

FRANKLIN SYNDICATE GOES UNDER.

THOUSANDS CAUGHT.

Ten Per Cent Dividends a Week Were Offered and People From All Over the Country Invested.

The Franklin Syndicate of New York has closed its doors. Thousands of people throughout the country lost their money which they were tempted to invest by the unusual inducements offered. W. F. Miller, the manager, has disappeared. He offered to pay 10 per cent weekly which he did, always persuading the people to re-invest the interest and draw compound interest. Officials became suspicious, investigated, and issued a warrant against him for conspiracy with intent to defraud. William F. Miller and his secretary and chief bookkeeper, Cecil Leslie, of the Franklin syndicate, the 10-per-cent-a-week concern of Brooklyn, have not yet been arrested. The extensive operations of the Franklin syndicate and exhaustion of credit of the American people are shown by the number of dividend drafts which are held by the different city banks of Brooklyn. These drafts were sent through the mails by Miller to subscribers living at distant points and they deposited them in their local banks for collection. The local banks in turn sent them to the New York banks, which act as their agents. These drafts arrived on Saturday. Many more are expected this week. As the syndicate has assigned the drafts with bank in Allegheny, Pa., Portland, Me., Elsie, Ill., Amonia, N. Y., Grand Lodge, Mich., Fitchburg, Mass., Wheeling, W. Va., Urbana, O., Elizabeth, N. J., and two score other towns.

It was estimated Monday that fully 50,000 policemen and detectives in all sections of the country know that Miller is missing and that he is wanted in Brooklyn. The chiefs of police at all ports in Great Britain and the continent visited by steamers sailing from New York have also been cabled to arrest Miller should he bob up on the other side. Nowhere was there any denunciation of the vanished Miller. His victims were one and all looking forward to the day when they expect him to reappear and pay their claims.

The impression of the police and, in fact, of others who have investigated the Franklin Syndicate is that the syndicate as such never earned a dollar in Wall street, and that the dividends, as they became due, were actually taken from the daily receipts.

It is believed by persons who worked in that office, and have good means of knowing that the number of persons on the mailing list who were receiving drafts for their dividends by mail was nearly 20,000. The average receipts are placed at somewhere between \$30,000 and \$35,000 a day, although Cecil Leslie is said to have boasted recently that the receipts in one day had reached \$81,000 and the disbursements \$35,000. There are some very large deposits in the syndicate. There were many of \$5,000. One man who had \$3,000 in the bank drew dividends long enough to have \$12,000 in profits, but most of the deposits were small, ranging from \$25 to \$100.

There are establishments in Brooklyn, the employees of which have placed \$13,000, \$20,000 and as high as \$30,000 in Miller's hands.

The police department was afflicted with the craze. It is estimated that 150 policemen have risked their money with Miller and were sharing in the alluring profits afforded by the ever increasing amount of deposits. This is held to explain the case with which he got away.

An official of the Brooklyn postoffice is authority for the statement that fully 125 letter carriers were stockholders in Miller's Klondike.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Four Boer cannon were struck during a thunderstorm near Ladysmith a few days ago.

Lord Charles Beresford said that he believed war between Japan and Russia is imminent.

The transport Sherman arrived in San Francisco from Manila last Monday. Eight sick soldiers died en route.

Richard Bailey, while performing with snakes at Allegheny, Pa., last Saturday, was bitten by a rattler and will die. It is reported that Lord Iveagh has purchased the Muckross estate in Ireland, which includes the lakes of Killarney.

The Boers are accused of using dum dum bullets, shooting upon the wounded and disregarding the flag of truce.

A dispatch from Peking announces that an imperial decree has been issued appointing Li Hung Chang minister of commerce.

The United States is believed to be negotiating with the powers for an international agreement with China and the "open door" policy.

John Golber, of Pittsburgh, was paralyzed from his waist down as a result of being struck by a Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh train.

The first through train from Ta-Lien-Wan on the new Chwang Munkden railway, China, left on Friday with engineers for Port Arthur.

The Khalifa and his emirs were killed, his army routed and his camp captured by the British troops after a fierce conflict near Godid in the Sudan.

