# LITERAL HAIL OF FIRE

## Molten Rocks and Lava Are Poured on St. Pierre.

## PEOPLE CREMATED ALIVE

**Of the Entire Population of the City but Thirty Survived—Men on Shipboard Who Got Near the City After It Was Wrecked and Ruined Describe the Scene There as Glimpses of Hades—Every Effort Is Being Made to Reach the Stricken Island.**

Washington, May 8.—A dispatch received here from Fort De France, French West Indies, dated today, says the only officials there have received dispatches from the Island of Dominica that a schooner which had arrived there from the island of Martinique reports that now fifty thousand people are supposed to have perished during the volcanic disturbance in Martinique. The cable repair ship, Grappler, belonging to the West India and Panama Telegraph company of London, was lost with all hands during the eruption of Mount Pelee at St. Pierre, Martinique. The Grappler was one of the best ships in disappearing.

ST. PIERRE DESTROYED.

The following calligram has just been received at the State department from the United States Consul at Fort de France:

"At 7 a. m. on the 8th inst. a storm of steam, mud and fire overlapped the city of Pierre and vicinity. Not more than twenty persons escaped with their lives. Shipping crowds were burned and sunk with all on board, including four American vessels and a steamer from Quebec named Roraima. The United States Consul and family are reported among the victims. A war vessel has come to Martinique to go to Guiana and will leave at 5 tomorrow."

The State Department has been receiving dispatches from commercial houses in New York, asking that warships be sent at once to Martinique to afford relief. The matter is under consideration.

CONSUL AT MARTINIQUE.

The Consul at Martinique is Thomas T. Prentiss. He was born in Michigan and was appointed from Maryville, with headquarters at Seychelle Islands in 1871, and later served as Consul at Port Louis, Mauritius, Reunion, France, and Batavia. He was appointed Consul at Martinique in 1896. The Vice-Consul at Martinique is Amos Tratt, who was born and appointed from Louisiana in 1899. The latest available figures show the total population of the Island of Martinique at 175,000, of whom 25,000 lived in St. Pierre, and, according to Mr. Ayme, have nearly all perished.

### ISLAND LAID WASTE.

**But Meager Details of an Awful Catastrophe.**

St. Thomas, D. W. I., May 9.—The French cruiser, Sarcher, arrived at Point A-Pitre, Island of Guadeloupe, French West Indies, this morning, bringing several refugees. She confirmed the report that the town of St. Pierre, Martinique, was entirely destroyed at 8 o'clock on Thursday morning by a volcanic eruption. It is supposed that most of the inhabitants of St. Pierre were killed, that the neighboring parishes were laid waste, and that the residue of the population of St. Pierre is without food or shelter.

WRAPPED IN FLAMES.

The commander of the Sarcher reports that at 4 o'clock on Thursday the entire town of St. Pierre was wrapped in flames. He endeavored to save about thirty persons, some of her barrel, from the vessels in the harbor. His officers went ashore in small boats seeking for survivors, but were unable to penetrate the town. They saw masses of bodies upon the wharves, and it is believed that not a single person resident in St. Pierre at the moment of the catastrophe escaped.

CATASTROPHE AN AWFUL ONE.

The Governor of the colony and his staff are believed to be in St. Pierre and probably perished. The extent of the catastrophe cannot be determined. The Captain of the British steamer, Roddam, was very seriously injured, and he now is in the hospital at St. Lucia. All of his officers and engineers were killed or dying. Nearly every member of the crew is dead. Surgeon Campbell and ten of the crew of the Roddam jumped overboard at St. Pierre and were lost.

MOUNTAIN EXPLODES.

