

FEW COOL HEADS

In Charge of the Abyssinia Quieted a Panic and Saved Many Lives.

CHE COMING OF THE SPREE

Happens Just in Time to Rescue the Passengers and Crew.

A SHORT-LIVED PANIC ON BOARD.

Passengers Lose Their Heads, but the Captain Restores Order.

THE FIRE BEATEN BY BUT TWO HOURS

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The North German Lloyd steamer Spree, from New York, having on board the passengers and crew of the German Gun Line steamer Abyssinia, arrived at Southampton last night.

The fire officer says that after the Abyssinia left for New York December 13, everything proceeded as usual until Friday, the 18th.

At 1:30 o'clock that day smoke was noticed issuing from beneath the hatches of the third hold, in which the cotton was stored. An investigation revealed the fact the cotton was on fire, and the flames had gained such headway that all the efforts to subdue them, or even to hold them in check, were of no avail.

The fire was fought as long as a single hope of saving the steamer remained, but finally Captain Murray decided that if the passengers and crew were to escape with their lives they would have to leave the steamer to her fate.

He, therefore, ordered the lifeboats to be made ready.

Getting Ready the Lifeboats. Water and provisions were placed in them, and the crews of the boats made everything ready for abandoning the burning Abyssinia.

The passengers then entered the boats assigned to them, and the crew, with their human freight, were lowered away from the davis and the falls were cast off.

Captain Murray thought the burning steamer might be sighted by some passing vessel, and he, therefore, gave orders to the captains of the lifeboats to lie in the vicinity, so that if a vessel bore down to see what was burning they might all be picked up.

This was a wise precaution, for they had not been drifting long before the Spree dove in sight, headed for the spot where all hands in the boats reached the locks of the Spree is safety.

A passenger on the Abyssinia narrates a story that does not agree in some of its minor details with the foregoing. This passenger says that the flames spread with such rapidity that every one knew that the steamer was doomed.

When the flames had become so intense that there was no possible hope of saving the vessel, the most intense excitement prevailed.

The purser further said that when the fire was first discovered great excitement prevailed for a time. This was speedily subdued, however, and the passengers and crew afterward behaved admirably.

When the order was given to abandon the ship everybody left her as coolly as if they were going aboard the train at Liverpool.

Mr. Brandt spoke very highly of the treatment accorded the Abyssinia people on board the Spree. Captain Willigerd and his officers and crew did everything for their comfort and treated them in the kindest manner possible.

The Crew Lose Their Heads. A number of the crew became panic-stricken and rushed hither and thither with no idea of what they were doing.

Two of them jumped into the sea. There were some cool heads aboard, however, and no time was lost in attempting to save the two men who had thrown themselves overboard.

One man was rescued but the other was drowned.

Captain Murray preserved his calm demeanor throughout the whole exciting scene, and he soon restored the panic-stricken members of his crew to a state of perfect discipline.

During the excitement the Spree was used as a lifeboat, and her presence, and the fact that she was heading for the Abyssinia, tended greatly to calm the excitement. When the Spree neared the Abyssinia she sent two of her boats to help take off the people of the burning steamer.

Some of the latter's boats were utilized in this service, and all hands, passengers and crew, were transferred to the German steamer. All the passengers' luggage and every bit of the cargo was lost.

It was a curious coincidence that the first of the Abyssinia's people, comprising 34 passengers and 88 of her crew, reached Waterloo station by rail from Southampton.

Pursers Brendel Tells His Story. The party was conducted by Pursers Brendel, and they looked depressed in the midst of the dense fog which filled the station.

They were met at the railway station by the agent of the station, who sent the party immediately to Liverpool. Prior to their departure an interview was had with Pursers Brendel. He said that the Abyssinia had a fair passage until 11 o'clock in the morning of December 18.

At that time he was told that the ship was on fire. He looked and saw smoke coming from the hold. Pursers Brendel added:

"I got the hose stretched and the donkey engines started. We worked as hard as we possibly could to get at the fire, but almost immediately the flames burst through where we were working and drove us out at the same time. I reported that the Spree was standing up in the fog. We signalled to her and she bore down to us and sent off boats to our assistance. Before two hours and a half had elapsed the Abyssinia was a seething mass of flames."

The Best Thing for a Stubborn Cough. From the Kimball (S. D.) Graphic.

