

WRECKED IN STORM

PORTLAND-ASIATIC LINER GOES DOWN.

The Passengers and Crew Were All Saved—Sailed From Columbia River January 10, With \$300,000 Cargo—Only a Brief Announcement of Disaster Received—Struck on Japanese Coast.

Portland, Feb. 6.—The steamship Knight Companion is a wreck on the east coast of Japan. All the passengers and crew are safe. The vessel went ashore in a storm on Point Imbue Saki, east of Yokohama. She was one of the vessels of the Portland and Asiatic steamship line, and sailed from the Columbia river January 10. She was a new vessel of about 7,000 tons' carrying capacity. The cargo consisted chiefly of flour, cotton and sheeting, valued at over \$300,000.

The news of the wreck was first received yesterday by the O. R. & N., which operates the Portland-Asiatic line of vessels. The cable dispatch bearing the information gave no details other than cited above. The news came from Yokohama, through the agent of the line at Hong Kong. It created no little stir in the city, and the exasperating meanness of details caused some mariners to doubt by conjuring up inconsistencies in the report. It was reported that the vessel was ashore on the coast of Idzumi, which borders the inland sea, where Kobe and Osaka are situated. It was argued that this was 200 miles out of the course of the Knight Companion, inasmuch as she was bound from Portland to Yokohama, and Idzumi is far west of that port. It was also argued that the vessel would not find weather rough enough to cast her ashore on that coast, inasmuch as it borders an inland body of water. Captain Porter, of the steamship Indravelli, now in port, was of the opinion that the name "Idzumi" was confused with "Idzu." The latter is the name of a peninsula on the south coast of Japan, about 50 miles west of the course the vessel would take in entering the harbor of Yokohama. This was a plausible conjecture, until it was learned that the ship was ashore on Point Imbue Saki. When the vessel struck she was not more than 23 or 24 days out from Portland, and was therefore a little overdue.

CAUGHT UNDER THE WALLS.

Nine Men Killed at a St. Louis Fire—Building Collapsed.

St. Louis, Feb. 6.—At least nine men were killed and as many more injured at a fire which broke out tonight in the five-story stone and brick building at 314 Chestnut street. The building suddenly collapsed, and although the men who were caught in the crash had not been reached by their hard working companions two hours later, it is almost certain that they have succumbed.

The building in which the fire originated was located in the old business district of the city and was about 50 years old. The blaze, which proved a hard one for the fire department to master, was practically under control when suddenly, with absolutely no warning, the building collapsed and came down in a heap with a tremendous noise.

Three pipemen at work on the second floor had difficulty in managing a line of hose and the assistant chief was on his way with three of his men to lend them aid when the building collapsed. The men went down with tons of twisted iron, brick and wooden columns enveloping them.

The property loss is \$75,000.

THE BOILERS EXPLODED.

Many of the Crew of a Pittsburg Towboat Perished.

Pittsburg, Feb. 6.—At about 1:15 this morning, just as the Pittsburg harbor towboat J. W. Ailes had passed through lock No. 2, her boilers exploded, throwing her crew of 14 in all directions. Three of the crew are known to be fatally hurt, and only five others have been accounted for.

The boat was towing six loaded flats toward Pittsburg. Just after getting out of the lock the explosion occurred, and in a very short time the Ailes was burned to the water's edge. The report of the explosion was heard for miles and soon after rescuing parties were searching for the injured. Captain Shaw says he was sleeping in his bunk when the explosion came, and the first thing he knew of any danger was when he found himself floundering in the water, fully 200 feet away from the burning boat, with his blanket still around him. He is not seriously hurt, but thinks many of his crew must have perished. The Ailes was practically a new boat, and valued at \$25,000.

Storms in Spain and Portugal.

Madrid, Feb. 6.—The snow storms in Spain continue. Rains and snow in Portugal have caused inundations. There have been several wrecks on the coasts, and some loss of life. There is much misery at Oporto as a result of the snow.

Protest Against Catholic Rites.

London, Feb. 6.—At a great united Protestant demonstration held tonight resolutions were passed against the professional and the celebration of mass within the Church of England, the growth of which was alleged to be mainly due to the abuse of church patronage by the government and episcopate. The resolutions also urge the government to enforce the law concerning the exclusion of monks and Jesuits from Great Britain.

TRADE OUTLOOK IN ORIENT.

Agent of Agricultural Department Writes to Secretary Wilson.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Secretary Wilson has received a report from David G. Fairchild, the expert of the department of agriculture, who, with Mr. Lathrop, a wealthy New Yorker, is exploring the world for new plants for introduction into this country.

