

HAIL OF METEORS SURROUNDS SHIP

TERRIFIC OCEAN STORM.

For Hours Lightning Played Around Foremast Head of Steamer West-ernland—Heavy Seas.

Through one of the most brilliant meteorological storms ever known on the western Atlantic, the International Mercantile Marine Company's steamship Westernland plowed for 24 hours on February 24 and part of the following day.

BUY FOREIGN MATERIALS.

Nearly 140,000 Tons of Raw and Half-Finished Supplies are Imported.

Nearly 140,000 tons of foreign iron and steel material—pig iron, scrap iron, old iron, rails, crop ends, iron plate, bar iron, structural iron, steel billets, steel wire rods, scrap steel, old steel rails, also iron ore, iron pyrites and manganese ore—were imported at New York last month.

OIL FOUND IN MEXICO.

There is great interest in the discovery of oil at the Aragon baths near Mexico City, Mexico. Oil indications have been found in the southwestern part of the valley of Mexico, beyond the suburb of Taubaya.

ILLINOIS MINERS' WAGES INCREASED.

The Illinois coal operators and miners have signed a scale for a 6-cent raise over last year's wages. A threatened strike of 40,000 miners was averted.

FARM HANDS ORGANIZING.

Illinois Farmers Alarmed and Are Joining Associations. Frederick W. Job, secretary of the Chicago Employers' association, who has been organizing the employers throughout Illinois, has discovered that the farm hands are organizing and at some places general hands who work the year around will demand it.

SPANISH GUNS JUNK.

General Brooks Had So Testified, but Will Be Taxed. Nearly 400 ancient Spanish pieces of ordnance, some bearing dates showing that they were cast nearly 200 years ago, were declared in the United States circuit court of appeals at New York to be subject to duty of 45 per cent and valued as "manufactured articles."

MONTREAL FUGITIVE HELD.

George Margolius, a former business man of Montreal, Canada, is a prisoner at Chicago, Ill., and the police are communicating with the Canadian authorities regarding what disposition will be made of the case. He disappeared from Montreal about a month ago, leaving it is said, unpaid debts aggregating \$25,000.

PORTO RICAN LOAN BILL PASSED.

The house of delegates at San Juan, Porto Rico, unanimously passed the \$1,000,000 insular loan bill. The bill will be considered by the council, but it is not probable that it will be approved by that body.

GIVEN UP LOST.

Three men and a boy who were carried away on the ice in Green Bay, Michigan, are given up as lost. They are Ole Johnson, Ruby Peterson, John Williams, John Wachter, Wachter's son, George Boyd and Julius Boghardt.

FLIGHT FOR POSTAL SERVICE.

The postoffice department will shortly adopt a flag for the postal service. Several designs are under consideration, including the figure of an eagle clutching an envelope and the present design of a post-rider on a stevedore.

FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS CLOSED

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS.

TWO GREAT FIGURES—SPEAKER HENDERSON AND GALUSHA A. GROW SAY A LAST GOODBY.

The book is closed so far as the fifty-seventh Congress is concerned. The completion of its records took place at the customary hour, noon, March 4, when in Congressional fiction the last minute of the 3d day of March had come. All incidents denoting the approach of the last hour except one were also according to custom.

ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION.

Gov. Pennypacker Designates Days for Planting of Trees. Gov. Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, issued the following Arbor day proclamation: "The success which the forestry reservation commission of Pennsylvania has achieved in the acquisition of valuable forest lands and in reclaiming the once-wilded areas of our State, has been a source of much encouragement to the people who are interested in the reforestation of our forests and in beautifying our parks and highways.

CABLE FLASHES.

Violent earth shocks were felt for two days in the district of Voigtland, Saxony. The inhabitants of Grassitz left their houses and passed the night in the streets.

PHILADELPHIA MINT TURNS OUT FIRST OF PESO PIECES.

Col. Edwards, chief of the insular division of the war department, who made preparations in advance to carry out the provisions of the Philippine currency act, with view to relieving the financial strain in the islands, has just procured from the Philadelphia mint the first of the new silver money to be used in the Philippines, in the shape of a "peso." The new coin is simple and chaste in design.

BLow AT PROHIBITION IN KANSAS.

