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DEATH CLAIMS ITS VICTIM.

The Czar of all the Russias Passes Peacefully Away.

THE SUMMONS CAME SHORTLY AFTER 2 P. M. YESTERDAY.

Scene of Deep Pathos at the Bedside of the Dying Emperor When He Bid His Wife and Children a Last Farewell—Sketch of the Life of the Deceased Ruler and His Successor to the Throne.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 1.—The angel of death, in the shadow of whose pinions the autocrat of all the Russias has been lying for many days, to-day beckoned, and the soul of the man who had in his hands the lives and destinies of millions upon millions was borne away. Calmly and peacefully as a sleeping babe he, who by his slightest word, could have plunged Europe into a war, the horrors of which would defy description, fell into the dreamless sleep which he feared not. He, though the head of the church, whose members number 70,000,000 persons, took his last rites a few days before death claimed him from all his greatness.

At 2:15 o'clock this afternoon the summons came and a few hours later the thunderous booming of cannon at Lividia and St. Petersburg announced that the Czar was dead, and that he who had been the Grand Duke Nicholas reigned in his stead.

On lightning wings the news of Russia's loss spread throughout the world, and it is safe to say that everywhere the intelligence created sympathy for the family of him who by his policy had maintained the peace of Europe. From America came words of sympathy, for the dead ruler had always been a friend of the great republic of the West and Americans have not forgotten how well his father's friendship sustained the North in the war of the rebellion.

Among the peasants of Russia he will be mourned with a deep and abiding sorrow, for was he not the "peasant Czar?" None of the grandiloquent titles borne by him was thought as much of as the one bestowed upon him by his loyal subjects, whose virtues were magnified in him and whose vices in him were entirely lacking.

He who denies the popularity of the Czar among the lowly classes of Russia is blinded by prejudice. His kind acts to them in their seasons of plague and famine will never be forgotten, and to-night in thousands of homes, from Vladivostock on the Pacific to the fortresses of the Caucusus, millions of people, as they kneel before their icons, will pray from the bottom of their hearts for the repose of the soul of their "little father," who was to them as great in soul as he was in stature.

There will be a sincere mourning, too, in the royal and imperial families of Europe. Not the conventional mourning prescribed by rule, but the mourning of little children. For who has not heard of the annual visits of the Czar to Copenhagen, the home of his beloved Czarina, who, with the children of Emperors, Kings and Princes around him, was the biggest child of them all, joining in all their sports and romping with them like a big boy?

His death will be a most bitter loss to the wife he loved so well. It was a proverb in St. Petersburg that he was "the only Russian who was true to his wife." His home was an ideal one, and all his pleasure was found with his own family.

But as the Czar, and not the man, he could be as stern, as unrelenting as fate itself. He has banished men and women to Siberia, but they were men and women who sought to kill him, or to overturn the Government of which he was the absolute head, and which he, by the most solemn oaths in the mother city of Russia —Moscow—had sworn to maintain in its integrity.

Since Tuesday, when the doctors informed the Czar there was no longer room for hope, his majesty composedly waited for the end, attending to the necessary state and family affairs in the short intervals of consciousness and freedom from pain. These were necessarily brief, the doctors having had recourse to sedatives to produce sleep and allay pain. On Wednesday the Czar was still able to be taken to a window of the palace, whence he gazed out upon the country he loved.

The night passed with all the aggravating symptoms and dry cough. Dr. Zaccharin remained in attendance upon him throughout the night, only snatching brief intervals for sleep in the anterooms. The morning broke with rain and wind and heavy clouds, and the weather was much colder. As the day advanced the weakness increased so rapidly that the Czar himself recognized that he could only live a few hours. He expressed a desire to receive the sacrament, which was administered to him by Court Chaplain Yanisheff and Father Ivan, in the presence of the whole family. The Czar then conversed long and earnestly with Father Ivan, concluding by asking his family to again gather around him. He spoke to each member separately, and in greatest length with the Czarina. He blessed all his children present. The scene was one of deep pathos, all being in tears.

At this time his majesty was sitting up in an arm-chair. After taking leave of his family, he grew weaker gradually, and his voice became so indistinct that it was scarcely audible. About noon a convulsive fit of coughing was followed by a slight rally. Then until the end the Czar remained quiet, seemingly free from pain. At 2:15 o'clock he heaved a deep sigh and breathed his last in the arms of the Empress, who then broke down with the weight of her grief. The doctors fear the results of the reaction on her already exhausted system.

Immediately after the body of the Czar has been prepared it will be laid upon an inclined table, preliminary to its being placed in a temporary coffin.

The priests will then enter the bedroom and will chant the requiem. This will be repeated three times daily until the burial takes place. All the members of the imperial family will be present at the ceremonies.

It is expected the body will be removed to-morrow to a private chapel, where special prayers for the repose of the Emperor's soul will be offered, and where, once a day, the litany will be sung, in addition to chanting the requiem as previously stated.

