

A FEARFUL CALAMITY.

Later Particulars of the Railroad Disaster in Switzerland.

OVER A HUNDRED PERSONS LOSE THEIR LIVES.

Basel the Scene of Bitter Desolation and Mourning—Whole Families Practically Wiped Out of Existence—Nearly Every Family in the City Said to Have Suffered the Loss of Some Member—Harrowing Scenes Witnessed at the Place Where the Terrible Disaster Occurred.

Special to the Record-Union.

BERNE, June 15.—The total number of people who lost their lives yesterday by the collapse of the railroad bridge on the Aemichthal Basin, near the town of Basel, placed at 120, with hundreds more of less injured. Another account of the disaster says that fifty-seven bodies have already been recovered, and that forty persons were severely wounded. It is learned that many others are dead whose bodies have not yet been found. The victims were mostly leading citizens of Basel and its neighborhood.

The scenes which were witnessed in Basel to-day when the bodies of the large number of victims were taken there were heartrending. The majority of the victims belonged to the best families of Basel. Several families were practically wiped entirely out of existence by the disaster, the full extent of which is not known even at this time.

Basel is now the scene of bitter desolation and mourning. Nearly every family in the city may be said to have been touched by the calamity, for the families who have not actually lost one of their members have dear friends or acquaintances either among the dead or among those who are mourning the loss of relatives.

Those who are wounded include so many serious injuries that each hour records another death. The doctors to which the physicians give up all hope of saving the patient's life.

Everything the local and municipal authorities can do to help the wounded recover the dead or assist those in distress is being done. Clergymen, priests, and physicians and a large force of troops and firemen, and all the vehicles that are used as ambulances have been dispatched to the scene of the wreck.

The troops and firemen are busily engaged in removing the bodies of the dead and in covering the wounded to their homes or to hospitals.

Physicians and ministers of the gospel are doing noble work in administering to the wounded and comforting the bereaved.

The neighborhood of the collapsed bridge now resembles in many features, after the episodes of a battle and the doing acts in some warlike struggle.

Still more was this the case last night when the river banks were illumined by huge fires, troops and firemen working incessantly, dragging the river for dead, raising the wounded and keeping a guard around the spots where it was not thought advisable to admit the crowds of people who had flocked to the scene from every village in the vicinity.

The work of the soldiers in dragging the river is greatly impeded by the fact that the stream is considerably swollen by the melting snow.

The waters carried away many bodies, and several days' dredging will be required before the soldiers' work will be completed.

That somebody is to blame for the accident nobody doubts, but the people are so taken up with the present and the discussion of the question of blame is postponed for the present from official consideration.

Shortly after the first horror of the crashing of the engines and cars through the bridge and into the swiftly-running stream had died away, the survivors saw a scene which they will never forget—the heart-rending features of the Johnstown disaster. Beneath what remained of broken car-wheels, car-wheels, engines, and other mangled and still quivering heads, bespattered with blood, and brains protruding, arms and legs, and garments of all descriptions, hats and bonnets, umbrellas and parasols, and hands and feet, while floating down the stream were numbers of dead bodies, many of them struggling men, women and children, a few now and then uttering horrible cries.

After the first moment of partial paralysis which followed the revelation of this horror, the survivors did their utmost to rescue those whose lives were in danger. The work of pulling those who remained in the two suspended cars, from the perilous position in which they were placed was one of great danger and difficulty, and resulted in a number of injuries of a serious nature.

In the meanwhile the passengers were dispatched on all sides for medical relief, which was most urgently needed by the hundreds of wounded people, who were crying for help and prayers to God, asking Him to relieve them of their sufferings were most heartrending.

When the relatives of the dead and wounded began to arrive and identify some of the victims, there was another most awful series of incidents. The wildest grief was expressed on all sides, weeping and moaning filled the air, and several people were with difficulty restrained from casting themselves headlong into the stream.

As night drew near, enormous crowds of country people and citizens of Basel gathered around the railway station, and the owner of the military to the utmost to resist the efforts of these people to get a nearer and closer view of the horrors piled beneath the bridge. To such an extent did this desire prevail, that crowds of people imitated soldiers, firemen and railroad men and bivouacked the night in the vicinity of the remains of the broken bridge.

