

GEN. DE WET ROUTED.

British Forces Swiftly Sweeping Through the Country.

BRITISH NOW OCCUPY AMSTERDAM.

General Kitchener Reports that De Wet's Attempt to Invade Cape Colony Has Evidently Completely Failed—Major Howard, of the Canadian Scouts, and Five Other British Officers Killed.

London (By Cable).—The War Office received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener, dated at Middleburg, in the Eastern Transvaal, and relating chiefly to operations in that part of the country:

"French reports that the town of Piet Retief, February 22, that the result of the columns sweeping the country east is that the Boers are retreating in scattered and disorganized parties to the number of some 5000 in front of him. Amsterdam and Piet Retief have been captured and troops are protecting the Swazi frontier. French will push on, but is much hampered by the continuous heavy rains.

"Summary of total losses inflicted on the enemy up to February 16: Two hundred and ninety-two Boers killed, 190 taken and wounded in action, 50 taken prisoners, 183 surrendered, one 15-pounder gun, 462 rifles, 100,000 rounds of small ammunition, 3500 horses, 70 mules, 3530 trek oxen, 187,000 cattle, 155,400 sheep, and 1070 wagons and carts captured.

"Our casualties: Five officers and 41 men killed and 4 officers and 108 men wounded. I regret to say that Major Howard, a very gallant officer of the Canadian scouts, was killed February 17. "Plumer reports that Colonel Owen captured De Wet's 15-pounder and pom-pom February 23, as well as 53 prisoners and a quantity of ammunition. We had no casualties. Enemy in full retreat and dispersing, being vigorously pursued. De Wet's attempt to invade Cape Colony has evidently completely failed.

"The Weekly Dispatch says it learns 'on good authority' that a special Cabinet council has been summoned to consider a communication from Lord Kitchener to the effect that General Botha had sent an emissary offering that he would be outmaneuvered and asking for a meeting with a view of arranging a general surrender.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Some of the Work Being Done by the National Legislature.

The Senate passed the bill which re-estimates the appropriation of \$5,000,000 for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1903. It was amended by providing an appropriation of \$250,000 for a government exhibit at the Charleston Exposition to be held next December. Before the bill passed amendments were adopted closing both expositions on Sunday.

Eulogies were pronounced in the Senate Saturday on the late Representative Hoffecker, of Delaware; Wise, of Virginia, and Daly, of New Jersey. Those who pronounced eulogies upon Mr. Hoffecker, of Delaware, were Senators Kennedy, McComas, Allen and Herfield. Those who paid tribute to Mr. Wise, of Virginia, were Senators Daniel and Turley. Tributes were paid to Mr. Daly, of New Jersey, by Senators Kean and Jones.

The Agricultural Appropriation Bill, with Senate amendments, was presented to the House. The amendments, except that appropriating \$700,000 additional for seeds and those applying to the reorganization of the bureau of the Agricultural Department, were disagreed to. The House adopted a resolution to investigate the pay of its employees, as a result of the controversy of affairs unearthed during the debate on the Deficiency Bill, and the Speaker appointed a committee to make the investigation.

Mr. Dayton, of West Virginia, introduced a bill in the House to amend the copyright law by omitting the provision regarding the deposit of copies deposited with the Librarian of Congress shall be done from types set within the limits of the United States.

The House devoted its time Friday to unanimous consent legislation and private claims and private pension bills, including in the latter being one for the widow of Gen. Henry W. Lawton for \$50 per month.

The Senate passed the Postoffice and the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation Bills.

The House adopted a resolution of inquiry into the holding of employees of one position and drawing salary for another.

The House passed the Sundry Civil Bill and began the consideration of the General Deficiency Bill.

The Senate had under consideration the Postoffice Appropriation Bill. Senator Gallinger offered an amendment to the Army Appropriation Bill by which post exchanges can take the place of army cantons.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Two volumes of testimony in the Cuban postoffice scandal were submitted to the Senate, the new features being statements by General Rutherford and former postmaster at Havana, Thomas Thompson.

The Senate Committee on Relations with Cuba considered propositions defining the relation between that island and the United States.

