

THE POPE'S EFFORT TO MAKE PEACE

Some Interesting Correspondence Made Public by a Roman Paper.

It Is Evident From the Nature of the Documents That the Publication Is by Authority.

ROME, April 12.—The Osservatore Romano, organ of the Vatican, published to-day the text of the documents bearing upon the Pope's mediation in the Cuban crisis.

order to avert the scourge of war and facilitate the pacification of the island. The note concludes: "Thank the Spanish Government, in the name of the Pope, and be good enough to assure it that the Pope will not fail to use his influence when the occasion offers, in order that the legitimate wishes of the Spanish Government may be realized, and the prestige of the noble Catholic nation be unimpaired."

OUT FOR WAR

Even Statesmen Do Not Approve the Message of the President

Affect to Be Confident That It Will Lead to Peace.

There is an Undercurrent of Opinion That the Situation Has Grown Graver.

MADRID, April 12.—The Republican and revolutionary El Pais prints the following headlines on its front page: "The solution of the conflict is a national Government, a military dictatorship and a war with the United States."

Its leading editorial announces that the conductors of the paper, "putting party politics to-day into the background and thinking only of the fatherland, urge the formation of a national Government composed of Republicans, Liberals and absolute monarchists."

The editorial denounces the Government for "meeting patriotic cries with sword cuts," and appeals to the people and the army to "save Spain from traitors." While the message of the President is much criticized by the general public, and by a portion of the press as provocative, it is known that the members of the Government and General Woodford do not consider it so, but are confident of a permanent peace.

GREAT BALL OF FIRE FROM THE HEAVENS STRIKES NEAR KENNETT

Meteor Passing From East to West Lands on the Mountains With a Loud Explosion.

REDDING, Cal., April 12.—At 8 o'clock Sunday evening a great ball of fire shot out of the east, back of the high lime rocks at Baird, and passing with terrific velocity to the west, over the Pit and Sacramento rivers, exploded with a heavy detonation on the mountains near Kennett.

TOWN WITHOUT COPPER RIVER REAL ESTATE GOLD STRIKE

No Resident of Needles Owns the Land He Occupies. News Reaches Seattle of Bonanza Finds by Prospectors.

The Title to the Site of the Desert Metropolis Is in Doubt. From 25 to 80 Cents a Pan Considered a Low Average.

Citizens Wish to Have a Test Suit Hurried Through the Courts. First of the Season's Argonauts Are Reaping a Golden Harvest in Alaska.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SAN BERNARDINO, April 12.—San Bernardino County contains a town of 1000 inhabitants, which there are no paper owners. This seems a strange state of affairs, but it is nevertheless the true condition of Needles. Not a single individual owns the ground on which his place of business or his dwelling stands, and upon the county assessment book appears no record of anything but personal property at the desert metropolis.

The reason for this unparalleled state of affairs is that the land upon which Needles is located was withdrawn from entry by the General Land Office, being what is known as a railroad section, and is claimed as a portion of the Santa Fe Pacific, the successors of the Atlantic and Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads, as a part of a land grant from Congress. The residents claimed that the railroad failed to comply with certain regulations laid down by Congress, and the Secretary of the Interior authorized the institution of suits for the forfeiture of this tract, along with other lands.

A suit entitled the people of the United States vs. C. W. Smith, receiver of the Atlantic and Pacific, et al., was commenced in the United States Circuit Court for the southern district of California by the Santa Fe Pacific, and the Government in this land, but for some reason it was dropped. The people of Needles have now unanimously requested that the case be taken up. A resolution has been passed by the Board of Supervisors requesting the Federal authorities to act, and the inhabitants of Needles will not rest until the affair is definitely settled.

The progress of the town has been greatly retarded by this unusual condition, and the railroad company now appears as anxious as any private citizen to see the question settled and the land given. The place is a division point, and has many enterprising men. Owing to its fundamental defect it has never been able to organize a municipal government, and its improvement, except by individuals, has been an impossibility, and people have been careful about large investments of capital.

TOD SLOAN PRAISES CALIFORNIA RACING. Pleased With His Success on the Pigskin at the Local Tracks.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Tod Sloan, who has returned from San Francisco, speaking of his work on the coast said: "The racing was excellent, and I am more than pleased with the showing I made out there. I rode better than ever before in my life. I learned more about riding this winter. I had ever thought of it before. I attribute a good deal of this to my short experience in England, riding, as I did, against the best jockeys in the old country. I rode with a longer stirrup, but still kept the same position in the saddle that I have always used. I was able to finish much stronger. If it is not that I don't know how to account for my improved riding, for I know I finish stronger than I formerly did."

