ERICAN

DENTON, MD., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1898.

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...OK.

...of the Modern ...g Book.

...would be somewhat puz... ...scribe the apparatus by ...from the invention of printing do... to the time of our grandfathers, every child learned to read. The horn-book may be described as a thin piece of oak, upon which was pasted a sheet of paper bearing the alphabet, the Arabic numerals, and the Lord's prayer. To preserve the printed sheet from schoolboy ravages, it was covered with a strip of horn thin enough to be translucent, and to the oaken frame a handle was fixed for convenience of holding.

Oak and horn are both exceedingly durable materials; but the schoolboy, and even in a lesser degree the schoolgirl, may be trusted to circumvent the most elaborate precautions against destruction. Hence no doubt it is, that while little more than a century ago horn-books were being sold in hundreds of thousands, they are now exceedingly difficult to find, and have become luxuries of price.

Not long ago a good specimen fetched at auction as much as four hundred dollars. It was found seventy years ago in the wall of an old house in England. It is in black letter, and the back is covered, as was often the case with horn-books intended for the use of the children of "the nobility and gentry," with leather, upon which is stamped an equestrian portrait of Charles I. The presence or a celestial crown and a cherub hovering over the monarch's head suggests that it dates not long after 1649.

One really splendid horn-book, of silver filigree work, which was given by Queen Elizabeth to Lord Chancellor Egerton, is still the property of his descendant Lord Egerton of Tatton.

When, in Richard III., Shakespeare says, "And from the cross-row plucks the letter G," he is referring to the first line of letters in the horn-book, which was long known as "the criss cross row," because the first letter, the "great A," was always preceded by a cross.

As nearly as can be ascertained the manufacture of the horn-book in its original form ceased with the end of the eighteenth century, when it was killed by the competition of spelling books. In a modified shape, made of cardboard varnished, and embellished with pictures of birds and beasts, it survived to some sixty years ago.

Old Maids of Olden Times.

What became of the unmarried gentlewoman in the eighteenth century? There were many. Some had money and lived alone, with the brevet rank of mistress. Some had none, and lived for the most part with the eldest brother. Even the thought of working for their livelihood was a degradation unspeakable; in fact, they did work, but it was the household work. Such a woman is described by Grose, writing in 1798. He says:

When I was a young man there existed in the families of most unmarried men or widowers of the rank of gentlemen, residents in the country, a certain antiquated female, either maiden or widow, commonly an aunt or cousin. Her dress I have now before me; it consisted of a stiff-starched cap and hood, a little hoop, a rich silk damask gown, with large flowers. She leant on an ivory-headed crutch-cane, and was followed by a fat, phthisicky dog of the pug kind, who commonly reposed on a cushion, and enjoyed the privilege of snarling at the servants, occasionally biting their heels with impunity. By the side of this good old lady jingled a bunch of keys, securing, in different closets and corner cupboards, all sorts of cordial waters, cherry and raspberry brandy, washes for the complexion, Daffy's Elixir, a rich seed cake, a number of pots of currant jelly and raspberry jam, with a range of gallipots and phials containing salves, electuaries, jalaps, and purges for the use of the poor neighbors. The daily business of this good lady was to scold the maids, collect eggs, feed the turkeys, and assist at all the interesting events that happened within the parish.

The New Orleans papers continue to call attention to the fact that the mortality of the city during the epidemic was but little higher than the normal figure. But this will count for nothing in a yellow fever scare. The safe and profitable thing to do is to give the closest attention to thorough sanitary work.

THE OPERATOR'S STORY.

One About the Yellow Fever—Hard to Believe.

It was at a smoker and foamer of the telegraph operators that the dean of the key jugglers told this one, says the Detroit Free Press:

"What brings it to mind is the yellow fever reports from the south. All that you read can give you no proper conception of the reign of terror prevailing down there during the epidemic. When they first ran a railroad into one of the richest mining districts of Alabama I was made operator of a little cross-roads station. It took a long time to convince the natives that I could talk to all parts of the world with that little 'click-n' ' machine of mine. I finally was able to convince them. The wife of one of their number had gone to Mobile to attend a sick daughter who had been the beauty of the neighborhood and had immortalized her memory by being taken to some other part of the world by a rich husband. Through an arrangement with the Mobile operator the old couple carried on a conversation of such a personal nature that neither could doubt the identity of the other. Then the common superstition of the people intervened and they concluded that the instrument was an invention of the devil.

