

# The Herald and News.

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## WAR PREPARATIONS.

**Dixie to Call for Colon With 600 Marines. The Reply to be Made to Gen. Reyes. The Eastern Question.**

Philadelphia, December 27.—Sunday quiet at the League Island navy yard was broken today by the hurried fitting out of the cruiser Dixie for her trip to Colon, and tonight the tripping vessel is ready to sail tomorrow morning. The activity at the yard resembled much the busy scenes there prior to the Spanish-American war. Brig. Gen. Elliott, commanding the marine corps, who is going to the Isthmus on the Dixie, arrive in the afternoon. Three companies of marines, one from Boston and the others from Washington, also arrived. Altogether the Dixie will take South 600 marines, who will be under the command of Lieut. Col. Waller. The work of loading the cruiser continued until midnight of Saturday, and was completed this afternoon. The quantity and character of her cargo indicates that the Government expects a long campaign at Panama. Her holds and decks are crowded to the limit with stores. Besides the regular stores and other outfit for the marines on board of her and those now at the Isthmus, the Dixie will take with her five wagon loads of small ammunition, a quantity of lumber, camp supplies and a number of wagons.

## WHAT WILL IT BE?

Washington, December 27.—State department officials have under consideration the nature of the reply which is to be made to the note of Gen. Reyes, the Colombian minister, regarding the action of the United States in connection with affairs growing out of the secession of the department of Panama. Just when the answer is to be ready is not definitely known. Gen. Reyes is anxious for an early reply, and the State department officials are equally as anxious that the matter shall be disposed of as quickly as is consistent with a careful preparation of the administration's answer. The Colombian note contains a statement of the grievances which that country claims to have suffered under the interpretations put on the treaty of 1846. It discusses these grievances in a calm and dignified tone and sets out the reasons which Gen. Reyes gives in support of the contention he has made. The probability is there will be several diplomatic exchanges between Colombia and the United States before anything like a conclusion of the discussion of the matters at issue is reached.

## AN OMINOUS SIGN IN THE EAST.

London, December 28.—The Daily Mail's Kobe correspondent asserts that the Japanese army authorities have requested the newspapers to refrain from publishing news concerning the movements of troops or other warlike preparations. In an editorial, the Daily Mail says it regards this as a practical censorship of an ominous sign. Editorial articles in other morning newspapers express concern over movements of foreign war ships towards the far East and particularly over the statement that United States marines have been ordered to Korea, fearing some unforeseen event may precipitate events.

## THE PHOSPHATE INDUSTRY.

**The Great Decrease in Royalty to the State in the Past Few Years—Now Five Companies.**

Columbia Cor. News and Courier. A meeting of the board of phosphate commissioners has been called for January 6, for the purpose of formulating the annual report to the Legislature. The figures of the operations for the year and the amount of royalty received show a steady decrease, and where ten years ago the State treasury received nearly \$300,000 in royalty, this year the amount is little over \$15,000. This amount is \$12,157.68 less than that received the previous year, the total being but little more than half what it was in 1902. There are five companies in the field and the decrease in the number of tons mined is in the neighborhood of one-half, and if the same proportionate decrease continues as it has done in previous years there will soon be no revenue whatever from the industry.

## THE OLD SCHEDULE AGAIN.

**It Will Be Restored On January 10—Trains Nos. 17 and 18 Will Be Retained.**

The announcement has been made that on January 10 the old schedule on the Columbia and Greenville division of the Southern will be restored and through trains Nos. 15 and 16 are to be placed on again, the one leaving Columbia early in the morning and the other returning to Columbia something after 1 o'clock at night.

The new trains, Nos. 17 and 18, will be retained on practically the same schedule as at present. No. 17 will leave Columbia at 5 p. m., arriving Hodges 10 p. m., making connection with the branch train for Abbeville. No. 18 will leave Hodges at 5:30 a. m., arriving Columbia 11:30 a. m. These will be mixed trains.

