THE RECORD-UNION.

VOLUME LXXXI.--NO. 157. SACRAMENTO, MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24, 1891. WHOLE NO. 15,555.

BLOODY BATTLE.

The Insurgents Attack Balmaceda's Forces.

FIGHTING NEAR VALPARAISO.

Thousands Killed and Wounded in the First Engagement.

EVERY AVAILABLE MAN IN ARMS.

Constant Stream of Wounded Being Brought Into the City.

NOTHING KNOWN AS TO WHICH HAS THE ADVANTAGE.

All the Strength of the Rebels Centered Around Valparaiso—Should the Insurgents Succeed in Capturing the City, It Will Mean the Collapse of Balmaceda's Forces — Admiral Brown in Readiness to Protect American Subjects.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

VALPARAISO, Aug. 23. — Within the past few hours it has been apparent that a battle which may decide the fate of Chile would soon be fought, and the question as to who shall govern the republic decided. At first it was thought that the insurgents would march rapidly southward to this city, which is only twenty miles from Quintero Bay, while the fleet would proceed also to Valparaiso, and a combined sea and land attack would be made, but early yesterday morning, and from the character of the work, it was soon evident that Balmaceda intended to take the initiative and give battle to the enemy outside the city. Regiment after regiment started for the north, until every available man of the President's force had left the city except soldiers enough to man the forts and prevent any successful attempt to carry the city by the hostile fleet and enough police to prevent the possibility of a riot.

The land telegraph lines between Santiago and Valparaiso were cut on August 20th, it is supposed on the line of the railroad running northward from Valparaiso to Santiago. The Government is taking every possible precaution to prevent any news from leaving here.

FINAL DESPERATE STRUGGLE.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—The *Herald* this morning prints a Valparaiso (Chile) dispatch, as follows: Balmaceda and the Junta de Gobierno are clinched in a final desperate struggle for the mastery of the Republic of Chile. The battle-ground is in full view of Valparaiso. It has been raging three days.

The first engagement was at the mouth of the Aconcagua on Friday, and resulted in a reverse to the Government. A final test of strength is now being made at Vina del Mar Besch, five miles from Valparaiso.

Thursday news came that an army of 800 rebels landed at Quainlero Bay. Balmaceda was taken by surprise, but soon got his troops to the front to prevent, if possible, the rebels crossing the Aconcagua River. Six insurgent warships anchored in Cosnon Bay, at the mouth of the river, and the rebels attempted crossing under cover of ships' guns. The battle lasted nearly all day.

The insurgent artillery, aided by guns from the ships, was too much for the Government troops, and they were forced to retire, which they did in good order. Less than 20,000 troops were engaged, and nearly 3,000 were killed and wounded.

The commanding General of the Government troops chose a strong position on the beach at Del Mar as his second line of defense, and leaving force enough in front of the enemy to check his progress somewhat, took his place there yesterday and went to work to strengthen it as much as possible.

The insurgents steadily pushed their way forward, driving the comparatively small Government forces before them. It was a constant skirmish for fifteen miles over a broken country. At every point of vantage the Balmacedans made a stand, and while constantly forced to give way before superior numbers, they retarded the advance and gave the main army a chance to better prepare itself for a decisive fight.

Late in the evening the attacking party arrived in front of Balmaceda's main line of defense. It was then too late to give battle.

In the meantime Balmaceda, himself in command, went to the front with over 30,000 available men, while the insurgents had only about 7,000. At the back of the Government line is Fort Callas, whose heavy guns done good work in to-day's battle, raking the army by land and preventing the insurgent fleet from doing anything but long-range firing. The warships sent all available men with rapid-fire guns to aid the land forces in the attack on Balmaceda's position.

Great excitement prevails in the city. Every one left here is anxiously watching the progress of the battle. A heavy pall of smoke hangs like a cloud over the city. The most powerful glass cannot penetrate it, and only occasionally can the troops' movements be even guessed. There is a constant stream of wounded being brought into the city from the front, and a temporary hospital is being fitted up wherever possible. The medical force of the city has its hands full, and all the women have volunteered as nurses.

From the wounded only the most fragmentary information as to the progress of the fight can be obtained, and it is utterly impossible now to form any judgment as to which side is getting the better of it.

Admiral Brown, commanding the American fleet, and other foreign commanders have combined to protect the lives and property of foreign citizens.

Should the revolutionists succeed in defeating or repulsing the Government troops in the present struggle they have to cross a small creek which separates the beach from the village of Vina del Mar, and on taking possession of the village would be in the rear of Fort Callao. With a fleet on one side, the fort and insurgents on the other, it would be untenable. Thus the northern defense of Valparaiso would fall, making the work of capturing the city much easier.