The British schooner, Ocean Traveler, of St. John's, N. B., arrived at the island of Dominica, British West Indies, late yesterday afternoon. She was obliged to flee from the island of St. Vincent, British West Indies, during the afternoon of Wednesday, May 7th, in consequence of a heavy fall of sand from a volcano which was erupting there. She tried to reach the Island of St. Lucia, but adverse currents prevented her from doing so. The schooner arrived opposite St. Pierre, Martinique, Thursday morning, May 8th. While about a mile off the volcano of Mount Pelee she photed and the frame swept the whole town of St. Pierre, destroying the town and the shipping there.

### IMMENSE MASS OF FLAME.

**Commander of French Cruiser Gives Details of Ruin of Fire.**

Paris, May 8.—The commander of the French cruiser, Sarcher, has telegraphed to the Minister of Marine, M. de Lanessan, from Fort De France, Island of Martinique, under date of Thursday, May 8th, at 10 p. m., as follows:

"Have just returned from St. Pierre, which has been completely destroyed by an immense mass of fire, which fell on the town at about 8 o'clock in the morning. The entire population (about 25,000) is supposed to have perished. I could not approach nearer than five kilometers (about three). All the shipping in the harbor has been destroyed by fire. The eruption continues."

ORDERED TO ST. PIERRE.

The commander of the French cruiser, Sarcher, recently at Fort De France, has been ordered to return to St. Pierre, Martinique, with all the speed possible and forward details of the disaster to the French Government. He reached, however, he found time for twenty-four hours on the harbor was given to the island of Guadeloupe in order to obtain provisions.

It is feared that M. L. Mouret, Governor of Martinique, has perished. He telegraphed May 7th that he would remain at his post of duty. Governor Kalisle is also supposed to have been at St. Pierre.

NOT A SOUL LIVING.

The British navy mail steamer, Eos, which arrived at St. Lucia this morning, brought the news that St. Pierre had not a soul living. The steamer was covered with ashes. Beneath the sea for miles around from the town which was in impenetrable darkness. A vessel was sent to as near as possible to the city but it is believed that all on board were asphyxiated. The Quebec steamship company's Roraima was seen to explode and disappear.

COMPLETELY WIPED OUT.

The Colonial Minister, M. de Cheik, received this evening two cables from the Governor of Martinique, dated at the Government of Martinique, 7 a. m. and 10 p. m. respectively at 4 p. m. and 10 p. m. respectively. The earlier cable reported that the town were broken between Fort de France and St. Pierre, but it was added that in view of reports that the eruption of Mount Pelee had ended out the town of St. Pierre, it was hard to know at all. Fort de France were dispatched to the assistance of the inhabitants of that place.

POPULATION ANNIHILATED.

The second dispatch confirmed the reports of the destruction of St. Pierre and its environs and shipping to a calm of fire, and said it was supposed that the population had been annihilated, with the exception of a few injured persons rescued by the cruiser Sarcher. Immediately after the receipt of the above dispatches, the flag over the Colonial office was dropped with crape and hoisted at half mast.

### GLIMPSE OF HADES.

**Survivors of Steamer So Describe the Hail of Flame.**

London, May 9.—Gov. Llewellyn of the Windward islands, telegraphed today from the Island of St. Lucia to the Colonial office as follows:

"No news from the Island of St. Vincent has arrived. I saw one of the passengers from St. Lucia. I fear the eruption of Soufriere is very serious. The cables to Grenada and St. Vincent are broken."

With the exception of the dispatch revealing the news brought to the Island of St. Lucia yesterday afternoon by the British steamer Roddam, which announced the total destruction of the town of St. Pierre, Island of Martinique, by a volcanic eruption, the English merchants and shippers here having trade relations with Martinique have received no direct news of the catastrophe. Even the owners of the Roddam, which was forced to ship her officers at St. Pierre in order to escape, and which was badly damaged, secretary of her crew being killed, have not heard from the vessel's captain.

The survivors of St. Pierre, now in this city, says there were about five white people among the inhabitants of the destroyed town.

CUT OFF FROM COMMUNICATION.

At 4.25 this p. m. London is quite cut off from communication with the Island of Martinique. The cable companies have received nothing except some messages saying the cable is interrupted owing to the volcanic eruption.

