Worthington Advance.

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A. P. Miller,

Editor and Proprietor.

The Worthington Advance.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Paris Exposition.

The opening of the international exhibition took place with great pomp and success. At 9 o'clock in the morning it was raining, and it was feared the ceremony would be greatly interfered with, but at 9:45 the rain ceased, and prospects that the day would be fine began to appear. At 11:30 the clouds had broken, and the sun was shining brilliantly, and the temperature was rather warm. The ceremony of opening the exhibition began at 2:30 in the afternoon, at which time it was showering, but at 3 o'clock the sun was shining brightly again. The crowd was immense and enthusiastic, in spite of the alternations of rain. Throughout the proceedings cries were heard everywhere of "Vive la republique," "Vive la France." Marshal MacMahon arrived in the state carriage escorted by his military household. A procession was formed which marched from the grand arcade to the platform overlooking the fountain, and commanding a view of nearly all the buildings and grounds. Here, Tresserne de Bort, minister of commerce, welcomed the Marshal in a short speech. The Marshall then declared the exhibition opened. One hundred and one guns from the Invalides Montvalrien and Island in the Seine followed the announcement. At the same time two military bands struck up, all the fountains played and the soldiers stationed by the flagstaffs hoisted the flags of the nations on the roof of the two palaces and annexes. One hundred thousand strangers are in the city. Most of these are English and Americans. Words fail to give an adequate picture of the scene at the time. Everybody who could get within the Exposition grounds was there. The American section, though unfinished, compares favorably with others. The department of manufactures shows the best progress. The American art deparment is the best ever shown abroad by America.

Railroad Companies Unite in Pooling Freight Business.

The report of the committee appointed to adjust southwestern freight rates was adopted by the association at Chicago, on the 4th inst. It names the combined roads "The Southwestern Railway Association." The Chicago roads are entitled to 45 per cent. of the gross business, the St. Louis roads are the same, and the Hannibal and St. Joe 10 per cent. This applies to all tonage to or through Kansas City, Leavenworth, St. Joe and Atchison on the west or to or through to St. Louis, Louisiana, Hannibal, Quincy, Davenport, Burlington or Chicago, on the east. The associated lines are to charge full local rates on Colorado business. Any road receiving more than its allotted proportion may retain 40 per cent. of the earnings therefrom. The Wabash road is recognized as the Eastern connection of the Hannibal & St. Joe road. The organization is to continue till January next. The following are the rates on west-bound freight from Chicago. First class, 85; second, 70; third, 43; fourth, 30; special, 25. From St. Louis rates are: First class, 65; second, 50; third, 25; fourth, 35; special 20.

The Socialists.

It has been stated in public prints that members of the socialistic party have been drilling in St. Louis for some time past. An interview with Mr. Curtin, city editor of the *Volks Stemm*, organ of the German Socialists, and who was very active in the riots last July in that city, and was arrested and imprisoned therefor, verified the statements. He said some 250 members of the socialistic Workingmens Protective Association, have been drilling once a week in Washington hall, and they expect to have another hall soon. Their arms are Springfield rifles. They have but about two hundred yet, but expect more shortly. They are purchased mainly by subscriptions but they have received some contributions from the east. When asked what these arms proposed to do, he said they would protect the meetings of the socialistic workingmen from police power to arrest without warrant of law of men who have constitutional right to assemble and discuss their grievances.

Sitting Bull.

Gen. Sherman received, May 1st, a report from Gen. Miles, dated headquarters of the district of the Yellowstone, fort Keog. M. T., informing him that Sitting Bull and 144 men, all head soldiers and chiefs, had sent a half-breed of Gen. Miles inquiring what kind of peace the United States would make with them, and saying the Great Father was, of course, too rich to expect the Indians to give up their poor cattle, ponies and their old guns. Gen. Miles in reply informed Sitting Bull that if he desired to stop hostilities peace would be made which would end all trouble between the whites and Indians. When the Indians give up their ponies and guns they will receive cattle and other property of great value in place. When peace is made the government will provide for them as it does for all friendly Indians.

Important Visit to Sitting Bull's Camp.

The sub-chiefs of the Nez Perces Indian prisoners, headed by White Feather, left Fort Leavenworth Kansas, on the 27th ult., for Sitting Bull's camp, accompanied by Mr. Clark, an experienced interpreter and guide. These Indians go as commissioners to the Nez Perces with Sitting Bull, to report to them the condition of Chief Joseph's band at Fort Leavenworth, it having been rumored on the plains that they were badly treated. They go without military escort, a fact which shows the confidence the government officers repose in them. This is the first step in a movement for reuniting the severas bands of this tribe.

Organized Efforts to Abate the Tramp Nuisance.

