Family Reading.
Too much care cannot be taken with reading matter admitted to the home circle.

THE RECORD-UNION.

The Daily Paper
Is the great educator of the present time. See that it is a clean one.

VOLUME XCIV.—NO. 127. SACRAMENTO, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1897.—EIGHT PAGES. WHOLE NO. 17,595.

KLONDIKERS IN A VERY BAD PLIGHT.

Will Surely be Starvation Among Them This Winter.

John Lindsay's Gloomy Views of the Situation on the Yukon..

The Output of the Mines Will be Greatly Curtailed Because of the Scarcity of Food and Light —Coal Oil Sells for Forty-five Dollars a Gallon, and Candles Are Worth a Dollar and a Half Each.

SKAGUAY (Alaska), Dec. 17 (via Seattle (Wash.), Dec. 26.—John Lindsay of Olympia, Wash., who has just arrived from Dawson City, says that there will surely be starvation there this winter. He examined into the food situation in a thorough manner, he says, and after satisfying himself that there would be starvation, he sold his outfit, and in company with Frank Ballaine of Olympia, Wash.; Tom Story of Victoria, B. C., and Bob Glynn of Seattle, started out on foot, each man drawing a sled carrying about 140 pounds of provisions. Lindsay says the Dawson people believe that there is no great amount of food at Fort Yukon, as has been alleged. The river rose sufficiently and remained open long enough to enable food supplies to have been brought from Fort Yukon, had there been any there.

The people of Dawson, believing that there were not ample food supplies at Fort Yukon, refused to go there, preferring to remain in Dawson. Not more than 300 or 400 people took advantage of the transportation company's offer to take the people to Fort Yukon free of charge.

When the miners at Dawson found that no more provisions would reach town by the river route, they announced that a meeting would be held to take steps for apportioning the provisions of the town. Those that had plenty, they said, must share with those who had none. Captain Constantine of the Northwest mounted police interfered and told the miners that no such thing would be permitted. The meeting was not held.

Lindsay says the output of the mines will be greatly curtailed this winter, because of the scarcity of food and light. Coal oil sold for $45 a gallon and candles as high as $150 box of 100. Even if men were able to work their claims they cannot get light to do so.

These statements are borne out by all returning Klondikers, quite a number of whom have reached here the past week. Few of them, however, take as gloomy a view of the situation as does Mr. Lindsay.

L. B. Bradley of Roseburg, Or., says that food is scarce, but he does not think there will be actual starvation. Neither do W. B. King of Merced, Cal.; P. J. Holland of Butte, Thomas Story of Victoria, or Robert Glynn of Seattle, all of whom reached here this week from Dawson, the most of them having left there on November 2d.

As an instance of the scarcity of food in Dawson, Lindsay relates the case of Dr. Van Santz, formerly of Spokane, Wash. Van Santz is an elderly man, and when without provisions or money, he offered a gold watch for a sack of flour. He could not get it, and he remarked to Lindsay: "God only knows how I am to keep body and soul together."

Lindsay says 200 or more miners are prospecting at the mouth of Stewart River, but as yet nothing is known as to what success they have had.

Henderson Creek, five miles below Stewart River, and forty miles from Dawson, is a promising stream, and it is being developed this winter.

The weather about the Stewart and Big Salmon Rivers has been bitterly cold, 70 degrees below being recorded at Major Walsh's camp, twelve miles below the Big Salmon on November 17th. The Yukon River between Dawson and Fort Pelly froze completely over on November 10th. The river is piled full of ice in great ridges as high as an ordinary house, and a roadway will have to be cut through it before dog or horse teams can operate upon it. The outlook, therefore, for taking supplies down to Dawson in the immediate future is not good.

Inspector of Mines McGregor left here a week ago with a number of dog teams and horses to make the attempt to reach Dawson with about twenty tons of provisions, but nothing has since been heard of him.

HARE AND HOUNDS.

Lady Wins the Coursing Match at Newark, Alameda County.

NEWARK, Dec. 26.—The Alameda County Coursing Club held its first races here to-day, twenty-four dogs being entered. The races resulted as follows:

First ties—True Blue beat Fly, Bend Along beat Santa Bella, Babe Murphy beat Menlo, Kid Lavigne beat Yellow Girl, Tillie Wheeler beat Pelesi, Lady beat Pete.

