

NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL.

TESTING ARMOR PLATE.

Most Important Test Ever Made of Resistance Power of Battleship.

As the result of the ballistic test that took place at Indian Head on the 4th, 625 tons of heavy armor plate, valued at about \$400,000, from the possession of the Carnegie company, of Pittsburgh, and was accepted by the government as the armor of the battleship Iowa. The plate that so successfully passed this large group of armor was manufactured under the new double forged process, which is owned by that company, and is the first plate of that kind to be fired at in an acceptance test. The resistance of the plate was a surprise to every one present, and was pronounced by Capt. Sigsbee, in charge, to be the best heavy armor plate ever tested at Indian Head.

The shots were fired at 250 yards, at right angles to the plate, to secure the normal impact. The first was a 500-pound Carpentier projectile from a 10-inch gun, driven by 140 pounds of Dupont's Brown primative powder. It struck the plate with a velocity of 1,432 feet per second, or with an energy of 741,000 foot-pounds. The projectile was driven into the plate about six inches, and not a single injury to the backing was discovered, after a careful examination, save the losing of seven bolts connecting the projection dock with the armor. This was not considered serious at first.

The second shot was also from a 10-inch gun, but the charge was increased to 136 pounds, which increased the velocity to 1,562 feet per second, so that it struck with an energy of 931,000 foot-pounds. This shot also passed itself on the plate without creating a sign of a crack or injury, or straining the frame work. There was not a bulge in the plate or frame of the vessel. A single bolt, however, was driven out.

The British Government has been informed that an American representative will make an investigation, and it is believed that the inquiry will be more thorough and the results more satisfactory than they would have been had the first American representative, one from Hong Kong, says the leader of the Ku Cheng massacre has been captured by the authorities. The total number of persons thus far arrested for participation in the outrages at Ku Cheng, is 139, of whom 23 have been convicted.

The investigation of the United States government will be made with the co-operation of a Chinese representative. France has already made an independent investigation. The investigation is expected to be made by some official now on the Chinese coast. It will probably take a month to reach Cheng Tu, which is the capital of the interior province of Szechuan, and lies some 1,500 miles from the nearest ocean port.

WILL ACT ALONE.

Will Make an Investigation into the Cheng Tu Riots.

The United States Government has decided upon an independent investigation of the destruction of American Christian missions at Cheng Tu, China, by rioting Chinese. This decision is a result of Great Britain's delay in looking into the matter.

There riots occurred on June 10, last, some weeks before the Ku Cheng riots, which a British and American commissioner is now investigating. It does not look as though the British would begin their inquiry until early in the winter.

For the last ten days, Acting Secretary of State Adee has been in communication with Mr. Leidy, United States minister to China, on the subject, and just as soon as a consul of the United States on the coast can reach Cheng Tu, the investigation will begin.

While none of the American missionaries met with injury in the Cheng Tu riots, the missions were all destroyed and it is charged that the Chinese officials refused protection to their occupants until after the mob had finished its work of destruction.

SPAIN BACKS DOWN.

Fair Treatment Assured for Two U. S. Citizens.

The State Department received a cablegram from Consul General Williams at Havana, stating that Aguilar had been released by the Spanish authorities and Sangully would be granted a civil trial soon.

This was welcome news to the department as the case of these two United States citizens imprisoned in Cuba has dragged tedious months. Consul General Williams was active in seeing protection for Aguilar and Sangully, so much so that he offered the former Spanish Minister Murago, who requested his recall. Later the State Department made very energetic representations at Madrid and Havana. These first bore fruits in the concession that Aguilar and Sangully would be given a civil trial.

A RAILROAD SOLD.

C. A. and C. Passes into the Hands of Senator Brice.

Calvin S. Brice has at last gained control of the Cleveland, Akron & Columbus railroad. The board of directors, consisting of Frank Rockefeller, William Chisholm, J. H. Hoyt, L. M. Cole and G. W. Saul, met in Cleveland and after a long and exciting session the finishing touches were put on the deal that puts Mr. Brice in control of the road. Senator Brice was represented by Col. L. Conger and C. N. Haskell. The main business transacted was the sale of over 10,000 shares owned and controlled by President G. W. Saul for nearly \$500,000. After the transfer Mr. Brice was elected president of the new organization.

