

A RIDE TO DEATH.

Seven People Drowned in the Schuylkill River.

A Rowboat Containing Five Girls and Three Boys Is Swept Over a Dam and Only One of the Party was Rescued—A Drop of 12 Feet to the Rocks Below.

Philadelphia, May 31.—A row boat containing a merry party of eight young persons was swept over Flat Rock dam in the Schuylkill river, Thursday afternoon, and seven of them—five girls and two boys—were drowned. The victims, all of whom were Philadelphians, were:

- Florence Densmore, aged 17 years.
Mazie Kennedy, 18.
Maud Rutter, 19.
Mamie Sullivan, 21.
Florence Bond, 21.
Roy Kieker, 18.
Bertram Osmond, 19.

The young man saved was John Moore, aged 21 years. The party was composed of members of the Elm Social club, one of the numerous associations of this city organized for the promotion of picnics and other social functions.

Following their usual custom the party split up after dinner for a row on the river, and these above mentioned decided to go in one boat. This was shortly after 2 o'clock.

Heavy rains during the past week had made the muddy stream quite high, and the current was much swifter than usual.

All the girls were huddled in the stern, one of the boys was rowing and the other was sitting on the bow of the boat. After getting in the middle of the river and finding the current too swift for comfort, the boat was rowed toward shore.

The drop of the rock below is approximately 12 feet. The boat struck the water bottom up, and as it disappeared the whole party was under it. Nothing more was seen by the few persons who saw the accident for almost a minute, when the boat reappeared with one boy clinging to its keel.

Moore, the other boy who was clinging to the boat, floated fully a half mile down the river, and his rescuers had an exciting time before they landed him in another boat.

TEXAS OIL FOR FUEL.

A Project to Ship It North and Place It in Competition with Coal.

Pittsburg, May 31.—Pittsburg coal may have a competitor in Texas oil. This was made evident yesterday by the fact that the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Co. is negotiating at Cleveland with one of the largest vessel owners on the lakes for the purchase of two whaleback boats by which oil may be delivered at all lake points.

The J. M. Guffey Petroleum Co. now has two pipe lines from its wells at Beaumont, Tex., to Port Arthur, 16 miles away, and up Sabine Pass, where there is always sufficient water for the largest steamers.

The wells now flowing are producing over 100,000 barrels of oil a day. It is possible to load the tank steamers at Port Arthur with oil, send them around by the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic ocean, the St. Lawrence river and the Welland canal into the chain of great lakes, and deliver the oil in less than 30 days.

It is estimated that for fuel purposes three and one-half barrels of oil are equal to a ton of the best Pittsburg coal. On this basis the oil could come into competition with Pittsburg coal at all lake points and contiguous territory where coal is worth \$2.50 a ton.

Granted the Nine-Hour Day.

Hartford, Conn., May 31.—A meeting of the striking machinists and allied mechanics employed by the American Bicycle Co. and the Pratt & Whitney Co. was held yesterday to hear the report of a conference committee which had an interview with their employers on Wednesday, and it was voted to accept concessions granted by both companies and to return to work on Monday next.

ARE SADLY DISAPPOINTED.

Porto Ricans Dislike the Verdict Rendered by the Supreme Court in Regard to Their Rights.

San Juan, Porto Rico, May 29.—The first report of the supreme court's decision in the De Lima case, received here Monday night, which was interpreted as declaring the taxation of imports from Porto Rico to the United States 15 per cent. of the Dingley duties to be unconstitutional, was received here with great satisfaction.

The consensus of opinion of the matter seems to be that the Porto Rican legislature should be convened in extra session to declare Porto Rico self-supporting without the collection of customs on imports between Porto Rico and the United States.

It was generally expressed that the court's decision would grant Porto Rico free trade and her citizens full citizenship and constitutional provisions. When told if the latter privileges had been granted, the internal revenue laws of the United States would be applied to the islands and that all the funds and customs thereunder collected would be deposited in the federal treasury.

Only a few Porto Rican business men understand the importance of the supreme court's decisions. Those who are bankers predict an immediate revival of business now that the status of the country has been decided.

The manager of an important American bank, who requests that his name be not used, says that he is not in favor of the tariff unless it is absolutely proved that Porto Rican internal revenues suffice for the island's needs.

