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TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 24, 1901.

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HUNDREDS PERISH IN A GREAT FLOOD

Bluefields Coal Regions in West Virginia Visited by a Deluge Surpassing Johnstown Flood

ENTIRE VILLAGES ARE WIPED OUT

The Inundation of Conemaugh Valley Surpassed by the Disaster in the West Virginia Coal Regions—Whole Towns Are Wiped Out by the Angry Waters—Wires Are Down and Train Service Is Blocked So That It Is Impossible to Learn the Extent of the Disaster—Fifteen Saloons in the Town of Keystone Washed Out. Mining Population in the Valley Below Catch Barrels of Whiskey as They Float Down the Stream.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Bluefield, W. Va., June 23.—This entire section has just been visited by a flood, the extent of which in all probability will equal or exceed that of Johnstown, in 1889, so far as the loss of property is concerned. Early yesterday morning, shortly after midnight, a heavy downpour of rain began, accompanied by a severe electric storm, and steadily increased in violence until 10 o'clock a. m., then ceasing for several hours and beginning again with renewed violence. This continued throughout the entire day and night. Many miles of the Norfolk and Western railroad track, bridges and telegraph wires are entirely destroyed and communication is entirely cut off west of Elkhorn, so that it is impossible to learn the full extent of the loss of life and property, but officials of the coal operations, located in the stricken districts, have sent out messengers to Elkhorn, the terminus of both telegraphic and railroad communications, and have received a report that a conservative estimate as to the loss of life will easily reach 200. Some of the drowned are among the most prominent citizens of the coal fields.

The Pocahontas coal field is located in a basin, with high mountain ranges on either side, Elkhorn creek flowing through the center of the basin, which ranges from one-fourth to one mile in width. From Ennis, W. Va., to Vivian yard, West Virginia, a distance of ten miles, miners' cabins, coal company commissaries and coke plants, lined this basin. Elkhorn creek, being fed by numerous small streams, coming from the mountain sides, rises very rapidly, and this watershed came so suddenly that the entire basin between the two mountain ranges was flooded, and before the terror-stricken people realized what was upon them, they were carried down by the flood which swept everything in its path.

A Town Washed Away.

The little town of Keystone, with a population of about 2,000, seems the greatest sufferer, practically the entire town being washed away. This town is the principal one in the Pocahontas coal fields, and is located near its center. It was to a great extent headquarters from which the mining population purchased supplies and was also the only place in the field where whiskey and beer could be purchased. At this place there were some saloons and a few houses, all of which were washed away. The report comes that the mining population are now occupying the banks of the streams below, catching the merchandise and barrels of whiskey and beer as they float down. A great number of the coal and coke plants throughout the Pocahontas field are reported practically destroyed, and in some instances entirely washed away.

An account of the very high water which has flooded the region and prevented communication, anything like a correct list of the loss of property is impossible, but from the best information obtainable at 2 p. m., the loss of property will easily reach \$2,000,000. At Landgraf's the beautiful home of General Manager Ord is reported gone, but his family is said to be safe.

Rescued with Ropes.

Passenger train No. 4, of the Norfolk and Western railway, reached Vivian about 8 a. m., met the flood and was unable to proceed further. The waters reached such a depth that the coaches had to be abandoned, the passengers being rescued by means of ropes strung from the windows of coaches to the tops of remaining coke ovens some distance away.

Between Elkhorn and Vivian yard, a distance of ten miles, one hundred cars are said to be washed from the tracks and many of them were carried down the stream. A rough estimate places the number of bridges washed away between Bluefield and Vivian yard, a distance of twenty-eight miles, at from fifteen to twenty, and from present in-

dications it will be impossible to get trains through to Vivian and points west of there under a week or ten days. This will render it impossible to get relief into the stricken districts, and with those who escaped with their lives, homeless and without food, indescribable suffering is inevitable.

