SHOT HIS TWO CHILDREN

Awful Act of Young Butter Maker in Quebec Village.

A despatch from Montreal says: A terrible tragedy occurred on Tuesday at the small village of St. Charles, three miles from Hudson Heights, on the Ottawa River, about 30 miles from Montreal. William Simpson, a young dairyman, shot his two children dead and then attempted to take his own life. He is now in the Notre Dame Hospital, this city, in a serious condition.

Tuesday morning Mrs. Simpson, on coming in to the house, was met by her husband waving a revolver and threatening to take her life. The woman immediately fled to the home of her husband's father, Mr. Adicks Simpson, who lived nearby, and told of what had happened. The father hurried at once to his son's residence. When he reached there he found his son lying on the floor, with a revolver in his hand. There were two wounds from bullets, one in the chest and the other in the jaw, and in an inner room were found the bodies of Simpson's two children, one aged 2 years and 2 months, a girl, and the other 2 months, a boy, both of whom had been shot and killed.

It was at first thought that the murderer was dying, his wounds were so desperate, but he afterwards rallied, and Wednesday was in a condition to be taken into Montreal and brought to Notre Dame Hospital. So far, in spite of all efforts to get him to give an explanation of his conduct, he has persistently refused to give any reason for his awful deed. It is generally thought that the murder was the result of a sudden attack of insanity. There is no other assignable motive.

Simpson was a prosperous butter-maker, and lived very happily with his wife, and to whom he had been married only three years. They were both very young, he being only 24 and she 22. Simpson had never shown any signs of insanity, but had been generally regarded as an intelligent and well conducted young man. Simpson is in a serious condition.

A TREE'S FOOD.

Made by Tree Itself with Aid of Light—Practical Bearings of this Fact on the Work of the Forester.

Plants have to manufacture their own food; animals, on the other hand, depend on plants for their food; for, although a wolf may eat a sheep, yet the sheep fed on grass, and so the wolf indirectly depends on the grass for its food. This food is made by the plant from water, taken from the soil by the roots, and carbonic acid gas, or carbon dioxide, absorbed from the air by the leaves; these two substances are combined in the leaves into a substance known to chemists as a sugar, though not much like the sugar we ordinarily know as such.

Every plant, from the tallest tree down to the smallest of the algae, such as form the scum on standing water, has this power (except a few plants, such as the fungi, which feed on other plants). In some cases—in very tall trees, for example—there are considerable difficulties to be overcome in raising the water to the leaves, in order that the food may be formed there.

When the under surface of a leaf is examined with a microscope, one finds there certain very small openings from the outside into the interior of the leaf, these are known as "stomata." Through these openings, and thence into the interior of the leaf, air is continually passing, and this air contains a certain amount of carbonic acid gas (carbon dioxide). In the interior of the leaf, inside the cells of which it is composed, are a number of little bodies called "chloroplasts." These take the water from the roots and the carbon dioxide, and combine them to form this "sugar;" and from the leaf the "sugar" is distributed again to the different parts of the plant.

But these chloroplasts work only while it is day. When darkness comes on, they cease work, resuming only when light returns. So the plant must have light in order to form its food.

To the forester it is this last fact which is so important, namely, that the tree must have a good supply of light in order to make its food. If the needed light is cut off from one part, the tree will do its best to reach out in some other direction and get the light in that quarter.

In any thick forest, whether large or small, trees naturally tend to crowd each other. One of the forester's duties is to regulate this crowding, and see that each tree, as far as possible, gets the amount of light it needs. It is to this end that "thinnings," which form so important a part of intensive forest management, are made.

Moreover the forester knows that by close planting he can eventually cut off the light from the lower parts of the trees, thus forcing the trees to grow upward in order to secure the light; and thus he will obtain tall, straight stems, while the lower branches, having their light cut off, will die and finally fall off. The tree will grow out around the stub that is left, and, after that is accomplished, will begin to make the clear timber that is so much valued.

EATEN BY CATS.

