The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

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CHINESE OUTRAGES

On English, French and American Missionaries Confirmed,

BUT LEGATIONS AT WASHINGTON

Profess to Have Received No Intelligence of the Affairs.

THE MISSIONS WERE DEMOLISHED

By Mobs of Fanatics, and No Protection Was Afforded the Missionaries Until the Work of Destroying the Buildings Was Completed—Further Outbreaks Are Threatened in Western China—The Country Has Only Been Opened Up to Foreigners Since the Treaty With Japan—The Governor of the Province Responsible for the Outbreak.

SHANGHAI, June 10.—The report of the total destruction of the missions at Cheng Tu, Kiating and Yoachohu has been confirmed. The local officials refused protection to the missionaries until the mob had completed the work of demolishing the buildings. The mission stations at other places have been threatened. About twenty adults, besides a number of children, have taken refuge at Cheng Tu and Yamen. Viceroy Lin is blamed for the affair.

NO NEWS IN WASHINGTON

About the Massacres at the Chinese and French Legations.

WASHINGTON, June 10.—The Chinese legation has received no information as to the reported massacre of all missionaries in Cheng Tu, and strong hopes are entertained that the affair may be less serious than the meager reports indicate. It is stated at the legation that Cheng Tu is a large city in the interior of China. The people are far removed from the centers of foreign commerce such as Canton and Shanghai. Recently, however, by the treaty of peace with Japan, this interior city was one of several places to be opened to foreigners and foreign commerce. This no doubt, it is explained, has agitated the people who have lived by themselves from time immemorial. The missionaries are the only foreigners who have heretofore settled at Cheng Tu. Their number is not known. It is said, however, that the number of missionaries, including their families, in the entire province of Se Chun, of which Cheng Tu is the capital, must be less than one hundred, including all nationalities.

The missionary headquarters is at Cheng Tu, where it is believed there are not exceeding ten missionaries, the rest being scattered through the province. But this estimate is based only on the general information of Chinese officials, as there is no exact details of the extent of missionary service through China. The Tsung Li Yamen sought to secure from each foreign government a complete list of the missionaries from each government and their place of service, but this was not given.

It is said that the emperor of China and the Tsung Li Yamen have given every possible protection to the missionaries, although it has been found impossible to guard against mob violence, particularly at remote interior points.

The Chinese government has asked foreign governments to appreciate these difficulties and has advised that the missions should be kept within safe limits. But the zeal of the missionaries has led them to push inward without fear of results to races where the Chinese officials have had difficulty in affording full protection.

At the French legition no information had been received concerning the reported massacre. The French ambassador, M. Patenotre, who represented his government at Pekin some ten years ago and who negotiated the treaty by which Tonquin became a French province, expressed his doubt of the correctness of the report that the Chinese were intercepting dispatches bearing upon the alleged massacre. When he was in China ten years ago, he said, dispatches were never intercepted, and he always had free communication both with his government and with the admiral of the French fleet. He says it is possible for a French gun boat to go up the Yang Tse Kiang river, which is navigable as far as Han Kow.

CUBAN INSURRECTION.

The Insurgents Refuse to Fight—To Watch the Florida Coast.

HAVANA, June 10.—Lieut. Ruiz, recently met the band of Diaz, the insurgent leader. A skirmish followed. The Spanish troops charged with fixed bayonets and the insurgents were dispersed and driven to the mountains. The insurgents left one dead and three wounded, while two of their men surrendered after the action.

Lieut.-Colonel Tejada, between Cristo and San Louis, also engaged the insurgents in a stubborn conflict. One of the soldiers was killed and one wounded.

Members of the insurgent band commanded by Zayas plundered two stores in the province of Puerto Principe. The citizens became alarmed as the village was absolutely without troops to defend it. Colonel Sandoval knowing that he would find some of the insurgents in the Majaguabo district of San Louis, divided his forces into three columns. He commanded one of the companies, while Lieut.-Colonel Micheleña commanded another. The third was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Echague. When the insurgents were discovered they were attacked by the Spanish troops, but no conflict occurred, the insurgents refusing to fight. Four of the insurgents were left dead, while two were wounded. One prisoner was taken.

