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THE MIRROR

"OH, WAD SOME POWER THE GIFTIE GIE US, TAE SEE OORSELS AS ITHERS SEE US."

VOL. IV. NO. 49. $1 per Annum. OMEMEE, ONT., THURSDAY, NOV. 25, 1897. CHAS. W. RICHARDS, Publisher & Prop.

"I SHALL SHINE AS THE STARS."

THE PERSONAL REWARD PROMISED CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

The Sublimely Overwhelming Significance of the Text Preached From on Sunday Morning by Rev. Dr. Talmage — A Good Example.

On Sunday morning Dr. Talmage's text was Daniel xii. 3, "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever."

Every man has a thousand roots and a thousand branches. His roots reach down through all the earth. His branches spread through all the heavens. He speaks with voice, with eye, with hand, with foot. His silence often is loud as thunder and his life is a dirge or a doxology. There is no such thing as negative influence. We are all positive in the place we occupy, making the world better or making it worse, on the Lord's side or on the devil's making up reasons for our blessedness or banishment, and we have already done work in peopling heaven or hell. I hear people tell of what they are going to do. A man who has burned down a city might as well talk of some evil that he expects to do, or a man who has saved an empire might as well talk of some good that he expects to do. By the force of your evil influence you have already consumed infinite values, or you have by the power of a right influence won whole kingdoms for God.

It would be absurd for me, by elaborate argument, to prove that the world is off the track. You might as well stand at the foot of an embankment, amid the wreck of a capsized rail train, proving by elaborate argument that something is out of order. Adam tumbled over the embankment 60 centuries ago, and the whole race in one long train has gone on tumbling in the same direction. Crash, crash! The only question now is: By what leverage can the crushed thing be lifted? By what hammer may the fragments be reconstructed? I want to show you how we may turn many to righteousness, and what will be our future pay for so doing.

First, we may turn them by the charm of a right example. A child coming from a filthy home was taught at school to wash his face. It went home so much improved in appearance that its mother washed her face. And when the father of the household came home and saw the improvement in domestic appearance he washed his face. The neighbors, happening in, saw the change and tried the same experiment, until all that street was purified, and the next street copied its example, and the whole city felt the result of one schoolboy washing his face. That is a fable by which we set forth that the best way to get the world washed of its sins and pollution is to have our own heart and life cleansed and purified. A man with grace in his heart and Christian cheerfulness in his face and holy consistency in his behavior is a perpetual sermon, and the sermon differs from others in that it has but one head, and the longer it runs the better.

There are honest men who walk down Wall street, making the teeth of iniquity chatter. There are happy men who go into a sick room and by a look help the broken bone to knit and the excited nerves drop to a calm beating. There are pure men whose presence silences the tongue of uncleanness. The mightiest agent of good on earth is a consistent Christian. I like the Bible folded between lids of cloth, of calfskin or morocco, but I like it better when, in the shape of a man, it goes out into the world—a Bible illustrated. Courage is beautiful to read about, but rather would I see a man with all the world against him confident as though all the world were for him. Patience is beautiful to read about, but rather would I see a buffeted soul calmly waiting for the time of deliverance. Faith is beautiful to read about, but rather would I find a man in the midnight walking straight on as though he saw everything. Oh, how many souls have been turned to God by the charm of a bright example!

When in the Mexican war the troops were wavering a general rose in his stirrups and dashed into the enemy's lines, shouting, "Men, follow me!" They, seeing his courage and disposition, dashed on after him and gained the victory. What men went to rally them for God is an example to lead them. All your commands to others to advance amount to nothing as long as you stay behind. To affect them aright you need to start for heaven yourself, looking back only to give the stirring cry of "Men, follow!"

