# Scranton Tribune.

THE ONLY SCRANTON PAPER RECEIVING THE COMPLETE NEWS SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, THE GREATEST NEWS AGENCY IN THE WORLD.

TWO CENTS. TEN PAGES SCRANTON, PA., FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 15, 1901. TEN PAGES. TWO CENTS.


## BONI SEES THE EDITOR

### Anna Gould's Little Husband Adminsters Chastisement and Invites a Duel.

### RODAYS' EARS ARE BOXED

**Indignant at a Paragraph in the Figaro, Count Boni de Castellane Visits the Editor, M. Fernand de Rodays, and Failing to Receive Satisfaction Lays Violent Hands Upon the Latter's Countenance—A Duel Is Expected to Follow—The Count and the Editor Make Statements—Sensation at Paris.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Paris, March 14.—Count Boni de Castellane boxed the ears of M. Fernand de Rodays, editor of the Figaro, this morning for publishing a paragraph which the count integreted as a statement that he (the count) had betrayed the Deroulede plot on the occasion of the funeral of the late President Faure on Feb. 23, 1899. A duel is expected.

The count was accompanied to Rodays' residence by his father, the Marquis de Castellane, and a newspaper friend, M. Morel. The count asked to see M. de Rodays, and was ushered into the writer's study. M. de Rodays later received the party in his dressing room. Count de Castellane said:

"You published in the Figaro this morning an abominable paragraph against me."

M. de Rodays replied that he did not understand what the count meant, to which the latter retorted hotly:

"Will you retract or not?"

To that M. de Rodays replied by explaining that the paragraph was couched courteously, and that no mention was made of the name of Count de Castellane. Then, without further ado, Count de Castellane boxed M. de Rodays ears severely and repeatedly.

M. de Rodays, who was seated, recoiled, and de Castellane followed him up and slapped his face again. De Castellane pere and M. Morel then interposed and protected M. de Rodays from further violence. Eventually the Castelane party withdrew.

Count Boni has written the following letter to the newspapers here:

Regarding the Figaro I was filled with indignation at the perfidious insinuation accusing me of treachery. I immediately bagged my father and a friend, M. Morel, to accompany me to the residence of M. de Rodays. The latter received us, and after a few brief observations, to which he gave unsatisfactory responses, I inflicted on him merited correction. I reserve a similar one for any person permitting himself the same accusations.

**M. de Roday's Account.**

M. de Rodays gave the following account of the affair:

"I received this morning the card of the Marquis of Castellane, whom I instructed to be shown in immediately. I found myself in the presence of three persons, the marquis, the count, and a third person whose name I do not know. The marquis said: 'You insulted my son.'

"Count Boni de Castellane then asked me for explanations regarding a paragraph in the Figaro. I replied that the paragraph was in no way offensive to him and that on the contrary, it was worded in the most courtous terms and that his name was not mentioned. The count then throw himself upon me and punched me without even giving me time to defend myself. I believe it was a prearranged attack."

M. de Rodays later in the day said he had decided to send his second to Count Boni de Castellane.

The paragraph in the Figaro, which was the immediate cause of the assault on M. de Rodays, was as follows:

"People have been asking WHO is the person M. Deroulede wished to designate; it appears that he is a member of parliament, and it is affirmed that he is the young deputy whose name is best known, and who, on the eve of starting for America with his young wife last week very loyally delayed his departure in order to reply, if necessary, to the polemics which may develop."

M. de Rodays' seconds, MM. Prestat and Perivier, have called at the residence of M. de Castellane. The reports of the comte are not yet publicly known, but it is understood the four seconds will meet today to make arrangements for a duel.

### "RIPPER" HEARINGS.

**Representative Cooper Enters Protest on Behalf of Philadelphia.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, March 14.—The hearing before the municipal corporation's committee of the houses asked for by Representative Cooper on behalf of the people of Philadelphia in protest against the Philadelphia "ripper" bills, took place tonight. Speeches were made by a number of gentlemen claiming to represent a majority of the commercial and trades organizations of that city.

Representative Cooper tried to get a motion through extending the hearings until next Wednesday, but was ruled out of order. Friends of the bills will be heard at the next meeting.

### Dan Green Located.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, March 14.—Outfielder Daniel Green, of the Chicago National League club, today announced that he had signed a contract to play with the same club this year. The American League was after Green, but did not succeed in signing him. Frank Donohue, one of the Philadelphia National League pitchers, today signed a contract to again play with the local National League club this year.

