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RIVER MATTERS.

The Crevasse in the Southeast Pass of the Mississippi

A MENACE TO GREAT INTERESTS

Of the Lower Valley—The Rivers and Harbors Committee will Consider the Propriety of Inspecting It—There will be No Extortionate Charges During the Ceremonies Incident to the Inauguration of President McKinley—Nicaragua Canal Scheme will Engage the Attention of Congress this Week.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 17.—The rivers and harbors committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday for the consideration of a number of questions, prominent among them being the proposition from the city of New Orleans for an official inspection of the crevasse in the south-east pass near the gulf, which in the estimation of those interested, is a menace to the commercial interests of the lower Mississippi valley. It is practically determined that there shall be an investigation, and it is expected that at the meeting on Tuesday, a sub-committee will be appointed to take it up. In the event of the appointment of a committee, representative Dovener will be one of the number selected. This matter is a familiar one to all river men. It was deemed to be of so much general consequence that a commission representing cities from Pittsburgh to New Orleans came on here a month ago to discuss it, with the rivers and harbors committee, and at that time the suggestion was made and emphasized that the government should at once take steps to provide against what is believed to be impending disaster to the main, or south, pass upon which so much money has been expended under the Eads contract.

It is insisted by the New Orleans chamber of commerce and otherwise officially, that the crevasse is not only now endangering the channel upon which they descend, but is liable at any time to get beyond control. It is estimated by the city's spokesman that it will cost $275,000 to close it, and to show their confidence in their own judgment concerning its condition they offer to bear all the expenses of the sub-committee's inspection.

The Eads contract of eighteen years ago expires in two years. Under it the channel in the south pass was to be maintained at a depth of twenty-six feet for twenty years. The break in one of the other two passes has not interfered materially so far in the carrying out of that contract, but the Louisianans contend that it is causing too heavy a drain on the volume of water from the Mississippi, and that while the Eads people may be able to manage it during the life of the contract, the present rate of progression is believed to be such that when the government shall have to take hold the damages will be so increased that it will cost very much more than it will now to repair the break, if, indeed, it can then be done at all. The representative of the Eads contract is understood to have assured the committee of his ability to maintain the required volume of water in the south pass. It is therefore, a problem whether or not the government shall step in at this juncture. In one aspect of the case it is siding the Eads people to maintain a contract, which it is claimed they are amply able to maintain, without aid, and even if failure should result, it may be charged by the contractor that conditions over which no one had control, were the cause.

Should the government undertake the work, it is also suggested, and the crevasse should be beyond repair, the contractor would be absolved. The river men are anxious for the inspection to be made, in the belief that the government's interests are at stake, and that its duty to so important an interest requires immediate action.

WILL BE NO EXTORTION.

Ample Provision Made for Those who will Attend the Inauguration.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Those who are making effort to so arrange the inaugural ceremonies of Mr. McKinley so that none can complain, are disturbed by statements circulated in certain parts of the country to the effect that extortionate rates are to be exacted of those who come here to witness the inauguration ceremonies. Speaking to an Associated Press representative to-day, Chairman Bell said: "If people insist on making their own arrangements, the inaugural committee cannot be held responsible, but it can assure anyone who will address Col. L. P. Wright, chairman of the committee on public comfort, that he will secure for them the best of accommodations at reasonable rates. He has listed already accommodations for from twenty to thirty thousand persons, mostly in private houses, which are well located, and which are supplied with all modern conveniences. The list is daily increasing. The rates will average about as follows: For lodging only, $1 per day for beds, and 75 cents for cots; $1.25 to $1.50 for lodging and breakfast, and $2 to $2.50 for lodging and meals.

Good horses for the parade may be hired for from $5 to $10. If persons have equipments it would be well to bring them, although such as may not possess them will be supplied by the committee at moderate cost."

