

75,000 PEOPLE LOST THEIR LIVES

Earthquake and Tidal Wave Destruction in the Italian Province the Worst Ever Recorded in History.

FIRE SWEEPING MESSINA

This City Had a Population of 150,000 and Its Complete Destruction Is Reported—Troops Kill the Looters.

NAPLES, Dec. 29.—Twenty-five thousand people lost their lives in an earthquake and tidal wave that ravaged the Italian province and a large part of Sicily, according to the best estimate today. The tidal wave left a two foot layer of mud and slime in every city. In Messina, in which scores were smothered, fire is sweeping through the city, eating up the ruins. There is absolutely no means to fight the flames.

The troops fired on the looters and drove them to the mountains. The soldiers were ordered to kill the marauders on sight. General Costa and also an archbishop in command of the garrison of Messina are among the dead.

Messina Destroyed.
ROME, Dec. 29.—The complete destruction of Messina, the second city in Sicily, with a population of 150,000 is confirmed by an official message to the Italian government today. The message expresses fear that Reggio, immediately across the strait of Messina met a like fate. It says most of the towns in the strait were wiped out. Railway communication between Catania and Messina is re-established.

Death List 5,000.
Between four thousand and five thousand have been accounted for by the army officer in charge of the work of rescue at Messina.

All the seismic apparatus in Italy were broken by the force of the shock. Messages from refugees from Reggio say the quake appeared upward in movements which had the effect of hurling the buildings in the air. Fissures opened in the earth several inches wide and the entire sides of several mountains were split off and crashed down as terrible land slides.

In late editions today the Tribune estimated the number of earthquake victims between 65,000 and 75,000 dead and twice that number were injured and are suffering desperately from hunger.

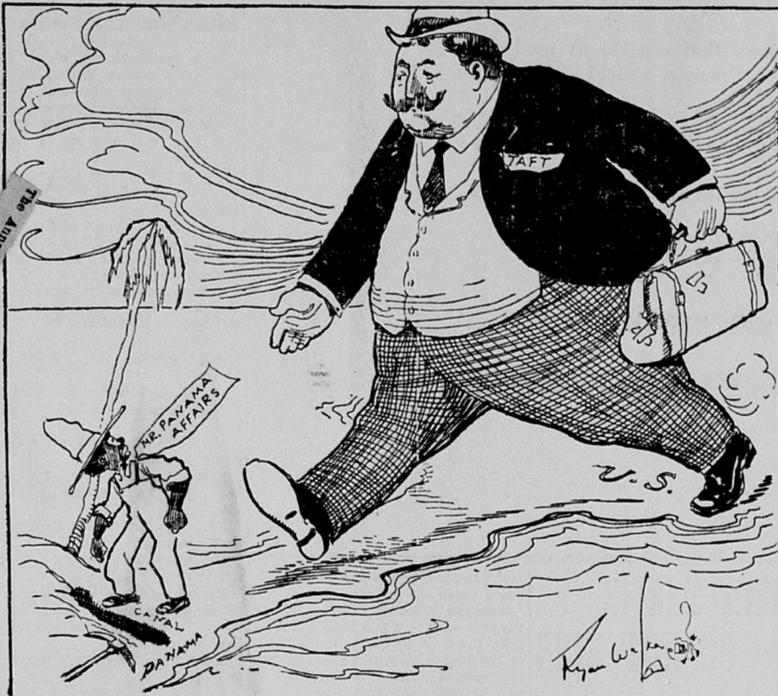
Italy Paralyzed.
Italy as a nation is paralyzed. The evening papers are estimating 75,000 dead and semicircular government estimates from enough districts to make it certain the dead will not be less than 25,000 with possibly many more facing death from injuries and exposure from the awfulness of yesterday's disaster is being revealed. To add to the misery already of the frenzied people, Mt. Aetna today is emitting giant clouds of black sulphur and smoke, wakening the echoes of the Sicilian mountains with detonations

and rumblings, while a torrent of rain driven from a biting north wind has intensified the anguish of thousands of half clad, provisionless refugees. Telegraphic communication is completely restored as far south as Palmi. New reports show Palmi wrecked and 800 killed. Giovanni was swept by a tidal wave and cut off communication. The estimate of the dead is unobtainable.

