

DESTRUCTION WROUGHT IN JAPAN

Terrible Disaster Caused by the Recent Typhoon.

More Than Six Hundred Lives Lost in One District Alone.

Fearful That the Total Death Roll for Ehime Prefecture Will Reach a Thousand When Further Details Are Received—Villages Almost Entirely Wiped Out, and Hundreds of Their Inhabitants Killed.

VANCOUVER (B. C.), Sept. 20.—Mail advices on the Empress of India say that during the recent typhoon the most serious disaster was at Beshu mines, in the Arahime district. Out of 12,500 people employed at the mines more than 600 were killed. So far some 200 bodies have been unearthed, and 100 discovered in Yoshino and other rivers. About 200 more bodies are believed to be buried in the valley called Kenkadani.

At the village of Kano Mura thirty houses out of a total of fifty-three were washed away, 120 persons perishing.

It is feared that the total of the death roll for Ehime prefecture will reach 1,000 when further details are forthcoming.

At Sumino Mura fifty-seven out of seventy-four houses were washed away, and five thousand persons, including 120 persons, fourteen families have been annihilated.

In Okayama district six persons were killed, in Jodogen twenty-six, Okugori ten, Kochi thirty-six, and Takamatsu 208.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

Relating to Collecting of Assessments for Street Improvements.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—William Ede, a street contractor, brought an action in the Superior Court against Joseph Cuneo and other property owners for the foreclosure of a lien against their property on a street assessment. In the lower court Ede received judgment. Final judgment was defeated for the reasons that the engineer had never made an engineer's certificate of the work.

It seems that the Superintendent had filed the assessment, diagram, warrant and what purported to be the engineer's certificate, which had never been made. Notwithstanding that this was not duly, properly or legally recorded, the contractor went on with the assessment.

The Supreme Court takes the position that proceedings in street assessment are purely statutory. When the contractor found that there was an irregularity in the record he should have demanded his right, that the engineer's certificate should be a part of the record. He went on and accepted such documents as the Street Superintendent delivered to him.

In failing to do so he lost his case. The opinion, which is of no small importance, was written by Justice Harrison, and concurred in by Justices Henshaw, Temple and McFarland. Chief Justice Beatty and Justice Van Dyke dissented, on the broad ground that because the Street Superintendent failed to perform his duty the contractor should not be made to suffer the loss of his labor and material.

MISSION ROCK.

The Government Takes Steps to Gain Possession of the Property.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—The Government has taken steps to secure possession of Mission Rock, which has been held by the California Dry Dock Company since 1870.

To-day United States District Attorney Combs filed an ejectment suit in the Circuit Court against the dry dock company to secure possession of the property, together with \$250,000 damages and \$50,000 in rents.

Instructions were received some time ago from Washington to begin proceedings to condemn the property.

The case will be hotly contested, the defendants holding that the State patent granted them in 1870 gives them a valid title to the island.

Smallpox Among the Soldiers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—There has been no spread of the smallpox at the detention camp. There are seventeen men being held, three of whom have the disease and two more are suspected. These are kept in one section of the camp, and the other fourteen are kept away from them. No more cases have been reported from the regiment at Angel Island. The hospital officials are much encouraged over the prospect.

Double Tragedy in Illinois.

The Aged Cashier of a Bank at the Town of Palatine

Fatally Beaten by a Young Man Giving the Name of Walter Lawton.

The Latter Mortally Shot During a Scuffle With a Farmer Who Intervened to Prevent an Outright Murder—The Looting of the Bank Believed by the Police to Have Been Lawton's Design.

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Frederick J. Filbert, the aged cashier of the Palatine Bank, at Palatine, Ill., twenty-six miles north of Chicago, is lying close to death as the result of an attack made upon him to-day by a young man who gives the name of Walter Lawton. The latter, who is unknown to anybody at Palatine, and apparently of good education, is in the County Jail suffering from a bullet wound in the abdomen, which will probably prove fatal. Henry Plagge, 70 years of age, a farmer, whose intervention at a critical moment prevented the outright murder of the cashier, is at his home west of the village, cut and bruised and disabled as a result of his struggle with Lawton, whose motive for the assault, according to his repeated statements, was not robbery.

The attack upon Filbert was made with a tack hammer, and the cashier was struck at least a dozen times before Plagge intervened.

The attack occurred at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Cashier Filbert was alone in the bank when Lawton, whom he recognized as a visitor of last Friday, who had sought a loan on a supposed farm, entered. Lawton called Filbert into the outer office to consult a map which hung on the wall, and started a quarrel. Filbert is small and feeble, and could offer little resistance to Lawton, who pounded him savagely on the head with a small tack hammer. Repeated blows from the sharp hammer sent the old man to the floor, but his cries attracted Farmer Plagge. As the latter entered he was met by Lawton who said:

"Filbert is in the back room, and I guess there is something that matter with him."

Plagge pushed open the door, and as he stooped over the prostrate cashier Lawton struck him three times on the back of the head with the hammer. The old farmer turned on his knees and grasped his assailant about the legs. Both fell to the floor and struggled for possession of the hammer. Lawton returned repeated blows with it, until Lawton drew his revolver. The men fought for the weapon and in the scuffle for it it was discharged, the bullet entering Lawton's abdomen.

The wound weakened Lawton so much that, although he still fought, Plagge had little trouble in throwing him to the floor and holding him until assistance arrived.

