The National Republican.

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THE SUNKEN STEAMER.

Six More Persons From the Vera Cruz Reach the Land.

Additional Details of the Wreck—Relentless Fury of the Storm—Its Force Absolutely Irresistible

Fearful Details of the Wreck.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA., Sept. 4.—All doubt is now dispelled that the City of Vera Cruz has become a total wreck. Seven men came to this city to-night from Halifax river, where they had been washed ashore. One of them is A. K. Owen, a passenger. The others are the engineer, an oiler and four seamen. Talbot, one of the seamen, gives the following narrative:

"About thirty miles off shore we began to ship heavy seas, and water was found in the hold. As fast as we could clear her she filled again by another sea. This state of things soon made the fires burn low, and we could not make steam enough to keep head on the wind. We then put out a heavy drag forward and managed for a while to keep her into the wind. Everything was in panic. Life-boats were cut loose ready for action, and all hands were supplied with life-preservers. At daylight on Sunday boats were lowered and manned. They no sooner got their cargo than they were overturned and smashed to atoms against the steamer, all hands being swept away and their lives dashed out against the vessel's sides. Boat after boat was dashed to pieces in the same manner until only a few of the passengers would venture to leave the steamer. The captain and officers lost their lives in one of the boats. At 5:30 in the morning a heavy sea struck the steamer forward and crushed her fore and aft. All the fires and lights were put out, and everything was in perfect bedlam, people screaming and shrieking for help on all sides. The steamer was broken in two. After a few surges she foundered and went down, carrying with her all who were on board.

"The women made no effort to save themselves and were drowned in my sight. A mother and her daughter were clasped to each other during the gale, and they came ashore that way drowned. From that time until 4 o'clock in the afternoon I could see occasionally one or two men as they rode upon the crest of a wave. It was useless to try to hold on to anything, as the sea would tear it from your grasp and drive you two or three fathoms under the surface, and when regaining it you would have to grasp something else. I was compelled to dive or dodge away from pieces of drift stuff which would have killed me if I were hit by them.

"After 4 o'clock I saw no one. I came ashore on the Florida coast about 7:30 on Monday morning, having been about twenty-six hours in the water. I soon found my other companions, as we all came ashore about the same time, although some distance apart."

Following are the saved passengers as far as can be learned; A. K. Owens of Chester, Pa., civil engineer, employed by authorities of Mexico; J. A. Garcia, a Cuban of Havana, twenty-seven years of age; two passengers whose names could not be learned, who were to arrive at St. Augustine to-day.

Officers and crew saved so far as known are Charles Brandenburg, quartermaster, aged thirty-five; Thomas Drumgold, fourth assistant engineer, aged twenty-eight, who resides in New York city; John Greenfield, boatswain; James H. Kelly, seaman, of New York, aged twenty-three; Charles Smith, second assistant engineer, of Baltimore, aged about forty; three sailors were saved, but refused to give their names.

Six More Survivors Reported.

SAVANNAH, GA., Sept. 5.—A special to the *Morning News* from Jacksonville states that six seamen and passengers from the wrecked steamer Vera Cruz reached that place from St. Augustine yesterday afternoon. They with four others, two seamen and two passengers, are supposed to be the only survivors. They report that the cyclone struck the steamer Saturday, forty miles this side of Cape Canaveral, thirty miles off shore at 4 p. m. The deck-load was thrown overboard and the sea swept the decks clean. At 2 a. m. on Sunday the water reached the engine rooms and extinguished the fires. At 5 a. m. the captain was washed overboard, and the first and second mates were killed while lowering boats, and by 6 o'clock the vessel foundered. Passengers and crew were provided with life preservers, but many were killed and crushed in the wreck. The survivors were washed ashore at Daytona and Port Orange. Several bodies have been buried.

TWELVE WRECKS ARE REPORTED,

two steamers and ten sail. Among them the schooner Ada J. Simonton, from Pensacola to Boston, lumber laden, all saved. Twelve of the crew of a Norwegian bark got ashore yesterday near St. John's bar. The coast for one hundred miles is strewn with wrecks and goods of all descriptions. The survivors of the Vera Cruz leave for Savannah en route to New York. Three ladies and two seamen were buried at Matanza's inlet. Yesterday a large schooner, copper-bottomed, was seen floating off Matanza's inlet. The survivors of the Vera Cruz are expected at Savannah on the City Point to-morrow.

The Late General Torbert.