Second ties—Bend Along beat True Blue, Babe Murphy beat Kid Lavigne, Lady beat Tillie Wheeler.

Third ties—Babe Murphy beat Bend Along, Lady beat Kid Lavigne in a bye.

Final—Lady beat Babe Murphy.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The coursing at Ingleside Park to-day resulted as follows:

Rosette beat Tod Sloan, Mohawk beat Sweet Lips, Blackette beat Dashaway, White Chief won a bye from Sly Boy, Senorita withdrawn, Joy Bells beat Myrtle, Valley Maid lost a bye to Terrona, Rusty Gold withdrawn, Mountain Beauty beat Benicia Boy, Theron beat Move On, Granuale beat Gazelle, Occidental beat American Lady, That ran wild, Gallagher beat Lass o' Gowrie, Susie beat Uncle Sam, At Last beat Alameda, Harkaway II. beat Systematic, Magnet beat Eclipse, Fleetwood won a bye from Myrtle, Beau Brummel withdrawn, Sarcastic beat Emerald, Flashlight beat Swinnerton.

First ties—Rosette beat Mohawk, Blackette beat White Chief, Joy Bells beat Mountain Beauty, Valley Maid beat Theron, Occidental beat Granuale, Gallagher beat Susie, At Last beat Harkaway, Fleetwood beat Magnet, Sarcastic beat Flashlight.

Second ties—Rosette beat Joy Bells, Blackette beat Valley Maid, Gallagher beat Occidental, Fleetwood beat At Last, Sarcastic lost a bye to Senorita.

Third ties—Rosette beat Gallagher, Blackette beat Sarcastic, Fleetwood won a bye from Sky Ball.

Fourth ties—Rosette beat Fleetwood.

As Rosette and Blackette both belong to Curtis & Son, the final was not run off, Curtis & Son taking both first and second money.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—The largest coursing match ever held in this part of the State took place at Agricultural Park in this city to-day. Fifty-six dogs were entered. Romeo won the championship, Trip second, and Trilby third. There was a large attendance.

BRITISH WARSHIPS.

The Leander and Virago Arrive at San Diego.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 26.—The British cruiser Leander, accompanied by the torpedo destroyer Virago, arrived in port to-day en route to Esquimault. The two warships left Portsmouth, England, last August, traveling at an average speed of twelve knots. They called at the principal ports of South America, including Valparaiso, Coquimbo and Callao on this side. Acapulco was the only Mexican port visited. On the way up the coast the United States Coast defense vessel Monterey was seen at Magdalena Bay, having arrived just as the British vessels were leaving Man-of-War Cove.

The Leander is a second-class cruiser of 4,300 tons, and has a speed of eighteen knots. The Virago is one of several torpedo destroyers built last year. She is reputed to have a speed of thirty knots. The two vessels will coal, and on Wednesday will leave for Esquimault, calling at San Francisco on the way up.

The cruiser Phaeton, with the destroyer Sparrowhawk, is following the Leander and Virago, and is expected to arrive here within two weeks. The Phaeton and Leander are sister ships, and so are the Sparrowhawk and Virago.

With these vessels added to the Esquimault squadron, Great Britain will have one of the strongest fleets in the Pacific ocean, and the strongest by far that has ever assembled in the North Pacific.

FELL DEAD, THOUGH NOT SHOT.

Sudden Death of a Woman Whom a Jap Attempted to Murder.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—A Japanese known as George Taughi fired four shots at Mary Costello, a Spanish woman, in the lodging house at 901 Sacramento street this afternoon. None of the bullets struck the intended victim of the desperate Oriental, whose act was prompted by jealous rage, yet she dropped dead, and her body is now at the morgue. It bears no sign of a wound, and the physicians say that death was caused by heart failure induced by extreme excitement.

About a year ago Taughi opened an employment agency, and engaged Miss Costello as an assistant. By promising marriage he induced her to live with him. Recently she left the place where they had resided. After making many threats to kill her on sight, the Japanese met her to-day and accomplished his murderous design, though in an unexpected and sensational manner. Immediately after the shooting he fled from the place, and up to a late hour to-night had not been found by the police.