It is the universal believe that Valparaiso will be bombarded by the fleet should Balmaceda fail, and the victorious army would make a land attack. If, on the other hand, Balmaceda gains a victory, the fleet will cover the retreat of the insurgents, and, if necessary, re-embark the troops.

All the Government officials here are confident that Balmaceda will drive the insurgents back, and, if he does not entirely destroy them, compel the remnant to re-embark in transports and return to the North.

The fall of Valparaiso would mean a practical collapse of Balmaceda's power. The outside forces are now engaged. There are no forces to oppose the march of the insurgents to Santiago, and they would, with that city as a base of operations, soon overrun all the southern provinces.

On the other hand, the defeat of the insurgents would mean a result little less than decisive, for the rebels have put forth all the strength they have, and while Balmaceda would not be able to follow up the victory and take possession of Iquique and other northern ports until the arrival of the new warships, it is hardly likely that the Junta could recover from a crushing defeat on Del Mar.

STRUCK A HURRICANE.

Ocean Steamers Encounter Rough Weather on the Atlantic.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The steamer Loch Lomond from Montreal, which has arrived at Dundee, experienced a hurricane on the voyage. The weather was so severe that the men having charge of the cattle on board were unable to approach them for two days. Seventy-seven head of cattle were lost, and scarcely one head escaped injury. There was a sickening scene as the vessel was discharging her cargo, a number of butchers being busily engaged for several hours in killing cattle, both aboard the steamer and in the quay.

The British steamer Dehomyer, which had on board a consignment of powder, was completely shattered by an explosion. She beached at Vigo, where she was burned. The crew was saved.

A TERRIBLE CRIME.

A Young Man Murders His Father Under Horrible Circumstances.

PARIS, Aug. 23.—A young man named Bacon, of American extraction, to-day murdered his father under horrible circumstances. The young man became engaged in a quarrel with his father, and pulling out a bowie-knife, made a furious atttack upon him, ripping open his abdomen and stabbing him in various parts of the body. He continued his fiendish work even after the old man had fallen, and finally dispatched him by cutting his throat. Bacon was arrested. He refused to give his motive for the awful deed.

SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS.

Many People in Russia Starving to Death.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The stories of misery received from Russia are almost incredible. In Be ssarabia parents are actually offering their children for sale in order to buy food, and dealers at Constantinople have purchased a considerable number of female children. Many deaths have been caused through the famine, and families may be found actually perishing from hunger and huddling together in their common misery.

DISTRICT FAIR MEETINGS.

A LARGE CROWD AT THE LAST DAY'S RACES AT NAPA.

Wanda Defeats Silas Skinner in Three Straight Heats—Races at Red Bluff.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

NAPA, Aug. 23.—A large crowd attended the races yesterday. First came a running race between local horses. It was declared off after the second heat, because of suspected crookedness.

The second race, 2:21 class, for a purse of $1,000, was betwen Guide, Una Wilkes, Lynette and Flora M. Flora M. took the first heat in 2:22¼, Guide the second on 2:20½, Una Wilkes the third, fourth and fifth, in 2:20½—2:24½—2:22. Guide got second money.

The principal event of the day was the match race for $1,000 and a side purse of $500 between DeTurk's Silas Skinner, driven by McGraw, and Burke's Wanda, driven by Hickok.

The first heat was a pretty race, neither animal making a skip or break. Wanda outfooted the black stallion a little, however, winning by half a length. Time, 2:19½.

The second heat was a repetition of the first heat, except that Skinner made one disastrous break, and Wanda won handily. Time, 2:20.

The third heat was a horse race all the way round, Skinner was out for blood, but could not quite head the mare, who beat him by a neck only. Time. 2:18¾. The pair went to the half in 1:08½.

The last race was for a special purse of $500 between Setting Sun, Maud Dee, Lizzie F., Alcona, Jr. and Oaknut. Setting Sun won the first heat. Time, 2:30. Lizzie F. won the second, third and fourth heats. Time, 2:26½—2:28½—2:26¾.

AT RED BLUFF.

RED BLUFF, Aug. 23.—Saturday was the last day of the races and brought out a large crowd at the park. The boys, old sports and hayseeds were hungry for big pools.

In the first race, a three-quarters of a mile dash for two-year-olds, Myrtle, Kyrene and McGinty started. Pools were stiff for Kyrene, who won in 1:19.

Second race, trotting, 2:26 class, Vidette, Dinah, Sargent and McKinney started. Vidette won. Five heats. Time, 2:29—2:27½—2:28½—2:31—2:26.

Third race, pacing, 2:20 class, $300 purse, Belle Button, Our Dick and Tom Ryder were to the front. It was a red-hot race from the start to the close. Our Dick was the favorite, winning the race and first money, Time, 2:22½—2:21—2:21—2:25½—2:26.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT.

A Large Business Building in New York Collapses.

