

HOTEL ROLLS INTO THE SEA.

People Buried In The Ruins— Four Vessels Go To The Bottom.

NOT A MOMENT'S WARNING.

Rome, Dec. 26.—A Terrible disaster took place at Amalfi, the popular tourist resort on the Gulf of Salerno. An enormous rock upon which stood the Cappuccini hotel, slid bodily into the sea, with a deafening roar and without a moment's warning, carrying with it the hotel, the old Capuchin monastery below, the Hotel Santa Caterina and several villas.

Many people were buried in the debris, which crushed four vessels to the bottom of the sea, destroying their crews. The mass of earth which slipped was about 50,000 cubic yards.

The population is in a state of terror, fearing fresh calamities. Troops have arrived upon the scene and begun rescue work.

It is believed that the loss of life is heavy, including a number of monks and the occupants of the hotel. As yet it is impossible to ascertain the exact number.

Seized American Flour.

Washington, Dec. 22.—In the absence of a formal complaint, the state department officials do not care to express a specific opinion in the case of the reported seizures of American flour by the British cruisers off the South African coast, under suspicion that it was intended for the Transvaal. But under the general rule adopted by our government and adhered to by most of the other civilized governments, merchandise of this description sent by one neutral nation to another, as in the case of the United States and Portugal is absolutely exempt from seizure.

Forty School Children Drowned.

Brussels, Dec. 26.—Upwards of forty school children were drowned in an ice accident at Freligheim, near the French frontier. The children of the district had been given a holiday, with permission to play on the frozen river Lys. When the merriment was at its full height the ice broke suddenly and the children disappeared. A few were rescued half-dead, but the majority were drowned. Thirty-six bodies have been recovered, but others are still missing.

Grand Rush of Volunteers.

London, Dec. 20.—There has been a notable rush of volunteers to offer their services for the war in South Africa. Several colonels have placed their regiments at the disposal of the war office. About 300 artillery volunteers offered their services at Edinburgh.

Another National Ticket.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The American Political League (whatever that is) has issued a call for a national convention for the nomination of candidates for president and vice president of the United States, to be held in Boston, July 4, 1900. The councils of each state are directed to appoint two delegates at large.

Last Of The Volunteer Regiments.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—The United States transport Grant has cleared and will sail for Manila with the last of the volunteer regiments, the Forty-eighth infantry, aboard, in command of Colonel William Duval.

Treasury Statement.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$292,196,310, gold reserve, \$241,423,427.

Corruption In Havana.

Havana, Dec. 22.—An immense sensation was caused in Havana by the arrest of nine appraisers of the customs house staff, on a charge of being in collusion with many Havana merchants to swindle the government out of large sums. It is asserted that the fraud has been practiced for two weeks at least, and probably for a longer period, and it is believed that thousands of dollars have been corruptly diverted. The swindle was accomplished by a classification of articles under which valuable goods went into cheap classes.

Chicago Strikers Make a Riot.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—A riot occurred at Twenty-ninth street and Calumet, where the strike of the tunnel miners is in progress. Several non-union men emerging from the tunnel were assaulted by strikers and during the general fight which followed shots were fired and several men on both sides badly beaten. No one was struck by the bullets. Nine of the strikers were arrested.

Ladysmith Provisioned.

London, Dec. 23.—The Daily Mail says: "We understand that news has arrived from General White to the effect that Ladysmith is well supplied with food and ammunition and can hold out much longer than has been estimated. The troops are described as in good spirits and anxious to fight." There is still no definite news regarding the military operations in South Africa. Probably this is because the only cable that is now working is choked with official dispatches.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

What is Being Done in The Fifty-Sixth General Assembly.

TWELFTH DAY.
The senate committee on finance reported the senate bill on a substitute for the house bill. It will be called up Jan. 4. The Senate received from the president the appointment of Horace Speed to be United States attorney of Oklahoma.

THIRTEENTH DAY.
In the Senate the presiding officer presented a communication from the regents of Smithsonian institute, suggesting the appointment of Richard Olney to fill a vacancy in the board of regents. Senator Hoar (Mass.) said it would be as proper for the supreme court to suggest to the president who should fill a vacancy on the bench. The matter was tabled.

Senator Hale (Me.) read General Brooke's proclamation in turning over the Cuban government to General Wood, and congratulated General Brooke for the good work he had accomplished. Senator Hoar offered a long series of resolutions which, summed up, meant a declaration of congress that whenever armed resistance to American control ceases in the Philippines, and the people are able to form a stable government for themselves, this country pledges itself to provide for their doing so.

