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HOLIDAY SEASON IN OLD LONDON

The Queen's New Year's Gifts to the Poor Distributed.

LARGE CHARITY BEQUESTS

Ambassador Hay Visiting Earl of Crave Annual Windfalls Very Heavy—Alfred Nobel's Will.

London, Jan. 1.—(Copyrighted 1898 by the Associated Press.)—The year opened springlike with a bright sun and there are many instances where flowers are blooming in gardens in the south of England.

The complaints of shopkeepers which are universal, are attributed to the baneful influence of the jubilee festivities.

The number of country house parties also thinned the number of West End purchasers.

The queen's New Year's gifts to the poor of Windsor were distributed today at the Riding school at the castle. There were nearly 1000 recipients and about 400 pounds of beef and 100 tons of coal were dispensed.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria of Wales started Monday to pay a week's visit to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire at Chatsworth. The Prince and Princess of Wales will occupy the royal apartments in the west wing and the mansion, fountains and cascades will be illuminated tonight. There will be theatricals in which Lady Randolph Churchill will take part; balls and other entertainments.

The marriage of Lady Anne Coventry second daughter of the Earl of Coventry, to Prince Philipp Sturz will take place on January 4.

The United States ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and Mrs. Hay are visiting the Earl of Crave, who was thrown from his horse while hunting with the Cheshire hounds on Monday last, sustaining a fracture of the collar-bone and injuries about the head.

The Daily Chronicle says the late Duchess of Teck left debts to the amount of £20,000, mostly household expenses. The expenditure at the White Lodge, which was the residence of the Tecks, exceeded its allowance, £2000, by £2000 yearly. Whether the effects of the duchess will be sold to meet the deficit depends upon whether the govern-

ment will apply to parliament for funds to meet the emergency. Judging from the new DeBret's prerogative the Britishers contempt for foreign titles is only affection, as 14 members of the royal house hold foreign titles while those of lesser rank are thicker than blackberries. In this connection it is interesting to note that the jubilee was a record for the Prince of Wales honors, which total up 877.

The charitable bequests of the year also topped the record, totalling £1,000,000. Without the Wallace collection, bequeathed to the nation, seven testators aggregated £1,000,000 in charities. A great number of companies were floated during the past month, making the total capital offered in 1897, £158,500,000, the largest since 1885. The foreign government loans aggregated roughly £10,000,000; Indian and colonial, £14,000,000; breweries and distilleries, £17,500,000; entertainment, £2,000,000; cycling, £3,000,000; hotels, £3,000,000; Klondike, £1,750,000; American railroads, £1,000,000; mines, £2,500,000; industrial and miscellaneous, £52,500,000.

A chancery Lane lawyer contributes an annual letter to the press in regard to the windfalls of the year, among the missing heirs and legatees many of whom are believed to be in America. Among others, fortunes are awaiting W. G. Clement, who went to California in 1868; James Moffett, who entered the United States navy in 1865; the descendants of John White the first attorney-general of Upper Canada; C. E. Sayles, who went to America in 1870, and Joseph Pickup of Wisconsin.

The will of the late Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist and expert in high explosives who died at San Remo, Italy, Dec. 10, 1896, has been proved. The personalty is valued at \$40,000,000. Among the legatees is Alfred Hammon, of Waterford, Texas, who receives £200,000. About half the estate goes to relatives, and the remainder is divided into five prizes of about £200,000 each. Prizes one, two and three are to be awarded to the persons making the most important discoveries in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine. Prize four is to be given to the person who has done the most for the promotion of the cause of peace throughout the world. The prizes which are open to any person anywhere in the world, will be awarded by the various Swedish academies, except the prize for the propagation of peace, which is left in the hands of a committee which is to be elected by the Norwegian parliament.

The conclusion of the French racing season finds M. Meunier, of chocolate fame, at the top of the list of winners, with £30,000. The next is the Vicomte de Harcourt, £17,000. Then comes Baron Schepker, with £15,500. Among the owners of French steeplechases Mlle. Marsy, the goddess, leads with £11,000. Sir Thomas and Lady Hasketh, formerly Miss Florence Sharon of San Francisco, have taken Barretstown, Kildare, for the remainder of the season. Lady Hasketh made a brilliant debut with the Kilcare bunt. She finished in the front rank and at the end of a 30 minutes run.

