

THE BAMBERG HERALD.

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ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

MINERS KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Terrible Catastrophe Occurs in a
West Virginia Coal Pit.

MUTILATED BODIES TAKEN OUT

More Than a Score of Workers Are
Missing—Ugly Rumors As To
Cause of Accident.

One of the greatest calamities in the history of Barbour county, West Virginia, occurred Saturday morning at 1 o'clock at the mines of the Southern Coal and Transportation Company, at Berryburg, six miles from Philippi. As a result a score of miners are dead and many badly injured.

The explosion was so great that miles were killed at the mouth of the mine and cars blown forty feet from the track. One man was blown in two at the loins and his body thrown against a pile of lumber at the mouth of the mine.

The night shift went on duty at 7 o'clock. Everything went on smoothly until about midnight, when the explosion occurred. The dead were mutilated beyond recognition, and the scene was calculated to make the strongest heart faint.

The explosion was probably the result of an accidental discharge of dynamite caused, perhaps, by the concussion of a blast. The property loss is light.

The force of the explosion was so great that two men were found fifty feet from the mouth of the mine. An hour after the explosion hundreds had visited the mine. The call for relief brought every physician in Philippi to the scene. The sight was a most horrible one. Strung along the main channel and about the opening were the arms, legs, hands and other portions of the bodies of the dead miners.

Fathers and mothers were frantically hunting for sons, and as fast as a body was recovered they would glance at it, and recognizing it would give hysterical screams. The hotel has been turned into a hospital and those still alive when brought out were taken there. There is a great deal of comment about the cause of the explosion. The authorities refused to discuss the matter further than to say it was caused by an excessive charge of powder being used. The miners insist that it was caused by fire damp.

The mine was recently inspected and pronounced to be in good condition. John W. Green, who was in the mine at the time of the explosion and escaped injury, gives the following account of it:

"I went into the mine at 7:30 o'clock and went to room No. 1. I had been at work an hour or so when I smelled black damp. I noticed my lamp flicker. I went to the mine boss and told him about it. He laughed and said it was all right. I went back to work and about midnight heard a terrific noise, which knocked me down and put out my lamp. I was stunned for a moment and then realized what had happened. I was close to the entrance and crawled over the bodies of two men."

As the work of removing the dead went on things looked worse. Four men were brought out within an hour and the searchers reported that a dozen were still in the mine. Most of those brought out were mutilated beyond description. The mines of Berryburg have only been operated a short time. They have had a great deal of trouble. First the mines were flooded and then the men struck. Last week the stables were set on fire and twenty-six horses burned. Now comes the explosion.

Most of the miners had been at work but a few weeks, and as they were almost unknown to each other, consequently it was hard to recognize them when they were found. Most of the men came from North Carolina and District of Columbia.

A later message from the mines stated that the bodies of twelve men had been brought out, eight of whom were recognized.

Glenn Glenn Bond.

L. Judson Glenn, of Atlanta, under indictment for forgery, and who jumped a \$500 bond signed by his sister in another case, was arrested in Macon and carried back to Atlanta and lodged in jail. He registered at a Macon hotel as W. V. Price and was arrested later upon request of the Atlanta authorities.

Testimonial of Employees.

The employees of the Atlanta and West Point railroad and the Western Railway of Alabama are getting up a purse with which to purchase a magnificent silver set for Mr. George C. Smith, the retiring president of the roads.

Germany Has Plague Case?

Sailor Arriving From South Africa Is Now Under Suspicion at Bremen.

A plague case has apparently developed in Germany. A sailor named Kunz, who arrived at Bremen October 27th on board the German steamer Marionburg, from South Africa, has shown suspicious symptoms and the authorities have notified the bacteriological experts to determine whether it is a case of plague.

Yellow Fever Case at Natchez.

The Mississippi state board of health officially reports one case of yellow fever at Natchez. The patient is the wife of a Baptist minister. The usual precautions are taken. Board is now endeavoring to trace source of infection.

Will Not Honor Kruger.

Amid considerable excitement the lord mayor of Dublin at a meeting of the corporation ruled out of order a resolution to confer the freedom of the city to former President Kruger, of the South African republic.

CUBANS IN CONVENTION.

Delegates Assemble and Begin the Work of Framing a Constitution for Island.