MANY PEOPLE BURIED BENEATH THE RUINS.

Not Less Than Fifty Persons Believed to Have Lost Their Lives—Sixteen Bodies Already Recovered, Many Burned so Badly That They Could Not be Identified.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—A most disastrous accident occurred yesterday afternoon in Park place, between Greenwich street and College place. At the time of the accident the street was filled with people and heavily-laden wagons and trucks.

A small, vaporish cloud was seen to burst from the ground floors of Nos. 70, 72 and 74 Park place, followed by a dull, sullen roar. This was followed immediately by an eruption, and a mass of brick, stone and timber was hurled thirty feet in the air. Then the front walls of the building Nos. 70 to 74 fell, crashing into the street, leaving not the slightest semblance of what had been there three seconds before, an apparently strong and well-constructed building. The mass of fallen brick and timber half filled the street.

Fire was now seen to break out at No. 68. Owing to the blocked condition of all the neighboring streets, the fire department could not get to the buildings for several minutes. Finally one small stream from a hydrant was played on the side next to No. 68. Soon after other engines arrived, and all directed their efforts toward the one side of the building. Suddenly flames burst from the third, fourth and fifth stories of that part of the building on Park place, next to Greenwich street, occupied by Lindsay's type foundry. The floor was saturated with oil, which fed the flames generously. A murmur ran through the throng as they thought of the fate of the occupants of the ruined and burned part of the building. When a full force of firemen at last got to work they soon checked the flames.

Horrible conjectures now began to be circulated regarding the probable number of injured in the ruins, workmen, clerks and others of the neighborhood generally getting their lunch about the hour the accident happened. On the ground floor of 74 there was a cheap restaurant, in which it was thought there were about 25 persons when the accident happened. In the upper portion of the building there was a large number of persons employed. It is not known how many were employed in the building, but it was thought probable that most of those employed there were in the building at the time of the accident.

For two hours the only subject of inquiry by those who thronged the streets was as to how many were killed or injured. It was fully two hours before the fire could be sufficiently subdued to allow the firemen to make the least effort to extricate the dead and wounded from the ruins.

As soon as the flames were under control the work of recovering the bodies of the unfortunate persons buried beneath the ruins began. The firemen worked like fiends. With the aid of hastily placed electric lights the search in the debris of the disaster was kept up all of last night. A large force was put at work. Two fire engines were kept at work all night playing upon the heated brick and stone. Those who had friends supposed to be in the ruins formed a large part of the crowd that thronged outside the police line. At intervals mangled and charred bodies were taken from the ruins and placed in the dead wagon that stood constantly near. Up to 9 o'clock this morning fourteen bodies had been recovered. At 1:30 the bodies of two more men burned beyond recognition were removed. Evening came on and a heavy downpour of rain set in, which, with slight breaks, continued throughout the night. The workmen were withdrawn from their work and the crowds were scattered, the policemen being left to watch the ruins.

A complete list of the identified dead up to 10 P. M. is as follows: Leonard B. Cole, John Gibbs, Sarah Ann Haegbney. Michael Slattery, A. B. Peterson, George Low, Justan Sickler, Jacob Herderich, Otto Walser, Charles Brietner, Frank Hatch. Five bodies, all of men, have not yet been recognized.

It is thought to-night that not less than fifty were killed in the disaster. In the morning means will be provided to remove the heavy iron girders and machinery, which must be taken from the ruins before any more effective progress can be made in clearing away the debris and getting out the remainder of the bodies of those who perished.

Late to-night two more identifications were made, as follows: Gustav Steiner and Abraham Berschopki.

There are many theories as to the cause of the disaster. Chief Reilly, of the fire department, was of the opinion that a boiler had exploded. Another believed that a boiler in the restaurant had exploded and caused the disaster. Then it was said that some chemicals exploded in the drug store. The most plausible theory, however, is that the wreck was caused by the shaky condition of the building and the vibration of the heavy presses running in the lithographing and printing establishments on the upper floor. It is generally admitted that there was an explosion of some kind. But the collapse is accounted for in no other way than the one mentioned.

Inspector Williams, who has been at the scene of the disaster almost from the first moment, said to-night in regard to the probable cause: "There was no explosion in that building, because there was nothing to explode. The accident was the result of a weak structure and an incessant vibration of the heavy presses."

Many of the witnesses who saw the crash say the building slowly bulged out in the middle until it had formed a noticeable curve from the roof to the ground and then fell.

CALIFORNIA FRUITS.

