

A MINE HORROR

Explosion of Fire Damp at Carbonado.

Thirty-three Men Hurlled to Death.

Awful Fate of Laborers in a Washington State Coal Mine — Work of Rescuers.

CARBONADO, Wash., Dec. 9.—An explosion in tunnel No. 7 of the Carbon Hill Coal Company's mine, at 11 o'clock this morning, killed thirty-three men. People who had been accustomed to mining for a livelihood knew at once what the explosion meant, and stood around with blanched faces. The apprehensions of some fearful disaster were confirmed in a little while with the information that the morning shift in tunnel No. 7 had been caught in an explosion of fire damp.

Seventy-two men were at work in the mine when the explosion occurred. A rush of inhabitants was made in the direction of the mouth of the tunnel. Wives of the men supposed to be in the shift, ran to and fro screaming and wringing their hands with anguish, and crying, while children were clinging to their skirts. It was all that D. T. Davis, superintendent of the mine, could do to stop the friends of the doomed miners and their wives from plunging madly into the tunnel's mouth.

The coal mines here are those of the Carbon Hill Coal Company, but they really belong to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. The rock is soft, of a bituminous variety, productive of a large proportion of gas, and has been much used in gas manufacture. The foreman in charge of the shift was Jonah Davis. Foreman Davis escaped unhurt, and besides him about forty miners escaped.

Frenzied relatives of the missing men gathered at the mouth of the mine, watching eagerly to catch a glimpse of the forms as they are hurled to the coroner's office. The work of rescue is being rushed forward, but it may be several days before the last blackened form is taken from the mine for many men are believed to lie under the mass of earth and rock. To extricate them will take time, and thus far the work of rescue has been pushed forward at the extreme point for the workers, for the black damp and noxious gases have driven the rescuers back repeatedly.

The cause of the explosion is a mystery to every one. Not even the rescued miners can give an explanation. Only safety lamps, the English Clancy and the Davie patterns, are worn when at work. Should, however, one of the men open his lamp in an accumulation of coal gas, an explosion would result. The only open light known was that of a small locomotive used to haul cars in and out to the canyon on the main level. It is merely theorizing to say that this was the cause, although a mule driver named James Conway, now lying wrapped in oil skin and fairly covered with a mixture of boiled linseed oil and lime juice, says that he was caught in a shock on the main gangway. Conway was the first man to come out of the mine. His story is:

"I was just about ready when Watt Jones hailed out 'let her go, Jim,' and all of a sudden I thought a ton of dynamite had burst; the force of the shock threw me down, and a flame of fire seemed to surround me. I crawled out through it on my hands and knees as well as I could until I reached the engine."

"For God's sake, pull out quickly," I begged, for I felt as though I was burning to death and I could hardly breathe. It did not take much urging, for the black damp was already beginning to smother us and I was hauled out on the engine as near as I can remember."

The list of dead who could be identified follows:

Rees Jones, fire boss, aged 30, unmarried; Dan Davis, 18; Evan Lewis, 20; Richard Durr, a young man, leaves a widow and one child; John Jones, 64, leaves a widow and married daughter; Thomas Edwards, 40, leaves a widow; Evan Richards, 30, leaves a widow and six children; Howell Meredith, 59, leaves a widow and nine children, of whom two are married sons and two are daughters; Joe Thomas, 27, single; Evan Lewis, single; Watt Jones, 30, leaves a mother; William Richards, 48, family; — Millen, 30, leaves mother; Gustave Knutt and H. Knutt; — Johnson, 40, leaves a family; Ben Seedler and B. Seedler, father and son; D. S. Thomas, 50, leaves a family; William M. Davis, 35, leaves a family; Howell Meredith Jr., leaves a family.

None of the bodies were at first recognizable, because the faces of the dead men were charred and blackened beyond identification. It was only after they were conveyed to the morgue and the corpses were washed that it could be told who they were.

The work of rescuing the living was completed at 9 o'clock. By that time the mine had been purified by fans to such an extent as to permit of free ingress. Those who were brought to the surface were muffled in sackings to protect their burns until they could be carried to the hospital. Many cases of heroism on the part of rescuers were brought to light. Men would continue until overcome by the gases. They would be carried to the air to be revived and go down again. Shreds of clothing torn by the force of the explosion and the personal effects of each corpse were placed in a box and labeled.

