

NINE LIVES WERE LOST IN STORM.

A MILLION DOLLARS DAMAGE.

Rivers Became Raging Torrents. Fierce Gale Along Atlantic Coast—Traffic Crippled.

Nine lives were sacrificed in accidents caused by the deluge of rain, and property worth many millions was destroyed by the flood in and around New York City. Such a downpour has never before been chronicled in New York and it will require several weeks for the municipal authorities and the railroad corporations to report the damage. In many respects the storm was similar to the great blizzard of March, 1888, as it came from the southeast and was drawn here in the path of another storm already raging. The weather was warm, however, and there was a phenomenal rain instead of snow. In the Chesapeake bay the flood tides reached an unprecedented height, driven in from the roaring ocean by the gale, and at Norfolk, Va., the water front of the city was feet deep in water pounding and surging into the city. In Brooklyn the damage was even greater than in Manhattan. Miles of outlying territory were submerged and the only means of communication was by hastily constructed rafts. Five horses were drowned in one of the city streets. A lineman was killed by electricity while fixing wires underneath the elevated road. Paterson, N. J., which is just recovering from the ravages of fire followed by flood, again suffered. Mary Hadley, 14 years old, was standing on a bridge crossing what is known as Moinsy Ann brook, when the bridge was washed away, carrying her to death.

The dam confining the waters of Poughkeepsie Lake, N. J., burst. The iron bridge across the Ramapo river was carried away and houses below it were partially submerged. A Pompton was isolated, as no trains could pass. The lake, which was emptied, was more than a mile long and half a mile wide. Nearly all the cities in northern New Jersey were partly flooded. Electric light plants had to close and schools and many houses were wrecked.

CASTRO WANTS CASH.

Orders Forcible Collection of Taxes and Customs from Foreigners.

Embassies of President Castro of Venezuela have arrived at Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela, with orders to collect forcibly not only the taxes but the custom house duties already paid by importers from May 1902 to August, 1902, the period during which the revolutionists occupied that city as in government de facto. The amount demanded is about \$1,000,000. The foreigners, especially the firms of Blohm & Co., German; Palazzi & Co., French; Boccardo & Co., Italian; and Dalton & Co., American, have refused to pay, claiming that the duties had already been legally paid. Menaces and vexatious tactics are employed against the foreigners. Herr Sprick, a German, refused to pay back duties, and a charge of rum belonging to him, which was being landed from a steamer, was seized by the government and sold at public auction for almost nothing. The German merchant in this manner lost \$25,000. Venezuelan merchants who refuse to pay, having no protection, are imprisoned. A reign of terror exists everywhere at Ciudad Bolivar and consequently trade is paralyzed. President Castro's representative at Ciudad Bolivar is quoted as saying: "Germany and the other foreign powers obliged the Venezuelan government to pay millions. Now it is Venezuela who forces the Germans and other foreigners to reimburse them."

POSTOFFICE FRAUDS.

Fifteen New Indictments on Account of Big Swindles.

Fifteen new indictments were brought in by the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia as the final result of the investigation in the Postoffice department. The indictments involve James N. Tyler, late assistant attorney general for the Postoffice department, and his assistant, Harrison J. Barrett; James T. Motz, superintendent of the money order system; Norman Metcalf, son of James T.; Harry T. Hallenbeck, president of the Wynkoop, Hallenbeck & Crawford Company, of New York, which for several years supplied the department with its money order blanks; and William D. Loremus, who is connected with a house which has been supplying a stamp cancelling machine to the department. There were additional indictments against August W. Machen, former superintendent of free delivery; George W. Beavers, former chief of the salary and allowance division; W. Scott Towers, who was in charge of a sub-station of the Washington City postoffice, and State Senator George A. Green, of New York.

KILLED HER HUSBAND.

Drunken Man Was Stabbed Though Heart by His Wife.

While his wife, Katherine, was waiting on a customer in their restaurant at Dayton, O., W. H. Lane came home drunk and abused her, striking her with his hand and knocking her down. She fled to the kitchen, where he followed her and struck her to the floor a second time.

In falling she grabbed a long knife and thrust it through her husband's heart, killing him instantly. Two ribs were completely severed. When she saw what she had done she fled to the kitchen and hid behind the door. She was found by the police and taken to the hospital.