Rivals Johnstown. From the meager reports, describing the force of the storm at Keystone, it would appear that the damage rivals that at Johnstown and is equal to the devastation in its intensity, so far as the percentage of population lost and property destroyed. There is no telegraphic communication west of Bluefields, as the telegraph lines were swept away along with the railroad tracks. It is said by the telegraph officials that the lines are useless between Kenova, W. Va., and Bluefield, a distance of 200 miles. It may be several days before the telegraph lines will be restored sufficiently between these two points to obtain a full report of damage done in that territory.

It is stated, however, that every building in the town of Keystone was demolished or carried away by the water save one, and that a barroom, which stands on a high hill. The normal population of Keystone is about 2,000 souls and as last night was Saturday, there are falling bones many mines had gone into the town to swell its population. It is estimated that two hundred lives alone were lost at Keystone. The flood seems to have extended over a vast area of mountain country and the hundreds of mountain streams, becoming swollen only served to swell the Elkhorn river until it had assumed large proportions and carried destruction in its wake. Railroad ties and tracks small buildings of all descriptions, trees, telegraph poles, large bowlers and every imaginable movable thing that came within the sweep of this mighty torrent of maddened waters went down the mountainous district in a seething, roaring mass of debris. Dead bodies could be seen floating along the valley by those who had gained a place of safety on the high hills. All day Saturday the rain fell in sheets and it was evident that if it did not cease there would be a flood and great destruction must result from it, but it was not until after the darkness had enveloped the coal field that the great catastrophe was upon the country and was making a clean sweep of the valley for miles around. Shortly after midnight Saturday night it seemed as if the heavens had opened their floodgates over the town of Vivian, W. Va.

Passenger Train Caught.

Here a passenger train was caught in the falling flood and the lives of the frightened passengers were saved by the use of ropes, which were quickly thrown over from the coke ovens, which skirt the railroad yards at Vivian. The passengers were glad to catch the ropes and willing hands dragged them from the submerged train and over the oven barbed to a point of safety. Owing to the fact that the telegraph lines had been prostrated by the storm, the Norfolk and Western officials detailed messengers by foot to cover the territory as best they could, they returning in a short time with reports of the terrible straits which had been done in their respective territory. One of these messengers, in walking over the devastated district, came back and reported having seen thirty-eight dead bodies. There are supposed to be many who will never be accounted for. The loss of life will probably reach 500 or 600, and position of the bodies will be swept down further details are obtainable. Many people in this city have relatives in the coal regions which have been struck by the flood, but not a word can be heard from them, as there is possibly no way of communicating with them. The telegraph offices, railroad offices and officials, and telephone offices are visited by many eager people, all awaiting some message as to the fate of their relatives or friends. The Norfolk and

MRS. M'KINLEY'S CASE. Distinct Gain in Her Condition Is Noted.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, June 23.—Dr. Johnson was called to the White House this morning by Dr. Rixey, and the two physicians spent half an hour in a careful study of Mrs. McKinley's case. Dr. Johnson had not been at the White House before for several days and Dr. Rixey believed that he would be better able to note any change that may have taken place in Mrs. McKinley's condition, than one who, like himself, has been almost constantly with her. The result of the examination was gratifying, for a distinct gain in condition was noted. Indeed, the physicians now hope to be able to permit their patient to take a few short carriage rides this week, if the weather is favorable. Dr. Rixey also is satisfied that nothing will prevent the execution of the plans that are being made for the removal of Mrs. McKinley from Washington to Canton next week.

Mrs. McKinley's strength has increased to such an extent that she is now able to walk around her bedroom for some time each day. Her general condition is reported to be good, and Dr. Rixey said tonight that she had passed a comfortable day.

THE BIG STORM AT PITTSBURG

Deaths by Drowning and by Electricity—List of the Victims. Valuable Property Destroyed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Pittsburgh, June 23.—The storm which broke over Allegheny county on Saturday afternoon carried with it deaths by drowning and deaths by electric shock, floods that caused much damage and wind that created terror and havoc. Every part of the county suffered.

The storm broke about 2:30 o'clock, after darkness had gradually been settling in for an hour. The day until then had been a beautiful one. The rain was very heavy, the wind strong and often the lightning seemed to be playing right overhead.