The line will be used as a link to Mr. Brice's trunk line from St. Louis to New York. Large terminals will be established at Akron with a lake outlet at Cleveland, and the southern part of the line to be used as a feeder. There will be four lake terminal points, Cleveland, Toledo, Sandusky and Toledo, with terminals to buy the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City, now in the hands of a receiver. A connecting link is to be built from the Lake Erie & Western to the Clover Leaf, which will give an air line from St. Louis to Des Moines, O., on the Pittsburgh, Akron & Western, Brice recently acquired road. An extension is to be built from Akron to New Castle, Pa., where an eastern outlet will be found over the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh.

Battlefields for the Encampment.

In accordance with a letter received by him from Gov. Brown, Director General Millsen of the G. O. R. encampment sent a committee composed of two ex-union soldiers to Frankfurt, to select from the Kentucky regimental flag now at Frankfurt, such ones as are desired for exhibition here during the coming encampment.

The flags will be arranged around the Clay statue in the court-house.

Dead Y. Riot in India.

In a riot at Dhulia, province of Khandesh, between Hindus and Mohammedans, five of the latter were killed. The riot was caused by an attack which the Mohammedans made upon a Hindu procession. The police guarding the procession fired upon the rioters, killing five Mohammedans outright and wounding 50, of whom five have since died.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKETS.

Richard Bland says he is out of politics for good.

Hungary is increasing in her grain exports. The Durant trial may drag along for months.

Bicycles are used in laying military telegraph lines. The leader of the Ku-Cheng massacre has been captured.

Fifteen persons were injured by a train wreck near Parsons, Kan.

The Dominion Trades and Labor Congress has decided to admit Socialists.

Nine hundred nihilists have been arrested in St. Petersburg and Moscow.

A box containing 2,000 forgotten indictments was found in New York.

The Chinese rebellion in the province of Kan-Suh is becoming formidable.

Fire hoses in the coal mines in the Pittsburg district will ask for more wages.

Many of the negro colonists from America who went to Liberia have died of fever.

The Tagpost, a Socialist paper of Nuremberg, Germany, has been seized for insulting the Kaiser.

A 13-year-old murderer, Mary Pierce, has been convicted of manslaughter at Grand Haven, Mich.

The Masonic temple at Boston was burned. Loss about \$400,000. Three firemen were seriously hurt.

Cuban insurgents are still burning plantation buildings and using dynamite to blow up railroad bridges.

A furious wind and thunder storm at Lansing, Mich., covered the soldier's camp with branches of trees.

The Defender beat Valkyrie III. in the first yacht race for the America's cup, by 8 minutes and 43 seconds.

Provest, the absconding clerk of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia, was captured at Rochester Harbor.

Fire in the Osceola copper mine, at Calumet, Mich., imprisoned about 40 miners, who have undoubtedly perished.

It is the policy of the present British Government to pay less naval attention to the Pacific and more to her interests nearer home.

Four young Japanese who visited a Chinese restaurant in San Francisco were poisoned. One is already dead and the others are dying.

Benny McKee, ex-President Harrison's grandson, saved Mrs. Russell B. Harrison's little daughter from drowning at Old Forge, N. Y.

There is a Cuban revolutionary club in Chicago, numbering 75 members, each of whom contribute \$4 a month, to the cause of the revolution.

At Fayetteville, Tenn., Thursday night, Dock King, colored, arrested on a charge of attempted assault, was taken from jail by a mob and hanged.

Sixty Indians at the Rosebud agency, S. D., have notified Agent Wright to leave in 21 days, and threaten to burn the buildings. The Indians are determined to have the rates reduced for hauling freight.