The remains of 33 soldiers who died in Cuba were buried in the National Cemetery at Arlington.

Seven eager candidates have already filed applications to be Consul-General of the Philippines.

The President has selected Capt. Wm. Crozier, of the Ordnance Department, to succeed the late Professor Michie at West Point as professor of natural and experimental philosophy.

The Secretary of War detailed Capt. Charles G. Treat, Artillery Corps, to be commandant of cadets and instructor of tactics at the Military Academy, with the rank and pay of lieutenant colonel, to succeed Lieut. Col. Otto L. Henn.

The Secretary of the Interior submitted to the Senate treaties between the United States and the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

The Senator Morgan submitted a minority report declaring that the ratification of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty should not be a condition precedent to the building of the Nicaragua Canal.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of Brigadier General Shafter to be major general.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Domestic.

By an explosion in one of the buildings at the City Gas Works, in Richmond, Va., Mortimer Hogan was killed, one end of the building was blown out and six men were injured, but none seriously.

Three more women were attacked and carried off in Denver by some mysterious person, who has been waylaying lone women on the streets of that city.

Three professors of political economy published a report strongly criticizing the dismissal of Professor Ross, from Stanford University.

The North American Trust Company has absorbed a number of other trust companies and will conduct business on an extensive scale.

Rev. Henry Blatchford, for 60 years a missionary among the Chippewa Indians, died at Olanah, at the age of 93 years.

Carroll E. Boreman, nephew of ex-Governor Boreman, died in Parkersburg, W. Va., of typhoid fever.

Lottie Kane was sentenced in Harrisonville, W. Va., to five years in the penitentiary for infanticide.

The Universal Steel Company was incorporated in Jersey City with a capital of \$300,000.

Five inches of snow fell in Atlanta and other parts of Georgia and Texas.

Salvatore Giovanni was found shot through the heart in Chicago, with Carlo Battista, supposed to be his best friend, standing over him. It is supposed to be a Mafia murder.

A letter was received by Edward G. Cahill, Sr., which is believed to have been written by Pat Crowe, offering to surrender if offered protection from lynching.

The Delaware House of Representatives appointed a committee to investigate alleged charges of corruption in connection with the senatorial election.

The jury was unable to agree in the case of Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy, who was tried in New York on the charge of murdering a boy, Reynolds.

It was reported in Charleston, S. C., that the Fertilizer Trust had bought out the Charleston Mining and Manufacturing Company.

The Northern and Southern Presbyterians of Missouri agreed to joint control over several Presbyterian colleges in that State.

Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks, of Indiana, was elected president of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The University of Pennsylvania celebrated Washington's Birthday, Bishop Potter delivering the oration.

Isaac Shaffer died suddenly on the street in Hanover, Pa., from heart disease.

John Valentine Peterman died at his home, in Martinsburg, W. Va.

Thirty flouring mills located in Maryland and Pennsylvania have formed a combination as the Eastern Milling and Flouring Company.

Thomas Vital, colored, accused of assaulting a thirteen-year-old white girl, was lynched by a mob in Lake Charles, La.

Arthur Fuller, 21 years of age, was convicted in Chatham of attempting a felonious assault on Miss Mattie V. Cook.

Former United States Senator Stephen M. White, of California, died at his home in Los Angeles.

Fire in the business section of Atlanta destroyed property valued at nearly half a million dollars.

The jury in the case of Frank Hamilton, charged with killing Leonard R. Day in Minneapolis, Minn., brought in a verdict of manslaughter, with a recommendation for mercy.

John P. Squire & Co., with a capital stock of \$2,500,000, incorporated in Trenton to do a pork-packing business in Boston and other Eastern points, absorbing about a dozen concerns.

The Italian steamer Jupiter was lost at sea. The captain and engineer are supposed to have perished. The rest of the crew were rescued and landed at Bermuda.

Foreign.

Minister Conger has called to the State Department at Washington that the Chinese court has agreed to all the engagements named in his demands.

General Kitchener reports a severe engagement between Methuen's forces and the Boers, in which the British lost 3 officers and 13 men killed and 5 officers and 25 men wounded.

Major T. J. Atherton, second in command of the Prince of Wales's Royal Lancers, sued his wife for divorce.