While the columns of the Graphic are open to any and all unobjectionable advertisements, yet it is quite impossible for us to speak knowingly of the merits of the various articles of merchandise advertised.

Particularly is this true of patent medicines. But there are exceptions occasionally, and a noteworthy exception is the celebrated Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

This now universally known medicine has been advertised in the Graphic for four or five years, but not until recently had we any personal knowledge of its wonderful efficacy, which has come about through the prevailing influenza and the stubborn cough that has so often attended it.

In the writer's family this medicine has on several occasions this winter cured a cough that baffled any and all other remedies; and the number of families in Kimball and vicinity in which this remedy has been used with like effects attests to its value as a specific for coughs and colds of every nature.

Wm. Mellor & Hoese, 77 Fifth Avenue, Open every evening.

DOWIE'S ATTACK ON LOCKE

The Popular Methodist Minister Will Not Enter into a Controversy.

The attack upon Rev. C. E. Locke created considerable comment in church circles yesterday. Mr. Locke himself was not at all worried by the remarks of Faith Healer Dowie.

He said he was very much interested and considerably amused upon reading the account of last night's meeting in THE DISPATCH. He did not propose discussing himself, however, by answering the vilifications of a man who would get up in the pulpit and call another minister a liar.

He would not enter into any controversy with him whatever. Locke said that in the sermon referred to by Dowie he had made no attack upon anyone in particular. It was a general attack upon heresy and other malicious evils that are liable to creep into the church.

He used an illustration referring to the false teachers of Australia, but no names were used and Dowie is up to the charges as if they had been directed personally against him.

Locke said he had not the time to comfort anyone whose discourtesy was caused by his conscientiously crying out against any of which he might be guilty. It was a matter for the man and his conscience alone.

The charges made in the sermon were directed against all false prophets of the present day.

"White Mr. Locke is not a man of the old saw, 'if the shoe fits, etc.'," he meant it and said that he had made no assertion in that sermon that he would retract. His faithfulness was to preach the gospel and the truth as contained in it.

He had the subject under consideration for some time and considered the time apropos for delivering it when he did. The reason was not an appeal on the subject which Dowie was in the city because he did not want to be charged with attacking Dowie in particular, and did not want to be accused of not having waited for the result of Dowie's work in particular.

THE THEORY OF GRAVES' DEFENSE. Mrs. Barnaby's Whisky Might Have Been Drunk by Stable Hands.

DENVER, Dec. 23.—In the Barnaby-Graves, trial to-day, the defense opened its case by placing Edward Field and Colonel Daniel Ballou, the latter of counsel for the defense, on the stand.

Mrs. Barnaby finally employed Colonel Ballou to contest her husband's will. By a compromise Mrs. Barnaby was to receive \$100,000 out of this amount.

Colonel Ballou told about drawing up Mrs. Barnaby's will. In the cross-examination, she said that she would kidnap them and that nothing should keep them away from her.

"We were all abroad when the matter culminated in the threat upon President Harrison's life. I became cognizant of her deadly purpose in this way: Mrs. Loftus knew Mr. Lathrop, the United States Consul at Bristol, very well. She wrote to him one day, stating her determination to secure possession of my children at any cost, and telling how she would kidnap them and that nothing should keep them away from her.

"The authorities promptly notified. 'I shall sail at once for the United States,' she wrote, 'and will go direct to Washington. My purpose there will be to see the President and beg his help. If he refuses I will remove him—there will be no President.'"

Mr. Lathrop, knowing of her insanity and realizing the probability of her putting her threat into execution, lost no time in taking action. He called the news to Joel B. Erhardt, then collector, who at once notified my attorney, Simon Sterne. He, in turn, called to me the startling information.

"Mrs. Loftus sailed for New York shortly afterward, and then I employed Detective Travers, who met her upon her arrival here, interested her in a visionary scheme of magazine publication in England, and lured her back to Europe, where she was examined by famous lunacy experts and sent to an asylum.

But through the interference of injudicious friends, upon whom she cleverly imposed, she was released, and came here undoubtedly with the old homicidal purpose in her crazed mind. Since her letter to Consul Lathrop she has written in a similar strain to me, showing the fixity of her mania.

"Her immediate incarceration was the only thing to avoid the possibility of a tragedy."

