

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

An occult temple will be built in San Francisco by theosophists, and funds have already been subscribed.

A strike instituted at Georgetown, Mass., has thrown out of work 200 men, and promises to embrace the entire shoe factories of the town.

A family of ten persons and a number of cattle have been engulfed by the subsiding of a bog of 100 acres near Castle island, county Kerry, Ireland.

The foreign office informs the Associated Press that no communication to any power regarding Cuba and the United States has been made by Great Britain, and it is added that no representations directly or indirectly have been made on the subject to the United States by Great Britain.

The constructors of the Siberian railroad have undertaken to build a line through Manchuria, starting from a point on the river where the Siberian road joins the trans-Baikalia line and terminating at Mikolskaya, Russia.

A special from Paris says it is suggested that Great Britain, France and Italy, the powers most interested, offer their services in the Cuban question in order to prevent a conflict between Spain and the United States, and terminate the revolt.

Dr. E. Forbes, representing a London firm, arrived on the last steamer from the Orient in San Francisco, with cases of medical instruments valued at \$80,000.

The postmaster of Des Moines, Ia., had his carriers look up worthy cases to them on Christmas morning. Several hundred dollars was subscribed by business men for the purpose.

Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, has proposed an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill, providing for auxiliary fish-cultural stations at points to be selected by the commissioner of fish and fisheries in Oregon, Washington and California.

Jerry Burke, the colored boy, who hacked Mrs. John Foss and her daughter, Mrs. Cavanaugh, with an ax, at their home at Clilo, Livingston parish, Louisiana, last Sunday, was captured by a posse of citizens about a mile from the scene of the crime.

The secretary of the treasury has sent to congress a computation of the Pacific railroad debts as made by the government actuary. The statement shows that the advances to the Union Pacific, including the Kansas Pacific, by the government, will, at maturity, the first of next July, amount to \$92,846,285.

Dr. Thomas Powell, of Missouri, recently made some remarkable experiments before a party of doctors in Los Angeles in order to prove the efficacy of his remedy for certain diseases. He alarmed the physicians present by injecting bacillus tuberculosis and bacilli diphtheria into himself, appearing to take them without evil effect.

The annual statement of construction published by the Railway Age, of Chicago shows that during 1896 only 1,802 miles of railway lines were built in the United States. This is one mile less than the total reported for 1895, and the smallest mileage built in any year since 1875.

Notice has been posted at all the Philadelphia & Reading coal and iron collieries, numbering forty, and also at a number of individual collieries, that work would be suspended for a week. Twenty thousand men and boys will be idle.

The executive committee of the monetary conference with headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., are sending out a call to all commercial organizations who intend to send delegates to the conference. It is now believed that about 600 delegates will be in attendance.

ACCEPTS OUR OFFICES.

Spain Asks the United States to Act as Mediator.

Washington, Dec. 30.—It has been learned from an authentic source that Secretary Olney and Senor Dopy de Lome have practically terminated the negotiations of the Cuban question, which are to be submitted to congress when it convenes, January 5.

The premier states clearly the terms which Spain will accord to the insurgents, and practically asks the United States to propose these conditions to her rebellious subjects. In return for our good offices, Spain assures this government she sincerely deprecates the great commercial loss which we have sustained on account of the Cuban disturbances.

Premier Canovas says Spain cannot, as a self-respecting and respected nation, stand before the world as having been coerced into measures by the United States. She has freely granted all she now offers, and that in the face of a rebellion.

The form of government offered is, the Spanish statesman declares, the limit of independence which can be granted to a province by any nation without absolutely severing the bonds of union with the mother country. Autonomy as enjoyed by the Canadians can never be granted in Cuba.

Spain's Backdown. New York, Dec. 30.—A Madrid dispatch to the World says:

An evidently inspired editorial in the Epoca today, foreshadowing the possibility of an understanding between the Spanish government and President Cleveland, has caused a profound sensation in Spain.