Again, we may turn many to righteousness by prayer. There is no such detective as prayer, for no one can hide away from it. It puts its hand on the shoulder of a man 10,000 miles off. It alights on a ship midatlantic. The little child cannot understand the law of electricity or how the telegraph operator by touching the instrument here may dart a message under the sea to another continent. Nor can we, with our small intellect, understand how thetouch of a Christian's prayer shall instantly strike a soul on the other side of the earth. You take a ship and go to some other country, and get there at 11 o'clock in the morning. You telegraph to America and the message gets here at 6 o'clock the same morning. In others words, it seems to arrive here five hours before it started. Like that is prayer. God says, "Before they call I will hear." To overtake a loved one on the road you will spur up a lathered steed until he shall outrace the one that brought the news to Ghent, but a prayer shall catch it at one gallop. A boy running away from home may take the midnight train from the country village and reach the seaport in time to gain the ship that sails on the morrow, but a mother's prayer will be on the deck to meet him, and in the hammock before he swings into it, and at the capstan, before he winds the rope around, and on the sea against the sky as the vessel plows on toward it. There is mightiness in prayer. George Muller prayed a company of poor boys together, and then he prayed up an asylum in which they might be sheltered. He turned his face toward Edinburgh and prayed and there came £1,000. He turned his face toward London and prayed, and there came £1,000. He turned his face toward Dublin and prayed, and there came £1,000. The breath of Elijah's prayer blew all the clouds off the sky, and it was dry weather. The breath of Elijah's prayer blew all the clouds together and it was wet weather. Prayer in Daniel's time walked the cave as a lion tamer. It reached up and took the sun by its golden bit and stopped it and the moon by its silver bit and stopped it.

We have all yet to try the full power of prayer. The time will come when the American church will pray with its face toward the west and all the prairies and inland cities will surrender to God, and will pray with face toward the sea, and all the islands and ships will become Christian. Parents who have wayward sons will get down on their knees and say, "Lord, send my boy home," and the boy in Canton shall get right up from the gaming table and go down to find out which ship starts for America.

No one of us yet knows how to pray. All we have done as yet has only been pottering. A boy gets hold of his father's saw and hammer and tries to make something, but it is a poor affair that he makes. The father comes and takes the same saw and hammer and builds the house or ship. In the childhood of our Christian faith we make but poor work with these weapons of prayer, but when we come to the stature of men in Christ Jesus, then, under these implements, the temple of God will rise and the world's redemption will be launched. God cares not for the length of our prayers, or the number of our prayers, or the beauty of our prayers, or the place of our prayers, but it is the faith in them that tells. Believing prayer soars higher than the lark ever sang, plunges deeper than diving bells ever sank, darts quicker than lightning ever flashed. Though we have used only the back of this weapon instead of the edge, what marvels have been wrought. If saved, we are all the captives of some earnest prayer. Would God that in desire for the rescue of souls we might in prayer lay hold of the resources of the Lord Omnipotent!

We may turn many to righteousness by Christian admonition. Do not wait until you can make a formal speech. Address the one next to you. You will not go home alone to-day. Between this and your place of stopping you may decide the eternal destiny of an immortal spirit. Just one sentence may do the work just one question, just one look. The formal talk that begins with a sigh and ends with a canting snuffle is not what is wanted, but heart throb of a man in dead earnest. There is not a soul on earth that you may not bring to God if you rightly go at it. They said Gibraltar could not be taken. It is a rock 1600 feet high and three miles long, but the English and Dutch did take it. Artillery and sappers and miners, and fleets, pouring out volleys of death, and thousands of men reckless of danger can do anything. The stoutest heart of sin, though it be rock and surrounded by an ocean of transgression under Christian bombardment may hoist the flag of redemption.

But is all this admonition and prayer and Christian work for nothing? My text promises to all the faithful eternal luster. "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the star forever." As stars the redeemed have a borrowed light. What makes Mars and Venus and Jupiter so luminous? When the sun throws down his torch in the heavens, the stars pick up the scattered brands and hold them in procession as the queen of the night advances, so all Christian workers' standing around the throne will shine in the light borrowed from the Son of Righteousness—Jesus in their faces Jesus in their songs, Jesus in their triumph.