## Cut With An Axe by a Negro.

Mr. Ben Sloan, who lives in No. 2 Township, about three miles from the city, was struck in the head with an axe by a negro at his farm at an early hour on Thursday morning and received a severe but not a serious cut just behind the ear. The negro, Pierce Suber, was hunting 'possums on Mr. Sloan's place. Mr. Sloan ordered the negro to leave when the negro struck him with the axe, which he carried for cutting down trees, inflicting a gash about three inches long. Mr. Sloan was unarmed and went to Mr. B. B. Leitzsey's house near by. Mr. Leitzsey searched for the negro, but failed to find him. Later, however, the negro came to Mr. Leitzsey's house and was taught a lesson.

## Crouch-Suber.

Mr. M. W. Crouch, of Johnston, and Miss Sue Suber, of Big Creek, Saluda county, were married on Sunday morning at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. W. F. Suber, by the Rev. H. L. Baggart. The young couple spent Sunday night in Newberry with Mr. and Mrs. W. Ope Davis.

## GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

**Items of More or Less Interest Condensed Outside the State.**

Three boys, two negroes and one white, were killed by toy guns at Wilmington on Christmas day.

Mrs. Roosevelt entertained five hundred children of more or less prominent people at the White House on Saturday afternoon.

The tallest building in the world is to be erected in New York. It is to be five stories below the street level and forty stories above and is to cost \$10,000,000.

A mob at Pineapple, Ala., on Friday night fired the jail to conceal the lynching of a negro charged with killing a white man. The fire extended to eight stores, two warehouses and the post office.

In a head-on collision between a passenger and a freight near Morris, Ala., on Wednesday, one person was killed and eighteen were injured.

In a pistol fight in a gambling room in Savannah on Wednesday morning, one professional gambler was killed, another mortally wounded and another seriously wounded.

Capt. Dreyfus, accused of treason to his country, and who in one of the most celebrated trials held in recent years, was degraded and dismissed from the French army and bitterly punished, will have another trial, this time by a civilian tribunal.

Lee R. Brennan, a young commercial artist of Chicago, was arrested at the postoffice in Chicago on Thursday, where he had gone in answer to a decoy letter, by four detectives, the source of a number of mysterious letters to financiers of New York demanding money and threatening death should it not be sent, having been traced to Brennan through the decoy letter.

Wm. H. Clark, a young New Yorker, age eighteen, is making a tour of the cities of the United States of over 30,000 population, winning his way by shining shoes. He made a wager of \$1,000 that he could accomplish the task by Christmas, 1904. He passed through Columbia and Augusta last week.

The court at Dresden has dissolved the marriage of Prince Frederick and Princess Alice of Schoenburg-Waldenburg. The princess, who is a daughter of Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, was reported some time ago to have eloped with her coachman, but the story was strenuously denied. The court gave no explanation of the separation. The couple were married by the present pope while he was patriarch of Venice.

The Duquesne limited, the fast through passenger train from Pittsburgh to New York on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, ploughed into a pile of lumber dropped from a badly loaded freight car, at Laurel Run, Pa., early Wednesday evening, and 64 lives were lost and about 9 persons were injured. The train ploughed along for a con-

siderable distance and the cars were torn to pieces, passengers jumping, screaming, falling from the wreck as it tore along. Suddenly the engine swerved to the left and the coaches plunged down over the embankment to the edge of the Youghiogheny river.

Great Britain has recognized the independence of Panama.

The Salvation Army distributed dinners to 25,000 of New York's poor on Christmas day and to 5,000 Christmas night.

Brooding over his inability to purchase suitable Christmas gifts for his three motherless children, Joseph Phillips, a farmer of Hollyville, N. Y., on Friday night murdered his 3 children, crushing their skulls with an axe, and then went and hanged himself in a neighbor's barn.