The Colonial office is without word from Martinique except that a grave disaster, the extent of which is not mentioned, has occurred, and the report of a repetition of the steel steamer Roddam's news.

The belief now exists that the British West Indian islands of Dominica and St. Vincent have also suffered severely. It is feared that family news will reach England through steamers arriving at the other West Indian islands.

A dispatch to the Pioneer Telegraph company from Kingston, Jamaica, giving the details of the Martinique disaster already known, says: "Thousands were killed at St. Pierre, where a terrible panic prevailed. The steamer Roddam, on Saturday, May 3rd, when St. Pierre was covered with ashes and appeared to be enveloped in fog. Rain of lava continued until W. Mar. May 5th."

In the island of St. Vincent, in Southern, continued to drive, 12 earthquakes are reported. So far no damage has been done.

By request of the request of Gov. Llewellyn of the islands, the British cruiser Indefatigable will be dispatched from the island of Trinidad to the island of St. Vincent by way of St. Lucia.

ALL INHABITANTS BURNED.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pointe-Pitre, Island of Guadeloupe, French West Indies, dated yesterday, says: "The Mont Pelee (St. Pierre) volcano erupted yesterday morning within 10 minutes and completely destroyed St. Pierre and the districts within a fourth-mile radius. All the inhabitants were burned."

About eight passengers from the Roraima, of the Quebec steamship line, were saved in the French cruiser Sarcher.

The inhabitants of the southern districts of the island who were deposited on St. Pierre for protection, are reported by Couriers.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Jacksonville, Fla., says: "The telephone at a distance of Martinique was the breaking of the cables on Tuesday. The French cable to Martinique from Pierre to Pierre was broken Wednesday morning. Communication with all the southern islands is stopped."

### GLIMPSE OF HADES.

The survivors of the British steamer Roddam describe the destruction of St. Pierre as being "glimpses of hell," heart-sickening description. The Roddam's men were filled chiefly by molten lava.

The Roddam was struck in a terrible volcanic eruption off land and sea. The whole crew perished. Two ships were lost with all on board in an attempt to approach Martinique.

### VOLCANIC DUST FALLS.

**Houses in Barbadoes Island Covered an Inch Thick.**

Bridgetown, Island of Barbadoes, British West Indies, May 9.—Volcanic dust from the eruption on the island of St. Vincent is still falling here. The roofs and houses are covered an inch thick.

The island of Barbadoes is over 100 miles from the island of St. Vincent.

### CHOKED WITH BODIES.

**All Roads Leading From St. Pierre Filled With Dead.**

Fort de France, Martinique, May 10.—The volcano of Mount Pelee, near St. Pierre, had shown alarming symptoms since May 4th, the morning before and then. This was, however, little excitement, and the disaster left the town. On Thursday, May 8th, at about 8 o'clock in the morning, a Cyclone of volcanic eruption occurred, the effects of which were felt all over the island. At Fort de France stones fell weighing from seven to ten and even up to fifteen grammes. Thick clouds of ashes covered the sun and filled the atmosphere. Panic seized the people. The sea receded a distance of 300 meters and rushed back with great force, afterward resuming its normal level.

CITY OVERWHELMED.

The French cruiser Sarcher left here followed soon by all available steamers, towing lighters and carrying relief supplies and necessaries. Their return was awaited with great anxiety. An hour after they left a steamer arrived and announced that St. Pierre was overwhelmed that the town was in flames as well as the settlements along the shore, that the ships in the harbor were on fire and the sea greatly disturbed.

ROADS CHOKED WITH DEAD.

The Sarcher returned here about 8 o'clock in the evening, bringing thirty persons, who were frightfully burned. Hundreds of others were visible, but they were being taken ashore to the hospital here. Night came on and the searchlights of the Sarcher lighted up the wharves where the work of debarkation was being carried on.

