A MAN, A CANDLE AND A GAS LEAK

They Raised the Roof Off the City and County Hospital.

A Workman and a Nurse Are Slightly Injured by the Explosion.

THE GAS COMPANY CENSURED.

Although Numerous Complaints Were Made the Fixtures Were Neglected.

A leaking gas jet, a lighted candle and a careless workman. This trio caused an explosion at the City and County Hospital yesterday that wrecked about forty-five feet of hallway, slightly bruised a nurse, singed the hair and burned the arms of a workman and frightened all the nervous patients in the contiguous wards into hysterics. The damage will aggregate probably $250.

The explosion occurred at about 3:20 P. M. in the main corridor of the building. Daniel Cameron, an employe of the San Francisco Gas Consumers' Association, living at 8 Angelica street, had entered one of the large manholes in the ceiling and was walking along the line of the gas pipe searching for a leak with a lighted taper. Suddenly there was a flash, a muffled report and then the sound of rending timbers. About forty-five feet of the roof collapsed entirely.

Miss C. L. Howard, one of the trained nurses, was walking along the corridor at the time, and was instantly buried in the debris.

An alarm of fire was immediately turned in, and Engineer W. H. Carson of the hospital with great foresight rushed to the gas meters and turned off the pressure. Otherwise a most disastrous conflagration would surely have resulted.

A stream of water was then turned on the ruins by the hospital corps and all danger of fire removed before the arrival of the regular firemen.

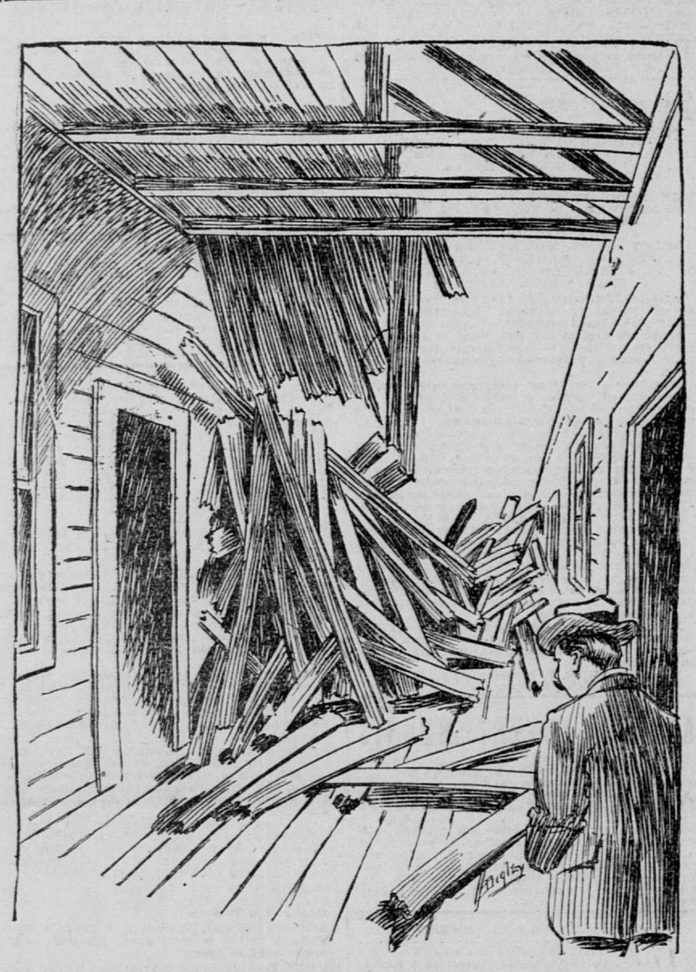
Miss Howard was found to be unhurt, except for a slight contusion between the shoulders. Cameron's burns proved insignificant.

"I have been constantly after the gas company, the Gas Consumers' Association and Mr. Hirsch, the chairman of the Light Committee of the Board of Supervisors," said Steward Robinson, "on account of the gas going out. On two occasions during the last ten days the gas went out in the middle of the night, and it was necessary for the officials to wake the various patients and employes of the hospital to be sure nobody should be asphyxiated.