Granville W. Garth, president of the Mechanics National bank of New York, committed suicide by jumping overboard a steamer bound from New York to Dallas. It is said he was on the verge of mental prostration.

A British steamer loaded with nitrate of soda took fire from the explosion of her cargo and sank near Porto Rico. The crew made their way ashore through terrible seas, narrowly escaping death.

John Alexandre Dowie, the self-styled Elijah II., will sail for Australia on January 21. He says he is going to leave everything in Zion City, Chicago, untouched.

A bold bank robbery, attended by a desperate fight between a posse of citizens and the robbers, occurred at Kiowa, near Fort Worth, Tex., the robbers taking and destroying about \$28,000. One robber was injured.

A dense snow fall struck New York on Saturday, accompanied by a small hurricane that lasted for a few moments. Black clouds covered the city with darkness and caused a collision in the harbor.

In a blinding snow storm in Boston harbor on Saturday a Clyde steamer was rammed by another boat and sunk. The crew were rescued.

Twenty-two persons were killed and twenty-nine injured, several of them fatally, in a collision early Saturday evening of two passenger trains on the Pere Marquette railroad, near Grand Rapids, Mich. The collision, which was head-on, was caused by the high wind blowing out the red signal light at a station where one of the trains should have stopped.

Richard Wagner's sacred musical drama, "Parsifal", was presented before an immense audience in the Metropolitan opera house in New York on Thursday evening. The production takes rank as the most sensational operatic event in American history. It was the first public performance of the much-discussed drama out of Baireuth and it was presented after a storm of pulpit protest and after the Metropolitan stage had been completely rebuilt.

## KILLED BY A SKY ROCKET.

**Negro Loses His Life On Main Street in the Midst of the Christmas Merrymaking.**

While the Christmas celebration on Main street Christmas Eve night was at its height Sam Eigner, a negro about nineteen years of age, was struck in the head just below the right eye by a flying sky rocket and almost instantly killed.

The accident occurred shortly after 8 o'clock. The negro was standing on the sidewalk in front of Summer Brothers' clothing establishment. The streets were packed with Christmas shoppers and merrymakers and numbers of people were shooting every conceivable kind of fireworks. Suddenly a sky rocket started from about the corner at the Mower Company's store and came swishing and swirling and hissing with terrible velocity straight down the outer edge of the south sidewalk, blazing a brilliant pathway through the dense crowd for 100 yards and finally finding its lodgment in the negro's brain. The negro dropped unconscious with the smoking rocket in his head. It was pulled out some moments later by a person standing near.

Dr. C. D. Weeks was summoned from the drug store and later Dr. Houseal came and was just getting ready to make an injection to attempt to prolong life when the negro died, about ten minutes after he was struck.

The body was taken to council chambers, where Coroner Houseal immediately held an inquest. Only a few witnesses were present. Robert Norris saw the rocket coming down the street and saw the negro when he fell. J. W. Vineyard testified that the rocket passed between him and a gentleman to whom he was talking and later he saw the negro lying on the ground. R. M. Taylor said he saw the rocket strike the negro and that it fired in his head five times. Pink Harrington, colored, got to the negro after he was dead. Dr. W. G. Houseal testified that death was produced from the fracture of the right molar or cheek bone, fracture of the front bone and orbital plate, destruction of the eye, contusion and laceration of the brain.

The coroner's jury, B. B. Hair,orman, rendered its verdict, that "the said Sam Eigner came to his death accidentally by a wound inflicted by a sky rocket from the hands of party or parties unknown to the jury".

The negro was a man of family. During the past few months he had lost a wife and two children and himself had narrowly escaped being killed with a hatchet. He married again recently.

A collection of something over \$7.00 was taken for the negro's burial, but in the meantime some of his relatives had purchased a coffin and the collection was kept for a charity fund.

## Wood-Danielson.

Mr. James R. Wood and Miss Nancy Danielson were married by Rev. N. N. Burton on Wednesday afternoon at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Theodore Danielson, in West End.