

THE SAMOAN TROUBLE.

SENSATIONAL CABLE AND OFFICIAL REPORTS.

GERMANY TAKING POSSESSION.—SHE WILL MAKE WAR UPON CHIEF MATAAFA.

AUCKLAND, Jan. 31.—Advises from Samoa state that the German officials have given notice that all vessels arriving there will be searched for articles contraband of war. They have suppressed the Samoan Times.

Upon the arrival of the steamer Richmond she was boarded and searched by the Germans.

BERLIN, Jan. 31.—It is not expected that German military operations in Samoa will commence until sufficient reinforcements are sent to the islands. At present there are at Samoa three German war ships, with an available landing force of 300 men.

A passenger on the British steamer Walcutt, who visited Mataafa's camp, was placed under arrest, but was subsequently released, in compliance with a demand of the British Consul.

A proclamation has been issued placing the Apia police force under German control.

Mataafa's followers number 6000. They are strongly entrenched, and other Samoans are rapidly joining them.

BERLIN, Jan. 31.—A "white book" on the Samoan question will shortly be presented to the Reichstag. The National Zeitung announces that a friendly settlement with America may be expected, based upon Prince Bismarck's proposal for a joint discussion.

STATEMENT OF COMMANDER LEARY, OF THE UNITED STATES SHIP ADAMS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 31.—Commander R. P. Leary, of the United States ship Adams, which arrived here from Samoa, via Honolulu, yesterday, in an interview to-day, said:

"There was a great deal of commotion when I was at Apia. I went down there with all kinds of orders suited to a time of peace, but when war broke out I threw the orders to the wind. They would do in time of peace, but were not applicable to the condition of affairs then. When I saw Brandeis, the German Minister, leading 500 natives in support of Tamasese, I wrote him a letter asking him to desist. I said: 'I am here to protect American citizens and American property, and I will not wait idly by and see you plunging the country into trouble, when their lives and property may be destroyed. If you do not desist I shall take such measures to protect them as I deem the circumstances demand.'

"He sent word back that no American nor American property would be molested. In a little while, though, much the same tactics were repeated. There was a meeting of Consuls aboard the German war ship Adler, and at the meeting I said to the Germans: 'Now, just let the natives fight it out between themselves.' Oh, no, they could not do that. They said they had proclaimed Tamasese King, and they could not leave him now to fight alone. Then I said I would take a hand in this. 'If you persist in aiding Tamasese and fighting for him, I will participate, and I pulled the Adams in ahead of the Adler, and would have done my part in the fray if the Germans had decided that they must have it. I had made up my mind that the Adams could throw shells too. At this they eased down and promised that it should be 'hands off.'

"Next there were notices posted by the Germans stating that the bridge over the river at Apia and separating all the back country where the natives were, would be taken up. I tore these notices off. I said there should be no demolition of bridges. Then I ordered my carpenters on the next morning, and meantime word having got out all around, scores of natives came to aid in repairing and maintaining the bridge. I also threw some marines ashore to protect it. It is not necessary to say that the bridge was not destroyed. The Adams left Samoa December 7, and was not present during the recent battle between the Germans and Mataafa's forces."

A MURDER IN ARKANSAS.

JOHN M. CLAYTON SHOT BY AN UNKNOWN ASSASSIN.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 30.—The Gazette's Plummerville, Ark., special gives the following details of the murder of John M. Clayton.

He was shot in his room at Mrs. Craven's house, at 9 o'clock last night. D. H. Womack, of Benton, Arkansas, a traveling man, and Al. Nutt were with him. Clayton had been nervous all the evening, and was pacing the floor with his hands in his pockets. He walked towards the window, over which the blind was partially drawn, and was in the act of sitting down, when a shot was fired through the pane. When a light was brought, it was found that a load of buckshot had taken effect in the right side of Clayton's neck, breaking it. He had fallen back dead in his chair, and then over upon the floor.

