

## ARE FORCED TO EAT HUMAN FLESH.

### STARVING CHINESE.

Famine in Two Proliferous Provinces of China Causes Scenes of Savagery—Crops a Failure for Several Years.

Reports received from Singan Fu all agree that the famine in provinces of Shansi and Shensi is one of the worst in the history of China. All information on the subject is necessarily from Chinese sources and is fragmentary, but the stories are all to the same effect, picturing a condition of affairs that is calculated to arouse the sympathy of the world for the stricken people. It is estimated that two-thirds of the people are without sufficient food or the means of obtaining it. The weather is bitterly cold and this adds to the misery and starvation. There is little fuel in either province, and the people are tearing out the woodwork of their houses to obtain fuel to keep themselves warm. Oxen, horses, dogs and other animals used by the farmers to aid them in their work in ordinary times have practically all been sacrificed to satisfy hunger.

For three years the crops have been failures in both provinces. There was more or less famine in previous seasons, and the people were in poverty when the winter began. Their condition has since been growing steadily worse. Letters state that cannibalism is practiced now to a considerable extent. Parents driven insane by want and the cries of their children, for food, which they are unable to provide, kill the little ones rather than listen to their cries of distress and see their sufferings.

While the famine is said to be worst in Shansi, it is almost as bad in Shensi, which is particularly interesting now because it is in that province that the court has taken refuge. The court is literally surrounded by these horrors. It is little wonder that the emperor and dowager empress are ready to sacrifice almost everything to bring about conditions that will enable them to return to Peking.

### MURDERED WHILE ASLEEP.

Woman's Throat Cut While Resting on a Couch With Her Children.

Mrs. Rosa Bott, a pretty Italian woman, of Pittsburg, Pa., was murdered Wednesday afternoon while sleeping on a couch in her parlor. Lying on the couch with Mrs. Bott were two of her children, a little girl, 9 years old, and a baby boy, aged about 15 months.

The positive identity of the murderer or murderers is not known, but suspicion points to "Fred" Bott, the dead woman's husband, and to his cousin, named "Jim" Bott. This clue was furnished by the little daughter of the murdered woman, who was awakened by a noise in the room only to see "Jim" Bott, with a burning match in his hand, bending over the prostrate body of the dead woman. She started up in alarm, when the man with frightened visage, ran hastily out of the room and disappeared over the hill at the back of the house. He is still at large, as is also the husband of the dead woman, and every effort is being made to locate them.

### BLOWN TO ATOMS.

Driver and Team Disappear After 700 Quarts of Nitro-Glycerine Explodes.

By an explosion of 700 quarts of nitroglycerine at the magazine of the Gas Belt Torpedo Company, four miles northeast of Alexandria, Ind., Sunday, Perry Fort, a carrier for the company, with his team of horses, the wagon and the magazine were blown to atoms, not a vestige of either having been found after the accident.

A hole 15 feet deep and 40 feet wide was left where the magazine had stood. Windows were generally shattered in Alexandria and the report was distinctly heard at Kokomo, Muncie, Marion and Ellwood.

### Heavy Snow in France.

The southeast of France is covered with a heavy fall of snow and communication is interrupted. The street railroad service has ceased. At Valence the roof of a freight station was crushed in by the snow and three persons were killed and eight wounded. The snow is 80 centimetres deep.

### AN OLD LAW REVIVED.

State of Texas May Seize Guffey's Oil Gusher Under Its Provision.

The question whether the State shall retain the oil lands for the school fund has been raised and is in controversy. The law specifies that such land must be defined as mineral land before it can be retained. Opinion among the State officials is divided. If the question is decided in favor of the Commonwealth the oil from the great Guffey gusher, near Beaumont, owned by Guffey & Galey, of Pittsburg, may become the property of the State of Texas. State Land Commissioner Charles Rogan claims that the public free school land act, passed by the Legislature in 1883, contains a provision that all oil minerals found on school lands on and after the passage of that law shall belong to the State. Nearly all the lands in that section of East Texas, which is embraced in the new oil field, belonged to this school fund and have since been sold.