The English people are becoming angered by the French insults of the queen, and it is said English nobility will boycott the Paris exposition.

Aguinaldo's mother and oldest son have been captured by the Americans. \$2,000 in gold, belonging to the mother was taken and placed in the treasury at Manila.

Major General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the United States Army, said that the English will win in South Africa, but at enormous cost in life and treasure.

Three Pittsburg boys, the sons of Mrs. Virginia Essex, have fallen heirs to a fortune of about \$50,000, left by their uncle, M. L. Turner, of Falls Church, D. C., who murdered his wife and then committed suicide.

Julia Strancy, of Marshall, near Pittsburg, fell beneath the wheels of a Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston train at Homestead, and was possibly fatally injured.

WAR IS ANNOUNCED.

England Recedes from the P. all on that She is Punishing Rebels.

The Russian newspapers announce that the British charge d'affaires has informed the Russian government that Great Britain has been in a state of war with the Dutch republics in South Africa since October. The Svet, commenting on this, says:

"England, in giving this notification, withdraws her declaration that she is not carrying on war, but is merely subjugating rebels."

The Novoe Vremya, which attaches far-reaching importance to the British notification, says:

"The powers are now in a position to send not only Red Cross agents, but military agents as well, and they may judge this a fitting time to intervene, especially as the Afrikaners are going more and more to the Boer side."

PNEUMONIA CURED.

Abscesses Removed from a Man's Lungs and His Life Saved.

Dr. H. L. Grosh, city physician of Toledo, O., has performed the first successful operation for pneumonia in the United States, if not in the world. The patient is Frank Turley, son of a business man of Toledo. Dr. Grosh has pronounced his patient out of danger after three surgical operations, each time abscesses being removed from various portions of the lungs.

It was necessary to cut through the ribs to reach the disease, and the patient has gained steadily. Specialists in various States had pronounced the case hopeless.

United States May Instruct Kruger.

The reported determination of the United States to compel President Kruger to allow Consul General Macrum to exercise his rights as British agent at Pretoria has created an excellent impression in London, and has called out various expressions of satisfaction and gratitude. The "Pall-Mall Gazette" says:

"The United States Government is not going to stand any nonsense from President Kruger. It has the British representative who kept an eye on Hobson's captivity at Santiago, and it was British representatives who did similar services for captured Americans everywhere in Cuba and the Philippines. More power to Macrum's elbow."

Clue to the Maine Explosion.

United States officials, after months of secret investigation, have discovered that the battleship Maine was blown up by gun cotton torpedoes planted in the bay for the purpose. The gun cotton was sent from Barcelona to Admiral Manterola, and his records will undoubtedly show the names of his subordinates, who had direct control of the explosives, and in that way the identity of the authors and executioners of the plot to destroy the Maine may be discovered.

A Beautiful Composite Photograph.

A composite photograph of the great Madonnas painted by the old masters during 300 years has been made by Joseph Gray Kitchell, of Indianapolis, after many months' work. The face is marvellously beautiful, combining, as it does, the conceptions of the greatest painting. The first copy has been ordered for the Congressional Library.

Vice President Hobart's Funeral.

The funeral of the late Garret A. Hobart, vice president of the United States, took place on Saturday at the Church of the Redeemer, at Patterson, N. J. The body did not lie in state in the city hall, as was desired by the city authorities, but on Friday afternoon the casket was opened to the library of deceased's home, and for three hours the public viewed the face of the late vice president. The body lies in a handsome casket of oak.

Previous to the public exercises on Saturday afternoon a brief service was held at the Hobart mansion, only for the family, the President and his cabinet and intimate personal friends. The interment occurred at Cedar Lawn cemetery.

Autocratic Chinamen.

Manila is threatened by Highlanders according to mail advices from that place.

The Chinese Imperial Consul General has come into conflict with a Chinese in Manila named Palanco, a mandarin and the uncrowned king of all the Chinese in the Philippines. He is a man of great wealth and influence among the Chinese who look to him rather than to the Consul General, and is antagonizing the latter on the ground that he has no right to exercise any authority over the Chinese, except the Cantonese.

The Schley Home Movement.