Dr. Orlando E. Bradford, one of the counterfeiters who escaped when Brockway and others were captured in New York, recently was arrested Saturday, with three other men. Bradford had copper plates for making \$100 treasury notes.

United States Consul S. P. Reed, at Tientsin; Commander Francis M. Barber, United States naval attaché at Tokio, and an American missionary will make the independent investigation of the Chinese riots at Cheng-Tu for the United States.

FIGHTING IN CUBA.

The Insurgent Leader Maceo Reported Defeated With Heavy Losses.

The column of General Canellas south of the band headed by Maceo to the route of Ramon de Las Yaguas on Saturday. The insurgents very much outnumbered the Spaniards, but they were driven from their positions and encampment, leaving 30 killed and 80 wounded. The Spanish lost 1 officer and 12 soldiers killed and 5 officers and 39 soldiers wounded.

The official report of the engagement says that the column of General Canellas numbered 850, while Maceo's forces numbered 3,600. The firing lasted for eight hours, and the ammunition of the insurgents was captured by the troops as well as their mail. Of the officers wounded, four were captains and four lieutenants. General Canellas himself was wounded, it is said, slightly. When the insurgents were finally dispersed, they went in the direction of Songo, and the troops followed in pursuit.

The command of Lieutenant-Colonel Zubia surprised the insurgent bands, led by Suarez and Zayas in Queranda, near Grande Remedios, and after a sharp engagement routed them. The insurgents left eight of their number dead on the field, but carried their wounded with them in their retreat. Of Lieutenant-Colonel Zubia's command one was killed and five were wounded.

A company of civil guards encountered a mounted band of insurgents under Arce at Managua. At the first fire of the volunteers the insurgents took flight, leaving 20 saddled horses and 2,000 cartridges in the hands of the guards.

At Hatillo the insurgents burned the store of Rufino Diaz, the Dolores mansion and the farmhouse of Jose Prieto, together with \$10,000 worth of plantation property. At times four insurgents have surrendered, and at San Isparritu nine have given themselves up.

Buried in Ruins. The west tower on the great machinery at Springfield, Ill., which is now being roofed, collapsed burying several men beneath the ruins. Charles Hobson, of Lincoln, and James Fiske of Springfield, both plumbers, were killed. They were covered with several tons of brick and mortar. The injured are: Fred Berd, carpenter, badly mashed; N. Williamson, carpenter, both ankles broken; Samuel Davenport, of Chicago, boss carpenter, badly injured about the back by falling debris; John Githard, a carpenter, large gash cut in his head, will probably recover; Chas. Brownell, water carrier, both legs and both arms broken, badly burned by mortar and, fearfully lacerated, wild.

Captured a Train Robber. "Bill" Williams, alias Lloyd Mayre, alias John McMahon, one of the most noted desperadoes in the West, has been arrested and lies in jail at Leadville, Col. Last winter he became the leader of the gang that robbed the Wells-Fargo Express Company at Cripple Creek and secured \$20,000. The other two were captured here three months ago, but Williams escaped. He had kept one of the officers' reach until Friday night, when he came to town from Denver and was arrested.

THE WORKING WORLD.

LABOR DAY.

New York Unions Thought They Had Nothing to Celebrate.

This is the first Labor day that has not witnessed a general parade of all the trades in this city and vicinity. This fact is considered significant in labor circles of the general condition this year of New York working people. With but a few exceptions, there is no question to be agitated and no victories to be celebrated.

The various labor organizations decided, therefore, some time ago, that a parade was not necessary, and that the various unions should spend the day as the individuals saw fit. As a result, there was a sudden exodus from the city in every direction, of picnic parties, great and small, took advantage of the fine weather and traveled to the sea and to various pleasure grounds and parks about the city.

Disension marked the celebration of Labor day in Chicago, and two rival organizations of labor marched in separate parades. This was the result of the long pending dispute between the labor congress and the trade and labor assembly.

The day was generally celebrated in Philadelphia, although the state labor day does not come until next Saturday. Originally the day was universally observed the first Monday in September, but in the year 1893, when the bill in the Pennsylvania legislature became a law providing for a Saturday half holiday, it carried with it a change in the time fixed for celebrating labor day.

