

GOSSIPS ON A GRIN

Over the Finding in the Wrecked Despatch Investigation.

MORE THAN HINTS OF WHITEWASH

Naval Officials Accused of Such Personal Partiality That a

VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL WAS CERTAIN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—If Secretary Tracy could hear the gossip—not only in naval but in army, official and private circles—about the finding of the Board of Inquiry and his approval of it in regard to the loss of the United States steamer, Despatch, his ears would tingle as they have not before for many moons. The approval came late Saturday, and yesterday being Lord's Day except at the navy yards, little could be learned of the public sentiment which came to-day with an avalanche. That the conventional railroad disaster verdict of "nobody to blame" should be found by a Board of Inquiry and approved by the Secretary of the Navy, after hearing and reading the evidence given before the Board, is inexplicable on any other theory than that of personal friendship; and that valuable Government property may be recklessly thrown away without blaming anybody, because of personal friendship, is a scandal that certainly calls for a hearing before that court higher than boards of inquiry and cabinet officers, the court of the people through the public press.

The Verdict That Was Anticipated. It is privately thought very confidently asserted in a region little removed from the Secretary's office and by naval officers of high rank and of cautious tongues that the board was appointed to acquit, and that because Lieutenant Cowles was really a sort of master of what was Secretary Tracy's private yacht. The Secretary, while on board, sat with the Captain at the festal board, and the wine and rich viands that tickled his palate and tickled his stomach by servants trained to pleasing manners under the Captain's episcopal eye.

As the court could not convict a subordinate without casting a reflection on the commanding officer, the executive officer, Noel, who changed his chief's orders, and he and others who mistook Assateague light for the light of winter quarters should have been tried. The fact that on the beach at a speed of nine miles an hour, are let off scot free. But Lieutenant Cowles himself does not escape the severe criticism of naval officers, who, truth to say, are none too ready to credit a subordinate when they themselves may soon be caught in a similar pickle.

A Bad Night for Conflicting Orders. From all the evidence before the board the weather was very dirty when Cowles gave his orders for the night and sauntered to his pretty cabin, performed his perfumed ablutions, clad his precious body in its silken night robe and tucked himself in to sleep. He was awakened by a knock on the door, which he opened, and he found a witness at the hearing said in a stage aside.

A good and worthy commanding seaman, it is asserted, would not have lazily and anxiously gazed under the circumstances. He should have been on deck and on the bridge. He turned in, however, and so fine was his discipline that his executive officer changed his orders given for the night, a mistake was made in that the Assateague light was white and the winter quarters light red, and the poor Despatch, perfectly lonely in her associations with Presidents and cabinet officers, "ladies of the best society," American sympathy and foreign nobility, was run aground on the shore.

Blame Only to be Blamed. Nobody is to blame, says the board of inquiry, and Secretary Tracy attaches his affirmative hand and seal. Lieutenant Cowles said it was a good night to see a light. Therefore the board of inquiry concluded that the winter quarters light-ship light was out, or that it was temporarily so dim that it could not be seen. Admitting that to be true, say the critics of the finding, if a good night to see a light, how did Lieutenant Noel and his men mistake the red light of Assateague for the white light of the winter quarters light-ship? Apparently the board and Secretary Tracy did not care to go into the question of color.

Once a similar board of inquiry sat upon Captain Dewey, then commanding the Albatross, and when he was asked when he ran her aground, because he and all his men vowed that a certain white light showed red on that night. The fault was attributed to some peculiar condition of the atmosphere. This was a new and startling proposition to students of the phenomena of color, but this newer one, that a red light showed white, is yet more thrilling than the other. Some contradictory testimony taken.

But there is testimony that the white light of the winter quarters light-ship was there all the time when the Despatch was within its radius of eight miles, the light being obscured by the fog. The keeper of the ship says so, but as he may be an interested party there is the testimony by telegram of the commanding officers of two coasting steamers, the Fairfax and the Delaware. The former passed the light-ship just before the Despatch, and the latter just after, and from both the light was seen with its brilliancy all unimpaired.

These abstract questions of time and color were too deep for the board and Secretary Tracy. They did not go into them. On account of this timidity about going into such deep water, the Despatch, lying wrecked in very shallow water, was always lost, and nobody is to blame except the poor light-house keeper, who is of no account anyway.

