

SUICIDE OF BARNEY BARNATO

Tragic Death of the King of the Kaffir Diamond Mines.

JUMPED FROM AN OCEAN STEAMER.

Was Returning to His Home in England After a Visit to South Africa.

REMARKABLE CAREER OF THE MULTI-MILLIONAIRE.

From Humble Origin Barney Isaacs Became One of the Richest Men in the World.

LONDON, Eng., June 14.—A dispatch to the Central News from Funchal, the capital of Madeira, says that Barney Barnato, the well-known South African multi-millionaire, while returning to England from South Africa, committed suicide by jumping overboard from the steamer on which he was traveling. His body was recovered.

Later reports state that the vessel upon which Barnato was traveling was the British steamship Scot, from Capetown, June 2, for Southampton.

NEW YORK, N. Y., June 14.—The news of Barnato's suicide was received by cable to-day by Miss Alice Holbrook, who is living at the Hotel Vendome in this city. She is a sister-in-law of Barnato and the news was cabled by her sister, Mrs. Barnato, who is in London.

CAREER OF BARNATO.

From a Very Humble Start He Became a King in Diamond Mining.

There are many conflicting versions of the early life of Barney Barnato, the modern Monte Cristo, whose great wealth caused him to be styled the "Kaffir King" upon his return to London about five years ago. His name at once became known in all the money markets of the world, and many fantastic stories were circulated concerning him. Some described him as an illiterate and unscrupulous adventurer, and others as an agreeable, gentlemanly person, whose enormous wealth was exceeded by his good qualities. On one thing only all persons agreed: Barney Barnato had an extraordinary capacity for making money.

No two accounts of Barnato's origin agreed. In London it is commonly believed that he was the son of a poor Hebrew schoolmaster in the East End; that his real name was Isaacs; that he was once a cab-driver and after a peddler of second-hand clothing; that he was subsequently a billiard-marker, and that two years after the discovery of diamonds in South Africa he emigrated to the Transvaal with his brother, who had been a jugler in cheap circuses. It was in 1872, if Whitechapel chronology does not err. The two young Isaacs had exhausted their capital in passage money, but they made \$100 on the trip to Africa by entertaining their shipmates and passing around the hat. Arrived in the new country Barney and his brother struck out for the diamond fields, where they became a new life and took a new name—Barnato.

Very different, however, is the story that appeared some two years ago in a London financial journal. It was intimated that Barney had paid handsomely for the "write-up." Here is the story:

Barney I. Barnato was born in London on July 5, 1852. He is the third son of Isaac Isaacs Barnato of Devonshire terrace, Hyde Park, and on his mother's side is connected with the late Sir George Jessel, who was well known as a lawyer, a Judge and Master of Rolls. Mr. Barnato passed his boyhood in London and was educated at private scholastic establishments by private tutors. At an early age he entered the commercial world, but he threw off the harness of humdrum duties to "catch fresh fields and pastures new" in South Africa. In 1873, on his twenty-first birthday, he sailed from London on the ship Aquila. His first African ventures were successful; at the end

of three years he owned diamond mines in the neighborhood of Kimberley, and in 1881 he sold these mines to a company for \$575,000.

Soon after Barnato's return to London it did not take long to discover that in South Africa he had been a power. He was the shrewdest of speculators in that country, regional baron and Lord Mayor's day, that he became a personage of distinction in society. But he determined to establish himself in the West End and to construct a mansion in Park Lane. In London Barnato seemed to enjoy life and spent money lavishly, and he liked to spend it in a way that gave pleasure to his family and friends.

Then came the inevitable reaction. In place of the praises there were curses for Barnato and all his tribe of South Africans. It does not follow that because Barnato dined at the Mansion House, and because he sat opposite the Prime Minister at a certain grand banquet on Lord Mayor's day, that he became a personage of distinction in society. But he determined to establish himself in the West End and to construct a mansion in Park Lane. In London Barnato seemed to enjoy life and spent money lavishly, and he liked to spend it in a way that gave pleasure to his family and friends.