Well-Known Resident of Vancouver Found Dead on the Floor.

A despatch from Vancouver, B.C. says: Herbert Lobley, a well-known resident of Central Park, was found dead on the floor of his house, on Wednesday, with his face and hands eaten off by cats. He had not been seen for a week. His brother went to the house and found his dead body on the floor, with three cats in the same room.

FOUND DEAD ON THE PRAIRIE.

Saskatchewan Man, Missing Since Christmas Eaten by Wolves.

A despatch from Saskatoon, Sask., says: The body of James Hosler has been found on the prairie, 35 miles from here. He had been missing since Christmas Day. Wolves had eaten away part of the face and the upper part of the body. Hosler was 50 years of age and left a widow and family in Manitoba.

MAY IMPORT MINERS.

Dominion Coal Company Making Contract With C. P. R.

A despatch from Sydney, N.S., says: It is understood that the Dominion Coal Company have completed or are entering upon a contract with the C. P. R. for the importation of labor from the United Kingdom. The Coal Company are to pay a stated sum per capita for the labor brought out and landed in Glace Bay. The immigrants are to be of a superior class and adapted for the company's work in Cape Breton. The first batch will probably arrive shortly. Although negotiations to this end have been going on for some considerable time, and long before the trouble now pending was thought of, it is believed that this contract will have a determining influence upon the settlement of the labor problem now looming up at the mines.

NO RAILROAD STRIKE.

Difficulties on the Western Lines Finally Adjusted.

A despatch from Chicago says: The differences between the western railroads and the members of the Order of Conductors and of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen were finally adjusted on Thursday. The men conceded their demand for a nine-hour workday, and the railroads promised an advance over their previous proposal as to the pay of baggagemen, flagmen and brakemen of $3.50 a month. The original demands of the men were for an increase of 12 per cent. and for a nine-hour working day. The managers offered an increase of 6 per 10 per cent., but declined to grant the nine-hour day. The agreement was reached, mainly through the efforts of Chairman Knapp of the Interstate Commerce Commission and Commissioner O'Neill of the United States Bureau of Labor.

TO CUT SLICE FROM ONTARIO.

Movement Inaugurated to Form a New Province.

A despatch from Fort Frances, Ont., says: A big mass meeting of both political parties was held at Emo on Wednesday evening to initiate the movement in New Ontario for secession from the old province with the object of forming a new one, embracing the Algoma, Nipissing, Thunder Bay, and Rainy River districts. After a number of speeches had been made by the reeves of the several municipalities and other leading citizens of both parties a strong resolution, moved by Dr. F. H. Bethune, secretary of the District Conservative Association, and seconded by W. I. Price, a leading Liberal of Burriss, endorsing the movement, was carried by a standing vote. A strong committee was also appointed to confer with the other districts.

TERROR AT SHANGHAI.

English-Speaking Residents of the District in Danger.

A despatch from Vancouver, B. C., says: Advices received by the Oriental liner Empress of Japan, are to the effect that the English-speaking residents of Shanghai district are in terror. Pirates and desperadoes are masters of the situation. One despatch describes that section of China as a "seething hell." A missionary in a letter tells of livers having been cut out of dead bodies and eaten.

TIMBER LOST HIS LIFE.

Was Burned to Death in Fire in an Oil House.

A despatch from Vermilion, Alta., says: George Walker, an engine wiper, lost his life and a companion was seriously injured, in a fire which destroyed the C. N. R. oil-house at this point on Tuesday night. The origin of the fire cannot be learned at present. An inquest will probably be held.

COVERED WITH CORPSES

The Roads of Moldavia Are Strewn With Dead Bodies.

The London Times' correspondent at Bucharest sends the following:—Tranquillity has been restored in most of the revolted districts. Disturbances, however, are reported from the Jalomak district, hitherto quiet; also from the Oltenic district. Troops from Moldavia have arrived in the Mehedinintzi department, where the devastation has been widespread. The village of Operishoru has been bombarded.

