

FRIGHTFUL DISASTER IN WASHINGTON.

Terrific Explosion in a Coal Mine

In Which From Seventy to Eighty Men Were at Work.

Twenty Dead Bodies Already Taken Out by the Relief Corps.

While a Number of the Workmen Escaped, There Are Many Yet Missing, and Are Believed to Be Buried Under Fallen Rock and Earth.

CARBONADO (Wash.), Dec. 9.—Shortly before 11:45 o'clock this forenoon this extraordinarily quiet coal mining village was stunned with the first report of a terrific subterranean explosion in the mine of the Carbon Hill Company, the tunnels of which run for miles under the town. There was an ominous rumbling, smothered sound for a few moments, and then it ceased abruptly. The people who had been accustomed to a livelihood by mining knew at once what this meant, and stood around with blanched faces. Apprehensions of some fearful disaster were confirmed in a little while, with information that the morning shift in tunnel No. 7 had been caught in an explosion of fire damp. Between seventy and eighty men were at work in the mine at the time, and the meager report conveyed the information that all must have been killed, as there was no chance of escape. Those who were not killed outright would be hemmed in by the falling walls and the timbers and suffocated by the fumes and smoke before any opportunity of relief could come. A rush of the inhabitants was made in the direction of the mouth of the tunnel. Women, the wives of the men supposed to be in the shift, ran to and fro screaming and wringing their hands with anguish, crying children clinging to their skirts. It was all that D. T. Davis, the Superintendent of the mine, could do to keep the friends of the doomed miners and their wives from plunging madly into the tunnel's mouth. The coal mines here are those of the Carbon Hill Coal Company, but they really belong to the Southern Pacific Railway Company. The coal is a soft, bituminous variety, productive of a large proportion of gas, and has been much used in gas manufacture. The foreman in charge of the shift was Jonah Davis. It is said that seventy-eight men were working under him. Twenty bodies, mangled almost beyond recognition, have so far been taken out by the relief corps. So far details of the disaster are meager, as Superintendent Davis and Foreman Jonah Davis of the day shift are now down in the mine engaged in the rescue. The number of men employed in the first day shift was seventy-two. Their hours are from 7 a. m. to 3 p. m. The explosion occurred between 10 and 11 a. m., as near as can be ascertained. Jonah Davis, the foreman, escaped unhurt, and besides him about twenty Flins. Most of the men are Welsh, and several of the Welsh miners also escaped, but they immediately turned to and went back into the mine in an endeavor to rescue those in the mine. The following, killed either by the explosion or suffocated by black damp, which usually follows, have been taken from the tunnel: Rees Jones, fore boss, aged 36, unmarried; Dan Davis, 18; Evan Lewis, 20; Richard Burr, a young man, leaves widow and child; John Jones, 64, leaves widow and married daughter; Thomas Edwards, 40, leaves widow; Evan Richards, 30, leaves widow and six children; Howell Meredith, 59, leaves widow and nine children; Joe Thomas, 27, single; Evan Lewis, single; Watt Jones, 30, leaves a mother; William Richards, 48, leaves a family; — Mullen, 30, leaves a mother; Gustav Knutt, H. Knutt, — Johnson, 40, leaves a family; Ben Sedder, 40, leaves father and son; B. Thomas, 50, leaves a family; William M. Davis, 35, leaves a family. The first five bodies to be brought up the long incline were those of Watt Jones, Joe Thomas, Evan Lewis, Richard Dare and Daniel Davis. Watt Jones was the chief starter. Daniel Davis was a son of the foreman of the shift. None of the bodies were at first recognizable, because the faces of the dead men were charred and blackened beyond identification. It was only after they were conveyed to the morgue and the corpses were washed that it could be told who they were. Howell Meredith was working considerably above the water level when the

