

## WILD CUT OF CARS

### Crashes into a Yard Engine Near Front Street and Reduces Seven Cars to Kindling Wood.

**Columbus Dispatch, May 30, 1903** - Shortly after 10 o'clock Friday night a wild cut of 17 freight cars dashed through the Union station at a high rate of speed, down the main track of the Pennsylvania lines to front street, where it crashed into a Pan Handle yard engine and a cut of seven cars, which it converted into kindling wood. The yard engine was almost demolished.

The cars got away in the C. A. & C. yards, near St. Clair avenue, and as several of them were loaded with steel, they secured a wonderful momentum on the grade east of the Union Station.

The runaway cut, luckily, passed through the station on track No 3, on which were no passenger cars Cleveland and Pittsburgh sleepers of the Pennsylvania were lying on track 4, and if the cars had taken this track a terrific accident would have occurred.

The collision with the switch engine occurred on a spur track just west of front street. The yard engine was coming out of the siding and met the cut head-on. Both the engineer and fireman jumped and escaped injury.

The property loss will be a heavy one to the railroad company.

In jumping fireman Charles Humes, 21 years of age, received a sprained ankle. He was removed to his home, 1151 Medill street, in patrol No. 2.

Following is a second article describing the same wreck with conflicting details on the injured employee. This account of Charles Munns' injuries in the second article may be the more correct one.

The switcher could have been coming out of the Hocking Valley Railroad interchange which would explain Mr. Munns, a HV employee, being injured.

## WILD CUT OF FREIGHT CARS DASHED THROUGH TRAIN SHED

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**Columbus Daily Press, May 30, 1903** - The employees and other persons who were about the Union station about midnight Friday were startled by a cut of Pennsylvania freight cars dashing through the train shed at a rate of about 30 miles an hour. The cars, 10 in number, were running wild. It was but a moment after they had passed through the train shed that a terrible crash was heard at the station.

The cut collided with a Pennsylvania freight engine just west of the Front street viaduct and the majority of the cars were piled up and reduced to kindling wood. The engine, one of the new ones just received, was almost demolished. The engineer and fireman saw the cars coming in time to jump and save themselves. the property loss to the company will be considerable.

Charles Munns, a Hocking Valley switchman, age 21, living at 1151 Medill street, was injured. His right foot was crushed and he was painfully bruised.

The cars broke away on the grade west of the St. Clair avenue viaduct and before trainmen could reach them had attained a high rate of speed. They had a clear track and fortunately were swung onto a track through the station that did not have any trains or sleepers standing on them. It is doubtful if the responsibility for the smashup can be laid on anyone as it is thought that the brakes that should have held them on the grade were defective.

The wreck train from the Pennsylvania roundhouse was rushed to the scene and the work of clearing the track began immediately. The wreckage was cleared away by early Saturday morning.