MORE BODIES RECOVERED.

CARBONADO, Wash., Dec. 11.—The relief committee, organized here today, has issued an appeal to the public for aid for the families of the miners killed in the mine explosion on Saturday.

One more miner turned up today, Matt Hibila, a Finn, who made for his boarding house as soon as he escaped from the mine, and never emerged from it until today.

Coroner Hosk's jury of six men from Tacoma arrived this evening. The jury will begin the investigation of the circumstances and cause of the catastrophe. Seven bodies were taken out of the mine today; they are Paul Curtis, Adam Paval, John Folla, Emil Hainut and Jacob Lande, Ben Zedler Sr., and Evan Richards.

"I guess they have found the cause of the explosion," said a watchman tonight; "they have found a big cave-in."

This is all he would say. Indeed, other than the information which comes through the mine officials, there is a general air of mystery about everyone else connected with the mine. Thirty-one men are dead and seven injured.

GOV. ELECT TAYLOR.

His Certificate of Election Has Been Issued to Him.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 9.—At 9:45 this morning the election certificate of William S. Taylor as elected by the election commissioners, and he was declared governor-elect of Kentucky. The official figures of the vote, filed with the secretary of state, are: Taylor, 193,714; Goebel, 191,331; Taylor's plurality, 2383.

The operation which ended, for the time being at least, the bitterly fought gubernatorial contest, was conducted in the simplest manner. The majority opinion of Commissioners Fryer and Ellis, and the minority opinion of Commissioner Poyntz, which were published this morning, were not read, as was the original intention. The three commissioners walked first to the office of the clerk of the state supreme court, where they filed two opinions. They then passed into the office of the secretary of state. Clerk Chenault, of the board of commissioners, read the figures, showing that the republican candidates for the state ticket had received the largest number of votes, and then the certificates of election were signed at once.

The certificates, as soon as signed, were filed with the secretary of state, and commissions will be issued to the elected men at once by Governor Bradley.

A DEAD REBEL.

GENERAL DEL PILAR KILLED BY AMERICAN TROOPS.

He Commanded Aguinaldo's Body Guard—Was the Cleverest of the Insurgent Leaders.

MANILA, Dec. 9.—General Gregorio del Pilar, commanding Aguinaldo's body guard, was killed by Major Peyton March's battalion of the Thirty-third Infantry, in a fight 18 miles northwest of Cervantes, on December 30. According to reports which General Young obtained from escaped Spanish prisoners at Vigan, several days ago, Major March left the coast where he was pursuing Aguinaldo, and encountered General del Pilar on a fortified trail. They fought for four hours, during which time seventy Filipinos were killed and wounded. The American loss was one killed and six wounded. The Spaniards report that Major March is still pursuing the insurgents.

General del Pilar was one of the leaders of the present and of another Spanish revolution. He was a mere youth and was reported to have graduated at a European university. Professor Schurman met him as a member of the first peace commission and rated him as remarkably clever.

The Americans have occupied Bangued, province of Abra. General Grant's expedition has visited Orani and several other western towns, meeting small bands. He killed several rebels and captured a quantity of munitions of war.

Bishop Henry Potter, of New York, has arrived here on a brief visit to study the Philippines.

LOST AT SEA.

Shipping Men Have Given Up Hope of Seeing Two Vessels.

Seattle, Dec. 11.—Shipping men have practically given up as lost the schooner American Girl and the bark Colusa. The former is two months out from San Francisco, and the Colusa left the Hawaiian Islands on October 21st, bound for Departure Bay. Each vessel had a crew of perhaps fifteen men.

THE AFRICAN WAR.

British Win a Victory near Ladysmith—The Relief Forces.

Boer Head Quarters, Ladysmith, Dec. 8.—The British have stormed and carried the hill at Lombarsok, putting a big Creusot gun and one howitzer out of action, and capturing a small Maxim.

London, Dec. 9.—A special dispatch from Pretoria, dated Dec. 8th, says 3000 British troops, preceded by an armored train, are advancing on Colesburg from Naauwpoort.