The killed were: CHARLES BITTNER, farmer, Spring Garden borough, drowned in Spring Garden run. MOSBY MARY, Italian laborer, drowned in a sewer at Center and Euclid avenues. JAMES P. DENN, aged 12 years, of No. 123 Camp avenue, Bradock, drowned in two feet of water at Bradock.

CONRAD HART, aged 12 years, of Duquesne, killed by a live wire on the vault of the Monongahela Traction company, near his home. Injured: James Fleming, aged 51, No. 237 Myran avenue, badly shocked by a live wire at Myran avenue and Euclid street. Andrew Cole, drayman, shocked by lightning at Lehigh street and Rowan avenue, East End.

There was one fatality in addition to those mentioned last night which was not generally known until today. Charles Bittner, a farmer of Spring Garden borough, was drowned in Spring Garden run and his body was seen floating in the water. His home was close to the run, and noticing that the water was rising, he went out to save his wagon, which was swept. The flood, like a tidal wave, swept Bittner away with the wagon. The body was found stuck fast in the water at Lehigh street and Rowan avenue, East End.

From all over the county tonight came fuller reports of damage done by wind and water, but with the exception of Bittner no additional fatalities are recorded.

OHIO REPUBLICANS TO HOLD CONVENTION

Most of the Leaders of the Party Are Already on the Battle Ground.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Columbus, O., June 23.—Most of the leaders and many of the delegates are here tonight for the Republican state convention, which will convene in this city tomorrow. The convention will renounce for second terms, Governor George K. Nash, Lieutenant Governor John A. Caldwell, Attorney General John M. Sheets, State Treasurer J. D. Cameron and G. W. Johnson, the latter for member of the state board of public works.

The contests are limited to the nominations for judge and clerk of the Supreme court. In addition to a full state ticket, a legislature is to be elected this year which will choose the judges of the United States Senator J. B. Foraker. In addition to the election of a senator, the next legislature will have the apportionment of the state under the last census for legislative and other state districts, as well as for congressmen, and also the consideration of an important issue on "local option." The contest between the parties for control of the legislature this year will be the most animated one in the history of the state, as the partisan advantages to be gained in the formation of the districts will last until the next census in 1910, under the laws of Ohio.

At Least 200 Dead.

It is now certain that the total list of the dead from one end of the Elkhorn valley to the other will reach two hundred. A full list of the names of the victims cannot be ascertained at this time. Hundreds are missing, having been carried to safety in the mountains to escape the fury of the flood. The list of the dead so far recovered and identified, that it has been possible to obtain at this time, are: John Lewis and Martha Morgan, white; Sam Foidexter, Bettie Brown, John Ballard, Annie Smith, Laura McCoy, Nellie Smith, colored, all of Keystone; Ivan Solisky, white, and a colored family named Hairston, consisting of mother and four children, at Algona. At least three hundred mine men are reported to be missing. But little damage is done to the mines proper, as the drift mouths were high up the mountain sides. Several mines, however, are reported flooded, but it is impossible to ascertain the extent of the damage. On the north fork branch of the Norfolk and Western, which is five and a half miles long, there was no loss of life, as far as known, but hundreds were rendered homeless, and tonight are camping in the mountains. The damage to property on this branch is very heavy.

Only one of the ten collieries located on this branch escaped, the Ashland, it being located at the head of the stream. The McDowell Coal company lost twelve residences. The Roanoke company lost their boiler house and the 100 horse-power boiler were swept four miles down the stream. The Louisville New York, Quecton—Sailed: Etusia from Liverpool, New York.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, June 23.—Arrived: La Breauna, Havre; 4:12; Bama, Glasgow; Koller, Bremen; Southampton—Sailed: Zealand from Australia; New York, Quecton—Sailed: Etusia from Liverpool, New York.

ADELBERT HAY FOUND DEAD

The Body of the Former Consul to Pretoria Is Discovered on a New Haven Sidewalk.