It is estimated that 10,000 persons perished at St. Pierre. All the roads leading out of the city are choked with dead bodies, according to the reports reaching here.

ENTIRELY DESTROYED.

A second relief expedition was sent out. It has just back some of the inhabitants of Cosier. They were crazed with terror and dying from hunger. The expedition succeeded in reaching St. Pierre, which is reported as being entirely destroyed. The dead bodies found were entirely naked. The houses seem to have disappeared as though they had been swallowed up by a great pit. Immense iron columns were found twisted and bent over in the direction of the sea.

It is believed that M. Mouret, the Governor of Martinique, is among those who have perished. His wife went to St. Pierre on the evening of the disaster.

### UNCLE SAM OFFERS AID.

**Orders Two Vessels to Proceed at Once to Martinique.**

Washington, May 10.—The United States government is willing and anxious to do anything within its power to aid the survivors of the terrible calamity on the Island of Martinique. The difficulty is to ascertain just what can be done and the extent of the needs. Secretary Moody already has sent to the commander at San Juan, Porto Rico, to dispatch the United States ship Potomac to Martinique in his discretion, and Secretary Hay has charged Assistant Secretary Hill with the duty of conferring with the navy department to devise other plans of relief.

POTOMAC'S BIG TUG.

The Potomac is nothing more than a large seagoing tug of very limited carrying capacity either in passengers or freight. About the only useful purpose she would serve, in the opinion of the naval officers, is to make a quick trip to Martinique, or to the nearest approachable point, and ascertain from personal inspection the precise needs of the survivors, which may afterward be satisfied by supplies dispatched on merchant vessels.

CINCINNATI ORDERED TO ISLAND.

Secretary of the Navy Moody has added the cruiser Cincinnati. Cruiser Cincinnati, now at San Domingo, will be ordered to proceed to Martinique and render such aid as possible. The Secretary of the Navy found, after consultation with assistant Secretary Hill, that it would be safer to take the Cincinnati away from San Domingo. It is possible that the Potomac has already left San Juan for Martinique, but there is doubt on this point, because the navy department has not yet been able to receive a response to an inquiry on this point sent by cable this morning to the commander of the naval station at San Juan.

DIVIDE IN READINESS.

As a further precautionary measure Secretary Moody sent the following telegram to the commandant of the Brooklyn navy yard: "Have ship ready for sea as soon as practicable. Report when she can be made ready." The Dixie is a ship of considerable carrying capacity, and would be better fitted than any of the other ships in Eastern waters for Martinique with relief supplies, which can possibly be obtained more readily at New York than at any of the West Indian islands.

FURTHER MEASURE OF RELIEF.

As a still further measure to help the sufferers, Secretary Root, called to United States Consul Lyons, at Guadeloupe, to proceed at once to Martinique to report upon the condition there, and inform the United States government what help is needed. The consul had previously reported that a French ship, supposed to be the cruiser Sarcher, was about to leave Guadeloupe for the wrecked island, and it is assumed that he was willing and even anxious to go along.

### FIRE STILL RAGING.

**Volcano Still Emitting Ashes With Less Density.**

Paris, May 10. The minister of marine, M. Pelletan, has received the following from Fort De France, Martinique, under date of May 10 at 1 p. m.: "Arrived at Fort De France with pilot boat coming close to St. Pierre. Fire continues, volcano still emitting ashes, but less density. SARCHER."

### NEW YORKERS LOSE HEAVILY.

**Were Largely Interested in Trade With the Island.**

New York, May 10.—St. Pierre, Martinique, has destroyed by a volcanic eruption, had a large commercial trade with this city. Four or five large houses carried on a business of at least $10,000 annually, two of these houses, it is known had $100,000 actually invested in and about St. Pierre, while the exports of flour and provisions on thirty days' credit are large. It is stated that the houses of the Rose trade shoes are $75,000 and the provision trade as much more.

NEW YORKERS HEARD FROM.