To Look for Filibusters.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10.—The administration has decided that a United States vessel of war should be sent to Key West for the purpose of co-operating with the revenue cutters in watching for filibustering expeditions leaving that and other places in Florida to aid the Cuban insurgents. This decision was reached late this afternoon, just before Secretary Herbert's departure for Alabama, and he concluded that the Raleigh should be used for the purpose.

HAWAIIAN NEWS.

A French Cable Scheme—New Minister to Washington of American Parentage.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 10.—The steamer Australia arrived from Honolulu, bringing the following advices dated June 3.

Audley J. Coote, an Australian, who is interested in different cables, arrived on the first instant to confer with the Hawaiian government regarding the proper Pacific cable. He has made a proposition which will be considered by President Dole and his cabinet. Mr. Coote will be in Washington on the 17th of October. He represents a French company which is willing to build from Sydney to San Francisco, taking in Auckland, Samoa and Honolulu. He wants the Hawaiian government to pay an annual subsidy in return for what charge will be made for official messages. He will make a similar proposition to the United States. Mr. Coote feels confident that both governments will assist his company. He declares that the cable will be built within eighteen months.

William R. Castle, the new minister to Washington, will leave this country, accompanied by his family, early in August, and expects to reach Washington about the first of September.

William R. Castle is of American parentage, his father, the late S. T. Castle, being one of the early settlers in this country. He is one of the leading lawyers of his land, and has always taken a prominent part in all movements for moral and political advancement of the country. During the troubles of 1893 Mr. Castle was a member of the committee of safety and later went to Washington as one of the members of the annexation commission, which presented the treaty of annexation to President Harrison. He has held many important government positions, and is at present president of the board of education.

A GERMAN OUTRAGE.

American Citizen Arrested—Attempts to Press Him in the Army.

BATH, N. Y., June 10.—David Rothschild, a leading business man of Bath, has received a letter from his brother, Morris Rothschild, who went to Germany last month, stating that an attempt was made to force him into the German army.

He reached his father's house at Eishtitten the latter part of May. After being there one week a policeman called and told him he was wanted at police headquarters at Freyburg, about twelve miles distant. He accompanied the officer there, was put into prison and kept there forty-eight hours, despite protests that he was a citizen of the United States, and offers of his passport and naturalization papers in proof. At the end of two days he was brought before a military court and examined, and found to be eligible for service in the German army.

His papers were taken from him and he was sentenced to six weeks in prison, at the end of which time he must begin a three-years term in the army. David Greismar, of New York, who accompanied Mr. Rothschild, employed a lawyer and they laid the facts of the case before the military authorities with the result that the sentence was changed to a fine of 300 marks and the papers were forwarded to the war department at Berlin, which will decide whether Mr. Rothschild shall serve his army term.

Mr. Rothschild paid the fine, and pending the decision of the war department he has gone over to Switzerland, where he now is.

David Rothschild will communicate at once with the state department in Washington in regard to the matter. One of the papers taken from Mr. Rothschild and forwarded to Berlin was a regular passport of the United States, bearing the signature of Secretary Gresham.

THE "NEW WOMAN"

Compared to Shakespeare's Portia—Some Modern Types Denounced.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., June 10.—The "New Woman" was compared to Shakespeare's Portia at the meeting of the Presbyterian ministerial association today. The contrast was drawn by the Rev. Dr. William E. Wiley, pastor of the Second Reform church, of this city, who read a paper on "A Study of the Merchants of Venice."

"Portia," said he, "may be taken as a representative type of woman at her best, and how far she is removed from the ideal woman, much lauded in certain quarters, you can judge for yourselves.

"It does not follow that there should be no progress or only stereotyped editions of what has gone before. That is not necessary. The feminine political reformer, the temperance orator, with the divided skirt, the mannish woman with the tailor-made suit, the gum-chewing bicycle rider, kicking up her heels down Broad street on a Sabbath morning between 10 and 11 o'clock is not 'a thing of beauty is a joy forever.'