Christ left heaven once for a tour of redemption on earth, yet the glorified ones knew he would come back again. But let Him abdicate His throne and go away forever, the music would stop, the congregation would disperse, the temples of God be darkened, the rivers of life stagnate and every chariot would become a hearse and every bell would toll, and there would not be room on the hillsides to bury the dead of the great metropolis, for there would be pestilence in heaven. But Jesus lives and so all the redeemed live with Him. He shall recognize them as His comrades in earthly toil and remember what they did for the honor of His name and for the spread of His kingdom. All their prayers and tears and work will rise before Him as He looks into their faces and He will divide His kingdom with them—His peace their peace, His holiness their holiness, His joy their joy. The glory of the central throne reflected from the surrounding thrones, the last spot of sin struck from the Christian orb, and the entire flature a-tremble and a-flash with light, they shall shine as the stars forever and ever.

Again, Christian workers shall be like the stars in the fact that they have a light independent of each other. Look up at the night and see each world show its distinct glory. It is not like the conflagration in which you cannot tell where one flame stops and another begins. Neptune, Herschel, and Mercury, are as distinct as if each one of them were the only star. So our individualism will not be lost in heaven. A great multitude, yet each one as observable, as distinctly recognized, as greatly celebrated, as if in all the space, from gate to gate, and from hill to hill, he were the only inhabitant. No mixing up, no mob, no indiscriminate rush, each Christian worker standing out illustrious, all the story of earthly achievement adhering to each one his self-denials and pains and services and victories published.

Before men went out to the last war the orators told them that they would all be remembered by their country and their names be commemorated in poetry and in song, but go to the graveyard in Richmond and you will find there six thousand graves over each one of which is the inscription, "Unknown." The world does not remember its heroes, but there will be no unrecognized Christian worker in heaven. Each one known by all; grandly known; known by acclamation; all the past story of work for God gleaming in cheek and brow and foot and palm. They shall shine with distinct light as the stars forever and ever.

Again, Christian workers shall shine like the stars in clusters. In looking up you find the worlds in family circles, Brothers and sisters — they take hold of each other's hands and dance in groups. Orion in a group. The Pleiades in a group. The solar system is only a company of children with bright faces gathered around one great fireplace. The worlds do not straggle off. They go in squadrons and fleets sailing through immensity. So Christian workers in heaven will dwell in neighborhoods and clusters.

I am sure that some people I will like in heaven a great deal better than others. Yonder is a constellation of stately Christians. They lived on earth by rigid rule. They never laughed. They walked every hour, anxious lest they should lose their dignity, but they loved God, and yonder they shine in brilliant constellation. Yes I shall not long to get into that particular group. Yonder is a constellation of small-hearted Christians—asteroids in the eternal astronomy. While other souls go up from Christian battle and blaze like Mars, these astercids dart a feeble ray like Vesta. Yonder is a constellation of martyrs, of apostles, of patriarchs. Our souls as they go up to heaven will seek out the most congenial society.

Yonder is a constellation almost merry with the play of light. On earth they were full of sympathies and songs and tears and raptures and congratulations. When they prayed, their words took fire. When they sang, the tune could not hold them. When they wept over a world's woes, they sobbed as if heart-broken. When they worked for Christ, they flamed with enthusiasm. Yonder they are,—circles of light, constellation of joy, galaxy of fire! Oh, that you and I, by that grace which can transform the worst into the best might at last sail in the wake of that fleet and wheel in that glorious group as the stars forever and ever!