The arrangements that will be made for the funeral are still unknown. It is believed the remains will be embarked on the imperial yacht Polar Star at Yalta, where the Seventh Army Corps will render military honors. The whole Black Sea fleet will escort the yacht to Odessa, whence the body will be conveyed by railway to St. Petersburg, stopping at the important towns en route to enable the troops to render honors to the dead. The state mourning will commence on Saturday. The funeral will probably be held two weeks hence.

The arrival of the Prince and Princess of Wales, now en route to Lividia, is anxiously awaited. A special train awaits them at the frontier. It is believed the presence of the Princess of Wales will afford great comfort to her sister, the Czarina, and it is said she will make a long stay in Russia.

It is understood the Czarowitz will immediately issue a proclamation declaring himself Czar, and all the Russian officials throughout the world will take the oath of allegiance as soon as possible.

MOURNING AT ST. PETERSBURG.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 1.—The office of the *Official Messenger* was besieged all day by immense crowds anxious to hear the latest news. The bulletin showing that the last hope had been abandoned was silently scanned by the mournful throng, many of whom were in tears. Passing carriages stopped to enable their occupants to read the bulletins.

The first news of the death of his majesty was posted shortly before 7 o'clock. A quarter of an hour later a salute of guns from the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul confirmed the sad news. Later a telegram stating that the Czar was quite conscious when he took the last sacrament at 10 o'clock this morning was received. The members of the Council of the Empire and other high officials of both civil and military departments and many private citizens assembled at 10 o'clock to-night in the Cathedral of Montebello, where a solemn mass was said for the repose of his majesty's soul.

The French Embassador to Russia, who is now in Paris, will return here forthwith.

The Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (Duchess of Edinburgh), only sister of the Czar, arrived at Yalta this morning.

THE NEWS RECEIVED AT LONDON.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—M. De Staal, the Russian Embassador to Great Britain, did not receive an official dispatch at the embassy announcing the death of the Czar until 9 o'clock this evening. The Prince of Wales, who, together with the Princess of Wales, is en route to Lividia, telegraphed the intelligence to the Queen and the Duchess of York. The Queen immediately sent a telegram of condolence to the Czarina.

The foreign office at midnight had received nothing beyond a short dispatch which was communicated to Prime Minister Rosebery and the members of the Cabinet. There were many callers at the Russian Embassy, who came and expressed their condolence.

A notable obituary sketch will appear in the *Times* to-morrow. The author of the sketch of the dead Emperor was on intimate terms of friendship with the Czar, and he says the Czar never had the slightest sympathy with high culture, adding: "Indeed, the Czar rather gloried at the idea of being of the same rough texture as the majority of his subjects, and if he knew he was sometimes disrespectfully referred to as the 'peasant Czar,' he regarded this epithet as a compliment. His straightforward, abrupt manner, savoring sometimes of gruffness, and his direct, unadorned method of expression, harmonized well with his rough-hewn, immobile features and somewhat sluggish movements. The impression he generally made in conversation was that of a good, honest, moderately intelligent, strong-willed man, who might perhaps listen to explanations, but who certainly would stand no nonsense from his subordinates or anyone else. Only those who had the privilege of observing him in the unrestrained intimacy of his family, especially when romping with his children or amusing himself with his four-footed pets, can fully realize what simple, kindly nature was concealed behind a by no means sympathetic exterior."

The writer then alludes to the Czar's strong anti-German feeling from the time he was Czarowitz, and says: But he always had pacific intentions. He feared that Russia might be made the victim of a coup d'etat of the young Kaiser, and therefore thought it advisable to make persistent advances to France. But his attitude was strangely exaggerated, if not entirely misunderstood by France. The Czar was too autocratic to enjoy hearing the 'Marseillaise' in his own Capital, and too prudent to ally himself closely with an importunate nation under a weak Government, which was quite ready to make use of an entente from diplomatic purposes; he had no intention of letting himself be dragged into war."

GAVE RUSSIA NEEDED PEACE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—The announcement of the Czar's death brought profound grief to the Russian Legation at Washington. Official word came late in the afternoon, in the following cable from the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

"ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 1.—It has pleased our Lord to recall him, our most beloved sovereign, Emperor Alexander the Third. He died at Lividia this afternoon, 1st of November, at 2:15.

"GIERS."

The Minister communicated the information to the State Department, but owing to the absence at the time from the city of the President, it is probable the message of sympathy and condolence from President Cleveland will not be sent until to-morrow.

Prince Cantacuzene said history in time would pay its just tribute to the merits of Alexander III. He had given Russia what she most needed—peace and quiet. For ten years there had been nothing heard of nihilists, except in the inspired attacks of malicious persons. The Emperor had gone freely among the people unguarded and unattended. He was in the habit of driving with the Czarina in a sleigh through the public streets. The sentiment of affection of Russion people toward the Emperor constituted a protection much stronger than police protection could afford. The previous Emperor had been guarded by the police, and yet he met assassination, while the late Emperor moved openly among his people until he died, to their universal grief.