The following cablegram received at the war department late Monday afternoon from General Wood, military governor of Cuba, reports the enthusiastic opening of the constitutional convention at Havana Monday:

"HAVANA, November 5.—Adjutant General, Washington: Convention opened promptly at 12 o'clock. Immense enthusiasm and cheering for the United States. Absolutely harmonious. Every evidence that satisfaction of the people was complete."

"Wood, Military Governor."

Monday night Gen. Corbin received the following additional dispatch from General Wood:

"The following resolutions signed by a majority of delegates as seconded were presented to the temporary president of the convention just as it was adjourning and doubtless will be passed next session:

"The undersigned delegates propose that the assembly adopt the following resolutions:

"1. That a committee of assembly proceed immediately to call on General Wood and manifest the satisfaction with which the delegates have seen him carry out the delicate mission entrusted to him.

"2. That the same committee request General Wood to telegraph to the president of the United States as follows:

"The delegates elected to the constitutional convention assembled at their inaugural meeting greet with profound gratitude and affection the president of the United States of America, and they are satisfied with the honesty demonstrated in the fulfillment of the declarations made in favor of liberty and independence of the Cuban people."

"Wood, Commanding."

GROWTH OF THE SOUTH.

List of New Industries Established During the Past Week.

Among the more important of the new industries for the past week are a box and crate factory at Beaumont, Tex.; a box and butter tub factory in Chattanooga; a \$100,000 brewing company at Clarksville, Va.; a cigar factory at Tampa, Fla.; a cotton mill at Concord, N. C.; and a brick and tile factory at Hartford, N. C.

At Winchester, Tenn., flouring mills at Osgood Mills, Ark., and Winchester, Tenn.; a foundry and machine shop at New Orleans; a \$100,000 glass manufacturing plant at El Paso, Tex.; a hooping and heading factory at Florence, Ala.; factories at High Point, North Carolina, Norfolk, Richmond and Suffolk, Va., and Sistersville, W. Va.; a laundry at Beaumont, Tex.; a cypress lumber company at New Orleans; a \$200,000 coal mining company at Plymouth, W. Va.; saw mills at Leesville, La., and Marlinton, W. Va.; a \$600,000 oil company at San Antonio, Texas; a shoe factory at Lynchburg, Va.; a factory for the manufacture of show cases at Charlotte, N. C.; a silk mill at Emporia, Va.; a telephone company at Georgetown, S. C.; an lumber mining and crushing plant at Sweetwater, Tenn.; a company organized for the manufacture of railroad joints at Parkersburg, W. Va.; water works and electric light plants, projected at Tampa and Tallahassee, Fla.; Georgetown and Owensboro, Ky., and Wichita Falls, Tex.—Tradesman (Chattanooga, Tenn.)

THIRTEEN ARE DEAD.

Coroner Investigates Mine Explosion at Berryburg, West Virginia.

The latest reports from the ill fated mine at Berryburg, W. Va., show that thirteen are dead, eight of whom have been recognized, and three are so seriously injured that they cannot recover. Coroner W. G. Keys began an inquest Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, which continued without interruption till 5 o'clock Monday morning.

The jury found the persons named and others unknown and unidentified "came to their death by the explosion and dynamite in the south entry of the south mine, either intentionally or accidentally, by persons to the jury unknown."

ALVORD'S FREEDOM BRIEF.

Defaulting Note Teller Is Now Safely in a Prison Cell.

City Magistrate Flamm at New York discharged Cornelius L. Alvord, the defaulting note teller of the First National bank, from custody Friday. The magistrate said he was satisfied that he had no jurisdiction in the case, and as soon as he was released the corporation he was re-arrested by a United States marshal and taken before United States Commissioner Shields. The commissioner held Alvord in \$150,000 bail for examination. Bail was not offered, and Alvord was taken to jail.

CONVICTED COUNCILMAN LEAVES.

O. J. Reed, an ex-councilman of Shamokin, Pa., who was recently convicted of conspiracy in connection with borough paving contracts and admitted to bail upon the decision of the superior court for a new trial, has disappeared.

VALUABLE TANNERY BURNED.

A large tannery at Ranch del Chopo, near Mexico City, has burned, with an estimated loss of \$500,000. It was owned by a stock company in which were American, Mexican and German shareholders.

CAROLINA FAIR CLOSING.