Large Quantity Disposed of in the East Saturday.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23. — The Porter Brothers Company sold yesterday at auction, for account of California Fruit Union shippers, Tokay grapes, $2 10@2 40; Muscats, $1 05@2; Chasselas, $1@1 20; Black Prince, 75c; Rose de Peru, $1 10; Red Tramanier grapes, $1 70; Bartletts, $1 55@1 75; Buerre Hardy pears, $1 50; peaches, 75@85c; Clings, 90c@$1; egg plums, 90c; Gros prunes 65@70c.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—The Earl Fruit Company sold at auction yesterday California fruit at the following prices: Buerre Hardy pears, $1 45; Bartlett pears, $1 55 to $1 80; Gros prunes, 62c to 90c; Silver prunes, 62c to 80c; Washington, Columbia, Bradshaw and Purple Duane plums, 50c to 70c; Egg plums, 70c to 90c; Golden Cling peaches, $1 20; Early Crawford, 80c to 85c; Susquehanna peaches, 85c to $1; Centennial peaches, $1 25; Golden Cling peaches, $1 20; German prunes, 85c to 90c; Rose de Peru grapes, $1; Black Malvoise grapes, 85c; Muscat grapes, 75c to $1 75.

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 23.—The Porter Brothers Company, agents for the California Fruit Union, sold on Saturday three carloads of California fruit, realizing for Bartlett pears, $2@2 25; peaches, 75c@$1; plums, $1@1 25; Muscats, $1 75@2.

ST. PAUL, Aug. 23.—B. Presley & Co., agents for the California Fruit Union, sold California peaches at 55c@$1; plums, $1@1 50; pears, $2@2 25.

OMAHA, Aug. 23.—The Porter Brothers Company, agents for the California Fruit Union, sold two carloads of California fruit Saturday. Bartlett pears brought $1 50@1 75; peaches, 75@90c; plums, 50c@$1.

BOSTON, Aug. 23.—Blake & Ripley, agents for the California Fruit Union, realized for Bartlett pears an average of $1 50; Crawford peaches, $1 70; Columbia plums, $1 62; Gros prunes, $1 50.

SUICIDE.

A Minneapolis Citizen's Body Found Floating in a River.

ST. PAUL, Aug. 23.—On Friday night the body of a well-dressed man was found floating in the river near this city. This afternoon the remains were identified as those of George J. Osborne, Superintendent of the Milwaukee Company's elevators at Minneapolis, who mysteriously disappeared a week ago. Two ten-pound stones were found in the pockets of his coat, and it is thought he suicided. It is also hinted he lost money during the recent wheat flurry, although there are no grounds for believing he did not leave his affairs in perfect order.

A Circus Comes to Grief.

SPRINGFIELD (Mass.), Aug. 23.—Harper Brothers' circus, billed for two performances at Thompsonville on Saturday, came to grief in the evening. The performers struck about 8 o'clock for back wages. It was announced that there would be no performance, and the money would be refunded. The crowd became excited, cut the guy ropes, set the tent on fire, smashed the seats and wagons, cut up the harness, and great pieces were cut out of the tent. In all about $2,500 damage was done. H. N. Harper, the manager, attempted to refund the money, but when the crowd became unruly he took the money and came here, where he was arrested later in the night for obtaining money under false pretenses.

The Speakership.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—A member of Tammany, who is interested in the Speakership, was in Washington to-day, and said that the New York delegation will be divided as follows: One for Mills, six for McMillan and the rest of the twenty-three for Crisp. The unit rule will be followed, he says, and therefore Crisp will get the votes of the entire delegation, except one for Mills, Mr. Tracy, who will vote for the Texan regardless of what the rest do.

Did Not Put in an Appearance.

LIMA (Ohio), Aug. 23.—The people of Columbus were out en masse last night to meet the north-bound train on the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad, on which it was expected that James Roberts, arrested for the Columbus Grove murder and robbery, would be a passenger. Threats of lynching were freely made, but Roberts did not arrive. The prisoner's father says he will prove an alibi for his son.

Fatally Shot by Robbers.

MEMPHIS, Aug. 23.—Last night a band of armed negroes entered Henry Joel's store, took what money he had about him, and then told him to open the safe. He was so frightened that he could not remember the combination, and the negroes fatally shot him. The murderers escaped.

A Lunatic Kills His Mother.

COLUMBUS (O.), Aug. 23.—Charles King, a mild-mannered patient at the Insane Asylum, secured permission to visit his mother at Circleville. To-day while she was preparing a meal he shot her through the body, killing her instantly. He also tried to kill an aunt, Mrs. Davenport. He labored under the delusion that his mother caused his incarceration in the asylum.

A Cattle-Buyer Killed.

FORT WORTH (Tex.), Aug. 23.—In the corridor of the Pickwick Hotel this afternoon, Lew Campbell, a Fort Worth commission merchant, fatally shot A. Dallibone, a Shreveport cattle-buyer. Campbell asserts that the killing was in self-defense. The trouble grew out of business investments.