The doctors who examined Mrs. Loftus yesterday were informed of her threat to "remove" the President, and Dr. Douglas said last night that from peculiar form of her insanity he regarded her as capable of perpetrating almost any crime. "Her insanity is very similar to Guitreau's," he said.

THESE PRICES FOR TO-DAY. Take Time to Come Into Our Fur Department To-day.

Alaska Seal Jackets AT REDUCED PRICES. At Jos. Horne & Co.'s Penn Avenue Stores.

A special sale of nearly 100 Alaska Seal Jackets in different grades and lengths, and in all bust sizes from 32 to 44.

Lot 1—23-inch length Jackets, good quality, at \$105, reduced from \$150.

Lot 2—25-inch length Jackets, with high rolling collar, high sleeves, at \$150, reduced from \$175.

Lot 3—27-inch length Jackets, high rolling collar and high sleeves, at \$180, reduced from \$200.

Lot 4—30-inch length Jackets, with high rolling collar and high sleeves, at \$200, reduced from \$225.

These are all good quality and guaranteed genuine Alaska Seal.

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Please notice that each separate lot of the foregoing, as specified, is the same in quality, the difference in cost of same being in the difference in the length. The low prices on the garments having been made extremely low for the quality, make them cost you to-day's reduced prices less than the same quality could be purchased for in any other reliable establishment in the United States.

The reputation and standing of our house should be sufficient guarantee to every buyer to the fact that you can rely implicitly upon the statements we make in regard to this special sale of Alaska seal garments. The purchase of any one of these garments is sure to give satisfaction in every respect.

Bring it along and we will show you the goods at prices specified. Jos. HORNE & CO., 607-621 Penn Avenue.

X. B.—Should any alterations be necessary they will be perfectly made after Christmas.

Albums: Fancy Wood's Toilet Sets: Christmas goods in great variety. R. S. DAVIS & CO., 96 Fifth Ave.

TEAR and four-in-hand scarfs for Christmas presents at James H. Aiken & Co.'s, 100 Fifth Avenue.

A FEMINE GUITEAU

Caged in Time to Prevent Her From Removing President Harrison.

SHE IS PUT IN AN INSANE ASYLUM AT THE REQUEST OF HER SON-IN-LAW, AFTER A MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

ONE CRANK TAKEN CARE OF IN TIME

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Mrs. Ada Thorpe Loftus, who, according to the statement of Rudolph V. Martinson, came to this country for the purpose of "removing" President Harrison, was sent to the Bloomingdale Asylum this morning from Bellevue Hospital, having been pronounced insane.

She arrived on the Rensselaire last Sunday, and put up at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Mr. Martinson, who is Mrs. Loftus' son-in-law, occupies the position of President of the Maxwell Land Grant Company. He firmly refused to make any reply to the charges made by his mother-in-law that he was conspiring to have her imprisoned.

"Mrs. Loftus is insane," it is all he would say, "and in justice to her I am forced to do as she says, that I secured her commitment to an asylum in Paris. She has caused me great trouble and is dangerously insane."

"I had hoped to spare my wife and family," Mr. Martinson said, "the publication of the real facts in this matter, but under the circumstances of unjust suspicion it may be best to tell all."

She Threatened to Kill Harrison. "Mrs. Loftus threatened the life of the President and as necessary precaution against the possibility of such an awful tragedy her incarceration has become absolutely necessary. This fact is not known to me, as officials of the Government have been cognizant of it for months."

Mania in this terrible form came upon Mrs. Loftus some time ago. Prior to that her insanity had found vent in a troublesome form of correspondence. Months ago she demanded of me the immediate surrender of my children. She claimed that by a natural law the grandmother's right to the custody of her child's children was superior to any other.

"Of course no attention was paid to her ravings which for the most part were carried on by letter. But the case for possession of the children steadily grew in intensity, and threats began to accompany her demands. She said that she would kidnap them and that nothing should keep them away from her.

"We were all abroad when the matter culminated in the threat upon President Harrison's life. I became cognizant of her deadly purpose in this way: Mrs. Loftus knew Mr. Lathrop, the United States Consul at Bristol, very well. She wrote to him one day, stating her determination to secure possession of my children at any cost, and telling how she would kidnap them and that nothing should keep them away from her.

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A TALE OF TWO CONTINENTS

Died at the City Farm, Though Possessor of an Estate in Ireland.

