

CITY LIES IN ASHES.

Terrific Conflagration Raged In Jacksonville, Fla.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE HOMELESS.

Six Lives Reported Lost—Property Loss Roughly Estimated at \$15,000,000—The Flames, Fanned by a Gale, Were Irresistible.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 4.—Jacksonville has experienced the most disastrous fire of her existence. The buildings on the entire length of Beaver street from Davis street to the creek on Liberty street have been totally destroyed. This is 14 solid blocks of residences. For the same distance Ashley and Church streets have both been completely obliterated out. When the fire reached Bridge street in its eastward course, it enveloped in flames three blocks, Duval, Monroe and the north side of Adams, burning up that entire section of the city and running 14 blocks to the Duval street bridge.

When the fire reached Julia street, it was a roaring furnace without any prospect of being put under control. The local military companies were called out to keep back the crowds, and the fire department began to use dynamite to blow up the houses a block from the fire and thus prevent the fire from spreading. So fierce was the blaze, however, and so strong had become the wind that millions of sparks and flying burning shingles spread over five or six blocks, setting the roofs of the houses on fire in advance of the fire department. Soon Senator Taliaferro's residence and then the adjoining houses on that block were ablaze. Desperate efforts were made to save the Windsor and the St. James hotels, but both houses were quickly enveloped in flames.

Leaping madly across the street from the Windsor, the flames set fire to the Seils House and then the Methodist parsonage. A few moments later the Trinity M. E. church was a mass of flames. The Opera House block followed, and then the Richards and Livingston boarding houses. A desperate effort was made to save the Baldwin mansion, which was recently purchased by the Elks for \$18,000. No earthly power could save this building, and that entire block and the one west of it were quickly a mass of flames. Once the fire got started on Main street the closely adjoining buildings went one after the other. Paint shops, with barrels of oil in stock, were plentiful in this district, and as they caught on fire one after the other the blaze rose hundreds of feet high and quickly set the other buildings across the street on fire.

The city building went, the fire department building, the army, the county courthouse, the clerk's office with the county records, the criminal courthouse, the city jail and the graded schools and the Catholic church and orphanage, St. John's Episcopal church and the convent. Almost the entire city of magnificent buildings was burned up in less than four hours. The scene was one that beggars description.

At 8:30 p. m. the fire was checked at the intersection of Laurel and Bay streets, where the Commercial bank is located, which went up in flames, the Western Union building being just across the street and not being damaged.

Six lives are reported lost in the conflagration.

The plans of the city as prepared by the city surveyors show that 130 blocks were burned and a part of another block. The estimate of residences to be blown in the residential district is ten, and in the business section the blocks were sold.

Mayor Bowden says the property loss will exceed \$15,000,000. Ten thousand to fifteen thousand people are homeless.

THE STRICKEN CITY.

Jacksonville Fire Sufferers Receiving Food and Shelter.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 8.—The almost superhuman work of the different committees has somewhat relieved the situation, and it is now believed that in every instance those without proper food and clothing have in a measure been provided for and that last night there was vastly fewer people who were compelled to sleep upon the streets.

Two hundred additional tents were erected, and while they were very crowded last night and while several churches and schoolhouses in the suburbs also were crowded with sleepers this condition also will be relieved today by the arrival of 2,000 tents from the general government at Washington, which Chairman Bours of the housing committee will have erected at once. The military companies have been of great assistance in rapidly erecting tents, and before tonight there will be several tented villages in the city with cots and blankets and a water supply in almost every village for the sufferers. Today there also will be provided several extra commissary stations in various parts of the city to relieve the situation at the two already established, and no doubt there will be one in each village of tents. There has been no outbreak of sickness in the city, and the several cases of nervous prostration which have been reported are now well on the way to recovery.

Thousands of people have left the city. Those remaining will be able to receive some kind of labor at the bureaus which have been established.

Clouds of smoke still envelop the city from the smoldering embers of the conflagration, but many of the buildings have been sufficiently cooled off to allow the safes to be opened, and the books and papers of a great many concerns have been found only slightly scorched. In other cases so intense was the heat that iron safes failed to protect the money or papers. The city and county government officers are all at work again in temporary offices, and a great many of the county papers have been saved.

Twelve carloads of provisions have arrived from New York and are being delivered today.

Republicans Win in Baltimore. BALTIMORE, May 8.—The Republicans have elected 18 out of 24 members for the first branch of the city council and all three members for the second branch.