The last of the mortal remains of the brave General A. T. A. Torbert, who perished on the ill-fated steamer City of Vera Cruz, are being embalmed under the direction of General F. T. Dent, commanding at San Augustine, Fla., and will be inclosed in a metallic casket and forwarded to his late home, at Milford, Del. As no extended funeral obsequies can be held over his remains his friends from all parts of the union unite in requesting that a war vessel be ordered to San Augustine to convey the remains to their final resting-place by way of Lewes, Del. Colonel G. R. Blanchard of New York, late of General Torbert's staff; General Grubb, late assistant adjutant-general; Colonel E. A. Buck of the *Spirit of the Times*, and Walter H. Gilson of Jersey City have telegraphed General R. C. Drum requesting him to take such steps as may be appropriate to accomplish the desired end. Such a requiem is not only fitting, but absolutely proper, for the services of General Torbert in the late war, as well as in the diplomatic corps, were such as to entitle him to more than an ordinary interment. Kind nature has been so good as to return his body to his native shores rather than to bury it beneath the briny deep, and it is proper that the executive, state, war and navy departments should unite in paying deserving respects to the memory of a brave officer, a noble gentleman and an esteemed friend. Officers of the late war of all shades of political belief unite in preferring this slight request, and it is to be hoped that their appeals may meet with prompt approval and action.

The Assault Upon Judge Porter.

The attempt to smirch the Hon. A. G. Porter, candidate for governor in Indiana, through such agencies as are patent in the democratic party, has met with a sudden set-back. Getting an inkling of what was in the wind, Judge Porter promptly met the question. The story, as most such stories are that originate in the democratic party, was in effect that a clerk in Judge Porter's office received $2,000 to influence the action of the comptroller in the matter of the Kansas claim for a percentage on the sale of public lands. This is Judge Porter's explanation:

"By admitting Kansas into the union the state was granted 5 per cent. of the sales of public lands. A claim of about $190,000 was presented by the state of Kansas to the commissioner of the general office, and was by him examined and ascertained to be owing to the state. His opinion, giving the grounds upon which the claim was ascertained to be owing, is in print, and that opinion was sent to congress with an opinion previously given by the secretary of the interior, supporting the legality of the claim. After the decision in favor of the claim had been made by the commissioner the case was transmitted to the comptroller for re-examination. I never examined a case more attentively or carefully. It required reference to numerous Indian treaties and United States statutes, and I took great pains to decide it correctly. I found that there was due to the state a little less than had been ascertained to be due by the land office commissioner. It was argued before me that there was an appropriation immediately available for the payment of the claim, but I held that the appropriation which had once been available was covered into the treasury, and that my decision must be reported to the secretary of the treasury and be transmitted by him to congress, in order that an appropriation might be made for the payment of the claim. It has not, therefore, been paid, and the matter will be before congress at its next session. If any specific accusation shall be made against me, I will not ask that the republicans shall examine it, because it might then be said that such an examination is made under the influence of political predilections, but I shall ask that Joseph E. McDonald, democratic United States senator from my state, or the Hon. David Davis, democratic United States senator from Illinois, shall examine into the question of my official integrity, and I will cheerfully pay their expenses in going to Washington to make the examination, and reasonably for their services in the premises. I know that I have never given more careful and anxious attention to any case than I did to the one in question."

GENERAL GARFIELD AT HOME.

A Visit from a Party of Commercial Travelers.

MENTOR, OHIO, Sept. 4.—At 12:30 o'clock today a party of commercial travelers from Indiana, with their wives, numbering in all ninety-five persons, came in special cars to Mentor and called at General Garfield's house. It was a company representing every leading branch of commercial business. They assembled on the lawn in front of the house. When General Garfield appeared one of the visitors delivered an address explaining the purpose of the visit. General Garfield responded as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I can hardly say that you have taken me by surprise, for I was informed some days ago that a party of commercial gentlemen from Indiana would call upon me to-day, but I am very pleasantly surprised at the large number of ladies and gentlemen who have honored me by this visit. I have listened with deep interest to the address of your chairman, and I give you one and all my thanks for the compliment which this visit implies. Your chairman informs me that you represent nearly all the leading branches of commercial industry in the state of Indiana and some of the neighboring states. Few of our people understand how vast are the enterprises represented by our internal trade. Almost every form of human labor contributes its products to the trade that fills our thoroughfares and supplies our communities with the necessaries of life, and all are moved by the grand mainspring—labor. Permit me to illustrate its magic powers. Eighty-four years ago a company of forty-two surveyors landed at the mouth of Conneaut creek, a little stream that marks the boundary between Pennsylvania and Ohio. They landed on the 4th day of July, 1796, and commenced their work by celebrating our national independence. There are many now living who were boys in their teens when this company of surveyors began their work. At that time, from the Pennsylvania line to Detroit, hardly a smoke ascended from a white man's cabin. The Western Reserve was an unbroken wilderness; 3,000,000 of acres had just been purchased from the state of Connecticut for forty cents an acre. To-day the Western Reserve furnishes happy and comfortable homes to more than three-fourths of a million of intelligent people. Excepting a French settlement the state of Indiana was itself an unbroken wilderness, but is now a great and prosperous community, and thousands of miles beyond you prairies the wilderness and mountain slopes smile with peace, prosperity and the attendant blessings of civilization. What has wrought this wonderful transformation? The magical power of human labor through manifold struggles and dangers, through suffering and blood. The blessings have been secured to us and I trust will be continued to our children's children. [Applause.] I venture to notice another fact. Every stroke of the axe, every plow of the laborer, every turn of a wheel, every purchase and every sale, in short, every effort of labor is measured by the standard of value fixed and declared by national laws. I congratulate you as commercial men that your government has at last restored to its people the ancient standard of value, and has made it possible for our people everywhere to secure the blessing which beautiful harvests and prosperous times have brought them by placing our national finances on the solid basis of specie values. This fact forms no inconsiderable part of the security with which the great business transactions of the nation are carried on, and you, as its representatives, as well as the laborers of the land, are sharers of these benefits and this security. [Applause.] Ladies and gentlemen, accept my most cordial thanks for your visit. I welcome you to my home and to the kind greeting of my family. [Applause.]

