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DARK DAYS

—BY—

HUGH CONWAY,

Author of "Called Back."

CHAPTER IV.—AT ALL COST, SLEEP!

DEAD! Before I kneeled beside him and, after unbuttoning his coat, laid my hand on his breast, I knew the the man was dead. Before I turned the lantern on his white face I knew who the man was. Sir Mervyn Ferrand had paid for his sin with his life! It needed little professional skill to determine the cause of his death. A bullet fired, it seemed to me, at close quarters had passed absolutely through the heart. He must have fallen without a moan. Killed. I knew, by the hand of the woman he had wronged.

A sneering smile yet lingered on his set features. I could even imagine the words which had accompanied it, when swift and sudden, without one moment's grace for repentance or confession, death had been meted out to him. At one moment he stood erect and full of life, mocking, it may be, her who had trusted him, at the next, before the sentence he was speaking was completed, he layed lifeless at her feet, with the snow-flakes beginning to form his winding-sheet!

Oh, it was vengeance! swift, deadly vengeance! But why, oh why had she wreaked it? Philippa, my peerless Philippa, a murderess! Oh, it was too fearful, too horrible! I must be dreaming. All of my own thoughts of revenge left me. It was for the time pity, sheer pity, I felt for the man, cut off in the prime of his life. While I knew he was a-live I could look forward to and picture the minute when we should stand coolly seeking to kill one another; but now that he was dead, I hated him no longer. Ah! death is a sacred thing. Dead! Sir Mervyn Ferrand dead, and slain by Philippa!

It could not be true! It should not be true! Yet I shuddered as I remembered the passion she had thrown into those words, "Basil, did you ever hate a man?" I gave a low cry of anguish as I remembered how I had hurled from me the pistol she had let fall—the very weapon which had done the dreadful deed.

Killed by Philippa! Not in a sudden burst of uncontrollable passion, but with deliberate intent. She must have gone armed to meet him. She must have shot him through the heart; must have seen him fall. Then, only then, the horrible deed which she had wrought must have been fully realized! Then she had turned and fled from the spot in a frenzy. Oh, my poor girl! my poor girl!

Utterly bewildered by my anguish, I rose from my knees and stood for a while beside the corpse. It was in that moment I learned how much I really loved the woman who had done this thing. Over all my grief and horror this love rose paramount. At all cost I must save her, save her from the hands of justice; save her from the fierce elements which her tender frame was even at this moment braving. And as I recalled how she had sought me yesterday with the tale of her wrong—how she had wildly fled from me, a few minutes ago, madly, blindly into the night; as I thought of the injuries she had suffered, and which has led her to shed this man's blood; as I contrasted her in her present position with what she was when first I knew her and loved her, the pity began to fade from my heart; my thoughts toward the lifeless form at my feet grew stern and sombre, and I found myself beginning, by the old code of an eye for an eye, to justify, although I regretted Philippa's fearful act. Right or wrong, she was the woman I loved; and I swore I would save her from the consequences of her crime, even—heaven help me!—if the accusation, when made, must fall upon my shoulders.

Yet it was not the beginning of any scheme to evade justice which induced me to raise the dead body and bear it to the side of the road, where I placed it under the low bank on which the hedge grew. It was the reverence which one pays to death made me do this. I could not leave the poor wretch lying in the very middle of the highway, for the first passer-by to stumble against. To-morrow he would, of course, be found. To-morrow the hue and cry would be out! To-morrow Philippa, my Philippa, would——Oh, heavens! never, never, never!

So I laid what was left of Sir Mervyn Ferrand reverentially by the side of the lonely road. I even tried to close his glassy eyes, and I covered his face with his own handkerchief. Then, with heart holding fear and anguish enough for a lifetime, I turned and went in search of the poor, unhappy girl.

Where should I seek her? Who knew what her remorse may have urged her to do? Who knew whither her horror may have driven her? It needs but to find Philippa lifeless on the road to complete the heaviest tale of grief which can be exacted from one man in one short night! I clenched my teeth and rushed on,

I had the road all to myself. No one was abroad in such weather. Indeed, few persons were seen at night in any weather in this lonely part of the country. I made straight for my own house. The dismal thought came to me, that unless Philippa kept to the road she was lost to me forever. If she strayed to the right or to the left, how on such a night could I possibly find her? My own hope was that she would go straight to my cottage; so thither I made the best of my way. If she had not arrived, I must get what assistance I could, and seek for her in the fields to the right and left of the road. It was a dreaay comfort to remember that all the ponds and spaces of water were frozen six inches thick!

I hesitated a moment when I reached her late residence. Should I inquire if she had returned thither? No; when morning revealed the ghastly event of the night, my having done so would awake suspicion. Let me first go home.

Home at last! In a moment I shall know the worst. I opened the slide of my lantern, which was still alight, and threw the rays on the path which led to my door. My heart gave a great bound of thankfulness. There on the snow, not yet obliterated by more recent flakes, were the prints of a small foot. Philippa, as I prayed but scarcely dared to hope she might, had come straight to my house.

My man opened the door for me. It was well I had seen those footprints, as my knowledge of Philippa's arrival enabled me to assume a natural air

"My sister has come?" I asked.

"Yes, sir, about a quarter of an hour ago."

"We missed each other on the road. What a night!" I said, throwing off my snow-covered coat.

"Where is she now?" I asked.

"In the sitting-room, sir." Then, lowering his voice, William added, "She seemed just about in a tantrum when she found you weren't at home. I expect we shall find her a hard lady to please."

William, in spite of his stolidity, occasionally ventured upon some liberty when addressing me.

His words greatly surprised me. I forced myself to make some laughing rejoinder; then I turned the handle of the door and entered the room in which Philippa had taken refuge.

Oh, how my heart throbbed! What would she say to me? What could I, fresh from that dreadful scene, say to her? Would she excuse or palliate, would she simply confess or boldly justify, her crime? Would she plead her wrongs in extenuation? Would she assert that in a moment of ungovernable rage she had done the deed? No matter what she said; she was still Philippa, and even at the cost of my own life and honor I would save her.

Yet as I advanced into the room a shudder ran through me. Fresh to my mind came the remembrance of that white face, that still form, lying as I had left it, with the pure white snow falling thickly around it.

Philippa was sitting in front of the fire. Her hat was removed; her dark hair disheveled and gleaming wet with the snow which had melted in it. She must have heard me enter and close the door, but she took no notice. As I approached her she turned her shoulder upon me in a pettish way, and as one who by the action means to signify displeasure. I came to her side and stood over her, waiting for her to look up and speak first. She must speak first! What can I say, after all that has happened to her to-night?

But she kept a stony silence—kept her eyes still turned from mine. At last I called her by her name, and bending down, looked into her face.

Its expression was one of sullen anger, and moreover, anger which seemed to deepen as she heard my voice. She made a kind of contemptuous gesture, as if waving me aside.

"Philippa," I said, as sternly as I could, "speak to me!"

I laid my hand upon her arm. She shook it off fiercely, and then started to her feet.

"You ask me to speak to you," she said; "you, who have treated me like this! Oh, it is shameful! shameful! I come through storm and snow—come to you, who were to welcome me as a brother! Where are you? Away, your wretched servant tells me. Why are you away? I trusted you! Oh, you are a pretty brother! If you had cared for me or respected me, you would have been here to greet me. No! you are all in a league—all in a league to ruin me! Now I am here, what will you do? Poison me, of course! kill me, and make away with me, even as that other doctor killed and made away with my poor child! He did! I say he did! I saw him do it! All, all, all,—even you—you, whom I trusted—leagued against me!"

She was trembling with excitement. Her words ran one into the other. It was as much as I could do to follow them; yet the above is but a brief condensatson of what she said. With unchecked volubility she continued to heap reproaches and accusations, many of which were of the most extravagant and frivolous nature, on my head. At last she was silent, and reseated herself in her former attitude; and the sullen, discontented, illused look again settled on her face.