"While they were in this frame of mind there came the news of the yellow fever. Force was the most natural way of resisting all kinds of evils down there and for days the depot was occupied by armed men. Never was a more efficient quarantine established. No one could get on or off of the cars at that point. Even conductors, brakemen, engineers and firemen had to stick to their posts. One day I received a telegram from New Orleans for a gentleman who was held by the quarantine. It announced that his son was better and would survive. Foolishly I read it to the grim guard in the depot. They snatched the message from me with a howl, all the more savage because the paper was yellow. They burned it, wrecked the instrument, cut the wires and came mighty near lynching me for exposing them to yellow fever."

Met the Wrong Man.

A fine-looking man with a gray beard and wearing a large Quaker hat walked serenely down Broadway recently and when near the Astor House he was accosted by a dapper fellow, clad in loud striped trousers.

"Why, how do you do, Uncle Josh Simpson?"

The Quaker beamed placidly upon the man who knew him so well, but whose indurated countenance he had never seen before. The confidence man, for such he was, was shaking the hand of the Quaker effusively, when the latter with a queer twinkle in his eyes, replied:

"Oh, I do not have so many, but they are harder."

The swindler, nothing daunted, continued: "Let me see; I met you somewhere, Uncle Josh, but I cannot recall the place?"

"I remember seeing you before," the Quaker said.

"Yes, yes; but where was it?"

With that same merry look from his eyes the old man said: "I visited Blackwell's Island some months ago to investigate some case I had and I saw you there in a convict's garb. If not, I am sure I will soon see you there."

"You are not an easy mark, old fellow," remarked the would-be swindler as he walked away. The Quaker was Thomas Lawrence, a lawyer and a member of the Society of Friends, who resides up the Hudson. He is also a writer and is the author of a story entitled, "The Indian Raid on South Mountain." His humor and originality are known in this city and Virginia, where he once lived.—New York Advertiser.

Effect of Lime on Iron.

A Paris journal says that the disastrous effect exerted by lime and plaster on iron should be kept in mind when building. If iron is plunged into freshly prepared lime rapid oxidation takes place. This soon reaches the heart of the iron, which in a short time undergoes a profound alteration in its resisting qualities.

To this result must be added the expansion caused by increase in volume of the mass. On the other hand, cement seems to be an excellent preservative against rust. Such a covering is preferable to painting with red lead.—Exchange.

Prepared to Quote Specially Low Prices.

Good 6x20 Shingles
Saps, $5.00 Hearts, $6.00
Air Yellow Pine Flooring, $15.00
Common Yellow Pine Flooring, $12.50

D. F. SLOAN & BRO.
Lumber Dealers,
14 LIGHT STREET WHARF,
BALTIMORE, MD.

YELLOW PINE BOARDS, EDGE,
$10.00 and $12.50.
The Above Goods are Excellent Value.
We have higher Grades at higher prices
Write Us For Prices.

Pickets, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Etc.

BOSTON'S BIG LOSS.

Blizzard in That City More Destructive Than Fire.

MANY WERE DROWNED.

Wrecks Dot the Coast From Cape Ann to Cape Cod—The Loss to Property on Land by the Storm Was Tremendous—Horses Electrocuted in the Streets by Falling Trolley Wires.

A despatch from Boston, says: At least twenty-one persons were drowned and $2,000,000 loss was inflicted by the blizzard that swept over New England Monday night and Tuesday.

Four unidentified bodies lie in the coroner's office at Gloucester. Five more are in Lynn, brought over from Little Nahant, where the schooner Charles H. Briggs was wrecked. Twelve unidentified bodies are at Baker's Island, in Salem harbor. They, too, while in life, must have manned some of the schooners that were lost in Gloucester harbor. That there are others in the waters of the bay seems almost certain.

Wreckage is strewn up and down the coast from Cape Ann to Cape Cod. Thirty schooners were wrecked in Massachusetts bay.

On land the loss to property by the storm was tremendous. While many horses were killed in the streets of Boston, electrocuted by falling trolley wires, no human being was struck.

Twenty-four hours elapsed before direct telegraphic communication was restored between Boston and the remainder of the world.

