

CUT IN TWO.

Thirty-Six Men Perish in a Torpedo Destroyer Which

GOES TO THE BOTTOM

The Deck Crew Goes Down With the Vessel—Dressed in Oilskins and Boats, Victims Have No Chance—Twenty-Two Are Rescued by Boats From the Other Ships—Destroyer Tries to Cross Big Cruiser's Bow.

A dispatch from Portsmouth, England, says thirty-six men, including Lieut. Middleton, commander of the torpedo boat destroyer Tiger, lost their lives in a collision of the Isle of Wright, Friday night, between that vessel and the British cruiser Berwick.

The vessels belong to the Portsmouth division of the British home fleet and were engaged in night maneuvers in the channel on their way to Portland.

The night was very dark and the Berwick was steaming slowly. When the destroyer attempted to cross the big cruiser's bow she was caught amidships and cut in half with half-like percussion, sinking almost immediately.

The deck crew who were dressed in heavy oilskins and boots, went down with the vessel, not having time to free themselves from these heavy encumbrances.

Of the twenty-two men who were rescued most of them were engineers and stokers, who having light clothing, were able to keep themselves afloat until boats from the other ships, which were immediately launched, picked them up.

The smaller naval vessels were in the midst of an attack on their bigger consorts when the disaster occurred. The entire fleet was under masked lights, and in darkness. The destroyer was cut in two as if she had been made of paper. The forward half sunk instantaneously and the sea became dotted with struggling men. Most of them, however, sank before help could reach them. The Tiger had a complement of fifty-nine men.

THREE DEAD AND MANY HURT.

Terror Stricken Tenants are Wedged Solidly on the Escapes.

At New York three persons were killed, fifteen were injured, some of them seriously, and the lives of nearly a hundred persons were endangered by a fire in a five-story tenement house at No. 44 Hester street. Brel Weinstein, his wife and one year-old son were suffocated in their apartments on the fifth floor.

In their mad attempt to escape from the smoke and fire scores of scantily clad men, women and children crowded the narrow iron platforms and ladders until they became wedged in solid masses on the fire escapes, unable to extricate themselves and blocking the way of those who had not yet succeeded in getting out of the building. In the meantime the flames had been constantly spreading and the terror among the tenants had carried them past the point of self-restraint.

While the firemen were calling out to them that there was no danger and that help soon would reach them they began, one by one, to jump from the windows, resulting in the list of injured.

GHOST MONEY BURNED.

Clearing House Certificates Destroyed in Columbia Last Week.

A fire in Columbia last week destroyed \$446,832, but no one lost a cent and there were no regrets. The Columbia Clearing House Association held a meeting at which all the banks were represented and the Clearing House Certificates issued some time ago were ordered destroyed, having been redeemed and recalled.

The total amount of the issue was about \$450,000, and there is about \$5,000 in certificates still outstanding, some of which are in the hands of the banks. The Clearing House certificates served their purpose and the stringency in currency having passed, the issue was retired some weeks ago.

KILLED BY FALL.

On the Eve of His Celebration of His Birthday.

Just as the family preparations for a surprise party in honor of his 19th birthday were being completed last evening, Louis Lee, of Seginow, Mich., was killed by falling downstairs. He died half an hour after being picked up by his mother at the foot of the stairway.

The young man who was well-known as an athlete and football player, had been complaining that he felt sick. Starting to descend the stairs, he missed his footing, turned a somersault in the air and landed on his back on the floor below. Physicians found that his back was broken.

PRETTY ROMANCE.

SECURED A WIFE BY NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.

The Prospective Bride Came From Michigan and Met Her Intended Husband in Columbia.

The Columbia State says through the agency of dear old Uncle Sam's mails a romance which bridged 1,000 miles and culminated Thursday in the joining of the hearts and lives of a South Carolinian and Michigan girl. A venerable citizen of this State, who had seen service in the Confederate army and whose hair is snowy white, patronized a matrimonial agency several months ago and had inserted in the official publication of the perpetual bliss society an advertisement, giving notice to all marriageable women from coast to coast that he was lonely in his old age and was in a receptive mood to take unto himself a partner for life.

The advertisement told of his being a farmer, in a prosperous farming section of South Carolina, and the information that he was able to provide for a helpmate and would not only provide for her but shower upon her all the love and affection of his warm heart.

