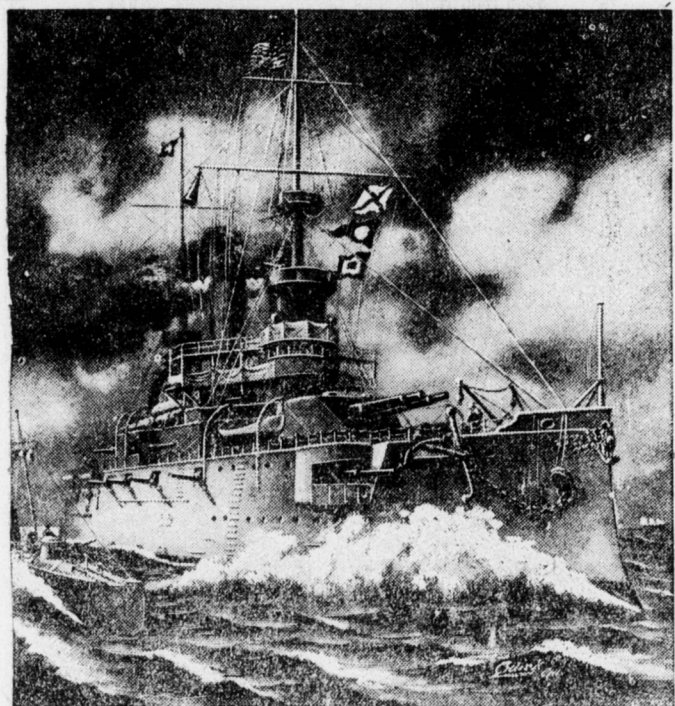


SWIFTEST AFLOAT.

Battleship Illinois Exhibits Remarkable Speed.

In a Trial Run Off the Massachusetts Coast She Develops an Average Speed of More than 17 Knots an Hour—Fastest Ship of Her Class in the World.

Boston, June 13.—With the proud distinction of being the fastest battleship in America and the speediest of her class in the world, the new sea-fighter Illinois lies at anchor in President's Roads after a most successful trial. Over the government course from Cape Ann to Cape Porpoise and return, a distance of 66 nautical miles, she raced yesterday under the



THE BATTLESHIP ILLINOIS

watchful eyes of United States naval representatives and established a new record by maintaining an average speed of 17.31 knots for four consecutive hours. Not only did she demonstrate that she was faster than any warship of her size afloat, but she proved her ability to turn upon an enemy with extraordinary quickness by describing a complete circle within 200 yards, or little more than twice her length, in three minutes and three seconds, while plowing through the sea at full speed.

Steadiness and reserve power characterized the performance of the ship throughout the severe test. The work of her engines was smooth and even, and the records of the day showed one-tenth of a knot difference in speed between the northern run and the return. The machinery easily met every requirement and not an accident of any kind occurred.

Rear Admiral Sampson, who was aboard, and Rear Admiral Evans, who acted as president of the trial board, as well as the other naval officers who participated in the trial were thoroughly pleased with the new champion, and as she steamed back to her anchorage with a broom at her masthead, the officials of the Newport News Ship Building Co., whose three years of labor had reached such a happy climax, were enthusiastically congratulated.

IS FULLY ACCEPTED.

The Cuban Constitutional Convention Adopts the Platt Amendment Without Any Strings Tied to It.

Havana, June 13.—The Cuban constitutional convention yesterday accepted the Platt amendment by a vote of 16 to 11. The resolution to accept was carried without discussion. Immediately after the opening of the session Senors Tamayo, Villuendas and Quesada, constituting a majority of the committee on relations, submitted as a substitute for the committee's former report the Platt amendment as passed by congress, recommending that it be accepted and made an appendix to the constitution.

Senors Rivera, Correso, Gener and Bebau were absent. The latter voted against acceptance in the previous division. Senor Ferrer voted with the conservatives, explaining his change of attitude by asserting that he believed acceptance would be the best solution of the problem.

The convention will now appoint a committee to draw up the electoral law.

Washington, June 13.—The news of the adoption of the Platt amendment by the Cuban constitutional convention was received with genuine gratification here. The administration officials all along have felt confident that its ratification would be accomplished when the Cubans realized that this government was firm in its attitude regarding the amendment.

Now that the Cubans have demonstrated their good faith in the United States, it is expected that a fairly speedy evacuation of the island will follow, contingent only upon the establishment of a stable government in the island.

Butchertown Tied Up.

