

CRUSHED UNDER FALLEN ROOF OF ROUNDHOUSE

Twenty Men and 17 Locomotives Buried in Ruins.

LIVES SAVED BY MIRACLE

Fallen Girders Caught on Big Engines, Averting Death of Unfortunate Workmen.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—By the collapse late yesterday afternoon of half the roof of the big roundhouse of the Pennsylvania Railroad just east of Powlton Avenue station, twenty men were injured, seventeen locomotives buried in the debris and temporarily disabled, and the suburban passenger service of the company badly crippled.

The collapse came without warning, and that some of the fifty or more men working in and about the roundhouse were not killed by the falling iron beams and rafters was little short of a miracle.

List of the Injured. The list of injured is as follows: E. FITZGERALD, lacerated wound of scalp. G. GEHRLI, lacerated wound of scalp and contused shoulder.

With the exception of Thompson and Sekka at the University Hospital, and Toland and Brennan at the Presbyterian Hospital, all of the injured were able to go to their homes after having their injuries dressed. The injuries of those still remaining are not looked upon as serious.

Saved by the Locomotives. That none of the men were killed is due to the fact that the seventeen locomotives standing in the collapsed portion of the roundhouse caught the beams and rafters of the falling roof and prevented them from crushing the men.

The collapse, according to some of those who witnessed it, started about the fourth stall to the east of the northern entrance to the roundhouse and traveled around the eastern side of the building nearly to the southern entrance. A big Baldwin freight engine in the second stall east of the northern entrance practically stopped the collapse from extending farther westward, by partially holding up the fallen roof.

The fall of the roof was accompanied by a loud crunching noise, which brought hundreds of men from the surrounding shops and yards, who, as they gazed upon the ruins, expected to find that the majority of those in the roundhouse had been killed. Ambulance and patrol calls were promptly sent out and the work of rescue was begun.

The cause of the collapse has not yet been definitely located, but several theories were advanced by the workmen and officials. A portion of the roof which collapsed yesterday fell about seven years ago. The heavy coating of ice and snow which had, however, all melted when the accident occurred, is supposed to have weakened the roof, and that the final collapse was brought about by the shocks from the heavy blasting in the subway at Powlton Avenue, or by the concussion caused by the sudden and heavy escape of steam from the exhaust pipe of one of the big locomotives.

The damage to the locomotives consists principally in crushed cabs and broken pipes and headlights, and the majority of them could probably have been operated under their own steam. Most of them are passenger locomotives, and the loss badly crippled the suburban service and caused delays to some trains and the annulment of others.

FELIX McCLOSKEY MAY RECOVER, PHYSICIAN SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Dr. Franklin P. Miller, who is attending Felix McCloskey, for forty years assistant sergeant-at-arms in the House of Representatives, said last night that his patient was showing a greater power of resistance against disease than had been anticipated. There are hopes now that Mr. McCloskey may recover from the attack of pneumonia. Mrs. Anna Selkirk, Mr. McCloskey's daughter, with whom he is living at 314 Street Avenue, Brooklyn, said yesterday that she believed her father would die of a broken heart on account of some domestic differences between various members of the family.

AMELIA BINGHAM, COAL HEROINE OF HOME DRAMA

Much Spoke and Little Fire in Her Apartments Affords Opportunity for Display of Nerve, and Thrilling Rescue of Her Dog.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—If Amelia Bingham's nerves—not nerve, please—weren't the strongest in the profession there would have been no performance of Haddon Chambers' "Modern Magdalen" at the Grand Opera House last night, for rolling smoke and leaping flames constituted the most picturesque furnishings of Miss Bingham's handsome home at 40 East Thirty-first Street earlier in the day.

The actress, after a protracted season "on the road," was peacefully resting on the huge gilt bed which was part of the furniture of her home when she purchased it from Richard Hudon, when her husband dashed into the apartment.