Twice Barnato represented Kimberley in the Cape Legislature, but he had little time to devote to politics. His mining interests were constantly increasing and soon necessitated the establishment of a London branch. This took the form of the Barnato Bank, with a capital of £250,000. The shares at once commanded twice their par value, and its dividends, like those paid by his mining corporations, have been of almost incredible size. Barnato married while in Africa and had three children, two sons and a daughter. No close estimate was ever made of Barnato's fortune. Some months ago he was afflicted with fever, and it is barely possible that he committed suicide while his mind was temporarily deranged.

CROWDED WITH VISITORS.

London Streets Are Already Assuming a Holiday Aspect, Being Thronged With Sight-seers.

LONDON, Eng., June 14.—The influx of visitors to attend the jubilee was noticeable for the first time to-day. The streets, especially those through which the royal procession will pass, were thronged all day and until late at night with crowds of sightseers. The supply of omnibuses and cabs was inadequate to the demand. Official preparations are still incomplete. It is growing apparent that the great feature of the celebrations will be the public and official honors to colonial visitors. The welcome extended them in all quarters is enthusiastic. The press and Government are giving every encouragement to make the jubilee a great demonstration of the inaugural of a new imperial policy of the closer union of the colonies and the mother country.

SMOKED A CIGARETTE.

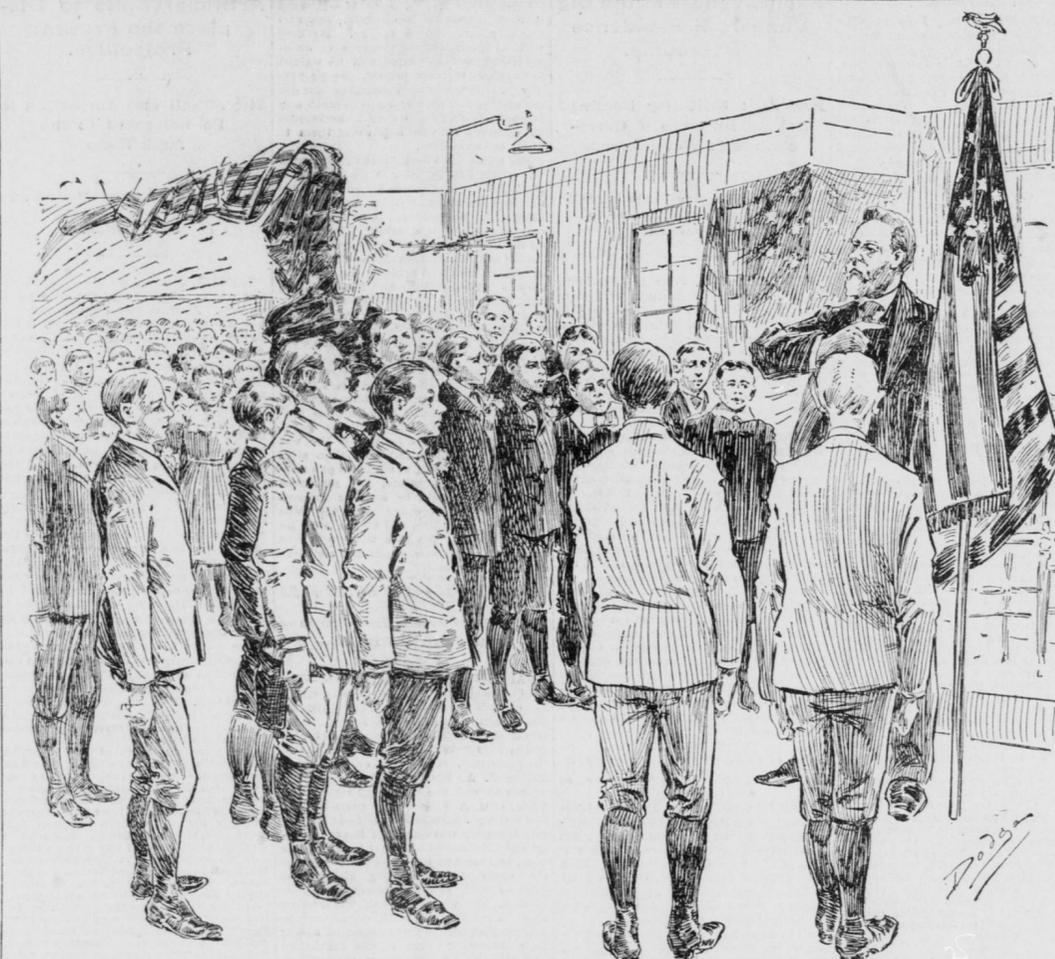
Mrs. Chant Tried an Experiment That Was Very Successful.

