

APPALLING DESOLATION AND DEATH IN THE WAKE OF WEST VIRGINIA'S FLOOD

VETERANS TO SECURE CLAY EVANS' SCALP

Reappointment Will Not Be Given the Pension Commissioner.

General Sickles Confirms the Statement Made by Corporal Tanner.

Grand Army Men Have the Written Promise of the Republican National Committee.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, June 24.—General Daniel E. Sickles confirmed to-day Corporal Tanner's statement that a promise was made last September by the National Republican Committee that H. Clay Evans should not be reappointed Commissioner of Pensions.

"It was the understanding," said the general to a Call correspondent, "that Mr. Evans was not to be again appointed commissioner. When I went West in the fall of last year it was with the distinct understanding that I might say to the old soldiers that Mr. Evans would not again be appointed. I had the promise of the committee and that assurance was given to me in writing. It would not be becoming in me to make the text of the communication public without the consent of the committee, of which Senator Hanna was then chairman. I was able to say on the platform and in private conversation that Mr. Evans would not again be selected, and I think that announcement had effect, especially in Nebraska, Kansas, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Illinois, where the old soldiers have a great influence.

In Letters of Gold.

"I think the announcement had much to do with the re-election of President McKinley. Veterans greatly disliked Mr. Evans. He is an honest man, I have no doubt, but his policy has not been in accord with the broad and liberal ideas of the men who framed the pension laws. "The present laws were passed to make good the promise made by President Lincoln, when he raised the armies. The promise was that the families of the men who died or were injured in the cause of the republic should be cared for and supported. That promise should be written in letters of gold on the walls of the pension office.

"It has been said," added the general, "that pension agents have been responsible for the opposition to Mr. Evans. This is not true, for I know that the opposition comes directly from the soldiers. Pension agents would have no object in making any criticisms. They receive their fees and they have no further interest if they collect the \$10 or more which they earn. Reappointment Would Be Fatal.

"If Mr. Evans should be reappointed I think it would be fatal. If, after his reappointment, I should dare to appear before an audience in which old soldiers predominated, I know that I should be hissed from the platform. I cannot think that the President will reappoint him after the assurance given by the national committee. He has been denounced by State encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic in every State where the veterans have recently met."

NAVY PAYMASTER MARTIN SEVERELY REPRIMANDED

Appropriates to His Own Personal Use Public Money Held by Him in Trust.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Secretary Long to-day administered a stinging reprimand to Paymaster John R. Martin, United States navy, who pleaded guilty to a charge of scandalous conduct based upon his action in using Government funds for personal purposes. The Secretary told Paymaster Martin that he was guilty of a serious offense committed in violation of law and regulation. "The acts charged," said the Secretary, "were, in fact, an appropriation to your own use of public money held by you in trust. It was not even a case of money due you, but not yet payable. Had you died or otherwise left the service there would have been a shortage. That you had resources or funds elsewhere at your command to make it good is of no consequence."

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUES SENATOR CLARK

HELENA, Mont., June 24.—United States Attorney Rogers to-day began action in the Federal Court against Senator W. A. Clark, in which the Government seeks to have set aside patents for about 10,000 acres of valuable land now under control of the Senator. The Government claims that the lands were taken up within the last three years under the timber and stone act by persons who, contrary to law, filed on them for speculative purposes and knowing that they expected to dispose of them to Senator Clark or his agents. The lands involved are all in Missoula County.



HANNA MEN CONTROL REPUBLICANS OF OHIO

Opening of the State Convention Marked by the Defeat of "Insurgents" and a Ringing Speech by Senator Foraker.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 24.—The Republican State Convention to nominate candidates for Governor and other State officers met here this afternoon. The feature of the brief session was the speech of United States Senator Foraker, the temporary chairman. After he had spoken and the several committees had been appointed the convention adjourned until to-morrow morning. "The vital issue to-day was not in the convention proper, but was in the election of a State Central Committee, when the delegates representing each of the twenty-one Congressional districts met separately and a committeeman was named for each district. The result was a decided victory for the so-called Hanna men, for they made a clean sweep, controlling districts that heretofore have been dominated by the "insurgents." The result insures the election of Congressman Dick as chairman of the State Executive Committee, Charles Foster, ex-Secretary of the Treasury, ex-Governor, ex-Congressman and for many years a delegate at large to national conventions, was defeated for member of the State Central Committee from the Thirteenth District, because of his opposition to Senator Hanna. After his defeat Foster vehemently addressed the delegates of his district on cliques and intrigues and on the dangers of "local imperialism."