It is not yet determined whether religious ceremonies will be held in Washington in commemoration of the Czar. There is no Greek Church here, and the one at New York is not connected with the established Church of Russia. At San Francisco Bishop Nicholas is at the head of the Greek Church diocese of Alaska. At the time that Alaska was owned by Russia the Greek Church was established there, and since the purchase of the country by the United States the many Russians there have continued their devotion to that church. It is probable that Minister Cantacuzene may ask Bishop Nicholas to come to Washington and hold memorial services similar to those held on the death of President Carnot, but there is some doubt as to the Bishop's taking the long trip.

Embassador Patenotre of France paid a high tribute to the late Czar, whom he described as the warm friend of France, whose people would feel his loss almost as much as Russians. M. Patenotre is acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, but he says there will be no formalities observed by the diplomatic corps beyond calling and expressing their sympathy to the Minister.

LOVED BY HIS SUBJECTS.

STREATOR (Ill.), Nov. 1.—The Rev. Ambrose Vectta, pastor of the Russian Greek Catholic Church of Chicago, was in Streator to-day to hold services, and on hearing of the death of the Czar said: "It is a mistake to think that this grand man was not beloved by the majority of his subjects. Alexander III. was a most zealous, and take him all in all, just ruler, of the Russian people. The initial steps in many reforms were inaugurated during his reign, the most important of which is the compulsory national public school system. The Czar was greatly blamed for not giving his people a constitutional form of government, but they are not ready for that yet. It would be a most foolish thing to hand a constitution to a bond of roving Tartars."

"A foreign reporter was once admitted to an audience with the Czar and bluntly asked him why he did not grant his people a constitution. The Czar replied: 'They would not know what to do with it. If the dearest wish of my heart could be achieved, I would make a republic out of Russia to-day, instead of an absolute monarchy. But my people are as children. We are young in our national strength, and it is the youth and strength of an uncouth giant. My people must be educated before they can govern themselves.'

"So we truthfully called the Czar our little father. He loved us, and we loved him."

CONSPIRACY TO KILL THE NEW CZAR.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—According to a special dispatch from St. Petersburg a conspiracy against the life of the Czarowitz has been discovered. For several days the police have been arresting Nihilists. Among those arrested are several students.

ALEXANDER III.

Sketch of the Life of the Deceased Czar of Russia.

[Alexander III., Emperor of Russia (otherwise Aleksander Aleksandrovitch), second son of Alexander II., born March 10, 1845—old style, February 26th. In 1866 he married Maria Sophia Frederika Dagmar, daughter of Christian IX. of Denmark. According to custom, she took the name of Maria Feodorovna. Alexander took an active part in the war of 1877-78 with Turkey. Alexander II. was assassinated March 13, 1881, and Alexander III. came at once to the throne. His coronation, however, did not take place until May, 1883. There were born to Alexander four children—Nicholas, heir apparent, May 6, 1868; George, April 27, 1871; Xenia, March 25, 1875; Michael, November 23, 1878. Alexander came to the throne in the midst of turbulence almost amounting to a revolution, and extraordinary measures had to be taken to preserve his life. Nearly all the cities were for a time subjected to the rigors of martial law, while searches for conspirators went on. A body of rural police was created—the "Uriadniki"—to pursue the enemies of the Czar, and their acts were felt by the people but little less than would have been the raids of so many bandits. The "Third Section," hated cordially as the secret police, was revived and reorganized under the name of "State Police." The Czar secluded himself, and from the outset suffered under acute nervous fright, and his wife's terror was such as to become hysterical. For a long time they were isolated at Gatschina and in Peterhoff, receiving few visitors. Even the officers of State had to undergo the gantlet of Cossack guards in approaching the royal pair, and the strictness went even to the search of the persons of all visitors by the police. The practice of deportation to Siberia without trial was resumed. Alexander's first State action was related to the project of a representative assemby, which his father had advised and promised. This and other reform measures were long debated. The Czar finally refused to take the advance steps and went over to the reactionary party. The majority of his Ministry thereupon resigned. Melikoff retired and Ignatieff came to the Ministry of the Interior, and made it soon known that the only reforms to be instituted would be those suiting the Pan-Slavist party for patriarchal and sacred autocracy. And thus did Alexander III. begin a reign now ended.

Nicholas Alexandrovitch, the heir to the throne, is by no means a robust young man. He is short and rather delicate looking, with anything but imperial bearing, which has come to be associated with the Romanoff family. Alexander III. was a veritable Ajax, of enormous size and strength. His heart would probably have gone out in sympathy to an heir who inherited the bodily qualities of his race, or would have forgiven his weakness of frame had he contained an imperious mind, but the Czarowitz had neither, and it is said to be only through the influence of the Czarina that the eldest son has not been set aside from the succession.

"However much the Czar may love his eldest son, he has no respect and admiration for him as a Russian Emperor," says a writer in *Munsey's Magazine*. "He is a student, and Alexander III. thinks the students are of small account in the world as compared to men who can bend iron pokers in their fingers.

