

CREMATION services have been officially declared by masonic authority not to be Christian burial.

W. JENNINGS DEMOREST, the well known prohibitionist and successful publisher, died at his home in New York city, on the 9th, of pneumonia.

All the members of the cabinet attended a meeting held on the 9th. The income tax decision in relation to the treasury condition, it is understood, was the chief topic of discussion.

MR. WILLIAM COCHRAN GELLY, liberal, was elected speaker of the British house of commons, on the 10th, to succeed Rt. Hon. Arthur Wellesley Peel, resigned, by a vote of 285 to 274 for Sir Matthew Ridley.

The decision of the supreme court in the income tax case was made public on the 9th. Under its rulings incomes derived from rents and those from state, county and municipal bonds are exempt.

Under the ruling of the supreme court in the income tax case, one New York capitalist, who enjoys an income of \$12,100, pays the tax on \$1,000, the remainder being exempt. This is but a sample of many cases.

The jury in the Anna Dickinson damage suit at Scranton, Pa., was discharged, on the 10th, being unable to agree. It was reported that they stood eight in favor of giving Miss Dickinson damages of four aginst.

FAILURES in the United States during the week ended the 12th, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., were 207, against 218 for the corresponding week last year. For Canada the failures numbered 27, against 34 last year.

COMPTROLLER BOWLES of the treasury, in a lengthy opinion, delivered on the 8th, held that Messrs. Springer and Kilgore, the new judges of the Indian territory, must wait for their salaries till their nominations are confirmed by the senate.

The American yacht Vigilant was successfully launched at Southampton on the 9th. United States Consul Kirkhead and other prominent Americans were on board. The wharves along the water front were crowded with spectators.

FIFTY well-known Spanish officials in Havana, it was said on the 11th, had been put in jail on suspicion of sympathizing with the Cuban revolutionists. Rifles and cartridges belonging to the Spanish government had been secretly removed and turned over to the insurgents.

ONE HUNDRED employes of the Cleveland (O.) Ship Building Co. went out on strike on the 5th. The company proposed to pay the old hands \$2.37 and new men \$2.25 per day. The strikers were employed in the boiler-making department.

WHEN the 2,500 operatives of the Atlantic mills at Oneyville, E. I., went to work, on the 11th, intending, according to programme, to labor fifteen minutes and then go out on strike, they found signs posted on the gates notifying them that the mills would be closed until further notice.

The Dominion government has forwarded to Great Britain a strong protest against the proposition of the United States to prohibit sailing in Behring sea, and to extend the Paris regulations as to the close season and use of firearms over the entire waters north of the thirty-fifth parallel of latitude.

A REPORT from Hiroshima, dated the 10th, says that Li Hung Chang, the Chinese peace envoy, frankly admits the weakness displayed by China and expresses regret for it, but he thinks that at the same time he thinks that the defeat of China will advance the cause of civilization in the east, and is, therefore, not altogether to be regretted.

A DISPATCH from Buda-Pesth, on the 9th, said the affluents of the Danube had overflowed their banks in the south of Hungary. The streets of many towns were submerged, and the foundations of hundreds of houses had been washed away. In Sardinia 2,000 people were homeless, and suffering from exposure, having lost everything, including their clothing.

At a meeting of the new common council of Chicago, on the 10th, the alleged boiler ordinances, the Ozden Gas, the Cosmopolitan Electric and Commercial Heat, Light and Power, were repealed by a vote of 45 to 18. These were the ordinances the passage of which, some weeks ago, so stirred the indignation of the citizens that great public meetings were held for the purpose of demanding their repeal.

DURING the trial of a breach of promise suit at Parkersburg, W. Va., on the 9th, brought by Mary Corbin against William Todd, the latter offered to compromise by marrying the plaintiff, and the girl, not being of age, withdrew all right to Volcano and back, a distance of 30 miles, to get the consent of her parents. She returned at daylight next morning and the couple were married.