"The imitation of Portia by the modern counterpart would probably be a copy of the vices rather than the virtues as most imitations are. But we may believe that wherever woman leaves off the bad man begins."

Roused Their Indignation.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., June 10.—The American Federation of Labor has aroused the indignation of the local members of that national organization by resolving that the local brewers' unions must leave either the Knights of Labor or the Federation. The brewers' unions have protested and the trades council has sent in an emphatic protest, and at Green Bay the State Federation of Labor will still further object to the action of its national body.

Will Defer to Lindsay.

LOUISVILLE, KY., June 10.—In deference to Senator Lindsay, who speaks next Thursday night at Frankfort, Ky., Secretary Carlisle has decided to deliver his Louisville speech on "sound money" Friday night, June 14.

The Tornado's Work.

PERRY, O. T., June 10.—A tornado visited the section twenty miles west of here last night. Twenty or more houses are said to have been blown down, and several people are hurt, a Mrs. Hammer, a widow, fatally.

AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Opening of the Commencement Exercises at That Institution.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIVE DRILL

For the Regents Medal—The Character of the Work Done Was the Best Ever Seen on the Grounds. Prize Winners at Target Practice Receive Silver Medals—Many Distinguished Visitors Present, Including Governor MacCorkle and Senator Elkins—Meeting of Board of Regents—Suggestions of the Acting President.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA., June 10.—The feature of to-day's commencement exercises was the individual competitive drill on the campus for the regent's medal. The drilling was the best that has ever been seen on the university grounds, and was witnessed by a large number of people, among whom were Governor MacCorkle, Hon. R. S. Carr and the entire board of regents. The companies were drilled by the company commanders until the number was reduced to five from each company, and they were then drilled by the adjutant, William R. Standiford.

The five from company A, were Harry Eaton, Thomas Keys, William Craycroft, Wade Kiliner and S. M. Gramm. Those from company B, were C. H. Waddell, J. M. Orr, Aaron Hess, Paul McCoy and C. F. Holden. The number finally narrowed down to Mr. McCoy and Mr. Eaton, both of whom did some beautiful drilling.

The judges, Col. R. E. Fast, Captain Claude Gore and Captain D. B. Kinkaid, did not announce who is the lucky man, but the impression prevails that Mr. Eaton will capture the prize. The company competitive drill will take place to-morrow. The military department has been a bigger success this year than usual, both in members and the work performed.

Lieut. Ramsey has announced the distinguished cadets as follows in the first section: W. R. Standiford, Justin Kunkle and J. B. Protzman; in the second section, Josiah Keeley, Charles E. McCoy and Lloyd Friend; in the third section, Earle A. Brooks, Harry Eaton and H. H. Moss; in the fourth section, Charles F. Holden, Benjamin F. Laughlin and Frank K. Lowe.

The silver medal for the highest score at target practice was awarded to Josiah Keeley, and that for the second highest to J. M. Orr.

More prominent people are attending commencement this year than usually come to Morgantown at one time. The governor and Hon. R. S. Carr came in this morning, and Senator Stephen B. Elkins and wife and Congressman Dayton and wife will arrive in the morning. Senator and Mrs. Elkins will be guests of Professor and Mrs. I. C. White, and will be entertained by them to-morrow evening. Besides these there is the usual crowd of society people who always turn toward Morgantown at this season. Everybody in town has guests and the hotels are overflowing with visitors.

The board of regents met in session to-day, but did nothing except hear the reports of the president and members of the faculty upon the work in their various departments. The acting president recommended that a president be elected, as the combination of an acting president and a professorship are no longer adequate for administrative purposes. He states that the experiment with a department of pedagogy has been a success, and recommends the establishment of a permanent department. He also recommends that a thorough canvass of the state be made for students and believes that the outlook for a largely increased attendance is very bright, if the high schools and the normal schools arrange their courses to conform to the courses at the university.

THE SOUTH'S ATTITUDE

Changing Around on the Currency Question—For Sound Money.