A winsome lady of far-away Michigan answered the advertisement and one letter followed another for a brief spell, and finally he of maturing inclinations sent her word to "come down." He liked her photograph and liked also the way her letters were written.

She told him that she had a son, and this was satisfactory to the man who was looking and longing for a good wife. He sent the money for the two tickets and wrote that he would meet her in Columbia.

They met there and recognized each other instantly, for they had exchanged photographs, and as she alighted from the train they fell into each other's arms and the little fellow was happy, too. They left on the next train for Sumter, where they planned to be married, and from there they will go to their home in Williamsburg county.

F. M. Britton, Sr., is the bridegroom and he resides at Church, Williamsburg county. He is past 70 years of age and is a little hard of hearing, but otherwise is sprightly and well preserved physically. He is "well fixed" in a financial way and has a nice home all prepared for the bride of his later years.

The bride is Mrs. Lillian Barnett of Kalamazoo, Mich., and she is just past forty-five. Her son is a bright young boy and when seen with his mother and the man she has chosen as his step-father he seemed to be very well pleased.

DOES WELL WEST.

Egyptian Cotton Can Be Successfully Raised Out There.

Successful experiments in the cultivation of Egyptian cotton have been conducted in New Mexico and Arizona, according to reports made by the bureau of plant industry of the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Webber, now of Cornell, experimented with the Egyptian plant in South Carolina and Northern Georgia, but the climate was too severe in these sections. Dr. Carson of the department was rewarded greater success in his efforts made in the Colorado river basin, as much as nine hundred pounds of lint having been secured from one acre last year. It is believed that the plant can be grown in Northern Florida and Southern Georgia.

Egyptian cotton, millions of dollars worth of which are imported annually into the United States, is more valuable than inland specimens of sea-land and upland varieties though less valuable than the best grades of the former. It is the strongest variety of cotton, and is used largely in the manufacture of fine laces and best quality of undergarments.

SENT UP FOR TEN YEARS

For Sending Through the Mails a Deadly Machine.

At Greensboro, N. C., Hardin Germany was convicted in the superior court and sentenced to the penitentiary, for sending an infernal machine through the mail to Caesar Cone, the millionaire cotton manufacturer to that city, two weeks ago.

Germany was a former employe in one of Mr. Cone's mills, and is 20 years of age. He did not employ counsel to defend him, and offered no testimony, but pled the charge. Mr. Cone was the principal witness.

WEST VIRGINIA FOR BRYAN.

He Is Endorsed by a Vote of Two to One.

The Democratic State executive committee of West Virginia Friday decided to hold the state nomination convention at Charleston on July 29. The convention to select delegates to the national Democratic convention at Denver will be held in Wheeling on May 28. After an acrimonious debate of three hours, a resolution, endorsing William J. Bryan was adopted by a vote of 10 to 55.

BRYAN WILL WIN

Says Senator Tillman if Republicans Nominate Taft in

TALK WITH THE STATE

Representative at His Home in Trenton—The Senator Getting Better—Will Work for Democracy in October if Health Permits—To Visit Atlanta and Then Go Abroad With Mrs. Tillman.

A representative of the State called on the Senator at his home at Trenton Tuesday morning and found him alone in his library. He was lying upon a couch reading his morning's mail. Later he changed his position to a large rocking chair and ate his breakfast brought in. He ate heartily and seemed to relish his food.

During and after breakfast Senator Tillman talked upon a great variety of subjects, ranging from anatomy to national politics.

In appearance the senator seems to be in his usual good health. He does not, however, feel that he will be able to return to congress this session. He expects to go to an Atlanta sanitarium as soon as he feels strong enough to start traveling. He, with Mrs. Tillman, will remain there for several weeks, after which they will go to Europe for a complete rest.

Senator Tillman said that he felt satisfied that he must not take on any more work just now, and that it would require time to show when he would be able to do so.

He said that he had no plans with regard to politics, as he could not now see far enough ahead to make it worth while.

He could not now tell whether he would attend the State Democratic convention, but indicated that if his health permitted he would do so.

As to instructions, "Senator, do you favor an instructed delegation to the Denver convention?" he was asked.

"Well, I have not been elected a delegate yet, and for that reason I do not think it proper for me to say what the convention ought to do."

