

DIRE DISASTER.

The Frightful Plunge of a Passenger Train From Off a Bridge Down Into a Deep Gorge.

Fully Thirty Persons Crushed in the Wreck or Burned to Death.

Another Railroad Horror.

Coscon, N. H. Feb. 5.—The express train that left Boston at 12 o'clock last night met that from New York at Woodstock on a collision at Woodstock, N. H., at about 2:30 this morning. The train started from New York at 11:30 and was at Woodstock at 1:30. It was about an hour and a half late when it left there. It consisted of a locomotive, baggage car, postal car, two passenger coaches, and two sleeping cars. The train was on the bridge over the gorge at 2:30. The bridge was 300 feet long and 100 feet wide. The train was on the bridge for about 10 minutes when it struck the gorge. The train was on the bridge for about 10 minutes when it struck the gorge. The train was on the bridge for about 10 minutes when it struck the gorge.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE Feb. 3.—Credentials of Senator Whitthorne of Tennessee and Senator Sawyer of Wisconsin presented—Resolution to discharge committee on pensions from further consideration of bill removing limitation on applications for arrears of pensions taken up and passed—Resolution calling on secretary of interior for information regarding applications for pensions discussed—Railroad attorneys bill considered, but no action was taken—Adjourned.

HOUSE. Legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bills referred to committee of whole—Several other bills reported from committee and referred. Bill authorizing the purchase of land for the establishment of a national park in California, Tex., passed—Bill passed for payment to states and territories of money collected under direct tax levied by act of August 5, 1861—Railroad attorneys bill taken up and substitute offered by Mr. Hoar adopted, after which the bill was passed.

SENATE Feb. 4.—Letters presented urging that St. Louis and Chicago be added to the list of reserved cities where reserved banks can deposit money—Substitute for joint resolutions, regarding investigation of Pacific railroads' books accounts reported from judiciary committee—Bill providing a term of the United States circuit court at Texarkana, Tex., passed—Bill passed for payment to states and territories of money collected under direct tax levied by act of August 5, 1861—Railroad attorneys bill taken up and substitute offered by Mr. Hoar adopted, after which the bill was passed.

HOUSE. Two private pension bills returned from president without his approval—Committee of whole on private pensions—A few private bills were disposed of and a night session held, at which a number of pension bills were passed.

SENATE Feb. 5.—Report of Lieut. E. H. Taunt of his six months' journey on the Congo river submitted—Dubuque bridge bill passed—Confederate report on public building at Chattanooga agreed to—Sixty-six pension bills passed—Indian appropriation bill passed—Bill to incorporate Atlantic and Pacific ship railway discussed—Adjourned.

HOUSE. A number of messages received from the president vetoing special pension bills—Direct tax bill referred to committee on judiciary—Bill for payment of Fourth of July claims passed—Committee of whole on diplomatic and consular appropriation bill.

SENATE Feb. 7.—Resolutions from the Kansas legislature were received and debated, praying for the organization of the territory of Oklahoma—Bills were passed appropriating an aggregate of \$12,000,000 to encourage the establishment of manufacturing and to provide for ordnance for coast defense—A number of pension bills of minor importance were passed.

HOUSE. The bill for making changes in places for holding terms of federal court in Missouri was passed.

SENATE Feb. 8.—A petition was presented from citizens of Ohio asking for negotiations for the acquisition of Canada—Mr. Vest introduced a bill to authorize bridging the Missouri river near Lexington—The fisheries question was debated under the head of a bill on the subject until secret session cut it off.

HOUSE. Bills were introduced to pay civil service commissioners \$5,000 salary per year, and to abolish fee systems and substitute salaries for certain officials of the department of justice; the last named measure, was productive of considerable warm debate—The Chinese indemnity bill was passed to pay for damages by the Rock Springs (Wyo.) riots of 1885.

SENATE Feb. 9.—The day was taken up with eulogies of Senator Logan, deceased, Senators Cullom, Morgan, Edmunds, Manderson, Hampton and others participating.