The state fair at Columbia, S. C., ended Friday. In three days the paid entrance reached about thirty-three thousand. Wednesday and Thursday the electric street railway landed 81,000 people. The fair was the best that has ever been held.

Paper Mills Destroyed By Fire.

Five Friday destroyed the Golden paper mills, at Golden, Colorado, owned by R. C. Wells, entailing a loss of \$50,000, covered by insurance.

MILLIONAIRE WAS POISONED

Mystery Surrounding Death of
William Rice Cleared Up.

ATTORNEY PATRICK IS ACCUSED

Valet Jones Makes Startling Confession and the Attempts to
Suicide in His Cell.

A New York special says: The death of wealthy William Marsh Rice at the Madison avenue apartments on September 23d; the attempt of his New York attorney, Albert T. Patrick, to cash checks for large amounts which purported to be signed by the millionaire; the refusal of one bank to cash the checks drawn on it, and the discovery of the bank officials that Mr. Rice was lying dead at the time the checks were being presented; the subsequent claim by Patrick that Mr. Rice had made him by will the trustee of his estate, which amounts to anywhere from \$3,000,000 to \$8,000,000; the charge of forgery, both as regards the checks and the will, placed on Patrick and Mr. Rice's valet, Charles F. Jones; the arrest of Patrick and Jones and their lodgment in jail, have kept New York interested for over a month, in which, by the developments of Thursday, promises to become the most celebrated of the many celebrated crimes which the courts of New York city have been called on to investigate.

The first incident which led up to Thursday's climax was the fact disclosed on Wednesday, that Valet Jones had been taken to the district attorney's office and the subsequent rumor that he had made a confession to the authorities. Before the public had time to learn if the report of a confession was true, came the more startling news that during the night Jones had, in his cell in the Tombs, attempted suicide by cutting his throat with a penknife given him, he says, by Attorney Patrick, also confined in the Tombs, and for the purpose of getting rid of one witness to Patrick's alleged crime.

His crime, according to the confession of Jones, parts of which the district attorney's office gave out, was nothing less than the murder of the millionaire by Attorney Patrick and the poisoning of valuable papers relating to the estate. The taking off of Mr. Rice, says Jones, was done by the internal administration of some poison, supposedly mercury, and the final application of a towel saturated with some anesthetic presumably chloroform. That portion of the confession which has to do with the last moments of the old man is the following, given out by the authorities as coming from Jones, the scene taking place in the apartments of the millionaire and he lying sick in bed:

Rice said: "I am nervous, Mr. Patrick, I wish you wouldn't trouble me. Please go away."

Patrick replied: "I have some salts here, might as well take that cure your nervousness."

Patrick produced a bottle and uncorked it. The contents smelled to me like some very strong liniment.

Then Patrick said to me: "Get a towel and a sponge." I got him both. Then Patrick said: "Jones, you have to leave." As I was leaving Patrick said: "I'll remain here until Mr. Rice gets to sleep." He closed the door behind me.

"I stood in the hall for a few minutes and soon I heard Mr. Rice laugh. I thought this queer, so I pushed open the door. I saw Mr. Rice lying on his back in the bed.

"The towel that I had given Patrick was wrapped around the sponge in a cone shape. This cone was lying directly over Mr. Rice's eyes and nose.

Patrick was pressing it down with his right hand. Patrick did not see me, and, of course, Mr. Rice could not. After seeing what I had seen, I went and lay on my bed.

"Mr. Rice grew very sick, Patrick said to me: 'Go get a doctor.' I went for one. He pronounced Mr. Rice dead."

Attorney Patrick denies having furnished Jones the penknife and he also denies the statements in the confession.

Jones, after his attempt to suicide, was taken to Bellevue hospital, hastily summoned physicians arriving in time to save him from death through loss of blood.

FLORIDA'S "EARTHQUAKES."

Blasting In St. Johns River Mistaken For Seismic Disturbances.

A special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: What was believed to have been earthquake shocks Wednesday afternoon are now said to have been blasting by Clyde line hands in St. Johns river below the city.

BOERS WILL NOT SURRENDER.

Botha and President Steyn Refuse to Consider Negotiations.

