

PLAGUE OF EARTHQUAKES IN ITALY AND SICILY.

History records the following earthquake disasters in southern Italy and Sicily, the region shaken by the recent quake:

Time and Place	Estimated Losses
1783—Messina and other large towns	75,000,000
1808—Calabria	25,000,000
1857—Naples	40,000,000
1858—Calabria	10,000,000
1881—Sicily	4,000,000
1882—Messina	1,000,000
1883—Messina	1,000,000
1884—Messina	1,000,000
1885—Messina	1,000,000
1886—Messina	1,000,000
1887—Messina	1,000,000
1888—Messina	1,000,000
1889—Messina	1,000,000
1890—Messina	1,000,000
1891—Messina	1,000,000
1892—Messina	1,000,000
1893—Messina	1,000,000
1894—Messina	1,000,000
1895—Messina	1,000,000
1896—Messina	1,000,000
1897—Messina	1,000,000
1898—Messina	1,000,000
1899—Messina	1,000,000
1900—Messina	1,000,000

DAWN OF NEW ERA FOR TURKEY COMPARED TO THAT OF 1876.

The dawn of a new era for Turkey brought with it the assembling of the recently elected parliament under the constitution promulgated in July by Sultan Abdul Hamid. The new order of things is called the result of the "great bloodless revolution" carried on for years by the "Young Turks" party. And all the world is wondering how long it will last—this new era



SABAHEDDINE.

of peace and good will and relief from despotism and religious liberty—in the blood-drenched realm of Abdul Hamid. For it is only in 1876 that a similar "new era" was joyously acclaimed throughout Turkey, when this same Abdul Hamid proclaimed, soon after his ascension to the tottering throne, that "the welfare of the Turkish empire lies wholly in the full and sincere application of the constitution." It contained the same high-sounding ring of sincerity as his recent utterance to the effect that "all in the nation are members of the committee of union and progress, and I am their president. Let us live together and make the country prosperous."

MILLIONS IN SANTA'S MAIL.

Postal Orders Sent to Europe Foot Up \$5,000,000.

The rush for postal money orders to be sent abroad as Christmas presents has ended, and Postmaster Edward M. Morgan of New York City was able to have compiled figures showing that from Dec. 2 to Dec. 16, inclusive, \$52,875 international postal money orders aggregating \$5,047,282.21, were issued and shipped to foreign lands. The steamship Lusitania carried 110,022 orders. The countries to which the bulk of the other 216,853 international money orders were sent are:

Countries	No. of orders	Amount
Great Britain	73,041	\$88,408.62
Australia	27,281	\$40,394.21
Italy	17,016	\$23,025.36
Austria	12,500	\$18,750.00
Germany	12,500	\$18,750.00
Hungary	12,500	\$18,750.00
Russia	12,500	\$18,750.00
France	12,500	\$18,750.00
Spain	12,500	\$18,750.00
Sweden	12,500	\$18,750.00
Norway	12,500	\$18,750.00
Denmark	12,500	\$18,750.00
Belgium	12,500	\$18,750.00
Netherlands	12,500	\$18,750.00
Portugal	12,500	\$18,750.00
Switzerland	12,500	\$18,750.00
Other countries	12,500	\$18,750.00

There is no way to compute the value in presents alone.

FOREIGN

The Russian Duma voted by a large majority to continue the increase in pensions to army officers authorized during the Russo-Japanese war.

It was reported at Berlin that Austria-Hungary was prepared to pay Turkey \$200,000,000 as compensation for the annexation of Herzegovina and Bosnia, the transaction only awaiting necessary formalities.

The course adopted recently by the Indian authorities to cause the arrest, swiftly and mysteriously, of all natives suspected of revolutionary activities is having a good effect on the unrest of the population.

The importation into or the transit through Belgium of cattle, sheep or pigs from the United States has been prohibited until further notice. This action is taken because of the foot and mouth disease in America.

In Paris a Franco-American committee has been formed to take charge of the erection in Paris of a monument to the memory of Horace Wells, a Hartford, Conn., dentist, to whom is accredited the discovery of laughing gas.