The report is dated at Colombo, Ceylon, and discusses general conditions in China. He says the missionaries, frightened out by the recent troubles, are returning to their posts and that foreign merchants claim that the outlook for trade improvements is very favorable in the region of Shanghai. American trade, he says, is more than holding its own against that of other countries, but adds: "Japan's trade has greatly increased in China of late and she is not only an active, but may become a dangerous competitor."

Mr. Fairchild went to Canton in search of South Chinese peaches and plums, acorns and trees of which he announces he has shipped here, together with some promising leeches, bums and persimmons for California and Florida. He says producers and shippers in China and Japan are much interested in the final outcome of the experiments of this government in the home production of tea, but apparently are skeptical and believe the cost of picking is too great for the industry to succeed here.

The American occupation of Manila has led to a remarkable increase in the price of labor, hotel accommodations and food products in China. Coolies' wages have greatly increased in Hong Kong since the Spanish-American war and important new enterprises complain of a scarcity of labor. Hotel prices are 50 per cent higher than before the war and residents claim that the general cost of living has doubled in the last five years. The Chinese government, to pay its war indemnity, has levied a tax of 5 cents, American, a year on each of every house in the country. Foreigners already pay about 4 per cent ad valorem on practically everything imported. The viceroys in Canton is already having great difficulty in collecting the taxes and white people living there say this tax on the natives is arousing a great deal of animosity toward foreigners.

"The growth of our agricultural, as well as other exports to China," Mr. Fairchild predicts, "will be a phenomenal one, and include many classes of canned and dried goods from our orchards and preserved meats and dairy products from our farms and ranches."

Mr. Fairchild says a British army officer assures him that the Chinese arsenal at Tien Tsin is manufacturing cannon and small arms which fall very little short of being as good as those of the Europeans and Americans.

The awakening of China is going on with a rapidity that will soon astonish those Westerners who refuse to recognize the course things are taking.

A Great Terminal Station.

New York, Feb. 6.—A great terminal station for New York and New Jersey street railways will be built west of Sixth avenue, on the blocks between Christopher and Leroy streets. The purchase of property has already begun. The new tunnel company will lease the use of its tracks to the traction companies. The tracks will rise from the tunnel at the Manhattan end to the surface of the street, on a gentle incline. This will be constructed on two blocks to be bought for the terminals.

Nitro-Glycerine Exploded.

Washington, Feb. 6.—A premature explosion of nitro-glycerine carelessly handled by an operative at the Carnegie Manufacturing Company's plant, at Ardwick, Md., nine miles from this city, early today, killed one man and slightly injured two others. The building was slightly damaged, but eight tons of material of high explosive strength stored close to the scene of the accident was not disturbed.

Revenue Cutter Service Bill.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The bill "to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service" was acted upon favorably today by the house committee on commerce. It establishes the rank of officers in the service, that of captain being the same as major in the army and lieutenant commander in the navy. Retirement at the age of 64 years, with three-fourths pay, is provided for.

Loss by Fire.

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—At an early hour this morning the tug Walter Hackett, lying in Oakland harbor, was discovered to be on fire. The flames are now reported to be under control, but the loss on the vessel, which is valued at \$20,000, will be considerable.

Kitchener's Weekly Report.

London, Feb. 6.—In his weekly report to the war office, Lord Kitchener states that for the week ending February 1, 29 Boers were killed, six wounded, 142 taken prisoners and 48 surrendered.

Murdered by Apaches.

Tucson, Ariz., Feb. 6.—The charred remains of A. T. Vail, a well known pioneer rancher, were found in the ruins of his house at Aravapai Canyon, 85 miles from Tucson. The supposition is that the house was burned down by Apache Indians, who roam around that section. It is believed that the Indians killed Vail, looted the house and burned it. The Indians are much dissatisfied on account of the government cutting off their rations.

TAKES WU TO TASK

GOMPERS SPEAKS FOR STRICT CHINESE EXCLUSION.

President of Federation of Labor Repeats the Remark of the Chinese Minister That He is a Labor Agitator—Commissioner Powderly is in Favor of Stern Law.

Washington, Feb. 5.—The house committee on foreign affairs today heard Immigration Commissioner Powderly and President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, in favor of strict exclusion of Chinese, as provided in the Mitchell-Kahn bill. Mr. Powderly stated that the hardships encountered by the class of Chinese exempt from exclusion at the detention stations were insignificant. It was the duplicity of the Chinese laborer, he said, who sought to gain admission by assuming to be in the exempt class that caused the necessity for stringent exclusion laws.