A belated dispatch received at London from Pretoria tells of the failure of the negotiations with General Botha for the surrender of the Boers. Botha received General Paget's flag of truce courteously and admitted his defeat, but said it was impossible to treat for surrender as long as any burghers wished to continue the war. President Steyn was more irreconcilable. He refused to even see the bearer of a flag of truce.

Florida Quarantine Is Extended.

The quarantine in Florida generally terminates at midnight on October 31st, but according to an order issued Wednesday by the Florida state board of health the quarantine restrictions will be continued until further orders.

Senators Won't Vote.

The Georgia senate refused to concur in the house resolution providing for a recess in order that the members might vote in the national election.

EIGHTEEN ARE MISSING.

New York Police Fail to Find
Supposed Victims of the Tarrant
Drug House Fire.

A New York dispatch of Friday says: The police department has been investigating the list of persons reported missing in connection with the Tarrant fire for the purpose of getting at a correct list of persons supposed to have lost their lives in the fire. The persons reported were investigated through the station nearest the address given for them, and in many cases they were reported as safe. In some cases the police could not find the supposed missing person at the address given. The list as revised Friday shows eighteen persons reported as missing and not accounted for.

Of these, six are not known at the address given by the persons who reported them missing.

On the list is the name of Benjamin Moorehouse, a clerk for Tarrant & Co. The authorities persist in declaring their belief that he is alive and purposely keeping his whereabouts secret.

"We have detectives out after Moorehouse and expect to land him soon," said Assistant District Attorney Walsh, who is assisting the fire marshal's investigation.

Moorehouse's family and neighbors, at Mont Clark, N. J., are convinced that he perished in the disaster. The fire department's investigation of the explosion closed Friday, after the testimony of Louis Patterson and George C. Thompson, employees of Tarrant & Co., had been taken.

Dr. Lederer, health department analyst, who examined the seven drums found in the ruins, said that they had contained analine; which is a little less explosive than kerosene.

GOULD'S WILL PAY.

Poor Count Castellano's Debts Will Be Liquidated By Donations.

A New York special says: The authority on an "intimate friend of the late Jay Gould," The Evening World of Friday's issue announced that the debts of Count Boni de Castellano will be paid in full by the Goulds at once.

"The scandal attending the claims, amounting to \$4,000,000, against the Count's husband, of Countess Anna, is to be stopped."

The Evening World adds: "A lump sum probably will be contributed by George, Helen, Howard, Edwin and Frank Gould to wipe out these debts, as they consider the honor of the Gould family is involved."

Incidentally The Evening World article says: "It was elicited that the Goulds may have nearly doubled since Jay Gould's death, and Anna's share is nearly \$18,000,000, and has income nearly \$1,000,000. The total value of the Gould estate is now over \$125,000,000."

GERMAN TROOPS ASSIGNED.

Count Von Waldersee Makes Official Announcement of The German Distribution.

Official telegrams from Count Von Waldersee show that all the German troops have arrived in China and been distributed. The first infantry brigade and a small force of cavalry and artillery are stationed at Pekin. The second infantry brigade, with a corresponding force of artillery, engineers and cavalry, is at Pao Ting Fun.

One battalion is at Shan Hai Kwan. The third infantry brigade, with a company of sharpshooters, two squadrons of cavalry and several batteries at Tien Tsin. One battery and several howitzers are at Tahn, and a force of troops is distributed along the railway from Pekin to Yang Tsun, superintending the work of construction.

FRENCH PROPOSALS ACCEPTED.

Foreign Ministers In China Resound Discussion of Peace Propositions.

A dispatch to the Havas agency at Paris from Pekin, dated 31st, says: "The foreign ministers continued today the discussion of the peace proposition to be presented to the Chinese. The French proposals were accepted. Additional specifications will be discussed Monday. On account of the necessity for thorough accord between the different cabinets, the final vote will not be presented for several weeks."

AFTER PROFESSIONAL MEN.

Many Lawyers, Doctors and Dentists of Atlanta Failed to Pay Special Tax.

An Atlanta special says: Unless all indications point in the wrong direction, there will shortly be a large number of lawyers, doctors and dentists arrested on indictments for practicing their various professions without having paid their professional tax. The law provides a professional tax of \$10 from all doctors, dentists, lawyers and other professional men. The tax collector, A. P. Stewart, has a list of nearly 100 who have not paid this tax, some for several years. The grand jury has called upon Mr. Stewart for this list.

