

LONDON'S LATEST NEWS.

PROTECTION AGAINST FLOOD OF CHEAP STEEL SUGGESTED.

MR. BRODRICK'S PLAN FOR INCREASING ARMY—NEW BISHOP OF LONDON.

London, March 11. J. A. M.—John Bull wants Uncle Sam to go in for free trade, and expects Uncle Sam to believe he can do nothing better in his own interests. At the same time suggestions are appearing in certain quarters that the iron and steel industries of Great Britain should be protected against the flood of cheap steel, which is expected to be sent here from America when the vast new trust gets into working order. As a matter of fact, Englishmen would be delighted if the formation of what is described as the mightiest trade combination the world has ever known should lead directly or indirectly to the removal of the American tariff against the products of European furnaces. But it is rather amusing to find "The Observer" expressing the wish that it will prove to be an agency in the furtherance of the development of sound economic principle and practice on the other side of the Atlantic.

So far no more information has been received with regard to the reported negotiations between Lord Kitchener and General Botha. Fears are being expressed lest the British should be too easy. Already from Cape Colony comes a strong plea that the British ministry should refuse to grant anything which could be considered terms by the Boers. In this country opinions are divided on the question, but undoubtedly the general view is that the imperial government must refuse to embarrass itself with pledges as to the future organization of the conquered territory.

A note sent from Washington to the allied powers, stating that the United States considers it inexpedient for the Chinese to make an independent arrangement with any foreign power, is favorably commented upon by "The Chronicle," but it is not referred to editorially by any other paper this morning.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is closely guarding his budget secret, and nobody can say with certainty that he intends to tax sugar. In anticipation of the tax on this commodity, however, the import of sugar showed an excess last month of fifty thousand tons over the quantity imported in February, 1900. Another indication is found in the fact that the customs authorities are endeavoring to get together a staff of officials possessing a knowledge of the sugar trade.

The feeling is growing among military men that Mr. Brodrick's reformed army will not prove as satisfactory as the nation would like. For one thing, it is feared that the additional inducements offered to the militia will not be sufficient to attract the desired recruits to that arm of the service and raise it to the normal aggregate of one hundred thousand men contemplated, but not attained hitherto. There is already a good deal of jealousy between the older forces of the army and the Imperial Yeomanry on account of the difference of pay, and the recruiting for the regulars and militia is just now very slack. When peace is restored in South Africa, it is improbable that there will be enough enthusiasm for the army to bring the battalions up to their proper strength.

Reference was made yesterday in many London churches to the appointment of Dr. Winington Ingram to succeed Dr. Mandell Creighton as Bishop in the most populous and the most perplexing diocese in the world. Archdeacon Sinclair with much eulogy said the whole Diocese of London would rejoice to be guided and ruled by one so single-minded, self-devoted, eloquent and humorous as the new Bishop, who already, at the age of forty-three, had endeared himself to West and East London alike. The appointment is certainly a very popular one. The enthronization will take place at St. Paul's Cathedral early in May.

EARL ROBERTS AND THE BLACK EAGLE. Berlin, March 10.—It is rumored in court circles that Earl Roberts "thankfully returned" to Emperor William the insignia of the Order of the Black Eagle, conferred at the time of the Kaiser's visit to England, after noticing the unfavorable comment in the German press upon the bestowal of the honor.

This would explain the omission of the customary announcement in the "Reichsanzeiger" of the conferring of such a distinction.

LISBON POLICE WOUND STUDENTS.

BRUTALITY DENOUNCED TO AUTHORITIES—CENSORSHIP ENFORCED.

Lisbon, March 10.—As the result of a manifestation against the Jesuits by students of the Polytechnic School the police entered the institution and struck many with swords. Among the wounded are some infantry and cavalry cadets.

The affair has caused lively indignation, and the assembled students have passed resolutions addressed to the House of Peers and Chamber of Deputies denouncing the brutality of the police.

Madrid, March 10.—"El Heraldo" makes the following statement:

There have been further anti-Jesuit manifestations in Lisbon, making necessary the calling out of the Municipal Guard, which is now patrolling the city. Strict censorship is enforced.

DE WET ESCAPES NORTHWARD.