explosion occurred, and he lowered himself down a timber chute to rescue one of his sons, Daniel Meredith, working below. The son came out unhurt, but his father met with death. The tunnel in which the explosion took place is about one and a quarter miles in length, on a water level under the southwest part of the town. There are several air chutes running up to the surface of Wingate Hill, west of here. The force of the explosion was such that it knocked down John Ryan, so-called a Flin, who was working at the eighth crosscut, 320 feet above the water level. The other Flins escaped up through another timber chute running up to the slope of the hill. These were all uninjured, but most of them left the mine at once without helping the rescue party. I saw Lewis was working with Howell Meredith at the time, but he managed to escape. Ryan, the Flin, had all he could do to crawl through the fallen timbers, which blocked all egress. Immediately after the explosion the foreman, John Davis, gave the alarm to the men working on the different levels, shouting as loud as he could: "Look out for the black damp, and get out for your lives." The Flins were quick to take advantage of the timber chute. Altogether some thirty men escaped by this means, many of them being hoisted up by ropes. Rees Meredith, a son of Howell Meredith, descended the incline from near the company's store and office, about two hours after the explosion, with several other men. They could only go a distance of a half mile when their progress was checked by the black damp, which is air from which all oxygen has been burned, and is strongly charged with carbonic acid gas. Ever since the catastrophe Superintendent Davis and Foreman Jonah Davis have been fighting against the great odds of this deadly gas, aided by the brave Welshmen. Just at this moment, 8:45 p. m., a number of men have been pulled up through the timber chute near the summit of Wingate Hill from a depth of several hundred feet. They were nicked up from six of the levels near the water level. Three more have been rescued up through the inclined tramway. All of them are badly blackened and burned, and they are immediately taken to the company's hospital and are wrapped in cloth soaked in linseed oil by doctors Jewart of Carbonado, Johnson of Fairfax, Charles Taylor of Wilkeson and Loughten and Rummel of Tacoma. The scenes at the hospitals are pitiful. Men whose clothing is almost burned from their bodies are laid out as fast as they arrive, their eyebrows and hair singed and their faces black and bleeding. Women and children surround the building weeping. A crowd of voiceless men stand in front of the mouth of the incline, waiting to see who of their friends will next be brought out alive. Occasionally a shapeless body comes up on the car. Rescue parties are working both in the incline and at the old timber chute on the hill. Sadness fills the Meredith home. Mrs. Meredith, with eyes flowing with tears, fears that not only has she lost her husband, but her son, Daniel Meredith, who, although said to be saved, has not appeared across his accustomed threshold. A crowd of sympathizing women, neighbors, are grouped around her offering their consolations. At present it is stated confidently that a large proportion of the unfortunate miners may be brought out alive. It was customary to work 115 men divided into three shifts, but the first, the morning shift, was the largest. Several years ago an explosion of fire damp occurred in this mine, and two men lost their lives. Nobody so far blames the company, as the explosion is regarded as an accident common to all coal mining districts. Timber gangs are now at work replacing the deranged timbers and incidentally rescuing the imprisoned miners or taking out an occasional body. The fans are working well, and most of the black damp is rapidly sucked out of the mines. The fans were not stopped at all by the explosion. The work of rescuing the living was completed at 9 o'clock. By that time the mine had been purified by the fans to such an extent as to permit free ingress and egress. Down in the canyon, a mile from the town, is the tunnel mouth leading to Number 7. Nearly two miles up the hillside is the shaft to the mine, and it was here that the work was pushed vigorously. Men went down in little parties of two or more, and searched for the living as fast as the deadly damp would allow progress. Those who were brought to the surface were muffled in sackings to protect their burns until they could be hoisted to the top of the incline and carried to the hospital. There were not many of these, but the search was continued until all hope of saving life was at an end. Many cases of heroism on the part of the workers were brought to light. Men would continue until overcome by the gases. They would be carried to the air to revive, and go down again. In one case a miner named Meredith escaped to the pit mouth after the explosion. He had been working with his son, and the boy did not come out with him. The father returned to look for the boy, and he is now among the dead. His son was rescued alive. The first body to be brought to the surface was that of Watt Jones, the only support of a widowed mother. The

MONTAGUE WHITE ON WAR IN AFRICA.