"The gas company and the association are expected to keep the gas fixtures in repair and the pressure equal thoughout the building. The gas has caused a good deal of trouble, because of a crystalline deposit in the pipes. The Gas Consumers' Association said this was always likely to occur.

"Friday the workmen were cleaning out the pipes, and when they left we found a pipe in the main corridor was leaking. I went down to see Mr. Ludovici of the Gas Consumers' Association several times. He complained that the company had already done more work than they were paid for, but promised at least to send a man up to repair the leak.

"The workman was sent up to fix the leak and you see the result. We have had to bring all the lanterns, candles, lamps and torches in the neighborhood into requisition to-night to keep things light enough to perform our duties. I believe the Gas Consumers' Association is responsible for keeping the gas fixtures in proper condition according to contract."



Scene of the Explosion at the City and County Hospital.

THEY SETTLED IT.

The Celebrated Carter-Redmond Breach of Promise Case Has Been Compromised.

The breach of promise case of Mary Redmond against Thomas Carter, the carbuilder, has been compromised out of court, and, it is understood, will be dismissed.

The case against the millionaire created quite a sensation. The plaintiff sued for $50,000 damages, alleging that the defendant had courted her, won her affections and had then refused to make her his wife. The settlement will obviate the ventilation of various collateral matters.

WILL MAKE NO CONTEST.

J. J. Rauer Will Not Demand a Recount of Judge Hunt's Votes.

There is still considerable talk of election contests, but as yet no definite action has been taken by any of the disappointed candidates. It was published yesterday that J. J. Rauer would aid Frank Murasky to contest the election of Judge Hunt to his seat on the Superior bench. Murasky was beaten by a narrow margin. Mr. Rauer indignantly denies that he has any such intention and denounces the publication as a malicious lie.

A NEW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Purpose of the California State Therapeutic College.

Wealthy Men of the Country Interested in the Undertaking.

NOW SECURING A FACULTY.

In Two Weeks Names of All the Officers and Many of the Faculty Will Be Known.

Last Monday articles of incorporation of the California State Therapeutic College were filed. This is really the inception of what promises to be a most novel, and, from the work expected to be accomplished, gigantic enterprise undertaken in the medical world.

The objects of the incorporators, as set forth by their declarations, are to encourage, reform, educate and qualify in therapeutics, arts, philosophy and science, and to give the right as physicians to prescribe in the branches of electricity, hemospasia, hypnotism, magnetism, psychic and mental healing, materia medica, astrology, occult forces and science in the treatment of diseases, thus guarding against the indiscriminate use of said forces and arts.

So much for the declarations as set forth in the articles of incorporation. But the movement really amounts to a vast deal more than that—it is virtually an attempt to establish a fourth school of medicine, as may be gleaned from the following interview with Dr. T. G. Carpenter, one of the directors and incorporators, and named in the articles as the president:

"There are now three medical schools," said Dr. Carpenter, "the allopathic, the homeopathic and the eclectic. We are now engaged in what promises to be a successful attempt to found a fourth school. We will enlarge and teach in a broader sense than the other schools.

"The other schools do not teach electricity, hemospasia, hypnotism, magnetism, psychic and mental healing, or in fact anything mentioned in our articles of incorporation. Any method in the treatment of disease proving to be truly scientific will be thoroughly investigated. In this we will not be bound down by ironclad rules as are the other schools.

"I myself am a graduate of the Russ Medical College of Chicago, an allopathic institution, and the Goss Eclectic Medical College of Denver, and my experience in those schools has led me to advocate the proposed new school with strength and determination.

"Another object we have in view is to protect the people from many who are practicing without due qualification. All who qualify in the branches taught in this school will be granted the same privileges as the graduates of the old schools of medicine.

"A number of wealthy men throughout the State have subscribed to the undertaking and are interested in it to the extent of giving us most substantial aid."