"American intervention in Cuba is perfectly logical on the grounds of material interests and national sentiment. It might become an inevitable necessity of American home politics, and it is eminently to the interest of our own country to avoid a conflict while we can do so with honor, maintaining our dignity and sovereignty."

The present active efforts of Spanish diplomacy are all aimed, it is asserted in diplomatic and political quarters here, at convincing the American state department that exigencies of domestic policy make it impossible for Spain to enter into any formal agreement or convention with the United States for the settlement of the Cuban question.

Crime of a Tramp. Grafton, Wis., Dec. 29.—John Holmes, a farmer near here, was shot last evening by Ferdinand Fragenknecht, whose object was presumably robbery. Two shots lodged in Holmes' head and one passed through his neck. He cannot recover.

Italian Village Demolished. London, Dec. 30.—A special from Rome says a landslide entirely destroyed the village of Santa Ana de Pelago, demolishing 118 houses and rendering 150 families homeless.

A Ferryboat Burned. New York, Dec. 30.—The double-decked ferryboat New Brunswick, owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, was burned to the water's edge today. The loss is \$120,000.

RETURN OF ANDRADE

Venezuelans Satisfied With Boundary Treaty.

MINISTER DECLINED TO TALK

No Indications of Coming Trouble in President Crespo's Republic—Lawyer Storow's Views.

New York, Dec. 29.—Senor Jose Andrade, Venezuelan minister to the United States, accompanied by James J. Storow, counsel for Venezuela before the United States boundary commission, arrived in this city this afternoon on the steamer Caracas and left for Washington tonight.

When the steamer arrived at her pier, Mr. Andrade was met by the Venezuelan consul and some of the attaches of the office. When asked concerning the reports which have been printed in reference to the boundary treaty being not acceptable to the Venezuelan government, the minister said:

"I have written and telegraphed all I have to say, and I understand it has been published in your papers. I cannot say anything more on this question."

He was asked if it was true that he had been empowered by President Crespo to signify the acceptance of the treaty, and he replied:

"That is a matter I cannot discuss." He said there was no sign of disturbance in Venezuela. Everything was very peaceful, and he did not anticipate any trouble when the congress would meet.

This newspaper, the Venezuela Herald, had several articles on the treaty, and the following is an extract from one of them: "Minister Andrade is going to Washington and takes with him a copy of the agreement. It is, in all essential particulars, the same treaty offered by Venezuela forty years ago."

The United States has been the friend and representative of Venezuela, or to put it exactly, through its friend, the United States, Venezuela has negotiated the treaty."

Mr. Storow was also disinclined to talk of the boundary question, but said the treaty was satisfactory to Venezuela. He said there were a couple of correspondents who attacked the treaty in the papers, but to use his own words, "they went off half-cooked."

On the New Orleans Levee.

New Orleans, Dec. 29.—John Hurt, a Montana miner on a trip around the world, was robbed of \$7,500 in German money, a collection of rare coins, deeds to mining property in Butte, Mont., and a gold nugget worth \$300 by several colored women on the levee today.

Rivera Is All Right.

New York, Dec. 29.—At the headquarters of the Cuban junta today General Estrada Palma stated that the Cuban army was now as strong as it ever had been, and the Cubans have full faith in General Rivera, who succeeded Maceo in command.

Allentown, Pa., Dec. 28.—Five persons were injured and killed this afternoon in a grade crossing accident. A passenger train on the Central railroad of New Jersey struck a trolley car.

THE SULTAN IS OBDDURATE.

Absolutely Refuses to Permit Further Interference.

Constantinople, Dec. 30.—The Russian ambassador on Saturday, acting in concert with representatives of Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany and Austria, had an audience with the sultan, Abdul Hamid, one of many such interviews within the past year, on the same subject, the better administration of affairs in the Turkish empire.

The Russian diplomat began by warning the sultan and the Turkish government that if the revenues needed for payment of the Turkish debt were touched, European control of the finances of the empire would become inevitable.

