

THE COOSAW SITUATION.

THE LATEST IN REFERENCE TO THE GREAT PHOSPHATE WAR.

The Company Makes a Proposition Looking to a Resumption of Work, Which is Accepted Conditionally by the State.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 15.—The following letter was received by the Phosphate Commission to-day. It explains itself.

To the Hon. B. H. Tillman, the Hon. Y. J. Pope, the Hon. W. H. Ellerbe, the Hon. J. D. Montgomery and the Hon. G. H. Walker, Members of the Board of Phosphate Commissioners—Gentlemen:

It is a matter of regret to the Coosaw Mining Company that it has been found necessary, in order to proceed with the litigation, to apply to the Courts, and that some accommodation could not have been reached by which litigation would have been avoided.

How long this litigation will continue it is of course impossible to say, but the Coosaw Company is desirous of having it so conducted as to avoid any unnecessary delay in reaching a final conclusion on the merits with all due speed.

When the Act of the General Assembly of 1880 went into effect on the 1st day of March, 1891, out of respect to the action of the General Assembly, the Coosaw Company made no preparations for the time being, although they were advised that such legislation would not effect them in the exercise of their previously acquired contract rights.

But they beg to say that they still earnestly desire to arrange with your honorable board that pending the litigation they may continue their operations in strict compliance with all the laws of the State, and under the supervision of the board.

They are advised that by mutual consent, and without reference to any order of the Court already made, such an arrangement can be entered into without prejudice to the existing rights of any party, and that the operations of the company shall continue under the supervision of the board, and thus the loss of royalty to the State and damage to the company can be avoided.

Any prolonged suspension of operations will, of course, cause serious damage both to the State and the company. The damage to the State will be the breaking up of an established business of value both to the company and the State, and which, interrupted for any length of time, will be difficult, if not impossible, to re-establish.

That I am addressing business and that my motives and the motives of the board are the same, and that I am not misrepresenting, and that I am not calling matters to attention and to say that the Coosaw Mining Company are ready and anxious to accept of any reasonable arrangement by which, pending this litigation, they may continue their operations under the proper supervision and direction of the board of phosphate commissioners.

I am, yours very truly, Robt. Adger, Chief Manager of Coosaw Mining Co.

COLUMBIA, March 15.—The phosphate commission met to-day at 10 o'clock for the purpose of considering the proposition being the proposition from Mr. Robert Adger on behalf of the Coosaw Mining Company, which proposition is published in full above.

Recognizing the mutuality of interests between the State and the Coosaw Mining Company, we are ready and anxious to have your company resume work, and will grant you license upon compliance with the requirements as to bond, etc., incorporating into such license a provision which would prevent any prejudice to the claims set up by you under the Act of 1876, but cannot permit the Coosaw Mining Company to resume work unless our licenses shall also be permitted to be used for a proper construction of the power of this board under the Act of the General Assembly, created the same, we are ready to allow such restrictions as to how mining shall be conducted as will prevent damage to the State.

The settlement by the Courts of the question at issue between the State and the Coosaw Mining Company can be greatly hastened if your attorneys, interested in the litigation, do not do us a great harm by coming to your company if the Court of last resort shall decide in your favor, and the result of your work under these conditions will be a heavy loss to the appearance of your company.

THE ALLIANCE IN OHIO.

The Old Politicians Dread the Effect of the Order's Activity.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 18.—The managers of both political parties are greatly surprised and annoyed at the discovery that the various farmer organizations of the State have been quietly at work during the winter with a view of taking a leading position in the politics of the State.

It may be said that the farmers are especially indignant at the present time at the course the Legislature has taken on many important measures. Both Republicans and Democrats pledged themselves to move in the direction of remedying the wrongs of the farmers, but so far nothing has been done in this direction.

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THE COOSAW WAR.

AN END TO THE EFFORTS TO COMPROMISE THE MATTER.

The State Cannot Consent to the Resumption of Mining by the Coosaw Company Unless the Lessees of the State are Permitted to Mine Also.

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WATERY GRAVES.

FIVE HUNDRED ITALIANS DROWNED AT THE BAY OF GIBRALTAR.

The Loss of Life by the Sinking of the Utopia Worse Than Reported—The Air Filled With Wild, Horrible Appeals and Shrieks of Terror.

GIBRALTAR, March 18.—It is now believed that the loss of life by the sinking of the Anchor Line steamer Utopia, which collided yesterday with the British ironclad Rodney while entering the bay here, was much larger than at first estimated.

It is estimated that of the 700 Italian emigrants and crew on board the steamer 570 persons were drowned. Several bodies of those who lost their lives in the disaster have been washed ashore on the Spanish coast.

Another account of the disaster attributes the loss of life to the fact that the ship Anson was drifting before the gale and rammed the Utopia about the funnels. After ramming the Utopia the Anson is said to have reversed her engines and returned to the bay.