WEEK IN CONGRESS

Nicaraguan Canal Scheme will Occupy Attention of Both Houses.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 17.—The friends of the Nicaragua canal bill expect it to be taken up early in the week and that it will retain its place at the head of the calendar until disposed of. The bill will lead to considerable debate before voted on, but its advocates are very hopeful of its passage.

Senator Perkins will make an effort, if opportunity offers, to get up the bill for a non-partisan labor commission, and in this he will likely be antagonized by Senator Frye with the Hawaiian cable bill.

Senator Chandler will introduce the caucus committee's bill for an international monetary conference on Monday, and will ask to have it voted upon on Tuesday without going through a committee. So far Senator Pettigrew is the only member of the senate who has announced his intention to oppose the bill by vote, though it is expected that others, while giving it no effective opposition, will take the position that nothing can be accomplished by international action.

Effort may be made in executive session to reopen the discussion of the extradition treaties, but this will be resisted by the committee on foreign relations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 17.—The coming week in the house is likely to be uneventful. There are no bills of great national importance on the house calendar which are to be debated unless the supporters of the Nicaragua canal project should succeed in persuading the committee on rules to assign them one or more days for the consideration of that measure.

On Tuesday Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, will bring up the Yost-Tucker election contest from the Tenth district of Virginia. The committee report is in favor of Mr. Tucker, the sitting member, who is a Democrat, and his side of the contest will be managed by Chairman McCall, a Republican, while Mr. Walker, the only Republican member from Virginia, will handle Yost's case. One day of the week will be given to the pensions committee for the passage of the bills which have been reported to the house from the Friday night sessions.

TALMAGE TALKS

On the Arbitration Treaty—Pleads With Senators to Ratify It.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Dr. T. DeWitt Talmage, in his sermon Sunday morning, referred to the arbitration treaty in the following language:

"The mightiest, grandest movement for driving brutal war out of the earth dates from January 11, 1897. The men who on either side of the sea did most to effect this plan of arbitration have made themselves immortal. The evening of the present administration of the United States government has been honored with the gladdest event of eighteen centuries. All civilized nations will copy the sublime example. I implore the illustrious senate of the United States to allow nothing to interfere with a vote of ratification, that the bells of all christendom may ring out 'Peace on earth, good will to men.' Senators, many of you my personal friends, let me say to you that this is the opportunity of your lives. By emphatic and enthusiastic vote rise to the splendor of the occasion and win the favor of all the good of earth and all the mighty of heaven. Let the 'aye! aye!' of our American senate resound through all the capitals of Europe, and make all the arsenals and armories of the world hear that there shall be no more murder among nationas. The worst thing you can do for a man is to kill him: The best thing you can do for a man is to save him."

Death of a Prominent Washingtonian.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Joseph C. Willard, for many years prominent in the business life of Washington, died at home here to-day from a complication of diseases, aged seventy-seven years. Mr. Willard was very wealthy, and was the owner of the hotel in this city bearing his name, which has been the stopping place of public men from the entire country. One son, J. E. Willard, of Virginia, survives him. His funeral will take place Tuesday.

A Chance to Make Money.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The German millers have offered a prize of $250 for a method of destroying the meal moth, which has been ravaging the German mills. United States Consul DeKay, at Berlin, offers to deliver to the proper authorities any method forwarded by Americans.

CONGRESS CAN DO IT

Solution of the Sweating System in Its Hands.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 17.—"Congress can to a very large degree solve the problem of abolition of the sweating system by passing more stringent emigration laws, and by a tax system that would force the workers out of the tenements into shopbuildings where state legislation can reach them."

That is the most important paragraph in the eleventh annual report of the New York State Factory Inspector, Mr. O'Leary, and he alleges that the greatest evil labor is burdened with is no more prevalent in New York City than it is in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Hartford, Newark, St. Louis, St. Paul and every other large centre of population, and especially in cities or localities where the manufacture of clothing is carried on to any extent.

