

THE RUSSIANS IN A BIG FIGHT.

They Have a Battle With Several Thousand Chinese.

RUSSIANS LOSE SEVERAL OFFICERS.

Three Regiments of East Siberian Troops in an Engagement With Several Thousand Chinese Troops—Many Men Killed and Wounded—The Chinese Retreat After Losing Heavily—Prince Tuan to Be Banished.

Berlin (By Cable).—A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from St. Petersburg says that fighting is reported to have occurred between the First, Second and Third East Siberian Rifle Regiments and several thousand of Chinese troops between Kobantsy and Sin-Min-Ting. The Russians lost a captain and several men killed and many men wounded. The Chinese lost heavily and are treated, with the Russians pursuing them. The date of the engagement is not mentioned in the dispatch.

Another dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Peking, dated Thursday, April 4, says the Chinese plenipotentiaries have agreed on the punishment of the guilty principal officials to be demanded by the foreign ministers on account of the murder of 242 persons, missionaries and their wives and children.

Prince Tuan's fate has finally been decided. His death sentence will be commuted to banishment to Turkestan. The list of guilty Chinese provincial authorities includes only four to be beheaded and several degradations. The Chinese commissioners are surprised that the guilty officials should escape with such light punishment. The informant of the correspondent of the Associated Press added "and well they may."

The Frankfurter Zeitung published another letter from Peking containing a verbatim account of the interview between Dr. Mann von Schwarzenstein, German Minister to China, and Chinese Prince. The most interesting part in the interview is the Prince's open admission that if the allied troops are now withdrawn the Boxers would immediately appear in strong force.

Washington (Special).—The determination of the Russian Government not to press to a conclusion the negotiations begun some time ago with the Chinese Government in regard to Manchuria has naturally given great gratification to the Government of the United States. The President is understood to recognize in this act of the Great Power a proof of his sincere regard for the peace of the powers now engaged in negotiations in China and his determination to do nothing to impede the speedy and satisfactory conclusion of these negotiations.

BIG GRAIN ELEVATOR BURNED.

About 800,000 Bushels of Wheat and Corn Are Destroyed.

St. Louis (Special).—Sparks from a switch engine set fire to the big elevator on the river front at the foot of Bidwell street, owned by the St. Louis Elevator and Storage Company, and within less than two hours the building was reduced to ashes, entailing a loss of nearly \$500,000. H. C. Harwick, president of the company, said the building and the contents, which consisted of about 800,000 bushels of wheat and corn, were fully insured. It was his opinion that the loss of the grain would not affect the local market. The burned elevator was the second largest in St. Louis, and was used for storage purposes by others than members of the St. Louis Elevator and Storage Company, but the latter just at this time happened to own most of the grain. The building contained 200,000 bushels of wheat and 300,000 bushels of corn, and the loss of only a small quantity of high-class cereals was stored there.

Suicide of Evangelist's Daughter.

New York (Special).—Mary Rivers, 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Rivers, evangelists of Jersey City, committed suicide by taking carbolic acid. The parents insist that they know of no reason why she should have ended her life. They were away from home in an adjoining town when the girl took the poison, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers having gone to pray for a person whom they needed prayer, and did not know of their daughter's act until they returned later in the day.

Damage by Floods in New England.

Boston (Special).—From all over New England reports come of damage done by floods, which have been threatening for several days to equal those of 1866. Bridges have been swept away, railroads inundated, mills ruined, and the flooding of cellars is a common complaint. While the greatest damage seems to have been done in Maine, the Merrimac river in New Hampshire and Massachusetts is proving to be as turbulent as any.

Eighty Men Per Troop.

Washington (Special).—An order has been issued by the War Department, directing that the five new cavalry regiments (excepting the Fifteenth Cavalry, under orders to the Philippines) be organized on a basis of 80 men per troop. Under the elastic provisions of the Army Reorganization act a troop of cavalry may consist of from 65 to 100 men. The War Department has concluded that a strength of 80 men per troop will meet all military requirements.

Re-elected Mayor of Raleigh.

Raleigh, N. C. (Special).—The first regular primary in the State under the new law was held here Tuesday by the Democrats for Mayor, other city officers, and Aldermen. There were two tickets. The administration won by a large majority. A. M. Powell, the present incumbent, was re-elected Mayor.

