

A DISTORTED MASS OF WRECKAGE.

THE SUNKEN MAINE.

Capt. White says the Disaster Was Caused by an Internal Explosion—Bodies Still in the Wreck.

The Merritt wrecking tug Underwriter arrived at Newport News from Havana, where she went with the wrecked ship, which is assisting in the work on the Maine. Capt. Wiley will again start to Havana, with the barge Lone Star, which is very much needed by the wreckers.

In regard to the wreck Capt. Wiley said: "When I reached Havana I conferred with Capt. Rupp, Merritt's expert in charge of the work, but could learn nothing from him about the result of his personal investigation. While at Havana I heard no opinions as to the cause, and it seemed to me as if the ship were a nine days' wonder blown over. The arrival of the Chief will facilitate the work of clearing away the wreck, as she lifts forty tons of the guns, shells, powder cases, and straps and belts placed aboard lighters. The Lone Star will return with this material to Norfolk, if she does not carry it beyond More castle and dump it into the sea. It is all worthless.

"Without having had opportunity to examine the wreck below the water I would say the Maine was blown up by an internal explosion. It is the most confused pile of distorted metal imaginable. There is one deck above the water which is turned completely over by the explosion. The deck is bottom side up, with the deck frame on top. That looks to me as if the destroyed metal frame came from within. If a mine did the work and played so much havoc with the upper deck, where must the bottom be? Can she have any? Yet they say they have found some of the bottom intact. My opinion is that the affair had occurred in an English harbor, say Kingston, there would not be one man in a hundred looking at that wreck as it is to-day. I heard that the Spanish divers found a piece of the forward turret. I do not believe a mine turreted, while an internal explosion would. I saw a great many exploded copper powder cases, but none intact. Before I left it was stated that there were still forty bodies in the wreck."

NERVY THIEVES

Rob a Bank of \$10,000 and Then Escape on a Hand Car.

The Bank of Franklin, Ill., was robbed of \$10,000 cash the other night and the burglars were successful in making their escape.

The combination on the safe was wrenched off by an alligator wrench and a charge of nitroglycerine inserted. The explosion must have broken the safe for parts of the safe were blown almost through the brick vault. All the money except \$400 in silver and \$1,000 in currency, was in gold.

After the robbery the men stole a hand car and went to Jacksonville, the car being found near broken and also two safes' deposit boxes stolen from the bank, the chief of police of Jacksonville wired that three strangers were there looking for clothing, but none of the stores were open.

No one heard the explosion, nor was anything known of the deed until the bank safe opened for business this morning. Although handicapped for funds, the bank transacted business all day and will continue to do.

UNEXPLORED KLONDIKE FIELDS.

A Successful Prospector Claims That There are More Riches West of the Yukon.

W. G. Wallace, of Saginaw, Mich., arrived at Seattle, Sunday from Dawson City, which place he left February 15. Concerning matters at Dawson Mr. Wallace says that stampedes to the several creeks are of frequent occurrence. The prospecting work done this winter is all turning out well.

"There is no reason," said he, "why the country west of the Yukon should not prove to be as rich as that on the east side. The west is practically an unexplored district. Discoveries have been made on Swedish creek that promise well.

"There have been several quartz ledges located and the indications are that the Upper Yukon will be the field of operations in quartz work.

"There need be no anxiety about the food supply, for the mines that are operating boats will furnish ample supplies, besides, nearly everyone who goes in over the passes carries or carries a year's supply with him."

Mr. Wallace is credited with having brought out \$45,000 in dust with him.

Status of Patriots.

The steamer Myrtle, from Havana, which arrived at New York last week, had on board the bronze statue of Washington and Lafayette, presented to New York by Charles Broadway Rous. The statue is by Frederick Auguste Bartholdi. The figure of Washington is 10 feet in height and that of Lafayette is 12 feet. The statue represents Lafayette bringing to Washington the good news that France has sent help to the American patriots. The statue will rest on a granite base the whole to be 35 feet high.

DISSECTING CHINA.

New France Makes a Demand for Privileges in the Orient.