San Francisco, June 13.—Wednesday afternoon the union butchers reported that about 1,100 men had walked out, and that Butchertown is tied up by the slaughterers quitting work. Between 100 and 150 shops out of a total of 350 have retained the union cards and about 400 men are at work. The wholesale butchers, however, claim that there will be no difficulty in supplying meat to their customers. They will not furnish any to houses showing a union card. The union men have had offers of meat from the middle western states

A QUESTION OF DOLLARS.

Machinists' Strike Has Resolved Itself Into a Question of Which Party Can Control the Most Money.

New York, June 13.—The Herald says of the machinists' strike and the National Metal Trades Association's recent action:

"At the headquarters of the striking machinists in this city yesterday, a cable dispatch was received from the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in London, promising financial aid. This society is the strongest trade union in the world and is said to have over \$8,000,000 in its treasury. The American Federation of Labor will tax its 2,000,000 members ten cents each for the striking machinists.

"Furthermore it was announced last night by the strike committee

MENACE TO SOCIETY.

John Alexander Dowie, King of Religious Confidence Men.

Rules His Followers with Iron Hand, Pockets the Lion's Share of Their Earnings and Abuses All the World.

[Special Chicago Letter.]

THE religious confidence game is a money-maker par excellence. From time immemorial there have arisen so-called prophets and sons of prophets. Every nation and every sect have paid tribute or given followers to one or more impostors who posed as God-sent apostles and preached recognition and social reform by simply

"Stamping God's name upon a lie just made, To turn a penny in the way of trade."

The religious confidence man is a cosmopolitan sort of chap; and that is why the United States, with its mixed and somewhat nomadic population, has been his favorite field of operation. And of the cities in the United States, Chicago has been his Mecca.

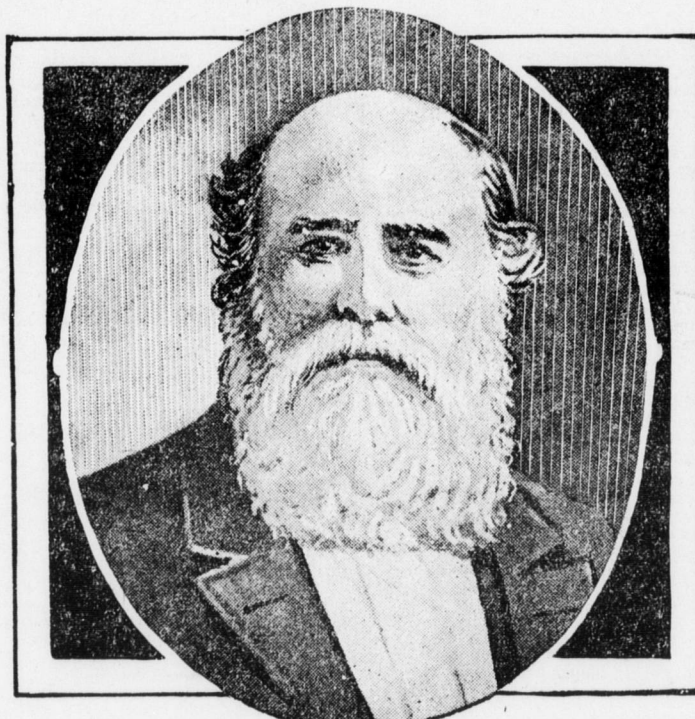
The oily Schweinfurth established his headquarters in the modern Babylon at the foot of Lake Michigan, after he had been driven out of Michigan, where he began operations, and his somewhat less notorious imitator, Teed, likewise selected Chicago as his headquarters. Both of these oleaginous individuals found hundreds of disciples; especially Schweinfurth, who proclaimed himself as the Messiah. Hysterical women flocked to hear him, and transferred everything they had in the world to the "community" of which he was the head—the whole thing, in fact. He might have ended his days as a very rich man had not his baser nature triumphed over his by no means inferior intellectual and business attainments. But in an hour, evil to himself and beneficial to his dupes, he established a community house near Rockford, Ill., which he called "Heaven," but which, according to oth-

the purchase of a valuable tract of land near Waukegan, Ill., where a modern city, to be known as Zion, is to be built.