The Pittsburgh Horseshoe Company has been incorporated in New Jersey with a capital of \$300,000. Its incorporators are Charles Arbuthnot, R. G. Holmes, H. L. Speer and L. H. Hamilton.

DESPERATE LUNATIC.

White House Guards Had Hard Fight to Overpower Him.

Just inside the doors of the vestibule of the White House the officers on duty had a fierce hand-to-hand fight with an insane man who was determined to see President Roosevelt. The man was Peter Elliott, giving his address as Minneapolis, and although he was powerful and armed with a revolver, he was finally overpowered and carried to police van. While in the hands of the officers he began a vigorous struggle for liberty. He drew a revolver from his trousers pocket and attempted to shoot Officers James Ciscle, who wrenched the weapon from his grasp. Elliott's struggles, however, were so fierce that the two officers who were holding him could not overpower him within the cramped quarters of the van, and Officer Ciscle had to fire two shots to attract attention. Chief Usher Thomas Stone and Officer Parker, of the White House force, who had assisted in carrying Elliott to the van, attracted by the shots, rushed back to the vehicle and assisted in overpowering him.

FIGHTING RENEWED.

Muslims Reported to Have Attacked a Post on the Frontier.

News comes from the frontier of fighting between Turkish and Bulgarian troops at Demir-Kapia, both sides sustaining losses. In official quarters all knowledge of the affair is denied, but the circumstantial details indicate that there is some foundation for the accounts of the conflict. According to one report, the Turks attacked the Bulgarian frontier post. Another version says the Turks pursued a number of refugees across the frontier.

It is asserted that the Turks have frequently attempted to provoke hostilities, firing into Bulgarian territory and crossing the frontier to steal horses and sheep. The war office here is working at high pressure and 24,000 recruits will be called out three months before the usual time. Prince Ferdinand has sanctioned numerous other warlike measures. All the cavalry, except a single regiment at Sofia, has been sent into the frontier districts, where are also strong forces of artillery. Vigorous efforts are being made to prevent bands from crossing into Turkish territory. Two bands, which were sent back here, reached Sofia. The refugees in the mountains are in a terrible condition through their pursuit by the Turks and cold and hunger. Many are dying.

From insurgent sources it is reported that the Bulgarian villages of Obidit and Kremen have been pillaged and burned. Many of the inhabitants were slaughtered. The Bulgarian quarter of Beliza is in flames. Seven hundred refugees from Beliza are reported to have been killed in a Turkish ambush near Samakoff, province of Kirk-Killise.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

Weather Bureau's Summary Compiled from Reports from All Sections.

The weather bureau's weekly summary of crop conditions is as follows: In all districts east of the Rocky mountains the temperature conditions during the week ending October 5 were highly favorable for unharvested crops. The northern portions of the upper Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys and upper lake region, and parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, suffered from excessive rains, while severe drought continues in the South Atlantic, central and east gulf states, and in portions of Tennessee and Ohio valley. The corn crop has experienced another very favorable week, although the northern portions, in which rains have retarded maturing and cutting, would have done better with less moisture. Blight and rot in potatoes throughout the northern states has materially shortened the yield of this crop. Except in the middle and south Atlantic states and portions of the Ohio central Mississippi valleys where plowing and fall seed have been retarded, this work has made satisfactory progress and early sown wheat has germinated and is coming up well, fine stands being reported from Nebraska and Kansas. Recent rains in Texas have put the soil in excellent condition and seeding is now active in that State.

BED BLOWN UP.

Woman and Child Escape from a Horrible Death.

Dynamite was exploded at New Castle, Pa., under the bed in which Mrs. Mary Paglo and her year-old babe lay sleeping. The room was wrecked, a side of the house was blown out entirely, and the concussion was felt for blocks around, but the mother and child escaped without a scratch. Frank Scungio, whom the woman's husband names as co-respondent in a divorce suit now pending, is under bail to appear at a hearing to determine whether he shall be held for the crime. The empty holder in which the dynamite was placed was found under the bed, but it is evident that it was fired by means of a fuse leading to an open window. Scungio, who is labor boss at a furnace, is married, and is the father of eight children.

CABLE NOTES.

It is announced that Belgium will have a special exhibit at the St. Louis exposition. It will consist of trolley poles, signs, shop fronts, etc., with a view to showing how ordinary business streets may be made artistic.