Mr. Gompers spoke of the extent of Asiatic contamination and demoralization of our labor on the Pacific coast. The Chinese worker who earned \$2 and consumed two cents a day impoverished American labor and reduced the standards of living. To the argument that had been advanced that the American workingman would have to meet European and Chinese standards of cheap living, Mr. Gompers answered that if long hours and low wages meant industrial superiority, then China would have been at the head of the industrial nations of the world.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Gompers criticized Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister, saying: "I resent the sneering remarks of a foreign diplomat that I am an agitator, or a labor agitator, or that the laboring people of this country who are endeavoring to protect themselves from Chinese agitators. I deny the right of the representatives of a foreign government addressing himself to an official of our government and referring to American citizens by name in such manner, particularly when such reference is of a derogatory character. The Chinese minister is treated in this country with every becoming courtesy, and he has no right to make insinuations upon American citizens. Upon behalf of the laboring men of this country whom I represent as president of the American Federation of Labor, I repeat that I resent these remarks on the part of the Chinese minister."

ENGINE DASHES INTO TRAIN

Brakeman Killed by Being Hurled With Two Cars From a Trestle.

Denver, Feb. 5.—A Colorado Midland passenger train, westbound for Salt Lake and San Francisco, had a narrow escape from instant destruction yesterday morning, two miles west of Buena Vista. The locomotive dashed into a freight train standing on a trestle 65 feet high, hurling the caboose and one freight car into the creek bottom and instantly killing the rear brakeman on the freight train.

The engineer and fireman were prevented from jumping by the high trestle, and remained on their engine, expecting to be dashed to death. The engine left the rails, but miraculously remained on the trestle, almost balanced on its edge, not only saving their lives, but the passengers as well.

The rear brakeman of the freight, the only man to lose his life, received orders to flag the coming passenger train, but tarried in the caboose warming himself, as the morning was extremely cold. He had just started to flag the train when he saw the headlight of the locomotive round a curve not 100 feet distant. He retreated toward the caboose, but was caught and knocked into the creek, being shockingly mangled.

Lockout in Effect.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 5.—The lockout in the four large mills of the American Woolen Company, in Olneyville, took effect today, in pursuance to the order issued by the officials to meet the action of about 150 weavers who were endeavoring to precipitate a general strike against the double loom system. More than 6,500 operatives in all departments are idle. Preparations are being made to provide funds for those out of employment, as a prolonged struggle is anticipated, and plans are being formed to carry the strike to mills of the company in other cities.

Kaiser's Gift to Miss Roosevelt.

New York, Feb. 5.—The kaiser's gift to Alice Roosevelt, in connection with the visit to America of Admiral Prince Henry, says the Berlin correspondent of the Journal and American, is to be a gold jewel case, richly studded with diamonds. In the center of the lid is a portrait of the kaiser in enamel, with the imperial monogram in diamonds.

Bandits Rob Store and Postoffice.

Las Vegas, N. M., Feb. 5.—Word has been received here that seven bandits entered the Pecos Mercantile Company's store at Fort Sumner, N. M., shot one man dead, beat another into insensibility, stole \$100 worth of goods, robbed the postoffice and escaped.

The Hondo Mine Explosion.

San Antonio, Feb. 5.—The latest information from the Hondo, Mexico, mine explosion shows it to be fully as serious as at first reported. There was a total of 160 miners at work in the mine when the explosion occurred, and all of them are dead. The majority of the victims are Mexicans and Chinamen, very few Americans having been at work in the mine.

BAD STORM IN THE EAST.

High Wind and Low Temperature at New York City.

New York, Feb. 5.—A storm that has been prevalent all day in this section of the country made itself manifest in this city and suburbs, to the great discomfort of all people who ventured out of doors. On top of a heavy fall of snow came rain, which turned the snow into slush and made swamps of low lying ground. In the early afternoon the rain turned to snow, and a little later this condition disappeared, in the face of a decided drop in the temperature. This was accompanied by a gale, which in exposed quarters, broke branches of trees, blew away insecure boarding, tangled up wires and sent store signs flying to the streets. One fatality from a falling sign was reported here in the early evening. Tonight the temperature continues to drop. The signal bureau predicts a fall to 10 degrees above before the lowest mark is reached.