CAPT. PORTER of the United States secret service seized a package containing 10,000 counterfeit pink two-cent postage stamps in Chicago on the 9th. It is said that vast quantities of these bogus stamps have been sold, and are in daily use all over the country, and that the entire issue of genuine stamps of this denomination will, in consequence, have to be withdrawn from use.

The funeral of the late Gen. John G. Farnsworth occurred at Albany, N. Y., and the 10th. The adjutant general's department was closed for the day, and Gov. Morton and nearly all the high military officers of the state were present, but in a private capacity.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

It is understood from unquestioned sources that the treaty between Great Britain and the United States under which a settlement may be had of the claims of the Canadian sealers against this country, will not be formulated before next autumn.

The Bridgeport (Conn.) letter carriers were notified, on the 8th, that they had been allowed most of the money claimed under the eight-hour law. Six of the number will receive \$500 each, and the remainder of the thirty-four carriers are allowed sums ranging from that amount down to \$50.

By the collapse of two five-story buildings in Wheeling, W. Va., on the 9th, six persons were killed and five wounded, some of them very seriously, and property, consisting of the buildings and their contents, to the amount of \$200,000 was destroyed. Fire in the debris added to the horror of the week and retarded the work of rescue.

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ITALIAN workmen engaged in throwing dynamite at Middletown, Conn., on the 9th, caused an explosion of three or four boxes. Carroll Desanno was blown to atoms and Marianna Galanta was badly injured, but it is thought he will recover. The explosion did no damage to property. The accident was the result of carelessness.

The jury in the \$50,000 damage suit of George W. Conroy, of Chicago, against G. J. Schveinfurth, the alleged Messiah, and his lieutenant, Wm. Baldwin, for alienating the affections of Mrs. Conroy by inducing her to enter the "Heaven" at Rockford, Ill., returned a verdict, on the 9th, in favor of Conroy, awarding him \$50,000, the full amount asked.

An explosion of gas occurred at Nanticoke, Pa., on the 9th, in No. 2 slope, operated by the Susquehanna Coal Co. A number of men were at work in the slope at the time, six of whom were badly burned.

Shocks of earthquake were felt at Reggio di Calabria, Italy, on the 8th, but no damage was done. Sir THOMAS BUXTON has been appointed governor of South Australia to succeed the earl of Kintore.

In a battle between Italian troops and brigands, in Sardinia, on the 9th, two of the brigands were killed, several were wounded and a number captured. The International Navigation Co.'s steamship St. Paul was successfully launched at Philadelphia, on the 10th, Miss Frances C. Grison, daughter of the president of the company, did the christening. A large crowd witnessed the ceremony.

MISS EDNA MAY SHARPE, 20 years old and as pretty as a picture, who has been living with her parents at Kansas City, Mo., went across the state line on the 9th, with Charlie Vieg, a well-to-do Chinaman, and was married to him in Justice Betts' court in Kansas City, Kas.

The London Times published, on the 10th, a dispatch from its correspondent at Shanghai, saying that a Japanese man-of-war had seized the British steamer Yik-Sang, outside Yank, having on board 200,000 cartridges, shipped to Shanghai by a respectable German firm as "bamboo and steel."

UNITED STATES CONSUL-GENERAL KAY at St. Petersburg reports to the state department that the Russian government is making strong efforts to extend the cultivation of tea in the empire.

An interesting bit of political news is the report that ex-Secretary Frederick South is to be elected grand sachem of the Tammany Hall organization in New York city.

JOHN H. KNOWLES, a sailor who made himself famous during the naval engagement in Mobile bay between the Hartford and Tennessee, by lashing Admiral Farragut to the rigging of the Hartford, died at Annapolis, Md., on the 9th. He had been in the navy forty-five years.

The entire lower portion of the large pile of the Susquehanna Iron Co. at Columbia, Pa., was destroyed by fire at an early hour on the 10th. Loss, \$100,000, covered by insurance. The mill employed 250 men.

