

WARSHIPS SEVERELY SHAKEN

Four American Vessels Shocked by an Unknown Force.

While Far Out at Sea They Are Jarred From Stem to Stern in a Peculiar Manner.

Copyrighted, 1888, by James Gordon Bennett. KEY WEST, May 23.—Four American ships, lying in a bunch, twenty-five miles from land, yesterday afternoon between 2 and 3 o'clock were shaken from stem to stern by a mighty explosion, so mysterious that an earthquake is the only explanation.

FALL HEIR TO ARIZONA LAND

Fortunes for Two San Franciscans.

RICHES FROM THE DEAD. MICHAEL WORMSER ESTATE TO BE DIVIDED.

Eight Persons to Share Property in Phoenix and Vicinity, Valued at a Half-Million Dollars.

Special Dispatch to The Call. FACOMA, May 23.—Five members of the Jacob family in San Francisco and Tacoma have been notified that they and three other heirs living in the East will be divided among them an estate valued at \$500,000, left by Michael Wormser at Phoenix, Ariz.

Presidents in the Mexican War Which Give Naval and Military Authorities Power to Act.

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Wormser died intestate, and under the laws of Arizona the proceeds of his estate will be shared equally by the eight heirs. Wormser had never married and was 69 years old when he died three weeks ago. He had remarkable success in the irrigation business, and he tapped this river with an irrigation canal twelve miles long, known locally as San Francisco ditch, which watered his ranch. He raised wheat, sugarcane and fruit, but it was the basis of his fortune by selling wheat at 5 cents a pound in early days, before Arizona was traversed by railroads. He employed between 300 and 400 men. Recently his ranch was bonded to Eastern men for \$360,000. If the purchase is consummated this sum will be distributed among the heirs at once. He owned a large interest in the Tropic canal, the largest irrigation project in Arizona, and several years ago brought about its enlargement from thirteen to fifteen feet in width. He owned property in Phoenix and Prescott. Meyer and Joseph Jacob, now engaged in the shoe business here, formerly resided in San Francisco.

NO CLEARANCE PAPERS FOR MANILA. WASHINGTON, May 23.—Secretary Gage to-day issued an order to customs officers notifying them that the port of Manila, Philippine Islands, is blockaded by the United States fleet under Admiral Dewey and therefore clearance will not be granted to merchant vessels for that port. The instructions also warn owners and masters of vessels that in undertaking voyages to Spanish ports not now blockaded they run risk of interruption by future blockades and military operations.

Hardtmuth's "Koh-I-Noor" lead pencil will outlast three others. Try it.

WARSHIPS WITH SAMPSON AND SCHLEY ARE AT SANTIAGO

Cheaper Water for Los Angeles. Whether Cervera's Fleet Is Yet in the Harbor or Not the Batteries Will Be Reduced.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Call correspondent at a late hour to-night received information from a naval officer to the effect that both Sampson and Schley had reached Santiago. Nothing could be learned as to whether Cervera's fleet was in the harbor. Navy officers are, however, expecting news of a bombardment to-morrow. The batteries will be reduced whether or not Cervera is there.

LOS ANGELES, May 23.—At last the Los Angeles City Water Company has made a fair and open statement to the City Council as to what it will do in the matter of releasing its improvements to the city's water distributing plant preparatory to municipal operation. The communication is a lengthy one, and contains many points which have never before been admitted by the water company. It is specific in the facts set forth.

Senior Class Day at Stanford. CLOSE OF COLLEGE WORK. SOPHOMORE CAME GIVEN TO FRESHMEN. University Talent Presents a Fancy and a Social Hop in Encina Ends the Pleasures of the Day.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, May 23.—Senior class day exercises were held in the chapel to-day. The crowd being too large for all to obtain admittance to the date within, it overflowed onto the pavement without and the inner quad beyond. The seniors wore radiant faces, for the university council had just finished its sitting, and the fates of most had been announced. Some, on whom uncertainty seemed to prey, were noticeably overjoyed.

