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Wednesday, - November 20, 1872.

SURPRISE may well be felt in other countries at the enormous extent of conflagrations in this country. The fact that such fires as this one at Boston and the other one at Chicago are not only possible but ugly facts accomplished, is certainly not very creditable to the intelligence, integrity, skill, enterprise and energy of Americans of to-day, in all of which qualities they excel or profess to excel, in some to a great degree. Some of the causes for such extensive fiery devastation are likely enough to be found, as suggested by a London paper, in the in some respects raw and undisciplined fire company arrangements common in America, and further cause may be found in the combustible nature of the buildings in many American cities, and in portions of all. Lumber dwellings are very common in this country. They make clean, neat, cheap buildings, swiftly erected, but they are exceedingly combustible. In the summer and fall, after one, two, or three months of dry weather, they are like tinder, and the wonder is not that there are so many and such great fires, but that they are not still more numerous and extensive. The use of so much lumber in the surface of buildings, inside or out, should be discouraged, and so far as advisable, actually forbidden by law. Municipal ordinances would be greatly inoperative where the community were blessed with such judges as we have around here, who are almost certain to favor those who defy the ordinances. State law might be more operative. Shingles have served a good purpose, and they will continue to do so, in detached buildings, villas, or villages. But they are unsuitable for closely built towns and cities. If lumber could be made really incombustible, by any preparation at a reasonable cost, no better building material could be found, and as it is it can not be safely supplanted, except in part, even by iron, for it has been demonstrated that a solid stick of timber in a building is far more serviceable than an iron beam. Plaster is an excellent non-conductor, which renders plaster houses preferable to lumber ones. Some cheap and effective method of rendering shingles fire-proof ought to be invented and brought into general use, if possible.

In the British Islands fires like those of Boston and Chicago are unknown in modern times. As stated by a contemporary, fires in cities and towns there rarely extend beyond those buildings in which the fires originate. With few exceptions, the public there knows little or nothing about a fire until it is extinguished, and they see the account in the papers, so quietly and systematically do the fire departments go at their work, and so generally is the fire stopped ere it has made much headway. Even in Liverpool, with all its miles of shipping, and its dense population of 100 persons to the acre, no such fires as these of Boston and Chicago occur. It can hardly be that the air on this continent is more favorable to fires than that of the British Islands, with the sole exception of greater aridity, at certain times of the year. However this may be, there must be some cause for the greater destructiveness of the fire-fiend in this country, and that cause ought to be sought out and rendered inoperative, so far as is practicable. It is no little thing for our largest commercial cities to be half destroyed by fire, and finances and business paralyzed every now and then by calamities preventable in other countries.

WOODHULL, Claflin & Co. are not without friends. The redoubtable George Francis offered to become bail for them, but they declined his offer. He then addressed them a note in which he exhorted them to "stand by their guns," assuring them that there was nothing

obscene in their paper suspended, but that the language was grand, and the truths enunciated were eternal; that the authorities had no right to stop the paper, but were liable to heavy damages, and would have to pay handsomely for the outrage; that 92 New York newspapers, which accepted five millions of hush money, would, if they dared, crush the Woodhull Co. to cater to a hypocritical religious sentiment; that the newspapers habitually inserted disgusting quack advertisements and filthy details of various scandal cases in which reverend gentlemen as well as others were implicated; that society might make the persons named in the Woodhull paper go back on the Woodhulls, even to giving the lie direct; that "every Christian should stand by the fallen brothers," if they be fallen, and if not they would come out brighter from the crucible; that in either case the Woodhulls had done a grand service to Christianity, and must now prove game; and that he believed that for once they had got society's nose in a steel trap.

So far as the professed Christians implicated by the Woodhull revelations or statements are concerned, the policy appears to be to induce the Woodhulls to plead guilty of publishing and circulating obscene literature, and thus tide over the business as easily as possible, but the other gentleman implicated, it is stated, means to push matters litigiously to the bitter end. It is a very nasty business throughout, and if "society" will be satisfied to let it pass without further raking up, there is no doubt that strong efforts will be made to effect that object, although many will not be satisfied without thorough disproof of the ugly charges made.