These officials of cabinets and boards of inquiry seem to forget that naval vessels are the people's property, and that the people have a right to know the cause that brings them to ruin in the heyday of their youth, and in a case with the least of romances written on her timbers, from main deck to stowage.

SPECIAL SALE OF OVERCOATS

At the Pittsburg Combination Clothing Co. We offer an array of overcoats comprising every style that is new and desirable. There are Kersey overcoats in long and short cut style, line Meltons, chinchillas, fur beavers, chevots, cassimers, plain or fancy, Irish frieze and covers in all the many weight, colors and styles to please the most fastidious fancy. Profits are not in these prices—read them. It will pay you to come 50 miles for these unprecedented bargains. Men's elegant dark blue, brown or black Kersey or Melton overcoats, silk lined collar, well made, sold always at \$22; our price now is \$10. Men's imported chevot, covert cloth and finished cassimer overcoats, satin lined, black faced or plain, never sold for less than \$24 and \$22; our price is \$20. Men's medium-weight Melton and chinchilla overcoats at \$9 each worth \$12. Men's imported chinchilla, Irish frieze and Kersey overcoats, box style, cassimer cloth-lined, single or double breasted, sold always at \$25 and \$28; our price is \$12. Men's elegant all-wool black chevot suits, cutaway and single-breasted, sold at \$25 and \$28; our price is \$15. Call and see us to-day. It will pay you to buy your clothing now.

DEATHS HERE AND ELSEWHERE

E. W. Weston, Canal Man.

E. W. Weston, who was buried in Honesdale a few days ago, was the last of a quartet of practical men, to whose efforts the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company is indebted for its present commanding place among the great transportation companies of this country—Thomas Dickson, Russell F. Lord, Coe F. Young and E. W. Weston. He joined the company 53 years ago in its struggling days and took charge of its land and mine surveys, which were a midday and threatened the company with disastrous litigation. Mr. Weston was a practical surveyor and versed thoroughly in the boundaries and titles of land in Northern Pennsylvania, and he spent four years in straightening out the lines and titles of the company. He laid out all the great mines developed by the company since that time. When Thomas Dickson was promoted from the superintendency of the coal department to the general superintendency of the company Mr. Weston succeeded him. The business increased so much the first year of his office that the department was divided and Mr. Weston was placed in charge of the vast estate possessions of the company with headquarters at Providence, Pa., a part of Scranton. He was promoted to the superintendency of the most valuable part of the company, the Western Mill Company, President of the Northern Coal and Iron Company, Vice President of the Dickson Manufacturing Company and was prominently identified with many other important financial and industrial enterprises in the Lackawanna Valley. He was 68 years of age.

Captain A. F. Lang.

Captain A. F. Lang was buried yesterday at Parkersburg. The Grand Army post, the lodge of Odd Fellows and other societies taking part in the ceremonies. As the time of his death Captain Lang was Past Grand Representative, Past Grand Master and Past Supreme Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of the world. He was Dictator of the Knights of Honor, Grand Representative to the last National Convention of the Republican Executive Committee of this county.

Captain William Dent.

Captain William Dent, one of the most widely known passenger conductors on the Pennsylvania Railroad, died at his home near Henrietta yesterday in his 68th year. He was conductor for 36 years, and is believed to have been the oldest in the service. His train on the Morrison's Cove branch was wrecked at Henrietta on the 23rd of last month, and since then had been out of his mind.

Manager Charles F. Atwood.

Charles F. Atwood, a well-known theatrical manager, was found drowned in the streets of Chicago, Friday night. He was taken to a hospital, where he died Sunday. The theatrical people of Chicago did not know that he was in the city until notified of his death. The 23s were taken charge of the body. Atwood was the manager of the Berger family at one time, and was connected with the companies of Shook, Palmer and Emma Abbott.

Mary Neuman, Centenarian.

Mary Neuman died Sunday at the home of her grandchild, Mrs. Mary Maubeger, in Cleveland, aged 105 years. She was born in Prussia and was a serf. In 1865, she came to America to live with her children. At the time of her death she was only 4 feet 10 inches tall and weighed 100 pounds. She had simply shriveled up, and life ceased when the vital organs were worn out.

Peter Lookabaugh, Centenarian.

