

THE FATAL FIRE.

A Verdict of Accidental Death Rendered.

RELIEF FOR THE FAMILIES.

No Evidence of Arson Found—The Need of Better Protection Against Fire.

The conflagration on Ashbury Heights on Wednesday morning by which three lives were lost and almost \$200,000 worth of property destroyed has aroused the people of San Francisco...

It now seems certain that all theories as to incendiaries as to the origin of the fire are unfounded. Absence of motive, except that of vandalism...

An inquest on the dead bodies of the firemen was held yesterday and a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The work of raising funds for the support of their widows and orphaned children is being pushed, and THE CALL, by a simple suggestion to the manager of the Grove-street Theater...

A CALL reporter was detailed yesterday to visit the real estate and insurance men of San Francisco and ascertain from them their feeling as to the fire of Wednesday and gain from them an idea as to what should be done to prevent a repetition of Wednesday morning's conflagration.

"San Francisco is a four-story wooden city with a two-story fire department," said the manager of one of the wealthiest insurance companies doing business on this coast.

"The fire department is not equipped with the best apparatus and statistics and began to prove by facts and figures the truth of his statement. There are in this city upward of 300 miles of water-mains...

"The chimneys were not exactly at the back of the buildings. At least I don't think so. Windrow's body was covered with bricks. The back stairs were only about twenty feet in depth. It is customary to go as close to a burning building when it is deemed necessary.

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buildings on Page street, between Baker and Lyon. We had been working for fifteen or twenty minutes when a fire broke out from the thing hit me and knocked me down. I was unconscious for a few minutes, and when I recovered I found that my leg was injured and I crawled away. Then I saw them carrying two bodies away, which I recognized at those of Davis and Madison.

"Some time afterward I discovered that Windrow was missing, and I got a stream turned on and his body was found under the bricks of the fallen chimney. We crossed from Oak street to Page over the vacant ground and were playing on the back part of the houses when the chimney fell. I think the chimney was on the second house from Lyon street.

The District Engineer and Mr. Welsh ordered the men up, and there were other companies there at the time. In front was a row of houses on Page street with yards and fences in the rear. The men could not rush back very well as the yards were very small.

"There were a lot of men around rescuing Windrow's body. I heard one man cry out 'Here he is,' but didn't know who it was. Windrow's head was seen first. It lay against the fence. It looked as if he had been knocked backward when he was hit.

"Davis was appointed to my company last February, Madison on April 15. Windrow had been a member since it was organized, having been transferred from engine 11. Davis and Madison were extra-men from the fire of Wednesday.

W. J. Kelly of hose company 3 testified that he was at the fire when the men were killed. He led engine 7 and then engine 13 into the back buildings on Page street, between Baker and Lyon," he said.

"After knocking down the fences with our axes, we went to the third yard I saw Windrow and Dunne on the pipe. I saw the firemen who were killed. They were lying on the ground. I saw the firemen who were killed. They were lying on the ground.

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R-unner. It broke out from the stalls and the loft. The stable was used as a storehouse for a great deal of old truck, which had been piled up from time to time in his business. There were paint cans near where the fire broke out. I was a witness who tried to save a horse while the flames were in the loft.

"As far as the explosion which was heard by a number of people is concerned, it actually occurred. There is no doubt about it. Oil in the cans may have exploded. It was not the gas machine in the clipper factory which exploded, for that is still there and does not show any signs of explosion.

"Was the fire, then, caused by spontaneous combustion?" was asked. "I do not say so," replied the Fire Marshal. "It can't be known. You know if an old pair of overalls soaked with grease and oil are left around they may take fire by themselves. I do not say that this occurred, but it is not impossible.

"The fault of the big fire lay in the lack of fire protection—no hydrants and little water. What we want is more hydrants and more engines."

THE RELIEF FUND. A Benefit Performance at the Grove-street Theater. On Tuesday afternoon, June 25 next, the Grove-street Theater will give a benefit for the families of the firemen who were killed on Wednesday evening.

Milton Nobles' celebrated play, "The Phoenix," will be presented with a strong cast. The theater will give every cent that comes into the box-office. The price will be raised for the one performance to 50 cents for reserved seats and 25 cents for general admission.

All the tickets will be given to the firemen of engine company 13 to mark and place on sale. The offer is a most generous one on the part of the managers of the Grove-street Theater.

Subscriptions to the relief fund may be left at THE CALL, branch office on Market street, near Kearny, or at the main business office on Montgomery street, near Clay.

Stolen From the Fire. J. Klinger and Sam Popper were arrested yesterday by Officer Crouse on a charge of receiving stolen goods. It is alleged that they purchased from minors a lot of property stolen from the fire on Wednesday morning.

Flames From the Ashes. At a late hour last evening the strong wind blowing from the west started flames from the ashes of the fire on Ashbury Heights. Chemical engine No. 7 turned out, but still alarm and extinguished the flames.

ALL-ROUND SPORT. Will the July Regatta Be a Failure? The Pacific Coast Rowing Association should have met last evening to arrange a programme of aquatic events for July, but for some reason the secretary failed to notify the members and, as a result, only a few of the latter appeared at headquarters.

Of the many pastimes there seems to be less life in aquatic sports on this coast than anywhere else. This can be easily accounted for. No boat is needed among the antiquated cormen to stir up the fading sparks, and until an infusion takes place the sporting public need not hope for a change in aquatic sport on this coast.

It is certain that unless the Rowing Association bestir itself and show some little enthusiasm for the water, the regatta will ignore it altogether and give whatever surplus funds there may be on hand to the pugilists—a fraternity of athletes who can be depended upon to give the public a first-class day's entertainment.

A late private dispatch from Austin, Tex., states that the final single scull race which will be rowed to-morrow, will be won by Edward Haulan.