There is no clue to the perpetrator of the outrage, but a pistol was found underneath the window this morning, which may lead to the discovery of the assassin. No one advances a theory as yet. A great number of people, principally negroes, are in the little village, and everything is orderly and quiet.

A bill was presented in the State Senate to-day authorizing the Governor to offer a reward of \$5000 for the arrest of the murderer or murderers of John M. Clayton. It was made the special order for to-morrow.

MEDIA, Pa., Jan. 30.—Hon John M. Clayton, who is reported to have been shot and killed yesterday in his room in the hotel where he lived at Plummerville, Arkansas, is a brother of Thomas J. Clayton, President Judge of the Delaware County Court.

The despatch announcing the unfortunate occurrence appeared in the morning papers, and Judge Clayton had not heard of it until a newspaper reporter met him on the street this morning on his way to the office. Judge Clayton was completely overcome by the sad intelligence, and left at once for his home.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—Nathaniel Gandy, 18 years old, was stabbed and instantly killed on the afternoon of the 27th during a quarrel at Broad and Callowhill streets, Philadelphia. It is alleged by Harry Endy, aged 19 years, who was arrested. Benjamin Baker, aged 30 years, and James Whitney, 25 years, were attacked on the morning of the 27th by a party of men at Sixth and Lehigh avenue, Philadelphia. Both were struck on the head with a brick, knocked down and kicked. Emil G. Doersind was arrested and held to wait the result of Baker's wounds, which are believed to be dangerous. Samuel Wakefield, Jr., colored, shot and killed James W. Trainer, his employer, in New Iberia Parish, Louisiana, on the evening of the 25th, and was in turn taken from the officers and killed by a mob.

—A boiler exploded in the saw mill of R. H. Perkins, at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, on the evening of the 26th, killing Judge J. R. Stramont, John Cronester and John Moore, and fatally injuring Robert Malcom, Richard H. Perkins and Richard Robbins. Six others received slight injuries. Lack of water caused the explosion.

The boiler in Harvey's silk mill, in Scranton, Pa., exploded on the morning of the 28th, killing the engineer, Nicholas Chisler, and injuring a workman named Anderson. All the water in the boiler had been exhausted and the engineer turned on a full stream. Two hundred and fifty employees are thrown out of work.

—Threatening letters from White Caps were sent to a number of disreputable houses in Bloomington, Illinois, recently, and on the evening of the 25th, some of the houses were bombarded with eggs. The police arrested Patrick O'Connell and three others, who are now in jail. O'Connell was seen and recognized as he delivered one of the threatening missives, and on being arrested, confessed, implicating the rest of the gang. Two of the prisoners are old offenders, each having a suspended penitentiary sentence hanging over his head.

—It is reported that several levees, 30 to 40 miles above Shreveport, Louisiana, gave way on the evening of the 28th, the river submerging a large area of country. Sunny Point levee, below Shreveport, has also succumbed to the force of the current. All lowlands on the Red river not protected by levees are under water. No loss of life or stock is reported.

—While a number of people were leaving a school house near Williamsburgh, Ohio, on the evening of the 25th, a mischievous boy pulled the bell rope, and by some means the bell was thrown from the frame work in the cupola, and fell in front of the house and on to the crowd below, killing William Wacker and seriously injuring G. W. Mount and Sparr Kidd.

—Parks Pledge, living at Holly Springs, Missouri, committed suicide on the 25th. He was engaged to marry two young women, and had arranged for the marriage ceremony to take place in each case on the same day. The body of William Harkins, aged 24 years, was found in the Susquehanna river at Nanticoke, Penna., on the 28th. It is thought he committed suicide. Ira E. Tabor, a wealthy farmer, near Pottsburg, New York, was killed on the 28th, by a neighbor named Joseph Chapple, with whom he quarrelled over the poisoning of two cows. Chapple struck Tabor on the head with a stake from his sleigh. He says he acted in self-defence.

—Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, of Danville, Va., while in Greensboro, N. C., on the evening of the 26th, was robbed and had her skull fractured by an unknown colored villain. Two men named Arbuckle and Staley have been arrested in Indianapolis, Indiana, for passing counterfeit coin. A complete counterfeiter's outfit was captured in their room. Burglars entered the post-office in Rahway, New Jersey, early on the morning of the 28th, and secured stamps, registered letters and cash to the amount of \$1000.

—Two little boys and an older sister, aged 13 years, named French, were caught in the blizzard, near Hitchcock, Dakota, on the 25th, as they were returning home from school. When found the boys were dead and the girl badly frozen and unconscious. If she survives she will lose the lower portion of her legs, and possibly, one or both arms.

—With two exceptions, every line of street cars in New York and Brooklyn was tied up on the morning of the 29th. A number of small riots occurred during the day, but no persons were dangerously hurt. The strikers attacked and beat the new men, but dispersed without offering serious resistance when the police appeared. Several of the ringleaders were arrested.

Some of the companies succeeded in getting cars over their routes with the aid of the police. The strikers demand \$2.25 for 10 hours' work in 12 consecutive hours. It is estimated that over 6000 men are out. At 10 o'clock last night everything was quiet at the car stables, the strikers having departed. In Brooklyn the police afforded the companies no protection and no effort was made to run cars. Arrangements have been made to call out the militia in case of a riot.

—At the Licking Rolling Mill, in Newport, Kentucky, on the evening of the 28th, Joseph Hardick and William Stenken were managing the machine used for hoisting scrap iron into the furnace. A large rope with an iron hook is attached to this machine. On the 29th, Stenken suggested to Hardick that they play a joke on Joseph Tape. They hooked the rope around Tape's neck and started the machine. It pulled Tape along till the hook caught in an iron bar, and stopped, planing the neck of the unfortunate man solidly against the bar. He was removed to his home, made his will, and expired about two hours after the accident. Tape declared before his death that it was accidental.

—Louis A. Knackstedt, paying teller of the Mullanphy Savings Bank in St. Louis, is reported to have absconded with \$7500 of the funds of the bank. The young man's father has volunteered to make up the deficiency.

—The Rockport and Connetton accommodation train was thrown from the track and turned over, on the 28th, between Lincoln City and Chrisney, Indiana. There were 35 passengers in the coach, and all were shaken up, but none killed. Captain John B. Rife, of Middletown, Penna., was thrown from a carriage in Harrisburg, on the 29th and killed. His horse became frightened and ran away.

—There was practically no change in the street car strike in New York and Brooklyn on the 30th ult. The employees of the Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad Company were notified to report for duty, and that those who did not report would be considered discharged. In Brooklyn the car horses are growing stiff for want of exercise.

Mr. Richardson refuses to meet the Board of Arbitration. The strikers seem anxious to enter into some sort of agreement, but Richardson will not listen to anything from any person from a labor organization. He is willing to meet a committee of their old employees. It was reported on the evening of the 30th ult., that the Broadway road had secured 700 men in Philadelphia to be placed on the cars this morning, and so are expected to man cars of other companies.

—John M. Clayton was shot and killed by an unknown assassin, in his room in Plummerville, Arkansas, on the evening of the 29th ult. A bill was presented in the Arkansas Senate, on the 30th ult., authorizing the Governor to offer a reward of \$5000 for the arrest of the murderer or murderers. James M. Williams was shot and killed by Benjamin Skillman, in Albion, Nebraska, on the evening of the 29th ult. Skillman is the youngest brother of Rebecca Skillman, who recently charged Williams and Dr. Fernald, in an Omaha court, with malpractice.

—Charles M. Balch and his wife were found dead in bed near Walnut Springs, Texas, on the morning of the 29th ult. Both were shot through the heart. It is supposed Balch killed his wife and then committed suicide.

