

GENERAL NEWS.

By Telegraph to the News.

GALVESTON, Texas, March 17.—A special from San Antonio to the News says: A triple murder was committed yesterday afternoon at the railroad camp on the northwestern extension of the San Antonio and Arkansas Pass road, fourteen miles beyond Boerne. Henry Madison, a well known stock man and contractor of this city, employed a number of men and teams. One of the laborers, named William Stone, went to Madison and asked him for some money, and was told he could not get any until Saturday. Stone became enraged and said he would have either money or blood, and without further provocation pulled a gun and fired, killing Madison instantly. Two Mexicans in camp, who had witnessed the shooting, ran up and attempted to arrest the murderer, whereupon Stone shot and killed both of them outright. The murder is claimed to be unjustifiable, and if Stone is caught he will be lynched.

TORONTO, Ont., March 17.—The Mail this morning contains a letter from Hon Benjamin Butterworth, a member of Congress from Cincinnati, who introduced the bill in Congress for the largest reciprocity between Canada and the United States. The following are extracts:

"You are familiar with the details of the proposition contained in the bill introduced by me at the closing days of the last session of Congress. That closer commercial relations or angry and possible permanent estrangement between Canada and the United States must in the near future obtain, seems too clear to need argument to sustain it. It is the

INEXORABLE LOGIC of the situation. That closer and freer relations are desirable, from every point of view is apparent, and it seems equally clear that there is no measure of reciprocity short of that which is full and complete, that can meet the obvious requirements of the situation. I repeat, the way out of the present entanglement will lead to the most happy and valuable and in every way sensible results in the way of unity of commercial and social interests between ourselves and our neighbors and kinsmen on the north, or an alienation and estrangement which would be as discreditable to our statesmanship and our humanity. Either we will take down the partition wall which forces our commerce back upon ourselves and stops its flow along the natural channels which it unerringly seeks out and give it full scope, so that trade between the United States and Canada will

BE AS FREE as it is between New York and Ohio, or we will line our northern border with the evidences of a retrograding civilization—forts on land and cruisers on lakes, picketing 3,700 miles of our frontier with customs officers and spies. Such a condition of things is alike unnatural and unwise. I have not time nor inclination to increase the length and enlarge the scope of this letter by canvassing the resources of Canada, which we need and ultimately must have, and the mutual dependence of one country upon the other. Suffice it to say, that no intelligent person who carefully investigates the facts will hesitate to pronounce in favor of the fullest and most complete reciprocity. Fortunately, Canada is as free and clothed with as full power to conclude arrangements as is the United States. The former by such a course, will in no wise

DISTURB HER RELATIONS with the mother country. The ties that bind her to England are not commercial. They are those which reach from hearthstone to hearthstone, and could only be destroyed by the mother country in an effort to interpose insupportable barriers in the way of the prosperity and happiness of her children on this side of the Atlantic. This England will not do. Of course, in case of full reciprocity, as proposed in the bill to which I have called your attention, the internal revenue of Canada would require some modification, but this relates to matters of detail and presents no serious obstacle worth considering. Our tariff systems are now substantially the same and would be made identical, and that system which has placed the United States in the front rank of manufacturing nations would speedily do like service for Canada. The settlement of the question about mackerel and codfish is

NOT DIFFICULT, and compared with the vast interests affected by the settlement, all the fish in the controversy would not make a noticeable side dish. If Canada, in the interest of attaining what I am persuaded five-sixths of the people of both countries desire, could for one year extend the privileges heretofore enjoyed by but now denied to our fishermen, all the causes of attrition would be removed, and the result would be an adjustment of the differences by a full reciprocity and a renewed property to us which we have hitherto not known. This would possibly involve a little sacrifice of pride, but it would be met on this side by a like spirit of compromise and adjustment. In other words, the concessions would be mutual."