And yet, although I, who loved her above all the world, was the object of her fierce reproaches, no words I had as yet listened to came more sweetly to my ear than these. A great joy swept through me; a tide of relief bore me to comparative happiness. Whatever dreadful deed the poor girl had that night accomplished, she was morally innocent. Philippa was not accountable for her actions!

As a doctor, I read the truth at once The rapid flow of words, the changing moods, the vehement excitement, the sullen air, the groundless suspicions—one and all carried conviction, and told me what was wrong. Mrs. Wilson's words of yesterday, which warned me that Philippa's health should be inquired into, added absolute certainty.

My professional brethren who may happen to read this will understand me when I say that, although it is long since I have practiced as a doctor, I am sorely tempted, as I reach this stage of my story, to give in detail the particulars which induced me to arrive at such a belief. No physician no surgeon, lives who does not feel it his duty as well as his pleasure to an accurate account of any out-of-the-common case which has come under his notice. But I am not writing these pages for the benefit of science; and having no wish to make my tale assume the authority of a hospital report, shall restrain myself, and on technical points be as brief as possible.

In short, then, Phillapa, had fallen a victim to that mania which not uncommonly shows itself after the birth of a child—that dread, mysterious disease which may, at the moment when everything seems going well, turn a house of joy into a house of mourning, a disease the source of which I have no hesitation in saying has not yet been properly traced and investigated. So far as I know, there is no monograph on the subject, or certainly there was none at that time.

Still, it is admitted by all the authorities that this species of insanity is not unfrequently produced by a severe mental shock, especially when that shock is accompanied by an overwhelming sense of disgrace.

Such being the case, it is small wonder that Phillipa, waking yesterday morning to receive the intelligence that her marriage with Sir Mervyn Ferrand has been a farce, should have been thrown into a state extremely susceptible to the attack of the disease. Her careless exposure of herself to the wintry air, when last night she sought me and claimed my aid, most probably hastened the attack of the foe. Mrs. Wilson had noticed her strange manner. I myself have remarked upon her rapid changes from calmness to excitability. It was clear to me that even when she visited me last night the mischief had begun to develop itself. I blamed by blindness bitterly. I ought to have seen what was wrong Considering her agitated state, I ought to have been warned, and have taken precautions; but I had attributed those fitful changes, the meaning of which was now only too plain too me, to the natural agitation experienced by a passionate yet pure minded women, who found herself deceived. Oh, had I but guessed the real cause, or rather the way in which her grief, had affected her, all the dark work of that night might have been left undone!

Although in many ways it added to the difficulties and dangers which surrounded us, the discovery of the truth was an unspeakable relief to me. No right minded man could now call the poor girl guilty of crime. The man's blood was indeed on her hands; yet she had shed it, not knowing what she did. Her frenzy must then have been at its height. The idea of his coming that night must in some way have occurred to her. The desire to see him must have driven her to go and meet him. Her wrongs—perhaps the dread she now felt of him may have induced her to arm herself; perhaps she carried the weapon for self-protection. Any way, she was mad when she started; she was mad when she drew the trigger; she was mad when she broke from my grasp; she was mad now as she sat by my fire, eying me with morose, suspicious glances. She was mad—and innocent.

Her manner toward me troubled me but little. It is a well-known peculiarity of the disease that the patient turns, with hatred from those who were the nearest and dearest to her. Fits of sullen, stubborn silence, alternating with fierce outbursts of vituperation, are the most common characteristics of the mania! Hideous, startling as it is to see the change wrought in the sufferer, the malady is by no means of such an alarming nature as it seems. In fact the majority of cases are treated with perfect success.

But all this is professional talk. Again I say that the discovery of hilippa's state of mind was an immense relief to me. My conscience was cleared of a weight which was pressing upon it. I felt braced up to use every effort, and thoroughly justified in following whatever course I thought best. Moreover, a new relationship was now established between Philippa and myself. For awhile every feeling save one must be banished. We were now doctor and patient.

After much persuasion, I induced her to let me feel her pulse, As I expected, I found it up nearly to 120. This did not alarm me much, as in the course of my practice I had seen several of these cases. The preliminary treatment was simple as A B C; at all cost sleep must be obtained.

Fortunately, I had a well-stocked medicine chest. In a few minutes I had prepared the strongest dose of opium which I dared to administer. In such a case as the present I knew that no driblets would avail; so I measured out no less than sixty drops of laudnaum. Sleep the girl must have. That poor seething, boiling brain must by artificial means be forced to rest for hours. After that rest I should be able to say what chance there was of saving life and reason.

But preparing a dose of medicine, and making a patient like this take it, are two different things. I tried every art, every persuasion. I implored and commanded. I threatened and insisted. Philippa was obdurate. Poor soul! She knew I meant to poison her. On my part, I knew that unless she swallowed that narcotic to-night her case was all but hopeless.

I rested for awhile; then I sent for lukewarm water. After some resistance she suffered me to bathe her throbbing temples. The refreshing coolness which followed the operation was so grateful to her that she let me repeat the action again and again. A softer and more contented look settled on her beautiful face.

I seized the moment. Once more I pressed the potion upon her. This time successfully. My heart trembled with joy as I saw her swallow the drug. Now she might be saved!

I still continued the comforting laving of her temples, and waited until the drug took its due effect. By-and-by that moment came. The large dark eyes closed, the weary head sank heavily on my shoulder, and I knew that Philippa had entered upon a term of merciful oblivion.

I waited until her sleep was sound as the sleep of death; then I summoned my man, I had already told him that my sister was very ill. Between us we bore her to my room and laid her on the bed. I cut the wet boots from her cold feet, did all I could to promote warmth and such comfort as was possible under the circumstances. Then I left her, sleeping that heavy sleep which I prayed might last unbroken for hours, and hours, and hours.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE WAR IN EGYPT.

Defensive Operations of the British Forces.

Extracts from Gordon's Letters and Telegrams.

A dispatch from Korti says that General Buller has an ample supply of food and water. The prisoners who were captured in the skirmish on the 17th state that 2,000 Arabs from the vicinity of Metemneh were encamped near the British front The chiefs intended to make a night assault upon the British lines. Half of the men were eager for the attack, but the others were disinclined. The attack, therefore, was postponed. It was also stated that the Mahdi had written a letter promising reinforcements, impressing them to follow and harass the British troops while crossing the desert. The Mahdi's most active general, Abdullah Khalifa, was in command of the Arabs at Abu-Klea.

The arrival of General Brackenbury's column at Abu-Hamed will be a welcome event for the British, since there will then, for a few weeks at least, be a possible line of communication with Korosko, above the Second Cataract. This line is 235 miles long, and there is only one point at which water is found, but steps will doubtless be taken to forward stores of water to El Murad in advance, and by forced camel marches the distance can be covered in nine days. At best this line will be an indifferent one, but anything is preferable to the isolation of the past several days.

A grand durbar was held at Korti in the presence of the Kabbabish and other sheikhs and the British troops. Lord Wolseley personally invested the mudir of Dongola with the order of St. Michael and St. George. The mudir asked Lord Wolseley to convey his thanks to the queen for this mark of distinction.

General Wolseley received a visit at Korti from a number of friendly chiefs. He announced to them that it was the fixed determination of the British to recapture Khartoum and to avenge the death of General Gordon.

