THE SUN.

IT SHINES FOR ALL

Number 10,293. NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1865. Thirty-Third Year.

he Latest News

Telegraph to the N. Y. Sun.

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From Washington.

e Mary Harris Case—115 Pardons Yesrday—Cotton Claims—Changes in the reasury Department, Etc.

ashington, July 13.—Dr. Nichols, Superintendent of the Government Insane Asylum, was recalled ay by the prosecution in the Mary Harris case. had yesterday expressed the opinion that at cerin periods between the time that she was crossed ove and the killing of N. K. Barroughs, she was ane, and he now entered into explanations on that ect, repeating that the homicide was of insane ence. Rev. Dr. Barroughs, brother of the deed, was put on the stand and testified positively the letters inviting a meeting at an assignation so were not in his brother's handwriting. Miss ris had called upon him, in Chicago about the hership of these letters, and during this interview Doctor said: "Miss Harris, I ask you whether, in long time that my brother has been acquainted h you, he has ever said anything dishonorable to , that justifies you in entertaining such a suspi of him?" To which she replied that he had not. continued with considerable feeling to say that had always been her truest and best friend, and never said a word or done an act which was not he highest honor. The trial will probably end week.

resident Johnson to-day granted pardon to about pe sons, of which 75 were to Virginians, on the commendation of Gov. Pierrepont.

t is understood that the Attorney General has recently furnished an opinion to the effect that the sident has not the power to appoint a commission tle claims for the large amount of cotton capured at Savannah, Mobile, Charleston, Wilmington, , but that applicants must seek relief in the mode scribed by the law in regard to captured and abandoned property, and also that all property turned over the military authorities to the Treasury agents, ot be regarded and treated in the same manner.

The Secretary of the Navy has addressed a letter to r Admiral Dahlgren in which he says:

The termination of the rebellion and the cessation host ilities which rendered necessary the reduction the South Atlantic Squadron and its consolidation olved your detachment. In relieving you from a mmand which you have conducted with ability and ory for two years, the Department takes the occa to express to you its appreciation of your services the services of those who have been associated h you in the efficient blockade of the coast and tions at a central and important portion of the tion and in the work of repossessing the forts and ing the authority and supremacy of the Government in the Insurgent States.

dr. Harring on to-day was relieved from his position as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. He will ve on the 9th of August for Switzerland, as ister to that Republic. The Assistant Secretaries are W. E. Chandler and John F. Hartley. W. Hunt, for many years principal warrant clerk, ceeds Mr. Hartley as Chief Clerk of the Treasury partment, and D. F. Rerohouse succeeds John A. ham as Chief Clerk of the Register's Office. ss. Graham has recently been appointed Assistant gister of the Treasury.

The President's health continues to improve. It is derstood that the reason why he does not, as has en customary, make his summer residence at the dier's Home, is that that institution, having been ected and sustained by a tax upon the soldiers of e army, he does not think that, as President, he has right to use and occupy any portion of the premises.

ERMANENT MILITARY DIVISIONS.

The War Department has promulgated its order ding the permanent military divisions which are exist in the United States. They are five in number, and embrace a total of 36 States and eight territories within their limits.

Major General Meade is placed in command of the sion of the Atlantic, embracing the Department the East, Major General Joseph Hooker; the Middle partment, Major General W. S. Hancock; the Department of Virginia, Major General Alfred Terry; partment of North Carolina, Major General John , Schofield; and Department of South Carolina, Major General Q. A. Gillmore. Thus Gen. Meade has ilitary jurisdiction from Maine to South Carolina inclusive except the District of Columbia and the ounties of Anne Arundel, Prince George, Calvert, rles, and St. Mary's in Maryland, and Fairfax Co., Virginia—eleven States.

The grand military division of the Mississippi is mmanded by Major General W. T. Sherman and embraces the Department of the Ohio, Major General O. C. Ord; Department of the Missouri, Major General H. W. Slocum; and Department of Arkansas, Major General J. J. Reynolds. General Sherman has military jurisdiction over Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Dacotah, Montana, Arkansas and the Indian Territory,—eleven States and three territories.