—State Treasurer Hart, of Pennsylvania, has issued his report for the year. The balance in the treasury on the 1st of December, 1887, was \$2,380,841.47. The total receipts from all sources for the year ending November 30th, 1888, were \$8,604,663.42; the total payments during the year were \$7,387,866.84, leaving a balance in the treasury on the 1st of December, 1888, of \$3,687,035.65.

—Three deaths occurred from small-pox at the Poor House in Onondaga county, New York, on the 30th ult., and 14 persons are down with the disease. Diphtheria in Lehigh county and along the line of Berks, in Pennsylvania, is disappearing. Diphtheria has become epidemic in Hancock county, Ohio. The schools in Big Lick, Blanchard and Marion townships have been closed, and others will be unless the progress of the disease abates. It is not of a malignant type, and deaths are few.

—Advises from Alaska say the winter there has been a very discouraging one to the people, owing to severe storms. The heaviest snow storms since 1876 occurred this winter, and traders and hunters have suffered great hardships and much delay in preparing for the coming hunting trips.

—Lewis Moore, an insurance inspector in Philadelphia, was struck and killed by a train at Media, Delaware county, Pa., on the 31st ult., while walking on the track. He was about 72 years of age.

—Two messenger boys in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, in Mobile, Alabama, were arrested on the 31st ult., for breaking open the safe and stealing \$150. One of the boys confessed his guilt and returned part of the money, but the other denied all knowledge of the matter.

—A telegram from Quebec says a snow slide on the Lewis side of the river has destroyed P. Couture's residence, greatly damaged the residences of P. Gagne, Michael Gagne and J. Gorman, and blocked traffic from Rock street to Commercial street. The loss is \$10,000.

50th CONGRESS.—Second Session.

SENATE.

In the United States Senate, on the 28th, the Army Nurses' Pension bill (giving \$25 a month pension) was passed. The Diplomatic Appropriation bill was considered, and various amendments reported by the Senate committee were agreed to, among them an item of \$3000 for a Consul General at Samoa. Mr. Gibson moved to insert the word "ambassador" instead of the words "envoy extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary," as applied to France, Germany, Great Britain and Russia. After debate, pending action on the amendment, the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 29th, the amendments in relation to Samoa having been reached, the Senate went into executive session for their consideration. When the doors were reopened, Mr. Sherman made a speech giving the history of our connection with the Samoan Islands, our acquisition of the Bay of Pago-Pago for a coaling station, the present trouble in Samoa and its origin, and said: "The first thing to be done was for the United States to assert its power in the occupancy and possession of the Bay of Pago-Pago. That ought to be done immediately. It did not need war to protect a nation's rights. The mere assertion of those rights, the due regard for them, the expenditure of money there, the storing of coal there, the calling of vessels there—all of these things were assertions of power, far more influential than protocols and diplomatic correspondence." He added: "I am willing to vote the sum named in the amendment (\$500,000), and place it at the discretion of Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Harrison, and I have no doubt that the power thus given, to send agents there, and to send ships there, will bring about a prompt solution of this small controversy." Mr. Dolph obtained the floor, whereupon the Senate adjourned.

In the United States Senate on the 30th ult., the consideration of the Diplomatic Appropriation bill was resumed, and the amendments relating to the Samoan Islands were discussed by Messrs. Dolph, Moynan and Reagan. At the close of Mr. Reagan's speech the Senate went into executive session, and when the doors were reopened, adjourned.

In the United States Senate on the 31st ult., the credentials of Senator-elect Higgins, of Delaware, were presented and filed. The President's message in relation to Samoa was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The House amendments to the bill to increase the pensions of those who have lost both hands were concurred in. The consideration of the Diplomatic Appropriation bill in regard to the amendments in regard to the Samoan Islands were, after a long debate, agreed to without a division. The amendment raising to the rank of Ambassadors the Ministers to France, Germany, Great Britain and Russia was lost, and the bill was then passed. After an executive session, in which the British extradition treaty was discussed without action, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

In the House, on the 28th, the call of States was dispensed with, and the bills were taken up. The Senate bill was passed increasing the pension of soldiers and sailors who have lost both arms to \$100 per month. The Senate concurrent resolution for the counting of the electoral votes on February 13th was agreed to. The Sundry Civil bill was considered, pending which the House adjourned.