Bagnara Burned.
Bagnara was shaken down and burned, 300 dead and 500 injured. King Manuel is on his way south to take personal charge of the work of rescue. No word is heard from the fleet of ten torpedo boats known to have been off Messina. The British battleship Exmouth, cruisers Euryelus, Minerva and Sutlej were ordered to Messina from Malta station. Messina is totally blotted out. Nothing is left of the second city in Sicily. The tremor was felt throughout the whole of Italy, even reaching the Alps. In the immediate vicinity of Messina and Reggio, the seismic disturbance was so violent the straits of Messina are reported to have been shifted. Fires are raging in scores of towns with no means to check them.

Hundreds of Vessels Lost.
Hundreds of vessels are lost and the deaths resulting from their destruction alone amount to hundreds. The Pope was informed today by the religious community that Messina and Reggio had fallen victims to earthquakes and fire and that monks, nuns and church dignitaries were lost. The news so depressed the pope it is feared his indisposition will be aggravated. Signor Felice, a deputy at Messina says the ruins of the city are burning fiercely. He estimates half the population of the city to be killed. The tidal wave was one of the most disastrous in history. At Riposto it was reported 36 feet high, but this is believed impossible. It was known at Messina, Catania, Reggio, Palmi and other coast towns, where it literally fell into the sea. The second wave engulfed the main land. Many places people rushed into churches after the first shock, while danger of their falling was still great and saved the images of the saints. Reports are received from various countries of efforts to give aid, but no requests will be made by the government until the extent of need is known.

Pope Gives \$600,000.
The Pope today gave \$200,000 to King Victor Emanuel and \$400,000 to the relief fund



Taft—What's the trouble down here? President-Elect Taft will soon make a trip to Panama to adjust matters.—News Item.

BERRY SIMPSON HAS A STATEMENT

Believes the Miners Side of the Stern Trouble on Christmas Day Has Not Been Fairly Stated.

SENDS LETTER TO U. P.

Declares if the Governor Investigates the Case Some Good Citizens Will Be Found Guilty.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—Berry Simpson, the alleged leader of the striking miners at Stearns, who fought the deputy sheriffs on Christmas day, believed the miner's side of the case has not been fairly stated. His view of the situation is expressed in a letter sent by him from Oneida, Tenn. where he is, to the United Press here. He says I went to Stearns four years ago and leased a mine from the Stearns Coal and Lumber company and worked three years, disagreed and quit. He declared he became involved in a difficulty with the Stearns company. When the recent troubles broke out he was arrested on old charges. He said the injunction was issued against him with others when the organization of men was attempted though he had nothing to do with it. He said the deputies charged his hotel Christmas when the miners were there to pay their board. He declared if the governor investigated the case some good citizens would be found guilty.

DANVILLE, Ky., Dec. 29.—Berry Simpson, Rube West, George Stanley, the Stearns strike leaders, who with a large number of followers yesterday stationed at Paint Rock, broke camp during the night and moved south several miles into Scott county, Tennessee. They are stationed west of the old home and are heavily reinforced by relatives. The position is more formidable than before. All is quiet at Stearns. Marshal Charles Ryan reported lost, has never been away from Stearns since the battle. He was wounded and is being cared for there.

BISHOP SHAHLIMAN ASSASSINATED

Found Dead in the Kumkapu Quarter, Murdered by Agents of Armenian Committee.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—Bishop Shahlman an Armenian, was found dead from stab wounds today in the Kumkapu quarter. It is believed he was murdered by agents of the Armenian committee. The bishop was accused of being a spy against the Armenians under the old regime.

HOMELESS ONES INTO THE STREETS

Unemployed Situation in England is the Worst Known in Years and the Outlook is Very Alarming.

826,325 ARE GETTING AID

Homeless Ones Thrown Into the Streets With the Temperature Below the Freezing Point.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The severest weather known in England in years brought the unemployed situation to the most alarming state. Official figures give the total of those receiving aid from various public and private charities throughout England at 826,325. The ranks of the unemployed swelled since Saturday by the entire allied building union. Homeless ones were thrown into the streets during the day and huddled in doorways and parks during the nights. The temperature is below freezing each night. The city stations are too small to accommodate the sufferers. Police experience great difficulty in suppressing riots started by street agitators.

