

## BIG BLAZE AT SPOKANE

One Building Burned and Four Lives Lost.

SIX PEOPLE NOT ACCOUNTED FOR

The Building a Complete Wreck—The Property Loss Estimated at Fully \$400,000.

SPOKANE, Jan. 25.—At least four lives are known to have been lost by last night's fire in the Great Eastern block, and it is possible that other dead bodies will be found when a more thorough search of the ruins is made. The building, a six story structure, is a total wreck, and the financial loss is estimated at upward of \$400,000.

All of the upper two floors and part of the third floor were used for lodging purposes, and at least 150 people were asleep in the building when the fire started. While most of them escaped with only their night clothes, it is now known that four lives were lost, and at least six other persons are missing. The dead are:

- Miss Alice Wilson, aged 18.
- Maud Wilson, aged 5.
- Mrs. Rose Smith.
- Mrs. H. G. Davis, of Nebraska City, who died at the hospital this morning from injuries suffered in leaping to the pavement.
- Miss C. Lewis, W. B. Gordon, Mrs. C. Peters and three children are missing, and are supposed to have perished.

Firemen are still playing water on the embers of the fire, and it will not be safe to search the ruins for the dead until tomorrow.

The Great Eastern block was built in 1890 at a cost of \$250,000, and was owned by Lewis Levinski, of San Francisco, who carried but \$50,000 insurance.

On the ground floor of the structure were the establishments of the John W. Graham Paper Company, stationery and supplies, and Skerritt & Donnelly, boots and shoes. Both are total losses. Graham carried a stock worth \$60,000, seventy per cent of which was covered by insurance.

The firm of Skerritt & Donnelly had a stock of \$25,000, of which \$20,000 was covered by insurance.

In the offices above these there were large losses on law libraries and fixtures, beside probably a still larger loss of furniture and household goods. The fire was a singularly hot one, and the firemen were long in getting it under control. Even then the flames rose hundreds of feet in the air as long as two hours after it started. All the hose in the department was brought into use, and the stores of the city were called upon for all their supplies.

Because of the net work of live electric wires surrounding the building, it was with the utmost difficulty that the ladders of the department were elevated. While they were going up, the people were at the windows, flames and smoke bursting out about them, shrieking, while crowds of people on the street below shrieked in sympathy with them.

Mrs. Stark Oliver, wife of Dr. Stark Oliver, who lived on the second floor, says she heard an explosion shortly before the flames appeared. The boiler of the engine may have exploded, and caused the fire to start. There is another theory, and that is that the chemicals in the basement, stored there for the photographic supply of the John W. Graham Paper Co., exploded.

### Mails for the Yukon.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Postmaster-General Gary has issued an advertisement inviting proposals for carrying the mails in safe and suitable steamboats during the season of navigation of 1898 on route No. 78,097, from San Francisco or Seattle, or any other seaport postoffice in California, Oregon or Washington in connection with Unalaska, Alaska, St. Michaels and points along the Yukon river to Circle City, Alaska, or to Dawson City, Canada, if steamers run to that point and back.

The contractor will not be required to carry more than 2000 pounds of mail each way per trip. Proposals will be received until February 23d.

### The Day in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—In the house today a bill was passed granting American register to the foreign-built steamer Navajo. The house then went into committee of the whole and resumed consideration of the Indian appropriation bill.

The house consumed considerable of the afternoon in discussing industrial conditions, the Republicans affirming

## SYRUP OF FIGS



### ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

**CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.  
LONDON, ENGLAND. NEW YORK, N. Y.

and the Democrats denying that prosperity has returned.

### TUMULT IN THE BELGIAN CHAMBER

Fight Between Socialists and Anti-Socialists.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 25.—Deputy Demblon entered the vestibule of the chamber of deputies this afternoon accompanied by a band of socialists. The officer in command of the guard informed him that in pursuance of the president's order he could not be allowed to enter, whereupon Demblon raised cries of "Vive l'Armee," "Vive la Republique." A crowd gathered and attempted to rush the soldiers, with the result that there was a scuffle of troops withstanding the mob, with fixed bayonets and a hand-to-hand fight taking place between socialists and anti-socialists. For a time the tumult was indecipherable, and a strong body of police was required to quiet the disorder.

Within the chamber the greatest excitement prevailed. The tumult became deafening, and the ministers who attempted to reply were shouted down.

### How's This?

We offer one hundred dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & Co. Props., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

West & Traux, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O., Waiding, Kinnear & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free. 15-9

### In the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The senate, on motion of Hoar, went into executive session today as soon as it convened. The doors were opened at 12:15, and Quay secured the passage of a bill to indemnify Pennsylvania for moneys expended in 1864 for militia called into military service by the governor. The indemnity amounted up to \$46,000.