"What about national politics, senator. Do you think that Bryan will be nominated, and what are his chances of election?"

"It all depends on one thing: If the Republicans nominate Taft for president at the June convention, Bryan will undoubtedly be named by the Democrats and I think he will win. But on the other hand, if the Republicans lock up the convention and stampede it for Roosevelt and nominate him, I do not think that the Democrats can put Bryan forward."

"Do you think the matter of a third term would defeat Roosevelt?"

"Well, all that Bryan could say would be 'third term,' because he has praised the policies of Roosevelt and has praised the policies of Roosevelt him to say."

"If the Republicans nominate Roosevelt, who do you think the Democrats would put up?"

"That I am unable to say," replied the senator.

"When do you expect to go to Atlanta?"

"Just as soon as possible," he said. "I want to take a special treatment of massage, baths and electricity. Further than this I have no plans for the future. I am going to Europe just as soon as I feel strong enough to make the voyage."

Intended to go abroad, Senator Tillman said that for a long time he had been intending to take a trip abroad and that just as soon as he felt able to take it he would do so. He intends to visit Italy first, because of the good climate, and afterwards to go to England.

"Will you study the question of immigration while there?"

"Study? No! I'm not going over there to study; I want to rest and renew my acquaintance with English history and literature."

Senator Tillman's conversation indicated that he had no idea or relinquished his work for the State and nation. He said the real fight in the national campaign would not open up until October and that if his physical condition permitted, he would go into the campaign tooth and nail and work for the triumph of Democracy.

Letter from Senator Chandler. Among the letters the senator was reading when the State's representative reached his home was one from Former United States Senator William E. Chandler, a Republican, of New Hampshire. Senator Chandler and Senator Tillman, as is well known, are warm personal friends.

He said that Senator Chandler, at the age of 72, is still vigorous and in full possession of his mental powers. Up to a year ago he was president of the Spanish-American War claims commission. Since that time he has been practicing law in Washington. Senator Tillman paid a high tribute to the former senator from New Hampshire. Although a Republican, Senator Tillman said that he could

not question his patriotism and that he regards him as a very high man. When asked if he would not allow the letter to be published, the senator at first declined, but afterwards consented to its publication. The letter follows:

"My Dearly Beloved: The papers say you are staying in bed. Good. Stay there.

"If you knew how many plutocrats that fact pleases you would realize that in no other way can you cause so much happiness to humans. They may not be the class of bipeds whom you live to please and praise but God works in a mysterious way His wonders to perform.

"There is a time for amnesty toward all criminals.

"If you were here you might disturb Mr. Taft's plan to get nominated.

"(1) All pending prosecutions of trusts to be kept on the docket until the district attorneys report that they can see no evidence, and then dismissed.

"(2) A statute of limitations—vs. new prosecutions after one year—not before.

"(3) The labor unions to boycott everybody at will, and no injunctions to be issued.

"(4) The Sherman law to be so modified that trusts shall be deemed reasonable and sacred until a court at the end of a lawsuit shall say they are unreasonable.

"(5) The railroads may make pooling contracts ad lib, divide traffic and proceeds and agree not to compete with each other.

"The plutocrats and proletariat all for Taft!

"If you were to get out of bed you might expose this plan and defeat Mr. Bryan.

"Stay in bed and Bryan will win. You know I have often told you you were a great help to the Republican party by your talk. Now you will help it by keeping quiet (?) See!

"While you are away I shall urge Mr. Burrows to get through a publicity bill and take the credit away from you. Will he do it?

"Seriously now—take a rest. Do not be worried. Sleep, walk in the garden and see the glories of the flowers.

"Vis medicatrix naturae. Be a farmer again and not a statesman any longer. Faithfully yours, etc., 'Wm. E. Chandler.

Mrs. Tillman Shipping Asparagus.

During the conversation of two hours or more between Senator Tillman and the representative of the State, Mrs. Tillman was busily engaged in the packing house, along with six or eight hands, preparing asparagus for shipment by express to Boston, New York, Richmond and Atlanta. Mrs. Tillman was hard at work, doing the actual work of washing the asparagus and marking the boxes for shipment. She has about eight acres planted in this vegetable and has orders for all that she can furnish. At present the market price is 40 to 50 cents a bunch.