London, March 11.—"The Times" publishes the following dispatch from Asasvogel Kop, March 9: General De Wet has escaped northward by a forced march with four hundred men. His objective is believed to be the vicinity of Kroonstad.

Four other Boer leaders are still in the southwestern part of Orange River Colony.

Now that General De Wet is back in his own country, it will be almost impossible to operate against him. Just so soon as he is pressed his commando dissolves, to meet again a few days later.

Only a few bands of Boers are now left in Cape Colony.

THE PLAGUE AT CAPE TOWN.

Cape Town, March 10.—The official reports regarding the progress of the bubonic plague in Cape Town since the outbreak show a total of twenty-two deaths and 102 cases.

The Malays gathered to-day to oppose the removal of a Malay who had been attacked by the disease and of several persons who had come into contact with the victim. The police were overpowered, and the persons who had come into contact with the Malay made their escape. In the event of a repetition of this experience, it will be necessary to employ an armed force, so that trouble is anticipated.

MASSING CHINESE FORCES.

PRINCE TUAN AND TUNG FU HSIANG, WITH THIRTY THOUSAND MEN, PREPARED TO RESIST ARREST.

Shanghai, March 10.—Dispatches from Lanchow assert that General Tung Fu Hsiang with twenty thousand men, and Prince Tuan, with ten thousand men, are at Ning-Hsu, prepared to resist arrest.

LI HUNG CHANG AGAIN ILL.

HIS PHYSICIAN SAYS HIS LIFE HANGS BY A THREAD—COURT DESIROUS OF RETURNING TO PEKING.

Peking, March 10.—Li Hung Chang is again seriously ill, and his physician says his life hangs by a thread.

Prince Ching and Earl Li seem to think that by spreading rumors of the court's unwillingness to return to Peking unless this or that thing is done they can influence the deliberations of the ministers of the powers. As a matter of fact, according to trustworthy reports from Sian-Fu, the imperial personages are extremely uncomfortable at Sian-Fu, where they live in the house of the Governor, which is only a small structure.

French missionaries who have just returned here from Sian-Fu believe that the Empress Dowager would bring the court back to Peking on the first offer of the allies having as a basis the removal of all troops except the legation guards.

The foreign envoys will not hold a general meeting until Tuesday, owing to the absence of M. Pichon, the French Minister, at Pao-Ting-Fu.

The United States Signal Corps will be ready to go away in a week, according to instructions. No transport has been announced, however.

FORTIFICATIONS IN SHAN-SI.

CHINESE PREPARING TO RESIST AN ADVANCE OF THE ALLIES, IT IS SAID.

London, March 11.—"It is not likely that the Powers will oppose the schemes of Russia," says the Peking correspondent of "The Morning Post," telegraphing on Saturday. "The situation is regarded as very gloomy. Even the Chinese plenipotentiaries declare openly that intervention by the Powers is not desirable unless they are prepared to back up their protests."

"There are reports from the Province of Shan-Si that the Chinese are constructing extensive fortifications and mobilizing large bodies of troops to resist an advance of the allies."

"General Chaffee refuses to allow the decapitation of several notorious Boxer chiefs, guilty of murder, whom a Chinese judge has condemned. The Americans are the only foreigners who have carried out no executions in Peking."

JAPAN WANTS HER NEW BATTLESHIP.

THE HAINSUU TO HASTEN TO YOKOHAMA—SITUATION IN CHINA REGARDED AS SERIOUS.

London, March 11.—"The Japanese battleship Hainssu, just completed in England, has been ordered to proceed hither with all possible speed," says the Yokohama correspondent of "The Daily Mail." "Other orders given to the Japanese navy indicate the seriousness with which the Japanese Government views the situation in the Far East."

"Well informed Japanese regard Russia's action in Manchuria as a gigantic bluff, inspired by the notion that England's hands are tied in South Africa; but as Germany is only half-hearted in the maintenance of Chinese integrity a coalition with Japan is improbable, and Japan is too much embarrassed in her finances to do more than to protest and to endeavor to secure compensating advantages in Corea."

STORMING GATE OF GREAT WALL.

