

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 Berrysburg, six miles from Philippi. As a result a score of miners are dead and many badly injured.

The explosion was so great that mules were killed at the mouth of the mine and cars blown forty feet from the track. One man was blown in two at the joints 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 sixty 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. Strewed 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 gaze 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 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 Berrysburg have only been operated a short time. They had 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 a man when he was 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.

Glen Jumped Bond.

L. Judson Glenn, of Atlanta, under indictment for forgery, and who jumped a \$300 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 Employers.

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 Atlanta.

GERMANY HAS PLAGUE CASE?

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

A plague case has apparently developed in Germany. A sailor named Kunz, who arrived at Bremer 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 at a meeting 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 10 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 seconds 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.; bacon and butter tub factory in Chattanooga; a \$100,000 brewing company at Clarksville, W. Va.; a cigar factory at Tampa, Fla.; cotton mills at Concord, N. C., and Brookneal, Va.; electric light plants at Hertford, N. C., and Winchester, Tenn.; flouring mills at Osage 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, Alabama, 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 soap factory at Lynchburg, Va.; a factory for the manufacture of showcases at Charlotte, N. C.; a silk mill at Emporia, Va.; a telephone company at Georgetown, S. C.; an lumbering and crushing plant at Sweetwater, Tenn.; a company organized for the manufacture of railroad joints at Petersburg, W. Va. Water works and electric light plants are 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 Berrysburg, West Virginia.

The latest reports from the ill fated mine at Berrysburg, 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 unanimously "came to their death by an explosion caused by the firing of powder and dynamite in the south entry of the south mine, either intentionally or accidentally, by persons to the jury unknown."

ATTORNEY'S FREEDOM BRIEF.

Defaulting Note Teller Is Now Safely In Prison Cell.

City Magistrate Flammer at New York discharged Cornelius L. Alvord, the defaulter note teller of the First National bank, from custody Friday. The magistrate said he was satisfied that he had no jurisdiction in the case. Alvord was allowed to leave the courtroom, but as soon as he reached the corridor he was re-arrested by a United States marshal and taken before United States Commissioner Shields. The commissioner held Alvord in \$150,050 bail for examination. Bail was not offered, and Alvord was taken to jail.

Convicted Councilman Levants.

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

Valuable Tannery Burned.

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

Carolina Fair Closes.

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

Paper Mills Destroyed By Fire.

Fire Friday destroyed the Golden paper mills, at Golden, Colorado, reports E. C. Wells, entailing a loss of \$30,000, covered by insurance.

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.

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 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 & 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.

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., was adduced.

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

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.

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GERMAN TROOPS ASSIGNED.

Count Von Waldersee Makes Official Announcement of Their Distribution.

Official telegrams from Count Von Waldersee show that all the German troops have arrived in China and been distributed. The first and second marines, 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.

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

GERMAN PROPOSALS ACCEPTED.

Foreign Ministers In China Resume Discussion of Peace Propositions.

A dispatch to the Havas agency at Paris from Pekin, dated 31st, says: "The foreign ministers confirmed 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."

ATTORNEY PATRICK DENIES.

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