Nightly robberies for three weeks past at Omaha, Neb., and the presence in the city of an unusual number of tramps necessitated action of citizens. A committee of safety, otherwise a vigilance committee, was organized and 150 men thoroughly organized, acting under a well devised plan, searched the city thoroughly. Commencing at 10 o'clock the search was continued until morning: It is not known what disposal will be made of those captured. Legal measures will be adhered to until they fail, when desperate remedies will be applied. The committee will continue to act nightly until the tramp nuisance is abated.

No Taylors of St. Louis Organize a Strike.

The journeymen tailors of St. Louis took preliminary steps for a strike for higher wages, at a meeting held by them on the 29th ult. They have made a schedule of prices which will be presented to all the bosses, and if the latter do not accept it the strike will begin at once. The tailors claim they are working for starvation wages, a great many of them not being able to earn more than $6 a week, and they will submit no longer. They say they will be sustained in their actions by several trades unions in that city. It is said work is already suspended in several shops.

Anticipated Indian Troubles.

Apprehensions in several quarters of serious trobles with the Indians this summer are not thought to be groundless. The war department is in receipt of a communication from parties whose opinions are entitled to earnest attention, to the effect that warlike movements are clearly discernible on the part of several tribes. A long letter to this effect was received by Secretary McCrary within the past week, and referred by the secretary to the general of the army.

Fire at Keokuk, Iowa.

A fire at Keokuk, Iowa, on the 6th inst., destroyed the Keokuk & Des Moines railway company's general office, the Athenæum, in which was situated Burkett's wholesale notion house, two frame buildings and the American House, a three story brick building. The Keokuk & Des Moines loses everything except such books, papers, etc., as were in the safe. Burkett's stock was valued at $45,000. The insurance will more than cover what was lost. The building occupied by the K. & D. M. was owned by S. S. Vail, and is valued at $10,000. The other buildings were owned also by Mr. Vail, and were valued at $3,000. On these there is an insurance of $4,000. The Athenæum building cost $25,000 and was once sold for $28,000. It was worth about $12,000 when destroyed. Insurance $5,000. The total damage is estimated at $60,000.

The Mexican Border

Gen. McDowell has been instructed to institute a vigilant watchfulness along the southern border of Arizona and southern California, to prevent violation of the neutrality laws by Lerdo revolutionists, and to arrest any and all parties who are suspected of congregating on the border for that purpose. Gen. Ord has notified the war department that he has made such distribution of the force under his command as will in his judgment with the co-operation of other federal officials and State officials, prevent any serious violation of the neutrality laws. He has directed the prompt arrest of all suspected persons who may attempt to cross from the United States into Mexico.

Suicide of Hon. John M. Binckley.

There seems to be little doubt that Hon. John M. Binckley of Milwaukee ex-assistant attorney of the United States, who has been missing for some time, committed suicide by drowning in the lake near St. Francis seminary, at the south side of the bay. He left several letters addressed to different parties of that city, the contents of which show conclusively his intent to suicide. All efforts to recover his body have thus far been of no avail. The immediate cause of his rash act is attributed to mental aberration, brought on by domestic troubles. Mr. Binckley's family consisted of a wife, from whom he was separated, and four children, who are now at Knoxville, Tenn.

Explosion and Loss of Life.

A portable engine in Memphis, Tennessee, on the 6th inst., exploded with terrific force, instantly killing Tom Holst, engineer, and probably fatally injuring Jim Kennedy, the fireman. The following laborers were also wounded: Barney Blerns, leg broken; Tom Steene, arm broken and scalded; Jas. Zahone, arm broken and scalded; Friday Gullen, colored, who was passing the spot on the way to his work was severely scalded.

Horrors of the Chinese Famine.

A correspondent of the evening *Post*, writing from Tokio under date of April 5th, sends the following: The famine in the north of China rages with increasing servity and most dreadful reports come from the afflicted regions. In one town a man opened a shop for the sale of human flesh and did a good business in cannibalitic joints and roasts until the local mandarin caused the shop keeper to be arrested and beheaded.

Rumored Raid upon Canada.

Vague rumors are afloat of a raid on Canda by the Irish in case of war between Russia and England. It is stated that three companies of Irish patriots are armed and equipped at Buffalo, N. Y., ready for service, and 10,000 western Irishmen have been notified so that they can be there in twenty-four hours, where there is 3,000 more that will rendezvous for a raid within three days after orders are issued, but nothing authentic can be obtained to substantiate there rumors.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE, April 30th.—During the morning hour, bills were introduced and went on the calendar, and the conference report on the naval bill was made and agreed to. The bill to repeal the bankrupt act then came up and was the subject of a prolonged discussion. Finally all motions to amend and refer to the judiciary committee were voted down, and pending a vote on the final passage, the senate adjourned.

HOUSE. April 30.—The house spent the whole day in committee of the whole on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. Speaker Randall attacked the Republicans for alleged hostility to retrenchment, and the discussion that followed consumed the time without much progress being made.