MYSTERY OF HIS DEATH

Undoubtedly Fell from a High Window in the Hotel at Which He Was Stopping, but Whether It Was a Case of Suicide or Somanbulism Has Not Been Fully Determined—Secretary Hay Prostrated by Grief—History of the Career of the Deceased.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New Haven, Conn., June 23.—Adelbert Stone Hay, former consul of the United States at Pretoria, South Africa, and eldest son of Secretary of State John Hay, fell from a window in the third story of the New Haven house in this city, shortly before 2:30 o'clock this morning and was instantly killed.

The dead man was a graduate of Yale, of the class of '98, and his death occurred on the eve of the university's commencement, which brought him here yesterday and in which, by virtue of his class office, the young man would have been one of the leaders. The terrible tragedy has cast a gloom over the whole city and will be felt throughout the day, which heretofore has been so brilliant and full of happiness for Yale and her sons.

The full details of the terrible accident will never be known. Mr. Hay had rooms at the New Haven house for commencement week. It is generally supposed, however, that after going to his room, he went to the window for air, and sitting on the sill, he dozed off, and overbalancing, fell to the pavement below—a fall of fully sixty feet. The fall resulted in instant death, and the body was quickly identified as that of young Hay. How it all happened immediately became a matter of speculation on the part of the throng of curious spectators who gathered, and a subject of mournful inquiry for the classmates and friends of the young man. Half a dozen physicians who were hastily summoned were unable to do anything. The coroner pronounced a case of accidental death and the body was removed to rooms of a nearby undertaker, where it awaited instructions from the family.

In the early morning a telegraphic request from the father reached Mr. Seth Moseley, the consul general, and for the first time the body until the members of the family could reach town. Meantime the sensation occasioned by the tragedy continued. Every movement of young Hay was traced in an effort to penetrate the uncertainties of the accident. It was learned that the young man arrived in New Haven last evening in time for dinner and went immediately to the New Haven house, where he was assigned to a room on the third floor front, directly over the entrance to the hotel office.

Hay was in the office until 10 o'clock, when he went to the dining room of the hotel to meet the members of the academic class of Yale '98. He had come to his old college town as a member of his class reunion committee and arrived early to assist his colleagues on the committee in preparing for the festivities of commencement week. He went over to the class supper in particular. He took dinner with some of his classmates and at 8 o'clock went to the Hyperion theater, where he witnessed the performance. He spent a quiet hour in the hotel corridor and smoking room before the theater and shortly after midnight retired to his room, remarking to the hotel clerk that he was sleepy and leaving a call for 9 o'clock this morning. He was not seen again until his body came whirling through the air in the destruction two and one-half hours later.

The Only Witness.

There was a solitary spectator to the terrible tragedy, a laborer on the city streets. At the hour mentioned the workman saw the form of a man falling to the sidewalk. The horrified laborer rushed to the spot and his shouts brought others. The usual crowd gathered. In it were several colored Yale graduates. They bent over the body, one of them, Julian Mason, of Chicago, and a classmate of young Hay, drew back and, horror-stricken, cried: "My God, it's Del Hay."

By this time the hotel clerk had reached the scene and made the identification. The body was clad in pajamas. On the window sill of the room, occupied by young Hay was found a partly consumed cigarette. On the floor near the window was a ring worn by the victim. His clothing had been neatly arranged and the bed clothes were drawn back. The bed, however, had not been occupied. Here the mystery becomes intangible. The popular theory seems to have it that the young man, having prepared for bed thought to take in a "good night" smoke; that he chose the cool of the window, possibly dozed, lost his balance and fell from the window. The presence of the ring on the floor, however, gave rise to the fancy that possibly while toying with the ring, it dropped, and that in an effort to recover it, the fall resulted.

However, it happened, the known facts seem to make it conclusive that it was all a frightful accident. Young Hay, it was remarked, was in particularly high spirits and had planned with unusual enthusiasm to participate in many engagements this week.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: FAIR AND WARM.

- 1 General—Bluefields Coal Regions Devastated by a Flood. Death of Adelbert Hay. Millennium in Politics Commemorated in Allegheny County.
2 Local—Dr. Bird Says Prohibition Church Was a Failure. Stricken in Memory of Bishop Nicholson.
3 Editorial. Note and Comment.
4 Local—Interest Increases in The Tribune's Educational Contest. Scheme to Improve Interior of the Court House.
5 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.
6 General—Northwestern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial.
7 Local—Industrial and Labor. Some Men of the Hour.