### Will of Wm. M. Evarts.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, March 14.—The will of former Secretary of State William M. Evarts was filed for probate today. All of his estate is left to the family.

### COL. SANGER ON DUTY.

**He Is Appointed Assistant Secretary of War to Succeed Mr. Meiklejohn.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, March 14—Colonel William Sanger, of New York, was today appointed assistant secretary of war, and immediately entered up the duties of his office. His commission was signed by the president during the forenoon. Soon afterward, Colonel Sahger appeared at the war department, and was immediately ushered into the private office of Secretary Root. There, in the presence of Lieutenant General Miles and Chief Clerk Schofield, he subscribed to the regulation oath of office.

The new assistant secretary is a guest at the house of Secretary Root, and the two took luncheon there this afternoon. According to an arrangement made in the morning, Colonel Sanger at once took formal possession of the office of assistant secretary, and was introduced to the bureau chiefs and all other principal officers of the department. Later he was presented to the president by Secretary Root.

The following statement was made by the secretary of war this afternoon in regard to the appointment:

"Some time before the expiration of the last administration, and before the re-appointment of the cabinet, Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn notified the president that by reason of his candidacy for the senate, the long canvass attending it, and the necessity that there should be an assistant secretary who could be present in Washington to perform the duties of the office, he was unwilling to permit his name to be considered for re-appointment. Mr. William Carey Sanger has accordingly been appointed and will immediately enter upon the discharge of his duties."

## MINE WORKERS ADOPT MANY RESOLUTIONS

**Addresses Delivered by Paul Pulaski and D. J. McCarthy—Mr. Mitchell's Statement.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Hazleton, March 14.—The United Mine Workers' convention was in executive session all morning considering the reports of the committees. The following resolution was adopted:

Instructing each local organization to appoint a committee of three to examine monthly from 15 to 25 checks of contract miners to ascertain whether the men are receiving the ten per cent. increase; petitioning Governor Stone to authorize the release from jail of twelve strikers who were convicted in the Schuylkill county court for rioting at Oneida last autumn, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from six months to two years; approving the following bills now before the state legislature: Providing for the weighing of coal before being screened; providing for clock weighmen; providing for proper weight in each keg of powder, and recommending that it be stamped so as to provide for the branding on kegs the name of the manufacturer; providing for the taxing of company store orders 25 per cent.; providing for mechanics liens at all collieries, and the Phillips semi-monthly pay law. The convention asked for the withdrawal of the bill creating a bureau of mines, the repeal of the law creating coal and iron police and recommending the passage of a bill requiring all deputy sheriffs when serving in case of strikes to be uniformed.

The convention demands that mine inspectors be more faithful in performance of their work, and that mine owners observe the mine laws more strictly, and requests all miners to use none but union powder after April 1. All mine working men will be furnished with union cards to be inspected once a month, men not holding the same to be requested to join the union or give up their places. The convention extends its sympathy and support to the striking silk mill employes at Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.

The convention adopted a resolution disapproving the conduct of miners who lose their work through intoxication. Addresses were delivered by Attorney D. J. McCarthy, of Freeland, and Paul Pulaski, president of the Schuylkill district, after which the convention adjourned until tomorrow. President Mitchell tonight issued the following statement concerning tomorrow's conference:

Tomorrow is the date set to hold a joint conference with the mine owners, and while I have not heard officially that the operators would either attend or remain away, I want to have it understood that if a peaceful settlement is not effected and the mine workers are compelled to suspend work the fault and responsibility will rest solely on the shoulders of the operators. The mine workers' organization has proved itself to be in every particular responsible, and inasmuch as the organization represented almost every anthracite mine worker, there can be no good reason assigned by the operators should they fail to meet in joint conference tomorrow with the representatives of their employes.

The conditions of employment in the anthracite coal regions are at present far from being fair and equitable, and there is an entire absence of uniformity in prices and conditions between the different companies, there being in many cases a wide divergence in prices in different companies, even when owned by the same companies, and these inequalities cannot be regulated except through a joint conference of operators and miners, representing all the different competing companies. It is my sincere hope that tomorrow will mark the introduction of a more humane and equitable method of adjusting differences that arise between employes and employer that has prevailed heretofore in the anthracite region.