Emperor Nicholas has approved the proposed construction of a memorial church to the soldiers who perished in the Russo-Japanese war and a committee has been formed, headed by the Queen of Greece, to collect funds.

The insurance litigation growing out of the fire that followed the recent earthquake in Jamaica has been settled, all the companies agreeing to accept liability and to pay all claims. The total amount is said to be \$3,000,000, plus \$375,000 costs.

The Dalai Lama of Tibet, who has been wandering for four years over Manchuria and northern China, left Peking on his journey back to Lhasa, where in future he will be regarded as a mere ecclesiastic, pledged to support whatever reforms China desires to carry out in his country.

Efforts of the Chinese government to put down the boycott against Japanese goods have caused serious riots in Hongkong and other large cities.

The French government is alarmed at the increasing number of balloons manned by German officers, which have been making descents in France recently, and has been making diplomatic representations to Berlin on this subject.

Otto Stein, who was arrested in New York last March and later taken to Russia following extradition proceedings, is on trial in St. Petersburg, charged with forging documents in France recently. He is said to have lost over \$100,000.

The Fatal Three

BY MISS M. E. BRADDON

CHAPTER XXIII.

After this time went by in a dull monotony for Mildred. The only event of importance was the arrival of Pamela Ransome, who was escorted to Brighton by Lady Lochinvar herself, and who had been engaged for three weeks to Malcolm Stuart.

Pamela and Lady Lochinvar were now on very easy terms. Pamela had stayed in Paris with Lady Lochinvar, and a considerable part of her trousseau had been chosen in the ateliers of fashionable Parisian dressmakers. The more humdrum portion of the bride's trousseau was obtained at Brighton, where Pamela was to spend a week or two with her aunt before she went to London to stay with the Mountfords, who had taken a house in Grosvenor Gardens, from which Pamela was to be married.

It was a hard problem to decide where the honeymoon should be spent, but it was finally decided that the best place was The Hook, the riverside residence of the bride's aunt, as the papers put it. Mildred repaired at once to The Hook, to put everything in readiness for the reception of the young people. The work she had to do was not a pleasant one, for she delighted in the idea of revivifying a spot she so fondly loved. Her duties were light, for Mrs. Dawson, the housekeeper, who had once ruled over both Mr. Fausset's houses, was now caretaker at The Hook, and everything was in apple-pie order. A day should have sufficed to put all in readiness; but still Mildred lingered from day to day, till nearly a week had sped. One afternoon—her last of the old home—she was packing away the articles that had belonged to her father and mother, when she came upon a nest of pigeonholes crammed with letters. Curiosity prompted her to glance at them, and she saw that they were written by her aunt.

The first letter was from Milan, full of enthusiasm about the Cathedral and the Conservatoire, full of schemes for work. She was practicing six hours a day, and taking nine lessons a week—four for piano, two for singing, three for harmony. She was in high spirits and delighted with her life.

"I should practice eight hours a day, if Mrs. Holmby would let me," she wrote, "but she won't. She says it would be too much for my health."

In the next letter the writer said: "Your kind suggestion about the opera house has been followed, and we have taken seats at La Scala for two nights a week. Signor Castellani's opera is delightful in tone, and there repeated complaints of Mrs. Holmby—there were indications of filial spirits—now enthusiasm, now depression."

After this there was an interval. The next letter was dated six months later. It was on a different kind of paper, and it was written from Scien, on the Lake of Geneva.

"I know that you have been kind to me, John—kind, more merciful, than many brothers would have been under the same miserable circumstances—but nothing you do can make me anything else than what I have made myself—the most wretched of creatures. You tell me to forget my misery. Forget—now! No, I have no wish to leave this place. I should be neither better nor happier anywhere else. It is very quiet here. There are no visitors left now in the neighborhood. There is no one to wonder who I am, or why I am living alone here in my tiny villa."

from mine or yours? And you have actually introduced her into your own house as a relation—and you actually allow her to be called by your name? Was ever such madness? You justify all that has been done in the past. You open the door to questioners and conjectures of the most dreadful kind. No, I will not see her. You must be mad to suggest such a thing. My feeling about her to-day is exactly the same as my feeling on the day she was born—disgust, horror, dread. I will never willingly look upon her face. Get the girl out of your house as soon as you can! Send her to some good school abroad."