Since sundown a gale has been blowing continuously at Sandy Hook, at times the wind reaching the rate of 60 miles an hour. The sea outside and in the New York harbor bay is extremely rough. The steam pilot boat New York, which is used to any kind of weather, came in and anchored under the lee of the Highlands. The electric-lighted buoys marking Gedney channel and the Southwest spit were extinguished tonight, owing to the heavy sea grounding the cables. On account of their interruption the French line steamer L'Aquitaine, from Havre, and the Hamburg-American line steamer Phoenix, from Hamburg and Boulogne, each carrying many passengers, were forced to anchor outside of the Sandy Hook bar, where they are having a rough ride tonight. The big new freighter Dresdenfeld, bound to Savannah, was forced to anchor in Sandy Hook Bay.

PLOT TO KILL EMPRESS.

Dowager of China and Her Court Narrowly Escape.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 5.—News of a most extensive conspiracy to assassinate the empress dowager of China and members of her court, and foment a widespread rebellion, which was to involve the whole Chinese empire, was received by the steamer Gleensk today. The discovery of the plot was made while the court was at Kaiteng, when an unsuccessful attempt was made to destroy the palaces and their inmates by fire.

After the failure of this attempt some of the incendiaries were arrested by the Honan provincial officials, and torture was at once applied, with a view of extorting confessions.

One of the conspirators, aged 18 years only, at last broke down and confessed. He told of attempts that were to be made to wreck the imperial train and fire on it from the side of the line. A search of the captured men's houses resulted in the discovery of correspondence and detailed reports on the strength of the garrisons of all the cities of importance in China, and all particulars relating to their strength and defense. The books of the society containing the names of the members were also found, and there will be wholesale arrests.

Correspondence was also found from the China Reform Association to the conspirators. When the plot was discovered ample guards were placed along the route by Viceroy Yuan Shikai, and the court was not molested en route. Had the plot not been discovered the court would have delayed long before going to Peking.

MAY BE MARCONI SYSTEM.

Telegraph Line to Dawson Is Down Much of the Time.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 5.—W. F. Thompson, ex-proprietor of the Yukon Sun, is leaving Vancouver for Ottawa and New York to endeavor to perfect arrangements for the use of the Marconi system in transmitting messages to Dawson. The government telegraph line to Dawson is down so much of the time that Thompson declares it is practically a failure, at least from the standpoint of carrying a press service to the Yukon. If after consulting with Marconi's agents, he can complete satisfactory arrangements, Thompson will return to Yukon in the spring, and test the practicability of the system of transmitting messages from Dawson to White Horse, distant in a direct line 250 miles. If the practicability of this plan can be demonstrated, Thompson believes he can secure sufficient capital to install the necessary equipment for the transmission of news to the Yukon from Ashcroft, B. C.

Fire in a New Mexican Mine.

Cerrillos, N. M., Feb. 5.—A fire at the Cook & White coal mine at Madrid, operated by the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, caused the death of two Italians and did much damage to the property. At last accounts the fire had burned to within 30 feet of a chamber filled with gas, and should this point be reached, an explosion would follow that would wreck the property. All openings leading to the mine have been closed, the fans stopped and all available water turned into the mine, which it is expected will be flooded in three or four days.

Emperor's Gift to Waldessee.

Berlin, Feb. 5.—Emperor William has presented to Count Von Waldessee, ex-commander-in-chief of the allied forces in China, a bronze cannon captured in that country which was cast under the supervision of Jesuit missionaries in 1750. When sending this gift, Emperor William wrote to Count Von Waldessee: "In cordial recognition of your services performed in China."

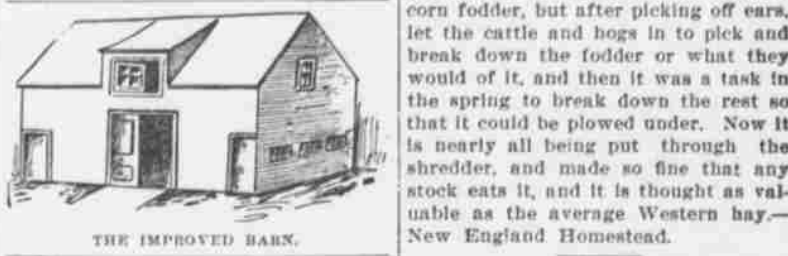
FARMS AND FARMERS



Straw and Corn Fodder.