LONDON, Eng., June 14.—Mrs. Ormiston Chant, the well-known social reformer, has smoked a cigarette. This momentous fact is chronicled prominently by the British press. The British public is greatly interested in the matter for the reason that Mrs. Chant has been the incarnate ideal of British virtue since her crusade against the London music halls. She has explained that she smoked the cigarette when detained in the Turkish lines, whither she went for the Red Cross Society. In order to see if it would allay the pangs of hunger. The experiment was a complete success. There were certain unpleasant sensations not unusual in such cases, but now she sympathizes with those who have a fondness for tobacco.

MURDERER BUTLER ON TRIAL.

He Is Cool, and Claims That Captain Weller Committed Suicide.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., June 14.—Frank Butler, arrested on the Swahiliia February 2 upon arrival at San Francisco and charged with murdering several men in Australia, was placed on trial to-day to answer for the killing of Captain Weller. The prisoner was cool and unconcerned. The defense is that Weller committed suicide.



"THESE ARE THE COLORS OF LIBERTY."

Hon. Horace Davis Presents a Silken Flag to the Pupils of the Ladies' Protection and Relief Society.

FEDERAL BUILDINGS IN RUINS

Flames Sweep Over Ellis Island Doing Great Damage.

EMIGRANTS RESCUED BY TUGBOATS.

Thrilling Experience of Many Persons Just Landed in the Country.

SMALLPOX PATIENTS TAKEN FROM THE HOSPITAL.

Exciting Scenes During the Destruction of Government Property Valued at Nearly a Million.

NEW YORK, N. Y., June 15.—A fire started in the biggest of the Government buildings at Ellis Island at 12:30 o'clock this (Tuesday) morning, and, spreading with frightful rapidity, was at 1 o'clock sweeping over the whole island, and it seemed almost certain that every building would be destroyed.

Telegraphic and telephonic communication was cut off, but the fire had lit the whole bay and every tug with fire apparatus on board started for the island. By the time the police had started a great crowd had gathered at Battery Park. The flames were then shooting a hundred feet in the air, and by their light hundreds of people could be seen on the island rushing hither and thither.

There are usually more than 1000 persons, most of them emigrants, who sleep on the island. The customs officials thought the number there when the fire broke out less than 1000, most of whom arrived on three ships yesterday. The officials thought the boats and men sent to the island were enough to handle the immigrants who escaped from the burning buildings, no matter how scared they might be.

At 1:15 o'clock a great crash was heard, and a moment later there was another tremendous shower of sparks flying into the air. When it had cleared a little it was seen that two walls of the main building had fallen in.

For two minutes after this crash the crowds that had been seen on the island rushing around were lost sight of, but when the smoke cleared away it could be seen that a hundred or more tugs had reached the island and were taking the people aboard. At this time every building and every shed seemed to be burning, and there was absolutely no shelter for the people anywhere. The heat was intense. The whole island is only six acres

in area. The unfortunates were forced to crouch far on the outer edge until the boats arrived.