The cold is increasing in Bulgaria and the tops of mountains are covered with snow. It is reported that the refugees, who are still in Macedonia, are dying from famine at the rate of 100 a day. All of the refugees who enter Bulgaria are supplied with food and clothing, but the majority of them are too weak or are too timorous to reach the frontier.

Owing to a widespread belief among the Mohammedan subjects that another war between Russia and Turkey is imminent, there is an extraordinary emigration of Moslems from the southern districts of Russia.

RUSSIA WILL NOT QUIT MANCHURIA.

KOREAN PARTITION ASKED.

Czar's Troops Erect Fortifications on Korean Frontier—Further Demands on China.

According to information received at Yokohama the Russian minister at Peking, M. Lessar, has informed the Chinese foreign office that Russia will never evacuate Manchuria unless her latest demands are granted. China, it is added, has appealed to the Japanese minister, M. Uchida, for Japanese assistance. The Japanese minister of Jief-Wie-Jui has filed a petition with the foreign office at Tokio asking that a Japanese warship and troops be sent to protect their interests in view of the menacing attitude of Russia. The press which reported the fortification by Russia of Yongnampho, on the Korean bank of the Yalu river, considers this action as a possible casus belli, as being an infringement of Korean integrity.

It is now feared that the promised concessions on the part of Russia are insufficient to offset her continuous menace to Korea, nor is the Sino-Japanese commercial treaty to be signed October 8, thought adequate to compensate for a permanent Russian occupation. A rumor current this evening says that definite Russian demands concerning Manchuria and Korea have been presented to Japan by Baron von Rosen.

The correspondent of the London "Daily Mail" at Kobe, Japan, telegraphs that Baron von Rosen on October 4 presented a note to the Japanese government, contending that Japan had no right to interfere in the question of the evacuation of Manchuria, which solely concerned Russia and China. The note further proposed the partition of Korea and suggested that Japan should take the southern half and Russia the northern provinces.

SHIP NEARLY SUNK.

Submarine Boat Punctures Hole in the Dahlgren.

The submarine torpedo boat Shark rammed the torpedo boat Dahlgren, which, with her crew of seven men, barely escaped sinking. Lieut. C. A. Nelson took the Shark out for a trial and steamed into the middle of the bay. The boat dived 58 feet. Those on shore who figured when she would rise were becoming alarmed when she did not appear, but suddenly she arose less than 20 feet from the Dahlgren, who was lying at the dock at Greenport, L. I. Lieut. Nelson signalled to reverse the engines, but her headway was too strong and she crashed into the port side of the Dahlgren. Water rushed into the Dahlgren and she settled alarmingly. The sailors rushed for a collision mat, which was placed over the gap. The steam pump got control of the water. A hole four feet long was torn through the plates after the Shark was tearing the paint from her bow. Lieut. Nelson said that the strong ebb tide made the Shark uncontrollable. He figured to run to the surface a short distance from the Dahlgren and prove the Shark's ability to run close to an enemy and back quickly away.

MACHINE WOULD NOT FLY.

Langley's Aerodrome Plunges into the Potomac.

The 60-foot steel-built flying machine, the climax of years of exhaustive study by Prof. Samuel P. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian institution, to solve the problem of mechanical flight in midair, was launched Wednesday, and the experiment, carefully planned and delayed for months, proved a complete failure. The immense airship sped rapidly along its seventy-foot track, was carried by its own momentum for 100 yards and then fell gradually into the Potomac river, whence it emerged a total wreck. Professor Charles M. Manly, who has been Prof. Langley's chief assistant in the work preliminary to the attempted flight, made the descent in the aerodrome and escaped with a ducking. At no time was there any semblance of flight.

WANTS SHIPS REMOVED.

Sultan of Turkey Requests Uncle Sam to Move On.

Turkey, although not inclining toward settlement favorable to the United States of pending differences, has again requested that the American warship Brooklyn and San Francisco, under command of Rear Admiral Cotton at Beirut, be withdrawn from Beirut, Syria. The state department is not inclined to accede to this request until the ports are more inclined to assist Minister Leishman's efforts to assist American physicians the same rights to practice the Ottoman empire as are possessed by physicians who are graduated of European medical schools.

FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw informed George R. Carter, secretary of the territory of Hawaii, that he would accept \$1,229,000 of Hawaiian bonds as security for deposits for circulation up to 90 per cent of their face value. The territory proposes to issue \$1,000,000 of bonds under the organic act. They are to be 5 per cent bonds and can be called in five years.