The Fritz Lund Co., the largest shippers of sugar in Porto Rico, said: "The constitution of the United States applies when against us, but not when in our favor. This has always been so since the beginning.

The people generally are as much disappointed at not being granted American citizenship as they are with the court's decision in regard to the tariff. The members of the cabinet seem to favor free trade. The island's yearly budget is \$2,000,000. A semi-annual estimate gives an income of \$500,000 a year from the property tax; \$750,000 from excise collections under the Hollander bill and \$75,000 from customs collections on imports and exports to and from countries other than the United States.

THE SUMMER SHUTDOWN.

Twenty Independent Glass Factories Cease Operations Until September.

Muncie, Ind., May 29.—President Mambourg, of the Independent and Co-operative Window Glass Co., representing 20 plants throughout the country not in the American Window Glass Co., states positively that all his plants will stop work to-day and that there will be but two or three factories in operation after this date.

President Mambourg reports the sale of 1,000,000 boxes of glass to the Pittsburg Plate Glass Co. This is the output of next year, representing \$3,000,000, and insures the resumption of all factories on September 15 and for full nine months' work, which will be the longest working season for eight years past.

The Reunions at Memphis.

Memphis, Tenn., May 29.—George W. Gordon, of Memphis, yesterday called to order the annual convention of the United Confederate Veterans with a gavel from a tree which shaded the favorite seat of Jefferson Davis at Beauvoir, Miss. The sixth annual reunion of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans met here in the auditorium. National colors were draped about the hall, while over the stage hung pictures of Stonewall Jackson, Robert E. Lee, N. B. Forrest and other southern leaders.

A Fairbanks Boomlet.

Chicago, May 29.—Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana, was formally announced yesterday as a candidate for president before the republican national convention in 1904. Harry S. New, republican national committee-man from Indiana, is authority for the statement that Indiana will stand behind Mr. Fairbanks in his race for the honor.

KILLED BY A MOB.

A Florida Negro Is Burned at the Stake.

The Crime for Which He Suffered Punishment was the Murder of a White Woman—A Sickening Affair on the Prairie Near Bartow, Fla.

Bartow, Fla., May 30.—Fred Rochelle, a negro, 35 years of age, who at noon Tuesday criminally assaulted and then murdered Mrs. Rena Taggart, a well-known and respectable white woman of this city, was burned at the stake here last evening in the presence of a throng of people.

The assault and murder was one of the coldest-blooded crimes ever committed in Florida. At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, Mrs. Taggart, who was born and raised in this place and was a woman of good family reputation, went fishing alone in a small row boat that she kept at the bridge over Piaco creek.

After the assault, while she was prostrate, he held her with his hands and knees and, taking his knife from his pocket, cut her throat from ear to ear, causing instant death. He then walked to the negro who had been fishing on the bridge, and who was thoroughly frightened, and asked him what he should do with the body.

He was half dragged, half carried to the bridge, enveloped by a great throng of people of all ages, who were resolute and determined, but quiet and orderly. Scream after scream broke from the wretch's quivering lips, followed by groans and prayers for mercy.

The stake was the only suggestion as to the proper expiation of the crime, and without organized effort and yet with apparently unanimous understanding a barrel was in readiness and was placed by the stake on the very spot where Mrs. Taggart was assaulted and murdered.

On this the negro was placed and chained to the stake. He pleaded for mercy, but in the great crowd around him silence was the only response. There were no jeers, swearing, no disorder. Before the chains around his body had been made fast, cans of kerosene oil were passed to the front and one of the leaders stepped to the negro and slowly poured it upon him and his clothes until clothes and barrel were well saturated.

It was then 6 o'clock. The crowd was growing and business in the city had practically been suspended. When the match was applied the blaze quickly leaped skyward. The burning body could be seen only as a dark object in the circle of a roaring flame. Then the fire slackened and the writhing body came back in full view, but already the groans had ceased and the only evidence of life was in the contortions of the muscles of the limbs.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 30.—E. H. Lamberson, who was arrested here Tuesday night after he had stolen a horse and buggy, and who committed suicide while on the way to the police station, proves to have been a prominent resident of Wallace, Mo., and also to have been the superintendent of a Methodist Sunday school.