At 1:30 o'clock the ferry-boat John G. Carlisle arrived from the island with 200 emigrants and all the sick patients from the hospital there. As the boat got to the pier a crowd made a rush for her. The police charged on the great crowd and fought their way to the boat, the officers of the boat standing on the upper deck screaming, "We've got smallpox patients aboard! Go back! Go back!"

The crowd retreated precipitately. The Carlisle's patients were accompanied by the nurses employed on the island and by Mrs. Waite, wife of the resident physician. She said that when she boarded the boat she had not heard of any one being injured, and thought all the emigrants got out of the buildings safely.

One of the officers of the boat said the fire originated in one of the towers of the main building. At the time it started all the emigrants were asleep. The watchmen sounded the alarms before they did anything toward fighting the fire, and in that way it set such a great headway that by the time they could turn their attention to it it was sweeping through the ramshackle buildings utterly beyond control.

The fire was first seen in the northwest corner of the building, which is the detention building, by Captain W. J. Burke, who is in charge of the night watch. Burke said all the rooms in the building are connected by an electric alarm, and that as quickly as possible he rushed to the main office and rang the alarm in all the rooms.

This alarm, he said, summoned the eleven men and two women under him. There were at the time 140 migrants in the main building. By the time these people got out the whole building, from tower to tower and side to side, was a mass of swirling flames, which shot hundreds of feet in the air. Within a few minutes after the fire started the miserable water supply on the island was almost completely cut off by the bursting of pipes which ran along inside the main building, so that when the first detachment of police arrived it was impossible to secure a stream of water with enough force to have any effect.

Just directly north of the main building stood the hospital in which were fifty-seven patients. The admirable discipline of the nurses and medical staff showed itself when the first detachment were quickly wheeled or helped out of the building. One woman who was nursing a child suddenly remembered she had left her baby behind. She beat the air with her hands and then tried to rush back into the flames. She was held back by three attendants. Presently the nurse came around with the baby in her arms.

Every official a reporter saw on the island said positively that no lives had been lost. All the emigrants were brought to the barge office for the night. Commissioner Sennar said he would personally furnish a place for all sick emigrants, and the city hospitals would not be asked to take them.

Dr. Sennar says the buildings burned cost the Government \$780,000. He does not know what accommodations can be arranged for the receiving of emigrants until they are rebuilt.

Whelmsmen Beaten in the War. ATLANTA, Ga., June 14.—Colonel Cook's order barring out bicyclists from Fort McPherson has been approved by the War Department, as has his defense of the sentry who bayoneted young Hopkins. Hopkins will be charged with desertion for the sentry's arrest, but Colonel Cook says neither the State or municipal authorities have any jurisdiction over the inmates of the fort except in case of murder, and that there is no way in which the sentry can be prosecuted.

FIRE LAYS THE TOWN IN ASHES

Georgetown Swept Out of Existence by a Conflagration.

EXPLOSION ADDS TO THE DISASTER

William D. Newell Loses His Life and Others Are Fatally Injured.

LITTLE RESCUED FROM THE FLAMES.

Homeless Families Spend the Night in Tents and Improvised Shelters.

AUBURN, CAL., June 14.—Georgetown, a mining town twenty-five miles above Auburn, and the second in importance in El Dorado County, was totally destroyed by fire this morning. Of the prosperous place scarcely a vestige remains. Tonight the people are camping in tents and hastily improvised places of shelter, many having saved from the flames but little more than the clothing on their backs.

During the progress of the fire giant powder exploded in Jacob Somberg's store, causing a frightful disaster. William D. Newell was killed instantly, and Mrs. Nancy McLain, aged 76 years, was fatally injured. Clinton Hulbert, the 18-year-old son of Editor Hulbert of the Gazette, suffered fractures of a leg in four places, and the limb was so badly lacerated that it will have to be amputated. Several others were quite seriously injured by flying missiles.