Mary Costello, the victim, came to this city from Watsonville, Santa Cruz County.

ATTACKED BY A FOOTPAD.

Tomales' Postmaster Probably Fatally Injured and Robbed.

TOMALES, Dec. 26.—Postmaster M. L. Schuester, who is also station agent at this point for the North Pacific Coast Railway, was attacked this evening by a lone highwayman, robbed and left in a dying condition.

The robbery was committed at 6:30 o'clock, at which time every evening Schuester is accustomed to lock the station, which is also the Postoffice. He had gone but a few feet from the door when he was struck a stunning blow from behind. He fell like a stricken ox, and had not recovered consciousness some minutes later, when one of the railway section hands found him lying in a pool of his own blood. He was relieved of a gold watch and chain and $90 in money. The robber, whose identity is unknown, has not been captured.

Arrest of a Suspect.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 26.—The police have under arrest a young man who gives the name of Charles Beaver, and who is suspected of being the fellow who assaulted a woman last evening. Mrs. Dr. Hooker believes that he is the man who attempted to snatch her purse. Mrs. M. L. Markham, the old lady who was knocked down and badly injured, has not seen the man, but will be given a chance to identify him to-morrow.

Fears She Has Committed Suicide.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Justo Patrejero, who resides at 111 Filbert street, reported to the police to-day that his young wife, Mrs. Kate Patrejero, had been missing from his home since early Friday morning. He fears that she has taken her own life. Her reason has been unbalanced since over a year ago, and she has more than once been taken before the Insanity Commissioners on this account.

Coast Defense Gun Carriage.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 26.—The first carriage for the ten-inch rifles to be mounted on the defenses of this harbor arrived to-day from Hamilton, O. It will be assembled as soon as the cement in the emplacement where it will be located has become thoroughly hardened.

A Death at San Diego.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 26.—Joseph S. Manasse, who came to San Diego in 1854, died to-day, aged 66 years. He has been a prominent citizen and was formerly wealthy. He was a native of Prussia.

SPANISH LOOK FOR TROUBLE.

The "Imparcial" Urges That Spain Increase Her Fleet,

As Against the Eventuality of a Conflict With the United States.

Nothing Known at the State Department Regarding the Story That This Government Has Demanded $8,000,000 Indemnity to American Traders for Damages Sustained Through the War in Cuba.

MADRID, Dec. 26.—To-day's "Imparcial" urged that, in view of the character of the reply of United States Minister Woodford to the note of the Spanish Government, in answer to the first communication of the American Government, through him, it is necessary to increase the Spanish fleet as against the eventuality of a conflict with the United States.

"El Espanaldo" says the "encroachments of the United States upon the internal peace of Spain have become intolerable, and must be resisted energetically. The situation is difficult, but, at whatever cost, the Government ought to put an end to a shameful state of affairs for the sake of the dignity of Spain."

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Madrid correspondent of the "Daily Mail" says: General Woodford's note differs greatly from the first he presented, and contains several statements that would be refuted. It is inspired, on the whole, by the sentiments pervading President McKinley's message. Senor Gullon, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, will reply, traversing the points raised.

THE STORY DISCREDITED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Secretary of State Sherman was seen to-night regarding a story cabled from Madrid to the effect that the United States had demanded of Spain $8,000,000 indemnity to American traders for damages sustained through the rebellion in Cuba. The Secretary stated that if any such demand had been made he had not heard of it.

Judge Day, Assistant Secretary of State, said: "So far as I know there is absolutely nothing in the story. Some one may have attempted to foot up all the individual claims that have been filed, but even on that supposition, I should not attempt to say their estimate was correct."

At the Spanish legation it was said that no information had been received of any such action. The legation had heretofore been notified of the filing of all individual claims, but it was thought improbable that any claim in bulk would be made.

GERMAN NAVAL OFFICERS BANQUETED.

HAVANA, Dec. 26.—To-night Captain-General Blanco gave a banquet to the officers of the German corvette Stein. Forty guests were present, including the Spanish Admiral, the Mayor of Havana and other naval and civil authorities.

Congressman William Henry King of Utah has arrived here.

AFTER A FILIBUSTER.

