

THE HILLSBORO ARGUS.

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NO. 42.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

From all Parts of the New and Old World.

BRIEF AND INTERESTING ITEMS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Current Week.

The Sultan is negotiating for the building of a first-class armored cruiser.

The steamer Concho has arrived in New York from Havana with 968 sales of Cuban tobacco.

The English engineers announce that they have plenty of funds and intend to continue their strike.

It is reported that the Afridis are assembling in tribal council, with a view to concluding peace.

Eight of the principal buildings in Lebanon, Tenn., were destroyed by fire Thursday night, with a loss of \$20,000.

The death rate of Chicago for the year was 14 in the thousand, the lowest recorded for any city of over 200,000 inhabitants.

The British bark Taymount, bound from Liverpool for San Francisco, is now 224 days overdue, and her owners have given her up.

John Williams, at Marseilles, O., attacked Mrs. Flint and cut her so badly with a knife that she is not expected to live. He then fatally cut himself.

British bark Samartian, from San Francisco, arrived in Liverpool considerably damaged from a hurricane which she encountered December 22.

Walter Gregory and Philip McNelly were instantly killed by a switching engine on the track in the yard of the Menden Hall Works at Philadelphia.

A thief stole \$4,000 worth of jewelry from the house of Volney Mallett, president of the Indiana National bank, of Indianapolis, while the family were at dinner.

Joseph Lockley, clerk of the manager of the McHenry Estate Association, has disappeared from New York, after securing several thousand dollars by raised checks.

A fortnightly steamer service between this coast and Australia will commence in February, the Canadian Pacific line and the Oceanic line alternating their sailing dates.

French bark Lombard, from Mobile, Ala., sunk while entering the port of Cote, France. Five of the crew, including the captain, were drowned, and eight were saved.

Mrs. Sarah McGovern, wife of one of the wealthiest residents of Rankin, Pa., was shot and killed at her home Friday night, and her husband has been arrested for murder.

A new law went into effect on the first of the year in Massachusetts, providing that not over 30 per cent of the inmates of any penal institution in the state shall be employed in any one industry.

Ballie and Wadde Orem, children, were asphyxiated by coal gas at their home in Leipzig, O.

The barge Canisteo, which went adrift off Cape Cod, has been found in Barnstable bay, with all the crew well.

The American ship, the *Albatross*, was burned at sea.

In a saloon row between Kentucky mountaineers at Manchester, Will Burley, James Philpot and Bob Gregory were killed.

Voins of gilsonite of sufficient size to warrant development have been discovered on Willow creek in the Middle Park, Colorado.

M. Tanakoshi, Japanese vice-consul at San Francisco, has been hurriedly recalled to Tokyo. It was thought he would be secretary to the legation at Washington.

The French embassy at Washington denies that M. Maillart passed through Washington on route to Cuba to investigate for his government the conditions on the island.

Jacob Stryer and wife were cremated in their burning farmhouse in Fayette county, Pennsylvania. Within 48 hours, six others burned to death in the county.

Frederick Walsen, state treasurer of Colorado, was married to Miss Emma Storck, aged 25. After the war, Walsen's broken health was nursed back by the bride's mother.

Fire destroyed the large pipe organ in the Great Northern hotel, Chicago, entailing a loss of \$20,000. Although the fire was confined entirely to the organ, it sent out such clouds of smoke that many of the guests became alarmed, and a serious panic was narrowly averted.

The burgomaster of Wieschowitz, a suburb of Prague, has been arrested. Many compromising papers concerning the recent riots in Prague were found in his possession. It is alleged that he assisted in placing the bomb under the German schoolhouse at Wieschowitz, which the Czechs attacked and attempted to demolish recently.

Stenographers employed by the defense in the Luetgert case have struck. Attorney Harmon will ask the state to furnish a copy of the testimony each day on the ground that Luetgert has no money to pay for a stenographer.

