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AMERICAN.

MILWAUKEE, 10.—The Minnie Palmer and Tom Thumb company have cancelled their engagement at the Opera House and Academy of Music, owing to the death of members of their companies.

A terrible obstacle to saving life was found in the network of telegraph wires which hedged the building in; not only did they prevent the firemen from placing ladders against the building, but it was impossible to hold canvases in such a position that the unfortunates wouldn't strike the wires first. The loss of life is considerably larger than anticipated at first. It is feared that it will reach 100.

So far the following sixteen, of twenty-five bodies found, are positively identified: F. E. Van Doon, retired capitalist of Albany, New York; Mrs. John Gilbert, wife of John Gilbert, of the Minnie Palmer Company; Allen Johnson, commission merchant of Milwaukee; Mrs. Allen Johnson, of Milwaukee; Maggie Sullivan, chambermaid; Mary Conroy, laundry; Magale Owens, Mary McDade, Mary MacMahon and Beesie Brown, waitresses; Otellie Waltersdorf, kitchen girl; Maggie Sullivan, chambermaid; Augusta Grete, kitchen girl; Katherine Monahan, pantry waiter; Bridget O'Connell, hall girl; J. J. Hough, commercial traveler of Marra, Ills.

Ben. Hall was crushed under the large heavy cornice, but was quickly gotten out from the scorching-hot plates of galvanized iron, seriously hurt but not fatally. The fire department fought heroically, but was only able to prevent the spread of the fire. The hook and ladder companies were most active and saved about twelve people by well directed efforts. The morgue was a hideous sight; two small tiers were seen filled with bodies tightly packed, and these bodies—girls, women and men—were laid promiscuously on stone flags almost in a heap, as the patrol brought in the bodies, three and four at a time. In the American Express Office, Allen Johnson and wife lay stretched on a hard floor, evidently dying, (since dead); they were forced to jump from the window of the third floor. The blanket held to catch them was too weak and their backs were injured so terribly that cries of pain were wrung from them. Edward Pollock, of Lancaster, awakened nearly as soon as the flames broke out, grabbed his clothes, swung from the balcony on the fourth floor to that beneath, where a dozen others were, and by means of knotted bed-clothes, all reached the ground.

Wm. E. Cramer, editor of the *Evening Wisconsin*, and wife, who had rooms on the second floor, received serious but not fatal injuries. A story of hairbreadth escape from a terrible death is related by Lizzie Augland, one of the dining-room girls. She awoke and heard the noise about 4 o'clock in the morning. She awakened her room-mate, Mollie Connors, and the two girls hastily dressed and attempted to descend by the stairway, only to find themselves facing a sheet of flame. Miss Connors was terribly frightened and screamed out, "My God, Lizzie, we can't get through." Lizzie replied, "We must get through or perish." With this Lizzie rushed through the flames and succeeded in reaching the office floor, where she fell insensible, terribly burned about the neck, the lower portion of her face, arms and limbs between the feet and knees; her injuries though severe, are not fatal. From Miss Augland the fate of Mollie Connors is learned. She says when she started through the flames she turned to see if Mollie was coming, and saw her fall on the stairway. Another escape to be recorded is that of a man whose name could not be learned; he was seen swinging from the fifth floor of the burning building till his feet touched the window below; kicking in the window, he dropped and grabbed the sash. This was repeated till he reached the balcony, from which he was rescued. His hands were badly cut. It is reported on the street that there were 350 guests in the house last night. If this is true, the horrors that will be revealed by the removal of the debris are too terrible to contemplate.

Cincinnati, 10.—Total amount of insurance by Cincinnati companies in the Milwaukee Newhall House, \$93,000, of which \$75,000 is on the building and \$18,000 on the furni-

ture. Nearly all the companies in the city have risks.

Milwaukee, 10.—List of insurance published aggregate \$100,000 on building, \$80,000 on furniture.

O. H. Crompton, the "Old Rogers" in "Esmeralda," of the Madison Square Theatre company, together with Miss Herbert, Miss Dunlap and W. A. Lavelle, arrived in the city at midnight on the express from Waukegan, and went to the house. Miss Herbert had no time to save anything, Mr. Crompton carrying her down with nothing on but her night dress. A hack passing near was brought down and Miss Herbert carried to Collins' boarding house. Miss Dunlap and Mr. Lavelle escaped in a similar way, but were more fortunate in getting partially dressed.

