A HUMAN HOLOCAUST.

BURNING OF THE SOUTHERN HOTEL

Terrific Loss of Life and Destruction of Property--Panic in the Upper Stories--Suffocation--Frantic and Fatal Leaps from the Windows-Fifty Men and Women Perish in the Flames.

The Southern Hotel in St., Louis, one of the largest on the continent, was totally destroyed by fire just before day on Wednesday last. The fire is thought to have originated in the store room in the basement, and the flames first came through the ground floor north of the office, and in ten minutes had ascended the elevators and rotunda, and spread over the sixth story, month ago. A search was instioccupied by employees, mostly tuted, women. The smoke was so dense in some of the halls that gas jets were extinguished, which rendered egress, even to those most familiar with the building, a matter of great difficulty. The density of the smoke in the halls drove many guests and boarders back into their rooms, and they rushed to the windows as means of escape. Ladders were raised as soon as possible, and women and children, with nothing but their night clothes on, were thus taken from the burning building. Some fainted from fright, and others sank exhausted to the ground from nervous prostration. The ladders generally were too short to reach to the fifth and sixth stories, but by hoisting them on the one-story balcony on the north side of the building, there floors were reached, and all those at the windows rescued. The Skinner fire escape was also brought prompts ly into service, and was the means of saving many lives. While this work was going on some

FRIGHTFUL SCENES occurred. One man who had been

occupying a window on the Walnut

street front of the hotel, became desperate at the seeming delay in effecting his escape. With nervous hands he tore the sheets from his bed into strips, and tied them together fastening this improvised rope to the window sill, and disregarding the fact that it did not reach more than twenty feet, he let himself down hand over hand. Men below who saw his position turned way their faces to avoid witnessing the sickening event that was inevitable. Finally he reached the end of the rope, and then for the first time he seemed to realize his position. He stopped, threw his head back, revealing a ghastly face, and swung slowly to and fro, swayed by the breeze which the roaring flames above created, his limbs swinging around convulsively as though to catch upon something,

ously hurt. Mrs. Morgan, a servant, was killed by jumping from a window. George Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Missouri, is supposed to have perished. Six persons whose names are unknown were killed, either by jumping from windows or were suffor cated by smoke and dragged out of the burning building.

moments. Two other men jumped

from the fourth story windows, one!

of whom seemed not to be danger-

A woman at a 2fth story window on the Fifth street front became panic stricken, jumped out and

ALIGHTED ON HER FEET.

She was carried to the St. Louis Hotel and is still alive. Her husband, who had been standing by her side, then tore up the bedding, let a loop so made out of the window; to this the firemen attached a rope, which the man hauled up, making it fast to the window sill, and safely descended by it. A man named J. E. Wilson jumped from a fourth story window and was killed. Andrew Ensman and Mrs. Scott met death the same way. The mortality among the female help of the hotel is very great. There were two hundred of them, all of whom were leaded in the same just claim upon public attention. loop so made out of the window; to hotel is very great. There were two hundred of them, all of whom were lodged in the upper story of the building. The panie among them was perfectly terrible. A number jumped from the upper window on Elm street or near the side of the house. Phillip Gerald, a boarder at the hotel, was brought out alive but entirely bereft of reason.

At a quarter past two, or about half an hour after the fire was discovered, the entire roof was ablaze and the flames were rapidly descending to the lower stories. A half hour after the floors and interior walls

the narrow escape of Miss Kate Claxton, the actress. It will be remembered that she was acting in the Two Orphans in the Brooklyn Theatre recently, when the conflagration there occurred, and narrowly es-caped a fiery grave. She was stop-ping at the Southern Hotel, having come to St. Louis to act in the same play. Being roused by the alarm of fire, she arose, and covering her neck and face with wet towels, parstially walked and partially rolled down stairs through the dense smoke, and thus effected an escape. Her entire wardrobe waslest. Rev. Mr. Adams, of Berkshire, England, who was on his way to California, perished. It is thought that at least fifty persons, and perhaps a hundred, were burned to death. The pecuniary loss is heavy, reaching nearly a million dollars.

Mr. E. P. Lide, who lives a few miles from Darlington, had a horse stolen from him tuted, but no trace of the missing animal discovered. Mr Lide then purchased another horse, which, on last Saturday night

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The remarkable cures effected by VEGE-TINE have induced many physicians and apothedaries whom we know to prescribe and use it in their (wn.families. In fact VEGETINE is the best remedy

THE BEST EVIDENCE.

The following letter from Rev. E.S. then he let go, and groans went up from hundreds as he whirled round many physicians. Also, those suffering tain our credit, it is necessary to meet our and round, and finally struck on the stone flagging with a sickening thud. He was carried to a saloon across the street and died in a few moments. Two other men jumped

VEGETINE:

NATICE, MASS., Jan. 1, 1874.

MR. H. R. STEVENS: Dear SIT—We have good reason for fregarding your VEGETINE a medicine of the greatest value. We feel asured that it has been the means of saving our son's life. He is now soventren years of age; for the last two years be has suffered from necrosts of his leg, caused by a scrotuous affection, and was so far reduced that nearly all who saw him thought his recovery impossible. A council of physicians could give us but the faintest hope of his ever rallying, two of the number declaring that he was beyond the reach of human remedies, that even amputation could not save him as he had not vigor enough to endure the operation. Just then we commenced giving him VKGETINE, and from that time to the present he has been continuously improving. He has lately resumed his studies, thrown away his crutches and came, and walks about cheerfully and strong.

crutches and cane, and walks about encertuny and strong.

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Of Hats, Clothing and Boots and Shoes, The latest to our view-The very best styles of Dress Goods, And Prints so cheap and new. So then, my good friends, one and all, Now is your time to try

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