CREAMER CHILDREN'S FATE IS STILL A MYSTERY

Two Months Have Passed Since Their Disappearance and Not a Clue Has Been Obtained--Some Theories Discussed by a Staff Correspondent of the Sun who Made a Careful Investigation of the Territory

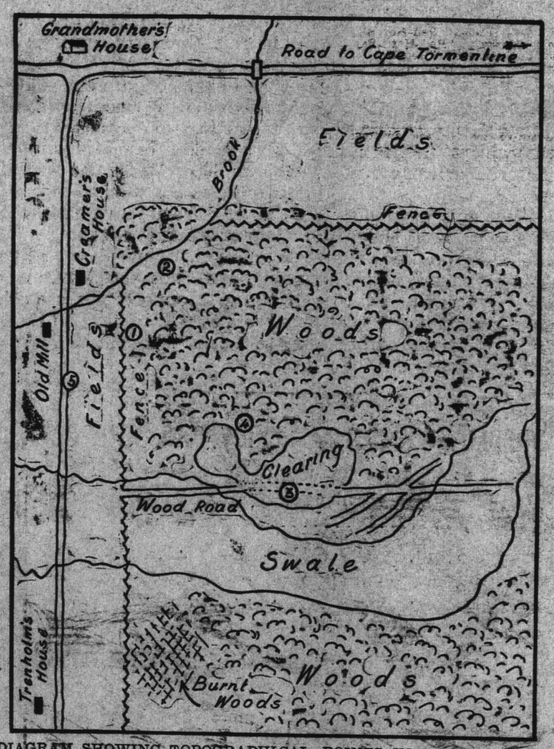

DIAGRAM SHOWING TOPOGRAPHICAL POINTS IN BAYFIELD MYSTERY.

(1) Where Trenholm and the children got into the woods and where they were seen by his brother and sister from (5).
(2) Is the place where Geneva left the others and returned home.
(3) The place where the footmarks were seen on Monday morning.
(4) The place where the raven was seen.
(5) The spot on the branch road where his brother and sister were when they saw him. This road is a public road and goes back to the railway.

(Special Staff Correspondence.)

BAYFIELD, July 13.—Two months were rounded out today since the disappearance from their home at Peacock's settlement, three miles from this village, of the two young children of John and Ruth Creamer. So suddenly did the youngsters vanish that not a few hold the belief that the earth has swallowed them. Although the search has been kept up this week, hope of laying bare the strange secret of their disappearance is now at its lowest ebb, and if a few home days bring no results, their vanishing is likely to be regarded as a mystery, not only baffling, but insoluble.

Although two months have now gone by, the mystery is the chief subject of conversation in Westmorland county. The guests at the Moncton hotels still theorize as they sit smoking on the verandas. Strangers chatting on the N. B. & P. E. I. railway to Cape Tormentine speak of it before the weather and each day when the train arrives at Sackville from the Cape, the incoming passengers are greeted by the "Anything about the children yet?" and similar remarks.

In this neighborhood the interest is even more intense. The soldier boys returning from Sussex inquired for the latest news before the train had drawn up at the station. At the farm house table it is discussed earnestly and with heat, and there are often as many theories as there are members of the household. The mother will say, perhaps that the bodies are still in the woods. This, however, the father will stoutly deny, saying, that he himself has been over every foot of the ground. His idea is murder. The boys base their arguments on wild animals. The girls will suggest kidnapping, and baby will probably stick out for fairies.

They all dream of it by night and most of them have had visions. Dotted all over the Creamer farm spots are pointed out to the visitor as having been supernaturally disclosed as the resting place of the lost children. The green birch with the big strip of bark hanging down was vividly described by one who had never been in the forest. Its exact location was told. Beneath its roots the children were to be found. The tree has almost been undermined but nothing was discovered. Beneath the bridge that spans the by-road another found them while in his sleep, while to still another nocturnal visitor was imparted the knowledge that they lay beneath the old mill. Two casual tramps lived on the fat of the land by having a vision as regular as nightfall There is one visitor, Tuttle by name, lately arrived who refused to pay car fare on the railway to the Cape saying that he had no money, but after he found the bodies he would deduct his fare from the $100 reward which has been offered.

Letters were received from spiritualists in every part of the country. A St. John gentleman described the grounds around with no mean accuracy. A Woodstock mind medium fortified with a letter of recommendation from the solicitor general, offered to visit the spot on the payment of his expenses to the sum of $50.