In his report, Inspector O'Leary says: "With knee pants bringing but from fifty to seventy-five cents per dozen, vests from one to three dollars per dozen, trousers from twelve and one-half to seventy-five cents per pair, and coats from thirty-two cents to $1.50 each, with a percentage of these prices for the boss sweaters, and another reduction off for cost of carting, which the workman is obliged to pay, we cannot expect to find anything but destitution, suffering, intellectual and mental depression existing amongst the unfortunate victims of this pernicious system."

National Association of Manufacturers.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17.—Returns thus far received at the office of the national association of manufacturers indicate that a very large proportion of the entire membership of the association will be in attendance at the second annual convention of the association, which is to be held in Philadelphia, on January 26, 27 and 28.

Over 250 members have already signified their intention of being present at the convention and this number of delegated will be largely increased. Invitations have been sent to over 7,000 leading manufacturers outside of the membership of the association for the purpose of making this convention a general gathering of manufacturers from all sections of the country and representing all branches of industry. The attendance of non-members will be unusually large as shown by the replies already received from those who have definitely decided to be present.

Emigrants Held Up.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Jan. 17.—A party of emigrants en route from Missouri to Oklahoma by wagon train were held up and robbed of all money and valuables in the mountainous country on the western line of the Creek reservation. The robbers secured about $1,000. There were six bandits under the leadership of a man whom one of the Missourians recognized as George Taylor, the escaped murderer of the Meeks family. This is the same section in which a traveling man recognized Taylor a month ago, and is the rough, mountainous district where the Dalton, Cook and Dolan gangs formerly had their rendezvous.

Town Looted.

PERRY, Okla., Jan. 17.—Late last night robbers took in the town of Newkirk, north of here, saloons were robbed of all money and quantities of whisky and beer. Residences were entered and many things taken out. Officers think the robbers came into town yesterday under the guise of tramps. Five tramps were arrested here yesterday for highway robbery.

Stole Public Library Books.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 17.—Carl B. Christensen, who says he was a professor in Waterloo College, Waterloo City, Ia., was arrested to-day by Sergeant Charles Maynes, charged with taking about thirty books of various kinds from the public library. In Christensen's room were found twenty-five books which came from the Hartford public library. He admitted that he took the books in Hartford where he stopped a few weeks last summer. Christensen is thirty-six years old, a Dane and unmarried.

HAD A BUSY WEEK.

President-Elect McKinley Surfeited With a String of Callers.

SAME OUTLOOK THIS WEEK.

Hanna's Senatorial Aspirations—Persons Having Close Relations with Governor Bushnell Say He will Not Appoint the National Chairman to the Prospective Vacancy—Vice President-Elect Hobart Says New Jersey will Get No Cabinet Appointment, as She is Already Provided For—Quay's Visit to Canton.

CANTON, O., Jan. 17.—President-elect McKinley attended church services as usual this morning, going to the First Methodist church, of which congregation he is a trustee. During the afternoon he took a drive and later visited his mother. He has been exceedingly busy since his return from Cleveland last Monday, having met at his home some of the foremost leaders of the party, and been in almost constant conference on matters concerning his administration, as well as meeting and greeting an almost innumerable host of people, whose calls have no significance. This week promises to be nearly as busy. Further attention will be given to cabinet building, it is said, and gossip has it that important visitors will be numerous.

Hon. H. S. Morey, accompanied by General Brester and wife, of Detroit, came here from Cleveland Saturday night, called on Major McKinley and returned to Cleveland this morning. Gen. Brester has traveled very extensively and has been decorated by the King of Portugal, being a member of the "Order of Christ." For this reason he has been mentioned as a possible minister to Lisbon, Portugal.