New York, Dec. 9.—A dispatch to the Herald from Ladysmith says Thursday and Friday passed fairly quiet. The bombardment is now only casual. The Boers are mounting numerous new guns in commanding positions. They evidently intend making a big effort to reduce Ladysmith after the return of General Joubert and his Boers from Colenso. The town cannot be carried by assault, but the new guns will render the place very uncomfortable. All is well so far.

We seldom find any persons of good sense except those who are of our opinion.—La Roche.

BRITISH HARD HIT

General Gatacre's Defeat Will Delay the Troops

FREE STATE INVASION POSTPONED

More Troops to Be Sent to South Africa—Boers Capture Dispatches, Showing Suffering at Ladysmith.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(Tuesday, 4.40 a. m.)—No further news has been received to remove the mystery overhanging General Gatacre's retreat from Stormberg. He has not yet forwarded the promised additional messages and the censorship has prevented the correspondents from explaining the matter. It becomes evident that General Gatacre's misfortune or error will delay the invasion of the Free State, perhaps some weeks. It is exceedingly probable that he will be compelled to retire on Queenstown, and to wait for reinforcements which can hardly reach him until Sir Charles Warren's division arrives at the Cape.

It now seems certain that the seventh division, which is being mobilized at Aldershot, will also be sent to South Africa. It is just two months since the Transvaal ultimatum was delivered. Nine engagements have been fought, and the British have lost 566 killed, 2025 wounded, and 1977 missing or prisoners. The war office has issued a notice that after January 1st, deductions will be made from the pay of soldiers serving in South Africa, in the case of privates, 4 pence per day for the wives and 1 penny for each child; in the case of sergeants, 8 pence for the wives and 2 pence for each child. These sums have thus far been paid by the government. The order indicates the belief that the campaign will be a long one.

SHORT RATIONS.

Lorenzo Marquez, Dec. 11.—The following dispatch has been received from the Boer laager near Ladysmith: "Several kaffir runners from Ladysmith to Estcourt have been captured. The intercepted messages show that men and horses in Ladysmith are now on half rations, that whiskey is £1 a bottle, and beer is exhausted."

BOERS TAKE PRISONERS.

Pretoria, Dec. 11.—Six hundred and seventy-two British prisoners were taken at Stormberg. In the fighting at Modder river, yesterday evening, General Cronje maintained his position and captured fifty British soldiers.

ALMOST A ROUT.

London, Dec. 11.—Later details regarding the disaster to General Gatacre's column show that but for the magnificent work of the British artillery the disaster would have been far more extensive, as the incessant Boer fire in the midst of repulsed infantry ultimately led to disorder, which only escaped developing into rout through the batteries of artillery occupying successive positions, covering the retreat, thus drawing a portion of the Boers' galling fire.

Apparently, the British were set at an impossible task, and were treacherously guided. After a trying march and being under arms 16 hours, they attacked the wrong part of the Boer position, where the hill was impregnable, and the burghers were estimated to number 6000 men instead of 500, as spies had reported. There is little in the story to mitigate the immense humiliation caused by the episode, which was almost an exact counterpart of the battle of Nicholson's Nek. The war office was besieged by anxious relatives today, and successive editions of the newspapers were eagerly scanned. Men and women are equally persistent in pleading for information, but the authorities either do not possess any, or are not prepared to publish it at present.

The affair has caused a most depressing influence everywhere, not excepting the stock exchange, where consols were at the lowest price in many years, and South African securities slumped, not so much on account of the military reverse, which is retrievable, but owing to profound apprehension as to its political effect. No great surprise would now be felt if Gatacre's reverse resulted in Cape Colony's becoming a free state from end to end.

CONGRESS IS BUSY

The Currency Bill Causes Discussion in the House

DOLLIVER SCORES THE DEMOCRATS

Mason, of Illinois, Desires to Express Sympathy with the Enemies of the British Empire.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The feature of the opening day of the debate on the currency bill in the house was a speech of Dolliver, of Iowa. It was characterized by all the wit and eloquence for which the Iowan is noted, and held the members, without regard to party, for more than an hour. Dolliver declared that the last doubt in the republican party, as to the wisdom of enacting the gold standard law, had been removed by the experience of the business world during the past three years. He scored Bryan, and generally ridiculed the false prophecies of the democrats in 1896.