In three-quarters of an hour after the discovery of the fire, the building was a total loss. At 5.30 a. m. the Broadway front gave out, and came thundering to the pavement; shortly after that the tottering walls at the southeast corner followed, tearing a heavy telegraph pole to the ground, which felled Ben Van Hegen, a truckman of hook and ladder company No. 2, beneath its weight. He died in a few hours after. Deeds of heroism are recorded worthy of unqualified praise. Ryemer and Strauss, of truck No. 1 appeared on the roof of the bank building at the critical juncture, directly opposite the servant's quarter, ladder in hand. For a moment the unweildy thing poised in mid-air, then descended with a crash through the window of the hotel. It formed a bridge across the alley and before it became steady in position a man had crossed into the hotel; then amid the cheers of the multitude below, dragged the helpless creatures across the slender bridge till fully a dozen were rescued, all in their night clothes. Many were badly frozen before taken to shelter. A woman in a dead faint, unable to help herself, was dragged across in safety, but at one time the whole of her body was hanging over clear of the ladder, while the brave man held her by one of the ankles. The crowd below held their breath in suspense, expecting every moment to see the ladder turn over or break by the terrible strain. By a herculean effort he pulled her up on the slender bridge and finally placed her out of danger, while the crowd which endured the most painful suspense for fully ten minutes, burst forth in round after round of applause. Two brothers named Clayton, rescued four women, carrying them bodily out. The police rescued a dozen persons.

The multitude which was swelled to thousands, stood in perfect terror, but few having self-possession and resolution enough to lend a helping hand on the canvases stretched out to rescue those of the despairing inmates who risked the leap down to the stone sidewalks, one hundred feet below. At first only Lieut. Lockwood, Detectives Riegan and O'Connor, Officers O'Brien and Campbell, and a few gentlemen stretched a heavy canvas which required fully thirty men to handle successfully. A poor fellow stood on the cornice of the fifth story corner window for a long minute, not daring the fearful leap; finally he became bewildered, to judge from his actions, or dumfounded by the smoke, and slid off his perch to the canvas below. The few who held it could not give it the necessary resistance, and the body fell unhindered by the canvas with a crash that sent a shudder through every witness. The shattered body was carried into the American Express office. In a sixth story window, right over this unfortunate, sat the figure of a man crouched on the window sill, gazing like one absent-minded into the fiery abyss below motionless, but occasionally sending up a heart-rending shriek. Steadily the flames encroached upon him; he did not seem to mind it; then the flames singed his hair and licked his night clothes. One despairing look he gave to the crowd below, then tumbled back into the sea of fire. A man and woman, who appeared at the window of the third story, were recognized as Allen Johnson and wife; the canvases were stretched below the windows of the apartment, and a thousand voices called beseeching them to jump. Mr. Johnson kissed his wife, then leaped into the air and shot downward into the canvases; but his weight was such that the canvases pulled out of the hands of the few who held it, and he alighted on the ground with deadly force. His wife followed; her body struck the veranda and fell to the

ground lifeless. Mr. Johnson died shortly afterward in the express office. About a dozen jumped from the Michigan street front; each leap meant death or shattered limbs, and not less than four unfortunates at one time lay upon the icy sidewalk in front of the Chamber of Commerce, clad in their night shirts, their blood and brains oozing from wounds through which the bones protruded.

The scene in the alley west of the burning building was sickening. As early as 6 o'clock, the bodies of seven unfortunate waiter girls were stretched upon the snow and ice with broken limbs, writhing in agony till death ended their sufferings. After almost superhuman efforts, ladders were stretched from the roof of the bank building across the alley way to the sixth story of the hotel. The brave fire ladders carried 10 girls across the frail bridge, four of them dead. The maze of telegraph wires encircling the building on the south and east side played sad havoc with the unfortunates who made the frightful leap for life. Several bodies were fairly cut deep into by the wires, and their torn and bleeding forms would drop to the ground. Others would light into the wires cross ways, rebound and be hurled to the ground with a dreadful crash. To add to the horror, the unfortunate waiter girls, all lodged in the sixth story and attic; to them the saddest lot has fallen. Of sixty young girls only eleven were heard from alive as late as yesterday evening. It is feared that the estimate of fifty lives lost as formed yesterday morning is far too low, and fully double that number are burned or smothered to death in the blazing pyre.

New York, 10.—Clearing House Exchange the first week of January show the following losses and gains in business transactions as compared with the corresponding week last year:

Losses—New York, 23.5 per cent; Boston, 9.10; Chicago, 13.0; Cincinnati, 8.7; St. Louis, 11.1; Milwaukee, 8.0; Louisville, 9.10; Cleveland, 13.0; New Haven, 7.1; Worcester, 5.10; Springfield, 9.2; Syracuse, 3.4.