### Wolves Killing Sheep.

Berrien county, Mich., has a pack of wolves that are destroying sheep by the hundreds, and the hunters are making an effort to rid that part of the State of the beasts.

### Combat Near Persian Gulf.

Reports have arrived from Bombay of a sanguinary battle near Kowit on the Persian Gulf, between the Sheikhs of Kowit and Binrashed, who calls himself king of Arabia.

Binrashed had 20,000 men, partially armed with rifles, while the Sheikhs had Binrashed marched on Kowit and the Sheikhs advanced to meet him.

The battle which was fought by night lasted from sunset until dawn. Binrashed charged repeatedly, but he was completely routed by the Sheikhs, who captured a great quantity of booty.

## LATEST NEWS NOTES.

A case of bubonic plague has been diagnosed at Cardiff, Wales.

The 60-day term of the Puerto Rican house of delegates has adjourned.

Several cases of leprosy have been discovered in a family in Mersoburg, Prussian Saxony.

Over 2,000 persons were injured in the funeral crushes in London, and two persons fell dead.

As a result of a lamp explosion in Milwaukee, Wis., five children were smothered to death.

Fire destroyed nearly all the business houses of Tolono, Ill., entailing losses estimated at \$100,000.

Tom Childs, of Phoenix, Ariz., a wealthy cattleman, killed Miguel Lasado in a duel with pistols.

The Mexican troops have defeated the Maya Indians, inflicting a loss of over 300 killed and wounded.

Edward G. Wiles, ex-tax collector of Hudson, Mass., is under arrest, charged with being \$5,000 short.

Maj. John L. Rittering, of St. Joseph, Mo., consul general at Montreal, denies that he is about to resign.

Imperfect organization of miners in Central Pennsylvania district is making trouble for Pittsburg operators.

Former United States Senator David B. Hill says he will decline the Democratic nomination for President.

The total receipts from customs in Cuba during 1900 were \$16,084,376, an increase of \$1,200,015 over 1899.

The lower House of the Tennessee Legislature adopted a resolution expressing sympathy with the Boers.

Over 4,000 silk workers are on strike at Scranton, Pa. The majority of strikers are girls under 16 years of age.

The New York State board of health adopted a resolution condemning the sanitary condition of Sing Sing prison.

Memorial post, G. A. R., of Cleveland, O., has received formal application from Senator M. A. Hanna for membership.

Eighteen of the rebellious Creek Indians, including Chief Crazy Snake, have been landed in jail at Muskogee, I. T.

The will of Mrs. Vaughn Marquis, of Ashland, Wis., disposes of an estate valued at half a million dollars to charity.

At Springfield, Ill., a bill appropriating \$75,000 for the State to be represented at the Buffalo exposition passed the House.

The premier will ask the Storting to vote 20,000 kroner in order to relieve the storm-ridden districts in Northern Norway.

A bill has just been introduced into the Minnesota Legislature prohibiting the marriage of women more than 45 years old.

In the Illinois Senate a bill was introduced making it a misdemeanor to sell or bring into the State any cigarettes or cigarette paper.

E. H. Harriman has secured Union Pacific railroad for consolidation with the Southern Pacific, making road 15,000 miles long.

The St. Louis municipal assembly passed a bill to issue \$5,000,000 of 3 1/2 per cent. bonds in aid of the World's exposition in 1903.

Rev. Dr. W. A. Martin, of New York, president of the Imperial university at Peking, will return to China about the middle of February.

News has come to the effect that the republics of Costa Rica and Nicaragua again have a quarrel which may possibly result in hostilities.

The Norwegian steamship Fortuna has sailed from Philadelphia for Europe, carrying a cargo of railroad rolling stock valued at \$220,880.

Sir Cavendish Boyle has been appointed governor of Newfoundland, succeeding Sir Henry McCallum, appointed governor of Natal.