The grand military division of the Tennessee is under command of Major General W. H. Thomas and embraces the Department of the Tennessee, Major General Stoneman; Department of Kentucky, Major General John M. Palmer; Department of Georgia, Major General J. B. Steedman; and Department of Alabama, Major General C. R. Wood. General Thomas has close his military jurisdiction over the States of Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia and Alabama—four States.

The grand military division of the Gulf is under the command of Major-General Phil. Sheridan, and embraces the Department of Mississippi, Major-General H. W. Slocum; Department of Louisiana and Texas, Major-General E. R. S. Canby, and Department of Florida, Major-General John G. Foster. Thus Gen. Sheridan has military jurisdiction over Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Florida—four States.

The grand military division of the Pacific is under command of Major-General H. W. Halleck, and embraces the Department of Columbia, Brigadier-General G. Wright, and the Department of California, Major-General Meredith Ellis. This gives Gen. Halleck military jurisdiction over the States of Oregon, California and Nevada, and the territories of Idaho, Washington, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado—three States and five territories.

The Harris Murder Trial.

On Wednesday, the evidence taken in this case was to prove insanity on the part of Miss Harris, the murderess of Burroughs. The testimony of Mr. Bradley, the prisoner's counsel, was interesting. He testified that he visited Miss H. in prison, on the 25th of April.

She received him in a chilling manner. The window was open, notwithstanding it was a cold day. Witness remonstrated with her about the window being open. She seemed insensible to the cold, when witness was suffering. Her pulse was 120—top of head hot—features have a cataleptic look; observed that she did wink her eyes, which were dilated as before; only observed in monosyllables. Witness asked if she was thinking of her past life, and she nodded her head. She said she has locked her up; and "I have killed Burroughs, but I cannot believe it; I see him now." Witness talked to her, and soon she burst into tears, and became composed. So much so, she said she had no friends; that none loved her; her church has persecuted her; that she spent her nights wakeful, thinking she feared she had done an one alone. She has another private sin. Witness continues: "I visited sometimes as often as three times per week. * * * Witness has rarely met a more intellectual human being; never heard her use a harsh word against anyone except the brother of the deceased. She writes a beautiful rapid hand, and is a bookkeeper. She gave a full history of her acquaintance with Burroughs, from the first meeting to the last. There was nothing until the 22d of May which attracted his attention. Witness noticed the whites of her eyes on the 21st were cloudy, and witness visited her on the 22d and she was perfectly rational for a few minutes, and when he caught her eye its expression struck witness forcibly, it being of pain and anguish. Witness sat down a few moments, when she walked towards him, wringing her hands, saying, "Take me out, I am going out!" Witness asked her to wait for her things, and suggested that in could not get through the bars, when she said "Bars! bars! What are bars when I have a will?" After persuading her to talk a few moments, she sat down; her pulse was high, and general appearance as before. She told him that she could not sleep; that she hadn't slept for two weeks; that she heard cries of murder. During this time her pulse rose, and witness had to exert his strength to keep her in her chair. She afterwards said: "Mr. Bradley do you think that I am a very bad girl?" And afterwards she was composed. In a little time her late clothes came up, and she told that she knew "he [Burroughs] loved her." Witness told her that she must come he told her, and remarked he was her friend, and she expressed surprise that she had any friends. The next morning she said he visited her again, and she met him cheerfully. She told witness that she had not slept any, and witness spoke about the article in the CHRONICLE. She became very much excited, and in this excitement Mrs. Fales entered with some flowers and a great change came over her, she exclaiming: "Beautiful, did they come from your garden?" On Tuesday, 26th of May, witness went again to the girl and she asked if the man who wrote the article in the CHRONICLE would be a witness. She asked witness if she was sick, and after becoming composed she spoke of her quarrels with Burroughs, when she was a great fat girl weighing 110 pounds. She then asked if he thought she was a very bad girl, and asked if God would forgive her; she knew she had done wrong. She did love Burroughs so much.

From Fortress Monroe.

Sick Soldiers from Richmond—Abandoned Property, Etc.

(Correspondence of The Sun.)

Fortress Monroe, July 12.—The steamer Hero, of Jersey, arrived to-day from Richmond, with 129 sick soldiers from the 24th Army Corps, in charge of Dr. Ellcott. All the abandoned property in and around Norfolk and Portsmouth has been turned over to the Freedmen's Bureau. Cotton is daily arriving at Norfolk from North Carolina. A daily steamer will be easter run between this place and Cherrystone Inlet, leaving here at 10 A. M.