Cleveland had the biggest labor day demonstration that that city has ever known. Business houses were very generally closed, and the city was in holiday dress. A parade in which every labor union in the city took part, marched through the principal streets in the morning. It was reviewed by the mayor and other city officials in front of the City Hall. There were about 10,000 men in line.

Beautiful weather contributed to the success of Labor day celebration at St. Louis. All the banks, exchanges, courts and city offices were closed, and many retail stores gave their clerks a holiday. The labor organizations united in a parade of the principal streets at noon, and afterwards assembled at Concordia park, where the remainder of the day was spent in amusements of various kinds. Nearly 4,000 people were in line.

Pittsburg did not celebrate the national labor holiday, and the only observance of the day is found in rules governing the handling of mail in the post offices. Pennsylvania will observe the state labor day on Saturday, which will be a legal holiday.

The Sewer Pipe Industry. A majority of the sewer pipe and brick works are now running almost all the time in Toronto, O. section, except the Great Western, Forest City and P. Connor's Excelsior works, and the latter will probably start work. The yards are fast filling up with pipe, and some of them are ahead of their quota, while others are many orders behind.

English Iron Prices Up. Iron and steel merchants of Birmingham, England, have agreed to raise the price of hollows, bars, and angles 5 shillings per ton, prices ranging from £5 to £10. Sheet iron has also been raised 5 shillings, making an increase in price of 1 pound since June.

Fires have been started in nearly all the window glass factories in Pittsburgh. It requires about three weeks to get the furnaces hot enough to begin work, which will be kept going until the winter is blown down. The trouble between the Lippencott Glass company at Pittsburgh, and their employees has been satisfactorily adjusted, and the big plant is now in operation, giving employment to more than 600 people.

The New Brighton (Pa.) sign works, which removed to Philadelphia a couple of years ago, will go back to the old location soon.

HAIL STORMS.

Illinois And Missouri Swept by a Severe Storm.

Reports received from central Illinois and eastern Missouri state that Tuesday night's rain storm did a great deal of damage. In some places the wind reached the dimensions of a hurricane and telegraph and telephone wires were demolished. At Malcomb, Ill., trees and fences were blown down, corn badly damaged, and three horses killed by lightning. At Arcola, Ill., the wind blew down roofs and signs and overturned small outbuildings. At Danville, Ill., the wind blew down trees, and a house was blown down. The storm is reported to have done great damage in the country a few miles north of Danville but the telephone being down nothing definite can be learned. At Canton, Ill., the electric storm was the worst ever known.

At New London, Mo., the heaviest hail storm ever experienced in that section swept over the city. Some of the stones measured 12 inches in circumference and weighed eight ounces. A heavy rain followed the hail storm and flooded the low lands. Throughout Pike county, Missouri, the storm was very severe, but no casualties are reported. At Louisiana, Mo., the river rose six feet in less than two hours, and many persons living in the low lands were obliged to seek refuge in the upper stories of their dwellings.

MANY DROWNED.

A Foreign Ships in the Harbor Were Blown Ashore.

A destructive typhoon of unusual fury spent its strength at Kuchimoto, Japan, shortly before the last steamer sailed. All foreign ships in the harbor were blown ashore. With a few exceptions the houses in the town were entirely destroyed or partly wrecked.

Thirty-six vessels became total wrecks, and the crews were all drowned. The wreckage, lashed by the awful fury of the gale, pounded to death hundreds of men, women and children, clinging to the floating parts of vessels littered over the sea.

The crew of an American steamer spent the day in rescuing the drowning. An Irishman named McOlin rescued a large number with a lasso from the shore.

The damage done by floods in Gifu prefecture Japan, is very alarming. Six hundred and eighty villages suffered. 1,309 bridges were washed away, 20 people drowned, and 22,226 persons received relief.