THE BACCARAT SCANDAL. An Excuse Made for the Prince's Action in the Matter. LONDON, June 15.—Stanhope, Secretary of State for War, replying to-day in the Commons, to a question put by William Sumner, a Gladstone Liberal, in regard to the Baccarat scandal, said: "Sir William Gordon Cumming is the chief person who had broken faith, because he did not report the case to his commanding officer. If the offense was committed by any other person it could only have consisted in advising him, and I would not have been bound to have taken him down by the army regulations. Of the three officers concerned, I am sorry to say that I am not subject to the regulations, but two—a Field Marshal, the Prince of Wales, and Lieutenant Berkeley Levett—undoubtedly were the former (the Prince of Wales)," said Stanhope, "while looking back at all the circumstances of the case, saw the error of judgment."

Stanhope added: "In this view of the case I concur, but I should like to have expressed my own personal opinion, that had

any one else suddenly heard that one of his friends who had greatly distinguished himself in the service had been accused, as Sir William Gordon Cumming was, of a certain crime, he hesitated before adopting a course which would immediately and irrevocably blight his whole career. Lieutenant Levett, on the other hand, has written a letter to his commanding officer expressing deep regret that he had not acted in accordance with army regulations. Consequently it is not proposed to take any further action in the matter."

Cobb, member for Rugby, who had announced his intention of questioning Stanhope, did not in view of the Secretary's statement, put the question.

MUST NOT TALK ABOUT IT.

BERLIN, June 15.—The Emperor has refused to be made known informally in the German army that any discussion of the Prince of Wales' affair will be treated as a grave indiscretion, if by officers, and as a case of severe punishment among those of the lower ranks.

Persecution of Jews.

LONDON, June 15.—The German professors, Weyher and Mommsen, accuse German anti-semitism of being the origin of the Russian persecution of the Jews.

Dispatches from Odessa say that many Baptists and Stundists have been banished from Caucasus and deprived of their children. The banishment is being effected in the orthodox faith. It is reported that similar acts have been committed in other parts of the country.

New Brunswick Forest Fires.

ST. JOHN (N. B.), June 15.—There were several showers Saturday and Sunday night, but not sufficient rain fell to extinguish the forest fires which have been raging in various parts of the Province. Considerable destruction to property has occurred within a short distance from this city.

City of Richmond All Right.

LIVERPOOL, June 15.—The Inman Line steamer City of Richmond, from New York, which arrived at Queenstown Sunday morning and reported a fire having broken out in her hold June 9th, reached here this morning.

Bismarck's Health.

BERLIN, June 15.—The illness from which Prince Bismarck is suffering is now said to be rheumatism of the spine. He is confined to his bed and for three days past has been suffering acutely.

A Check to Portuguese Emigration.

LISBON, June 15.—The Minister of the Interior is preparing a bill to prevent Portuguese emigration to America.

Anaconda Copper Mines.

CHICAGO, June 15.—A special dispatch from Butte City, Mont., says that August Belmont, an agent for the Rothschilds, has been instructed to close the mines, which the latter will, in September next, take possession of the great Anaconda copper mines.

The price to be paid is stated at between twenty and twenty-five million dollars.

The purchase by the Rothschilds is said to be for a foreign syndicate.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 15.—Erwin C. Stump, manager of the Hearst estate, one of the owners of the Anaconda mines, said to-day that there was no truth in the report that the mines had been sold to an English syndicate.

A Hot Wave.

NEW YORK, June 15.—To-day is the hottest of the season. At 2 o'clock the thermometer registered 97°. Reports from the west indicate many points in New England, where the thermometer ranged from 82° to 107°, the latter point being reached at Providence, R. I. Vegetation is badly scorched in Connecticut. Reports from all parts of New York State indicate intense heat.

PITTSBURGH, June 15.—The temperature here to-day reached 96°. There were numerous deaths from heat stroke, resulting fatally. The iron mills were compelled to shut down this afternoon.

California World's Fair Appropriation.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 15.—State Controller Colgan has announced that he will refuse to sign the warrants granting \$300,000 to the California World's Fair Commission for a State exhibit. He bases his action on the provision of the State Constitution, which says no money should be appropriated for the benefit of any association or institution not under the exclusive control of the State. He claims that the California World's Fair Commission is not exclusively under State control, but looks to the National Committee for authority. The case will be tested in the courts.

Rumor that the Etruria is Lost.