Haashi Mote, presumably a Japanese merchant, has purchased the Old United States gunboat Monocacy, now at Taku, China, for \$1,325 in gold. This information was conveyed to the navy department in a cablegram from Rear Admiral Rodley D. Evans, dated Nagasaki.

Figures, which have been prepared by the London stock exchange and issued, show a depreciation of 20,000 pounds sterling in the value of South African mining shares since peace was declared between Great Britain and South Africa.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Wilson S. Bissell, postmaster general under President Cleveland, died at Buffalo on the 6th.

Thirteen persons were drowned by the wrecking of the French tug, President Carnot off the Hook of Holland.

In the national women's golf championship match at Wheaton, Ill., Miss Anthony defeated Miss Carpenter 7 up and 6 to play.

Walter Davis, colored, was lynched at Marshall, Texas, for killing Constable Hayes, who was taking the negro to jail.

Saturday's storm, which passed through Independence, Wis., killed two persons and caused a property loss of \$128,000 and injured eight.

Four railroad laborers were killed and 13 injured, two of them probably fatally, in a collision at the Southern end of Chatsworth yard tunnel on the Southern Pacific railroad.

To proud to accept food from her neighbors, Jane Tucker, 52 years old, of New York, was found dead from heart disease, superinduced by starvation.

At Trout Creek, Mont., a saloonkeeper named Ragsdale and his bartender, name unknown, were shot and killed by cowboys whom Ragsdale had ordered out of his place.

Committees of the Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church which have been meeting in St. Louis adjourned without reaching a final agreement on a plan of union.

Enoch L. Cowart, cashier of the Navesink National bank, of Redbank, N. J., pleaded guilty to two charges, one of embezzling \$20,000 and the other in aiding of making false reports to the treasury.

In an attempt to arrest John Frost, alias Harry Egbert, wanted in Douglas county, Ore., for burglary, John G. Saxton, a well-known attorney of Beers, who was acting as special deputy sheriff, and "Jack" West, a rancher, have both been killed by Egbert.

A number of anarchists attempted to break up a meet of socialists at Ears, Wis., and precipitated a fight, during which, it is alleged, Alexander Garretto fired three shots from a revolver, wounding E. L. Corti and Emilio Vochlin. Corti, it is said, will die.

COKE OVENS BLOWN OUT.

Slump in Pig Iron Responsible for Suspensions.

A careful estimate of the number of ovens that have been blown out in the Connellsville fields during the past week is placed at 3,900. O. W. Kennedy, general superintendent of the H. C. Frick Coke Company, stated during the latter part of last week and the first part of this week 2,000 ovens belonging to the Frick company had been closed down. Besides this it is estimated that fully 1,900 more ovens belonging to the W. J. Rainey company and independent concerns throughout the region had been blown out. Mr. Kennedy, in discussing the shutdown, stated that it was due to the slump in the pig iron market, which he believes will be only temporary and that the ovens will be going again in a short time.

THE WORKING WORLD.

Steamfitters and helpers of New York City to the number of 1,600 who have been on strike here, have signed the agreement of the Building Trades Employers' Association, and taken in as members of the union 139 men who had been employed to fill their places.

Contrary to expectations the Penney iron works did not close down. But a notice was displayed stating that wages would be reduced from 10 to 20 per cent. The 600 men laid off recently on account of a reported lack of work, will return to their places in the mill to-morrow. The reduction in wages will affect the rollers principally.

New British Cabinet.

The new British cabinet is composed as follows: Mr. Brodric, former secretary, succeeds Lord George Hamilton as secretary for India; Austin Chamberlain, postmaster general, succeeds Mr. Ritchie as chancellor of the exchequer; Alfred Lytton, recorder of Oxford, succeeds Joseph Chamberlain as secretary for the colonies; H. O. Arnold-Forster, secretary to the admiralty, succeeds Mr. Brodric as secretary for war; Graham Murray, lord advocate of Scotland, succeeds Lord Balfour, of Burgh, as secretary for Scotland; Lord Stanley, financial secretary of the war office, succeeds Austin Chamberlain as postmaster general.

Three Children Drowned.

George Hoether, of Caseville, Mich., took his wife and four children rowing on the Pigeon river. While passing under a bridge one of the children stood up in the boat and capsize it. Three of the children, John, aged 12; Mary, aged 4, and Lena, aged 2, were drowned. When the boat went over the mother had Lena in her arms and made a desperate effort to save her, but the child slipped from her grasp before rescuers reached them. The father was crazed by the calamity.