Cholera is spreading among the foreign shipping and causing great alarm. The epidemic is reported to have broken out in the French ships Ily, Inconstant, Machias and Hunan and on board the Russian warship Stebak and Bolno, 9 patients dying out of 60 affected, and on board the British steamer Ashdown.

Two Italian warships have also gone into quarantine with cholera on board. The disease in every case was traced to bun boats that supplied sailors with fruit. No American boats are yet reported affected.

Thomas Berkis, a mill worker of Steubenville, O., was stabbed to death by Frank Rossner.

Chinese rioter attacked the Christians at Hek Chang, wounded four and destroyed the houses.

FIVE PERSONS INJURED.

An Excursion Train Crashed into by a Runaway Locomotive.

A railway accident occurred Monday afternoon near Woodlawn station, on the Sea Beach railroad, in which 50 people were injured. While train No. 3 drawing 17 cars, which were crowded almost to suffocation by excursionists, was standing at the Woodlawn station, a wild engine crashed into the rear car telescoping it. The car was full of passengers, most of whom came from New York. Many people saw the engine tearing along alone, jumped from the train, and thus saved themselves.

A colored porter yelled to the passengers to jump. The runaway engine dashed into the rear car, smashing it into kindling wood, and burying men, women and children beneath it. There was a mad rush of hurrying humanity from the train. Patrolman Kelly, who was on duty at the station, turned in several ambulance calls, and five ambulances responded. In the meantime the wood work of the wrecked car caught on fire, and the cars before the train hands were able to uncouple them, and four cars telescoped by the collision. Most of the injured were taken to the hospitals, and several will probably die.

The severely injured almost immediately returned to New York. John Blake, Navesink N. J.; William Gregory, Jersey City; Lizzie Wolf, August Suddelstrom, Moritz Frankel, Joseph Roeman, Lewis Held, Joseph Freedman, New York; William W. Kemp, Brooklyn; George Levinson, C. Sejarman, Charles H. Woods, wife and child, Miss L. Montclair, George Hammond, New York; Edward H. Freedland, Newark, N. J.; James Hueston, Kearney, N. J.; Joseph Frink, August Kruger, Gustavus Mulling, East Newark, Henry Kruger, Charles H. Merchant, Nellie Barton, New York.

The police authorities, who have Engineer Frank Jason and Fireman Arthur Ross, of the runaway engine, under arrest, say that engine No. 6, while shunting on the track, collided with another engine. The engineer, thinking it impossible to avoid this collision, reversed the lever and jumped from the train, followed by his fireman. The engine, however, jumped forward almost immediately, and struck the tracks at a terrific rate of speed, resulting in the disaster.

The firm of Hedding & Covall, merchants and lumber dealers, made an assignment to Bedford. Liabilities, \$20,000, with assets sufficient to cover.

The mining outlook about Grove City is anything but encouraging. There is no probability of a strike, but the mines are doing little of anything in shipping. In the last two months the mines of this locality have not been averaging three days a week. When the harbor at Conneaut, O., was completed the railroad company immediately began to ship iron ore to the vicinity of Pittsburgh. They load cars in the Pittsburg district now with a better grade of coal than is found here.

Scarlet fever is epidemic in Sharon. The School Board, at a meeting, introduced rigid restrictions to prevent the spread of the disease in the public schools.

Charles Thurner and Annie Hull, of Wharton township, Fayette county, eloped and were married at Cumberland, Md., after driving all the distance in a sulky with one horse.

The Beaver county Afro-American league elected the following delegates to the State convention of the league at Harrisburg, held on September 11: James Webster, of New Brighton; Frank McDonald, of Beaver Falls; J. W. Butler, of Beaver; Messrs. Costley, Woodson and Pollard were elected alternates.

Typoid fever is still epidemic at Venice, a village a few miles north of Washington. Two deaths have occurred within a few days and there are many cases.

Two mad dogs were killed in "Coon Hollow," Uniontown, but not the animal other dogs were bitten. In consequence there is a mad-dog scare now in the village.