Mr. Morey positively denied that he represented Mr. Foraker or that he was the emissary of any one. He said his call upon Major McKinley was purely a social one. Regarding Mr. Hanna's senatorial aspirations, Mr. Morey said he had no doubt Mr. Hanna would be pleased to be appointed, as would any other Ohio man. He also emphatically denied that he had made any such statements as were accredited to him concerning Governor Bushnell, Chairman Hanna, Senator Sherman, Ohio politics and the selection of Senator Sherman's successor. He said he did not know who Governor Bushnell would appoint, but thought he would do justly to all concerned.

GOVERNOR BUSHNELL.

It is Said, will Not Appoint Hanna to the Senate.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, Jan. 17.—A close relative of Governor Bushnell, whose name cannot be used for obvious reasons, makes the statement about the authenticity of which there can be no doubt, that Governor Bushnell in so many words stated to him that he would not appoint Marcus A. Hanna to the prospective vacancy in the United States senate. The governor and the relative mentioned had quite a talk on the subject and the governor gave him to understand that Hanna's name could not be considered for the place at all. The relative further along stated to a local newspaper man that there was no doubt whatever of Governor Bushnell's desire to go to the senate himself. He added that he was very ambitious politically, and that the present situation afforded him an opportunity to gratify a long cherished wish to get into the senate.

In connection with the above a number of Governor Bushnell's friends are openly requesting him to resign as governor and then let Lieutenant-Governor Jones, who would be his successor, appoint him senator. Jones would in that event, it is urged, be the Republican candidate for governor next fall by the turn of affairs. To strengthen the above statement if strength is needed all newspaper men who have tried to interview Governor Bushnell about Hanna's candidacy for the senate know that he has always courteously declined to talk about it. In view of this fact, it is argued, that if there was no objection to Hanna, the governor would speak out.

QUAY AND PENROSE

Remain Mum as to the Object of Their Visit to Canton.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17.—United States Senator Quay and State Senator Penrose returned to this city this morning from their trip to Canton, where they visited President-elect McKinley.

Senator Quay remained quietly at the Hotel Walton for a few hours, leaving for Washington in the afternoon. He declined to be interviewed concerning his conference with Major McKinley.

Speaking of his visit to Canton, Senator Penrose expressed his surprise at the excellent physical condition displayed by the President-elect. He said McKinley's eye was bright and clear and his every movement indicated the possession of almost perfect health and strength. This Mr. Penrose regarded as remarkable, considering the great physical and mental strain Mr. McKinley has been compelled to undergo for several months past.

Senator Penrose says he is perfectly satisfied with the result of his visit to Mr. McKinley, but, like Senator Quay, declined to make any statement regarding its purpose.

New Jersey Provided For.

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 17.—Vice President-elect Garret A. Hobart, in an interview, said that there would be no cabinet appointments from New Jersey, more particularly for the reason, he added, that New Jersey seems to have been pretty well provided for. He said that the talk of a military escort for the vice president-elect from New Jersey to Washington amounted to nothing. He did not desire anything of the kind and the matter will not even be submitted to the legislature for consideration, he declared.

Mr. Hobart will go to Washington on Tuesday, March 2, and will be accompanied by Mrs. Hobart and his son. He has taken apartments at the Arlington, and will reside there while his official duties require his presence at the national capital. In Mr. Hobart's party will be Governor Griggs, and his staff.

Has Made No Statement.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 17.—Mr. M. A. Hanna said to-day that he had authorized no one to state that he would come out as a candidate for United States senator to succeed Senator Sherman. That was a matter which he was not discussing with anybody, he said. He declared furthermore that he had made no statement such as had been given to the press to anybody.

Charged With Embezzlement.

FORT SCOTT, Kans., Jan. 17.—While sick in bed, Judge J. F. McDonald, accused of embezzlement of several thousand dollars in fees and money paid as compromise in the Frontenac explosion cases, was arrested and held under bond for $2,733. Judge J. D. McCleverty is the prosecuting witness. The warrant alleges that McDonald collected $5,000 in fees in cases; that he is still holding $1,346 due McCleverty, which he has converted into money for the purpose of placing it beyond the reach of his creditors, and that he has it fraudulently concealed; that he settled the cases secretly and without consulting his partners.