Stabbed by a Madman.

Sunbury, Pa. (Special).—Dr. Johnson, a physician in the State Hospital at the Insane, at Danville, Montour county, was stabbed to death by an insane Italian patient named Capello. Capello became unmanageable during the afternoon and threw the institution into confusion. The other patients became alarmed and their cries could be heard some distance away. An attendant finally subdued the Italian, and Dr. Johnson was stooping over him taking his temperature he plunged his knife into the doctor's breast three times.

Jews Massacred in Persia.

Constantinople (By Cable).—A dispatch from Teheran says that religious disturbances have been renewed in the Persian Capital. A Moslem sheik said Ibrahim harangued worshippers as they were leaving the mosque, severely denouncing the Jews and urging an attack on the people of that creed. Many were aroused by Ibrahim's utterances, and he led them against the Jewish quarters, where the mob of fanatics indulged in indiscriminate wrecking, plunder and slaughter.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

Domestic.

Governor Stone, of Pennsylvania, appointed A. M. Brown and John K. Murphy recorders for Pittsburgh and Allegheny City, respectively, under the Ripper Bill.

Percy I. Johnson, a Bridgeport, Ct., lawyer, who defrauded, returned from Mexico and voluntarily went back to Bridgeport to face the charges.

Capt. F. A. Rice, administrator for the estate of his brother, William March, Rice, of New York, dropped dead in a railroad car in Texas.

Twenty-eight buildings were burned, involving a loss of \$250,000, in Lisbon Falls, Me., the town having no fire apparatus.

I. H. Moyer was acquitted in Richmond of the charge of murdering Howard Epps, a fellow-workman, at the Union Depot, near New York, dropped dead in a railroad car in Texas.

The bill for the paroling of the notorious Younger Brothers, now serving life sentences in Minnesota, was killed.

William Bradley filed into the fire at his home, near Acquahan, Fairfax county, Va.

The wife of Rev. Benjamin F. De Costa died suddenly at her home in New York.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee has recovered from his recent indisposition.

General Samuel Thomas, president of the Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville Railroad, confirms reports of a combination of the Southern Railway, the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton, the Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville and the Cincinnati Southern.

The famous Gainsborough portrait of the Duchess of Devonshire, valued at \$5000, which was stolen 25 years ago from a London gallery, was recovered through a Chicago detective agency.

The Interstate Commerce Commission sat in New York to hear charges of New York lumber dealers brought against the Norfolk and Western.

Charles L. Miller, indicted in Newark, N. J., on a dozen charges of forgery and uttering forged notes, was committed in default of bail.

The steamer Chester W. Chapin, of the New Haven Steamship Line, went ashore as she was feeling her way out of Boston harbor during a storm. Her passengers were taken off and sent to New York by rail.

The Philadelphia, Trenton and New York Railroad Company was incorporated at Trenton to build a trolley line through Trenton as part of the proposed road from New York to Philadelphia.

A coroner's jury in Lynchburg, Va., justified the shooting of a negro who, while delirious, had escaped from the small-pox hospital and was running amok.

The appellate division of the Supreme Court in New York dissolved the injunction forbidding the Goulds to pay over to the Castellanes the full amount of Anna Gould's income.

John Meyers and Ignatz Miller were arrested as they were about to carry \$100,000 worth of lace from the importing house of Joseph Rothschilds in New York.

The coroner's jury in Trenton placed the blame for the disastrous Nellie Bly collision on Engineer Thompson and Conductor Sapp, of the local train.

General George T. Anderson, a noted Confederate commander, died in Amston, Ala., aged 77 years.

Robert Clark Stripling, a young lawyer, died suddenly in Newport News of heart failure.

Foreign.

The German press continues to deplore the Emperor's utterances and the fact that he had the barracks of the Alexander Regiment built close to his quarters. Lieut. Guards may thus afford him better protection.

The Chinese authorities have agreed on the punishment of the guilty provincial officials demanded by the foreign ministers on account of the murders of 242 persons. Prince Tuan, it is said, will be banished to Turkestan.