Shot Dead By Her Brother.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—Mrs. Amelia Behrwald was shot dead by her brother, Albert Zinki, last night at the christening of her child. The bullet was intended for her husband, with whom Zinkie had a quarrel, the outgrowth of a drunken brawl.

AFTER THE COUNT.

YOUNG MOSBY REPLIES IN CAUSTIC TERMS TO MITKIEWICZ.

Retracts Unreservedly the Letter of Apology—The Count Referred to as an Imposter.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Beverly C. Mosby, son of Colonel John S. Mosby of San Francisco, who a couple of weeks ago shot at Count Mitkiewicz, replied this evening to Mitkiewicz's strictures upon himself in very caustic terms.

"It is perhaps foolish to make a reply," said he, "to the strictures of this Russian adventurer. He is known the world over as an infamous imposter, and the version which he ventures of the difficulty that I have had with him is in keeping with his reputation. I will not, however, be quiet longer. After I have had occasion to shoot at the menacing villain a hypothetical apology was elicited from me through my desire to avoid publicity, not from fear of prosecution, which he threatened. Despite efforts to the contrary, the newspapers got hold of the matter. I regret that my letter was kept back. The apology which it conveyed I retract unreservedly, so far as it concerns Mitkiewicz himself. It was based upon the assumption stated therein which I find without truth.

"In furtherance of his plots to defraud people as to so-called concessions from China, he would have thrust ignominy on a family which had never harmed him or his. Mitkiewicz's statements to the press are a tissue of malignant falsehoods. I unearthed the record of Miller myself. He had never breathed a word to me which conveyed the slightest intimation of his past character, though it seems positively that he had been aware of it for months. There was no separation between them until after I returned from Pittsburg two weeks ago.

"He declares that he received my thanks for his conduct. That is a miserable falsehood, for what in the name of heaven had I to thank him? Lastly, Mitkiewicz expressed belief that my mind is not well balanced. Himself as a standard, he is right. I have never been a rogue. He is absolutely accurate if these be used as the scales with which his lordship weighs human morals."

WELCOMED NEWS.

Lieutenant Finley Says the Warm Wave is Broken.

COOLER WEATHER MAY NOW BE DEPENDED UPON.

Two Residences and a Church Edifice at Gridley Destroyed by Fire—An Adventuress at Tacoma Succeeds in Doing up a Farmer to the Tune of Five Thousand Dollars.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—The Signal Service bulletin says: The cyclonic disturbance of Friday has moved rapidly eastward into British Columbia, causing a decided fall in the barometer throughout the Pacific Coast States. The warm wave is broken throughout California. There has been a decided fall in the temperature along the coast, attended with a heavy fog from Monterey northward. The fall in the temperature at San Francisco has been 32° since the maximum of yesterday. In Southeastern California the warm wave has remained steady throughout the day, but will disappear to-night. Fog and clouds will be heavy along the California coast for the next forty-eight hours, and the temperature throughout the State will continue to fall for the next two days. Local rains will begin again shortly in Southwestern California.

PETALUMA, Aug. 23.—Yesterday and to-day were the two hottest days of the season. Yesterday the thermometer was 106° and to-day 102°.

MODESTO, Aug. 23.—To-day was the hottest within the recollection of the oldest inhabitants. The barometer ranged from 100° to 110° in the shade.

DOWNIEVILLE, Aug. 23.—Yesterday was the hottest day of the season. The mercury was 98° in the shade at 3:30 in the afternoon.

SLEEK ADVENTURESS.

A Tenderfoot Buncoed Out of Five Thousand Dollars.

TACOMA, Aug. 23.—John Hoff, a farmer from the East who recently located here, wishes he had never met Miss Amy Bowen, or Mrs. H. P. Williams, as she is otherwise known. She pretended to be an honest girl whom circumstances had forced to work in a variety theater, and played the game so successfully that Hoff proposed marriage. She refused and would not listen to the proposition until she had paid an alleged balance of $5,000 on a piece of property. She showed Hoff a bank-book with $20,000 to her credit. He laid the necessary $5,000 at her feet and she promised to marry him next day.

Hoff sought her everywhere for several days before he confided to the police. A detective is now chasing Amy Bowen through Canada. Her real name is Mrs. H. P. Williams, and the strange feature is that her husband is a business man here, and did not know anything about the case till his wife left for Ottawa. The $5,000 was all the money Hoff had.

SALTON LAKE.

The Water Now Said to be Receding.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—The engineers of the Southern Pacific Company have been investigating the desert sea at Salton, and reports will be published tomorrow. The report says, in part: The present lake covers a surface of about 156 square miles. Two channels enter it, one known as New River and the other as Broken Arroyo. The latter was closed a number of years ago by sand, but the high floods in February, 1891, washed it out and through it most of the water entered the desert. The first rush of water amounted to 16,000 cubic feet of water per second, and commenced the latter part of June. Now it is only 3,000. Since the 15th of July this flow was further balanced by evaporation, etc., and the water in the lake did not rise and it is now receding. It will probably be gone before next year's floods appear, but a lake will be formed every year until the channel is again closed by sand.