The papers continue to publish extracts from the telegrams and letters of General Gordon as they appear in the Blue Book on Egypt. One of these letters, dated December 4, 1884, recounts many incidents of the siege, and has the following narratives: "Once the river rose. We drove off the Arabs in four fights. We fired their towns. We sent two expeditions to Sennaar. We had a fight on Sept. 4. We were defeated with heavy loss, our square getting always broken. It has been quiet since. We fired 3,000,000 rounds in these different fights. The Arab Krupp guns often hulled our steamers. We have lost three steamers and built two. All the captives with the Mahdi are well. Slatin Bey is well treated, but he is kept in chains. The nuns among the captives ostensibly married the Greeks in the party in order to save themselves from being compelled to marry Arabs. There is a mysterious Frenchman from Dongola with the Mahdi. Don't let the Egyptian soldiers come. Take direct command of the steamers at Metemneh and turn out the fellaheen."

In a letter to a friend at Cairo, dated December 14, General Gordon wrote: "It is all up with us. I expect a catastrophe within ten days from the present time. It would not have been so if our people had kept me better informed of their intentions. My adieux to all."

A native has reported that the Madhi has offered the Egyptian garrisons in the equatorial provinces of the White Nile and Sennaar a safe conduct out of Egypt upon condition that they give up their arms.

The queen has sent an autograph letter to Miss Gordon, sister of General Gordon, expressing her majesty's sympathy with the lady in her bereavement by the loss of her heroic brother.

A Curious Superstition.

Since the days of the first Lord Chatham probably no public man in Great Britain has been so afflicted with gout as the Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon. According to all accounts it amounts to an almost continuous torture. It is wonderful how such a man, suffering as he does, manages to preside with such success over an institution like the Metropolitan Tabernacle. Mr. Spurgeon's only interval of comfort, it would seem, is during his brief winter sojourn ot Mentone. A sympatheic friend in Germany has just sent the reverend gentleman a peculiar prescription. He recommends him to keep in his room a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons; and he encourages him to hope for the happiest results. In some parts of South Germany, it appears, it was at one time a common belief that gout could be cured by such means; and to this day in that part of Europe turtle doves are called "gout pigeons." Mr. Spurgeon has no faith in the cure, but recommends the keeping of doves in the house metaphorically, as a cure for many a plague in the family. "May the voice of the turtle," he says, "be heard in our land."—*New York Herald.*

SOUDAN advices state that the dreaded Kamsin winds have begun to blow over the country, and have assumed almost the intensity of siroccos. The wind is hot and is accompanied by blinding clouds of sand which cuts like needle points. The troops can only find shelter by lying down with their faces to the earth until the storm has passed over, when they struggle out of the sand almost choked and blinded. The cavalry horses have suffered terribly from the effects of the hot blasts, and many of them have been so injured that they had to be shot. It is supposed that the Kamsin winds will prevail for about a month.

MARCHESE DEL GRILLO, the beautiful daughter of Mme. Ristori, was able at a recent diplomatic reception at the White House, to converse with all the guests in their own language excepting only the Japanese.

NEWS SUMMARY

Eastern and Middle States.

THE Marvin Safe company's factory, a large eight-story building in New York, has succumbed to the flames. At the time of the fire 500 safes, valued at $100,000, were stored in the building. The total loss is about $230,000.

PETER SCHROEDER, an attendant at the Blocksley almshouse, Philadelphia, has been arrested, charged with instigating another employe, a colored lad, to fire the building, whereby twenty of the crazed inmates lost their lives. Nadine, the colored boy, detailed circumstantially how, at Schroeder's request, he had set fire to the building. Schroeder was arrested, charged with conspiracy to commit arson, and Mullen, another attendant, was held as an accessory after the fact.

WILLIAM C. KINGSLEY, a prominent Democratic politician of Brooklyn, and one of the founders of the Brooklyn bridge, is dead. The fortune left by him is estimated at millions.

HORACE V. FERRAN, deputy postmaster at Batavia, N. Y., committed suicide by shooting. A defalcation had been discovered in his accounts.

THE wife of John L. Sullivan, the notorious Boston pugilist, has brought suit for divorce on the charge of habitual drunkenness and brutal treatment.

IN the United States district court at New Haven, James M. Meech, Charles Webb and William Roath, of Norwich, pleaded guilty to the charge of embezzling of the funds of the Merchant's National and Shetucket National banks in that city, of which they were officers, and were sentenced to hard labor in the State prison. The two first-named were sentenced to five years and the last-named to four years' imprisonment.

JOHN W. RUBRIGHT, captain of a canal boat lying at a New York pier, was annoyed by boys snowballing him, and fired off his pistol. The bullet struck Patrick Dugan, aged nineteen, a laborer on the pier, causing instant death. Rubright was arrested.

South and West.

GREAT destitution, arising from drought and ruined crops, prevails in Gilmer, Braxton and Calhoun counties, W. Va., which are remote from railroad communication. Cattle are being killed for food and much sickness exists among the people.

FRANK JAMES, the noted outlaw, has been released from jail in Missouri, the chief witness against him having died.

THE trial of Joseph C. Mackin, William J. Gallagher, Arthur Gleason and Henry Biehl, on the charge of conspiring to affect the result of an election for State senator in Chicago at the presidential election in November, resulted in the conviction of Mackin, Gallagher and Gleason and the acquittal of Biehl. The trial lasted two weeks and aroused great public interest.

THE Oregon legislature adjourned without having elected a United States Senator to succeed Senator Slater. The failure was due to the inability of two factions of the Republican members, who are in a majority, to agree upon a candidate. This for the present leaves Oregon without one representative in the national Senate.

IRVING LANG (colored) was hanged at Greenville, N. C., for the murder of Moses Barrett during a quarrel. The murderer and his victim were farm hands.

STATE SENATOR W. C. MONTGOMERY, one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of Southern Indiana, committed suicide at Gosport. Cause, ill health.

Two passenger trains close together were run into by a freight train near Chebanse, Ill., and a fearful crash followed. One passenger was instantly killed, and eight or nine others injured more or less severely.

MICHIGAN Democrats and Greenbackers have fused on a State ticket, the principal nominees being two candidates for supreme court judge.

Washington.

THE Senate appropriation committee struck cut of the postoffice bill the proviso reducing the pound rate on newspapers sent from the office of publication from two cents to one cent.

THE Senate confirmed the nominations of Stephen F. Wilson, of Pennsylvania, to be associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico, and Charles H. Burns, of New Hampshire, to be United States attorney for the district of New Hampshire.

ACCORDING to Librarian Spofford's annual report the library of Congress contains 544,687 volumes and 185,000 pamphlets, an increase of 31,246 volumes over the previous year.

THE findings of the court martial in the case of Judge Advocate General Swaim, charged with conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and with neglect of duty were: Of the first charge, not guilty, but guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, in violation of the sixty-second article of war: of the second charge, not guilty. Upon these findings the court sentenced the accused "to be suspended from rank, duty and half pay for the period of twelve years." The court's sentence was approved by President Arthur.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. P. MORROW, Sixth cavalry, who was tried by court-martial on the charge of triplicating his pay accounts, has been sentenced to forfeit all right to advancement in his grade for the period of two years, so that at the end of that time he shall still be the junior lieutenant-colonel of cavalry.

THE two safes of the Adams Express company, which were in the car that was burned at the recent railroad collision near Washington were opened in the office of the United States treasurer. The charred money which they contained amounted to more than $110,000, most of which has been identified and will be redeemed.

Foreign.

MR. GLADSTONE, the English premier, is reported to be much dejected and weighed down by the series of disasters to the British forces in the Soudan.

A DISPATCH from Korti says that General Sir Redvers Buller in his retreat from Gubat was compelled to halt at Abu-Klea wells and intrench his troops in a position there, in order to safely defend himself against El Mahdi's men, who were gathered in large numbers, and continually menacing the British forces.

AN immense crowd of spectators in London witnessed the departure of the grenadier guards, one of England's crack regiments, for the Soudan. They were addressed, previous to departure, by the Prince of Wales, and the streets along which they marched were decorated with flags and banners. The war spirit in England seems to have been thoroughly aroused. On the other hand the Irish weekly newspapers generally display a feeling of jubilation over the British reverses in the Soudan.