### Pennsy's New Gondolas.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Altoona, Pa., March 14.—Five hundred gondola cars of an improved pattern have been ordered at the local shops. Half inch steel channels replace yellow pine in the centre of the car. The channels are fastened to steel crossbeams. On such a car the impact of a collision will fall on the rigid steel framework, in many cases probably avoiding disastrous results. This new car is probably the preliminary step of the Pennsylvania Railroad company to making its own steel cars.

### Increase for Puddlers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Youngstown, O., March 14.—At the bi-monthly wage conference today between the iron manufacturers and the officials of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, the manufacturers granted a voluntary increase of 12½ cents per ton for puddlers, and 2 per cent. increase for finishers. The increase affects about 20,000 hands.

### Ramapo Water Act Repealed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Albany, March 14.—The act of 1895, which gave extraordinary powers to the Ramapo Water company, has been repealed by the legislature.

## PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT

### Mr. McKinley's Eulogy Upon the Late General Benjamin Harrison..

### THE SEASON OF MOURNING

**Flags on Federal Buildings, Army Posts and United States Warships to Be at Half Mast for Thirty Days. Mr. McKinley to Go to Indianapolis—Grief in the Capital—Visitors at the Harrison Mansion. Funeral Arrangements.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, March 14.—The national capital is in mourning today for ex-president Harrison. Flags are at half-mast, not only upon all the public buildings, but upon the hotels, stores and many of the private residences. The act of 1893 inhibits the draping of public buildings in black as was the custom formerly, upon the death of an ex-president.

President McKinley, who was deeply affected by the death of General Harrison, directed that the doors of the executive mansion be closed to visitors, and denied himself to callers except those who had business of urgent importance. Immediately upon receipt of the news last night he decided to attend the funeral, and he and Secretary Cortelyou will leave Washington tonight. Mrs. McKinley will probably accompany him as far as Canton, where he may stop over one day.

At 10.30 o'clock this morning President McKinley issued a proclamation formally notifying the people of the country of the death of their former chief magistrate, and directing the observance of a period of mourning for thirty days. In pursuance of that proclamation, the flags on every public building in the United States, at every army post in the United States, Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines, and on every American warship in whatever quarter of the globe will fly at half-mast for thirty days. The text of the proclamation is as follows:

By the President of the United States:

A PROCLAMATION.

Executive Mansion,
Washington, March 14, 1901.

To the People of the United States:

Benjamin Harrison, president of the United States from 1889 to 1893, died yesterday at 4.45 p. m. at his home in Indianapolis. In his death the country has been deprived of one of its greatest citizens. A brilliant soldier in his young manhood, he gained fame and rapid advancement by his energy and valor. As a lawyer he rose to be a leader of the bar. In the senate he at once took and retained high rank as an orator and legislator, and in the high office of president he displayed extraordinary gifts as administrator and statesman. In public and in private life he set a shining example for his countrymen.

In testimony of the respect in which his memory is held by the government and the people of the United States, I do hereby direct that the flags on the executive mansion and the several departmental buildings be displayed at half staff for a period of thirty days, and that suitable military and naval honors, under the orders of the secretaries of war and of the navy, be rendered on the day of the funeral.

Done at the City of Washington, this 14th day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and twenty-fifth.

William McKinley.

By the President,
John Hay, Secretary of State.

## THE CHILDREN ARRIVE.

**Mrs. McKee and Russell B. Harrison Reach Indianapolis—Mrs. Harrison's Collapse.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, March 14.—Mrs. Harrison and the members of the household secured last night the first rest they have had for six days. Mrs. Harrison had slept only four hours since last Thursday, having been almost continually at the bedside. Her mental and physical condition finally became such that she was unable to take scarcely any nourishment. When the end came she collapsed completely for a time. Mrs. Caroline F. Stroud, of New York, an intimate friend of Mrs. Harrison, is with her.

E. F. Tibbett, General Harrison's private secretary, had been in constant attendance either at the general's side or in looking after the affairs of the household, answering messages of inquiry, sending out the physicians' bulletins, and receiving callers.

Clifford Arrick, Samuel D. Miller and Dr. F. O. Dorsey watched last night over the body of the ex-president. The body lies in the same room where the end came, and will not be removed until it is taken to the capitol to lie in state.

Russell B. Harrison, the general's son, who arrived late last night, spent the night with W. H. H. Miller. Mrs. Russell Harrison and son arrived at noon, as did also Mrs. Mary Harrison McKee, the general's daughter, and her husband. During the stay in the city they will be the guests of Mr. McKee's brother.