WOMAN SUICIDES IN CHICAGO SALOON

Catherine Pauliski, Aged Thirty, Kills Herself by Shooting at 4 O'Clock This Morning.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Catherine Pauliski, aged thirty, who gave her residence as the Hotel Girard, New York, shot herself this morning, and is dying. The shooting occurred in a saloon at about 4 o'clock this morning. The woman was with another woman, a Mrs. Pullman, and a man named Green, and had been sitting quietly at a table. Miss Pauliski went to another part of the room, drew a revolver, and fired. She was taken to a hospital. The detectives are now endeavoring to find the woman's companions.

RUBE WADDELL IN FOOTBALL

Baseball Player Will Play Football New Year's Day With St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—"Rube" Waddell, the star pitcher of the St. Louis Browns, will display his versatility by playing football on New Year's day with the St. Louis "all star" team. He has had considerable experience in playing on professional teams, and is expected to add strength to the team. "Rube" will report for practice this afternoon. He plays against Eckersall's team.

FLOOR GAVE WAY FIFTY INJURED

One Hundred People Who Were Attending Trial of William Hatwood at Elliott City, Md., Fall One Story.

THE JUDGE A VICTIM

Negro Prisoner, His Victim and the Judge Among the Seriously Injured—Fifty Persons Sustained Injuries.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 29.—More than fifty were injured this afternoon during the trial of William Hatwood, negro, charged with assaulting C. R. Hill, when the floor of the building gave way, carrying with it more than 100 persons. The trial was being held at Elliott City, eight miles from here. The prisoner, his victim and the judge were among the victims.

ROBBED THE COUNTY TREASURER

Two Masked Men Lock Official in Vault and Steal \$5,087 in Cash. SIOUX FALLS, Dec. 29.—Two masked men today robbed Michael Meir, treasurer of Sanborn county, of \$5,087 cash. They locked him in the money vault and fled. The robbery occurred at Woonsocket, the county seat. A posse is pursuing.

Judge Wants His Money

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 29.—The petition for a preceptory writ of mandamus was served today on Secretary of State Freer to compel him to pay an additional \$500, which former Judge Bashford claims to be due him for services on the supreme bench.

About Earthquake.

ROME, Dec. 28.—The three provinces of Cosenza, Catanzara, and Reggio Calabria, comprising the department of Calabria, which forms the southwestern extremity of Italy or "the toe of the boot" were devastated today by an earthquake, the far-reaching effects of which were felt almost throughout the entire country. Messina, Sicily, was partially destroyed and Catania inundated. In Messina hundreds of houses have fallen and many persons have been killed. Owing, however, to the fact that telegraphic and telephonic communications are almost completely destroyed, it is impossible to obtain even an approximate idea of the vast damage that has been done. The fate of the entire regions within the zone of the earthquake is unknown, but reports received here up to a late hour tonight indicate that the havoc has been great and the destruction of life and property more terrible than Italy has experienced in many years.

DARRIN WILL NOT FINISH CASE

Has Practically Retired From the Hains Murder Case Leaving it to Special Assistants White and Dayton.

MAY HAVE TO FINISH TWENTY MEN KILLED

Incoming District Attorney May Force Darrin Through an Order of the Court to Complete the Case.

FLUSHING, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Darrin has practically retired from the conduct of the Hains murder trial, leaving that to special assistants White and Dayton. Whether he will continue in the case after the end of the month, when his term as district attorney expires, is for the justice to say. Darrin says he will not complete the prosecution he begun. The incoming district attorney declared today he would apply to the court for an order continuing the present prosecutor until the jury has passed upon the case. When this was told to Darrin this morning he said: "I will not be in the case after Jan. 1st, unless under a preceptory order from the court, and then only over an earnest protest. Should I remain I will refuse one cent of compensation, for I am not the man who would accept one hundred dollars daily to help a man to death." Mrs. Annis and a number of members of the Bayside club were present at the Hains trial this morning. McIntyre insisted on the separation of the witnesses. Those for the defense and state left the court room. Tierney was the first witness and confronted Mrs. Annis and declared: "I never saw her at the time of shooting. I saw her going from the dock club house after I was ejected from the boat." James Smyth testified to the actions of the captain whom he met every week after June 1, appeared "exceedingly eccentric person."

Following the introduction of the story of the entire family troubles in the Hains family, through the evidence of Chester Reid, Crane declared the "unwritten law" could not be given a place in the Hains case. "Adjultery is no excuse for murder," he said. "And before the case is finally submitted to the jury I will make this so plain no member of the jury will either be misled or carried away by a mistaken idea. Reid, swore the captain related his wife's alleged infidelity and that the captain told the witness his wife admitted love for Annis and related the "whole shameful story of her relations." Reid said the captain, pacing the floor, screaming, "My God, my God, I wish it was all over. I can't live it down," reciting Kiplings "Vampire." He considered the captain incompetent.