A CABLE dispatch says that "London's scare about dynamite is really becoming childish. At all public buildings every one with a bag is challenged, and familiar and useful passageways are closed."

THE Russians are rapidly advancing in the direction of Herat, and a conflict with the Afghans is expected to occur any day. Meanwhile this step of Russia is causing alarm in England, and the London *Times* threatens war with Russia if she should seize Herat.

A CONGRESS of dynamiters, consisting of eleven delegates, three of them from America, is reported to have been held in Paris. Resolutions to punish England were adopted.

AN extraordinary "execution" is reported from Exeter, England. A man named Lee, under sentence of death for a woman's murder, was placed three times on the gallows for execution, the machinery each time failing to act. Finally he was taken to his cell and respited.

LETTERS of the late General Gordon from Khartoum have been made public, and show that he did not, as was reported, express confidence in his ability to hold the city indefinitely against the False Prophet's followers.

SIX paupers perished in the destruction by fire of the poorhouse at Wohlen, Switzerland.

DURING the debate in the British house of commons on Sir Stafford Northcote's motion of censure against the government for its Egyptian policy there was a noisy exhibition of ill feeling. Upon motion of Premier Gladstone Mr. O'Brien, the Irish editor and home rule member, was suspended for a week.

THE steamer Alleghany, bound from Cardiff for Galle, has been lost. Her crew, numbering thirty persons, were drowned.

OF Colonel Burnaby (killed in the Soudan) London *Truth* says: "Many years ago he passed as the strongest man in England and used to twist a poker round his neck and carry ponies up stairs. Then he had an illness, and subsequent to this he never renewed these feats."

Dutch Sign-Boards.

The Dutch have the reputation of being commonplace and wholly immersed in business. Yet Holland has produced learned scholars, great painters and noble champions of human rights. A traveler found even the signs on Dutch streets interesting, because indicative of the originality of the people. He says:

It was some time before I understood what was meant when I read "fire and water for sale. It seems the poorer people make no fires, but buy boiling water nd red hot turf with which to prepare a ir tea and coffee.

th a baby is born a small placard of If hite lace is hung upon the red satin and w e is sick, his symptoms door; if some on ed on a little bulletin are daily record ouse, thus saving board affixed to the houble of making those interested the tr and replying to inquiries. decorated with

The country houses are ntieman seems legends. The retired ge should know anxious that all the worldaints in huge of his content. So he pouse such sentiments on the front of his ht Care," "Big timents as these: "Withou," "My Pleasure and Life," "Sociability ship Within," etc.—*Youth's Companion.*

MORE FIGHTING.

Details of a Fierce Battle Near the City of Kassala.

Five Cities in the Soudan Holding Out Against El Mahdi.

The following particulars of the battle near Kassala have been received from Suakim: "The Hadendowas attacked the Kassala garrison, which, under the commandant, had sallied out to cover the entry of a convoy of grain. The garrison made hasty defence works on an open plain west of the city, and received the onslaught of the Hadendowas with such a terrible fire that the latter fell back in confusion, with heavy loss. The friendly Shukoorie tribe, who brought the grain for Kassala, then attacked the Hadendowas on the flank and rear, while the garrison troops advanced to attack their front. The Hadendowas became panic stricken, and fled in all directions. Their chief, Isaelfilatti, was killed. The Shukoories occupied and destroyed Phillik, the headquarters of Mussa, second chief of the Hadendowas.

The difficulty of the garrison at Kassala has been increased by the appearance of the Italians at Massowah. This interferes with the authority of Major Chermside, who was preparing an immense convoy of provisions, munitions and money for Kassala. These measuees of relief for the beleaguered city are now at a standstill. Kassala is the second city in the Soudan. It contains 20,000 inhabitants, and has a garrison of 3,000 men. It is the keystone in the line of frontier strongholds which are holding out against the Mahdi. Kassala, Sanheit, Amdib, Ghira and Gullabat are all resisting the False Prophet. Kassala has already been beseiged for a whole year. Major Chermside has offered to send re-enforcements, but the commander has refused to accept any, as he is unable to provide them with food. Unless England or Italy sends speedy relief Kassala will share the fate of Berber and Khartoum.

Dispatches from Korti say: "The mudir of Dongola has been informed that the Mahdi has gone on a steamer to Elbeh. General Brackenbury destroyed the village of Habed, Suleiman, with 500 men, women and children passed through that village on the 17th, flying northward from the left bank of the Nile."

The war office has adopted a plan to supply General Graham's army with water in its advance across the desert from Suakim to Berber, by laying pipes in sections.

The British army estimates for the year 1886 are announced. They amount to £17,820,700. This sum includes the expenditures of the Soudan expedition.

Mr. Henry M. Stanley, in an interview, thought that the reason why General Gordon did not make his escape from Khartoum by steamer was the fact that he was a fatalist. His death is more serious than the fall of Khartoum. Had he managed to escape, his life and presence would in the end have secured victory for the cause he represented.

A letter has been received at Korti from a nun who was taken prisoner when Khartoum fell into the hands of the Arabs, and who is now kept in captiviey in El Mahdi's camp at Omdurman, a few miles below Khartoum. She confirms the statement that El Mahdi's troops massacred the soldiers of the garrison and many peaceable citizens, and she says that the number of persons slaughtered was fully 2,000.

LATER NEWS.

STRIKING weavers and about 200 Philadelphia policemen came into collision with the result that several of the former received broken heads and seven were arrested, while of the latter a number were knocked down.

GEORGE D. NOREMAC, a professional pedestrian, has finished a long tramp in New York city, having covered 5,100 miles in 100 days on a wager of $2,000.

A STRIKE among the employees of the Wabash railroad was inaugurated at Springfield, Ill., and extended to other cities.

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT LOGAN, a Republican member of the Illinois legislature, dropped dead of heart disease while on his way to the house chamber at the capitol in Springfield. It will be remembered the Illinois legislature has been a tie in joint convention, and in consequence of the death of Mr Logan it will be necessary for the Republicans to refrain from voting if they wish to prevent the election of a Democratic United States Senator.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND wrote a reply to a letter sent him by a number of members of the outgoing Congress respecting legislation repealing the coinage of the silver dollar. The President is understood in the letter to have expressed himself in favor of such legislation.

THE National theatre, the most prominent place of amusement in Washington, has been destroyed by fire. The loss on the building and contents is put at $150,000.

IN the British house of lords the Marquis of Salisbury moved a vote of censure on the government's Egyptian policy. The motion was greeted with loud applause.

A NUMBER of artillery officers and scientists were testing a new patent fuse at the Royal School of Gunnery at Shoeburyness, England, when a terrible explosion occurred. Three men were killed outright and several others were fatally wounded. Among the latter were some of the most prominent officials of the government laboratory at Woolwich. The scene of the explosion presented a sickening sight. Some of the wounded had their faces carried away, others had their legs torn off, and men were lying about in every direction groaning in their dying agonies.

AT Abbeyfeale, a village in Limerick county, Ireland, eleven farmers, with their families, were evicted for non-payment of rent.

THE marriage of Princess Beatrice, Queen Victoria's youngest daughter, to Prince Henry of Battenberg, will take place on the Isle of Wight in July.

LATER CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

Senate.

Mr. Sherman reported to the Senate an amendment to the sundry civil bill to provide for the erection in the District of Columbia of a statue to the memory of General Lafayette at a cost of $50,000.... The naval appropriation bill was reported to the Senate. As it came to the Senate from the committee on appropriations it called for an aggregate of $17,689,337, which was a net increase of $2,364,500 over the aggregate of the House bill and an increase of $2,708,865 over the amount appropriated last year.

House.

