

# STEAMER SUNK

## Islander Went Down Near Douglas Island.

### SIXTY PEOPLE LOST

\$275,000 IN GOLD DUST ALSO WENT TO THE BOTTOM.

The Steamer Struck An Iceberg at 2 O'clock A. M., and Sank Immediately—Boilers Exploded by the Shock—Captain Was Last to Leave, and Was Afterward Lost From the Liferaft.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 20.—The steamer Islander, the crack passenger steamer of the Alaskan route, operated by the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, of this city, struck an iceberg off Douglas island at 2 A. M. on the morning of Thursday last and went to the bottom, carrying 55 to 60 souls, including passengers and members of the crew.

Some of the survivors arrived here this evening by the steamer Queen. They report that as the Islander went down her boilers exploded, causing the death of many who might have escaped. Captain Foote went down with his steamer.

There was \$275,000 in gold on the steamer, \$100,000 of which was carried by passengers.

The description of the disaster by the survivors is heartrending. They say that the Islander struck an iceberg, and so severe was the shock that every door was jammed fast in the staterooms, and the ill-fated passengers, numbering 107, and the crew of 71 were forced to break through the windows to reach the deck.

Steward Simpson lost 10 in his department, and his description of the wreck is clearly given. He was awakened by the shock, and could not get out of his stateroom until he broke out a window. He reached the bridge, where the pilot was on watch, and, with the mate, ordered out the lifeboats. The vessel was then taking water fast, and the chief engineer reported the pumps unable to take care of the water. He also went below with an ax, broke down the lower stateroom doors, and stayed at this work until the water forced him to go to the upper deck.

By this time the ship's boats were loaded and had got away, and while the officers were getting out the last life raft, Captain Foote called to all hands to clear the ship, as she was about to go down. This was the captain's last order, as at that moment the ship sank, and the captain, leaping clear of the wreck, was picked up by a life boat, which in some manner was overturned. The day was very misty, and all hands were forced to shift for themselves. The officers state that had the passengers not rushed the boats, the loss of life would have been small, if indeed, any at all, had been lost.

### TRAIN BLOWN TO BITS.

Two Cars of Powder Exploded in Tunnel—Set Fire to the Forest.

Ashland, Aug. 19.—What is regarded as one of the worst wrecks in the history of the Southern Pacific Company's lines in Oregon took place at tunnel No. 7, six and one half miles north of Glendale, this afternoon about 4:30 o'clock. Extra freight No. 2192, east, which left here at 9:30 this morning, composed of 26 cars, with three engines, was just emerging from tunnel No. 7, which is a short one on a sharp curve in the track, and about 100 feet long, when the train parted, the air hose breaking. The sudden jar caused two rear cars loaded with dynamite to explode.

The entire train was demolished, except the engine, and it was injured somewhat. There were 10 cars of melons, two of powder, two of fruit and the remainder of miscellaneous freight. All but three cars of the melons were totally demolished by the force of the explosion, which was felt for miles around the surrounding country. A car filled with acid took fire, and the flames spread to the dry brush and timber, causing a fierce conflagration. Cow creek, which runs along the side of the track at this point, was filled with debris and burning wreckage.

A number of tramps who were riding in a half closed car, escaped, so far as is known at the present time, but until the debris is cleared the loss of life and limb cannot be known, and from the nature of the disaster there may be nothing left of the remains of the unfortunates to tell the tale.

### Molten Metal Exploded.

Youngstown, O., Aug. 20.—An explosion of 10 tons of molten metal in the blast furnace department at the Ohio plant of the National Steel Company resulted in the death of three workmen and the injury of 11 others. The machinery which connected the ladle containing the molten metal broke, and allowed the metal to drop into a vat containing water.

### WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

Genus Work Being Rushed—Further Reduction in Philippine Military Forces.

Owing to the necessity of completing a large part of the census work before congress meets, Director Merriam has been compelled to employ over 3,000 clerks, and to prevent waste of time certain clerks in some of the divisions have been detailed as inspectors.