NEW YORK, June 10.—Gustave H. Schwab, chairman of the executive committee of the chamber of commerce, who was interviewed to-day on the currency situation in the south said that the Memphis convention had had a wonderful influence in clearing minds of the southern people on the money question, and that this result was especially noticeable in Kentucky. He said:

"In all the other southern states the sound money sentiment has been aroused. Mississippi, in which an important convention will be held in a short time, is being thoroughly canvassed by that indefatigable champion of sound money, Colonel Patterson. In Alabama, there is a similar sentiment in favor of sound money, which is led on by leading citizens of Mobile, Birmingham and other centers. In Tennessee, the fact that the Nashville American has come out as the champion of sound money, shows how the tide is running in Senator Harris' bailiwick. The outlook in Georgia and the other southern states is also very hopeful."

A BRILLIANT TOASTMASTER

Selected for the National Republican League Banquet.

CLEVELAND, O., June 10.—James H. Hoyt, of this city, one of the most brilliant after-dinner speakers in Ohio, has been selected as toastmaster for the great banquet at the convention of the national republican league. Chauncey M. Depew has been assigned a toast.

It is expected that Governor McKinley and ex-Governor Foraker will be able to attend the banquet, although there is still some uncertainty about it. Hon. J. J. Ingalls, Hon. C. B. Burrows, of Michigan; Hon. H. Clay Evans, of Tennessee, and Hon. John M. Thurston, of Omaha, are among the other speakers.

Mr. Depew has consented to respond to a toast, unless prevented by business or other contingencies. D. B. Woodmansee will deliver a speech on behalf of the league.

Speculated in Pork.

MORNISTOWN, PA., June 10.—County Treasurer S. E. Effrig, of Lansdale, has failed for $22,000. A judgement for the amount is held by Dr. S. P. Sense, of that borough. Sheriff Simpson has levied on the large pork packing and personal property of Mr. Effrig in Lansdale. The county treasurer's failure is attributed to heavy speculation in pork.

GREATER GRAFTON.

Result of the Election Will Be Thrown Into the Legislature for Decision.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

GRAFTON, W. VA., June 10.—The Greater Grafton hangs in the balance of futurity. In pursuance with the act passed by the last legislature, the question of the annexation of West Grafton by Grafton was submitted to the voters of the two towns to-day. The result of the election in Grafton gave annexation 221 majority. In West Grafton the vote was evenly divided, 119 to 119, with one contested vote thrown out as certified by the commissioners of election. The effect of this is to temporarily defeat annexation pending the fate of the one contested vote.

It is said that the contest of the result of the election is within the jurisdiction of the legislature, and cannot be taken into the courts, as the legislature ordered the election.

Nearly the entire vote of West Grafton was polled. Intense interest is manifesting itself in the election, which was hotly contested. The majority of the property holders supported the annexation side of the question. The annexationists in both towns are jubilant over the result as it is, and look for final victory by the action of the legislature at its next session, as it is claimed that the legal phase of the matter will give them the contested vote, and thereby affect annexation.

A MYSTERY SOLVED.

An Unfaithful Wife Tries to Save Her Husband—He Confessed.

OMAHA, NEB., June 10.—The mystery surrounding the murder of W. H. Chappel, a machine agent at the residence of James Ish, last night, has been solved, and Ish and his wife are in jail for the crime.

The husband suspecting Chappell of intimacy with Mrs. Ish, secreted himself in the house and shot Chappell while he was in the act of kissing Mrs. Ish. He has confessed the crime. His wife declared last night that she did the shooting, believing she could escape punishment easier than her husband.

When Mrs. Ish was informed that her husband had confessed to having killed Chappell, she said to Police Matron Cummings:

"Why did he tell this? It is true that Jimmy fired the shots. We had fixed up the story and had agreed that we would swear I fired all of the shots. We thought that I could get out of it better than he."

When Chappell came to his house ostensibly to fix the sewing machine Ish was satisfied that he had come to meet Mrs. Ish criminally. Afterwards, when Ish left to go down stairs, he went only part of the way, returning immediately to see if Chappell would attempt familiarities with the woman. Looking into the room he, having armed himself with his revolver, he saw the man attempting to kiss Mrs. Ish. He fired, the shot taking effect in the back of Chappell's head. Chappell attempted to use his own revolver, but the shots went wild. Mrs. Ish ran to the kitchen, and excitedly told the first comer that she had killed the man for assaulting her, and on her prayer to save her name, I corroborated the story.