DYNAMITE practice firing at the Wao Sung forts in China, on the 10th, a magazine accidentally exploded killing forty men and injuring many more.

The steamer Dean Richmond, which went down off Dunkirk, N. Y., over a year ago, with eight hundred passengers, first of the United States, and then of other nations.

STATE SENATOR GORREL shot and killed Cashier John Sanford of the Farmers and Traders' national bank of Covington, Ky., on the 11th. The tragedy was the sequel of a long-standing feud between the men, and was the immediate result of an article published by Goebel about Sanford. Sanford fired the first shot. After the shooting Goebel delivered himself up to the police.

The Cripple Creek and Grassy express wagon was held up, on the 11th, by two men who had asked permission to ride, and who, after beating him, forced the driver to hold the horses while they cut open the mail bag and rifled its contents. They secured one package containing \$10,000 and probably others and made their escape. A large posse of men were soon in pursuit.

The outbreak of the plague in Mexico, in the Portuguese settlement in China, was officially announced on the 11th.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

MISSOURI WEATHER-REPORT.

COLUMBIA, April 19.—The weekly crop bulletin of the Missouri department of agriculture says: "During the fore part of the week the weather was quite cool, and heavy frosts occurred in many localities, though very little damage is reported; but during the last three days the temperature was much higher, and the mean temperature of the week was from 2 to 3 degrees above normal throughout the state. The precipitation was slightly in excess of the normal in the northeast section, but in all other sections there was a deficiency. The rains were very beneficial to wheat, oats and grasses, but much more is needed in the central and northern counties. On the whole, the week was very favorable for farming operations, except in a few localities, and fairly favorable for growing crops. Wheat came through the winter well, very little being reported winter-killed, and is generally in fine condition."

A Farmer Assassinated.—George Stice, a farmer, 5 miles southeast of Macon, was assassinated while sitting at his window with his little daughter the other night by some one concealed in the bushes, firing the contents of a heavy-loaded shotgun at him. The bullets struck him in the head and death resulted instantly. The little girl beside him was covered with blood, but aside from slight wounds made by the broken glass was uninjured. An inquest failed to throw any additional light on the killing. Stice, with his wife and two children, arrived at Macon from Scotland county about three months ago. Nothing was taken from the house and no attempt made to harm any other members of the family. The deceased was about 40 years old.

They Died Together.—Louis Frank, aged 22, and Katie Kolb, aged 17, lived in St. Louis, loved and became indissoluble. There was no objection to their marrying, but the young people were afraid of disapproval. They resolved to die together, and going to a grove around a pond in the southwestern suburbs, ended their existence. They first took poison, then shot themselves through the breast, and then cut their throats. There they lay until a boy, passing through the grove, found them. They left a letter showing that it was premeditated suicide, and giving the cause. The girl wrote in the note: "Who wants to love must suffer. \* \* \* I should not have given myself away, but I loved him and he loved me so." They were buried in one grave.

"Life is But a Weary Game."—Prescott W. Tatum, aged 17, a clerk in the Watash railroad office in St. Louis, cut his throat and died. It is believed that he was deranged on account of sickness. He left a note stating that "life is but a weary game."

Looking Bright for Depositors.—Bank Examiner Galbraith, in charge of the suspended National Bank of Kansas City, has forwarded \$200,000 to the comptroller of the currency. It is believed a dividend of 25 per cent. will soon be declared to depositors.

That Smith College Bombs.—Colored people of Sedalia held a meeting and protested against the retention of Prof. J. W. Cool in the faculty of George R. Smith college. He is charged with immorality.

Wants the Soldiers' Home.—Citizens of La Plata and vicinity are making determined efforts to secure the location of the soldiers' home, to be decided at the G. A. R. convention at Macon, April 16-18.

Dropped Dead in the Kitchen.—Mrs. Anna Evert, aged 50, wife of Robert Evert, 1008 North Sixth street, St. Louis, went into the yard to quite a dog fight, returned to the kitchen and fell dead.

