

TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1902.

TWO CENTS.

RIGHT TO MEDIANE OVER VENEZUELA

Our Part in the Central American Affair Is Defended by the Hague Treaty.

CLAUSE INSTIGATED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT

The Proposition to Allow Neutral Nations to Dispute Arbitration of Matters in Dispute Was Opposed by the United States as a Menace to Monroe Doctrine—This Country, Reluctantly Assenting, the First to Adopt Such Course.

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Castro's answer to the allies' proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan troubles has not been received. In fact, Secretary Hay had nothing of importance on the Venezuelan situation to communicate to the cabinet. There are, however, under discussion such questions as those relating to the best means of committing the blockade and other matters touching the personnel of the commission, which it is expected will meet in Washington to lay down the lines of the arbitration scheme.

JUDGE MITCHELL'S SUCCESSOR.

Thomas A. Morrison, of McKean, Has Been Appointed. Harrisburg, Dec. 30.—Judge Thomas A. Morrison, of McKean county, was today appointed by Governor Stone a superior court judge to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge John I. Mitchell, of Wellsboro, under the judge's retirement act.

FREE TRADERS ADOPT SOME RESOLUTIONS

The Boston Reformers Have Concluded That the Ills of the Land Are Due to the Tariff. Boston, Dec. 30.—At a meeting in Faneuil hall today, called by the American Free Trade League, the following resolutions were adopted: Whereas, The tariff duties upon beef and wool, by assisting the extortion of monopoly or impeding relief from them, have proved a serious hardship for our people.

LOVING CUP FOR MR. WALLIS.

General Superintendent of Pennsylvania Given a Testimonial. Altoona, Dec. 30.—The superintendents of the Pennsylvania railroad divisions serving under General Superintendent J. M. Wallis, who retired from office on the 15th of this year, on account of ill health, assembled in the railroad office in this city this afternoon and presented him a loving cup as a token of their esteem. The cup is a splendid specimen of the workmanship of art, seventeen inches in height and of beautiful proportions. It is inscribed: "Presented to John Mather Wallis on his retirement from the general superintendency of the Pennsylvania railroad by his superintendents."

PENITENTIARY MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATED

Report of the Sub-Committee of the State Board of Charities.

MEMBERS SUBMIT REPORT TO GOVERNOR

Harrisburg, Dec. 30.—The report of the sub-committee of the State Board of Charities appointed to investigate the management of the Eastern penitentiary was received today by Governor Stone. The report is signed by all the members of the committee, which was composed of Judge Isaac Johnson, of Mead; Ralph Blum and George J. McLeod, of Philadelphia; George W. Ryan, of Shamokin; and Patrick C. Boyle, of Oil City. The report states that the sanitary condition of the penitentiary is good and that the prisoners are properly fed, clothed and cared for so far as the committee was able to ascertain. The matters relating to the management in the opinion of the committee calling for further action are as follows:

IMPORTANT RAILWAY DEAL.

Early in the Year Mr. Morgan Will Announce It.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—One of the most important deals in the history of railway corporations was made known today, says the Daily News. Mrs. Rebecca Hutton and her daughter, the Jersey Central being now controlled by the Reading company. The plan for a consolidation, it is said, has been in contemplation for nearly a year and has been held in abeyance owing to the inability of the promoters to get possession of a majority of the Lehigh Valley shares. The interested parties are particularly anxious to emphasize that the consolidation will not interfere with the individual management. The roads are not to lose their identity. The earnings will all flow into one treasury, which will pay expenditures, dividends and have charge of the fiscal policy of the company generally. The holding concern will have a president who will be regarded as above the presidents of the different lines. He will be appointed by Mr. J. P. Morgan and it is intimated that without the consent of the Erie, is slated for the place.

CONFERENCE OF COAL OPERATORS

Anthracite Dealers and Their Attorneys Arrange for the Coming Meeting.

MINE OWNERS' SIDE OF THE COAL STRIKE

James H. Torrey, of Scranton, Representing the Delaware and Hudson Company, Presides—Other Well Known Attorneys and Operators Present—Order in Which the Operators Will Present Evidence. Judge Hand's Statement.

CORONER BLAMES RAIL ROAD OFFICERS

Verdict Rendered in the Wanstead Wreck Case—Employment of 16-Year-Old Boys Deplorable.

Wyoming, Ont., Dec. 30.—The coroner's jury which has been investigating the wreck at Wanstead last Friday night, in which twenty-eight lives were lost, brought in a verdict shortly before midnight tonight. The verdict is as follows: "We find that Arthur Wicketts was killed in the collision at Wanstead on the evening of Friday, Dec. 26, 1902. That said collision was caused by wrong orders being given No. 5 at Watford. Responsibility for the issuance of wrong orders we are not agreed upon as between Operator Carson and Despatcher Kerr. "That after No. 5 had left Watford by the issuance of wrong orders, we consider that the accident could have been averted by the operator at Wyoming or Kings Court Junction, had the railway company had more experienced operators at those points, one being but a boy of sixteen, at each of which places the despatcher having had ample time to do it and endeavored to get the opposing trains stopped."