Rabbi Moses Gaster states that his private advices indicate that the horrors of the Roumanian insurrection far exceed the accounts given in the press despatches. The newspaper correspondents, he says, have not been allowed to go out and see for themselves, but have been forced to put up with the official accounts. "I have just received a letter," said Rabbi Gaster, "from a person who witnessed a conflict between the peasants and the troops in one of the Wallachian townships. He writes me that the roads were covered with the corpses of peasants shot down by the soldiers by means of artillery as well as with rifles. The condition of portions of Wallachia must be terrible. The cheerful optimism of the authorities does not count much to me."

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

Telegraphic Briefs From Our Own and Other Countries of Recent Events.

CANADA.

Brantford's tax rate is 21 mills on the dollar.

Galt's tax rate may be 23½ mills this year.

Hamilton will spend $62,000 on the waterworks.

Fire insurance in Winnipeg will go up one per cent.

The civic power plant of Winnipeg will cost $3,000,000.

Tickets for a lottery in Ireland are being circulated in Toronto.

The Hamilton street railway are buying second-hand cars.

The population of Montreal is officially declared to be 350,000.

Winnipeg fire insurance rates are to be increased one per cent. all round.

The first seeding in the Northwest is reported from Portage plains.

The C.P.R. will place two extra steamers on the upper lakes this season.

The Gananoque Inn, a summer hotel, was destroyed by fire on Friday. Loss, $90,000.

Lord Aylmer, Inspector-General of the Canadian Militia, has been retired by order in Council.

The painters and paperhangers of Hamilton are demanding a wage of 40 cents per hour.

Coal miners at Springhill Mines, N.S., have gone out on strike, owing to differences with the non-union miners.

Brakeman Fyole, of Winnipeg, had his foot caught in a frog at Emerson, Man., and was killed by a C.P.R. train.

The Chatham Board of Education unanimously decided in favor of abolishing entrance examinations to collegiate institutes.

Miss Campbell, who saved the children of her class in the Hochelaga fire, will be presented with a gold medal at Argenteuil.

A contract has been given by the Canadian Pacific Railway for the construction of a branch line between Peterboro' and Victoria Harbor at a cost of nearly $2,000,000.

On Friday a Brantford bartender was fined for selling liquor to two youths under age and two girls under fifteen years, who were caught drinking together in the place.

George Wood was killed in a drunken row at Edmonton on Friday, and there is evidence that Dick Hood, a jockey, committed the murder by striking Wood on the back of the head with a hatchet.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Cromer in his report issues a warning against the possibility of a pan-Islam war.

The C.P.R. has secured Sandon dock at Liverpool for the accommodation of its Atlantic fleet.

Lord Elgin has issued a circular to ex-colonial Governers, asking them not to engage in commercial enterprises in the colonies formerly administered by them.

UNITED STATES.

A mother and four children perished in a tenement house fire at Passaic, N.J.

James J. Hill has retired from the presidency of the Great Northern Railroad.

Two cent a mile passenger rate for Michigan has been decided on by the Senate.

New York clubmen are barring British visitors from the privileges of their organizations.

San Francisco is in total darkness. Fire destroyed both gas and electric light plants.

United States Steel Corporation will construct a $10,000,000 steel plant in Duluth.

James E. Gilmour, Mayor-elect of Caribou, Col., dropped dead while celebrating his victory.

Canadians resident in Buffalo have formed a Canadian Club and expect to secure a membership of two hundred.

An indictment containing one hundred and seventy-five counts has been returned against John R. Walsh, former President of the Chicago National Bank, charging him with misapplying the bank's funds and making false returns.

GENERAL.

The earthquake at Bitlis, Armenia, did much damage. Many are camping in the snow.

The peasant disturbances throughout Moldavia and Wallachia have been completely suppressed.

Corruption prevails to such an extent in Morocco that both civil and military officials are enriching themselves at the expense of the country.

The Honduran and Nicaraguan revolutionary armies are accused of plundering and murdering in Tegucigalpa.

