doing pretty nigh his worst, the city was converted into a colossal stew pan where humanity boiled and simmered.

But with the gathering shadows of evening came the gathering clouds of a storm. Humidity had tried the patience of the atmosphere until it could bear no more, and, like an angry child, flew first into a windy passion and then burst into a flood of tears.

THE LIGHTNING BEGINS ITS WORK.

About 7 o'clock these gathering clouds took on an ominous look, and ten minutes later the bright messengers of the storm began to shoot their forked lengths along the horizon. The wind, too, came in fitful gusts that grew stronger and stronger, gathering up great clouds of dust and sand in its skirts and hurling them up and down the streets and across the town, blinding the eyes and smothering the cries of every unfortunate person who happened to be caught out. Then what a hurrying and skurrying for shelter there was! Men, women and children scattered in all directions as fast as their feet would carry them. Even the poor, jaded street-car horses caught the infection of fear and travelled as they never had travelled before, while not another sign of animal life was to be seen anywhere. It seemed as though all nature apprehended the approach of some dread disaster.

At half-past 7 o'clock the wind had assumed the steady velocity of a small hurricane, and the flying clouds of dust had become so large and heavy that scarcely anything could be seen through them, save the great flashes of lightning which had been steadily coming nearer, accompanied by the thunderous salutes of the artillery of the skies.

DOWN CAME THE DRENCHING RAIN.

At 8:20 o'clock there was a vivid flash that lighted up the whole city, followed almost instantly by a thunder peal that sounded like the explosion of a whole battery of artillery. Then the rain fell, first in scattering drops and finally in great drenching sheets, laying the dust and flooding the streets, but imparting a most grateful coolness to the parched air. Every few seconds there would be another blinding flash of lightning, which had a startlingly beautiful effect to those who witnessed it, as it shone for that one brief but vivid moment through the falling sheets of wind-driven rain, which seemed as a great glistening gossamer mantle of fairylike texture spread out over the city.

Just before 10 o'clock the storm subsided and humanity came out of its holes again, only to be driven back a quarter of an hour later by a second and even more violent storm, which lasted until close upon midnight, though its violence did not continue so long. During this latter storm there were several flashes of lightning that almost extinguished the electric lights on the Bridge, and lit up a large portion of Brooklyn so that a number of prominent buildings could be plainly distinguished.

LIVELY TIMES IN MANY OFFICES.

These violent electric disturbances in the atmosphere had their effect upon the telegraph and telephone wires throughout the city. Flashes of light could occasionally be seen along the wires, and in offices where there were keyboards and telegraphic instruments these flashed and snapped with a report like exploding crackers, while distinct shocks could be felt whenever the receiver of a telephone wire was placed to one's ear.

The electric lights also showed a resentful disposition, and sputtered and cracked in a most alarming manner. The telegraph wires in all directions from New-York, and particularly those running to New-England, worked badly during the storm, much press matter and other messages being delayed. At the operating room of the Western Union Telegraph Company it was said that the wind had not blown down any of the wires, nor caused any special damage. The bad working was due entirely to the electrical disturbances, and as soon as their effect had passed off the wires would be in good order again as usual.

At the Signal Service Office it was said that the storm had gathered a little west of here, and was moving eastward, but would probably soon die out, as it seemed to be only a summer thunderstorm of a purely local character. It is predicted by the same authority that the weather for the next few days will be much cooler.

During the day there were a good many cases of prostration from heat, but no fatal ones.

SUFFERINGS OF POOR PEOPLE.

Hard was it on the sons of toil who live by manual labor; hard on the poor sewing girls in stifling apartments stitching for miserable pay, but harder still on the poor mothers in the tenement districts who could see their little ones visibly wilting and drooping away like plants in a drouth, and yet could do nothing for them. At 8 o'clock at the Signal Service station on the Equitable Building, the thermometer registered 74 degrees, and the humidity was 76 per cent. That is to say that the atmosphere had 76 per cent of as much moisture as it could hold. It was something more than three-fourths "full." It had a stupefying effect on those who had to endure it. Perspiration didn't evaporate, but vital energies did, and life was rendered a burden and was endured only under protest. People went about their business listlessly. There was little said about the weather, for most people felt the complete inadequacy of language to do justice to it. As the day grew things got worse. At 3 o'clock at the Signal Service station the mercury was at 90 degrees and the humidity was 62. "That is something extraordinary with such a temperature," said Lieutenant Purssell, who is a man not given to exaggeration, but has a scientific fondness for cold facts. "Under ordinary circumstances it should be about 45 per cent."