By a vote of 150 nays to 118 yeas the House decided that it would not discuss the amendment in the sundry civil appropriation bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to suspend in whole or in part the coinage of silver dollars. The amendment was thereupon withdrawn by Mr. Randall....The fortification appropriation bill was reported to the House. It provided for an appropriation of $955,000.

THE BIG SHAFT.

Comparing Washington Monument with Other High Structures.

The Washington Monument is the highest structure in the world, its cap stone being 555 feet above the ground. It stands on a spot—near the Potomac, and close to the White House—approved by President Washington in 1791, and can be seen from all parts within twenty miles of the elevated ground on which it is erected.

The corner-stone was laid July 4, 1848, when Robert Winthrop, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, made the principal address. The cap-stone was put in position Dec. 6, 1884. It was originally intended that Mr. Winthrop, who still lives, but is in very feeble health, should dedicate the monument. Mr. Winthrop's health prevented this, but he prepared a speech and Congressman Long, of Massachusetts, read it during the ceremonies.

A comparison of the height of the Washington Monument with some of the highest structures and memorials of the New and Old worlds will be instructive. The figures in feet are:

The Washington Memorial	555
Cathedral at Cologne (towers)	511
The Great Pyramid	486
Cathedral at Strasbourg (spire)	468
Cathedral at Amiens (central spire)	422
St. Peter's, at Rome (to top of dome)	405
St. Paul's Cathedral (dome)	365
Cathedral at Milan	355
The Bartholdi Statue	309
St. Mark's, Venice	323
Capitol at Washington (dome and statue)	307
Lincoln Cathedral, England (tower)	300
Brooklyn Bridge (towers)	287
Trinity Church (steeple)	284
Statue of Liberty	220
Philadelphia Cathedral (dome)	210
London Monument	202
Nankin Porcelain Tower	200
Washington Monument, Baltimore	196
Arc de Triomphe, Paris	160
Colonne Vendome, Paris	144
Trajan's Pillar, Rome	130
Pompey's Pillar, Alexandria	114
"Germania" Statue	110
St. Charles Borromeo	106
Colossus of Rhodes	105
"Bavaria" Statue	90
Statue of Memnon	65

SUMMARY OF CONGRESS

Senate.

Mr. Miller, from the committee on agriculture, reported favorably, without amendment, the House bill for the protection of forests on the public domain....Mr. Hoar introduced a bill for the relief of seamen. He said that it was almost a transcript of the Massachusetts law relating to the pledge of seamen's wages, and permitting such pledge only for the support of their wives and children. It was referred to the committee on commerce... The agricultural appropriation bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Plumb the Senate resumed the consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill. The Senate retained in the bill (contrary to the recommendation of the appropriation committee) the legislative provisions inserted by the House of Representatives fixing the postage on newspapers sent from the office of publication to regular subscribers at one cent a pound; but cut out the discrimination against sample copies, making the rate mentioned a uniform rate for all newspapers sent from the office of publication whether sample copies or otherwise. Business was then suspended for the ceremonies attending the dedication of the Washington monument.

The navy appropriation bill was discussed. An amendment appropriating $1,780,000 to build a steel cruiser was adopted. On motion of Mr. Boutelle, of Maine, an amendment was adopted providing for the return of the steamer Alert used in the Greely relief expedition with the thanks of this government, to the government of Great Britain; for the transfer of the steamer Bear to the treasury department to be used as a revenue cutter in Alaskan waters, and for the use of the steamer Thetis in the navy as a surveying vessel. In this shape the bill was passed. ....The postoffice appropriation bill was next discussed. On motion of Mr. Brown, the Senate retained the House provision permitting newspaper articles to be marked without increase of postage. The bill was then read a third time and passed without division. It then went to the House of Representatives for concurrence or nonconcurrence in the Senate amendments.

The chair laid before the Senate a memorial from the legislature of Wisconsin urging the placing of General Grant on the retired list of the army....After discussion Mr. Dawes' bill was passed authorizing the President to negotiate for the purchase of the remaining rights of the Seminole, Creek, and Cherokee nations of Indians to the Oklahoma lands....A number of pension bills were passed, after which Mr. Cockrell called up the House bill already favorably reported by him, to provide for the settlement of the claims of officers and enlisted men of the army, for loss of private property destroyed in the military service of the United States. Mr. Cockrell said that the bill would not cover such things as carpets, watches, etc., but only articles deemed useful, necessary and reasonable for officers and soldiers to have when on duty. On the suggestion of Mr. Sherman the time for presenting such claims was limited to two years; as so amended it was passed.

In debate on the army appropriation bill the sentence of the court martial against Judge Advocate General Swaim was denounced by Messrs. Ingalls, Dawes and Hoar, and defended by Mr. Hale....Mr. Allison reported the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, and asked its immediate consideration. The bill was taken up and its reading proceeded with.... ....Mr. Morrill reported favorably from the committee on public buildings and grounds a bill to provide for the erection of a fire-proof building in the city to contain the records, library and museum of the medical department of the army at a cost not to exceed $200,000.

House.

Mr. Burnes submitted the conference report on the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill and it was agreed to....A bill was passed granting a pension of $50 a month to the widow of Major Thornburg, but when Mr. Hewitt, of New York, called up a Senate bill granting a pension of $50 a month to the widow of Commodore Cravens it was rejected....At its evening session the House passed fifty pension bills.

Mr. McKean, of New Jersey, called up the bill appropriating $25,000 for the improvement of Washington's headquarters at Morristown, but it was objected to....On motion of Mr. Payson, of Illinois, the Senate amendments were concurred in to House bill forfeiting the Texas Pacific land grant....On motion of Mr. Hopkins, of Pennsylvania, Senate amendments were concurred in to House bill prohibiting the importation of contract labor....Mr. Perkins, of Kansas, introduced a bill to open up the Oklahoma lands for homestead settlement....The sundry civil appropriation bill was reported. It appropriated $22,300,177, a reduction of the estimate of $10,126,225. A section of the bill authorized the secretary of the treasury to suspend in whole or in part the coinage of silver dollars from July 1, 1885, to June 30, 1886.

Mr. Buckner called up the Senate bill authorizing the Commercial National bank of Chicago to increase its capital stock to $2,000,000. In opposing the bill, Mr. Weller, of Iowa, attacked the national banking system, declaring that it was the duty of every patriot to strike it a death blow. The bill was passed.... Discussion on the river and harbor bill was resumed. Mr. Holman offered an amendment providing that the money appropriated for the improvement of the Mississippi river shall be expended under the direction of the secretary of war and in accordance with the plans approved by him. After a short and noisy discussion the amendment was adopted.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the secretary of the treasury recommending the appropriation of $25,000 for the revenue marine service in Alaska....The deficiency appropriation bill was passed with amendments... Another scene occurred in the House during debate on the river and harbor bill....Mr. White, of Kentucky, secured the floor on a motion connected with the call of the House. His presence was the signal for cries of "louder," "leave to print," "vote," etc., and general shouts and confusion, while Mr. Weaver, of Nebraska, in the guise of a parliamentary inquiry, asked whether the man with the most mouth was entitled to all the time of the House. There was an interchange of remarks between Mr. White and other members, and a scene of noisy confusion followed. Finally Mr. Browne, of Indiana, moved that in the judgment of the House language used by Mr. Gibson, of West Virginia, was unparliamentary and in violation of its rules, and that he is subject to the censure of the House. The motion was tabled by 132 yeas to 66 nays.

A TERRIBLE AFFRAY.

Fatal Fight on a Texas Train between Marshals and their Prisoners.