The executive committee to raise funds for the purchase of a residence for Admiral Schley in Washington, held an important meeting recently. The organization is being rapidly perfected. Mrs. Rhoebe Hearst, widow of the senator from California, has subscribed \$200. Application will be made to the government officials for permission to circulate subscription papers in the departments. Committees in the states will be named and newspapers in various parts of the country will be asked to receive contributions.

Recovered the Gems.

A battle for life and the possession of \$6,000 worth of stolen diamonds occurred in Pittsburgh Friday night between a plucky Pittsburgh detective and one of the most desperate and accomplished diamond robbers in the country. Detective Charles McGovern arrested James Rollins, alias John Robinson, almost immediately after he had committed the daring robbery of A. E. Stodie's jewelry store at 511 Market street and secured a small fortune in gems.

Rapid Telegraphy.

Messages were telegraphed from a newspaper office in Chicago to Milwaukee and back again Thursday at the rate of 122,000 words an hour. This performance was achieved by the Polak-Virag automatic telegraph invention, and was the first demonstration of its capabilities ever made outside of Budapest, Hungary, where the device was invented.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Secretary Long will recommend to congress an increase of ships for the navy. Eighteen new vessels will be ordered.

The president will recommend to congress that Gen. Shafter be retired with the rank of major-general in the regular army.

BRITISH CARRY ENEMY'S HEIGHTS.

A STUBBORN RESISTANCE.

Thirty-One Boers Were Killed and Forty-Eight Wounded—Naval Brigade Assists in the Assault.

Monday afternoon the London war office posted the following dispatch, dated Cape Town, from Gen. Forester-Walker:

"Lord Methuen reports that he moved yesterday (Saturday) at 3:30 a. m. the naval brigade and the mounted corps of the naval brigade and two batteries, the guards following with the baggage. Near Gras Pan (about 10 miles north of Belmont, on the railway line to Kimberley) 2,500 Boers with six guns and two machine guns, opposed him. The action began at 6 a. m. Our batteries fired shrapnel very accurately till the heights seemed clear. Then the naval brigade and infantry advanced to the assault. The fighting was desperate until 10 a. m., when the heights were carried. The Boers retreated on the line, where the Ninth lancers were placed to intercept them. The result was that the enemy's retreat was cut off. The artillery took immediate advantage of the enemy's retreat. 320 Boers attacked our rear guard. The brigade met this and also protected the flanks. The naval brigade acted with the greatest gallantry and suffered heavily, but no particulars are yet known.

"The enemy showed the greatest stubbornness and must have suffered greatly. Twenty were buried. It is known that 31 were killed and 48 wounded. More than 50 horses were found dead in one place. One battery fired 500 rounds. Five thousand British left Estcourt Wednesday afternoon for a reconnaissance. They surprised the Boers at Willow Grange Thursday morning and occupied the Boer position, bayoneting eighty of the enemy.

"At daybreak the Boers opened with quick-firers. The British artillery was unable to reach the enemy, and the Boer position therefore became untenable and was evacuated. Subsequently the artillery was brought into action and the Boers fell back. Their object having been attained the British returned to Estcourt. The London Times from Mool river gives the British casualties in the Willow Grange affair as three killed and forty-four wounded.

"This is the first news of such a heavy loss, and if correct, suggests a repetition of Gen. Buller's unfortunate action of October 30.

The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail describing the same sortie says: "The British surprised the Boers, carried their position, captured all their equipment, and returned to Estcourt in safety. Gen. Hildyard was very well satisfied with their work."

The London Daily News has the following from Pietermaritzburg, under Wednesday's date: "Four companies of British troops, under the command of Major-General Buller, arrived yesterday before the arrival of 6,000 Boers, who are looting in all directions. The Natal Boers encouraged by the success of the Transvaal, join in the looting."

The main body of the Boers made a rapid march from Umdoni, southwest of Estcourt, to a point near Fort Nottingham, south of the railway, in a single day. They are within 40 miles of Pietermaritzburg at present, and it is believed that they intend to attack the town.

The situation in Cape Colony is becoming serious, and it is believed martial law will have to be declared to preserve peace and order.