Krugger's Former Agent, Now Living Quietly in England,

Discusses the Conflict Between the British and Boer Forces.

Believes That Both Sides Will Grow Tired After More Hard Fighting Has Taken Place, and That Then an Offer From President McKinley to Arbitrate Will Be Accepted.

(Copyright, 1899, by Associated Press.) LONDON, Dec. 9.—A representative of the Associated Press has discovered the whereabouts of Montague White, the former Boer agent here, who, after spending the recent weeks with Dr. Leyds at Brussels, has returned to his home in England, where he is living quietly. While he has no official connection with the Transvaal, Mr. White keeps in touch with those who sympathize with the Boers. He has been invited to lecture in the United States, but has declined. Mr. White intends to return to Johannesburg, where he has much property, when the war is over. But he doubts if his holdings there are worth much, believing the Boers will wreck the town and mines before surrendering. "We no longer," said Mr. White, "have cable connection with President Kruger, so I am unable to speak definitely regarding the Boer opinion of the progress of the war. I do believe, however, that after both sides have had more fighting they will grow tired and an offer by President McKinley to arbitrate will be accepted. President Kruger, I believe, is not prepared to accept the offer, and that will not be reached before battles are fought far harder than have yet marked the campaign. "Even if President Kruger wished to make terms he could not do so. The women alone would prevent it. For the Boer women, though used to the privations and taking little part in the affairs of men, when roused to the present pitch are, perhaps, a more serious factor than the Boer commands. The British public is only just beginning to realize the extent of the disaffection in Cape Colony. When the Boers all over nothing will have been accomplished, for the Dutch, though solemnly obedient, will take no part and no interest in international matters, harboring, with racial tenacity, the memory of their wrongs and instilling hate of the English into their numerous children, thus laying the seeds of continual unrest. "The removal of the Irish magistrates exhibiting tendencies to sympathize with the Boers continues at a lively rate. Connor O'Kelly, Chairman of the Mayo County Council, has been expelled from office, while in the latest formal transfer of the Caroline, Marianne and Pelew Islands to Germany had reached Macassar on his way back to Herbertshoop, reports that the prospects at Panapa are favorable for a peaceful development. Governor Hall will take up his residence there. Perfect tranquility reigns at Yap and Saigan, the principal islands of the West Carolines and Marianne, respectively. Coal has been discovered in the Pelews, and it is also expected that gold will be found. Failure Due to the Hurricane. PONCE (Porto Rico), Dec. 9.—The first failure on account of the hurricane is that of Felicit Costa & Co., who have been declared bankrupt in the United States Provisional Court. Their liabilities are \$400,000 and assets \$500,000, but the latter consist largely of non-negotiable paper of planters and others. Henry Fritz has been appointed Commissioner and Hermino Armstrong receiver. The firm has been established thirty-five years, and did a large coffee and general commission business. Germans in Samoa Pleaded. BERLIN, Dec. 9.—Dispatches received here to-day from Apia, Samoa, under date of November 27th, say that the news of the final settlement of the Samoan question has been hailed with great satisfaction by the German residents and a large majority of the Samoans. The dispatches add that Malitonga, the Samoan people are pressed over the matter, and that a majority of the English residents begrudge Germany her success. Distribution of Seeds. WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Department of Agriculture will begin its distribution of seeds a little earlier this year than last, shipping them south the beginning of January and perhaps sending a few shortly before the first. This year the seeds for distribution to all parts of the country will consist of 13,000,000 packets of vegetable seeds, 1,588,000 of flower seeds besides field and lawn grass seeds. The Revolt in Venezuela. CARACAS, Dec. 9. via Havant cable. —A great battle is expected to take place to-day at Maracaibo. The Government has stopped private messages. An American steamer was not permitted to enter Maracaibo. The report that the Colombia army would invade Venezuela is untrue. Death of a Prominent Southerner. NEW HAVEN (Conn.), Dec. 9.—Judge Eliezer K. Foster of Gainesville, Florida, died at the hospital in this city last night. Judge Foster came North for his health about a week ago. He was a Trustee of the University of the South at Sawanee, Tenn., and held other prominent positions in the South. A Washington Mansion Burned. WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Early to-day fire totally destroyed the Welling mansion, at Fourteenth street and Union Place, occupied by Dr. T. H. French. Loss on residence \$90,000; contents about \$50,000. Dr. French was slightly burned while trying to save the female servants.