NEW YORK, March 17.—A number of banks were reported to be heavy losers through the negotiations of Lawton's

paper. Among them the First and Third National banks, the Bank of the Republic and the Chemical Bank. The president of the First National Bank denied that the bank handled any of Lawton's paper. The American Exchange National Bank, which was reported a heavy loser, would not affirm or deny the report. The president of the Third National Bank says, his institution holds but a very small amount which is secured by good endorsers. Just before leaving the city Lawton drew from the Third National Bank on checks \$13,000. Abram Kling said this afternoon: "I have

FILED ATTACHMENTS in the office of the county clerk for the companies of which I am attorney, against Lawton. The claims will aggregate more than \$400,000. The property, which I have attached amounts to about as much. I don't know where Lawton has gone to and I wish I did."

"Do you think he has gone to Canada?" "I don't know. We could bring him back if he did go. He has taken away about \$200,000 which he raised on notes of the companies for which I am acting. The associates of Lawton look upon his disappearance as part of a gigantic swindling operation. The bookkeeper of the firm is reported to have lost all he had in the world. One man who is a heavy loser said that Lawton

HAD OVERDRAWN all his accounts and got all the money on his paper that he could, sold his house, converted all his property into cash and left for England yesterday on his way to his brother, who lives in Sussex. The amount involved by his operations is placed by everybody at over one million."

After drawing out all the bank accounts he got a boy to help remove four or five valises, which seemed to be tightly filled. His credit was high and he was rated at over \$1,000,000 by the commercial agencies. Lawton negotiated his paper through the note brokerage firm of Titus, Mead & Co., 81 Wall Street, who have not less than \$10,000 of

LAWTON'S ENDORSEMENTS. Mead said Lawton was in his office, on Tuesday afternoon. He took some of his paper with him and promised to send Mead a check for \$10,000 Wednesday morning. The check did not come and inquiries for Lawton developed the fact that he was missing.

Mead said the total of Lawton's liabilities or defalcation was \$300,000, and the cashier of the Third National Bank said it was between \$300,000 and \$400,000. At the bank it was said Lawton had raised money wherever he could and gone off.

Kling, the attorney, estimated that Lawton got at least \$200,000 in cash from the banks and on discounted paper on the day of his departure. He took the money

AWAY WITH HIM. Mr. Kling represents \$350,000. It is known that he has obtained at least \$350,000 on notes from various banks. Nobody could give any intelligent statement of Lawton's financial condition, as no examination has yet been made of the assets if any there be, and though the attachments have been served on everything visible, including the Jersey real estate and the Spuyten Duyvel residence, it is commonly believed that he has transferred his interest in all such property. His liabilities, so far as known, are estimated at \$1,000,000, rather less than more.

NEW YORK, March 18.—The office of Walter E. Lawton, 31 Broadway, this morning was besieged with excited creditors. They could not get much information as the chief bookkeeper of the firm had disappeared. Rufus Y. Kirkland, partner of Lawton, is making an examination of the affairs of the absconding debtor, whose defalcations will amount to more than half a million.

PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—Captain Nowell of the steamer British Prince, from Liverpool, makes the following report: On Monday, 14th instant at 9:15 a. m., in latitude 40 deg. 1 min., longitude 64 deg. 1 min., passed the schooner yacht Coronet 7 miles to northward. At 10 a. m. the schooner Dauntless displayed her signals abeam in latitude 39 deg. 55 min., longitude 64 deg. 12 min. There was a strong breeze and all the canvas was set. Every stitch of canvas was being used on both boats. There was at the time the yachts were sighted a

A STRONG BREEZE blowing from the west to the north-west. They were about 22 miles apart. This would indicate that the yachts are taking a more southerly course than that pursued by transatlantic steamships at this season. When the observation was made, the Coronet had made about six hundred geographical miles and the Dauntless about 689 miles. Though the Coronet is eleven miles further to the eastward, she is, on account of her more northerly position, more than this number of miles in advance of the Dauntless.

OTTAWA, Ill., March 17.—Arguments on the motion for a new trial for the Anarchists were commenced here today before the Supreme Court. The hearing will be concluded to-morrow. It is not expected that a decision will be given until some time in May.

CHICAGO, March 17.—Moses Solomon was today discharged from his connection with the defense of the Anarchists by the committee having the

case of the condemned in charge. The reason given by the committee for the attorney's discharge is his extreme ambition. He insisted on making a speech before the Supreme Court at Ottawa in spite of the protests of his associates.