Again, Christian workers will shine like the stars in swiftness of motion. The worlds do not stop to shine. There are no fixed stars save as to relative position. The star apparently most thoroughly fixed flies thousands of miles a minute. The astronomer, using his telescope for an alpenstock, leaps from world crag to world crag, and finds no star standing still. The chamois hunter has to fly to catch his prey, buy not so swift is his game as that which the scientist tries to shoot through the tower of observatory. Like petrels midatlantic that seem to come from no shore and be bound to no landing place, flying, flying, so these great flocks of worlds rest not as they go, wing for wing, age for age, forever and ever. The eagle hastens to its prey, but we shall in speed beat the eagles. You have noticed the velocity of the swift horse, under whose feet the miles slip like a smooth ribbon, and as he passes the four hoofs strike the earth in such quick beats your pulses take the same vibration. But all these things are not swift in comparison with the motion of which I speak. The moon moves fifty-four thousand miles in a day. Yonder Neptune flashes on eleven thousand miles in an hour. Yonder Mercury goes one hundred and nine thousand miles in an hour. So, like the stars, the Christian shall shine in swiftness of motion

You hear now of father or mother or child sick a thousand miles away, and it takes you two days to get to them. You hear of some case of suffering that demands your immediate attention, and it takes you an hour to get there. Oh, the joy, when you shall, in fulfilment of the text, take starry speed and be equal to 100,000 miles in an hour! Having on earth got used to Christian work, you will not quit when death strikes you. You will only take on more velocity. There is a dying child in London, and its spirit must be taken up to God. You are there in an instant to do it. There is a young man in New York to be arrested from going into that gate of sin. You are there in an instant to arrest him. Whether with spring of foot or strike of wing or by the force of some new law that shall hurl you to the spot where you would go I know not, but my text suggests velocity. All space open before you, with nothing to hinder you in mission of light and love and joy, you shall shine in swiftness of motion as the stars forever and ever.

Again, Christian workers, like the stars, shine in magnitude. The most illiterate man knows that these things in the sky, looking like gilt buttons, are great masses of matter. To weigh them one would think that it would require scales with a pillar hundreds of thousands of miles high and chains hundreds of thousands of miles long, and at the bottom of the chains basins on either side hundreds of thousands of miles wide, and that then Omnipotence could put the mountains into the scales and the hills into the balance, but puny man has been equal to the undertaking and has set a little balance on his geometry and weighed world against world. Yea, he has pulled out his measuring line and announced that Herschel is 36,000 miles in diameter, Saturn 79,000 miles in diameter and Jupiter 89,000 miles in diameter, and that the smallest pearl on the beach of heaven is immense beyond all imagination. So all they who have toiled for Christ on earth shall rise up to the magnitude of privilege and a magnitude of strength, and a magnitude of holiness and a magnitude of joy, and the weakest saint in glory become greater than all that we can imagine of an archangel.

Brethren, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." Wisdom that shall know everything, wealth that shall possess everything, glory that shall circumscribe everything! We shall not be like a taper set in a sick man's window or a bundle of sticks kindled on the beach to warm a shivering crew, but you must take the diameter and the circumference of the world if you would get any idea of the greatness of our estate when we shall shine as the stars forever and ever.

Lastly—and coming to this point my mind almost breaks down under the contemplation—like the stars, all Christian workers shall shine in duration. The same stars that looked down upon us looked down upon the Chaldean shepherds. The meteor that I saw flashing across the sky the other night, I wonder if it was not the same one that pointed down to where Jesus lay in the manger, and if, having pointed out His birthplace, it has ever since been wandering through the heavens, watching to see how the world would treat Him. When Adam awoke in the garden in the cool of the day, he saw coming out through the dusk of the evening the same worlds that greeted us last night.

In Independence Hall is an old cracked bell that sounded the signature of the Declaration of Independence. You cannot ring it now, but this great chime of silver bells that strike in the dome of night ring out with as sweet a tone as when God sung them at the creation. Look up at night, and know that the white lilies that bloom in all the hanging gardens of our King are century plants, not blooming once in 100 years, but through all the centuries. The star at which the mariner looks to-night was the light by which the ships of Tarshish were guided across the Mediterranean and the Venetian flotilla found its way into Lepanto. Their armor is as bright to-night as when in ancient battle the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