Miles of Unimproved Streets.—St. Louis has 500 miles of unimproved streets and 200 miles of unimproved alleys. Their improvement would greatly increase the taxable wealth of the city.

A Strange Incident.—While watching the ascent of a balloon in Clinton, the 8-year-old son of W. S. Doughton ran into a barbed-wire fence and his jugular vein was almost severed.

Wanted Himself.—John T. Wolff, a cigar-maker, aged 42, who resided at 3150 Iowa avenue, St. Louis, hanged himself with a clothes line. He was found by his wife.

Street Railways in St. Louis.—The street railways of St. Louis aggregate 300 miles, of which 3 miles were constructed last year. The mileage will be greatly increased this year.

Eloped and Married.—E. Giles and Miss May Miller, of De Soto, eloped to St. Louis. They procured license and went to a hotel, where they were united in marriage.

Killed by Falling Stone.—Thomas Moore, a miner at Panama, Vernon county, was preparing to come out of the mine for dinner when falling slate killed him. He was 21.

Capt. Albert Parker.—Capt. Albert Parker, for many years a resident of Sedalia, died at San Diego, Cal. He was a brother-in-law of Senator Cullom, of Illinois.

A Girl Saves a Life.—Miss Nellie Oesterhaut, of Kansas City, who was visiting relatives in St. Louis, saved an old man from being crushed to death by a train.

Found Dead on the River Bank.—August Freund, for years a well-known merchant of St. Joseph, was found dead on the river bank south of St. Joseph a few days ago.

Punished Must Hang.—Thomas Puncheon, the Santa Fe engineer, convicted of killing his wife in a cab in St. Joseph, has been denied a new trial and will hang.

PEACE IN PROSPECT.

A BIG UPRISING.

Expected in the Province of Puerto Principe, that will probably decide the Fate of Cuba. Maceo Hasteing to the Front with the Cuban Army. The Outlook Said to be Very Bright for Cuban Success.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., April 15.—A special from Tampa says: News from Cuba is to the effect that there is a big uprising in the province of Puerto Principe, that all the laborers, sugar field hands and sympathizers are in arms and that a battle is at hand that will probably decide the fate of Cuba. The uprising in Puerto Principe is general and will seriously affect results. Maceo is on the island hasteing to the front with 11,000 men.

Mannel de la Cruz and family reached here from Havana last evening. He is the author of several works on Cuba and is an intense patriot. He was compelled to come here or suffer Spanish tyranny. He feels confident that the Cubans will triumph if their leaders remain firm. He says the troops in Havana are dying by hundreds, and those in the mountains are very bright for Cuban success, he thinks.

A letter was received here from Havana to-day saying that a Spanish officer riding on a train with some ladies began to take liberties with them. On the same car was a duelist by the name of Mendietta, who, when he saw what was being done, drew his revolver and killed the officer. He then left the train.

Mannel Sangrally arrived from Cuba last evening. He is the brother of Julio Sangrally, now confined in Cas Moro, charged with treason.

He says that the report of Gomez's death is not true. The Spanish government, he says, is conciliatory in spirit, but the Cubans do not meet any advances for peace under Spanish domination.

Yellow fever is raging in Havana and particularly among the uneliminated Spanish troops. The infantry are most affected.

Secretary Quesada is now in New York, but what his mission is or what his intentions are not known to the Cuban patriots in this section. There is something important expected to happen here to-day.

THE LOST CHICORA.

A Voice From the Deep that Throws Some Light Upon the Disaster.—BENTON HARBOR, Mich., April 15.—J. H. Graham, president of the Graham & Morton line, received a message at 5 p. m. yesterday from Sangatikut sent by Mrs. Hancock, wife of the owner of the City of Chicago, saying that a bottle was picked up on the beach at Niemi's pier yesterday morning containing a note signed by Robert McChure, engineer of the Chicora, which read as follows:

"Capt. Stines and Mr. Clark washed overboard. Engine is broken and we are all lost. Are near enough to land to see the shore if it were not snowing."