HEAD-ON COLLISION.

Terrible Catastrophe on the Pennsylvania Railroad Through Misunderstanding of Orders.

Sharon, Pa., Dec. 30.—In a head-on collision on the Pennsylvania railroad, George Gibson, Erie, freight train, and Samuel J. McDonald, Greenville, express messenger, serious. Six of the injured were brought to the Sharon hospital on a special train. Of the injured, Samuel McDonald, George Gibson and Engineer Shallenberger will die. Following is a list of the dead and injured: The dead—Neal Daugherty, Erie; body not yet recovered. The injured—Engineer Shallenberger, probably fatally; Robert Williams, Erie, fireman, passenger train, serious; George Gibson, Erie, fireman, freight train, serious; Samuel J. McDonald, Greenville, express messenger, serious. Six of the injured were brought to the Sharon hospital on a special train. Of the injured, Samuel McDonald, George Gibson and Engineer Shallenberger will die.

PLAN TO INCREASE THE NAVY.

Scheme to Allow an Additional Cadet from Each Congressional District. Washington, Dec. 30.—A bill introduced by the senate and house naval committees, after conferences with the secretary of the navy, have practically decided on a plan for the increase of the personnel of the navy.

SIR CHENTNUNG IN LINE.

He Already Wears the Brevet Court Button of the Third Grade. Washington, Dec. 30.—Pekin advices here state that Sir Chentnung Liang Cheng, K. C. M. G., decorated with brevet court button of the third grade, is expected to visit the United States, has been appointed a metropolitan expert officer of the fourth grade. This rank puts Sir Chentnung in line for promotion to high posts in the sixteenth minor minister in the cabinet in the future. The minister designate who succeeds Wu Ting-fang in the Washington mission, is expected here some time in January.

BIB BUILDING BURNED.

Destruction of Adventists Quarters. Loss Estimated at \$350,000. Detroit, Dec. 30.—A fire special from Detroit, Mich., says: "In the total destruction tonight of the big building occupied by the Review and Herald of the Seventh-day Adventist community is brought face to face with a second heavy loss by fire within a year. The Adventist headquarters, having been burned only last February. Tonight's loss is estimated by officials of the Review and Herald company at \$350,000, with insurance amounting to \$150,000."

Minister Blew Out the Gas.

Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—John R. K. Sellers, a Methodist minister of Goshop, N. C., who was visiting his brother-in-law in this city, was found dead today in the headquarters of the Reading railway company. The cause of death was attributed to the gas which had leaked out of the gas through ignorance of its usage and was asphyxiated. Mr. Sellers was spending the Christmas holidays here and stopped at the Young Men's Christian association headquarters.

New Wage Scale on Jersey Central.

Wilkes-Barre, Dec. 30.—It is reported in railroad circles here tonight that tonight the first of the new year a new wage scale will go into effect on the Central Railroad of New Jersey. It is said all the employees will receive a 10 per cent. increase.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Dec. 30.—Cleared: Coptic, Liverpool; Philadelphia, Southampton; Celtic, Liverpool.

M'KINLEY'S FAVORITE NIECE IS MARRIED

Miss Mary Barber and Major Ralph Hartzell, of Denver, Are Wedded at Canton, Ohio. Canton, Ohio, Dec. 30.—Miss Mary Barber, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Barber, this evening became the bride of Major Ralph Hartzell. The ceremony was performed at the Commodious old Saxton homestead, formerly the home of the McKinleys, now occupied by the Barbers, and was witnessed by Mrs. McKinley, Mrs. McKinley and Mrs. Barber, are sisters. Roy O. E. Milligan, of the First Presbyterian church officiated. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Ida, and the groom by his brother, Fred S. Hartzell, assistant secretary of the McKinley Memorial Association. Miss Barber was a favorite of the late President McKinley and spent much time at the white house and was in several presidential parties making extensive tours of the country. She was the particular companion of Mrs. McKinley. She became a great favorite in cabinet circles and of the many presents that came to her as a bride, some of the handsomest were sent by members of the cabinet and their families.

JUSTICE SHIRAS TO RETIRE.

It Is Expected That He Will Leave the Bench This Winter. Washington, Dec. 30.—Justice Shiras, of the Supreme court of the United States, will retire some time during the present winter, the date has not yet been definitely determined. It is understood that his successor will be confirmed before the adjournment. Among the names proposed as his successor is that of William H. Taft, civil governor of the Philippines.