From The Southwest.

The Freedmen of Texas—Warning to Planters—Mexican Affairs.

Cairo, July 12.—The Superintendent of Freedmen at Shreveport has given notice to the planters that they will not be allowed to drive their aged, helpless and infirm slaves from their plantations, as is being practiced by those who desire to get rid of them.

The Liberal Mexican General Cortinas has been in consultation with the Federal General Brown, at Brownsville, and it is reported that Cortinas has declared that he will no longer oppose the establishment of the Mexican Empire. Cortinas has caused much indignation against himself by firing on and capturing the steamer Bella, which resulted in the loss of several lives.

Five hundred and twenty-nine bales of cotton, and 123 hogsheads and 657 boxes of sugar arrived at Cairo to-day.

Adjutant Generals Convention.

Troops Furnished by the Different States.

Boston, July 13.—The Adjutant Generals in convention to-day, made reports showing the number of troops furnished by the following States: Maine, 66,069; killed and died, 22,573; Vermont, 34,492; Connecticut, 54,468; Rhode Island, 25,255; West Virginia, 29,012; Massachusetts, 153,746; New Hampshire, 33,258; Kansas, 21,948; Pennsylvania, 360,000; Iowa, 72,358. On motion of Gen. Washburne it was voted to petition Congress to deliver to each State the flags captured by the regiments of such States. The members of the Convention visit Rhode Island to-morrow to partake of a clam-bake.

The Trade Convention.

The Niagara Ship Canal—Debate on Reciprocity—Noble Resolutions on the Tariff and National Debt.

Detroit, July 13.—A resolution was adopted at the meeting to-day, asking the Governor of New York State to recommend to the Legislature the enlargement of the locks in the canals of that State, to facilitate the passage of ships by the construction of a ship canal. A resolution was also passed that the Niagara ship canal should be constructed at the expense of the general Government, as a commercial necessity; by a vote of 123 to 22. On the subject of Reciprocity, a resolution was adopted approving of the notice for the termination of the reciprocity treaty. A long discussion was held on the subject of requesting the President of the United States to enter into negotiations with the Government of Great Britain, having in view the execution of a treaty between the two countries on reciprocity and commercial intercourse between the United States and the several provinces of British North America including British Columbia, the Selkirk settlement and Van Couver's Island, upon principles which shall be just and equitable to all parties, and which also shall include the free navigation of the St. Lawrence and other rivers of British North America, with such improvements of the rivers and enlargement of the canals as shall render them adequate for the requirements of the West, in connection with the ocean.

The following resolutions, reported by the Finance Committee, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Government that in any future readjustment of the tariff and internal revenue, the burdens of taxation, direct or indirect, may be made to fall as far as possible on the vices and luxuries of the people, thus relieving the laboring and industrial classes.

Resolved, That regarding the National debt as a pecuniary obligation most sacred in its character, the Convention declares its earnest conviction that all sacrifices will be cheerfully borne that may be necessary to maintain the National credit unimpeached at all times and under all circumstances, and that every dollar of such debt, principal and interest, can and will be discharged, without reducing in the slightest degree the loyal purposes of the nation in the cause of its prosperity, greatness and glory.

News Items.

(By Telegraph to the New York Sun.)

JAY COOKE reports subscriptions to the Seven-Thirty Loan yesterday to the amount of $4,103,100.

BUELEY, the raider, has been discharged at Detroit, on two thousand dollars bail.

FIVE hundred and twenty-nine bales of cotton, and 133 hogsheads and 697 boxes of sugar, arrived at Cairo, Ill., yesterday.

THE miners and railroad laborers in the Lake Superior region struck for higher wages yesterday. They took possession of the railroads and allowed none but passenger trains to run.

A SQUIRE race will take place to-day at Poughkeepsie, between a newly invented steam wagon and James B. Rensley, a celebrated pedestrian. The wagon has to traverse one mile before Rensley can perform half that distance, or it will lose the race.