"Some five years ago the young Prince started out on his travels. He went to Denmark, to England and to Germany, and the amount of modern information that he managed to imbibe and carry back to Russia set the teeth of the Czar on edge. The young man had brought back with him well-defined and radical opinions and theories upon the questions and literature of the day.

"He had decided that Jews were human beings and that it was inhuman and ridiculous to persecute them. Worst of all, in his father's eyes, he had become the devoted friend and admirer of the German Emperor.

"Look upon Russia as she is to-day and imagine a mild, very intelligent, modern young man coming in to take the reins of an almost absolute monarchy; a young man who has chosen as his wife a vivacious German girl, with a keen sense of humor, and the daughter of an English mother.

"The Czarowitz is 26 years old. Ever since his boyhood Europe has been busy selecting a wife for him. He is so English in his tastes, so fond of his cousins, the children of the Prince of Wales, that it was supposed he would select one of the daughters of that house, but even had inclination pointed that way, the Greek Church absolutely forbids the marriage of first cousins.

"The Princess who is to became his wife is 22 years old, and the most beautiful and the favorite granddaughter of the Queen of England. From her earliest childhood she has shown a marked individuality. Her mother was the Princess Alice, who died of diphtheria when this daughter was only 6 years old, as a result of devotion to a dying child. It has always been considered unfortunate in the royal family circles that the Princess was left motherless so young. She has grown up without any of that stiffness and dullness, that desire to make charity garments with her own fingers, which distinguishes the other young women of the royal blood. She is very small, with a certain beauty, and with an elegance which would make her remarkable anywhere. She has in her face that indefinable attraction which the French call 'the beauty of the devil.' and she has a wit to match it."

STATE POLITICS.

Big Sensation Sprung at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 1.—The biggest political sensation of the campaign was sprung here this evening. C. J. Stillwell, a private detective, brought suit against Registrar Evans and 6,000 voters, who, he charges, are illegally on the rolls. Stillwell claims to represent the Democratic and Non-Partisan Purity of Election Committees. Everyone of the 6,000 accused is mentioned by name. It is alleged that they have no legal residence, and the complaint demands that their names be stricken from the register. If the local courts refuse to take action Stillwell declares that he will secure warrants and arrest the accused men as they appear at the polls to vote, providing all the warrants cannot be served before election day.

Catholic Union and Knights of St. John.

INDIANAPOLIS (Ind.), Nov. 1.—Information has been received here from an authentic source that is regarded of prime importance by the members of the Roman Catholic Union and the Knights of St. John. The secret work for which they have striven unsuccessfully during four annual conventions, and which was finally passed at the Buffalo Convention in the face of the strenuous opposition of ecclesiastical authority, has at last received the full consent and approbation of Mgr. Satolli. The secret work, together with the authentification of the Papal delegate, will be issued by the supreme officers in the various commanderies within a few days.

DID THEIR WORK COOLLY.

Three Masked Men Hold Up a Train in Mississippi.

THE CONTENTS OF THE EXPRESS SAFE TAKEN.

Thrilling Stories Told by Survivors of the Wrecked Steamship Weiraipa—Two Thousand People Rendered Homeless by a Conflagration in Galicia—A Captain in the French Army Arrested for Treason.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

BIRMINGHAM (Ala.), Nov. 1.—Passenger train No. 3 of the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham Railroad was held up at 1 o'clock this morning a few miles out of New Albany, Miss., by three masked men and the express car looted of its contents.

Conductor W. B. Leonard got into Birmingham at 6 o'clock this morning. He said: "My train pulled out of New Albany about 1 o'clock this morning. Shortly after getting under full headway the train began to slack up, and was soon at a standstill, As I afterward discovered, three masked men had boarded the tender of the engine at New Albany, and covering Engineer Campbell and Fireman Alexander with pistols, compelled them to stop at a designated point in the woods a few miles east of New Albany. When the train stopped I was in the baggage car. I went to the side door and opened it, only to be greeted with several pistol shots from one of the robbers. I shoved the door shut, but turning around I saw two robbers already in the baggage car with pistols covering me. The engineer and fireman were made to dismount, and an unsuccessful effort was made to uncouple the engine. Express Messenger Jeannette's car was forced open, the robbers covering me with pistols all the time, and we were forced to give up the contents of the safe. Putting their booty in a bag the robbers backed off into the woods with their pistols pointed at us, and disappeared in the darkness. We did not see their faces at any time."

The officers of the Southern Express Company give it out that only a little cheap jewelry and vouchers constituted the robbers' booty. It is suspected, however, that the express company is withholding the facts on this subject. The general belief is that the robbers were amateurs, although they performed their work coolly.

WRECK OF THE WEIRAIPA.

Survivors Tell Thrilling Stories of the Disaster.