The explosion must have been terrific, for all the windows in the residence portion of the town were broken, and those portions of buildings which had not been wholly destroyed by the flames were razed by the explosion. The large iron doors on the California Water Company's building, 300 feet away, were torn from their hinges and twisted nearly double.

The fire broke out in E. F. Shepherd's drugstore at about 9:35 o'clock. A high wind was blowing and the flames spread both ways, totally destroying buildings with a frontage of 400 feet in a couple of hours. The entire business portion of the town was consumed, the line of fire extending from the American Hotel on one side to the California Water and Mining Company on the other. The buildings burned include B. F. Shepherd's drugstore, Dr. Jarrett's general merchandise store, Mrs. L. P. Jackson's grocery, O. Orellis' undertaking parlors, the postoffice and Wells, Fargo & Co.'s

office; Somberg's general store, Mrs. Prewett's bakery, Francis' saloon, the Pioneer lodging-house, Joseph Sherrer's shoemaker, Blakeley's barber-shop, two meatshops and three saloons. Nothing is left of the entire business portion of the town. The losses aggregate \$125,000; insurance of about a fourth.

The stricken town is still in a fearful state of confusion. Telegraph and telephone lines were burned out and all communication cut off from the outside world until late this evening. Manager Tittle of the Auburn telephone was early on the scene and his wires will be working before morning.

Hundreds of people from the surrounding towns of Greenwood, Coloma, Taylor mine, Pilot Hill, Garden Valley, Placerville and Auburn have flocked to the place and are rendering all assistance possible. It is indeed welcome, for a late message states that there may be more deaths before morning. The disaster resulting from the explosion is even more terrible than that of the fire.

The origin of the fire is still a mystery. Georgetown is a place of about 800 people, located in the El Dorado foothills, and only a few miles distant from the historic town of Coloma and the famous spot where James Marshall washed out the first nugget of gold in 1848. Although fruit growing and agriculture have taken the lead for some time past the industry of mining in that section has revived wonderfully in the last year. The inhabitants are a happy and contented people, most of them still clinging to that old custom of always leaving the latch-string outside the door. The many who have enjoyed their hospitality can doubly sympathize with them in their affliction.

MONROVIA FLAME-SWEPT.

Portion of the Business Center of the Village Cleared by Flames of Its Buildings.

POMONA, CAL., June 14.—A good part of the business center of the pretty little village of Monrovia, in this locality, was destroyed by fire at about 2 o'clock this morning. A breeze was blowing from the west, and there being very poor means for fighting the fire in Monrovia, it seemed at one time that the whole of the business district would be burned.

At 1:30 o'clock pedestrians of the street found a fire burning in the rear of Dr. William Stewart's store on Lemon avenue. It had gained such headway that nothing could be done to check it when a crowd of excited citizens came running to the scene. Then the fire spread to the Postoffice building, and before much of the furnishings and mail matter could be saved from it that also was in flames.

By this time several hundred men had arrived, and all worked like Trojans to check the spreading flames by tearing down buildings in close proximity. Notwithstanding their efforts the fire spread to Holland's merchandise store, to Charles E. Bell's market, to E. F. Crew's drug store and to L. G. Newell's notions-store.

At last by a change in the wind the flames were whirled squarely against the buildings owned by Dr. M. E. Adams, D. E. Ford and George Cook. An alley runs there and the citizens had prepared to check the conflagration at that point. They were successful. All of the buildings heretofore named were completely destroyed, and but little of the stocks of goods was saved from any of them. Three families were asleep in the second story of these buildings while the fire was progressing. The escape of James Eames' family was sensational. They fled from the burning structure without time to don their outer clothing. The total loss is \$47,000 and the insurance \$22,000.

CHAPTERS FROM OLD TO YOUNG

Presentation of the Stars and Stripes to Boys and Girls.

TELLING TOKENS OF THE COLORS.

