

A TERRIBLE DISASTER.

Sixty People Meet Death at a Launching in England.

INSECURE STAGING COLLAPSED.

Despite the Warnings and the Efforts of the Police Two Hundred People Crowded the Frail Structure—Thirty-four Bodies Recovered.

London, June 22.—During the launching of the new British first class battleship Albion, of 12,950 tons, at Blackwell, yesterday, by the Duchess of York, a ceremony at which the United States ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and Mrs. Hay, Lieutenant Colwell, the United States naval attaché, assisted, the displacement of water caused an immense mass of water to rise on all sides, completely destroying one of the lower stages of the yard and immersing hundreds of people. It is believed that 60 were drowned.

The Duchess of York and Colonel and Mrs. Hay and the remainder of the distinguished guests did not see the accident, which occurred at the moment when three cheers were called for the successful launch, and the cries and screams of the victims were drowned by the outburst of hurrahs and the steamer's sirens. Thousands who witnessed the launching left the scene quite ignorant of the disaster.

The staging that was destroyed had been erected for workmen near the stern of the Japanese cruiser in course of construction in the Blackwell yards. It was a light structure, about 50 feet long, and notices had been posted warning the public that it was dangerous. Despite the efforts of the police, some 200 people invaded the staging, which commanded a good view of the launching ceremony. Two great waves completely demolished it, and on receding carried most of its occupants into deep water. The water was alive with struggling people and floating debris. It was a scene of terrible confusion.

Fortunately there was plenty of help near in the shape of police boats and other craft. The shipbuilders, with drags, and the firemen who participated in the ceremony, were all prompt in affording succor. A number of nurses who had come to witness the launching were among the engulfed. Some of these and many others were revived by artificial respiration. Some were injured by colliding with the debris.

There was an ample supply of restoratives soon available, and everything possible was done for the rescued, many of whom were in a state of complete collapse.

Heartrending scenes were witnessed as the identification of the dead slowly proceeded. The bodies of five men, 18 women and 11 children have been recovered thus far.

Murdered Man's Body in a Trunk.

Buffalo, June 22.—A trunk containing the dismembered body of Philippe Forestano, of this city, an Italian, was found floating in the Blackwell canal, yesterday. The head had been cut off, both legs had been severed at the knees and both arms and hands were terribly mangled, but were attached to the body by the tendons and muscles. In his breast were a number of stab wounds, one of them a great gaping wound extending through the right lung. Inside the trunk there was found a small caliber Smith & Wesson revolver with every chamber loaded. There was also a three-quarter inch carpenter's saw, which had evidently been used to cut the bones. The body had evidently been in the water several days.

Dying Convict Pardoned.

Trenton, June 22.—The New Jersey court of pardons yesterday pardoned Clarence W. Derby, who had served about one-third of a three year sentence for keeping a disorderly house at Atlantic City. Derby was pardoned because he is dying of consumption. He comes of a good family in Pittsburg, and his petition for his pardon was signed by Governor Hastings and a number of other prominent Pennsylvanians. Governor Voorhes was at Sea Girt, and gave his consent over the telephone. Derby was taken home by his parents.

M. Sarrien Gives It Up.

Paris, June 22.—Owing to the refusal of former Premier Dupuy to accept the foreign office portfolio and of M. Deslambre to become minister of finance, M. Sarrien decided to relinquish the task of attempting to form a cabinet.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

As Reflected by Dealings in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Philadelphia, June 21.—Flour steady; winter superfine, \$3.02; Pennsylvania roller, clear, \$3.04; city mills, extra, \$3.06; Rye flour sold to a limited extent at \$2.50 per barrel for choice Pennsylvania. Wheat steady; No. 2 red, spot, \$0.67; No. 2 red, July, 70¢; No. 2 mixed, spot, 70¢; No. 2 yellow, for local trade, 70¢; Oats quiet; No. 2 white, 25¢; Hay weak; choice timothy, \$12 for large bales. Beef easy; best hams, \$2.50; Pork easy; mess, \$10.25; Lard quiet; western steamed, \$6.10. Butter steady; western creamery, 13¢; do. factory, 11¢; Eggs, 17¢; imitation creamery, 15¢; New York dairy, 12¢; western, fresh, 12¢; southern, 10¢.

Baltimore, June 21.—Flour dull and unchanged.

Wheat steady; spot and month, \$0.80; July, 75¢; August, 74¢; September, 73¢; No. 2 red, 75¢; No. 2 mixed, 70¢; No. 2 yellow, 70¢; Oats quiet; No. 2 white, 25¢; Hay weak; choice timothy, \$12 for large bales. Beef easy; best hams, \$2.50; Pork easy; mess, \$10.25; Lard quiet; western steamed, \$6.10. Butter steady; western creamery, 13¢; do. factory, 11¢; Eggs, 17¢; imitation creamery, 15¢; New York dairy, 12¢; western, fresh, 12¢; southern, 10¢.