SENATE, May 1st.—The tariff bill was up and discussed at considerable length. An amendment was made to the bankrupt bill providing that it shall go into effect on January, 1, 1879.

HOUSE, May 1st.—The House had under consideration the Legislative appropriation bill, but no final action was reached. A bill was reported appropriating $3,871,574 for closing crevasses and strengthening the levies on the Mississippi river

HOUSE, May 4th.—In discussing the appropriation bill every important amendment agreed upon in committee of the whole was rejected, reducing the aggregate increase above the amount recommended by the committee of appropriations to nearly $60,000. This amount is distributed throughout the bill and applies to unimportant items. The Republicans voted steadily against rejecting the propositions asking for an increase of clerical force in some of the departments, as in some instances many of them declined to vote at all. When the amendment to increase the number of clerks in the surgeon general's office, in order that applications for pensions might be attended to promptly, came up, there was a great fight between the two sides; the Republicans were solidly in favor of it, and the Democrats, excepting seven, among whom was Alex. Stephens, were opposed to a final vote on the passage of the amendment. The yeas were 115 and the nays 114.

SENATE, May 6.—The bill to repeal the bankrupt law and that for the repeal of the specie resumption act came up alternately. Mr. Gordon making a speech on the latter. When his speech was concluded, the pension appropriation bill came up and was discussed. The amendment of the committee on appropriations changing the House provision that pension agencies shall be filled by disabled soldiers, created some discussion.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced, among them one for the appointment of an agricultural commission to investigate diseases of stock. The house then considered the bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia. Several amendments were adopted, but the house adjourned without action.

Milwaukee Produce Market.

GRAIN—Wheat, opened firm and closed steady; No. 1 hard, $1.18¼; No. 1, 1.18¼; No. 2, 1.14½; April, 1.14½; May, 1.12¾; June, 1.11¾; No. 3, 1.09. Corn, old, nominal; No. 2, 41c. Oats, firm and wanted; No. 2, 26¾c. Rye, steady and quiet; No. 1, 60c. Barley, firmer; No. 2, 60c; May, 59@59½c.

PROVISIONS—Dull and easier; mess pork, $8.50 cash. Lard, prime steam, $6 90.

Chicago Produce Market

GRAIN—Wheat, excited and higher at the opening and closed active, weak and lower: No. 1 Chicago, $1.13@1.13¼; No. 2 Chicago 1.12 cash; 1.12½ May; 1.11 June; 1.08½ July; has sold at 1.12½@1.14½ May; No. 3 Chicago 1.05¼@1.06¾. Corn, active, weak and lower at 41¾c cash; 41¼@41⅝c May; 41⅝c June; 42¾ July; rejected 37c. Oats, fairly active and shade higher at 7c cash, 26¾c May; 27c June; rejected 24c. Rye, steady and in fair demand at 60c Barley, in steady demand at 48c.

New York Produce Market.

GRAIN—Wheat, heavy; demand moderate; receipts, 188,000 bushels; No. 2 Chicago $1.18; No. 2 Milwaukee $1.20¼@1.20½; hard No. 1 spring 1.31½; No. 2 red winter 1.30; No. 1 Chicago 1.30; No. 2 northwestern 1.26@1.30. Rye, quiet and steady; western 72½@74c. Barley, quiet and unchanged. Malt, quiet and unchanged Corn, in moderate demand; receipts, 47,000 bushels; ungraded western mixed, 40@46c; steam 54½@55c; high mixed 56c; No. 2, 55½@56c; round yellow 55@56c; white western 56c. Oats, less firm; receipts, 59,000 bushels; mixed western State 35½@36½c; No. 2, 36c; white 36@40c.

PROVISIONS — Pork, dull at $8.90@10.25. Beef, western long clear middles, 5@5½c. Lard, easier; prime steam 7.20@7.22½.

A TERRIBLE DISASTER.

Explosion of the Great Washburn Mill at Minneapolis----Seventeen Killed and a Million Dollars Worth of Property Destroyed.

At a few minutes past seven on the evening of the 2nd inst., Minneapolis was startled by a most frightful explosion, which shook the city from centre to circumference. The explosion took place in the milling centre on the canal that extends around St. Anthony Falls, and at once the question was passed from lip to tip, What can it be? In an instant the entire city was out of doors, and streaming toward the falls, while it became known that the great Washburn "A" mill had exploded and was a total wreck. The Washburn mill was the largest mill on the American continent, and with the exception of one in France, the largest and most complete of any flouring mill in the world. It contained forty run of stone, and employed regularly from forty to sixty men. The explosion took place at the hour when the day force of the mill had just been relieved, and the night force was just taking their places, and though wild reports were afloat, it seems to be settled that 17 lives were lost.