FORGER ARRESTED.

A Montana Criminal Run Down at Colfax.

AUBURN, Aug. 23.—A man who registered under the name of W. A. Wilcox has been rusticating in Auburn as a guest at Freeman's Hotel for nearly a month. About a week ago he left and went to Colfax. Monday an officer from Montana came here inquiring for him. On learning that he had gone to Colfax, the officer went there, and on Tuesday he placed the man Wilcox under arrest and left with him for San Francisco, intending to return by way of Portland and the Northern Pacific. It turns out that he is being taken back to answer for a $9,000 forgery which he had committed against a Montana bank in which he was formerly an officer.

CALLED TO HIS MAKER.

Death of Rudolph Hochkofler, Austro-Hungarian Consul.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—Rudolph Hochkofler, Austro-Hungarian Consul in this city, died this morning from valvular disease of the heart, from which he has suffered for the past six months. Hochkofler was born in Trieste, Austria, and when a young man emigrated to Valparaiso, where he learned the coffee trade. In 1850 he came to San Francisco, and has been engaged in merchandise business ever since. He was Austrian Consul from early in the sixties till 1870, when he resigned, but a few years after accepted the place again, and held it till his death. In the interval between these dates he was Consul for Chile. He leaves two daughters, both married.

Behring Sea Commissioners.

TACOMA, Aug. 23.—Professor J. C. Mendenhall and C. H. Merriam, United States Behring Sea Commissioners, arrived here last night from Alaska on the United States steamship Albatross. In an interview Professor Mendenhall stated that he had a successful voyage, but refused to make any statement in regard to the conclusions reached or the reports to be made to the Government. The Albatross left San Francisco July 16th, and arrived at Ounalaska on July 25th. There the transport Danube, with the British Commissioners, was found. The St. George and St. Paul Islands and the Univak rookeries were carefully examined by all the Commissioners. The Albatross started south from Ounalaska August 13th, having spent two weeks in investigating the condition of the seals.

A Chinaman Murdered.

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 23.—A Chinaman named Ah Ling was found dead this morning on the broad-gauge railroad three miles north of here, at a point 200 yards from where the railroad is crossed by the Gish Road. The Chinaman was found lying in a ditch near the track, with a gaping knife-wound in the center of his chest, while on top of his head were two groups of queer-looking wounds. These were three-cornered holes, as sharply defined as could have been cut with a knife. It is supposed that the Chinaman was killed and robbed by tramps or highbinders from Chinatown.

Her Injuries Proved Fatal.

PASADENA, Aug. 23.—Miss Marcia J. French, aged 56, died last night from the result of injuries received during the morning while lighting the kitchen fire with a bunch of dry grass. Her clothing caught fire and she rushed into the yard screaming loudly for help. A neighbor extinguished the flames with a garden hose. The skin on the upper portion of her body was almost entirely destroyed. The Coroner's inquest this morning rendered a verdict of accidental death.

Weather Crop Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The weekly weather crop bulletin says in part:

Oregon—Harvesting is delayed by rain. An excellent wheat yield is reported. Fruit is yielding fairly well. Hop lice is doing considerable damage.

California—Hop picking is progressing. The yield is better than anticipated. Wheat is about of average yield. The fruit crop is large and excellent. The raisin crop in Southern California is large.

A Sealing Schooner Returns.

VICTORIA (B. C.), Aug. 23.—The sealing schooner W. P. Sayward returned from Behring Sea yesterday with 800 skins. The Sayward is the first vessel of the season to return to port without being ordered to leave the sea. Her Captain says the weather was fine for sealing. Seals were plentiful and he could have doubled his catch, but the Indian crew became afraid of seizure and insisted on returning home.

Crushed to Death.

SUTTER CREEK, Aug. 23.—John Zaro, a miner, while working in the face of the open cut of the Hector gold mine, was killed this morning. After blasting, he was working the loose rock out with a crowbar, when a piece above him fell, striking him on the head and killing him instantly. The deceased was 23 years old, and a native of Austria.

Struck by a Train.

VICTORIA (B. C.), Aug. 23.—A man named Wm. Tell was probably fatally injured on the Northeastern Railway track yesterday. Tell was lying asleep on the track when the south-bound passenger train came along. It was too late to stop the train when the engineer saw Tell, and he was struck by the pilot of the engine. He was brought to this city and placed in the hospital.

A Woman Was the Cause.

SUSANVILLE, Aug. 23.—Last night Amos R. Blake shot James Armstrong and William Jones at Secret Valley, thirty miles from here. A woman was the cause. Armstrong was shot in the abdomen and Jones in the hip. Jones hit Blake on the head and fractured his skull. Armstrong's recovery is doubtful. Blake and Jones will probably die.