W. F. Lough, a member of the New York Produce exchange and E. F. Darroll & Co., about whom great anxiety was felt, as it was supposed to have been on the steamship Roddam, has been heard from. His firm received the following message from him this afternoon, dated Dominica: "Fire has consumed everything on the Roraima. Think it advisable to duplicate orders." Mr. Darroll said he did not regard it as unlikely that this message was sent from St. Lucia by boat to Dominica and from there forwarded to this city.

SEVERAL FAMILIES SAVED.

Another firm which was greatly concerned about the real condition of things in St. Pierre was the American Trading company. Henry C. Denfield, who manages the French West Indies business of the firm, has a sister and a brother in the city, and he made strenuous efforts to get news from them, and from the business houses of St. Pierre, in whose welfare he was especially interested, it being impossible to obtain any information from St. Pierre or Fort de France, cablegrams were sent to France. In response to an inquiry cabled to Bordeaux the message was received today: "Seacomico cabler announce that several families that took refuge at Morne Rouge are safe. They announce also the deaths of the Commodes and Linde Hayes."

OLD FIRM GONE.

The Commode brothers were members of one of the oldest and most important families in Martinique. Their names were Gaston and Raymond. They owned large stores in St. Pierre, a large estate and many hundred acres of plantations. The firm of Middleton & Co. of this city was also very much interested in the fate of these two brothers, and a message was sent to Pierre today inquiring about them, to which came the brief reply: "Both are dead."

BURNED TO DEATH.

Charles Testart of 8 Sac street, this city, is a son of the United States Vice-Consul at St. Pierre, Apollos Testart. Young Mr. Testart also has a sister in that city, Miss Marcel. He said today that from reports which had reached the city he feared that the members of his family had met death. A report reached this city today purporting to have come by cable from Fort de France, that General Manager Jellardert of the French Cable company at St. Pierre had been burned to death.

SHIPS ARE DESTROYED.

At the office of Foulke & Co., the owners of the barkentine L. W. Norton, which is supposed to have gone down in the harbor of St. Pierre, it was said today that not a word of the ship had been heard. The ship was owned by the American Trading company, and had a cargo of about $20,000 value.

Members of the firm of L. W. & P. Armstrong said they had heard nothing of their ship, the Talisman. They were still under the impression that the vessel was at Barbadoes, and that she had escaped the fury of Mount Pelee.

### ALMOST SUFFOCATED.

**Passengers on Steamer Overcome While Passing St. Vincent Isle.**

Wilhemstad, Island of Curacao, May 10.—The Italian steamer Potomonte, which arrived this morning from La Guayaro, reports that while passing near the Island of St. Vincent Thursday night her deck was covered by a depth of two inches of ashes, and her passengers were nearly suffocated with the smell of sulphur. During Thursday all along the coast, especially in the Gulf of Paria, subterranean noises were heard. The Indians were terrorized.

### ISLAND A BEAUTIFUL SPOT.

**Danger, However, Too Great to Want to Live There.**

Chicago, May 10.—The Island of Martinique and especially the city of St. Pierre is a beautiful place in which to be born and a pleasant place to die, but to live there is attended by more dangers than can be compensated for by its attractions."

Vincent De Messimy, local representative of a French wholesale liquor house, who thus characterizes the place which has been visited by such terrible disaster, was born in St. Pierre. All of his family, a sister, her daughter, two uncles and several cousins, are there. Of their fate he knows nothing. His sister is Mrs. Joseph De Messimy. His uncles are Alphonse De Messimy and M. Augustin, coffee planters and his cousins, Robert and Roger Augustin and Jeanne, Albert and Marguerite De Messimy. Only two years ago Mr. De Messimy married a daughter of William Garesche of St. Louis, then American Consul to Martinique, he remained in St. Pierre but has visited there only once since.