"What hope of relief is there?" asked a reporter, planting himself where he could stop a good section of the breeze that swept in through a small circular window.

"Well, I think," said Lieutenant Purssell, with provoking indecision, "that we shall have a thunder storm between now and to-morrow noon and then things will cool off."

OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY TROUBLED, TOO.

Those who take comfort from the thought that others share their misery will rejoice to hear that it was hot and "muggy" yesterday all along the Atlantic coast north of the Chesapeake and so far inland as the lakes. And those rare mortals who rejoice in the good fortune of others will be delighted to hear that on Friday night rain fell at forty-seven stations east of the Rocky Mountains, and in that section of Uncle Sam's farm people are feeling pretty comfortable and taking an interest in the ordinary affairs of life. The weather was also "normal" in the Southern States and the happy inhabitants of Montana and Dakota were taking exercise to keep themselves warm, the temperature there averaging between 48 degrees and 50 degrees. Even such a big thing as the weather can't dominate and subdue this vast and glorious country all at once, as it can some of those effete little monarchies of Europe. Somewhere people have a good time of it, however much they may have cause to grumble at the clerk of the weather elsewhere.

Hudnut's thermometer, which registers what people generally feel, and not what the weather clerks base their calculations upon, recorded 95 degrees at 3 o'clock, or 5 degrees more of caloric than the signal service thermometer.

In almost any other country under the sun, with such weather as yesterday, people would lay off and loaf, and regard work as a sin; but here, somehow, people managed to get through their business as usual, no matter what it was. It shows what a wonderful fund of reserve energy Americans have.

The seaside resorts within easy distance of the city did a rushing business yesterday, and trains and steamers fairly groaned under their weight of human freight. Though New-York was a stew-pan, people didn't have to go far to get out of it.

THE STORM DESTRUCTIVE IN NEW-YORK STATE.

Port Jervis, N. Y., Aug. 4.—The heaviest rain of the season occurred at 5 o'clock this afternoon, accompanied by hail. Lightning struck the spires of both the Methodist and the Catholic churches in the village, inflicting slight damages. A barn two miles from here was struck and burned, and Zahn's Hotel, on Milford road, is also reported to have been burned.

Rondout, N. Y., Aug. 4.—A severe thunderstorm, accompanied by hail, broke over this place this afternoon. Balls of fire were seen moving along the ground. A barn was burned and some people struck by lightning.

SUFFERING FROM HEAT IN PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4 (Special).—The heat to-day has been intense, and the streets are comparatively deserted. A number of sunstrokes are reported. The thermometer was 97.

TRYING TO BURN A DWELLING.

EFFORTS WORTHY A BETTER CAUSE.

BEDS SOAKED WITH KEROSENE—COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL ENOUGH TO DESTROY THE HOUSE—HOW THE ATTEMPT WAS THWARTED.

Firemen and policemen were aroused to indignation yesterday by an attempt to burn down the house No. 125 East Eleventh-st., next door to the office of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. Considering the pains which had been taken to prepare the house for speedy destruction, it was most surprising that the attempt was not successful. The house is a three-story brick dwelling.

A patch tailor, who is innocent of acon, lives in the basement. The rest of the house has been occupied for some time by the family of Herman Schaefer, a German laborer of middle age. He is described as a quiet, inoffensive man, who goes out to work pretty regularly at such jobs as he can get and submits to the rule of his Irish wife.

Mrs. Schaefer is said to have a hot temper, but until yesterday she had not been suspected of dishonesty. Among her neighbors she passed as a zealous Christian woman, despite her infirmity of temper, and for several years she has been a communicant at St. Augustine's Chapel in East Houston-st. She has two daughters, fifteen and eleven years, who recently returned from the country, where they had been boarding at the expense of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The family revenue has been increased largely by the efforts of Mrs. Schaefer, who has let furnished rooms in the house to six lodgers, all of them men.