Frank Murphy, a San Francisco patrol-wagon driver, admitted that he fired the shot that struck Baldwin Gardiner, the stock broker, Christmas night. He fired two shots at Stroth, the burglar, one of which struck Gardiner, and may have been fatal.

Katherine Kidder's father says she will retire from the stage.

Countess Castellane, formerly Anna Gould, has given birth to a son.

The British cruiser Leander and the torpedo-destroyer Virago have left San Diego for Esquimalt.

O. H. McBra, Southern express agent at Brunswick, Ga., embezzled \$14,000. He stood high socially.

Rosa Melici, aged 9, was burned to death near Los Angeles. A spark from a grate ignited her dress.

Ed L. Parker tried to kill C. J. Sheets and wife, in Los Angeles, and then committed suicide. Parker was infatuated with Mrs. Sheets.

John Bergman, who lost his money on the Chicago board of trade, committed suicide in New York, leaving his body to a medical college.

Leutger's attorneys, unable to secure a stenographer at state expense, are taking down the trial in long hand, which may continue it for months.

San Turner, a dying negro, was lynched at Kingstree, S. C. He killed Deputy Poton Christmas eve, and during the shooting received a mortal wound.

Gladstone celebrated his 88th birthday. He received many congratulations at Cannes. His health is improving, though he is suffering from neuralgia.

Henry Oliver Goldsmith, a Wall-street broker, is wanted for stealing a \$3,000 check, belonging to Oscar Weisner, of Brooklyn. His victims are said to be many.

Many collieries in Silesia are provided with bombs filled with compressed oxygen for use in cases of accident or entrance into old galleries where the air is foul.

Leo Fat cut the throat of Lee Tong, in San Francisco's Chinatown. The murderer was caught in the act by an officer. Passengers on a street car witnessed the crime.

The 10-year-old daughter of Simon Barringer was accidentally killed at Glenair, Cal., by her brother, two years older, in a playful struggle for possession of a gun.

By the will of Mrs. Henrietta R. Files Baker, \$2,000,000 is bequeathed to the Pennsylvania hospital, contingent upon the death of the son and daughter of the testatrix without issue.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellidge, aged 83 years, is dead in Breckinridge, Mo. She was the mother of 12 children and had 37 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and 50 great-great-grandchildren.

An imperial decree has been gazetted in Vienna, authorizing the government during the prorogation of parliament to levy taxes and provide for state expenditures from January 1 to June 30 next.

Miss Jennie Edwards, aged 19, and A. R. McMaisters, members of wealthy families residing near Hopkins, Mo., were killed in a runaway. Miss Edwards' skull was crushed by striking a post.

Judge Wofford, of Kansas City, stopped a tilt between lawyers by remarking: "Hereafter when lawyers talk about fighting in this court, I shall adjourn court, and let them fight it out."

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SIX WERE CREMATED

Awful Fate of a Jersey City Family.

SEVERAL MORE SEVERELY HURT

Father, Mother and Four Children the Ones That Perished in the Burning of Their Home.

New York, Jan. 4.—Six members of one family were killed by flames and smoke in a fire that occurred early this morning in Jersey City. The dead are: Adolph Reich, 45 years old, the father; Emma Reich, 42, mother; Tillie Reich, 23 years; Ida Reich, 15 years; Albert Reich, 14 years; Gustave Reich, 8 years.

Several others were injured, and it may be that another member of the ill-fated family will die. He is the 19-year-old son, and his body is covered with burns. John Canway, chief of the Jersey City fire department, was very badly burned. He fell through a burning floor, and was rescued with difficulty. Henry Reich, 18 years old, managed to make his way from the house with bad burns, but he is not seriously injured.

Adolph Reich's home was at 317 Germania avenue, near the Hudson county boulevard, in the Hudson City district. He was a real estate agent and well-to-do, living in a pleasant house of three stories.

It is thought the fire broke out from a heater in the basement and worked its way up to the third floor, where the sleeping apartments of the family were located.