A Shipbuilding Alliance. LONDON, May 8.—The Daily Express declares that an alliance between the Cramp Shipbuilding company and Vickers' Sons & Maxim, limited, is ready for signature.

CONSTITUTION LAUNCHED.

Yacht Defender Successfully Launched.

BRISTOL, R. I., May 7.—With her hull gaily decorated with flags and her deck well filled with sailors, the yacht Constitution was christened last evening by Mrs. W. Butler Duncan, who broke the traditional bottle of wine on her glittering bow just as she started slowly down the ways into the sea.

A platform had been rigged under the bow of the boat, and on this Mrs. Duncan stood when the gong for the starting was sounded. Beside her on the platform was her husband, the manager of the new boat, but all the rest of the party stood a little distance off.

At the sound of the gong Mrs. Duncan dashed a bottle of champagne against the yacht's bow, and as the wine gushed in sparkling foam on the prow the sleek racer acquired motion and slowly began her descent into the water. With the breaking of the bottle Mrs. Duncan in a clear voice said, "I christen thee Constitution."

The scene was a brilliant one as the Constitution was slowly lowered into the water, the cheering from the boats outside being loud and vigorous, while the brilliant searchlight from the steam yacht Colonia just outside the dock illuminated the stern of the Constitution in a brilliant manner. Rockets and other fireworks added not a little to the gaiety of the occasion.

Mrs. Duncan was dressed in a dark yachting costume and gave the bottle a good hard crack.

BASEBALL SCORES.

Results of Yesterday's Games in the National League.

Table with columns for team names and scores. Includes games from Boston, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, New York, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Chicago.

Table of Percentages.

Table with columns for team names, W, L, and P.C. Includes Cincinnati, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh, New York, Boston, St. Louis, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

Lackawanna Strike Spreads.

SCRANTON, Pa., May 8.—All the machinist, boiler makers, blacksmiths, engine wipers and roundhouse men and all laborers about the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western machine shops here went on strike at noon yesterday. They demand a nine hour day. Their grievance committee waited upon Superintendent of Motive Power Lloyd during the morning. The answer was a positive refusal. The decision to strike was made at an open air meeting at noon. Word was sent all along the line from Hoboken to Buffalo of the action taken here, and the answer back was that the men at all other points would join them. The number who went out yesterday was about 900, and these with the shopmen who struck on Saturday make fully 2,000 Lackawanna men on strike here.

Northern Pacific Soars.

NEW YORK, May 8.—Northern Pacific common was again the sensational figure of the stock market yesterday. In the afternoon it was bid up to 149 1/2. It closed Monday at 127 1/2, which was a gain of 17 1/2 points over Saturday. The opening yesterday morning was at 127 1/2, but the price quickly shot up and within ten minutes was above 130. By 1 o'clock the shares were selling at 140. At about 1:30 o'clock the stock took a spurt and on comparatively small sales soared to 149 1/2.

Train Wreck in Iowa.

OTTUMWA, Ia., May 7.—Burlington passenger train No. 3 yesterday, while passing Thayer, a small town 18 miles east of Creston, struck an engine attached to a freight train which was endeavoring to get out of the way by backing on the side track and was derailed, killing Engineer S. D. Brown of Burlington and injuring 30 people, although the names of only 22 are obtainable. All but the two rear cars of the passenger train left the rails and rolled down a 20 foot embankment.

Seven Persons Burned to Death.

CHICAGO, May 6.—Seven persons were burned to death while asleep early yesterday in a tenement house at South Chicago. A freight train of 65 cars which was standing in front of the building and which, it is claimed, the crew refused to move, blocked the firemen, who were unable to get near the burning building until it was too late. The train crew was arrested and is being held without bail.

The Australian Celebration.

MELBOURNE, May 8.—The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, who arrived here Monday and were welcomed with much ceremony by the state and federal authorities, visited the foreign warships here yesterday afternoon and were received with enthusiasm. Nine thousand guests attended the reception here last evening.

Cripple Does Well in Trade.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., May 7.—Cortland Coops, a lifelong cripple, having been born without legs, left here ten years ago. He had to borrow money to pay for his ticket. He has just returned on a visit with \$12,000 which he had made in a candy store in Seattle. He walks on his hands.

Fifty Years in One Pulpit.

SYRACUSE, May 6.—Presbyterian clergymen from all parts of the state are gathering at Ogdensburg to be present at the jubilee celebration this week of D. L. Merrill Miller of the First church of that city. Dr. Miller has occupied the same pulpit continuously for 50 years.