THE ROBERTS INQUIRY RESUMED.

A Secret and Also an Open Session Held by the Committee.

Proceedings of the Hearing Behind Closed Doors Later on Made Public.

Roberts Pleads Not Guilty to the Charges of Polygamy and Then Offers a Demurrer to the Jurisdiction of the Committee—The Alleged Second and Third Wives of the Accused Likely to Be Summoned as Witnesses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The consideration of the case of Mr. Roberts of Utah was resumed at 10 o'clock this morning by the House Investigating Committee, Mr. Roberts being present to plead to certain specific interrogatories which had been framed. The proceedings continued to be behind closed doors. Mr. Roberts was first asked if he conceded the existence of the court record wherein he pleaded guilty in 1889 under the Edmunds-Tucker law. This he conceded. He was next asked whether about 1887 he had married plural wives, and had lived with them since that time as wives. To the whole of this charge Roberts pleaded not guilty, and then demurred to the jurisdiction of the committee, for the following reasons: "First—On the ground of violation of constitutional rights, in that it attempted to try him for a crime without presentment of indictment by Grand Jury, and without trial before jury and due process of law. "Second—That it was an attempt to deprive him of vested property that he held in the emoluments of an office for the full term. "Third—That the only evidence that could be rightfully considered in the committee was a court record and the establishing of the guilt, confessed or proven, of the respondent, and that the committee has no right to consider any other evidence. "Fourth—That the crime alleged, namely, that of unlawful cohabitation, even if proven, would not constitute a sufficient crime to bar a member of Congress, who also has borne innocent of polygamy or unlawful cohabitation is nowhere enumerated in the Constitution as a qualification of the office of a member of Congress, nor is it named in any United States law applicable to Utah or any other State. "Mr. Roberts argued these points for nearly two hours, referring to law books and answering queries. It was a legal controversy throughout, the facts not being gone into at length. Mr. Roberts concluded by asking that his prima facie right to a seat be once considered, as the present status denied to a sovereign State representation in the House at a time when injurious legislation affecting that State might take place. At the conclusion of Mr. Roberts' statement the committee held an executive session, and then adjourned until 2 p. m. The Chairman announced that subsequent meetings would be open and publicity was also given to the official stenographer's report of the morning session. This showed that Taylor of Ohio had submitted the interrogatories. In the course of these Taylor said: "Charges are made that you were convicted in 1889 of unlawful cohabitation, and that since then you have been guilty of the same offense. Some years ago you contracted plural marriages, and ever since then have maintained polygamous relations with these wives." Taylor also stated as a basis for the inquiry that "one of the material facts to be ascertained is as to whether, or previous to October, 1889, or since, you have contracted plural marriages further than these plural wives. The committee instructs me to say that if you wish to make any statement about this or any other matter which is charged, you may do so in your own way." Mr. Roberts was also shown the affidavits on file, on which the foregoing inquiries were made. His answer was substantially as heretofore given, the written text submitted by him being as follows: "First—Roberts concedes the fact established by the records of the United States Judicial District Court in and for the Territory of Utah, submitted to his inspection, to-wit: That in 1889, in the Territory of Utah, he pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor charged against him of unlawful cohabitation. "Second—In the testimony submitted, it nowhere appears that there is any affidavit or testimony offered before the committee that Roberts, about 1887, or previous to October, 1889, or since, he contracted plural marriages further than may be inferred from his confession to the misdemeanor of unlawful cohabitation in 1889, as set out in the court records, and, therefore, on that point he enters no plea, because there is no charge of testimony alleging it. "Third—In the papers submitted which are supposed to sustain the loose and irregular charges against Roberts, it nowhere appears that there is any affidavit or testimony that Roberts, either before or since 1889, contracted plural marriages, but as to the inquiry of the committee on this subject he specifically denies that since October, 1889, he has contracted plural marriages. "Fourth—That to the charge that he contracted plural marriages, he pleaded guilty to unlawful cohabitation in the Territory of Utah, that he has lived in polygamous relations in violation of law, he pleads not guilty. "Demurrer: Roberts demurs to the proceedings instituted by the committee on these grounds: "First—That the committee has no jurisdiction over me to try me for an alleged offense or the offense charged. "Second—Roberts further demurs to the evidence and papers on which the charge of continued polygamous living is based, on the ground that the said