The crowd which gathered rapidly after the pistol shot separated the two men and took the supposed robber to the village lock-up. He was severely wounded, but recovered from his injuries and this fact was all that saved him from violence at the hands of the excited crowd that followed him to jail.

Lawton was brought to Chicago on a late train to-night and placed in the County Jail. Although it was manifest that the name of Lawton was the name of the man who was shot, the precaution to cut all initials from his linen before the attack, for the best avoidance of identification. He insisted that he had given his actual name.

He denied that he had entered the bank for the purpose of robbery, and claimed that he had entered for the purpose of borrowing money. His wife's affections for Filbert took place five years ago at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City. Filbert declared that he has not been in New York for twenty years.

Late to-night it was announced that both Filbert and Lawton died. The former's skull is fractured in two places and the latter cannot survive the wound in his abdomen.

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The police have no doubt that the looting of the bank was Lawton's design. The cash balance of the institution was \$100,000, all of which was in the vaults at the time the assault took place.

DEWEY RECEPTION.

The Grand Army Will Not Take Part in the Parade.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Unless the plans of General Charles F. Roe, Chairman of the Land Parade Committee of the Dewey celebration are changed, the Grand Army of the Republic will not be represented in the parade.

Joseph W. Kay, Department Commander of the New York G. A. R., to-day sent a letter to General Roe declining the invitation for a number of reasons. These are in brief that the G. A. R. forces have been placed at the head of the procession instead of the rear of the column; that General Roe has taken no cognizance of Commander-in-Chief Albert D. Shaw, and has sent him no invitation to any of the functions.

Chief among the reasons given by General Roe in his final refusal to alter the position assigned to the G. A. R. was that the parade would be in every sense a military one, and that according to regulations such an unarmed body of men as the G. A. R. cannot march before a body of men bearing arms.

The G. A. R. officials, however, claim that the parade is in no sense a military, but a civic one.

General Roe estimates that there will be 32,300 men in line.

PAPER GOING UP.

The Advance Will Reduce Profits of Newspaper Publishers.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—News paper has gone up a quarter of a cent a pound within the last three weeks. The newspapers of New York City, according to an official of the company which supplies all but two of the papers printed in this city, use 400 tons of paper daily at a cost of 2 cents a pound. The recent sharp advance means a case of \$2,000 a day more to the newspapers, or \$730,000 a year over

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BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

Agriculture and Horticulture.

There is just now great interest in Pacific Coast agriculture and horticulture, for which reason the following will be of interest:

AN ARMY IN VINEYARDS. San Diego Union: The work of picking the raisin grapes on the 500-acre Boston ranch in El Cajon Valley will begin this morning. One hundred and thirty men will be employed on this ranch and it is expected that the greater part of the work will be finished in two weeks' time. Grape picking was begun on the Fisher ranch yesterday, and other large vineyards in the valley, including the Holt, Major Chase and Richards ranches will also begin work this week. Altogether there will be about 500 men employed at grape picking in the valley. It has not been an easy thing to secure that many men, which is a good indication that most of the men in this section are already at work and are not out of employment.

Although the crop is somewhat light it is better than was expected several months ago. The weather in the past few weeks has been very favorable for the maturing of grapes and the vineyardists are naturally encouraged. There has been no desert wind as in previous years, and the damp nights have also been of benefit to the grapes. There will be more than half a crop, which is considered good, considering the two years of drought. The quality is also good when the dryness of the season is taken into consideration. In 1897 the yield was 1,300 tons, but the past two seasons have been dry ones and last year the output was only about 400 tons.

The packing houses on the Boston ranch are the largest and best constructed of any in the county—probably in the State. A number of valuable improvements were made during the past season. The stemming and grading machinery was remodeled, and steam power substituted for a Pelton water wheel; but the most important change was the putting in of a seeding machine, the work of which is simply perfect. It is the invention of Joseph B. Crosby, brother of William S. Crosby, who, with Mr. South, owns the ranch.

Dr. Dunn, the well known Pomona fumigator, says the reasons why olive trees in and about Pomona have not been profitable in the last year are climatic causes, first; secondly, neglected trees, and allowing them to become scaly, another. But it is beyond question that there are locations in which olive trees are a success, as for instance, in San Diego Valley and many other localities that I have not mentioned. Trees must be free from scale to bear fruitfully, otherwise failure will ensue.

Fumigation of olive orchards with hydrocyanic acid gas does effectually rid olive trees of black scale and fungi, thus placing the trees in clean, healthy condition, so that they make vigorous growth.

AS TO BELGIAN HARES. R. S. Storms, in Poultry Culture: As this is the time in the year for one to have a lot of young hares on hand one does not realize the necessity of having some experience in feeding stock as the feeding of young and does as they few on oats and good dry feed, almost anyone can raise a hare after he has reached two and one-half or three months old, as from that time on he appears to take hold of life anew and you can see him grow from day to day. But from the time he is born up to this stage of life it does not take much to knock him out. The best feed I have found is good clean white oats and alfalfa or clover hay. I know it is a big temptation to give them green stuff at this age, as they are very fond of it, but have as very poor success feeding anything except the other two feeds to young and does as they few on oats and good dry feed, almost anyone can raise a hare after he has reached two and one-half or three months old, as from that time on he appears to take hold of life anew and you can see him grow from day to day. But from the time he is born up to this stage of life it does not take much to knock him out. The best feed I have found is good clean white oats and alfalfa or clover hay. 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