Court Waiting For the Astrologers.

SHANGHAI, May 6.—It is reported that famine will make it impossible for the Chinese court to remain longer in Shan-fu and that the court is now only waiting for the astrologers to fix an auspicious day for beginning the journey to Kai-feng-fu, in the province of Honan.

CUBANS WILL ACCEPT

Convention Expected to Take Definite Action Today.

COMMISSION'S REPORT FAVORABLE.

Only a Few Radicals Will Now Oppose the Platt Amendment—Senator Villuenda Declares in Favor of Acceptance.

HAVANA, May 8.—The commission at the secret session of the constitutional convention presented an extensive report of their conferences with President McKinley and Secretary Root and a glowing account of the banquets and receptions tendered them. Senator Giberia objected to incorporating an account of the social programme in the report, but the commission insisted upon this point. In reference to the third clause of the Platt amendment the report stated that the United States would not intervene unless Cuba were attacked by a foreign power or unless there existed in Cuba a condition of affairs similar to that which existed under Spain at the time of American intervention.

Regarding coaling stations, the report set forth that the places so desired by the United States were Capes Maisi and San Antonio and another point commanding the entrance to the gulf of Mexico. These would be definitely determined upon when drawing up the treaty, and the object of these stations would be the maintenance of the independence of Cuba as well as the protection of the United States. The report also said that the United States would in no way interfere in the local government and that President McKinley had promised to appoint a commission to meet a Cuban commission to discuss the economic question and to draw up a commercial treaty as soon as the republic is established and that he advised the Cubans in the meeting to study the situation in this respect. The report announced that Secretary Root had said that there was nothing in the Platt amendment to prevent Cuba having diplomatic representatives in foreign countries.

The report has evidently made a good impression, and only a few radicals will continue to oppose the acceptance of the amendment. Senator Villuenda, in an open letter declaring his intention to accept the amendment, said he first thought that if the convention rejected the amendment Washington might change its policy, as he then believed the amendment was the work of party.

"I now believe," said Senator Villuenda, "that the amendment is the work of the nation. There is no use in objecting to the inevitable. It is either annexation or a republic with the amendment, and I prefer the latter. The United States government by insisting upon the amendment shows that the Americans have changed from their policy before the war and that they no longer rely upon the Monroe doctrine to protect the interests of American republics."

The convention will meet tomorrow and is expected to take definite action.

Des Moines Honors Conger.

DES MOINES, May 4.—Edwin H. Conger, United States minister to China, was formally introduced to Des Moines at a public meeting held in the Auditorium yesterday afternoon. The reception was tendered by the two Grand Army posts, the city, citizens generally and the missionary societies represented in China. Three thousand persons attended it. Addresses of welcome were made, and Minister Conger responded briefly. Mr. Conger and the members of his family were the guests at a reception at the statehouse in the evening under the auspices of the City Federation of Women's Clubs. It was the second time in its history that the use of the statehouse had been granted for a private reception.

The "Terrible Turk" Won.

NEW YORK, May 8.—Nourouh, the big Turkish wrestler, made short work of Tom Jenkins of Cleveland, the champion wrestler of America, at Madison Square Garden last night. He downed Jenkins twice in a catch as catch can match, the first time in 4m. 35s. and the second time in 5m. 2s. The match was decided on the best two out of three falls, and Jenkins, while showing a remarkable amount of cleverness, was unable to compete against the enormous weight of his big opponent. There were about 4,000 people in the Garden, and George Bother, the wrestling instructor of the Knickerbocker Athletic club, acted as referee for all the bouts of the night.

Cullinan Named to Succeed Lyman.

NEW YORK, May 8.—Patrick W. Cullinan of Oswego will be appointed to succeed the late Henry H. Lyman of the same city as commissioner of excise. His appointment was determined upon at a conference at which Governor Odell, Senator Platt and Chairman Dunn of the state committee were present. Mr. Cullinan is the general counsel of the state department of excise. He was a member of the assembly when Messrs. Conkling and Platt resigned from the United States senate because of President Garfield's nomination of William H. Robertson of Westchester as collector of customs at New York.

An Engagement in Luzon.

MANILA, May 8.—Lieutenant John D. L. Hartman, with 63 men of Troop K of the First cavalry, encountered 250 insurgents near the village of Balayan, in Batangas province, Luzon. The enemy made three stands and were each time defeated by the American cavalrymen. There were no American casualties. A navy court of inquiry is investigating the alleged cowardice of Lieutenant Richard H. Towler with the case of Captain Reed, who has been tried for official misconduct in connection with the commissary department.