When first approached Senator Tillman talked slowly and deliberately, but after warming up to questions of interest to him his old time fire was apparent. While he is somewhat feeble physically, his mind is perfectly clear as was evidenced by the various topics he discussed in a vigorous manner and the interest he displayed in State and national affairs.

When the senator was first stricken he said that the attack came upon him as if a flash from a gun. He attributes the present illness to that with which he suffered 44 years ago, when he lost his eye. He was similarly affected then and has had several attacks of a like character since that time.

Senator Tillman's wishes are to get away from everything and have absolute rest for a time and he feels and hopes that this will restore him to his former vigor.

During the course of conversation reference was made to the recent speech of Senator Tillman in the senate, in which he took the Republicans to task and incidentally gave President Roosevelt a walloping. He said that never before in his life had he felt less like making a speech, nor had he ever before experienced such a strain and effort as he did while delivering his address on March 16. He said that he was in full possession of his facts and thoughts, but still he was unable to assemble his ammunition as he should like to have done. He gave notice on Saturday of his intention to deliver the address on Monday and had but a brief period to prepare his remarks.

Altogether, it may be said that Senator Tillman, as well as Mrs. Tillman, hope that the senator will soon be restored to his usual health and will resume his place in the fight for Democracy's supremacy.

"Senator, did you see much of the late Senator William James Bryan of Florida, and what was your opinion of him?"

"Well, he was in the senate only a short time, but he gave every promise of being a valuable addition to the Democratic side." He said that Senator Bryan's death had grieved him very much, as it had other senators, especially because of his youth and great promise for future development. He thought that the Florida senator would have made a name for himself and reflected credit upon his State. He said that the young senator had been married but three or four years, having won a bride at Lexington, Va., where he attended college at Washington and Lee university.

A Campaign Button. Among other things of interest received in the morning's mail of the senator was a "Bryan button," which he presented to the correspondent.

The button, which is probably one of the first received in South Carolina, is just a little larger than a silver dollar and contains the likenesses of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln with Mr. Bryan in the center, under whose picture is this inscription: "The People's Choice." At the top is a legend, "Enemies of Special Privileges," and on the bottom is "Upholders of Equality of the Law." Just above Mr. Bryan's head in the picture are inscribed "Ideal Americans," and "Popular Statesmen."

BLOODY BATTLE.

Man Convicted of Arson Kills One and Wounds Three

IN THE COURT ROOM.

After Verdict of Guilty is Read Prisoner, in Terre Haute, Indiana, Opens Fire on Prosecuting Attorney and Officers and is Seriously Wounded Himself Before Melee Ends.

At Terre Haute, Ind., Henry F. McDonald, on Thursday, in the Circuit Court room, after being found guilty of arson, shot and killed Chief of Detectives Wm. E. Dwyer, seriously wounded three other officers and a bystander and was himself seriously wounded. McDonald had been tried for dynamiting stores and a church in Sanford last year.

As soon as the jury reached its verdict McDonald jumped up, drew a revolver and fired at Prosecuting Attorney James A. Cooper, Jr., but missed because Cooper tipped his chair over backwards. McDonald continued fired at the officers seated around the counsel table. Detective Dwyer fell dead at the third shot.

Police and deputy sheriffs in the court room drew revolvers and opened fire on McDonald, who returned the fire. Before the convicted man fell with half a dozen bullets in his body he had shot Harvey V. Jones, superintendent of police, in the side; Deputy Sheriff Ira Wellman in the chin; Sylvester Doyle, court bailiff, in the leg, and a bystander in the side.

The jurors jumped to their feet at the first shot. Judge J. T. Walker, one of the attorneys, tried to stop McDonald, but he only hindered the officers, who were hitting him, when they shot at McDonald.

Judge Crane, who presided at the trial, ran to the railing of the jury box and spectators rushed out in the confusion. Persons in offices below the court room heard the shots and rushed towards the upper floor only to collide with the people leaving the court room.

Some of the spectators to the shooting said McDonald's brother also fired at the officers. The officers are looking for the brother. McDonald was finally overwhelmed by officers and taken to a hospital.