In the House on the 29th, the Sundry Civil bill was passed. Mr. Dann, from the Committee on Merchant Marine, reported a bill to provide for the better protection of the fur seal and salmon fisheries of Alaska. It was recommitted, with leave to report at any time. Adjourned.

In the House on the 30th ult., Mr. Springer moved to go into Committee of the Whole to consider the Oklahoma bill, and the motion was agreed to—134 to 54. Several amendments were adopted, among them Mr. Payson's in relation to soldiers' home-lands, and the bill was reported to the House. The Payson amendment was then agreed to, 114 to 111, and pending further action the House adjourned.

In the House on the 31st ult., the consideration of the Oklahoma bill was continued. There was much debate and several amendments were voted upon, but, pending consideration of the bill, the House adjourned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

In the Senate on the 28th the bills to establish a nautical school at Philadelphia, extending the time for closing soldiers' orphans' schools to 1893, authorizing the election of constables for three years, were passed to second reading. Adjourned.

In the Senate on the 29th ult., a bill was introduced by Mr. Harlan, providing for the election of a District Superintendent of Schools. A bill was passed providing that criminal prosecution for embezzlement by administrators, trustees or guardians may be brought within two years from the final decree of the court adjudicating the accounts of the trustees. The resolution proposing a constitutional amendment abolishing the poll tax passed second reading. Adjourned.

In the Senate on the 30th ult., the joint resolution proposing to submit the Prohibition amendment to a popular vote was passed by a vote of 35 to 2. The House joint resolution for a committee to inspect the harbor of Philadelphia in conjunction with committees of Councils and the New Jersey Legislature, was agreed to. Adjourned.

In the Senate on the 31st bills were introduced by Mr. Watson making election days legal holidays; by Mr. Delamater, "for the incorporation, without capital, or institutions for the purpose of saving money;" by Mr. Packer, to tax insurance companies in counties where they do business for fire department purposes, and by Mr. McCreary, to reimburse counties for expenses in making assessments of State taxes. A communication was received from the Governor announcing that he had signed the Prohibition amendment resolution. Bills were reported favorably for the renewal of provident institutions and savings banks charters; to carry out the provisions of the National Agricultural Experiment Stations law; for the maintenance of manual training schools, and making Saturday afternoon and Labor Day legal holidays.

HOUSE.

In the House on the 29th, the Supplemental Revenue bill was reported and ordered to be printed. Mr. Fow's Architectural Competition bill, and Mr. Campbell's Foreign Labor 25 Cents Tax bill were reported negatively. Bills were introduced by Mr. Fow to regulate the running of motor street cars, and by Mr. Krebs to incorporate city passenger railway companies and to provide for the support of fire salvage corps and apparatus. The Soldiers' Appointment bill was considered and amended. Adjourned.

In the House on the 30th ult., the Supplemental Revenue bill was reported in order to be printed. A number of new bills were introduced. The bill to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine was postponed indefinitely. The anti-poll tax amendment was passed to third reading. Adjourned.

In the House, on the 31st ult., the General Appropriation bill was introduced and referred. The Senate amendment to the bill regulating terms of Condemners, etc., in new wards was agreed to and the bill sent to the Governor. Bills were reported favorably for the protection of fish in the Delaware; for the regulation of beneficial associations; to prevent grade crossings by steam railroads, and providing "for the support of associations founded for the control of fires and to protect human life in the cities of the first and second classes." The bill to regulate the traffic in milk was reported negatively. Adjourned.

How the Yellow Fever Epidemic Originated.

