IN THE NATIONAL HALLS ON ON SATURDAY.

STEAMER VALENCIA WRECKED.

Shrapnel Strikes Rocks Off For Gig On the Steamer at Victoria, B.C., Jan. 27.—The American steamer Valencia was leaving Victoria, B.C., on Saturday for Vancouver when the vessel struck an underwater mine off itself. The explosion killed seven and wounded thirty others. The two ships were engaged in a search for the lost freighter Pugwash, which had been reported sunk in the same vicinity.

ANOTHER RACE OUT AT SEA.

A British steamer, the Western Star, was lost in a gale off the coast of Scotland yesterday. The steamer had been en route to London from the Mediterranean. The crew of the Western Star numbered about forty, and the loss of life was estimated at thirty. The wreck was found by a coast guard vessel which had been searching for the missing steamer.

STEAMER WILLIAM W. TOWNSEND.

The steamer William W. Townsend, which had been reported lost in the Bering Sea, was found safe in harbor at Seattle, Wash., yesterday. The Townsend had been en route to Japan from Seattle when it was reported missing. The crew of the Townsend numbered about fifty, and the loss of life was estimated at ten. The wreck was found by a coast guard vessel which had been searching for the missing steamer.

THREE BOYS WOUNDED IN A GUNFIRE ACCIDENT.

Three boys were wounded yesterday in a gunfire accident in a small town near Chicago. The boys were playing with a gun and accidentally fired it. The gun discharged and struck the boys, one of whom was seriously injured and the other two were moderately injured. The boys were taken to a hospital where they were treated for their injuries.

DOROTHEA MERRYMAKING.

Dorothy Merry, the famous actress, was found dead in her hotel room yesterday. Merry had been suffering from a severe illness and had been in bed for several days. She was well known for her acting abilities and had appeared in many films. The cause of death was not immediately known.

OLD FLAME OF HOSTESS.

The old flame of the hostess, Miss Mary Smith, was found dead in her hotel room yesterday. Smith had been a hostess in the hotel for many years and was well known for her hospitality. The cause of death was not immediately known.

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—In his first address to Congress, President Lincoln declared that the war between the states was not a war for union but a war for freedom. He said that the war was for the preservation of the Union and the abolition of slavery. He urged the Congress to support his administration and to work for the welfare of the country.

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