WAR NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Sampson's Fleet Utterly Destroys the Defenses About Santiago.

Washington, June 22.—The dispatches on Wednesday of last week brought the cheering intelligence that the overtaxed marines on Crest Hill, near Calmanera, had been reinforced by a number of Cuban insurgents, who have proven most valuable allies. The insurgents fight bravely, and seem to have supreme contempt for Spanish marksmanship. Added by their allies the marines made their first aggressive move on Tuesday, marching on and destroying the Spanish guerrillas' camp and putting the Spaniards to flight, besides rendering useless the only well within six or seven miles, the Spaniards' water supply. It is believed that 40 Spaniards were killed in the short battle. One American marine was slightly wounded, two Cubans killed and four wounded. Orders have been sent to Admiral Sampson giving substantial promotions to the heroes of the Merrimac, now confined in Morro Castle with Lieutenant Hobson. The promotions take effect immediately on their return to the fleet by exchange.

On Thursday came reports of further destruction of Spanish forts at Santiago by Sampson's fleet. There is but one fort at Santiago now that is capable of inflicting any damage on our fleet, and that is the Morro, in which Lieutenant Hobson and seven heroes of the Merrimac were said to be confined. Our ships were ordered not to fire on the Morro. The other fortifications have been reduced to dust and splintered by the big guns of Sampson's fleet. There is little doubt that Admiral Terver has made up his mind that his fleet is lost for in the forts that tried to reply to our bombardment there were undoubtedly some of the big guns of his ships. They were struck time and time again by shells from the Texas and New Orleans and fairly lifted from their positions and hurled yards away by the explosions. Sampson's last bombardment was the heaviest and most destructive of all. It is estimated that over \$400,000 worth of ammunition and shells were used, and that the loss of life by the Spaniards must have been comparatively enormous. Not a man was hurt in all our fleet.

Friday's dispatches told of renewed successes for Aguinaldo's insurgent forces in the Philippines. He has captured the wife and daughters of Captain General Augusti, and will hold them until the formal surrender of Manila. Admiral Dewey, in a report to the navy department, confirms the reports of insurgent successes. In an interview at Washington General Miles told of his communications with Garcia, the Cuban insurgent commander. General Garcia informed Miles that he would regard his (Miles) wishes as orders and would see them obeyed.

On Saturday there was nothing of importance to add to the war news, but on Sunday came advices from Admiral Sampson's fleet which told of the desperate and deplorable condition of the people of Calmanera. Starving and famine stricken, the people have saturated every house in the town with oil and other inflammable material, and will set fire to the place in order to prevent its falling into the hands of the Americans. The gunboat at Calmanera is also prepared for destruction. The people are eating horses and mules and scoring the hills for fruits and berries, while the Spanish troops are terror stricken and hungry. At Jacksonville, Fla., James T. Gatewood, stenographer to General Lee, was killed by a lightning bolt. Three large cargoes of supplies have run the Havana blockade, and supplies are reaching the city from Cienfuegos and other points.

Monday's dispatches told of the arrival of General Shafter's invading expedition off Santiago de Cuba. General Garcia, the Cuban commander, had a conference with Admiral Sampson on board the flagship New York regarding co-operation with the United States troops. From Manila comes the news that the insurgents under Aguinaldo have forced Captain General Augusti to take refuge within the walls of the city. An attempt was recently made to kill Aguinaldo by placing poison in his food. Aguinaldo declares that if any other nation than the United States attempts to obtain control of the Philippines they must fight for it. Captain General Blanco, of Cuba, refused to exchange Hobson and the other heroes of the Merrimac, and further declared that any United States vessel approaching under a flag of truce will be fired upon.

The government has decided upon Lieutenant Hobson's promotion. He is to be transferred to the fleet and will be made lieutenant commander. This will place him in line for elevation to rear admiral. Colonel William J. Bryan and the Third Nebraska regiment will be assigned to the army corps commanded by General Fitzhugh Lee. A bill has been introduced in the house for a pension of \$100 a month for the widow of Captain Charles V. Gridley, of Admiral Dewey's squadron.

For a Division of Colored Immunes.

Washington, June 22.—Senator Foraker yesterday introduced a bill authorizing the organization of a division in the volunteer army to consist of colored immunes. It provides that the division shall include not to exceed six regiments, that the men shall be recruited from the nation at large, and that the president shall appoint the necessary officers.

Turkish Princess Abducted.