MOBILE (Ala.), Dec. 26.—If the pilot boat Somers N. Smith of Pensacola gets out of this port with a filibustering expedition she will have to run over the cutter Seward in the river and a cruiser off the bar. The Smith was here in August last, was docked and blackleaded, had a speed wheel put in, and also took off the figure 3 from her smoke stack and went to sea at night, bound, rumor afterward said, to Cuba with ninety men on board and a lot of arms and ammunition.

No trace of this expedition was found, however, and William Bazzelle, Commodore of the Pensacola Pilots' Association, presumably the owner of the tug, denied emphatically that the Smith was in the filibustering business.

Two weeks ago the tug reappeared in Pensacola, and came immediately under suspicion, the papers there saying the cruiser Montgomery was on watch over her. The papers also said the Smith needed docking for repairs, but that the Mobile docks were too busy to take her. Nevertheless, she arrived here Thursday, and went on the Mobile ways at the foot of Augusta street to be repainted. The manager of the ways says the paint on her does not need renewing, and is just as good as when put on four months ago. She is said to have been followed as far as this port by the cruiser Montgomery.

Telegraphic orders were sent for her through Mobile last night, and the Collector was notified to be on the lookout for filibusters. United States Marshal Simmons went on board the tug to-day and had the boat searched, but nothing was found on board. Bazzelle, who is with the Smith, says there is no intention of filibustering, and that she is merely here for repairs.

The cutter Seward dropped down the river this afternoon, and came to anchor just opposite the exit from the marine ways, and lies there with steam up, and keeping an eye on the Smith. Persons from the lower bay report that a cruiser has been off the bar for the past twenty-four hours.

JACKSONVILLE (Fla.), Dec. 24.—A special to the "Times-Union and Citizen" from Punta Gorda states that the cruiser Montgomery and cutters Forward and McLane arrived in Charlotte harbor this morning in seach of a filibustering expedition that was reported to be about to set sail for Cuba. Vessels in port were searched, but nothing of a contraband nature was found.

FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Several Wooden Structures at Camp Low Burned.

SANDY HOOK (N. Y.), Dec. 26.—The office, storehouse, stable and one of the lodging-houses, all old wooden buildings, at Camp Low were consumed by fire early this morning.

Camp Low was established at the former landing of the Sandy Hook boats. During the cholera scare a few years ago the wharf and platform were inclosed and roofed over, and several hundred passengers were kept in quarantine there. The Marine Hospital service abandoned the station last year, and the buildings were purchased by a contractor, who used them as a large board camp for the men employed in building garrison quarters at Fort Hancock.

An overheated stove is supposed to have caused the fire.

COL. GEORGE WHITNEY.

A Prominent Citizen of Royalston, Massachusetts, Dies.

ROYALSTON (Mass.), Dec. 26.—Colonel George Whitney, a prominent citizen of this town, died to-day, after a month's illness. He was born here in 1817, and for fifteen years drove a stage coach between Royalston and Boston. The opening of the Fitchburg Railway put an end to the stage business, and Colonel Whitney turned his attention to other pursuits. After some years he engaged in the lumber and chair business. Later he became interested in the manufacture of woolens, and continued it until his death.

Fatal Accident in Indiana.

NOBLESVILLE (Ind.), Dec. 26.—A fatal accident occurred at Terhune, a small town northwest of this city, last night. Mr. and Mrs. John Moore and Miss Clara Brattain were returning from a Christmas entertainment, when a northbound freight train on the Monon struck their carriage. Miss Brattain's skull was fractured, and she died at midnight. Mrs. Moore cannot recover. Mr. Moore was slightly injured. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were married Thursday, and this was the first time they had been away from home together.

Killed by Highwaymen.

NORRISTOWN (Pa.), Dec. 26.—A trolley car on the Schuylkill Valley Traction Company's line was held up by four highwaymen at Swedenland, near here, about 10 o'clock to-night. Conductor Charles Galloway of Norristown refused to give up his money, and was shot dead. After rifling the body of the conductor of money and a gold watch, the robbers escaped. There were four women passengers on the car. The highwaymen covered them with their weapons, but made no attempt to rob them.

A Young Lady Severely Burned.