PHILLIPS NOW A TAILOR.

Ex-President of York Loan Assigned to Shop in Penitentiary.

A despatch from Kingston says: Joseph Phillips has been assigned to the tailor shop in the penitentiary, and is at work with needle and thread. Duncan, the other bank manager, may go to the blacksmith shop.

McGILL SUFFERS HEAVY LOSS

The Famous Engineering School Destroyed by Fire.

A despatch from Montreal says: The heaviest material loss that McGill University has ever sustained overtook it at an early hour on Friday morning, when the splendid Macdonald-Engineering building, said by British scientists to be the most thoroughly equipped in the empire or in America, was totally destroyed by fire, together with its contents. The fire was discovered about 5 o'clock in one of the upper stories, and probably originated on either the second or third floor. By the time the firemen arrived at the scene the building was a mass of flame. The efforts of the brigade were directed toward confining the fire within the building and keeping it from spreading to the adjacent Workman Mechanical building, which escaped though somewhat scorched.

In less than an hour the big structure was a wreck and the roof had fallen in. The spectacle was a magnificent one and was watched by hundreds of students who swarmed on the grounds. To many of them the personal loss was very great, for the science men have personal kits that run up as high as $200 in value.

THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION.

The loss will total about three quarters of a million. The original cost was $434,000, but Sir Wm. Macdonald since the construction of the building, some fourteen years ago, had added materially to its equipment, as had also the university authorities. The only salvage was some of the apparatus in the lower stories. All the examination papers written on by the science men during the week were destroyed, together with Dean Bovey's private papers. The museum will probably prove the greatest loss because of the difficulty of replacing its contents. The collection of models known as Reuleux Kinematic collection, was particularly valuable. About 5,000 volumes of books of a technical and scientific nature were destroyed also.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. The building was closed at 6 o'clock on Thursday night, and the only person supposed to have had access to it after that hour was the watchman, who went his rounds early in the morning and found no indications of fire.

The insurance in the building and contents amounts to 320,000.

SCORES KILLED BY TORNADO.

Swept Over Louisiana and Mississippi for 200 Miles.

A despatch from Mobile says: More than 50 persons are thought to have been killed and many injured in a tornado that originated near Alexandria, and swept Louisiana and Mississippi northeastwardly for two hundred miles at an early hour on Friday morning. The property loss is also very heavy, especially in Alexandria, where more than a hundred stores, factories, churches and dwellings were demolished, eight whites and four negroes killed and twenty more or less seriously hurt.

The storm swept a country well filled yet, remote from telegraphic communication, so that reports are made only by messages and are slow coming in, but there is little doubt that the casualty list will go over the foregoing estimate. Nine empty passenger coaches were blown from an Alexandria siding and turned over and over and then riddled with wreckage flying before the tornado.

The large Natchez and Bayou Sara packet Betsy Ann shoved her nose into the edge of the storm as it crossed the Mississippi River. The wind blew away the boats, spars, booms and her cabin deck aft to the smokestacks, but no one was killed, and the hull, being uninjured and the chimneys still standing, the boat made her way into port.

Growing crops in the storm's track have been wiped out by the accompanying hail.

A TAX ON WHISKERS.

Bill Introduced Into the New Jersey Assembly.

A despatch from Trenton, N.J., says: Assemblyman Cornish, of Essex, introduced in the House on Wednesday a bill which provides a tax for wearing the hair on the face as follows, to be paid to the tax collector yearly:—Ordinary whiskers, $5; side whiskers, $8; Van Dyke beard, $10; mutton chops, $15; "billygoat," $50; red whiskers, 20 per cent. extra. The tax collector is to receive 25 per cent. for collecting the tax. Speaker pro tem. Elvins sent the bill to the Committee on Fish and Game.

BOY FROZEN TO DEATH.

He Wandered from Home and Lost His Way.