Today there were many callers at the Harrison home—friends who came to offer their services and tender their sympathy. Mrs. Tibbett received them for Mrs. Harrison was unable to see anybody except a few of the most intimate friends of the family.

The last intelligent words spoken by General Harrison were to his wife on Tuesday afternoon, shortly before he lapsed into total unconsciousness. At that time Mrs. Harrison asked him if he recognized her and he replied that he did. At noon of the same day he recognized his aunt, Mrs. Newcomer, feebly greeting her as "Aunty" when she came to his bedside.

In the sick man's bed-room, which lasted from last Sunday night until he became totally unconscious, his mind wandered back to the scenes of his life—charging with his column, or speaking before the convention that nominated him for the presidency.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

**Remains of General Harrison Will Be Buried on Sunday.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, March 14.—The arrangements for the funeral of General Benjamin Harrison, ex-president of the United States, have been completed. The body will lie in state at the capitol on Sunday from 11 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock in the evening, and the funeral services will be held from the First Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the Rev. M. L. Haines officiating. The event will not only be one of national significance, but of international importance. Cablegrams are reaching the family of the dead statesman from all parts of the world, offering condolences in the hour of bereavement.

General Harrison was a man of international reputation, and was held in high esteem throughout the civilized world. He had been entertained by the crowned heads of Europe, and his death is felt keenly, not only throughout the United States, but throughout the civilized world as well.

The funeral will be attended by many of the noted men of the United States. President McKinley and members of his cabinet will be here. Governor Yates, of Illinois, telegraphed today that he will be here, attended by his staff. Governor Nash, of Ohio, with his staff, will attend the funeral. Governor Durbin this afternoon sent a notice of General Harrison's death to the governors of many of the states, and expressed the belief that the majority of them will be here. The members of General Harrison's cabinet have sent word that they will be here, and it is the intention to have them act as honorary pall bearers. Telegrams were received yesterday from General Tracy, of New York, secretary of the navy, and John Wanamaker, postmaster general, under the Harrison administration, to the effect that they would be here.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS

**Directed to Pay Proper Respects to the Memory of General Harrison. Supreme Court Adjourns.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, March 14.—The state department has addressed the following circular letter to all United States diplomatic and consular officers abroad:

Department of State,
Washington, March 14, 1901.

Gentlemen: Your attention is invited to the president's proclamation of this date announcing the death of ex-President Benjamin Harrison, and directing a proper expression in honor of his memory.

You will cause the flag of your respective office to be displayed at half-staff on the reception of this circular, and for a period of thirty days thereafter.

I am, your obedient servant, John Hay.

The United States Supreme court today, after disposing of the case under argument yesterday, adjourned until tomorrow out of respect to the memory of the late President Harrison.

Announcement of General Harrison's death was made by Attorney General Griggs in a few eulogistic words, and was responded to by Chief Justice Fuller. In announcing the death Attorney General Griggs said:

It is my sad duty to convey to the court the intelligence of the death of the Hon. Benjamin Harrison, of Indiana, which occurred at his home in Indianapolis yesterday. He was president of the United States from 1889 to 1893, and most distinguished as a citizen and a statesman, as a soldier and a practitioner at the bar of this court. Out of respect to his memory, I move that the court now adjourn until tomorrow.

Chief Justice Fuller responded:

The court fully shares in the national sorrow, and sympathizes with the suggestion which has just been made. The great services to his country rendered by this distinguished soldier, statesman and citizen, the exalted offices so worthily filled by him, his conceded eminence at this bar, his private virtues, make recognition of the loss sustained in his death involuntary and universal.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Benjamin Harrison, the court will now adjourn until tomorrow at the usual hour.

### President Leaves for Indianapolis.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, March 14.—President McKinley left Washington at 7.45 o'clock tonight by the Pennsylvania railroad for Canton, O., whence he will proceed Saturday night to Indianapolis to attend the funeral of General Harrison. With him were Mrs. McKinley, Secretary Cortelyou and Dr. P. M. Rixey. Mrs. McKinley will not go to Indianapolis, but will await the president's return at Canton. The return trip from Indianapolis will be made Sunday night, and although the matter has not been finally determined, the probability is that the chief executive will make only a very brief stop at Canton and come back promptly to Washington. The party occupied the private car Yale, attached to the regular western express.

### Resolutions at Albany.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Albany, N. Y., March 14.—The senate today adopted resolutions expressive of its appreciation of his great worth, pure character in public and private life, of the late ex-President Harrison, and extending to his family its heartfelt sympathy for their irreparable loss.