CANTON (O.), Dec. 26.—Miss Clara Shields, daughter of R. S. Shields, former United States District Attorney, and cousin of Mrs. Day, wife of Assistant Secretary Day, was severely burned at her home to-day. Her clothing was ignited from an open gas fire place and her father, answering her shrieks for help, found her in flames. It is thought that she will recover.

England Does Not Want Them.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The "Daily Chronicle" this morning ridicules the notion that England is negotiating for the purchase of the Danish West Indies. It says: "Quite apart from the breach it would make in our relations with the United States, the purchase of more West Indian Islands is the very last thing England would think of."

Coaling Station for United States.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—A dispatch from Copenhagen to the "Daily Mail" says the Washington Executive has made overtures to Denmark for the sale of a narrow but carefully defined stretch of land in Northwestern Greenland, and where the Americans intend to establish naval and coaling stations.

ON COAST DIAMONDS.

CALIFORNIA MARKETS DEFEAT BUSHNELL-ALERTS.

The Santa Claras Win a Hotly Contested Game From the Santa Cruz Team.

ALAMEDA, Dec. 26.—The Bushnell Alerts and the California Markets played baseball on the Alameda grounds this afternoon, the latter winning by a score of 10 to 3. The home team led up to the sixth inning, the score standing 3 to 1 in its favor, when the Markets went to bat. Three men on bases, with two outs. Iberg hit a slow ball to Schmeer, and the latter let it roll between his feet, one man scoring. Joe Barry, who played right field for the Markets, came up and hit out a three-bagger. The Alerts were unable to score again, while the visitors added to their runs in each remaining inning. Moskimon and Hammond and Iberg and Stroecker were the opposing batteries.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—At Central Park to-day, by a score of 4 to 2, the Santa Clara baseball club won a hotly contested game from the Santa Cruz nine. The only exceptional features of the game were a double play by Lochhead and the good pitching of Steffani. The play was as follows:

Base hits—Santa Clara 7; Santa Cruz 6. Runs—Santa Clara 4; Santa Cruz 2. Two-base hits—Hughes 2. First base on errors—Santa Clara 3; Santa Cruz 4. First base on called balls—Santa Clara 6; Santa Cruz 4. Left on bases—Santa Clara 10; Santa Cruz 9. Struck out—Steffani 1. Hit by pitched ball—Arelannes, Hughes and Graham. Double plays—Lochhead to Farry; Williams to Arelannes to Fitzgerald. Time of game—1 hour 50 minutes.

In yesterday's game the Santa Cruz team defeated the Santa Claras by a score of 1 to 0.

SAN BERNARDINO, Dec. 26.—San Bernardino defeated Redlands to-day in a game of baseball by a score of 16 to 9. The attendance was light, on account of a north wind.

SAN JOSE, Dec. 26.—The baseball teams of the Garden City Gun Club and Garden City Wheelmen played their second match game to-day. This time the marksmen had revenge for the defeat they received in the first game. Score: Gun Club 18; Wheelmen 6.

GRASS VALLEY, Dec. 26.—The valley team of Suisun were defeated by the Monarchs to-day by a score of 5 to 2.

Yesterday Suisun's football team defeated the Columbus team of this city by a score of 16 to 6.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—The Los Angeles baseball team defeated the Santa Anas here to-day. Score 16 to 7.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY IN PENNSYLVANIA.

An Aged Farmer and His Wife Killed by an Unknown Assassin.

Found Dead at Their Home With Ghastly Holes in Their Heads.

An Electric Car Runs Wild at Providence, Rhode Island, Jumps the Track and Runs Into a Building, Badly Wrecking the Car—Three of the Occupants Seriously Injured.

INDIANA (Pa.), Dec. 26.—Milton New and his aged wife were shot to death by an unknown assassin at their home near Jacksonville, nine miles southwest of here, some time during Christmas. Their bodies were found at 9 o'clock that night by their son Henry, who was passing through and stopped to pay a Christmas call on his parents.

New was one of the most prominent and prosperous farmers in the vicinity in which he lived.

Officers are to-day scouring the country for the murderer, but as yet he has not been found.

When young New tried to enter his parents' home he found the doors locked. He forced his way in through the cellar, and on entering the sitting room, a horrible sight met him. In a chair near the window lay the form of his mother, her face entirely blown away. At her feet was all that remained of her husband, and a ghastly hole in the side of his head told the tale of his murder. At his side lay a double barreled shotgun, the implement of death.