Although the directors will not divulge the location at present it is known that a block of land, 100 feet front and 150 feet deep, overlooking the bay and within easy reach of the center of this City, has been donated as a building site by the head of the astrological department, Rev. Isaac Rumford, an Easterner, who will come here in January.

The directors and incorporators are: T. G. Carpenter, M.D.; Louise S. Drew, S.D.; A. T. Sherwood, M.D.; E. McCarthy and A. P. Merrill. Dr. Carpenter has been elected president and Louise S. Drew secretary.

The college is a logical offshoot of the California State Therapeutic Society, legally chartered February 16, 1895. Some of those connected with this society and interested in the founding of the college are B. Sturman, M.D.; W. M. Park, M.D.; J. M. Peebles, M.D., A.M.; W. Tanner, M.D.; W. M. Forster, M.D.; Nellie Beighle, M.D.; Samuel H. Roberts, M.D.; Lucy A. Chandler, M.D.; J. N. Wilkins, M.D.; Professor Joseph Rodes Buchanan, M.D.; T. G. Carpenter, M.D.; W. E. Pritchard, M.D.

It is stated that one of the best faculties to be had, men whose names are watchwords in the medical and scientific world, is now being secured.

The next meeting of the directors will be held the first Tuesday in December, at which time something more definite can be stated. The trustees are now at work on a design for the building.

Within two weeks the names of the trustees and the faculty, so far as secured, will be given forth for publication.

TWO SUICIDAL ATTEMPTS

Mrs. Emma Erickson Is Tired of Living With Her Husband.

She Throws Herself in Front of a Cable-Car and Then Tries to Jump Into the Bay.

Mrs. Emma Erickson, 74 Tehama street, made two determined but unsuccessful attempts Tuesday night to end her life, and she is now in the Receiving Hospital.

Her husband is Morris Erickson, a cook at 13½ Grant avenue. The couple have been living unhappily for some years, and about a year ago the wife, in desperation, threw herself off Fisherman's wharf.

She went back to her husband, and for a few months he treated her kindly, but she says he began his abuse again. Last night she went to 13½ Grant avenue to accompany him home. He was carrying some packages of groceries, and when they reached Third and Howard streets she says he called her a vile name and knocked her down with the packages he had in his hands.

She walked away from him and threw herself in front of a cable-car. The gripman divined her intention and stopped the car in time. She was dragged off the track by the conductor and the car went on its way.

Mrs. Erickson, still determined on suicide, walked along to the water front and when she reached a wharf near the ferry she walked on to it, took off her jacket and skirt and was in the act of jumping into the bay when a watchman caught her. She struggled to get out of his grasp, but he held her and took her to the Harbor Police Station. From there she was taken to the Receiving Hospital in the patrol wagon.

The couple have four children, a girl 16 years of age, a boy and twins, a boy and a girl.

The woman was in a highly nervous and excited state when taken to the hospital. She said she could not stand her husband's conduct and she was not afraid to die, as her sister would take care of her children.

MERCED COURSING.

A Big Crowd Will Go to the Meet. Ocean View to Close on Sunday.

The indications are that the Interstate Coursing Club, which will go to Merced on Saturday for its annual meeting, will have a larger crowd than ever before, and that the big stake, for which nearly $1000 in prizes is offered, will be an enjoyable affair. The club has secured a round-trip fare of $3 from the Valley road, and the devotes of the leash will go by that route.

The management of the Ocean View grounds has decided to close on Sunday next out of courtesy to the Interstate Club, and will send a representative to Merced. On the Sunday following, November 22, a 32-dog stake will be run at this resort.

According to French law a doctor has the first claim on the estate of a deceased patient.

CHAMPION PUGILISTS

George Lavigne and Charles McKeever Will Fight Under the Auspices of the Olympic Club.

Billy Kennedy, the superintendent of the Olympic Club, was a very happy man last evening. Billy has been corresponding with the manager of George Lavigne and Charles McKeever of Philadelphia with the object of consummating a match between those two noted pugilists. Yesterday he received a dispatch from Sam Fitzpatrick that Lavigne would meet McKeever under the auspices of the Olympic Club in a ten-round contest "if a purse" of $3000 was guaranteed and $500 expenses.