To the ancients the stars were symbols of eternity, but here the figure of my text breaks down, not in defeat, but in the majesties of the judgment. The stars shall not shine forever. The Bible says they shall fall like autumnal leaves. As when the connecting factory band slips at nightfall from the main wheel all the smaller wheels slacken their speed, and with slower and slower motion they turn until they come to a fullstop, so the great machinery of the universe wheel within wheel, making revolution of appalling speed, shall by the touch of God's hand slip the band of present law and slacken and stop. That is what will be the matter with the mountains. The chariots in which they ride shall halt so suddenly that the lights shall be thrown out. Star after star shall be carried out to burial amid funeral torches of burning worlds. Constellations shall throw ashes on their heads, and all up and down the highways of space there shall be mourning, mourning, mourning, because the worlds are dead. But the Christian workers shall never quit their thrones. They shall reign forever and ever.

FIGHTING ON THE HILLS.

Gen. Kempster Harassed by the Indian Tribesmen.

A despatch from Simla says:—Details from the Maidan valley show that the loss of General Kempster's brigade is quite serious. The force consisted of the Dorsetshire Regiment and regiments of Sikhs and Goorkhas. The insurgent tribesmen made their usual attack upon the rear guard, but were brilliantly repulsed by the Sikhs. The Dorsetshires lost their way in the darkness, and were cut off by the enemy. Lieutenants Hales and Crook and nine men were killed. The rest of the Dorsetshires attached themselves to the Sikhs, and arrived in camp in safety. Lieut. Wylie, of the Goorkhas and Lieut. Warne, of the Sikhs, and fourteen Sikhs and Goorkhas were killed. Colonel Abbott, Captain Cunstance and Lieut. Munn were wounded, and 28 Sikhs and Goorkhas were wounded. This shows that 58 men were placed hors de combat in this affair, namely, 27 officers and men killed, and 31 officers and men wounded.

Two companies of Sikhs holding the spur of the hill, were so fiercely assaulted that they had to call for reinforcements. Col. Haughton, with the remainder of the Sikh regiment, rushed to their support. The whole force withdrew gradually, fighting every step to the valley. Dusk had now set in and the enemy was crowding the British on all sides. Col. Haughton determined to camp for the night, and sent five companies to storm a couple of blockhouses. The Sikhs drove out the enemy at the point of the bayonet. Six were killed and many wounded during this charge. The wounded were then brought in under the enemy's unceasing fire, and the force finally reached headquarters the next morning without further casualties.

A despatch to the London Times from Maidan says:—"During the afternoon's fighting on Monday the Sikhs were most seriously pressed on the northern side of the ridge by a large body of Afridis. Hard and close fighting ensued in the thick woods. The Sikhs defended themselves with splendid gallantry, and in one bayonet charge killed and wounded fully sixty of the enemy. Their commander, Col. Abbot, was painfully wounded in the neck and face, and Captain Warne was shot through the heart."

THE PRECIOUS INNOCENT.

He—Do you think there is really any danger in kissing?

She—Wait till I go to the stairs and listen to find out whether papa is asleep or not.

WHAT MADE HIM LATE.

School Teacher, severely—You are half an hour late this morning.

Little Boy, who was kept in the day before—Yes'm. It was late yeste'day, when I got home.

FROM EXPERIENCE.

Laura—I've learned one thing since I got a wheel.

Bessie—What's that?

Laura—That beauty isb only skin deep.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

Archbishop Laugevin's health is slowly improving.

There is talk of the erection of a new $50,000 opera house at Braniford by a syndicate.

The Dominion Bank statement for October shows a remarkable jump in the circulation of the banks.

Mr. Wm. Miller, a Napanee hunter, was lost in the woods near Plevna for four days without food.

The C. P. R. has reduced passenger rates one cent a mile on a number of its western branch lines.

The Canadian Pacific railway is now arranging a series of special excursions to the Klondyke for the coming spring.

It is estimated that the amount of wheat delivered by western farmers since September 1 to date is 17,000,000 bushels.

The grading on the Crow's Nest Railway is at present finished to Crow's Nest Lake, a distance of 72 miles from MacLeod.