All of the walls, ceilings and articles of furniture in the room were spattered with blood, and on the ceiling was a good-sized dent, in which was imbedded a piece of the woman's skull.

For a time there was a suspicion of suicide, but as the facts in the case developed, the murder theory gained strength. The woman was killed with birdshot, the husband with buckshot. There were no marks of powder on his face, something which, it is said, would have been impossible to avoid had suicide been committed with a shotgun. There is nothing to indicate that the crime was committed for plunder, as in Mr. New's pocket was a $10 bill and a $20 bill lay on the top of a dresser.

The friends say they have a clew which they will at once begin work on to trace down the murderer.

A RUNAWAY CAR.

Jumps the Track and Runs Into a Building.

PROVIDENCE (R. I.), Dec. 26.—At noon to-day a Camp-street electric car ran wild and rushed down Olney street hill with the speed of an express train, and shot across North Main street and into the corner of a frame building. The impact of the collision was so great that some of the heavy iron work on the car was doubled up, and the corner post of the building, which acted as a buffer for the runaway car, was badly splintered.

That the occupants of the car escaped with their lives is remarkable. There were about ten passengers in the car at the time besides the motorman and conductor. The injured are:

Mrs. Sarah Maluiski, crushed and bruised in the abdomen, and head cut.

Conductor I. F. Mott, shoulder dislocated and bruised about the upper part of the body.

Charles Holmes, bruised about right leg and back injured.

One of the most surprising things was the escape of the motorman, Louis E. Morrow, who stuck to his post.

SUICIDE AT WASHINGTON.

A Young Woman Shoots Herself Through the Heart.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The recent tragic death of Miss Leila Herbert, the daughter of the ex-Secretary of the Navy, is given as the reason for the suicide which occurred to-day of Miss Annie Virginia Wells, an accomplished young society woman, and a daughter of Louis S. Wells, a well-known attorney. The young woman shot herself through the heart with her brother's revolver at the residence of her father, 1311 N street, northwest.

Miss Wells had met Miss Herbert a number of times, and was much attached to her. She herself had been confined to the house for four months by illness, and this, combined with the shock caused by the death of her friend, brought on melancholia, which resulted in suicide. The deed was apparently entirely unpremeditated, and coming immediately after Christmas festivities in the house, completely prostrated her aged mother. Miss Wells was 33 years of age and very beautiful.

CHARLES HARRISON DEAD.

Was a Prominent Figure in British Politics.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Charles Harrison, Radical member of Parliament for Plymouth since 1895, is dead.

Charles Harrison was born August 1, 1835, and was educated at Kings College, London. He succeeded Sir John Hutton as Vice-Chairman of the London County Council when Sir John succeeded Lord Rosebery as Chairman of that body. In the first and second councils he was Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, and became known prominently as the father of the modern application of the principle of betterment by public improvements. By profession he was a solicitor. Frederick Harrison, the well-known essayist and President of the London Positivist Committee, is his brother.

BULL FIGHT IN MEXICO.

Tomas Mazzaltini Narrowly Escapes With His Life.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 26.—The last of the series of bull fights by Mazzaltini was given this afternoon, and was attended by 7,000 people. Tomas Mazzaltini narrowly escaped with his life, being tossed by an infuriated bull and gored in the hand. Ten horses were killed and six bulls, the usual number. The fight was not up to the standard.

Mr. Bryan and wife arrived in Guadalajara this afternoon, and were received by the representatives of the State Government of Falisco, of which State that city is the capital, and by the American residents.

CABINET CRISIS IN JAPAN.

Premier Matsukata and the Minister of Marine Resign.

YOKOHAMA, Dec. 26.—The Imperial Diet has been dissolved before the House had started a discussion of the motion of no confidence in the Cabinet. It is expected that there will be several ministerial changes.

The Japanese Diet was reopened on Monday last with such a union of the three chief political parties as to make it certain that a vote of confidence in the Government would be carried. On Friday last the Mikado in the speech from the throne declared that the relations of Japan with all the foreign Powers were friendly, though he made no specific allusions to the complications in China. He announced that the Government intended to submit fresh taxation measures, the character of which it is to unite three chief political parties in opposition, and then introduce a bill amending the codes, civil and criminal.