BUSINESS BRIEFS.

An increase of nearly \$7,000,000 in the gross earnings of the New York Central railroad system for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1903, is shown by the annual report just issued.

BUSINESS BRIEFS.

The Kaskaskias Coal Company has been incorporated in New York. Alfred Hicks, of Pittsburg, being one of the incorporators.

Negotiations are under way by New York capitalists for the purchase of the Cuyahoga Falls, O., steel rod mill, which has been closed for some time. It is said that a company is being formed by New York people for the purpose of buying the plant and operating it. The plant gives employment to 50 men and is owned by a Pennsylvania company.

STEEL DIVIDEND REDUCED ONE-HALF

EARNINGS FALLING OFF.

Dividend on the Preferred Shares Remains at the Same Rate as From the Beginning.

At a meeting of the directors of the United States Steel Corporation the dividend rate on the common stock was reduced. They declared a dividend of one-half of one per cent. The action on this question was practically unanimous, there being only one dissenting vote.

The earnings for the third quarter of the year show a shrinkage of \$1,640,668, as compared with the same quarter a year ago. The total for the quarter ending on September 30 last was \$23,392,824, as compared with \$25,033,492 a year ago.

In Wall street, where the decision of the directors was awaited with anxiety, the action of the board was favorably received. The reduction in the dividend rate from a basis of four per cent per annum to two per cent was considered as a politic course and a step toward conservatism. In all quarters it was pointed out the reduction could be easily explained on the ground that business was falling off as indicated by the shrinkage in earnings for the quarter as well as by the heavy decrease in the amount of orders on the company's books. It was also considered a tacit admission that a contraction in business had developed.

During the recent slump in the stock market, when the bear influences drove Steel down in big drops, the Rockefeller's have been buying enormous blocks of the common stock. The story was circulated that no dividend would be declared this quarter on the common stock. This rumor, which was said to have been inspired by the Rockefeller's, helped in the pressure upon the price of the common stock.

Back of the rumor was the fact which was known to outsiders, that John D. Rockefeller would endeavor to force the directors of the corporation to yield to him in his wishes not to pay any dividend upon the common stock, or at least to cut it.

Mr. Morgan bitterly opposed Mr. Rockefeller in his scheme to prevent the payment of a dividend on the \$300,000,000 worth of the stock, which is in the hands of small investors. In fact, Mr. Morgan used all his influence to have declared the full dividend of one per cent, or four per cent a year.

THE LONGWORTH ACT.

Supreme Court Decides Changes Can Be Added to Ballots.

The Supreme Court of Ohio sustained the Longworth act which provides that constitutional amendments, when introduced by a party convention shall be added to the ballot and straight tickets be counted as an affirmative vote. The effect of this will almost certainly be the carrying of two amendments and perhaps a third. One of these will knock out the double liability of stockholders in corporations. Another provides that each county must have at least one representative in the house of representatives of the State.

TORNADO CAUSES DEATH.

Three Towns Almost Swept Out of Existence—Several Killed.

John Adams, Oscar Crittenden, George Jenson, Edward Murphy and Edward Peters were killed in a tornado that almost wiped out the little town of St. Charles, Minn. Twenty-three other persons were injured, many seriously. A tornado at Plainfield, Wis., tore down many buildings and damaged much property. Mrs. John Fisher was killed and Mark Wood, who was injured, has since died. A tornado passed two miles southeast of Princeton, Ill., killing three persons and destroying a large amount of farm property.

TWO KILLED IN DUEL.

Citizens of Mountain State Battle with Revolvers.

A duel was fought at Devon, a village near Williamson, W. Va., which resulted in the death of Andrew J. Farrell and Jacob K. Lawson, prominently known men of that section. Almost a year ago the men became enemies over a timber deal. Monday Charles, Minn. Twenty-three other persons were injured, many seriously. A tornado at Plainfield, Wis., tore down many buildings and damaged much property. Mrs. John Fisher was killed and Mark Wood, who was injured, has since died. A tornado passed two miles southeast of Princeton, Ill., killing three persons and destroying a large amount of farm property.

SWEPT BY TORNADO.

Three Killed and Many Injured in the Far West.