Dearmond, of Missouri, was the heavy gun on the democratic side. He warned the republicans from the west that they could not deceive their constituents in the coming congressional elections by claiming that they had yielded to the wisdom of their colleagues in the caucus.

Overstreet, of Indiana, opened the debate in support of the bill, and Maddox, of Georgia, replied to him. McClellan, of New York, was the only other speaker today. He announced his opposition to the bill on the ground that it would contract the currency, extinguish bank notes, and enhance the value of coin bonds. He appealed to those of his democratic colleagues from New York, who, it is reported, intend to vote for the bill, not to do so.

While Dolliver was speaking, Simms, of Tennessee, asked if he was willing that the mints should be opened to silver if an international agreement could be obtained.

"No sir," replied Dolliver, "I have had my last whirl with silver. I have been humbugged for the last time." Dolliver recalled Bryan's prophecy that the gold standard could not be enacted without a universal fall in prices.

"Is there a man in this chamber," he asked, "who will rise in his place and say that Bryan knew what he was talking about?" Not a democrat arose. Dolliver paused, reiterated his question, and then resumed.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The announced intention of Mason, of Illinois, to address that senate today on his resolution expressing the sympathy of the senate with the South African republics in the war with Great Britain drew a large crowd to the senate galleries. In the absence of President Frye, Platt of Connecticut, occupied the chair.

Mason addressed the senate for an hour and 25 minutes. He was not once interrupted during the course of his speech. At its conclusion, Lodge, after expressing the wish that Mason might have delivered his address in the British parliament, said there was a wide gulf between private opinion and public official expression. The executive department of the government, he said, had assumed a neutral attitude towards the South African war. The passage of this resolution by the senate would change immediately that attitude.

"If we are to depart from the position of neutrality," said Lodge, "it ought to be the subject of the most serious consideration." The resolution was sent to the committee on foreign relations. Hoar presented resolutions of the Massachusetts legislature in favor of a constitutional amendment providing for uniform hours of labor in manufacture in the United States. Platt of Connecticut presented a resolution of the legislature of Connecticut in opposition to the admission of polygamists to congress. Pettigrew, of South Dakota, offered a resolution calling on the secretary of war for all orders relating to General Merriam's action regarding the Coeur d'Alene miners, relating to the charges against Merriam in his conduct of the affair. Chandler objected to the immediate consideration of the resolution and it went over.

The word "civil" will not be substituted for "military," because it seems to the president incongruous, in view of the authority under which the president is operating. Nevertheless, it is the desire of the president that General Wood shall cut loose from rigid military methods and allow the Cubans the widest latitude possible in municipal affairs. Indeed, that was his principal motive in selecting General Wood for the governorship. The number of the departments in the island will probably be reduced in a month or so, so that there will be no necessity for all the military officers now there. General Ludlow desires, it is understood, to go home when General Wood takes command.

Notwithstanding the opposition from the line of the army to the appointment of General Wood as major-general of volunteers, the confirmation by the senate of his nomination may be accepted as a foregone conclusion. A favorable report by the military committee may be looked for on Tuesday, and his confirmation will probably follow immediately. General Wood will remain in Washington until he has received his new commission, and will then proceed to Santiago and arrange for his transfer to Havana.

Millions Given Away.

It is certainly gratifying to the public to know of one concern in the land who are not afraid to be generous to the needy and suffering. The proprietors of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, have given away over ten million trial bottles of this great medicine; and have the satisfaction of knowing it has absolutely cured thousands of hopeless cases. Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness and all diseases of the Throat, Chest and Lungs are surely cured by it. Call on Dr. Stone, druggist, and get a free trial bottle. Regular size 50c and \$1. Every bottle guaranteed, or price refunded.

LONG DISTANCE WHEELING.

The Six-Day Bicycle Race in Madison Square Garden Ends.