RIVERA'S COMPLAINT.

Says the Cuban Junta, in New York, Have Neglected Them.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—The World this morning prints an interview with General Ruis Rivera obtained in the field near Canco, near Pinar del Rio. In this interview, General Rivera says:

"I do not wish to criticise our friends in the United States, for I believe them (referring to the junta), patriotic men and striving to do their best for Cuba, but we here in Pinar del Rio have been somewhat neglected.

"Great reliance was placed upon General Maceo, our beloved commander, and it was thought that he could not only defeat the enemy in the province, but finally make a junction with Gomez. But he knew, and our friends should have known also, that four or five or ten thousand men, poorly armed and most of the time with but scanty ammunition, could not prevail against 50,000 well armed and well-fed troops. One or two swell expeditions landed, one at Corrientes Bay, but otherwise for nine months we have been depending upon our strategy and knowledge of the province to keep us out of a pitched battle.

"Speaking with reference to cannon: I wish it could be communicated to our friends in the United States that cannon are more in the way of ourselves than that of the enemy in this province. In the first place they are inconvenient to take over the hills, through the district of Managua and among the woods. The cannon we have now represent an outlay of $4,000 or $5,000, and yet almost one thousand rifles could be purchased for that sum. Of course we are in a position to assault Havana, heavy guns will be a necessity. Do we expect to? No, not very soon, about the end of the winter, I hope."

"There is certainly nothing to be gained by making statements that are untrue, or that I do not believe in myself. It would be wrong for me to give our friends in the United States the impression that we are perfectly able to take care of ourselves, no matter what happens.'

"Some of my best friends may criticise me for speaking so plainly, but I wish the Cubans of New York, Philadelphia, Jacksonville and Key West to know we here in Pinar del Rio, like our brothers of the orient, are willing to die for Cuba or to win. We cannot fight alone with out hands, nor even with machetes, against an enemy that is fully equipped, fed and drilled."

Mortality in Havana.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 17.—The current number of the public health reports issued by the marine hospital service, contains a report from Sanitary Inspector Burgess, at Havana, who says that during the week ended January 7 there were 306 deaths in the city, 61 of which were caused by yellow fever, with approximately 170 new cases; 78 were caused by smallpox, with 702 new cases approximately; 9 were caused by enteric fever; 3 by so-called pernicious fever; 4 by paludal fever; 1 by diphtheria; 15 by dysentery; 18 by enteritis; 1 by the grippe; 8 by pneumonia, and 37 by tuberculosis. Sixty of the 61 deaths from yellow fever during the week were among Spanish soldiers in the military hospitals, while all of the 78 deaths from smallpox occurred among civilians in the different parts of the city.

Maceo's Death Confirmed.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 17.—A letter has been received by one of the representatives in this city of the Cuban junta, confirming the Associated Press dispatches of Friday, giving an account of the death of General Maceo. The letter is from Lieutenant Colonel Hernandez, who was encamped with a company of cavalry and other troops near where Maceo was ambushed. The insurgents are reported to be encamped within nine miles of Havana.

OLD FASHIONED STORM

Of Snow in the Northwest—It is Welcomed by Farmers.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 17.—Last night and to-day throughout the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin a regular old-fashioned snow storm has been prevailing and the mercury is dropping slowly. A heavy snowfall has been very generally reported, and a gale has drifted it badly, demoralizing street car service in the cities and generally interfering with transportation facilities. The heavy fall of snow will be good for the coming crops, and is, therefore, welcomed by farmers.

The usual reports of big drifts have been received from various points. Yesterday the storm was reported first over in Dakota and by afternoon it put in its appearance in this state, a warm but heavy snowfall opening the siege, but to-day the temperature is much lower and a high wind adds to the discomfort of belated pedestrians.