These members of the class of '98, who are in town, after the examination by the coroner's physician escorted the body from the undertaking establishment to the private residence of Mr. Seth Moseley, of the New Haven house. Here it awaited the arrival of the relatives.

Secretary Hay Informed.

In the college chapel at the morning service President Hadley in addressing the members of the graduating class, referred feelingly to the death of young Hay.

Washington, June 23.—Secretary Hay learned of the death of his son, Adelbert, within an hour and a half of the tragedy, through Secretary Cortelyou. The latter had been called up on the long distance telephone at his residence about 3 o'clock in the night by Professor Moseley, of the New Haven house, the severest of the tragedy, who Moseley briefly told Secretary Cortelyou of the finding of the remains on the sidewalk and of the other details of the accident, substantially as they were sent out in the press dispatches. Secretary Cortelyou inquired at once to the residence of Secretary Hay and communicated the sad news as gently as possible. The secretary appeared for the moment to be completely crushed, but rallied and set calmly about preparations for departure for New Haven at the earliest moment. Save the secretary, Secretary Hay was alone in his house, as all of his family have been absent from Washington since the secretary's visit to Buffalo. Mrs. Hay, with Adelbert and her two daughters, had been spending a few days in Cleveland, Ohio, and from that place went by way of Buffalo to New Haven, N. H., on the shores of Lake Umbagog, where the family had just settled down for the summer, with the expectation that the secretary would join them next month.

There was no one of his own people about him, therefore, to give aid and support when the sad news came, and secretary of state in the early Sabbath morning. Secretary Cortelyou, however, was sympathetically helpful and, realizing the feverish desire of Mr. Hay to reach New Haven, he looked up the railway time-tables and arranged for an early train to depart from New York. Secretary Hay was on a Pennsylvania railroad train speeding toward New Haven, before many of his friends in Washington knew of the calamity that had befallen him.

As soon as the president learned the news, he telegraphed a letter of condolence to the chief of his cabinet to overtake him in his journey northward, expressing in the kindly and sympathetic language which characterizes the president's communications in such cases the depth of sorrow he felt for the bereaved family. Secretary Hay's colleagues in the cabinet followed the example, and Secretary Long also sent a personal letter of sympathy and condolence. The cabinet officers will attend the funeral of Adelbert Hay if it is feasible for them to do so.

After the secretary's departure and when the cabinet officers had returned to the city, friends of the Hay family, and officials began to call at the Sixteenth street home to leave their cards. Assistant Secretary Hill was first among the official callers and later there were many others. During the day nearly all official Washington had felt its tribute of sympathy at the house.

Adelbert Hay's Career.

Adelbert S. Hay was the eldest son of the secretary of state and was born while the latter was serving in Cleveland, Ohio, about twenty-five years ago. His second name is Stone, which he bears in memory of the late Amasa Stone, his maternal grandfader. He was educated in the private schools of Cleveland and prepared at St. Paul's academy in Concord, N. H., for Yale. From the university he was a popular scholar, for though outwardly reserved in manner, he was capable of warm and steadfast friendships and was of charming manners. At Yale Adelbert gave much time to athletics and thus splendidly developed his naturally robust frame, so that he stood at 21, full six feet high with chest and limbs of corresponding proportions. The staid figure of young Hay, with the look of reserve power in his face undoubtedly went far towards securing for him the respect and consideration which is not always exhibited to one of his years. With this physique went a degree of personal bravery that though never recklessly or boastfully evinced was still manifested on more than one occasion.

An instance of this was shown at Gibraltar. Young Hay was on his way out to the Philippines, a civilian passenger on an army transport carrying a volunteer regiment to Manila. At Gibraltar the men had shore leave, and when the hour for sailing arrived half of the volunteers were not aboard. The company officers roused up those in Gibraltar proper, but they could not go in uniform in chase of the volunteers, who had found a welcome hiding place among the Spanish drinking-house keepers across the border. Adelbert Hay volunteered to act as provost marshal and he soon emptied the dives and dragged out the skulkers and drove them down to their ship.