Only a few of the letter carriers of the country have availed themselves of the privilege granted by the postmaster general, after several years of petitioning, to wear shirt waists during the summer season while on duty.

The huge lottery that Uncle Sam has conducted in Oklahoma for land taken from the Indians has brought to light a peculiar phase of the homestead law. Judge Ryan, first assistant secretary of the interior, said that under the homestead law a married woman could not make entry for a homestead because she is not the head of a family. A single woman, however, can make an entry.

The second largest claim yet presented by the Spanish treaty claims commission was filed the other day on behalf of Francis Zeigle, of Havana. He was owner of a sugar estate of 2,970 acres, worth \$1,000,000, which was laid waste by Spanish troops in May, 1896. For this he wants \$722,47.

The postoffice department has issued an order that is designed to be of special advantage to business men. Those firms and business houses that have been in the habit of sending money order blanks to their customers free of cost with the special money order blanks in which the name of the payee or firm sending them out will be conspicuously printed in red ink.

Preparations are being made by the war department to make a further reduction in the military force in the Philippine islands. It has been decided to bring back the remaining artillery organizations in the Philippines.

### TURNED OVER IN A SQUALL.

Ohio River Boat Lost With Sixteen Passengers—Happened Without Warning.

Paducah, Ky., Aug. 21.—The steamer City of Golconda, plying between this city and Elizabethtown, Ill., was struck by a squall during a storm about 7 o'clock last night, as she was en route to Paducah, and turned over in 10 feet of water, six miles above the city, as she was going into Cromwell's Landing. Sixteen people are reported drowned.

The disaster happened as supper was being served, and many of the 75 passengers were in the cabin. The wind struck the boat without warning, and there was no time for those on the inside to escape. Captain Jesse Bauer and Pilot E. E. Peck were the last to leave the boat and swim ashore. They saved several persons struggling in the water, left the survivors in a house near the river bank and came to the city. Captain Bauer, who arrived here two hours after the accident, said:

"The boat was getting ready to land, when the squall struck her and she listed. Several passengers who were inside jumped overboard and were caught by the boat. The women, all of whom were in the cabin, could not be reached. The boat settled down in 10 feet of water over a reef and two of the men who were in the cabin broke through the glass and were saved. The colored deck hands saved a woman, and I do not think she was the only woman saved. A yawl which had broken loose, was caught by some men struggling in the water and rowed to shore. We returned to the boat on this, but could find no signs of life and returned to shore."

The boat was valued at \$25,000. There is no way to determine the number or names of the dead until the boats or bodies are found. Captain Peck places the number at 16.

### General Joseph F. Knipe Dead.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 21.—General Joseph F. Knipe, a hero of two wars, is dead at his home in this city. He fought through the Mexican war with General Scott, and in the Civil war he participated in all the battles in which the Twelfth corps took part, from Chattanooga to Atlanta. He afterward served as chief of cavalry in the army of the Tennessee. He was postmaster of Harrisburg during the Johnson administration and at the time of his death was connected with the state department.

### Successful Wireless Telegraphy.

Nantucket, Mass., Aug. 17.—Communication by wireless telegraph has been established between this island and South Shoal lightship, and the system is working to the satisfaction of Commander J. D. J. Kelly, who has been in charge of the installation. Numerous messages have been exchanged between Flaconet and the lightship.

### Large Cigar Plant Burned.

Richmond, Va., Aug. 21.—Fire today destroyed what is locally known as the J. Wright Company plant of the American Cigar Company. There were about 400,000 pounds of leaf tobacco in the building, owned by the American Cigar Company, and this, with the machinery, is estimated to be worth \$115,000. The building, an immense five story structure covering 15,200 square feet, was entirely destroyed.

# A STUBBORN FIGHT

BOTH STEEL TRUST AND STRIKERS FIRM AS EVER.