### The Greatest Discovery Yet.

W. M. Repine, editor Tskilwa, Ill., "Chief," says: "We won't keep house without Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, coughs and colds. Experimented with many others, but never got the true remedy until we used Dr. King's New Discovery. No other remedy can take its place in our home, as in it we have a certain and sure cure for coughs, whooping cough, etc." It is idle to experiment with other remedies, even if they are urged on you as just as good as Dr. King's New Discovery. They are not as good, because this remedy has a record of cures and besides is guaranteed. It never fails to satisfy. Trial bottles free at Blakeley & Houghton's drug store.

### Griggs was Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The senate has confirmed the nomination of J. W. Griggs, of New Jersey, to be attorney-general.

### One Minute Cough Cure, cures.

That is what it was made for.

## CANAL WILL BE BUILT

Commission in Nicaragua Reports Favorably.

WORK IS LIKELY SOON TO BEGIN

Maritime Company Has Let Contracts in Anticipation of Favorable Action by Congress.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The Herald correspondent with the Nicaragua canal commission advises under date of Managua, January 18th, that the commission cabled to Washington two days ago, follows:

"The canal of Nicaragua may be built for less than three-quarters the original estimate. Four and a half or six and a half years will be required to build it. Forty-eight hundred laborers are needed to commence work. These should be divided into three groups, 2200 between Rio San Juan and Castillo; 1800 between Corinto and Momotomba and 1800 in Managua. This number of men should be doubled within six months."

This was received by the canal commission in reply:

"A company in Ohio and New York has been duly formed to engage men from Puerto Barrios, Jamaica, Belize and Nicaragua."

The Herald's correspondent adds that each of the thirteen engineers with the commission represents a big syndicate, each one fighting to get the contract, but the Ohio and New York men have secured it. The Chicago contractors and engineers are satisfied with the facilities for work in the Western division. These are beyond their expectations. The party leaves for Ichoa on January 25th.

The Washington correspondent of the Herald says that the above cablegram is interpreted there to mean that the Maritime Canal Company, anticipating a favorable report from the Walker commission as to the feasibility of the project, and of the subsequent favorable action by congress, has men prepared to begin the work of construction immediately.

Under the terms of its concession from the Nicaragua government, the canal was to have been completed by next fall, otherwise the concession would be forfeited unless that company had expended a large sum in the prosecution of the work. In fact, it is the contention of the Nicaragua government that the concession has already been forfeited, but this contention is not accepted by either the company or the government.

The preliminary report which the commission will make will be submitted to congress with a view to getting favorable action without delay upon the bill giving governmental support to the project. It has been anticipated that the report would be favorable, both as regards the feasibility and the cost of the canal. The estimate made by Civil Engineer A. C. Menocel for the plan in 1895 for the construction of a canal following the Tola basin line puts the cost of the work at \$66,466,880, and a second estimate, the canal to follow the low-level line, fixed the cost of the work at \$68,893,660.

The Ludlow commission estimates that a canal built along the low-level line would cost \$133,472,893. If the Walker commission estimated that the cost would be three-fourths of Mr. Menocel's original estimate, \$66,466,880, then it fixes the figure at \$49,850,160.

Experts, especially the friends of the members of the Ludlow commission, say the estimate made by the Walker commission is extremely low, being somewhat less than one-third of the estimate of the Ludlow commission.

### No Hope for the Territories.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Statehood legislation at this session was killed today by the house committee on territories rejecting the Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma bills by a vote of 8 to 3. The first two measures were nipped and defeated. Then the Oklahoma bill was taken up and beaten by the same vote. There was no discussion, as it was understood at the last meeting that a vote was to be taken today without further preliminaries.

### Storm at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 26.—A terrific thunder storm raged for an hour or more in the vicinity of this city after 3 a. m. The sky cleared after a time, shortly after daybreak, but the wind continued to blow. It increased in velocity until at 10:45 the weather bureau officials reported that a velocity of 64 miles an

hour had been gained.

Reports of accidents from various parts of the city are coming in, and thus far there have been three fatalities. August Wetmeyer was blown off Shield's building and died in ten minutes. A woman, name unknown, is reported lying dead in some yard near 3840 Laclede avenue, and a boy was killed by being blown from a porch roof in another part of the city. There is every indication that it is a straight blow and not a tornado.