Mr. De Armond (Mo.) introduced in the house a set of resolutions along parallel lines with Senator Hoar's in the Senate. Different but aiming at about the same course.

AMERICAN FEDERATION.

President Gompers Re-elected With all the Old Officers.

Detroit, Dec. 26.—The American of Labor unanimously re-elected all of its old officers. The only contests occurred in selections of fraternal delegates to the foreign trades congresses. During the nine days that the delegates were in session, declarations were adopted concerning a great variety of questions of more or less public import, but for the first time in many years no proposition was made or action taken even remotely connected with the money question or other pending political issue. Among the closing items of business transacted were the adoption of resolutions appealing to congress to submit to state legislatures a sixteenth constitutional amendment to prohibit disfranchisement of citizens on account of their sex and directing President Gompers to correspond with the trades union of the continental European countries with a view of bringing about fraternal relations.

Canada Sells Timber Lands.

Chicago Dec. 23.—The Ontario government has sold 398 square miles of timber limits in the districts of Algoma Nipissing and Rainy river here. It was attended by all the leading American lumbermen in Michigan, who bought freely, notwithstanding the fact that the terms of sale prohibited export of saw logs, and the expectation being that the scarcity of lumber and increased demand in the United States would necessitate a large demand of manufactured stuff from Canada. The price of the limits showed a good advance.

Bank Deposits Still Increasing.

Topeka, Dec. 26.—Bank Commissioner Breidenthal says the reports of the state and private banks now coming into his department under his last call, when tabulated, will show that the combined deposits will aggregate over \$25,000,000. This will be an increase of \$1,000,000 over the deposits as shown by the call three months ago.

Troops For Texas.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The quartermaster general has been informed that four troops of the Tenth cavalry have been assigned to the following posts in Texas: Troop E, to Fort Brown; F to Fort McIntosh; G to Fort Ringgold, H to Fort Clark.

Car Shops Burned.

Dubuque, Ia., Dec. 22.—The car shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, the largest plant here, are destroyed by fire. Loss will be from \$75,000 to \$100,000, and 300 men will be thrown out of employment.

Testing Taxation of Franchises.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 23.—City Tax Collector Fordhouse has attached the property of every corporation holding a franchise from the city of Dallas to enforce payment of the franchise tax under the provisions of the new city charter. The attachments included the properties of three electric street railway companies and three electric light and power companies, the Southern Telephone company and numerous corporations. A suit to test the constitutionality of the power of the tax franchises was agreed upon.

Approaches their Manly Course.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 22.—At the request of Senator M. A. Hanna, the Little Consolidated Street Railway company of which he is president, will distribute \$5,000 among employees as a Christmas gift. The Senator in a telegram to the directors says he wants to show the company's "appreciation of the manly course taken by its employees during the late strike" on the Big Consolidated lines when they refused to go out.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Rear Admiral Bradford has asked authority from the navy department to establish a bureau at the naval training station at Newport for the development of a naval system of wireless telegraphy. It is proposed to detail several officers having high electrical knowledge at this station, and to furnish facilities for study and experiment.

In all probability the experiment Rear Admiral Bradford desires will be ordered.

SMUGGLE MUNITIONS & MEN.

Delagoa Bay Ports Better for Boers Than if Theirs.

MUNITIONS AND RECRUITS.

London, Dec. 26.—The principal port of Delagoa Bay is of more real service to the Boers than it could be if owned by them; as in that case it would be blockaded. Food, munitions and recruits are brought in almost openly. Arms are concealed in the lower parts of the ship and covered over with tons of stuff. Examine such ships out at sea. It would take three weeks to examine them properly. The bills of lading, of course, are all cooked. As for the recruits, they come in the same ships, as passengers, waiters or sailors, it does not matter how. They are landed and received with ovations and enthusiasm. After this open-armed reception they are expeditiously forwarded to Pretoria, arms and all. They come as civilians, they leave as soldiers. All Europe is a recruiting ground for the Boers—Germany, Belgium, Russia, Sweden, Holland and Ireland all contributing. In the light of what we know, there is nothing to do but for England to remember that she has a fleet, and to use it to occupy Lourenzo Marques. If England acts thus with regard to Delagoa Bay the war will be over in three months. If she leaves things as they are now the war will last for at least a year.

To Equalize Taxation of Banks.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Congressman Bailey, of Kansas, who represents the state at large, has introduced a meritorious measure in the house. It provides that the revenue tax on banks of \$5,000 and \$10,000 capital shall be proportionate with those of greater capital; for instance, banks having a capital of \$25,000 or over. As it is now, each bank is required to pay a revenue tax under the war revenue act, of \$50, where the capitalization is below \$25,000, and \$2 per thousand where the capital is in excess of \$25,000.