Henry L. Gosling, United States marshal for Texas, and Deputies John Manning and William Loring were bringing to San Antonio two prisoners—Pitts and Yeager—convicted of robbing the Southwick postoffice in Burnett county, and having life penalties. Marshal Gosling had consented to let the wife of Pitts and the sisters of Yeager sit beside them on the train. Pitts' mother-in-law was seated near them with another woman, while Benham, a brother-in-law of Pitts, and four other men were immediately in front of them. The women passed pistols to the manacled prisoners, and they suddenly opened fire on their captors, instantly killing Marshal Gosling and mortally wounding Deputy Manning. Then they jumped from the train, but not before they had run the gauntlet of a fusillade of shots from Deputy Loring and many passengers. In the melee Pitts' mother-in-law was fatally and Yeager's sister dangerously shot, both having several wounds.

Deputy Loring organized a posse and went in pursuit of the prisoners. Pitts was found dead, his body riddled with bullets, and Yeager was recaptured, having been seriously wounded, and taken to the jail at New Braunfels, where the women who assisted them in escaping had been conveyed. Pitts' mother-in-law died at night. Marshal Gosling was a widely known Republican politician, and had been defeated for treasurer of Tennessee by Marshal T. Polk. When Polk became a defaulter and fled he was captured by Gosling.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

GENERAL WOLSELEY has received $465,000 in bounties for his military services.

MR. BURNAND, the editor of London *Punch*, is the father of eleven married daughters.

PROFESSOR RICHARD A. PROCTOR is lecturing in the South on astronomical topics.

GENERAL COX, of North Carolina, who led the last Confederate charge at Appomattox, bears the scars of eleven serious wounds.

JAY GOULD, the New York financier, has gone on a trip South, embarking in his yacht at Charleston, S. C., for an extended cruise.

MR. OSCAR WILDE now favors the abolition of the coat and waistcoat, and has pronounced himself in favor of the rustic smock-frock.

SIR HERBERT STEWART, the wounded hero of Abu Klea and Gubat, is a teetotaller. He is a man of irrepressible spirits and untiring patience.

BRADLAUGH, the English atheist, announces that he will be returned to parliament for several constituencies at the next election, and will sit for Northampton.

THE venerable American historian, George Bancroft, recalls with delight that he discussed Byron with Goethe at Weimar, and Goethe with Byron at Monte Nero.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, JR., now a judge on the supreme bench of Massachusetts, was an officer in the Federal army, and was once left for dead upon a Southern battle-field.

DR. TANNER, the faster, is a resident of Dona Ana county, New Mexico, where he is devoting himself to the propagation of a new religion, founded on a new Bible, revealed to a new prophet.

A number of New Haven women have been selling their hair to raise money for the necessaries of life. Their husband's have none to sell.

FIRE'S FATAL WORK.

Two Families in New York and West Virginia Wiped Out.

Five Persons Killed in Philadelphia—One Day's Record.

The newspapers are happily rarely called upon to chronicle such a terrible day's record of fire as is given below. In New York city a policeman's whole family of six persons and in West Virginia another man's family of five were swept away, while in Philadelphia one of the best known residents, one child, his sister-in-law and two servants met a horrible fate. Minor disasters by fire on this day were also numerous. Details of the various calamities are as follows:

IN NEW YORK CITY.

Late at night flames were seen to issue from the second floor of the four story office building on the northeast corner of Beaver and William streets, New York. Two families, comprising ten men, women and children lived on the top floors. Mr. Jaede, who keeps a restaurant in the basement, his wife and young child were rescued by the firemen. Mary Leary, servant for Policeman James Murray, who was the janitor of the building, was also rescued. Policeman Murray had three young children. His wife, his mother-in-law, and the children were seen at a window early in the fire, but the firemen could not find them in their rooms. It was said after a while that they had escaped to the roof of an adjoining building, and that Murray, who had been on patrol duty in the precinct, had met them outside and taken them to a place of shelter. This was believed until it was discovered that Murray was missing. The truth became known at 1 o'clock A. M. when a fireman came from the William street exit bearing in his arms the remains of a child. It proved to be the corpse of Maggie Murray, the policeman's youngest child, two and a half years old.

Others soon after emerged from the same door, bearing the bodies of Jimmie, seven years old, and Danny Murray, five years old. The children had been found lying lifeless, huddled together under the window out of which their mother was last seen calling for help. Close to them were found the bodies of Mrs. Murray and her mother, Mrs. Venus.

Policeman Murray's body was found on the first floor. He had run up from a fire on South street when the alarm came from Beaver and William. He tried to get in the building by the door on the William street side and failed. Then at 11:30 he went up a ladder that had been put up on the Beaver street side, in search of his family, and no more was seen of him. His body was found on the first floor.

IN WEST VIRGINIA.

A terrific natural gas explosion occurred at Wellsburg, W. Va., seven miles down the river, early in the morning. The explosion was caused by gas leaking in the cellar of a two-story brick building occupied by R. Helsley & Brother, cigarmakers. This building and one adjoining occupied by Luke Wallace, saloon-keeper, which was also of brick, were demolished.

The debris took fire. The intense cold gave the flames full sway, and they spread rapidly to two adjoining frame buildings, which were consumed. The shock of the explosion shattered the glass in the windows and shook the plaster from the ceilings of nearly every residence in the town. The inhabitants were startled, and ran into the streets, not knowing what had happened.

The whole family of Mr. Helsley, consisting of himself, his wife, mother, and two children were instantly killed. All the bodies were easily recovered, except that of the youngest child, aged eighteen months, which was burned to a crisp.

John Walters, aged seventeen, was missing, and was supposed to be buried in the ruins. Mr. Walters, his wife, and two other children, were badly injured, and some of them were not expected to recover. Several other persons were reported fatally injured.

IN PHILADELPHIA.

Between 6 and 7 o'clock A. M. fire broke out in the house of John G. King, No. 1539 Pine street, Philadelphia, and the engines being engaged at another fire, the flames made rapid progress before proper assistance could be had, and three dwellings were partly destroyed. The occupants of King's residence were asleep in the upper stories, and were aroused by the heat and smoke only to discover that the usual means of egress had been cut off. They ran to the windows, and most of them jumped out. Mr. King appeared at the fourth story window, and was seen to make an effort to jump out, but was so overcome by the heat and smoke that he fell back into the flames. His charred body was found after the fire was extinguished.

Mrs. King appeared at a window crying for help. A mattress was held by the firemen, and she was told to drop her baby first and then jump herself. She did so, and received severe but not dangerous injuries. The baby was also injured, but not fatally.

Miss Jennie Hamilton, aged 25, sister of Mrs. King and daughter of Dr. Hamilton, was burned to death while hanging out of a top window. She hung there in sight of the helpless spectators until her fingers were burned off, and then fell to the frozen ground.

John King, five years old, dropped from the fourth-story window and died from the concussion.

One colored and one white female servant were roasted to a crisp, while a third was taken to a hospital with severe burns.

Mr. King was a man of independent fortune, not in business. He was a member of the most aristocratic club in the city, and was a prominent figure in society. Mrs. King and her sister Jennie were leaders of fashion and centres of attraction wherever they appeared.

FIRES IN OTHER PLACES.

The blaze which caused the delay in bringing the firemen to the assistance of the King family in Philadelphia broke out in a four-story business building on Market street. The flames soon spread to an adjoining building, causing a total estimated loss of $125,000.

A fire which broke out in New Britain, Conn., in a livery stable, soon spread to a large wooden block in Church street and thence to Main street. The flames got beyond the control of the local firemen and aid was telegraphed for from Hartford. One engine was sent from that city. Ed. Rowley, an occupant of the livery stable was burned to death. Numerous firms were burned out, and the aggregate losses were estimated at $200,000.

Flames which started in Schiff's wholesale grocery at Charlotte, N. C., quickly spread to an adjoining drug store, and both buildings, with their contents, valued at $50,000, were destroyed. One of two drunken women who upset a lamp in the upper story of Schiff's building and caused the fire, was burned to death.

A fire in Texarkana, Ark., destroyed the Marx brick block and burned out numerous business firms. The total estimated losses are $200,000.