"Knowing the place as I do," he said, "I have little doubt that the disaster was just as terrible as that first described and my anxiety for the fate of my sister and my other relatives is great. There have been several eruptions of Mont Pelee, but never such a terrible catastrophe as that which is being described in the papers. That is why I think the reports have not been exaggerated. Undoubtedly when ashes began to fall days ago people thought it would be safest to remain out of doors, and when the fatal eruption came were caught in their houses, victims of the false security engendered by previous comparative harmless disturbances."

### PROSTRATED OVER NEWS.

**Teacher in Stockton Schools Loses All Her Family at Martinique.**

Stockton, Cal., May 10.—Miss Louise Louise Louis, a teacher of French in this city, is prostrated over the news of the terrible disaster at St. Pierre, Martinique, as her sister and family resided in that city. On learning of the volcanic eruption she swooned, and has been in a serious condition ever since. Though at times she would discuss the terrible loss of life. Her sister, Mme. Cecile, her husband, two sons, George and Raoul, and two daughters, Alice and Adele, are believed to have been killed, as the city they lived in is a portion of the city which they would be greatly exposed to the molten lava which flowed down the mountain side.

Raoul Cecile was rated as one of the most brilliant lawyers and orators on the island and has held many prominent positions of trust. For the past two years he has been one of the representatives from the island to the French Chamber of Deputies.

### BATHED IN CRATER.

**Inspector Small's West India Experience—Has Many Friends There.**

There is a man in Salt Lake at present who has bathed in the very crater of the long-extinct volcano known as the old Soufriere mountain.

Postoffice Inspector James A. Small, in 1896, went from Scotland to St. Vincent, where he engaged in sugar planting. He says that on numerous occasions he and Robert Sutherland, a friend accompanied by a brace of retainers, would ride up the mountain and spend the day there. There are two craters, one of very ancient date, and the other caused by the eruption of 1812. It was in the new one that he bathed.

Mr. Small says that an idea of the quantities of sulphur can be got from the fact that in 1812 ashes and dust coming in the air was caught by an upper current of air and carried to the island of Barbados, about ninety miles. He says the statement that lava flowed a foot deep for 300 miles is the result of a dream.

On account of the volcanic origin of most of the islands, it would not, after the disaster Mr. Small of the present disaster is but a forerunner of others. A man who has lived on one of these islands, he said, if there is an eruption, or even an earthquake, he cannot like a rat in a trap, escape being precipitated.

Mr. Small is carefully watching every report from the island visited by the volcanoes, and says he would try and go down, but for the cabins, which commence to be crowded. The inspector says that St. Vincent is about eighty miles south of Martinique, and covers an area of about 150 miles. Martinique is about twelve the size of St. Vincent. He has many acquaintances at the scene of the disaster.

### MEMORIES OF ST. PIERRE.

**Chief Gunner's Mate, U. S. N., Describes the Demolished Town.**

The destruction of St. Pierre, Martinique, by a volcanic eruption was a great surprise and caused almost a panic in the city. Chief Gunner's Mate Stanley Dimmick of the United States navy, who is now in Salt Lake, said:

"St. Pierre was a beautiful little place," said Mr. Dimmick yesterday. "I have visited the island of Martinique several times, but I never visited at St. Pierre for long. That was in 1897. I was on the cruiser Cincinnati. Vessels of the navy visited St. Pierre. The population of the island at that time was given to me by the American Consul as 25,000 people, but most agreed that more than 25,000 people lived in St. Pierre. The last being a Spanish town, the Spanish influence. The Europeans were all connected with commercial enterprise, chiefly the exportation of coffee, sugar, bananas and bay rum. All the land was partitioned to be in regular squares, and the streets were laid out with regularity. The houses were built with platforms, or, Pierre had no docks, and the vessels in the small but deep harbor were loaded with small cars. There was especially quite a lot of shipping in the harbor. I can't understand why the vessels did not escape the volcano. The eruption must have been very sudden to catch them, as the bay is very south and a ship could weigh anchor and get outside in ten minutes very easily.

