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A TWICE A WEEK PAPER.

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VIEW RUINS OF ST. PIERRE

American Consul Visits the Wrecked City.

NOT A HOUSE LEFT INTACT.

Thirty Thousand Corpses Strewn About Site of Destroyed City—Tells Story of the Awful Scenes Which Met His Gaze.

Fort de France, Martinique, May 13.—It now seems to be generally admitted that about 30,000 persons lost their lives as the result of the outbreak of the Mont Pelee volcano. Careful investigation by competent government officials shows that the earlier reports of the Associated Press were accurate.

Briefly put, last Thursday morning the city of St. Pierre disappeared within ten minutes in a whirling fire vomited from Mont Pelee, 30,000 persons were instantly and horribly killed and the volcano, whose ancient crater for more than 50 years had been occupied by a quiet lake, in which picnic parties bathed, suddenly discharged a torrent of fiery mud, which rolled towards the sea, engulfing everything before it. Then the last of cable communication was broken and the doomed city was isolated from the world.

The American consul at Guadaloupe, Louis H. Ayme, has reached the desolate spot where St. Pierre stood and confirms the awful story in all its essential details. From an interview with Colonel Ayme, who is a trained American newspaper man, the correspondent of the Associated Press learned the following facts:

Thursday morning the inhabitants of the city awoke to find heavy clouds enshrouding the Mont Pelee crater. All day Wednesday horrid detonations had been heard. These were echoed from St. Thomas on the north to Barbadoes on the south. The cannoning ceased on Wednesday night and fine ashes fell like rain on St. Pierre. The inhabitants were alarmed, but Governor Montet, who had arrived at St. Pierre the evening before, did everything possible to allay the panic. The British steamer Roraima reached St. Pierre on Sunday with ten passengers, among whom were Mrs. Stokes and her three children and Mrs. H. J. Ince. They were watching the rain of ashes, when, with a frightful roar and terrific electric discharges, a cyclone of fire, mud and steam swept from the crater down over the town and bay, sweeping all before it and destroying the fleet of vessels at anchor off the shore.

Thirty Thousand Corpses.

There the accounts of the catastrophe so far obtainable cease. Thirty thousand corpses are strewn about, buried in the ruins of St. Pierre, or else floating, gnawed by sharks in the surrounding seas. Twenty-eight charred, half dead human beings were brought here. Sixteen of them are already dead and only four of the whole number are expected to recover.

The Associated Press steamer, chartered in Guadaloupe, neared Martinique early Sunday morning. At Le Precheur, five miles north of St. Pierre, canoes with men and women frantic to get away begged for passage on the steamer. Furious blasts of fire, ashes and mud swept over the steamer, but finally St. Pierre was reached. The city of St. Pierre stretched nearly two miles along the water front and half a mile back to a cliff at the base of the volcano. The houses of the richer French families were built of stone. The still smoking volcano towered above the ash-covered hills. The ruins were burning in many places and frightful odors of burned flesh filled the air.

Grim Mounds of Dead.

With great difficulty a landing was effected. Not one house was left intact. Viscid heaps of mud, of brighter ashes, or piles of volcanic stones were seen on every side. The streets could hardly be traced. Here and there amidst the ruins were heaps of corpses. Almost all the faces were downward. In one corner 22 bodies of men, women and children were mingled in one awful mass, arms and legs protruding as the hapless beings fell in the last struggles of death's agony, most notable was the utter silence and the awful, overpowering stench from the thousands of dead. Careful inspection showed that the fiery stream which so completely destroyed St. Pierre must have been composed of poisonous gases, which instantly suffocated every one who inhaled them, and of other gases burning furiously, for nearly all of the victims had their hands covering their mouths or were in some other attitude showing that they had sought relief from suffocation. All the bodies were carbonized or roasted.

Stories of Survivors.