A CHILD named Alice Burns, who attended a picnic in Weston, Mass., on Wednesday, was seduced away from her young companions and brutally ravished by three ruffians, aged from 17 to 22 years. The scoundrels have been arrested. Alice, after the perpetration of the horrible deed, was discovered by her friends in a perfectly insensible state.

THE Plasterers' Convention at Pittsburgh, Pa., yesterday, were composed of delegates from the several States of the Union, and was ably addressed by Charles McLean, of Boston, its President. Officers for the year were elected as follows:—President, Charles McLean, of Boston. Vice-President, David Mahony, of Washington, D. C. Treasurer, Lewis Minton, of Newark, N. J. Secretary, Thomas Houlahan, of New York.

JAY COOK has sent to Parson Brownlow Seven-Thirties for about half a million in gold. The specie belonged to the Treasury of the State of Tennessee, when Isham G. Harris was its Governor. When the State was captured by the Union troops, Governor Harris fled, taking the specie along with him. General Upton followed the fugitive rebel. The runaway escaped but the gold was returned to Nashville. Parson Brownlow decided to convert the gold into United States bonds. This has been done by Jay Cook, and the bonds forwarded to Nashville.

General Intelligence.

(By Mail to the New York Sun.)

FOUR large steamships are to be built in England for the Prussian Government.

GARIBALDI is ill at Caprera. It is said his indisposition was brought on by want of occupation.

THE Balfour U. S. Hospitals at Portsmouth, Va., are closed. The last of their patients were sent to the U. S. General Hospitals, at Hampton, on Monday.

OLD King Leopold, of Belgium, is failing fast and his last moments are embittered by fears for the stability of his son-in-law, Maximilian's Mexican throne, and the idea that after his death Louis Napoleon intends to gobble up Belgium.

WALLACE BUTLER, a member of the 2d Presbyterian Church, in St. Louis, Mo., was expelled on Sunday because he refused to acknowledge that he had sinned in joining the rebel army. He is a recently returned Confederate soldier.

SUICIDES for love are getting to be quite "the style." Adam R. Slaymaker slayed himself in St. Louis on Monday by shooting himself through the head, because a young lady jilted him. He was 22—old enough to know better.

AT a gay party in Mount Zion, Ill., a few evenings since, a beautiful young lady suddenly exclaimed, "Oh, I am so sick!" and fell dead. A physician, who was present, after an examination, announced that her death was caused by tight lacing.

THE Cincinnati GAZETTE, earnestly advocating the abandonment plan of bringing down prices, says: "And so with clothes; let the people go without clothes for awhile, and they will soon be able to buy them for a bare song." Yes; but how improper that would be?

THE American ship Wheeler, having on board 1,100 hogsheads of the famous French tobacco, arrived at Old Point, Va., on the 10th, and would proceed to sea as soon as the wind was favorable. The ship Missouri was at Newport News with 1,000 hogsheads of the same tobacco.

MR. JOWETT, an extensive coach builder in Southampton, England, in conforming to what seems to be becoming a fashion, has intimated to his workmen that, as the elective franchise is a trust, they may exercise it according to their own conscientious political convictions, without consulting his politics or inclinations.

THERE are now three inmates for the cells recently occupied by Mrs. Surratt and friends at Washington, viz.: Prof. McCullough, of the infernal machine and prison department; Col. Benton Harrison, Jeff. Davis' Private Secretary, and Gen. I. L. Harris, colleague of McCullough. Jeff. Davis has not yet, as expected, been taken to Payne's cell.

WM. HUTCHINGS, a Revolutionary soldier, aged over 100 years, made a speech on the 4th at Bangor, Me., in which he said: Such a wicked thing as Jeff. Davis attempted was never done before nor never will be done again by man. The papers say he don't like pea soup. I guess the poor, dear boys that he starved to death would have been glad to have got pea soup or pea broth. He ought to go hungry.

ON Wednesday last, Mrs. Mathias Trehune, wife of a respectable mechanic in Chicago, attacked Miss Amelia Frasted with a knife, cutting her in the face and neck six times, destroying her left eye, piercing her windpipe, and inflicting wounds which will undoubtedly prove fatal. The fiendish woman then attempted to escape, but was arrested, and now lies in jail awaiting the result of her victim's injuries. The cause of this tragic affair was jealousy. The husband of Mrs. Trehune has mysteriously disappeared.