The cost of the storm in Boston is estimated as follows:

Boston Elevated Railway Co., $224,000; City of Boston, $80,000; Western Union Telegraph Co., $20,000; Postal Telegraph Co., $10,000; Long Distance Telephone Co., $5,000; New England Telephone Co., $10,000; Electric light companies, $4,000; Fire losses, due to disabled equipment and defective wires, $100,000; Steam railroads, damage to property and loss of income, $125,000; Loss to shipping interests about $250,000; Loss to Boston's business interest, about $600,000; total, about $1,500,000.

Swept by a Huge Wave.

The pilot-boat Varuna has arrived, after an awful experience in the storm, in which Capt. William H. Fairfield was severely injured. At 10 o'clock Monday night the Varuna put Pilot McMillan aboard the Cunard steamer Catalonia and then headed out into the bay. The southeasterly hurricane soon afterward swept over the bay and the pilot boat was tossed fearfully.

Captain Fairfield was the only pilot lef on the boat and he was standing in the cockpit aft. Suddenly and without warning a great wave swept over the Varuna's stern, throwing Captain Fairfield over the binnacle. He was nearly unconscious when picked up. Three of his ribs were broken and he was also hurt on the shoulder.

These Vessels Escaped.

Among the other arrivals was the steamer Saturn, Captain Wiley, from Newport News, with the barge Lone Star in tow. After passing Highland Light Monday the vessel was sheltered under Race Point, where she remained during the blizzard and was uninjured. Both the steamer and barge were heavily iceclad.

Gale and Snow at Vineyard Haven.

The first information from Vineyard Haven since the storm was received Wednesday. It states that a violent easterly gale, with a velocity of 55 miles an hour, swept over that section Monday night and caused extremely high tide. Telegraph and telephone lines are prostrated and considerable damage was done along the water front. A fleet of vessels harbored at the Vineyard lay safely at their anchorage. The tug Ice King, with a wrecking scow and apparatus, was obliged to abandon the scow, which was left with two men on board. The fate of the men is unknown.

BOTH TRIED SUICIDE.

Double Attempt to End Life at Washington.

A dispatch from Washington, D. C., says:—The suicidal mania attacked Walter Taylor, a Treasury clerk, and his 20-year-old daughter Lucy.

Miss Taylor has been in ill-health for some time past, and her illness assumed a suicidal form. About 1 o'clock in the morning she plunged through a window and fell into a snow-bank. She then ran terribly cut and bruised through the streets, and, after a half-hour search, was found by a policeman.

She was taken home, and it was then found that during her absence her father had hanged himself by a rope attached to a boiler of a stove. Neither father nor daughter will die.

QUICK TRAVEL TO KLONDIKE.

Completion of Aerial Railway Over the Chilkoot Pass.

Hugh C Wallace, president of the Chilkoot Railroad and Transportation Company, at Tacoma, Wash., has advices of the completion of the company's aerial railway over the Chilkoot Pass to Lake Linderman. This marks a new area from Klondike travel, as the time between tide-water and the headwaters of the Yukon River is shortened from a month to one day, besides removing the peril and hardships. The company made a contract with the Canadian government at fifteen cents per pound for transportation of all its freight.

BURIED IN THE RUINS.

Explosion of a Digester Wrecks a Paper Mill.

The three-story brick building of the Park Paper Mills, at Marinette, Wis., was completely wrecked by the explosion of a digester.

One man, Peter Borst, was instantly killed. Samuel Steffen was buried in the ruins and is probably dead. Louis Lefebre was fatally injured by falling debris. The explosion and collapse of the plant shook the city.

Fumes of sulphur used in the manufacture of paper made the work of rescue extremely hazardous and there is little doubt that Steffen has been smothered. The loss to the Marinette and Menominee Paper Company is about $50,000.

EARTHQUAKE-SHAKEN.

Great Distress Caused In Turkey—Many Fatalities Have Resulted.

Violent earthquake shocks have been felt at Balikeer and around Brusa, in Asia Minor.

Numerous fatalities have resulted, and great damage has been done.

The Sultan has subscribed £500 for the relief of the sufferers. He has dispatched a relief committee to the scenes of the disaster, and has ordered the Minister of Finance to take steps to succor the injured.

CALIFORNIA'S JUBILEE.

An Electric Flash Across the Continent Opens a Fair in San Francisco.

A State mining fair, which was opened at Mechanics' Pavilion, is one of the most interesting expositions ever seen in this State. It is held in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of gold in California.

Among the exhibits is a perfect miniature of the North Bloomfield mine, the largest hydraulic mine in the world. Another equally interesting exhibit is a tunnel with a representation of underground quartz and drift mining.