Schaefer went to work yesterday morning and the six lodgers left the house as usual about the same time. It was understood that Mrs. Schaefer and her daughters were to go on an excursion and that the house would be closed up until late in the afternoon. Mrs. Schaefer and one of the daughters were seen to leave the house, after locking the front door, shortly before 9 a. m. The other daughter had probably been sent away in advance. The mother and daughter had not been gone many minutes when an Italian ice-cream vender living in the rear house noticed smoke issuing from the windows of Mrs. Schaefer's back parlor on the first floor. He pried open the shutters and saw that the room was on fire. Running out to the street he gave an alarm and the firemen arrived in time to break in and extinguish the flames before much damage had been done. A bed in the back room had been ruined, but the fire had not extended beyond that room.

Then the firemen began to make discoveries. The half-burned bed had been soaked with kerosene. On the front parlor floor was a gallon can of benzine. All the doors on the first floor had been left open, and the walls of the rooms had been wet with benzine in many places. Cans and bottles which had contained oil and benzine were found on the floors of two bedrooms over the back parlor. Closets off the rooms had been wet with the inflammable liquids. Worse still, packages of gunpowder and cartridges were found on the shelves of the closets. An excelsior mattress, soaked with oil, had been squeezed between the shelves in one closet. Pieces of burned paper were found in each closet. Evidently the paper had been ignited and thrown into the closets with the expectation of starting the mines of oil and powder, but the fire fiend who had made all the extensive preparations had made a blunder at the last moment and had shut the closet doors, thus keeping out the air and smothering the flames. Sheets and bed-quilts, wet with benzine, were hanging out of the open drawers of bureaus in the up-stairs rooms. It was noticed that nearly all clothing of value had been removed from the rooms used by the Schaefer family.

The police and firemen came to the conclusion that many articles had been removed from the house by Schaefer or his wife. It was believed that the family property was insured for more than its value, and that Mrs. Schaefer had started the fire with the expectation of collecting the insurance money. Had the fire gained much greater headway before it was discovered the house doubtless would have been burned out so completely that the origin of the flames could not have been discovered.

Fire Marshal Frank was summoned to the house, and he made a careful survey of the rooms. He left the place in charge of the police with instructions to arrest Mrs. Schaefer as soon as she could be found.

Schaefer came home early last evening, and appeared to be struck dumb with surprise when he heard about the attempt to burn up his home. His remarks to the police showed that he suspected his wife and that he was not on the best of terms with her.

Mrs. Schaefer came home from the excursion of Grace Chapel about 8 p. m., and was arrested. In her pocket were several articles of jewelry, valuable private papers and two fire insurance policies, each for $1,000, on her furniture. She denied her guilt, but the police said the proof against her was positive.

FIRE AND WATER ON LONG ISLAND.

BUILDINGS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING—FIRE ENGINES ABANDONED ON IMPASSABLE ROADS.

The storm which passed over Long Island last night was severe and it is expected that when full reports are received it will be found that an immense amount of damage was done. Telephone and telegraph wires are down in all directions, and communication with nearly all points is practically shut off. At 9:15 o'clock lightning struck a large barn of E. C. Woolsey, on Bowery Bay. The fire departments of Blissville, Long Island City, Dutch Kills and Astoria attempted to reach the scene, but could not get nearer than within a mile. Some of the engines had to be abandoned. The roads were nothing but runways for torrents of water that nearly swept the firemen off their feet. The blaze from the building illuminated the sky with such a glare that it was at first thought that the immense terra cotta works at Ravenswood were ablaze.

The building and an immense quantity of hay stored within it were totally destroyed, involving a loss of fully $3,500. Mr. Woolsey had housed in it a number of valuable horses, two of which had been purchased but a few days ago at a cost of $1,000. It is believed that so rapid was the spread of the fire that none of the animals was saved. Should this prove to be the case the loss will reach at least $10,000. Adjoining the barn, upon the "Casino Farm," the new track of the Long Island Jockey Club is being laid out. A number of trees here were struck by lightning. Many people believed that never outside the tropics had the lightning been so vivid. Passengers on the incoming trains on the north side division of the Long Island Railroad reported a large fire at Flushing, but no particulars could be ascertained. There was also a fire in Woodside.

The house of Captain Edward Halsey, at Southampton, was struck and the electric fluid ran through the house, but did no serious damage to the building. Mrs. Halsey, who was sitting in a chair, was thrown violently to the floor and stunned. She remained unconscious for some time. The extent of her injuries is at present unknown.

ILLNESS OF ROBERT GARRETT.

OBLIGED TO LEAVE RICHFIELD SPRINGS BY THE ADVICE OF HIS DOCTOR.