The scene after the collision has probably never before been equalled in the history of maritime disaster. On one side the Utopia lay on her side, crowded with about 700 emigrants, who filled the air with wild, horrible appeals for help and shrieks of terror, overhead clouds rained furiously, and along the shore a howling gale, which had been one of the causes of the calamity.

The rescued, estimated to the number of 80, were most kindly cared for on board the ships and were taken ashore and housed in different government buildings. The loss of life was placed at 400 or under.

A naval court of inquiry will be convened on board the Anson. It is expected that the inquiry will go on for several days, and that the report will be ready in a few days.

Not until now (6 p. m.) has it been possible to give a full and authentic account of the appalling catastrophe, falling on the heads of the emigrants, who were on shore watching the progress of the disaster, and a terrible gale making it almost impossible to communicate with the vessels until a late hour last night.

The main question is as to the right to increase royalty; for our observation of the mining around Beaufort has led us to believe that exclusive rights are not warranted in the phosphate territory, and that it would be best for the State and for the miners were all the mining done by one company.

As a proof of sincerity in this opinion we offered the board, before any action was taken by them in this matter, a complete and full plan of mining with which to make such a survey and examination of our territory, as they might desire.

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KENTUCKY POISONERS.

Lynchers Looking for Old Man Wigington Who Instigated the Crime.

MOUNT STERLING, KY., March 18.—The whole miserable story of a diabolical crime as was ever committed in Kentucky, has just been extorted from the aged mother of the perpetrators.

On Thursday morning, March 5, William Ferguson, B. G. Watts and a Miss Boyd were mysterious, poisoned, and Ferguson and Watts died. Investigation showed that in large quantities in the stomachs of the two men, and also in the coffee-pot from which they were served.

It was known that William Wigington had quarreled with Watts. Slight suspicions were aroused, and Wigington and his two sons, Frank and Charles, were taken to a trial on Saturday last, and the evidence appeared strong enough to hold the boys, but the old man was dismissed.

When Charley was told that the old woman had made a clean confession he stoutly denied everything (ill she was brought to the jail in his presence, and she finally made the confession as she had made, and said that the old man had given him ten cents and told him to buy the poison.

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AN ASYLUM BURNED.

SIX OF THE INMATES PERISH IN THE FLAMES.

The Central Insane Asylum Near Nashville, Tenn., a Mass of Ruins—Over 400 Persons in the Building When the Alarm Was Given.

NASHVILLE, March 14.—The beautiful Central Insane Asylum, seven miles from this city is almost a mass of ruins, and beneath it are the charred bodies of a half dozen inmates. In the outhouses near by are huddled poor creatures who found the asylum once a grand old structure, now laid in ashes.

At 10:15 last night a tongue of flame broke through the roof on Western main wing. How it caught none could divine, it is thought that it came through the second and third stories and out of a few rooms beyond it. The alarm was given and the 400 inmates of the institution were thrown into wild commotion.

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THE PROPER ACT.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 17.—At a special meeting of the military committee, tonight, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That His Excellency, Governor B. H. Tillman, and staff and all division and brigade commanders, and all officers, are hereby most cordially invited to participate in the Centennial parade, May 14.

"Resolved further, That all white military companies in the State of South Carolina, and all white military companies in the State of Georgia, and all companies in the State of Alabama, are also most cordially invited to attend the Centennial and participate in the parade.

"Resolved, That all companies desiring information will communicate with George K. Wright, chairman of the committee on arrangements."

LIENS, E. M. Rucker, Joseph R. Allen, J. Green, Jr., were appointed a committee to inquire into the claims of the State to allow the camp to be located on the field in the rear of the University.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Nothing new was reported from the navy department to-day about the disposition of the war vessel Galena and the government tug Minnie and Triana. A peculiar coincidence in connection with the wreck of these vessels is that on March 16, 1888, three United States vessels were destroyed at Apia, Samoa, by the great three days hurricane.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 19.—"Bud" Harper, aged 6 years, is believed to be dying to-night, the result of a deliberate attempt at suicide. He was deeply interested in the New England Yearling Show, and had the story told him several times on Sunday. Both that day and yesterday he acted strangely, but this was attributed to sickness. Yesterday afternoon he went to the barn of his grandfather, John Perkins, climbed on a barrel, and after trying with his neck a rope suspended from the loft, kicked the barrel away. He was found unconscious and has remained so since.

Death in the Snowdrift. CHESTER BUTTE, Col., March 17.—Another snowdrift horror was reported this morning. This time it is the Eureka mine, on Treasury mountain. Charles Devine, J. C. McQuarrie and Jos. McCullough, the entire force on the mine, were killed and their bodies are covered by the snow. It is not known when they were killed or where to look for the bodies, and it is not at all unlikely that their remains will stay under the snow until the end of the summer reveals them.

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