Bateon's Body Recovered.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Bismarck, June 23.—There is now no doubt but that the captain, mate and four men of the British bark Falkland, Captain Francis, from Tacoma, Jan. 29, for Fairbanks, which was wrecked at Biologs Rock, June 22, are drowned. The body of Mate Bateon was recovered this afternoon. The majority of the crew and the captain's wife and child had a boat and were saved.

Senator Kyo Ill.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Madison, S. D., June 23.—Senator James M. Kyo, who has been ill for several days, is in a very serious condition tonight and there are no indications that he may recover. Heart trouble is the cause of his illness and the attack is similar to the one that prostrated the senator at Cleveland, 100 days ago.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

Local data for June 23, 1901: Highest temperature..... 81 degrees Lowest temperature..... 62 degrees Relative Humidity..... 80 per cent. S. W. Wind..... 36 per cent. Precipitation, 74 hours ended 8 p. m., 0.00 inch.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, June 23.—Forecast for East—Clear, Pennsylvania; Hot and warm Monday and Tuesday; fresh westerly winds.

MILLENNIUM IN POLITICS

Its Arrival Is Appropriately Commemorated in Allegheny County.

MAJORITY RULE UPHELD

Republican County Executive Committee Puts the Seal of Condemnation on Insurgent Tactics and Declares Henceforth for Party Regularity—Senator Flinn's Retirement Viewed in a New Light. Governor Stone as an Architect of Harmony.

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Pittsburgh, June 23.—Coinciding with the announcement by Senator William Flinn, for six years the executive genius of the "insurgent" movement in Pennsylvania politics, that at the expiration of the present legislature on Thursday of this week he will retire from the senate and from active connection with political life, yesterday's action of the Allegheny county Republican executive committee is significant. A. C. Robertson, upon being re-elected chairman, made a speech which, upon motion, was duly adopted as the basis of the reorganized Republican party of Allegheny county. This is the part of the speech which has the widest import:

We meet today under different conditions than heretofore. The millennium of politics has arrived; the motto that is now inscribed on our banner is, "peace and good will to all and malice toward none." We have no enemies to punish; harmony will reign supreme; we stand today for the success of the Republican organization in the county, state and nation. We believe that principles are to rule and malice toward none. The will of the majority must rule, for with this principle parties are maintained, and without it a condition of chaos is established. All our efforts will be directed henceforth to fight the common enemy.

Liberal interpreted, this means that Flinn has been eliminated by a strategic move on the part of the state administration which has gained for it control of the magnificent city and county organization that, until recently, gave implicit obedience to Flinn. Flinn's retirement from politics, it can thus be seen, while "voluntary" as he says, was expedited by the fact that the immediate future offered him no incentive to remain.

It is well understood here that the chief architect of yesterday's millennium was Governor Stone.

GAS EXPLOSION.

Brick House and Grocery Store at Harrisburg Wrecked.

Harrisburg, June 23.—The brick house and grocery store of George H. Lodge was wrecked, two other houses in the same block were badly damaged, and Lodge's 16-year-old son was seriously injured this morning by an explosion of illuminating gas. Young Lodge went into the cellar to try to locate a leak in the gas pipe and, striking a match a terrible explosion followed.

The entire front and side walls of the building collapsed, carrying with them the stock of groceries and household goods. The boy was frightfully burned about the face and body and suffers great pain. The remainder of the family was temporarily absent from home when the accident occurred. Windows of houses on the opposite side of the street were shattered and the two houses adjoining that of Lodge's are so badly wrecked that they will have to be razed.

Gragorio Cortez.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, June 23.—The attendance at the bicycle race at Coney Island, today, was large as usual. Marcus T. Barber, of this city, captured the one-mile open and half-mile handicap. In the ten-mile open race for professionals, Francis Cooney, of Detroit, showed some of his old-time speed, and won in a hot race over Frank of Waterbury. Prizes were offered for every lap, which made it a hot race from start to finish.

Senators' Bodies Recovered.

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