HOUSE. A long colloquy took place between Mr. Reed of Maine and the speaker over the reference of the senate bill to encourage the manufacture of steel for modern naval ordnance and other naval purposes, the speaker finally referring to the committee on appropriations—Similar questions were raised and similar disposition was made of the senate bill providing for the manufacture of ordnance for army purposes and making appropriations for coast defense—Messrs. Rogers of Arkansas and Gilson of West Virginia, in debating the bill to pay officers of the department of justice salaries instead of fees, accused each other of trifling with the truth and talked with 'personal responsibility,' etc.

SENATE Feb. 10.—The election of Mr. Turpie as United States senator was protested by Indiana Republicans—The house substitute for the Chinese indemnity bill was passed—House amendments to the bill to repeal the timber culture acts were debated and a conference ordered.

HOUSE. Republicans filibustered and prevented action on the bill proposing changes in the management of divisions of the general land office—The diplomatic appropriation bill was considered in committee of the whole, and Mr. Allen (Dem.) created considerable surprise and interest by criticizing his party in congress for alleged extravagant expenditures authorized by appropriations.

HITHER AND THITHER. The supreme court of Louisiana has decided that the Sunday law is unconstitutional. It is rumored in Rome that the Italian minister of foreign affairs has resigned and is likely to be followed out of office by Premier Depretis. The organized militia of Canada comprises 37,300 men. The Dominion government has a large carriage factory at Quebec. Weinberg Bros., tobacco dealers of Chicago, have failed with about \$400,000 liabilities. French commanders along the German frontier have been ordered to avoid all exercises of their troops likely to be falsely interpreted by Germany. Mr. Emma Molloy is conducting a revival at Vancouver where she went in search of Mrs. Graham, generally believed to have been murdered in Missouri. The Spanish republican exiles in France have resolved to form a volunteer force of 2,000 to assist France in case of a war with Germany. Goldsmith Brothers, manufacturers of clothing, Philadelphia, Pa., have made an assignment with \$100,000 liabilities.

AMID THE RUINS.

Workmen Busy on the Great Wreck in Vermont.

Exact Figures as to the Loss of Life Still Wanting.

Terrible Experience of One Poor Woman Rendered Delirious by Frigid.

The Vermont Horror.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt., Feb. 7.—The throngs of visitors to the scene of the terrible wreck which took place on the Vermont Central at White River Junction, Vt., on the night of the 2nd inst., are still pouring in. The workmen are busy on the great wreck in Vermont. Exact figures as to the loss of life still wanting. Terrible experience of one poor woman rendered delirious by frigid. The Vermont horror.

Official inspectors visited the blackened wreck, and upon the ice in the debris of the train they discovered the remains of no less than six bodies which they could pick out. Three were so thoroughly burned that it was impossible even to tell their sex, and some made search of the bodies underneath the debris which had been scattered.

Working among the ruins. A gang of fifteen men worked all morning through the ice in the debris of the train, and were busy on the great wreck in Vermont.

Uncertainty as to the lost. John Henry Hazon, one of the board of directors of the Vermont Central, says that in his opinion the corpses of forty-six persons have thus far been taken from the wreck, although there is not a final count.

Several persons very missing. It is learned that Mrs. Horace Fairbanks, wife of ex-governor Fairbanks of Vermont, is among the lost. It is stated that her cloak and watch have been found. Mr. Fairbanks is looking for her.

Another person supposed to be one of the victims is H. E. Hazon, of this place. Mrs. Blaisdell, of Pittsburg, is safe in Montreal.

Charles E. Hebbard of Cambridge, Mass., who is reported to have been wounded in the accident, is wanted in Boston for the embezzlement of \$500. He was on his way to Canada.

The following is an additional list of persons found to be missing and supposed to be lost: Hon. J. B. Rogers, of New York; Fred Brooks, of Cornwall, Ont.; Fred Blais of Springfield, Mass.