It is said that McDonald and the other wounded men will recover. The events which culminated so tragically had their origin in dynamiting outrages that destroyed the Methodist Church and the general stores of Shyble and Johnson, and J. W. Ernie, of Sanford, on February 2, 1907. Henry McDonald and James Scanlon were arrested the next day charged with the crime, in a formal trial the jury disagreeing. Scanlon has not been tried.

McDonald had been permitted his liberty during the trial. The police department has been active in the case, and several officers were in court to hear the verdict.

DIED FROM BURNS.

Hanging Lamp Falls to Floor With Fatal Results.

As the result of severe burns received by a swinging lamp in her room falling from its fastenings and breaking at her feet, Miss Lollie Smith, daughter of M. D. Smith, of Wauhtown, N. C., died Tuesday, and her mother is confined to her room suffering from painful burns received in trying to save the life of her daughter. A brother, Gilmer, was also badly burned in attempting to put out the flames that enveloped his mother and sister.

MAN HURT IN WRECK.

Sees His Leg Cut off With His Own Knife.

Pinioned under wreckage caused by a rear end collision on the Burlington road Friday and with steam from a broken engine pipe pouring in to his face, Horace A. McKittrick, a stock broker of Brookfield, Mo., directed the amputation of his leg and furnished a dull jack knife with which the work was done. The rough operation was performed by the Rev. R. C. Allen, of Grove City, Pa., but it failed in its purpose, McKittrick dying later at a hospital.

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MANY OUT OF WORK.

THE LABOR CONDITIONS ARE MOST DISTRESSING.

Thousands of Wage Earners Are Thrown Out of Employment by Distressed Industrial Conditions.

A Washington Dispatch says the most serious problem now confronting the country is the unprecedented number of idle work people in every city of any considerable size throughout the land. In New York alone, according to the latest statistics, nearly 700,000 are without employment and with no visible means of support except what comes through a precarious sort of charity.

Of this number over 200,000 are reported as belonging to the various labor organizations, the rest being nonunion work people. The condition of the laboring class is almost if not quite, as bad in Chicago.

Not a city, in fact, either in the Northern or Central Western states is exempt from this anomalous state of things. Even in the extreme Northwest there is a surplus of unemployed labor.

Efforts have been made to relieve the city of New York of its congested idle working people, but so far all efforts have proven futile. Recently the editor of the Christian Herald sent letters to the governors of over twenty states inquiring if it would be possible to replace unskilled with skilled labor, and saying that he could supply two thousand skilled laborers at a moment's notice. Without a single exception, the governors replied to his letters to the effect that their states have more idle working people of their own than they could provide with employment.

The situation is frightful, and considering the enormous crops made last year and the vast wealth of the country, it is strangely anomalous. Added to this general impression in the business world, by which a million and a half of work people have been thrown out of employment, is the fact that the cost of living has not decreased to any appreciable extent. Such a condition of things would seem to be prophetic of a reign of terror.

No work and hunger that cannot be appeased by honest toil make people desperate. They are ripe for revolution of for anything that will keep the wolf of starvation from their doors. And yet nothing is being done to relieve the situation. The trouble is, what can be done? All that we can say is that 'tis a pity the innocent have to suffer for the wrong doing of the guilty.

Business heretofore conducted improperly, if not dishonestly, in its return to honest channels of output and trade has left these unemployed stranded and with nothing to save off starvation. They are the sufferers, not those who by devious and dishonest methods were responsible for the panic that has wrought such widespread ruin.

The South, being an agricultural country, is fortunately exempt if a large measure from this dreadful condition of labor glut, although in the larger cities we have more unemployed people that they care to see. It is possible that the farmers of the South, who at this time of the year need help, could relieve to some extent the congestion in other sections of the country. But the greatest difficulty in the way would be the fact that the great majority of the unemployed are artisans of one calling or another and know probably nothing about farm work.

VERY STRANGE CASE.

A Burglar in Sleep, But an Honest Man Awake.

Charged with breaking into the home of Fred Folger, at No. 4001 Armour avenue, Chicago, and attacking Folger and his wife, Ross Freeman, son of a wealthy oil dealer, was acquitted on the ground that he was asleep when he committed the offense.

Freeman was found by Folger in the kitchen of his home. He grappled with the intruder and was getting badly beaten when his wife appeared. Although she was beaten also, they managed to overpower Freeman and hold him until the police arrived.