The Russian ambassador said the condition of the Turkish empire placed the throne and the caliphate in imminent peril. Thereupon Abdul Hamid remarked impressively:

"I may be the last of the caliphs, but I will never become a second khedive."

In addition to these warnings, M. de Nelidoff sent a note to the Turkish government and to the palace. The utmost significance is attached to it in diplomatic circles.

The ambassadors of the powers will meet again to discuss the situation, and will reassemble in future twice a week until they complete their recommendations to the sultan and his advisers.

These latest steps upon the part of the powers are once again reported to have produced a profound impression at Kiosk and in pursuance of the issuance of an amnesty decree the Armenian prisoners in Asia Minor and this city and vicinity are being released daily in batches of fifteen.

JUSTICE IN CHINA.

Pirates and Counterfeiters are Promptly Reheaded.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—According to the latest advices from the Orient Li Ka Chuk, superintendent of the Canton police, on November 23, seized a large number of counterfeit coins.

The Canton viceroy reported in another memorial the capture of two notorious pirate junks. In effecting the capture one military officer lost his life.

A decree was issued on the 19th of November authorizing the execution of the captives and ordering the officials concerned in the capture to be promoted in rank and that the matter of the military officer who had lost his life be referred to the board concerned for rewards and posthumous honors.

An Investigation Asked For.

New York, Dec. 30.—Several life insurance companies have asked Coroner Tathill to make a thorough investigation as to the cause of the death of David Blakeley, manager of Sousa's band, who expired suddenly in his office in this city in November last.

An Immense Blast Fired.

San Diego, Dec. 30.—The Southern California Mountain Water Company fired the largest blast at Morena made in the history of the state.

A Big Cruiser Floated.

Cronstadt, Dec. 30.—The armored cruiser Russia, of 12,150 tons displacement, the largest vessel in the Russian navy, which ran on a sandbank in the beginning of November and has been frozen in ever since, has been floated after fifty-one days of incessant labor with steam icebreakers.

Bombay, Dec. 30.—The bubonic plague is increasing, there having been 2,094 cases and 1,494 deaths from that cause up to date. The exodus from the city continues, and the natives are threatened with malarial law unless they conform with the sanitary regulations.

Hundreds of Cocaine Fiends.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 30.—The cocaine habit has taken such a hold on many residents of Manchester that steps are being taken to obtain the restriction of the sale of the drug.

RAKED BY SOLID SHOT

Thrilling Adventures of the Steamer Three Friends.

CHASED BY SPANISH WARSHIPS

The Filibuster Fired Upon and Disabled an Armed Coaster—Landed Her Men and Supplies.

New York, Dec. 28.—A World special from Key West says: The lion-star flag of Cuba met the red and yellow banner of Castile upon the sea.

The filibustering steamer Three Friends sailed from Fernadina, December 13, carrying a valuable cargo of munitions of war for the Cuban insurgents. After eluding the vigilance of the United States warships and revenue cutters, and dodging every sail upon the ocean, the little steamer, with about fifty men, was within hailing distance of Cuba, on the sixth night out.

The Three Friends put in again to the coast, and safely landed her cargo on the border of the great Zapata swamp. Not before in Cuba's struggle for liberty has the flag of Spain been fired upon at sea.

As soon as the enemy was sighted the captain, undaunted, declared he would land at the San Juan, where he had been ordered, if he had to go through hell to do it.

The Three Friends were under full steam endeavoring to escape from the Spanish cruiser. They were now about 800 yards apart. Then the Spaniard fired for the third time, falling a few rods astern of the filibuster, but in a direct line.

"Use the Hotchkiss," commanded Major Morales.

Gunner Michael Welch heard the command with joy and called out to Captain O'Brien to swing the ship around.

The latter boomed forth again, but the smoke had not cleared away before the Hotchkiss in the prow of the Three Friends belched forth and sent a shell between the short masts of the coaster, squarely over her engines.