Both the Beech Creek and the Pennsylvania railroad companies are after rich coal lands in the Black Lick district, north and west of Ebensburg. The plans of the former were anticipated by the Pennsylvania, which sent a corps of engineers to survey a route a few days ago.

Beaver county's corn crop will be an extra good one. An eight-acre field of William McCoy's, near Harrisonburg, is an average specimen. It contains hardly a stalk less than eight feet high, and many exceed 13 feet. Almost every stock contains two fully developed ears and some three.

Two horses owned by Charles Gerould, of East Harrisonfield were stung to death by a swarm of bees at Athens while hatched to a post.

Thomas Wiggo, 13 years old, of Johnstown was fatally wounded by an accidental discharge of a pistol in the hands of a companion.

The Rev. Dr. D. H. Wheeler, who for ten years has been president of Allegheny college at Meadville, has accepted the chair of sacred rhetoric in Garrett Biblical institute, Northwestern University.

Jutte & Co., of Fayette City, has closed up its company store and will pay the men in cash.

The jury in the Clark-Smith poisoning case at Washington brought in a verdict of not guilty.

George Waiters, a lineman at Connelleville was instantly killed by catching hold of a live wire.

Miss Farr, of Greensburg, was accidentally wounded by a pistol carelessly handled by William Manno.

George Dusenberry, a collector of Port Marion, was robbed of \$65 by footpads near Uniontown.

Henry Patton, of Confluence, while feeding bark into a tannin mill, and his leg was crushed off.

A reunion of all the Pennsylvania canal boatmen was held at Freeport Tuesday, and almost 200 men of that calling were in town, coming from almost every point along the canal. The meeting was held in the opera house. Rev. J. K. Meihorn opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. R. B. McKee made an address of welcome, which was responded to by Rev. Getty, of Saltburg.

Shortly after midnight Saturday an attempt was made to wreck the Lehigh Valley passenger train No. 2, bound west. The attempt was made at Tompkins' switch, where the line strikes the Susquehanna river, and had it succeeded, the train, consisting of five well-filled sleepers, three day coaches and two baggage cars, would have plunged down a twenty-foot embankment into the river. Fortunately it was a half hour behind time, when a track walker discovered a heap of timbers, ties and boulders on the track and flagged the train, which was approaching at high speed.

Burned a Church.

Westminster church, Minneapolis, Minn., was gutted by fire. Nothing is now standing but the heavy walls. The building was erected fifteen years ago at a cost of \$150,000. The congregation is the greatest and largest of the Presbyterian denomination in the State. The fire was clearly incendiary.

Colonna Gets Her Child. The court which has been hearing the controversy between Prince Colonna and his wife, who is the daughter of Mrs. John W. Mackey, has ordered that the sons be given to the princess, and if necessary force is to be used.

WINGED DEATH MESSENGERS.

War Balloons That Will Deliver Explosives. Samuel Andrews, a machinist of Hartford, Conn., claims to have perfected a war balloon which he has sold to a syndicate of New York Cubans for use in the aid of Cuban insurgents.

The balloon has been thoroughly tested in the fields of New Jersey and is said to work perfectly. Instead of the ordinary car, it is fitted with an armor box, from which a number of bombs can be thrown. The bombs are ignited and released by automatic machinery in the box and after all are discharged the box explodes, destroying the balloon and the secret machinery. The machinery is worked by a steel spring. Andrews claims to have developed which he can control the direction of the balloon.

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS.

SHOT WHILE HUNTING.

Accidental Discharge of a Gun Causes a Fatal Injury.

A horrible accident happened at Bucktown, Somerset county. While Henry Spangler and a companion were hunting, the latter's shot gun was accidentally discharged, the entire load of shot entering young Spangler's face, mauling it in a horrible manner. It was necessary to remove a large part of the lower jaw. Spangler cannot recover.