SINCE the advent of so called "civilization" in this Territory, some things have occurred and a condition of society has been introduced which merits the grave consideration of every lover of the public good. It is well and widely known that the sentiment of this community is exceedingly and uncompromisingly severe upon crimes of a diabolical nature, crimes which sap the moral and physical health of the community, and destroy the self-respect, the peace and the happiness of those concerned. It is also well and widely known that previous to that advent the public sentiment was sufficiently strong to frown down all attempts at such crimes, or at least to reduce them to the smallest number. But what a change within the last two or three years! What vile abominations "civilization," so called, has introduced, winked at, sanctioned in the community within that time! Abominations that were not so much as named among our citizens then, are now committed with brazen impunity. If things go on at this rate a while longer, our city will have a nice reputation. Her fame was fair previous to the introduction of these demoniac practices of "civilization," so called. But now, we say it with deep regret, it is not safe for a girl or a woman to place any confidence in those whom she does not know to be trustworthy, and she is safer in the streets even than in houses of the character of whose inmates she is ignorant, and much safer at home than in the streets. If these facts were duly understood and considered by those who have the guardianship of the young and the innocent, and properly impressed upon their minds so that instead of being simple and unsuspecting they would become shrewd and suspicious sufficiently to scent the very approach of the deceiving and the vile, almost instinctively seeing through their thin disguise of friendliness or liberality, and sensible enough to shun even the very appearance of evil, much shame, disgrace and heart-ache would be avoided where otherwise they will intrude their dread presence, perhaps not to be banished during the remainder of one's mortal life.

We are not speaking in the interests of sect or party when we say that all citizens and residents of every class who value the honor, peace and happiness of their families, and have any respect for the public welfare, ought to unite in an inflexible determination to put down, at whatever cost, such diabolical outrages as some that have shocked the community the passing week, and root out effectually all those who perpetrate such crimes, or who aid, abet, or become accessory to their perpetration. For all such characters the death penalty is rather too light than too severe. Vile practices of this class should be crushed out utterly, regardless of mercy to the devilish perpetrators.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 14.

GOT HOME.—We were pleased at receiving a call from Elder William C. Staines this morning, who returned last evening from New York, where he has been acting as emigration agent, for the Church. The business of the season's emigration has proceeded and terminated satisfactorily over 2000 souls have been forwarded from Europe to this Territory during the season, and the emigration is closed for this year, with the exception of about half a dozen persons, who are coming by the Williams & Guion line, and who were too late for the last company that came by the Minnesota.

In speaking of the horse disease in New York, Elder Staines informs us that it was abating somewhat, but at one time 32,000 horses in that city were laid up with it. At the solicitation of Mr. Berg, President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals there, every conveyance requiring to be drawn by horses was stopped a week ago last Sunday, and everybody, rich or poor, walked on that day. The disease was still raging in Chicago, where the street railroads and every other public conveyance of the kind was stopped.

Brother Staines returns in good health and spirits and feels pleased to be once more at home.

ATTEMPTED RAPE.—A man named Cameron, the same who is proprietor of an "intelligence office" in this City, was arrested for an alleged attempt to commit an outrage upon the person of a young woman last night. Cameron has not yet been examined upon the charge, but it is alleged that two young women, including the one already mentioned, were enticed into his office under some pretext or other, and that while there he took one of them into a side room and attempted to violate her person, while the other young woman remained in the first room. It is also alleged that while this was going on, Mrs. Cameron came to the door of the office and wanted to be admitted, and that Cameron, fearing discovery of the matter by his wife, endeavored to induce the young woman to leave by a back window, from which he wanted to lower her by some means. Mrs. C., however, it appears, obtained admittance and, on seeing how matters stood, made considerable of a row. We are informed that a couple of men afterwards took charge of the girls and there is a rumor of more foul play than that alleged against Cameron. The latter is now in jail, pending an examination.

It will be remembered that Cameron is now under bonds to answer, in the Probate Court, to a variety of charges, including one or two alleged swindling operations.

The "intelligence office" alluded to has been suspected of having been made use of for some time for purposes of a grossly immoral character. Should this prove correct, the utmost rigor of the law should be enforced upon the guilty.

A CARD.

We, the undersigned, in justice to ourselves and all concerned, publish the following card:

The *Corinne Reporter* of the 12th inst. contains an article relative to the City Meat Market question which article was republished in and apparently endorsed by a paper of this city. In speaking of the manner in which Pat Lannan had fought the city in the matter, and of the late decision of Judge McKean, who ruled that the Market ordinance was null and void, the following language occurs:

"As soon as the decision became known, the butchers of the city, to the number of a score or more, waited on Pat, in his office, when their spokesman, who is an irreproachable Brighamite in faith, said, they looked upon him, Lannan, as their liberator from municipal tyranny; and the speaker, as a Mormon, thanked him for declaring war and fighting it out to the present victory. Not satisfied with these congratulations, the butchers and dealers will give their emancipator a public dinner next week, in token of his services."