The Kansas supreme court declared invalid the nuisance clause of the prohibitory law which practically destroys the injunction section in the statute and makes it more difficult than ever to enforce the law as an entirety. The clause in question made places where liquor is made or sold a common nuisance.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

Senators Gamble and Kittredge and Representatives Burk and Martin presented President Roosevelt a solid gold invitation to attend the Black Hill Mining Congress, to be held at Deadwood and Lead, S. D., next September.

REAR ADMIRAL GLASS WISHED FROM AMAPALA, HONDURAS, THAT ALL WAS QUIET THERE AND THAT REPORTS FROM THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY INDICATE THE SUCCESS OF PRESIDENT BONILLA, WHO WENT TO WAR TO FORCE SIERRA, FORMER PRESIDENT, TO SURRENDER THE EXECUTIVE CHAIR.

SCHLEY ESCAPES DANGER.

Admiral Schley and party were guests of the citizens at Riverside, California. The party was taken for a ride about the city in auto cars. The admiral and party narrowly escaped a collision with a runaway team. It was averted only by the skill of the chauffeurs, who backed the machines up the hill out of danger just as the runaway team dashed by.

PLEAD FOR OTHER SUFFERERS.

Miss Helen Keller, who, although deaf, dumb and blind, is a student at Radcliffe college, addressed, through an attendant, the Massachusetts Legislative Committee on Education in behalf of a bill for the relief of the adult blind. She said that the blind did not need the higher education, but did need help to take their places in the industry.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTES.

LVI. CONGRESS.

CONFERENCE REPORT ACCEPTED.

In the Senate Tuesday Mr. Tillman, South Carolina, by threat to defeat the Naval appropriation bill, succeeded in forcing the Senate to incorporate an old claim of his State for \$47,245 in the bill. The conference report on the sundry civil appropriation bill was agreed to. The provision for the enlargement of the capitol went out, but the provision for a building to be used as offices and committee rooms for the House of Representatives was retained.

EX-SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

The House Tuesday adopted the conference report on the sundry civil appropriation and public buildings bill. The bill to reduce the population of National bank "reserve cities" from 50,000 to 25,000 was passed. The bill to give ex-soldiers and sailors of the Civil war preference in appointment and retention in the civil service was passed.

SENATE SPECIAL SESSION.

The Senate met Thursday in extra session, beyond swearing in the new members, listening to the reading of the President's message, no business was transacted. Mr. Tillman, South Carolina, consumed the greater portion of the session in a speech defending his action in holding up the adoption of the resolution when a rising vote was ordered. When the Speaker's gavel fell and General Henderson came down from the rostrum to shake hands with the members gathered in front of it, there was an effort on the part of some of the Democrats to prevent the rank and file of the Speaker's partisan opponents going up to shake hands with him. But this failed. While an improvised quartet sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," the members filed past the retiring Speaker to bid him goodby.

NEW RIFLES FOR THE MILITIA.

Guardsmen Will Be Equipped With the Krag-Jorgensens. Gen. Crozier, chief of ordnance, has arranged for arming the militia with the Krag-Jorgensen rifle. He has collected about 60,000 of these arms at the arsenals at Augusta, Ga.; Benicia, Cal.; Rock Island, Ill., and San Antonio, Tex., and more will be shipped to those points from the armory at Springfield, Mass. Nearly 35,000 Krag-Jorgensens have been sent to the arsenal at Rock Island, which is the central distribution point for the Middle West.

DECIDE TO STRIKE.

Brickmakers Take That Plan to Enforce Demands. Between 3,000 and 4,000 brickmakers at St. Louis are out on a strike to enforce demands for a recognition of their union, for a change of hours and an increase of wages, and it is thought that as many more in allied trades will follow, unless some agreement shall be reached between the brick manufacturers and the building material trades council.

GOVERNOR SIGNS FAMINE BILL.

Measure Appropriating \$5,000 for Swedish Sufferers a Law. Gov. Yates at Springfield, Ill., attached his signature to the bill appropriating \$5,000 for the sufferers in North Sweden and Finland, and it is now a law. The commission provided for in the act to be appointed by the Governor to distribute the money will probably consist of Senator Lundberg and Representatives S. E. Erickson and Samuelson.

SOLDIERS LIKE PHILIPPINES.