Even yet the farmer at his work takes a look over and anon in the direction of the forest, and should he see crows covering over a spot half a mile distant in the woods or perchance a raven, immediately the garden is neglected. The preparations for haying are dropped and he betakes himself to the spot with celerity. A spare afternoon is sure to be spent in the woods, from which he will emerge covered with mosquito bites and tired.

Throughout the country the feeling is expressed that there should have been prompter action by the authorities to ferret the strange secret to the bottom. It was left to a private citizen, F. W. Summer, of Moncton, to offer a reward of $100 for the solution of the mystery.

This gentleman has also kept at his own expense four searchers on the ground, since the neighbors have more or less abandoned the quest. He has also aided Creamer, who would otherwise have had to return to his trade of carpentry.

That two children should disappear so completely and so mysteriously would provide a theme fit for a novelist. The 13th of May was a quiet and peaceful country Sabbath. The three Creamer children had been spending the day in the fields, with Russell Trenholm, ithe seventeen-year-old boy living in the adjoining farm house. They had spent all day together, the children gathering white violets in the fields, while Russell sat near them making whistles for them from the alder bushes.

Then about six o'clock Russell went in the woods for the cows, and with him went the two younger Creamer children, Ollie, a little girl of five, and Ralph, a black-eyed, light-haired chubby boy of three. Geneva, the eldest of the family, a bright and pretty youngster of seven, returned home. This was the last seen of the children.

Russell's brother and sister, going from their home to the end of the by-road, saw their brother with the Creamer children by the fence and walking down to their grandmother's, say that they had hardly arrived there before their brother came in also. Soon after Geneva arrived in the house she heard her sister calling her from the wood, but she did not go to her.

About an hour after the disappearance the alarm was raised and the search was kept up all night. Next morning forty men were on the grounds, and the woods were searched in all directions within the radius of a mile and further. Such in brief is the story of the disappearance.

No two people who have yet visited Peacock's settlement have agreed on a theory for a solution of the mystery. They are as numerous as the pebbles on the seashore, and the majority have about as much point to them. In the ordinary detective yarn the reader is perplexed by the want of clues. Here he is smothered mentally by the number of them. So vast is the area and so many possibilities (although not probabilites) that it is hard to get a clear view of the situation.

As a solution of the difficulty one would naturally inquire as to what features about the situation of the Creamer house made it different from any other farm house on that peaceful Sunday afternoon, or whether there had been any incidents there which might lead to suspicion of others being involved.

ARE THE CHILDREN STILL IN THE WOODS?

The Creamer house stands only a few yards from the edge of a vast wood, and the easiest solution then is that the children are still in the forest. However, of the hundreds who have searched, there is not a dozen who would express any such view, all claiming that the woods have been too thoroughly gone over. A hundred men or so on the second day after the disappearance swept in organized form through the forest for a distance of a mile and over, while women and children skirted along the borders. Although the recent case at Perth is cited, where the body of a man lost in the woods seven years ago, for whom diligent search was made, was found a few weeks ago on the borders of the woods, yet it does not seem possible that such an ending could come to this case.

Another important point to be taken into consideration is that the children would have been cut off by different barriers from getting far into the forest. Chief of these is the swale, as it is locally called a swamp, almost impassable at the present time on account of the water and bog. Naturally in May it would be even worse in this respect. That children could have made their way through this seems impossible. The swale, it is said, was thoroughly searched immediately after the disappearance. At present it would be about impossible to find anything there, as it is covered with ferns of tropical appearance standing over two feet high. The swale from the road circles through the woods at a distance varying from an eighth of a mile to over a mile from the Creamer house.

Not content, however, with viewing the swale as an impossible barrier, extensive searches have been made on the other side. Again a wire fence which extends a considerable distance into the woods from the other side would form a barrier there.

The chief evidence to support the idea that the bodies are still in the woods was the alleged discovery by Alex. Peacock, and three others early on Monday morning, of three child's bootprints in an opening in the forest called "The Birch Grove." Mr. Peacock is a reliable inhabitant of the district, and he and those with him were sure that they had found the steps of the children. So sure did they feel that they circled around the edge of the steps, feeling sure to run across the children every minute. Before they returned, the steps were obliterated by the marks of others passing through the grove. Mr. Peacock identified the foot prints as similar to those found near the fence.

The grove at the spot is covered with grass, except for this little spot of mud where the three marks were found.