Disastrous Fire at Gridley.

GRIDLEY, Aug. 23.—Gridley was visited by a disastrous fire to-day, destroying the residences of Dr. Todd and J. F. Rhotens, with outbuildings attached, and the new Presbyterian Church. The cause of the fire is unknown. It started in Rhotens' house. The loss will probably reach $10,000. The amounts of insurance have not yet been ascertained.

A Bather Drowned.

ANAHEIM, Aug. 23.—While bathing at Anaheim Landing this afternoon Kelley Good, who lives at Centralia, near here, was taken out by an undertow and drowned. A boat went to the rescue, but could not reach him. At dark the body had not been recovered. The parents are heartbroken, and many friends are filled with sorrow.

A Miner Killed.

SAN ANDREAS, Aug. 23.—This morning at Angel's Camp John Doubt fell 160 feet in the Utica mine shaft and was instantly killed.

NAME THE FASTEST BOAT.

SWEEPING CHALLENGE ISSUED TO UNCLE SAM.

Norman L. Munro Wishes to Match His Steam Launch Norwood Against Any Vessel.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Last Wednesday Norman L. Munro's much-talked of steam launch Norwood made a record of fourteen miles down the bay in thirty-two minutes. This is at the rate of 26.28 statute miles, or 22.82 knots an hour. While the Norwood is undoubtedly the fastest steam launch in the world, the *Tribune* made the statement that she was not as fast as some of the torpedo boats. Munro took exception to this statement, and in a dispatch from Long Branch said:

"Kindly name the fastest American torpedo boat. I am quite sure Uncle Sam will consent to a contest of speed between the Norwood and the fastest. I am of the opinion that no steamboat in this or any other country can outspeed the Norwood over a ten or twenty-mile course through smooth water."

In reply, the *Tribune* makes a statement that the navy possesses only two torpedo boats, the Stiletto and Cushing, and adds that the Stiletto had a speed of only 18.22 knots at the speed trial of three hours duration on March 27, 1890, with a full outfit of equipment and at her deepest displacement of 42.3 feet. The Cushing made a mean speed of 22.52 knots. It is a matter of record that her maximum speed is above 24 knots. Although of greater length and deeper draught, the Cushing made a mean speed of only .30 of a knot less on a three hours' run than the Norwood made on a thirty-two minutes' run. But it is not at all likely that Uncle Sam will consent to test speed between the Cushing and the Norwood, as navy vessels are not built for racing. Attention is also called to the fact that in the Spanish, Russian, Turkish and English navies there are torpedo boats with an average speed of 19½ to 27.4 knots per hour.

Reaping the Reward of Their Folly.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 23.—A *Picayune* Dallas, Tex., special says: A dispatch from Austin says that the cotton rates proposed by the Texas Railroad Commission will have the effect of turning cotton and other trade from Galveston to New Orleans. In respect to the practicability of the change the consensus of unprejudiced opinion is that New Orleans possesses a manifold advantage over Galveston for handling ocean freight. This is the direct result of the Texas Railway Commission. It and the Texas alien land law were both gotten through the last Legislature by the instrumentality of the Farmers' Alliance. Now the hurtful effects of both are being felt.

FEARFUL CLOUDBURST.

Water Pours Down in Torrents for Over an Hour.

THE STREETS OF POTTSVILLE, PA., TURNED INTO RIVERS.

Fully Four Hundred Families Driven to the Upper Stories of Their Homes for Safety—Cellars and Kitchens Flooded With Water—Frightful Thunder and Lightning Accompany the Storm.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

POTTSVILLE (Pa.), Aug. 23.—A fearful clouldburst broke over Pottsville this afternoon and water poured down in torrents for over an hour. The thunder and lightning was frightful. The culverts were unable to carry all the water and some burst and portions of the town were flooded. Fully 400 families were driven to the upper stories of their homes, and their cellars and kitchens are filled with water and slimy mud. Railroad and Coal streets were turned into rivers, three and four feet deep, the raging torrents carrying all sorts of goods and debris down to the Schuylkill River. The cars on the Reading and Pennsylvania Railroads were moved by the flood and a passenger train on each road blocked at St. Clair by the washing down of coal on the tracks. A silk mill and other large buildings were flooded and fire engines were put to work pumping out the cellars. The damage is estimated at over $100,000.

Reports from Minersville, St. Clair, Port Carbon, Schuylkill, Haven, Girardsville and Mahoney Plane tell the same story of devastation and damage by the rain and flood.

THE OBDAM INCIDENT.