BOSTON, March 17.—The railroad commissioners are still investigating the cause of the Forest Hill accident.

George F. Folsom, superintendent of bridges of the Providence road, said the bridge where the disaster occurred had been frequently tested and was regarded as thoroughly safe.

LOUISVILLE, March 17.—The Courier-Journal's special from Crab Orchard, Kentucky, gives the particulars of the killing of three vigilantes who were administering a whipping to a woman 70 years of age, in Rock Castle County. The woman, Eliza Fish, persisted in selling liquor after she had been warned several times to stop. She kept a low kind of a store. The county is a prohibition one. Last night the vigilantes, or Law and Order Club, waited on Mrs. Fish. They took her out in the yard and were whipping her when shots were fired over the fence, and three of the Ku Klux fell dead. Their names are John Long, Walter Penn and John Pasty. There is no clue as to who did the shooting. Castle County has been infested by a gang of Ku Klux for ten years past and all efforts to break up the lawlessness have failed. The old woman, Eliza Fish, had been whipped before by the vigilantes, and her son was run out of the county for selling liquor.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 17.—The plot to assassinate the Czar which was to have been carried out last Sunday was arranged by members of the terrorist section of the nihilists, and no connection with it has been traced to the faction which is conducting the constitutional agitation, although this faction has assumed the character of a secret society with widespread ramifications. Several hundred persons connected with the agitation have, however, recently been arrested.

BUFFALO, March 18.—The Richmond Hotel and St. James Hall were burned early this morning. The loss is fully half a million dollars. A number of lives are reported lost and many injured. The building is situated on the corner of Main and Eagle streets, extending through to Washington Street. The fire was discovered at 3:30 this morning in the new Richmond Hotel. The alarm was sounded and the fire-department repaired promptly. The house contained a large number of guests and their

HEARTRENDING SHRIEKS could plainly be heard. Ladders were raised as soon as possible and as many as could were taken out, but a large number of them were unable to effect their escape. At four o'clock the entire Richmond, St. James Hall and other property in the block were doomed to speedy destruction, and the whole place burned like tinder. The corridor in the centre of their building acted as a great funnel, and as the flames streamed upwards the guests found themselves imprisoned by walls of fire. The screams of the unfortunates could be heard for blocks and at many of the windows they could be seen in their night clothes calling wildly for help. At one of the third floor windows, two guests were seen by the crowd to fall back

INTO THE FLAMES. One man jumped from the fifth floor to the roof of a two story wooden building adjoining; he was seriously injured. The number of those injured is not exactly known. Hon. M. W. Barse, of Olean, N. Y., was terribly burned about the hands and wrists. A number of insurance men were in the building and several of them were badly injured; among them are W. J. McKay, of Niagara Falls, C. M. Dubois, of Syracuse, W. S. Dewey, of Rochester (who escaped with bad burns), Clinton Bidwell, of Pittsburgh,

BADLY BURNED. At the hospitals are Charles Davis, of New York, hands and feet badly burned; H. B. Smith, of the North British Insurance Company, of New York, hands and feet burned; Edward Whelan, of New York, hands in a terrible condition. They are probably not fatally injured. The Fitch hospital contains eight men and one woman; all are in a bad condition and more or less seriously injured. All are from out of town, except the woman. Two of the injured are at the sisters' hospital; there are also four injured persons at the general hospital.

The rapidity of the fire cutting off means of escape, led some persons to

LEAP FOR LIFE from the windows. Others got down the fire escapes or on ladders raised by the fire department. The shrieks and cries of the poor people in the upper stories of the burning structure were heartrending. One man mad with terror leaped from a third story window and was picked up from the stone sidewalk on Main Street a mangled and bleeding corpse. Several who succeeded in making their escape were badly injured and burned, and some of these will probably die. Others more fortunate escaped with slight injuries.

It is now believed that at least twelve persons were

BURNED TO DEATH.