Count Matsukata, the Premier, and Admiral the Marquis Saigo Tsugumichi, Minister of Marine, have resigned. It is probable that Marquis Ito will be the new Premier.

LIEUTENANT PEARY.

Very Enthusiastic Over His Reception in England.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the "World" from Washington says: Lieutenant Robert E. Peary, the Arctic explorer, who returned from England on the St. Paul, immediately upon his arrival in New York took the train for Washington.

Lieutenant Peary, when seen by a reporter to-night, was enthusiastic over his reception in England and the gift to him by Alfred C. Harmsworth, the wealthy Englishman, of the Windward a fine ship, which the explorer will use in his trip to the Arctic regions next year. Mr. Harmsworth also furnished funds for the expedition.

Lieutenant Peary said that the Windward would be sent to New York early in the spring, and he would start north the latter part of July.

Lieutenant Peary started for New York to-night to finish work on his narrative, which is in the publisher's hands.

H. MAITLAND KERSEY.

No Longer Represents the White Star Line Steamship Company.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—H. Maitland Kersey, who for the last five years has represented the White Star Line Steamship Company, in this city, has, according to a report to-day, actually severed his connection with that company. He sailed for Europe on Saturday, one day after the arrival in this city from London of J. Bruce Ismay, son of Mr. Ismay, of the firm of Ismay, Imre & Co., general agents of the line. Young Ismay was the predecessor of Kersey in the New York office. Just why Kersey is out is not known. Prior to sailing he declined to discuss the matter, and Mr. Ismay said he would have nothing to say until to-morrow.

DOUBLE MURDER AT BOSTON.

Two Men Killed in the North End on Christmas Night.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—There seems to be little information gleaned by the police to-day to clear up the mystery of a double murder in the north end last night. The dead men are Joseph Catolari, a boarding-house keeper of Hanover street, and Savario Quartario of Moon street, a boarder in the house. The men under arrest who will be charged with the murders are Sarario Careli, who is in the hospital suffering from a knife wound, and a friend named Cappoccino. It is said that the trouble which ended in the killing grew out of a feud originating in Italy.

COMTE LE MERCIER DEAD.

Was the Senior Member of the French Chamber of Deputies.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Comte Anatole Le Mercier, senior member of the Chamber of Deputies, is dead.

Comte Le Mercier was born June 25, 1820. He was one of the seven Deputies from Charente-Inferieure, personally representing the first division of Saintes. He was a descendant of Le Mercier who figured in France during the revolution. His father was for many years a member of the Chamber. He received the decoration of the Legion of Honor, and published several volumes.

A Bear in Possession of a Car.

MILWAUKEE (Wis.), Dec. 26.—A large cinnamon bear which was being shipped by express from Leavenworth, Kan., to Baraboo, Wis., escaped from its crate in the express car at Western Union Junction, on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad yesterday, while en route to its destination. The express messenger was driven from the car, the bear taking complete possession, devouring packages of apples and candy and destroying way bills. When the train arrived in Milwaukee it took ten men to secure the vicious animal.

Blown From His Cab.

BRIDGETON (N. J.), Dec. 26.—James Bowers, an engineer on the West Jersey Railroad, was blown out of his cab late last night between Husted and Paladin. The wind was blowing a gale, when a sudden gust caught him and whirled him to the roadside. The fireman backed the train and found him some distance off. He was painfully, but not badly hurt.

En Route to Washington.

OTTAWA (Ont.), Dec. 26.—Hon. Clifton Sifton, Minister of the Interior, and J. A. McKenna of the Interior Department, left to-day for Washington. Mr. Sifton goes on the invitation of Secretary of War Alger to discuss the best means of sending relief to the miners in the Yukon district. Mr. Sifton expects to be in Washington about a week.

FATAL FLAMES AT LONDON.

A Woman and Her Nine Children Burned to Death.

Fire Consumed the Cottage at an Early Hour in the Morning.