Cannot Hope to Succeed.

London, May 30.—Commenting editorially on the agitations in Germany and Austria for a combination against American commercial competition, the Times says: "The sole hope for pan-Europe, according to these writers, is to imitate Napoleon and introduce the continental system against the United States. It must be owned that the precedent is rather disheartening. If the continental system failed in Napoleon's iron grasp, it would hardly succeed in the hands of our old friend, the concert of Europe."

MEMORIAL DAY IN GOTHAM.

A Military Parade, Addresses at Grant's Tomb and the Dedication of the Hall of Fame.

New York, May 31.—Although there were threatening signs of rain throughout the early part of yesterday the Memorial day exercises in this city were carried out with more than usual interest. The events of the day's program were the military parade, which was reviewed at Madison square by Gov. Odell and Mayor Van Wyck, the exercises at Grant's tomb, where Wu Ting Fang made an address, and the dedication of the Hall of Fame at New York university, at which Senator Channey M. Depew delivered an oration.

The parade included the Old Guard acting as an escort to Gov. Odell, several detachments of United States regulars, a number of military organizations, a battalion of United States marines and all the local posts of the G. A. R. In all there were about 15,000 men in line.

At Grant's tomb, Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister, in accordance with instructions given by Li Hung Chang some years ago, placed an offering of flowers on the stone coffin containing the general's remains.

The ceremonies of the dedication of the Hall of Fame were opened with prayer. Senator M. Depew then delivered the oration.

Following the oration, Chancellor MacCracken, of New York university, in an address made formal declaration of the opening of the hall.

The unveiling of the tablets was then begun, as follows:

- Washington tablet, by the Society of the Cincinnati.
Lincoln tablet, by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion.
Webster tablet, by the Daughters of the American Revolution.
Franklin tablet, by Colonial Dames.
Jefferson tablet, by the Sons of the American Revolution.
Clay tablet, by the Daughters of the Revolution.
Adams tablet, by the Sons of the Revolution.
Grant tablet, by the Grand Army of the Republic.
Farragut tablet, by the National Association of Naval Veterans.
Lee tablet, by the United Daughters of the Confederacy.
Marshall tablet, by the American Bar association.
Kent tablet, by the Bar Association of New York.
Story tablet, by the American Academy of Political and Social Science.
Peabody tablet, by representatives of the Peabody educational fund.
Cooper tablet.
Stuart tablet, by the National Academy of Design.
Fulton tablet, by the American Society of Civil Engineers.
Morse tablet, by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.
Whitney tablet, by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
Audubon tablet, by the American Society of Naturalists.
Gray tablet, by the Botanical Society of America.
Edwards tablet, by John Willis Baer, of the Society of Christian Endeavor.
Mann tablet, by the National Educational association.
Beecher tablet, by the Y. M. C. A.
Channing tablet, by the New England society.
Emerson tablet, by the New York Normal college.
Hawthorne tablet.
Irving tablet, by the Wadleigh high school.
Longfellow tablet, by the Brooklyn Girls' high school.

AN EXPENSIVE PEST.

Green Pea Louse Caused \$1,000,000 Loss to Farmers in 1900 and May Exceed That Amount This Year.

Washington, May 31.—The department of agriculture has issued a report on the ravages of the green pea louse, giving warning that this insect, one of the most important of those which ravaged the crops of the country during the past two seasons, will widen its range geographically and increase the amount of destruction. Since its first appearance in May, 1899, at Bridges, Va., its devastation has steadily increased and it has now become the cause of great loss in the principal pea growing regions of the United States.

The estimated loss it caused along the Atlantic coast states in 1899 is estimated at \$3,000,000, and in 1900 this had reached \$4,000,000 by the middle of June. In some farms in Maryland 80 per cent. or more of the crop was destroyed.

Memorial Fountain Dedicated.

Americus, Ga., May 31.—A memorial fountain over the Providence spring in the Andersonville prison stockade, was dedicated yesterday in the presence of a large crowd. National Commander James A. Twell, of the National Association of Union ex-Prisoners of War, unveiled the tablet, which bears the inscription: "This fountain was erected by the National Association of Union ex-Prisoners of War in memory of the 52,345 Union soldiers who were confined here as prisoners of war, and of the 13,900 comrades who died and whose remains were buried in the adjoining national cemetery."