There were 125 persons in the hotel, seventy of whom were transient guests, eight porters and the remainder waiters, bell-boys,

families of the proprietors and clerks. Twenty-two of these were reached from the windows by the firemen. Twenty-two are at the hospitals and a large number made their escape by other means.

THE ORIGIN of the fire is not as yet known. William H. Alport, the night clerk, says the fire started in the cloakroom under the main stairway at 3:50 o'clock. There was nobody up but myself, the night porter and the bell boy. I pulled all four of the fire alarms on the different floors and the people came flying down stairs in their night clothes. The fire followed the elevator, and inside of five minutes it reached the top floor. I rushed out of the door after doing all I could.

Bell-boy Plummer tells his experience as follows: I was dusting the reading room, when I heard a shout and

SAW THE FLAMES coming up the stairway from below. The spread of the flames was frightful in its rapidity. The elevator shaft served as a flue for the flames and the whole structure was enveloped in a few moments. As the guests were aroused and saw the interior exit cut off, they turned to the windows. They could be seen standing out clear and vivid before the lurid background of flames. Their screams were horrible to hear and they could be heard for blocks.

THE FIREMEN did noble work and confined the fire to the narrow limits of the three buildings named. Their work of rescue had many exciting incidents. The telegraph wires were, as usual, in the way of the ladder brigade and much valuable time was lost in getting the ladders past them. The fire was under control by 5 o'clock.

BUFFALO, March 18.—The bell boy, Plummer, tells his experience, as follows: "I was dusting the reading room when I heard a shout and saw flames coming up the stairway from the basement. Mr. Alport and I turned on the hose under the main stairway. We straightened the hose out and turned the valve, but the water would not run. Then we gave the alarm. The watchman and I got a plank and broke in the Eagle Street entrance to the hotel. Then we got a plank under the fire-escape off Eagle Street, and we helped the people down. I think there were about eighty-four guests in the house."

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NUMBER OF WOMEN from the burning building. He then made his own escape by leaping from one building to another until he reached the corner of Washington and North Division Street and thus gained the street.

William J. Mann, one of the proprietors of the house and his wife had a thrilling experience in getting out. Mrs. Mann was terribly burned about the head, arms and legs. Their little daughter, Jennie, was also badly burned.

Five girls, who roomed on the fifth floor, made a rope out of their bed clothes and hung it out of the window, but none of them seemed to have the courage to start. At last one of the five took hold and

SWUNG DOWN to the window ledge, from which she was rescued. Three others came down in the same manner and then the fifth girl started down. She had gone but a little distance when the rope parted and down she went four stories. Strange to say she was not killed. Her legs were terribly bruised, her back badly injured and her face and arms were in a frightful condition from burns.

Mark Osborne, day clerk and assistant manager of the hotel, is missing. It is believed he perished.

Wm. A. Haxen, of Helena, Montana, was burned about the hands, feet and face, and is suffering from the shock. He is the chief engineer of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

R. H. Humes, occupied a room on the third floor. He was awakened by the

ELECTRIC BELLS, and after arousing several people on the same floor, jumped through the window to the kitchen roof. There everything was in flames. Others were on the same roof. He made a rush for the Eagle Street door, going through the kitchen skylight and out through the flames and escaped. He left five persons on the kitchen roof, and thinks they must all have perished, as they did not attempt to follow him through the flames. Four are dead. Among those who jumped from the building were William Purcell, a broker of this city, an unknown man, and two unknown women.

The burned building was erected in 1856 for hotel purposes and was called the St. James Hotel. The hotel was not a financial success and after a

STRUGGLING EXISTENCE

it passed, in 1884, into the hands of the Young Men's Christian Association. After the association gave up its rooms in the old building in October last, Robert Stafford, S. P. Whittaker and W. J. Mau took a lease of the property for hotel purposes for a term of years.

Whittaker reports that a large amount of diamonds were in the hotel last night. B. Robinson, of Lambert & Co., had a stock valued at \$50,000 deposited in the safe. A Mr. Alder had in his room \$30,000 worth and a Mr. Smith had another considerable stock, but the amount was not known.