Immediately after the explosion the flames burst forth and raged with fury, until the following flouring mills were destroyed: Pettit, Robinson & Co.; Cahill, Ankeny & Co.; L. Day & Sons; Day & Rollins; Buell, Newton & Co.; Diamond mill; Gorton, Hayward & Co.; Washington "A;" and Washington "B" mills

THE FEARFUL EXPLOSION.

No description can convey a full idea of the force of the explosion, two of which were distinctly heard all over the city. Millers uniformly attribute the explosion to the flour dust which was distributed through the atmosphere of the closed rooms, and the milling apparatus caught from contact with the flame, or from friction. The principal force of the explosion appears to have been from the Washburn mill towards the Diamond and Zenith mills. The second explosion probably occurred in one of these.

The Milwaukee & St. Paul round house in front of these was half demolished by the concussion, while the railroad shops look as if they had been bombarded. The Centennial block, on Washington avenue, had all its heavy plate windows broken except one store, which was open. The glass was broken into fine pieces, as if run through a stamp mill.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

A miller standing near the window of the old Washburn mill, was startled by the first explosion, and had one glance, when he saw the walls of the big mill spreading outward, roofs falling, and flames flashing up. The next moment he was on the floor blown half way across the mill by the concussion.

IN THE BIG MILL.

Charles Henry was a married man, about forty years of age, and leaves a wife and one child. He resided at No. 613 Third street and leaves his family in rather reduced circumstances. He was a member of Hermon Lodge No. 18, K. of P. Yesterday afternoon the lodge gave his family $50.

Fred Merrill, a single man, aged twenty-eight years, perished. The Merrill boys came to Minneapolis some time since and wished to locate here permanently. Therefore his parents were sent for and arrived in the city and commenced housekeeping about two weeks ago.

Ed. Merrill, brother of Fred, also perished. He was a single man aged twenty years old.

Clark Wilber was a married man, aged forty-five years, and has a wife and two girls living in Vermont.

August Smith, aged forty-five years, leaves a wife and one child to mourn his loss. He resided at 315 Eighth avenue south. Family in moderate circumstances.

E. H. Grundman, a millwright, about fifty years of age, perished. He resided at 1,211 Hermon place, and leaves a wife and eleven children to mourn his loss. His family were well provided for.

William Leslie, twenty-eight years old, leaves a wife and one child. He resided on Seventh street and Cedar avenue. He was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of Pythias. Thus his family will be provided for by these orders

Cyrus E. Wing was a single man thirty-four years old.

Ole Shei was a married man, residing at south end of Washington avenue. His family are in moderate circumstances, but depended upon him for support.

Walter Savage, a married man, twenty-three years old, leaves a wife and one child. He resided at No. 1,313 South Third street, and leaves his family nearly destitute.

Charles Kimball a single man aged twenty years, was a new arrival in the city, and had been working out a short time.

Henry Hicks was a married man aged forty years. He was not living with his wife, and it is understood was about applying for a divorce.

E. M. Burbank was the oldest man in the mill, being past sixty. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

THE OTHER MILLS.

Those in other mills were John E. Rossienus, of the Zenith mill, who was a married man. Was about twenty-six years old. A wife and ten months-old child are left in not the most desirable circumstances.

John Boyer, who nearly escaped from the Diamond mill, was a married man, about twenty-five years old. Has been here but a short time.

Peter Holbey, burned in the Humbolt ruins was married, leaves a wife and one child, and was about twenty-five years old. Family not in best of circumstances.

Peter Lund, who was first reported as having perished in the Humboldt mill, escaped unharmed. A few moments before the explosion occured he was engaged in a bantering conversation with Peter Holberg, who perished, as to who should go out for a pail of water. Lund, fortunately for himself, concluded to go, and was scarcely outside of the mill before the explosion occurred. He asserts that the explosion occurred in the big mill, and that Humboldt and Diamond mills were blown down by the concussion.

Jake Rhodes, who lives just below the mills, left his home a few minutes before the explosion, and said he was going to a fire. He went toward the mills, and has not since been seen.

STORY OF A SUVIVOR.

One survivor was met, Joseph Monti, Jr., the watchman of the Galaxy mill, who was discovered by the reporter in all the plenitude of health. He said he was in the basement of the bill, one storry below the canal, engaged in putting in an alarm bell upon the shafting. The concussion lifted him full six feet, when he fell and was stunned for five minutes. He was in a dazed condition when he recovered from the shock, and only heard one explosion they must have occurred while he was stunned. When he realized his position, he found the water from the canal pouring in, and naturally thought the third of the explosion was merely the result of the breaking in of the canal. He rushed to a window up stairs, and looked for a place to jump. When there he saw John G. Rosienius, of the Zenith mill, looking out of the window. Monti called out to him, "Are you going to jump," but Rosienius either did not understand or did not hear, and that was last seen of him alive. Monti took in the situation, saw the elevator in one tremendous sheet of flame, and was momentarily paralyzed. Looking below the window, Monti observed an ash heap, fifteen feet or so below him. He straddled the sill, swung himself over, hung by his hands for a second or two on the sill as the roar of the flames boomed hissingly around him, and then dropped and rolled thence in the seething waters. Once in the water he swam out despairingly and exhausted, until he struck a protruding rock, upon which he climbed and rested to recover his presence of mind and courage. His senses being gathered, he waded to the paper mill. Reaching the under portion of it, he rose before some of the employes engaged in putting out a blaze. As a voice from the dead, he asked, "Which way can I get out?" He was then directed to a place of safety.