AN Exiled Pole describes in an English paper "a cure for drunkenness." He says that the patient must be shut up in a room and debarred from all communication except with his physician. As often as he pleases spirits are given him, mixed with two-thirds of water. He also are all other drinks, as well as beer, coffee, or wine mixed with one third of water. The various kinds of solid food are all prepared with brandy, consequently the patient is in a state of continual intoxication. This lasts about five days. At the end of that time the patient implores other food, and ever afterwards the smell of alcohol sets as an emetic.

THE St. Albans, Vt., DAILY MESSENGER says that a Franklin County boy, engaged by the month in a large shipping house in Boston, proved in maxim "a penny saved is a penny clear," by carefully extracted the pennies from the old boxes which had "served their time." In four weeks he had collected [illegible] in the course of his business two or three kegs of good nails. His employer, discovering the accumulation, after consulting his scales, handed the young man sixteen dollars, as the immediate proceeds of his economy, and has honored this invaluable business trait, in connection with a sterling character in other respects, by an offer of partnership.

A MONTGOMERY (Ala.) correspondent of the New Orleans Times writes:—"The manumission of the slave has been attended, in this locality, with consequences fatal to the civilization of the negro, and injurious to the country. Idleness, dissoluteness, and all their concomitant train of evils, reign supreme. The Southern planters, gentlemen of experience, education—aye, and of philanthropy—Harriet Beecher Stowe, notwithstanding, view with feelings of alarm this unbridled influence suddenly allowed to a class not yet emerged from a state of semi-barbarism. They naturally look with feelings of disgust and apprehension to the sudden elevation of the negro—but as a subjugated people they must submit."

PARSON BROWNLOW is "after" the late secesh Methodist preachers with a sharp stick. He wants their churches to "skip" them, and join the church North. He speaks thus of one of the preachers: "The reverend big dirty, one of the rebel preachers of the old Holston conference, gives out that he will not join the new organization, but will adhere to the old Eagle & Co. church. It will be time enough for this old greasy rebel to determine this question when the new church agrees to take him. We warn this reverend gentleman of Hoyle that it is not safe for him to travel in this end of our State while the petroleum mania is raging. Some of our oil speculators will take a lease of him and bore him for oil. If this is not done, and he continues his dirty and greasy habits, the session of the legislature will tax him as real estate."

THE charge of editorship of the Richmond Whig was tendered in yesterday's SUN, with a choice selection from the new editor's salutatory, which was quite in the approved copperhead style. This editor's career was short. The Whig was suppressed by military order before a second number could be issued under the new regime. Another expression of the same salutatory was that: "I am solemnly and inflexibly opposed to the execution, imprisonment or further embarrassment of any person who was connected in any way, officially or otherwise, with the late revolution. All classes and conditions of our people have all suffered enough. The guilty and the innocent alike have drained the cup of misery and humiliation to its very dregs. I am equally opposed to the mean, brutal and cowardly policy of confiscation. The possession of property, whether little or much, is not a crime."

LOCAL NEWS.

NEW YORK AND THE VICINITY.

A DARK MEETING.—A darker thing than a midnight meeting of a secret and mysterious society of black people, discussing sickness and death, may exist, but our reporter has not seen it. The famous negro man in a dark cellar at midnight, with a candle that had gone out, looking for a black cat that wasn't there, is a mere fiction; it never existed; but the meeting above alluded to is a fact, and our reporter saw it. At Odd Fellow's Hall, in Cottage Place, on Wednesday evening, might have been seen gathered together a large and promiscuous assemblage of colored people, varying in shade from stove-pipe to meerschaum. They were the members and supporters of the Abyssinian Society of Benevolent Daughters of Esther—a society formed with much the same purposes as other benevolent secret societies, to wit: To furnish monies to members in cases of sickness, and for burial in case of death. The society is composed wholly of colored women, and its prosperous condition may be understood from the fact that it has over $3,000 in the treasury. Besides attending to the health of its members, the society has an eye on their morals; and if, when a sister applies for her $3 a week, in case of sickness, it is found that her sickness is the result of bad conduct, she is left to perish without assistance. Prevention is better than cure, and the motto of the Daughters of Esther clearly is, "If you don't wish to be burnt, keep out of the fire." Thus, much good is accomplished. The appearance of the colored ladies on Tuesday evening certainly left no room for reproach on this score, for they were a healthy-looking lot of women, with abundance of color. The ceremonies of this occasion consisted of a solemn and impressive march by the Daughters, all in black, with a black sexton in front of them, and each carrying a wand with white streamers on the end of it. "Thrice the brinded cat hath mewed," said one of the wand-bearing ladies in Macbeth at a similar late hour of the night; and thrice the Daughters marched in double file about the hall. Then there was prayer, speaking, songs, music, and a dinner to end the whole; and the dark meeting came to an end. The intelligence of this collection of colored people was of a high order, and the good their organization is calculated to accomplish cannot be easily estimated. The decorum and knowledge of social refinement displayed by the assembly was beyond criticism.