The body of one woman recovered this morning was identified as that of Kate Wolf, of Lockport. Mary Welch, a servant at Richmond, is missing and still another servant and it is believed they must be included

AMONG THE DEAD.

F. A. Kahn and H. D. Rumsey, of New York, who were so seriously burned, are not expected to live.

As far as can be ascertained, the dead are as follows:

Katie Kent, Minnie Kelly and Kate Pearce, servants; William Purcell; Mark Osborne, the other day clerk at the hotel; a Mr. Johnson, a Toronto railway man; Kate Wolf, a servant at Lockport.

The dying are: Jacob Kahn, of New York; Maggie Mulrath, of Buffalo; Henry Rumsey, of New York; Mary Nolan, of Buffalo, and Edward Wheelan, of Newburgh.

THE OTHERS

who were seriously burned or injured are as follows: J. H. French, of Scranton; J. M. Moore, of Cleveland; W. A. Haren, of Helena, Montana; C. W. Dubois, of Syracuse; W. J. Mann, Mrs. Mann and Jennie Mann, of Buffalo; Mills Barse, of Olean, N. Y.; Matt Shannon, Chas. Clinton Bidwell, Minnie Wellers, Mrs. Katie Pierce, Nellie Welch, Nettle Henry, all of Buffalo; Barry Davis and George F. Michaels, of New York, and W. J. Mackay, of Niagara Falls.

A servant girl named Welch is believed also to be among the dead. The walls of the burned building are a menace to life, and until they are raised and the ruins cooled, no search for bodies can be made. It is undoubtedly a fact that at least 20 persons perished.

THE TOTAL LOSS by the fire will be \$400,000 on hotel and museum buildings, which were insured for \$80,000.

Fuller & Townsend, clothiers, were insured for \$45,000; their stock was a total loss and was valued at \$60,000.

Peter Paul & Bro. and Albrich & Kingley, stationers, each lose \$40,000, with \$39,000 insurance. Several minor losses were sustained.

RECHESTER, March 18.—Several survivors of the hotel fire at Buffalo are in this city. Winfield S. Dewey was quite seriously burned about the head. His hair was all burned off and his right foot was badly burned. He had a room on the second floor and was awakened by the bell. He attempted to escape by the hall, but was driven back by the flames. He was rescued from his window by firemen.

Max Dahlman, clothier, escaped by jumping two stories to an adjoining building.

W. P. Lamb, an insurance adjuster, narrowly escaped with his life. He was taken from a fire escape.

CHICAGO, March 18.—Mrs. Washburne, wife of Elihu Washburne, United States minister to France, died at 7:40 this morning, at her rooms at Tremont House.

BOSTON, March 18.—In the investigation of the Bussey bridge disaster to-day, Theodore D. Moses, civil engineer, declared that he had always regarded the bridge as a mechanical deformity, and had within two weeks warned the road officials that a disaster might occur.

NEW YORK, March 18.—The superintendent of motive power of the New York Central Railroad, said this afternoon that the trial of the steam heating apparatus which was made yesterday on the train running from Peekskill to this city demonstrated the feasibility of the scheme. The trouble of connecting the pipes between the cars was overcome by the use of a brass telescope, and ball and socket joint. The steam is used direct from the locomotive boiler, through a pressure-reducing valve and a strain of five pounds is carried on the pipes. The main difficulties hitherto encountered in adopting steam heating on railroads, have been in connecting the pipes between the cars and in reducing the pressure of the steam.

OTTAWA, Ill., March 18.—The state's attorney made his argument before the supreme court in the anarchists' case to-day. He said, at the start that it would be strange if in a case of such great length a few errors had not crept in, but the court would find that no errors had occurred sufficient to warrant the granting of a new trial. Justice had not been obstructed or interfered with in the slightest degree in the process of the trial. The case involved the integrity of the Constitution and the very stability of the government, and anarchy was on trial, and there was no use in attempting to deny it. He then reviewed the testimony to prove the fact of

A CONSPIRACY.

The attorney general followed and confined himself to expounding the law of conspiracy and contended that under the evidence the defendants were absolutely convicted of murder.