Thomas Davidson, messenger in the Bank d'Hochelaga at Winnipeg, committed suicide by shooting in the rooms over the bank.

Ottawa wants to be the metropolitan Anglican See of Canada, instead of Prince Rupert's Land, which at present holds the honour.

Mr. George Goodwin, of Ottawa, the chief financial backer of the roller boat, says the machine will not be given another trial this year.

Twenty thousand dollars in gold arrived at the Customs Department in Ottawa on Monday as duties collected on miners' outfits at the port of Lake Tagish.

A party of four Englishmen, under the command of Captain E. H. Bernard, of the Indian Staff Corps, a nephew of the Baroness Macdonald, left Montreal, on Thursday night for the Klondyke.

The Department of the Interior has received a report from Major Walsh, dated at Skaguay. He states that he has got all his supplies over the pass and is now on the way to Selkirk.

Mr. W. A. Grenier, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for libelling Mr. Tarte, Minister of Public Works, was released on Thursday afternoon, having served one month of his sentence.

The arrangements for the extension of the Intercolonial railway into Montreal over the lines of the Drummond County road are now completed, and the service is expected to commence the first of December.

The Montreal Harbor Commissioners have finally accepted the plan of harbor improvements proposed by the Department of Public Works. The Government will do the work, which will cost $3,000,000.

The Chateau de Ramezay, Montreal, has obtained a valuable addition to its collection in a portrait of Gen. Wolfe, by G. Constable Alston, the only painting extant that was executed during the general's lifetime.

John Hough, 84 years of age, an inmate of the House of Providence, Dundas, wandered from the institution on Monday afternoon and his body has been found in two feet of water in the rear of Wardlaw's Woollen Mills.

Major-General Gascoigne, on Thursday held an investigation in Montreal into the dispute existing in the commissioned ranks of the Royal Scots of Canada. The Commander-in-Chief censured Lt.-Col. Strathy, A.D.C., and Major Dobetson and said if the bickering did not cease he would dismiss both officers and disband the corps.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The temperature which was high last week in the United Kingdom, suddenly dropped on Sunday, and snow has fallen in Scotland and the north of England.

Six hundred reindeer are to be collected from the United States Government herds in Alaska to take part in the expedition to be sent to the eight whalers ice-bound in the Arctic.

UNITED STATES.

It has been determined in New York to appeal to the public at large for subscriptions to a memorial for Henry George.

The first shipment of five hundred carloads of potatoes in bond, from Canada to Cuba, passed through Saratoga, N. Y., on Tuesday.

The first Scientist church in Chicago and the largest in the world of that denomination, was opened on Sunday. It has a seating capacity of two thousand.

President Fetterolf, of Girard College, Philadelphia, has issued an edict against football, and henceforth the students of that institution must keep off the grid-iron.

Fred. R. Ketcham, of Chicago, was given a judgment of $21,666 in his suit there against the North-western Railroad for $25,000 damages. He was blacklisted while a conductor for that road.

Dr. Nansen, who lectured in Milwaukee, Wis., on Thursday night, denied that any arrangements were being made for another voyage to the North Pole. In fact, he was not at all certain that he would try again.

It is stated that the reason Mr. Sovereign resigned from the office of Grand Master Workman of the Knights of Labour was that he might have free hands to run for President of the United States at the close of Mr. McKinley's term.

The Knights of Labour, at their assembly in Louisville, Ky., have passed a strong resolution condemning the proposed Anglo-American arbitration treaty, simply because England is a gold-coining country, and a majority of the Knights of Labour are silver men.

According to reports from New York, the general trade conditions show no marked variation. In some lines there is a moderate improvement in demand, as cooler weather in some directions has helped retail trade to a noticeable extent. Better prices have prevailed in wheat, oats, corn, hides and leather, syrup, turpentine, etc. The consumption of iron and steel is increasing so rapidly that an advance in prices is probable. Railway earnings for the third quarter of the year lead us to anticipate fairly satisfactory net returns, and the reports of a large proportion of the railway companies in the United States point to a more satisfactory general result. The commercial failures in the United States for the week just ended amount to two hundred and thirty-five, as compared with three hundred and eight in the corresponding week a year ago.