The company were then introduced to the general and to his wife and mother. They were cordially and pleasantly received. They strolled through the orchards and grounds, and at 1:30 took leave and went down the farm lane to the railroad, where they embarked on the train and returned to the west.

PRESIDENT HAYES IN UTAH.

A Hearty Welcome in which All Classes Joined.

SALT LAKE, Sept. 5.—Despite the feeling aroused between gentile and mormons over the president's visit, his welcome to Utah was hearty. Large, enthusiastic crowds gathered at the Ogden depot and stations this way with music and banners to greet the president and the other distinguished guests. The streets here from the depot to the hotel were lined with people, among whom were many children. The president, Secretary Ramsey, General Sherman and Mrs. Hayes were called out at Ogden, the gentlemen acknowledging the courtesy of the people in brief speeches, and Mrs. Hayes by appearing and bowing at the depot. The president and Mrs. Hayes showed themselves and shook hands with as many as possible. Governor Murray, General Smith and a committee of citizens met and boarded the president's train in Morgan valley. At Ogden Superintendent Sharp met it with a Utah Central special train carrying John Taylor, George Q. Cannon and several other leading mormons, including some ladies, who for their part presented a fine bouquet to Mrs. Hayes.

After the train was coupled Mr. Cannon introduced Mr. Taylor and the other mormons to the president, and the usual greetings were passed. The hospitality of the city was not tendered. The people on the train mingled fraternally and nothing disagreeable occurred. At the depot the party was met by the citizens' reception committee with carriages and quickly transferred to the Walker house, where an informal reception was held in the parlors. A great crowd collected in the street and the president was called out. He said on another day and under other circumstances he would be glad to express at length the sentiment he was sure all strangers must feel in coming to this wonderful city. As it was, he hoped to be excused if he confined himself to thanking them heartily for this kindly welcome and reception. Secretary Ramsey and General Sherman were called and spoke much the same as the president had. Mrs. Hayes was presented and was received with a great outburst of cheers, to which she bowed her response. The party will visit Camp Douglass to-morrow, hold a brief public reception, and then leave for the west.

LONG BRANCH, Sept. 5.—The thermometer at 4 p. m. to-day indicated 97° in the shade, the highest reached this year.

GEN. ROBERTS' VICTORY.

His Defeat of Ayoob Khan Complete and Crushing.

Gallant Charge on a Village—An Immense Force Scattered—The Ex-Ameer a Refugee Without an Army.

General Roberts' Report of the Battle.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The following dispatch has been received from General Roberts, giving the details of his victory over Ayoob Khan:

"CANDAHAR, Sept. 2.—The report of the reconnoissances carried out by General Hugh Gough and Colonel Chapman on the 31st ult. afforded me all necessary information regarding the enemy's position. I found it quite practicable to turn his right and thus place myself to the rear of the Baba-Wali range, where Ayoob Khan's main camp was. I decided on doing so and commenced the attack shortly after 9 o'clock yesterday morning. To cover my design I made preparations for a direct attack upon Baba-Wali. This feint was intrusted to the troops of the Candahar garrison under General Primrose, who also arranged to occupy my advanced position of the previous day. At the same time the cavalry brigade under Brigadier Hugh Gough advanced upon the left and without difficulty reached the Argand-Ab, where it was well placed for pursuit should the enemy break either toward Girishk or Rakrez. The attack was made by the First and Second brigades under Generals MacPherson and Baker, respectively, with the Third brigade under General MacGregor in support, the whole infantry being under the command of General Ross. An elevated village within 1,200 yards of our position was strongly held by the enemy and had first to be taken. This was done in a most gallant manner by the Ninety-second Highlanders and the Second Ghoorkas. Covered by artillery the two brigades then advanced through orchards and inclosures, fighting steadily, the left of the Second brigade being brought gradually round until the village of Pirspaimal was reached. At this point the enemy was in great force and fought most resolutely, but nothing could resist the determined advance of the British troops. Shortly after this the reverse slope of Baba-Wali was reached, and the standing camp of Ayoob Khan became visible. All the enemy's attempts to stem the torrent were fruitless. By 12 o'clock noon the camp was in our possession, with twenty-seven pieces of ordnance, which include our own guns lost on the 27th of July. The casualties in addition to those yesterday reported include three officers of cavalry slightly wounded—namely, Major Willock, Lieutenant Baker and Lieutenant Neville Chamberlain. The Ninety-second Highlanders had fifty-one wounded, three of whom have since died. The Seventy-second had seventeen wounded, one of whom has since died. Among the natives eleven were killed and seventy-two wounded. The total number of wounded is about 210. The cavalry brigade marches to-morrow to Kokeran, where it will be well placed, and this will facilitate supplies being brought into the city. The Nineteenth Bombay infantry with the Third Bombay cavalry will march to-morrow to open up communication with General Phayre, to whom I am writing, requesting him not to push on too many troops, but to utilize his transport as much as possible in the conveyance of stores and supplies."

Ayoob Khan Completely Routed.

LONDON, Sept. 6.—A dispatch to the *Standard* from Candahar says the Afghans fought bravely until Baba-Wali was taken in the rear. They then lost heart and fled in wild confusion. The cavalry pursued them for fifteen miles up the Argand-Ab valley. Such portions as held together were completely dispersed and took to the hills. This does not appear, however, to apply to the Cabulee regiments. Ayoob Khan escaped with a small following. The enemy's loss is not yet known, but it is said 400 fell in the pursuit.

A dispatch to the *News* from Candahar says: The enemy left 200 dead in one village taken by General MacPherson. The Ninety-second Highlanders, Ghoorkas and pioneers charged the main body, numbering many thousand men. We hold Ayoob Khan personally responsible for the murder of MacLaine. Ayoob Khan fled at 11 o'clock in the morning, leaving MacLaine and six sepoys prisoners. They were soon after paraded for execution, but five sepoys escaped. The Afghans only saved their mountain battery. The enemy was so completely broken that further pursuit was useless.

A dispatch to the *Times* from Candahar says probably Herat will rise against Ayoob Khan, who will fly to Persia or surrender himself to the English.

The Lahore *Civil and Military Gazette* declares that previous to General Burrows' defeat Sir Frederick Haines, commander-in-chief and member of the supreme council of India, protested against the weakness of General Burrows' brigade and the Candahar garrison, but was overruled by the viceroy.

The Naval Demonstration.

RAGUSA, Sept. 5.—The British iron-clad Temeraire, with Admiral Seymour on board, the British gunboat Falcon and the German man-of-war Victoria arrived in this harbor today. Fourteen vessels of the allied fleet are now assembled here. As soon as the French division arrives a council of war will be held, under the presidency of Admiral Seymour, to decide upon the character of the operations. Admiral Cremer, commanding the Russian fleet, has gone to Cattinge.

Collision at Sea.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 5.—The steamer Massachusetts, which arrived here this morning from New York, was run into by an unknown schooner in a thick fog off Point Judith at 2 o'clock this morning. The steamer was not injured. The schooner could not be found, but was thought not to be seriously injured. A small portion of her rail was left on the steamer.

A Very Disastrous Fire in Mobile.

MOBILE, Sept. 5.—At 3 p. m. to-day fire was discovered in the wholesale dry-goods store of D. R. Dunlap, Nos. 25, 27 and 29 North Water street. The fire extended west to the banking house of Thomas P. Miller & Co. and the law office of Averill & Beaton, which were entirely destroyed. The wind changed to southwest, bringing the fire northeasterly, and it next took Ira W. Porter & Co.'s hardware store, No 31 North Water street. It next destroyed the hardware store of J. B. Hazard & Co., No. 33 Water street, then that of A. G. Moore & Co., produce merchants, corner of St. Michael and Water streets. It ascended St. Michael street and next attacked and destroyed the large tinware factory of F. Gomez and the next adjoining building, the warehouse of Ira W. Porter & Co. All the buildings destroyed were large three-story brick buildings, and all were well filled with merchandise of various kinds. The stocks of T. S. Bidgood & Co., stationers; T. L. Eastburn, bookbindery; Hearow & Co., printers; Thompson & Powers, printers, and W. S. Goodale & Co., produce merchants, who occupied the row of brick buildings on the opposite side of Water street, were considerably damaged by water. A pretty close estimate of the loss foots up $350,000. The loss is about two-thirds covered by insurance, a great part of which was placed in northern and foreign companies. The work of reconstructing the buildings will be begun to-morrow, and some of the parties burnt out are already sending telegraph orders for new stock.