The Christian Catholic church claims a membership of 10,000; and as each communicant is supposed to contribute a lion's share of his or her income to the overseer in the form of tithes, it is not surprising that Dowie can live in the lap of luxury. The humble exile of ten years ago assumes all the dignity of an Indian nabob and for a stranger to approach him is about as difficult as to secure an audience with the pope. He still preaches, but evidently only for the purpose of abusing those who do not agree with him. Many of his remarks are positively libidinous, others would do credit to a Hamburg fishwife. In word and action he is puffed up by arrogance, and although so far nothing has been said against his personal life his actions would indicate that he is the slave of some drug or else on the verge of insanity.

Looking at the man from a purely commercial point of view it cannot be denied that as an organizer and financier he has few superiors. Starting with nothing, he accumulated \$4,000,000 worth of property in less than a decade, founded a bank conducted for his personal benefit, and laid the foundation of what may become a prosperous and important manufacturing town. In spite of opposition from press and pulpit he is holding together thousands of men and women who would prefer death to the loss of their faith. That such devotion should turn the head of any man is not unnatural; nor is it surprising that Dowie considers himself a second Elijah and the object of many of the prophecies of the Old and New Testament. As the head of the most perfect religious oligarchy of our day he occupies a position without parallel in the history of this or any other country.

Much of his success is due to hypnotic power, which he possesses in a remarkable degree. A vast percentage of the so-called "cures" performed in the early days of the movement were due to this force, and to it owes his fame as a healer. His unprecedented financial triumphs are the result of



JOHN ALEXANDER DOWIE, GENERAL OVERSEER OF ZION.

ers, was nothing but a harem. The people of Rockford forced him to leave their town, and in the course of time Schweinfurth disappeared altogether from public view. It has been stated that he has turned over a new leaf and is leading an exemplary life. For the truth of this rumor the writer cannot vouch, although it comes from a fairly reliable source.

Before the Schweinfurth excitement had subsided there appeared in Chicago another prophet, whose name has since become familiar to the newspaper readers of the world over—John Alexander Dowie. He came from Australia, spoke with an oily tongue, called himself a doctor of divinity and the founder of a new faith cure system of healing all diseases. His assumed humility secured immediate recognition. Several churches opened their doors to him, and his first proselytes were made in houses of worship whose people he has since denounced as "children of the devil." He made some remarkable "cures" and preached a series of powerful sermons. Within a short time the pauper immigrant from the Antipodes had accumulated enough capital to buy a handsome pair of horses and a carriage and to equip a large tabernacle, printing house and sanitarium in Woodlawn, the world's fair district of Chicago. These outward manifestations of prosperity were followed by the founding of the Christian Catholic Church of Zion, of which he made himself "general overseer." His "hospital" soon degenerated into a public nuisance; and the property owners of Woodlawn, under the leadership of George W. Riggs, instituted a series of legal proceedings which terminated in a victory for law and order, as far as the location of the sanitarium was concerned, but also resulted in advantage to Dowie, who posed as a martyr before his dupes, and induced them to buy a valuable piece of property at the corner of Twelfth street and Michigan boulevard, then known as the Imperial hotel. He renamed it "Zion," refurbished it throughout, and advertised it far and wide as the headquarters of the new religion. Subsequently additional real estate purchases were made and new buildings erected, and a year or so ago his people sanctioned

nerve and the gift of selecting competent assistants. It is said that in employing heads for the various departments of Zion he has not made a single mistake, which, if true, stamps him as a wise judge of human nature. The men intrusted with the management of the vast machinery of the Zion organization are paid liberal salaries—more than they could earn elsewhere—and thus self-interest is made an ally of religious prejudice.

Attempts to bring the Zion bank under state supervision have been foiled by the clever managers of the institution, as well as honest endeavors to secure a statement of its resources and deposits.

The numberless slaughter of innocents—men, women and children, who die by the score, and might have been saved by rational medical treatment—has attracted considerable attention, but thus far the law has not been able to protect the victims of Zion fanaticism. Very recently the wife of one of the church's most prominent officers, H. Worthington Judd, died under the most distressing circumstances, after Dowie had "prayed" for her recovery. Physicians of all schools are unanimous in asserting that the woman's life could have been saved. At the coroner's inquest, her husband volunteered the information that his wife had not asked for medical aid, and if she had he would not have consented to her receiving it. Such is the bigotry of the followers of Dowie. This same Judd, by the way, is the man who assisted Dowie in giving an alleged expose of Free Masonry several months ago. He had been a Mason for many years, but Dowie convinced him that all Masons are "devils" and "children of the devil," hence he considered the act of violating his obligations as one of merit and entitled to Divine reward.