THE HARRINGTON TRAGEDY.

Evidence that the Murdered Woman had Other Callers Besides Buck.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 10.—The coroner's inquest in the demise of Miss Nellie Harrington, murdered in her flat, ten days ago, was resumed to-day. Mrs. Cross, a neighbor of Miss Harrington, said that Senator Buck was not the only man who had visited the murdered woman. Another man had frequently taken her driving. Mrs. Mary Roy, a sister of the deceased woman, testified that she had quarrelled with Miss Harrington because the latter persisted in accepting Senator Buck's attention, knowing him to be a married man, and that continually accompaning him to restaurants and resorts was injuring her character.

Several witnesses testified that Senator Buck was in Oakland after 1 p. m. on the day Miss Harrington was murdered, so that Buck could not have possibly crossed the bay before the hour her dead body was discovered.

Col. Coit Gives Bond.

CIRCLEVILLE, O., June 10.—Colonel A. R. Coit and bondsmen arrived here from Columbus this afternoon and signed a bond in three cases of manslaughter for the victims of the Washington C. H. riot last October. The bondsmen are himself, G. W. Sinks, John Deshler and Mac Lee Wilson, all of Columbus. The trial has been postponed till September.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

President Cleveland, Commissioner Miller and Secretary Morton are trout fishing two miles from Leesburg, Va.

Mr. Olney yesterday became Secretary of State, succeeding the late Walter Q. Gresham. Chief Justice Fuller administered the oath of office.

It was officially announced yesterday that the international convention of the Iron Molder's Union will be held in Cleveland, commencing July 10.

The battleship Iowa is to be made a flagship. Though not so designed originally Secretary Herbert has found it expedient to fit her out in this way.

The final steps toward the distribution of the big estates of the late D. Edgar Crouse were taken before the Surrogate of Onandaga county, N. Y., yesterday. The surrogate will enter a decree whereby half of the estate of $1,000,000, will go to Dorothorea Egarite Crouse, the infant daughter, whose claim to legitimacy was at first disputed by the cousins of the deceased.

The General Lutheran Synod in session at Haggerstown, Md., yesterday considered the reports of committees on the revision of hymns and tunes in Lutheran hymn books. The former have introduced 170 new hymns, omitting about as many old ones. The reports of Secretary H. H. Webber and Treasurer Jere Carl, of the Board of Church Extension, and Louis Manss, of Cincinnati, treasurer of the Synod were adopted. The last report showed receipts of $9,669,91 and the expenditures of $5,909,14.

A BLOODY RIOT

In Armour's New Dwelling in Chicago Between Workmen.

CHICAGO, June 10.—Blood has stained the beautiful marble entrance to the $1,000,000 mansion, now being erected by P. D. Armour, jr., at the southwest corner of Thirty-seventh street and Michigan avenue.

A handful of non-union painters, who have been at work on the interior of the building, were attacked this afternoon by a party of union men and a desperate conflict raged for fully five minutes. Finally, when peace was restored, four non-union men were led away to a neighboring drug store to have their broken heads patched up. One of them, Adam Beyer, was so weak from loss of blood that he could hardly walk. The injured are:

Adam Beyer, cut on top of head and right eye half gouged out.

William Bliss, struck on left temple with an iron tool, making a severe gash.

Two other men were thrown down a flight of stairs, and both received severe cuts and bruises.

The police were not called to the scene of the fracas, and no arrests were made.

The trouble arose because ten painters, not endorsed by the building trades council, were working on the building. For some time the matter has been debated between the trades council and William Jallies, foreman for the New York firm of Horger Bros., who have the contract for the painting of Mr. Armour's new home, and who employed the objectionable workmen. Saturday Alex. L. McDonald, president of the painters' district council, went to Mr. Jallies and told him that if the non-union painters were not taken off the job to-day a strike would be declared on the work of all the other trades employed on the residence. The non-union painters were not discharged, and when the strike came on fighting quickly ensued.