AUCKLAND, Nov. 1.—The survivors of the wrecked steamship Weiraipa tell thrilling stories of the wreck. Second Officer Stark says a thick fog set in at noon Sunday, obscuring everything. The course of the steamer had been laid so that she would clear Hen and Chicken Island, when at midnight she struck on Great Barrier Island. The shock of the stranding awakened the passengers, and many of them rushed from their cabins clad only in their night clothing. The sea was making a clean breach over the after part of the steamer, and as the affrighted passengers came on deck many of them were carried overboard before they had a chance to catch hold of anything to save themselves. When daylight came it was found that the steamer had struck at the foot of a high cliff that loomed several hundred feet above the vessel. The efforts to get a landing on the shelving places on the cliff was a most difficult and dangerous undertaking.

Those on board the steamer could see in the sea around the wreck a large number of corpses. A large number of persons, by means of floating wreckage, managed to reach the end of the rocks. The main and forerigging were also filled with passengers, who had gone aloft to escape being swept into the sea by the huge waves that were coming over the vessel. About sixty of them were standing on the cross-trees. Others were hanging with most tenacious grip to the davits. The outlook was very dark, when an engineer and fireman volunteered to swim ashore with a line. They took a rope and jumped overboard, but had not gone far when the sea compelled them to relinquish the line. They then swam for the rocks, which they reached in a terribly bruised condition.

Several unsuccessful attempts were made by others, when finally one of the stewards said he would try to get the line ashore. Divesting himself of nearly all of his clothing, he boldly sprang into the foaming sea and made straight for the rope that was floating outward. Grasping it with one hand, he struck out strongly landward. Again and again it appeared as though he had gone down, but then his head would appear on the crest of a wave, which would sweep him nearer and nearer to the rocks. His skill as a swimmer stood him well, for he reached the shore, if shore it could be called, with the line still in his grasp. The line was made fast, and it was by this means that most of the survivors were saved.

A young girl, Jane Williams, says she was in her cabin when the steamer struck. She heard the thud and aroused her sister, who was sleeping soundly. Each of the girls secured a life-belt, and rushed in their night clothes to the hurricane deck. In the intense darkness could be seen affrighted passengers struggling together. The vessel listed, and the passengers on the lower side were swept from the deck.

Miss Williams said: "My sister and I climbed up the steep incline to the railing, to which we clung with all our strength. We were repeatedly submerged by the waves, and were nearly drowned. The vessel pounded dreadfully, and I thought that every moment she was going to break up. A large wave struck me, and I was thrown into the sea. I was unable to swim, and I caught hold of pieces of wreckage. I was buffeted by the sea until I was driven, with others clinging to the wreckage, close to the cliffs. When day began to break the spectacle was appalling. I was hanging to a spar, around which my hair was twisted. Near by I saw men and women torn from the wreckage to which they were clinging, being drowned before my eyes. Some reached a ledge, only to be again drawn back into the sea by large waves. Finally I was the only one alive. I thought every minute that my time had come. I had managed to seize two life-belts. By this time it had become light enough for me to see those being saved from the wreck by the life line. My sister, while thus attempting to escape, became entangled in the line and was strangled. After I had been in the water twelve hours and was almost exhausted, I was perceived by the survivors ashore. One of them swam to my rescue. He fastened a rope to me and then we were both hauled ashore. I was unable to stand."

Another passenger, describing the scene on deck after the vessel struck, says a number of persons were singing and praying. Several of them were kneeling, and had hold of nothing, and therefore when the first big wave swept over the steamer they were carried into the sea. When the bridge was smashed this passenger saw Captain McIntosh jump into the sea with a lady. Neither were seen afterwards.

There is no doubt that many more passengers would have been drowned had it not been for the gallantry of two seamen, who swam ashore with a line, by means of which a stout rope, which was used later in the work of rescue, was hauled ashore.

When the disaster became known to the Maoris on land, these natives launched small boats and succeeded in rescuing a number of people.

Assistance was finally obtained from Port Fitzroy and the survivors of the Weiraipa were brought here.

SENSATION IN PARIS.

A Captain in the French Army Arrested for Treason.

PARIS, Nov. 1.—Captain Alfred Dreyfus of the general staff, who was attached to the organization and mobilizing department in France, has been arrested on the charge of treason and espionage in behalf of the Triple Alliance. The arrest is the sensation of the hour. The Captain was attached to the organizing and mobilizing department of the general staff, and had access to some of the more important documents relating to the plans for mobilizing the French army.

Suspicion against Captain Dreyfus was aroused by his intimacy with an Italian officer, and General Mercier, Minister of War, caused detectives to be sent to Monaco and Italy, with the result that Captain Dreyfus is now under strict guard in the military prison. Dreyfus is said to have supplied the Italian Government with the plans so carefully laid out during the years past for the defense of the Alps, which have been looked upon as forming a complete bulwark against the possible invasion of France from Italy, and is also said to have sold all these plans to Germany, and to have divulged to Austria and Germany the names of the French officers recently sent abroad on secret missions. Captain Dreyfus was married to the daughter of a rich diamond merchant of this city.