The stories of the survivors added to the awful details of the particularly harrowing account of the loss of the British steamer Roraima. Engineers C. C. Evans and John G. Morris, now at the military hospital of Fort de France, say the vessel arrived at 6 o'clock. As eight bells was struck a

frightful explosion was heard up the mountain. A cloud of fire, toppling and roaring, swept with lightning speed down the mountain side and over the town and bay. The storm of fire lasted not more than five minutes. The Roraima was nearly sunk and caught fire at once.

"I can never forget the horrid, fiery, choking whirlwind which enveloped me," said Mr. Evans. "Mr. Morris and I rushed below. We are not very badly burned, not so bad as most of them. When the fire came we were going to our posts to weigh anchor and get out. When we came up we found the ship afire aft and fought it forward until 3 o'clock, when the Sutch came to our rescue. We were then building a raft."

From the Italian ship Teresa Lovico several men were saved, but they are in a frightful state except Jean Prudent of St. Pierre. Although on deck and unprotected he was little burned. Prudent says there was an awful noise of explosion and right away a cyclone of smoke and fire, but such was the poisonous, choking nature of the smoke that it burned worse than the fire. When it struck people they fell dead. The cyclone of gas tore the masts out of ships, blew others up and sunk some of them. Soon afterwards came a wave of fire bigger than the smoke cloud.

"That cloud," continued Prudent, "was bigger, it seemed, than the mountain. The fire burned nearly everywhere at once. Near me I saw only dead men; but on shore I saw men and women rushing back and forth amid the flames for an hour. They would not run long. Then came that choking smoke and they would drop like dead flies. The explosion, smoke, and fire all came and went in three minutes, but the city burned for three hours. Then every house was finished and nothing alive was left. At no time were there any earthquakes, but big stones were rained down and fire fell like rain for a long time."

In a separate part of the hospital were found several persons saved from Carbet village, four miles from St. Pierre. The village of Irtine, south of St. Pierre, was almost entirely burned and almost all the inhabitants were killed. One of the survivors of Irtine, who will die, says the sea, boiling hot, invaded the land. Six women, whose bodies are one solid burn, are writhing in another ward of the hospital. Ten women severely burned from Irtine were brought in and four of them have died. It is doubtful if any of the six still alive can recover. An evidence of the swiftness of the onslaught of fire is found in the fact that none of the victims was blinded, although the eyelids of most of them are nearly burned through. All those saved, except the engineers of the Roraima, are poor sailors and Martinique negroes. No one knows how the passengers of the steamers perished.

American Consul Certainly Dead.

Three hours' exploration of the ruins of St. Pierre resulted in the finding of no trace of the American consul. Consul Thomas T. Prentiss, his wife and two daughters are undoubtedly dead. That quarter of the city is still a vast mass of blazing ruins.

The coast villages near St. Pierre were destroyed with that town. The entire island up to a few miles of Fort de France is covered with mud and ashes. The cattle are all either dead or dying. The streams are all drying up. Thousands of persons are flocking to Fort de France. Unless relief is promptly sent famine is imminent.

The steamer Solent brought awful news from the British island of St. Vincent. May 8 and 9 a volcano there, the Soufriere, broke into violent eruption. Mud, ashes and stones were hurled into Kingston, the capital of the island, and over the country. From the meager reports obtained here it is said 300 deaths occurred in St. Vincent up to Friday.

MINE TIE-UP IS COMPLETE

Work All Stopped in the Anthracite Region.

ARMY OF 145,000 MINERS STRIKE

Three Hundred and Fifty-seven Collieries at a Standstill—Union's Order to Suspend Operations is Obeyed in Every Instance.

Philadelphia, May 13.—Mine workers throughout the entire anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania, to the number of 145,000, formally began their struggle yesterday for increased wages and shorter hours. Never in the history of hard coal mining has a tie-up been so complete, not one of the 257 collieries in the territory being in operation. There is every indication for the belief that the suspension, which was to cover only the first three days of the week, will be made permanent by the miners' general convention which will meet at Hazleton on Wednesday. Absolute quiet prevails everywhere. In pursuance of the request of the district executive boards which met jointly at Scranton last week, all the local unions throughout the region met and elected delegates to the Hazleton convention. It is significant that in every issue where a vote of the "local" became public property the ballot showed a decided majority for a permanent strike unless the operators grant the demands.