There was a dramatic scene at the national Liberal club on Wednesday. The chairman called upon Mr. Gladstone to make a speech and a photograph immediately gave an extract from the statesman's last speech in the house of lords. The words were most clearly heard. Mr. Gladstone said: "It is not for the commons to pronounce judgment on the subject. There is a higher authority than the commons. It is the judgment of the nation, which in the last resort must decide." An immense outburst of applause greeted the repetition of the memorable sentence.

There are disquieting reports regarding Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone's health. They attended church at Christmas and appeared to be most feeble. Mrs. Gladstone had to be led to the communion table while Mr. Gladstone was compelled to cling to chair stalls on his way there. Mr. Gladstone's sight is worse. On leaving the church he failed to see his carriage, which was only two yards away.

It is reported that Herr Richter the well known musical conductor of Vienna, expects to accept in 1898 a long standing offer of a tour in the United States.

THE POPE'S ANNIVERSARY.

He Receives Rich Presents From All Over the World.

Rome, Jan. 1.—The sixtieth anniversary of the pope's first celebration of mass was observed at the Vatican today. The pope officiated at his own diamond mass, the music being furnished by the choir of the Sistine chapel.

His holiness had a most radiant face, and it was evident he was enjoying excellent health. He received hundreds of presents.

Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria-Hungary, sent him 50,000 florins in gold, in a gold casket, and the queen regent of Spain sent a massive gold and chased goblet. His gift from the United States was a diamond cross.

President Faure sent a souvenir vase, and the present from the sultan of Turkey was a superb diamond ring. Every country sent a large contribution to the pope.

NEW SECRETARIES ARE SWORN IN

Blasco Impressively Installs Autonomy in Cuba.

WILL RESTORE PROSPERITY

Long Live Spain, Long Live Cuba. Always Spanish—Counsel-General Lee Highly Honored.

Havana, Jan. 1.—Many people assembled at the palace today to witness the swearing in of Secretary Rafael Montero, Marquis of Montoro; Senor Francisco Zayas, and Senor Lauriano Rodriguez, as secretaries of the provisional government.

Marshal Blanco, captain-general, escorted by a number of his Spanish officials, the consular corps, army and navy officers, politicians, etc., reached the throne room at 9 o'clock a. m. A new bible was opened on the table and upon it the secretaries took the oath of fidelity to the queen, the monarchy, and the Spanish government, placing their right hands on the bible and kneeling as they repeated the words required. Senor Galvez, president of the cabinet, was the first sworn in, and then the oath was administered to the others. To Marshal Blanco's inquiry: "Do you swear fidelity to Spain, the queen, and Spanish institutions?" all replied "We do."

Marshal Blanco then addressed the officials saying: "Consecrated by the oath just taken, the autonomous government of Cuba is now established in accordance with the royal decree of November 25, 1897. Your names and the places you occupy and the parties to which you belong are ample guarantees of that liberal policy, which the government expects the new regime to adopt. The Cuban government should be inspired by high, conciliatory, impartial and just motives. It is your duty to study the necessities of the island, and especially the economic questions and the means to restore the property destroyed. The peace and welfare of Cuba form the best propaganda we can make on behalf of autonomy, and against the revolution, which, although it was never justified, will hereafter have no pretext whatever to exist.

"To consecrate the carrying out of our good wishes, let us cry with hearts full of loyalty to our institutions. Long live Spain; long live Cuba; always Spanish."

At the conclusion of the ceremony all attended the celebration of mass in the chapel of the palace. All present knelt at the elevation of the host, excepting the British and German consuls.

When bidding goodbye to the consular corps, Marshal Blanco shook General Lee's hands and shook them warmly, saying in broken English, "Thank you," a distinction which the captain-general did not bestow on the other consuls.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the captain-general received the death penalty imposed upon persons convicted of common crimes.

TO AID THE CUBANS.

Washington, Jan. 1.—After a consultation with the state department officials, the Red Cross society has arranged to open headquarters in New York for the reception and forwarding to Havana of contributions for the suffering Cubans.

STEINER'S REPORT.