NEW YORK, June 15.—Considerable alarm was created down-town this evening by a report that the steamship Etruria of the Cunard line had been lost at sea. The New York representatives of the company say that they have no information of an accident, and believe the vessel is still in the harbor of New York for Liverpool Saturday with a large complement of passengers. The origin of the rumor cannot be traced.

Oakland Poolroom Ordinance.

OAKLAND, June 15.—The City Council attempted to pass an ordinance licensing poolrooms to-night over the Mayor's veto. Councilman Wilkins changed his vote and voted to sustain the veto, and the necessary two-thirds was not obtained.

Nicaragua Canal.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 15.—Warner Miller, President of the Nicaragua Canal Company, who is in this city, denies the charges of extravagance made against the officers of the company by B. C. Knight at New York. President Miller says Knight is a discharged employe and is not a stockholder in the company.

A Good Crop.

OAKDALE, June 15.—Harvesting is progressing well and grain is turning out well, both as to quality and quantity. The latter is the best for years. The shipping of wheat will commence all along the line this week.

Sudden Death.

MILTON, June 15.—William Carson, one of the old residents on the Calaveras River, dropped dead this afternoon while fighting a brush fire. He was subject to heart complaint.

Postmasters' Salaries.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Postmasters' salaries have been adjusted as follows: Alameda, \$2,400; Eureka, \$2,200; Riverside, \$2,200; San Diego, \$2,800; Stockton, \$2,700; Woodland, \$2,200.

Superintendent of Immigration.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—H. D. Owen, the newly appointed Superintendent of Immigration, qualified this morning and entered at once on the discharge of his new duties.

Portland's Business.

PORTLAND, June 15.—Clearances, \$104,000; balances, \$94,000.

COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

Chipman's Nomination Rejected by the Board of Control.

SENSATIONAL SHOOTING AFFRAY IN CINCINNATI.

Reports From the Northwestern Part of Indian Territory Say That People Living Along Red River are Suffering Great Destitution on Account of High Waters, the Residents Being Entirely Cut Off From Communication With the Outside World.

Special to the Record-Union.

CHICAGO, June 15.—The Board of Control of the National World's Fair Commission confirmed the appointment of Skiff as Chief of the Mines and Mining Department.

H. C. Ives of St. Louis was confirmed as Chief of the Fine Arts Department.

The surprise of the session was when the question came up on the confirmation of General Chipman of California, nominated by Director-General Davis, and confirmed by the local directory, for Chief of the Horticultural Bureau. He was unanimously rejected on motion of St. Clair of West Virginia, seconded by Commissioner Massey.

RED RIVER FLOOD.

People Along the River Reported to Be Suffering Great Destitution.

ARKANSAS CITY (Ark.), June 15.—A gentleman who has just arrived here from Great County, in the extreme southwestern part of Indian Territory, reports that the Red River and its north fork have been out of their banks for over a week, completely hemming the people in and cutting off all communication with the outside world.

The rainfall has been simply terrible, and the people are suffering everywhere. Over half the wheat crop has been entirely ruined and corn and oats are nearly killed. A cloudburst inundated the town of Frazier, raining every merchant's stock of goods and compelling the inhabitants to flee for their lives. Two persons were drowned in the town and three in the country.

Along Turkey Creek and Salt Fork a dozen or more houses were washed away. Mr. Phillips and his daughter-in-law floating a mile on a portion of their house, and while the water was rising Mrs. Phillips and her little daughter grasped the limbs of a tree and hung there till morning, when they were rescued with a mill, the latter being twenty feet deep near the tree.

The foundations of many houses were washed away and wrecked and dozens everywhere were carried down. Hundreds of people are living out of doors on high land, praying for the floods to recede. The damage done in Greer County alone will exceed \$500,000.

Carcasses of Horses Sold as Beef.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Secretary Rusk heard recently that there were several carcasses in New York engaged in slaughtering horses and shipping the meat to Europe, where it is sold as beef. "I do not know how true this is," said he. "I have just received an investigation and have put two special agents on the case. France is the only country that affords a market for horse-flesh, but if horse-flesh were sold to other European countries and used as beef it would probably have the effect of injuring the sale of our beef in European markets. If such a thing is being done, the duty of the Agricultural Department to discover it and stop it."

Army Orders.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—By direction of the Secretary of War, Captain Thomas M. Woodruff, Fifth Infantry, is relieved from special duty at the headquarters of the Division of the Pacific, to take effect July 1st, and will then proceed to join his company.