"Get up, 'Me!'" he shrieked. "Get up! The house is afire!" Through the door rolled a volume of dense smoke, and Miss Bingham leaped with one graceful bound to the window and prepared to jump. But affection is stronger than fear, and the actress thought first of Fido, her faithful terrier. Snatching up the terrified and hairy animal, she hurried him impulsively into the street, just as the fire engines, thoughtfully telephoned for by Mr. Bingham, dashed up.

"Where's the fire?" demanded the chief. "All over the house," stammered the Bingham, in a breath.

The hose artists had dragged a huge coil of rub into the hall, where it spouted Niagara, while the firemen dashed down to discover the origin of a volume of smoke which rolled up from below. Two trembling butlers, a chef, an assistant cook, and an army of housemaids were found in various stages of hysteria, and, outside the door, a pan of blazing fat and a kitchen chair rapidly becoming ashes sputtered in the snow.

When the weeping cook regained power of coherent speech she explained that in an earnest effort to supply Miss Bingham with her favorite brand of doughnuts she had overheated a pan of grease, which had ignited and set on fire the rolling pin and one kitchen chair.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—After eluding capture for many weeks, J. C. Hoffman, alias Parnell, Knight, and Smith, who is wanted by the United States authorities to answer a charge of counterfeiting, relaxed his caution through fidelity to a girl yesterday, and was arrested at Sixth Street and Girard Avenue by Secret Service Operatives Matthew Griffin and George Burns.

Hoffman, who is best known as Parnell, is charged with being the partner of William Hummel, alias John Adams, who was convicted of counterfeiting in the United States court last week. Adams was arrested in Ashland, Pa., on November 14.

He and Parnell are declared to have flooded the lower section of the anthracite coal fields with counterfeit silver dollars, which easily passed among the foreign element in that region. When Adams was arrested the operatives found a complete coinage outfit at their headquarters in a hotel in Tamaqua.

Parnell, who has been arrested on three previous occasions for similar offenses, eluded the operatives, and for five weeks they have trailed him throughout the State. They discovered that he was paying court to a girl living in Lancaster county. A watch was set upon her and she was followed to the postoffice.

She was found to be in correspondence with her admirer, and when she finally sent a letter to him addressed to the Eagle Hotel, Sixth Street and Girard Avenue, Operatives Griffin and Burns kept vigil over the place. From Friday until yesterday there was never a moment when the hotel office was not under surveillance.

The operatives, who knew well the value of the axiom, "find the woman," scarcely permitted their eyes to move away from the letter box at the hotel. Their watch ended when Hoffman appeared to receive the letter he knew must be awaiting him.

When he had read the missive the operatives took him into custody and escorted him to the United States marshal's office, where he was turned over to Deputy Marshal Helms and removed to the county prison.

As he was indicted in the United States court at the time of Adams' arrest, Parnell was given no preliminary hearing.

CADET'S GOOD REASONS FOR SUBORDINATION

Refuses to Join Virginia Military Institute Recruitants in Their Recent Outbreak.

LEXINGTON, Va., Dec. 15.—One young cadet before the recent outbreak at the Virginia Military Institute by the third class displayed commendable qualities by refusing to join his comrades in their erratic breach of discipline last Tuesday night.

He was impudently to join his comrades and was presented with the paper for his signature, but refused to sign it. His reason, as stated, and now related, was that his parents had sent him to the school at a great pecuniary sacrifice to themselves and that the board of visitors had given him a State cadet appointment, and if he engaged in such an outbreak it would not be doing justice to the confidence imposed in him by his parents or the authorities of the school, and he declined most positively to join with them.

The case of Ramsey's administrator vs. the Norfolk and Western Railroad at Buena Vista for damages for killing Ramsey while coupling cars was continued until the next term of the court. Albert Dixon, for shooting at a Norfolk and Western train, was sent to the city jail for one year.

The chain gang in Lexington has been revived for offenders who are a cost on the town and are habitually in the county jail. Two are now engaged in working on the roads.