GENERAL.

Heavy rains have caused floods in the south of France.

Elaborate preparations are being made for Dr. Nansen's next expedition in quest of the North Pole.

A bill has been introduced into the New Zealand Parliament for reciprocal trade relations with Great Britain.

The rebellion in northern China is spreading, and fears are expressed that the insurgents will advance on Tien Tsin.

Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the famous American dentist, who aided the flight of ex-Empress Eugenie, in 1870, died in Paris on Sunday. He was seventy-five years of age.

The leak of French military secrets has not been stopped by the deportation of Captain Dreyfus, and suspicion points at Comte Esterhazy, who has demanded an investigation.

Serious tension exists between Japan and Russia, owing to the latter's efforts to control the Corean Customs, and some of the Japanese Ministers go to the extent of advising war.

A Havana special says that nearly seventy-five per cent of the four hundred thousand women, children, and non-combatants, affected by Gen. Weyler's starvation policy are dead.

It is estimated that about one thouderd homeless by the rising of the waters of the Neva, the flooding of the canals, the suburban islands and the outlying portions of the City of St. Petersburg.

It is rumored that negotiations are on foot between Austria, France, and Germany, in regard to the opportuneness of convening an international conference to secure a general agreement for the diminution or abolition of the sugar bounties.

The black soldiers of the first battalion, West India regiment, at Kingston, Jamaica, began a lively riot, but Major Buck, who was called to the scene, bravely confronted the men, reduced the majority to order and used them to overpower the rest.

GREAT FIRE IN LONDON.

CONFLAGRATION RAGED IN THE HEART OF THE CITY.

A General Alarm Sounded—Firemen Fighting the Flames for Hours — Acres of Property Swept Away — Fifty Large Warehouses and Many Smaller Premises Destroyed.

A London, Eng., despatch says:—One of the most disastrous fires in London's history since the great fire of 1666, broke out in a large block of buildings lying eastward of Aldersgate street, and between that thoroughfare and Red Cross street, just after one o'clock on Friday afternoon. The flames were fanned by a strong wind, and were fed by highly inflammable stocks of fancy goods, and flimsy dress materials of all descriptions, crowding every floor of six-storey buildings in the old streets, in view of the coming Christmas trade. Consequently the conflagration gained headway with surprising rapidity and was soon far beyond any possibility of being checked by the few engines early on the spot. For four hours and a half the flames had their own way, and it was only after more than a hundred engines had worked an hour that the chief of the fire brigade sent out the signal that the fire was under control. This was at 5.45 p.m. When the good news became known nearly 50 warehouses and a dozen or more minor structures had either vanished or remained only in blackened walls, a chaos of fallen girders, and smoking piles of bricks and stone.

SCENE OF THE OUTBREAK.

Hamsell street was the scene of the outbreak of the fire, which was due to an explosion in connection with a gas engine on the premises of Wallis, Brown & Company, mantle manufacturers, at No. 30 on that thoroughfare. Their large factory was crowded with girls when the fire broke out, and instantly became the scene of a panic, the frightened operatives, with many screams, rushing to the roof of the building, then recrossing to other buildings, and so effecting their escape, while the flames were pouring out of the basement. In less than a quarter of an hour the flames had enveloped the adjoining warehouses, and thence they leaped across the street to an enormous paper warehouse, which was fully alight in less than ten minutes.

This time it was evident to the firemen that they were face to face with a great disaster, and a general alarm was sent out. Then from all the fire stations, even from those quite five miles from the scene of the disaster, engines were hurrying to the spot, and the police gathered about the neighbourhood in great force. This display of strength upon the part of the police was required, as the crowd, swelling in size every moment, soon numbered tens of thousands, and the firemen required every possible freedom of action, as their fight was one of great difficulty owing to the narrowness of the

OLD CROOKED STREETS.

which are the feature of that part of London, combined with the height of the warehouses, which cut off the firemen from all fair chance of confining the outbreak. Firemen had repeatedly to be rescued by the comrades by the aid of the fire escapes from buildings which had caught fire after the firemen had mounted to their roofs to fight the flames in adjoining structures.