Captain Dreyfus is said to have supplied the Italian officer alluded to, who is believed to have been an agent of the Italian Government, with the plans for the mobilization of the Fifteenth Army Corps, covering the Department Maritime Alps, Ardech, Pouchese du Rhine, Corsica, Gard, Var, Vaucluse and Marseilles, as well as plans for mobilizing the French forces around Briancon, the Alpine Gibraltar. He is also suspected of having furnished the Italian agent with a plan for the numerous fortified positions around Briancon, which are connected by underground galleries with the town mentioned. Briancon is a place of the utmost importance, and especially in view of the possible advance of an Italian army into France. Briancon commands the route across Mount Genevre, between France and Italy, and in addition to being most strongly defended, on account of its natural position (it is situated on a hill, about 4,300 feet above the level of the sea). its surrounding eminences are crowned with strong modern fortifications, mounted with the latest artillery, and, as already stated, these fortifications communicate with each other and with the town by subterranean passages. A bridge having a span of about 130 feet and about 180 feet, crosses the Clarre Valley, affording access from the principal points of fortifications to the town itself.

THE WAR IN THE ORIENT.

Chinese Attack Several Russian Frontier Towns.

SHANGHAI, Nov. 1.—Japanese warships were sighted off Wei-Hai-Wei Sunday, and the Chinese fleet went out in pursuit. Not finding the enemy, the Chinese fleet returned and left Wei-Hai-Wei again Wednesday, its destination being unknown. The only foreigners with the fleet are two engineers and two gunners.

Small bodies of Chinese have attacked several Russian frontier towns, and in one seized a quantity of arms and ammunition. In another case the Chinese were repulsed with the loss of sixty men.

MIKADO'S HEADQUARTERS AT HIROSHIMA.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—The Japan war news received at the legation gives graphic descriptions of the Emperor's headquarters at Hiroshima, and of the enthusiasm with which the war preparations are made. The imperial headquarters are in an old wooden building, two stories high, formerly used as an army barracks. The rooms are small and scantily furnished. The Emperor occupies the upper floor, while the lower story is used by the council of war. The Emperor rises at 6 o'clock and does not retire till 11, all the while wearing military costume. He personally directs all that goes on, and has proved to be an indefatigable worker.

All the barracks and quarters near by are full of soldiers. There is a constant rattle and clank of cannon, horses, guns and sabers. The streets are lined with flags and lanterns. The soldiers as they move on are cheered by enthusiastic crowds. The spirit of humbling China to the dust is everywhere manifest, and the Japanese, without exception, regard the result as beyond the slightest doubt.

The unanimity for war is shown by the printed declaration of the Vaishinto party, which hitherto has resisted the Government. It announces the chastisement of China as the first and paramount duty of Japan. It gives its support to all war measures, and says it will resist any proposition of peace until China is humbled and the objects of the war is attained.

The full text of the Emperor's decree, establishing pensions for distinguished services is printed. The pensions range from 900 yen to 65 yen per annum, according to the service, and are divided into seven classes. In case of death the widow or orphans of the deceased are to receive the pension.

EMPIRE STATE CAMPAIGN.

The Strauss Brothers Supporting Wheeler for Governor.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1. — Considerable talk was caused to-day by the announcement that Isadore Strauss, brother of Nathan Strauss, the original candidate of Tammany for Mayor, had sent a check to the Wheeler campaign committee, and that the other brother, Oscar Strauss, ex-Minister to Turkey, had sent a letter to the committee indorsing Mr. Wheeler as the Democratic candidate for Governor. Naturally this announcement did not tend to appease the Tammany chieftains, as they seem to fear the attitude of the Strauss family will lead to the casting of many Hebrew votes against Hill and the local Tammany ticket.

Senator Hill made one of his flying visits to Democratic headquarters today. Chairman Thacher reported that Mr. Hill was cheerful, healthful and confident. There were no other visitors of any importance at the various headquarters to-day and news from all of them was of slight importance.

A committee representing the Civic Union waited on Colonel Strong this afternoon and notified him of the indorsement by that body of his nomination for Mayor and to urge at the same time the intention of the Civic Union to operate with him in his canvass.

A great number of meetings have been arranged for by both Democrats and Republicans in all parts of the State for Friday and Saturday, the closing days of the campaign. Nothing of importance in the way of meetings is likely to occur after Saturday, although the managers of both sides will relax none of the vigilance they have shown from the outset.

The *Commercial Advertiser* prints the following interview with ex-President Harrison:

"You have been here over a week, Mr. Harrison, what do you think of the political situation?"

"From the surface indications, I should say the Republicans should win. Of course, I don't know anything about the outside indications. It seems to me if ever the Republicans can win in this State, the time is now the most propitious."

The crank who called upon President Cleveland. Goerdler, entered the Fifth Avenue Hotel before 10 o'clock this morning, but he did not ask to see any one. He slowly made his way to the reading-room and wrote a long letter to ex-President Harrison, which he left at the office for him.

INDIAN TERRITORY TROUBLE.

No New Developments in the Cook Outlaw Situation.