JUDGE JAILS ALDERMAN.

Shear Refuses to Testify in Cleveland Councilman's Bribery Cases.

Judge Wing, of the common pleas court at Cleveland, O., Tuesday, ordered President D. B. Shear, of the city council, sent to jail for contempt in refusing to testify in the councilman's bribery investigation. The court held that the councilman had full authority to compel witnesses to answer questions, and that if they refused to do so they were guilty of contempt. The writ of habeas corpus sought by Shear was denied.

BOERS STILL FIGHTING.

Eight Recent Engagements Reported to London Was Official By Lord Roberts.

Lord Roberts in a dispatch from Johannesburg, dated November 2, reports no less than eight fights at different points, all unimportant, but significant of the activity of the Boers. Prisoners in the hands of the British say the Boers losses in the fight with Gen. Barton, October 25th, were 140 killed, wounded or missing.

CABLE FROM CONGER

Minister Announces That Satisfactory Progress Is Made

REGARDING BASIS OF NEGOTIATIONS

The Question of Punishments and Several Other Points Have Been Passed Upon by Ministerial Chiefs.

Minister Conger's last advice to the state department indicate that satisfactory progress is being made with the ministerial corps at Pekin toward the arrangement of a basis upon which negotiations shall be had with the Chinese government for a final settlement. The ministers have passed upon the question of punishments, and also upon several other important points, which are to figure in the negotiations. The results have not been made public.

The Russian minister is understood to be participating actively in the discussions, and the proceedings are harmonious. So far these have been confined to the effort to secure a perfect agreement by all the ministers upon the basis of negotiation, and up to this time no effort has been made to deal directly with the Chinese government. It is the understanding that when the ministers themselves have agreed upon their programme, there will be little difficulty in securing its acceptance by the Chinese government, which is, indeed, powerless to offer serious resistance to the united demands of the powers.

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SLEW HIS SON-IN-LAW

Farmer Wilcoxon Empties Contents of Double-Barreled Shotgun Into Flowers' Body.

Thursday morning about 10 o'clock Wiley F. Wilcoxon, a farmer living seven miles west of Eatonton, Ga., shot C. C. Flowers, his son-in-law, killing him instantly. Wilcoxon used a shot gun, firing both loads, but only one took effect, in the left side of Flowers.

Flowers has been living on Wilcoxon's place for several years, managing the affairs of the farm and bearing the brunt of the burden.

The killing was the result of a serious misunderstanding between the two men had a year ago or more ago, which, at the time, so Wilcoxon says, necessitated his giving up home and family and seeking peace elsewhere. After being absent some time he returned several months ago, where he resided, apparently contented, until the terrible tragedy which transpired Thursday morning.

It appears that Wilcoxon borrowed Flowers' gun to go hunting. After questioning particularly as to the manipulation of the gun, it being a breech-loader, and about the character of the cartridges with which it was loaded, he turned and walked away, ostensibly to go hunting. When twenty-five or thirty feet distant, he suddenly, and without provocation, turned and emptied the gun's contents into the side of Flowers, who was still standing in the kitchen door.

The deceased leaves a wife to mourn his untimely end. Wilcoxon was a confederate soldier, serving through the entire war in the Third Georgia regiment. After the tragedy he was arrested.

KAISER'S ADVICE TAKEN.

Germans Give No Quarter and Chinese Are Slaughtered Indiscriminately.

Considerable impatience at the meagerness of the news from China is finding expression in Berlin. The inference is that German censorship over such information is very strict. Letters from privates in China began to land their way into the Social Democratic papers showing that the German troops give no quarter. The Bremen Buerger Zeitung publishes a letter from a soldier in Peking who said he witnessed the following scenes: "Sixty-eight captives, some of them not yet adults, were tied together by their pig tails, compelled to dig their own graves and shot en masse."

The Halberstadter-Volke-Zeitung prints a communication from Peking, in which the writer says: "No prisoners are taken. All are shot, or preferably, sabred to save ammunition. On Sunday afternoon we had to bayonet seventy-four prisoners. They had killed one of our patrolmen. An entire battalion poured into the city and captured seventy-four alive. It was cruel. It was indescribable."

KILLED BROTHER-IN-LAW.

James Hammond Fires Load of Shot Into Thomas Wall, Near Elberton.