Neither Side Will Acknowledge Defeat While There is Any Hope Left—Much Depends Upon Action of Chicago Men—Non-union Men Are Protected by the Wile of the Superintendent.

Pittsburg, Aug. 22.—Following the rapid moves of yesterday on either side of the great steel strike, there was a lull today, and neither side took decisive action. The contest appears to be settling down into a determined struggle, in which neither side will acknowledge defeat while there is hope left. Joseph Bishop, the Ohio arbitrator, appeared here today, but both sides promptly repudiated the suggestion that another move for peace was being considered.

The steel managers succeeded in starting the last idle mill at the Clark plant, and are evidently planning a series of extensions at every point where there is a chance of success. They will probably start the Star tin mills in this city and increase the force at the Lindsay & McCutcheon mill.

An interesting feature of the fight at the latter mill is contributed by the claim of the strikers that Mrs. Fred Baugh, wife of the superintendent, is escorting the strike breakers to and from the mill. She has always been very popular with the mill men, and the pickets say they would rather face a regiment of soldiers than do anything improper in her presence. They say that in peace times she nursed their families and that they cannot interfere with her or the men she escorts.

The steel managers are also arranging for more men for the Painter and Monessen mills. Veri Preston, representing President Schwab, was here today, and conferred with leading officials of the companies federated in the Steel Corporation.

The strikers met the movement to reopen mills with non-union men with the claim that it will be simply impossible to secure a sufficient number of skilled men to operate them. Their men, they declare, are standing firm, and must be consulted before the mills run. They say they have the situation well in hand, and, despite the alleged danger of the strike getting too heavy, continue their work of organization with a view of crippling more plants belonging to the corporation. They claim that Chicago will, in the end, come out within a week and that there is no danger of the Joliet men going back to work.

President McMurry, of the American Sheet Steel Company, returned today from a tour through the five mill towns of the Kiskiminetus valley. He inspected the non-union mills running in all of them, and also looked over the two non-union properties being operated at Scottdale. He said production was above the maximum average for this season of the year, and that he was perfectly satisfied. District Manager P. F. Smith, of the company, said the Wellsville plant lacked but six men of having every crew full; that the product was coming out nearly perfect, and that if their men were not interfered with or assaulted by the strikers, the situation would be eminently satisfactory. He said also that the best sentiment of the community endorse the policy of the company.

### FIRE IN A NEST OF OIL TANKS.

An Explosion Caused the Death of Four Firemen—Many More Injured.

Philadelphia, Aug. 22.—While a large force of firemen were endeavoring to check a fire in a nest of burning oil tanks at the Atlantic Oil Refining Company's plant at Point Breeze, in the southwestern section of this city, about 12:30 o'clock this morning, an immense tank of benzene suddenly exploded. Many firemen were in close proximity, and fell victims to the blaring oil and flying pieces of iron. Three or four were killed, and many were badly burned before they could be rescued by their companions. A general call was telegraphed for ambulances and patrol wagons, and the injured were hurried to the hospitals in the lower end of the city. They were horribly mutilated and burned, and the dead were hardly recognizable when brought to the morgue. Several of the injured will die.

Ten or twelve tanks of benzene and petroleum have already been destroyed, and the fire is not yet checked. The loss will probably reach \$500,000.

The bodies of three firemen were recovered, but it is feared that others are among the ruins. The intense heat and danger of further explosions render a search for bodies almost impossible. It is believed 20 firemen were injured by the explosion. Police patrol wagons and ambulances were kept busy for two hours removing the injured to the hospitals.

### Threat Brought Porte to Terms.

Constantinople, Aug. 22.—It is definitely known in Constantinople that the sultan's compliance with the French claims regarding the concessions to the French Quay Company and the French bankers followed a demand on the part of M. Constans and a threat to break off diplomatic relations with the porte unless the sultan's promises were fulfilled by noon of August 19.

### MILLIONS INVOLVED.

Tennessee Farmers Lose Their Suit Against Smelters.

Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 22.—Judge McConnell, sitting at Cleveland, Tenn., today dissolved injunctions granted two weeks ago in a case that involves millions of dollars. At Ducktown, Tenn., \$4,000,000 have been invested in the copper industry and two mammoth smelting plants built. About 40 farmers claim that their land has been ruined by the fumes from the plants destroying all vegetation. They filed suits for damages and were granted injunctions which practically shut down the plants. Three thousand men are employed in the industry and one feature in today's hearing was the presentation of a monster petition, signed by 3,000 citizens of Polk county, asking the dissolution of the injunction. The Tennessee Copper Company and the Ducktown Sulphur, Copper & Iron Company are the corporations involved. The former has spent \$3,000,000 and employs 2,000 men; the latter has spent \$1,000,000, is ready to put in \$4,000,000 more, and employs 1,000 men.

### QUIET RESTORED IN MONGOLIA.

British Are Arranging for Protection of a Peking Railroad.

Shanghai, Aug. 22.—An edict recently issued announces that the court will leave for Singan Fu October 6. The governor of Honan has been ordered to prepare a palace for temporary use at Kileng. This palace will be occupied by the celebrations in honor of the birthday of the empress dowager, November 20.

Late reports state that quiet has been restored in Mongolia. Magistrates along the route from Singan Fu to Peking complain that the sons of Prince Ching, of the imperial family, who were at the head of the Boxers, are oppressing them and demanding that they honor the remains of their father, who suffered the death penalty for his connection with the Boxer movement.

The British military authorities are arranging for the protection of the Peking-Shan Hai Kwan railway. Eight foreign police commissioners, speaking Chinese, each of whom will have under him 100 armed Chinese police, will have charge of the posts along the line. It is difficult to get sufficient men to run the railway, though the line is practically under British control.

### WILL BUILD A FIVE-MILE TUNNEL.

Harriman's Plan to Bore Through the Sierras to Make Two and Half Day Service.

San Francisco, Aug. 22.—The longest railroad tunnel in the United States, and one that will be numbered among the four longest in the world, will be built through the Sierra Nevada mountains of California, if the present plans of E. H. Harriman are carried out. Chief Engineer Hood has sent out a corps of 15 men to make preliminary surveys, and their work is expected to be completed in six weeks. The tunnel project, which will involve an outlay of from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000, contemplates the boring of a hole 27,000 feet, or something over five miles in length, through the heart of the Sierras. Besides saving a climb of 1,500 feet, the tunnel will shorten the road about seven miles, and is expected to effect a great saving in operating expenses.

It is stated that with the Sierra Nevada tunnel built and the other plans of the company for the straightening of curves and reducing grades in Nevada and Utah completed, passenger trains could be run between San Francisco and Chicago easily in two and a half days. This means an average speed for the whole distance of not more than 40 miles an hour.

### ARGENTINA AND CHILE.

Agreement Formulated That Ensures Peace Between the Two.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 22.—In the Argentine senate today, Mr. Amancio Alcorta, minister of foreign affairs, after the adoption of a resolution of confidence of the government towards the forthcoming Pan-American congress in the City of Mexico, announced that the Argentine-Chilean governments had formulated a moral compromise not to increase their armaments by a single rifle. He said it was this resolution which had led to the resignation of the Chilean cabinet, and he maintained that peace between Argentina and Chile was assured. In reply to an interpellation he replied that the relations of Argentina with all foreign powers was excellent.

### Monument Unveiled in New Mexico.

Santa Fe, N. M., Aug. 22.—A monument to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the peaceful annexation of New Mexico to the United States was unveiled this afternoon on the plaza in the presence of a vast concourse. It was erected by Sunshine Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

### Kitchener's Weekly Report.

London, Aug. 22.—Lord Kitchener's weekly report from Pretoria, dated August 19, shows that 64 Boers were killed, 29 were wounded, 248 were made prisoners and 95 surrendered during the last week. The prisoners include Landwerk Steyn, of Vrededorf; Commandant Devillers, the father of General Schalk Burger, the wife of the acting president, and Commandant Bretonbach, of Lillfontein.