TAYLOR'S VOTE IN KENTUCKY.

Official Figures Give Him a Plurality of 2,382 Over Goebel.

Certificates of Election of Republican Candidates for State Offices Signed.

Commissioner Poyntz Declines to Attach His Signature to the Certificate, Excepting in the Case of the Railroad Commissioners—The Court of Appeals Announces Two Decisions Having an Important Bearing Upon the Late Election.

FRANKFORT (Ky.), Dec. 9.—At 9:45 this morning the election certificate of William S. Taylor was signed by the Election Commissioners, and he was declared to be Governor-elect of Kentucky. The official vote filed with the Secretary of State is as follows: Taylor, 193,714; Goebel, 191,331. Taylor's plurality, 2,383. The operation, which ended, for the time being at least, the bitterly fought gubernatorial contest, was conducted in the simplest manner. The majority opinion of Commissioners Pryor and Ellis and the minority opinion of Commissioner Poyntz were not read, as was the original intention. The three Commissioners walked first to the office of the Clerk of the State Supreme Court, where they filed the two opinions. They then passed into the office of the Secretary of State, Clerk Chenault, of the Board of Commissioners, read the figures, showing that the Republican candidates for office on the State ticket had received the largest number of votes, and then the certificates of election were signed at once, that of Mr. Taylor being first on the list. There were only fourteen people in the room at the time, and of this number only two were there as spectators. There was no crowd around the building, and no great manifestation in the work saved by those engaged in it and those who stood looking on. The three Commissioners were all apparently in good humor, although Commissioners Ellis and Pryor, who had done the most work in preparing the long and elaborate work, looked worn and tired. The certificates, as soon as signed, were filed with the Secretary of State, and commissions will be issued to the elected men by Governor Bradley. Late last night, when the decision had gone forth to the public, Commissioner Ellis and Pryor, whose shoulders the greatest part of the work of preparing the opinion has fallen, discussed the matter freely. "This has been a hard thing for me," he said, his eyes inflamed by the loss of sleep and the heavy lines in his face bearing witness to the truth of his statement. "It has been a hard thing for us all. I wish, however, that all of the people of the County should know how nobly Judge Pryor has acted in this matter and how conscientiously he has done what he considers his duty. He is a great man, one of the greatest, in my opinion, that Kentucky has ever produced, and I am sure his conduct in this case has been but another piece of his long and honorable career as a public officer. "Speaking for myself," continued Mr. Ellis, "I say frankly I did not like to do this thing, but the law and the evidence, there is nothing else I can do and be a honest man. "Why, I was an original Goebel man. I was a Goebel man long before he received the nomination, and I am a Goebel man now and a Goebel partisan. It would give me great pleasure than I can express to be able to tell the Democrats in this thing, but I cannot do it. The proceedings before the board were so overwhelmingly in favor of the Republicans, and they had so much the best of the arguments, that it is almost idle to discuss the affairs. There was a time when Judge Pryor and myself, only one thing to do, and that was to vote. "The statements made by Mr. Ellis have been upheld by his conduct from first to last throughout the canvass. He did all of the questioning of the attorneys and seemed to have every stage to be most anxious to obtain the truth and to be impartial to both sides. "Mr. Goebel was apparently in the best of humor after being told that Mr. Taylor's certificate had been signed. He laughed and shook his head when asked if he had anything to say. "Not a thing, I am not feeling for the moment. "When will you make a contest?" "I have not decided yet, and I, of course, cannot discuss it when I do not know it myself. "The defeated candidate was game to the last, and if there was any ill-humor in him nobody knew it but himself. Mr. Taylor was modest and reticent as usual. "I expected it, of course," he said, "I knew that if the Commissioners went by the law and evidence they could do nothing else than decide the way they have done." Commissioner Poyntz declined to sign the Republican certificate of election, saying that he stood by the opinion he had rendered, and could not consistently do so. He consented to sign the certificate of the Railroad Commissioners, however. THE COURT SETS A PRECEDENT. FRANKFORT (Ky.), Dec. 9.—At today's session of the Court of Appeals the issue ballot case from Ohio County was decided and the decision was concurred in by four of the seven Judges. The Court held that all ballots should be printed on white paper, sufficiently thick that the printing cannot be distinguished from the back, and if ballots are used at an election which do not substantially comply with the law the election is not conducted as required by law, and is invalid. The opinion of the court comes too late to affect the decision of the State