Transvaal emissaries are swarming in Cape Town and the country districts and drastic measures will soon be necessary. The sympathizers of the Boers are openly denouncing the English, and a rising Afrikaner boldly said: "The official records can only tell lies."

Sir Charles Milner is rarely seen in public, and the government house is already under guard. It is currently reported that a member of the Cape parliament has joined the Boers in the field. A mysterious message was sent a few days since by Premier Schreiner to President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, with the approval of Sir Charles Milner, but the messenger was stopped by the Boers at Burgersdorp.

Callers at the United States embassy in London Wednesday were informed that the United States was no longer able to forward messages or secure information regarding the British prisoners. President Kruger having refused the request to permit Consul Macrum to transmit a list of British prisoners.

Though Mr. Macrum apparently still remains the nominal agent of Great Britain, he is practically deprived of all powers pertaining to the position.

It is understood President Kruger objected to Mr. Macrum on the grounds that the United States' claims to neutrality were prejudiced by her violent attitude toward Great Britain. All communications to the British prisoners now go through the ordinary military channels, which render their ultimate delivery doubtful and certainly slow. The British government so far has not been able to ascertain the present condition of the prisoners.

The secretary of war in London has received the following dispatch through Gen. Forester-Walker, from Gen. Methuen, dated Belmont, November 22:

"Attacked the enemy at daybreak this morning. He was in a strong position. Three ridges were carried in succession, the last attack being prepared for by shrapnel. Infantry behaved splendidly and received support from the naval brigade and artillery. The enemy fought with courage and skill. Had I attacked later I should have had far heavier loss.

"Our victory was complete. Have taken 40 prisoners. Am burying a good number of the Boers, but the greater part of the enemy's killed and wounded were removed by their comrades. Have captured a large number of horses and cows, and destroyed a large quantity of ammunition."

WAR IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Boers killed up to date number 90; wounded 290.

The Boers expect to eat their Christmas dinner in Durban.

M. Collet, a London newspaper man is held as a hostage by the Boers.

Boers captured 200 head of cattle south of Estcourt last Monday. Three of their number were killed during the venture.

Boycott a Proper Weapon.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, testified before the industrial commission at Washington that 37 different organizations were not using the union label, and that it was growing in popularity. He defended the boycott as a legal and proper weapon for the workman.

He said he was opposed to cooperative schemes, as experience had proved that laborers secured no greater advantage under them than under the wage system.

SHOOT WITHOUT CAUSE.

Negroes From Ft. Ringgold Fire into a Texas Town.

Reports have reached Laredo, Tex., that there was a pitched battle Wednesday night at Ft. Ringgold, Rio Grande City, Tex., between a company of the Ninth United States cavalry (negro) garrisoning the fort, and several hundred citizens who attacked the post shortly after dark. Over 2,000 shots are said to have been fired, but the casualties are not known here.

The following explanatory telegram was received from the judge of Starr county: "Negro soldiers at Ft. Ringgold, deployed in a ravine at south edge of town and fired over 100 shots over and into the town. Fusillade continued at intervals of one and a half hours. One citizen wounded in his house. Houses all over town penetrated by balls. Women and children fled to woods and ranches. Population terrorized. I fear the people may decide to avenge themselves for this dastardly act. No cause for it."

At the war department it is stated that the information received from the department of Texas is that trouble at Fort Ringgold is nothing more than a drunken border row, and the belief is expressed that it has been exaggerated. The report is that Governor Root received a telegram from Governor Sawyer stating that everything was quiet in the disturbed region, and that no further trouble was feared.

FORTUNE IN THE WRECK.

A Half Million Already Taken From the Sunk Spanish Cruisers.

The wreckers working on the sunken Spanish armored cruiser Almirante Oquendo discovered a chest containing \$150,000 in Spanish gold, which the Cendoya Company, the firm employing the divers, will retain. Work on the cruiser has been in progress for five months, and many thousand dollars' worth of treasure has been secured. The safe was found in the bottom, where it fell during the burning of the ship.