Marketing Garden Products. Many fruit and vegetable growers in the South and North make a mistake in watching the market reports and shipping goods when the quoted prices are high and holding them back when they are low. As a result, when the goods reach the market they find that too many others have done the same thing, and when the goods are received conditions have changed, and the market is again glutted, and prices are down. This system may do well for the gardener who is so near to the market that he can have prices telephoned out to him at night and have his produce on hand before daylight, or get them at the opening of the morning market and deliver his produce at eight o'clock. But the man whose products must be two or three days on the road would often do better to ship his goods when prices were low with the chance of a rise before his consignments come to hand. One truck farmer near Norfolk, Va., who is said to have retired with nearly a million dollars made in the business, used to have one good commission agent in each of the several cities, to whom he shipped goods, notifying them by wire of amount and date of shipments, and they were then prepared to receive orders for them or to sell them for cash on arrival, and if he bid his shipments by any system it was to keep each one well supplied with good produce, and accept the average price. The dealers, knowing they had all of his goods in the city, could obtain the highest price of the day for them.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

Soil Renovators. The opinion seems to be general among farmers that the only crops which can be used to improve the soil are the legumes which gather carbon-nitrogen from the air and retain it, so that when plowed under the nitrogen is given to the soil. Another use these legumes have is that they supply humus to the soil, which often is much needed. There is another class, of which rape is a member, which when plowed under has the power to absorb the phosphoric acid which lies inert when other plants are grown, and when such crops are plowed under they return this phosphoric acid to the soil for the use of the next plant placed thereon, for once being made active it does not again become inert. Cow-horn turnips are of this class, and recent experiments have proved their wonderful value as soil renovators. The long roots force themselves deep into the subsoil, forcing that soil to give up its plant food. Any crop which will bring lime inert when other crops are grown will do a vast deal to add to the fertility of the soil. All farms will not grow crimson clover, but with cow peas, velvet bean and Canada field peas at hand one may readily obtain a legume that can be grown and thus get nitrogen cheaply, then if rape and other members of the turnip family will wake up the phosphoric acid in the soil and make it available, the question of soil fertility comes pretty near being solved.

Pasture Lands. When I came out West, more than a quarter of a century ago, writes a correspondent of the Prairie Farmer, it did not take many years to find out that it was more profitable to pasture the grass around me than to burn it in the fall. This pasturing of the grass was done so successfully that none was left to burn or to pasture. Finally I was compelled to break up the land and farm it. I raised large crops of small grain, but soon saw that it was a money-losing game and tried to seed my land back to grass. I found it very difficult to get tame pastures to stick, and if by accident I got a good stand of timothy or clover the latter would not last long and the former after a good crop or two would get what I called sod bound and would not produce a load of hay to the acre. I know now why the timothy did no good after a year or two. It was because we pastured it to the roots, thinking it economical to let the stock eat the last spear of grass that showed up in the fall. Land having by that time advanced in price, I could not afford to own pastures of that kind, and so I overstocked it to make both ends meet. I made up my mind to own less and better stock, and this change in no time made a great improvement in my pastures. I soon saw that a growth of grass covered the pastures in dry weather when all the range in short pastures was burned.

The Value of Rainfall. It is said that the rainfall brings down about four pounds of ammonia, or three and a third pounds of nitrogen per acre, which may be correct as a general statement, or an average amount, but where there are heaps of decomposing vegetable or animal matter from which ammonia is escaping in considerable amount the air contains more ammonia, and the rain or snow will absorb more of it. Unfortunately for careless farmers it does not drop back to the place from which it rises, but may be carried by the wind for miles before returning to earth, and the farmer who makes a compost heap and does not keep it so covered with earth or other absorbent as to prevent the escape of ammonia may be adding to the fertility of the garden of somebody in the next county whom he never saw.