INCENDIARY FIRE.—At about half-past two o'clock yesterday morning, the stables of Mr. John L. Brown, at the corner of Lexington avenue and 624 street, were discovered to be on fire. Mr. Brown, as stated by the neighbors, succeeded in extinguishing the fire before much damage was done. The horses were taken out of the stables in safety. The fire is supposed to have been the work of incendiaries, as two men were seen to run off from the direction of the stables as the fire broke out. Mr. Brown is one of the new street contractors.

THE LAST OF THE STREET CLEANING UNDER THE OLD SYSTEM.—A warrant was countersigned yesterday by His Honor the Mayor for six weeks expenditures for cleaning streets under the old system carried on by the City Inspector, in accordance with the resolution of the Board of Health. The following are the items embraced in "the little bill" presented for two weeks up to June 3d, which shows how liberally the work was paid for under the City Inspector:

For sweepers, carmen, etc.	$30,498 97
For [illegible]	6,741 00
For laborers on hospital [illegible]	1,207 50
	$38,448 43
Two weeks up to June 17th:	
For sweepers	$33,719 81
For clerks, etc.	6,741 00
For laborers, etc.	4,299 00
	$44,759 81
Two weeks up to June 30th:	
For sweepers, etc.	$36,296 36
For clerks, etc.	6,741 00
For laborers, etc.	1,197 50
	$44,034 86
To this sum of $126,939 must be added a warrant in favor of R. H. Reed, for dumping ashes at various points for six weeks up to 30th June last	$1,110 70
Charles D. Billinghurst, 4th, 5th and 6th avenues, Bowery, Grand street, Chatham street, Park Row and Beekman street	4,140 00
John McCahill, cleaning 8th avenue	722 00
William H. Devoe, cleaning Broadway, Canal, Ann street, Chamber street, Fulton, West Side and Washington streets	2,050 00
Robert J. Brown, removing street manure from heaps to docks	2,834 00
	$133,681 66

This is at the rate of $[illegible]98,000 a week, or about twelve hundred thousand dollars per annum.

The new Contractors yesterday did an immense amount of work in the several Wards. To-day they expect to put on an additional force.

GOLD sold, at the Evening Exchange, at [illegible] which inclines to show

DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION

DESTRUCTION OF BARNUM'S MUSEUM

Immense Loss of Property.

The Collections of Half a Century Annihilated.

RAPID PROGRESS OF THE FIRE.

Falling Walls and Injured People.

NARROW ESCAPES, &c.