In court alienists testified that they believed Freeman was asleep when he entered the Folger house and that his attack upon Folger and his wife was not a criminal act. One alienist, Dr. O'Neill, said while he was in the case he was committed following an epileptic seizure. He asserted that this was different from the state of somnambulism and testimony was given to show that Freeman was an epileptic.

SHE HORSEWHIPPED HIM.

Says He Had Annoyed Her With His Attentions.

In the presence of a thousand people, Mrs. Minnie Cowden, of Jamestown, N. Y., horsewhipped Henry Franklin, on the city's main thoroughfare Friday. When Franklin tore the whip from her hands, Mrs. Cowden broke an umbrella over his head. According to Mrs. Cowden, Franklin had been annoying her with his attentions.

THEY ARE GLAD.

Republicans Are Jubilant That Senator Tillman Is Absent.

ARE AFRAID OF HIM.

The Republican Leaders Said to Be Breathing Easier Than in Years Because of the Enforced Absence of the Senior Senator From South Carolina.—Democrats Will Greatly Miss Him and His Leadership.

The Washington correspondent of The News and Courier says since it was announced a few days ago that Senator Tillman's physicians had positively forbidden him to return to Washington before the beginning of the next session of Congress and in the meantime had ordered a complete change of living in every respect, there has been a considerable amount of discussion as to who will take his part in the Denver Convention and will lead the Senate until he returns.

It is said that Republican leaders are breathing easy now for the first time since Tillman went to the Senate. While they admit that he has toned down considerable since his advent into Washington political life he is still, they say, anything but feeble, and what troubles them most is that they never can tell just where or when he is going to break out. That part of the Senator's make-up has given them more trouble than a little and many times when they thought him quieted he was only gathering more material for a still mightier onslaught.

Beveridge, Lodge, Aldrich, Hale, in fact all the big men on the Republican side of the Senate wear a different look now from that to be found on their features two weeks ago. They knew Tillman was a fighter who did not know the meaning of the word fear and they had to guess many times just where to tackle in order to get a hold. Some times they held him, sometimes they threw him, but it was always because of the combined forces of the Republicans on one side as opposed to the half-hearted help of the Democrats on the other.

No man who had made plans to attend the Denver Convention will be more missed than Tillman and many Democrats who expect to attend from different parts of the United States have so expressed themselves. He was to be the central figure—certainly so far as the South is concerned—unless it be Bailey, of Texas, and there is now serious doubt whether the great Texas orator will be allowed to present his State or not. There will be other Democrats from various sections of the country, but all eyes were beginning to centre on Tillman and Bailey as the two Southern leaders.

The people of Texas have never been able to believe that their former idol, Bailey, was entirely divorced from the scandal that two years ago came near ending his political life, when his alleged connection with the Waters-Pierce Oil Company became known to them. In order that the people of Texas may vote on the issue as to whether Bailey shall be one of the four delegates at large to the Denver Convention a special election is to be held May 2. Should it be decided at that election that Bailey shall not attend two of the foremost Democrats in political life to-day will be absent—Tillman and Bailey.

KILLED AT GRIST MILL.

A Colored Boy Got Caught in Machinery Somehow.

The Aiken Journal and Review says on Saturday week ago a negro boy, whose name could not be learned, was killed at Mr. E. H. Toole's grist mill, near Wagener. The boy went to the mill with some corn to be ground into meal, and after it was ground, he was instructed not to hang around the machinery. Mr. Toole went into another part of the house, not thinking further of the boy. He soon heard a thud and he thought that something was the matter with the machinery. When he reached the place, he found the boy lying insensibly on the floor. He had evidently touched one of the belts and was thrown heavily to the floor. He was not dead, and was carried to his home and care given to him. It was found that no bones were broken, but blood on his brain was supposed to have caused his death, which occurred on Sunday morning. The boy had severe convulsions from the time he was injured to his death.

Abbeville Gets Building.

A dispatch from Washington says building and grounds Wednesday ordered reported bills for new public the Senate committee on Education of Muskogee, Oklahoma, \$265,000; Abbeville, South Carolina, \$75,000; and Miami, Florida, \$75,000.

Return Flags.

At Trenton, N. J., Thursday the house passed the senate joint resolution providing for the return of Southern flags taken during the Civil War.