The Decrease in the Seal Herds is Very Great.

New York, Jan. 1.—Prof. Leopold Stejneger, of the national museum, one of the United States commissioners sent to investigate the condition of seal life in the Russian waters of Behring sea, has returned to this city. Prof. Stejneger left here in June, and his headquarters were in the heart of the Russian sealing districts. He said:

"The decrease in the herds of seals which frequent the Russian islands is great. The cause is pelagic sealing. Take the mortality of man, for instance, as compared with that in the case of war. Add to this condition of not only the men but the women, warring against and killing one another, and it is easy to see what increase there would be in the mortality. There are about 15,000 seals left on the Commander island, and still fewer in the Okhotsk sea. The government kills only males on the islands, so that if this were kept up there would be no extinction of seals. The males are of no use after they are three or four years old, as their skins are worthless. Only about one male is needed to every 100 females so that when one of the latter is killed there being an equal number of each in the beginning the decrease would amount to little as compared to the extinction carried on by the pelagic sealers. The Russian government has been able to do nothing in the way of preventing the decrease in seal life. Russia has never claimed the right to stop sealing as the United States has done, at the open sea. An agreement was entered into, however, between Russia and England whereby pelagic sealing could not be carried on within 20 miles of the island. This was

no protection for the seals, however, as they are as liable to go out 150 miles as 20 miles. I think branding would be a good thing for females used for breeding purposes. I am positively assured that the brands would remain on the animals just as they do on a horse. Two or three seals which were branded on the Pribilof islands last year were discovered with the brands on them."

NEW YEAR'S ACCIDENT.

Celebration in New York Attended With a Grave Disaster.

New York, Jan. 1.—One of the results of last night's celebration was an accident in which 15 persons were more or less seriously hurt, and it is feared some injuries may prove fatal. The persons were hurled by the horses drawing the first Chicago carriage running away and dashing into a crowd of people. Among those more seriously injured were:

Philip Arton, contusion of face; Chas. Gross, legs broken and internal injuries; Charles D. Dumand, bruised about body and internally injured; Lewis Heron, body legs and hands crushed by cable car; Henry Karnoll, fingers crushed, will have to be amputated; Max Klatsing, bruised about body and internally injured; Louis Bernes, hands crushed; Morris Rosenberg, bruised about body; Carl Romano, laceration of legs and internal injuries; James Thompson, contusions of face and body; Ludwig Werdensworth, internal injuries a laceration of the arms.

At least a dozen others received minor injuries and were attended by neighboring physicians. The accident occurred at a time when the thousands gathered along the sidewalks were wrought up to a pitch of enthusiasm by the approach of the parade which they had been waiting for more than an hour. It threw them into a panic during which many were trampled under foot in their efforts to escape an unknown danger.

COTTON SHIPMENTS.

China Can't Get It Fast Enough to Suit Demand.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—A fact significant of the industrial activity of Japan comes to light in connection with the demand for steamer space on the ships of the Pacific Mail and O. & O. companies. There is a large amount of cotton awaiting shipment and heavy shipments of four destined for the same market cannot find steamer space. The quantity of cotton at present in warehouses and cars on this side and across the bay amounts to 14,000 bales.

R. P. Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of the Pacific Mail company, says it is a fact that four shipments have been delayed by reason of the demand for space to carry cotton, but he fancies that the delay is only temporary. His recent visit to the Orient and the observations he there made, convinced him that Shanghai was taking the lead in the manufacture of cotton goods. All signs indicate a great quickening of the commercial relations between San Francisco and ports of Asia. It is not surmised that the fleets of the Pacific Mail and Oriental & Occidental will be enlarged to meet the increased demands for transportation. The fact accepted that the new Oriental line established by Japanese, will have ships in the trade by the first of next September.

NEW YORK OFFICERS.

New York, Jan. 1.—Mayor Van Wyck has announced officially the selections for a portion of the municipal offices within his gift. Among them are the following: Corporation counsel, John W. Whelan, President and chairman of the board of charity for Manhattan and Bronx, six years, John W. Keiser. Sheriff, Thomas J. Dunn. Secretary, Charles J. McKeehan. Counsel, Philip J. Britt. Undersheriff, Henry Mulvaney. Auditor, Edward H. Walker. District attorney, Asa Bird Gardiner. Assistants, James J. Grady, John P. McIntyre, James W. Osborne, Henry Wunger, J. D. McClelland, Stephen S. Blake, J. G. Wash, Robert Townsend.