Dan Day's Experience.

Mr. Daniel Day, who resides near the corner of Sixteenth avenue south and Ninth street, tells his experience as follows: Have been in the employ of Pettit, Robinson & Co., for two years. Am second miller when the mill is running; the special duty of looking after machinery of the mill. Have charge of the mill when idle. The mill shut down Wednesday evening. About six o'clock I went to the mill as usual. After looking the mill over I sat down in the office to read a paper. The mill faces the big Washburn mill and is about forty feet from said mill. The office is, or was, in front and has one window on that side, and a window on the side overlooking a small vacant lot.

I sat with my back to the front window and quite near it, and at my right and against the office partition wall was a heavy desk. The first I knew I was lifted out of my chair and hurled violently against the stone side wall of the mill, and the desk after me; I had fairly gained my feet and reached the side window when I was thrown back again by the same kind of leverage, and then the office was full of falling and flying debris; I did not hear any noise at all, except the cracking of breaking timbers of the platform. Although somewhat stunned I did not lose my senses, but scrambled back to the side window, knowing that if the roof and upper floors were coming down I should be safer in the window, as the walls are at least three feet thick—the best mill walls on the canal. The walls were vibrating backward and forward with considerable rapidity.

When the debris quit flying through the air I looked out of the window and saw that the Washburn mill was leveled to the ground.

The canal was full of stones and broken timber. The timber was one mass of flames and the elevator one huge bonfire.

The falling of the walls into the canal flooded the packing floor of our mill, and the water was several inches deep until it run off. I saw that the mill must burn, as the sacks on the packing or office floor were all on fire. It seemed as if a sheet of flame had been blown through the mill, igniting only light stuff. I coupled on the rotary pump, which is kept for fire purposes, and started into the basement to let the water into the wheel, but found I couldn't get along, as the heavy oak floor in the packing room was splintered into tooth picks. The flames were roaring over head, and I looked up to find the whole mill above me was as full of fire as the walls would hold, and as I knew I couldn't do anything, I left the mill. Under ordinary circumstances, with men on the several floors, I could have flooded the mills in a minute by means of the rotary fire pump. I am not badly hurt, only a little bruised. I don't believe it possible that a soul could have escaped from the big mill, as it was on fire in an instant. I can't give any opinion as to the cause of the explosion, but doubt if it was caused by the dust from the middlings purifier.

Mr. Day mentioned having seen Joe Monte as he came out of the mill.

Mr. Day was not badly injured, and only suffers from stiffness. A few scratches on face and head, with a few bruises on various portions of the body, were the only injuries received. He was the only man in the mill at the time.

FRED. GEORGE'S MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

Fred George, the young man who had such a miraculous escape from instant death, tells his story as follows: He was in the rear portion of the Zenith mill when the explosion occurred. This mill, like that of Pettit & Robinson, was facing the big mill with its front on the canal. Mr. George had seated himself near the husk and in close proximity to the stove. When the explosion occurred a blast of hot air, smoke and fire burst through the front of the mill and ignited the dust in the mill. About one hundred and fifty barrels of flour were in the front of the building, and these were knocked about as though weighing no more than so many spools of thread.

Some of the flour barrels struck him and he was thrown down. Then the stove was thrown upon him and he thought all was over. By a superhuman effort he succeeded in extricating himself from the perilous position in which he was placed and started for the front of the building. Reaching the door he jumped out and, as the platform had been destroyed, landed in the canal. With all the speed possible he crawled out on hands and knees and escaped. Reaching sixth avenue south, he ran up to the corner of Third street where he entered W. E. Serrish's store and exclaimed, "For God's sake water, or something for me." Without waiting he turned, ran out and entered the drug store next door. Procuring some liniment he started for his boarding place on Sixth avenue south, between Third and Fourth street.

The Mills Destroyed and Mills Remaining.

The *Tribune*, gave the following interesting summary:

Hobart, Shuler & Co. are in running order with no damage to machinery and no loss by the destruction of the elevator.

Goodrich & Co. are uninjured and are in running order.