Henry Reich said it was late when the family retired, the evening having been spent in entertaining New Year's callers. Early in the morning he was awakened by shouts. Running into the hall, he saw smoke and flames in the lower hall. His father was there, and they managed to get out of the house in their night clothes. Young Reich ran down the steps and gave the alarm. When he returned his father was nowhere to be seen, but one of his brothers, Sigmund, was there, badly burned. He was taken to a neighboring house, where he said he had jumped through the burning smoke and darted down the stairs out into the open air.

Several engine companies responded promptly to the alarm, and in a few minutes the fire was out. Then began the search of the house. The rays of the lanterns disclosed the charred bodies against the wall at the foot of the stairs. They were those of Adolph Reich, his daughter, Tillie, and little Gustave. The father had fallen upon the daughter, and his son was in his arms. They were burned almost beyond recognition. In the basement of the house the searching party stumbled over the remains of Ida and Albert, two blackened corpses with arms intertwined. Portions of the limbs had been entirely burned away, and the faces were horribly distorted. The mother was found in the sitting-room. She was but slightly burned. Her face showed no look of pain. She undoubtedly died from suffocation. The bodies were sent to the morgue.

Theatrical Train Affre. St. Louis, Jan. 4.—A train of the Washburn, en route to St. Louis, an hour after leaving the front end of the baggage car was discovered to be on fire. The engineer crowded on full steam to make a siding at Fleming, 10 miles ahead. The wind fanned the flames until they could be heard above the roar of the flying train. When the siding was reached, the baggage car was a loss and left to burn. The company lost its scenery and three valuable horses. Nobody was injured, and the train of two cars arrived here this morning.

A FEARFUL EXPERIENCE. Halifax, N. S., Jan. 4.—The two boats containing Captain Baxter and 36 of the crew of the Thompson line steamer Gerona, which was lost off Seal Island, while on a voyage from Portland, Me., to London, reached the island safely. One man named Carl, who was supposed to be in the boat in charge of Second Officer Alfred Watson, which landed at Wood's harbor, is missing, and it is thought he was drowned. Most of the men, who were in Watson's boat, were catamen.

Watson and his men had a fearful experience, being aloft for nearly eight hours before they made the shore at Fortress point. It was pitch dark, when they pulled away from the helpless steamer, and it was not until after daylight that they were able to determine which direction to point their craft in order to make land. A fierce gale beat upon them all the morning, and the sea threatened to swamp them at every moment. The weather was bitterly cold, too, and they suffered terribly from exposure. When they finally pulled upon the rocky beach at night, they were thoroughly exhausted, having been rowing constantly through a stormy sea since shortly after 4 A.M.

Reports from along the coast today indicate that the Gerona foundered not long after the crew took to the lifeboat. At Cape Sable a number of cattle and a badly shattered boat have been washed ashore. Immediately after the receipt there last night of the news of the wreck preparations were made to dispatch steamers in search of the missing boats and the abandoned ship.

A dispatch received late tonight from Yarmouth reports the arrival there of Captain Baxter, and crew.

TWENTY-FOUR DEAD.

Terrible Accident in a Canadian Town—Caused by Floor Collapsing.

London, Ont., Jan. 5.—Twenty-four persons are known to have been killed and many injured by the collapse of a floor in the city hall this evening. Tonight closed the municipal campaign, and the hall was crowded to hear the address of the successful candidates. At midnight the bodies of the following had been taken out and identified:

F. Heaman, C. Breckett, E. Luxton, N. Carothers, R. Leigh, — Harris, T. W. Burke, John Smith, — Talbot, A. Phillips, John Turner, Ben Nash, J. W. Bortland, — Hilburn, Frank Robinson, James McLean, John Brinkley, Oswald Bruce, B. Jacques, W. H. Dell, Stephen Fellows, Allen Love, unidentified man.

Those who were more seriously injured were taken to neighboring drug-stores, whence they were taken to hospitals or to their homes, after their injuries had been attended to.