Snow Storm in Michigan.

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 17.—Unusually heavy winds were experienced all over Michigan this afternoon. Conditions developed into a severe blizzard in the northern region. At Marquette the temperature fell 22 degrees in ten hours and two feet of snow fell. In western Michigan gales and snow storms prevail. At Jackson the roof was blown off the malt house of Haehnles' brewery, doing $1,000 damage and leaving 10,000 bushels of malt exposed.

Destructive Wind Storm.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 17.—A special to the Commercial Tribune from Anderson, Ind., says: This afternoon there was a hurricane wind through the central part of Indiana, doing damage at various points. The greatest here was the destruction of factory No. 4, of the Anderson Window Glass Company, the roof was carried away and the walls fell in on fired furnaces, and but for prompt work of the factory firemen a big fire would have occurred. Insurance covers the loss. Fifty skilled men will be out of work for some time. The west wall of the three story old opera house block burned out recently, was blown down and streets leading to it were blocked by police.

Blowing a Gale in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—Polar blasts are due in Chicago to-morrow morning. The advance agent came to-night in the shape of a gale that blew sixty-four miles an hour. The wind did much damage to property throughout the city. The signal service officer predicts zero weather in the morning after the three days rain which ended to-day. To-night's gale did considerable damage to plate glass windows, chimneys, signs and the like, but no heavy individual losses were reported.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Chairmenship of Two Important House Committees Decided.

GLOVER, OF PRESTON COUNTY,

Will Head that of Taxation and Finance, While T. M. Garvin will Preside Over Judiciary—Blon, of Ohio, May Get the Labor Chairmanship—The Printing, Binding and Stationery Deficiency of $40,000 will be Thoroughly Investigated—Great Preparations Making for Governor Atkinson's Inauguration.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 17.—There are some disappointments over senate committee places, but on the whole, President Whitaker is commended for his fairness and good judgment. To the best of his knowledge he has put the right man in the right place. Speaker Hanen will announce to-morrow the committees on taxation and finance and judiciary. Glover, of Preston, an experienced member with a level head, will be chairman of taxation and finance. The effort has been made to get together a committee that will be cautious and economic. Mr. Behrens, of Ohio county, will be on this committee, and is expected to be very useful by reason of his business training and careful methods.

The important judiciary chairmanship falls to Garvin, of Ohio, who is already looked upon as a safe man with ambition to make a record of faithful and efficient service. Blon, of Ohio county, or Toler, of Kanawha, will be chairman of the labor or mines and mining. The probability is that Toler will have mines and mining and Blon labor.

This legislature will be called on to deal with a printing, binding and stationary deficiency of about $40,000. There has been a good deal of talk about investigating the matter and to-morrow a resolution will be offered in the house instructing the finance committee, before which the claim will come to investigate the claim thoroughly and to report to the house the result of its inquiry. There is no intention to keep the contractor out of a dollar of his money, and there is no intention to allow him to get a cent more than is his due.

Charleston is making great preparations for the governor's inauguration. The affair is to be made the biggest occasion of the kind in the history of the state. A strong desire is expressed to have the Elkins Cadets here at that time. The boys would be the great attraction in Charleston, while they could not hope to cut so great a figure in Washington.

To-morrow the speaker will announce the following appointments of the house committee clerks: Roy Collins, W. B. Matthews, F. C. Cook, W. H. Brand, Holmes Curtis, W. F. Groves, J. P. Austin, Reed Crane, A. R. Stollings and S. G. Pauley. This will leave a goodly number lamenting.

The senate committee on privileges and elections will to-morrow take up the contested election case of Getzendanner, Republican, against Shaffer, Democrat, for the seat from the Thirteenth senatorial district, and proceed as rapidly as circumstances will allow. The hearing will be thorough. Able counsel will be on each side. C. B. H.