A British Steamer Puts Into Port at St. Johns, Newfoundland, With Her Cargo in Flames and the Ship in a Bad State.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Jarvis and her nine children, the youngest a baby, were burned to death at 5 o'clock this morning in a four-room cottage occupied by the Jarvises and two families in Fife street, Bethnal Green, London. The family occupies the upper floor.

By a strange coincidence, Mr. Jarvis, the woman's husband, who had been suffering from consumption, died in the work house infirmary this afternoon without having heard of the disaster.

Mrs. Jarvis earned a scant livelihood by making match boxes and her rooms were filled with inflammable material.

HER CARGO ON FIRE.

The British Steamer Lambert's Point in a Bad Way.

ST. JOHNS (N. F.), Dec. 26.—The British steamer Lambert's Point, Captain Humphreys, seven days from Norfolk, Va., for Liverpool, with cattle, cotton, grain and a general cargo, has arrived here with her cotton on fire, and the ship in a bad state.

On Friday afternoon the fire was discovered in the compartment amidships. It gained headway rapidly. Holes were cut in the cabin flooring, pipes inserted and the compartment flooded with steam and water. The captain headed the vessel for this port, and for forty hours nobody rested, all hands battling the fire, which steadily gained.

It then became necessary to flood the fore compartment, which gave the ship a list of eleven degrees to the starboard. She met terrible weather in trying to reach here. Her sides and deck were almost unbearable with heat, and the provisions were spoiled by steam and smoke. The paint is now peeling off her sides, while gangs of men are landing the cattle, almost maddened with heat.

Captain Humphreys admits that he could not have controlled the fire twenty-four hours longer.

Holes are being cut in her sides to admit more steam in the hope of having the fire subdued by Tuesday. Nearly the entire cargo was damaged.

A BARGE MISSING.

Cut Adrift Saturday Night—Nothing Heard of Her Since.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—The tug C. B. Sanford, Captain Pierce, while coming around Cape Cod Saturday night, towing the barges Navaug and Canistee, lost the last-named barge, and up to a late hour to-night nothing had been heard of the missing vessel.

The accident was caused, so Captain Pierce says, by a large four-masted schooner passing between the two barges, cutting the hawser and setting the Canistee adrift.

The tug was unable to find the drifting barge, so Captain Pierce decided to tow the Navaug across the bay to Boston light, where she was anchored, and the Sanford then returned in search of the Canistee. All day yesterday the tug steamed about in the vicinity of where she parted from the missing craft, but to no avail, and when the thick snow set in the Sanford returned to Boston. After taking on a fresh supply of coal they will resume the search.

The Canistee is commanded by Captain Rausch of Hoboken, has a cargo of 1,000 tons of coal, and carries a crew of four men.

Andrew Carnegie's Aunt Dead.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Catherine Morrison Hogan, only aunt of Andrew Carnegie, died this morning, the result of a stroke of paralysis. She had been in a semi-conscious state since December 10th. Mrs. Hogan was born in Dumferline, Scotland, 86 years ago, and had been in this country fifty-seven years. Her remains will be privately cremated on Tuesday.

Death of An Aged Minister.

WILMINGTON (N. C.), Dec. 26.—Rev. W. W. Taylor, aged 86 years, the oldest Presbyterian preacher in this State, died to-day. He was graduated from Yale sixty years ago. At one time he was pastor of the church which President McKinley's wife's parents attended, and officiated at their marriage.

Henry George Memorial Fund.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The committee having charge of the Henry George memorial fund have made another appeal for subscriptions. In their report the committee state that $13,000 has been subscribed, but that this is in no wise adequate for the erection of a memorial such as had been contemplated.

Supreme Court Clerk Dead.

CHARLESTON (W. Va.), Dec. 26.—O. S. Long, Clerk of the State Supreme Court, and Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Masonry for the southern jurisdiction of the United States, died here to-night of dysentery after a short illness.

Killed His Brother.

CHATTANOOGA (Tenn.), Dec. 26.—Will and John Livingston, brothers, of Blue Creek Mines, Alabama, quarreled last night over a trivial matter while drinking, and the former shot the latter to death. The murderer is 18 years old, and is now in jail at Birmingham.

Duties to be Reduced.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 26.—The Victoria duties on woolen and silk materials wearing apparel and woolen piece goods will be reduced 5 per cent. after February 1st next.