GRANT MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Grant memorial committee composed of Secretary Root, Senator Wetmore, and Gen. Dodge, was held yesterday afternoon to consider plans for the proposed monument. As the committee is now waiting for a report upon the project from Col. Theodore A. Bingham, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, no action taken. The selection of a design for the monument now rests between those presented by Shady and Niehaus. These designs are on exhibition at the Corcoran Art Gallery.

CHARLES N. FOWLER ON BRANCH BANK SYSTEM

Representative Talks to Capitalists at Hotel Barton.

EQUAL RATE OF INTEREST

Speaker Says Passage of His Measure Would Result in Elasticity of Currency.

Representative Charles N. Fowler of New Jersey last evening addressed the Bankers' Association of the District of Columbia at the Hotel Barton regarding the betterment of the country's banking laws.

Representative Fowler has embodied his ideas in a measure which he recently introduced in Congress, providing for the establishment of branch banks. It was in support of this measure that he directed his arguments last evening.

Meeting Well Attended. The meeting was well attended by the local bankers despite the inclement weather. President Frederick C. Stevens of the Bankers' Association called the meeting to order shortly after 8 o'clock, and presided throughout the session. It was announced that the annual banquet of the association will be held in January or February, and due notice will be given all members. At the conclusion of the meeting a light buffet luncheon was served.

Mr. Fowler contemplates the establishment of branch banks throughout the country under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency. The gold standard should be maintained, he said, and the \$600,000,000 of Treasury notes gradually retired. This retirement should be accomplished in the course of a number of years, so as not to disturb conditions without affording the opportunity for the business of the country to accommodate itself to the change.

Branch Bank System. "A system of branch banks," the speaker continued, "would not only tend to maintain an equal rate of interest throughout the country but would materially reduce the prevailing rate of interest, as capital could be sent where it was most wanted, and could be kept engaged at all times. Provision is made in the bill for a variation in interest rates in different parts of the country of only a sufficient amount to cover the cost of moving the specie. It is only when the rate of interest in this country is on a par with the 2 1/2 and 3 per cent of Germany, England, and France that we can properly compete with those countries in the financial affairs of the world."

"We don't use our money to advantage, because we don't use it all the time and in all the places where it is needed. Under the plan of branch banks we would do this. The system is in successful operation in Canada, England, France, Germany, and other countries. These banks effect an enormous saving in the way of expenses in the banking business, the combination principle being applied."

Parker Takes Issue. In response to Representative Fowler, E. S. Parker made a short address in which he took issue with the proposition of branch banks, and expressed himself in favor of free banks, with an asset currency based on their assets.

The evening was an enjoyable one, and following the remarks of the two speakers of the evening a general discussion of the proposed innovations in the banking business was indulged in.

A SOUTHERN OFFICE WITHOUT "LILY WHITE" COMPLICATION

President Roosevelt today had the unique experience of having brought to his attention a North Carolina postmaster's case into the consideration of which the "Lily White" question does not enter.

The office is that at Marion, N. C., in the mountainous northwestern section of the State. Representative James M. Moody, in whose district the office is located, introduced the incumbent, G. W. Crawford, with J. L. C. Bird, also of Marion, and A. T. Cooper of Brevard. Mr. Crawford desires a re-nomination. Representative Moody indorses his candidacy, and says Senator Pritchard is also favorable to the incumbent. The candidate of the opposition is J. C. Poole.

POET OF THE SIERRAS GREETED BY PRESIDENT

Joaquin Miller, the "Poet of the Sierras," paid his respects to the President today. He was accompanied by John P. Irish of this city, and received from the President the cordial greetings of a fellow literary man.

Ex-Governor Llewellyn B. Powers of Maine, now a member of the House from Maine, introduced to the President Mrs. Powers and their two little children, Doris and Margaret.

Representatives William Alden Smith of Michigan, Cramer of Indiana, Assistant Secretary Sanger, Thomas F. Walsh, General Dodge, and Senator Kearns of Utah were the other callers prior to the Cabinet meeting.