W. H. Child & Co.'s mill is also uninjured and in running order.

D. R. Barber & Co.'s mill was running this morning.

Empire, C. A. Pillsbury, report no serious damage. They will start up to-morrow.

Crocker, Fisk & Co. were running this morning.

The Dakota mill, S. S. Brown, was somewhat shaken up. The burrs were not started. The machinery is not seriously damaged.

The Anchor mill of C. A. Pillsbury & Co. is in running order. It will be started to-morrow.

The Pillsbury mill is running in good order.

The City mill of Solon Armstrong & Co. is badly shattered, but to what extent cannot be ascertained this morning.

She Cataract mill of L. Day & Co. was considerably injured, but the machinery was kept running during the night, and it is believed, is all right.

The Washburn "B" mill is badly shattered, and will require considerable repairs before it will be in running order, but it is thought that two weeks will be sufficient to place the old part in operation. This will give the following mills for the summer work:

	Run.
North Star East Side	5
Phœnix East Side	5
Artic	6
Union	6
Holly	5
Cataract	10
Dakota	6
Empire	9
Minneapolis	9
Pillsbury	11
City	5
Anchor	12
Palisade	11
Washburn B	11
New Morrison—Mr. Pillsbury says will be running in 10 days	14
R. P. Russell	
Total	150

MILLS DESTROYED,

The following are the names of the mills destroyed and their capacity:

Washburn A	41
Pettit-Robinson	15
Galaxy	12
Zenith	6
Hennipin	6
Humboldt	6
	86

The losses estimated at about one million dollars, and insurance at $580,000.

Cause of Explosion.

Theories of various characters are still circulated, and no one seems to know positively, just exactly the cause, and probably never will. The dust theory seems to predominate.

Mr. J. A. Christian thinks the gas was generated by fire.

It is his opinion that the fire originated from the stones in the east grinding room. The mill was about changing off, and the stones are at such times permitted to run dry, the millers raising the stones as soon as the wheat in the hoppers is exhausted. It is presumed that some one of the millers, through carelessness, neglected to raise the stones in his charge, that friction was generated, which communicated to the dust box, the draft from which is downward. A similar fire occurred in the dust box on the other side of the mill some two months ago. The draft from that box is up, and not down, as in the case of the box on the east side, and an explosion of the box itself would not have been sufficient to create the disaster which followed. But it is the theory of Mr. Christian that the gas was drawn downward; that from the lower floors it passed through the numerous elevator ways and openings in all parts of the mill, filled the great structure, was perhaps rarified by the heat of the fire, and which was finally ignited, the explosion following. It it his belief that the mill was shut down as had been provided for in the rules which prevailed when the explosion occurred. The night being cold the windows were closed and the gas was unable to escape through the natural openings.

The Losses and Insurance.

Below we give in convenient tabular form the list of losses and insurance in detail:

	Loss.	Insurance
C. C. Washburn, mill A	$300,000	$175,000
Minneapolis Mill company, elevator	63,000	28,000
Goodrich & Co., wheat in elevator	2,750	2,750
Pettit, Robinson & Co., mill	70,000	54,000
" " " stock in mill about	9,000	9,000
" " " lumber about	18,000	18,000
Bull, Newton & Co., Humbolt mill	60,000	37,500
Bull, Newton & Co., stock in mill about	6,500	6,500
S. B. Brown & Co., wheat in elevator	550	Uninsu'd
J. A. Christian & Co., stock in mill	75,000	40,000
Hall & Dann, barrels and stock	4,700	3,700
W. D. Washburn, planing mill building	7,500	4,250
Minn. & St. L. R. R. 6 cars	2,800	2,800
D. R. Barber & Son, wheat in elevator	2,000	3,500
Crocker, Fisk & Co., wheat in elevator, 8,526½ bus	9,380	14,000
Warner, Brewster & Co., stock	500	Uninsu'd
Smith, Parker & Co., machinery	2,500	800
Smith, Parker & Co., stock	1,000	750
Day, Rollins & Co., Zenith mill	35,000	20,000
Day, Rollins & Co., stock	10,000	1,500
Estate of W. P. Ankeny, Galaxy mill	65,000	40,000
Cahill, Ankeny & Co., stock in mill	8,000	5,000
Cahill, Ankeny & Co., wheat in elevator	4,000	4,000
Gorton, Haywood & Co., Diamond mill	30,000	20,000
Gorton, Haywood & Co., stock	1,500	1,500
H. C. Butler, machinery in shop	4,000	Uninsu'd
Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, round house, damage	1,500	1,500
City Bank, machinery in planing mill	10,000	7,500
Lowry & Morrison, frame building	9,000	6,500
T. A. Harrison, frame building	1,000	750
C. A. Pillsbury, wheat in elevator	10,000	10,000
Total	$824,160	$519,300

A ROMANTIC YOUNG LADY.

How She Asked, in a Moment of Rage, an Impossibility of a Young Man—The Happy Result.