Chief Examiner Hoffman has been investigating the previous circumstances of a woman known on the records as Mrs. Jane Mullen, who died at the Poor Farm six weeks ago. Mrs. Mullen, it will be remembered, was ordered to be sent back to Ireland under the immigrant laws by Inspector Layton, but when the notice was served the woman had just died, leaving a child three days old. The question of the child's nativity then became a serious question, but it died, leaving the problem unsolved, a few days after the mother.

Before her death Mrs. Mullen told Chief Elliott that her husband had died, leaving a large estate in Ireland, which his relatives had appropriated, sending her to America without a cent beyond her passage money.

From correspondence with relatives of the deceased, Examiner Hoffman has ascertained that Mrs. Mullen's first husband was Roddy McMillen, a wealthy man, whose estate included the Dublin race track in County Galway. A year after his death she married Martin Manning. A letter addressed to his wife has been received from Manning by Martin Coyne, of 385 Freble avenue, Allegheny, in whose behalf she has been fighting for some time.

How it happened that she permitted herself to be separated from her husband and her property has not been explained, but the Charities Department is doing all it can to straighten out the story.

POSTAL SYSTEMS OF CHINA. The Mails Are in the Hands of Private Syndicates, But Are Safe.

An English missionary, long resident in China, has a good word to say for the postal system in that part of the Empire where he was stationed—the neighborhood of Hangchow and Shanghai. The mails are generally carried in foot boats, so called because they are propelled by a single long oar which the boatman works with his feet.

The postal system is not a governmental enterprise, and so far as I know the different private offices which conduct its operations receive no official subsidy. Yet money and valuables can be entrusted to these offices, and the letters are, as a rule, delivered with great regularity.

In Hangchow, where a purely Chinese system is in operation, there are two deliveries every day, and twice also the postman calls most obligingly for letters. Newspapers and parcels arrive a post or two later, but letters are delivered within three days between Hangchow and Shanghai or Ningpo.

These private offices are more liberal—perhaps more audacious—than the Postmaster-General of Great Britain. A bank draft for \$500, let us say, is sent by post. The sender writes on the outside of the envelope the amount of the draft; he pays double postage, 120 cash—about 12 cents—and the office takes itself responsible for the whole amount.

THE SALESMEN OF MALTA. How a Little Joke Got Some Travelers Into Quite a Scrape.

Going to the quay, we made our passage, by energetic pushing, through the lines of readers of cigars, tobacco, lace, oranges and sponges. One man, with canaries in cages, stopped us at the water's edge with: "Want a canary, sir?"

"Are they for eating?" I asked him, to get rid of his importunity, and in a spirit of Mark Twain jocosity.

"No, no! They are for singing." "Ah, if that's what they're for we don't want them."

"If that's what they're for we don't want them," he replied, "but they are for singing. They are for eating. Very good, yes! Buy the lot!"

Leaving his cages in charge of an assistant, he made off to tell the canary tender that here was a man who ate canaries, and might buy all there were in Malta, and a fine time he had with cages until we steamed away.

ONLY A FAIR EXCHANGE. The Jail Official Who Permitted Escape Must Go to Prison Himself.

READING, Dec. 23.—In court here to-day, Reuben Rhodes, night watchman in the Berks county jail, who pleaded guilty to gross negligence resulting in the release of two prisoners Beatrice Collins, a noted counterfeiter, and John Miller, burglar, was sentenced to one year in prison.

Christmas Buyers' Opportunity. Hamilton's music house will have to-day, Thursday, an exhibition or in stock over 80 pianos, every style, from \$175 to \$600.

200 organs, beautiful styles, \$45 to \$200. 20 guitars, best quality, \$5 to \$30. 60 mandolins, every style, \$5 to \$20. 200 violins, extraordinary bargains, \$1 to \$100.

25 banjos, choicest styles, \$1 to \$40. 100 cornets, every style and finish, \$8 to \$15. 100 drums, regulation and others, 25c to \$25.

1,000 harmonicas, wonderful stock, 5c to \$1.50. Music rolls, every style, 50c to \$3. Accordeons, great variety, 50c to \$12. Bows, bags, leathercases, strings, song folios and instruments, 25c to \$2. Music boxes, most extraordinary trade, 50c to \$200.