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

Adoption of the Platt Amendment Opens Up a New Series of Troublesome Problems.

Washington, May 31.—An important conference on Cuban relations took place at the White House Thursday afternoon. There were present with President McKinley, Secretary Root, Senator O. H. Platt, chairman of the senate committee on relations with Cuba, and Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin.

The president and his advisors must determine whether the Platt amendment has been "substantially" adopted by the Cuban convention. This is preliminary to the withdrawal of the United States authority and forces from Cuba. If it should be found that the interpretation of the convention is not satisfactory to this government, quite a difficult problem arises, as it seems to be the intention of the Cubans to proceed to form a government, and that government must be recognized or rejected by the president, as he has full power to determine whether the act of congress has been complied with by the convention.

Another problem which has been discussed by those interested in Cuban affairs relates to what would follow should the new Cuban government be recognized. The Cuban government, it is asserted, will be for some time without the machinery to execute its own laws and put in operation its own edicts. It is held by some lawyers that the moment the Cuban government is recognized the authority of the United States ceases, and there is some question as to who would be responsible for the preservation of law and order, as the new government would have no troops and no police force and would be practically powerless should there be any opposition to its decrees.

The question whether United States forces would be warranted in upholding the government in executing its orders has been raised; also whether the president of the United States would be authorized to give orders to our troops further than their recall from foreign territory.

DECIDE TO REVISE CREED.

Important Action Is Taken by the Presbyterian General Assembly.

Philadelphia, May 28.—By unanimous vote the Presbyterian general assembly yesterday adopted the report of the special committee on the revision of the confession of faith. The debate on this important question had extended into the fourth day and to Rev. James D. Moffatt is due the credit of having brought the commissioners to such a harmonious conclusion. When recommendation B was, on Saturday, adopted by a comparatively small majority Mr. Moffatt announced that in view of the divergence of opinion he would offer an amendment which he hoped would meet with the approval of the entire assembly. When he presented this amendment yesterday it was instantly adopted by the commissioners and the adoption of the report as a whole followed with but little delay.

The report of the special committee on judicial commissions was first and was adopted. This report recommends the establishment of a permanent judicial commission to which shall be referred all judicial cases which the general assembly does not elect to try before the whole body. There will be no appeal from the decisions of this commission.

New York was selected as the meeting place for the next general assembly. Philadelphia, May 29.—The 113th Presbyterian general assembly was dissolved last night by Moderator Minton, after having been in session for nearly two weeks, during which time many matters of the utmost importance to the church were considered.

HOBSON'S IDEA.

He Would Have May 30 Observed as Memorial Day by the South as Well as the North.

Detroit, Mich., May 31.—Capt. Richmond P. Hobson, famous for sinking the collier Merrimac in Santiago harbor during the Spanish-American war, was the center of attraction yesterday to about 2,000 people at the Lake Orion assembly, an inter-denominational resort about 35 miles from Detroit. The event was a Memorial day service and the opening of the assembly.

Capt. Hobson made an address, which was characterized by eulogies of the soldiers of the civil and Spanish-American wars who gave up their lives in the cause of humanity. Capt. Hobson said:

"I wish that the states of the south would all adopt this day for Memorial day for the Confederate dead and that the custom would begin and become general for the north to invite citizens of the north to come south, and for the north to invite citizens of the south to come north, to join together in one spirit in a common memorial celebration for the gallant dead of both sides."

Two Veterans Suicided.

Chicago, May 31.—Two veterans of the civil war chose Memorial day as the time for ending their lives. They were Allen Knapp, found lying in his office with an empty morphine bottle by his side, despondent because of lost fortune; Martin Tiffany, of Mankato, Mich., took carbolic acid in Garfield park; motive unknown.

Prefer Slavery to Freedom.

London, May 31.—Ninety-eight per cent. of the slaves of Zanzibar and Pemba prefer to remain slaves, according to correspondence issued by the foreign office concerning the working of the decrees freeing slaves. Fewer slaves applied for freedom in 1900 than in 1899. Most of the slaves know they are not likely to gain much present advantage, seeing that those who were thrown on their own resources have a difficult time to make a living. The masters have been kinder since the slave legislation was enacted.

THIEVES LYNCHED.