The Big Sprudel spring at Mannheim has ceased to flow, and the people blame the government for artesian borings in the vicinity, which it is claimed have caused the trouble.

A Russian regiment had a hard fight with Chinese troops near Kobantsy, and surrendered himself. A captain, and several officers were wounded.

London has information that a deal is on foot for the consolidation of the great banking interests of Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City.

Census returns show a decrease of one million in the population of India on account of the famine.

A mob made a demonstration at Geneva, Switzerland.

The Big Bull Run, in London, immortalized by Dickens, is to be torn down.

The delayed Allan liner Buenos Ayres arrived at Greencock.

Dr. C. Stofioff, ex-premier of Bulgaria, is dead.

Russian officials in Paris say that it was never intended that the Russian squadron should remain at Toulon during the Franco-Italian festivities, and that no political significance attaches to the departure of all but two ships, which will remain to greet President Loubet.

The foreign Ministers in Peking are considering proposals of financial experts for raising sufficient sum for payment of the Chinese indemnity. Some of the powers are averse to compelling China to contract a loan for the payment of the indemnity.

The German Minister to China says that Russia will not abandon Prince Tuan to punishment because she owes Manchuria to him.

General Chaffee cabled the Department that the allies propose to erect a series of fortified posts between Peking to the sea.

The condition of Waldeck-Rousseau, the French Premier, is critical.

The German imperial 3 per cent. loan offered yesterday was oversubscribed. Subscriptions were received from the United States, France, England and Belgium.

The envoys in Peking have practically arranged everything except the indemnities, the British, German and Japanese having not yet handed in their claims.

The Chinese Government has formally notified Russia that China, owing to the opposition of the other powers, cannot sign the Manchurian agreement.

The flagship of Prince Henry of Russia grounded east of Arcona, but was subsequently hoisted and reached Kiel under her own steam.

Financial.

The Standard Oil Company has made a reduction of a cent a barrel in the price of crude oil to \$1.25.

The value of securities quoted at the London Stock Exchange is \$7,600,000,000, exclusive of foreign loans.

The International Steel Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000, has been incorporated at Trenton, N. J.

The American Car and Foundry Company declared the regular quarterly dividend of 14 per cent. in the preference and 1/2 of 1 per cent. on the common.

BRIDGE GAVE WAY AND CAR GOES DOWN.

Thirty Passengers Are Injured in the Crash at Syracuse, N. Y.

DROP OF THIRTY FEET INTO MUD.

Several Persons and a Horse and a Loaded Lumber Wagon Fall With the Car Into the Oswego Canal—Had the Canal Been Filled With Water, Many of the People in the Car Would Have Been Drowned.

Syracuse, N. Y. (Special).—While a car on the old East Side suburban line of the Syracuse Rapid Transit Company was crossing the James street bridge over the Oswego Canal, the heart of the city about 5:30 p. m., the bridge suddenly gave way, dropping the car and its 40 passengers to the canal bed 30 feet below. Several persons who were crossing the bridge at the time went down with the car, while a horse and loaded lumber wagon piled on top of the heap.

About 30 persons were injured. It is not believed that any deaths will result, although there are reports that several were very seriously injured.

Had the canal been filled with water the result would have been terrible. The car struck the towpath end on first, and then slid off into the mud at the canal bottom, where it stuck. The water would have been deep enough to cover all but a few windows and the front door, and many of the passengers would have been killed.

When the crash came persons on the street called the fire department. Ladders were quickly lowered and the injured carried up and sent to their homes or to hospitals in carriages and ambulances.

For more than a year there have been criticisms of the condition of the bridge. The bridge was about 80 feet long and 60 feet wide. It was broken sharp off at both embankments, the entire structure going into the canal.

TURNED TABLES ON HIGHWAYMEN.

Nervy Conductor Holden Shot Two Negroes Who Tried to Hold Him Up.