Seven Hundred Men Ordered Home Apply for Transfers. The transport Thomas sailed for home, taking two batteries and four companies of artillery, the first long service troops returning. Sixty of the artillerymen expressed a desire to remain in the islands. Seven hundred men out of five cavalry and infantry regiments ordered home have applied for transfers to commands remaining in the Philippines, but Gen. Davis is unable to comply, as the authorized strength of the regiments which remain is already exceeded.

SHENANDOAH RIOTERS CONVICTED.

Wladistaw Rovinski, Anthony Klinowicz, Stanislaw Lukowski, Joseph Wenschnes and Anthony Radziewicz, five of eleven defendants who were tried at Pottsville, Pa., for rioting in Shenandoah on July 30 when Joseph Bedall was fatally beaten by a mob, were found guilty.

ENGLISH COAL SYNDICATE.

A syndicate of English capitalists is seeking to acquire coal fields in the Danville section of Illinois. If the deal is closed a new railroad will be built from Danville to Chicago, a distance of 125 miles. Options have been secured on 26,980 acres of rich coal land.

GEN. ROBERT S. FOSTER DIED.

Gen. Robert S. Sanford Foster died at Indianapolis, Ind. He was one of the distinguished generals of the Civil war, having risen from the ranks.

MOODY TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION

CROWNSHIELD RETIRES.

COMMANDER IN CHARGE OF EUROPEAN SQUADRON DECIDES TO QUIT COUNTRY'S SERVICE.

Two interesting and significant communications have been received at the Navy Department from the European station. One was from Rear Admiral Arent Schuyler Crownshield, commanding the European squadron, asking to be placed on the retired list of the navy under the provisions of the pension law. The other was from Lieutenant Henry H. Ware, naval secretary to Admiral Crownshield, resigning his commission in the navy. Prompt action was taken by Secretary Moody in regard to the case of Rear Admiral Crownshield, and it was decided to relieve him from active duty at once. His application for retirement undoubtedly will be granted. Rear Admiral Charles S. Cotton, commanding of the navy yard at Norfolk, Va., was assigned to the command of the European squadron and will start for Europe as soon as he can arrange his official and private affairs. The Navy Department contented itself at first with the brief statement of the Admiral's application for retirement, without explanation of the reason therefor. It is known, however, that the officer was dissatisfied with the rearrangement of the armored squadrons following the Caribbean maneuvers last winter, which deprived him of the further use of the Illinois as a flagship. Admiral Crownshield retires under the pension law, and an advanced grade, in consideration of at least 40 years of creditable service. He is now No. 20 on the list of Rear Admirals, and thus in the junior grade, so that his retirement will place him in the first grade where his retire pay will be \$5,625 per annum, or \$1,500 more than he would receive were he retired in his present grade. It is expected that the Admiral will haul down his flag about March 30. He will not return to the United States on a naval vessel. Admiral Cotton was instructed to go to the squadron at the earliest moment and he replied that he would close up his business at the Norfolk navy yard and be ready to start in about three weeks. Admiral Crownshield's retirement in the ordinary course, will promote Captains Cook and Harrington to be Rear Admirals.

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LATEST NEWS NOTES.

THE NEW CRUISER CHATTANOOGA WAS LAUNCHED AT ELIZABETH, N. J.