A despatch from Kenora says: A boy named McMillan, aged about seven years, strayed away from his home on Ridout street on Wednesday evening, and was found next afternoon by some boys frozen to death. The little fellow had evidently started to walk over the rocks toward town and got lost. The family had only been here a short time from Scotland.

GOLD IN VANCOUVER CITY.

Workman was Digging Drain When He Saw Traces of Gold.

A despatch from Vancouver, B. C., says: Seven placer mining claims were staked in the heart of Vancouver on Friday morning by a syndicate of eight men, as the result of a discovery made a few days ago. While digging a drain a man named P. W. Harmer struck hard pan and thought he saw gold. He borrowed a pan from a quartz house, washed several shovels full and found a nugget valued at fifteen dollars. He informed several companions, and mining licenses were at once taken out. The men went to Keefer Street, between Gore and Dunlevy Avenues, and staked out three claims. Beyond a little surface prospecting no work has been done yet on the claims, but there will be later.

THEY DID IT FOR FUN.

Three Chicago Urchins Set Fire to a Boy.

A despatch from Chicago says: Three boys, whose ages range from twelve to fourteen years, were arrested on Wednesday charged with setting fire to the clothing of Michael Lacoco, a seventeen-year-old boy, while the latter lay asleep in a hallway. The boys gave the names of Lester Hall, Walter Leonard and James White. According to their story the act was done for "fun." The boys bought a bottle of alcohol, which they poured over the sleeper's clothing, and lighted the blaze. Lacoco rushed about the street, and finally fell unconscious. His condition is said to be serious.

SURPLUS ABOUT TWO MILLION.

Revenue for Fiscal Year Shows an Increase of $8,798,895.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The revenue for the fiscal year (nine months) just closed shows an increase of $8,798,895, as compared with the corresponding period last year. The expenditure on consolidated fund account is increased $152,359, and on capital account $1,239,353. The revenue for March was $7,827,944, an increase of $572,757, and for the nine months $65,798,896. The expenditure for the nine months to date was $41,838,730.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, April 9.—Call board quotations are:—

Bran—$20 bid, outside.

Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white, 73½c asked, outside; No. 2 red, 72½c asked; No. 2 mixed, 71½c bid, G.T.R. west.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 northern, 90c bid, spot, North Bay.

Peas—No. 2, 79½c asked, C.P.R., 79c bid.

Oats—No. 2 white, 40c asked, 39½c bid on a 5c rate to Toronto.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, 53c bid, spot, Toronto.

Other prices were:—

Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white winter, 71c to 72½c; No. 2 red, 71c to 72c; No. 2 mixed, 71c to 71½c.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 hard 87c to 87½c; No. 1 northern, 86½c, lake ports; No. 2 northern, 85c, 90c to 90½c North Bay.

Oats—No. 2 white, 38½c to 39½c, outside; No. 2 mixed 38c.

Peas—79c.

Corn—No. 2 yellow American, 52c to 52½c, Toronto and west; Ontario, 45c to 46c.

Buckwheat—57c to 58c, outside.

Rye—63c.

Barley—52c to 52½c, outside; No. 3 extra, 51c to 52c; No. 3, 50c to 51c.

Flour—Ontario—90 per cent. patents, $2.70 asked, $2.67 bid; Manitoba, first patents, $4.50, seconds, $3.75; bakers', $3.90.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Is very steady, showing no change.

Creamery, prints ..... 27c to 28c

do solids ..... 25c to 26c

Dairy, prints ..... 25c to 26c

do tubs ..... 21c to 22c

Cheese—14c for large and 14½c for twins.

Eggs—Market is weaker at 16c to 17c. Receipts continue heavy. Splits are quoted at 14c.

Poultry—Market is dull with no change in quotations. Following prices are for storage:—

Ordinary ..... 7c to 9c

Inferior ..... 6c to 6½c

Fowl ..... 6c to 7c

Geese ..... 7c to 9c

Turkeys ..... 9c to 11c

Honey—Pails, 11c to 12c per lb.; combs, $2.25 to $2.75 per doz.