It is not many years ago that farmers in the Western States were burning their straw stacks to get them out of the way. There was apparently no market for it excepting at points where the cost of transportation was likely to exceed the price for which they could sell it. Now at nearly every market in the States the price of good straw is as high as that of No. 1 hay, and in some places it is higher. There were some who would not burn it, but put it in the yards for the farm animals to pick what they wished to of it, and to trample the rest into manure. After a few years it was found that the farms of these men increased in fertility and productiveness, and the practice of burning straw was nearly discontinued, even before the common use of the baling press made it profitable to ship it to Eastern markets. A change almost as great has taken place in the opinion of the value of corn fodder. It is but a very few years since the corn growers of the Western States cut no corn fodder, but after picking off ears, let the cattle and hogs in to pick and break down the fodder or what they would of it, and then it was a task in the spring to break down the rest so that it could be plowed under. Now it is nearly all being put through the shredder, and made so fine that any stock eats it, and it is thought as valuable as the average Western hay.—New England Homestead.

Pushing Young Pigs. The best food for pushing pigs is milk mixed with shorts placed in a trough close to the pen, where the mother cannot get at it. The little pigs quickly learn it is for them, and as soon as they eat it up entirely add a little cornmeal with it, and when three months old I put as much oats ground fine as I have shorts and cornmeal. Then soak shelled corn and feed it for slops. Make the slop thick, just so it pours readily; put a little salt in it; it aids digestion and is relished more by the pigs. As a substitute for milk I use oil meal, old process, and soak slop for twelve hours. I can get more growth from this mode of feeding than anything I have tried yet. Pigs, when being pushed heavily, should have lots of exercise.—Exchange.



THE IMPROVED BARN.

to the ridge pole. This leaves the first floor clear for a silo and quarters for the stock, giving more room for the latter, and affording a warmer barn, since many buildings are kept cold almost wholly because of the big, empty space in the top—heated air always rising because lighter than cold air. With a window in each end of the barn above, and the new window in front, the loft will be as light as the first floor.

Care of Roots.

Not only those who expect to sell their surplus of potatoes and other roots, but those who intend to use the tubers for seed purposes, should be careful to guard against the cold weather. When it gets so cold that frost can be seen upon the inside of the cellar walls, it is too cold in the cellar for nearly all roots, but especially for potatoes and such others as may be intended for seed purposes. The Cooper system of cold storage places the proper temperature of potatoes in storage at 34 degrees, or two above the freezing point, while carrots may be kept at 32 degrees, or just at freezing. We have seen onions kept well at a much lower temperature than that, but an essential requirement was that they should thaw out gradually, and without any exposure to sunlight or artificial heat. How onions so kept would have proved if they had been set to grow seed we do not know, as we never tested them. But it is said that the potato which has been in cold storage, and even not lower than 34 degrees, has been so chilled that it is unfit to use as a seed. Its vitality has been reduced, and while we have had sprouts come from potatoes that were partially frozen, the yield was not such as to lead us to advise any one to freeze their seed potatoes. We are also told that a long term of chilling at a temperature near the freezing point is worse for them than an actual quick freeze.—American Cultivator.

Saving the Forests.

At an Iowa farmers' institute one of the most ardent speakers in favor of a bill before the State Legislature for the preservation of the forests was a farmer whom the writer found later in the year hard at work in his wood lot cutting down trees for fire wood. This man was not a fraud by any means, but he failed to see the slightest inconsistency in his action, and yet it seems plain that the only way to preserve the forests is for every farmer to take good care of his own little forest if he has one; if he has not, then he should make haste and start the trees. It is all very well to talk about the preservation of the few remaining great forests of little value compared to the five, ten and twenty acre wood lots if such a one could be found on every farm in the country. If you have a wood lot, friend, take care of it; keep stock and fire out of it; scatter a few seeds of forest trees over the ground every few years and do everything possible to preserve your small forest. If there is no wood lot on your farm, set out the trees or sow the seeds next spring on that twenty-acre worn-out pasture. Don't continue to rob nature; give her a chance and she will return to you a hundred fold.

Cooking Food for Stock.

There is but little doubt but that with potatoes or other starchy foods there is a gain in cooking them over feeding them raw, and among the starch foods we also include corn and wheat, and that gain has been estimated at from ten to twenty per cent. If not over ten per cent, it will scarcely pay to take the trouble of cooking unless it can be done without using extra fuel, or there are a large number to cook for. A gain of twenty per cent in feeding value would come nearer leaving a profit to pay for the labor, but that must depend greatly upon the amount of grain and the kinds, mixed with the potatoes. Fodder, turnips

Indigestion in Horses.

Feed the animal regularly and not too much, and water before feeding; also mix four ounces sulphate of iron, four ounces nitrate of potassium and two ounces nux vomica. Divide into twenty-four doses and give one at night in small bran mash until all are taken.

Cattle Lice.

For cattle lice use chloro naphtholeum according to directions on package. It leaves no bad effects and frees your cattle from the lice.



A GOOD MILKER.