JUDGE TALCOTT DEAD.

Valparaiso, Ind., Dec. 29.—Judge William C. Talcott, the oldest newspaperman in Indiana, died suddenly today, aged 87 years. For fifty years he owned and edited the Porter County Vindicator. Judge Talcott came to Porter county sixty-five years ago when it was a wilderness and only one small cabin marked the place where Valparaiso now stands. He surveyed the town, collected his first taxes, taught his first school, preached his first sermon, edited his first paper and was one of the first jurists in this part of the state.

GERMAN BISHOPS FOR AMERICA.

Herr Cahensly Again Urges His Plan Upon the Vatican. Rome, Dec. 30.—Herr P. P. Cahensly, a member of the German Reichstag and president of the Saint Raphael Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in America, who for ten years has been agitating in favor of the appointment of German ecclesiastics to minister to German Catholics in the United States, is again actively urging the Vatican to appoint German bishops wherever the German element predominates.

King and Metzger Deny Charges.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Harry King, chief, and Fred P. Metzger, assistant chief of the draughtsmen's division of the general land office, today submitted their answers denying the charges against them of conduct detrimental to government interests. The answers are made separately and the specific charges are detailed in detail, though some of the statements of fact are admitted with the contention that there was no infraction of law or regulations.

Fire in the Dorrance Mine.

Wilkes-Barre, Dec. 30.—In some unaccountable manner the fire in the Hillman vein of the Dorrance mine operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal company, was ignited this evening. The blaze was discovered by a fire boss who summoned help and after two hours' work the fire was extinguished. Very little damage was done to the mine which will resume operations tomorrow the same as usual.

Jealous Husband's Crime.

Feeds, Ind., Dec. 30.—A. P. Talbot, manager of the Central Union Telephone company at Delavan, near here, shot and seriously wounded his wife and killed himself today. The affair is the culmination of a series of family quarrels. Jealousy is supposed to be the motive. Both parties are highly respected in the community.

Coachman Murdered.

St. Louis, Dec. 30.—The dead and mutilated body of Orrin Worthen, a coachman, was found in the rear of his employer's residence in the West End today. Evidence of a terrific struggle were apparent. The police believe that robbery motivated the crime. No one witnessed the crime.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Figures Furnished by Statistician of the Department. Washington, Dec. 30.—Final returns to the statistician of the department of agriculture from the regular and special correspondents, supplemented by reports of special field agents, show the average production and value of the principal farm crops of the United States in 1902 to have been as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Crop and Production. Includes items like Winter wheat, Spring wheat, Rye, Buckwheat, Potatoes, Tobacco, and Flax seed.

ELECTRICITY FOR STEAM ROAD.

Applicants to Make the Bellair an Interurban Line. Zanesville, O., Dec. 30.—The Appleyard syndicate has acquired control of the Bellair, Zanesville and Cincinnati railroad and will standardize its gauge and change it to an electric interurban line.

CARNegie MEMORIAL TO WATT

Alternative Offer Made to Inventor's Birthplace, Greenock. London, Dec. 30.—Andrew Carnegie has notified the provost of Greenock, Scotland, that he is prepared to give \$50,000 to erect a memorial to James Watt in recognition of Watt's engineering achievements.

Jealous Husband's Crime.

Feeds, Ind., Dec. 30.—A. P. Talbot, manager of the Central Union Telephone company at Delavan, near here, shot and seriously wounded his wife and killed himself today. The affair is the culmination of a series of family quarrels. Jealousy is supposed to be the motive. Both parties are highly respected in the community.

SITUATION AT CARACAS.

British Grant Favours to the German Vessels—Revolutionists at Work. Caracas, Monday, Dec. 29.—United States Minister Bowen has received information that the Dutch steamer Prins Mauritz has entered certain Venezuelan ports, blockaded by the British fleet and discharged her cargo there. Special permission for the Dutch steamer to do this was obtained from Commodore Montgomery, of the British cruiser Charlydis. The Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan ordered the Prins Mauritz away from port by the Commodore Montgomery directed that she continue to discharge her cargo. In Caracas this is held to be a discrimination against American steamers and the British commodore's action has been criticized. Barranquimeto, capital of the state of Lara, which for some time past has been in the possession of the Venezuelan revolutionists has been recaptured by government forces. The town of San Carlos and Tinaco have also been recaptured by the government. The revolutionists at Barranquimeto were under the command of Generals Solaguren and Penalosa. They evacuated the town, after losing 112 men killed and 325 wounded. There was hand fighting in the streets and suburbs of Barranquimeto for two days. The government forces were commanded by General Cerfeno Bastillo.

Weather Forecast.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Forecast for Wednesday: Partly cloudy with occasional showers. Thursday: Light to heavy rain with becoming variable.