Searchers have claimed that in another part of this grove, carrion has been smelt, but although this section of the woods has been the most diligently searched, no other signs have been found. One searching party saw a raven rise from this same place, but again nothing was discovered. It is said, but there is reason to doubt its truth, that a cry was heard in this direction during the first night.

Darkness came on about an hour after the children were lost, and it is calculated that it would be as much as Ralph could do to reach this place before nightfall. Geneva, however, although, of course, she is much older, was able, when accompanying a party in to travel quicker than her elders and did not take much over ten minutes. None of the children, however, were accustomed to go in the forest, having been told by their mother that there were Indians there.

Doctors agree that as there was a frost on the night of the 13th, that there would be little chance for the children to have proceeded further on Monday morning.

THE BROOK DRAGGED.

The father himself made his way up the brook, lighting his way by a lantern, on Sunday night. The small mill pond and other neighboring waters have been thoroughly dragged. There is no possibility that the children falling into the brook in the woods could have been taken by it down through the fields to the straits, three-quarters of a mile away.

DID THE EARTH SWALLOW THEM

There is a story that a number of years ago on a neighboring farm that a cow disappeared one day and three years afterwards its horns were found sticking up through the mire. The formation at the place is said to be somewhat similar to the bog in the swale.

THE MURDER THEORY.

There is no doubt in the mind of Creamer as to what happened to his two favorite children. He is firmly convinced that they were murdered, and is inclined to suspect Russell Trenholm, on account of his having been last seen with them and because of previous stories told concerning the boy by his little daughter Ollie.

He says Ollie told her mother not very many days before that Russell was a dirty brute, telling her of an indecent action of his.

Creamer says that he tried to get a warrant out against Russell, but the authorities would not issue it.

Such a possibility is absurd, except under one condition, namely that some at least of his family are aware of his deed and aided him in disposing of the bodies and in accounting for his time after their disappearance.

Altogether it may be said that if he is innocent that it would have been better if he had been arrested, together with Creamer and his wife, and the whole matter investigatd.

At the present time the boy might have a life of torture with all eyes looking on him suspiciously. He is now working in his brother's lobster factory, and his every motion is watched, the fact that he walked up and down the bridge which spans the brook causing that stream to be dragged again. Even in his sleep his companions listen to hear him make some disclosure, and traps have been made to try to catch him.

To strangers, however, he is inaccessible except in the presence of his mother, who prevents him from answering every question of the inquisitive visitor. The boy's father is dead, and it is probably natural that he should lean altogether on his mother for support.

The boy has by no means a criminal appearance, but does not look particularly bright. As the result of an accident when young the boy's physical development also does not seem to be exactly normal. The boy is rather stooped and almost deformed in that regard. Otherwise there is nothing particularly noticeable about him.

A rather strange feature of the case is that he and Geneva, who has been cross-questioned again and again, and who has always stuck to her first story, differ considerably in relating what happened that evening, principally on the fact that Geneva says that the boy asked Ollie to come with him and get the cows, which the boy denies, saying that the chidren followed him.

Geneva in telling the story of the day says that it was Ollie for whom Russell made the whistles that morning, and it was she only that he invited to go with him.

Those who would bring an accusation of murder say that it was most peculiar that within a day or so after the disappearance the boy's mother took his clothes, made of homespun, and washed them, putting large patches on his trousers. When questioned she said that they were badly in need of mending. As he had been wearing them on Sunday, however, they were presumably his best suit.

Another incident to which they would point is that fire broke out in the woods opposite his brother's farm, a few days after the children's disappearance. Although the woods were searched the next day, nothing was discovered, but it might well be imagined it is claimed that the bodies if they were within the burnt district, could then be taken away and buried.

However, if his brother and sister are to be believed, Russell arrived at the house of their grandmother about the same time they did. From the time they saw him by the fence they walked slowly down to the house of their grandmother. The walk could not have taken fifteen minutes and Russell to have gone over the path through the woods to reach the same place would have had to hurry to have done it in that time.

DO THE CREAMERS KNOW ANYTHING?

It is commonly asserted in Peacock's settlement that Mrs. Creamer must be aware of where the children are, as she has taken it so coolly. After the first time in which she remained the greater part of the night on the road she certainly has not shown very much emotion. However, the theory of kidnapping with her assent or with her permission does not seem to hold. Not only were no teams seen in the neighborhood that day, but it is certain that none of her relatives or friends have the children, while Stewart Goodwin of Sackville, her father, has been most energetic in the search, and has been down there during the week still searching. He even examined the houses of his own relatives. Creamer's emotion is too real and no one has suggested that he has any cannection with the matter.