The French made the following demands upon China last week, that China should cede any territory (four provinces) of Kwang-Tung, Kwang-Si, Yun-Nan and Kwei-Chow; that the railroad from Lung-Chou-Ting on the Northern frontier of Tonquin shall be extended via Pasa Siam into the Yun-Nan province, and that a coaling station be granted to France at Lal-Chou-Fu, in the Hen-Chou peninsula, north of Hal-Nan; furthermore, that the director of the imperial post-office be a Frenchman, evidently with the view of separating it from the control of the Chinese imperial maritime customs. The cessation of a coaling station at Kwang-Chou is demanded on the same terms as Kiao-Chou bay, ceded to Germany, with railroad concession to include exclusive mining privileges.

Eight days are allowed China in which to reply to the French demands, and threats are interpreted to indicate the French occupation of the province of Nal-Nan unless the Chinese comply. The mission of Shu-King-Chen, Chinese minister to Germany, who was sent to St. Petersburg in an effort to prevail upon Russia to modify her demands upon China, has been unsuccessful, and there is no alternative but to agree to the Russian demands.

A proverb found in one form or another in every European or Asiatic language having a literature is "Familiarity breeds contempt." Its earliest form is believed to be of the Sanskrit.

TELEGRAMS tersely TOLD.

Germany has withdrawn her marines from the island of Crete.

W. M. Taggart, a well-known Philadelphia editor died last Saturday.

Charles E. French, a native of Ohio, committed suicide at Redlands, Cal. Sir Henry Bessemer, inventor of Bessemer steel died Tuesday evening.

Thousands of acres of prairie land near Cimarron, Kas., have been burned over.

T. H. Puryear, a large tobacco dealer and banker of Paducah, Ky., shot himself.

Secretary Gage addressed the business men of Pittsburg at a banquet last Saturday.

A pig iron pool has been formed and prices will immediately be advanced 50 per cent.

Mail boxes in Pittsburg are being robbed nightly, and the police are powerless.

There is enough food in the Klondike region to last the present population two years.

At New Orleans the other day hundreds presented themselves for enlistment in the navy.

Damage by frost in Suisun valley, California, is estimated at \$150,000 and Yaca valley at \$250,000.

A ledge of gold-bearing quartz has been found by workmen grading one of the streets of San Francisco.

The Cuban Junta at New York has issued a proclamation saying that they want independence or death.

The accumulation of ice at the Niagara Falls Gorge has made it one of the most beautiful sights in the world.

Masso, President of the Cuban republic states that Cubans are ready to purchase the island and end the slaughter.

The sudden starting of an elevator is said to have caused the death of Mrs. Louise Linicker at Pittsburg last week.

The Pennsylvania railroad station at Jersey City was damaged by fire to the extent of \$50,000 Sunday morning.

Missouri supreme court has decided the inheritance tax law, for the benefit of the State university, unconstitutional.

At a conference in Philadelphia the other day the loyalty of all Methodist ministers was pledged to the support of President McKinley.

On request of President McKinley, Gov. Russell of Georgia says his state can furnish 200,000 men in case of hostilities.

William Clay Wallace, who was the oldest living graduate of Princeton college, died in Newark, Saturday, aged 94 years.

A negro, and his white wife, whom he had recently married, were murdered by mob at Muskogee, I. T., a few days ago.

Michael Serwinski was killed and Bartholomew Valentine fatally injured by jumping from a burning building in Baltimore.

President McKinley did not attend church last Sunday morning, as his stomach had spent two hours in conference with his cabinet.

Sanger Pullman, one of the twin sons of the late George Pullman, was married last week to Miss Louise Landier West, of San Francisco.

Albert Lathwell, a barber, shot his wife, Miss Toomey and himself at Niagara Falls a few days ago. Jealousy was the cause of the deed.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the well-known novelist, has instituted suit for divorce, at Washington, from her husband, Dr. Swan M. Burnett.

An explosion occurred in slope No. 2 of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company the other day at Pratt City, Ala., killing six negro convicts.

To encourage the idea of an alliance between Spain and Austria, Capt. Gen. Blanco will give a dinner, at which the Austrian consul will be the guest of honor.

Judge Sanborn, sitting as a circuit judge, at St. Paul, has confirmed the sale of the Kansas division of the Union Pacific road, which extends from Kansas City to Denver.

For holding up three men, Charles Hendricks was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor at Omaha, Neb., a few days ago. He used a revolver in the attack and secured only 10 cents.

Mary Van Arsdale, aged 14, was killed and Claude M. Baker, 12, fatally injured, and several other children injured by a fast freight on the Louisville & Nashville railroad at Danville, Ky., last Saturday.