Berlin, March 10.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Count von Waldersee:

Peking, March 10.—Colonel Ledebur's column stormed a gate of the Great Wall eighty miles west of Pao-Ting-Fu, Friday, March 8, capturing four guns.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN PADDOCK.

Peking, March 10.—Gloom has been great over the entire American command by reason of the death of Captain Richard B. Paddock, of the 6th United States Cavalry, who died yesterday at Tien-Tsin from pneumonia. The funeral services will be held to-morrow.

CHINA AND MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

London, March 11.—"Chinese signature of the Manchurian convention is practically assured," says the St. Petersburg correspondent of "The Daily Mail," "because Russia last August sent to the empress dowager 7,500 pounds of bar silver."

"BLOODY RAIN" IN SICILY AND ITALY.

Attributed to dust from Africa blown across Mediterranean.

Palermo, Sicily, March 10.—A strange phenomenon is now witnessed here. Ever since last night a heavy red cloud has extended over the city, the sky being a deep red. The rain now falling resembles drops of coagulated blood.

This phenomenon, which is called "bloody rain," is attributed to dust from the African deserts, transported by the heavy south wind now blowing.

Rome, March 10.—The phenomenon now to be seen in Sicily extends also over Southern Italy. At some the sky is yellow, and at Naples a rain of sand has fallen, the heavens being dark red.

BUFFET-DEBOULEDE DUEL ARRANGEMENT.

Brussels, March 10.—M. Paul de Cassagnac, the well known French Conservative Deputy and editor of "L'Autorité," of Paris, arrived here to-day with M. Paul Buffet, brother of M. Andre Buffet, and M. Augustin Fernand de Ramel, of the French Chamber, who will act as second witness for M. Andre Buffet in the projected duel with M. Paul Debouledé.

Genoa, March 10.—M. Paul Debouledé arrived here this morning from Barcelona, accompanied by his sister and M. Marcel-Habert.

COERCION OF LABORERS IN ECUADOR.

Kington, Jamaica, March 10.—The government of Jamaica, acting on behalf of the British Government, has sent a strong protest to the President of Ecuador against the employment of soldiers to compel thousands of laborers from Jamaica to work under the McDonald syndicate in the construction of the railroad from Guayaquil to Quito.

The protest is almost an ultimatum, as it calls for an immediate discontinuance of the coercive measures.

COUNTRESS ACQUITTED OF ARSON.

Berlin, March 10.—The trial of Countess von Schlieben, accused of having set fire to her own villa in order to obtain the insurance money, which began on Friday in Berlin, ended at 2:30 o'clock this morning in a verdict of acquittal. The Countess was immediately liberated.

Cure the Colds that come in a night with JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.—Adv.

SHIP GROUNDS, CREW SULK.

CAPTAIN AND MATE STEER, WHILE COOK AND MESSBOY STOKE.

Mutineers, who thought vessel unsafe after mishap, and stuck to fore-castle, arrested here.

The British tramp steamer Campdown, which arrived yesterday from Cuban ports, laden with sugar, brought in twelve mutineers, six sailors and six firemen, all members of her own crew, who had refused to do their duty. The men did not forcibly rebel against Captain Smith, but gathered in the fore-castle and refused to work. At 8 o'clock yesterday morning Captain Smith read his log to them and asked if they had any reply to make. They had not, and were therefore arrested, sent to shore and locked up in the Church-st. station, where they are now. They will be heard to-day.

On March 4, at 5 a. m., the Campdown went ashore on the Cape Lookout Shoals. She was fast until 10:30 p. m., March 6, when she floated. She lay at anchor, in order that an examination of her condition could be made, with breakers close by until 1 a. m., March 7, when it was found that she was not leaking. At that hour Captain Smith ordered the sailors and firemen to turn to. They asked him what he intended doing with the ship. He replied that he had decided to take her to New-York. The men replied that they did not want to risk their lives on her. Captain Smith said that if she was leaking more than he thought she ought to be would take her to Norfolk. He then asked the men willing to help him to take places on his side of the ship. Not a man joined him. The sailors and firemen then went to the fore-castle, where they remained.