THE KIDNAPPING THEORY.

If there was any kidnapping, then it must be taken for granted that there was no pre-arranged plot, from the Creamer house. That anyone else would have taken them off seems absurd, as Creamer says he is not a millionaire to hold for ransom. There were no Gypsies in the neighborhood, and although there were a few Indians some place in the district, the days of such happenings belong to past centuries. If, however, by any chance the children are yet alive, the only possible chance would seem to be in the wigwam of some Indian in a distant part of the province.

The Nerves of School Children

Dr. Weir Mitchell, the great American authority on diseases of the nerves, makes the following observations on school children's nerves:

As examination time approaches headaches become frequent as the result of eye strain and exhausted nerves. St. Vitus' Dance is preceded by incessant winking, shrugging of the shoulders and twitching of the face muscles.

Girls become hysterical, nervous, cry easily, get fidgety, etc.

Under these circumstances the system demands such assistance as is afforded by Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

Failure to restore the depleted nerves makes a complete failure of health almost certain, for nervous diseases do not get well of their own accord.

Because of its mild and gentle action and extraordinary restorative influence, Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is especially suited as a treatment for pale, weak and sickly children.

It instils new vigor into brain and nerves, adds new, firm flesh and tissue and builds up the system generally; 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Company, Toronto.

LONDON, July 14.—The following programme of the interparliamentary conference which will open in London on July 23, and which will be attended by Hon. W. J. Bryan, has been issued in Brussels and Berne by the secretary of the union, M. Gobat, ex-vice-president of the Swiss Confederation:

Nomination of the president and vice-presidents.

Proposals of the American group with reference to an international parliament.

Proposal of the American group to draft a standard treaty of arbitration.

Examination of questions to be submitted to the second Hague conference —notably (a) limitation of land and

BERLIN, July 14—The Berlin police, at the instance of the Roman Catholic authorities, have confiscated a novel recently published here entitled "The Sinful Bishop." The story describes the numerous temptation to which Catholic clergymen are subject on account of their vow of celibacy, and its author is a Catholic priest. The act of the police has caused considerable astonishment, as the novel in no sense offends against morality.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

MAN KILLED BY LIGHTNING

Fatality Occured at Welsford Thursday Night

Was Sitting With Merry Party in Orange Hall—Four Others Were Stunned By Shock—Other Places Struck

During the terrible storm on Thursday evening the Orange Hall at Welsford, where about thirty people were enjoying themselves, was struck by lightning, and Ludlow Nase, a young man of Nerepis, was instantly killed, and four others stunned by the shock.

The lightning struck the flag pole on the building and following this down entered, breaking the wall and throwing splinters to each side.

Two young men Charles Sproule and Geo. Roberts were sitting directly in front of the place where the lightning entered, but the clapboards seemed to deflect the flash, which passed between these two across the room to where Mr. Nase was sitting. He was smoking a cigar, chatting with the others in the room, and when the flash of lightning lit up the room it blinded the occupants. When they could see again what was going on Mr. Nase was lying on the ground. The only mark apparent to those near him, was a slight scratch on his chin, as though he had been struck by a flying splinter.

J. N. Smith was the first to recover from the shock and he picked Mr. Nase up. He sent two of the men immediately for Dr. Arnold, who tried all means of resuscitation in the hope of saving the man but he soon found that death had been instantaneous. There was a slight mark over the man's heart and his face and neck were blue from the shock. He was taken to his home in Nerepis yesterday morning.

In the afternoon a severe electrical storm passed over the village, lasting for about an hour. After this storm ceased many of the visitors to the picnic left for home. The storm recommenced about nine o'clock in the evening, when all but thirty of the merry-makers had left for home. The second storm was very severe and as it looked as though it would not clear up for some time an impromptu dance was arranged. Enough dancers were found to form two sets of lancers, the rest of the party remaining seated. During the dance the lightning struck the building, and the persons who were on the floor attribute their safety to the fact that they were dancing, as the main building was unharmed.