Miss Aurelia Sample is a milliner's young woman in a fashionable establishment on Broadway. Long-continued contact with the aristocracy in the way of business (she is in the fitting department) has given her notions not altogether consistent with her condition in life. She is firmly impressed with the idea that she is fitted by nature to shine in a sphere far removed from that which she now occupies, and she has a grudge against fate for making her a milliner, instead of an occupant of gilded halls, and the mistress of servants and things of that nature. So far as outward appearances go, Miss Aurelia is right. She is actually beautiful. She has a very pretty face, an exceedingly pleasant figure and a pretty little manner, which many a fine lady would give her back teeth to possess. And then she has a way of saying little smart things which are pleasant to hear, and altogether is a prepossessing little body who would make a very good figure in almost any position in life.

As a matter of course, Miss Aurelia had lovers—almost every girl has lovers, no matter what may be her style. One possessed of her attractions could not possibly be without them. She had seven.

Mr. John Thompson, the brother of the proprietress of the establishment in which she was employed, was the one man who most persistently followed her, but she did not love him at all. He was a small, insignificant man, with light no-colored hair, very small, and uncertain in the matter of legs, and altogether a most unsatisfactory person. The only good point about him was the part in the hair, which was as exact and beautiful as anything could be. The more Miss Aurelia frowned upon Mr. Thompson the more he pursued her. He loved her precisely in the proportion that she did not love him, thus making himself and the object of his adoration thoroughly unhappy.

But she did love The man she loved was a Mr. Samuel Frehantle, a salesman in Stewart's, who was precisely the man for her fancy. He was tall, and had black hair, which was parted in the middle, and he had beautiful side whiskers and a broad, expansive forehead, and would have done admirably for a wax figure in the window of a fashionable hair dresser's establishment. Indeed, he has been offered a position more than once, but has always remained true to drygoods, which was his first love.

Unfortunately for Miss Aurelia, Mr. Frehantle did not love her. Smile she ever so sweetly he paid no attention to it, and when her attention became more demonstrative he very curtly informed her that it wouldn't do, that he was not matrimonially incined, and that he was a man of too much principle to flirt with a lady. He had made it the rule of his life never to trifle with woman, for he did not want the guilt of making them unhappy on his mind. He never abstracted goods or made love. He was a correct young man, and always would be.

Then Miss Aurelia's love turned to hate. "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." Her reading was of a character that inclined her thoughts to gore. She was in the habit of perusing all sorts of ten cent literature, and had just finished a highly exciting romance, entitled "Double Daggers; or, Deadwood Dick's Damnably Deadly Defiance," in which a scorned woman had incited one lover to kill a man whom she loved in vain, and she saw no reason why what had been done in Dakota could not be as well done in New York. She panted for revenge.

And so she turned to Mr. Thompson and asked him if he still desired to wed her. He remarked that nothing on earth would please him more, that she was the bright particular star which he had always worshiped and in whose beams he existed, and that without her life was a burden to him which he should ere long shuffle off.

"John," said she, "I am yours!"

"Bless you!" he replied.

"But there are conditions!"

"Name them. There is nothing I will not do for you!"

"Only one. Whale Sam Frehantle, in Stewart's."

Mr. Thompson's inconsequential legs doubled under him.

"Whale Sam Frehantle! Why, Aurelia he is six feet high and takes lessons in boxing. But never mind. I shall possibly be brought home a corpse, but I may as well die that way as any other. Farewell Aurelia! Consider Sam Frehantle whaled. I will do it or die in the attempt."

The young man left her presence with desperation on his brow and determination in his heart.

* * * * * * *

They met in the hall of the Sturtevant House, just back of the reading room. Mr. Thompson walked up to Mr. Frehantle and deliberately tweaked his nose. Mr. Frehantle, somewhat surprised, looked at him, and, picking him up, took him down stairs into the boot department, and so belabored him that Mr. Thompson's mother would not have known him without an introduction. Then up spoke Mr. Frehantle:

"What the duce is this all about, Thompson?"

And then Thompson told him all about it.

Frehantle was an excellent and generous young man, and an idea struck him.

"Thompson," said he, "you are entirely welcome to Aurelia, and shall have her. Get up, and strike me four or five times in the eye. Only as I can't go to the store for a week, you must pay my salary for that time. Then send Aurelia where she will see me, wed her, and be—miserable."

"Sam," said Mr. Thompson, "I don't believe I could make an impression on you. "Wouldn't it be just as well if I hired one of the men to do it?"

"Precisely," said Mr. Frehantle; "and we will have a little bout that will give me practice and amuse me."

And so a negro boot-black who was handy with his fists was hired for a dollar to stand up with Mr. Frehantle, and the negro, got in some very good business, and Mr Frehantle's eyes were very decently blacked, and when it was all over the two went up stairs very amicably and had a bottle all by themselves, and separated on the best of terms.