This Is The Voice Of All.

Ithica, N. Y., Dec. 23.—President J. G. Schurman of Cornell, the head of the Philippine commission, said relative to the death of Major General Lawton: "General Lawton's death is a great public calamity. At the front and in the very eye of danger, the post he always sought for himself, our prince of fighters has fallen. In him the army loses a mighty inspiration, the public a sure bulwark of confidence. Fearless, impetuous and always successful, so that his very name was in itself the strength of legions."

It Is Puerto Rico.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The government has finally adopted "Puerto Rico" as the official spelling of the name of that island, and hereafter all official documents will adhere to that form. The board on geographic names decided in favor of this some years ago, but the usage has not been uniform. The board requested from President McKinley an expression of his views, and in making the decision he says the name should be Puerto Rico, in accordance with the custom of the people of the island.

May Map Out a Bill.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Representative Berry, of Kentucky, a member of the river and harbor committee, said that he did not agree with the view of chairman Burton, of the committee, that there would be no river and harbor bill. Mr. Berry thinks it most desirable that the bill should be framed at the present long session, and he is of the opinion the committee will take this view.

New Quarantine Order.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The Secretary of Agriculture issued the annual order effective January 5 next, establishing a federal quarantine against splenic or southern fever among cattle. The order prohibits the transportation of cattle except under certain regulations into other territory from the quarantine district which is substantially the same as last year. The most important change is withdrawing from the quarantine area, that portion of California, north of a line drawn easterly from San Francisco.

Steel Ship Building Plant.

North Sydney, Cape Breton, Dec. 20.—The largest coal mine transaction in the history of the industry in this island has been completed in the sale of the coal property of the General Mining association to a syndicate of American and Canadian capitalists. The new owners will establish a steel ship building plant there and the coal mines will be operated in connection therewith. These mines are the oldest in Nova Scotia.

Same Standard of Morality.

New York, Dec. 22.—The good name of a woman has ever been both in law and fact her most precious possession. Equal protection in law has now for the first time in this country been thrown around a man's good name by a decision rendered in Brooklyn. In effect this decision is that both men and women are to be judged by a single standard of morality, and that a charge which is libelous against a woman is equally libelous against a man.

FORTY ARE DEAD.

Details of the Brazzell Coal Mine Explosion—Was an Awful Death-trap.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 26.—The mine is that of the Stockade Coal company and lies four miles from Brownsville and fourteen miles from Uniontown. It is known as the Brazzell mine and lies near a station of that name on the Redstone creek branch of the Pennsylvania railroad. Fire Boss Radcliffe went through the mine as usual and found gas, or fire damp, in two places. He detected about four inches of gas in the main entry about 100 yards from the main shaft and about an equal quantity in a room on the side entry a short distance away. The fire boys reported the presence of the gas but informed the superintendent that it was all right for the men to enter. The men were lowered into the mine in a cage, descending the main shaft, which is vertical. From forty to fifty men had entered the mine and dispersed through it when the gas was ignited in some manner not yet ascertained. A tremendous explosion occurred. Its force must have reached every man in the mine. The cage in the main shaft, which was at the bottom, was blown into splinters and the hoisting machinery wrecked. The dead taken from the mine so far are: Henry Hagar, Peter Orsory, William Thomas, Michael Rothell, Samuel Meese, Albert Meese, Michael Mahio, George Kovitz, Joseph Postak, Joseph Magyar, William Molok, Paul Proloc. Among the men missing and known to be dead in the mine are the following Hungarians:

Michael and Andrew Parahek, Paul Laundis, Thomas Keulak and Andrew Toursizski. At least twelve other bodies are in sight, but cannot be reached on account of the debris.

Plenty of Provisions.

San Francisco, Dec. 26.—A large refrigerator plant is soon to be erected in Manila by the United States under the direction of Major L. S. Padiez of the quartermaster's department. It will occupy a building 340 feet square and 25 feet high, to be located on the left bank of the Pasig river. The cooling room will be large enough to contain at once 5,000 beefs, 7,500 sheep and 100 tons each of salt meats, butter and eggs and vegetables enough to supply the American army in the Philippines for some time. In addition to this the plant will produce fifty tons of ice and six thousand gallons of distilled water every day.

With this plant in operation it will be possible to supply the hospitals with pure water and ice, wholesome food and even delicacies. With the railroads in operation the troops at the front can be supplied daily with fresh meat and vegetables.