At a small farm house near the bridge two injured men who were presumed to have been killed but who are having the best of care. They are Mr. Wilcox, seriously injured on the head, and Mr. Barlow, a French Canadian, who is badly cut.

At a farm house on the south side of the river a woman who is thought to be the sleeper without clothing. Becoming crazed she started away, crawling on her hands and knees on the ice. She was found some time after a quart of whisky was given her. A mattress was procured and she was placed on it. The parties went for a sled to draw her back, and when they returned it was found the mattress had been taken from the wreck. The woman was unable to move and was terribly burned. She was badly frozen when found on the ice.

A servant girl of Mr. Cone of Hartford, Vt., who was on the train for Montreal and went down with the wreck. She was not seriously injured.

Mr. Manning's Health. Mr. Manning, of the Vermont Central, who has been a guest of Secretary Manning for several days, returned to New York last evening. Just before leaving he said with reference to certain published reports concerning Mr. Manning's condition: "I perceive absolutely no impairment of my mental faculties; and as to my physical condition, while, of course, he cannot work as many hours a day as he did last year, to my personal knowledge his progress toward sound health has been continuous and uninterrupted since last summer, and has been more rapid since his return to the treasury department last October, although his office is by far the most exacting and laborious in the federal government. The stories that he is unable to sign his own name are entirely unfounded. He signs his name to warrants, checks, appointment papers and letters scores of times daily, and as a matter of fact, his daily work now would overwhelm many younger men. One of the last letters written by the governor of Vermont, which I received in Europe last week, was signed by Mr. Manning, and he had finished his statement of the federal finances, and a plan necessary for taxation and reform. Its execution could be left to the president and congress. His own last duty would then be to re-assign his health. I do not doubt that the president has reluctantly yielded to the same conclusion."

The Great Strike.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The river fronts and neighboring streets presented a Sunday appearance this morning and there was no change in the condition of affairs. Not more than a fourth of the usual number of trucks were out. Most of the piers were open to receive freight, but the little came. The prospect of a settlement of the difficulties between the longshoremen and the steamship companies and freight handlers and railway companies is remote, each side being confident of coming out of the trouble a victor.

The steamer Clyde sailed some hours later than the scheduled time, but carried a full cargo and her quota of passengers. The Steamer also carried a full cargo and her quota of passengers. Men who apply for work at the docks are scarce.

Over 200 men employed in J. R. Thompson & Co's steel works, Jersey City, quit work today and the factory is idle, waiting for the arrival of the men.

The civil authority committee to inquire into the cause of the strike met today. F. A. Potts, president of the New York, Susquehanna and Western railroad, gave an outline of the history of the strike.

Mr. Corbin's remedy for the troubles between capital and labor is to have the government arbitrate.

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THE BALANCE OF POWER.

Springfield Republican.

It was New Year's eve—and by the hearth of an open fire-place sat an old man, musing on the past, and watching the tongues of flame as they reduced the maple sticks to burning coals; and as he gazed upon them he sang, in cracked tones, a stanza of a hymn which was one of his favorites:

Father! I thank thee, may no thoughts E'er deem thy chastisements severe. And may this heart be folly taught, Cahn each wild wish, each passion free.

In his youth, he had led the choir, in the village church—as a boy, he still liked to hear the sound of his voice, attuned to praising the Lord.

As he sang he thought of those who had gone before him to join the invisible choir that sings the praises of the Lamb amid the throng of the blessed—which he hoped so soon to join, for death had lost all its sting for him, and he awaited its summons with the peaceful happiness with only belongs to the evening of a well-spent life.

Mr. Harrison had lost his wife eight years before; his only daughter was comfortably settled in a home of her own, but his only son had brought his family to the old homestead and had arranged with his father to carry on the farm "as a hobby," the old man retained the management, ostensibly, and doing what work he pleased. He had kept the old nursery for his bedroom and shared the sitting-room and dining-room with his son's family. But as age crept over him he had found the quiet of his own room more agreeable to him, and he was accustomed to sit there during the long winter evenings and read the daily newspaper, while his son would often join him to talk upon the politics of the day, for Mr. Harrison's mind still retained its vigor.