### Smothered in Corn.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Watertown, N. Y., March 14.—Tons of corn on the second floor of John V. Reed's feed mill at Norwood, caused the joist to give way last night, precipitating the grain on Henry Barney and Bartley French, smothering them to death. Two other boys narrowly escaped death.

### Roller Mills Burned.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Watertown, S. D., March 14.—Fire today destroyed the Watertown Roller mills, the largest in the state. Estimated loss, $100,000; partially insured.

## BANK CASHIER MURDERED

### Charles W. Ryan, of the Halifax National Bank, the Victim of Desperate Robbers.

### DESPERADOES CAUGHT

**With Drawn Revolvers Henry Rowe and Weston Keiper Hold Up the Attaches of the Bank and Collect All the Cash—Mr. Ryan Attempts to Push Aside the Guns and in the Struggle Is Shot in the Groin Receiving Fatal Wounds.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 14.—Charles W. Ryan, cashier of the Halifax National bank, was shot to death by Henry Rowe and Weston Keiper, of Lykens, at noon today, in an attempt at the most daring bank robbery in the history of Dauphin county. The robbers were captured by a party of citizens soon after the crime, and were brought to the Harrisburg jail, together with F. B. Straley, of Lykens, who is suspected of being an accomplice. Rowe and Keiper drove over to Halifax from Elizabethville this morning and, hitching their team on the outskirts of the town, boldly entered the bank with revolvers presented. Each had a revolver and they demanded the attaches of the bank to throw up their hands and turn over the money. One of them held in check Abraham Fortenbaugh, the president; Isaac Lyter, the teller, and ex-Representative Swartz, of Duncannon, who was in the bank on private business. The other covered Cashier Ryan and under the menace of the revolver the cashier collected the cash in the drawers to the amount of two thousand dollars, and placed it in a satchel that the robbers had brought with them. Rowe, with the cash-stuffed satchel in his hand, backed toward the door, and Keiper also moved toward the entrance to the bank. Just when it seemed that the robbers would succeed in getting away, Cashier Ryan leaped forward in an attempt to knock up the revolver in the hand of the man with the money.

In the scuffle several shots were fired, and Ryan fell to the floor, shot through the groin by a bullet from the pistol of Rowe. Mr. Fortenbaugh grabbed Rowe, and after a short scuffle threw him to the floor. During the struggle Cashier Ryan was lying in a helpless condition, close to the vault. Keiper plunged through the doorway, while the attention of the bank officials was distracted to the wounded cashier. The noise of the shots attracted J. E. Leyter, who has a store near the bank building, and he ran out with his shotgun. Mr. Leyter pursued Keiper for one block and shot him in the back of the head, when the robber surrendered, day, and had nothing to do with the

The wounded cashier was taken to his home after the capture of the desperadoes, where he died at 5 o'clock this evening.

Rowe and Keiper are unmarried, and formerly worked in the coal mines at Lykens. Rowe is nineteen years old, and has been considered a dangerous man. Keiper is twenty years old, and was always looked upon as honest and harmless.

They were brought to Harrisburg this afternoon on an express train, which was stopped at Halifax by special order from the general superintendent at Williamsport. At the jail Keiper said that he did not shoot with the intention of killing anybody. He denied that it was his shot that struck Cashier Ryan. Rowe also said that he did not shoot Ryan.

At midnight Keiper and Rowe confessed to District Attorney Miller their crime and gave the details of their arrangements for the tibbery. Straley admitted that he knew of their plans, but said that he was not with them today, and had nothin to do with the killing.

### DISFRANCHISEMENT BILL IS PASSED.

**Democratic Majority in Maryland Senate Finally Accomplishes Its Purpose.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Annapolis, Md., March 14.—The Democratic majority in the senate, after a tedious session lasting from 11 a. m. to 8 p. m., aided by the application of the cloture rule, succeeded in passing the "disfranchisement" bill tonight, by a vote of 14 to 11, a strict party division. The Republicans adopted dilatory tactics in an endeavor to delay the passage of the bill, and finally Senator Wilkinson, the Republican leader, proceeded to discuss the provisions of the bill at length. He was followed by several other Republican senators, with the evident intention of wearing the Democrats out, but at 7.30 p. m. the president cut off further debate, and the bill was passed.