THE NEWS.

The annual report of State Engineer Adams, of New York, shows that the export trade of the big city is declining.

The trustees nailed up the Greek Catholic Church of St. Nicholas at Yonkers to keep out Rev. Nicholas Scotiviz, who displeased them by his temperance sermons.

The collector of customs at Victoria, B. C., is kept busy issuing licenses to men going to the Klondike. Five hundred sailed from there Sunday.

The Tennessee legislature is investigating a charge of attempted bribery in regard to legislation touching the sale of cigarettes.

By the fall of a balcony in a Chicago hall, during a dance, one man was seriously injured, and a number of persons bruised.

The Highland Park Hotel, at Aiken, S. C., a winter resort was burned. Loss, $140,000; insurance, $98,000. No one was injured.

The New York City Board of Estimates has thus far appropriated fifty-eight millions for conducting the government.

Miss Bixby, a model, was badly hurt by falling glass from a broken skylight in a studio in New York.

The movement of the West Virginia coal miners for an independent organization is gaining in favor.

Amos H. Alling, a woolen manufacturer, died at Derby, Conn., aged seventy-five years.

John A. Robinson died at his home in Martinsburg, W. Va.

Fire destroyed the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, at Savannah.

Fire caused a loss of $50,000 at Albany, Ind.

The First Presbyterian Church in New Albany, Ind., has been totally destroyed by fire. Loss, $50,000.

Two laborers were fatally injured by the caving in of the walls of a sewer trench in which they were, at Newark, N. J.

United States District Judge De Haven has rendered an opinion which will have the effect of erecting another strong barrier against Chinese laborers and criminals. The opinion is to the effect that the action of the Collector of the Port is not even prima facie evidence of the right of a Chinese to land.

As a result of the trust recently formed prices of wires and nails are advancing.

The McIntyre block in Winnipeg was destroyed by fire. The building was four stories, and contained some of the leading stores in the city. The total losses will be in the neighborhood of $500,000.

A big three-story sulphite mill at Menominee, Mich., was blown to pieces by the explosion of one of the dijectors. Peter Borrst, engineer, was killed outright; Sam Steffen was fatally injured, and Louis Lefre had his skull fractured.

Ex-collector of Internal Revenue at San Francisco O. M. Welburn was indicted by the United States Grand Jury. Welburn is at large, and the indictment was placed upon the secret file so its contents cannot be made public.

Frank S. Wright shot and killed himself in Chicago when imprisonment for confessed embezzlement stared him in the face. He had been married less than three weeks and bore a good reputation. Wright was collector for the F. H. Collier Publishing Company.

C. G. Hoyt, of the Fort Hall Indian Commission, has practically concluded a treaty with the Bannock and Shoshone Indians for the sale of the Fort Hall reservation for $625,000.

Warrants have been issued from the Police Courts for the arrest of forty San Francisco druggists, charged with selling pills under counterfeit labels, which they knew to be bogus. The complainant is a pill manufacturing company of New York.

The six-year-old daughter of A. Olivera, of Santa Monica, Cal., was bitten by a vicious dog over three weeks ago and died Tuesday, having shown every symptom of hydrophobia.

Charles Zanoli, the New York barber who was suspected of having murdered his four wives and an employe, was indicted on charges of forgery and grand larceny. The Grand Jury did not investigate the charge of murder which was made against Zanoli in the Police Court.

Fire destroyed the factory of the Judd & Dunning Hat Company, at Bethel, Conn.

W. H. Bird, about seventy years of age, former cashier of the Framingham Savings Bank of Massachusetts, was held for the grand jury on the charge of misappropriating $9,000 of the bank's funds.

The trouble between the union and non-union mill operatives in New Bedford may cause the latter to break from the strikers and go to work.

The National Biscuit Company, a combination of all the biscuit and cracker companies, is now in operation.

Attorney General Griggs sent in his resignation as governor to the New Jersey legislature, and President Voorhees, of the Senate, will take the oath as his successor.

The International Paper Company, a combination of nearly all the big firms in the country, was incorporated at Albany, N. Y., with a capital of $45,000,000.

Residents of Elizabeth, N. J., have started a movement to erect a monument to the memory of Gen. Winfield Scott, whose home was in Elizabeth from 1828 until his death.

Peter Busch, son of Adolphus Busch, the wealthy brewer of St. Louis, has gone to seek his fortune in Alaska. He is accompanied by C. E. Hodde, a coffee broker of New York.