And as he sat and mused and hummed the tunes he used to delight in singing, Thomas, his son, opened the door and the old man said: "Come in, Tom! Come right in! I'm thinking of the old times when you were a baby, and mother sat here—"

And she and I sang together the old tunes we learned at singing-school, where we fell in love with each other. Oh, how happy we were! Of course, we had our crosses to bear—shouldn't been human if we hadn't."

"Taint the lot of mortals to enjoy all sunshine, or bear all storms. And was set in my way. I know that I wouldn't give in easy. Suthin' of the bull-dog about me, and you, too, for that matter. We've both of us got the square jaw that tells of the 'have-your-own-way folks,' haven't we, Tom?"

"But she was as likely a woman as I ever got my eyes on,—pretty as a picture and smart as chain lightning! Yet when she began to dispute she wouldn't hold out long and allers let me have the last word, so there were not long quarrellings 'twixt us. Then I allers felt ashamed when I thought about it, and as I plow'd or mowed or reaped or drove the oxen, and when I went to the village I'd bring her suthin'—praps a new dress or a ribbin, if nothin' else a quarter pound of candy. Winnem folks like sweet things, you know, Tom, and they would allers do the business for me and she'd give me a kiss in return, and so it was all home-peace with us again. And I've been thinking and thinking about her this New Year's eve. Sixty-two years ago I married her—and yet she comes to me to-night as young as fresh and blooming as that happy day, and I forget the years that have past, my heart forgets all its aches and ails, and I dream that we are young together, and when you opened the door I was a talking with her, didn't you hear me? Do you think I'm losing my senses that I say these things, Tom? Not a bit! No a bit! I tell you if you live to be 83 years old you will live in the past more than in the present. I am old,—dropping down like a sere and yellow leaf—soon to be trodden under foot."

And the old man sighed heavily, as at the awakening from a pleasant dream to a sad reality.

"Yes, father, yes!" said Tom; "you are growing old and feeble, and Mary and I have been thinking that you ought not to do any more work, but just sit beside the fire-place, and let us take care of you."

"Well, well," said the old man testily—"I don't know about that. I've got some muscle left—aint quite antiquated yet, like old Scott, who is 92. I guess there's some work left in my old bones still. What are you aiming at, Tom? Out with it! I'm allers downright and to the point. You know I don't beat round the bush in my day. Now, what are you up to?"

"Well, father, I—think perhaps you'd best let the farm and its appurtenances, and let us promise to take care of you while you live."

"I don't know about that," said Mr. Harrison. "I've heard tell of such bargains where they fairly drove the old man to the grave, or was than about that, Tom. What's the matter with Mary and you? Hain't you got enough to live on now, to be able to wait till my death for the rest? I allers called to give you the farm, and Maria my bank stock and coupon bonds, and that's giving you double the value, and you thought, 'said Tom, "Mary and I—that perhaps you'd best let the farm and its appurtenances, and let us promise to take care of you while you live."

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Harrison knew they would do, and he thawed perceptibly as he said:—

"Yes, yes, I know you've got a mighty smart lot of chicks coming—smarter than the old folks, I do think, but Maria isn't any prettier than her grandma, was—praps not high on her grandpa, and I'll think about this matter. I'll do what's right, Tom. You are my only son—how I do remember you as a baby! Your mother set by you more than by her daughter, I do believe. Well, I'll see what I'll do to-morrow. What do they say in the village about this Carlisle as speaker of the House? I believe he is the right man in the right place, and he will fix this revenue law, by which the father and son talked politics amicably and both slept "the sleep of the just" that night.