It now goes to the house for concurrence in the senate amendments. The concensus of opinion is that no further obstacle will be placed in its way, and that it will go to the governor tomorrow night for his signature.

During the fight in the senate today, former United States Senator Gorman sat in the private room of the president of the senate, adjoining the senate chamber, and directed the Democratic forces.

### Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, March 14.—Arrived: Kensington, Antwerp. Sailed: La Champagne, Havre. Liverpool—Arrived: Teutonic, New York. Queenstown—Sailed: Massdam, Boulogne and New York. Naples—Arrived: Trave, New York via Gibraltar.

### THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

**Weather Indications Today.**
**CLOUDY; VARIABLE WINDS.**


1 General—President's Proclamation. Bank Cashier Killed. Count de Castellane Boxes an Editor's Ears. The Chinese Crisis.
2 General—Carbondale Department.
3 General—Whitney's Weekly News Budget.
4 Editorial. Note and Comment.
5 Local—Arguments in the "Ripper" Bill Quo Warranto.
6 Local—Ex-prisoners of War Reunion. Decision Affecting Coal Companies.
7 Local—Criminal Negligence Charged in Oil Griffin Case. Council Proceedings.
8 Local—West Scranton and Suburban. Report of the Grand Jury.
9 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial.
10 Local—Live News of the World of Labor.


## WALLS AND FRONTS FELL

**All That Fire Left of Crane and Norton Buildings Crumbled Away This Morning.**

Great excitement was caused in the central city about 1.45 o'clock this morning by an ear-dinning report which announced that the brick partition between the Crane and Norton buildings at the scene of last month's big fire on Lackawanna avenue, had fallen and that simultaneously the stone and brick fronts of both structures gave way and were precipitated into the street.

The ruins of the buildings' fronts fell outward into Lackawanna avenue, and it was certainly providential that the fall occurred when it did. If it had happened during the day, with dozens of workmen busied about the buildings and the avenue crowded, scores of deaths would have been inevitable.

The walls of the two edifices were condemned by Building Inspector Jackson and yesterday a scaffolding was erected and the work of tearing them down was to have begun today. When several patrolmen and a crowd of men hurried to the scene this morning they found the avenue littered with rubbish, great fragments of stone and bricks blocking the cars tracks and a cloud of dust in the air.

Nothing could be seen of John Wagner, who was employed as watchman of the Henwood and Matthews buildings and at first it was supposed that he was caught under the ruins. A search was instituted, but he soon appeared, safe and sound, having been in a lunch wagon when the walls fell. No one was injured by the flying fragments.

## MISCHIEF ON FOOT.

**Visiting Congressmen Are Suspected of Having Indulged in Indiscreet Talk in Cuba.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Havana, March 14.—General Wood and staff today accompanied the congressional party now here, which includes members of the river and harbor committee, to Aguicate, to inspect a sugar estate. The Cuban delegates to the constitutional convention are eagerly seeking information from the American congressmen regarding the possibility of a re-decision by congress of the Platt amendment.

Controversy in the local press over certain statements alleged to have been made by some of these congressmen has already begun, and La Patria on the strength of their allegations strongly urges the delegates to refuse to accept the Platt amendment, but to await a new congress.

This afternoon the committee on the Platt amendment held a private session and discussed the amendment at great length. There was considerable diversity of opinion, and it was decided to hold another meeting tomorrow, when each member will submit a written opinion. The various opinions will then be amalgamated in a final report to be made before the convention. The committee expects to finish its work Saturday, but definite action by the convention is not looked for within a week.

### GOVERNOR WELLS APPLIES VETO.

**Bill Favoring Polygamy in Utah Fails to Become a Law.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Salt Lake, Utah, March 14.—The bill of State Senator Evans, which passed the legislature on Monday last, was vetoed today by Governor Wells. One of the provisions of the bill was that "no prosecution for unlawful cohabitation shall be commenced except on complaint of the wife or alleged plural wife of the accused."

The opponents of the measure declared that its object was to prevent prosecution of those maintaining polygamous relations. Governor Wells is himself a Mormon. In the course of his veto message he says: "In my opinion nothing can be clearer than that this bill, if passed, would be welcomed and employed as a most effective weapon against the very classes whose condition it is intended to ameliorate. Furthermore, I have reason to believe its enactment would be the signal for a general demand upon the national congress for constitutional amendment directed against certain social conditions here, a demand which under the present circumstances would surely be complied with."