Hanna's Sweeping Victory. Ex-Governor Bushnell had been elected as a delegate and had been made chairman of the Clark County delegation, but at the meeting of the delegates of his district it was announced that he would not attend the convention. His friends gave some very pointed reasons for his absence. The Hanna men have never before been able to control the party organization in the Columbus district, but to-day they secured everything.

It was thought after the Cuyahoga County Convention in Cleveland last week that Senator Hanna would not get the solid support of his home delegation, but he secured both of the State committeemen in the Twentieth and Twenty-first districts. While the Hanna leaders were making their fight for State committeemen they did not overlook the committee on credentials, and it is assured to-night that none of the Daugherty men, who are here as contesting delegates, can be seated. Fight Against Caldwell. The State Committee fight having been settled, the interest to-night centers in the platform to be reported and the fight

that the State Anti-Saloon League is making against the renomination of Lieutenant Governor Caldwell because of his alleged championing of certain liquor interests during the past year. The issue against Caldwell seems to be an open one to-night.

Senators Foraker and Hanna were loudly cheered as they came upon the convention platform together. Nearly all the Ohio Republican Congressmen and members of the Legislature and other leaders were seated upon the platform, over which were displayed the portraits of Governor Nash and Senators Foraker and Hanna. Senator Foraker was introduced as temporary chairman of the convention. He was enthusiastically received. Senator Foraker's speech was frequently interrupted with demonstrations of approval, notably when he said the flag would stay wherever it had been planted.

Foraker upheld every act of the administration, particularly in reference to the policy of expansion and the government of insular possessions. The committee on permanent organization then selected Senator Hanna for permanent chairman and continued the rest of the temporary organization. Senator Hanna will address the convention on taking the chair to-morrow. The new State committee was organized with P. W. Durr as chairman and Martin Slater as secretary.

Lieutenant Governor Caldwell caused quite a stir to-night by announcing that he would not be a candidate for renomination.

The representatives of the brewers express their displeasure at what they call the enforced retirement of Caldwell and the recent defeat of State Senator Selber and others for renomination, while the author of the Clark local option law has been renominated in Columbus for Representative. When Caldwell declined renomination George B. Cox, chairman of the Hamilton County delegation, suggested State Senator Carl Nippert of Cincinnati to a conference of the leaders, and there is now no doubt that Senator Nippert will be nominated for Lieutenant Governor. Nippert was formerly principal of schools at Cincinnati and afterward Police Prosecutor.

Forecast of the Ticket. A forecast of the ticket indicates the following: Governor—George K. Nash. Lieutenant Governor—Carl L. Nippert. Supreme Judge—W. L. Crew. Clerk of Supreme Court—A. W. Critchfield. Attorney General—J. A. Sheets. State Treasurer—J. B. Cameron. Member of Board of Public Works—W. G. Johnson.

OFFICIALS WHO FIGURE IN THE RELIEF OF SUFFERERS FROM THE FLOOD.

PRESIDENT PLANS TOUR NEXT YEAR

Intends to Visit States in the Northern Belt.

Washington, Oregon and the Yellowstone Are to Be Included.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, 1406 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, June 24.—Volney Foster, president of the Union League Club of Chicago, to-day invited President McKinley to fix a new date for the big banquet which was to have been given him on his return from the Pacific Coast by the Union League Club, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and the Business Men's League. Foster, speaking for the three organizations, said they hoped to have the pleasure of entertaining the President some time next fall.