Mrs. Margaret Wickliffe Preston, aged seventy-seven years, widow of Gen. William Preston, who was minister to Spain under President Buchanan, and a distinguished soldier in two wars, died in Lexington, Ky. Mrs. William F. Draper, wife of the United States ambassador to Italy, is her daughter.

The locomotive of a freight train exploded near Helena, W. Va., killing the engineer and fireman.

Some idea of the attention that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is now paying to its passenger traffic may be gained from the fact that during the past 18 months nearly 800 passenger cars received thorough and ordinary repairs, 669 being repainted. Nearly all of the equipment is now Royal Blue, and most of it is equipped with Pintsch gas, the Pintsch light being used on local as well as through trains.

Five thousand operatives of the Atlantic and Pacific Cotton Mills, at Lawrence, Mass., accepted the ten per cent. reduction in wages.

F. S. Ogden, a merchant of Sandis, W. Va., and his son, George, were arrested on a charge of forgery.

A suit in which prominent silver men are interested was begun in the court at Pontiac, Mich., to test the constitutionality of the Bland-Allison silver act.

NEW INVENTIONS.

In a new scrubbing brush the handle is made hollow to hold water which can be discharged in small quantities through a soap compartment to the floor by turning the pivoted handle so its outlet registers with the opening leading to the soap chamber, the latter being perforated on the under side to discharge the fluid to the bristles.

Needle baths can be taken in ordinary bathtubs by using a newly-designed discharge pipe, which is of spiral shape and has perforations on the front side, the device being mounted on the wall of the bathroom and connected to the water pipe by a rubber hose to throw jets of water into the tub.

Flies are killed by a new trap, which has a flat board, on which sugar or molasses is placed, a spring board being suspended above it and released automatically by a clock mecha[illegible] fall on the b[illegible] and catch th[illegible] raises the bo[illegible] enough to all board.

TWENTY-TWO GO DOWN

Loss of the Steamer Channel Queen Off Guernsey.

DIE IN THEIR BERTHS.

Rocks Were Sighted Too Late to Save the Vessel—Survivors Were Taken Off with Ropes—Escape of the Crew—The Captain the Last to Leave—Fishermen Make Gallant Rescues.

A cablegram from Plymouth, Eng., says:—One of the worst shipwrecks known in this vicinity in many years occurred Tuesday morning.

It is known that at least twenty-two lives were lost.

The mail steamer Channel Queen, plying between this port and the Island of Jersey, was the vessel lost.

The captain was saved.

The Channel Queen struck on the rocks during a fog and sank.

The disaster occurred off the Island of Guernsey.

At first it was reported that thirty lives had been lost.

Later in the day the owners of the Channel Queen announced that out of sixty-five persons on board of her when she struck only two are known to have drowned.

Still later, however, the news of the very slight loss of life turned out to be incorrect, for latest advices have it that twenty-two lives were lost.

The Channel Queen's engines were reversed, when the rocks were seen, but it was then too late. The first boatload reached land and sought help of the fishermen, who made gallant rescues, although the heavy sea prevented their boat from approaching the wreck. The survivors had to be dragged by ropes through the sea to the rescuing boats. The captain was the last to leave the wreck.

The latest report is that twenty-two were drowned, the chief engineer, three stokers and eighteen passengers, including fourteen onion sellers, who were drowned in their cabins when the seas swamped the vessel. The rescued passengers lost everything, even their clothing.

REINDEER FOR KLONDIKE.

They are Shipped From Norway With Lapp Men and Women to Care for Them.

A cablegram received at the War Department, Washington, from Dr. Jackson, at Alten, Norway, announced that the steamer Manitoban, chartered by Lieut. Devore for the government, had just sailed from that port for New York with 530 reindeer and 87 Lapp men and women to care for the animals and drive them on the government relief expedition when they arrive in Alaska.

The War Department is now making arrangements for the transportation of the deer across the continent from New York to Seattle. In answer to inquiries that have been made at the department's instance as to the probability of finding in Alaska the moss upon which the reindeer feeds altogether in his native country, the Bureau of Education has submitted some correspondence its agents have had on this subject. The inquiry had special reference to the vicinity of Chilkat region, and samples of the Norwegian moss were sent up there for identification. In response, the Presbyterian missionary at Haines, Mr. W. W. Ware, writes as follows:

"The reindeer moss came by the last mail, and I have been asking a good many natives and whites about it. The net outcome is that there is very little, indeed, [illegible] the coast, but fifty miles over the coast range there is a great abundance. Some say the whole country is covered. I accept that statement with some reservations, but I should judge that there must be a good deal."