William J. Koerner, the newspaper artist of New York who was convicted of murder in the second degree for killing his sweetheart, Rose A. Redgate, was sentenced to Sing Sing for life by Recorder Goff Tuesday morning.

Alfred C. Keene, aged 31, well known in the best circles of society at St. Louis, died Tuesday night from an overdose of cocaine, presumably taken with suicidal intent. No cause is known though unrequited love is hinted at.

Through an error in transcribing that fixed a constitutional amendment election the first Tuesday in November instead of the second Tuesday, when the state election is held, Texas will be put to an additional expense of 100,000.

John E. Reilly, ex-treasurer of the Police Relief association and a member of the St. Louis police force, pleaded guilty to the charge of embezzling \$9,000 from the association and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

There is said to be a great lack of experts in the engineer branch of the navy. Many are needed for peacetime service, some for the auxiliary cruisers and for the two Brazilian vessels just purchased. The house naval committee has given much attention to studying the problem for a solution, but not as yet with much success, it is said.

The Taiya-Klonkik, Transportation Company received advices from Taiya that their upper tramway from Scales to the summit had been completed, and that freight is now being taken over the Chilkoot pass. The price of transporting goods from Taiya to the summit is now about 7 cents per pound. The cable of the tramway is about 3,400 feet in length.

Bank Robbed of \$5,000. The Bank of Nickerson, at Nickerson, Kan., was robbed recently. Five men did the job and it required four or five hours to blow the safe. Citizens who were passing the building were held up and forced to go inside, where they were kept until the safe was blown and the money secured. About \$5,000 was secured. The robbers mounted horses and fled.

British Sarcasm. Commenting upon the attitude of President McKinley the "Saturday Review" of London says it is a suggestive commentary upon "government by the people" that the only means of preventing "what the President calls an unholy war" has been for the government to "find popular clamor in an attitude of indifference and content, such as might be expected of Russia."

Reading between the lines of the reassuring cable messages, the pessimist "Spectator" thinks nothing has happened to improve the situation.

TRADE REVIEW.

Activity in the Iron Industry, and Exports of Merchandise Increase.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade reports as follows for last week:

Neither peace nor war reports have changed the onward current of business. Orders for more than 225,000,000 gold from Europe have blocked any drift toward stringency in rates for money and treasury receipts of about \$1,000,000 per day have kept in check any question about the currency, while exports of products have continued at a rate considerably increased, and the demand for products of the great industries shows steady expansion.

Prompt action by the senate and house has removed all fear of embarrassment through conflicting purposes at Washington. The government is making ready without any waste of time, while frankly assuring everybody that it is prepared to meet any emergency, and hopes that its preparations may prove unnecessary.

The backbone of the situation is the excess of merchandise exports, more than \$41,000,000 in February, with an increase of \$2,500,000 in the same month of 1900. Exports of provisions, \$4,700,000 in cotton and \$7,000,000 in breadstuffs, compared with last year, and \$15,100,000 in all products. In two weeks of March exports have been 10 per cent larger than last year, and imports have gained but 3.7 per cent, although especially swelled by receipts of India rubber, sugar and hides. The outgo of cotton surpasses all expectations, though the price was stronger last week and the export demanded apparently paid no attention to market fluctuations. Receipts from plantations continue much greater than at the corresponding date from the largest crop heretofore produced, so that guesses about the future crop are now the main reliance of speculators.

There also moves in spite of all speculation. Atlantic exports, four included, have been 1,821,069 bushels, against 1,233,390 last year, and from Pacific ports, 1,571,526 bushels, against 255,565 last year, making for three weeks more than double the exports of wheat, against 4,338,441 last year. The price has varied with conflicting reports, but closed 4c higher for the week. Wool shows no change in quotations, though eastern markets are extremely dull and the indifference of exporters has made transactions only 2,062,300 pounds, against 10,831,900 for the corresponding week last year, and 5,088,200 for the corresponding week in 1892. The London market is rather higher, and holders in the interior are extending their material advance in price.

Bessemer pig and many other grades slightly stronger at Pittsburg, the proposed combination of valley furnaces helping, but pig is not changed in price elsewhere, nor are finished products at any point, excepting wire nails which are 1/2c lower both at western and steel mills, which are said to be sold at \$17.25 at the East by some establishments.

