

THE GREAT BLAST.

INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL NEWTON ON THE HELL GATE EXPLOSION.

A Herald reporter called on Gen. Newton at the Army Building, corner of Houston and Green Streets, to ascertain from him any particulars he might have to furnish the public regarding the coming explosion at Hell Gate.

The General was found in his office busily engaged in opening and forwarding letters. At first the General seemed disinclined to give any information, but as the conversation progressed he gradually got interested in the subject in hand and the interview continued as follows—

"Some anxiety is felt, General, by the residents of Astoria and Yorkville regarding the result of the coming explosion upon the edifices in the immediate neighborhood of the blast, and I have sought you with a view of ascertaining if any cause for anxiety exists," said the reporter.

General Newton smiled, and with that air of confidence born of exact science, he said: "There is not the slightest cause for alarm. I do not apprehend the slightest danger even to the houses in the immediate vicinity of the discharge. The old sheds and outhouses at present standing near the orifice of the shaft may be blown down, but even that I do not expect. The residents of Yorkville are, in my estimation, wasting mental energy in feeling anxious about the results of the explosion. They are quite safe from any evil effects and will probably feel the shock but slightly. I would advise those living on the Long Island shore to come out of their houses when the blast is discharged, for the reason that the vibration may shake down a few ceilings. Mark me, these ceilings will have to be predisposed to fall down; otherwise the blast will not affect them in the least. Ceilings are, as you know, rather insecure things, and no man can vouch for the stability of his ceiling, no matter how new it is. Sometimes the moving of a bed overhead will precipitate the whitewashed waste down upon the unhappy folks beneath, causing sore heads and often marring beauty. For these reasons I would advise all to leave their houses when the blast is to be fired. We will give those in the immediate neighborhood notice as to the hour and minute when the explosion will occur."

"How does it happen that there is no danger with such a large quantity of nitro-glycerine as you intend to explode, when, if report speaks truly, one-twentieth part of that amount has often wrought fatal havoc?"

"It is easy of explanation. With one twentieth of the amount of the explosive we intend to use in this blast I could, if I wished, make twenty times the noise expected from the coming blast. The explosives used in the destruction of Hallett's Reef are for purposes of use, not for pyrotechnic display. However, to explain why the effect of the explosion of this great amount of nitro-glycerine will not be as palpable as many think it must be of necessity, let me state a few facts in connection with the work. The explosive material, in the first place, has been distributed in parcels of about ten pounds each, so arranged as to effectually do the work assigned them. While it is true that all these different parcels will, to all practical intents and purposes, be exploded simultaneously, their force will not be combined. The combination of the force produced by the explosion of the amount of nitro-glycerine to be set off at Hell Gate would be sufficient for almost any work; but the combination is wanting, and consequently the violent result looked for from some quarters will not be had. Each parcel is to be so placed that it shall have to exhaust all its force to do the work assigned it, and thus no loss of power is to be suffered. It is not as if the explosion were to take place on the surface, when the explosion would actually take place in the air; the power is submerged. The shaft and the whole excavation is to be filled with water before the blast takes place, so that all chance of atmospheric disturbance will be done away with. Perhaps there may be here or there a weak spot in the shell of rock, and the charge near this spot may break through.

The only effect of this will be a waterspout."

"Will the shipping near by be affected by the explosion?"

"Well, those boats which are within half a mile of Hallett's Point will feel a slight thud on the bottom, but nothing serious. The sensation will be rather pleasant. I have experienced it several times while on the scows of this department."

"The department has already exploded a great quantity of nitro-glycerine, has it not, without a single accident?"

"Yes. I believe that since we began to rid the river and harbor of obstructions we have used between 70,000 and 90,000 pounds of nitro-glycerine. This has been discharged, sometimes in parcels as large as 100 pounds, and I am of the opinion that the coming explosion will not have any more outward effect than some of those we have already made. When a can of glycerine is put into the rock the boat moves off perhaps 150 yards, and the charge is fired."