OUR DEMANDS ON JAPAN.

Two Murders of American Seamen at Nagasaki Yet Unavenged.

The President transmitted to the Senate correspondence received at the State Department concerning the murder of Frank Epps and William Montgomery, United States sailors at Nagasaki, Japan.

The details of these murders were published from advices to the State Department on December 22 last. In the correspondence just sent to the Senate under date of December 28, Minister Buck called to the attention of Baron Nissi Toeziro, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the failure of Japan to arrest the murderers of Montgomery and Epps and urged that the autorities of Nagasaki be directed to do all in their power to apprehend the criminals.

Writing to Minister Buck, under date of December 23, Admiral McNair, after reviewing the case, concludes:

"I am, therefore, led to believe that the actions of the Japanese authorities in this case have been characterized by a lack either of energy or intelligence, or both."

The opinion of the Governor of Nagasaki was that Montgomery met his death by drowning, and not by murder. Against this is the statement of Passed Assistant Surgeon J. E. Page, U. S. N., that Montgomery came to his death by drowning, having first been rendered unconscious by the infliction of one or two wounds."

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries favorably reported the Senate bill authorizing the licensing of mates on river and ocean steamers.

Secretary Long has sent to the House for inclusion in the naval appropriation bill an estimate of $6,500 for a hospital for contagious diseases at the naval station at Newport, R. I.

Senator Frye was authorized by the Senate Committee on Commerce to make a favorable report on the bill providing for licensing second and third mates on sea-going steam vessels.

Secretary Bliss sent to Congress a report of the Dawes Commission, holding that the Mississippi Choctaws, under their treaties are not entitled to all the Choctaw citizenship rights except an interest in the Choctaw annuities.

Secretary Bliss has sent to the Public Lands Committees of the Senate and the House a bill prepared by Col. Young, the acting superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park for an extension of the limits of that reservation by about 3,000 square miles.

The minority report of elections committee No. 1 on the contested election case of William F. Aldrich vs. Thomas S. Plowman, in the Fourth Alabama District, was made to the House Thursday. The majority unseated Plowman. It claims that Plowman was elected by over 2,000 votes. The minority report is signed by Messrs. Bartlett, Fox and Settle.

The Secretary of the Navy has sent to Congress additional deficiency estimates for an appropriation of $18,400 for the removal of construction and repair tools, &c, from building No. 14, in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which is reported in a dangerous condition.

Senator Allen's proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, providing for a Congress of Indian tribes next fall at the Omaha exposition, was favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It provides [illegible] appropriation of $45,000 for [illegible]

[illegible] weeks, Quartermaster [illegible] placed on the r[illegible]

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Turkish troops tried to enforce the payment of taxes at Lazarina, but the peasants resisted with firearms, and a regular battle followed.

In an engagement between Spanish forces, commanded by Gen. Luque, and the insurgents in the Mejla district of Cuba two Spanish officers, including a son of the general, were wounded.

The British forces had an encounter with the tribesmen near Shinksmer, Indiana, and suffered serious losses, including the killing of several officers.

Chinese officials say that Russia warned China that if Kiao Chou were granted to Germany, Russia would demand Ta Lien Wan or Port Arthur.

Consul General Lee gave a banquet at the Havana Yacht Club-house to the officers of the warship Maine.

Mr. Gladstone has again been suffering with neuralgia.

Jules Emile Pean, the French surgeon, is dead.

Rev. George H. Hepworth, in a letter from Asiatic Turkey, gives an interesting interview with an Armenian on the troubles of his race.

The birthday of Emperor William was more generally celebrated than usual in Germany.

A majority of the striking British engineers have voted to accept the terms of the employers.

M. Paul Felix Taillade, the well-known and veteran French actor, is dead.

Storms and heavy snows have caused many wrecks in the Black sea.

A revolution is threatened in Salvador owing to financial troubles and misrule. Four banks in San Salvador have failed.

Canadian bicycle manufacturers have asked the government at Ottawa to impose a duty of $9 on each bicycle imported from the United States.

It is reported that an attempt will be made to repeal the contract labor law in Hawaii. All the American planters are said to favor repeal.