Contracts have been made for 10,000 tons with eastern works for domestic delivery, 10,000 tons for Australia, 8,000 tons for the United States, 10,000 tons for South Africa, and the Illinois Steel Company is filled with orders for the year. The Carnegie Company has sold 5,000 tons of deck plates to ship builders of England, and several Chicago orders for plates exceeding 1,000 tons each, for use in an agricultural implement manufacturers and projectile works. The wire combination, having failed to effect the broader arrangement contemplated, is seeking to complete control of about 90 per cent of the wire output of the country. While activity is great in the eastern and western region there is less demand at the East.

Failures for the week have been 208 in the United States against 261 last year and 27 in Canada against 50 last year.

CAPITAL CLEANINGS.

Congress will likely adjourn May 1. Commander Relden went on the retired list Tuesday by operation of law.

Several survivors of the Maine visited President McKinley last week. All believed in the external explosion theory.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of George M. Lukesh, of Ohio, to be an assistant postmaster in the navy.

United States Minister Woodford visited the queen regent of Spain the other day and presented the members of his family.

An official dispatch received here from Manila, on the Philippine island, says 500 insurgents were killed during the siege of Balina.

The highest attribute of American citizenship, I conceive it, is a vigorous and sober, dispassionate judgment," said McKinley a few days ago.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Dr. Edward Bedlow, of Philadelphia, to be consul at Canton, China, and Isador Sobel to be postmaster at Erie, Pa.

In a speech in the Senate last Thursday Senator Proctor, who recently visited Cuba, deplored all the horrible reports which have come from the island lately.

T. V. Powderly was confirmed commissioner of immigration by the Senate in executive session one day last week by the vote of 45 to 20. Senator Chandler was the only Republican who gave his vote against confirmation, while a large number of Democrats voted for Mr. Powderly.

Two 10-inch guns and mortars will be placed to protect the channel at Galveston and two carloads of torpedoes have also arrived there.

The House committee on coinage, weights and measures reported favorably the bill authorizing the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the Sherman act, and the routing of large quantities of subsidiary coin now in the treasury.

At the opening session of the House Saturday Mr. Dingley offered the bill reported from the ways and means committee providing for the free entry into this country of guns, ammunition and other naval supplies and war material purchased abroad until January 1, 1901. It was passed without division.

Safe With a Contingency.

Mr. Gistone and Lord Hartington were driving home together, writes Grant Duff in his "Notes From a Diary," when the former remarked:

"Well, I think the Turkish Empire is now at last going to pieces." Do you know the story?" replied the other.

"No," said Gistone, "but Brunnow, now said one day to Palmerston just what you have now said. 'Ah!' answered he, 'that makes me think of what happened to me the other day in the street. A man bustled up to me and said: 'My lord, my lord, you will lose your handkerchief.' 'Oh, no,' I replied, 'my good friend, my handkerchief is quite safe—if you don't take it.'"

A year ago, when the Heitz Glass Company, St. Louis, failed, and the works shut down, the "pot" was left full of molten glass. Recently the property was purchased, and now it is found that the pot contains a solid block of glass, estimated to weigh about 600 tons.

REBEL AGAINST FOREIGN POWERS.

CHINESE INDIGNANT.

British Subjects Approached With Inducements to Join a Rebellion—Russia Abandons Port Arthur.

The action of the Chinese government in yielding to the demands of European Powers, has at last aroused the patriotism of various officials in the Chinese Provinces. A rebellion is said to have appeared in all the provinces bordering on the Yank-Tse-Kiang, and there are expressed that it may prove to be the most formidable since the Tai Ping rebellion.

It is professed to be a patriotic movement to overthrow the Manchuking and save the central provinces from European control. But it is suspected that the plot emanates from the Mandarins, who are alarmed at the prospect of a diversion of part of their holdings to pay the interest on the new loan. The Pekin authorities are concerned at the movement, but distrustful of the loyalty of the provincial mandarins, they are helpless.

The conspirators are said to have approached British subjects with inducements to join in the rebellion, and they have also offered large sums of money for arms.

The recent inactivity of the Russians at Pekin is explained by the fact that the negotiations have again been transferred to St. Petersburg, owing to the difficulties encountered there.

The cordialities of the French demands being presented on the eve of the emission of the Chinese loan in London is much commented upon, and it is asserted that France and Russia are trying their best to wreck the loan.