Peter Lookabaugh, a centenarian and the oldest resident in Parkersburg, died at his late residence in Parkersburg, near Leeburg, Saturday, aged 101 years 3 months and 10 days. Mr. Lookabaugh had been in a state of coma for several weeks previous to his death. He never had any other illness.

Obituary Notes.

SIMON BARONOFF, a prominent Maine farmer, died at his home in West Hampden, November 4, aged 82. CAPTAIN EDWARD L. CARTER, late master of the ship Parthia of Bath, died in San Francisco, November 2, of heart disease. HUGH GILBERT, J. A., a prominent teacher at Chillicothe, Mo., died Sunday. His death so affected his aged father that he was stricken with paralysis and died during the night.

SAMUEL DIXON, an octogenarian and prominent citizen of Hainesville, died while in attendance at general meeting in the Methodist Episcopal Church here Sunday afternoon.

SAMUEL H. CENTER, of San Francisco, aged 82 years, died quite suddenly from apoplexy in Nashua, N. H., Saturday. He was a native of Litchfield, in that State, and has lived in California for nearly 40 years. He was superintendent of Mines and held an interest in other extensive business concerns. He arrived in Nashua last week on visits to relatives. He went to bed on usual Friday night, and went to sleep from which he never woke.

Thanksgiving Week.

At the Bijou, Charles A. Gardner will be the attraction at the Bijou Thanksgiving week, and he will present his new play, "Captain Karl." Of his last engagement here Mr. Eitonoff, of the Post, wrote as follows: An audience that filled the Bijou from top to bottom, so to speak, welcomed Gardner last night, and greeted out to him generous applause, which was deserved. His German accent seems genuine, and the humor he displays is strong indeed. He possesses a sweet tenor voice, and his tuneful lilac song was rapturously applauded.

LADIES having any kind of goods to be cleaned or dyed can direct a postal to us and we will send for them. E. J. Linnekin & Co., 174 Federal street, Allegheny. Telephone 3454.

SMALL price, big results. Pise's Cure for Consumption will stop your cough and do it quickly. Give it a trial. Your druggist. 25 cents.

USE O'Keefe's "O. K." Shoe Blacking, 5 and 10 cents.

Marriage Licenses Issued Yesterday.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Residence, and other details.

At the Pittsburg Combination Clothing Co.

We offer an array of overcoats comprising every style that is new and desirable. There are Kersey overcoats in long and short cut style, line Meltons, chinchillas, fur beavers, chevots, cassimers, plain or fancy, Irish frieze and covers in all the many weight, colors and styles to please the most fastidious fancy. Profits are not in these prices—read them. It will pay you to come 50 miles for these unprecedented bargains.

How They Differ.

In make up: Most baking powders contain ammonia or alum. Cleveland's does not; not a particle.

It is made of pure cream of tartar and bi-carbonate of soda, with a little flour to keep the strength, nothing else. Cleveland's is wholesome.

In strength: A rounded spoonful of Cleveland's does better work than a heaping spoonful of any other.

A large saving on a year's bakings. Cleveland's leavens most.

In results: Cake made with Cleveland's is fine grained, keeps moist and fresh.

Cleveland's is

Cleveland's is

Cleveland's is

Cleveland's is

Cleveland's is

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Table listing names and residences for BARGAINS B. & B. advertisement.

BARGAINS B. & B. ARE RIPE FOR THE HOUSE FURNISHER. Our Furniture Department having made up for this Fall's trade, in reliable materials and coverings, by our own upholsterers, and under our own supervision, now offers

20 Parlor Suits At First Cost. FOR LIBRARY CURTAINS we offer several patterns of Turkish Satins, Pattern Damasks and All-Wool Momic Cloths At Half Price. SOLID COLOR CHEMISE CURTAINS in the latest fashionable art tones of color, with throw-over fringes, and dado at top and bottom, we have reduced to \$5 Per Pair. HEAVY FIGURED PORTIERES, suitable for single doors and for lounge and couche coverings At Half Price.

As these are perhaps the greatest sacrifice of all, and are not large in quantity, immediate application is imperative to secure a good choice. LACE CURTAINS—Our recent large importation of Lace Curtains direct from Europe are well received, owing to the beautiful patterns, their extra strong weave and large intrinsic value for the prices.