Captain Smith then ordered the mate to heave the anchors. The ship got under way in a half hour, with the messboy and the cook and the mate helping the engineers to fire, and the chief officer and the captain steering and keeping the lookout. At 8 o'clock that evening Captain Smith called the mutineers before him, and asked them if they still refused to help work the vessel. They said "Yes" and returned to the fore-castle.

The Campdown arrived at Sandy Hook at 6 o'clock on Saturday night. The men were arrested yesterday. The sailors are Thomas Fenster, an Irishman; New Hager, a Norwegian; "Ed" Pullock, an Englishman; Ina Culberg, a Dane; P. Linguist, a Norwegian; and Carl Mattson, a Finn. James Wilson, an Englishman; Daniel Rosengren, a Norwegian; John Smith, an Englishman; Stewart Houston, an Irishman; W. Sampson, an Irishman; and Frederick Johnson, a Swede, are the firemen.

WINDS RAMPANT OUT WEST.

CHICAGO TELEPHONE POLES BLOWN DOWN—CITIES CUT OFF FROM COMMUNICATION.

Chicago, March 10.—One of the worst windstorms of the season struck Chicago to-day and during the two hours that it was at its height damaged property throughout the city to the extent of \$175,000. Many heavy plate glass windows were blown in. Telegraph and telephone companies were the worst sufferers, and it will be some time before order can be restored. Thousands of poles were blown down, and Chicago was practically isolated from the west and northwest by telephone and telegraph to-night and all day to-day.

The long distance telephone service was crippled so badly that it was of little value. Up to a late hour to-night neither Milwaukee nor Minneapolis could be reached by long distance telephone.

The storm is believed to have been most severe in Southern Wisconsin. Along a short stretch of the Milwaukee road in Southern Wisconsin, five hundred telegraph poles came down. Reports from many points in Indiana and Kentucky also indicate heavy damage to the telegraph. The Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies suffered severely by fallen poles. It was estimated that there were fewer than five thousand poles in the city thrown down by the fury of the wind and storm. Service almost as far west as Omaha was stopped until this evening.

Trains entering Chicago were delayed all the way from ten minutes to one hour. The Burlington and the Milwaukee and St. Paul companies were the worst sufferers in this respect. All the roads suffered damage to their tracks and switch yards.

At the life saving station at the mouth of the Chicago River it was considered the worst gale which has struck Chicago harbor since 1861. The water lashed into fury, came up to the life saving station and flooded the floor for the first time in twelve years. Most of the shipping was protected in winter quarters, so that the damage done to it was slight.

TORNADOES DESTROY LIFE.

KENTUCKY, ARKANSAS AND TEXAS SUFFER FROM VIOLENT STORMS.

Fulton, Ky., March 10.—In the terrific storm that swept this section last night the damage was greatest at Clinton and Hickman. At Clinton twenty negro cabins were demolished, two negroes being mortally hurt and many others badly hurt. Part of Marvin Collier's saw mill and the water works plant was destroyed. Eight freight cars on the Illinois Central switch at the station at Clinton were blown from the track. The Baptist Church at Hickman was destroyed by wind. A large number of tenant houses and barns were blown down in Fulton and Hickman counties, and the loss of property is large.

Little Rock, Ark., March 10.—A heavy rain, wind and thunder storm swept over Arkansas yesterday, and fifteen business houses were unroofed, three others were blown down and many stores flooded. Reports from Pine Prairie say that a tornado struck there, wrecking everything in its path. A boy named Turner was killed.

Wills Point, Tex., March 10.—The storm did great damage in the country districts southwest and west of this place. It is feared that many lives have been lost in the farming communities and villages. Reports from Terrell, west of here, say that the heaviest rain on record occurred throughout that section to-day. Several persons are reported drowned or missing.

BIG STROCK BARN BURNED DOWN.

Rochester, N. Y., March 10 (Special).—A severe lightning storm passed over the city between 9 and 10 o'clock to-night. At Charlotte, seven miles from here, a cloudburst occurred. The village was flooded and considerable damage was done, and every cellar in the village contains from two to four feet of water on account of the inability of the sewers to carry off the deluge. The property damage cannot be estimated at this time. At the same time lightning struck the barns on the stock farm of ex-Congressman Halbert S. Greenleaf, and they were burnt to the ground, together with their contents, consisting of forty-three blooded Jersey cows, twenty-four thoroughbred horses and two hundred tons of hay and straw. Mr. Greenleaf's stock farm was the largest in the county. The buildings were valued at \$15,000. At one time Colonel Greenleaf included among his blooded horses the two blooded Arabians presented to General Grant in his tour around the world.