Auto Hqrs., beautifully toned, \$3 50 to \$25. Aristophanes, cabinets, music stands, etc., etc. in endless variety; everything of the best, and to reduce our immense stock rare bargains will be given to-day and to-night at Hamilton's. Terms to suit all buyers. Remember, Hamilton's, 91 and 93 Fifth Avenue. If you cannot call write or wire us.

HOLIDAY novelties—gifts for everybody—prices very attractive to-day. JOS. HORNE & CO.'s, Penn Avenue Stores.

Assessed of Plotting Against the Car. WARSAW, Dec. 23.—The Polish historian Vladimir Smolensky has been arrested. The charge against him has not been made public, but it is generally understood that he is accused of plotting against the Car.

Aid for Business in Foreign Vessels. St. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—A committee of ministers has sanctioned the temporary employment of foreign vessels for transport across the Black Sea grain for use in the famine-stricken provinces.

The Anti-Slavery Convention Ratified. PARIS, Dec. 23.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day, without debate, ratified the Brussels Anti-Slavery Convention.

PLANS OF THE PLANT

Being Erected by the Chambers Glass Company, Just Chartered.

A CAPITAL STOCK OF \$800,000. Attorney Ferguson Talks of James Chambers' Financial Affairs.

INDUSTRIAL FEATURES OF INTEREST

A charter was issued at Harrisburg yesterday to the Chambers Glass Company, of Pittsburgh. The capital stock is \$800,000 and the incorporators are Martin J. Chambers, William G. McCandless, J. S. Ferguson, Esq., W. W. Patton, George E. Moore and E. G. Ferguson, of Pittsburgh, and A. C. Howard, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Chambers gives 48 acres of land at Kensington for her 14,800 shares, the par value of shares being \$50. This new glass works has been a subject of discussion ever since shortly after the financial troubles of James Chambers, and Mrs. Martha Chambers, of the new company, is the mother of the former head of the Chambers-McKee firm.

The contract for the erection of the new plant is to be let in this city to-day. It is to be a window glass works exclusively, will operate with the tank process and will cost about \$350,000. The works will be built on the 48-acre tract mentioned, which is a part of the old Crawford farm. The company has 210 acres in addition to and adjoining this tract, and it will be available for the plant. The factory will be about the same size and will have about the same capacity as the window glass works at Jeannette.

The work of erection really began about a month ago and the foundation for the furnaces and the tanks have been partially built. The proposals were advertised for a month ago but it was decided not to let the contract until the State had granted the charter. This having been done the contract will be let and the work pushed forward as rapidly as possible. Attorney Ferguson says that as one of the incorporators of the company said last night that he was only acting for other parties in the matter and as soon as the business was in proper shape he would turn over his interest to them. He declined to say at present who the parties are.

Mr. Ferguson was asked how the business affairs of James Chambers were progressing.

"Very nicely," was the reply. "I would not have all his indebtedness wiped out within a year. In settling up his business we have developed several matters that were unexpected and which have been beneficial to him and his creditors. Unless something unlooked for happens he will come out of the difficulty in much better shape than anticipated."

Not Moving to Chicago. A telegram from Chicago stating that the great National Tube Works at McKeesport were to be removed to Hammond, Ind., the capital of the company being \$750,000, the new plant to cover ten acres and to employ 2,000 men. The story is flatly contradicted by the officials of the company. Assistant General Manager Pierce was seen at McKeesport and said: "The statements in the newspapers are most ridiculous. In the first place, we are not going to Hammond. The capital stock of the company is \$1,100,000 instead of \$750,000, and the mills require 100 acres instead of ten, as was reported, and we employ nearly 3,000 men. There is positively not a semblance of truth in the report."

A Big Contract for Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh Bridge Company has secured the contract for furnishing the structural iron and steel to be used in the construction of a monster new union depot to be erected at St. Louis. The size of the proposed building may be imagined when it is stated that the cost of this part of the contract amounts to nearly \$500,000. The depot roof will cover a space of 424,300 square feet, the largest area ever covered under one roof for railroad terminal purposes in the world.

A Blast Furnace to Start. The Edith blast furnace, purchased by the Oliver Iron and Steel Company a few months ago for \$250,000, has been remodeled and put in repairs and will be blown in during the first week of January. New furnaces and a new engine house have been built and new machinery has been put in position. George Teer, of New Castle, will have charge of the plant as manager.

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