Our new Fall Catalogue of Lace Curtains, showing exact lithographic fac similes of 24 patterns of this importation, with prices attached, will be mailed to any address.

O. McClintock & Co., 38 FIFTH AVE. n05 775

Breaking in isn't needed, with the Ball corset. It's easy from the start. Coils of tiny wire springs in the sides make it so. There are bones that bend, but can't break, and soft eyelets that won't cut the laces. You'll like it. If you don't, after a few weeks' wear, just return it and get your money.

FLEISHMAN & CO., 504, 506 and 508 Market St. n010

EPPS'S COCOA. GRATEFUL—COMFORTING. J.G. BENNETT & CO. Leading Hatters and Furriers, Cor. Wood St. and Fifth Ave. n05

STERLING SILVERWARE. WEDDING PRESENTS! Our stock is now most complete. Silver Dishes are made more artistically and better than ever. Examine the choice stock of W. W. WATTLES, Jeweler. We have also some fine new CABINETS and TABLES, and Noble English Hall Clocks. You are invited to see his wonderful collection at NOS. 30 AND 32 FIFTH AVE. n05 775

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. SEARCH THE WORLD OVER! And you'll not find a better article for the money than we shall this week offer for TEN DOLLARS in Men's Suits. Price has been compared to a lever and is said to move the world, and the price we have made on these suits is bound to move a world of trade in our Men's Suit Department this week. But price standing alone means nothing; we want you to judge by facts, not by fancies; therefore, we ask you to look at the quality and real value of the garments we shall this week offer in the suits we advertise.

STYLE AND ELEGANCE! You may make sure of finding in every garment we offer, otherwise it would find no place among our royal stock. The variety of materials in which we can fit you is very large, and the make and trim all you would expect to find in suits of a much higher price. You'll find among them nobby Sacks and stylish Cutaways, and they will recommend themselves to you at sight. Every suit sold at this price will add another link of appreciation to our immense and mighty chain of patronage.

GUSKY'S 300 TO 400 MARKET STREET. THE NEW PLACE. We have settled down to get to the top in our business of merchant tailoring at the new store. The present reasons are—the best goods; our best; foreign best; at the lowest prices. Garments made to order ought to be done in a liberal fashion, and we propose to keep more styles of goods than you'll stop to see. These are opening days in our new parlor and you are invited to call.

PAULSON BROS., 441 Wood Street. Established Over Fifty Years. WHY BUY COTTON? Best Wool Ingrain Carpets. ALL WOOL. 60c per yard. 55c per yard. 60c per yard. THESE ARE THE PRICES. SEE THE GOODS. YOU WILL LIKE THEM. Wood St. Carpet House, 305 Wood St. GINNIEFF & STEINERT, Ltd. n010 775

Danner's Essence of Health. A pure family medicine for curing up and building the system. One of the greatest blood purifiers known. Unexcelled for the cure of Rheumatism, Coughs and Colds, Catarrh of the Bladder and Kidneys, Affections of the Bowels and Stomach, Asthma, Throat Diseases, Torpid Liver, Dyspepsia and Sick Headache, Palpitation of the Heart, Cramps, Dysentery, Diarrhea, Scrofula and diseases arising from Impure and depraved state of the blood. Piles, Constipation, Nervousness, Affections of the Bladder and Kidneys. It properly taken we guarantee a cure. For sale by druggists, and The Danner Medicine Co., 349 Federal St., Allegheny. Price \$1.00 per bottle; six bottles for \$5.00. Write for Testimonials. n05 775

FEICK BROS., 516 SIXTH ST. SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ESTABLISHMENT. Specialties: Scientific fitting of TRUSSES, appliances for DEFORMITY and ARTIFICIAL LIMBS. Largest stock of surgical instruments in Western Pennsylvania. Large illustrated catalogue free to physicians. n010 775

W. W. WATTLES, Jeweler. Noble English Hall Clocks. You are invited to see his wonderful collection at NOS. 30 AND 32 FIFTH AVE. n05 775

GEO. C. VAN KIRK & CO., 531-533 WOOD ST. ROOMS 308, 309, 310, 312. PATENTS. O. D. LEVIE, Solicitor of Patents, 121 Fifth Ave., above Smithfield, next Landing Station. Established 29 years. n05 775