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**Railroad Accidents During the Year 1857.**

The following table shows the number of accidents, together with the number of killed and wounded, which have occurred on the various railroads in the United States during the past year, together with a comparative table of the number during 1856. No accident has been recorded which was not attended with loss of life or injury to person; neither does the table embrace the great number of persons who have been killed and maimed by jumping from moving trains, attempting to get on cars while they were in motion, being run over, &c.

Months	1857.			1856.		
	Acc'ts.	Killed.	Wounded.	Acc'ts.	Killed.	Wounded.
January	15	12	71	23	24	86
February	12	16	61	11	8	67
March	13	17	44	11	8	40
April	15	16	36	14	11	49
May	9	10	33	14	11	20
June	5	7	18	5	4	21
July	10	14	48	13	7	14
August	14	18	82	8	10	14
September	15	18	68	10	11	44
October	11	8	50	11	7	24
November	8	9	11	11	10	37
December	5	5	10	14	14	97
Total	126	130	530	143	195	629

**The Boston Theatre.**

BEFORE AND BEHIND THE SCENES.  
[From the Boston Bee, Nov. 9.]

During the past few weeks the public have been enlightened by an *ex parte* statement from a committee of stockholders with reference to the condition of the Boston theatre, which statement contained an indirect censure upon the manager, charging him, among other things, with extravagance in the expenditure of the funds of the corporation. The charge has also been echoed in the columns of one of our city weeklies, which stated, in addition, that the causes of the failure of the Boston theatre cannot be attributed to a want of support on the part of the public. These charges have been made through ignorance or in malice. The manager is bound by the lease to employ a company equal in every respect to the first class theatres of Europe; he was to produce all dramatic and operatic entertainments in a style corresponding with such establishments, and was never to produce anything but the highest and most legitimate class of entertainments.

The stock company engaged by Mr. Barry, although one of the best ever witnessed in this country, was not by any means extravagant. The salaries paid to the actresses and actors were not as much as other metropolitan theatres pay for like talent. And this remark will apply to every employe of the theatre.

Mr. Barry's contract with the stockholders of the theatre is to share the profits after \$12,500 and the expenses paid. By the following from a carefully prepared statement by one of the directors, it will be seen how the money received has been expended:

Expenses	1st Season. 3d Season.		2d Season.	
	1854-55.	1855-56.	1855-56.	1856-57.
Salaries, before and behind the curtain	\$71,287	57,442	57,734	57,734
Benefits	37,776	10,257	19,937	19,937
Materials	4,045	4,341	4,855	4,855
Light	8,664	11,134	6,307	6,307
Fuel	8,040	6,865	6,785	6,785
Water	1,490	1,076	1,110	1,110
Printing	120	110	120	120
Advertising	5,630	3,673	4,908	4,908
Police	2,070	1,879	2,520	2,520
Taxes	646	416	450	450
Sundries	552	1,455	1,246	1,246
Rent	960	960	960	960
Total	102,550	92,500	108,871	108,871

Total amount of receipts, 146,895; Total receipts for three seasons, \$360,090; Total expenses, 358,157.

During the three years the stockholders have received for rent, \$22,750; in scenery, music, wardrobe and properties, 26,155; in 230 season tickets, market value \$35 each, 24,150.

Total, \$73,055.

**1857.—THE WEATHER AND THE RAIN.**

The following statistics of the weather during 1857, have been carefully compiled by B. J. Leonard, Esq.:

Months	The Temperature of the Months.				Mean.
	Maximum.	Minimum.	1856.	1857.	
January	40	36	41	38	18-33
February	46	29	32	28	16-30
March	48	28	32	28	32-35
April	50	24	33	28	35-38
May	57	32	40	34	60-60
June	86	57	68	54	74-44
July	98	64	79	68	73-37
August	90	53	72	58	72-18
September	90	44	67	50	73-42
October	78	35	55	42	53-32
November	75	31	45	32	42-39
December	61	27	32	27	38-11

1 1/2 inches snow fell on December 29th, 1857.

\* Below zero.

The following table exhibits the number of inches of rain during 1857, as compared with the number of inches in 1856:

Month	1856.		1857.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
January	4.54	3.30	1.51	3.10
February	1.23	3.90	6.00	10.00
March	2.23	3.0	4.01	1.00
April	3.52	6.80	1.30	2.40
May	2.59	5.30	2.07	1.20
June	1.98	6.40	2.94	3.50
Total			33.92	44.20

**THE RAIN GAUGE.**

Exhibiting the amount of Rain which has fallen each year since 1840:

Year.	No. Inches.	Year.	No. Inches.
1840	47.40	1849	42.09
1841	55.50	1850	54.54
1842	48.53	1851	32.50
1843	46.91	1852	45.74
1844	40.17	1853	40.66
1845	40.00	1854	40.18
1846	44.38	1855	44.09
1847	40.09	1856	43.92
1848	35.00	1857	42.20