THE SIXTH MARYLAND DISTRICT.

Enthusiastic Ratification Meeting at Frederick—The People Aroused.

The Hon. M. G. Urner having been renominated for congress on Thursday last at Oakland, Md., the republicans of Frederick, Mr. Urner's home, held a large and very enthusiastic meeting in their city hall on Friday evening to ratify his nomination. The hall is large and commodious, and was well filled with live and zealous republicans. The meeting was addressed by Hon. Harris of Mississippi, A. M. Clapp of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, Hon. M. G. Urner and others. The meeting did not adjourn until after 11 o'clock, and when it did so it was with three lusty cheers for Hon. M. G. Urner and the national republican ticket. The meeting was unusually large and evinced a spirit that will assuredly lead to Mr. Urner's triumphant election.

In reference to Mr. Urner the Cumberland (Md.) *News* has the following:

Mr. Urner is not introduced to the people of the district this year as an untried statesman. In 1878 it was urged that he was a gentleman of the utmost integrity and honesty of conviction and purpose; a republican of the best type and firmest principles and a lawyer of ability and a man of experience in affairs and knowledge of the people he was called upon to represent, and that in honoring him with a triumphant election his district would reflect credit on themselves. Such proved to be the case. He was sent to congress by a flattering majority and has fulfilled the predictions of his supporters, the hopes of his friends and the desires of his constituents generally. It has been said of him that no interest of the sixth district ever failed of recognition and attention at his hands, and that he was governed entirely by the good of the people in treating all matters brought to his consideration. His political opponents can say naught against him, and confess that he deserves a re-election no less than a renomination. Mr. Urner is a republican in every sense of the word and is in perfect accord with the governing principles of the party, as he will be with the coming administration. Like the platform adopted by the Oakland convention, his republicanism is of no uncertain kind, and he will ever be found advocating in the future, as in the past, the measures by which the grand old party has so successfully guided this great republic through years of peril, and whose splendid record the people are about to indorse for the sixth time since the county was rescued from the death-grip of the democracy.

The Complete Returns.

[From the Columbia (S. C.) Register.]

The Aiken *Journal and Review* gives us the following returns, which, it says, will be found "absolutely correct." We arrange according to each congressional district, so as to show the exact excess over the probable basis of representation in each congressional district. Putting the population of the United States at 49,100,000 and fixing the number of federal representatives at 300, this would give 163,666 as the representative basis. Upon this basis South Carolina, with her population of 996,824, would be entitled to six members, with a numerical strength of 14,824 to spare. Here is the statement by congressional districts:

FIRST DISTRICT

Counties.	Population in 1870.	Population in 1880.	Increase in 1880.	Per cent. Increase.
Chesterfield	10,384	16,252	5,868	53.6
Marlboro	11,811	20,573	8,762	74.2
Darlington	26,245	34,602	8,359	31.8
Georgetown	16,761	19,462	3,701	20.4
Marion	26,110	34,542	12,382	55.9
Horry	22,721	30,485	7,764	45.4
Sumter	25,268	37,203	11,935	47.2
Williamsburg	15,489	24,163	8,674	56 0
Total	198,437	292,382	93,945	46.2

SECOND DISTRICT.

Charleston	88,873	102,853	13,980	15.7
Clarendon	14,098	19,173	5,135	36.4
Orangeburg	16,865	41,394	24,529	145
Total	119,766	163,420	43,654	36.4

THIRD DISTRICT.

Abbeville	31,129	40,856	9,727	25.0
Anderson	24,019	33,504	9,545	39.7
Laurens	22,586	29,431	6,805	30.6
Newberry	20,775	26,499	5,724	27.5
Oconee	10,596	16,273	5,737	54.3
Pickens	19,269	15,010	4,741	46.4
Lexington	12,988	18,569	5,581	42.9
Richland	20,635	28,588	5,563	34.1
Total	155,997	208,829	53,513	34.4

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Chester	18,805	24,264	5,459	29.0
Fairfield	19,888	27,786	7,898	39.7
Greenville	22,262	37,306	15,044	67.5
Kershaw	11,734	21,478	9,724	82.7
Lancaster	12,087	16,876	4,789	39.7
Spartanburg	25,734	40,323	14,589	56.5
Union	24,248	34,059	9,811	40.5
York	24,256	30,722	6,466	26.6
Total	154,114	222,864	68,790	44.9

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Aiken	....	28,182	35,717	45.6
Barnwell	78,410	50,924		
Edgefield	.....	45,864	11,030	43.5
Colleton	25,410	36,449	14,603	42.4
Hampton	.....	18,771		
Beaufort	34,959	36,491		
Total	137,979	199,838	61,359	44.4

RECAPITULATION.