The union men outnumbered their opponents, and had all the best of the encounter. A terrible war was waged for fully five minutes before the foreman and others could induce the participants to cease fighting. Hammers, wrenches and all sorts of tools were used in the combat, and one after another the men were felled by the blows by the fist or some impromptu weapon only to box up again and renew the onslaught. The union men were remarkably fortunate in escaping injury, probably because they had laid perfect plans for the attack. It was only when Foreman Jallies came running up and waved a white flag that the attack of the union men ceased. He signed the agreement presented by the trades council and immediately afterward discharged the objectionable men, ten in number. They went away—those of them who could walk—but declared they would prosecute both the contractors who had discharged them and the union men who had assaulted them.

The residence young Mr. Armour is erecting is being built on an exceedingly grand scale. The exterior is about complete, and the men employed on the building now are all inside workers. The residence is a large square structure of brown stone, four stories and a basement.

MUST GO TO JAIL.

Debs and His Comrades Will Be Taken to Prison To-day.

CHICAGO, June 10.—Eugene V. Debs and the other officials of the American Railway Union will be sent to the Woodstock jail to-morrow. The certified copy of the order of the supreme court was received here to-day and the United States marshal was notified to return the men to jail.

The men under sentence of imprisonment are: E. V. Debs, G. W. Howard, S. Keliher, L. W. Rogers, James Hogan, W. E. Burns, R. M. Goodwin and Martin Elliott. There is a question as to the time the men will serve. The original sentence was six months for Debs, and three months for his associates in two different contempt cases, the sentences being made concurrent by the court. The defendants' attorneys later had the sentences made cumulative in order to take a desired legal action, and the time to be served by the prisoners is consequently a matter of dispute. It is thought probable, however, that an effort will be made to have Judge Woods reinstate the concurrent sentences.

George Howard, the former vice president of the A. R. U., now president of the Industrial Union, which is a rival organization of the A. R. U., desires to be sent to some county jail in Indiana, and has secured what he construes as a promise from Judge Woods to gratify his desires.

Trenton Potters Want An Advance.

TRENTON, N. J., June 10.—All of the ten sanitary potteries in this city shut down this morning and all day long their 500 workmen were in secret conference, deciding upon a new scale of wages to be demanded from employers. The men decided to ask on Thursday for an average increase of 20 per cent over the wages they are now receiving. If the employers refuse to agree to the new scale the men will go on a strike.

Boiler Makers Strike.

PITTSBURGH, PA., June 10.—The demands of the boiler makers for a 10 per cent advance having been refused by the manufacturers, the men to-night decided to call a strike in all plants. About 1,200 men are out.

Violated Banking Laws.

CINCINNATI, June 10.—R. B. Foote, late president of the Commercial Bank, was on the stand in the insolvency court to-day. He testified that the bank loaned $200,000 to Clemens Heilebush without taking any security. After that the bank took as security deeds amounting to $30,000 and diamonds and stock of the estimated value of $100,000. All this was a palpable violation of the state law. President Foote said he knew other banks to get out of as bad a situation, and he had hoped the Commercial Bank would somehow pull through.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania: Increasing cloudiness; easterly winds.

For Ohio: Increasing cloudiness; easterly winds.

THE TEMPERATURE MONDAY.

as furnished by C. SCHNEIDER, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets.

7 a. m.	62	3 p. m.	91
9 a. m.	67	7 p. m.	88
12 m.	89	Weather—Clear.	

CAMERON'S FIRE

Was a More Terrible Calamity Than at First Reported.

ONE QUARTER MILLION DOLLARS

Instead of $100,000 is the Amount of the Loss by the Fire.

THE INSURANCE ALMOST NOTHING,

Amounting to but $50,000, Some of It in Wheeling Companies—Cameron Showing Enterprise in Recouping—A Meeting to Ask Outside Aid for the Homeless Held Last Night—The Complete Story of the Conflagration—Two-Thirds of the Town Wiped Out.

Special from a staff Correspondent.