A German and a British warship arrived at Havana. The Spanish government has decided to send the battleship Vizcaya, a larger vessel than the Maine, to visit United States ports.

The British gunboat Lapwing has seized a cargo of arms off the Arabian coast, which are supposed to have been intended for the insurgents of Baluchistan.

TRADE NEWS.

Wonderful Showing Made by Clearing House Payments in January.

R. G. Dun & Company's weekly review of trade says: Actual payments through clearing houses in January made a remarkable showing, being much larger than in any previous month, 36.3 per cent. larger than the same month last year, and 7.6 larger than in 1892. The failures in January were smaller than in any previous year of which there is record and were probably smaller than in any other January since 1881.

The statement by branches of business this week shows a surprising gain in most departments of manufacture and trade. Meanwhile the money market is as confident as ever. Gold does not come from Europe in large amount only because bankers find it worth while to lend American money abroad, and the commercial balances are heavily in favor of the United States, as heretofore.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the week has been the declining [illegible] exports of 3,094,517 bushels [illegible] 546 last year, flour [illegible] Atlantic ports, and 776,8[illegible] Pacific ports, against 844,345 bushels [illegible] year, the temper of the market [illegible] been weaker. The report of the agricultural department has had some influences, although its figures are not generally credited as reliable.

The wheat market has turned largely upon the operations of Chicago speculators, but the fact remains that the price depends largely upon foreign needs and upon the comparative scarcity of American supply. The outgo of corn continues heavy 3,738,786 bushels, against 3,343,400 for the same week last year, and the excess over last year, when exports were much the greatest ever known, indicates a very heavy foreign demand.

The spot price of cotton remains unchanged, but the facts that receipts continue larger, than during the same week of 1895, after the heaviest crop ever known, checks speculative operations for an advance.

The demand for finished products has been very heavy. The demand for car building has been very heavy, both at the East and West and the plate demand greatly increased at the East on account of orders from shipyards. For plates the demand from tinplate works had been very active. The prospect of a combination of wire manufacturers has stimulated the demand and raised the price of wire rods.

Of Connellsville coke, 15,099 ovens are in blast, with an output of 155,000 tons weekly, and the quoted price is $1.50 for furnace.

There is a better demand for cotton goods since the general stoppage of works at the East, but there is no indication as yet of material gain as respects unsold stocks on hand.

The sales of wool at the three chief markets were 6,361,400 pounds, of which 3,973,000 was domestic, against 13,563,700 last year, of which 8,433,400 were domestic. Failures for the week were 335 in the United States, against 311 last year, and 39 in Canada, against 63 last year.

GREAT BOND SALES.

More Than $90,000,000 Worth Bought in One City.

A despatch from New York says: More than $90,000,000 of Government, State and railroad bonds have been sold during this month, compared with $33,138,000 for the same month last year. This is the highest monthly record ever known here.

There was much investment in the bonds of the reorganized railroads, such as Union Pacific, Atchison, Northern Pacific, St. Louis and San Francisco, Kansas Pacific consols and Erie.

Bankers on being asked why bonds are so active and money at the banks so cheap, reply that money is pouring into New York from all parts of the country so freely there will be no better money rate. It is expected that bonds for investment will continue active.

THREE MEN PERISHED.

Fatal Fire in a Jail at Cripple Creek, Colorado.

Three men were burned to death and another received fatal injuries in a fire which burned the Victor Jail. The dead are:

Thomas Quinn, railroad grader, of Philadelphia.

Railroad grader known as "Shorty."

James Connors.

The injured man is named Dublin.

The four men had been arrested for [illegible] turbance. Their screams for help were heard by hundreds of people, [illegible] powerless to aid them.

Plague Riot in [illegible]

Serious riots have taken [illegible] the Nasslek district [illegible] against the plag[illegible] have killed a h[illegible] the segreg[illegible] postoffice [illegible] The [illegible] woun[illegible]

Se[illegible]

The G[illegible] Philadelp[illegible] ment of pr[illegible]

DI[illegible]

Two Years of War in C[illegible] Cost Her $240,000,000.

MAIL TAMPERED [illegible]

Letters From th[illegible] Opened and N[illegible] Undelivered—[illegible] ment Accused [illegible] Machinery for [illegible]

The cost of the Cuban war from February, 1895, to the end of 1897 is officially estimated in Madrid at $240,000,000, besides the arrears due from the Cuban treasury, amounting to $40,000,000.