Ceredo, W. Va. (Special).—It was scarcely breaking day when Conductor M. A. Wellman, of the N. & W., left his train southbound. He was not more than a hundred yards from the hotel when a gruff voice shouted, "Halt! Hands up!" and two burly negroes sprang towards him out of the darkness, with pistols in their hands. There was no time to think, but Wellman's nerve did not leave him for an instant. When his hands came out of his pockets a pistol was in each one of them, and before his assailants could pull a trigger the bullets of the nervy Wellman began to bark. The negroes turned and ran, and he looked as though they might have been aiming at him. Wellman, however, shot to hit, and in a trice he had brought both to the pavement seriously injured, one shot through and through, the bones of the other's thigh shattered by two bullets. The men were turned over to the local authorities, and Wellman caught his train.

Buffalo Men Show Grit.

Buffalo, N. Y. (Special).—At a meeting of incorporators of the Pan-American Exposition, President J. G. Millard stated that the American Association would meet all obligations covering the completion of the Exposition except about \$500,000. After the recent failure of Congress to grant a loan of \$500,000 to the Exposition, Director-General Wm. L. Buchanan had stated that this action would in no way affect the carrying out of the project in the fullest as planned. This assertion was justified by the results of the meeting of the incorporators, when within an hour over \$500,000 was subscribed.

Conductor on Bail.

Trenton, N. J. (Special).—Conductor Edward W. Sapp, whom a coroner's jury found guilty of negligence in connection with the collision of his train with the "Nellie Bly" Atlantic City Express, on February 21, came to Trenton and surrendered himself. He was released by Judge Relistab in \$2000 bail to await the grand jury's action.

Strikes in the South.

Birmingham, Ala. (Special).—The 400 cotton pickers who have been on strike several days at Blossburg, in a matter of a difference regarding the charges for yardage work, have returned to work. Thirty linemen in the employ of a telephone company here have quit work because the management put negroes to work with them.

\$100,000,000 Added to Capital.

Philadelphia, Pa. (Special).—By the largest vote ever cast in the history of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company the shareholders of that corporation re-elected the old board of directors and authorized an increase of \$100,000,000 in the present capital stock. The number of shares voted was 1,793,442, representing 59.18 per cent. a greater percentage than any previous election.

Increased Fertilizer Sales.

Raleigh, N. C. (Special).—The State Commissioner of Agriculture reports an increase of 30 per cent. in the sales of fertilizers for the season as compared with last. He says this indicates a largely increased cotton acreage, though there is a tendency on the part of farmers to use a larger quantity of fertilizer per acre.

STEALINGS IN MANILA. AGUINALDO TO COMMAND PEACE.

Manila (By Cable).—Lieut. Fredk. Boyer, of the Thirty-ninth Volunteer Infantry, chief commissary for the 2d district of the Department of Southern Luzon, has arrived at Calamba, province of Laguna, where he has been charged with misappropriating fifty cases of bacon and with other irregularities.

It is alleged that the shortage in the commissary depot at Manila aggregates \$185,000.

In contrast with the scandals in the commissary department, the collection and administration of the insular funds are matters for congratulation. The accounts of the custom house, internal revenue department, and license office have been inspected and are reported perfectly straight.

India Depopulated by Famine.

London (By Cable).—The depopulation of India through famine and cholera is assuming alarming proportions. The latest figures from Simla say the census for the United States to Korea from 1873 to 1897, died at Grace Hospital here. For a year or more, in fact since his return from the Orient, when his health was shattered, Mr. Sil has been failing, and since Christmas has wasted rapidly away. Mr. Sil was born in Black Rock, N. Y., in 1841, was minister to Korea during the Chinese-Japanese War, and his legation was the refuge of many of the Korean court dignitaries after the sensational assassination of the queen of that kingdom.

FIGHT WITH BURGLARS.

Ohio Night Watchman and a Citizen Overpowered by the Robbers.

Chardon, Ohio (Special).—Half a dozen robbers threw open the safe of the Citizens' Savings Bank here, and after a fight with Night Watchman Pomeroy and another man, succeeded in making their escape on a hand-car. They got about \$125 in money and missed \$3000.

The night watchman discovered the men at work in the bank. He was seized, bound and gagged, but not until he had shot one of the burglars. Dr. Hudson, who lives near the bank, was aroused by the noise and came to the scene. He was also seized and tied hand and foot. Three charges of dynamite were required to blow off the safe door.