Upon the occasion of the last visit of the French ambassador to the Chinese foreign office the Chinese refused to accede to the French proposals, and the ambassador said that when he next visited the office he would present stronger arguments, and would even threaten active operations from Tong King, the forcible seizure of a coaling station.

The general opinion is that it is impossible to disregard the persistent rumors circulated in well-informed circles, that Russia has abandoned her attempts to lease Port Arthur, but has been engaged in negotiations regarding Ta-Lien-Wan.

THE TIE THAT BINDS.

Assaults From Without Show the Tender Feeling Between England and America.

The remarkable unanimity noticed in London of the approval of both classes and masses of the mere suggestion of Anglo-American alliance, compels belief in the British public for an entente with the United States. The fact that most of the cable dispatches from America have been seriously discussed is heartily welcomed here, and is regarded as an extreme proof of the friendly spirit.

"They are," as a diplomatist puts it, "inspiring hope that the differences of the past will be buried and that Anglo-Saxons in the near future will be found speaking identical notes to all opposed to their common interests.

"It is not any stretch of imagination to say that such a union has been longed for by the best men in Great Britain for many years, not only because of the genuine wish for closer bonds of friendship, but because it is a known fact that the statements of Eurocrats, that a close alliance between England and Great Britain would constitute not only the sure guarantee of the peace of the world, but would afford proof that the reign of law and individual liberty is to be extended, for the benefit of mankind, in any of the efforts to extinguish it made by reactionary rulers and governments."

A Powerful British Fleet.

Great Britain has massed forty war vessels in Chinese waters, and is purchasing all the coal in sight.

It is certain that Great Britain is making almost as urgent preparations for war as the United States, although matters are kept more quiet.

When public men are asked why they do not show more interest in the crisis in America they almost invariably reply that their own country is confronted with such dreadful possibilities of peril in the immediate future that no responsible British statesman could afford to disturb the diplomatic balance or to even indirectly compromise England's neutral policy.

A Spanish Cable.

The Spanish government is arranging for communication with Cuba over neutral cables in the event of a rupture of relations with the United States. This is feasible by way of Halifax, Bermuda and Jamaica, using the new British cable, but the French company, possessing an unaid cable, offers to connect Spain direct with Cuba within a few weeks. Negotiations with this company are proceeding.

CABLE SPARKS.

Italy has sold the cruiser Coresa to Montego Bay, Jamaica, a few days ago.

Near Bilbao, Spain, troops fired on riotous striking iron miners, killing three.

Brazil has a deficit for the year of \$2,575,000 and yellow fever has broken out in Rio Janeiro.

The continued illness of Lord Salisbury may necessitate a reconstruction of the British cabinet.

Thirty-eight Dervishes were killed the other day by Egyptian troops while crossing the Nile to Shebalya Island.

The chief of Mereré and 80,000 men are said to be in revolt against Germany in Africa and armed with Mauser rifles.

China is going to make an effort to retain the possession of Port Arthur. The garrison at that place has been strengthened.

Spain is now threatened with trouble in Porto Rico. The cruiser Vizcaya will likely sail there to strengthen the government.

Berlin police confiscated the anarchist papers Sozialist and Armer Konrad and searched the premises where they were printed.

A London cablegram quotes a high British official as denying that England has any designs on Hawaii, fully recognizing the prior claim of the United States.

Trichinae have been discovered in several packages of American meat shipped to Berlin recently. The Bundesrat has been petitioned to prohibit the importation of American meat.

Prominent Englishmen are favoring an alliance between Great Britain and the United States. England wants aid in China, claiming in return that the United States would be aided in case of war with Spain.

CRUELITIES ON A SHIP.

Marine Beaten to Death by a Brutal Sea Captain.

The sorriest looking crew that ever sailed into the harbor of New York came in a few days ago on the British bark Ancona, 128 days from Hong Kong. Beaten, blackened, weak from lack of food, some having broken bones and other touched by scurvy, they tell a story of hardship and brutality.

Several berths in the forecastle were occupied by men who called piteously for a doctor. Most of them were covered with unhealed wounds, and several had the sailors' signs of scurvy. The men charge this state of affairs to Captain I. B. Morris, First Mate P. C. Robinson, Second Mate N. Cuno and the boatswain, Edward Shellman.