A later letter was briefer and more business like: "I fully concur in the settlement you propose. Remember that, as far as money can go, I am anxious to do the utmost. I hope she will marry soon, and marry well, and that she may lead a happy and honorable life under a new name. After I should be much relieved if she could continue to live abroad."

In the same pigeonhole Mildred found the draft of a deed of gift transferring £300,000 Indian stock to Fanny Fausset, and with the draft there were several letters from a firm of solicitors in Lincoln's Inn Fields, relating to the same deed of gift.

The last of the letters fell into Mildred's lap, as she sat with her hands clasped before her face, dashed by this sudden light which altered the aspect of her life.

CHAPTER XXIV.

The thought of all she had suffered, and of the sufferings she had inflicted on the man she loved, almost maddened her. There and with the draft there were several letters from a firm of solicitors in Lincoln's Inn Fields, relating to the same deed of gift.

"It means, dear, that it was all a mistake, and that I am here to stay with you forever."

Then she told him of her discovery of the letters, but she did not tell him whose child Vivian was.

Mildred took the earliest opportunity to visit Miss Fausset, and then she learned the whole miserable story.

"Listen to me patiently, Mildred," she began, "do not interrupt me harshly. How shall I speak of the man who destroyed my life? I loved him, Mildred—loved him with a foolish, inexperienced girl's romantic love. I asked no questions. I believed all he told me. I flung myself, blindingly, into the net. It was his genius I worshiped. He was at the height of his success. The Milanese raved about him as a rival to Donizetti; his operas were the rage. Can you wonder that I, a girl passionately fond of music, was carried away by the excitement which was in the very air I breathed? I went to the opera night after night. I heard that fascinating music till its melodies seemed interwoven with my being. I suppose I was weak enough to let the composer see how much I admired him. He had quarreled with his wife, and the opera house was his mistress—had resulted in divorce. He may have been repented in Milan who knew that he was a married man, but my chaplain did not, and he was careful to suppress the fact from the beginning of our acquaintance."

When I am gone I should like you to do some great thing for those who live in shadow."

"My beloved, I shall remain upon this earth only to obey your will."

He lived just long enough to keep his promise. The Groswood Hospital remains, a monument of thoughtful benevolence, in one of the most wretched neighborhoods of London, and his race are ended like a tale that is told.

THE END.

DRIVE WOLVES FROM NEW YORK

Why Pennsylvanians Had Grudge Against People of Empire State.

Wolf drives were held in this section less than a century ago. To the Newark Valley Herald Dr. Gates writes the following interesting account of a famous drive in Tioga County, New York.

"In the year of our Lord 1828 the wolves then running in this county became so numerous and so pestilent that the towns of Richford, Berkshire, Candor, Union and Lisle held a conference over the question and at that meeting it was resolved to appoint two men in each town to act as a committee to drive the wolves beyond the Susquehanna river."

"I can give the names of only two men on that committee, these being Anthony M. Tyler of this town and Horace Gates of the town of Union, there being no town of Malone then. In addition to the committee other men and large boys joined in the drive. The outfit for each man was a dog, if he had it, a gun and plenty of ammunition and a large coil of ring, the cowbells and shooting off their guns so the wolves would not go back."

"The march commenced about half-way between Hartford Mills and Richford and was formed east toward Hunt's Corners and west toward Slaterville. The signal to march south was the firing of a gun at North Richford, then every man on the line that had a gun fired it and every one rang his cowbell. At night dry trees were set on fire so the men could warm themselves and wild beasts would keep back. It must have been after the second Tuesday in February, for that was townmeeting day at that time."

"Every man had his knapsack on his back full of good knives and could replenish it at almost any house he came to."



Major General James Sherman Bell, chief of staff of the United States Army, who in his annual report designates the army an antiquated and inefficient organization, is a veteran officer who began his career fighting Indians on the plains and saw active and hazardous service in the Philippines during the Spanish-American war. General Bell was born in Shelbyville, Ky., in 1856, and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1878. He served on the plains with the famous Seventh Cavalry from his graduation until 1894, participating in many of the early campaigns against the Indians. During his service in the Philippines he was awarded a medal for gallantry. He became a major general Jan. 3, 1907.