Eye-Witnesses Tell the Story of the Shooting of Blum.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Two firemen of the Obdam, who were eye-witnesses of the shooting of Fireman Duzen, or as they say his name was Blum, to-day told the story of the occurrence. "There were only three firemen left who saw the shooting. Blum was sick. He went to the forecastle and sat down. Chief Engineer Bolton came to him and asked him if he would not go to work. Blum replied that he was sick, and could not work. Chief Bolton told him that he could go to the hospital. Blum said he did not want to go to the hospital, but when he felt better would work again.

"The Captain came to see Blum. The latter was sitting with his elbow on a table, his head resting in his hand. The Captain asked him the reason he did not want to go to the hospital. Blum answered, 'As soon as I feel better I will go back to work again.' 'Well,' said Captain Bakker, 'you must go to the hospital.' Blum spoke up, 'I won't go to the hospital. I will go to work as soon as I am better.'

"As soon as Blum finished his sentence Captain Bakker whipped out a revolver, and, pointing it at Blum, said: 'In the name of the King,' and fired. After the shot struck him, Blum cried, 'Lord God, you hit me.' The Captain said, 'You need not look so bad, its only loose shot.' Chief Engineer Bolton and the doctor of the ship took Blum to the hospital. The shooting occurred about Sunday night in the forecastle."

THE FUTURITY STAKE.

Colts and Fillies Which are Eligible to Start.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—It is calculated that the Futurity stake, to be run next Saturday at Sheepshead Bay, will be worth $75,000. The following colts and fillies have not been declared out, and are eligible to start: His Highness, Merry Monarch, Yorkville Belle, Victory, Sid Matthew, Tammany, Bashford, Georgia, Dagonet, Bracelet, Absconder, Lamplighter, Pickpocket, Arnold, Hamilton, Nettie B., Kalula colt, Lew Weir, Colonel Clay, Transit, Rhoda colt, Mars, The Pepper, Lord Motley, Anna B., Wah Jim, Vestibule, Greenwich, Annie Queen, Salonica, St. Argentine, La Dansuese, Zorling, Tremont, Fidelio, Count, Manhanset, Silver Fox, Happenny, Glansor, Maid of Athol, Lester, Newton, Charade, Outcraft and Lillie B. colt. St. Florian's dam was not entered, hence the colt is not eligible.

CLEARING-HOUSE STATISTICS.

Business Transacted in the Principal Cities During the Past Week.

BOSTON, Aug. 23.—Clearings: New York, $604,588,000, a decrease of 15.8 per cent.; Chicago, $89,461,000, an increase of 10.4; Boston, $81,318,000, a decrease of 18.3 per cent.; Philadelphia, $59,919,000, a decrease of 14.0 per cent.; St. Louis, $33,096,000, an increase of 20.6 per cent.; San Francisco, $17,480,641, a decrease of 13.0 per cent.; Baltimore, $15,805,000, an increase of 17.9 per cent.; Cincinnati, $10,861,000, a decrease of 7.8 per cent.; Pittsburg, $12,237,000, a decrease of 16.5 per cent.; Minneapolis, $6,858,000, an increase of 38.7 per cent.; Omaha, $3,392,000, a decrease of 36.2 per cent.; Denver, $3,935,000, a decrease of 26.4 per cent.; St. Paul, $4,153,000, an increase of 8.2 per cent.; Galveston, $3,481,000, an increase of 236.0 per cent.; Portland, Or., $1,781,000, an increase of 17.1 per cent.; Salt Lake, $1,390,000, an increase of 8.7 per cent.; Seattle, $675,000, a decrease of 47.3 per cent.; Tacoma, $1,030,000 an increase of 11.9 per cent. Total for the leading cities of the United State and Canada, $701,038,273,000, a decrease of 10.6 per cent.

Friends Interfered.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 23.—J. E. McIlroy and T. H. Swope, millionaire capitalists of this place, some time ago had a misunderstanding concerning an investment. To-day McIlroy was conversing with a friend in the Coates House rotunda, when Swope stepped up and told McIlroy's friend that McIlroy was a thief, liar and villain. McIlroy promptly felled Swope to the floor by a blow on the head with a cane. As Swope arose he drew a revolver. McIlroy also drew a revolver, but friends separated them before any shots were exchanged.

Desperate Fight.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 23.—It is reported from Caldwell that a desperate fight occurred this morning in Indian Territory between the Dalton gang, who held up and robbed the Santa Fe train two months ago, and a posse under United States Marshal Short. The particulars are meager, but it is known that Marshal Short and one of the Dalton gang named Brandt were killed.

Death of an Ex-Congressman.

WHEELING (W. Va.), Aug. 23.—Hon. Chester D. Hubbard died here to-day. He was a member in 1861 of the Virginia Secession Convention, and voted against secession. He was a member of the National Convention that nominated Lincoln in 1864, and from 1865 to 1867 represented this district in Congress.