### De Jaeger Sentenced.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pietermaritzburg, March 14.—The trial of the most prominent rebel in this county, a man named De Jaeger, has been concluded. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 5,000 pounds. De Jaeger was a Boer commandant. His defense was that a Transvaal burgher court had decided that although he was not a naturalized burgher he owed allegiance to Natal.

### Antis Preparing to Protest.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Boston, March 14.—The anti-imperialist league is arranging for a meeting to be held in Faneuil hall, March 26, to protest against the policy of the administration. Former Governor George Boutwell, Sixto Lopez and others are expected to make addresses.

## THE CRISIS AT PEKIN

### Manchurian Difficulty May Stop All Negotiations on Part of Powers.

### MORE TROUBLE BREWING

**Mass Meeting Is to Be held in Shanghai to Protest Against Russia's Act—United States Government Fears Partition of the Empire—The Attitude of England.**

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Shanghai, March 14.—It is understood here that the negotiations in Pekin may be suspended owing to the Manchurian difficulty. The Chinese merchants and other residents here have issued a call for a mass meeting to convene in Shanghai tomorrow to discuss the adoption of measures aimed to uphold the Chinese court against Russia.

Washington, March 14.—The United States government has not been able to obtain anything like an official statement of the contents of the alleged agreement between Russia and China respecting the protectorate over Manchuria. If it were not for the information which comes to it unofficially, but which it is known is reliable, the state department would not be able to affiarm even the existence of the agreement. In that condition of official ignorance it has not been possible to go very far in the direction of protesting against Russia's course.

The state department has from the beginning sought to discourage any kind of secret arrangement touching China. The Russian arrangement regardless of it details, would be objectionable from that point of view.

The opposition to the Russian move has not crystalized, and it is felt that there is every prospect of a consummation of the agreement between Russia and China, unless the other powers, who are undecided, speedily come to a determination to oppose it.

**Partition of Empire Feared.**

In view of that impending crisis, the officials here would regard as of secondary importance the negotiations in progress at Pekin respecting indemnities and punishments, were it not for a belief that there is grave danger that an undue insistence by the ministers at Pekin on the collection of impossible indemnities and the continuance of punitive measures, the United States government will be obliged to maintain an attitude of exact neutrality and withhold any assistance that might otherwise be reasonably requested, in the greater purpose of checking the consummation of an agreement which is almost certain to result in the partition of China.

As announced, Special Commissioner Rockhill is acting under the instructions of the department, doing his best to keep the demands of the ministers within the bounds of the ability of the Chinese government to meet, thereby following the consistent policy of the department laid down as far back as last summer.

**England's Attitude.**

London, March 14.—The Globe this afternoon continues to bewail the nervelessness of the British foreign office in regard to Russian action in Manchuria, and reiterates its appeal to the United States to "rid itself of the influence of Wu Ting Fang (the Chinese minister at Washington) and the glamor of Russian diplomacy" and thereby save the northern China market to the cotton mills of the southern states. The balance of the long article, however, seems to indicate that the Globe, like others, is not really so anxious to aid American commerce as to help forward the widespread British desire to obtain the assistance of Washington in stemming Russian ambition, restoring British prestige and keeping the door open for British trade.

**The Russian Agreement.**

Washington, March 14.—Such information as has come to the hands of officials indicates that the Russian agreement consists of twelve articles, not nine, as has been published. The chief concern of officials here has been to learn how far these articles affect the permanent future of Manchuria. On their face, it is said, they show a return of Manchuria to China, which would seem to be quite in keeping with the desire of all powers. But this is accomplished upon certain conditions imposed upon China, and it is understood that these conditions in effect establish a Russian suzerainty over Manchuria, with a Russian official occupying the chief executive position, quite similar to that of the British viceroy of India. Comparing this condition with that in India, it is said that if the present agreement is consummated, Manchuria will be in the same position as one of the Indian states, having a certain degree of independence, and yet conforming all its actions to the supreme authority over it.

Chinese affairs received considerable attention at the state department today, as the Chinese minister, the British ambassador and the Russian ambassador followed each other in long conferences with Mr. Hay.

Hong Kong, March 14.—A detachment of 440 men of the Welsh fusiliers sailed for Tien-Tsin today in order to relieve the Australian troops, who are returning home.

### WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, March 14.—Forecast for Friday and Saturday: Eastern Pennsylvania—Cloudy Friday, probably rain or snow in northern portions. Saturday, fair; variable winds.