"General, opinions have been expressed to the effect that the exhaust from the immense amount of nitro-glycerine you are going to use will vibrate the atmosphere for miles. Is there any truth in the assertion?"

"None whatever. The gas generated by the explosion of this nitro-glycerine will, when it comes to the surface, have lost all its volatile properties. Labor is equal to heat, and as the labor required from the glycerine deposited in the rock will be exactly, or nearly exactly, what is needed, no power will be lost, and, consequently, no heat will be lost. With the explosion the heat generated will be immediately communicated to the rocks and the water. Consequently, when the exhaust arrives at the surface it will have lost all its volatile properties and be flabby and inert. The atmosphere will readily absorb and destroy this dead gas, and I doubt if the most delicate nose in the neighborhood will be very much shocked. You see the glycerine is here damped, or, in other words, confined, and, as only the exact amount necessary is used, there cannot be any waste of heat in the air equal to the labor. When small amounts of nitro-glycerine have been used here in the city to blow down dangerous walls a bad effect has been noticeable in the atmosphere. This was because the charge was not damped and properly adjusted to the work to be performed."

"Are there any other palpable effects of the explosion which occur to your mind now?" was the reporter's next query.

The General thought for a moment, and, referring to the subject of heat, stated that the communication of heat, in the manner just spoken of, would cause an evaporation of water, and a fog would be consequent. It would extend along the river for some distance, perhaps, and last, may be, an hour or more.

The reporter inquired how near the scene of the explosion the gentlemen having charge of the galvanic arrangements for exploding the mine would stand, and was informed that though the exact spot had not yet been located, it would be within 200 yards. General Newton could not give the exact number of pounds of nitro-glycerine that are to be exploded, nor did he wish to approximate it.—*New York Herald*, Sept. 4.

The Hard Times and Their Cause.

No country in modern times has suffered any such business depression as now weighs down the spirit and energies of the people of the United States. We have had commercial panics, but never before was there such widespread bankruptcy; never before were so many mills and factories closed; never before were hundreds of thousands of workmen thrown out of employment. Times seem to grow worse rather than better, and the end is not yet. There is no sign of a revival of business. Capital shrinks from investment and labor begs for employment. The money sharks and office-holders alone prosper. The panic from which we are now suffering is, we say again, more extensive, universal, and profound than any that ever afflicted any country, and ordinary causes will not account for it. When and how it will end cannot yet be foreseen. It would take a volume to point out, in detail, the responsibility of the government for the

present condition of things. One fact is plain, however, and that is that our condition is aggravated, and chiefly caused, indeed, by the exhaustion of the resources of the people. Taxation and public expenditures have taken away so large a proportion of the earnings of the people that the accumulation of wealth has almost ceased, except by those who profit by the expenditures of the public money or by laws made in favor of special interests. If you want to make any money, you must connect yourself with the government in some way, or engage in some of the favored employments, that is, either like banking or loaning money—\$800,000,000 of taxation annually, leave the people but a fraction of their earnings, after a necessary waste is repaired. Population accumulates faster than the means of subsistence; and this is why the country does not recover from the effects of the panic. The panic originated in the exhaustion of the people. The sources of our prosperity have been dried up by excessive and ill adjusted taxation, and by legislation intended to enrich the few at the expense of the many.—*San Bernardino Times*.

Scoffed at and Discarded for Being Poor But Honest.

The state of public morals now existing in this part of the country, and in every other, would be alarming to any people not absolutely palsied with insensibility to the deplorable consequences to which it leads. The whole social body is debauched by contact with the methods that obtain in elections and in administration. The idea of honest purposes and acts in public men is ridiculed as both absurd and obsolete. Religious men, ministers of a holy religion, men of reputable name, who would scorn a dishonorable action, sneer at and libel those whose lives have been blameless. One of the most touching proofs we ever had of the universal reign of this sentiment was furnished us in the living example of our late congressman, Hon. John Taffe, who came back to his constituents after two terms in Congress poor and honest, and, as he told us with his own lips, to be scoffed at and discarded for that reason.—*Omaha Herald*.