DETROIT'S TELEPHONES DISABLED.

Detroit, March 10.—More than ten thousand telephones were out of service to-day by the rain, which fell and froze during the entire morning. The thirty miles an hour wind which accompanied the rain raised havoc with the wires, weighed down as they were by ice. Officials of the Michigan Telephone Company to-night estimated their total loss in the State at \$20,000. Streetcar service was greatly impaired during the morning by the ice. The storm was general throughout the southern part of the State, wires suffering everywhere.

NEW CUSTOMS RULES DELAY.

INSPECTORS TAKE NEARLY FOUR HOURS TO EXAMINE BAGGAGE OF 272 PASSENGERS.

The way the new customs rules will work could not have been shown better than they were yesterday when they had their first real test. The greatest care had been taken to arrange for their trial. Five big steamers came in; the St. Louis, the Germanic, the Umbria, the Hannover and the Seneca. What is more, they came in close together. The result was that the customs inspectors found themselves up to their ears in business. They were principally green men, who obeyed their orders with an exactness quite unusual. They did not merely rummage around the trunks and boxes, but saw the bottom of each one.

Thirty-one inspectors were sent to the St. Louis of the American Line, which arrived from Southampton. The ship reached her pier at 9 a. m. At 10:30 a. m. things were dragging so that ten more inspectors were sent for. Still things went slowly. The line at the desk moved two hundred feet in one hour. Not until 12:30 p. m., after almost four hours' work, had forty-one inspectors examined the baggage of the 272 saloon and cabin passengers.

D. Cooper, a former captain of Company D, 7th Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., denounced the delay. He said: "Such delay is scandalous, especially as all the baggage was off the ship within fifteen minutes after her arrival. I have made many trips between Egypt and France, where the French customs officials keep a very sharp lookout for cigarette and cigar smuggling, but I have never met with such delay as I have encountered here to-day. I am quite sure that the people of England would not stand this sort of thing."

G. P. Messeroy, another of the St. Louis' passengers, remarked: "Only good natured Americans would submit to these ridiculous restrictions. In the country of the Czar Nihilists would throw you into jail if you refused to telephone from the pier to my club, to have them reserve me a room, and there was an awful lot of trouble about it. Finally, on giving my parole and word of honor to return to the pier after telephoning, I was permitted to go across West-st. As a matter of fact, we were held as hostages for our baggage."

Colonel J. H. Storey, who superintends the work of the inspectors, said that the delay was greater than usual on account of the great amount of dutiable goods on the St. Louis. There were many dressmakers and milliners on board, and Colonel Storey said that there had been so much trouble heretofore over passing the goods of these women that particular pains were now being taken. He thought that with experience things would run more smoothly.

Colonel Storey heard many complaints, as might have been expected. These came chiefly from persons who were unable to get by the lines to greet and assist their friends. Court-essies were requested, but refused.

Among the passengers on the St. Louis was Joseph Choate, third secretary of the American Embassy in London. He is on an indefinite leave of absence.

The inspectors also met the Germanic, of the White Star Line, which arrived from Liverpool after a rough voyage. The work was slower, if possible, than it had been on the American Line pier.

Eighteen inspectors met the Umbria, of the Cunard Line, when she arrived from Liverpool. This number was afterward increased to twenty-eight. The passengers fretted, and their friends fumed, but that made no difference. Representatives of express companies and railroads were excluded from the pier.

KILLED BY ELECTRIC WIRE.

ONE MAN DIES INSTANTLY AND ANOTHER MAY BE FATALLY INJURED.

Charles Zalinski, twenty-five years old, of No. 207 Berry-st., Brooklyn, was instantly killed last night by a wire which fell from the poles of the Western Union Telegraph Company at Grand and Berry sts. The wire, which was broken by the storm, fell over the trolley wire of the Grand-st. line, causing a current, which, when it struck Zalinski, fatally burned him.