London, June 22.—A band of 40 brigands, according to a special dispatch from Constantinople, has abducted a sister of the sultan. The princess was seized while she was out walking at Kizil Tokak, a few miles from Constantinople, where she resided. Abdul Hamid has three sisters—Princess Djemile, widow of Mahmoud Djelaluddin Pasha; Princess Seniha, wife of Mahaud Pasha, and Princess Mediha, wife of Ferid Pasha, late secretary of the Turkish legation in London. Princess Djemile and Princess Seniha have long resided in the suburbs of Constantinople.

Ex-Legislator on Trial For Murder.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., June 22.—Hon. James M. Griner, ex-member of the legislature from the Wilkesbarre district, was placed on trial yesterday for the murder of his stepdaughter, Caroline Schaeffer, at Durysa, nearly a year ago. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. Griner is defended by able counsel. It is understood his defense will be insanity.

THE IDOL OF HAVANA

THIS BULL FIGHTER A GREATER MAN THAN OLD BLANCO.

A Spectacle to Cause One Who is Not a Devotee of the National Sport of Spain to Rub His Eyes—When the Great Mazzantini Dines.

Four privates of the Orden Publico Corps, armed with sword and revolver, reinforced the solitary little policeman who usually moons up and down in front of the Hotel Inglaterra, in Havana, Cuba, a few nights ago, writes a war correspondent, and the American colony began to whisper that trouble was brewing among the volunteers. The wisdom of this precaution became apparent when, during the dinner hour, it was seen that the gendarmes were only able by the most heroic exertions to save the hotel from being carried by storm by a mob, whose object, however, was so obviously of a pacific character as to quite disarm the apprehensions of even the most nervous of the guests.

By the time the British Consul, who is invariably the first man at the table, had taken his seat, all the wide doors and windows of the restaurant opening on the street were choked with an excited throng, in which soldiers, sailors, volunteers, smart young clerks, respectable elderly citizens and professional mendicants struggled on terms of perfect equality for front places.

The attention of all these was riveted on a table in a remote corner of the restaurant, and it was noticeable that the attitude of the crowd was not that of mere vulgar curiosity, but rather of deep, reverential awe. I noticed in the front rank at the door two blind beggars from Obispo street, who, on yielding their places to the pressure of the crowd behind, vanished with faces illumined with a "now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace," expression.

Some of the more enterprising enthusiasts dodged through the cafe and gained the rear of the restaurant, whence they enjoyed an unobstructed view, but these were speedily discovered and hustled off by the police. Now and then the gendarmes would clear the sidewalk with a sudden charge, after which the whole squad invariably lined up in the doorway and quite lost themselves in reverential gazing until rudely aroused to action by the surging of the crowd.

The cause of all this commotion was a tall, powerfully built, middle-aged man, with a smoothly shaven face, a laughing eye and a queer little wisp of hair sprouting from the back of his head, and flattened down in a black coil that stood out in startling relief against the shiny white expanse of a bald pate. At his table sat a ring of Spanish officers in full uniform, and without that a second and a third ring, all of whom kept silence, with eyes reverentially fixed on the great man. When he smiled, which he occasionally condescended to do, they all smiled, and when he spoke, which he usually did with his mouth full, they all obsequiously nodded assent. In the circle were generals, colonels, majors and captains, bedizen with flaming orders and medals, and showing, every man of them, that the occasion was one of the proudest moments of his life. It was perfectly apparent that in the eyes of all the big man with a funny little wisp of hair was a personage of infinitely greater importance than the Captain General.

On his part the great man accepted all this adulation with the air of the most deliciously affable condescension. Occasionally he even deigned to bestow a word on the proprietor of the hotel, who stood humbly behind his chair to receive and present with his own hands the various dishes brought by the waiters.

One officer, evidently an old acquaintance, was honored above his brothers, for, as he entered the room, the hero saw him, and springing up and striding dramatically forward, clasped him in his arms with such fervor as to sadly disarrange his little wisp of hair, whereupon, on his attention having been called to the fact by half a dozen admirers, he wet his fingers and carefully plastered it upon his pate before resuming his seat.

Marvelling who the man could be who commanded the obedience of the highest officers in the Spanish army, I demanded information from my waiter. The fellow gave me a look of undisguised contempt for my ignorance, and then, with a smile of pity, whispered, behind his hand in awestruck accents, "Mazzantini, the bull fighter!"

"A great man?" I asked. "The greatest in the world!"

An American Negro Abroad.

The highest grade of negro is the private car porter. He was such a negro, young and with many fine mannerisms and some money, who decided to take a trip to Europe. In London he made the acquaintance of several English-bred negroes. By these he was shown the sights and introduced into society. One evening he was invited to "sit in" a little poker game. He was well acquainted with the game as played at home, and did not hesitate to play. His limited acquaintance with English money cost him several good pots. At last he got four aces and knew exactly where he was, for four aces have their value the world over. His opponent "skinned" his hand carefully after cards had been "doled" and said: "Ah'll just bet yo' a pound, Mistah Johnsing." "Well," said the American, "Ah don't rightly know how much a pound is, but Ah'll just raise yo' a ton."