At a meeting of the Virginia State Medical Society, held at Norfolk recently, Surgeon General Hamilton of the Marine Hospital Service, gave the following account of the manner in which the now-prevailing epidemic of yellow fever was introduced into this country, the details of which, he said, had been secured at a great cost to the Government and which have not as yet been published.

Last year the yellow fever appeared in Key West in the family of a restaurant keeper by the name of Baker. It appears that a family of Bollos, who had kept a hotel in Havana in various places, the last being called the Quinta Avenida (Fifth Avenue) Hotel, unfortunately for Florida, emigrated to Key West. Their household effects under the regulations governing the regular line of steamers, could not be shipped by them, so they shipped these effects, consisting of bedding and various articles of furniture, by an irregular "tramp," not now running, called the Cochran. There was no objection officially made at Key West, as there was neither Government nor local quarantine, and the articles were landed and stored above Baker's restaurant. The Baker family died of the fever, and thus the fever started, and rapidly became epidemic.

The Government, under the operation of that section of the statutes forbidding interference with local authorities, did nothing except that, on the Governor to aid the local board, they established a dispensary and paid the expenses of the city hospital. To assist in the speedy depopulation of the city a refuge camp was established at Egmont Key, at the mouth of Tampa Bay. No case from Egmont communicated the disease. The first cases in Tampa were kept secret from August to October 21st. A family of Italians by the name of Turk, fruit dealers, brought the fever into Tampa. The steamers had refused, under orders from the Hillsborough County Board of Health, to bring fruit from Havana or Key West. These Italians finding it impossible to continue in business, set up a smuggling line and brought fruit by way of Punta Gorda Bay and overland to Tampa. For this purpose the man Turk and his assistant Peep or "Pete," made frequent surreptitious visits to Key West while the disease was there epidemic, and blankets were purchased in the infected city and used while on the overland trip, and brought to Tampa. It is a significant fact that the whole family of the Italians were the first taken sick, and that they were not publicly known to have been out of the town, although the fact is now known. The measures taken by the Government were simply to comfort to the wishes of the Governor to aid the Hillsborough County Board of Health.

The duty of preventing the spread of the disease was undertaken by the Florida State Protective Association, an organization consisting of one representative from each County Board of Health, under the presidency of Dr. King Wyley, of Sandford. In December the association raised the quarantine against Tampa. The County Board of Health asserted that the disease had disappeared, but, unfortunately, the disease had not been stamped out, and although the cases of fever lingered all winter in Tampa, its existence there was bitterly denied. From Tampa the disease spread to Plant City, Manatee and other places, and it is now believed that the fever was at Jacksonville as early as February. Dr. Gutera, of the Marine Hospital Service, an expert, says that in his judgment at least two of the cases of "society" fever, of which there were over thirty reported in Jacksonville in that month, had the well-marked clinical history of yellow fever. Nine of these cases died. Dr. Potts treated cases in Bay street in June, and there were probably cases continuously until the formal announcement was made. He said that so-called isolated cases had been reported at Jacksonville after the case in Bay street had been treated in June by Dr. Potts, but that the local authorities denied the presence of an epidemic and placed a guard around each case. This state of things existed until August 16th, when the spread of the disease in Jacksonville became so great, cases springing up in various points in the city, that could not be traced to any of the so-called isolated cases, that the authorities had to declare the disease epidemic.

Dr. Hamilton said that the disease had been introduced in Decatur, Ala., by a man who had gone from Jacksonville while all of the cases in that city had been reported under guard. His ticket had been from some point outside of the infected city, and consequently he was not denied admittance. The doctor said the fever had been introduced into Gainesville and Fernandina by base ball players, who had played a game of ball in Jacksonville before the epidemic nature of the disease had been declared, and then returned to these cities.

The Age of the Camera.

Less than fifty years ago there was not a photographic camera in the world; to-day there are 15,000 photographic establishments, to say nothing of the thousands of amateur outfits, in the United States.

He is the best diver of dreams who is caught by his understanding.