"Gus" Specker, a barber, forty years old, of No. 488 Metropolitan-ave., in attempting to pull the wire away from Zalinski received a heavy shock, and both of his hands were burned to the bone. Ambulance Surgeon Bocht, from the Eastern District Hospital, tried for five minutes to revive Zalinski, but found that he was dead. The body was taken to the Bedford-ave. station. Stecker is in the Eastern District Hospital, where it is feared that the shock will prove fatal.

FEELING IN CUBA.

RADICAL ELEMENT HOPEFUL THAT UNITED STATES WILL RECEDE.

Havana, March 10.—Although the political demonstrations have ended, the radical element in the Cuban Constitutional Convention has not given up hope that the United States will recede from the position taken regarding the Platt amendment. The radical press is doing everything in its power to keep this view before the public. It attributes the action of the United States Congress to the influence of the trusts, declaring that the American people "are in favor of giving Cuba absolute independence and of rebuking the action of the Administration." Articles from American papers which seem to sustain the attitude of the convention are receiving wide publicity.

Señor Guaberto Gomez says in "La Patria": "Let us, the champions of our country's independence and sovereignty, preserve the calm, dignified attitude we have assumed. Do not let us lose our calm judgment. Let us maintain our energetic resolution to be free, but let us avoid furnishing the slightest pretext for the unhealthy imperialism which is corrupting the blood of a generous people and inclining them to trample upon our rights."

Let us still have faith in the justice of our cause and in the honor of the country which produced Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln.

At street corners in various public places placards have been posted which read thus: "To the people of the United States: Do not make any promises that you are not sure to keep, and never go back on the word you have given. GEORGE WASHINGTON."

This is recommended to the consideration of "all worthy compatriots of the great American." "Thus far the radical members of the convention remain firm in their determination not to accept the Platt amendment. The Committee on Foreign Relations will meet to-morrow, but a final report is not expected for several days."

TO PREVENT OUTBREAK IN THE BALKANS.

London, March 11.—"It is reported that Russia is seeking the support of the powers in a scheme to prevent a sudden outbreak in the Balkans," says the Vienna correspondent of "The Morning Post." "She proposes that Servia, Bulgaria and Greece should greatly reduce their armies, on condition that the powers give a pledge to protect their independence. It is asserted that the assent of Great Britain and Austria has already been obtained."

WHY SO MANY TRAVEL THIS WAY.

"Because we like beautiful scenery, prosperous cities and growing towns, and when the train stops we have arrived somewhere. That is why we travel by the New York Central." (Commercial Traveler.—Adv.)

GENERAL HARRISON WORSE.

LEFT LUNG INFLAMED AND DANGER OF CONGESTION EXTENDING.

Indianapolis, March 10.—The condition of Dr. Jameson stated to-day that the upper part of his left lung was inflamed. There is some danger of the congestion extending to the rest of the lung and to the right lung.

Until 3 o'clock this afternoon General Harrison was resting easy, but at that time he became slightly worse, and Dr. Jameson was called. He said that he was certain nothing was to be apprehended for the next forty-eight hours, but the age of the patient renders all calculations uncertain.

At 8 o'clock this evening General Harrison was suffering some pain, but was resting comparatively easy.

N. Y., N. H. & H. RECORDS LOST.

DAMAGE BY A FIRE IN WILLIS-AVE. GENERAL OFFICES BUILDING ESTIMATED AT \$250,000.

The three-story brick building owned and occupied by the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, New-York Division, for general offices of several departments, at Willis-ave. and One-hundred-and-thirty-second-st., was destroyed by fire early last evening. The police and Chief Croker of the Fire Department estimated the loss at \$600,000. George W. Brady, assistant division superintendent of the railway company, said the damage to the building and the valuable records stored there would probably aggregate \$250,000. He said the building was worth \$50,000.

Thirty clerks employed in the building at the time of the fire escaped with difficulty. William Lindsey, one of the clerks, fell down two flights of stairs and was internally injured. He was taken to his home.

The building was 300 by 40 feet in dimensions and three stories high. In it were the through freight, passenger and baggage "general" offices. With the exception of Sundays there are employed there one hundred and fifty clerks. Stored in what was known as the "record room" in the middle of the top floor, were records valued by the company at \$1,000,000. Aside from the temporary inconvenience caused by the fire, the company will not suffer on account of the destruction of its records. Duplicates are on file in Jersey City and Hartford.