Cashier C. L. Smith, of the bank, said: "The robbers got \$125 in gold, and in certificates held against the bank by individuals and \$2500 or \$3000 worth of mortgages and other securities belonging to individuals. None of the paper taken is negotiable. There was \$3000 in currency in an inner vault, which they did not get. There were no records of the bank were not disturbed."

Pomeroy, the night watchman, is badly used up. After he shot one of the burglars he was unmercifully clubbed over the head. After being bound and gagged the watchman was dragged into the bank. He lay there a witness to all the operations. Two men charged with being implicated in the robbery were arrested at Willoughby and brought here. A bundle of bank checks, some old coins and other articles were found in their pockets and were identified by Cashier Smith.

BIG STORM IN PENNSYLVANIA.

B. & O. and Pennsylvania Trains Delayed By Snow.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—Pittsburg was the center of a snowstorm that began early in the morning, continued with great force until after noon, doing thousands of dollars worth of damage. It made practically useless for a time every electric wire in the city, suspended all street car travel, and in the early hours isolated the city from the outside world.

Heavy rain fell before the storm broke, and all reports from several points tell of rising streams, which may bring about a flood here and below. The losses cannot be fixed, but conservative estimates place the amount at about \$250,000 and \$300,000. Telegraph and telephone companies are the heaviest losers.

The storm passed outward and all the suburban towns suffered proportionately with this city.

HARRISON RE-ELECTED MAYOR OF CHICAGO.

Chicago (Special).—Carter H. Harrison, Dem., was Tuesday re-elected Mayor of Chicago for the third time. The total vote was 282,477, or 23,000 less than the vote two years ago. Harrison polled 150,952, or 7000 more than he ever did before. He won by 28,257. This shows how great the stay-at-home Republican vote is.

Mayor-elect Harrison's plurality is 41,059. Last fall in the Presidential campaign the city gave McKinley a plurality of 7621, but Samuel Aleschler, the Democratic nominee for Governor, ran ahead of Bryan and carried the city by 16,135.

THE KING'S CIVIL LIST.

Proposals of the Committee Call for \$335,000 Additional-Labouchere Presents a Minority Report.

London (By Cable).—The report of the House of Commons committee appointed to consider changes in the civil list—appropriation for the King—recommended that the new list be fixed at about £470,000 (\$3,350,000), divided as follows:

Private purse.....£110,000 (\$850,000)

Salaries of household and retired allowances.....125,000 (925,000)

Expenses of household and retired allowances.....103,000 (765,000)

Works.....20,000 (150,000)

Royal bounty, alms and special services.....13,000 (97,500)

Sum total.....\$3,350,000

The report recommends an annuity of £20,000 (\$150,000) to the Duke of Cornwall and York, £10,000 (\$75,000) to the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and £6,000 (\$45,000) to each of the King's two daughters, The Queen's eldest daughter, the Princess Royal, £2,000 (\$15,000) and an annuity of £3,000 (\$22,500) is provided for the Duchess of Cornwall and York in the event of her surviving the Duke.

The proposals for the civil list show a net increase of £7,000 (\$52,500).

Henry Labouchere, as a member of the committee, has presented a minority report declaring that no increase is necessary.

CUBANS TO REJECT AMENDMENT.

Very Little Hope Now of Platt's Proposals Being Accepted.

Havana (Special).—The defeat of the compromise propositions of Senator Quesada and Secretary of State Tamm on the Platt amendment is believed to be the death knell of the amendment, so far as the constitutional convention is concerned. The aspect of affairs seems so serious to some people that a society of Americans has been organized for mutual protection in the event of an emergency.

The change in the situation is a surprise, even to the best-informed Americans, as only ten days ago there seemed to be no doubt that a policy of conciliation would prevail, and that the Platt amendment would be substantially accepted. This view was based on opinions informally expressed by some of the leading men in Cuba, who appear to have been unable, however, to stand out against popular outcry.

HOUNDS TRAILING BANK ROBBERS.

Somerset, O. (Special).—The Sheriff of Perry county and a posse, with a pack of bloodhounds, are in pursuit of a gang of seven robbers who wrecked the State Bank of Somerset, stole \$5000, appropriated two lively rigs, held a posse of citizens at bay, and escaped in the face of a heavy fire. Bonds and securities to the amount of \$3000 and \$500 in gold were overlocked by the bandits. The bank was fully insured and its business will not be interrupted.