HORTON MURDER SOLVED. The shooting of a farmer, and the arrest of two others at Ft. Wayne, Ind., have revealed the mystery surrounding the robbery of O. S. Horton and his aged wife near Union City, a year ago. The old man was so badly beaten he died shortly after the robbery. The Ft. Wayne burglar, in his dying statement, implicated Jack McDermott, of Union City, as the leader of the gang. McDermott is now under arrest, and a requisition has been issued for the two Ft. Wayne robbers. All three will be tried for the murder of Horton.

FORTUNE FOR A MILL MAN. Edward Thornton, a well-known mill man of Beaver Falls will start for England in a few days to receive a fortune of \$100,000. This money is from the estate of his father, who died some time ago, but it was not until a few weeks back that Thornton was located by his father's attorney. The heirs to the estate are Thornton and his sister, who lives in Ohio. Thornton came to this country a number of years ago and his family in England had lost trace of him.

ENGINEER KILLED. Freight train No. 33 of the Pittsburg, Shenango & Lake Erie railroad was wrecked just south of the Elk creek, Erie county, on iron strands 80 in high. The engineer jumped the track and fell on his side, and 17 cars were wrecked or derailed. Engineer Frank Dunbar, of Greenville, was instantly killed and brakeman Cordean was badly injured internally.

RELIIGIOUS LIBERTY WANTED. The committee of Chicago Methodist clergymen appointed to ask Leo XIII. to aid in securing religious liberty to the Protestants of several South American countries has reported. The report stated that the matter had been placed before the Catholic authorities at Rome, and that they had given assent to the petition, which would be carried to the pope.

The committee expressed the belief that the matter would receive favorable consideration by Leo XIII. and that the agitation of the question would result in great benefit to the Protestants of Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia.

Fishing Vessels Seized. A Virginia lake mail steamer from Labrador reports that one of the Canadian fleet of fishing craft, armed to the teeth with gatling guns, cannon and other weapons, is sailing along the Newfoundland fishing vessels found in Canadian waters and is conveying them to headquarters in the straits of Belle Isle.

IMPROVEMENT CONTINUES.

The Question Now is That the Rise in Prices May go too Far.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Improvement in markets and prices continues, and whereas a few months ago everybody was nursing the faintest hopes of recovery, it has now come to be the only question of what branches, if any, the rise in prices and the increase of business may go too far. A strong, conservative feeling is finding expression, not as yet controlling the markets of industries, but warning against too rapid expansion and rise. In some directions the advance in prices clearly checks future business. But encouraging features have great power. Exports of gold continue, but are met by syndicate deposits, and expected to cease soon. Anxious about the monetary future no longer hinder. Crop prospects, except for cotton, have somewhat improved during the week. Important steps toward reorganization of great railroads give hope to some investors. Labor troubles are, for the most part, less threatening, and some of importance have been definitely settled. The industries are not only doing better than anybody had expected, but are counting upon a great business for the rest of the year.

Wheat has been appreciably hoisted, so that rates have fallen below last year's. The demand for dress goods is still large. The prospect for wheat has hardly improved this week, though the price has fallen 1 1/2¢. Western prospects have decidedly improved, but are still below last year's. Corn is coming forward more freely.

Under favorable conditions the price of Bessemer pig iron has now reached a point 77 per cent above the low record made last year. Some of the largest producers have been prominent buyers up to the top notch of actual sale figures.

Failures for the week were 136 in the United States, against 136 last year, and 42 in Canada, against 49 last year.

Religious Liberty Wanted. The committee of Chicago Methodist clergymen appointed to ask Leo XIII. to aid in securing religious liberty to the Protestants of several South American countries has reported. The report stated that the matter had been placed before the Catholic authorities at Rome, and that they had given assent to the petition, which would be carried to the pope.

The committee expressed the belief that the matter would receive favorable consideration by Leo XIII. and that the agitation of the question would result in great benefit to the Protestants of Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia.

MARKETS.

PITTSBURG.

(THE WHOLESALE PRICES ARE GIVEN BELOW.)

Grain, Flour and Feed.	
WHEAT—No. 1 red.	68 00
No. 2 red.	66 00
CORN—No. 2 yellow ear.	45 46
No. 2 yellow shelled.	43 44