"Prospects look bright for a good racing season in the East. Our horses (the Messers) are in all in great shape, but not likely to run anywhere before the Morris Park meeting opens. Consequently I don't expect to be in the saddle at either Benning or Aqueduct."

"I shall probably go to England in February next year and may ride there all season."

"BRANN NO. 2" KILLED. Texas Editor Slays His Man and Himself Succumbs to Wounds.

DALLAS, Tex., April 12.—J. G. Smith, editor of the La Salle Ironomy published at Cotulla, LaSalle County, engaged in a duel on the streets of Cotulla last night with Henry Mann. Mann was killed outright and Smith died to-day. Smith, who was known in West Texas as "Brann No. 2," had "written up" his adversary, who was a popular young man.

Moonsliners Jump Bail. LOS ANGELES, April 12.—Joseph Brendell and Charles J. Sessel of San Luis Obispo, who were indicted for conspiring with the Federal Grand Jury and gave bail to the United States Commissioner there to appear in the Circuit Court, failed to appear to-day, and their bail was declared forfeited. It is said there is a strong case against them, and their failure to appear indicates that they have left the country.

Sultry at Santa Cruz. SANTA CRUZ, April 12.—The weather was unusually warm to-day, the thermometer registering 82 degrees.

TWO VESSELS IN COLLISION

Heavy Loss of Property in South San Jacinto.

Ten Buildings Destroyed, Including the Large County Hospital.

Firemen Powerless to Check the Blaze Because of a Heavy Gale.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SAN JACINTO, April 12.—Fire broke out this morning in a small frame house in South San Jacinto, occupied by James Wilkinson and family. All morning the wind had been blowing as it had not blown before in years. The heavy gale fanned the blaze to such an extent that four other cottages were soon in flames. The lack of water made it impossible to even check the fire. After consuming five frame cottages the flames crossed the street on the south side, burning to the ground a two-story brick building belonging to H. T. Hewitt, which had been erected a few years ago at a cost of \$2400. Next to go were two small buildings adjoining the brick one on the south. From these flying embers were hurled to the McDermott blacksmith shop, which was soon reduced to ashes.

In the meantime the firemen were doing everything possible to save the County Hospital on the opposite side of the street, but the lack of water was again in evidence, and the big two-story brick building was soon ablaze. The hospital building was built during the winter of 1897 at a cost of \$47,000, and was used as a hotel. It was well known all over the State as the Palma Hotel. Two years ago it was purchased by the county for a hospital at the time of the fire there were thirty-two patients in the building, all of whom were taken out in time. Nearly all the furniture was saved from the hospital building, but none from the frame building. The hospital was insured for \$10,000, but there was very little insurance on any of the other property burned.

Hard work, wet blankets and salt saved the two-story brick residence of J. C. Jordan, which stood within 100 feet of the burning buildings.

The Board of Supervisors will in all probability order the hospital building rebuilt at its next meeting on the first of the month. The hospital patients are all comfortably housed in the second story of the Long block.

EXPLOSION OF POWDER DURING A CONFLAGRATION. Large Chinese Store Building in Trinity County Blown to Atoms.

REDDING, April 12.—The one-story frame building at the Quong Sing Company, one of the largest Chinese merchant concerns in Northern California, was burned in Eastman's Gulch, near Lewisville, Trinity County, at 1 o'clock this morning. There were four Celestials sleeping in the store. When the fire awakened them they turned their attention to saving what few valuable articles they could. Then, in despair, they hid themselves together in the burning ruins as the intense heat would permit and watched the progress of the flames. A lot of powder stored in the premises was probably forgotten for the moment there was a terrific explosion, which lifted the burning debris into the air and scattered it in every direction. The explosion was so powerful that the Celestials were not expected to live when word reached Redding of the disaster. The death of one of the Celestials was announced, and there was probably no insurance. The same company's store in Stausta was destroyed by fire a short time ago, causing the loss of many thousands of dollars, without a cent's insurance.

VENTURA CONFLAGRATION. Fire Causes a Loss of Over Ten Thousand Dollars.