Gains—New Orleans, 18.4; Philadelphia, 3.10; Baltimore, 1.2; San Francisco, 7.7; Pittsburg, 24.8; Providence, 14.2; Kansas City, 15.2; Hartford, 11.9; Indianapolis, 11.2; Memphis, 52.3; Columbus, 2.1; Portland, 22.4; Peoria, 4.5; Lowell, 38.5.

The Public comments on these figures: The first week of the new year is like fine at the close of a book. It tells no news, its principal business is to settle up what has gone before. The exchanges of the first week of January, 1883, tell us what we knew before in regard to business in 1882, that it was decidedly unsatisfactory.

Railroads and public contractors representing about twenty millions of capital organized an association to-day to be known as the Contractors' Association of the United States. Its object is to promote friendly feeling, and agree upon a uniform system of carrying on contract business.

New York, 10.—Wall Street News says: Texas Pacific is strong on the official estimate of earnings of the first year of operation, ending December 31st, at \$5,500,000, which will be sufficient to pay all fixed charges and a surplus. The company starts the year with no floating debt. In consequence of increased facilities, the company estimate their gross income for the current year at \$7,750,000.

In 1882 in Denver earnings had a bad effect upon those who have been stimulated by the recent strength and activity.

C. G. Lincoln, ticket broker, has been arrested by the Wabash managers, for alleged dealing in tickets that had been tampered with. A large number of peculiar tickets were found, and Lincoln will be prosecuted.

Columbus, Ohio, 10.—The Columbus, Chicago & Indiana Central sold to-day on foreclosure of mortgage to a committee representing the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for thirteen millions and a half; no other bidders.

New York, 10.—The City Bank of Jersey City has suspended; capital \$50,000; average deposits \$75.

Mr. Boyce, president; Shaw, cashier, and Beach, bookkeeper, confessed to some stockholders yesterday that they had overdrawn their accounts to the extent of \$49,000. So only \$1,000 of the capital stock is left.

Jersey City, 10.—The Fifth Ward Savings Bank suspended on account

of the suspension of the City Bank; considerable excitement.

Charlotte, N. C., 10.—The Traders' National Bank is going into voluntary liquidation.

CHICAGO, 11.—A Karm's City special says: On Tuesday night James and Henry Leonard, aged 12 and 16, were burned to death on Craig farm.

An Indianapolis special says: The supreme court gave a decision to-day which, if the principle announced therein is carried out, will cost the State \$20,000. It is that the State must return the money paid by counties into the State treasury by mistake or otherwise in excess of balance.

Early this morning a fire in the wholesale grocery of Clem, Bannard, Lyman & Co., caused a loss of \$10,000 to \$15,000; fully insured.

CHICAGO, 11.—The following are interesting details respecting the New hall fire. Police Lieut. Rockwood says: In regard to the origin of the fire and the awful rapidity with which it spread, I was in my office when the alarm was sounded and I reached the building before the engines began to play. The flames were filling the elevator and breaking out on the different floors. I hurried to the third story and helped one lady to make her way down stairs. I then turned to go back but no man could have gone up to that third story then and lived. It didn't seem more than a minute from the time I left the floor till the time I tried to go back, but in that little time the fire had filled all the building above the second story. As far as the origin of the fire is concerned, I don't see how it could be started unless somebody lit it. So far as is now known not a single Pacific coaster was connected with the fire, not one name from the far west appearing in the list of lost, injured or saved. A correspondent called on Scheller, proprietor of the billiard room and bar of the Newhall House, formerly chief clerk of the hotel, who is at his home ill from injuries received while aiding in rescuing people from the burning building. Scheller said he was called up as soon as the alarm was sounded. He proceeded at once to the hotel, and supposing for the moment that all the people in the upper stories must have escaped, gave his attention to caring for those who had been taken out. When asked to give his theory as to the origin of the fire, Scheller said it seemed to be all in the upper stories, and I suppose it began there, but from all I can learn here, I now think the fire started in the lower part of the building near the elevator. I don't see how it could possibly have begun unless somebody set it. The only thing that makes it impossible for me to suppose it was other than of incendiary origin is the fact that I cannot understand what motive anybody could have for such an act.