The President expressed regret at having disappointed the Chicago people, and said he would be glad to attend that big banquet some time in the future, but he did not believe it could be this year. He is planning to make a trip to the Northwest early next summer, visiting Washington, Oregon and the northern belt of States, taking in the Yellowstone Park, which he has never seen. He told Foster he would prefer to have the Chicago date left open for the present, and if possible fitted into that tour as it was originally planned it should be on his return from the Pacific Coast.

KRITZINGER ATTACKS THE BRITISH TROOPS

Pursuing Column Is Surprised by the Boers and Fierce Fighting Lasts Two and a Half Hours.

LONDON, June 24.—A special from Craddock, Cape Colony, says: The detachment of the Colonial Mounted Rifles, which was attacked by the Boers at Waterkloof June 20, was pursuing Commandant Malan, when General Kritzinger surprised the Rifles' camp at Waterkloof while the Colonial troopers were saddling up. The fight lasted two and a half hours.

Colonial Secretary Chamberlain has signaled his recovery from an attack of gout and his resumption of his duties by telegraphing to the Unionist candidate for Stratford:

"I hope the electors will remember that a seat lost to the Government is still a seat gained by the Boers," thus repeating the dictum which earned him unlimited abuse at the time of the last election.

Lessons of Transvaal War.

An interesting paper, written by Jean de Bloch, the Russian Councillor of State and member of the Russian Ministry of Finance, on the lessons of the Transvaal war, was read at the United Service Institution to-day. M. de Bloch declared that

WASHINGTON WEDDING SETS GOSSIPS TALKING

Lloyd A. Turner of San Francisco Quietly Marries Belle of Virginia.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Rather unusual occurrences attended the wedding here of Lloyd A. Turner, a wealthy young man of San Francisco, and Adeline L. Mayo, a belle of Richmond, Va. Accompanied by a friend of the groom, the young couple, who, it is said, had only known each other one week, went to the home of the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia at 9:30 o'clock Thursday night and induced him to go to his office and issue them a marriage license. Equipped with this instrument, the party was rapidly driven to the residence of the Rev. John M. Schick, who solemnized the marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Turner sailed last Saturday for Europe. Turner and his mother have resided here for some time past, the latter having been anxious to get her son a commission in the navy. The young man is quite wealthy. His legal home is in San Francisco. Mrs. Turner is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Mayo of Richmond. A report is current that Miss Mayo was engaged to a New Yorker and that she came here to avoid the marriage.

Dies at Age of 107.

BOLINAS, June 24.—Mrs. Ramona Briones Munos died here to-day at the age of 107. She was a native of San Diego. The funeral will be held on Wednesday.

the South African war had proved that military service, as practiced to-day, was absurd, and that the sacrifice made on the Continent to support conscription was unnecessary. The war showed that the theatrical spectacles called maneuvers were in no way related to real warfare.

Due to New Conditions.

One of the most remarkable features was the constant impossibility of determining the enemy's position. This was not attributable to British defective reconnaissance, but to the new conditions of war. It was not mistakes made by the British nor the qualities of the Boers, who had shown an entire lack of rational strategy and tactics, which produced the results seen, but smokeless powder and long range quick-firing rifles, which involved dispersion and invisibility to a degree unheard of formerly and to the possibility of providing riflemen with a larger number of cartridges. The action of the artillery in South Africa had been generally absolutely contemptible against an entrenched enemy.

SEVERAL DEATHS FROM THE HEAT AT CHICAGO

George Wiley, One of the Victims, Succumbs While at Work in a Foundry.

CHICAGO, June 24.—Two deaths and eleven prostrations, of which several are serious, were the result of the heat in Chicago to-day. The dead: GEORGE WILEY, prostrated while at work in a foundry. FRITZ ABRAMSEN, inmate of Dunling, succumbed during the night. Over 200 cattle were stifled in their pens at the stock yards. Several hundred cattle, hogs and sheep were also taken out dead from the cars on in-coming trains.

Mrs. McKinley Greatly Improved. WASHINGTON, June 24.—For the first time since she was brought home from California in a feeble condition Mrs. McKinley was able to go downstairs and join the President while the latter was at luncheon. She remained at the table for some little time and then returned to her room, having enjoyed the break in the daily routine of life for the past month. Mrs. McKinley's condition continues favorable.