Such is, in brief, the character of Dowie and the work he is doing. How much longer his reign may last it is hard to say; but that it will end ignominiously may be taken for granted, because no system of religion based on personal aggrandizement and the storing up of wealth for wealth's sake has ever endured.

G. W. WEIPIERT.

BUSINESS.

Greater Confidence Prevails and the Labor Situation Is Gradually Improving.

New York, June 15.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Confirmation by the agricultural bureau of recent private estimates of the wheat crop, has given to business a tone of greater confidence. Retail operations both east and west are larger and distribution of merchandise by the wholesale trade is increasing in dry goods and boots and shoes. The labor situation is gradually mending, with the appreciation of the fact that, in some directions manufacturers would be glad of a temporary shut down of works.

Pig iron production on June 1 was at the rate of 314,505 tons weekly. This establishes a new high water mark. An interesting feature of the situation is the decrease of furnace blast to 252, which is 44 less than were actively employed February 1, 1900, when the weekly output was 298,014 tons.

Seasonable weather has aroused the dry goods markets. There is not yet such activity that dealers are overwhelmed, but the various divisions of manufacture are fairly occupied and heavy supplies of print clothes at Fall River have decreased. Forwardings of footwear from Boston have averaged over 100,000 cases weekly for some time, and shops are well engaged. Prices are steady.

Wheat declined to a more reasonable level with withdrawal of speculative support. The government report of condition on June 1 was chiefly responsible. A crop this year equal to the greatest ever harvested was indicated by the official statement, and as department figures have generally proven below the final yield, there was heavy selling of options, with a fall below 80 cents for cash wheat at this city.

Failures for the week numbered 179 in the United States, against 162 last year, and 23 in Canada.

FLAG DAY.

The Anniversary of the Birth of "Old Glory" Is Fittingly Observed.

New York, June 15.—The annual meeting of the American Flag Association was held in the city hall Friday. This association is a delegate body composed of "flag committees" of 13 members each from 57 veteran, military, patriotic and historical societies in all parts of the country. Its special object is to prevent the desecration of the flag and to promote popular reverence for the emblem of the nation.

The president's address showed that through the efforts of the association, legislation for the protection of the flag from desecration had been obtained in 19 states. A resolution was adopted urging all patriotic organizations to ask for national legislation for the protection of the flag.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 15.—Patriotism was the theme at the Pan-American yesterday. All paid tribute to the stars and stripes. The formal exercises were held in the Temple of Music under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Grand Army of the Republic and other patriotic societies. Lieut. Gen. Miles was received with applause, the entire audience rising to their feet and cheering him. Gen. Miles reviewed the history of the flag.

Washington, June 15.—Flag day was appropriately celebrated in the immense audience hall of the pension bureau Friday. Commissioner Evans and other officials and clerks and many of their friends congregated there to listen to a concert which was patriotic in tone. The program closed with the singing of "America," in which the entire audience joined with splendid effect. The big building was appropriately decorated.

Found Five Indictments.

Grand Rapids, Mich., June 15.—Five indictments were returned Friday by the grand jury which has been investigating an alleged waterworks scandal. The names of the indicted men are: Thomas F. McGarry, Stilson V. MacLeod, Lant K. Salisbury, Gerrit Abers and Henry A. Taylor, of New York. It was expected there would be a dozen true bills returned, among them a number of aldermen. Taylor's arrest was ordered in New York by wire. The local men are now in custody.

The Woodmen's Convention.

St. Paul, Minn., June 15.—At Friday's session of the convention of Modern Woodmen of America, Indianapolis was selected as the place of meeting in 1903. An application from underground miners for permission to join the order was refused. The contest of the uniformed teams continued at Camp Northcott. The Pontiac, Ill., team took the lead in the competitive drill. The score was 99-1-0, the highest that a Woodmen team ever attained.

Would Not Object to an Ocean Race.

London, June 15.—When the attention of Sir Thomas Lipton was called yesterday to a report that his secretary had announced his willingness that the Shamrock II, should race across the ocean with the Independence if a cup were offered, he replied that he had made no arrangements for such a race, but did not see why he should not do so after his engagement with the New York Yacht club was concluded.

Callahan Is Held for Trial.

Omaha, Neb., June 15.—James Callahan was yesterday held for trial in the district court on a charge of perjury alleged to have been committed in one of the Cudahy abduction cases. Bail was fixed at \$1,500.

Biddle Is Convicted.