Only a few days ago the wreckers began on the torpedo boat destroyer Puror. They have already found a service of heavy silver plate. Experts assert, after inspecting the destroyer, that she might easily have been raised and repaired. The wrecking operations have proved a source of large returns to the companies, estimated at \$500,000.

BODY WAS EXHUMED.

Evidence of Arsenic Poisoning Found in the Stomach.

Mrs. Jane Fowler, while on a visit to her son-in-law April 15, at Vermont, Ill., became suddenly ill and died in great agony. She was buried at Rushville, where her home was. Five days ago the body was exhumed, and the stomach sent to Prof. James Gardner, of Peoria, for analysis. He found it contained arsenic in large quantities, and the remains of some peaches that Mrs. Fowler had eaten were also found, saturated with poison.

Her son-in-law, whose wife is dead, had a lawsuit with Mrs. Fowler over the possession of his child, which has inherited considerable property, and Mrs. Fowler was given the custody of the child with the understanding that the little girl should be taken to visit her father occasionally. It was during one of these visits that the death occurred.

FOUR KILLED IN A WRECK.

Fast Passenger Train Dashes Into a Freight Train.

The Baltimore and Ohio's heavy limited passenger train, drawn by two locomotives, ran into the rear end of a freight train near McColo, Ind., a small station 50 miles out of Chicago, Thursday. Both the passenger engines were ditched and their crews were killed. The freight train was also wrecked. Its conductor, Mr. Butts, and Rear brakeman Hamilton are missing, and it is supposed they are buried under the debris of their caboose.

The dead: Henry Bradford, engineer; E. S. Searby, conductor; Elmer Orr, fireman; John Stine, fireman.

Men Were Commanded to Marry.

A report received from Governor Leary, of the Isle of Guam, states that he had commanded immediate wedlock for the whole adult population, and had made the bachelors' devil ceremony free for a certain period. As a result the officers in charge of licenses and marriages were worked half to death until nearly everybody on the island was legally married. There was a rush to obey the order.

Hazers Cause a Student's Death.

Martin V. Bergen, son of Councilman Peter V. Bergen of Princeton, N. J., died Wednesday from receiving a hazing at Lawrenceville last Friday. He died of inflammation of the bowels. Young Bergen was 12 years old and a freshman at Lawrenceville. He was being put through the initiation when one of the hazers accidentally fell upon him.

Over the Falls.

A middle-aged, well-dressed man engaged to Niagara Falls Tuesday afternoon and was driven to Prospect Point, overlooking the falls. Arriving there he left the carriage, walked deliberately into the water and passed over the falls. There were several people on the view platform at the time. There is no clue to the identity of the suicide.

TERSE TELEGRAMS.

Great Britain is after the sub-marine boat Holland.

Tucson, Ariz., has accepted Andrew Carnegie's gift of \$25,000 for a library.

Willie Tascotti, who murdered millionaire Snell in Chicago ten years ago has this time been located in Vancouver.

West Lawrence, a Pensacola, Fla., criminal was lynched by a mob last Wednesday. Bullets were fired at the body until it fell to pieces.

During the deer hunting season just ended in the Adirondacks twenty-three persons were accidentally killed by hunters. The number of deer killed was also larger than usual.

There was a terrible battle in Colombia last week between the rebels and the government, in which 1,000 rebels were killed and 2,000 wounded. The rebel general Ralbio Villar is among the slain.

J. H. Greaves, a member of the Philadelphia Athletic Club, failed to be death in the swimming pool at the clubhouse Wednesday. He plunged into the shallow portion of the pool and struck his head upon the stone bottom. He was brought to the surface as quick as possible, but too late to save his life.

The Sax and Fox Indians, on the United States reservations in Iowa are preparing to go on the warpath. An Indian girl, 17 years of age, married, is being detained in a school house by the Indian agent, who says that the law forbids an Indian woman to be sent to attend school. The redskins demand her release or war.

AN ENTIRE PROVINCE SURRENDERS.

PHILIPPINE CONQUEST.

Zamboanga Yields to Capt. Very of the Cavalry—Local Chiefs Have Declared Their Loyalty.