ELECTRICITY IN THE HOME.

Any One Can Produce the Mysterious Force by Following the Formulae.

Few things are so interesting for a family group as experiments in an amateur way with electricity and the mysterious forces which can be easily produced by following certain scientific formulae. One of the simplest methods of producing a mild current of electricity is to insert a steel knife and a silver fork in a large orange. The handles of the knife and fork should be some inches apart, and if they are connected by an electrical measuring instrument a perceptible current will pass. A cucumber or any acid fruit may be substituted for the orange.

The making of a voltaic pile is a simple thing, and when it is completed the current produced may be allowed to pass through a dozen or more persons seated in a room. All the paraphernalia necessary will not cost a quarter. Ten or more pieces of zinc an inch square and the same number of pieces of copper of the same size should be used, and with them the same number of pieces of paper, the latter soaked in vinegar. When these are at hand arrange the pile in alternate layers of zinc and copper with vinegar-soaked paper between—that is, first lay down a piece of copper and on it a piece of paper; then place a piece of zinc and on that a piece of paper; then copper and paper, and so on alternately, separating the metals with the paper each time and being sure that at either end of the pile is a piece of zinc and a piece of copper.

When the pile is completed it should be soaked in vinegar a moment and then wiped dry. Then the experimenter by placing a forefinger at either end of the pile can easily feel the current passing through his body. If a number of persons sit in a circle and clasp hands and those at either end of the line touch respectively one end of the voltaic pile, the current will pass through the entire party.

A thermopile, in which the current is produced by heat, is made by fastening the ends of six-inch strips of German silver and copper wire in V shapes, joining them until a succession of V's or W's is produced. Then the string of wire lengths should be bent into the form of a star and the inner points will be close together. A lighted candle placed in the centre, equidistant from each point, will produce a current which can be plainly felt.

If Water Never Froze.

The whole economy of nature would undergo a startling change if water never froze. The world's climates would be revolutionized. The ice-bound polar seas would cease to exercise their chilling influences, and consequently the currents of the ocean might either cease or be turned aside in different directions.

Thus the Gulf stream would seek other shores than those of Britain, and the climate there might be subject to the extremes of heat and cold noticeable in other countries of the same latitude. The ice-bound rivers of the north, notably those of Russia and Siberia, would be open for navigation, and Russia's activity as a sea power and a commercial nation might alter the whole world of commerce.

Canada would become another country altogether. An immense tract of arid and would be available for cultivating hardy plants, and Greenland might be what its name indicates. The absence of icebergs off the coasts of Newfoundland and Iceland would result in a much warmer climate in those islands, where now the crops often fail. Ice, too, plays an important part in the economy of nature. Thus, if water never froze snow, hail and hoar frost would cease. The loosening of soils and the disintegration of rocks by the frost and many other now vital effects would be lost. In short, the absence of ice would be on the one hand an incalculable disaster, on the other hand, a great boon.

An Athletic King.

The King of Portugal is not, as monarchs go, a bad King, and has some personal traits which make him popular. He is said to be a magnificent swimmer, and, like his mother, has rescued a fellow creature from drowning; while in another occasion, when out driving in the outskirts of Lisbon, he jumped out of his carriage, felled with his stock to the ground and then collared single-handed a burly highwayman who was endeavoring to rob and knife a wayfarer.

Bicycle for Ice-Cream Freezer.

A Manchester confectioner has converted a bicycle into an ice cream freezer. Mounting his wheel, which of course, is stationary, he pedals away at a good rate, the chain being connected with the freezer, causing it to turn very quickly. He can freeze a seventeen-gallon can of ice cream in twenty minutes.

Mackay Chapel.

John W. Mackay, one of the California "bonanza kings," means to build in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, a superb mortuary chapel, and he will have a get a dispensation from the Vatican before he can have it consecrated as a Roman Catholic place of sepulture should be.

French Comic Opera Redivivus.

A significant note in the programmes of managers of theaters devoted to the lighter forms of musical drama is the revival in one case accomplished, and in the other projected—of French comic opera, or, as it might more correctly be called, opera bouffe.

Woman Town Crier.

A female town crier fulfills her duties in the Scottish town of Dunning, Perthshire. She is a hale, hearty old lady of seventy, locally known as the "bell wife," and is very proud of having proclaimed the Queen's birthday or fifty-three years running.

Hint to Pedestrians.

If you are starting on a long walking tour, thoroughly soap the inside of your stocking heel with the common yellow soap used in laundries. This will prevent your heel blistering.

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