The dead were taken to the committee rooms of Alderman Parnell, the defeated candidate for mayor, directly across the street.

At the close of the polls a crowd had gathered in the city hall, where it had been the custom in years past, for the successful candidates to address the people. The hall was crowded to the very doors, probably 2,000 people being jammed in its narrow space. There was a lull in the proceedings, when the audience called for several of the newly elected aldermen at once, and there was some delay in securing a speaker to address them. Alderman Carothers joined the mayor in an effort to secure quiet. In response to numerous calls, R. M. Toth was pushed forward to the platform on which the speakers stood. As he reached it there was an ominous cracking, and the raised platform on which the mayor and the newly elected aldermen were seated seemed to pitch forward to the floor.

There was a sagging of timbers, and the next moment 150 people were hurled 20 feet to the floor below. A beam running 20 feet along the center of the hall had given way, and the crowded mass standing above that section of the floor was thrown in a heap to the bottom. A large safe stood in one corner of the hall, and with a huge steam coil, weighing half a ton, came crashing down on the heads of the victims.

Following the crash there was a wild rush for the doors. At the south door, where the majority of the crowd had entered, there was a terrific panic. Those in front were thrown down by the oncoming rush, shrieking and fighting for the door and safety. Only one-half of the rear door, a space of probably three feet, was open, and, in the mad rush, no one thought to open the door to its entirety, and 50 people struggled through the narrow space, the strong bearing down the weaker.

Alderman Neil Cooper was among the first to be dragged out of the mass of broken beams. He was quickly carried to an adjoining room, and in a moment half a dozen more were keeping him company.

Several men lowered ropes and endeavored to haul the wounded out of the pit. From under the massed weight of the broken beams came many cries for help. The windows on the ground floor were broken in, and the living and the dead were struggling to get out.

Christie purchased a house in Dawson while in Dawson for himself and his partners in Portland. He will return to Dawson as soon as he can make arrangements to do so.

ROBINSON'S RECOMMENDATION. Says Dawson Can Easily Be Reached by Taking Skagway Trail.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Secretary Alger has received two reports from Captain Robinson, the contract quartermaster at Seattle, touching the respective merits of the different trails from the seaboard into the Klondike country. He made a thorough inquiry into the direction of the secretary, and in substance his conclusions, reached after conference with Jack Dalton and other experts, is that the Dalton trail is not well adapted to the uses of the government expedition during the winter, but that the Skagway route is probably the best. The captain says he has had an interview with one man who claims to have 70,000 pounds of beef stored at Lake Bennett which he is willing to sell at \$1 a pound. The same man says he has 10,000 pounds of corn and 20 or 30 horses at the same place, with which he proposes to organize a sled train into Dawson. Captain Robinson says himself that his opinion is that the difficulty of reaching Dawson has been very much exaggerated, and that a good army officer could make his way with an expedition. Montana horses should be used.

Pilot Steamer Smith Seized. Mobile, Ala., Jan. 3.—The Pensacola pilot steamer Smith, supposed to be engaged in a filibustering expedition, was seized today by agents of the treasury department. A crew from the revenue cutter Seward went aboard the steamer tonight, and a gang of men is transferring her coal from one bunker to another in search of contraband cargo.

Pensioners in the Postoffice. Washington, Jan. 3.—The postoffice department has ruled that an ex-Union soldier drawing a pension under the dependent pension law may be reinstated in a position he formerly occupied in the service. The case arose in accordance with the employment of a veteran in the postoffice. In order to secure a pension under the dependent pension act, he must swear that he is without means of support and is unable to do manual labor.

Unalaska Mail Contract. San Francisco, Jan. 5.—The Pacific Steam Whaling Company has been awarded the contract for carrying the United States mails from Dyea to Unalaska. The steamer Excelsior will be put on the route, and will run at regular intervals during the spring and summer. The whaling company also intends increasing its steamer facilities between here, Copper River and Skagway, and intends, if possible, to get its full share of the Klondike travel.