CAMERON, W. VA., June 10.—The first accounts of the disaster that overtook the little town of Cameron, last night and this morning, so far as estimates of the property loss by fire are concerned, were away below the actual facts. At 3 o'clock this morning a conservative estimate, as wired the INTELLIGENCER was $100,000, perhaps loss. Since daylight has come, however, the full extent of the fire that wiped out almost the entire North Side is seen, and the estimate given below showing an actual loss of nearly $250,000, on which the insurance is but $40,000 or $50,000, is reliably correct. Fifty-two buildings fell prey to the flames, of which twenty-four were business houses and twenty-eight dwellings. Probably the entire property value of the town is $450,000, and of this nearly two-thirds has gone up in smoke.

People in Wheeling can hardly realize the calamity that has befallen little Cameron. Suppose Wheeling had an $8,000,000 fire on which the insurance was but $1,000,000, and you have approximately an idea of the situation here. On the North Side, out of twenty-six business establishments but two remain, Sam Reinheimer's clothing store and Francis & Henderson's general store, which stood apart from the main business portion of the town and were saved on a very scant margin. Had the Atlantic engine not been wrecked at Roseby's Rock it would have arrived here in time to save probably $75,000 or $100,000 worth of property, as the fire burned furiously for two hours after the time that the engine would have arrived.

The origin of the fire was the lighting of the hay in the loft of the livery stable of E. W. Fitzgerald, on Main street, half way up the hill and right in the center of the business district. The manager of the stable asserts that there was nobody about the stable after 9:30 last night and at that hour all lights were put out. There are two theories as to the start of the fire that ended so disastrously. Some say that a party of young men were in the loft playing cards and that the hay became ignited from matches. The other theory is a startling one. Many reputable citizens say that it was a noticable fact on Sunday night that an unusual number of strangers were in town, many of them tough looking characters, whom nobody knew. These men, it is thought by many people, deliberately set fire to the stable in the hope of securing plunder.

The latter theory is made plausible by the fact that an immense amount of merchandise taken from the burning buildings was stolen without pretense of secrecy during the fire. As an instance, a crippled man was set to watch goods taken out of one establishment, and while nobody was around three strange men, none of whom the watchman knew, walked up and grabbed bundles of clothing and walked away. This was repeated throughout the night. It is also asserted that people came from the country side and took goods away in wagons. Certain it is that there was a surprising amount of thievery going on, and for this reason it is claimed that the fire was the work of a gang of incendiaries.

It had been a quiet Sunday here and at 10:30 o'clock probably nine out of ten of the inhabitants had retired. A coterie of young men were sitting on the New Crawford hotel porch, diagonally across the street from the livery stable, when George Huffner, of Booher & Huffner, and one or two others, saw the rapidly increasing flames in the hay loft gleaming between the boards of the wall. The alarm was at once sounded, and soon the people were pouring out from their houses. Then the big freight engines in the Baltimore & Ohio yards began to whistle in chorus, so that in ten minutes there was not a person in the place who was not thoroughly wide-awake.

It was at once seen that the fire would be a bad one, simply for the reason that the town has no fire apparatus. A bucket brigade was soon formed, but the contents of all the neighboring cisterns could not have stopped the blaze in the livery stable, which in five minute had spread to the Odd Fellows' building and other business houses adjoining. In fifteen minutes the fire had jumped across the street and a few minutes later had jumped over a side street below the stable. Then it dawned upon everybody that the town, or the North Side at least, was doomed unless outside aid could be given. It was at this time that the message of Fitzgerald to Chief Healey, of the Wheeling fire department, was sent.

In the meantime the fire raged with unabated fury, the hundreds of people utterly powerless to check the fiend that had gained so awful a mastery. Then the energy of all was turned to the saving of movable property, but with not a great deal of success. The fire spread with fearful rapidity, and the workers were driven down the street before it before they had time to save much. Only in the establishments down toward the railroad station, which last burned, did the owners save much of their worldly goods. The people were beginning to get anxious about the arrival of the Wheeling steamer, of whose promised aid the people generally knew.

Finally at 1 o'clock the telegraph operator gave out the startling announce-