Kennedy stated that the club will give that amount, and he will so inform Fitzpatrick immediately.

McKeever is satisfied to fight Lavigne for any reasonable purse, and therefore the match is as good as made. In all probability the contest will be held in the Pavilion some time in the latter part of December.

McKeever has already proven himself a great fighter, and as he is the only man in Lavigne's class who has any license to meet the champion the sports of this City can count upon seeing another grand battle between the greatest of the great in pugilism.

It was rumored about town last evening that the Occidental Athletic Club will sign Jeffries of Los Angeles to-day to fight Van Buskirk of the Olympic Club, some time in December.

Barney Farley, manager of Jimmie Anthony, posted $250 yesterday as proof of his sincerity to match his charge to fight any man in America at 115 pounds for $1000 a side and the best purse obtainable. The challenge is open to the world.

Jack McAuliffe stated yesterday that if he is successful in his fight with Jimmy Carroll on the evening of the 20th inst. he will meet George Lavigne at catch weight. McAuliffe can no longer train down to the light-weight limit, which is 133 pounds. He will scale close to 145 pounds on the night he fights Carroll.

Counting the Ballots.

The official count of the ballots went slowly on yesterday, sixty-seven precincts of the Thirty-third, Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth districts being counted. The usual number of citations to election officers to appear and sign tally lists and other documents were issued. It will be thirty days before the ballots are all counted.

CLOTHING HOUSE FIRE.

Raphael & Co.'s Loss by Smoke Will Reach High Up in the Thousands.

The Chemical Engine Does Away With the Usual Flood Occasioned by Water.

The amount of loss sustained by J. W. Raphael & Co., the well-known clothing establishment at 9 Kearny street, occasioned by the recent fire, will reach, it has been estimated, many thousand dollars.

The damage done, outside of the total destruction of the handsome show-window, is due, however, entirely to the smoke that filled the four stories of the building.

The fire, which broke out in the show-window, for a short time threatened to be a serious conflagration, but by the timely arrival of the fire companies from an alarm turned in from box 48, the flames were quickly extinguished with the chemical hose.

The blaze is supposed to have originated from the crossing of the electric wires in the window, which are used for the purpose of lighting up the building.

The massive panes of plate glass broke with a crash, from the effects of the heat, and smoke poured into the store in smothering volumes.

Through the elevator shaft the smoke ascended to the second and third stories of the building, and in a short time each of the various departments was one dense mass of black smoke.

Mr. Raphael, in speaking of the matter yesterday, highly commended the action of his clerks on the upper floors in throwing open the windows and allowing a portion of the gases to escape, which probably diverted a spontaneous combustion and the destruction of the entire premises.

The recent innovation of the chemical engine has been a boon to the unfortunate merchants in case of fire.

The damage done to goods is much more serious if occasioned by a flood of water than by a volume of smoke. This fact was clearly demonstrated in yesterday's conflagration, the seriousness of which was diverted only by the use of the chemical hose. In place of the probable total damage of the lower floor by water the only loss sustained is due to the smoke that filled the building.

Charges Dismissed.

The Police Commissioners met last night and heard charges against three policemen, and in each instance the charge was dismissed. Cornelius J. Carroll had as a complaining witness a Mrs. Sharon, who accused him of treating her roughly while she was on Market street watching the Republican parade. Joseph A. Crackbon had a charge of failing to report for duty against him, and Richard J. McGrayon was charged with oversleeping himself on election day.

"Kind to a Fault."

The Chrysanthemum Dramatic Club will give an original two-act comedy, "Kind to a Fault," to-morrow evening at Native Sons' Hall. The cast includes: Charles Currier, Leon G. Salomon, Warren King, Dave J. Martin, Al Stone, Harry Bass, Leo J. McMahon, Mai Webber, Etta Butler, Emma Clawson, Minna Hepburn, Daisy L. McKee, Gusse Dawson, Louis Butler. The entertainment will conclude with dancing.