CHARGED WITH ARSON

Clarence Wade, colored, is under arrest at the Tenth precinct station for attempted arson. He is suspected of setting fire to the home of Sarah Carter at Woodburn early this morning. John Wade, who discovered the flames, notified Chemical Company No. 2, which extinguished the fire. The damage was about \$25. Fire had evidently been set under the porch.

DIED.

JOY.—On Tuesday, December 16, 1902, at 8:30 a. m. JANE ELIZABETH, beloved wife of William Thomas Joy, aged seventy-eight years. Funeral from her late residence, 613 K Street, northwest, on Thursday, December 18, at 2:30 p. m. Requiem mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at 9 o'clock. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. (Philadelphia papers please copy.)

SPANISH TREATY MAY SOON BE RATIFIED

Action Expected Before the Christmas Holidays.

The new treaty with Spain will probably be taken up in the Senate within a few days, and if opportunity offers an effort will be made to ratify the convention before the Christmas holidays.

While there is no opposition to the treaty, the length and importance of the document and correspondence accompanying it will require much time for reading and investigating. It was signed at Madrid July 3 last, and although it has not yet been officially made public, its terms are generally known.

The treaty contains thirty-one articles, comprising the usual details designed to secure amicable relations between nations. In addition there is an informal agreement confirming the new relationship between the two countries created by the war with Spain and declaring the peace treaty signed in Paris still in effect.

Article I contains the usual protestations of friendship and desire to maintain the best international relations; article II guarantees commercial and navigation rights to each nation in the territory of the other; article III protects the rights of dead persons; article IV relates to the rights of burial and the observance of religious customs without hindrance; article V secures political and military exemption to the citizens of one country in the other; article VI protects rights in the courts; articles VII to XI relate to navigation, tonnage, taxes, and shipwrecks; articles XII and XXIII relate to diplomatic and consular representation, outlining the privileges of consuls and providing for the protection of commerce. Article XXIII gives the consuls of each country jurisdiction over seamen of their own country. The remaining articles relate to trade marks, copyrights, and other details usually embraced in general treaties.

PHILADELPHIA MEN HAD MAD AUTO RIDE

P. T. Lubers and Richard Fenn Had Narrow Escape From Death in Rockies.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 15.—P. T. Lubers and Richard Fenn, of Philadelphia, and Harry Berger, a chauffeur, had a narrow escape from death Sunday night. They missed a train for Boulder and rented a machine from the Mobile Company and started for Boulder. Returning, when about seventeen miles from Boulder, Berger pulled the lever to slow the machine in descending a steep hill. The lever would not work and the auto shot down the hill at terrific speed.

Faster and faster the machine sped on its mad race at a pace that threatened demolition to the machine and death to the occupants. They were fortunate in not jumping then, but when the machine reached the opposite slope the speed diminished, and Berger jumped and called for the others to follow. All escaped injuries, although Lubers had his left ankle sprained.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE JUNIOR REPUBLIC

Boys Make an Effort to Change the Law, But Are Defeated.

The King's Daughters held their annual meeting last night at the Church of the Covenant. Miss Jennie V. Jewell, the secretary, presided; Miss McNeir, the corresponding secretary, acting as secretary.

Two lads from the Junior Republic, which the King's Daughters have taken in hand as their branch work, were present. Wilbert Marsh, the vice president of the republic, a lad of about sixteen, described the workings of the society. There are forty-nine boys and two girls, and the girls have the right of suffrage. The money of the republic is made of aluminum, manufactured in Baltimore. When a boy has made a record of good behavior for six months he has his bank balance cashed in good United States money, dollar for dollar, so it is as good as real money to the children.