John P. Mason, 48 years old, defaulting clerk of the Continental National bank, New York, committed suicide, shooting himself in the head.

A detachment of the Forty-fourth infantry under Lieutenant Hecker was ambushed by Filipinos, losing six dead, two missing and four wounded.

On conviction of selling their votes, 21 men have been disfranchised by the circuit court at Crawfordsville, Ind., for periods ranging from 12 to 20 years.

Charles D. Pierce, consul general of the Orange Free State, gives out a statement that the Boers have 25,000 well-equipped men in the field and can carry on the war indefinitely.

The statement is published that Miss Helen Gould has given \$400,000 for the land, building and equipment of a home for a naval branch of the Y. M. C. A.

The father of Fred Alexander, who was burned at the stake in Leavenworth, Kas., on January 15, is taking legal advice about suing the city and county.

James S. Harlan, of Chicago, attorney general for the island of Puerto Rico, has taken the oath of office. He will leave for Puerto Rico on February 23.

The Iowa supreme court decided that the biennial election amendment to the State constitution was not legally adopted and there will be an election next fall.

It is reported that Lord Kitchener wishes to send 10,000 Boer prisoners to India. He proposes to locate them in the state of Nilgira, province of Oassa, Bengal.

The Snake Indians have become so peaceful that the United States cavalry will not be sent against them. Crazy Snake, the chief, will probably be tried for treason.

Joseph Swope, a smelter in the United States mint, has been arrested, charged with stealing abrased subsidiary coin. He was held in \$1,000 bail for further hearing.

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A bronze memorial tablet in honor of Pontiac, the famous Indian chief, was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies by the Daughters of the American Revolution of St. Louis, Mo.

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## DANGER IN RAILROAD COMBINES.

### WARNS THE COUNTRY.

Millionaire Russell Sage Says Consolidations Like the \$250,000,000 Southern and Union Pacific Deal Are a Menace.

Russell Sage, the great millionaire financier, declares there is great danger to the country in the big railroad deals, such as the recent \$250,000,000 purchase of the Southern Pacific by the Union Pacific railroad, because they vested so much power in the hands of a few men.

"The Pacific deal is a gigantic combination in which the 12 or 13 men on the board of control get absolute control of more than 25,000 miles of railroad, and a practical monopoly of all lines leading to the Pacific.

"Such combinations of concentrated capital are sure to arouse the people, and the people once aroused are more powerful than this railroad combination or any other that might be formed. I regard it as dangerous to have such great combinations.

"It is right and proper that the capitalist who invests his money in railroads or other great enterprises should be assured of a reasonable and fair return, it is right that railroads should have an agreement not to cut rates below a fair profit-making figure, but this has been done in conventions, in meetings and not in the stifling of competition.

"You will find in the end, that this deal will excite distrust, arouse resentment and resort to retaliatory measures. The people, the state legislatures and eventually the national congress will act. Farmers will consider themselves injured by rates, states will inaugurate legislation and there will be deep hostility to combined capital. I still own interests in the Union Pacific but I disapprove of such vast combinations."

"The counsel for the government are confident of convincing Neely, apart from the stamp burning incident. W. H. Reeves, who will probably be the star witness for the government and who has been undergoing almost daily examinations by the postoffice inspectors for a month, asserts that the whole method of Neely's alleged stealings had been revealed under promise of immunity.

Several Hundred Soldiers Killed and Many Wounded in Bloody Battle.

A rebellion has broken out in the eastern part of Venezuela. Already there has been severe fighting, and the government troops have been defeated in several places.

The rebels have captured Guirín and Irapa, ports on the Gulf of Parin, and the town of Carupano, on the north coast. The losses on both sides are estimated at several hundred killed. The rebels are commanded by Gens. Juliana Costa and Juanchico Colica.

In an engagement at Los Cunas, near Irapa, the government forces had 475 killed and wounded. It is reported that 11 women, who were with the troops, were slain.