GRAFTON EXCITED

Over a Probable Murder and an Attempted Hold-Up.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

GRAFTON, W. Va., Jan. 17.—In the last twenty-four hours this usually orderly city has had the excitement of a shooting affair and attempted "hold-up."

At midnight last night Tom Haslup was shot on the street by Frank Cornwell, the bullet entering the body below the heart, and making a dangerous and what may prove a fatal wound. The difference between the two men leading up to the shooting are not clearly developed yet and will be brought out in the preliminary hearing, which will be held to-morrow. Both parties are well known young men of the town and the affair is greatly deplored. Haslup is about twenty-one years of age, and is a son of George Haslup, a Baltimore & Ohio railroad conductor on the third division. Cornwell is about nineteen, and is the son of Professor Cornwell, principal of the high schools here.

The hold-up happened to-night about 8 o'clock on the county bridge, with Joseph D. Newham, a Western Union telegraph operator the victim of the attempted outrage. He was attacked by four tramps, but pluckily resisted them and after a scrimmage managed to get away with a broken finger and a few bruises which the tramps inflicted in the scuffle. Fortunately all four of the "Wandering Willie" highwaymen were captured and are now lodged in jail and will be dealt with by law.

Two Accidents.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HINTON, W. Va., Jan. 17.—William M. Davis, aged twenty-three, son of R. L. Davis, of this city, was struck by a west-bound freight train this morning near the mouth of Greenbrier and instantly killed. He had been drinking and it is supposed that he was lying across the track in a drunken stupor.

James Collins, aged twenty-one years and unmarried, was instantly killed last night in the Glen Jean mine by falling slate.

Editor's Accidental Death.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Rudd Smith, one of the best known newspaper writers and editors in New York, was accidentally killed by gas escaping from a defective jet in a room in the Putnam House this morning. Mr. Smith was born in Louisville, Ky., and came to New York when a boy, completing his education at Seaton Hall college. He had two brothers, one of whom, Ballard Smith, is the London correspondent of the World. The other brother is a mining engineer. The burial will be in Louisville.

Three Suffocated by Gas.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 17.—Three young lives were destroyed by gas in a tenement house at Roxbury last night. The dead are: Mary N. Reynolds, seven years old; Margaret H. Reynolds, four years old; Annie Conneally, sixteen years old. John D. Reynolds, the father, discovered the dead children shortly after he arose this morning. The family occupies four rooms and the Conneally girl, a niece of Reynolds, slept with the two eldest children. Reynolds discovered the gas and breaking in the door saw the three children dead. Carelessness or ignorance in using the fixture is the supposed cause of the deaths.

SEAL INVESTIGATION

By the British Commissioners—Satisfactory Results Obtained.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Mr. Gerald Barrett Hamilton, one of the British commissioners appointed to investigate the conditions of seal life in Behring sea, has recently returned to London on the conclusion of his mission. Leaving London last summer with Prof. Darcy Thompson, Mr. Hamilton proceeded via New York and San Francisco to the north of Japan. Thence, he was conveyed on board H. M. S. Spartan to Robbin Island, near Saghalien, where there is a small rookery. Prof. Thompson went independently to the Pribyloff group. The investigation was made in consequence of the statement that the seal herd was being wiped out by pelagic sealing.

After spending six weeks on the Commander Islands, and visiting Robbin Island, Mr. Hamilton joined Prof. Thompson on the Pribyloffs. There the commission remained until the end of October. The Canadian and United States commissioners Messrs. McCoun and Clarke, were also on the Pribyloffs at the time. The British commissioners say they received most friendly treatment from the Americans, who behaved in a very fair way. Owing to the exceptional powers given to the American commissioners by their government they were able to do more than has been previously accomplished. Among other things, a census of every seal on the island was taken. This showed that there were 143,000 seals on the Pribyloffs and proved that the American estimates of previous years were much below the mark. Another important piece of work was the counting of dead pups. The Americans claimed that owing to the killing at sea of breeding females vast numbers of pups were left to starve on the islands. They said as many as 30,000 perished in this way. It was therefore highly important to know actually how many dead pups there were. There were a large number of dead, about 11,000, that it was proved had been killed by over-crowding before the commencement of pelagic sealing. About 10,000 had died later in the season.