Now we unhesitatingly declare the foregoing statement to be totally and unqualifiedly false, the "Mormon" butchers never having waited upon or congratulated Pat Lannan, and furthermore should that individual not take dinner until tendered a congratulatory one by the "Mormon" butchers, his shadow ere long, would grow considerably and beautifully less. The statement in the article alluded to that the stalls in the market were all filled at the time Mr. Lannan made application to open a shop in another part of town is also false, several stalls being vacant at that time.

GEO. CHANDLER, C. B. TAYLOR,
LEVI GARRET, J. PAUL,
J. PICKNELL, F. MAY.

BAD ROAD.—A reliable gentleman, writing from Pleasant Grove under date of the 13th inst., says—

"The State road between Lehi station and Green's is almost impassable. Nearly every team gets mired down. You would do the traveling public a great favor to notice the subject."

We trust the evil referred to will be speedily abated by those whose business it

is to attend to the matter, that parties traveling that way may not be put to inconvenience.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 15, 1872.

PREPARE FOR IT.—An old citizen of Utah, a resident of Croyden, Morgan County, gives it as his opinion that the winter we are now entering upon will be the most severe that has been experienced for the past ten years.

OFF THE TRACK.—The engine and tender attached to the evening train, last night, jumped the track at the crossing south of the depot. They were soon got on the rails again, no damage resulting from the slight accident.

MEASLES.—We hear of many cases of measles among children in this city. Parents and others having charge of children should be careful to apply means necessary to bring and keep the eruption upon the skin on the first manifestations of the symptoms of the malady, and should be extremely careful to guard against the possibility of the patients taking cold.

CO-OPERATION IN THE WARDS.—We are pleased to learn of the prosperity of number of the city ward co-operative institutions. A short time since the directors of the Twentieth Ward association declared a dividend, for the past year, of forty per cent. The report indicated that the business of the store was increasing.

Not long since the directors of the Eleventh Ward association declared a dividend, for six months, of twenty-five per cent., the report showing that business was increasing and lively.

THAT OUTRAGE.—The examination of the rape case, concerning which some particulars appeared in yesterday's News, was to have taken place to-day, but had to be delayed on account of the illness of the victim of the diabolical outrage. After she was found by her brother yesterday in a room over Conolly's saloon, Kimball Block, the young man sent for Dr. Ormsby, who stated that she had been severely drugged. Her present condition of prostration is doubtless the result of the drugging and the brutal treatment she received. It appears, from what we could learn, that she was employed by a hair dresser on the corner of East Temple and Second South streets, and that her brother had been in the habit of calling there on evenings and taking her home. On Tuesday he intended taking her to a concert in the Eleventh Ward, but was rather later than usual in calling at the hairdresser's place, and when he did go there he found the establishment locked up. He thought she had gone home, but when he got there, in the 20th Ward, she had not arrived. He did not, however, suspect that there was anything wrong, but that the young woman had gone to another sister's in the Twelfth Ward. Next morning, Tuesday, he went to his sister's in the Twelfth Ward, but his lost sister had not been there. The young man then became filled with anxiety of mind, and immediately commenced a search for her in town. The hair dresser alluded to stated that he had not seen her, but informed the brother of something he said he had heard about her being enticed to Cameron's office and of an outrage being committed upon her. The hair-dresser aided the young man in his search, which was continued during Wednesday and nearly all that night till Thursday morning. Nothing could be gleaned from Cameron about the missing girl. One contemptible fellow offered to tell Mr. Isom, the young woman's brother, where she was, provided he should receive twenty dollars for the information. She was finally traced to an apartment over Conolly's store, Kimball Block, although the proprietor of the place denied any knowledge of her presence, and at first denied Mr. Isom or an officer admittance into the room. When admittance was finally gained the young woman was found in bed, apparently ill from being under the influence of some powerful drug. Those who had conveyed her to the room alluded to claimed that they were prompted to do so by motives of benevolence, and vouchsafed an account of finding her under circumstances before described, in Cameron's office. The owners of the apartment were unwilling that she should be removed, and called in Dr. Fenton to prove that her removal would be dangerous to her life. Dr. Ormsby, however, who was called in by the young woman's brother, stated that she could be removed without particular danger, and a hack was procured and she was taken to her brother's residence in the 20th Ward. The victim of the outrage has only recently come to this country, from England, and is said to be innocent and inexperienced. The case is one of unmitigated atrocity, so far as it now appears, and it is to be hoped that every person who has taken any part in the committal of the brutal crime will be most rigidly dealt with.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 16,

SHARP.—We hear on all sides that the present cold snap is almost if not quite unprecedented at this time of the year. But the air is sweet, the sky bright and the roads are good and dry. A continuance of the present temperature will make them dusty by and by.