Paul May, aged fourteen, judge of the republic courts, gave an interesting account of the effort to change the constitution so as to deprive the girls of the right of suffrage. This was held by many to be just, as the girls paid the boys to do their work for them, which the boys did not consider fair. At the town meeting, where it was first proposed, it was carried with a rush, but the law requires that a motion shall be carried by more than one town meeting before it becomes a law. At the second meeting at which it was brought up the question of woman suffrage met such a volume of discussion that the motion was lost. The youthful parliamentarians soon learned to study their subjects before presenting them on the floor of the meeting.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

OFFICE OF MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 922 Pa. ave. n.w., Washington, Nov. 29, 1902.—Policy holders are notified that the managers have ordered paid the members a return of savings according to the value of each policy at the close of 1901. Renewals for 1902 are payable to the company at the same time at the rate of 1 per centum on the premium notes, and policies must be presented that payments may be entered thereon. Policies expire on the last Monday in December (1901). Please attend early and avoid the crowd. L. PIERCE, HOTELIER, Secretary. de2,9,16,23,28,29,30 de19-02

SPECIAL NOTICE—I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by my wife, Bertha M. Holman, after this date. J. M. HOLMES, Real Estate Agent, 1017 F Street, N. W. de19-02

FROM GOVERNMENT SALE—Blue overalls, 60c; 3 gray undershirts, new, \$1; new ponchos, \$1.25; new horse blankets, 60c and 75c; 2 and 3 ply roofing paper, best made, 75c and \$1; all leather horse collars, \$1.25; canteens, 25c. S. BENNINGER & CO., 11th and B sts. de19-02

UNDERTAKERS.

J. WILLIAM LEE, UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY, 271 Fern. Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.

CURFEW RULE ANNOYS "SPARKING" SWAINS

Pennsylvania Gallants Set Up Howl of Despair.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—Guardians and parents of young women out along the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad who object to male callers who stay too late are having the difficulty solved to their entire satisfaction.

Promptly at 11 o'clock every night Cupid's curfew sounds, and after that time courting is carried on only at extreme risk.

Chief of Police Brookmeyer, of the Lower Merion township police, is the man who brought about the strange rule. Originally it was aimed at burglars and other night prowlers, but so far the only sufferers have been belated lovers.

Thieves Are to Blame. For months every suburb as far west as Rosemont has been harassed by thieves. The police force, which consists of eight men, could do nothing to break up the robberies, when Brookmeyer bethought him of a plan. This was to stop every wayfarer man on the roads late at night, and if he failed to account for himself, lock him up.

This order was also communicated to the many private policemen employed by the residents of the various suburbs. On the first night the rule went into effect some twenty "suspicious" characters were halted. In every case they proved themselves, after much difficulty, to be young men who had been calling on their sweethearts. After their names and the names of the young women upon whom they had been calling had been taken the captives were allowed to depart.

Decrease in Courting. And so the work went on, but the number of men halted decreased each night. The beaux of the maids employed in the residences along the road were the principal sufferers. When, however, bent, they crossed the lawns, they were almost certain to be pounced upon by the sleuths.

But these are not the only victims. For country sweethearts 11 o'clock is only starting time and, consequently, many of the rural beaux had their feelings jarred. So they have ceased to call in many cases, and matrimonial stock is on the decline. While parents are actually gleeful over the saving of coal and sleep, the young women are almost a unit in declaring the curfew rule an outrage.

WHERE CHIVALRY INTERVENES.

To be sure, after a man explains who he is and where he has been, he is allowed to depart. But here chivalry imposed a barrier. The victim must tell whom he called on, what time he left and why he stayed so late. The records in such cases are not difficult of access, so in a short time it becomes public property that So-and-So is "sparking" Miss So-and-So, and that he stays at her house until awfully late.

So far the young women and their beaux have taken no action, but it is said that if the curfew rule is continued in force they will petition the chief of police for passports.

TO AMEND DISTRICT LAW.

The Board of District Commissioners has forwarded to the chairman of the House District Committee the draft of a bill to amend the act entitled: "An act to provide for the appointment of a scaler and assistant scaler of weights and measures in the District of Columbia." Its object is to specify the authority of the office, and to correct some of the omissions of the original law. The Commissioners request its passage at the present session of Congress.

MOTHER GOOSE SUGAR LOAF RHYMES.

Old Mother Goose Has lost her geese, And now has in its stead A good substitute, And it's a "beaute"— Light, wholesome SUGAR LOAF BREAD.

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