NINE DEAD IN RAILROAD WRECK

Bodies Removed from Debris of a Great Northern Train and Taken to Great Falls.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Dec. 29.—The bodies of the nine men who were killed in the collision of a freight train and a work train at Mid Canyon, on the Great Northern railroad, are being brought here today on a special train. A number of the injured are also on the relief train. The wreck occurred last yesterday. The men killed were railroad carpenters. There are no details of the accident. The collision resulted from the failure of a freight train to stop on the Mid Canyon siding to allow a work train to pass. The freight was heavily loaded with ore. The work train consisted of an engine, caboose, and a pile-driver. The engine was shoving the cars, the caboose leading. Rounding a curve it dashed into the freight. Both the caboose and pile-driver were demolished and burned.

Permanent Headquarters.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—William B. Hayward, secretary of the Republican national committee, arrived here Monday to establish permanent headquarters for the committee. It is the intention to keep headquarters here to be in readiness for the next presidential campaign.

American Fleet in Red Sea.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Telegraphic reports today from Peris say that the American fleet passed that port and entered the Red sea. The fleet is due at Suez, January third.

GENERAL TORRES PUT UP A FIGHT

Opposes the Officers of the New Venezuelan Government Who Attempt to Land at Macuro.

TWENTY MEN KILLED

Miranda Used Her Guns and Men From the Boat But the Friends of Castro Defeated Them.

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Dec. 29.—News of an engagement at Macuro between the armed adherents of Castro and officers of the new Venezuelan and President Gomez in which twenty men were killed and fifty wounded was brought here today by the Venezuelan gunboat Miranda. The Miranda arrived at Macuro yesterday with a number of officers on board who were to take the places of Castro's appointees at Macuro. They discovered General Torres had collected 500 men and prepared to resist the landing. The Miranda used her guns and men on board and tried to land but were repulsed. The fight lasted a few hours. The Miranda put into Port of Spain to communicate with the Venezuelan government to get further instructions. Hundreds of local Venezuelans volunteered to sail back to Macuro to fight Torres.

Death of a Noted Editor.

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 29.—Robert Emmet Fisk, for 35 years editor of the Helena, Mont., Herald, and confidential friend of President Garfield and James G. Blaine, is dead, aged 71. He served in the civil war, attaining the rank of major and established the Helena Herald in 1867. He was named postmaster at Helena by President Harrison, and was later Republican national committeeman.

Americans at LaGuazara.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The arrival of special commissioner, W. I. Buchanan and Admiral Arnold at La Guayra, Venezuela, was announced in a message received at both the navy and state departments today.

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri Wired from Chicago.
For Keokuk and vicinity: Rain or snow tonight or Wednesday. Cooler Wednesday.
For Illinois: Rain or snow late tonight or Wednesday. Colder Wednesday.
For Iowa: Rain or snow tonight or Wednesday. Colder west portion tonight. Colder Wednesday.
For Missouri: Rain late tonight or Wednesday. Colder west portion tonight. Cooler Wednesday.

Weather Conditions.

The northwestern disturbance has moved slowly to the Dakotas, a high barometer following it on the Oregon coast, and the pressure continues high in the eastern portion of the country. The temperature remains mild, with freezing temperatures in the Rocky Mountain Region, the Lake Region and Ohio Valley only. There have been light rains in Arkansas, Tennessee and Virginia, rain in Oregon and light snow in Idaho and Montana. Conditions indicate the weather becoming cloudy in this section tonight, colder Wednesday, and probably snow flurries by Wednesday night.

River Bulletin.

Fld. Stage. Height. Chng. Rnf. Fall
St. Paul14 Frozen Cldy.
La Crosse15 Frozen Cldy.
Davenport15 1.6 -0.3 Clear
G. Iland8 1.0
Keokuk15 1.5 x0.4 Clear
St. Louis20 3.1 -0.1 PtCdy

Local Observations.

Dec. 28, 7 p.m.30.22 45 SW Clear
29, 7 p.m.30.12 34 W Clear
River above low water of 1864, 1 and 5 tenths feet; change in 24 hours, rise of 4 tenths feet.
Mean temperature, 40.
Maximum temperature, 52.
Minimum temperature, 28.
FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.