Mrs. L. W. Brown, wife of the Gen. Yardmaster of the Chicago & Northwestern is dead. Mr. Brown made a rope of sheets which he tied to a sewing machine. He slid down and received but slight injuries, after reaching a foothold, he called to his wife to follow, but she did not and a few moments later was buried beneath a mass of falling brick in the room. Miss Lizzie Chellis for 10 years in charge of the dressmaking department of A. Chapman's store, occupied a room in one of the upper stories fronting on Michigan Street and was surrounded by flames. She appeared at one of the windows and for an instant looked imploringly down at the throng below, and then fell back into the vortex of fire and perished. There was a fire escape within her reach, but the poor woman was so completely overcome by the horror of her situation that she was powerless to act. Judson J. Hough, of Peoria, Ills., who had both legs broken, and received other internal injuries by jumping from the fifth story window into canvases held by the firemen, died at the Central Police Station. Mr. Hough was visiting the family of Allen Johnson. He was special agent of the North Western Fire Insurance Company, of this city, and leaves a wife and four children. He was about forty years of age. There was a telling scene when he tried to tell the bystanders where he lived. He spelled out the words "Peoria, wife, baby." Chas. Kelsey and Ann Kelsey, with the Tom Thumb Opera Company, are missing, and were undoubtedly burned to death. Miss Sylvester Blecher, wife of the manager of the Tom Thumb Company, is at the Plankinton House under medical treatment, but not expected to live.

She suffered dislocation of the left shoulder and hip and received a compound fracture of joint. Death is momentarily expected.

The scene at the ruins is weird in the extreme. A heavy snow storm is prevailing, which serves to keep the smoke from the water-drenched piles of brick and mortar from arising, and nothing can be seen of the once famous structure but a jet of flame blazing out in mid-air; like a fireball. The police have extended a cordon along the walks of the surrounding blocks, and none but policemen, firemen and reporters are allowed to pass through the streets. The terrible calamity has so dazed people that, with few exceptions, they stare like grim spectators unmoved by the scene hourly. Business in the city is entirely suspended and merchants and mechanics are gathered in the neighborhood of the mouldering ruins, or are discussing the horrors in offices, stores and saloons in the neighborhood. Benj. M. Weil, whose office has for some years been on the ground floor of the Newhall House, escaped with the aid of his servant, saving all his books and papers, and at nine o'clock had leased the old Kellogg office and was ready for business. He had expected such a catastrophe and always left everything prepared for it before going home at night. J. T. Richie of Louisville, Ky., said he was awakened about four o'clock by the great noise and clatter. He partially dressed and then found the hotel on fire. He was on the floor over the office and on opening the door found the corridor full of smoke. He worked his way to a corner room and got in. He found a man there partially dressed, tearing his sheets and blankets into shreds and twisting them into rope. The man had tied one end to a chair. Richie pulled the bed to the window and attached the hastily improvised rope to it. Then the two descended to the balcony, and after screaming to the firemen, a ladder was placed against the balcony and they finally reached the ground.

The Tom Thumb party and a large number of people were on the balcony and Richie says the scene was the most appalling he ever saw. The flames were fast closing in on them and they were so frightened that it is impossible to tell which way they escaped. An old woman was lying on the balcony who travels with Mrs. Tom Thumb, who had both legs broken and was otherwise badly injured. She was moaning and crying most piteously for some one to carry her away. The whole party in an almost nude condition was conveyed to the Plankinton House where they received every attention possible.

Richie lost almost all his clothing. He left on the eleven o'clock train for his home. Orange Williams of Jacksonville, who escaped from the building with severe burns, states that in walking along the hall from his room to the side of the building he stumbled over at least six or eight bodies. Williams says all along the hall could be heard screams and heartrending moans as if many poor unfortunates were in the pangs of death.

New York, 11.—By order of the joint executive committee of the New York and Western Associated Press, Mr. Wm. Henry Smith general agent of the Western Associated Press, will take charge of the whole business of both associations to-day. The committee say in their resolutions, the action taken simplifies the service and will increase its efficiency by uniting as far as possible, the two associations under a common management.

FOREIGN.

LONDON, 10.—The Baden ministry appeal to the generosity of the British public in behalf of the 20,000 persons rendered homeless by the floods.

Lady Florence declares the whole of the £3,000 she received for the relief of small farmers and cottiers in West Ireland is expended. She states this amount kept the roof over 20,000 persons. She declines to raise another fund, on the ground that it is the duty of the government and Land League to help the people.

Liverpool 10.—The Salvage Association telegraphs that nothing was done yesterday in removing the masts and funnels of the *City of Brussels*, owing to a gale, but as soon as that operation is completed, the cargo as far as possible will be removed.