It looks as if old Ned had captured the field and had arranged things to suit himself.

THE PUGILISTS. Young Griffo and Jim Barron Have Arrived From Australia. The steamer Alameda which arrived yesterday had on board the famous feather-weight pugilist Griffo. This phenomenal little pugilist reached this city too late to win thousands of dollars, which he could have easily pocketed had he come a year ago.

Griffo or "Young" Griffo, as he is named by his countrymen, is one of the most clever pugilists Australia has shipped to this country, and until he grew reckless in his habits, he could have commanded a price for as much as \$20,000 against any of the crack feather-weights of the world.

Griffo looks every inch like a pugilist. He carries a mushroom ear which projects beyond suspicion that he has had several hard "goes" in the land of the Southern Cross. Ed Alexander, his manager, will ship him East in a few days where he expects to sign articles with either Solly Smith, the California champion, or George Dixon, the champion feather-weight of America and England.

Griffo is a stout built fellow and somewhat resembles Solly Smith in his make-up. He has a round face, a high forehead, and a prominent nose. He is a native of Australia and has been in this country some years ago.

Among the other "distinguished" pugilists who have been shipped to this country is a fighter who made a harvest in his native land when pugilism was flourishing.

High-Bred Dogs. George Crocker, a well-known sportsman, has received from England two handsome Llewellyn setters, and also two beautiful pointers. Mr. Crocker has already in his kennels some magnificent hunting dogs, but, desirous of having the best stock obtainable, he has now the most fashionable kennel of field-trail dogs in the State. Mr. Crocker is a prominent member of the Country Club.

IN AND ABOUT TOWN. A NEW TRIAL FOR MONAGHAN. Judge Sewell yesterday heard a motion for a new trial on behalf of Joseph P. Monaghan, who was convicted last week of obtaining money by false pretense. Counselors for the State, C. J. Conroy, and for the defendant, J. J. Conroy, were present. The trial was held in the court room of the County Jail, and was adjourned until next week.

Indigestion: Miserable! Take Beecham's Pills.

PHILOSOPHIC NED.

Foster of the Bella Union Accepts His Fate.

TO BE RUN WITHOUT WOMEN.

He Moralizes Upon Theaters in General and the Superior Character of the Old Kearny-Street Resort.

Ned Foster, the proprietor of the Bella Union, returned to the city from his Mayfield farm yesterday morning. Ned was, as usual, immaculate as to personal appearance, but Ned's theater is a sight to behold.

Ned's long coat was of brand new chevot, his pluz had shone like a mirror and he had a white tie with a neat little coral pin.

But the Bella Union Theater, over whose destinies Ned has presided for seven or eight years, looked the picture of ruin and disorder, and seemed to be in the throes of death. Its general condition of wretchedness is heightened by great piles of benches and chairs in the center of the auditorium. The curtain, with a picture of Shakespeare, who has for years been a favorite actor among the Bella Unionists, was rolled up so tightly as to endanger the respiration of the great dramatist.

The boxes attracted more attention than all for one of the party is the wife of Gentleman Jack, the champion kangaroo boxer of the world.

Joe McMahon, Gentleman Jack's manager, was on the wharf to receive Mr. McMahon, who brought with him Lady Jack and two other kangaroos, one of which died at Honolulu and was buried at sea.

with much pomp by the steamer passengers. McMahon gave some very interesting accounts of catching boxing kangaroos in the bush. "Only large kangaroos are good as boxers," he said, "and it requires a great deal of hard work and hard hunting to find these big fellows. I have hunted for months trying to catch kangaroos large enough to make their debut in the show business, although marsupials are common in Australia as jackrabbits are in Fresno County."

"Lady Jack, here, is a tenor singer," continued Mr. McMahon with a laugh, "at least that is what we call her. She is not as big as Jack by a long way, but the old man thinks a great deal of her."

"Did you know that kangaroos could be loved?" asked McMahon. "I have loved many a kangaroo, and Jack has loved many a kangaroo. I have loved many a kangaroo, and Jack has loved many a kangaroo."

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BIRTHS—MARRIAGES—DEATHS.

ROCH—In this city, May 17, 1893, to the wife of...

WISMAN—LEWICOWITZ—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

COHN—COHN—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

BAUM—ASCH—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

MEISTER—OLCOVICH—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

REIMERS—THIERS—In this city, June 3, 1893, to the wife of...

JOHANN—CARLE—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

SEYDEN—WEDMER—In this city, June 4, 1893, to the wife of...

ROBINSON—JEVENS—In this city, June 7, 1893, to the wife of...

GRAFE—MEIERDIERS—In this city, June 7, 1893, to the wife of...

KASLER—CRAU—In this city, June 6, 1893, to the wife of...

WINDROW—In this city, June 7, 1893, Richard, beloved son of...

WILSON—In this city, June 7, 1893, Theophilus, beloved son of...

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INSURANCE.

UNITED STATES BRANCH STATEMENT

CONDITION AND AFFAIRS

Union Assurance Society OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

On the 31st day of DECEMBER, A. D. 1892, to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of California, in pursuance of the provisions of Sections 610 and 611 of the Political Code, contained as per blank furnished by the Commissioner.

Cash Market Value of all Stocks and Bonds owned by Company, \$587,110.00

Interest due and accrued on all Stocks and Loans, 12,500.00

Interest due and accrued on Deposits, 2,200.00

Premiums in due course of Collection, 58,804.74

Total Assets, \$697,974.74

Losses Adjusted and unpaid, \$ 10.00

Losses in process of Adjustment, 29,042.87

Losses reserved for claims, 2,520.00

Reserve for unexpired policies, 173,707.44

INSURANCE.

UNITED STATES BRANCH STATEMENT