### A Clever Trick.

It certainly looks like it, but there is really no trick about it. Anybody can try it who has lame back and weak kidneys, malaria or nervous troubles. We mean he can cure himself right away by taking Electric Bitters. This medicine tones up the whole system, acts as a stimulant to the Liver and Kidneys, is a blood purifier and nerve tonic. It cures constipation, headache, fainting spells, sleeplessness and melancholy. It is purely vegetable, a mild laxative, and restores the system to its natural vigor. Try Electric Bitters and be convinced that they are a miracle worker. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c a bottle at Blakeley & Houghton's drug store. 3

### The Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—After the transaction of some minor business, the Teller resolution was laid before the senate, and after considerable discussion it was agreed that the vote should be postponed until tomorrow at 6 o'clock, the senate to meet at 10 o'clock, and the last four hours of the debate to be under the 15-minute rule.

After this agreement had been reached Daniel resumed his speech began last evening. He made a legal argument in favor of the pending resolution, holding that the law never contemplated giving the government's creditor the option of the kind of money he was to be paid. The creditor would naturally pick the dollar which was of the most value to him, but if he did not know which he would receive he would do his utmost to maintain the parity of both dollars.

### The House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—In the house today the senate bill granting American register to the barkentine Sharpshooter of San Francisco, was passed.

A bill was passed making Santa Fe the permanent capital of New Mexico.

Hitt, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, reported from his committee with a recommendation that it lie on the table the Lewis resolution calling upon the president for authority in the constitution under which he negotiated a treaty that will bind the treasury to pay \$4,000,000 to the Hawaiian bondholders. The Democrats manifested a desire to discuss the report, but the question was not debated.

The house then went into committee of the whole, and resumed consideration of the Indian appropriation bill. Representative Hartman got the floor, and for 15 minutes held the attention of the house in a speech denouncing the Republican party for its opposition of the financial question. Hartman said he knew that many Republicans were opposed to the retirement of greenbacks, "but," said he, "what will they do about it when the banking and currency committee reports a bill to retire greenbacks? If we may judge the future by the past, there can be but little doubt of the result."

"This is no longer a house of representatives," he cried in stentorian tones, "it is a house of registers, it is a house of registers of the will of those who control it. In this house we should change the oath, and instead of taking the oath to support, protect and defend the constitution of the United States and perform our duties to the best of our abilities, we should at the opening of each session swear to support, protect and defend the constitution, provided we can obtain the consent of the leading nations of the earth."

### Buckley's Arma Salve.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Blakeley and Houghton, druggists.

### A Civil Service Decision.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 26.—United States Judge Lorton has decided the injunction case of W. C. Morgan vs. D. A. Nunn, revenue collector, involving the question of Nunn's power under the civil service law, holding that the court had no jurisdiction and that the chief executive alone has power to enforce the civil service laws and rules. Of the case on trial Judge Lorton says:

"That the authoritative orders of the chief executive have been or are about to be most flagrantly violated by the defendant, is not denied."

## MISSION OF THE MAINE

Newspapers Insist that it is of Peace.

EXCITEMENT OVER ITS ARRIVAL

Radicals, However, Regard the Incident as the First Step toward American Mediation.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—The last ripple of visible excitement in the arrival of the Maine has passed away, says the Herald's Havana correspondent, and the ship as she lies at anchor attracts no more attention than any other vessel in the harbor. The papers make the briefest possible allusion to her arrival, and La Union Constitutional, the conservative organ, prints a Washington dispatch to the effect that the visit of the Maine to Havana is merely an act of courtesy showing the friendly feeling to Spain, and to contract the anti-Spanish utterances in the press. La Union adds that the visit will be returned by Spanish ships in American ports.

In spite of this, there is a strong under current of feeling in Havana, as evidenced by the excited talking of angry groups assembled in the cafes. The general impression among radicals is that the cause of Spain has been betrayed by the Blanco government, and the nation humiliated by what they regard as the first step in the direction of American intervention. This has intensified the hatred of General Blanco and his associates and of the cause of autonomy, and this hatred may at any moment find vent in an outbreak of fury, in which case members of the government will be forced to depend for their personal safety on the Maine, for while their peril is obvious, the troops concentrated during the riots have been dispersed and no new precautions have been taken.

The arrival of the Maine created enthusiasm among the Americans, who realize that the long period of suspense has passed and that their safety is absolutely assured.

Up to the present time no one knows what precipitated the sudden dispatch of the sailing orders to the Maine at Dry Tortugas on Monday. Captain Sigbee had not the remotest idea why he was sent, but he was not much surprised when the Dupont arrived from Key West with orders to start without a moment's delay. Being in total ignorance of the situation he had no conception as to what sort of a reception to expect. He approached the harbor from the westward, partly for the purpose of inspecting the Spanish batteries and watching for any hostile demonstrations, and partly for displaying the flag and character of the Maine, so as to give the authorities on shore opportunity to make preparations to avoid a panic which might have been precipitated by the Maine's sudden entrance. The battleship was prepared for any emergency. After picking up a pilot the Maine went rapidly up the harbor to a berth near the Spanish flagship.