THE DEFENCES OF LONDON.—The defences of London on the Thames are approaching completion, and heavy guns are being shipped from the Royal Arsenal to supply the remainder of their armament. The new works and extensions of old ones which have been effected within the last few years have added immensely to the protection of the Thames. Many guns of twenty-five tons have been mounted at Tilbury Fort, and its companion work, New Tavern Fort, on the Gravesend side. The new Shornmeade Battery, lower down the river, is fully furnished with a dozen guns of the same weight, throwing projectiles of 600lb.; and on the opposite shore, at Coal House Point, an array of heavy artillery equally formidable is being accumulated. These two pairs of fortifications, each pair constructed to operate in unison, and deliver a sweeping cross fire, are regarded as rendering the river approach virtually impregnable; but before these are reached an enemy's fleet would have to encounter the weighty metal in the batteries at Sheerness and the Isle of Grain, supplemented by the long-range guns at Shoeburyness, without taking into account the sprinkling of torpedoes, which is so much relied upon for river defence.—*London Paper*.

REMOVING A LAKE.—A very competent engineer has made some careful surveys and estimates to determine the possibility of removing Lake Keuka about eight miles further up the river. We are happy to be assured by him that the project is feasible, and that the expense will be much lower than has been supposed. The plan involves the buying of a strip of farms extending from the head of the lake up to the corporation bounds of this village. A trench then dug of sufficient depth and a line of barrels filled with nitro-glycerine carefully laid in the bottom, a single explosion it is calculated will lay open a chasm seven and a half miles long and half a mile wide, into which the water will rush in a perfect deluge. Penn Yan will then be left

eight miles from the foot of the lake, and all the space which is now covered with useless water will become, in a few years, fruitful farms, occupied by an industrious population. The expense of this great improvement will be but a trifle over a million dollars. The "moneyed men of Bath" have already subscribed \$800,000, and the balance will be easily made up by small subscriptions. A public meeting will shortly be held to secure this important movement.—*Bath (Steuben Co., N. Y.) Courier*.

Now is the time for husking bees. The bee should be firmly seized by the responsive end and—well, you can depend upon the bee for further instructions.—*Worcester Bee*.

DEEDS.

In the 13th Ward, Salt Lake City, Sept. 18th, 1876, of convulsions, FLORENCE DACK, daughter of John and Hannah Hagell, aged 2 weeks and 4 days.

At Bountiful, Davis Co., Utah, Sept. 14, 1876, after a severe sickness of typhoid fever, JOHN STOKER, Jr., son of Bishop Stoker, aged 19 years, 7 months and 3 days.

Deceased was born in North Canyon Ward, Davis Co., Utah, where he lived with his parents till he died. He was a young man who bore a most excellent character, being exemplary for his sobriety and general good behavior. He was never known to use intoxicating drinks, to utter unbecoming language or to participate in any disturbances. His funeral services were, yesterday, conducted at the Tabernacle, by the Bountiful Young Men's Improvement Association, of which he was an honorable member. The President thereof, Elder Louis Grant, and others making appropriate addresses, at the close of which a large concourse of friends and acquaintances followed the remains of the deceased to the grave.—*Com.*

At Bury, Lancashire, July 15, 1876, after a long illness, ALICE, the beloved wife of John Unsworth, aged 48 years.

Deceased was born Feb. 24, 1828, at Bury, and baptized Oct. 15, 1847. She leaves a husband, a large family and an aged father. She was an estimable woman, and died in full faith of the gospel.—*Com. Millennial Star*.

At Lower House, near Burnley, July 23, 1876, WILLIAM WEAVING, aged 50 years.—*Millennial Star*.

At Aberaman, South Wales, Aug. 4, 1876, LETTICE, wife of William Leyshon, aged 33 years.—*Millennial Star*.

Another Card.