About half past twelve o'clock yesterday, while some of the employes in Barnum's Museum were quietly engaged eating their dinners, the Engineer rushed up from below announcing that his room was on fire, and about the same time immense volumes of smoke permeated the Ann street end of the building. Mr. Davidson, the glass blower with instant presence of mind, knowing that the immense whale tank was directly over the spot where the fire had begun to make headway, attempted to knock a hole in the huge reservoir. Being unsuccessful with the means at hand, Mr. Davidson started the Croton from the pipes, and attempted to wrench off some iron railings put up for the saloons. The smoke now drove him to the balcony, from where he saw some firemen attempting to enter the exit of the building on Ann street. By his direction they were enabled to burst in at this place, and if water had then been available at that point, a great destruction of property might have been prevented. Although excellent arrangements were everywhere provided throughout the other floors of the building, the ground floor was in possession of tenants who had not people provided for a fire contingency. Perceiving the firemen on hand, Mr. Davidson retired within the building, but was prevented by the smoke from reaching the great tank. He gave the alarm however, rushed towards the business office, and there found Mr. Hurd preparing to leave. The dense smoke now forced Davidson back, and so overcame him that he swooned away, returning to consciousness after being dragged, by some one, to the fresher air at the opposite end of the room. By this time, less than ten minutes from the first alarm, the strangers and others in the building were rapidly evacuating. A fainted woman blocked up the passage way, near the lower stairway. Deputy Sheriff Wm. McNamara seized her and bore her into the street below. To this officer is due the credit of probably saving the lives of many persons in the building. The moment he heard the cry of fire, he seemed to understand the situation. Knowing that the Giantess, Circassian woman, and others, occupied apartments on the third floor, he rushed thither, and burst open the doors. Finding the rooms empty he ascended to the next floor, and succeeded in bringing down the ladies assembled in one of the dressing-rooms there. Miss Swan, the Giantess, and Miss Zuruby Hannon, the Circassian girl, attempted to reach their own room for the purpose of bringing off a few valuables, but the flames had now reached the upper floors and burned all the property of these people, including some greenbacks, and one hundred and twenty dollars in gold belonging to Miss Swan. The Giantess and Circassian girl, accompanied by other ladies from the Museum, then escaped from the building and took refuge in the SUN office, where they remained all the afternoon. About five o'clock, a carriage conveyed them to a hotel. The upper part of the Museum was speedily flooded with all the available water from the pipes and a tank upon the roof, but no hope appearing of saving the building, the employees next turned their attention to the many thousand curiosities which have been collected during the last half century, and were stored here for the instruction and amusement of our citizens generally, and juveniles particularly. The rapid spread of the fire, in the lecture room and upper floors, compelled the operations to be confined almost exclusively to the second and third floors, where the wax figures and stuffed birds were exhibited. Out of the windows those curiosities were promiscuously pitched. When the Jeff. Davis pedicoated figure was recognized by the crowd, it was seized, kicked, knocked, and finally hanged to an awning frame, amid the derisive and contumelious epithets of the persons engaged in this pastime. One of the beautiful glass engines was miraculously saved, almost intact; and a considerable amount of the movable property was transported to the Astor House in an incredibly short space of time. While this was going on, the whales were bellowing, the snakes writhing, and the alligator lashing his tail in the rear of the working men. The seal was captured by a rough fireboy, whose clothes he tore and with whom he fought until a champagne basket was employed to contain the amphibious beast. Unfortunately the crowd so beat and bruised the animal, with boot heels and stones, that his life was not worth much at last accounts, although the seal was immediately taken to one of the floating fish tanks at Fulton Market. In less time than it has taken to write the above, the flames had mounted from the engine room, in the Ann street basement, to the roof, and were raging fearfully through the building long before a stream of water could be started by the engines, now rapidly arriving. An immense crowd of people speedily assembled, blocking up Broadway and Park Row from above the Astor House to below Fulton street—the police finding it difficult to force a passage for the engines. Slowly the crowds were driven back, and, when all hope of saving any more property was abandoned, a brave young fellow mounted the flag-staff and brought down the Stars and Stripes, amid the cheers of those who witnessed the daring feat. Soon after this all the firemen and other persons in the building were driven out by the heat, and Barnum's Museum was surrendered to the devouring element.

FIGHTING THE FIRE.

The arrival of steam engines, hose carts and ladder trucks, at this time, gave some promise that a good portion of the building would be saved. The firemen went to work with a will. A band of men dashed in at the lower doors but presently came forth again. Looking as if they had seen the elephant or his ghost. One of the boys was heard to exclaim, that "A grizzly bear chased them;" another said "the snakes were too thick for him;" another said "the snakes were too thick for me to be agreeable;" and it is believed that members of the "Happy Family" were vainly roving about seeking for egress, about this time, the poor animals having been liberated by their attendant. Streams of water now began to pour into the building, from which the flames ascended to a great height, giving forth such an intense heat that St. Paul's Church, opposite, was in imminent danger. On the roof of that building could be seen Rev. Dr. Dix, the Rector, and others, engaged in the work of preventing the fire from crossing the street. A light northwesterly breeze, however, saved the church and swept the flames towards Fulton street. Forty

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