President Steyn and General De Wet issued a joint proclamation declaring that the war was not over and accusing the British of barbarous practices.

The Russians sustained severe losses in an engagement with the Chinese headed by the military governor of Mukden.

Mr. Brodick informed the House of Commons that the Boers in the field numbered 20,000, and that in January there were 16,000 Boer prisoners.

The Viscount Hinton has instituted proceedings to eject his younger stepbrother from the possession of the earldom and estate of his father.

The people of Finland protest against the scheme to Russinize their country.

The situation in Venezuela is reported to be quite critical.

LOOKING AT NEW STAR.

One of the Brightest Which Has Appeared in Centuries.

IT IS FLARING UP VERY RAPIDLY.

The Heavenly Visitor Can Be Seen About 5 P. M. West of Capella, Which Is in the Zenith—Dr. Anderson Thought the Color of the New Star Was Bluish—Seen in Maryland.

Boston (Special).—One of the most important astronomical discoveries in several years was announced by the telegram received at the Harvard College Observatory from Rev. Dr. T. D. Anderson, of Edinburgh, which stated that he had seen a new star in the constellation Perseus.

With great interest, Dr. Pickering, Mrs. W. P. Fleming, curator of the astronomical photographs, and other members of the staff at the Harvard Observatory observed the star through the telescope and examined Harvard's priceless set of photographs of the sky with important results as to its history, magnitude and spectrum.

When the average reader understands that such a star as this appears in the sky suddenly, he will comprehend the great value of the collection of 100,000 photographs at Harvard, which reveal the condition of the sky, as well as the weather will permit, on almost every day of the year.

By reference to the charts of that section of the sky where the new star was reported to be the Harvard astronomers were able to say that the star on February 19 was fainter than the magnitude 10.5; and this result was confirmed by photographs taken on February 18, 19, and 20.

This technical statement means that the photographs taken before February 19 did not reveal the presence of the star, although later examination of them may throw additional light on this point, but the photograph of February 19 indicates the star's presence for the first time.

The star then shone so faintly that it was difficult to see it with the naked eye, but within four days it had flared up greatly. It is said to be the brightest new star which has appeared in three centuries, and is the most brilliant heavenly visitor in right ascension 3 hours 24 minutes 24 seconds and declination plus 43 degrees 34 minutes.

UNDER TAFT AND CHAFFEE.

First Named Will Be Governor and the Latter Will Succeed MacArthur.

Washington (Special).—According to the latest advices from the Philippine Commission, the time for the establishment of civil government in the Philippines is near at hand. It was stated at the War Department that the civil government will be established as soon as Judge Taft reports that the conditions in the islands justify such action. It is generally understood that Judge Taft will be the first civil governor of the islands, and that Gen. Chaffee will succeed Gen. MacArthur in command of the military forces to be retained there to assist in the maintenance of order and enforcement of the law.

It is not likely, however, that there will be any immediate change in the military command, or that there will be any material reduction in the military strength for many months to come.

CHINESE ATTACK THE GERMANS.

Two Hundred Celestials Killed in the Fight—Germans Outnumbered.

Tientsin (By Cable).—Several hundred imperial Chinese troops attacked 60 Germans west of Paoiting. The Germans were hard pressed, fought a rearguard action and eventually drove the Chinese back. The Germans had one man killed and seven wounded. It is estimated that the Chinese lost 200 in killed and wounded.

London (By Cable).—The Foreign Office, though satisfied with what it is pleased to consider the immediate result of Count Von Waldsee's action, regarding the Chinese, is down with some suspicion. The officials here believe it would be far better for Von Waldsee not to withdraw his orders for the expedition, and to hold it over the heads of the Chinese until their professed submission materializes.

Two Girls Cremated.

Montgomery, Ala. (Special).—Bessie and Alice Wilkes, aged 16 and 18, respectively, were cremated in a fire at the home of their widowed mother, Mrs. Wilkes, at Prattville. The charred remains of one of the young girls was found in the hall. The other was found with a mattress over her head, which she placed there in endeavor to escape the flames. The mother, in saving the life of her blind son, forgot about her daughters.