A California Mob Disposes of Five People.

SWUNG FROM BRIDGES.

Were Charged with a Series of Petty Larcenies.

AN EARLY MORNING RAID.

A Gang of About 50 Regulators Went to the Hotel Where Their Victims Were Under Guard, Took Them to a Bridge and Swung Them Off.

Bieber, Cal., June 1.—Details have been received here of the lynching of five men at Lookout, Modoc county, early Friday morning. The lynched were Calvin Hall, 72 years of age; his three half-breed sons, Frank, James and Martin, aged respectively 26, 19 and 16, and B. D. Yantis, aged 27.

The men lynched had been suspected of petty stealing for some time. Last Saturday they were arrested for stealing barb wire, pieces of harness and some hay forks. A search warrant was issued and the harness and forks were found in the houses of Hall and Yantis, who were taken into custody and brought to Lookout, where they were being held awaiting examination and trial.

Sunday and for several days following other searches were instituted and halters, dishes and table linen, which had been taken from clothes lines were found hidden on the premises of the suspected parties.

The charge against the elder Hall was petit larceny for stealing the forks.

His trial was to occur Friday. The others were held in custody as they were unable to furnish bail in the sum of \$300. Pending examination they were being held in the Lookout hotel by Constable Carpenter, assisted by R. Nichols, J. W. Brown and S. Goyette. The two former stood guard till midnight and the two latter took their places after midnight.

Friday morning about 2 o'clock, a mob, variously estimated at from 30 to 50 people, suddenly made their appearance at the hotel and, pointing their guns at the two officers on guard, commanded them to observe silence while they secured the five prisoners, placed ropes around their necks and dragged them toward the bridge which crosses Pitt river. They compelled the two guards to accompany them. Frank Hall made such strong resistance that the mob hanged him—before it got to the main bridge—under a small bridge crossing a deep slough. The others were taken to the main bridge and Calvin Hall, the father, was hanged on the north side and Yantis and the other Hall boys were hanged on the south side of the bridge.

A Destructive Storm.

Dawson, Ga., June 1.—A terrific wind and hail storm visited Dawson yesterday doing much damage. The storm struck the northern portion of the city, completely destroying a large amount of valuable property. The roofs were blown off several factories and warehouses, exposing their contents to the weather. The Dawson oil mill plant is partially destroyed, the refinery being a total wreck. The wind totally destroyed many buildings, including a new church that has just been completed and leaving the Odd Fellows' hall a mass of ruins.

A Battle at Vladfontein.

London, June 1.—On the anniversary of Lord Roberts' entry into Johannesburg the country was startled by the receipt of news of desperate fighting and heavy British losses within 40 miles of the Gold Reef city. The battle at Vladfontein, reported by Lord Kitchener on Friday, is the most serious engagement since Gen. Clements' reverse at Magaliesburg. The garrison of Vladfontein, apparently largely composed of yeomanry, had 147 men put out of action. The Boers under Gen. Delarey left 35 dead on the battlefield.

Loomis Will Not Go Back.

Washington, June 1.—It is officially admitted that Minister Loomis will not return to Venezuela. There are two reasons for this decision. In the first place Mr. Loomis suffered in health at his uncongential post, and in the second place the president is not disposed to expose him again to the merciless attacks he suffered in Venezuela as a result of the execution of the orders of the state department. Mr. Loomis, who is now in Europe seeking to recuperate, will be given another diplomatic post as soon as a suitable place can be found.

Voted to Strike.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 1.—Interest in the machinists' strike in Buffalo yesterday centered about the answer of the New York Central to its 400 employees in that trade at Depew, who demanded a 10 per cent. increase in wages, to go into effect to-day. The Central's reply was handed to the machinists last evening, a meeting was called and it was voted to strike.

Chicago Machinists Strike.

Chicago, June 1.—Chicago's machinists' strike began Friday. More than 1,000 men quit in various shops because the employers refused to sign the agreement for a 12 1/2 per cent. increase in wages and a nine-hour day. An important development in the situation was the inauguration of a sympathetic strike by the metal workers.

Resignations Rejected.

Columbia, S. C., June 1.—Gov. McSweeney has rejected the resignations of Senators Tillman and McLaurin, to give them time to reconsider.