Several men on the lower deck opened fire with rifles, and this was followed by a rattling volley from the line of men on the upper deck. The sharpnel fired from the Hotchkiss ended away, firing rockets calling for assistance.

The call for assistance was promptly answered, for while the filibuster was swinging into position to allow the Hotchkiss to play upon the enemy, a gunboat double the size of the coaster appeared on the port side.

As the cargo of the Three Friends was being landed, the Spanish coast patrol came up and a fierce fight ensued between them and the Cubans sent by General Gomez to escort the cargo into his camp.

The vessel then lay to for several days in a secluded cove and started for Florida last Monday. She was pursued by several gunboats as she entered the Windward Pass, and a ball from one of them tore a hole in her bulwarks.

Emerging from the keys, two cruisers were found waiting for her, and a race ensued. The Spanish vessels fired on her for half an hour.

A Missouri Duel.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—A Republic special from New Madrid, Mo., says: John Adams and Charles Simpson met at a dance in Pemisocott county last night at the residence of Joseph Canot, and drawing their pistols, fought to the death.

WRECK ON A TRESTLE.

An Alabama Passenger Train Plunged Down One Hundred Feet.

Memphis, Dec. 29.—A special to the Commercial Appeal, from Birmingham, Ala., says: Friends in human form wrecked the Birmingham Mineral passenger train No. 4 at Cahaba river bridge, twenty-seven miles from here, at 7:30 this morning, and twenty-two lives were lost.

It is not known and may never be ascertained just how many passengers were on the train. Most of them were miners and residents of mining towns in this district who had round trip tickets, and were returning to their homes along the line of the Birmingham Mineral road.

The railroad company tonight furnished the following as the list of dead: James Bolling, of Guthrie, Ky., Southern express messenger; Frank White, of Birmingham, engineer; A. P. Connell, of Helena, conductor; George Carney, of Birmingham, flagman; R. Webb, of Birmingham; Bruce C. Phillips, of Blocton; I. W. Martin, of Brookwood, Ala.; Mrs. Henry Hendberry and two children, of Birmingham; R. H. Blount, of Birmingham, colored; Miss Ada Powers, of Blocton; Dr. L. N. Powers, of Blocton; Mrs. Emma Powers and two children, of Blocton; Mrs. R. Little, of Blocton; Mr. Gardner, of Blocton; Miss Gardner, of Blocton; one unidentified body, supposed to be B. Struther, colored porter.

The mineral trains operate over the Southern railway's Briarfield, Blocton & Birmingham branch, under a contract arrangement. Six miles south of Guernsey is the Cahaba river, a shallow mountain stream, which has a depth at this time of about three or four feet. This river is spanned by an iron bridge, with wooden trestles on each side.

The first news was brought to Hargreave, a station four miles from the Cahaba river, by a farmer, who said that while passing near the place, he heard a crash. Going nearer, he saw the two spans of the bridge broken out. He then discovered the burning wreckage in the shallow water below.

Meanwhile, a few country people gathered at the scene to render what aid they could, but it was too late to do much. Nine people had gotten out and the rest had been burned in the wreckage.

HAPPY REUNION.

A Husband Returns to His Family After a Separation of Eleven Years.

Shelbyville, Ind., Dec. 29.—Eleven years ago John Crim went to his home in Flat Rock from the village store and informed his wife that he had made an effort to secure something for their three children for Christmas, but not having the money the merchant refused and the little ones would have to do without any presents.

There are still about 3,000,000 feet of logs in the Gray's river boom that were brought out by the recent freshet.

Caught in the Act.

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—While crawling through a transom in an attempt to steal four turkeys, John Cornish, a young negro, lost his hold, and, falling head downward, was suspended by one foot. Being unable to extricate himself from his embarrassing position, he shouted lustily for help, and was found by a policeman some hours after the accident, in an exhausted condition. He was charged with attempted burglary, and locked up.