**ANTHRACITE COAL TRADE.**—Table showing the quantity of Coal sent to Market annually, from 1854 to 1858, inclusive. Prepared from official documents, for the Pennsylvania Inquirer.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.
Lehigh Coal Co.	505,187	992,209	317,852	300,427
Beaver Meadow Co.	54,203	38,538	.....	4,326
Hazleton Co.	144,180	160,197	135,238	85,810
S. Leaf, now Diamond	43,468	33,454	46,933	28,163
Buck Mountain Co.	66,410	36,079	101,125	63,705
Sum't Sp Mount'n	147,614	179,220	127,513	38,435
Wilkesbarre RR.	39,090	27,763	20,964	6,799
Cranberry	68,963	84,550	74,686	64,956
Colrain	85,209	97,880	77,104	43,621
B. Sugar Leaf, &c.	91,491	155,113	67,161	*174,432
Total Lehigh	1,245,816	1,274,983	1,357,520	900,314
Schuylkill	2,514,024	3,180,513	2,837,185	2,587,145
Little Schuylkill	444,184	422,003	431,317	361,388
Total Schuylkill	2,958,208	3,602,516	3,268,502	2,948,533
Lackawanna	1,006,986	1,090,241	1,055,818	900,000
Pine Grove	40,358	105,638	77,376	282,500
Lykens Valley	58,000	75,000	100,000	121,550
Shamokin	60,252	118,700	125,000	153,525
Dauphin and Susquehanna	57,247	62,700	.....	.....
Wyoming	492,689	550,000	510,631	404,000
Total Supply	5,919,556	6,879,836	.....	.....

\* Including 25,386.03 tons by East Sugar Leaf Co.; 3,751.01 by A. Lathrop & Co.; 510.11 by Stafford & Co.; 26,693 by New York and Lehigh; 9,374.01 by German & Co.; 18,413 by South Spring Mountain; 11,786.10 by North Spring Mountain; 36,736.19 by Council Ridge; 20,240.07 by Mount Pleasant; 11,093.06 by Wyoming; 20,075.75 by the Hartford Co.; 78,800 by the Broad Mountain, and 432,500 tons by the Scranton Co.

**1857.—CITY IMPROVEMENTS.**

Building Permits issued during the year—

Months	Dwellings	Stores	Chapel	Factories	Miscellaneous	Total
January	4	1	1	1	10	16
February	33	4	1	1	16	54
March	172	9	5	3	29	218
April	182	22	3	5	31	243
May	171	1	1	1	50	222
June	104	10	1	3	19	137
July	107	13	1	5	34	146
August	142	7	3	1	23	181
September	100	5	1	1	8	114
October	98	11	1	1	31	142
November	44	1	1	1	15	61
December	52	1	1	1	9	61
Total	1209	83	14	22	261	1595

Dwellings and Stores combined are classed as Stores.

The permits for Repairs and Additions are not included in the above. Under the Miscellaneous head are comprised stables, coach houses, dry houses, offices, beer vaults, distilleries, slaughter houses, hotels, &c.

**1857.—FIRES.**

Last year the total number of fires in this city was 336. Of this number it is stated 80 originated accidentally, and that 159 were the work of design. In the future, the developments of the Chief Fire Detective will show that the proportion of the latter is too great. The following table gives the number of fires in each District, with the amount of loss and of insurance:

MONTHS.	DISTRICTS.	Total.	Loss.	Insur-ance.	Loss over Ins.
January	8 15 9 12 2 1 1	48	168,890	102,520	55,380
February	4 9 3 3 1 2 1	28	47,240	36,800	10,440
March	12 7 5 3 2 1 3	38	13,980	2,430	11,550
April	8 9 7 3 1 1 3	36	71,411	61,931	9,480
May	4 6 5 5 2 0 0	22	22,662	14,695	7,967
June	9 2 4 5 0 0 0	18	23,652	17,328	6,325
July	4 4 6 4 0 2 5	25	14,755	10,525	4,230
August	3 2 2 7 0 0 3	17	4,230	3,120	1,110
Sept.	2 3 2 2 1 1 2	13	52,730	45,780	6,950
Last Cr.	31 20 13 18 5 10 5	101	138,853	98,668	40,185
Total			\$499,223	\$393,796	Total loss over insurance, \$113,437.