Standard Oil Dividend.

NEW YORK, May 8.—The Standard Oil company has declared a dividend of \$12, payable to stock of record June 15. Standard Oil held steady at 83 1/2, the dividend reduction having no effect on the stock. The report has been that a \$20 dividend would be declared. The stock has already paid \$20 a share this year, and yesterday's dividend makes the total to date \$32.

Comet Will Be Seen in the North.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., May 8.—A telegram to the Harvard observatory from Professor Krantz at Kiel observatory says that the comet seen at Cape of Good Hope will appear soon in the northern hemisphere.

A DAW IN ARIZONA.

President Has Many Pleasant Experiences and Awakes in California.

PHENIX, A. T., May 8.—The presidential party spent an interesting day in Arizona. The beautiful turquoise sky, bright sunshine and invigorating air afforded the party much relief after the hot and dusty ride of the previous day. The two hours in the morning at the Congress gold mine up in the clouds of the Blue Tank mountains were replete with incidents and were thoroughly enjoyed. A large American flag was draped across the tunnel through which the president passed, and after he emerged he told the little group of miners who congregated about the train that he had seen Old Glory floating from tower and steeple and warship in many different places, but that never before during his life had he seen the American flag 1,500 feet underground. Leaving the rich mining section in the mountains 4,000 feet above sea level, the train dropped down into the green Salt River valley, with its waving alfalfa meadows and big herds of cattle. This valley is called the Garden Spot of Arizona and was reclaimed by irrigation. Monday, passing through New Mexico, and yesterday, in Arizona, the cow punches at the stopping places along the route inquired vociferously where "Teddy" was. Many of the vice president's rough riders during the Spanish war were recruited in this section, and there was much disappointment that he was not in the party.

At Wickenburg, the scene of the recent gold mine strike, the train was halted long enough to permit the president to receive a visit from the school children. The children presented Mrs. McKinley with a cabinet of specimens. The president thanked the children in Mrs. McKinley's behalf and addressed them briefly. An accident to the locomotive tender delayed the arrival at Phenix two hours and somewhat disarranged the programme there. Nevertheless the party received a rousing welcome. Governor Murphy and the territorial officers had met the party at the Congress mine and accompanied them back to Phenix. At the station the territorial militia, a company of cowboys on bronchos and some of the friendly Pima and Maricopa Indians joined in a wildly enthusiastic reception. The party was driven to the Adams' hotel for luncheon and afterward was escorted to the territorial capitol, where the formal exercises took place.

At 5 o'clock in the afternoon the presidential party resumed its journey. The departure was so timed that the Colorado desert and old basin of the gulf of California, below sea level and barren of all vegetation, would be traversed during the night. The Colorado river, which is the boundary of Arizona, was crossed at Yuma, and the party awoke this morning in California. Redlands, the first stop, was reached at 9 a. m.

Maryland Census Takers Indicted.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The director of the census has been notified that indictments had been returned to the federal court sitting in Baltimore in the cases of the men under arrest for census frauds in Maryland. There were two indictments each in the cases of the enumerators Abel, Bowles, Graves and Guyther and one in the case of Attorney Ching. The enumerators are charged with falsifying their returns and with conspiracy and Ching with conspiracy only. The court set the 27th inst. for the hearing of the cases. There are 3,565 items in the counts, and the papers in the cases weighed 48 pounds.

One-third of Canada Unexplored.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The director of the geological survey of Canada in his last report makes the amazing statement that practically nothing is known of one-third of the Dominion. So states United States Consul Seyfert at Stratford in a report to the state department. It is shown that more than 1,125,000 square miles of Canadian territory is yet unexplored. This includes the inhospitable detached arctic portions, but aside from these fully 954,000 square miles are for all practical purposes entirely unknown.

Coal Tax Adopted.

LONDON, May 7.—The house adopted the coal tax by a vote of 333 to 227. Consequently the tax of a shilling a ton on export coal was adopted by a majority of 106. These figures apparently do not represent the feeling of the members of the house, but the government made the issue strictly a party one and secured the record attendance for this parliament and by vigorous efforts polled with a score of the normal majority.

Mosquitoes Kill Cattle.