New York, Dec. 9.—Charles Miller, of Chicago, the long distance champion bicycle rider of the world, and Frank Waller, the "Flying Dutchman," won the six-day bicycle race which began at midnight, last Sunday at Madison Square Garden. They finished, at 10 o'clock tonight, first by two laps with 2,773-5 miles to their credit; Otto Maya, of Erie, Penn., and Archie McEachern, the Canadian, were second; Louis Gimm, of Pittsburgh, and Burns Pierce, of Boston, were third, one lap behind the second men; Fischer and Chevalier, the Frenchmen, were fourth only two laps behind, and Earl D. Stevens, of Buffalo, and Charles Turville, were fifth, separated from the Frenchmen by two laps. Robt. Walthour won the first prize for the highest individual score. He had ridden 1,402-5 miles. Turville was second with 1,397 miles and nine laps to his credit.

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A BLOODLESS VICTORY

LAWTON HAS CAPTURED SAN MIGUEL WITHOUT FIGHTING.

The Thirty-fifth Infantry and Fourth Cavalry with Him—Philippine Ports Are Open.

MANILA, Dec. 12.—(Tuesday, 9:30 a. m.)—General Lawton, with the Thirty-fifth Infantry and four troops of the Fourth Cavalry, has occupied San Miguel without fight.

OPEN THE PORTS.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Secretary of War Root today said he had sent a notice to General Otis to open up the ports of the Philippines.

A TRANSPORT ARRIVES.

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—The transport Zealandia, from Manila, has not yet docked. She has on board the bodies of Captain H. J. McGrath, of the Fourth Cavalry, and H. H. Hopkins and Frank J. Murray, of the First California volunteers, all of whom met death in action. While the Zealandia was a Manila about \$12,000 worth of church property stolen by Filipino insurgents, was restored to the priests at Malate by United States troops. The court of inquiry into the loss of the Morgan City fully exonerated Captain Morris, but suspended the pilot for life.

C. C. Robinson, who arrived on the Zealandia, had the contract to raise the cable steamer Hooker, wrecked on Corregidor island, but found it impossible to save the vessel. He says the Filipino leaders admit their defeat and he thinks Aguinaldo will soon be captured.

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W. I. STALEY, Principal.

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were added to the shorthand department the past week. Nothing is too good for students of the Capital Business College. Plan to begin a business or shorthand course with us now. Students admitted at any time. Call or send for catalogue.

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P. J. W. W. SALEM CAMP No. 118. Meets every Friday evening, 7:30, in A. O. U. W. hall. State Ins. bldg. Scott Booth, C. C.; W. A. Moore, Clerk; room 15, Moore bldg.

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W. S. HURST & CO. Aurora, Oregon. Buy wheat, oats, hops, potatoes, wool, onions, green and dried fruits, etc. Highest market prices paid for all kinds of produce, and shipments made from any point where carload lots can be secured. Correspondence solicited.

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LILIENTHAL BROS. H. J. OTTENHEIMER, Manager. Office over Ladd & Bush Bank; Phone No. 461.
FABER & NEIS. Albany and Salem, Salem Office, 222 Commercial st. (ground floor) Neckman & Rogers' rooms; Phone No. 1121.
JACKS, CARMICHAEL & CO. Office over Johnson's Clothing Store, in Bush-Bryman bldg.
HORST BROS. SAN FRANCISCO AND LONDON. Salem Office: 259 Commercial st. Phone No. 801.
LOUIS R. SEARLES & CO. Office: Burrows Block, Commercial st. Phone No. 1771.
CATLIN & LINN. Office over Waller's grocery store. Phone No. 211.
PAYNE & TILLSON One door west of Dalrymple's store (ground floor); Phone No. 2594.
SQUIRE FARRAR No. 55 State st. Phone No. 1221.
WM. BROWN & CO. Busa Building, Commercial st.; ground floor. Office telephone No. 130.
T. A. LIVESLEY & CO. Commercial st.; second story south of Ladd & Bush Bank; room 18, upstairs. Phone 1211.
HERREN & LEVY No. 80, 82 and 84 Commercial street, Salem; next door to brewery. Phone No. 2785.
H. J. MILLER OFFICE AT AURORA, OREGON. P. O. Box 22.