Pittsburg, June 15.—John Biddle, charged with the robbery and subsequent killing of Grover Thomas D. Kahney, was convicted Friday of murder in the first degree.

Gen. Kneifer Dies.

Indianapolis, June 15.—Gen. Frederick Kneifer, colonel of the famous Seventy-ninth Indiana regiment in the civil war, died here last night.

A CRASH IN A RIVER

A Big Ferry Boat Rams the Steamer Northfield.

THE NORTHFIELD SINKS.

A Disaster on the East River, New York City.

SEVERAL LIVES WERE LOST

Estimates Vary Greatly as to the Number of People that Were Drowned—Hundreds of People Were Rescued from the Sinking Steamer.

New York, June 15.—The wooden steamer Northfield, which has been in the service of the Staten Island Ferry Co. for the past 38 years, was rammed last night by the steel-hulled propeller Mauch Chunk, used as a ferry boat by the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The collision occurred just off the Staten Island ferry slip, at the foot of Whitehall street, and in less than ten minutes afterwards the Northfield, which was crowded with passengers, sank at the outer end of the Spanish line pier in the East river.

The Mauch Chunk, which was badly damaged, landed the two dozen passengers who were aboard of her. Over a hundred of the passengers of the sunken Northfield were dragged out of the water by people along shore and the crews of the fleet of river tugs which promptly responded to the ferry boat's call for help. A few of the Northfield's passengers were hurt in the accident and the police believe that some lives were lost.

Capt. Daniel Gully, of the tug boat Mutual, who saw the ferry boats crash together, says that immediately after the collision between 25 and 30 of the passengers leaped into the water and that many of those perished. Capt. Gully also declares that he is sure 100 of the Northfield's passengers were drowned. The captains of other tug boats who were early on the scene, however, are inclined to think that the disaster was not so serious as regards the loss of life.

The reason for such a difference of opinion as to the extent of the disaster is that the wildest excitement prevailed on the Northfield. The tug Mutual saved in all about 75 persons from the Northfield and the tugs Unity and Arrow saved between them 150 persons. Two policemen of the Old Slip station claim to have rescued nearly 30 people.

As soon as the crowd which had followed the sinking ferry boat along the river front were able to render aid they worked with a will, and in many instances men sprang into the water to save life. The greatest service was rendered by the tug boats, which as soon as it was possible circled around the Northfield and made a bridge to the Spanish line pier and men and women clambered over the tugs to the shore.

While the Northfield was well supplied with life preservers, which were stored in out-of-the-way places, not more than two dozen of the passengers were able to get the life belts on. This state of affairs was because the life preservers were not readily obtainable and the wildest panic followed when the hundreds of passengers realized their danger. This was only a few minutes before the Northfield sank to the bottom of the river, and then all who had not jumped to the tugs found themselves in the water.

The swift running flood tide and the question of which boat had the right of way was the cause of the disaster. Capt. Abraham Johnson was in charge of the Northfield and Capt. S. C. Griffin was in command of the Mauch Chunk. Each lays the blame of the collision on the other.

As the bumping of ferry boats is not unusual in this harbor, the passengers on the Northfield did not for a minute or so realize the seriousness of the collision. When, however, two firemen ran up on deck to save themselves from the inflow of water and the Northfield was being driven full speed up the river instead of down to the island and all the time screaming and slipping and all the time screaming and slipping, they knew that something serious had happened. Then commenced the panic, which continued until the Northfield went down. At no time was the Northfield more than 500 feet out in the river beyond the bulkhead line, but the tide was running with the velocity of a mill race, and had the vessel sunk out in the stream only the tugs would have been able to give assistance.

There were 12 teams on the Northfield and they all perished. The officials of the Staten Island ferry boat said that there were probably not over 600 passengers on the Northfield at the time of the collision. The passengers say that the crowd numbered fully 1,200 men, women and children.

Girls Poisoned by Ice Cream.

Clinton, Ia., June 15.—Sixteen girls who attended a social at St. Patrick's church Friday are lying unconscious from ice cream poisoning. It is believed several of them will die.

Made Five New Records.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 15.—Five new American records for junior athletics were established on the stadium yesterday in a series of splendidly contested games arranged by the Amateur Athletic union. The honors of the day went to Detroit A. C., whose men were foremost in record breaking and winning.

Theatre Burned.

Lynn, Mass., June 15.—The Empire theatre was destroyed by fire last night, causing a loss of \$50,000 on the building and losses to occupants amounting to about \$10,000.