MUSKOGEE (I. T.), Oct. 31.—There are no new developments in the Cook outlaw situation. The Indian police have returned after a week out without making any progress toward locating the gang. All sorts of reports are brought in as to their whereabouts, but there is no confidence to be put in them. They are to-day reported to be in Blue Creek, about twelve miles from here, but the origin of the report cannot be learned, and it is only partially credited, though a force of officers have gone out there to see about it. It is a noticeable fact that not one-fourth of the reports of their whereabouts that have come in here are correct. The gang has about quit depredations, and have scattered in all directions. There is but little reasonable hope of effecting their capture soon.

WHY TROOPS CANNOT BE SENT.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—The inability of the Government to use troops to suppress the outlawry of the Cook gang in the Indian Territory was explained to-day by Secretary Hoke Smith, who made application to the Secretary of War a few days ago for troops to be used in that work. The Secretary said: "The Secretary of War referred the application to the Attorney-General, who held that no authority existed to use troops for the purpose of arresting the Cook gang, unless it appeared that the members of the gang were intruders. This opinion was sent to the Interior Department by the Secretary of War with a request for further suggestions. It was then referred to the Indian Commissioner, who reported that the Cook outlaws were not intruders, but all were members of local tribes of Indians. In view of this statement the Interior Department will make no other request for troops in the present or similar instances, as after examining the statutes we agree with the view expressed in the opinion of the Attorney-General. It really leaves the department in a condition where it can do nothing to prevent acts of lawlessness like the Cook troubles."

IRON INDUSTRY.

Quotations Continue on the Downward Grade.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1.—The *Iron Age* says: The week has been uneventful, figuratively speaking, and has not in any pronounced way furnished indications to gauge the trade for the future. On the whole there is a more hopeful feeling, due possibly rather to the absence of bad news than the occurrence of favorable events.

Currently the most interesting announcement of the week is that C. P. Huntington has bought for Pacific Coast delivery a block of 6,000 tons of cannel (English) steel rails at a low price. This verifies the assertions repeatedly made by American makers that they are in danger of losing the Pacific Coast market.

A conference of some of the American steel railmakers took place as expected in this city last Friday. We understand that the situation was informally discussed, but that no action was taken. In the billets there has been a moderate demand, with prices hovering close to $15 50 at Western works. Sales below that figure were recorded. Wire rods are weak and are obtainable at $25 25 at Western mills. The pounding of prices goes on along nearly the whole line of manufactured iron and steels. Many decline to meet the present prices.

The President Goes Squirrel Hunting.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—President Cleveland slipped quietly out of town today for recreation. The President left the city during the forenoon, going to Woodley to look after a few household affairs connected with the forthcoming removal of the family to their country home for a few weeks' stay. The country to the north of Woodley is thickly wooded, and squirrel hunting there is now at its best. The day is bright and warm, and the President could not have selected a better time for a day's hunting.

Fillmore-Rich Wedding.

WHITE HAVEN (Pa.), Nov. 1.—The wedding of Harriet Fillmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Z. Fillmore, and Seaton Heather Rich of New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y., took place here this afternoon. The bride is the niece of J. A. Fillmore, the prominent railroad man of California, and grandniece of President Millard Fillmore. The bride was given away by her grandfather, L. Fillmore of San Francisco.

Whitecaps Arrested.

KNOXVILLE (Tenn.), Nov. 1.—The Sheriff of Sevier County has arrested fourteen members of the whitecap band who took part in the battle in which three men were killed last week. William, Jessie and Isaac Brown confessed, and gave the names of the others, who now have sworn to kill their betrayers, but are kept in separate cells.

Argentine Earthquakes.

BUENOS AYRES, Nov. 1.—The widespread reports of the recent earthquakes are confirmed. The misery existing in the Provinces of San Juan and Rioja is very great, especially in the latter, where the people are poor. Slight shocks are still felt from time to time there, which serve to keep up the alarm.

Great Fire in Galicia.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1.—The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in this city has just received a cable message from Turkey reporting a great fire at Radjin, by which 2,000 people were rendered homeless. Radjin is a town in the Taurus Mountains, north of Plain, in Galicia.

Thought He Was a Ghost.

SILVER CLIFF (Col.), Nov. 1.—Charles Davis, a barber, shot and mortally wounded Conrad Heineman, a young man, who was running through the street dressed only in his underclothes last night. Davis, who has been arrested, says he thought Heineman was a ghost.

A Clerk Commits Suicide.

JOILET (Ill.), Nov. 1.—Callus Muller, chief clerk of the Joilet Prison, committed suicide to-day. He was known all over the country, and introduced the Bertillon system in the United States. He spoke a dozen or more languages. The cause of suicide is unknown.

Coinage for October.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Reports to the Director of the Mint show that the coinage for October was: Gold, $2,911,800; silver, $1,217,000, of which $600,000 was standard dollars; minor coin, $23,900. Total coinage, $4,152,700.

Panama Canal.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1.—A dispatch from Panama says: It is said the force now at work on the Panama Canal will soon be increased to 1,000 men.

FATAL POWDER EXPLOSION.

Single-Wheel Mill at the Santa Cruz Works Blown Up.

THE MIXER, CHARLES WORDEN, MEETS WITH DEATH.