Congressional Districts.	Population in 1870.	Population in 1880.	Increase.	Per cent. Increase.
First district	158,437	292,382	93,945	46.2
Second district	119,766	163,420	43,654	36.4
Third district	155,997	208,829	53,512	34.4
Fourth district	154,114	222,864	68,750	43.9
Fifth district	137,979	199,838	61,859	44.4
Total	705,603	996,824	291,221	41.4

EXCESS OR OTHERWISE OVER REPRESENTATIVE BASIS OF 163,666.

Congressional Districts.	Excess.	Less.
First district	38,716	.....
Second district	.....	240
Third district	45,154	.....
Fourth district	56,198	.....
Fifth district	35,672	.....

Washington McLean's Health Improved.

LONG BRANCH, Sept. 5.—Washington McLean, editor of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, was so much improved that his physicians permitted him to take a carriage ride with his family this afternoon.

The Man-Horse Go-as-You-Please Match.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—Five horses and fifteen men started at noon to-day in the test race of 156 hours "go-as-you-please." At midnight the horses ranged from 65 to 78 miles and the men from 31 to 66, the latter being Dobler's score.

Another Wife Murderer.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—William Barry, a laborer living in South Brooklyn, while drunk last night, beat his wife so that she will probably die, his provocation being her refusal to give him money to get more liquor with. He has eluded the police.

Boys Fired on While Bathing.

WILMINGTON, DEL., Sept. 5.—Four boys while swimming in the Christiana to-day were fired upon by Captain John W. Morton of the schooner Souder, who had ordered them to keep away from his vessel. All were hurt, but only one, Harry Riley, seriously. He will probably lose an eye. Morton is under arrest.

A SAIL O'ER SUMMER SEAS.

Down the Potomac and Chesapeake by Steamboat.

Some Reflections on the Commercial and Agricultural Possibilities of the Potomac Valley—Picturesque Loveliness, Etc.

A Trip From Washington to Norfolk.

The most magnificent river of the entire Atlantic slope of North America south of the St. Lawrence is the Potomac. More like a lake than a river, running through a fertile and pleasant country, navigable for the largest vessels from its mouth to the Little Falls, save for the obstructions which man has planted in its bosom by the introduction of the long bridge and the consequent deterioration of its channel above and below that causeway, the Potomac should be the seat of a vast commerce, and its basin be as densely populated to the square mile as any other section of the country. Instead, however, of a flourishing city on its banks, every ten miles of its course, and a prosperous, thriving, manufacturing, commercial and agricultural population supporting those cities, we have the melancholy fact that there is absolutely a less number of people to the square mile in the Potomac basin to-day than there was one hundred and ten years ago. This statement excludes the District cities. From Point Lookout to the Little Falls in all the Potomac valley there are now but three cities, and while they are much larger than the ruined and deserted cities that once studded that valley, but now live only in their names and their rottening wharf-posts, like Bladensburg, Piscataway, Dumfries, St. Mary's, Port Tobacco, Occoquan and others, it is unpleasant to remember that one hundred and ten years ago and prior to that date there were a dozen flourishing towns here that might have grown up to be large and wealthy cities. Whatever the cause of their decadence, they are gone, but there is no reason why as many others should not be built. The basin of the Potomac, both for soil and climactic advantages, is the great fruit-growing country of the United States. It is the native country of the American grape. Nowhere else in America does the watermelon acquire such size and such richness of flavor. The peaches of the Potomac valley are larger and sweeter than those on the eastern shore and Delaware peninsula. Above all places in the world, whether in the favored Severn valley of England or the Loire and Gironde regions of France, does the pear love the Potomac valley and there attain the maximum of size and quality. The wild strawberry has a flavor on the Potomac banks which it lacks elsewhere. The huckleberry, blueberry, raspberry, blackberry, and all other small fruits attain here their greatest perfection. The plum, the nectarine and the fig are perfectly at home, and even the apple scarcely yields in this county to the crop of the most favored northern site. Added to these advantages are those of fish and game—the waters swarm with all kinds of scale and shell fish, the air is darkened in season with the choicest game, the soil is fertile and kindly responsive to the slightest care, the climate exquisite and the whole region perfectly healthy. There is no reason why the entire Chesapeake country, especially the basin of the Potomac, should not be filled with a dense population. There is no reason why the broad waves of the Potomac should not be flecked with one continuous gleam of white sails, bearing the results of prosperous traffic from one end to the other of its lake-like bosom. Yet the excursionist, for he only is the traveler on the Potomac, save the oysterman and the seine-hauler, looks over its broad blue surface and hails the white glitter of a sail as a novelty. Its ripples, silvered by the breeze, sparkling in monotonous loneliness beneath the rays of the sun or ruffled by the low-flying wing of the gull or the swan, sing to his ears the same song of unbroken silence that they murmured to the hearing of John Smith and his venturesome mariners that long-gone September when the keel of the dauntless Saxon's shallop first parted those blue waves in search of El Dorado and the south seas. Over the purple hills and the shadow-haunted woods of the Virginia shores the sunset lingers lovingly, as if loth to quit the broad blue waves that mirror in their cool depths the varied hues that steep the grave of the sunken sun in one vast, gorgeous waste of splendor and of beauty. It is a beautiful stream, the Potomac. Lacking every element of the sublime, it yet possesses much of the romantic and of the picturesque. There are no mountains on its shores—no hills, indeed, save those rounded semi-cones that plant their green girdled feet into the water and rear their leafy crowns in banks of dense foliage above. They are hills only by courtesy. But if they lack the rugged, the savage, the sublime, the Potomac shores give you the quiet, the picturesque, the beautiful. Nature on the "River of Swans" has no frowns, but only smiles. In these coming beautiful days of autumn, when even amid the brick walls and dusty pavements of the city the heart rejoices in the full toned splendor of charms that envelop the mature year, you may drink in to your bosom's content, on the wide Potomac, those glorious draughts of beauty which nature pours with such profuse liberality only in the fall. In the spring the Potomac basin is literally the "Feast of the Roses," in the autumn nowhere in the world burn the glories of the sunset in such radiant and magnificent bursts of flaming, flashing, fiery splendor as over the "River of Swans." Let him who would feast his eyes and heart on the glories of the sunken sun, as nowhere else on this broad planet, save perhaps in some snowy dell far up some Alpine height, take a trip down the Potomac one of these coming autumn eves, when the air is filled with the fruity fragrance of the ripened year, and every pulse is throbbing in unison with the full, deep-toned breathing of the perfect season. He will realize a glory of color and a splendor of fancy that will haunt him with grateful remembrances and satisfied longings for many a day to come.