Baltimore, Aug. 4.—At the office of Robert Garrett & Sons Charles F. Mayer, an intimate friend of Mr. Garrett, said that Mr. Garrett had gone to Richfield Springs to take sulphur baths, and that they had seriously disagreed with him. Mr. Garrett then sent for his family physician, Dr. Alan P. Smith, who advised him to leave there but not to return to his country seat at Uplands. Mr. Garrett will go to Saratoga or to New-York City. Mr. Mayer said that from their advices Mr. Garrett was not believed to be seriously ill. Dr. Smith, in a letter dated yesterday, said that Mr. Garrett was no worse than when he returned from Europe.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS PUT OUT

THE UNITED STATES COMPANY'S STATION STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

FLAMES SHOOT OUT FROM THE BIG SWITCHBOARD—THE LAMPS IN A LARGE PART OF THE CITY EXTINGUISHED—DYNAMOS DAMAGED AND OTHER MACHINERY INJURED.

Just before 9 o'clock last night, while the thunder-storm was at its height, there was a terrific crash in the building Nos. 414 and 416 East Twenty-ninth-st., near the East River, which is a sub-station of the United States Illuminating Company, and a few minutes later all the electric lights in the district between Twenty-third and Eighty-fifth sts., and as far west as Eighth-ave., suddenly went out. The sub-station had been struck by lightning.

About a dozen men were in the two-story building when a blinding flash, accompanied simultaneously by a deafening thunder clap, nearly knocked them off their feet. A moment later the switch board against the front wall of the building was ablaze and the flames were shooting up toward the roof. An alarm of fire brought several companies of firemen in a hurry through the drenching rain. At that moment it seemed as if the deluge from above must quickly put an end to the fire, but the flames only gathered more force as streams from three engines were added to the downpour, and a third alarm was sounded.

THE MEN IN THE PLACE HAD FLED.

The men in the sub-station had fled at the beginning of the outbreak, most of them being terror-stricken by the lightning. For a few minutes the flames rose in a solid column from the roof, but the streams from a dozen engines soon began to tell, and before 10 o'clock the fire was out. The trouble was not over yet, however. Flashes of lightning occurred at frequent intervals, and every time there was an unusually bright flash streams of fire seemed to shoot out of the many electric light wires which entered the building, and there was a crash which made the damaged roof shake. Everything in the building was wet, and the firemen said that wet things conducted electricity easily. They thought the fire had been caused by lightning which travelled in on the wires.

George Roth, an inspector for the Board of Electrical Control, agreed with the firemen. He also suspected that some of the wires entering the building were not properly insulated.

WHAT THE SUPERINTENDENT SAYS.

For a time nobody connected with the sub-station could be found. The engineer had left the place after drawing the boiler fires and shutting down the machinery. William Roe, superintendent of the station, was found about 10 o'clock. He said he thought the lightning had struck the roof of the building. It was plain to him that the station would be disabled for a time. There were twenty-seven dynamos in the building, and they had cost over $3,000 each, or about $85,000 altogether. It was impossible to tell how badly the dynamos were damaged. Mr. Roe thought that the chief damage would result from the water causing rust in some parts of the machines. The damage to the building did not exceed $2,000.

At 9:40 p. m. an electric light wire set fire to a shed at No. 629 Third-ave. and caused a slight damage by fire.

PLAYING HAVOC IN A RESTAURANT.

During the thunder storm last night about 100 people were peaceably eating their suppers in the Dairy Kitchen, in Fourteenth-st., when a rampant thunderbolt struck the electric wires leading into and lighting the kitchen. The wires, which enter over the door, run along the centre of the room underneath the floor, which is of ground glass, in a wooden case. The insulation material on the wires in this case was burned and the wires themselves were entirely consumed. For a few minutes it looked as though the building was doomed, as the bright flashes and glare of the fire could be plainly seen through the glass floor, but in spite of this the utmost coolness prevailed and few of those present left their seats, while the orchestra played a lively march and the waiters waited. A force of employes, under the direction of the head waiter, manfully faced the erratic flames, and with hand grenades, fire extinguishers and water buckets managed to put out the fire by the time the firemen had arrived. But for the coolness and presence of mind of Mr. Conrad, the head waiter, and others, a serious fire might have occurred. The damage will amount to about $100, part of the loss being in fancy candy boxes.

The lights in the City H