The Chappaqua Mountain institute, at Chappaqua, N. Y., used as a Quaker boarding school for fifty children, was totally destroyed by a fire which broke out in the night. The children were all saved after heroic efforts on the part of the teacher. The children and teachers, driven out into the cold air in their night clothes, were taken care of temporarily by their neighbors.

Beside the above the telegraph reported about twenty other fires in various parts of the country on this day, with damages running from $1,000 to $20,000.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

THE mines of Montana last year yielded $24,450,000.

THERE are now twenty-three cities in Massachusetts.

THERE are 85,866 miles of telephone wire in the United States.

MAKING bricks of cork constitutes one of the new German industries.

BOSTON is looking forward to a population of 1,000,000 in the year 1900.

DURING last year there were 289 murders in Ohio and 178 in Kentucky.

THERE are said to be 75,000 men and women out of employment in New York city.

SIX American ladies are on the list for the next presentation at the English court.

So far Iowa has more visitors to the New Orleans exposition than any other Northern State.

IT is said $500 to $600 per acre is an ordinary profit in Bermuda from an acre of onions.

THE skate factories in Richmond, Ind., have increased to nineteen, with a capacity of 3,000 pairs a day.

A WOMAN in the city of Mexico gave birth to seven children in one day. The babies died, but the mother survives.

OVER 20,000 Germans are employed in London, monopolizing almost entirely the barber, tailor and waiter trade.

BOSTON has an apple mission, which distributes from 4,000 to 5,000 bushels of apples among the poor every year.

ENGLAND sent to the United States $2,084,780 worth of cutlery and hardware in 1883 and $1,611,229 worth last year.

NOVA SCOTIA is not often spoken of as a gold producing land, yet since 1860 its mines have produced $8,000,000 worth of bullion.

EVERY penitentiary in Texas is provided with a kennel of three or more bloodhounds for the purpose of hunting escaped convicts.

ON several transatlantic ships telephones are now used between the bridge and the wheel-house, instead of speaking-tubes, as heretofore.

THERE are employed upon all of the German railways 203,701 persons, who received pay in the aggregate last year to the amount of $79,669,096.

AN old negro, seventy years of age, has just been sentenced to one year in the penitentiary in Newton county, Miss., for marrying a white woman.

A NEW electric automatic compass has been invented, the needle of which, by opening and closing a circuit, will keep a ship on her course without the aid of a "man at the wheel."

WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

The Dedicatory Ceremonies at the National Capital.

COMPARING THE MONUMENT.

1. The Washington Monument, 555 feet.
2. Cologne Cathedral, 501 feet.
3. The Great Pyramid of Cheops, 486 feet.
4. St. Peter's, Rome, 405 feet.
5. St. Paul's, London, 365 feet.
6. St. Mark's, Venice, 323 feet.
7. The Capitol, Washington, 307 feet.
8. Brooklyn Bridge Tower, 287 feet.
9. Trinity Church, New York, 284 feet.

THE DEDICATORY CEREMONIES.

After an interval of thirty-seven years since the foundations were first laid, the tallest monument or structure of any sort in the world has been formally dedicated, to the memory of George Washington in the capital city which bears his name. The ceremonies both at the monument grounds and at the Capitol were of the most imposing and impressive character. The weather was intensely cold, the thermometer at 11 A. M. ranging fourteen degrees above zero, but the day was clear and bright, and the event proved a memorable one in the list of Washington pageants.

The near approach of the inauguration ceremonies swelled the crowd of visitors, and at an early hour the streets presented an unusually animated appearance with the numerous military and civil organizations and the crowds of spectators marching toward and converging near the base of the grand shaft, 555 feet high. The outdoor ceremonies began at the foot of the monument at precisely the hour appointed, 11 o'clock. The grand stand was filled with distinguished invited guests—President Arthur, his cabinet, visiting governors of States, Senators and Representatives, the members of the Monument commission, Colonel Casey, engineer in charge, the diplomatic corps, and others participating in the presentation.

Senator John Sherman, chairman of the joint congressional committee, presided and opened the exercises with a brief address, reviewing the history of the monument and paying an eloquent tribute to Washington. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Suter, of Alexandria, Va. An address by the venerable W. W. Corcoran, president of the Monument association, who was present, but unequal to the task of speaking, was then read.

The Masonic ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia were brief. The proper functionaries declared that the square, the level and the plumb had been applied to the obelisk, and that its corners were found to be square, its courses level, its walls skillfully erected according to plan. Grand Master Myron M. Parker scattered corn and poured out wine and oil—emblems of nourishment, refreshment and joy—and in the course of the ceremonies brought into use certain Masonic relics with which General Washington was intimately connected.

Colonel Thomas L. Casey of the United States engineers reviewed the work done under his supervision, and then, turning to President Arthur, said: "Mr. President, for, and in behalf of the joint commission for the completion of the Washington monument, I deliver to you this column."

The President's address finished the ceremonies at the monument. Then the military wheeled into line, the civic bodies and distinguished participants in the proceedings of the day sought their carriages, and the procession, under the marshalship of General Sheridan, took up the line of march to the capitol.

President Arthur reviewed the procession and then, accompanied by his cabinet, the diplomatic corps, the Monument association, the supreme court justices and Lieutenant-General Sheridan and staff, walked to the House of Representatives. The large audience in the hall arose as they entered and gave them a round of applause. Senator Edmunds occupied the Speaker's desk and conducted the exercises. Prayer was offered by the Rev. S. A. Wallis of Pohick church near Mount Vernon. Then Senator Edmunds expressed his regrets that the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, who as speaker of the House delivered the oration when the corner stone of the monument was laid in 1848, and who was to have delivered the dedicatory oration, was absent on account of sickness, and introduced ex-Governor Long, of Massachusetts. Governor Long then read Mr. Winthrop's oration. The address gives with great detail the history of the movement from its inception to its completion, and compliments the individuals and associations who have been connected with the work. Then, after describing the monument, Mr. Winthrop narrates vividly many of the deeds of Washington, and gives an analysis of his character as a soldier and a statesman.

After ex-Governor Long had finished reading, Senator Edmonds introduced John W. Daniel of Virginia. Mr. Daniel gave a graphic sketch of Washington's life and work.

The benediction was pronounced by the chaplain of the House, and the ceremonies were ended.

In the evening there was a grand display of fireworks in the monument grounds. An immense crowd was attracted by the sight, and it seemed as though the entire populaion of the city had turned out to do honor to the occasion. The grounds and streets leading thereto were thronged with people, and the roadway around the monument was packed with carriages. The President and a number of invited guests, including several cabinet officers, viewed the scene from the windows of the White House.

TRAIN DISASTERS.

Six Railroad Accidents in One Day—Loss of Life.

At 3 A. M. a passenger train, drawn by three engines, bound west, on the West Shore railroad, ran into a freight train at Canajoharie, N. Y. The three locomotives were demolished, and Engineer Andrew Shiner and Fireman Grover Penny were instantly killed. Other train hands were severely injured. The freight train bound east stood on the main track around a curve out of the village, when the passenger train was seen coming at a speed of thirty miles an hour and only a short distance away. The whistles of both head engines blew fiercely, but in an instant the crash came. The pecuniary damage inflicted by the smash-up is estimated at $125,000.

A west-bound and an east-bound train collided at Toll Gate, W. Va., with such terrific effect that the two trains were piled on each other and many of the cars completely wrecked. Engineer Lloyd L. Barron, Fireman John Manstreet, and Brakeman J. M. McIntyre, of one train, were killed. J. J. Bartlett, fireman, and Anthony Cannon, engineer of the other train, were fatally injured. The loss to the railroad company is heavy. The accident was caused by disobeying orders.

By an accident on the Lake Erie and Western railroad near Arrowsmith, Ill., several passenger cars of a train were ditched and a number of passengers injured.