VENTURA, April 12.—Fire broke out at 11 o'clock this morning in the rear of the warehouse of F. W. Baker's hardware store, which is in the center of the city. The fire rapidly spread in all directions. The warehouse contained extra stock of stoves, nails, screw-pipe and general hardware, while in one portion was heavy canning machinery worth \$3500. The building and its contents were destroyed, entailing a loss of \$4000, with \$1500 insurance.

The adjoining building on the east was occupied by Conner & Blackstock, grocers. The warehouse was destroyed. It contained a large amount of flour, canned goods, soap, ice and kerosene. The loss was \$3000, with \$1500 insurance. The second building to the east was occupied by Jones & Son, druggists. The building was destroyed, and the loss was \$1000, with \$500 insurance. The first fire broke out on Thursday under Masonic auspices.

Pioneer Hop-Grower Gone. SANTA ROSA, April 12.—Otis Allen, a well-known pioneer, died here to-day, aged 85. He was a prominent citizen of Sonoma County for many years. He was a native of Maine. The funeral will be held at Sebastopol on Thursday under Masonic auspices.

Pioneer Dies in Woodland. WOODLAND, April 12.—James Temple Read, a pioneer, a native of Kentucky and 66 years of age, died in this city last night.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

RUSSIANS TRIED TO STEAL THE TOWN. PEKING, April 12.—Details of the conflict between the Russians and Chinese at Kin Chou tend to show that the disturbance was due to an attempt made by the Russian commander to take possession of the town. He tried to persuade the Chinese General that Kin Chou belonged to Russia by virtue of the recent agreement arrived at between China and Russia regarding the cession of Port Arthur and Tallen Wan. The Russian commander demanded the evacuation of the place within twenty-four hours, the Chinese refused to leave, and the matter was eventually referred to Peking and St. Petersburg.

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ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC IS DEAD

Cardinal Taschereau's Labors for Educational Progress Ended.

Was an Ecclesiastical Revered by Protestant and Catholic Alike.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

QUEBEC, April 12.—Cardinal Taschereau died at 6:15 o'clock to-night.

The most Reverend Eliezer Alexandre Taschereau, D. C. L., Cardinal and Archbishop of Quebec, was born at Sainte Marie de la Beauce, Quebec, February 17, 1820. He was educated at the Seminary of Quebec and in Rome, receiving the tonsure at the age of 15. In 1845 he was ordained a priest at Quebec, and from that year until 1854 occupied the chair of moral philosophy at the Quebec Seminary. He resumed his studies in Rome in 1854, and in 1856 the degree of Doctor in Canon Law was conferred upon him by the Roman Seminary. Returning to Quebec he was made Superior of the Grand Seminaire and a member of the Council of Public Instruction for Lower Canada. He was made Superior of the Grand Seminaire and Rector of Laval University in 1860, and Vicar-General of the diocese of Quebec in 1862. In 1866 he again became director, and in 1869 was re-elected Superior of the Grand Seminaire.

He was consecrated Archbishop of Quebec in 1871, and in 1886 was made a Cardinal, being the first Canadian to receive the honor, and was consecrated alike by the Protestant and by the Catholic press; his advancement being regarded as the merited reward for his long life devoted to educational progress.

SAYS AMERICANS ARE IN NO DANGER. The Consul-General of England at the Port of Havana Has Calmed Their Fears.

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HAVANA, April 12.—The Spanish cruiser Nueva Espana arrived this morning.

La Lucha to-day publishes the following: "Alexander Gollan, that is to say, the Consul-General of England, who actually fills the consulate of the republic of the United States, undertook yesterday to calm many American citizens who wished to leave Cuba because of General Woodford's hostile acts. Mr. Gollan told them that what had been told to all that was without foundation and that they ran no risk whatever."

"The suicide had but recently returned from Quartz, Tuolumne County, where he had been employed in the mines. After spending a few days in his old home in French Gulch he went to Trinity Center. It is said that he had been drinking heavily. His aged mother was near 100. The dead man was a native of this county, and 28 years of age."

REDDING, April 12.—William Boyce, a well-known miner of Shasta and Trinity counties, committed suicide in Volmer's hotel at Trinity Center by draining the last drop of a vial of laudanum. His body was found in a bed at 6 o'clock this morning. On a table by the bedside was found the empty vial, which told the story of his passing.

"Kid" Parker Yet III. The Southern Pacific has given notice that it will demand the following arbitrators between Portland and San Francisco and Portland and Los Angeles for the Pacific Coast this summer: Between Portland and San Francisco, one way or return, \$12.50; between Portland and Los Angeles, one way, \$22; round trip, \$31.

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