Beans—$1.50 to $1.55 for hand-picked and $1.35 to $1.40 for primes.

Potatoes—Ontario, 85c to 90c; eastern, 95c to $1, in car lots here.

Baled Hay—No. 1 timothy is quoted at $12 to $13.50 and secondary grades $9.50 to $10, on track here.

Straw—$6.75 to $7.25.

PROVISIONS.

Dressed Hogs—$9.50 for light and $9 for heavies, farmers' lots $8.25 to $8.50 in car lots.

Pork—Short cut, $23.50 to $24 per barrel; mess, $21 to $21.50.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, 11c to 11½c for tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 15½c to 16c; heavy, 14½c to 15c; backs, 16½c to 17c; shoulders, 11c to 11½c; rolls, 11½c; cut of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Lard—Firm; tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 12¾c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, April 9.—The local market is firm and unchanged.

Buckwheat—55c to 56½c per bushel.

Corn—American No. 2 yellow, 55c; No. 3 mixed, 63c ex store.

Oats—On spot, No. 2 white, 39½c; No. 3 white, 41½c to 42c; No. 4, 40½c to 41c per bushel, ex store.

Peas—Boiling peas, $1 in carload lots and $1.10 in jobbing lots.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat, $4.25 to $4.60; strong bakers', $4 to $4.10; winter wheat patents, $4.10 to $4.25; straight rollers, $3.50 to $3.75; do., in bags, $1.65 to $1.75; extras, $1.50 to $1.55.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran in bags, $26 to $22; shorts, $22 to $22.50; Ontario bran, in bags, $20 to $21; shorts, $22 to $29.50; milled middlings, $22 to $25; straight grain, $28 to $29 per ton.

Rolled Oats—Per bag, $2 to $2.10 in car lots and $2.20 to $2.25 in jobbing lots.

Hay—No. 1, $13.50; No. 2, $12.50; No. 3, $11.50; clover mixed, $11; pure clover, $10.50 to $11 per ton in car lots.

Butter—26½c to 27c and 28c to 29c. For winter made 25c and 25c is being asked. White 23c to 24c is quoted for lower grades.

Egg—Price of new laid is still quoted at 17c to 18c per dozen.

Cheese—March make is slow in coming into the cheese market. Few boxes have been received, and for these 12¾c are being asked; 13¼c and 13c for white and colored respectively is still quoted for October make.

Provisions—Barrels short cut pork, $22 to $22.50; half barrels, $11.75 to $12.50; clear fat back, $24 to $24.50; long cut heavy mess, $21.50 to $22; half barrels do., $10.75 to $11.50; dry salt long clear bacon, 12c to 12½c; barrels plate beef, $11 to $12.50; half barrels, do., $6.25 to $6.75; barrels heavy mess beef, $8.50, half barrels do., $4.75; compound lard, 8¾c to 10½c; pure lard, 11½c to 13c; kettle rendered, 13c to 13½c; hams, 13c to 16½c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 15c to 16c; Windsor bacon, 15½c to 16½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, $10 to $10.25; alive, $7.50 to $7.50.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, April 9.—Flour—Quiet and steady. Wheat—Spring, dull and weak; No. 1 Northern, 88½c; Winter, good enquiry; No. 2 white, 79½c. Corn—Quiet and steady at decline; No. 2 yellow, 50¾c; No. 2 corn, 49½c. Oats—Dull; offerings light; No. 2 mixed, 33¾c; No. 2 white, 36¾c. Barley—Steady; Western quoted 70 to 75c, for delivery opening navigation.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, April 9.—Wheat—Spot easy; No. 2 red, 82½c in elevator and 83½c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 89½c, opening navigation; No. 2 hard winter, 87½c, opening navigation.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, April 9.—Export cattle were quiet and unchanged. There were very few cattle on the market showing enough quality for export, and there was little demand for them. Quotations are unchanged.