THE JEFFERSON TO BE REBUILT.

Richmond, Va. (Special).—It is said that Mr. George Armes, president of the Jefferson Hotel Company, has stated that the Jefferson Hotel will be rebuilt. The work of construction will probably be begun at an early date. Plans have not taken shape as yet, it is said, but the company having the matter in charge will hurry the work of rebuilding as much as possible.

ST. LOUIS COMMISSION TO MEET.

Washington (Special).—Ex-Senators Thurston, McBride and Lindsay, ex-Representative Allen, of Mississippi, and Mr. John M. Bland, of Indiana, five members of the recently appointed St. Louis Exposition Commission, called upon the President Wednesday. Mr. Allen remarked humorously after the interview that the Commission had simply called to thank the President, on behalf of the country, for the wise selections he had made. The five members of the Commission took the oath of office at the State Department and received their commissions.

WOMEN FIGHT IN OKLAHOMA.

Wichita, Kan. (Special).—Because she lost a case in court Mrs. Ellen Seigler went to the farm of Mrs. Daughson, near Newkirk, O. T., and challenged Mrs. Daughson to fight a duel. The challenge was accepted, and the two women stood 50 feet apart and fired four shots at each other with pistols. Two shots took effect in the breast of Mrs. Seigler, and she now lies mortally wounded at her home. Mrs. Seigler was tried in the District Court in Newkirk for malicious trespass upon the property of Mrs. Daughson, and the judge fined her \$50.

DOCTOR HAS SOME FEW NIGHTS.

Indianapolis, Ind. (Special).—The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided that a licensed practicing physician is not legally bound to attend any patient for whom he is called. The case came up from Montgomery county, where Dr. George Wedding refused to attend the wife of George D. Hurley, although called on three times, the last time by a preacher, who offers to pay the fees in advance. It was charged that the doctor's death was due to lack of a physician's aid, and the doctor was sued for \$10,000 damages.

LIVE NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Mr. Allen Will Return to Porto Rico.

Charles H. Allen, governor of Porto Rico, who arrived in Washington Saturday, had an hour's conference with President McKinley. Great interest was manifested in Governor Allen's visit on account of the rumors that have been rife ever since he sailed from San Juan that it was his intention to relinquish his post in the island. After the conference, however, Governor Allen announced that he would not resign, and would return to his duties about the first week in May, after settling up some private affairs in Boston. It is pretty well understood that Governor Allen came to Washington in the hope that the President would relieve him of his duties in Porto Rico, and that he asked the President to do so, but the President prevailed upon him to continue at the head of the administration of the affairs of the island. Governor Allen enjoys the confidence of the President to a very high degree.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL KNOX.

President McKinley announced to the members of his Cabinet that Mr. Philander C. Knox, of Pittsburg, has accepted the Attorney Generalship, which was offered him last week. Mr. Knox has been one of the most prominent lawyers in Western Pennsylvania for years. He is a young man and appears to be younger than the other members of the President's Cabinet. He will seem like a boy. However, few members of the Cabinet are more competent than Mr. Knox will prove to be. He has been successful to a marked degree in his corporate law and his legal knowledge and ability make him a successor to Mr. Griggs. Mr. Knox began his career as a lawyer early in the '80s. He met with success from the start, and there have been few cases involving corporations in Pennsylvania during the past 22 years in which Mr. Knox has not figured.

PLANS FOR CANAL.

The story that a company organized by J. Pierpont Morgan had offered to construct the Panama canal and give this Government every concession desired if the Nicaragua project is given up, has been practically admitted by State Department officials to be true. While the officials are not willing to admit that they are familiar with the details of the scheme they acknowledge that the main facts are true, and do not deny that the plans are well under way. The proposed canal is to be constructed by Mr. Morgan during his recent visit to this city. It is said that the President is inclined to regard the matter favorably. Despite denials issued from Wall street, it is known, as stated in these dispatches yesterday, that Mr. J. P. Morgan is planning to secure control of the Panama canal, with the ultimate purpose of either turning it over to this Government for its completion or of operating it as a purely American concern.