Four cars of a stock train in Illinois were derailed by the breaking of a flange on one of the wheels. About 200 head of sheep and eighty head of cattle were in the cars, and over half of them were killed.

An express train ran into a way train at Delhi, twelve miles from Cincinnati, and several of the passengers were hurt by jumping.

At about the same hour another express train ran over a broken rail thirteen miles north of Cincinnati, and two sleepers and a passenger coach left the track. Three passengers were seriously injured and a number of others badly bruised.

GENERAL STEWART.

Death of Another Prominent English Officer in Egypt.

A dispatch from Korti brings intelligence of the death of General Sir Herbert Stewart who was wounded at the Zereba fight of January 19. This death, the dispatch adds, has cast a profound gloom over the whole army. General Stewart was forty-two years of age. He had served with distinction in the Zulu war and in earlier operations in Egypt. In the present campaign General Stewart was put in command of the expedition of 1,500 men sent across the desert from Korti to Metemneh by way of Gakdul Wells. His recent battles at Abu-Klea and near Gubat on January 17 and 19 are fresh in the public memory. He was wounded early on the day of the second fight in a preliminary skirmish. Queen Victoria sent her personal congratulations to Gen. Stewart on his brave victory and promoted him to be major-general. General Wolseley recently expressed the opinion that General Stewart was one of the bravest officers he had ever known. It was expected until within a few days that he would recover from his wound.

SAVED FROM DISSECTION.

STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF A MAINE EX-SOLDIER.

He Hears the Funeral Service Held Over His Apparently Dead Body—Saved by a Wink.

One of the many good deeds of Mrs. Sarah Sampson of Bath, to whom Congress is asked to give a pension, was the nursing back to life of a soldier boy, who now is a prominent business man in a Maine city, a man well known politically and socially throughout the State, and a favorite everywhere. This gentleman has had an experience through which few men have passed. He literally has attended his own funeral. He told me the following remarkable story upon the condition that I would withhold his name:

"When the war broke out," said he, "I was a puny boy of seventeen years, one of the sickly kind not worth their feed. I lived in Waterville, and enlisted with the famous Waterville college company. I was so inferior a fellow physically that they set out not to take me, but I was bound to go, and eleven others said they would go if I went and would stay at home if I did not go. So I went to the front with the third Maine regiment of infantry, and November, 1861, found me in Camp Howard, Alexandria, Va. The camp was named for General O. O. Howard, who commanded the regiment.

"You can judge of what kind of a youngster I was from the fact that at the first battle of Bull Run the first lieutenant of my company loaded my gun for me.

"Well, one day while we were in camp at Alexandria we were ordered out to Fairfax court house on a short expedition and I took cold. I aggravated it by lying on the damp ground after my return, and the next thing I was stricken with diphtheria. Some of my chums had me removed to the hospital tent and told the officers that I must have all done for me that care and money could do.

"They were very good, to me, but I grew worse. A great sac formed on my throat. It grew so large that I could see it as I lay in my cot, and it protruded from under my chin. I became speechless, and remained in a sort of stupor. I could hear and was dimly cognizant of what was going on around me. My face at last swelled so that I could not use my eyes, and was practically blind. The surgeons, Dr. McCrure, of Bangor, and Dr. Hildreth, of Gardiner, told me I must die. I took a ring off my finger and told my comrades to send it home to my mother. I sent a dying message to her, and awaited death. I was reconciled, and in my semi-unconscious state, quite comfortable. I suffered no pain. My limbs grew cold and I sunk deeper into the stupor. I heard them say I was dying. I had lingered along until it was new in January, 1862. Dr. McCrure took hold of my wrist one day, threw it down after trying to feel my pulse, and I heard him say: 'The boy is dead; his pulse has stopped. Take him out.'

"I could not make a sign or a noise, but I had sense enough remaining to think of my jack-knife. I thought they would wrap me up in my blanket and bury me, and it popped into my head that I might dig my way out with my jack-knife, although how I was to do it, not being able to move a muscle, I can't tell you.

"My friends gathered around me and I heard their expressions of grief. The time was set for my funeral. The company was drawn up and the chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Leonard, who preached in Bangor, before and after the war, prayed and made brief remarks. The ceremony was not enjoyed by me, but my mind was so much dulled that I did not fully realize the danger of my situation.

"They took me into the dead-house and laid me down. Soon the doctors came around and took out their knives. I knew what that meant. They were going to dissect me before I was buried in order to find out something about that enormous sac on my throat. I had to silently face the prospect of being carved alive.

"'Doctor, I guess you had better operate,' said Surgeon Hildreth to Surgeon McCrure.

"Dr. McCrure bent over me, lancet in hand. I made a desperate effort to move, to speak, to let them know by some sign that I was yet alive, but all my horror and despair could not even make a nerve twitch. Dr. McCrure thrust his lancet into the sac at my throat. A stream of foul matter rushed out. The skin on my face relaxed, and as he bent over me he saw my eyes open and saw me wink. The thought that I was alive thrilled me to the marrow. I saw his face grow pale and heard him confer with the other doctor. They carried me back to the hospital tent. I met Dr. McCrure many times afterwards, and he told me that he never in his life received such a start as he did when my eyes opened that time.

"Mrs. Sampson was the wife of the lieutenant-colonel of our regiment. She toon a kind interest in me, and her nursing saved my life. She watched over me and fussed with me like a mother. I was only one of her charges. The other invalids, as well as I, received her attention, and I tell you she seemed like an angel to all of us.

"I was a long time rallying. Weeks passed before I could speak. They took me out on the field to see a brigade drill one day. The movements excited me so that I felt something give way in my throat, and I yelled. It startled those about me. It seemed like a voice from the tombs, they said. I could make only one sound, and I kept that agoing till it made the others in the hospital almost crazy—I was so tickled to think I could speak, you see. I had to begin anew and learn to talk over again. I was weak for a year, but made a complete recovery. It did me good. I have been more robust and healthy every way. I have not had any kind of a humor since. I have outlived nearly all the boys who were my chums and took such good care of me. Major Small, of Oakland, and Mrs. Sampson are about the only survivors of the participants in the scenes I have tried to describe to you. Dr. McCrure, Dr. Hildreth and the Rev. Mr. Leonard are dead. Every time Mr. Leonard saw me between the close of the war and his death the tears came to his eyes and he spoke of having preached my funeral sermon. Mrs. Sampson wrote me a letter just after I was married, and told me to tell my wife that she wouldn't have had me but for her, I guess that's so."—*Lewiston (Me.) Times.*

Douglas's Lincoln Story.

Senator Douglas, who served in the Black Hawk war with President Lincoln, used to tell a good story about "Old Abe's military exploits. He enlisted in a cavalry company, which started off in fine spirits to engage in the deadly fray. Arriving at a point on the prairie about two hundred miles from the Indian lines the party bivouacked for the night, picketed their horses and slept on their arms. The method of picketing their horses was that in common use—fastening a huge rope, some eighty feet in length, to a stake firmly planted, and then using smaller lines of considerable length, one end attached to the animal's neck, and the other to the main rope. During the night the sentinel imagined he saw the Indians and immediately discharged his old fusee. The camp was aroused in an instant and each sprang to his saddle. "Old Abe" shot out in the darkness on his charger, until the ropes "hove taut," when over he went, horse and himself, headlong. Thinking himself caught in an Indian ambush, he gathered up, mounted, and putting spurs to his horse took the opposite shute, but soon brought up as before, horse and rider tumbling headlong. "Old Abe" got up, thinking he was surrounded, and shouted: "Gentlemen Indians, I surrender without a word. I have not a word to offer. All I want is quarter."

Infinite toil would not enable you to sweep away a mist; but by ascending a little you may overlook it altogether. So it is with your moral improvement. We wrestle fiercely with a vicious habit which would have no hold upon us if we ascended into a higher moral atmosphere.