Reports from Caracas say that a prominent general has revolted as a result of an order from President Castro that certain prominent citizens should be shot for giving aid to the insurgents.

The situation in the interior of the country is said to be grave. The report is revived that Colombia is helping the insurgents.

REBELLION BREAKING UP.

Many Luzon Filipinos Took the Oath of Allegiance Sunday.

Reports from Southern Luzon say there is much disaffection in the insurgent camps. A thousand persons swore allegiance to the United States at Malabon Sunday. Caille's camp, near San Antonio, was attacked by a detachment of the Fifteenth infantry. The insurgents escaped, but a score of houses were destroyed. Detachments of the Fourth infantry and Fourth and Sixth cavalry, with a platoon of marines, have captured 140 insurgents and Ladrones in Cavite province.

Twenty wire repairers were attacked recently south of San Pablo by 300 insurgents. Two Americans were wounded and one was captured, but was subsequently rescued by reinforcements of the Forty-ninth regiment. One native was killed, seven were wounded and several were captured.

Gen. Funston reports that practically all the organized insurgents in his district have been dispersed, with the exception of disconnected bands in the mountains.

Coal for Foreign Shipment.

Probably the largest order for coal ever taken for shipment through a single purchaser has just been consummated by the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke Company, of Pittsburg, Pa., selling to a New Orleans agent and shipper 200 coalboats, averaging 25,000 bushels of coal each, which is for export trade. The total amount of 5,000,000 bushels was taken at a price one cent a bushel higher than the average prevailing price of last year in the New Orleans market. The coal is all to be sent to that point, thence to be reshipped on ocean vessels.

## DARING CRUSADE.

Four Saloons Wrecked at Anthony, Kansas, by Women—Mrs. Nation Organizes a Band of Raiders.

At Anthony, Kas., a band of fifteen W. C. T. U. women, headed by Mrs. Sheriff, of Danville, Kas., Wednesday completely wrecked the fixtures in four liquor "joints," smashing plate glass windows and mirrors and turning many gallons of liquor into the gutters.

The women, who are of the best families in Anthony, were accompanied by their husbands and sons or brothers, who assured them protection. No arrests were made and the band will, it is said, start out on a tour of destruction through Harper county, which is prolific of saloons.

Mrs. Carrie Nation has organized a band of 46 women to follow her leader, ship and assist in wiping out "joints." It was organized at a mass meeting for women called by Mrs. Nation and presided over by her at the Topeka Presbyterian church. Every seat in the house was occupied. After a short talk Mrs. Nation called for volunteers, and 46 women signed a paper which pledges them to follow Mrs. Nation wherever she may lead and do her bidding at a moment's notice. Mrs. Nation announced that they will proceed regardless of the W. C. T. U., but will give warning before resorting to violence.

ARE DESTROYING MINES.

Boers Become Riotous in Boksburg District. Peace Envoys Shot.

Telegrams from Cape Town say: The Boer attack on the Boksburg mines resulted in damages amounting to £300,000. The commissioner at Kroonstad reports that Andries Wessels, one of the peace envoys, was shot at Klipfontein by orders of General DeWet. Morgan Daal, who was another of the two Boer peace envoys, and who accompanied Andries Wessels, was shot near Lindley.

General Kitchener, telegraphing from Pretoria under date of Thursday, says: "DeWet's force crossed the Bloemfontein-Ladybrand line near Israelspoort but Hamilton's men were unable to get in touch with them. French engaged about 2,000 of the enemy at Wilge valley. The enemy retired with four killed and nine wounded. Our casualties were one killed and seven wounded. Knox reports that he engaged DeWet's forces south of Welcome. There was continuous fighting for some hours. Five Boers were buried. They removed many of their casualties in carts. Our casualties were one officer killed and one man killed and 13 wounded.

Four or five hundred Boers recently evaded the British patrols, reached Benoni and attempted to destroy the mines. Some fighting resulted and the Boers were driven off, carrying away most of their wounded and leaving two wounded behind them. The British captured three prisoners.