The rescue of operatives by the firemen, the hurrying of hosts of clerks who were trying to save books and valuable papers from the fire, and the rushing here and there of many employes who were attempting to carry to places of safety costly merchandise or other valuables, added to the confusion. Then, again, the heat was so terrific that several firemen were obliged to direct their operations under showers of water slowly poured upon them. But in spite of the exertions of the firemen the fire crept on very steadily, until Nichols square, which is situated at the far end of Hamsell street, was reached. At a little after 2 o'clock a dozen hose pipes with a 42-foot spread poured water into the blaze from an opposite roof from the street below, and from the burning premises themselves, but it did not seem to have any effect. The water rushed out of the windows and from the ground floor like a waterfall, while the flames leaped higher and higher, and as the floors fell in, the place still blazed, a gigantic display of fire and smoke, till the spot was completely gutted and the walls heeled over.

EXPLOSION OF GAS METERS.

Suddenly there was an explosion of gas meters, sounding like the reports of fieldguns, followed by a momentary hush. After that the wild rushing here and there was resumed with increased energy. Men risked their lives in desperate efforts to save valuables. One man actually hazarded his life to fetch his hat and cane. 200 feet of stone, work and glass falling as he emerged from the building. Several firemen were almost buried in the ruins as front after front of the flaming warehouses collapsed, hurling tons of bricks and masonry into the streets bursting and cutting the firehose in all directions, while tons of fiery matter, resembling meteors, were falling in every direction, making it impossible to foresee where the conflagration would stop.

FOUR BLAZING STREETS.

By dusk four streets were blazing on both sides. There was no abatement of the furious blaze before 5.30 p.m. Then the check came in Jewin street, by a tremendous use of water, and in Well street, where the collapse of a wall on the right hand side of that thoroughfare was the means of saving the last building in the street. The width of Red Cross street, a comparatively broad thoroughfare, also formed a barrier there, and Commander Wells was able to breathe without anxiety, knowing that he had the upper hand of one of the greatest fires on record. Two acres of buildings had been ruined.

NOT DIVIDED BY DEATH.

Twin Daughters Killed by Coal Gas Fumes — Sad Fatality.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Ada and Lily Cross, twin daughters of Mr. Christopher Cross, painter and decorator, 676 Gerrard St. east, were found dead in bed at an early hour on Wednesday morning. Death was due to the fumes of coal gas, and several other members of the family came within an ace of losing their lives.

The family retired at about half-past ten on Tuesday night. The girls, who were within one month of being sixteen years old, slept in a room above the dining room, through which runs the pipe of a fair-sized self-feeder. Mr. Cross made up the fire before retiring. At about two o'clock he looked into the room occupied by the girls, and saw that they were sleeping soundly.

At that time he did not notice any odor of coal gas. About six o'clock he was awakened by a sensation of choking. He got out of bed, and staggered from the room, which was full of gas, to that occupied by the girls. One glance was enough to show him that both were dead.

The rest of the household were quickly aroused, and the windows were all thrown open to allow the gas to escape. Drs. Rowan and Sneath were called in. After an examination they stated that the young girls must have been dead for two hours or more. Coroner Greig was notified but after viewing the bodies and hearing the circumstances of the case, he decided that an inquest was unnecessary. Mrs. Cross is very ill through the effects of the poisoning gas and the sad death of her daughters.

The two girls were well known and respected in the neighborhood, and were popular with the pupils and teachers of Bolton avenue Public school, which they attended.

Landlady—"After the dinner we will have games in the drawing-room." Old boarder, carving—"That's right! I don't believe in all work and no pla