THE PUBLIC HEARING.

The first of the public hearings in the Roberts case began at 2 o'clock. At that hour the committee room was crowded with members, reporters of the press and delegates representing the Gentile element of Utah. Mr. Roberts sat at the end of a long table, with documents piled up before him. His Secretary was near at hand, bringing him books and other data of reference. Chairman Taylor announced that persons who had participated in framing the charges were present, and he asked that they be heard. A. T. Schroeder, one of the Gentile delegation from Utah, then stepped forward and was about to proceed, when Mr. Roberts rose hastily and raised his hand in protest. "I object," he said, "I object to this witness, if he comes here as an attorney, I object to him if he comes as a witness, on the ground that he is unworthy of confidence. And I propose to establish by the records of the Supreme Court of Utah that he is utterly unworthy of belief." Roberts said he would present the Tenth Utah Supreme Court report in support of his allegations. Mr. Taylor answered that Mr. Schroeder was not present as a witness or as counsel, but merely to give the committee such information as he could, and the committee would treat the matter as it saw fit. Mr. Schroeder remarked that he did not understand that he was on trial. Mr. Roberts did not press his objection further, and Mr. Schroeder proceeded. He said it could be established that Mr. Roberts had maintained the status of a polygamist. In 1889 he pleaded guilty of unlawful cohabitation and has since that time continued in that relation. Specifically, Mr. Schroeder said, it could be established that there had been recently born children to his polygamous wives, among them being twins born to Cella Dibble Roberts, the reputed second wife of the Congressman-elect. These children were represented to be born, he said, August 11, 1897, and until this morning he had understood they were acknowledged by Roberts as his. It could also be shown that he has been holding out Dr. Maggie Shipp Roberts as a wife, and is now maintaining the status of a husband toward her; that during all of these times he had lived a lawful wife, Louisa Smith Roberts, who also has borne him children. Mr. Schroeder said the witnesses were in Utah, readily accessible if the committee desired to summon them. He suggested that Miss Adah Roberts, the daughter of Mr. Roberts, was now in the city, and might be available as a witness. Rev. Dr. Hiff of Utah was asked if he desired to add anything, but stated that Mr. Schroeder had covered the general question sufficiently, and that the detailed evidence would be ready if the committee desired. Pherson of Iowa, a member of the committee, stated that he thought there was a misunderstanding among members as to the status of Mr. Roberts. Some thought he had made his statement in order to frame an issue, and thought he had appeared as a witness, and should be subject to cross-examination. He said he feared the committee was gradually drifting to the point where it would have to go 2,500 miles to Utah to hear witnesses, or else bring witnesses 2,500 to Washington. Chairman Taylor stated that Roberts had not appeared as a witness, and was not under oath. Mr. Roberts said his statement was for the purpose of joining issues. He desired, and he desired to see a demurrer and time to present authorities on this demurrer, for, he said, he was not through with that. He stated also that as a witness he would hardly be expected to give evidence against himself. The public hearing then went over until Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, and the committee held a private session. Mr. Taylor said after the executive