Washington Honored Abroad. Berlin (By Cable).—United States Ambassador White and Mrs. White kept open house for American visitors in honor of Washington's Birthday. The American colony in Berlin celebrated the evening with a supper and dance at the Savoy Hotel. At all other American embassies in Europe except that in London there were similar celebrations. The usual one in London was omitted on account of mourning for the Queen.

Copenhagen (By Cable).—A semi-official communication relates that the statement published in London to the effect that Denmark has definitely refused the offer of the United States to purchase the Danish West Indies for 12,000,000 kroner are untrue. The negotiation for the sale are proceeding.

\$500,000 Fire at Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga. (Special).—Fire in the Markham House block resulted in a loss of \$500,000. Among the buildings destroyed were those of the Arnold Hat Company, the Draper-Goggins Shoe Company, the R. N. Fickett Paper Company and three new residences. The flames spread to buildings of the Gramling-Spalding Shoe Company, the McConnell-Christopher Dry Goods Company and the Binkers-Davis Hardware Company, which were burned. The fire was caused by an explosion of an oil tank.

All the Powers Agree.

Washington (Special).—Our government has now received assurances from nearly all the powers represented by military forces at Peking of their entire agreement with the United States government as to the expediency of resuming offensive military operations in China while the peace negotiations are in progress. Much apprehension has been expressed as to the outcome of the negotiations on the next point—amount and manner of payment of indemnities.

Dr. Mayo G. Smith, the inspiration of the character of The Doctor in Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad," died in Colwyn's Inns.

THE SENATE SUMMONED.

President McKinley Issues the Proclamation for an Executive Session.

Washington (Special).—The President issued the following proclamation calling a special session of the Senate for executive purposes:

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, Public interests require that the Senate of the United States be convened at 12 o'clock on the 4th day of March next to receive such communications as may be made by the Executive.

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the Senate of the United States to convene at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, on the 4th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, of which all persons who shall at that time be entitled to act as members of the body are hereby notified to take notice.

Witness my hand and the seal of the United States at Washington, the 23rd day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-fifth.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, By the President: JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

CONSTITUTION OF CUBA.

One Copy Sent to General Wood, Another Placed in Records of Convention.

Havana (By Cable).—The Cuban constitution first submitted by the General Committee to the Convention at the public session of January 21 was approved by the Convention, and a copy was sent to Governor General Wood and the other placed among the records of the Convention.

The attendance was not large, falling considerably short of that of the opening day and not equaling one-third of the many other public sessions. The members affixed their signatures, the president and vice-presidents leading off, the delegates following and the two secretaries signing last. Senator Cisneros created a sensation by refusing to sign. He said:

"Cuba is now independent, and I can see no reason for sending this constitution to the United States for acceptance. The United States government has no right to pass upon it for it is a distinctly Cuban document and was drawn up by the Cuban people, which has assumed the responsibility of establishing the Republic."

As the delegates retired Senator Tamayo remarked "We are all Cubans, Senator," and Senator Cisneros replied, "When the times come to fight the Americans we will fight them together."

Then he turned toward the press table and, shaking his fist at the American newspaper men, he said: "The Americans are like the monkey. When they see a banana they paw on a thing they never want to let go."

Subsequently he said he would sign the copy of the constitution that had been filed with the records of the Convention, but would wait until the other had been sent to Washington in the morning. He said that his name being attached to that also.

Senator Capote, president of the Convention, delivered the document to General Wood. The latter could not say whether he intended to forward it immediately to Washington or to wait until an agreement had been reached as to the future relation between Cuba and the United States.

DECIDED IN MRS. NATION'S FAVOR.

One Case Against Her for Saloon Smashing Dismissed by a Topeka Judge.

Topeka, Kan. (Special).—A decision favoring the defendant was rendered by Judge McCabe in the case against Mrs. Carrie Nation for smashing the Senate saloon two weeks ago.

Judge McCabe in dismissing the case held that, since Mrs. Nation had no right of inheritance taxes within six months after death of the executor of the will of the late Col. P. Huntington, she was entitled to the State \$665,000. The executor estimated that the tax which would be assessed against the State would amount to \$700,000, and a paying the tax last week a rebate of \$35,000 was secured. Much surprise was expressed yesterday at the amount of the tax which the executor has determined is due to the State. It indicated that the Huntington fortune approximated \$700,000.