When the lightning struck the building it appeared, to break into two flashes, the one passing through the smoking room and the other going below the floor and emerging at the upper end of the hall, stunning several of the people standing there. Miss Jennie Cochrane was quite seriously shocked, and Jack Godfrey was stunned by the flash passing close to his head. A sliver of wood about 14 inches long and 2 inches thick passed between Thomas Godfrey and his wife, who were standing in the centre of the floor. The lightning also burned Mr. Howell's back slightly. Lawson Stewart was also severely stunned, being thrown out of the chair in which he was sitting.

After the accident two men drove down for Dr. Arnold. When he arrived on the scene he discovered a black spot just below the vertex of the man's heart. He did everything that was possible but life was extinct and had been instantaneous, he thought. Messrs. Soule and Roberts are still under the care of Dr. Arnold.

Mr. Nase lived at Nerepis Station. He was the only son of Henry Nase and was about thirty years old. He was married two years ago but his wife is dead. He was a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and the members of that order around Nerepis will attend his funeral in a body on Sunday next.

Lightning struck the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stout at Milford on Thursday night at 11.15. The lightning first struck the chimney and passed down into the dining room, over to the sideboard and china closet, both of which were demolished, the wall paper was scorched and a streak was left marking the passage of the flash.

The lightning passed out through the house into the woodshed tearing the beams open. It then worked its way through the roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Stout were sleeping up stairs, as well as their three children. They were all slightly shaken up and shocked by the accident but they all luckily escaped serious injury.

A house at Little River owned by John Lee and Co., and occupied by John Thompson and Frank Bettle and their families had an almost miraculous escape from being destroyed by fire. A bolt of lightning struck the barn, which is connected with the house, and after tearing out a window coursed down the side, ripped off shingles and then passed into the ground. Hay was piled close to the window where the lightning entered, and had it caught the buildings could not have been saved.

During the course of the thunder storm in Welsford on the afternoon of the 12th a house belonging to Mrs Roberts was struck by lightning and quite badly damaged. A bedroom suite was demolished, several pictures and the piano were also destroyed. The lightning passed through the sitting room and no person was hurt. Every other room in the house was tenanted and the occupants consider their escape as miraculous.

BOSTON, July 14.—The Herald says that Mrs. Leslie Carter, the actress, was married to William Payne at Portsmouth, N. H., yesterday. The ceremony was performed, it is said, by Rev. Dr. Emerson Hovey, an Episcopal clergyman, at his home in that city. Mrs. Carter, Mr. Payne and a party of friends arrived in Portsmouth in automobiles from Boston late in the afternoon.

KING EDWARD WELCOMES THE CANADIAN DELEGATES

Showed that He Is Closely Watching Canadian Affairs --No Reference Made to His Visit to Canada--- Chamberlain Unable to Meet Canadians Today--Sir Charles Rivers-Wilson Coming

MONTREAL, July 13—The Star's London cable has the following:—The King gave the most cordial reception to the Canadian delegates at Buckingham Palace at noon today. It was especially gratifying to know that the visit was due to the King's initiative. He wished to give practical evidence of his keen, warm interest in the colonies. Lord Brassey as lord-in-waiting, himself an ex-colonial governor presented in turn Sir Daniel MacMillan, Sir Sandford Fleming, Messrs. George E. Drummond, F. H. Mathewson, R. Wilson Smith, J. F. Ellis, W. F. Cockshutt, M. P. The King expressed the sincere hope that the deliberations of the Congress would result in good for the Empire. The delegates say the King was most cordial and tactful, and showed how closely he watched Canadian affairs, and how gratified he felt at Canada's abundant prosperity. He hoped they were thoroughly enjoying their visit to London and would come soon again. He made no reference to his Canadian visit. It is understood that the delegates were also privately advised not to refer to it, the matter being still under deliberation.

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain is unable to accept the Canadian invitation to luncheon tomorrow. It is hoped an opportunity will arise later to enable the Canadians to carry out their desire o personally associate themselves with the astonishing national demonstrations attending Mr. Chamberlain's birthday. It is understood that Mr. Chamberlain the more regrets the postponement because he attaches the greatest importance to the remarkable preference victory achieved largely by Canadian eloquence and argument at this week's commerce congress. The congress, representing the leading commercial bodies of Great Britain and the whole empire, by 105 chambers to 41 not only declared for preference, but called on the British and colonial ministers to give effect to the principle at the colonial conference next April. This decision confirms the belief that the last British election was gained more on account of education and Chinese labor than tariff reform, and that British public opinion is being won over to the wisdom of the policy by which every portion of the empire would be free to bargain with every other or not to bargain at all. At present there is not this freedom because the mother country refuses to negotiate with any other part of the empire.

Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, president of the Grand Trunk, who is to be accompanied by Lady Violet Wilson, is expected to arrive here in the last of week of the present month to make an inspection trip over the system. Sir Charles will also be in conference with the management officials on matters connected with the development of the service. He will see some new features in operation for the first time, and will be able to go from Montreal to Chicago and back on double track. Although Sir Charles is greatly interested in the progress of operations on the Grand Trunk Pacific he will not go over the field of construction work there. It is not improbable, however, that some important questions relating to the further execution of the project will be determined during his visit.

BIG SOUTHERN COTTON FIRM IN DIFFICULTIES

AUGUSTA, Ga., July 13.—Alexander & Alexander, one of the largest firms of cotton factors in this state, is financially embarrassed, and discrepancies of $145,000 were discovered in the firm's accounts following the disappearance of Thomas W. Alexander, head of the company. Mr. Alexander left Augusta Saturday after borrowing $200 from a friend, saying he was going to New York. The following night his brother, Bishop Alexander, the junior member of the firm, received a telegram from him asking that his office desk be opened and that three letters to be found there be delivered. On of the letters was to his partner, in which a statement was made of the financial embarrassment of the firm, and saying that if Mr. Alexander was not back in Augusta by Wednesday he would never be seen again. Another letter was addressed to a local cotton mill president and a third to Mr. Alexander's wife.

The manner in which the money was secured has not been made public by the three banks which are the losers, except that it was in the shape of loans. The Georgia R. R. Bank sustains a loss of $115,000, which was marked off its books today, charged to the surplus and undivided profit account. The National Bank of Augusta loses $7,000 and the National Exchange Bank $2,000. The available assets of the first amount to about $80,000, while the personal liabilities of T. W. Alexander, in addition to the amount of loans, are about $26,000.

THEATRES ARE NOT PUBLIC PLACES

NEW YORK, July 12—That the manager and proprietor of a theatre has a right to say who shall enter his place of amusement and who shall not, his playhouse being a private and not a public place, is the gist of a decision handed down today in the appellate division of the supreme court. The decision dismisses the complaint of James S. Metcalf, the dramatic critic, against Charles Burnham, a member of the Theatre Managers' Association, for excluding Metcalf from Burnham's theatre. Metcalf charged that Burnham and other theatrical managers had entered into a conspiracy to prevent him from exercising his lawful calling.

Good advertising is simply telling the people about something they want, or believe they want, in a way that will make them buy. — The Advertising Man.

WIDOW COMES FIRST FOR HUSBAND'S INSURANCE

NEW YORK, July 12.—That a widow is entitled to be the beneficiary of her husband, although her husband's father may be named as beneficiary prior to the son's marriage, was today decided by the appellate division of the Supreme Court. The case was that of Catherine Davin, the widow, vs. Patrick Davin, the father, and the Knights of Columbus.

The deceased, James Davin, was insured for $1,000 by the Knights of Columbus. He named his father as the beneficiary while single, and when he married he did not change the name of the beneficiary. The widow claimed the money, and the Knights paid the money into court for settlement.

The court cited two cases, one in Connecticut and on in Massachusetts of similar conditions where in each it was decided that the lawful beneficiary was the widow and not the father. The court ruled that the widow is entitled to the money.

TRAIN ACCIDENT NEAR DORCHESTER

DORCHESTER, July 13.—While Conductor Wilson of the freight west bound was running this evening about one mile east of Dorchester the second car from the van left the track, putting the next car and the van off and tearing up about fifty yards of track. A wrecking train was despatched from Moncton. No one was injured. The maritime express was behind the wrecked train and was delayed some hours by the accident.

MARRIED CHINAMAN, THEN NEGRO.

HAMILTON, Ont., July 13.— Nellie Chantler, the Toronto girl, arrested on a bigamy charge, is being held until the police look up Toronto witnesses. She says her marriage to Charlie Lee, a Toronto Chinaman, is not legal, because Charlie has a wife in China. The colored minister who married her to Calvy Campbell, a negro youth, she claims, was expelled from the church and this ceremony was also illegal. The girl is twenty years of age.

GIBRALTAR, July 14.The salvage steamer Gibeltarik, which was sent to Spartel upon receipt yesterday of a report that the New York school ship St. Marys had stranded at that point, returned today and reported having found the school ship off Spartel. When sighted the St. Marys was bound for Gibraltar and required no assistance.