The fire was discovered in the record room at 5:15 o'clock. The thirty clerks were already preparing to quit work. Harry Arthur, one of their number, said he had been in the record room five minutes before it was discovered to be ablaze. At that time it was all right.

Assistant Superintendent Brady said later that he had no theory as to the cause of the fire. He thought the old and tinderlike records might have ignited spontaneously, or that a spark from one of the engines in the yards below, thrown through an open window, might have caused the trouble. Chief Croker thought one of the clerks might have dropped a cigarette and thus caused the fire.

Ten minutes after the first alarm was rung flames were shooting two hundred feet or more into the air. There was a strong wind—almost a gale, in fact—blowing, and this fanned the fire in fury. The downtown track of the Manhattan Elevated Railway lay within forty feet of the burning building. Trains were running on a ten minute headway, and as the cars rolled by the heat from the fire was so great that it peeled the paint off the cars' sides. Once a train passed very long tongues licked the elevated cars, making the passengers recoil in terror. Fortunately, the train was running at a good rate of speed, and the fire did no damage.

Chief Croker appeared with the engines answering the third alarm. He said the water pressure was so low that four engines were altogether useless and helpless, and he ordered them back to their houses. He did not have them pump water from the nearby Harlem River. Had it not been for the three immense streams thrown by the fireboat Havenmore into the fire, the blaze might have entirely destroyed the building.

J. W. Woodruff, the agent of the company at that station, long before the fire was out had leased the big dance hall in Brommer's Union Park near by, and, with a force of clerks, had set to work for the company's business. Telephone lines were quickly connected with the place, and the officials of the company were soon in communication with those on the ground. J. H. Thurshill, a yardmaster, and one hundred or more men under his supervision, carried two freight cars full of records before the fire drove them away. J. W. Everett, ticket agent, said tickets and cash worth \$7,000 were saved. Coal records of value were saved.

The building was first occupied on October 5, 1891. In it were desks for 150 men, \$2,000 worth of typewriters and the usual office equipment.

MAN HURT IN JUMPING FROM FIRE.

FLAMES CAUSE MUCH EXCITEMENT IN AN APARTMENT HOUSE.

The tenants of "The Farm," a seven story apartment house on the northeast corner of Twenty-fifth-st. and Lexington-ave., were driven from their rooms at 9:30 o'clock last night by a fire which started in the apartment of Mrs. Julia Frank on the third floor. Thomas Higgins, John Thompson and William Bedlow had a bachelor's flat on the fourth floor. The smoke became so dense and the fire so threatening that they decided to leap to the roof of No. 63, a private house adjoining "The Farm." The drop was fifteen feet. Thompson and Bedlow made it in safety. Higgins received a large scalp wound, internal injuries and possibly fracture of the skull. His companions carried him to the first settle they could force open. That was in No. 67. They carried him down to the street and he was taken to Bellevue in an ambulance.

The fire spread rapidly and the smoke drove the other tenants in all directions. Those on the upper floors fled to the roof, while all who could get down to the street did so. The excitement was intense. Firemen and policemen assisted many of the tenants to the open street.

The loss to the owner of the building and to Mrs. Frank is said to be \$2,500.

MORGAN AFTER DOMINION COMPANY.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR CANADIAN STEEL COMPANY IN PROGRESS, TORONTO ADVICES SAY.

Boston, March 10 (Special).—Advices from Toronto say that despite President Whitney's denials it is believed there that negotiations are going forward for the purchase of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company by the Morgan syndicate. The reports further represent that there is no less opposition in business circles throughout Canada to the transfer.

It is thought that the change would unfavorably affect the British steel industry, while it is not clear what benefit would come to Canada. In a general way the consolidation idea is unacceptable because of Canadian prejudice against trusts and a desire to maintain a commercial independence of the United States.

SPANISH GUNBOAT GOES ASHORE.

Madrid, March 10.—The Spanish gunboat Ponce de Leon is ashore near Huelva, about fifty miles southwest of Seville.

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