Three persons killed outright, two fatally injured and 14 more or less seriously hurt, with enormous property damage, is the net result of tornadoes that prevailed near Hamilton, Greenwood county, and near Aliceville, in Coffee county, Kan. The town of Aliceville, which has 200 inhabitants, was practically demolished. Many other places report more or less damage to property. Owing to the wires being broken but little news has been received.

Philippine Officials Abscond. George Forman, chief inspector, and C. J. Johnson, constabulary supply officer, both stationed at Misamis, Mindanao, whose accounts were under investigation, took \$6,000 from the safe, seized steamer and have started for Borneo. A steamer has been sent to Borneo to interrupt the fugitives.

Killed by Boxers.

News has been received at Ashley, O., that Rev. C. W. Kennedy, who went from that place as missionary to China several months ago, had been killed by Boxers.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Easier Money Proves That Business Affairs Are Becoming More Satisfactory.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: There have been no developments of importance in the commercial world. As a rule there is more caution in making contracts, especially among manufacturers. Uncertainty regarding the financial situation recedes as the season advances without producing any material pressure in connection with crop moving. The proposed reduction in pig iron output has been endorsed by all leading producers, steady prices just when changes in freight rates started another reduction. Other manufacturing news is favorable, except where the raw material markets are unsettled, or labor struggles cause trouble.

Railways are not yet severely congested by the crops, yet there is some delay in traffic, and earnings for September are 8.1 per cent larger than last year. Returns of foreign commerce at this port are unsatisfactory, exports showing a loss of \$1,188,646 compared with the same week last year and imports decreasing \$2,577,124. Reduced dividends and curtailed production in the iron and steel industry show that conservatism is increasing, and there is no disposition to disguise the fact that business is not progressing without interruption. Yet there is nothing alarming in the situation and a few years ago the contracts now in sight would have assured full occupation for all plants. Prices receded as it became apparent that the industrial boom was interrupted, and it is now found desirable to shut down plants not thoroughly equipped. Already the effect is felt in the greater urgency to place contracts by concerns that were waiting for the most favorable terms.

Speculative control ceased with the marketing of greater quantities than the manipulators could handle and legitimate trade always flourishes better when normal influences prevail. Lower prices also attract purchasers abroad, and foreign commerce will be stimulated. A moderate recovery later in the week was natural, as fluctuations become authority narrow to bring out many buyers who feared the violent price changes of past months. Failures this week numbered 239 in the United States, against 245 last year, and 17 in Canada, compared with 21 a year ago.

JUSTICE McCOLLUM DEAD.

Was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Chief Justice J. Brewster McCollum, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, died at his home in Monroeville, Pa., Saturday night, after an illness of about two years. Justice McCollum succeeded Henry Green as chief justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1900. Justice McCollum was born at Bridgewater, Susquehanna county, Pa., September 28, 1832. After graduating from the Franklin academy he attended the law school at Poughkeepsie, N. J., and was admitted to the bar of Susquehanna county in August, 1855. He was elected president judge of the Thirty-fourth district in 1878. He had devoted his entire life to the practice of his profession.

SHARP PRACTICE.

Receiver for Shipbuilding Company Make Serious Charges.

Charles M. Schwab and his associates in the formation of the United States Shipbuilding Company and the sale of the Bethlehem Steel Company to the shipbuilding company came in for severe denunciation in the answer filed by Receiver Smith of the shipbuilding company to the foreclosure proceedings brought by Schwab and his associates. The charge is made that by means of misrepresentation and sharp practice Schwab and others sold the Bethlehem Steel Company to the shipbuilding company for \$30,000,000 when it was worth but \$7,200,000. That by misrepresentation they secured the listing of the shipbuilding securities upon the New York stock exchange, and that the whole case was a part of a deliberate conspiracy to wreck the shipbuilding company and to buy it in at a bargain.

Passed Billion Mark.

H. A. Castle, auditor for the postoffice department, has completed the trial balance for the fourth quarter out of the entire postal service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1903. The figures are as follows: Expenditures, \$138,784,487; receipts, \$134,244,442; deficit, \$4,540,045. The total fiscal transactions of the service for the year are \$1,926,731,498, for the first time passing the billion-dollar mark.

Perished During Storm.

It is now certain that Missionary McLaughlin of the Methodist church, who left Huron river on September 7 with six Indian children, perished with the entire party. Word reached Selkirk that two bodies, one of an elderly Indian and another of an Indian boy, were found in Lake Winnipeg, near Big Island, at a point where McLaughlin and party were supposed to be.