Edward Simpson said: "Peter Hansen was killed by brutality and starvation. The second mate and the captain used to take turns knocking him about. Then they got sick and feverish. He was covered with black and blue marks, and was weak from lack of food. The officers said that Hansen was shamming. They went to his bunk and called him, but he was too weak to get up. So the captain picked him up. 'You're sick, and you're calling him a villain,' 'I'll make you sicker. When I speak to you move, and move quick.'"

"Then the captain slammed him down on the deck again. This he repeated three times, cursing violently all the while. Hansen groaned, but made no answer. In half an hour he was dead.

The truthfulness of this narrative was vouched for by Sailors William Smith, Ed. Thomson, Pierre Daniel, Fred. Lindstrom and Fritz Streeby, all of whom declared that they had seen to the facts before the British consul as soon as they had an opportunity.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

San Diego, Cal., will be defended by a torpedo system.

Submarine mines are being placed in Narragansett Bay.

War with Spain would be sharp and short, says Gen. Miles.

Two bodies were recovered from the sunken Maine last Friday.

The defenses about New York will be connected by telegraphic cable.

Japanese election returns show a small majority for the government.

Capitalists in Europe and America are doing their utmost to avert war.

Grover Cleveland is for peace and for hearty support of the administration.

Commander Booth-Tucker has offered to send a corps of special nurses to Cuba.

The pope will do all in his power to prevent war between the United States and Spain.

The navy department last week purchased 3,000 barrels of family beef in New York.

Twenty-five tons of smokeless powder were shipped from Hamburg a few days ago.

French bankers, holding Spain's securities, are said to be willing to sell Cuba for \$150,000,000.

The expenditures for war material has resulted in a scarcity of copper in the English market.

New York furnished 650,000 pounds of dry salted bacon for the Spanish government a few days ago.

The report of the board of inquiry into the Maine disaster will be given the latter part of the week.

Richard Stevens of New York has offered his yacht Allen to the government for use as an auxiliary cruiser.

The American flag was hoisted over the cruiser Amazonas last Friday. This ship was purchased from Brazil recently.

Forty thousand dollars was raised at an entertainment at Havana last week. The money will be used as a warship fund.

Divers have discovered that the coal powder and shell carried by the Maine is intact. Another evidence of external explosion.

Howard Gould, the owner of the yacht Niagara, now nearing completion, will surrender it to the government in case of war with Spain.

The firemen of Bridgeport, Conn., have contributed \$2,000 toward the purchase of a warship for the government. The money has been ordered at the disbursement.

A Chicago regiment, in command of Maj. Jas. W. Cooper, expects to be the first to strike a blow against the Spaniards. Declaration of hostilities are awaited.

A contract from the war department calling for \$551,960 worth of projectiles has been secured by C. Y. Wheeler of Pittsburg. Mr. Wheeler says war is inevitable.

The final contract providing for the sale of the warships Amazonas and Albatross to the United States has been signed. The price is something more than \$2,500,000 for both ships.

American naval officers declined to attend a ball in company with officers of the Spanish war vessels now anchored at Havana. Their reason was that they were in mourning for the Maine sailors.

In a letter, secured by a New York newspaper correspondent before the Maine explosion, Gen. Weyler admitted to a friend that he had ordered the harbor at Havana to be covered with dynamite mines.

Deaths From Plague.

Two hundred and fifteen new cases, and 216 deaths from the plague were reported at Bombay last week. Five Europeans have been attacked. The Mohammedans at Hubli, on the South Mahratta railway, hearing of the riot in Bombay, have decided to resist the plague precautions and operations over the line. The volunteers have been mobilized, and the infantry has been summoned, but as yet there has been no conflict.

Enriching Pension Attorneys.

A statement prepared at the pension office shows that the amount of money legally paid by pensioners to attorney prosecuting their claim during the past seven years was as follows:

1891, \$2,169,200; 1892, \$3,112,321; 1893, \$1,872,178; 1894, \$622,775; 1895, \$481,668; 1896, \$357,721; 1897, \$594,348.

Returned to Duty.

William Peter Appleby, of Hempstead, L. I., was dying several days ago and he requested his wife to have his body cremated, and his ashes on the first windy day scattered to the elements. Accordingly on Thursday last, that being the first windy day, the aged widow poured out on a stone all that remained of her late husband. The wind caught the dust and it disappeared.

Terrible Mine Explosion.

A terrible explosion took place last