Butcher cattle were selling well. There was no lack of offerings, but the small runs of the past few markets have resulted in butchers' stocks becoming pretty low. Choice heifers sold up to $5.10, and a bunch of heavy cows weighing up to 1,400 lbs., sold up to $4.50. The market for cows has a much firmer tone, and even common stock is selling around $3.50.

Stockers and feeders continue quiet, but trade is expected to brisk up soon. Calves are steady at $3.50 to $7.

Milch cows are quiet, and quotations are a little lower.

Sheep are firmer, on a fairly good run. Export ewes are quoted at $4.75 to $5.50; bucks and culls, 50c higher at $4.50 to $5. Lambs are steady, with little change in quotations.

Hogs are quoted 10c lower at $6.70 for selects, fed and watered.

FOURTEEN MEN INJURED

Furnace of the Dominion Steel Company Exploded.

A despatch from Halifax says: Thursday morning at 4 o'clock an explosion took place at the open hearth furnace of the Dominion Iron & Steel Company at Sydney, which injured fourteen of the workmen in the building. At the time of the accident the men were engaged at No. 5 furnace pouring in molten metal, when suddenly a terrific detonation was heard and the bricks of the furnace were thrown about in all directions. Six men were thought to be badly injured and taken to the Brooklyn Hospital, having their injuries dressed, but them were able to proceed to their homes. others received contusions of bricks. Two of these were taken to the hospital, but neither is seriously injured. The explosion was due to the ignition of molten metal being emptied into the furnace on top of some cold metal already in the bottom. It will be some time before the damaged furnace is in steel again.

Fashion Hints.

SMART TAFFETA GOWNS.

The day when the silk gown was considered one's "very best," and religiously kept for high days and holidays, is quite past. We have discovered its usefulness when adapted to morning wear, for traveling and church, and intend to make the most of it.

Not for years has there been such a silk season ahead as this coming spring promises. Silks of every kind and color, of every conceivable weave and design will be extensively worn for all occasions.

There will be the simple shirtwaist frock of silk, which, by the way, has this season lost much of its simplicity; the silk coatsuit, also much be-trimmed, and the even more elaborate costume for afternoon wear, or for cool evenings at Summer resorts. Silk will also be used for motor cloaks and for the short, dressy wraps which will be much in evidence.

The new silks are many, and most of them very lovely in coloring and texture. As a rule the color schemes are not pronounced; indeed, there is a harmonious softness among the newer and better class silk materials which is really delightful.

While many fancy silks and radiums, messalines and louisines are seen, popular favor has declared quite strongly for taffeta, rajah and foulard, with, of course, the omnipresent pongee.

Taffetas seem to have taken an entirely new lease of life, possibly because, with the softer finishes, some prospect of endurance is held out. The chronic objection of most women of moderate means to the ordinary crisp taffetas is that they will cut—worse yet, cut just as much whether they are worn hard or carefully hung in the closet.

The popular supple chiffon taffetas, besides being free from this objection, lend themselves to graceful draping and to the long, easy lines so much in demand. For the home dressmaker especially are they preferable, as the stiff taffeta is distinctly hard to handle well.

There are many new and beautiful effects shown among the soft taffetas. Stripes, checks, plaids of every imaginable kind are seen; sometimes even combinations of two or more of them in the same material. Black-and-white effects are particularly popular; or very often they have an underlying note of soft color introduced, as a tiny dot or design sprinkled over the surface of a check or plaid.

Many plain taffetas are seen in this soft chiffon texture, or often there is a changeable look given by a skillful blending of self-tones.

All the colorings, by the way, are uncommonly beautiful, and far from being as crude and glaring as they were even last season.

The women—and there are many of them—who feel that nothing quite takes the place of a blue silk, either plain or figured, will be glad to know that blues of every description, from indigo to electric, with a wide range of blues with a leaning toward gray, delft tones, Japanese blue and a rich bright navy called mateloi, will be among the choicest shades of the year.

Greens are also good when on the almond or reseda tones, while browns, especially in soft castor shades and in a very warm, bright brown, without a trace either of the usual chestnut red or mustard tones that spoil so many browns, will be equally in favor.