PLAGUE CASES IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Surgeon General Wyman, of the Marine Hospital Service, has at last made public the result of the recent Federal investigation of the plague situation at San Francisco. It is to the effect that since January 1 of this year there have been 28 cases of the plague there, all fatal, the details of which are as follows: One on January 6, two on January 15, and one each on February 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12 and March 2. As had previously been reported in Secretary of the Treasury's last annual report to Congress, the first case was a case of plague in San Francisco during 1900, making in all 42 cases since the first one was discovered, on March 6, 1900.

GAGE BUYS SHORT-TERM BONDS.

In accordance with Secretary Gage's announcement that he would buy from time to time the short-term bonds, the Treasury Department has purchased \$2,000,000 Government short bonds on practically the same basis as the 2 per cent. of 100%. Exact figures cannot be given, for the details have not been completed, but it is practically certain that the Secretary has purchased himself of the opportunity to purchase bonds in accordance with his announcement.

CAPITAL NEWS IN GENERAL.

President McKinley and the other officials at Washington have implicit faith in the Zar's policy as to Manchuria, and that he is desirous of preserving the concert of the powers.

Secretary Cortelyou is busily engaged in arranging for the President's extensive tour through the West.

No change will be made in the office of assistant secretary of the navy before next autumn. Mr. Hackett, although entering the office with the stipulation that he should remain only until March 4 last, has consented to remain as acting secretary until November next.

A committee representing the National Civil Service Reform League called on the President and submitted charges against several Federal officials.

The Navy Department appointed a board to inquire into the availability of wireless telegraphy for the naval service.

Only the Cramps and the Union Iron Works of San Francisco submitted bids to build the new cruiser Milwaukee.

Lloyd C. Griscom, American Charge at Constantinople, has arranged for the settlement of this Government's long-standing claims against Turkey.

Postal receipts for February in fifty cities show a gain of \$451,151, or 13.2 per cent., as compared with those of the same month a year ago.

Mr. J. M. Langley, representing the Merchants' Association of New York, testified before the Industrial Commission in Washington that the classification of freight rates is absolutely in the hands of the railroads, and that the Interstate Commerce Commission is powerless to act.

OUR NEW POSSESSIONS.

The Discussion, a newspaper in Havana, has been suppressed by Governor-General Wood for publishing an illustration representing a Cuban soldier being crucified.

A number of important surrenders of Filipino leaders have been reported.

The wholesale grocery dealers of Manila report that the alleged consignment scandals were commenced by Lieutenant Colonel Goodnell, of the Marine Corps, reported the surrender of the insurgents at Olangapo.

Nineteen officers, 173 men, 133 rifles, 9 revolvers, Pablo Teson's command, surrendered at San Fernando Saturday and took oath.

Private Edward M. Brodie and James C. Coffey, Troop C, Third Cavalry, were recently convicted by court-martial at Manila, P. I., of murder, and sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for life.

The transport Kilpatrick sailed for Manila from San Francisco with the headquarters of the Third Battalion of the First Infantry.

The Ward Line Mexico arrived at New York from Havana with the first cargo of tobacco on which there was no export duty.

PENNSYLVANIA NEWS.

The Latest Happenings Gathered From All Over the State.

The shooting of Mrs. Emily Keck, formerly of Allentown, after she had alighted from a trolley car near her home, at Sheik, during the arrest of Mrs. Alice Hitchings, her former friend, has revealed a most remarkable story. It appears that Mrs. Hitchings was a most intimate friend of her victim and had assisted her pecuniarily in conducting a millinery shop, although Mrs. Keck failed in the venture. Recently her friendly relations ceased, and Mrs. Keck took up her home with her sister, who was then living in South Bethlehem, but has since removed to Siegfried. Mrs. Hitchings followed her alonely daily, pleading for a renewal of friendship on the occasion of a trolley car conductor had to threaten to put her off the car, so boisterous had she become. Recently Mrs. Keck's brother-in-law met her at the trolley car each night so as to prevent Mrs. Hitchings from alighting. Thursday night, however, for an unavailing reason he failed to meet her, and the shooting followed. Mrs. Keck's friends say that she owes Mrs. Hitchings nothing; that the latter had advanced her some money, but that Mrs. Keck paid it back and has a receipt for the same. When Mrs. Hitchings was brought to jail she denied all knowledge of the shooting.