ICE can be produced by artificial process but coal cannot. The mild whites keeps the coal bills down, and the ice machines may prevent the ice bills next Summer from going too high. Be cheerful and take the weather as it comes.

CHICAGO and St. Paul have a train service that is a little ahead of anything yet provided in this section of the country. Vestibuled trains, lighted by electricity and steam heated, seem to be about perfection.

THE dreary business of raising good money to throw after bad in the Panama Canal enterprise goes on in Paris. So much money has already been expended that somehow the work will probably be completed, but there seems to be very little hope that the original investors will get any return.

A RATHER strange affliction happened to a Missoula couple who were sleigh riding. The young man's right ear and the lady's left ear were frosted, while the other two were not cold at all. Why all four ears were not frosted is a problem which has been submitted to the high school class in physiology.

AS it was a horse that stepped on an electric light wire in New York and was instantly killed, no inquest will be held by the Coroner, but somebody ought to investigate such accidents and keep agitating the subject of the removal of such dangerous wires from the streets until success is attained.

THE two elm trees cut down in Lunenburg, Mass., a few days ago, were more than a century old. According to Massachusetts papers, "they were planted by Capt. John Litch on the memorable dark day, May 19, 1780, when it was so dark that people could not see to read at mid-day, and many persons supposed the day of judgment had come."

A THREE day's sale by auction of the Great Eastern and her fittings has taken place at Liverpool. The catalogue contained 895 lots. The hull and fittings realized £43,000, the copper bringing £2900; the gun metal, £4480; brass, £3980; lead, 1185; outer iron plates, £12,500; beams, &c., £12,230; and anchors, about £300. The machinery brought about £10,000 in addition, making a total more than £50,000.

THE wheat fields have an unusually fine and healthy look for this season of the year, and have not as yet suffered for the want of snow covering. The fields look green, the wheat stands strong and healthy looking and appears well rooted. The only danger now is in severe cold with alternate freezing and thawing without any snow. Unless the season should prove very unfavorable later in the season the prospects for a good wheat crop next summer are very good indeed.

THE successful issue of the last trial trip of the new naval vessel Vesuvius establishes the fact that we have the fastest war ship in the world. In one part of her course recently she came within a small fraction of making 23 knots per hour. If the Vesuvius excels in the other purposes for which she is intended as she does in the matter of speed she will be a wonderfully valuable possession. With her pneumatic gun, if everything works well, she can destroy other vessels, irrespective of size or armor, at will.

THE Princess of Wales has set the fashion for a new boot which is intended for rough country walking and is impervious to any amount of damp. It is very high, buttoning nearly up to the knee, of black leather, with an inner lining of stout water-proof tweed between the leather and the kid lining. The sole is about half an inch thick. It has already been introduced at Tuxedo, where it is found a great comfort in walking and tramping about in the snow surrounding the toboggan slide.

PEOPLE who live on State street, Chicago, declare that a ghost patrol that district at midnight every night. The spectre is described as being dressed in white flowing garments and as walking on all fours. Conductors and drivers of the street cars on Forty-first street are greatly alarmed. Two of them have refused to take their cars out. Hyde Park policemen have seen the apparition and pursued it, firing their revolvers as they ran. When the spook reaches Grand Boulevard it suddenly disappears.

REPORTED "FINDS" OF VALUABLE ORES.—People in and about Woodbury, in western Connecticut, are stirred up over the discovery of traces of valuable ores and oil in that locality. It is reported that lead has been found on the farm of William Allen, in quantities yielding an average of 1500 ounces to the ton. Interspersed with this assiver which pays about 25 ounces to the ton, while there are also streak indications of gold. The field where the discovery has been made is now being dug over by mining experts, and it is believed that the "finds" will prove of great value. Traces of platinum ore have also been found in a ledge at the bottom of the town house well in Woodbury, and in Southbury it is reported that the prospectors who have been looking along the bed of a small stream of oil are very hopeful of success.

DESPERATE is the gateway to insanity.