Next morning the old man had his old white mare, which he kept for his own use, harnessed into the sleigh, and drove her to the village, and saw the old lawyer, who had been his friend for more than half a century, and told him his errand, and in spite of his endeavors to the contrary, he had a title-deed drawn up conveying Harrison, on condition of supporting his life. The lawyer had urged him to make provisions for the use of a horse and the occupancy of his bedroom, which was the largest in the house, with the open fire-place to be supplied with fuel, and a lamp for his own special use, and also a clause that he should receive what visitors he pleased to invite to the farm. Squire Bacon was better versed in the intricacies of the human heart than Mr. Harrison, for he had dealt with men for over 60 years, while the latter had wrestled with the forests and the fields and the cattle in his stalls, and knew not that unless he held the balance of power he might be forced to yield up his possessions against his inclinations. But Mr. Harrison would not charge his determination to relinquish all his belongings to his son, with only a general condition of maintenance for life.

When the deed was prepared Mr. Bacon said: "Mr. Harrison, I am very busy to-day, suppose you carry home this deed and read it to your son, and tell him what you want will be, and have him and his wife agree to supply the horse, and then come in some day with Mr. Craig, the merchant, to witness your signature with me!"

"Can't finish it all to-day, squire?" asked Mr. Harrison. "Now I lotted up on carrying it home to Tom as a New Year's present. But if you can't, you can't, that's all! So good day to you," and he left the office.

And Mr. Bacon laughed in his sleeve at the ruse he had played upon his old friend, trusting that before he came to the village again he might know a little more of human nature, as regards the balance of power, and would be willing to take his advice upon the subject.

Mr. Harrison's old mare trotted home slowly, the lines lying upon her back as she pulled the sleigh up the long hill that lay between the "Hill-side Farm" and the village, while he sang triumphantly the hymn commencing with,—

Joy to the world! the Lord hath come, to the glorious old tune of "Coronation," and was very happy in the thoughts of making others happy.

At tea-time he produced the deed and showed it to his son and his sons' wife, and told them its contents.

"But it is not signed," said Thomas. "No," replied his father. "The squire hadn't time to get another witness and I am going down in a few days to have it executed all right, you know. He wanted me to put in it that I shall allers have the old mare, or another as good, for my use; and I should have my bedroom and the open fire-place, and my own lamp, and your sister and the others could come to visit me, and a lot of such stuff, for he had seen human nature turn against its own folks enough times to look out for it. I laughed well at that idea 'No,' says I, 'I'll let that alone.'"

And Thomas and Mary joined in his laugh, but not very heartily, for when they had talked together about owning the farm and its appurtenances, Mary had said: "We must have father's bedroom, our smaller one is big enough for him, but with the children we need it." And her husband had agreed with her that it must be theirs that winter.

And Thomas had said: "I shall have to sell the old mare, for she eats her head off every winter. Father don't drive her more than once a week in the winter, and in the summer she can't work much."

Then Mary had proposed that a stove should be put up in a room upstairs in a chamber for him and the fire-place, by which the old man had sat for over 60 years, should be closed up excepting when she was ill, and needed it for her own children's comfort.

But they held their peace and bade their father "good-night with thanks for his kindness. The next day brought a snow-storm, and on the next the winds had piled up the snow into such drifts that Mr. Harrison could not go to the village and attend to executing the deed, but there had been much conversation in the family concerning the farm and its arrangements, some of which he had not enjoyed at all. Changes were to be made in various ways, and a forest, which the old man had seen grow up since his boyhood, was doomed to the ax. This announcement drew from the father a protest, and he said:—

"I cannot see those trees bewayed down, Tom; let them stand till I am gone, and you will be the gainer in the amount of timber."

But, no, Thomas had decided that they must fall, and fall they should. Next morning he said:—

"Father, I could sell the old mare for \$30. Mr. Parker will buy her, and she only eats her head off now. So I told him he might have her to draw his wood this winter."

"Never while I live," said the father, angrily, and he went into his own room and closed the door, and mused sadly upon the advice his old lawyer had given him. Did he know human

nature better now? His son and daughter were talking together and his attention was soon drawn to them by hearing his own name—so he listened more closely and learned their intentions concerning his bedroom and the open fire-place, etc. Again he mused upon the knowledge he was gaining. But when his son had left the room he joined him in the stables and said: "I will take the old mare to the village, and will tell my old friend that I know the nature of four-legged animals better than he—but be my master concerning the two legs."