William Insko Buchanan, who has been sent to Venezuela to reopen diplomatic relations between that country and the United States, is a man of large experience in the work he is to undertake. Born in Ohio in 1853 and educated in country schools, he removed to Iowa in 1882, and was one of the organizers of the first four corn palaces at Sioux City.

Frederick A. Burnham, who was found dead in New York from gas asphyxiation under circumstances which the police at first thought indicated suicide while members of his family called his death an accident, was president of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company when that concern went into the hands of a receiver last February.

Mrs. Eillian M. N. Stevens, who has been re-elected president of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union at the Denver convention, has been at the head of the union since 1898. She was born at Dover, Me., in 1844, and in early womanhood was a teacher. In 1867 she married M. Stevens.

Samuel B. Donnelly, of Brooklyn, is the new public printer at Washington, succeeding John S. Leach. Mr. Leach returns to his former position of public printer for the Philippines. Mr. Donnelly is a practical printer, has been president of the Typographical Union, No. 6, of New York, has been a member of the Board of Education for several years, and is secretary of the Arbitration Board of the building trades. Recently he investigated labor conditions in the Panama zone for the government. He is about 40 years of age and has been prominent in union labor affairs for the past fifteen years.

Baron Lexa von Aehrenthal, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has gained the displeasure of Russia and England and may find himself compelled to retire, was for many years ambassador from his country to St. Petersburg and has occupied his present post only about two years. The baron is 54 years old and comes from an old and noble family, GERMAN in origin, but which later settled in Bohemia.

Rival of the Smelter Trust.

At Trenton, N. J., recently, there was incorporated the National Smelting and Refining Company with capital stated at \$50,000,000 common stock and the incorporators being New York men associated with John D. Ryan of the Amalgamated Copper Company and otherwise identified with Rockefeller interests.

John Hayes Hammond, after conferring with President-elect Taft at Augusta, Ga., said he was not a candidate for any cabinet position, but hinted that he might accept a place as head of a department of public works if one was established.

ISOLATION FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Dr. Wiley Advises Radical Treatment for the Afflicted Who Travel.

It is estimated that 160,000 persons die annually in the United States from consumption, or tuberculosis, and from any way we look at it this is a dreadful figure to consider.

If this tremendous loss to the country occurred annually by the destruction of some splendid city of 160,000 from some preventable cause, all the strength and power of the government would be stretched forth to put a stop to the calamity; yet quietly and insidiously tuberculosis is yearly effecting this fearful loss of life and the government as well as individuals seem to be just getting awake to the great possibilities of the case.

In every city and considerable village in the United States there should be provided, under authority of law, an organization for the prevention and cure of tuberculosis under the supervision of medical men. These organizations should be provided with accommodations for the treatment of incipient and advanced cases of the disease and should also have authority to safeguard those who are predisposed by enforcing hygienic conditions.

The advanced or incurable should be separated from the incipient or curable cases as they are the centers of infection and the greatest danger to the public.

The isolation of consumptives on railroad journeys, particularly on sleeping car trips across the continent, is urged by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the chemistry bureau of the Department of Agriculture. He points out that separate cars for those afflicted with tuberculosis are as necessary as detention camps.

The spread of the disease by consumptives traveling on the railroads is a well-known danger, explains Dr. Wiley, who states that he is arranging apparatus to take samples of the material breathed by people in sleeping cars. As soon as these are taken they will be analyzed, with the general object in view of supplying fresh air to those who travel.

Galveston (Texas) teamsters recently formed a union.

Musicians at Charleston, S. C., recently organized a union.

Postoffice clerks have chartered a new union at Atlanta, Ga.

Asbestos workers at Denver, Colo., are preparing to organize.

In October 241 work people in Canada were injured, and of these seventy-nine died.

The metal trades department of the American Federation of Labor is being formed in Augusta, Ga.

Leather workers on horse goods expect before 1910 to make a general demand for the eight-hour day in the trade.