Grays in both light and dark shades are much used, while even in taffetas the rather strange but decidedly popular combination of gray and brown, either in

s, plaids or changeable tones are

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seasons past. This is partly

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own some graceful way to show a

pe and lingerie sleeves underneath.

prevailing sleeve is the sleeve cap,

slashed or plain, on kimono

FASHION'S WHIMS.

ectoire coats are much seen.

tain and striped effects.

seen recently the lines of the

perpendicularly while those

were diagonal.

temporary popularity of

h plumes is happily at an end.

way, not every one knows

what bedraggled-looking

d its popularity from

ay at Auteuil which

all the Parisiennes home

iful ostrich plumes

oulder-straps are still much

wn of gray mousseline

pe and the upper and

sleeves were of lace;

of the upper arm to

es were of taffeta cut

on the lace in a round

are double shoulder-

and embroidered braid

a band of wider braid

ust.

cape-like bolero is one

fancies for spring.

mino effects are seen,

chable.

e long drooping shoulder

no sleeve are seen in

models. When combined

fire waist they are quite

e sandals, like slippers,

d with as many as five

ankle. The buttons of the

is a season particularly

d novelties to beguile

woman of hard-earned

dly resist the

some metal handle

is artfully set a tiny

ning the inevitable

looking-glass.

is set in the same way

ere is a new comb to

girl who can wear her

The hair is very lovely

d in the middle or slightly

and rolled back from the

being pinned in a tight

the crown of the head.

vered by four or five

oth puffs, pinned in place

which is a high affair

inlaid with a scroll design

There are two long

s for the side hair to

CABINET'S INCREASED PAY.

Premier Whitney Brings In a Bill Expected Measure.

A despatch from Toronto says: The bill introduced by Premier Whitney on Wednesday provides that executive members of the Cabinet

ve an increase of $2,000, bringing

aries up to $6,000 a year in

the sessional indemnity of $1,000 in all. Premier Whitney,

President of the Executive Council

s at the present time a salary

000. Under the new bill he

ve as President of the Council,

s First Minister $4,000 per annum

addition to his sessional indemnity

$6,000, or $10,000 per year.

In some cases it is better to give

ceive—for instance in a

ualists have secured

f two hundred in the

the dissolution

unearthed a

man is a

hat?" asked Pat, puzzled.

cheeks." "An' sure, what's

"Why, a man that can

ng the bumps on your head.

of man you are." "Humus

is it?" exclaimed Pat. "Bet

think I would give him

ea what kind of a woman me

TWENTY ITALIANS BURNED

Disastrous Fire in a San Francisco Hotel.

A despatch from San Francisco says: Twenty men were burned to death and twenty others injured in a fire which destroyed an Italian hotel at Seventeenth and Connecticut Streets, in the Potrero district, early on Thursday. The injured were of the laboring class, and were asleep in their rooms when the fire started. Before they could be aroused the flames had spread through the building. The walls fell and the inmates were buried in the ruins, twenty being taken out dead and dying. People from other hotels in the vicinity rushed to the assistance of the buried victims and succeeded in rescuing all of them from the flaming timbers. Teams were hurriedly harnessed and automobiles brought into service and the injured rushed to the Potrero Emergency Hospital, where several died while awaiting treatment.

The fire that destroyed the Genevan is believed to have started in the kitchen, and had gained great headway before it was discovered. There were over 100 lodgers in the building, which burned like tinder, and most of those who lost their lives were caught while asleep and roasted to death. So rapidly did the fire spread that it was impossible to do much in the way of rescue, and even when the fire apparatus arrived the blaze was so fierce that the firemen were hardly able to place ladders against the walls. They did, however, manage to save a number of people on the very top storey. In the work of rescue W. A. Cole, a fireman, was thrown from a ladder, and it is believed fatally injured.

The majority of the injured were hurt by leaping from the upper windows. A number of women are reported to have been in the building, and all of them are believed to have perished.