Attention is called to the fact that the matter is one involving an expense that is beyond the annual revenue of the city. By law, therefore, the city cannot enter into a binding agreement for the purchase of improvements and properties until a bond election is held. The company says: Any scheme which the city has in view of municipal ownership will require a bond election, and it is the duty of the city to buy our entire plant at the valuation that we ourselves would fix upon it and willing to take the same.

MERRITT AND HIS STAFF ARE COMING. CHICAGO, May 23.—Major General Wesley Merritt was in Chicago to-day on his way to the Philippine Islands. He came direct from Washington, and went to his old quarters at the Auditorium Hotel. General Merritt refused to see cables, and left word that any information about his trip must come from Washington. He left to-night for San Francisco.

SOLDIERS IN A COLLISION. SAVANNAH, Ga., May 23.—Early this morning a special train on the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway, carrying North Carolina troops, en route to Florida, collided with a northbound vegetable train. Private William Barbee, Company I, of Durham, was killed, and Private J. M. Colburn was fatally injured. The soldiers were traveling in a sectional train, and the vegetable train was waiting on a siding, and those in charge thought all the sections had passed. The engineer pushed ahead and was running at a rapid pace when the collision occurred.

RESERVE SQUADRON FOR THE PHILIPPINES. VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23.—The local shipping registrar has received a notice from Ottawa, pointing out that an attempt may be made by agents of Spain or the United States to purchase Canadian coal-laden ships and send them to sea for war purposes. The officers must, therefore, report any such suspicious movements and changes in the registered ownership of any vessels. This is following the English practice.

POLAR BEAR LINE

First Class \$200 To Dawson. LAST CHANCE To Engage Passage on Steamer for First Trip Up the River... STEAMER "NATIONAL CITY" WILL BE DISPATCHED ON OR ABOUT MAY 31, 1898, FOR DAWSON CITY, CONNECTING AT ST. MICHAEL WITH OUR FLEET OF RIVER STEAMERS FOR ALL YUKON POINTS.

FREE 250 POUNDS OF BAGGAGE. NO LIMIT TO EXCESS. THE LOWEST FREIGHT RATES CAN BE OBTAINED. GENERAL OFFICE 3 STEUART ST., SAN FRANCISCO.

ADVERTISEMENTS. RAILROAD TRAVEL. SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY. Trains leave for San Francisco at SAN FRANCISCO (Main Line, Foot of Market Street).

We Know It Pays. To do right. That is how we have succeeded in building up our business. We never misrepresent an article or falsely misquote a price. If you have never traded with us, give us a trial. Special for this week: Ladies' Ice Blood Kid Button Shoes, cloth or kid tops, color or narrow square toes and tips; will be offered for \$2.50 per pair. The regular sizes, we concluded to close the lines out. A few pairs of tan cloth tops at the same figure.

B. KATCHINSKI, PHILADELPHIA SHOE CO., 10 THIRD ST., San Francisco.

THE WEEKLY CALL. It Publishes the Cream of the News of the Week and MANY ATTRACTIVE AND ORIGINAL FEATURES. IT IS THE BEST WEEKLY PAPER ON THE PACIFIC COAST.

COLD PICK LINE JOHNSON-LOCKE MERCANTILE COMPANY, 609 Market Street, San Francisco. SOLE AGENTS STEAMERS FOR ALASKA AND KOTZEBUE SOUND.

JOHNSON-LOCKE MERCANTILE COMPANY. THE NEWLY-BUILT Triple Expansion Steamer GRACE DOLLAR, Connecting at the mouth of the Putnam River with the river Steamer ARCTIC BIRD, which will transfer passengers up the Putnam River about the vicinity of Fort Cosmo.

SANTA FE ROUTE LIMITED. THE ONLY LIMITED TRAIN FROM CALIFORNIA BY ANY LINE, MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS. Carries first-class passengers only, but without extra charge.

THE SAN FRANCISCO AND SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY. From September 10, 1897, trains will run as follows: South-bound. Mixed Passenger, Mixed Freight, Mixed Passenger, Mixed Freight.

DR. JORDAN'S Great Museum of Anatomy. DR. JORDAN—Private Diseases. Consultation free. Write for book Philosophy of Marriage. Mailed free.