Secretary of the Navy Long, Monday, received a cablegram from Admiral Watson, informing him that the entire province of Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, had surrendered unconditionally to Commander Very of the Cavalry. The surrender was made on the 18th inst. Admiral Watson's dispatch follows:

"Cavite, Nov. 26, 1899. "Secretary Navy, Washington. "November 18, entire province Zamboanga surrendered to Very, unconditionally. Delivery all guns promised. Numerous local chiefs declared loyalty."

"WATSON." The information contained in Admiral Watson's dispatch was received by the president and his advisers with unqualified satisfaction. The surrender of the province of Zamboanga is regarded as the beginning of the end of the revolution in the island of Mindanao and, it is believed, will be a hard blow to those who are still endeavoring to maintain the insurrection in the island of Luzon.

Zamboanga is the principal city of the island of Mindanao, which is the second largest island of the Philippine group. Advice from Admiral Watson indicate that the entire southern half of the island, which comprises the province of Zamboanga, has yielded to the American forces and acceded to the authority of the United States.

President Kruger is reported very ill. Dr. McGlynn is very ill at Newburg, N. Y.

Senor Buencamino, a former member of the so-called cabinet of Aguinaldo, has been brought to Gen. Oiler's prison on board the transport Brutus. He had sought refuge in a village near San Fabian, with Aguinaldo's mother and son. The natives disclosed his identity to Maj. Cronin, who captured him.

Gen. Young is still in the mountains on the trail of Aguinaldo. Bautista, president of the Filipino congress, presented himself to Gen. MacArthur Saturday and formally renounced all further connection with the insurrection. He was one of the influential Filipinos who hesitated at the beginning of the war as to which side on which to cast his lot. He was offered a judgeship of the supreme court, but declined. He now announces that he desires to accept the position, and says the Filipino congress and cabinet are scattered, never to reassemble. Some of the members, he adds, have returned to their homes, while others are trying for safety. Many of the congressmen have resigned, and he believes the Filipino soldiers will lay down their arms everywhere as soon as they learn the truth.

The whereabouts of Generals Lawton and Young is becoming as mysterious as Aguinaldo's. The belief is gaining to grow at Manila that General Lawton has struck the trail of the insurgent "Government" and is pursuing the ministers into the Binquet mountains. It has been his ambition to capture the Philippine leaders, and he and General Young believe that a cavalry brigade, living on the country, could run them down to any part of the island. One vague report brought by Spanish prisoners is that Aguinaldo and others were nearly surrounded by Americans soon after the insurgent chief left Tarlac, but he escaped through the lines in peasant's clothes.

Officers and soldiers arriving at Cabanatuan from General Lawton's force describe the campaign as one of great hardships. Many men dropping out sick, were left at various towns without adequate supplies and attendance, some of them making their way back along the terrible roads.

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THE MARKETS.

PITTSBURGH.

Grain, Flour and Feed.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	64 1/2 @ 65
WHEAT—No. 1 new.....	66 @ 67
CORN—No. 2 yellow.....	40 @ 41
No. 2 yellow, spotted.....	37 @ 38
Mixed ear.....	37 @ 38
OATS—No. 2 white.....	30 @ 31
No. 1 white.....	30 @ 31
FLOUR—Winter patent.....	3 55 @ 3 65
Fancy straight winter.....	3 40 @ 3 50
Bye—No. 2.....	64 @ 66
HAY—No. 1 Timothy.....	18 25 @ 19 00
Clover, No. 1.....	12 00 @ 12 50
FEDERAL—No. 1 white mid., ton.....	18 00 @ 18 50
Brown middlings.....	16 00 @ 16 50
Brn. bulk.....	15 75 @ 16 00
STRAW—Wheat.....	6 00 @ 6 25
Oat.....	6 00 @ 6 50
SEEDS—Fancy Blue Grass.....	1 25 @ 1 50
Timothy, prime.....	1 20 @ 1 45

Dairy Products.

BUTTER—Creamery.....	27 @ 28
Ohio creamery.....	25 @ 26
Fancy country roll.....	18 @ 19
CHEESE—Ohio, new.....	13 @ 14
New York, new.....	13 @ 14

Poultry, Etc.

HENS—per pair.....	55 @ 60