The Dekum block, Portland, Ore., was damaged \$185,000 by fire. Count Boni de Castellane arrived at New York for a month's visit. Washab employees will not strike until court has taken action on the injunction. Strike commission held a session on question of payment of miners by weight or measurement. Buffalo police no longer have Mrs. Payne under surveillance in connection with the Burdick murder. Fire at Henderson, Ky., destroyed the Roband Tobacco Company's plant; loss \$75,000; insurance \$50,000. Administration is much concerned about bitter opposition manifested to ratification of the Cuban treaty. George H. Bowman died, making the eighth death from the cement mill explosion at New Village, N. J. Daniel J. Sully, who lost over a million on the New York cotton exchange, is said to have recouped his losses. The Western Retail Lumber Dealers' association withdraw from affiliation with the National association. Nineteen persons were drowned by a ferryboat capsizing at Spler Falls, about 10 miles from Glens Falls, N. Y. United States Steel Corporation announced plans for pushing bond conversion and expenditure of \$36,000,000. President Ramsey of the Washab rejected the ultimatum presented by employees who demand increased wages. Hiram Curry, 26 years old, at Kent O., of Meadville, Pa., was knocked down by a switch engine and crushed to death. William Randolph, a wealthy land owner at Moorfield, W. Va., was drowned in the south branch of the Potomac river. Carnegie Steel Company contracted to deliver 11,500 tons of armor plate to government at price approximating \$4,700,000. Four persons injured by collapse of shed, from which they were watching steamer burn at Montreal, Canada are likely to die. A. L. Wade was sentenced to be electrocuted on June 27 at Columbus, O., for the murder of Kate Sullivan two years ago. Fire destroyed the Otis house, one of the largest hotels in Watertown, N. Y., and completely wrecked the stores in the block. Attorney General Knox was the chief guest at a dinner given by United States District Attorney Burnett in New York. Prof. Ernest Fox Nichols has resigned the Wilder professorship of physics in Dartmouth college to go to Columbia university. The police of Buffalo, N. Y., are more than ever convinced that a woman murdered Edwin C. Burdick in the smoking room at his home. Chris Evans reported to United Mine Workers' headquarters that West Virginia miners were shot by Deputy Marshal Cunningham while they were in bed. Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and other New York women have been invited to participate in a Lenten retreat at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, New York. President Roosevelt will be present at the international convention of the railway Y. M. C. A., which will be held in Topeka, Kan., April 30 to May 3. In the House of Commons Premier Balfour announced that the British government had accepted the invitation to participate in the St. Louis exposition. John T. McDonough, former secretary of state of New York, started for Manila, to fill his new position as judge of the supreme court of the Philippines. Police Captain Samuel Boyd, of St. Louis, was suspended after being indicted on the charge of allowing in his district houses where girls were held as prisoners. Mrs. Edward King, at Cincinnati, a sister of Alfred Knapp, was to-day allowed police protection. She told the press that a woman interested in Knapp's defense had threatened her life. To the excessive fervor with which he conducted a recent revival meeting is attributed the death of Rev. Arthur Wilson, of the First Christian church, Bloomington, Ill. United States Marshal Morse took possession of \$246,000 in cash and the office and furniture of John J. Ryan & Co., the turf investment company of St. Louis, Mo. About 100 canal boats and barges, loaded with coal, are tied up in the Erie basin, Brooklyn, with their owners unable to sell their cargoes for the price demanded. Henry M. Frey, a member of the Young Men's Christian Association at Chicago, was found guilty of perjury and sentenced to an indefinite term in the penitentiary and to a fine of \$1,000. The trustees of Barnard college, New York, announced that a gift of \$1,000,000 had been made to the institution by a person known only by President Butler and Treasurer Plimpton. A plan has been adopted for pensioning Cornell university professors who will be retired after attaining the age of 70. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars has been given the university for this purpose. Gov. Peabody ordered a battery of artillery, a troop of cavalry and five companies of infantry, about 500 men, to Colorado City, to protect the works of the reduction company from strikers. The people of the Aran Isles are in semi-starvation in consequence of the storms on the west coast of Ireland. The wants of the population are ordinarily supplied by the steamer three times weekly, but communication has been cut off since February 21.

THE MARKETS.

PITTSBURG.

Grain, Flour and Feed. Wheat-No. 2 red... 74 75. Rye-No. 2... 50 51. Corn-No. 2 yellow, ear... 53 54. Mixed ear... 54 55. Oats-No. 2 white... 41 42. Flour-Winter patent... 3 90 4 00. Fancy straight winter... 3 80 3 90. Hay-Choice... 15 16. Clover No. 1... 15 16. Potatoes-Per bush... 12 13. Brown middlings... 19 20. Bran, bulk... 20 21. Straw-Wheat... 20 21. Oat... 20 21.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Butter-Elgin creamery... 30 31. Ohio creamery... 29 30. Cheese-Ohio, roll... 14 15. New York, new... 14 15.

POULTRY, ETC.

Hens-Per lb... 14 15. Eggs-Fa. and Ohio, fresh... 18 19.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Green Beans-per bush... 30 32. Potatoes-Fancy white per bush... 40 42. Cabbage-per bush... 12 13. Onions-per barrel... 1 30 1 32.

BALTIMORE.

Flour-Winter Patent... 3 75 3 83. Wheat-No. 2 red... 70 71. Corn-mixed... 53 54. Butter-Ohio creamery... 28 29.