The Imparcial complains that the commercial negotiations between Spain, Cuba, and the United States are being intrusted to Senor de Lome, the Spanish Minister at Washington, and urges the government to appoint experts to examine the terms of the treaty on Spain's behalf.

Mail matter in the Havana postoffice continues to be tampered with. There are eighteen extra men on duty opening letters and reading newspapers before delivery. While European mail matter gets through all right, correspondence from the United States, especially from Tampa and Key West, is most carefully examined. Letters from Madrid to members of the opposition party are opened. The delivery of the mail is habitually delayed several days. Newspapers are held much longer, and are often not delivered at all. In many cases, letters and valuable packages fail to reach their destination, the failure causing severe loss. It is reported that this system of inspection was prompted by Dr. Jose Congosto, the Secretary of the government.

Discontent Among the Cubans.

Great discontent exists among the Cubans, as most of them want to be in the government employ, and there are not situations enough for all. The number of malcontents is steadily increasing. La Discusion, in its leading editorial charges the Cubans with preferring government office to agriculture or commerce; and it points out that countries which are foremost in civilization are "those which prefer industrial, commercial, and agricultural enterprises to corrupt situations in government service."

Conservatives are [illegible] disgusted with the [illegible] government which [illegible] at the public office and which [illegible] says is using the election machinery as to prevent them winning the next elections, persist, therefore, in keeping away from election booths. Moreover they feel confident that the present autonomy will soon fall completely, owing to inability of the present authorities properly to insure the stability of interests.

La Lucha in a leading editorial [illegible] peared last Saturday and has [illegible] produced ingeniously, criticised [illegible] Blanco's declaration at Manzanillo [illegible] peace would be reestablished in [illegible] [illegible] exp[illegible] commented upon. While [illegible] believe he will return with his steamer [illegible] shortern loaded with rebels who have surrendered and rebel arms that have been delivered up, others are sure that he will return alone, utterly downcast at his failure to bribe Gen. Calixto Garcia, Gen. Jesus Rabi, and the other insurgent leaders in the east.

La Discusion prints the following:

"The scenes witnessed at the residence of Dr. Castro Jesus del Monte, previous to the distribution of food to the reconcentrados, are too pathetic to be fully described. As soon as the doors were opened a mass of beggary, living skeletons of all races, all ages, and both sexes, invaded the places where food was to be distributed, with outstretched hands almost fleshless, imploring alms, a frightful animation filling their spectral faces at the sight of food. Many were not strong enough even to endure the food, and fell in the streets as they turned away; a few others, more fortunate, perhaps, seemed to regain some vitality. This painful scene is daily witnessed wherever food is distributed to the reconcentrados."

The insurgents have dynamited and destroyed a pontoon railroad line near San Felipe, province of Havana.

OUR FIFTH AMBASSADOR.

Minister Hitchcock to Be Promoted—The Coming Russian Representative.

The next representative in Washington of the Russian government will be an ambassador in the person of Count Cassini, according to official advices received by the State Department. The count is now in Russia, and the legation in Washington is in the care of a charge, M. de Wollant, who has been acting since the departure of Mr. Kotzebut, last summer.

Under the law, the President is authorized to raise the rank of our representative in any foreign country to that of ambassador, whenever the foreign country does the same, and the President sent to the Senate the name of Mr. Ethan Allen Hitchcock, of St. Louis, for the fifth of the United States ambassadors.

ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

The recent appearance of Speaker Reed in the House lobby smoking a Wheeling "stogie" illustrates the extent to which that plebeian production of the American tobacco manufacturer has made its way into "polite society."

One hundred and seven witnesses were summoned to appear in the Court of Common Pleas at Ravenna, O., in the case wherein Mary Eilen Rogers sued Volney Rogers for a divorce on the grounds that, having lived with her 40 years, he never took her anywhere, not even to church.

Rev. W. H. Morrison, pastor of a Universalist church in Manchester, N. H., has voluntarily relinquished $600 of his $2,000 annual salary, because of the cut-down of 10 per cent. in the wages paid at the mills and the consequent hard times in the parish and the town. The church gratefully accepted the offer.

Mme. Verdi's will has just been proved at Rome. The deceased lady saved a modest fortune before her marriage to Verdi, while she was still a popular operatic donna. Of this about $7[illegible] build a hospital at Vi[illegible] ance in smaller [illegible] charities.

There is [illegible] Conn., [illegible]

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