Bomb Intended for a Prince.

ROME, June 24.—An unexploded bomb has been found in a railroad carriage in which two Princes of the House of Montenegro have been traveling in Italy.

LOSS OF LIFE NOT SO GREAT AS REPORTED

Number Who Perished May Not Exceed Sixty.

Governor Issues an Appeal for Contributions to Aid Sufferers.

Difficulty in Securing Details of the Appalling Disaster, Which Visited a Wide Section.

CHARLESTOWN, W. Va., June 24.—After a conference to-night with the Secretary of State and other officials, Governor White issued an appeal to the citizens of West Virginia for contributions in aid of the flood sufferers in the Flat Top coal region. The Governor states that, while he is yet without definite information, it is certain that an appalling disaster has overtaken the people of that region, and that aid will be required to care for the sick and destitute and bury the dead. Generous gifts of money and needed supplies are urged.

In response to a message from Governor Nash of Ohio, asking whether assistance would be needed, Governor White replied that he hoped for definite information from the stricken region to-morrow, but that the suffering would undoubtedly be great. Governor White added: "Any outside aid had best be in money, and can be sent to the adjutant general at Charlestown, or to any bank cashier at Bluefield. Thousands of miners are homeless."

ROANOKE, Va., June 24.—The following statement, made to-night by one of the general officers of the Norfolk and Western Railway summarizing the flood situation in the light of the latest dispatches, was given to the Associated Press:

"Restoration of the telegraph lines develops that the damage by flood through the coal fields was exaggerated. The loss of life will not exceed sixty or seventy-five, and the damage to property, including repairs to the railroad and coal operations, will not exceed \$300,000. It is expected the railway will get a line opened through to-morrow or next day."

A telegram this afternoon dated Ennis, W. Va., from General Manager Johnson of the Norfolk and Western Railway, says:

"The best information is that sixty people were drowned in the North Fork of the Elkhorn. Property loss, about \$300,000. The Norfolk and Western Railroad suffered severely in tracks and trestles. Expect to be open for traffic some time Wednesday if we have no storms."

FIFTY BODIES RECOVERED.

The List of Missing and Reported Drowned Fools Up 249.

BLUEFIELD, W. Va., June 24.—Details of the fearful flood in the Pocahontas flat top region are slowly drifting into this town, which is situated twenty-five miles south of the scene of wrecked homes, and fully bear out the fears early entertained as to the havoc wrought by the storm. Fifty dead bodies have been found. Thousands of people are homeless and it is feared that many are without food, or at the best with only food enough to last a few days. The work of establishing railroad communication is being pushed with vigor. There is little hope of sending the sufferers succor until railroad connection is restored. Men are at work clearing away the debris and recovering the bodies of the dead. The dead are being augmented hourly. Relief trains are running between this city and the edge of the stricken district and everything possible is being done to relieve the suffering and destitution. The latest estimate is that it will take ten days to repair the track. Information from the Tug River district is to the effect that the damage to the coal operations there is not great, but that the lumber interests have suffered considerably. Like the Johnstown Flood. Over a hundred miles of track belonging to the various coal operators are practically lost. The rails are bent and twisted like wires. Even the heavy girders of the collapsed railroad bridges were rendered useless. The force of the flood is better understood when it is explained that by reason of a long fall and a low iron bridge some distance up the valley the flood was dammed and a monster body of water accumulated, probably as large a volume as was contained in the famous dam at Johnstown. When this obstruction gave way it let down a great flood on the villages and mining camps below.

It is reported that Dr. Hatfield, a prominent physician and a kinsman of the famous feudists of this section of Kentucky, was compelled to shoot two negro plunderers who were robbing defenseless flood sufferers. The negroes were George Wade and Alexander Watts, both desperate characters. The slowness of recovery of bodies is because the corpses of the missing are hidden in mammoth piles of debris. Some of these piles are thirty feet high and cover in some instances as much as a half acre of ground, and it is the work of days to search through them. It has been suggested.

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