The results of the investigations on the spot have tended to prove to the minds of the commissioners that although it has been said that the seal industry would collapse in two years, there is no fear of such an early extinction of the fur seal. No doubt is entertained that, now the question has been approached in such an amicable way, some measures of preserving the seal will be adopted. The large decrease in this year's catch of seals is probably due in part to the bad weather prevalent during the early part of August. It does not necessarily indicate a decrease in the number of seals. On this point opinion is divided, the Canadians say that the seals on the Pribyloffs have increased in number, while the Americans claim that they have decreased.

The British commissioners are now preparing their reports and they will probably be in the hands of the foreign office in the spring. In all probability a fresh commission will be sent this year in order to report any change as compared with last year's.

Burn Flunks.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Amos Burn, the Liverpool chess player, who, according to information received at the British chess club, has refused to play in the proposed cable match between Great Britain and America on February 12 or 13, has been very severely criticised in London and provincial chess circles. Inasmuch as Burn has always posed as an amateur it is all the more incomprehensible why he would not support the Britishers in the coming match. He played on the second board last year, when he was beaten by Showalter.

Will Not Tackle Europe.

PARIS, Jan. 17.—In an interview Dr. Roux, who is connected with the department of hygiene, denied a report which has been published that he made experiments with an anti-plague lymph. He would know how to prepare the lymph he said, if it were needed, but he felt confident that bubonic plague would never get a hold in Europe. The Temps, complains of the inactivity of the British and Indian governments, in dealing with the scourge.

Got There at Last.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—A dispatch from Mendoza, Argentina, to the Chronicle, says that a telegram has been received there from the Fitzgerald expedition, reporting that a Swiss guide, Zurbriggen, had reached the summit of Aconcagua, in the Andes, over 24,000 feet above sea level, after the third attempt.

Pope Endorses It.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Chronicle's correspondent at Rome says that the pope has heard of the signing of the Anglo-American treaty with very lively satisfaction. He would wish the papacy to be regarded as a permanent arbitrational tribunal for all nations, but he is glad to see the principle adopted in any form.

Will Tell Whether You're Dead.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—A dispatch from Vienna to the Chronicle says that Professor Friedrich, of Elbing, has notified the Vienna academy of his discovery of a new kind of Roentgen rays, which will infallably determine in a subject whether death or a catalepsy has intervened.

Is Rothschild's Guest.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—United States Senator Edward O. Wolcott, is the guest of Baron Rothschild, at his country seat, Tring Park, Hertfordshire.

Orchestra Concert.

The Opera House orchestra's bi-weekly rehearsal drew a large and well pleased audience to Arion hall last night. A pleasing programme was given.

Steamship Movements.

NEW YORK—Arrived, La Bourgogne, Havre; Servia, Liverpool; Karlsruhe, Bremen.

QUEENSTOWN—Sailed, Campania, New York.

LIZARD—Passed, La Normandie, New York, for Havre.

LIVERPOOL—Arrived, Aurania, New York.

SOUTHAMPTON — Sailed, Fuerst Bismarck, New York.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, rain or snow, followed by clearing weather and a cold wave; brisk and high northwesterly winds.

Local Temperature.

The temperature Saturday as observed by C. Schnepf, druggist, corner Fourteenth and Market streets, was as follows:

7 a. m.	40	3 p. m.	47
9 a. m.	41	7 p. m.	46
12 m.	45	Weather—Cloudy.	

Sunday.

7 a. m.	45	3 p. m.	58
9 a. m.	49	7 p. m.	57
12 m.	52	Weather—Changeable.	