Embezzler Detected.

While making charges that a woman had robbed him of \$2,000, J. Welles Reads, former cashier of the Los Angeles branch of the California Fruit Canners' Association, was recognized by the St. Louis police as the man accused of embezzling \$5,000 from the Association. He confessed and promised to return to California without a requisition.

Oysters Scarce.

Oysterermen report that oysters are scarcer in Tabor waters this year than they have been for several years and of a much inferior quality. Occasionally a few tongs will strike a rock or bed which has not previously been uncovered and for a time reap a harvest.

Senator Thomas C. Platt, who is 70 years old, announced that he would marry Miss Lillian T. Janeway, of Washington, on October 15, in New York.

THE TENSEL.

A Specialty of Skaneateles Which Once Was an Industry of Much Importance.

"Whatever may be said of Skaneateles," remarked Mr. H. Thurlow of that New York town of strange name, "it raises tensels, which for many years could not be successfully produced in any other portion of this broad land of all sorts of products." Somebody wanted to know what a tensel was.

"It is a plant," continued Mr. Thurlow, "whose burr is used to produce a pile on cloth, and for certain kinds of fabrics nothing has yet been found to take its place. Forty years or more ago the tensel was in great demand, and as they could not be raised anywhere except in a small area about Skaneateles, the industry was very considerable within a radius of ten miles of my town. Tensel raising began as long ago as eighty years and at one time it represented a business of half a million dollars a year and over 500 people were engaged in it. To-day not more than a hundred are in it, and the amount has similarly decreased. This is owing rather to the production of smoother cloth than the adoption of a substitute for the tensel, because, as I said, they cannot get a substitute for it. Steel has been tried, but the finest points they can make are rough and jagged compared with the fine-hooked points which nature puts on the tensel burr, and which are necessary in producing the proper nap on the cloth.

"The tensel is sown in the spring as soon as the ground is ready, and the plant is left to grow till the frost kills it down. The root remains, and the following season the plant grows from this and bears the burrs, which are cut in August, basketed and wagoned to sheds, where they are housed and trimmed ready for market. An acre of ground will produce from 150,000 to 200,000 tensels, running ten pounds to the thousand and worth now seventy-five cents to \$1 a thousand, although I have seen them worth as much as \$5 a thousand. I remember buying \$300,000 tensels at fifty cents a thousand from a man who had held them for twenty-one years, and had at one time refused \$2.50 a thousand for them. They require three or four years to dry; then they are trimmed, the stems cut to about six inches, and then are packed in boxes, 40,000 to the box. The burrs vary in length from an inch to six inches, and they are designated by sizes as 'Buttons,' 'Medlins' and 'Kings,' those of from an inch to an inch and a half being choice. A great many are shipped abroad, and several years ago I sent a lot to Moscow.

"Some people say the 'bull thistle' and the tensel are the same, but if they will examine the two they will find that the prongs of the wild thistle are straight, while those of the real thing are hooked, which is all the difference in the world for the work they have to do. In the woolen mills a tensel will last about twenty-four hours, and some of the big mills of New England have used as high as 1,200,000 a day, but they don't use them that way now. Very comfortable fortunes were once made in tensel raising, too, but that time is past also. Most of the product is now used in the making of blankets and coarse cloths. Skaneateles is out of it, to a large extent, as Oregon has come into the field with even a better tensel than we can produce, and we are turning our plowshares to other uses. Any visitor to our town may see tensel farms and the tensel clipper with their benches snipping away with their scissors, but the business is no longer what it once was, and it isn't improving."—New York Sun.

Faulty Theory.
"I have found out how that fire started," said the detective. "A man on the sixteenth floor dropped a match down the elevator shaft. It went off as it struck the bottom and set fire to some waste paper."

"How do you know?" asked the chief.
"I arrested a man on suspicion, searched him and found he had no matches about him. That was all the clue I needed. He had dropped his last match down that shaft."

"That won't do," said the chief, carelessly throwing away the stump of his cigar. "Don't you know, you ignoramus, that a man's last match always goes out?"

Stung by this exposure of the palpable absurdity of his hypothesis, the mortified detective hurried away in search of a new trail.—Chicago Tribune.

An Interesting Hoard.
Some workmen recently engaged in raising an enormous slab of stone in an old house in Andierne (