Shot During an Initiation.

Kokomo, Ind. (Special).—Milton Haney was accidentally shot by a woman member of the local tribe of Daughters of Pocahontas in an initiation ceremony held at the lodgeroom. In mistake she used a revolver that had fallen from the pocket of a member of the one of the files with blank cartridges protruding from the occasion. The bullet struck Haney's shoulder, badly shattering it.

A Great Year for French Wines.

Paris (By Cable).—Official statistics estimate the French vintage of 1900 at 1,678,110,250 gallons, which is an increase of 513,347,498 gallons over 1899. The harvest is the biggest since 1875.

Consul Hay Is Cautious.

London (By Cable).—In an interview in this city, United States Consul Adelbert S. Hay, American representative at Pretoria, was generous in his praise of Christian De Wet. Mr. Hay said that he knew South Africa as well as the opinion of Mr. Hay the British will experience difficulty in capturing the Boer leader, as the latter knows well every inch of the country.

Mr. Hay was careful in expressing opinions as to the drift of the war, or the drift of peace proposals.

Congress Coming Home.

Washington (Special).—Minister Conger will leave Peking immediately for this country on 60 days' leave of absence. Commissioner Rockhill will have full power to conduct the negotiations now in progress. For some time past he has been anxious to get back to Iowa, but the opportunity has not presented itself until this moment. Now that the foreign ministers have satisfactorily settled the question of punishment of the offending Chinese officials and a new subject is to be taken up, it will be easy to pass the negotiations to Mr. Rockhill's hands.

Sword for Captain Evans.

Washington (Special).—The presentation of a sword to Captain Robley D. Evans, of the Navy, was the occasion of a speech by Speaker Henderson, of the House of Representatives, paying a glowing tribute to "Fighting Bob" and to the American war in general. The sword was presented by the people of Iowa in recognition of his command of the battleship Iowa during the battle of Santiago Bay. Speaker Henderson referred to the thrilling events of that naval engagement. Capt. Evans made a graceful reply to the presentation speech.

BIG STEAMER GOES DOWN.

122 Persons Probably Perish With the Rio Near San Francisco.

EXPLOSION FOLLOWS COLLISION.

Captain Ward, a North Carolinian, Goes Down With His Ship Trying to Save Passengers Engulfed a Short Time After Striking Obstruction—Italian Fishermen Give Valuable Aid.

San Francisco (Special).—The Pacific Mail Company's steamship City of Rio de Janeiro, while entering the harbor from the Orient in a heavy fog, struck a sunken rock and went down in about fifteen minutes in 30 fathoms of water off Fort Point.

A large number of lives are known to have been lost, but owing to the confusion following the terrible accident and the failure of those who managed to get ashore to report their safe arrival at the Merchants Exchange or the Pacific Mail offices it is impossible to fix the exact number of those who went down with the vessel, although it is said that more than 122 persons perished.

Capt. William Ward, the ship's master, an old employee of the company, went down with his ship.

Purser John Rooney, who had the passenger list and roster of the crew, is among the missing.

Ten bodies have been recovered—2 white women, 1 white man and 7 Chinese. The most prominent passenger on the steamer was Frederick Wildman, United States Consul-General at Hongkong, who was accompanied by Mrs. Wildman and two children. It is thought all were drowned.

As near as can be learned there were 207 people on board the Rio de Janeiro, as follows: Cabin passengers, 291; second cabin, 7; steerage (Chinese and Japanese), 58; officers and crew, 107. The following have been accounted for: Rescued, 79; bodies at the morgue, 10; total, 89; missing, 112.

Frederick Lindstrom gave the clearest idea of the sinking of the craft. He said the Rio struck Mile Rock, against which a stiff current was setting. The rock is in a line off Fort Point with Point Lobos and about two-thirds of a mile from the San Francisco wharves.

Lindstrom said the vessel struck head on, crushed in her bows and began to fill immediately.