NORFOLK, May 7.—Mosquitoes, never before known to arrive so soon, have appeared on Knotts island, 40 miles south of Norfolk, in numbers unprecedented even for midsummer. There are reports of horses and cattle are dying from their poisonous bites, and the situation has become alarming to the residents, who are compelled to wear head nets and keep fully clothed, notwithstanding oppressively hot weather.

Oregon Coming Home.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The Oregon has left Shanghai for Yokohama. It is the present intention of the navy department to have the big vessel lie there until about May 15, when she will start on her long voyage home. The Newark will leave Hongkong in a few days for New York.

New York Markets.

FLOUR—State and western ruled quiet and a trifle steadier, but without change; Minnesota patents, \$4 1/2; winter straight, \$3 1/2; spring, \$3 1/2. WHEAT—Opened firm and afterward advanced on cables, damage reports from France, foreign buying and cold weather west; July, 78 1/2-100 1/2; September, 78 1/2-100 1/2. RYE—Dull; state, 55 1/2; c. f. l., New York, 45; lots, No. 2 western, 42c., f. o. b., about. CORN—Dull and easy under local selling; receipts, 1,500,000. OATS—Slow, but steady; track, white, 37c.; state, 35 1/2; track, white, western, 35 1/2. PORK—Quiet; mess, \$15 1/2; family, \$16 1/2. LARD—Firm; prime western steam, 8 1/2. BUTTER—Firm; state dairy, 15 1/2. CHEESE—Steady; fancy, large, colored, 10 1/2; fancy, large, white, 10 1/2; fancy, small, colored, 11 1/2; fancy, small, white, 11 1/2. EGGS—Steady; state and Pennsylvania, 14c.; western, regular packed, 13 1/2. HAY—Dull; slow heavy, fair reeding, 3 1/2; centric, 96 test, 4 1/2-3 1/2; refined quiet; crushed, 6 1/2; powdered, 5 1/2. MOLASSES—Firm; New Orleans, 22 1/2. RICE—Steady; domestic, 4 1/2; c. f. l., Japan, 4 1/2. SUGAR—Steady; city, 4 1/2; country, 4 1/2. HAY—Quiet; shipping, 7 1/2-8 1/2; good to choice, 9 1/2.



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THE MARKETS. BLOOMSBURG MARKETS. CORRECTED WEEKLY. RETAIL PRICES. Batter, per dozen, \$ 22. Eggs, per pound, 14. Lard, per pound, 13. Ham, per pound, 16. Pork (whole), per pound, 13. Beef (quarter), per pound, 6 to 8. Wheat, per bushel, 90. Oats, do, 40. Rye, do, 40. Hay, per ton, \$4 00 to 4 40. Potatoes, per bushel, 25. Turnips, do, 20. Onions, do, 1 40. Sweet potatoes, per peck, 35. Tallow, per pound, 95. Shoulder, do, 11. Side meat, do, 09. Vinegar, per qt., 05. Dried apples, per pound, 05. Dried cherries, pitted, per pound, 05. Raspberries, per pound, 12. Cow hides, do, 35. Sheep pelts, do, 75. Shelled corn, per bushel, 65. Corn meal, cwt., 1 50. Bran, cwt., 1 10. Chop, cwt., 1 15. Middlings, cwt., 1 10. Chickens, per pound, new, 11. Turkeys, do, old, 10. Ducks, do, 12. COAL. Number 6, delivered, 3 10. do 4 and 5, delivered, 4 25. do 6, at yard, 2 85. do 4 and 5, at yard, 2 00.

"This air is very familiar," remarked the musician as the wind took off his hat. WANTED—TRUSTWORTHY MEN and women to travel and advertise for established house of solid financial standing. Salary \$750 a year and expenses, all payable in cash. No canvassing required. Give references and enclose self addressed stamped envelope. Address Manager, 355 Canton Bldg., Chicago. 4-25-161. A man's house may be his castle, but that doesn't make him a nobleman. ANNOUNCEMENT. To accommodate those who are partial to the use of atomizers in applying liquids into the nasal passages for catarrhal troubles, the proprietors prepare Cream Balm in liquid form, which will be known as Ely's Liquid Cream Balm. Price, including the spraying tube, is 75c. Druggists or by mail. The liquid form embodies the medicinal properties of the solid preparation. Cream Balm is quickly absorbed by the membrane and does not dry up the secretions, but changes them to a natural and healthy character. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren street, New York. "I haven't the cheek to kiss you," said the bashful suitor. "What's the matter with your lips?" asked the pert maid. CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher.