

# The Independent

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## DIED IN THE FLAMES.

### AWFUL HORROR IN A BALTIMORE RESIDENCE.

Inmates Suffocated Before They Could Escape—Death of Mrs. Marshall Field—“BH” Nye Called to His Long Home—Booth Declares Independence

**Baltimore Fire Horror.**  
As the result of a fire which started in the cellar of the four-story marble front residence of James R. Armiger, at Baltimore, at 8:15 o'clock Sunday morning, seven persons are dead, one is fatally and four others are slightly injured and a fine dwelling is completely wrecked. The most astonishing circumstance about the disaster is that although the fire broke out at an hour when many persons were on the streets, and hardly five minutes elapsed before the firemen forced their way into the house, the seven mentioned were past rescue. No more flagrant illustration of defective house construction could have been furnished. Not more than eighteen inches from the furnace was a wood partition. This was ignited and with great rapidity the flames leaped up a stairway in the center of the dwelling to the roof. Hangings and woodwork furnished abundant fuel, and in the dense smoke the members of the household, some of whom had not yet arisen and none of whom had left their apartments, lost their way, groped about wildly, sank down, suffocated and perished.

**Number of Dead Is Increasing.**  
The latest estimates place the number of deaths from the explosion of twenty tons of dynamite on a switch at Viendendorp, near Johannesburg, on Wednesday evening, at 120 and about 400 persons were more or less seriously injured. A number of the wounded have succumbed to their injuries. The white victims were chiefly of lower class of Boers. Whole families of white people were wiped out. President Kruger has been chosen president of the relief committee, and he is directing the work of clearing the ground at Viendendorp and sheltering the thousands of people who have been rendered homeless. The popular subscription raised in behalf of the distressed people already amounts to over \$500,000.

**Nye Breathes His Last.**  
Edgar Wilson Nye, the humorist, died at his home, “Bucksheads,” eight miles from Asheville, N. C., at noon Saturday, of apoplexy. He had lain in a helpless and hopeless condition since he was stricken on Tuesday night, not having spoken to or recognized any one. Mr. Nye's brother, prominent attorney of Minneapolis, Minn., arrived about three hours after his brother's death. His daughters arrived from Washington city, and were at the bedside until the end.

**Now in Open Revolt.**  
Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth are at New York in a published statement saying that under no conditions whatever can they accept further proposals from London not enter again under the authority or government of Salvation Army international headquarters in England. This is looked upon by the faithful as open rebellion. It is, however, greeted with quiet approval by all who have yet spoken upon the subject.

### BREVITIES.

While unloading logs at Indianapolis, Ind., Henry Stevenson, foreman of the Adams Stave Works, was instantly killed by a log rolling on him.

E. R. Campbell, ex-clerk of the United States District Court, was shot and killed by his son, Robert Campbell, in Nashville, Tenn. Young Campbell has been regarded as mentally unsound for some time.

A report is current that twelve or fifteen Buffalo men were lost on the ice outside the harbor during Wednesday night's storm. They went out to fish through the ice and were blinded by the squall that arose.

Cochman Bernard Mackell, formerly employed by Henry G. Hilton Jr., and his wife, Sylvia Gerrish Hilton, of New York, has brought suit against the latter to recover \$300 promised him for interposing when her husband attacked her.

At Gurley, Ala., Dick Childress, a notorious desperado, was shot and killed by Policeman Dick Irwin. Childress was sentenced to the State penitentiary for six years about eight years ago. He was charged with complicity in burning the jail at Gurley, cremating two men.

Samuel Clary, aged 88, died at Flemingsburg, N. Y. Clary had in his possession the hat which he had worn in the log cabin campaign of 1810, when Gen. W. H. Harrison was elected President. Mr. Clary's friends, in compliance with his dying request, will send the hat to Mrs. Dimmick on her marriage to ex-President Harrison.

A passenger train on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad ran into a buggy containing Richard Steele and his brother, John Steele, near Winchester, Kan. The vehicle was demolished and both men were instantly killed. They were among the most prominent farmers in Central Kentucky and were connected with the best families. Both were married men and leave families.

Mrs. Nannie Field, wife of Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant, died Sunday morning at her villa in New Alpes Maritimes, France. Mr. Field received a dispatch Saturday night stating that Mrs. Field was very low with peritonitis, but at the time was inclined to think that his wife's condition had been exaggerated. A second dispatch received Sunday afternoon announced her death.

For the first time since Sept. 7, 1895, the gold reserve Friday passed the \$100,000,000 point, the exact figures being \$105,692,843. After deducting Thursday's withdrawals the true amount will be approximately \$104,000,000. The total amount of gold so far received and reported on account of bond purchases is \$65,000,000.

A bank at McLeath, Kan., was entered and the safe blown open, the robbers securing \$3,500 in cash. The burglars then stole a team and drove to Lawrence, where they bought tickets for an east-bound train.

## CURE FOR PHthisis.

### “ASEPTOLIN” SAID TO BE A CERTAIN REMEDY.

**Dr. Edson Discovers a Beneficent Form of Carbolic Acid It Kills Germs, but Does Not Harm the Human Tissues.**

### Encouraging Number of Recoveries.

Dr. Cyrus Edson, ex-commissioner of health for the city and county of New York, announces that he has discovered a remedy for consumption. Already, he declares, many victims of the dread disease have been cured by it. In the last issue of the Medical Record, under the caption “A Rational Treatment for Phthisis Pulmonalis. Together With Some Notes on a New Remedial Solution,” the doctor gives a description of his discovery. The name of the new remedy is “Aseptolin.” It is a beneficent form of the ordinarily dangerous carbolic acid and is injected under the skin, by which operation it finds its way into the blood and to the seat of disease. Upon authority of Prof. Henry A. Mott, aseptolin is composed as follows:

Water ..... 97.211 per cent  
Phenol ..... 2.740 per cent  
Pilocarpin-phenylhydroxide ..... 0.048 per cent

In order to understand Dr. Edson's discovery it is necessary to remember that Pasteur and Koch discovered and established the fact that germ diseases had as their ultimate cause the presence in the body of minute organisms, called germs, microbes and the like. It was not long, however, before these germs were cultivated, as it was called.

Having these cultivated colonies, scientific men made many experiments. They found disinfectants would kill these germs. They found, for example, that if a mixture of one part phenol or carbolic acid to three thousand parts of water were heated over a colony of germs and left

### CROP REPORTS.

#### “Farmers' Review” Correspondents Tell About Wheat and Rye.

Reports have been received from the Farmers' Review correspondents in ten States on the condition of winter wheat and winter rye.

In Illinois the condition is at present about fair, though presenting a great variety of developments. In the counties that report a low condition, the present state has been brought about by a dry fall and late seeding. In Indiana the growth has been fair, but there has been some damage by freezing and thawing. Ohio reports indicate the general condition as fair to poor, a great deal of the wheat not having made a fair growth by reason of a dry fall. Some of the seed sown did not come up at all. In Michigan the crop is in better condition, and has been covered with snow nearly all winter, though the plants generally made little growth in the fall. The condition in Kentucky is hardly fair at present and in some counties is very poor. Missouri reports that in a good many counties the plant is yet very small. It seems, however, to be healthy, and to have been injured little as yet by freezing and freezing. In Kansas the present outlook for wheat is good. Some localities report freezing and thawing of the crop, and there may be some little loss on this account. Nebraska reports a general average of fair, though in some counties the outlook is very poor. In Iowa the crop is very uneven, and the reports vary all the way from very fair to very good. Wisconsin reports indicate that the general condition for the State is low. Some counties report good, but in many the plant is in bad shape. Some counties have a good yield, while others have a poor yield.

Winter rye is in fair to good condition in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, poor in Kentucky, fair to good in Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin. In most of the States the plant is small, on account of dry weather in the fall.

### SLAIN BY DYNAMITE.

#### Explosion Lays Part of Johannesburg in Ruins.

An explosion of dynamite has occurred at Viendendorp and the poor quarter of Johannesburg, Transvaal, has been blown to pieces. The windows of every house in the city were broken by the force of the explosion. The scene of the explosion is the old town and is fortunate at a distance from the main business and residential portion of the city. It was inhabited largely by Kaffirs, the dwellings being of an inferior order for the most part.

The explosion caused much excitement at first because of the recent disturbances in the Transvaal and the fear that it might have been due to a political coup. There was therefore a general turning out of the guards to see that no violence followed the wreck. The cause was soon learned and the excitement subsided in a measure. It rose again when the fearful nature of the catastrophe became known. The portion of the city demolished was thickly populated, although there were comparatively few white people living there. The dynamite which caused the catastrophe filled eight trucks, which were being shunted. The explosion caused an immense hole thirty feet deep. Every house within a radius of half a mile of the explosion was razed to the ground. Forty dead, nearly all terribly mutilated, have been taken from ruins. Two hundred of the most severely injured were admitted to the hospital, where several died.

### THE BROWN SNOW.

#### Chief of the Weather Bureau Explains the Phenomenon.

Amateur microscopists wiped the dust from their lenses and proceeded to study the snow which spread a slate-colored mantle over the Northwest Tuesday night.

After long gazing and much figuring various opinions were reached. Each opinion had a public following until Prof. Willis L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau, sent a dispatch from Washington presenting his view of what spoiled the snow. Then the audiences of the amateur observers grew smaller. Prof. Moore said:

“The black snow that has fallen lately in Chicago and the Northwest is entirely similar to the great fall of January, 1895, the nature of which was thoroughly investigated by the weather bureau at that time. Microscopic examination proved that the black deposit contained organic structures—such as diatoms and spores—and about 6 per cent of the finest possible inorganic matter, such as make up the ordinary fine silt and clay soils. This fine material is easily caught up by the winds whenever they exceed twenty miles an hour. It may be carried great distances, and it is readily brought down by snow or rain. Large portions of the country from Nebraska southward are covered by this fine soil. A gale of wind has been known to carry away six inches of this fine soil and deposit it at a distance of 100 miles.”

**Tuberculosis—Consumption—is a Germ Disease, being caused by what are called tubercle bacilli.**

Dr. Edson discovered aseptolin in September, 1895. To date, according to the doctor's statement, 217 persons having consumption have been treated with it. Of these, four showed no improvement, and of the four one died. The rest, 213, showed improvement. Of these, twenty-three have been discharged cured, sixty-seven will, in the opinion of the physicians having the cases, be discharged cured, making ninety in all. In ninety-one cases the patients have been under treatment for too short a time to enable the attending physicians to say anything except, “The patients are better.” In thirty-two cases the improvement was only temporary, but this record means about 40 per cent of cures, and these cases have been those of patients with the disease in all stages.

As the result of Secretary Chamberlain's representations, Messrs. Phillips, Farmer and Fitzpatrick and Col. Rhodes have been released on bail at Johannesburg by the Transvaal authorities.

It is stated that a movement is under way by large stockholders in the United States wall paper trust to dissolve that corporation because of its failure to pass any dividends since last April on \$8,000,000 of preferred stock.

The total amount received and for-

warded to Turkey for relief work thus far by Frank H. Wiggin, assistant treasurer of the American board, is \$70,022.89.

After having been aground off Fire Island for nearly a week the Wilson Line steamer Ontario has been floated.

Admiral McLintock, in a London inter-

view, said he could not believe Dr. Nan-

field, the Chicago merchant, died Sun-

day morning at her villa in New Alpes

Maritimes, France. Mr. Field received a

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## BETRAYED BY A GIRL.

### A YOUNG MISSOURI COUNTERFEITER CAUGHT.

#### Gave His Sweetheart Spurious Coin to Pass, and She Was Arrested—Internal Machine Found in Cuba's Capital—Fields' Bloody Deed.

##### Sweetheart Betrayed Him.

John W. Smith, a young farmer of Princeton, Mo., is under arrest at St. Joseph on charges of counterfeiting. Mrs. Lura Lemon, a sweetheart of Smith's, informed the officers. She claims Smith offered her counterfeit dollars to pass on merchants, and she was arrested and placed in jail. She wrote letters to John and Abe Brumfield, of Princeton, threatening to expose them as members of the same gang of counterfeiters if they did not secure bond for her release. They easily secured the bond. Meantime the Federal officers got possession of the letters and other evidence against the Brumfields. They have not yet been arrested. A large amount of counterfeit coin was found at Smith's house.