It will be impossible to give the crew their liberty while in Havana, and as yet no shore leaves have been granted to officers, the captain being the only man that has gone ashore. For this reason it is believed that the navy department will not keep the Maine here long, but will replace her by another vessel of the squadron the moment the health of the crew becomes impaired.

Mr. Elisha Berry, of this place says he never had anything do him so much good and give such quick relief from rheumatism as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. He was bothered greatly with shooting pains from hip to knee until he used this liniment, which affords prompt relief. B. F. Baker, druggist, St. Paris, Ohio. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

### Named by the President.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The President today sent the following nominations to the senate:

Richard C. Parsons, jr., of Ohio, to be second secretary of the embassy at Rome; Abram M. Tiltman, of Tennessee, to be attorney-general for the middle district of Tennessee; Lieutenant, junior grade, J. Dole to be lieutenant; Rev. William T. Helms, of New Jersey, to be chaplain in the navy.

### McComas was Elected.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—McComas has been elected senator. The tenth and last ballot was taken at noon. The vote was as follows: McComas, 62; Gorman, 47; Shaw, 5.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

### GILA MONSTERS VENOMOUS.

A Savant Who Has Satisfied Himself That Their Bite is Deadly. Prof. John Van Denburg lately delivered an interesting lecture at the Academy of Sciences upon the subject of the Gila monster. A good-sized audience was present, says the San Francisco Call.

"It has become a common supposition for years," said the lecturer, "that the bite of a Gila monster was as poisonous as that of a rattlesnake, but many of the scientists denied this. Numerous eminent scientific men stated that from actual experience they had demonstrated that the bite was harmless. One of these, Dr. Schufert, had himself been bitten by one of the reptiles, and, besides the pain occasioned by the ordinary bite of an animal, no ill results followed."

The lecturer then stated that he had demonstrated that the saliva of the Gila monster was poisonous. Its bite would in almost every case cause death if the teeth of the lower jaw penetrated the skin. It was the upper jaw of the reptile which sank into the flesh of Dr. Schufert, and as the secretion of the glands of the upper jaw was harmless the doctor lived.

The speaker said that he had injected the saliva of both the upper and lower glands into pigeons, and in every case where that from the lower jaw was injected the victim had died in a short time. He showed why so many animals which are bitten by the poisonous reptile live. The ducts which lead from the glands to the mouth open between the lower lip and the gum. For the saliva to enter a wound it must be forced up from the lip to the teeth, and thence into the wound. Thus it is hard for the poisonous fluid to reach the blood, even if the victim is bitten by the lower teeth.

### LOOKING DOWN THE FUTURE.

A Peculiar Instance of Foresight in France.

One day in October, 1883, Lady A., living in Rue du Bel-Respiro, Paris, found that she had been robbed of a sum of 3,500 francs, says the Arena. She notified the commissary of police, who instituted a search and questioned the servants, but discovered nothing. Lady A.—when enumerating her servants begged the commissary to exclude from his suspicions her second valet de chambre, a youth of 19, very good-looking, very respectful and very well qualified for his duties, who had been nicknamed "le Petit" not on account of his stature, for he was rather tall, but for a feeling of delicate, protecting familiarity which his good qualities had won for him.

Meanwhile, among the friends of Lady A.—there had been a good deal of talk about a certain Demoiselle E.—who they said, could see the most surprising things in a bowl of coffee grounds. M. L. d'Erveux had the curiosity to accompany his governess to the house of this person and was quite surprised to hear her describe exactly each piece of furniture in Lady A.—'s apartment, pass in review her seven servants and say that, though she could not name the thief, he would be guillotined within two years.

Some weeks later "le Petit" left the service of his mistress without giving any reason and two years later he mounted the scaffold. The servant so highly esteemed was none other than Marchandou, the assassin.

### Tom Watson for Governor.

ATLANTA, Jan. 26.—Thomas F. Watson will be the Populist candidate for governor of Georgia. The state convention meets March 6th, and a majority of the delegates already elected are said to favor Watson for governor.

### Yellow Jack at Edwards.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Surgeon-General Wyman has received a dispatch dated the 20th inst. from Dr. Stewart at Memphis, stating that the secretary of the Mississippi state board of health has reported one and probably three cases of yellow fever near Edwards, Miss.

### A Pension Decision.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Assistant Secretary Davis, of the interior department, has rendered a decision holding that there is a law providing a pension for widows of soldiers who died of diseases contracted in time of peace prior to March 4, 1861.