At this juncture there is reported to have been some sort of an explosion, something similar to that which occurred when the ill-fated Colima plunged to the bottom of the Pacific off the Central American coast some years ago, taking down with her 180 souls. Men from the Rio found themselves in the water, struggling to grasp a piece of wreckage, and it seemed hours before boats from passing craft and a gasoline launch cruised among the floating wreckage and rescued the survivors.

San Francisco (Special).—So far as can be ascertained from reliable data 128 lives were lost in the wreck of the Pacific Mail steamer City of Rio de Janeiro. Some fishermen found a packet containing the papers of Purser Rooney. Among them was the passenger list and a bunch of cancelled tickets, and as there were names on the list whose cancellations did not appear among those recovered, it is assumed that they laid over either at Yokohama, Kobe or Honolulu. That they were not on the vessel at the time she went down is certain.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL BURNED.

Large Institution for Soldiers' Orphans at Scotland, Pa.

Chambersburg, Pa. (Special).—A fire, which had its origin in the electric light department of the Scotland Soldiers' Orphan Industrial School, destroyed the entire building, entailing a loss of at least \$2,000. The fire was as sudden as it was unexpected. Engineer C. E. Mickey observed flames shoot from the rear of the switchboard, and almost immediately the room was in flames. A fierce gale was blowing at the time, and the sparks were carried to the administration building and to the roofs of houses in Scotland, half a mile away. The administration building was saved by the fire brigade of the school.

In drawing the fire from under the boilers to prevent explosion, Engineer Mickey was badly burned, but there were no other casualties.

HUNTINGTON LEFT \$700,000?

The Amount of Inheritance Tax Paid by the Estate Indicates This.

New York (Special).—In order to take advantage of the 5 per cent. rebate which is allowed upon the payment of inheritance taxes within six months after death of the executor of the will of the late Col. P. Huntington, she was entitled to the State \$665,000. The executor estimated that the tax which would be assessed against the State would amount to \$700,000, and a paying the tax last week a rebate of \$35,000 was secured. Much surprise was expressed yesterday at the amount of the tax which the executor has determined is due to the State. It indicated that the Huntington fortune approximated \$700,000.

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FIVE BURNED TO DEATH.

George James and His Four Daughters Cremated in Their Home.

Versailles, Ind. (Special).—George James and his four young daughters were burned to death in their farmhouse four miles from Versailles. Mrs. James and another daughter were away from home.

Just before daylight James arose and built a wood fire in the kitchen range. In some unexplainable manner the stove fell apart, and in a short time the house was filled with smoke. The fire spread quickly. It first awoke the four girls, who slept on the second floor. They rushed down stairs to their father's room and tried to get him to leave. Apparently, he was stupefied by the smoke and refused to move.

A 12-year-old son, who had been sleeping in a room on the second floor, escaped through a rear door, and finding it impossible to get back, owing to the rapid spread of the fire, rushed to a window of his father's room and broke in the glass with his fist. He begged those inside to climb through the broken glass, but they made no reply, so he ran to the farm bell, which he rang for several minutes, arousing the neighbors. When help arrived the house was a mass of flames, and in a few moments the whole structure fell, burying the five inmates.

TRAINS CRASH HEAD ON.

Ten Persons Killed and Twenty-five Were Injured.

Trenton, N. J. (Special).—A collision occurred on the Amboy division of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Ruslingsiding, near Bordentown, and about eight miles south of Trenton. The "Nellie Bly" express from New York for Atlantic City, collided with passenger train No. 330, running from Camden to Trenton. The number of deaths in this case is 10, and the number of injured upward of 25. The wounded were distributed among the three Trenton hospitals. Other wounded passengers were taken to Cooper Hospital, at Camden. Among the killed was Walter Earl, engineer of the express, and James Birmingham, haggardmaster of the local train. Most of the killed were Italians. Michael McGraw, fireman on the "Nellie Bly," was badly injured, but is expected to recover.

The scene at the wreck is described by those who were present as horrifying. The two trains collided at full speed, and both engines were completely demolished. The forward car of each train, in both instances a combination baggage car, was entirely demolished also, and, in addition to the horror, the wreckage