PHILADELPHIA.

Flour-Winter Patent... 3 55 3 71. Wheat-No. 2 red... 70 71. Corn-No. 2 mixed... 51 52. Butter-Creamery... 28 29. Eggs-Pennsylvania brats... 18 19 1/2.

NEW YORK.

Flour-Patents... 3 85 4 00. Wheat-No. 2 red... 70 71. Corn-No. 2 white... 50 51. Oats-No. 2... 41 42. Eggs-Bureau of Sanitary... 17 17 1/2.

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE.

Prime heavy, 1600 to 2000 lbs... 5 25 5 60. Prime, 1200 to 1600 lbs... 5 15 5 39. Medium, 1000 to 1200 lbs... 4 90 5 10. Fat heifers... 4 75 5 39. Butcher, 800 to 1000 lbs... 4 40 4 79. Common to fair... 3 30 4 15. Common to good fat bulls and cows... 2 90 3 30. Milk cows, each... 2 31 3 00. Extra milk cows... 1 31 5 00.

HOGS.

Prime heavy hogs... 7 43 7 50. Prime medium weights... 7 30 7 40. Best heavy Yorkers and medium... 7 30 7 45. Good to choice Yorkers... 6 90 7 15. Good pigs and light Yorkers... 6 75 6 95. Pigs, common to good... 6 70 6 75. Common heavy... 6 50 6 75. Hogs... 5 75 5 75. Slugs... 5 90 5 90.

Sheep.

Extra, medium wethers... 3 50 5 75. Good to choice... 3 15 5 10. Medium... 3 30 5 00. Common to fair... 2 50 4 00.

LAMBS.

Lambs, clipped... 6 75 7 00. Lambs, good to choice... 6 00 6 50. Lambs, common to fair, clipped... 5 75 6 75. Spring lambs... 6 50 7 00.

Calves.

Veal, extra... 7 00 9 00. Veal, good to choice... 6 00 8 50. Veal, common heavy... 5 25 6 25. Veal, common to fair... 5 00 6 50.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Business Situation More Favorable.

Freight and Fuel Movements Somewhat Improved.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: Further improvement in the movement of freight and fuel makes the general situation more favorable, although shippers are still complaining and pig iron furnaces are not able to run steadily. Numerous labor struggles also interrupt manufacturing, yet mills and shops are producing freely as a rule. Jobbers and wholesalers are buoy, while spring retail trade has opened very well in many lines, notably wearing apparel. Permits for building operations show large gains over last year's figures, giving additional strength to lumber and other materials. Prices of commodities scarcely altered during February. Dun's index number being \$101.667 on March 1, against \$100.929 a month previous. Conditions in the iron and steel industry need no other elucidation than the plans announced by the United States Steel corporation. The past week has brought out a large quantity of new orders for pipes, tubes, agricultural implements, structural shapes and railway equipment. A heavy tonnage of steel rails was placed, particularly for trolley lines. Quotations are firmly held in all departments of this industry, and in several instances the week has brought a higher level. Tin plates were advanced \$4 a ton. Billets, bars and pig iron are still in great demand, and further imports have been arranged. This business would be still heavier but for the strength of foreign markets. Spinners are growing very conservative in regard to accepting contracts calling for distant deliveries. Cotton goods owing to the extreme uncertainty as to what the raw material will cost. Print cloths are higher. Fine cotton fabrics for the spring of 1904 are opened although only a limited business has been done. Dealings are small in woolsens and worsteds, but mills are fully occupied. The spring clothing trade is satisfactory, especially in staple lines. New lines of fancy worsted goods have not sold freely, and opening prices are maintained with difficulty. A firmer tone is reported in the dress goods division. Footwear has lost nothing in strength, but somewhat in activity, as buyers are placing orders cautiously. A large volume of contracts could be taken at old prices. Failures this week numbered 229 in the United States, against 176 last year, and 16 in Canada, compared with 17 a year ago.

Bradstreets says: In iron and steel demand is improving and prices are hardening. Imports for January are fully six times as large as in the same month a year ago, and for the seven months they aggregate over 1,000,000 tons. Wheat, including flour, exports for the week ending March 5, aggregate 5,491,488 bushels, against 2,656,878 last week, 4,998,944 in this week a year ago, and 4,328,528 in 1901.