Growing Field Corn. Many a farmer has been saying that there was no profit in growing corn in New England, when Western corn could be bought at the market price of several years past, but when they find that a dry season in the West has increased the price ten cents a bushel, and may add ten more before the season is over, they rather envy the man who has a field that will fill the old corn crib and give a good stack of corn stover to save the hay next winter. He, at least, can afford to contribute something to the Kansas sufferers who have found the corn crop a failure this year. But we hope the man who has corn to buy will not be too hasty in deciding to use less of it because of the advance in price. If it is a loss to buy corn instead of growing it, it may be a greater loss to reduce the amount fed to fattening stock, such cows, swine or poultry. If satisfied that it paid to feed it at the old price, keep on as before and hope for a better price for the products.—New England Homestead.

Rations for Dairy Cow. Prof. T. L. Haecker, of the Minnesota experiment station, after nine years' experience, gives the following as to the best ration for dairy cows: Ensilage is the foundation feed used and the grain feed consists of five parts bran, five parts cornmeal and two parts of new process gluten meal, which contains 37 per cent protein, and the rations are from five pounds to nine pounds of this mixture, according to the amount of milk given. It generally takes three pounds of ensilage and half pound corn fodder for every pound of grain feed. If a cow's flow of milk drops off for some cause or other, he increases it by feeding roots besides the grain for a time and then holds it by grain alone. Incidentally he mentioned a cow which failed to breed for four years which gave 300 pounds of butter fat the fourth year and seems to intend to keep up that gait.

Washing Eggs. There has been considerable complaint in the large markets, both East and West, about some method used by shippers in removing the soil from eggs. They are not washed with water, but with some substance that whitens them, but which also closes the pores of the shell and causes the egg to spoil quickly. Poultrymen should avoid using anything of this nature. If the eggs are so badly soiled that they need washing, they should be kept at home and not sent to a city market. Any ordinary soil may be readily removed by gently rubbing the spot with a soft cloth. In this way the bloom on the shell is not removed as it is by washing.

The Berkshire Hog. The Berkshire is to the swine field as the brave old oak to the forest. He has withstood the tempests of fads and fashions for over 100 years and is still the most lasting and enduring, said W. D. McTavish at the Iowa State Breeders' Association. He has had no booms or soaring prices, but has gone steadily on in the even tenor of his way to that practical improvement that makes him to-day the best all round hog for all climates and all purposes on earth.

Yellow Versus White Corn. Chemical analysis does not show that there is any constant difference between white corn and yellow corn as to nutrients, says Prof. W. A. Henry. It is doubtless true that some varieties of yellow corn are better or more nutritious than some varieties of white corn, but these differences are not inherent because of color.

Storing Sweet Potatoes. Storing sweet potatoes in cottonseed hulls, cotton seed and sand in the usual way has given best results at the South Carolina station. Storing in straw has given the poorest results. It appears that cottonseed hulls are admirably adapted for use in storing sweet potatoes. The same is true for cotton seed, only to a less extent.

Farm Notes. Bone is the thing to use on peach trees every time, says one grower. Dig out the peach tree borers and jar the curculio.

The cause of foam rising on extracted honey is said to be unripe honey. Sugar beets should not be permitted to dry out after being dug, as there is always a loss of sugar.

Minnesota beekeepers in convention seemed to favor sweet and alkali clovers as good to sow for bee pasture.

Kansas wheat growers are to have seed of the hard, red, Russian or Turkey wheat direct from the Crimea. It is imported through the State Millers' and Grain Dealers' Associations.

"The queen of the money makers" is the latest and proudest title bestowed by the poultry press upon the American hen. Cotton, corn and wheat are said to be the only farm supplies that exceed her output in value.

Hessian fly, the bane of wheat growers in the older states, appears to be going westward. Secretary Coburn, of Kansas, is credited with the advice to burn the wheat stubble as soon as the wheat is removed from the field.