BIG MENAGERIE CREMATED.

Animals Valued at \$400,000 Die in Flames. Few of Collection Saved.

With pitiful screams of fright and groans of intense pain, the 75 or more animals of all descriptions confined in cages at Frank C. Bostock's zoo, which was in winter quarters in the old Cyclorama building in Baltimore, Md., were roasted or burned to death Wednesday night. The fire probably originated from a badly-insulated electric light wire outside the building. The flames spread so rapidly that it was impossible to rescue the helpless animals, and with the exception of one elephant, one camel, two donkeys and a pack of hounds, the entire herd was lost.

Mr. Bostock estimates his loss on animals at about \$400,000. The building could probably be duplicated for \$15,000 or \$20,000.

PENSIONERS IN TENNESSEE.

The State Proposes to Assist Both Northern and Southern Veterans.

A bill to amend the pension laws so as to care for all indigent and disabled Tennessee soldiers, whether in the federal or confederate armies, has been introduced in the State Senate.

The bill grants a pension of \$8.33 per month to every confederate or federal veteran over 70 years old, regardless whether or not their disabilities are from wounds or diseases contracted while in the service.

Tennessee has for many years pensioned at the figures named all confederate veterans and the bill introduced is regarded as a happy sign that the war feeling has passed or is rapidly passing away.

CABLE FLASHES.

Eight new German warships will be completed and placed in commission this year.

Field Marshal Count Gourko died Tuesday on his estate at Scharow, near Iver, Russia.

Count Tolstoi, the eminent Russian novelist and social reformer, is again seriously ill.

The Argentine Republic has offered a large tract of fertile land to Japan if it will send her 20,000 immigrants.

The Jamaican government and public are much concerned about American inaction in the case of the reciprocity treaty.

Five subordinate post officers have been arrested at Ohligs-on-the-Rhine, charged with embezzlement. All have confessed.

Two native bands have suspended payment in Bahia, Brazil. The local press ascribes the difficulty to the financial policy of the government.

Prof. A. Slaby, of the Berlin technical school, predicts that electricity will soon be produced directly from coal without the intervention of steam power.

The French torpedo boat No. 24 sank within a mile of the Havre harbor, as the result of a boiler explosion. All the crew were lost, with the exception of two.

The Russian minister of finance, M. de Witte, denies reports of intended Russian loans, particularly the \$50,000,000 loan said to have been arranged with a syndicate of American insurance companies.

## INCREASE IN MINERAL EXPORTS.

### RAPID GROWTH.

The Sale of Crude and Manufacturing Metals Show a Surprising Gain in the Last Decade.

Mineral products, crude and manufactured, have become in recent years a very important feature of the domestic exports of the United States. Of the \$1,565,228,606 exports of domestic products, including gold and silver, in the year 1900, \$436,227,477 in value were composed of mineral products. This 28 per cent. of the total domestic exports originated beneath the surface of the earth. The exports of iron and steel amounted, in 1900, in round terms, to \$139,600,000; mineral oils of all classes to \$75,000,000; copper to nearly \$60,000,000; coal and coke over \$22,000,000; paraffin more than \$8,000,000; phosphates more than \$8,000,000, while the gold production exported amounted to \$52,787,524, and the silver to \$59,372,668.

In iron and steel manufactures the exportations of 1896 amounted to but \$27,000,134, and in 1900 they were, exclusive of iron ore, \$129,633,480, or nearly five times as much in 1900 as a decade earlier. Of copper the exportations of 1890 were \$5,918,395, and in 1900, \$59,881,529, or nearly 10 times as much as in 1890, a decade earlier. Of mineral oils the exportations of 1890 were \$52,470,943, and in 1900, \$74,493,797, an increase of about 50 per cent.