An empty chamber in a 38-caliber revolver saved the life of Emil Glocker, a young Alleghenian, who tried to commit suicide in the public square. He had placed the weapon to his ear and pulled the trigger. A second effort was stopped by Police Superintendent Glenn when he saw the bullet in the air, and wrenched the weapon from him. When taken into the station it was found he had swallowed some poison, which was pumped out of his stomach.

While engaged in adjusting a revolving buzzsaw in the saw mill of Kulp & Co., of Lewisburg, Foreman Charles Wagner fell forward. In his attempt to save himself the wrist of his right arm came in contact with the saw and the hand was severed in an instant. Wagner immediately picked up the severed hand, walked to the telephone in the office and summoned a physician to his home. He then walked home and had his injured arm dressed.

The body of Lois Huges, the Chinaman, was murdered by robbers in his laundry at Lancaster. It was turned over to his brother-in-law, Lee Yung Lee, who is an expert mechanic in the Baldwin Locomotive Works, at Philadelphia. A boy has told the police he saw three masked men break into the laundry the night of the murder. There is no further clue.

John Reeser, of North York, is lying in a badly wounded condition, the result of a collision at the foot of Cemetery Hill, on North George street, with a horse and buggy. Mr. Reeser is employed as a hostler at the Central Hotel, and rides a bicycle to and from his work. Reeser was on his way to the hotel, and when at the foot of the hill collided with a horse and buggy. He was rendered unconscious by the collision.

Colonel M. Guffey, of Pittsburg, has drilled in another gusher near Beaumont, Tex. The oil, when struck, shot up in a solid column 100 feet over the top of the derrick, but a gale valve had been put on it so that the flow was controlled, and the new gusher is the equal of the famous Lucas well.

While sifting a shaft in the Eddystone Print Works, Patrick Brock, clothing caught in a cogwheel and was torn from his body. Bonner saved his life by ducking his head beneath the shafting and leaping to the floor, a distance of 20 feet.

Judge R. W. Archel appointed Edward R. W. Searle, of Susquehanna county, to be clerk of the Federal Court at Middleburg, in Pennsylvania. Mr. Searle is a member of the Susquehanna county bar. The position is worth about \$3500 a year.

August Ulrich, the 4-year-old son of David Ulrich, of West Hazleton, tried to pull off the boot of a boarder when the boot suddenly slipped from the foot. The child fell backward into a tub of hot water and was so badly scalded that he died in half an hour.

A wagon containing Mrs. Evaline Scull and her two daughters, and a Mr. Hickman was struck at Chester by a Darby and Wilmington trolley car. Mrs. Scull was badly injured. The wagon was smashed.

Mrs. Sarah Coover, of Mechanicsburg, Saturday celebrated her one hundred and third birthday. Mrs. Coover is still very lively and cheerful and her only child, a daughter, is a fine young girl. She wears glasses only when she reads.

Reed and Samuel Anderson, father and son, narrowly escaped death by asphyxiation at Lancaster. They had left the gas turned on and were unconscious when found.

Negotiations have been concluded by the Goodyear Brothers for the purchase of a valuable tract of coal land in Clearfield county, near Clearfield, Coal Company. The consideration was \$220,000.

After being a fugitive from justice for over a year, Levi L. Kreider was taken into custody in Marietta on the charges of passing forged checks, false pretense, larceny, desertion and defrauding landlords.

Amos Martin, of Sharon, celebrated his 81st birthday anniversary. He was born in Scotland in 1797 and was twice married. Two years ago, unassisted, he built a brick cistern, and follows the occupation of a cobbler.

The children of the late Nicholas Funston, who was killed by his horse plunging over an embankment while driving from Muncy, La. Lairdville, have brought suit against Moreland township for \$16,000 damages.

J. M. Nichols, of Jersey Shore, killed the first swan that has been seen in that locality for 75 years. The bird was snow white, measuring nearly 8 feet from tip to tip and weighing 30 pounds.

Miss Laure