The New Fast Service of the Southern Pacific Over the Sunset Route Inaugurated—An Engineer Killed at Salem, Oregon, by Coming in Contact With a Live Electric Light Wire.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SANTA CRUZ, Nov. 1. — At 6:05 this evening a sharp report was heard, and smoke arose in the direction of the powder works here. It was ascertained that a single wheel mill had blown up, and that Charles Worden, aged 24 years, had been killed. At the time he was taking off a charge of fuse powder. In making fuse powder the process of mixing takes three hours. A helper, Willian Dorsey, had just gone to supper. Pat Hughes, night watchman, who had been showing Worden how to mix the powder, left to ring the night bell five minutes before. It is impossible to ascertain what caused the explosion.

The other day there was an explosion in the same mill, when Thomas Kearney had his face and hands badly burned. Worden had taken his place. The explosion blew the roof off. The mill was repaired, and resumed running yesterday. About 175 pounds of powder was in the wheel when Worden was killed. Thomas McMahon was killed by the explosion of a single wheel mill last April. The mill has exploded a number of times, each time resulting in the death or badly burning of an employe.

SUNSET LIMITED.

The Southern Pacific Inaugurates Its Fast Service to New Orleans.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 1.—The handsomest and most complete train that ever left Oakland mole pulled out to-day bound for New Orleans over the Southern Pacific Sunset route. It was the first train of the new fast service to New Orleans which has been instituted by the Southern Pacific, with a view to obtaining a larger share of winter traffic to and from the East. The train, which consists entirely of vestibuled sleepers, will run through to New Orleans in fast time, and will make quick connections there for New York and Chicago. Features of this new service are a dining-car service all the way through and other accommodations for passengers, which include a library, bathroom, barber shop and writing-room. A similar train left New Orleans west-bound to-day, and on every Thursday until further notice the Sunset limited will leave San Francisco and New Orleans.

AN ENGINEER'S DEATH.

Killed by Coming in Contact With a Live Electric Light Wire.

SALEM (Or.), Nov. 1.—George Hanson, a young engineer, at McCrow & Stusloff's meat market, was this morning killed in the cold storage-room by a live electric-light wire.

Hanson was in the storage-room at work and by some means came in contact with the wire and was dead before the discovery was made.

When relief went to him the current was still running through his body, which was burned in places to a crisp, his clothes being on fire. It is not known exactly how the accident happened.

RAILROAD ON MOUNT LOWE.

The Electric Line Will be Completed to the Summit of the Peak.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 1.—Professor T. S. C. Lowe, builder Pasadena's Mountain Railway, returned yesterday from Chicago, where he closed the deal whereby it is made certain that the Mountain Railroad will be extended from Echo Mountain, its present terminus, to the highest summit of Mount Lowe. The extension will be an electric road, using the trolley system. It will be seven miles in length. The track will wind around the sides of the great peak which bears Professor Lowe's name, giving a clear and unobstructed view of some of the grandest scenery upon the American continent. The construction of the extension will be pushed forward as fast as possible.

Southern California Railroad.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 1.—At the annual meeting of stockholders of the Southern California Railway Company held here to-day a Board of Directors and officers for the ensuing year were elected. A. F. Walker of Chicago was elected President, which place has been vacant since the resignation of President Reinhart last September. Walker is one of the receivers appointed for the Atchison system. The new members of the Board of Directors are: J. T. Woodward and W. E. Roosevelt, New York; C. E. Wood, Brooklyn, and E. B. Wesley, Rye, N. Y. No other changes were made.

A Mystery Cleared Up.

VANCOUVER (B. C.), Nov. 1.—The mystery surrounding the discovery of a boat in Canadian waters near Blaine, Wash., has been solved. The boat was stolen from G. Ross of Mission City by a man named Currie, who eloped with the farmer's wife and six children. The parties were found in Blaine, but Ross got Currie across the line, where he arrested him.

Attempted Suicide.

SANTA CRUZ, Nov. 1.—Frank Orantes entered a physician's office with two ugly gashes in his neck this evening, saying that a highwayman had stood him up on the Big Tree road, at the same time stabbing him three times. An officer, on investigation, found that Orantes did not tell a true story and that he had attempted suicide through jealousy of a woman.

Pennoyer's Thanksgiving Proclaimed.

SALEM (Or.), Nov. 1.—Governor Pennoyer to-day issued the following Thanksgiving proclamation:

"I hereby appoint the last Thursday of this month Thanksgiving holiday. 'In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider.'—Ecclesiastes vii., 14."

Sweeney Convicted of Manslaughter.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 1.—The jury before whom Charley Sweeney, the ex-baseball player, was tried for the murder of "Con." McManus, came into court this forenoon with a verdict of manslaughter.

Brig T. W. Lucas.

PORTLAND (Or.), Nov. 1.—Captain Gregory of the lighthouse tender Manzanita telegraphs from Coos Bay to-day that the abandoned brig T. W. Lucas is capsized one mile off Umpqua Bar. She is drifting toward the shore.