session that the committee was considering whether it should go to Utah or have the witnesses come here, and that no decision had been reached. Mr. Schroeder, against whom Roberts made his protests, said after the meeting: "Mr. Roberts refers to a civil suit brought to set aside an execution sale made by the Sheriff of Salt Lake County. I was the attorney of the judgment creditors, and at the Sheriff's sale became the purchaser in my own name, with the consent of my clients. It is a long story, but suffice it to say that Judge Barch, now on the Supreme Bench, who tries the case, in rendering his oral decision, expressly exonerated me from all imputation of actual fraud. Mr. Roberts goes a long way to find means for distracting attention from himself, but the case is urgent, and perhaps I ought to consider him justified in going to any extreme." It is understood that the opposition to Roberts has suggested that the wives with whom he is alleged to have maintained polygamous relations be summoned as witnesses. The first wife, it is said, would be exempt from testifying against her husband, as she has a legal status as wife, but this exemption would not extend beyond the first wife. A sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Morris, Littlefield and Myers have been appointed to set up issues. Some in connection with the summoning of witnesses. No Tidings From the Niagara. BUFFALO (N. Y.), Dec. 9.—No tidings from the Canadian steamer Niagara, supposed to have foundered in Lake Erie in the gale of Tuesday with a crew of sixteen men, have been received to-day. Haines & Company, assignees of the Niagara's cargo of shingles, said to-day that they had practically abandoned hope for the vessel's safety. The Niagara's cargo was valued for \$8,200. The vessel was insured for \$24,000, and was uninsured. Colonel Ibbotson, who died recently in England, was the hero of the last sensational elopement to Gretna-Green. He ran off forty-four years ago with Lady Adela Villiers, daughter of the Earl of Jersey. She died six years after they were married.

THE STATE NORTH OF SAN FRANCISCO WILL NOT BE INCLUDED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The usual annual quarantine order against the State north of San Francisco (Texas) fever exists among cattle and is issued yearly by the Department of Agriculture, to take effect January 1st. The order will be substantially like that of last year, the most important difference being that where last year the whole of Texas, including the area proscribed area, the quarantine line now, in view of the co-operation of State authorities, will be drawn across the State in an easterly line from San Francisco.

GERMANY'S NEW ISLAND POSSESSIONS.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The semi-official "North German Gazette" says that a despatch dated December 7th from Governor Benning, who, after formal transfer of the Caroline, Marianne and Pelew Islands to Germany had reached Macassar on his way back to Herbertshoop, reports that the prospects at Panapa are favorable for a peaceful development. Governor Hall will take up his residence there. Perfect tranquility reigns at Yap and Saigan, the principal islands of the West Carolines and Marianne, respectively. Coal has been discovered in the Pelews, and it is also expected that gold will be found.

FAILURE DUE TO THE HURRICANE.

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Certificates of Election of Republican Candidates for State Offices Signed.

Commissioner Poyntz Declines to Attach His Signature to the Certificate, Excepting in the Case of the Railroad Commissioners—The Court of Appeals Announces Two Decisions Having an Important Bearing Upon the Late Election.