The public should remember that the Provo Manufacturing Company have already on hand some Sixty Thousand Dollars worth of woolen goods, which they wish to exchange for cash, wool and other produce. Merchants and others should remember this and favor us with their patronage. The Company intend soon to send their agents to every town and county in the Territory to take orders from merchants and others for their Fall and Winter supplies. Orders by mail promptly attended to. Highest market price allowed for Fall Clips and Lambs Wool.

A liberal discount allowed to the trade, on cash payments.

W29 J. DUNN, Supt.

TAYLOR & CUTLER

ARE

CLOSING OUT

A LOT OF

GOODS OF DIFFERENT KINDS

AT

25 per cent.

BELOW COST.

Call and See Them.

NOTICE.

TO A. W. Bullock, I hereby notify you that I have expended in labor and money the sum of one hundred dollars, being the amount of legal assessments due by you for the past year on your interest of seven hundred and fifty (750) feet in the Emma Lode in Blue Ledge Mining District, Wasatch County, Utah. Should you fail to pay said sum within the time prescribed by law, your interest in said lode will become forfeited to me as co-owner by virtue of the act of Congress approved May 10th, 1872. FREDERICK REIO

April 20, '74.

GRAEFENBERG

Family Medicines!

THE

MOST POPULAR REMEDIES

OF THE AGE.

The unquestionable superiority

GRAEFENBERG

FAMILY MEDICINES

Over all others, has not only been proved by published testimonials from all parts of the Country, but their continued success while so many others fail is substantial evidence that they merit the increased confidence of the public. These Medicines have been established for over thirty years, and are now largely used by Physicians in their practice; they do not contain any mineral drug, but are compounded from purely vegetable substances.

GRAEFENBERG VEGETABLE PILLS, the mildest and best Pill in the world. Price 25 cts. per box.

The remarkable beneficial results following the use of these pills in cases of fever, bilious disorders and diseases of digestion warrant all to resort to them when circumstances require a prompt, safe and efficient remedy.

GRAEFENBERG MARSHALL'S UTERINE CATHOLICON, an infallible remedy for all Female Complaints, price \$1.50 per bottle.

The experience of many years among the most cultivated and refined has resulted in stamping this remarkable preparation as the only reliable remedy for the distressing diseases of women.

GRAEFENBERG HEALTH BITTERS, the most pleasant and delightful tonic ever prepared. Price 25 cts. per package.

GRAEFENBERG EYE LOTION, acts like a charm for all diseases of the Eye. Price 25 cts. per bottle.

GRAEFENBERG DYSENTERY SYRUP, a certain remedy for all diseases of the Bowels. Price 50 cts. per bottle.

GRAEFENBERG CHILDREN'S PANACEA, for all diseases incident to childhood. Price 50 cts. per bottle.

GRAEFENBERG GREEN MOUNTAIN OINTMENT, excels all other Salves in its curative power. Price 25 cts. per box.

GRAEFENBERG SARSAPARILLA, a pure extract, the best in use. Price \$1.00 per bottle.

GRAEFENBERG PILE REMEDY, never fails to completely cure the worst forms of Piles and Fistula. Price \$1.00 per bottle.

GRAEFENBERG CONSUMPTIVE'S BALM, affords great relief in all pulmonary complaints. Price \$3.00 per bottle. Small size, \$1.50.

GRAEFENBERG MANUAL OF HEALTH, a complete Family Medical Book. Price 25 cts.

All the above truly valuable medicines are sold by Druggists and Co-operative Stores throughout the Country, and by

THE GRAEFENBERG CO.,

No. 56 Reade Street,

P.O. Box 1238 NEW YORK.

The Graefenberg "Light for the World" Almanac can be had from all respectable dealers, or will be sent by mail to any address upon application.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Readers and Heads of Families

CUT out this notice and send it to The Graefenberg Company, 56 Reade St., N. Y., together with TWENTY-FIVE cents, and you will receive by return mail, postage paid, a copy of their valuable family medical book, entitled

The Graefenberg
MANUAL OF HEALTH.

It contains 360 pages, handsomely printed on fine paper, and is written in language plainly understood by every one. W12