NEW STEAMSHIP.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—If the present plans of the managers of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. are carried into effect there will be built in this city within a year a steamship that will surpass in size, speed and elegance of equipment any vessel now in Pacific waters. It is asserted on authority that arrangements for building the ship will soon be completed. It is the present intention to build the new vessel at a local shipyard and to give her an American register. She is to be somewhat larger than the China and will compare favorably with the big Atlantic liners.

COLORADO GOLD.

Denver, Jan. 1.—The Rocky Mountain News on reliable information places the output of Colorado mines at the following figures: Gold, \$2,500,000; silver, \$14,750,000; lead, \$3,222,577; copper, \$1,906,224. The estimates of agricultural products is \$22,000,000, and those of horticulture \$5,200,000.

GUILTY OF MURDER.

Liberty, Mo. Jan. 1.—This afternoon the jury in the trial of William Foley for the murder of his sister and mother, after being out 143 hours and forty minutes, returned a verdict of murder in the first degree. After the verdict had been returned, Judge Woodson sentenced Foley to be hanged Friday, February 5.

HANNA'S CHANCES ARE IN DOUBT

Turcoats in the House May Defeat the Ticket as Planned.

OHIO LEGISLATURE IS MIXED

Some Are Sick and Others Wish They Were—Opposition Claims It Can Organize the House.

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 1.—The caucus for the nomination of officers of the legislature, which convened Monday, were held tonight. Usually these caucuses are of state interest only. Tonight the reelection of Senator Hanna was directly involved, and indirectly lost openly and aggressively republican opposition in Ohio to President McKinley and his appointments, and assumed an organized factional fight.

The result of the caucus shows that the nomination of officers of the legislature, which convenes Monday, were held tonight. Usually these caucuses are of state interest only. Tonight the reelection of Senator Hanna was directly involved, and indirectly lost openly and aggressively republican opposition in Ohio to President McKinley and his appointments, and assumed an organized factional fight.

The legislature now stands 75 republicans; 65 democrats, and 5 fusionists. In the house republican caucus Broate, Kemper and Lane participated, and are pledged to Alex. Boxwell for speaker. John R. Malley for chief clerk, and Andrew Jackson for sergeant-at-arms, and other candidates for minor places on the Hanna ticket. Drouse, however, says he will not enter the republican caucus next Wednesday, January 12, unless changes are made in the meantime. At the joint republican caucus next Wednesday Senator Hanna will have no opposition, but it is stated now that there are enough republicans who will not enter the caucus to prevent his nomination.

The anti-Hanna republicans and democrats in joint house caucus nominated Harry Mason for speaker and a complete list of candidates for other places in the organization of the house.

The opposition claim tonight that they will have enough votes Monday to organize the house. The Hanna men claim that Griffith, of Clinton, Griffith, of Union, and Manuel, of Montgomery, will vote for Boxwell Monday and elect him. The members from Clinton and Union are, however, reported tonight as so sick that they will be unable to be in their seats Monday.

While both sides claim organization of the house, the opposition to Senator Hanna and the Boxwell ticket is most demonstrative. The Hanna managers claim that their senator will succeed, even if the Boxwell ticket is defeated. The opposition would then have the committee and the chairmanship and other patronage at their disposal. It is believed Senator Hanna's chances will not be won, if his opponents get the organization on Monday.

Governor Bushnell and the entire state administration took an active part in the caucus today against Hanna, scoring democrats and republicans who remained away from the caucus. While the crowds against the opposition at headquarters are jollifying, it was learned that six democratic members of the house were also absent from their caucus. It is claimed that these six democrats are opposed to voting for republicans and want to vote for a democratic candidate for the legislative officers and senator.

EARTHQUAKE'S SHOCKS.

Santa Rosa, Cal. Jan. 1.—Two distinct shocks of earthquake, the most severe for many years, shook the residents of this city and vicinity shortly after 5 o'clock this morning. No damage was reported.

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