Trade unionists at Little Rock, Ark., expect to bring up a number of labor measures at the next session of the Legislature.

Stationary firemen and stationary engineers at Fort Worth, Texas, have secured an eight-hour day and an increase of 40 cents a day.

An effort will be made at San Francisco to effect a permanent organization of all trades and industries that have a grievance against Asiatics.

The next biennial session of the grand division of the Order of Railway Conductors of America will be held in Boston in May of next year.

In Austria and France the provision of rescue apparatus in mines is made compulsory. In Germany it is optional, but has been voluntarily adopted.

The jurisdictional strife between the Freight Handlers' Union and the Order of Railway Clerks was adjusted by a joint agreement, each union giving way on some points and accepting a compromise on the membership.

Declaring the boycott to be unwise and of general menace to the public, the general assembly of the Knights of Labor at Washington recently went on record as opposing flatly the program of the American Federation of Labor.

As a result of a meeting of the sheet metal workers of Lowell, Mass., held recently, the employers voluntarily granted the eight-hour work day without reduction in pay from the amount paid for the previous nine-hour day.

The government plan of old-age pensions goes into effect in Australia and New Zealand on July 1, 1909. The plan provides that every person of 65 years of age, who is permanently incapacitated for work, will be qualified to receive a pension. By proclamation women of 60 years may be qualified.

In both England and Scotland generally rescue stations have been organized in connection with experimental galleries devised for the purpose of training colliers in the methods of effective rescue work in the event of explosions, pit fires and other underground accidents.

Denver, Colo., will soon have a union labor hospital, costing \$200,000, and accommodating 350 to 400 persons. The city is now the headquarters for the National Union Labor Hospital Association, which will proceed with the building of hospitals for members of labor unions in all large cities of the country.

The Bakers' Union of Memphis has started a label campaign which the members hope will produce good results. The idea is to place a value upon bread labels and thus encourage their use.

Electricians' Union No. 12, of San Francisco, has in its membership the tallest and the shortest men in the trade. The former stands six feet five inches and the latter four feet three inches.

Sixteen locals were represented at a recent meeting to form the proposed metal trades section of the Boston (Mass.) C. L. U. Application was made to the A. F. of L. metal trades department for the local charter.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1620—Landing of first settlers at Plymouth, Mass.

1719—The "American Weekly Mercury" the third newspaper in America, made its first appearance in Philadelphia.

1700—Thomas Mifflin became the first Governor of Pennsylvania under the constitution of 1790.

1800—Attempt to assassinate Napoleon Bonaparte.

1807—Embargo act passed, forbidding the departure of any vessel from the United States for a foreign port.

1811—More than 100 persons perished in the burning of a theater in Richmond, Va. The New Orleans, the first steamboat built in western waters, started from Pittsburgh for New Orleans.

1814—Treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain signed at Ghent.

1817—American Colonization Society, which aimed to return free negroes to Africa, formed in Washington, D. C.

1820—Georgia refused to permit the Indians to set up an independent government in that State. A party of Choctaws attacked a camp of Osage Indians on the Canadian river and killed seven of their number.

1825—Patent for revolving firearm issued to Samuel Colt.

1827—Steamer Caroline captured and destroyed at Niagara Falls.

1824—Two United States ships seized at Havana for conveying arms and seditious proclamations. Armed collisions took place in eastern Kansas between the two political parties.

1821—Federal force captured Tybee Island.

1822—Federal force captured Fort Van Buren, Ark.

1824—Wilmington, N. C., bombarded by the Union fleet. Gen. Sherman entered the city of Savannah.

1827—Great fire in Little Rock, Ark.

1827—David Howard Harrison became Governor of Manitoba.

1829—Charles I. proclaimed king of Portugal.

1830—Unsuccessful train robbery on the Southern Pacific near Burbank, Cal.

1834—Captain Dreyfus found guilty and sentenced to Devil's Island for life. Sir Mackenzie Bowell became premier of Canada and formed a new ministry.

1900—President Paul Kruger arrived in Paris. Martial law proclaimed in Cape Colony.

THE MINNESOTA RAILROADS