"Why father! what do you mean?" cried Tom.

"Mean?" echoed the old man. "Mean? I mean to hold the balance of power while I live, and not to give up my possessions until the Lord commands me to lay them down. I'll give you two-thirds of the profits of the farm, but it belongs to me, and my fields and flocks and forests, and my old bedroom and fire-place are mine while I live. And unless you and Mary treat me as I like to be treated I shall not let half of it to my daughter and the other half to Tom and Maria. Fathers must not give up the reins until they drop from their hands."

The Moon Through the Lick Telescope.

Among other large and noble benefactions, James Lick, the California millionaire, a few years ago, devoted a generous sum of money to the erection of a gigantic telescope.

This telescope, which will soon be placed in the observatory on the summit of Mount Hamilton, near San Francisco, is the largest instrument of its kind which has ever been constructed on the earth, and, if successfully completed, will undoubtedly reveal to the eye for the first time many a secret of the sky.

When at last the Lick telescope is set up on Mount Hamilton, and is turned toward the heavens, it will be a new and striking era in the history of astronomy. What will be seen through the huge lens may, perhaps, be best judged by the revelation it will give of the moon. The moon is two hundred and forty thousand miles from the earth. The Lick telescope will bring it, in vision, to within one hundred miles.

That is, whatever we can now discover with the naked eye, in a very dry and clear atmosphere, a hundred miles away, will be described on the moon's surface. The Lick telescope will bring to us the heavenly orb—Youth's Companion.

Many questions otherwise concerning the planetary system will undoubtedly be solved by the Lick telescope, to perceive living things moving on the surface of the moon, if such things exist there. But, if the moon is actually inhabited, and if the people there by any chance traverse the peak and craters in large bodies,—by such means, for instance, as great ships or conveyance,—such movements may possibly be discerned through the Lick lens.

A Conscientious Surgeon.

A remarkable suicide has recently been committed in St. Petersburg. A short time ago a woman, aged 23, came to consult Dr. Botkine, who found that she was suffering from a tubercular ulcer. An operation being deemed necessary, Dr. Botkine sent her to M. Kolomine, a surgeon of considerable repute. He administered to her a slight dose of saline acid of cocaine, and, finding this did not take effect, he increased the dose and performed the operation with complete success, but a few hours afterward he received a message to say that his patient seemed to be dying, and he found, upon hurrying to her, that, judging by the feebleness of the pulse and bluish appearance of the face, she was suffering from the effects of poison. All the efforts made to save her were of no effect, and she died the same evening. M. Kolomine was so overcome that he denounced himself as her murderer, though all his colleagues assured him that he was in no way to blame. But he would not listen to them, and a few days afterward he blew his brains out, leaving a note which he said: "I must have been the victim of some temporary aberration, and this has caused the catastrophe which drives me to despair. I am not guilty for my intentions were good, but I cannot live."

Removed to his Home from the Cemetery a Man Regains Life.

Henry Weichman, aged 45, of Red Lion, York county, Pa., died suddenly and was prepared for burial. A large concourse of people attended the funeral and followed the remains to the grave. "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust" was pronounced by the clergyman, and the sexton dropped the customary shovel of earth upon the rough box lid. One of the sons of Weichman, who stood among the weeping mourners, suddenly exclaimed, "I must see father once more! Something tells me he is not dead." The people were startled, but the undertaker, in order to gratify the son's wishes, ordered the coffin to be raised from the grave and carried to the tool house of the sexton, where the lid was removed. A doctor was summoned, and when the body was examined it was found to be quite warm. The doctor lanced the deceased and blood commenced flowing as if from a live person. The coffin was carried back to the house of mourning and the supposed corpse, still in its shroud, carried up stairs to bed. The man now slowly recovering, and there is great rejoicing in the family, whose gloomy holiday has thus been turned into a very happy New Year.