Behind Them Was the Memory of Heroes Who Gave Life for Country.

A GOOD OBJECT LESSON IN PATRIOTISM.

Flag Day Appropriately Celebrated by the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution.

It was flag day yesterday, and the event was appropriately observed in the ceremony of a presentation of a silken banner to the Ladies' Protection and Relief Society by the California society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The home of the children on Franklin street, between Geary and Post, was decorated and prepared for the occasion. Every pupil wore a bouquet of sweet peas and had good words to say for the suggestions of the day.

General J. C. Currier acted as master of ceremonies, although the post of exercise belonged to Hon. Horace Davis and Rev. William Rader.

The silken flag was presented by Mr. Davis after a formal opening of the exercises by the pupils of the institution singing "Forward, Christian Soldiers." General Currier then unfolded the beautiful silken banner and presenting it to the chief of the boys' brigade said:

This banner is given to your class and the boys in general on behalf of a noble cause. I give it to you to-day on behalf of the Society of Sons of the American Revolution—in behalf of the greatest humanity the world has ever seen. Around this flag has grown tragic memories, and even something better than that—love of country. Sometimes in the busy events that occupy the drama, we call human nature, an action or an effort on the part of a single individual in his land is misconstrued. After a time the world changes its judgment. Where once was petty desire now reigns patriotism.

Before you stands the emblem of bravery and purity. This flag and this banner has changed a world that once fed on traditions, and the echoes of a king that fed on might and what right he could get by fair means or foul. The love of country is here organized. The meaning of the American Revolution is that one great patriotic society comes to you with its gray hat and asks you to take up the cause it must leave off. The old men leave off the fight to the boys.

Rev. William Rader rose in response to bless the flag and say a good word on behalf of the boys:

May this emblem and this banner, with these children, be baptized into the great faith that knows no power except peace, and no humiliation except honor.

The singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the children followed. Hon. Horace Davis then said, in unobscuring the flag:

To me this is the pleasure of my life. Boys of the Brigade, stand fast to the banner that is unwaved here. In intrusting to you this flag I trust a great trust to you. We keep alive the memory of men by this flag. We keep alive the memory of the men who died for a cause the greatest human emotion has ever recorded. One hundred and twenty-five years ago our country had to put up with a British empire, and you remember that the mother country treated us as a child. Instead, we responded as men.

The official ceremony of accepting the flag was then performed. Short addresses by Rev. William Rader and Almarin Brook Paul followed.

"There must be one flag in this country," said Mr. Rader, "and all aspirations to dispute this right must be given American treatment. This right to Americans is inalienable.

"It belongs to Americans as citizens of this country. No alien speech shall defame us. No spirit of a usurped monarchy and a usurped freedom shall come to us. Let us make us forget the good actions of our forefathers."

Mr. Paul, in closing the exercises, said: It is my fortune to come from a country that has founded a republic. In the name of Lafayette I lend my compliments to this band of boys. There may be better boys than Lafayette before me.

The exercises were closed with a rendition of "America" by everybody present.

NEW SUITS TO BE FILED.

Kentucky Officials in No Mood to Be Trifled With by the Southern Pac. Co.

FRANKFORT, Ky., June 14.—Attorney-General Taylor went before the State Board of Assessment and Valuation to-day and asked that the board fix a tax on the Southern Pacific Railroad for the years 1893-97 inclusive, in order that he might bring suit under the new revenue law for the accrued taxes, which the road has failed to pay. After a lengthy conference Auditor Stone promised that he would have the assessment forthcoming in a very short time. General Taylor will therefore bring suit for the amount. The road has shown no disposition to conform to the law, and the suit now pending for \$130,000 for penalties for failure to report will be supplemented by a suit of double the figures against the big corporation. It is said the State administration will lead the fight for the repeal of the charter of the road before the next Legislature.



BARNEY BARNATO, the Diamond King of South Africa, Who Is Reported to Have Committed Suicide.