Miss Aurelia saw Mr. Frehantle the next day with his eyes in mourning and rejoiced thereat. She married Mr. Thompson the day after. It is hoped that they will be happy. The true story was told to the managing man at Stewart's and he was so well pleased at the chivalric and generous conduct of Mr. Frehantle that he did not stop his salary at all, and gave him assurances of early and profitable promotion.

There is no moral whatever to this—that is, none we can see. Everybody is happy, and possible they all deserve it. Frehantie is relieved of attentions he did desire, and had an encounter with with an antagonist worthy of him, Miss Aurelia has her revenge and a husband, Thompson has a wife whom he loves, the negro has a black eye—he always had that and a dollar. Because of her nourishing sentiments of revenge, Mrs Thompson ought to suffer somewhat. But what can be expected of a romantic young woman? On the whole, we hope that her life will be one of continued happiness.—*N. Y. Mail.*

The Girl Everybody Likes.

M. E. STONE.

She is not beautiful—Oh no! nobody thinks of calling her that. Not one of a dozen can tell whether her eyes are black or blue. If you should ask them to describe her, they could only say. "she is just right" and there it would end.

She is a merry-hearted, fun-loving, bewitching maiden, without a spark of envy or malice in her whole composition. She enjoys herself and wants everybody else to do the same. She has always a kind word and pleasant smile for the oldest man or woman, in fact, I can think of nothing she resembles more than a great sun beam which brightens everything it comes in contact with!

All pay her marked attention, from rich Mr. Watts, who lives in the mansion on the hill, to negro Sam, the sweep. All look after her with an admiring eye and say to themselves. "She is just the right sort of a girl."

The young men of the town vie with one another as to who shall show her the most attention, but she never encourages them beyond being simply kind and jolly; so no one can call her a flirt; no, indeed, the young men would deny such an assertion as quickly as she.

Girls,—wonderful to relate—like her too! for she never delights in hurting their feelings or saying spiteful things behind their backs. She is always willing to join in their little plans and assist them in any way. They go to her with their love affairs and she manages adroitly to see George or Charlie, and drop a good word for Ettie or Minnie, until their little difficulties are all patched up and everything goes on smoothly again,—thanks to her.

Old ladies say she is "delightful." The sly witch knows how to humor them. She listens patiently to complaints of the rheumatism or neuralgia, and then sympathizes with them so heartly that they are half cured.

But she cannot be always with us. Byand-by a young man comes from a distant town and marries her. The villagers crowd around and tell him what a prize he has won, but he seems to know it pretty well without any telling, to judge from his face. So she leaves us, and it is not long before we hear from that place. She is there the woman everybody likes.

A California Widow.

A San Francisco widow is ahead in the marrying business. She was fair and young and well to do, and a young man had plighted his troth to her. Suddenly his visits ceased, and the widow sent out spies to discover his lurking-place. These faithful agents ascertained that the young man was about making other matrimonial arrangements with a young girl to whom he was paying assiduous attentions. The blooming widow, resolved not to be basely deceived, found a pistol which had been the property of her first husband, loaded it, and went hunting for her lover. She found him at the house and in company of his younger charmer, and having previously provided herself with a marriage-license, persuaded him to accompany her to the marriage altar. She thus happily saved an inexperienced young man from committing the crime of deceiving a trusting woman.

Raised There.

When the Iowa Central train passed at Eddyville, day before yesterday, says the Hawkeye, a man whose hands and face were the color of his clothes, and whose clothes were the color of the car door, looked out the car window, and, in the voice of one making an important annoucement, said:

"I was raised in this place."

The passengers were of course deeply impressed, and everybody looked at Eddyville with a new interest; but one curious passenger eyed the dirty man very intently, and repeated, in tones of disbelief, "Raised?"

"Yes, sir," said the grimy man, "raised."

The unbelieving passenger mused a moment, and then his brow cleared.

"O, yes" he said, "I see; alluvial deposit."

Postal statistics show that of all European countries (Russia probably excepted the fewest letters are written in Spain. Thus in 1875-6 only 87,000,000 letters passed through the Post Office, being but 5.49 to each inhabitant—a delightful feature in Spanish life not a few of us would be disposed to think.

Minnesota News Items.

DAKOTA COUNTY

Fares on the Hastings and Dakota railroad have been reduced from 5 to 4½ cents per mile.

A five year old daughter of N. M. Chase, of Hastings, was drowned in the river on Thursday afternoon.

The store and goods of Mr. Meeker at Castle Rock, Dakota county, were destroyed by fire on Wednesday last.

GOODHUE COUNTY.

The Midland track layers have passed Zumbro Falls.

Hon. Chris. Graham and wife, of Red Wing, started for Washington last Monday evening and will be