Bell Of Colorado.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Mr. Bell (Col.) submitted some remarks in criticism of the statement in the president's message about the prosperous condition of the country. He charged that a large proportion of the alleged prosperity was fictitious and instanced the case of the numerous industrial trusts, which, he said, had been inflated with wind and floated. Many of these bubbles had been pricked within the last few days and today the newspapers were filled with the stories of distrust in Wall street.

Good For Buller if Only True.

London, Dec. 22.—A special dispatch says it is rumored that General Buller called for volunteers to recover the abandoned guns and that a party issued from the camp after midnight and brought in the guns, which were un injured.

State Board of Agriculture.

Topeka, Dec. 23.—The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Kansas board of agriculture will be held in representative hall, Topeka, January 10, 11 and 12. A strong program is being prepared and a rate of a fare and a third has been made for that week on tickets to Topeka on all Kansas railroads.

Dr. D. E. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry at Washington, Prof. S. J. Hunter of Kansas University, General J. K. Hudson, Colonel Richard J. Hinton, Prof. Minnie A. Stone, of Kansas Agricultural college, and Mrs. Mary T. Gray, of Kansas City are the leading speakers expected.

Stock Yards Company Sues.

Kansas City, Dec. 20.—The Kansas City Stock Yards Company has sued the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company for \$31,629.45 on account of the destruction by fire of the sheep pens on the night of October 28. The stock yards company claims that it was a spark from a Rock Island switch engine which set fire to the pens.

England Must Raise Money.

London, Dec. 22.—The Chronicle says: "The fear of large new issue of consols hangs the market. Already the price at which the government could place them is being discussed. Some leading financiers thought the issue might be made at 95. Now 90 seems more like the figure at which \$10,000,000 could be sold but the government could not put out a large amount just now at any figure. It is said that Russia has made a large loan to England."

VICTIMS OF PRECEDENT.

But Not an Excuse For Dishonest, Though Old Tricks.

BRIBERY THE FIXED CUSTOM.

New York, Dec. 23.—According to the Havana manager of a tobacco importing firm now in this city at the home office, the Cuban customs appraisers who were arrested in Havana are only the victims of precedent. Said he:

It is not an unusual move. The wonder is that it has not been done before. Under Spanish rule the changing of classifications on goods, with the connivance of the officials, was very common. The officials had an idea that they held office for the single purpose of getting rich. They accepted bribes as a matter of course. Now they have come in contact with another administrative idea which takes into consideration the interests of government and are surprised as well as disappointed at not being able to go on in the same course.

This is not the first instance since the Americans have been in charge where frauds of the same kind have been let off with the rebuke of the officers.

Business men who have shipped goods into Cuba have been taught by experience that it is cheaper to bribe the officials than to remain honest and be kicked out of the country. Spanish officials did not care to deal with honest merchants and would seek pretexts for getting them out of the country.

Arizona Working For Statehood.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Governor Murphy of Arizona is in the city. He is working to get as many of the members of the committee of territories of the house and senate as possible, to accompany himself and other enthusiastic Arizona statehood people on a trip to that territory. While there, attempts will be made to impress the committee with the importance of the territory and the reasons why it should be a state. It is unnecessary to state that the best foot will be put foremost by the Arizona people.

Enthusiastic Volunteering.

London, Dec. 26.—There is no diminution of the enthusiasm among the volunteers. All kinds of offers are reaching Lord Chesham, who is to command the mounted volunteer force. Members of the stock exchange have already promised 100 horses from their stables, and an offer of an Irish contingent of 115 hunting men was accepted this morning. Prince Francis of Teck, younger brother of the Duchess of York, has sailed for Cape Town with a detachment of the Royal Dragoons.

No More Show Indians.

Washington, Dec. 26.—A new departure in the department of the interior is emphasized by unequivocal refusals which have met all recent requests for loans of Indians for exhibition purposes and Secretary Hitchcock and Commissioner of Indian Affairs Jones have determined to stop the abuses of the privileges. Mr. Jones said that there will be no more Indians permitted to leave their reservations for wild west exhibition purposes.

Urgent Deficiency Bill.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The urgent deficiency appropriation bill, the first of the important supply bills for the government expenses, is practically made up, and the total will amount to about \$51,000,000. The bill will be submitted to the house soon after it assembles. Of the amount carried \$45,157,871 is asked for the war department and \$3,143,740 for the navy.

Dwight L. Moody Is Dead.

East Northfield, Mass., Dec. 23.—D. L. Moody, the famous evangelist is dead. It was not expected by the members of Mr. Moody's family and immediate circle of friends, that death would be the result of his illness. The cause of death was a general breaking down, due to overwork. Mr. Moody's heart has been weak for a long time and exertions put forth in connection with meetings in the west last month, brought on a collapse from which he failed to rally.