To the average excursionist, however, a well-set table has more charms than a beautiful twilight, and a savory supper is more soothing than a splendid sunset. All the varied beauties of the landscape are of course enjoyed by him in the mingled attractions of wood and water, but chiefly as part of the trip for which he has paid. His object is relaxation from the daily routine of business, rest from monotonous care and work, and he gets both best by paying more attention to his comfort on an excursion and less to the beauties of nature. He wants a smooth sea, an easy-going boat, a luxurious table, courteous and accommodating attendance and experienced mariners to manage said boat, leaving him nothing to do but to enjoy his recreation. All these the Potomac excursionist finds to his hand. Nature gives him the broad, lake-like river and the beautiful bay whose silvery surface is seldom surged into storms. The steamer George Leary furnishes all the rest. A skillful captain whose skill is equaled only by his courtesy and both surpassed only by his popularity; a board of officers and a crew who thoroughly know their business, both in the matter of making the voyage and making their passengers comfortable; a boat that glides over the waves as smoothly as the "old bourbon" of its bar glides down the throat of a thirsty epicure; a splendid table and a cook who can create an appetite and banish indigestion with the same dish, together with a force of attendants who persuade you that looking after your comfort is the highest pleasure they can enjoy—all these make the George Leary the pleasantest boat imaginable for a summer cruise, and an excursion on her down the bay a delightful episode in one's existence.

The Leary has won famous reputation as a pet boat for excursions this summer. In these autumn days, when the sun gilds the water with more splendor of glow and less fervor of heat than in the summer, there is not a more proper or profitable or pleasant thing to do than to purchase a ticket for Norfolk, secure a state-room, board the Leary and commit yourself to the keeping of that particular Neptune who hoses this special craft, and you are bound to have a good time. Only one thing more is necessary to make the trip a literal "roll in clover." When the meal-gong rings take that particular table where that prince of waiters, Mr. John Fisher, makes his guests feel at home, and, on the faith of a Bohemian, you will find that what the ghost of Dr. Faustus said to the yankee student at the witch banquet in Leipsic is true. Said that famous shade, as he wiped his spectacles and deftly carved the ghost of a lark: "I have wearied of power, been tired of fame, sated with love and disgusted with avarice, but have turned to eating, and found that man has still one pleasure left." No further words from a Bohemian can add strength to this declaration of a ghost.

The trip to Norfolk from Washington by way of the Potomac and the Chesapeake is a delightful one at all seasons, but is especially pleasant in the fall. Business men can take their families Saturday evening, board the Leary and spend a most enjoyable time until Monday morning, when Captain White will land them safe, sound, refreshed and ready for the day's business, at the Seventh-street wharf in Washington.