##### Revolt in the Army.

Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth have been forced to relinquish their command of the Salvation army. That they kindly fed their disposition is evidenced by a manifesto issued by them at New York Friday, in which words of strong rebuke are addressed to Herbert Booth, to whom they were compelled to surrender their logs and address. It is possible that this sold in action will lead to a secession of the American army from the parent English body. By the general pulse the manifesto will be construed as indicating relations in the Booth family, which have heretofore been entirely unbroken. It has been indicated that Commander Herbert Booth is anxious to succeed Ballington Booth in this country, but after this statement of the manner in which he treated his brother, many members of the Salvation army would find it difficult to yield to him that loving and loyal obedience which the best interests of the army demand.

##### Confessed the Murder.

All within sixteen hours Alfred Fields committed one of the most brutal murders in Chicago police history, was arrested and confessed to the commission of a crime at which the most depraved of human beings must shudder. Mrs. Ellen Randolph was found slaughtered in her bed in the flat at 2458 Dearborn street Thursday, just before noon. There were fourteen distinct wounds about her head and body, made by the blunt end of a hatchet, and the bed and other bloody evidences of the crime to have been set fire by the murderer. Fields confesses he murdered the woman to secure \$75 which she had, but says he was hired by Ed McIntosh, who is under arrest.

##### Bomb in Havana.

It would appear that the long-anticipated demonstrations of the insurgents inside of Havana are commencing. Thursday night an infernal machine was found near the Aguila de Oro cigar factory. The police are trying to find the authors of the attempted outrage. The autonome Mayor of Managua and his brother, who recently joined the insurgents, have been captured by the Spanish authorities. They will be tried on the charge of treason. According to a dispatch received at Madrid from Havana, Antonio Maceo attacked James, burned several houses by fire. The incidents in which he is accused are to be tried on the charge of treason.

##### Fitz Wins in One Round.

The big prize fight was fought despite the efforts of two countries to prevent it. It was a fizzle at the best, and was pulled off near Langtry, just over the Texas border. Peter Maher's championship aspirations expired in ten seconds after Bob Fitzsimmons landed a right cross on the big Irishman's jaw. The blow came after one minute and thirty-five seconds of actual fighting. It put a quietus on Peter Maher, it gave Fitzsimmons a chance to chuckle over a second-hand title, and it opened up the floodgates of Jim Corbett's wrath to see the title which once crowned his brow resting on the little pile-head of his hated Australian rival, earned with hardly an effort.

##### NEWS NUGGETS.

Ex-Gov. George D. Robinson is suffering with apoplexy at his home in Chicopee, Mass., and his condition is critical.

All the powers have recognized Prince Ferdinand as ruler over Bulgaria in accordance with the request of the Sultan.

Charles H. Rose, of Chicago, ex-sashier of the Burlington (Iowa) National Bank, is on trial at Fort Scott, Kan., charged with embezzling \$75,000 of the bank's funds.

Pioneer William Scott, of Delphos, Ohio, reached his one hundredth birthday. Although physically unable to move about, his mind is as active as ever. He claims to be the only original Jackson Democrat living.

Theodore Durrant, the condemned San Francisco murderer, was not executed Friday, owing to an additional respite of twenty days granted on the 12th inst., in order to permit the prisoner's attorneys to prepare their bill of exceptions. This will delay the consummation of the sentence pronounced by Judge Murphy until the early part of March, and the prisoner will probably spend the whole or the greater portion of the interval in San Quentin penitentiary, where he is at present confined.

Unmindful of the fact that nearly all of the products of Uruguay are permitted entry into the United States free of duty, the Government of that country has seen fit to impose duties ranging from 2 to 25 per cent, on agricultural and other machinery and on a list of essential American products which have heretofore been on the free list.

The German residents of Montevideo, Uruguay, have taken steps to raise a fund with which to purchase a warship, to be presented to the Emperor of Germany.

An appeal to the Germans of Argentina to join in the undertaking has been issued.

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