"The buildings of the town were all one-story and built in the Spanish style of clay and stucco. They were not laid out with any degree of regularity, owing to the hilly nature of the ground. Some of the private residences were surrounded by beautiful grounds, and there was a very pretty park in town. One of the landmarks of the place was a statue of Josephine, Empress of France, who was born at St. Pierre. It stood on a cliff that formed a natural pedestal. French was the language of the island.

"The volcano was about four miles from town. It seemed to be totally extinct, and had not shown the least sign of activity for 50 years. The crater was now filled in, but it seemed solid and emitted no smoke or gas. In fact, I never heard of a volcanic eruption anywhere in the West Indies during the past century. Some thirteen or fourteen years ago they had a tidal wave at St. Thomas, but no volcanic disturbance accompanied it.

"The West Indian mountains look something like your mountains north of Salt Lake City, except that they rise abruptly from the sea and are covered with tropical shrubbery, in which monkeys and parrots are more numerous than prairie dogs in Kansas."

### STEAMER RODDAM ESCAPES.

**Three Officers and Eight of the Crew Were Killed.**

London, May 10.—Steele, Young & Co. of this city, owners of the British steamer Roddam, which escaped from St. Pierre to St. Lucia, received this morning the first news from their agents at St. Lucia as follows:

"Terrible volcanic eruption at Martinique. Roddam escaped. Captain and chief officer, Turnbull and engineer gone. Second, Mathieson, chief Cayzer and Chief Officer Cook, Fraser and eight of crew dead. Sea is frightful. Second and third officers, chief engineer, second engineer, communication between here and Barbados impossible."

Cable communication between London and the island of Martinique was cut off. The British Admiralty received a message with the commander in chief of the British station and a war vessel has been ordered to go to Martinique.

It is inferred from the cable dispatch received by the relatives of the officers of the Roddam that the ship was caught in the eruption of Mount Pelee, which is about twelve miles from the city of St. Pierre. The ship was in the harbor of St. Pierre when the eruption occurred. The Roddam was a steamship of 1,600 tons and was a regular trader between Liverpool and Martinique. Almost everything she carried was destined for St. Pierre, which suffers the most. I have Mr. Lodge with "The last time I was there," said Mr. Lodge, "I was in St. Pierre, Martinique, and as American subject, at St. Pierre, though that town did a good deal of business with America in the way of molasses.

"A large proportion of the white population belonged to the old French families, who, prior to the Revolution, had been part of the island. We used to be well dressed. That Mont Pelee was a most beautiful mountain. Its sides were banks and green trees to its summit. It was attention and pride to a native to show it to a stranger. It was a place to see. Its sides were covered with vegetation, the density increased from the base to the summit, and it was as green as it is possible to be."

### FEW WERE SAVED.

**Catastrophe Occurred on the Worst Possible Day.**

Bordeaux, France, May 10.—Only a few refugees have been received to passengers of inquiry from a list of Bordeaux merchants having business connections in St. Pierre. A small number of messages consists the sailing of private families and individuals, but most of the dispatches are merely announcements that big business establishments have been blotted out.

It has been discovered that the catastrophe in Martinique occurred on the worst possible day, namely, the day of the festival of the Patron and the anniversary of the Eruption of 1851 (Pompeii). In consequence of the fact business had in no more were in the city of St. Pierre, instead of at their country places.

### DISASTER AT REDLANDS.

**Two Wounded in Tally-Ho Accident in Dangerous Condition.**

Redlands, Cal., May 9.—The only serious accident of a series remarkable today of the visiting of the disastrous tally-ho accident occurred at Redlands, when Mr. Dryden, wife of Judge Campbell, of Denver, Colorado, of Dallas, Tex., and another of Denver, Colo., were injured, the latter very seriously. The tally-ho was returning from Mt. Vernon when the accident occurred.