NO DANGER OF FAMINE

Portland Man Says There is Enough Food in Dawson.

STATEMENT OF C. J. CHRISTIE

He Left Dawson City November 23, After a Stay of Five Weeks—Some Work Going On.

Portland, Or., Jan. 3.—"There is no likelihood of starvation at Dawson City this winter. A few may be pinched a little before the river opens; but no one will actually suffer from hunger."

The foregoing statement of C. J. Christie, who left Dawson City November 23, and reached Portland yesterday, corroborates recent press dispatches. Mr. Christie, with a party of four other men and a woman, made the trip out from Dawson City in 23½ days, which he says is the record. He left Portland on the first trip of the Elder, and spent five weeks at Dawson.

"When I left Dawson," he said, "everybody was comfortably fixed for the winter, so far as provisions were concerned. When the boats of the transportation companies were stuck, down the Yukon, the companies furnished transportation down the river for all that wished to go. To those who had money they sold provisions; to those who had no money, they gave work, which would enable them to buy what supplies they needed. Of course, this made fewer mouths to feed. Then many became frightened by early reports of a probable famine, and, selling their provisions, came out over the ice. This, of course, added to the supplies at Dawson."

"I found, when I reached there, October 18, that there was really a great deal of a scare. Reports had been spread by men who came out early that there were more supplies than needed, and this led to the fear that none would be brought in. This very panic led many to leave the country, and still further provided against famine."

"Everything was going along smoothly when I came out. Bonanza, Eldorado and Hunter creeks are all being worked for all they are worth, and the rich claims are all more than have been reported. I have prospected a great deal and seen many rich finds, but Dawson City is the richest mining camp I ever saw. Numerous new discoveries are made right along. When I left, the Holmes boys, of Alibina, had struck a claim from which it is said they were taking out an ounce to the pan."

"We had no difficulty coming out, though the ice is 'up-ended' in the river, and it is the roughest place imaginable. The anchor ice which formed in the bottom of the stream has risen in great masses, and is piled in all kinds of fantastic shapes."

"There were six of us in the party—one woman and five strong, hardy men. We used dogs to transport our freight. I had cached provisions along the way, as I went in with the expectation of coming out immediately, and these were a great aid to us. Once or twice we had to buy a little food for the dogs. We went right up the Yukon and over Chilkoot summit to Dyea. The temperature sometimes as low as 65 below zero."

THE BREACH WIDENING. A War Between Costa Rica and Nicaragua Imminent.

New York, Jan. 5.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: The trouble between Costa Rica and Nicaragua has taken a new phase, according to a review from the Herald correspondent in Managua. The Costa Rican consul at Managua has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and has fled.

"Our desire is to preserve our territory intact and to steadily improve it as a field open to all countries equally for the development of commerce."

The correspondent put before General Gomez the programme of autonomy to secure his opinion. The general smiled contemptuously, after glancing over a copy of a Havana paper containing the terms, and said:

"There is no use wasting time in discussing these terms. It makes no difference whether they be regarded as liberal or not, the fact remains that we are not fighting for autonomy, but for independence. This Spain seems utterly unable to realize. We have no intention of accepting the autonomy offered us."

That is worse than the terms offered to the men fighting for freedom. There is not in the Cuban army one man so base as to accept such terms. We will not even listen to any overtures, and any person entering our camps for such a purpose will be put to death in accordance with my general orders."

Continuing, General Gomez said he had no faith in the ability of Spain to immediately enact autonomy, even in the sections under Spanish control, but that he was of no moment to the men in the field, who would continue to fight, animated by love of freedom and an absolute confidence in ultimate success.

The correspondent asked General Gomez for his opinion as to American intervention and the annexation of Cuba to the United States. He replied that intervention does not necessarily imply annexation.

"I would gladly accept the former, as I would accept aid from any quarter, though I believe if left alone we will accomplish our own independence unaided, and I am loath that we should be robbed of any share of the honor of expulsion of the Spaniards."

