

herself, as her sister, with whom she was staying, had gone to the country on a visit. That is the last time she was seen alive by her teacher or schoolmates. Neighbors saw her enter the house where she was boarding, and the first chapter of this mysterious tragedy ends.

Saturday Art Gruff, a brother-in-law of the deceased, went to the house to discover what trace he could find of the missing girl, and was first to view the ghastly spectacle. On the wall hung a bird cage which contained a dead canary. The fact that the bird was also dead leads to the theory that chloroform had been administered, as there was an ample supply of food in the cage for the bird's sustenance. It was thought at first to be a case of suicide, but later developments have entirely exploded that theory, and A. L. Bull and G. Morello have been arrested, charged with having criminal knowledge of the girl's death. It developed at the coroner's inquest that while there was no outward indications of violence yet there was proof of the girl having been outraged.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Feb. 17.—At the Coronado track today the tire of a sextuplet exploded, causing seven wheelmen to receive injuries. The accident occurred at the trial of a racing team for the world's records in the mile and the half-mile flying start. Wells, the San Francisco wonder, was paced by the sextuplet with Stone, Terrill, Washburne, Schmidt, Vaughan and Swanbrough up.

A warming-up-mile was made and then away they went for a go against time, Wells keeping within three feet of the rear wheel of the big machine, and the others putting all their metal into the combined effort to leave him. When near the three-quarter pole and going at a 1:41 gait, a report was heard, and in a second or so nothing could be seen of the wheels of the riders, all having gone down in a terrible jumble behind the low fence. Swanbrough was the only one, however, seriously hurt, his left ankle bone being broken. The others were bruised about the limbs and body, except Wells, who escaped with scarcely a bruise.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Senator Lodge, chairman of the committee on immigration, today reported a bill from that committee for the restriction of immigration. The bill provides for the exclusion of all persons who are so ignorant as to be unable to read and write any language. Senator Lodge presented a written report on the bill in which he says:

"This measure, if adopted, will exclude a large portion of the present immigration, and, with few exceptions, will tell exclusively on the most undesirable immigration. No measure can be devised which will let in absolutely every one who ought to come in and exclude every immigrant who ought to be shut out, but the percentage of desirable immigrants who would be excluded by this bill would be reduced to the minimum."

The committee also says there can be no doubt that there is a general and very earnest desire among the people of the United States to restrict immigration.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—"Black snow" was a novelty enjoyed in this city

tonight. Between 6 and 7 o'clock there was a fall of a couple of inches of what seemed in the dark to be the staple winter article, but which on examination under gas or electric light proved to be decidedly not the ordinary Caucasian variety. The flakes, crystals and fleecy enough, were of a muddy colored sort that more suggested the Ethiopian adjective. When melted on an extended palm, they each left a tiny ink-like speck. In the mass the so-called snow looked like three weeks old slush. The weather bureau officials and other supposed experts were at first inclined to attribute the phenomenon to local atmospheric conditions in common with the smoke and grime of the city. Advice, however, that the same results were observed at suburbs thirty-five miles distant upset all such explanations.

The storm began at 6:40 p. m., and continued spasmodically until far into the night. From Evanston to the Indiana State line, and from the shore of Lake Michigan to the most westerly suburbs, the 150 square miles from Cook county were swept by the peculiar visitation.

The streets downtown were crowded when the dust filled snow first began to fall. The garments of pedestrians presented the appearance of having been covered with dust and then sprinkled with water. When dry the dirt was easily removed and no stain was left.

Telegrams received from points as far as the cities of eastern Iowa told of similar phenomena.

TROY, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Several fire engines are still pouring water upon the ruins of the Burnett building. If any victims are in the ruins it will be impossible to reach the bodies for hours, perhaps days. No additional names of missing people have been reported.

According to Deputy State Factory Inspector Devine, the avenues of escape from the building were plenty. The fifth floor, where the flames broke out, is divided by a partition in two parts, with a door in the center known as the fire door, to be opened only in such emergency. The south part, where the fire started, was occupied by Stettinheimer & Co., and the north part by Van Zandt, Jacobs & Co. From one of these two departments there was a stairway leading directly to the street. If the door in the partition separating the two departments had been opened, then the employees of Stettinheimer & Co. could have escaped through the department of Van Sant & Jacobs and down the north stairway. None of the employees of Van Sant, Jacobs & Co. were injured as far as learned. The presumption is strong that the door between the two departments was never opened.

Insurance men estimate the loss on the Burnett building at \$40,000, two thirds covered by insurance. On the McCarthy building the damage will not exceed \$3,000. The following is the list of dead: Mrs. Catherine Kane; Mrs. Margaret Corroll; Mrs. Johanna Doyle.

Others mentioned as missing last night are safe. It is not believed there are any bodies in the ruins.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Feb. 18.—An earthquake, preceded by deep rumblings and alarming noises, has been

experienced here. The inhabitants were terror stricken until the noises ceased.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 18.—Miss Clara Barton, president of the American Red Cross society, has arrived here, and is organizing a system for the distribution of relief to the suffering Armenians.

It has been arranged that Rev. Geo. P. Napp, the American missionary of Bitlis, accompanied by family is to come to this city to be examined by the United States Minister Terrell, regarding the charge of sedition brought against him by the authorities.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Feb. 19.—A remarkable incident in the history of the falls made possible by the "dry" condition is just reported. Under the guidance of John Barlow, the Cave of the Winds guide, a party of thirty last evening made an exploration of the Cave of the Winds, which could be reached by reason of the remarkable ice formation. The cave, as they found it, presented a remarkable appearance and could hide a small army of men. In some places the ice formed on the rocks towered sixty to eighty feet above the heads of the spectators. Instead of the immense volume of water ordinarily coming over, there was scarcely more than a mist. Following this the entire party, starting from this spot, which is within the circle of the Horseshoe falls, walked east on the ice bridge to the incline railway directly before the American falls and within full sweep of it, following almost the line of the course taken by the Maid of the Mist steamer in the navigable season.

BARRIE, Ontario, Feb. 18.—J. A. Strathy, the manager of the Bank of Commerce in this town for fifteen years, was shot and fatally wounded today by an unknown man who called at his house. The assassin fled.

SENEY, Mich., Feb. 19.—Four men were killed and seven seriously injured today by the steam log hauler at McKay's lumber camp. The engine became unmanageable and ran down the road at full speed, catching the men before escape was possible.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 19.—An Ocala, Fla., special says:

After ten days of torture at a convict camp, whither they had been sent as tramps, eleven young men were released on writs of habeas corpus issued by Circuit Judge H. Coker. The young men gave their names as George Saunders, Charles Smith, Kentucky; Jack Ingram, Ohio; Oscar Wagner, Missouri; Thomas Cummings, John Davis, New York; Thomas Forbes, Pennsylvania; Jack Ryan, Louisiana; Don Olin, Illinois; John Sopria, Texas; Joseph Stone, Massachusetts.

Two weeks ago the party reached Ocala. They were well dressed and said they were walking to see the country better, and to hunt and fish at will. They had a lot of novelties for sale. They did not ask aid, but the day after their arrival they were arrested. Justice Clary sent them to the convict farm as tramps.

At the ranch they were barbarously treated. They were chained to negroes and given impossible tasks. Every night upon reporting the tasks unperformed, they were stripped; tied across logs and whipped with rawhides until the blood gushed. Last night, the