Mrs. Dryden of Redlands, and Mrs. Emerson of Highgate, who were the most seriously injured, are still in good condition. The driver was serious but hopes are entertained for his recovery.

### MERGER IS COMPLETE.

**Final Arrangements for Transfer of Denver City Tramway.**

Denver, Colo., May 10.—The final arrangements of the merging of the Denver City Tramway into the Denver & Northwestern Railway company are made public by an official circular just received from New York and addressed to the stockholders of the Tramway company. The circular says that a majority of the stockholders has already gone into the Denver & Northwestern, and that the merger is practically complete. The preparation made to the stockholders of the tramway is: They can get cash for their stock at par, or can take the face of their holdings of tramway stock in bonds of the Denver & Northwestern, with a bonus of 25 per cent, represented in stock of the railway company. It is also said that the management of the two companies will remain distinct.

### MAN BURNED TO DEATH.

**Cremated in Fire Which Destroyed a Colorado Springs Hotel.**

Cripple Creek, Colo., May 10.—A man who is believed to have been W. W. Sanders and to have been connected with the firm of Hallidie & Sullivan, San Francisco, Cal., was burned to death today in a fire which destroyed the Sherman House and half a dozen other small buildings in Victor early in this city. The property loss was only $20,000.

## PEACE IN SOUTH AFRICA IS NOW ALMOST CERTAIN.

Lisbon, May 10.—A dispatch received here from Delagoa Bay, Portuguese East Africa, says that peace in South Africa is certain to result from the conference of the Boer leaders to be held at Vereeniging, Transvaal, May 15th. It is said, the dispatch continues, that peace will be officially proclaimed May 31st. Preparations are afoot for general rejoicings.

After having met the burghers in the field and explained to them the British terms, the Boer leaders were to meet at Vereeniging and reach a final decision on the subject of peace.

A dispatch from London dated May 2nd said it was officially asserted that after their conference at Vereeniging the Boer leaders would proceed to Pretoria and announce to Lord Kitchener the decision in regard to the peace terms they were prepared to accept.

## FAST MAIL HELD UP.

**Bandits Attempt to Rob a 'Frisco Train, Dynamiting Express Car, but Securing No Booty.**

Jonesboro, Ark., May 10.—The westbound fast mail train on the St. Louis & San Francisco railway was held up last night about 10:30 at Marsh siding, five miles west, by four masked men. Information wired to express company officials states that the robbers secured nothing.

The robbers flagged the train, which did not slow up quick enough to suit them, and they threw the engine, baggage, express and smoker on a siding by turning the switch under the rear of the first car, throwing it and the following cars into the ditch.

The fireman was ordered back to cut off the engine, mail, baggage and express cars, which pulled down the track some distance.

The baggage master was ordered to open the express car, which he proceeded to do if the robbers would not shoot him. The leader of the gang wanted to shoot the messenger, but the others made him desist. Dynamite was exploded on the safe, completely wrecking it, and blowing out the side of the express car.

After fruitless attempts to secure money the robbers cut off the engine and ran further west. They deserted the engine in motion, and escaped.

The robbers then boarded the engine, carrying up at Jonesboro, where it had dropped on the front track. The operator was accosted and immediately ordered to Searcyville, the conductor returning with the engine. With the exception of the shots the robbery was brought here to the workers, the train remained dead.

A posse headed by the Sheriff has gone after the robbers, who had a good start.

### PAT CROWE IN OMAHA.

**Kidnaper of Young Cudahy Said to Have Been Seen About His Old Haunts.**

Omaha, Neb., May 10.—A morning paper will issue tomorrow morning what purports to be an interview with Pat Crowe, who says he has been connected with the Cudahy kidnaping case. Crowe says he is in Omaha, and that he will be in the city for a few days, and he will make a full confession of the kidnaping and his share in it. Crowe says he has been in Omaha for a few days, and he has been in the city for a few days, and he will make a full confession of the kidnaping and his share in it. Crowe says he has been in Omaha