"As far as annexation is concerned, I cannot admit its possibility. To that proposition I make the same reply as I do to the autonomy plan: 'That our object is independence; we have among us young men who have sacrificed everything to this sacred cause. For myself, I am an old man, who now has but one object in life, and that is to see the flag of Cuba supreme from Cape Maysi to San Antonio. We have made fearful sacrifices and we stand ready to make more in order to achieve this glorious end.'"

Bombay, Jan. 3.—The Indian national congress came to a conclusion today, amid much enthusiasm and cheers for the queen-empress. Resolutions were adopted thanking the people of the United Kingdom, the British colonies and the United States for generous aid during the famine. It was decided to erect, at a cost of £1,000 a memorial of gratitude in London. Other resolutions were adopted criticizing the government's recent measures regarding sedition.

A STATEMENT BY EARL LI.

German Occupation of Kiao Chou a High-Handed Outrage.

New York, Jan. 5.—The Herald today publishes the following copyrighted letter from its correspondent in Peking: "Peking, Jan. 5.—According to instructions received from the Herald, I requested an interview with Li Hung Chang, and informed him that the New York Herald offered the publicity of its columns for any statement that China desired to make to the Western world in respect to the actual crisis in the East."

"The great statesman replied that China was anxious that the Western people should understand thoroughly matters as they were. His excellency's views are given herewith in the following interview, which he approved: "The forcible occupation of Kiao Chou by Germany is a direct violation of existing treaties and of international law. The pretext made to this act of war was the murder of two missionaries by robbers in the interior of the province of Shan Tung. The Chinese government offered immediate and full redress for this outrage, punishment of the criminals, dismissal of the local officials and large compensation for all losses."

"Anxious to avoid hostile acts, the Chinese troops were withdrawn from Kiao Chou when the Germans landed, and, despite strong public feeling prevailing throughout the country for the defense of Chinese territory against aggression, my government has not sent reinforcements to Kiao Chou."

"Outlaws exist in China, as well as in all countries. Neither treaties, law nor religion can entirely suppress crime anywhere in the world. There are places in every country where lawlessness abounds, and to such a place in Shan Tung the German missionaries determined to go, knowing that the natives themselves were often victims of these bandits."

"Unfortunately China has not yet recovered from the effects of the late war, and the country requires a period of peace to carry out the work of reform lately begun."

"Of late years, from instruction and observation, the Chinese have come to regard the countries of the Western world as models even greater in justice than in arms. It is right to oppress us while we are struggling to emerge from the restraints of our ancient civilization, while improvement and progress steadily continue? Should China be distressed by having her shores invaded and her territory occupied because of an occurrence which Western countries would deal with by law and not by war—an unexpected incident, deplored by my government and followed by full redress?"

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AUTONOMY IN CUBA

General Blanco to Control All the Departments.

CROWN MINISTERS TO DICTATE

The Edict As It Is Set Forth—Cuba Will Not Accept It—Gomes on Annexation.

Havana, Jan. 3.—The Gazette (official) has printed the autonomic legislation for Cuba. General Blanco in his edict assumes supreme command of all branches of the government as the delegate of the crown ministers of state, war, navy and foreign affairs, who reside in Madrid, and who will continue to dictate to General Blanco what he shall do in carrying out his functions.

General Blanco, or any other captain-general who might be appointed in his place, will be simply a vice-royal governor, and will be assisted by six secretaries assembled with their chairman in a council of government. The government will go into effect on Saturday next, and will be formed of five secretaries with their chairman (six altogether). The list of five secretaries has already been forwarded by cable, with the exception that the department of posts and telegraphs will be under Senator Rodriguez.

The correspondent of the Madrid Imperial, who has ridden over a greater part of the island, writes to his paper that he saw at San Jose Lajas, this province, 4,500 reconcentrados thrown into the streets or dying in wretched huts, mere living skeletons. He stated that 10,000 have died within a year. Most of the reconcentrados, he says, do not care to work when they leave their homes. They carried