FRANKFORT (Ky.), Dec. 9.—At 9:45 this morning the election certificate of William S. Taylor was signed by the Election Commissioners, and he was declared to be Governor-elect of Kentucky. The official vote filed with the Secretary of State is as follows: Taylor, 193,714; Goebel, 191,331. Taylor's plurality, 2,383. The operation, which ended, for the time being at least, the bitterly fought gubernatorial contest, was conducted in the simplest manner. The majority opinion of Commissioners Pryor and Ellis and the minority opinion of Commissioner Poyntz were not read, as was the original intention. The three Commissioners walked first to the office of the Clerk of the State Supreme Court, where they filed the two opinions. They then passed into the office of the Secretary of State, Clerk Chenault, of the Board of Commissioners, read the figures, showing that the Republican candidates for office on the State ticket had received the largest number of votes, and then the certificates of election were signed at once, that of Mr. Taylor being first on the list. There were only fourteen people in the room at the time, and of this number only two were there as spectators. There was no crowd around the building, and no great manifestation in the work saved by those engaged in it and those who stood looking on. The three Commissioners were all apparently in good humor, although Commissioners Ellis and Pryor, who had done the most work in preparing the long and elaborate work, looked worn and tired. The certificates, as soon as signed, were filed with the Secretary of State, and commissions will be issued to the elected men by Governor Bradley. Late last night, when the decision had gone forth to the public, Commissioner Ellis and Pryor, whose shoulders the greatest part of the work of preparing the opinion has fallen, discussed the matter freely. "This has been a hard thing for me," he said, his eyes inflamed by the loss of sleep and the heavy lines in his face bearing witness to the truth of his statement. "It has been a hard thing for us all. I wish, however, that all of the people of the County should know how nobly Judge Pryor has acted in this matter and how conscientiously he has done what he considers his duty. He is a great man, one of the greatest, in my opinion, that Kentucky has ever produced, and I am sure his conduct in this case has been but another piece of his long and honorable career as a public officer. "Speaking for myself," continued Mr. Ellis, "I say frankly I did not like to do this thing, but the law and the evidence, there is nothing else I can do and be a honest man. "Why, I was an original Goebel man. I was a Goebel man long before he received the nomination, and I am a Goebel man now and a Goebel partisan. It would give me great pleasure than I can express to be able to tell the Democrats in this thing, but I cannot do it. The proceedings before the board were so overwhelmingly in favor of the Republicans, and they had so much the best of the arguments, that it is almost idle to discuss the affairs. There was a time when Judge Pryor and myself, only one thing to do, and that was to vote. "The statements made by Mr. Ellis have been upheld by his conduct from first to last throughout the canvass. He did all of the questioning of the attorneys and seemed to have every stage to be most anxious to obtain the truth and to be impartial to both sides. "Mr. Goebel was apparently in the best of humor after being told that Mr. Taylor's certificate had been signed. He laughed and shook his head when asked if he had anything to say. "Not a thing, I am not feeling for the moment. "When will you make a contest?" "I have not decided yet, and I, of course, cannot discuss it when I do not know it myself. "The defeated candidate was game to the last, and if there was any ill-humor in him nobody knew it but himself. Mr. Taylor was modest and reticent as usual. "I expected it, of course," he said, "I knew that if the Commissioners went by the law and evidence they could do nothing else than decide the way they have done." Commissioner Poyntz declined to sign the Republican certificate of election, saying that he stood by the opinion he had rendered, and could not consistently do so. He consented to sign the certificate of the Railroad Commissioners, however. THE COURT SETS A PRECEDENT. FRANKFORT (Ky.), Dec. 9.—At today's session of the Court of Appeals the issue ballot case from Ohio County was decided and the decision was concurred in by four of the seven Judges. The Court held that all ballots should be printed on white paper, sufficiently thick that the printing cannot be distinguished from the back, and if ballots are used at an election which do not substantially comply with the law the election is not conducted as required by law, and is invalid. The opinion of the court comes too late to affect the decision of the State