Predictions are made that if it is decided on Wednesday to continue the strike, the struggle will be longer and more bitter than was that of 1900, which lasted six weeks.

The coal companies in the various parts of the region have already made preparations for a siege. Coal train crews and other employes numbering several thousand not identified with the mine workers union have been laid off until further notice. Some of the companies have also brought their mules to the surface and placed them in pasture.

President Mitchell expressed himself as well satisfied with the way the men responded to the call for a suspension of work.

GANS KNOCKS OUT ERNE.

Wins Lightweight Championship in First Round at Fort Erie.

Fort Erie, Ont., May 13.—Joe Gans, the Baltimore colored lightweight pugilist, is champion in his class, after knocking at the door for the past ten years. Frank Erne lost to him in the first round last night at Fort Erie.

The end came with startling suddenness. The men were scarcely warmed up, when Gans, trying cautiously, caught Erne napping, and landed a hard right on the ear, which appeared to jar Frank badly. Erne sparred wildly and Gans sent out a right to the point of the jaw. The blow completely settled Erne. He sank slowly to the floor, fell on his back and was rolling over on his stomach when Referee White had finished counting him out.

The quick defeat astounded the thousands of Erne men at the ring-side. The Herford party was overwhelmed with congratulations and a crowd of negroes proudly escorted Gans to his dressing room.

Holdrege Elected President.

Billings, Mon., May 13.—The first annual meeting of the stockholders of the Billings and Northern Railway company was held in this city yesterday. Nothing was given out for publication. It was learned, however, that G. W. Holdrege was elected president of the new company. The Billings and Northern railroad will be built to Great Falls, connecting with the Great Northern at that point and with the Northern Pacific at Billings.

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This Machine Has Without Doubt COME TO STAY

No Thresher Will Be Without One.

This machine has without doubt come to stay, no farmer after he sees one work will have his straw stacked any other way, no thresher will be without one. The time has arrived when the farmer wants to save his straw, the Wind stacker fills the bill.

Builds a Perfect Stack.

it handles all the straw, no matter how long or how short, weedy or not, wet or dry.

ANOTHER FEATURE and a good one—Should you desire to separate the chaff from the straw, simply drop the trap door at the bottom of the short



Let Us Give You a Brief Description

of the machine—The straw and chaff from the separator falls on a sheet of wind at the bottom of the hopper at the base of the tube, the wind coming from an opening above the fan housing, which extends full width. The straw struts on its journey as freely as though it had fallen on the carrier. There is no broken straw, no wasted grain and no waste of power. The Wind Stacker can be attached to any separator, is easily swung to either side, it.....

carrier and the chaff drops to the ground.

We will have one of these machines on exhibition in a few days and we want the threshers of Crawford county to come and inspect it, satisfy yourself that it is the best proposition ever presented to you. Some of the best farmers and threshers in the U. S. are using the machine and pronounce it the best thing on the market.

Come and See It.

The . . . Maplebay Wind . . . Stacker!

Tea rapid development of the stockraiser in Crawford county and perhaps several other reasons make the proper saving of straw a matter of great concern to the farmer. This is why the up-to-date thresher should not be without the Wind Stacker.

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Not In Any Combination Or Trust!

Notwithstanding the existence of the so-called meat trust we are in position to sell our customers meat at practically the same price as before. Below we quote you a few prices:

Sirloin and Porter-house, per pound	15c
Other Steaks, per pound,	12½c
Best Rib Roasts, per pound,	12½c
Other Roasts, per pound	10c
Boiling Meats, per pound, - 7c to	10c
Pork Chops, per pound,	15c
Best Breakfast Bacon, per pound,	15c
Ham in bulk, per pound,	15c
Ham sliced, per pound,	20c

All other prices proportionately low considering quality. A complete line of Salt Fish, Sweet and Sour Pickles, Bottled Goods, Etc., that defy competition. Be sure and give us a call. Better treatment guaranteed than any other meat dealer in Crawford county.

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Phone 114.