Of coal and coke the exports of 1890 were \$7,277,692, and in 1900, \$22,881,047, or about three times as much as in 1890; and of phosphates the exports of 1890 were \$1,818,439, and in 1900 \$5,217,500, or about three times as much as a decade earlier. Taking the entire group of minerals, metals and the manufactures thereof, exclusive of gold and silver, the total for 1890 was \$103,593,955, and in 1900, \$324,167,286, or more than three times as much as in 1890, while of gold and domestic product exported in 1890 amounted to \$28,684,660, and in 1900 to \$52,787,524, and of silver the exports of 1890 were \$10,698,180, and those of 1900 \$59,372,668. The value of metals, minerals and the products thereof exported in 1900, exclusive of gold and silver, shows an increase of 218 per cent. over 1890, and including gold and silver an increase of 210 per cent., while the total domestic exports, including gold and silver, showed during the same time an increase of but 77 per cent.

ARMOUR'S FAMILY GETS ALL.

The Widow and Son Each Receive Half of \$15,000,000.

The will of the late P. D. Armour, according to statements made in an application for letters testamentary filed in the probate court at Chicago, by Malvina B. Armour, widow of deceased, and J. Ogden Armour, his son. Mrs. Armour and J. Ogden Armour are male executrix and executor, and are named as legatees, each receiving one-half of the estate.

Of the testator's wealth \$14,900,000 is in personal property and \$100,000 in realty. P. D. Armour and Lester Armour, grandchildren of the testator by his son, P. D. Armour, Jr., upon attaining the age of 25, shall each receive \$1,000,000, half of this from Malvina B. Armour, their grandmother, and half from J. Ogden Armour, their uncle. At 30 years each is to receive a similar amount from grandmother and uncle.

VIGILANCE COMMITTEE FORMED.

Ohio River Towns in Indiana Warring With Worthless Negroes.

Cities and towns along the Ohio river have begun a crusade against negroes. The trouble dates back to the lynching of negroes at Rockport and Boonville for the murder of Simmons. The Evansville (Ind.) board of safety has ordered the police to arrest all strange negroes and bring them before the police judge. If they cannot give any reason for being here they will be sentenced to the rock pile. It is estimated there are 2,000 colored men in that city who refuse to work, spend their time in the low saloons and live the best they can. On election day they are in the market for the highest bidder. In some towns no negro is permitted to remain. Vigilance committees have been appointed at Grand View, Enterprise, Tell City and Leavenworth, Ind.

CASHIER LOCKED IN VAULT.

Robber Then Riffled the Kansas City Office of the Standard Oil Company.

The Standard Oil Company's Kansas City office was robbed Monday afternoon of \$700. The robber was unmasked, and is described as a young man with the appearance of a laborer.

The office was in charge of W. Irwin, the cashier, who was making up his accounts. At the command to throw up his hands he looked up to see himself facing a six-shooter. Irwin was told to get into the big vault and he did so. The robber shut the door and then held himself to all the cash in sight.

About six years ago this same office was robbed of \$800 by one man in much the same manner that this robbery took place. The police caught the thief, but no money ever was recovered.

The Surplus for January.

The receipts of the government from all sources during January, 1901, were \$47,520,286, a decrease, as compared with the corresponding month last year, of about \$492,000. The expenditures for the month were \$40,109,707, which leaves the surplus for the month \$7,410,579.

Mexicans Using Machine Guns.

Mexican troops escorting laborers engaged in opening roads in the southern part of the peninsula of Yucatan were desperately attacked by 1,000 rebel Indians, who were only driven off by the employment of machine guns, which were effectively used.

Oil Struck in Iowa.

Oil has been discovered near Sioux City, Ia., in such quantities that a big oil company of Ohio has determined to lease thousands of acres of land, drill wells and erect a refinery in this city.

## CONGRESSIONAL NOTES.

Doings of the National Law Makers at Washington—Ship Subsidy Bill, and Postal Appropriation Bill on Hand.

### Army Bill Passed.

By a vote of 33 to 25 the Senate adopted the army reorganization bill Thursday. In the House the agricultural appropriation bill was taken up and an amendment adopted to increase the item for farmers' bulletins to \$50,000.

### Southern War Claim Paid.