Hospital Steward Mahabul Penhoul, now on duty at Fort Grant, Arizona Territory, will proceed to Fort Mason, Cal., to report on his arrival to the commanding officer, to relieve Hospital Steward Robert M. King, and by letter to the commanding general of the Department of California.

Accidents on the Water.

NEW YORK, June 15.—Early this morning a tugboat ran into and sunk the yacht Ennia. Frank Jenkins and William H. Hoban were drowned. A party of eleven were on board the yacht. They had been on a pleasure trip up the Hudson river, returning home when the accident occurred. The pilot of the tug has been arrested.

FOUR DROWNED.

CEBAR PAPETS (La.), June 15.—A D. C. Coyle and C. W. Anderson of this city, and two young ladies living at Rockford were drowned at Rockford last evening by the capsizing of a boat.

Tacoma's Postmaster.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—First Assistant Postmaster-General Whitfield to-day received a letter from Senator Allen of Washington concerning the Postmaster of Tacoma, against whom charges of incompetency have been made. The Senator said that in addition to the charges included high indorsements of the Postmaster's administration from numerous and prominent citizens. Mr. Whitfield said that unless some more serious charges were made and proven there would be no change made at Tacoma.

Sensational Shooting Affray.

CINCINNATI, June 15.—A sensational shooting affair took place this afternoon in a first establishment between Charles W. White, a well-known attorney, and J. P. Slough, his son-in-law. Slough and his wife had separated, and he has made charges against her which her father resents, and when they met both drew revolvers. Ten shots were fired. White was fatally injured and Slough slightly wounded in the hand.

Provisions Exported.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—A Treasury statement of the exports of the principal articles of domestic provisions for May issued to-day show that there was exported from the port of San Francisco during last month in dairy products, \$19,132, as against \$12,800 for a corresponding month last year, a gain of \$6,332. The beef and hog products were \$17,480; for May 1890, \$15,750, a gain of \$1,730.

Postal Service Changes.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The special service from Harrison, Cal., to Berkeley, San Mateo County, has been discontinued. A star service is established from Olay to Siemprevia, Cal., with a round trip three times weekly by schedule, not exceeding three hours each way.

Pension Awards.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—California pensions: Nicholas A. Philthover, Isaac

M. Blackley, William H. Lawrence, Clinton B. Porter, George F. Lovens, Edward H. Brown, Leola Schull, Jesse Cox, Mary Ann Silverman.

The Itata Sails.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—An official cablegram from Admiral McCann, at Iquique, Chile, to the Secretary of the Navy, announces that the Itata sailed, under convoy of the Charleston, Saturday night for San Diego, Cal. It is not yet ascertained whether the Itata's machinery is in bad shape, so that it is expected a full month will be occupied in the homeward trip.

Pleaded Guilty of Bribery.

KANSAS CITY, June 15.—Information has just been received that C. H. Edmondson, who was indicted last fall by Grand Jury at Hannibal for the bribery case, pleaded guilty to the charge of bribery to two charges and was fined \$200 and costs. The case is one of unusual interest, as it is the first of the kind that has been fully prosecuted.

Killed His Grandmother.

UNIONTOWN (Pa.), June 15.—Last night Alex. Boyd, storekeeper at the coke works, was awakened by a noise at the door, and, going through the panel, killing his aged grandmother, who was aged 85. This is his story. As he bears a bad reputation, the authorities doubt it, and have placed him under arrest.

Cattle on the Cherokee Strip.

ARKANSAS CITY, June 15.—United States Inspector Dean is in possession of information that there are 25,000 head of cattle on the Cherokee strip whence cattle are being driven to promote the settlement of the questions pending between the two governments touching their respective rights in Behring Sea, the following agreement is made without prejudice to the rights or claims of either party:

"The President of the United States Government will prohibit, until May next, seal-killing in that part of Behring Sea lying eastward of the line of demarcation described in Article I. of the Treaty of 1867, between the United States and Russia, and will promptly use its best efforts to insure the observance of this prohibition by United States citizens and vessels.

"The President of the United States Government will prohibit seal-killing for the same period in the same part of Behring Sea and on the shores and islands thereof, in the property of the United States, in excess of 7,500, to be taken on the islands for the benefit and care of the natives, and will promptly use its best efforts to insure the observance of this prohibition by United States citizens and vessels.

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