**STEAMBOAT ACCIDENTS IN 1857.**

The following table embraces the number of steamboat accidents which have occurred on the rivers, lakes and bays of this country, which were attended with loss of life and injury to persons during the year 1857, together with the number of killed and wounded. We also give a comparative table of like incidents in 1856:

Months	1857.			1856.		
	Acc'ts.	Killed.	Wounded.	Acc'ts.	Killed.	Wounded.
January	1	1	1	1	1	1
February	3	27	1	2	22	38
March	4	12	19	3	89	26
April	4	24	27	2	8	15
May	3	45	1	3	4	2
June	1	4	10	4	62	10
July	2	15	6	1	66	11
August	1	55	7	7	99	11
September	4	119	1	2	7	7
October	1	20	1	1	5	17
December	1	32	29	1	358	127
Total	30	322	80	29	658	127

**Governors of the States and Territories for 1858.**

States.	Governors.
Alabama	Andrew B. Moore,
Arkansas	Elias N. Conway,
California	John B. Weller,
Connecticut	Alexander H. Holley,
Delaware	Peter F. Claxson,
Florida	M. S. Perry,
Georgia	Joseph E. Brown,
Illinois	William H. Bissell,
Indiana	A. P. Willard,
Iowa	R. P. Lowe,
Kentucky	Charles S. Morehead,
Louisiana	R. C. Wickliffe,
Maine	Joseph H. Williams,
Maryland	Thomas H. Hicks,
Massachusetts	Nathaniel P. Banks,
Michigan	K. S. Bingham,
Mississippi	William McWillie,
Missouri	R. M. Stewart,
New Hampshire	William Haile,
New Jersey	William A. Newell,
New York	John A. King,
North Carolina	Thomas Bragg,
Ohio	Salmon P. Chase,
Pennsylvania	William F. Packer,
Rhode Island	Elisha Dyer,
South Carolina	R. F. W. Alston,
Tennessee	Isham G. Harris,
Texas	Hardin R. Runnels,
Vermont	Ryland Fletcher,
Virginia	Henry A. Wise,
Wisconsin	Alexander W. Randall,
Territories.	
Oregon	William L. Carrie,
Minnesota	Samuel S. Medary,
New Mexico	Abraham Rencher,
Utah	Alfred Cumming,
Washington	Fayette McMillen,
Nebraska	Wm. A. Richardson,
Kansas	James W. Denver,

\* Acting Governor.  
† Secretary and Acting Governor.

**Fire Yesterday Morning.**

A WORD ABOUT THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Narrow Escape of Three Human Beings.

FIRE PLUGS FROZEN. 109-1

Yesterday morning, at 2 o'clock, a fire broke out in a three story brick house 606, Ronaldson street, above Shippen, Fourth Ward, and three persons came very near losing their lives; two of them being badly burned before they were rescued. The fire plugs were frozen in the vicinity, and while the Moyamensing and Columbia Hose Companies, and perhaps other fire companies, were thawing the plugs, the fire increased until it reached the next building, and both structures were pretty well destroyed. Had the plugs been in good order, the flames would unquestionably have been extinguished in a few moments, but owing to the negligence of Mr. Samuel Ogden, the Chief Engineer of the Water Department, in not having the plugs kept in order, a very considerable amount of property was destroyed, for which the City, in all probability, will have eventually to pay. As the buildings were insured, a very pretty contest will, perhaps, take place between the Insurance Company and the City, all for the inexcusable neglect of the person to whom is entrusted by our City Grandfathers the affairs of the Water Department, which in this instance have been shamefully abused. How many more plugs are frozen we know not; perhaps nearly the whole of them in some of the districts are in ice bound fetters, and no time should be lost in making the necessary inspection. If the Water Department still neglects its duty, the citizens who live near the fire-plugs should take the matter in hand until the good time shall come when men of sense and energy will take the reins of government in hand.

It appears that the fire originated in the second story of the building, occupied by a colored man named William Sorden, who was asleep in bed with a small boy named John Ceaser. A lamp had been left burning, and by some means or other the flame set fire to the bed-curtain, as is supposed, and the sleepers were only awakened by the burning material falling on them. In an adjoining room there slept an aged colored man, named Walter Hall, afflicted with paralysis; and it was with great difficulty that he was rescued without injury. The flames which might have been extinguished easily, had water been handy, spread, and finally reached the roof and communicated with the adjoining house occupied by Campbell Dickson, the roof and upper part of which were destroyed. His household goods were more or less damaged by hasty removal. The building in which the fire originated was owned by Widow Darham.

We might have stated before that Mrs. Hall and her two daughters were in the basement, at work, to maintain an honest livelihood, when two men chanced to pass by and saw the fire. They rapped at the door, and at the same time the screams of Mr. Sorden, who had just at that moment become aroused to the impending danger, were heard. Mr. S. and the lad were considerably burned, and may not recover for some time. Just such developments as the above make people feel insecure when retiring to bed at night, not knowing whether fire plugs are frozen or not. Firemen themselves may hasten to scenes of conflagration, risk their lives, &c., and perhaps, after all, have to stand idle and see the property of their fellow-citizens fall a prey to flames, because of the neglect of the Chief Engineer of the Water Department.