"Didn't Know" a Poor Excuse.

London, Dec. 22.—Further accounts of the Tugela river battle emphasize the ignorance of the British intelligence department in regard to the disposition of the Boer forces. The British were not aware that the Boers were entrenched along a series of low lying hills, until a staggering fire compelled them to retreat when the attack seemed about to succeed. The Boers were also in greater strength than anticipated.

The Old Wichita University.

Wichita, Dec. 23.—The old Wichita University has been bought by Bishop Hennessey for the use of the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The consideration was the payment of \$5,000 to the Reformed church. Five thousand dollars in taxes were remitted and it will require about \$5,000 additional to put it in repair. This building was one put up in the boom. It was operated as a school for quite a time, but of late years it has stood vacant. It is a very substantial building.

COMPLETE MARKET REPORTS.

Kansas City.	
CATTLE—Common to heavy	3 30
HOGS—Choice to heavy	3 25
SHEEP—Fair to choice	2 50
WHEAT—No. 1 red	95
CORN—No. 2	35 1/2
OATS—No. 2	25 1/2
RYE—No. 2	30
HAY—Choice timothy	1 00
Choice prairie	75
BUTTER	22
EGGS	15

Chicago.	
WHEAT—No. 1 red	97
CORN—No. 2	35 1/2
OATS—No. 2	25 1/2
EGGS—Choice	22 1/2

St. Louis.	
WHEAT—No. 1 red	95
CORN—No. 2	35 1/2
OATS—No. 2	25 1/2
RYE—No. 2	30

New York.	
Wheat	97
Corn	35 1/2
Oats	25 1/2
Butter	22
Eggs	15

Cotton.	
January	17 1/2
February	17 1/2
March	17 1/2
April	17 1/2
May	17 1/2
June	17 1/2
July	17 1/2
August	17 1/2
September	17 1/2
October	17 1/2

Wichita.	
Wheat	95
Corn	35 1/2
Oats	25 1/2
Butter	22
Eggs	15

Live Stock.	
HOGS	3 25
CATTLE—Steady	3 30
COWS	2 50
BULLS	3 00
STOCK COWS	3 00
COWS AND HEIFERS	2 00

THE LATEST NEWS IN BRIEF.

The colored teachers of Oklahoma have a territorial association. The company which manufactures St. Jacob's Oil, at Baltimore, has failed. North Dakota raised over a third of the flax crop of the country this year. The total of incarcerated criminals in New York has decreased 600 during the past year. Manufacturers of cameras, kodaks and photographers' supplies have formed a trust. It is rumored here that the Bank of Russia has advanced the bank of England £8,000,000. British agents are busy in rural districts of Germany hiring veterans for service in South Africa. Ralph Ingalls is likely to be nominated as paymaster. He was an officer in a Missouri volunteer regiment. The loop between Canon City and Cripple Creek has been completed. It is said that the Santa Fe will operate it. The interstate commerce commission has extended the time to railroads to equip their rolling stock with approved couplers, six months, to July 1, 1900. The supreme court of Illinois has decided that the ordinances of the city council of Chicago regulating the business of department stores are not constitutional and are void. Representative Sulzer, of New York, has introduced a joint resolution declaring that a state of war exists in South Africa, and according belligerent rights to the Transvaal government. An official investigation of the methods and purposes of the Kansas Grain Buyer's Association is going on. It is alleged that the association is a trust, formed for the sole purpose of fixing the price on grain. W. H. Booth, who swindled the exchange National bank at Atchison out of several hundred dollars recently by claiming to be a member of an Arkansas lumber firm, has been sentenced to four years imprisonment. The New South Wales assembly has passed a bill authorizing the issue of treasury bills to the amount of £4,000,000. Governor Chandler, of Georgia, has vetoed the bill passed recently by both houses of the general assembly permitting and regulating the practice in that state of osteopathy. The executive committee of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers have settled the location of their permanent headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio. The provision in the financial bill that especially appeals to Western bankers is the clause allowing national banks to issue currency to the full amount of the government bonds deposited in the United States treasury. It is believed that no governor will be appointed for the Santiago department, but that an experiment in civil government on a much broader scale than ever before will be initiated there, Governor general Wood having supervision of the experiment from Havana. A canvass of the Senate has been made to determine the majority by which the gold standard bill will pass; it seems certain that the vote will be in the proportion of yeas 49, nays 37, allowing for pairs. This is a majority of 12. A recent Missouri Pacific order, abandoning the hospital at Kansas City has caused a protest already. A committee from the Kansas City Commercial club goes to New York to interview George Gould relative to the abandonment.