OUR CRACK SHOTS.

Dr. Scott's Return to Washington—The Team to Shoot at Creedmoor.

The Columbia Rifle association of this city have selected the following team to represent them at Creedmoor, N. Y., during the fall meeting of the National Rifle association, which begins the 14th instant: Messrs. A. A. Adee, P. J. Lauritzen, Benjamin Chambers, Dr. S. I. Scott, Lieutenant Hubbard, U. S. A., and Walter Scott. The latter in practicing at long range Friday made 222 out of a possible 225, and is regarded as a decided acquisition to the team. The team will leave for Creedmoor to-morrow evening, but will be minus Colonel J. O. P. Burnside, their captain, who is detained at home by illness in his family. He may, however, be enabled to join them before their match shooting begins. Mr. C. H. Laird, who won the Wimbledon cup at Creedmoor last year, will also be missed in the team, as he has exhausted his leave of absence at the office and cannot accompany the others. The Columbias, however, predict that the cup will still remain in their possession, and base their statement upon Dr. Scott's skill. It is confidently expected that the team will give a good account of themselves at Creedmoor, both in long and short-range shooting. They will have five days to practice in before shooting in any of the matches for which they are entered.

Dr. Scott returned to this city last Saturday morning, having arrived in New York from England the day previous. At the conclusion of the rifle contests at Wimbledon in July, the doctor, in company with Messrs. Brown and Gerrish of the Americans, made a tour of the continent, which lasted until August 24, when they started for home. Among the trophies which the doctor brought home is the Albert jewel. Dr. Scott won both stages in the Prince Albert match, the first time one rifleman ever did it. This match was shot at Wimbledon, England, July 19 and 21, and in the first stage Dr. Scott made 118 out of a possible 125. Farrow came next, with 116; then Jackson, 115; Humphreys and Young, 114; Brown, 113; Smith, 109; Boyd, 107; Baker and Gerrish, 106; Hyde, 105; Halford, 103; Fenton, 98; Dudley, 97, and Joynt, 95. The prize in this stage was £80. In the second stage, 1,000 yards, the prize was the Albert jewel, valued at one hundred guineas. It was the principal small-bore event of the meeting and was restricted to those who had won prizes in the first stage. The final shooting took place under extremely unfavorable circumstances, which fully tested the skill and endurance of the marksmen. Dr. Scott won with a score of 70 out of a possible 75, defeating Humphrey by one point. Dr. Scott's final shot was much applauded. The other notable scores are: Jackson, 67; Gerrish, 66; Boyd, 66; Martin Smith, 65; W. Rigby, 65; Young, 62, and Evans, 64. Halford missed his first two shots, scoring 56. The wind was very variable and the light bad. Hyde, Farrow and Brown retired from the contest before they had completed their scores. The jewel is oblong-shaped with a flat back, and around the edge in front is olive enamel with the following inscription sunk in: "Second stage Prince Albert match, Wimbledon, 1880." On the front is a white enameled "A," surmounted by a shield and crown, the inside of the latter being formed by a handsome sapphire. On the obverse side is another inscription, "Won by Dr. S. I. Scott of Washington, D. C., July 21st, 1880, Wimbledon. Score, 70-75; 1,000 yards." While at Dollymount, Ireland, Dr. Scott won the Earl Spencer cup, valued at £50, and several minor prizes. He speaks in the highest terms of the treatment which he received while abroad, and is justly proud of his success over so many crack rifle shots. The doctor and his brother Walter are at their home, at Sandy Springs, Md., but will join the Columbia team next Thursday at Creedmoor.

A Police Officer's Funeral.

The funeral of Police Officer Thomas Hollmuth, who died last Thursday evening, took place yesterday afternoon from his late residence, No. 335 Virginia avenue. The attendance, which was large, included a detail of police, under command of Lieutenant Gesford, detachments from the different G. A. R. posts, National lodge, No. 12, F. A. A. M., and representatives from the American Legion of Honor and other organizations. The remains were deposited in the vault at Prospect Hill cemetery.

A Candidate's Brother a Defaulter.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—The democrats in Indiana are rather unfortunate in their candidate for governor, in view of the fact that his brother, Jackson Landers, ex-treasurer of one of the counties of the state, has just been found by experts to be a defaulter to the amount of $14,000. The experts say that the custom under Landers was to make entries on the duplicate tax-list in pencil, which allows easy erasure, and that during the two years while Landers was treasurer nearly all the entries of collections on property not originally on the duplicate by what are called "treasurer's" assessments, have been entirely erased. The amount due from Landers embraces the collections of taxes assessed on personal property upon former duplicates, and dropped from the current duplicate as uncollectable. Suit will be entered against Landers and bondsmen.

News comes from Indianapolis that the purpose of the mission to this state of