The bottle was sent here by express, and examination will show the genuineness of the message—Mr. Graham thinks it worthy of belief. If so, it goes far to prove the statement of the man Plummer, of South Haven, who said he saw the Chicora near that port on the afternoon of January 21, and will show that the Chicora was only lost by the breaking of machinery or the loss of her steering gear. The hull in the case is near the shore and search will be begun at once.

AN EASTER SHOOTING.

A Man Fires Five Times, Every Shot Taking Effect.—BALTIMORE, Md., April 15.—Easter morning was ushered in at South Baltimore with a shooting affray, the victims being Edward Lawrence, shot in the groin and through the left arm; William Lawrence, bone of left arm shattered and finger shot off; Charles Foss, shot in right leg.

Weish and William Lawrence had been political enemies for some time, and renewed their quarrel when they met yesterday morning. They were about to come to blows when Edward Lawrence interfered. Weish then, it is charged, drew his revolver and fired five times. Every bullet took effect in someone's anatomy. Foss was a deaf mute, and was shot by accident. Weish was arrested.

TO THE LOWEST BIDDER.

Contracts for Building Sea-Going Torpedo Boats.—WASHINGTON, April 14.—Secretary Herbert late yesterday afternoon changed his mind and awarded the contract for building all three of the sea-going torpedo boats to the Columbian Iron works of Baltimore, Md., awarding none to San Francisco as was at first intended.

The boats will be of about 128 tons displacement, and will have a speed of about twenty-four knots. The vessels, exclusive of armament, will cost \$2,200,000 apiece. The Columbian works were the lowest bidder.

The secretary also decided that the torpedo boats authorized by the last naval appropriation bill shall be larger and faster than those contracted for. With this end in view, he directed Chief Constructor Hirschhorn to prepare plans for vessels of 150 tons displacement, to have a speed of twenty-seven knots.

ONLY PASSING RUMOR.

No Intimation that the Cuban Insurgents Will Declare Their Independence.—HAVANA April 13.—The reports circulated in the United States that a meeting of the insurgent leaders would be held in Guantamo, in the province of Puerto Principe, on April 10, for the purpose of promulgating formally a declaration of independence, were erroneous. No such convention has been held, nor is it known in well-informed circles that a meeting of the character described was intended. The reports were only a passing rumor.

SLAUGHTER IN A CHURCH.

THE MUTILATED REMAINS OF TWO YOUNG WOMEN DISCOVERED IN A HOUSE OF WORSHIP.—The Bodies, When Found, Were Allegedly Still Warm.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 14.—Shortly before noon yesterday the mutilated body of Minnie Williams, a young domestic was found in the study of Rev. Dr. Gibson, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist church. The body had been terribly cut, the instrument of death being a broken case knife which was found in the room. The discovery was made by several young ladies who had come to decorate the church for Easter services. Pieces of the girl's clothing had been crummed into her mouth, showing that the murderer tried to stifle the cries of his victim, whom he first outraged and then hacked to death. The police, as yet, have no clue.

A Second Murder to Still Evidence of the First.—SAN FRANCISCO, April 15.—Another horrible discovery was made yesterday morning in a small room in the steeple of the Emmanuel Baptist church, where the mutilated remains of young Minnie Williams were found Saturday. The church had been deserted by a second murder, the victim being another young girl, Blanch Lamont, who has been missing since the 31st inst. She had been strangled to death, her clothes had been torn from her person and her body was almost nude when discovered. Her shoes and stockings were missing. Imprints of finger nails were plainly visible on the murdered girl's throat, but there was no indication of further violence.

Shortly after the awful discovery was made Dr. George W. Gibson, pastor of the church, was taken into custody by the police. No charge was placed against him, but he will be held until the mystery is fully cleared.

Miss Lamont was last seen alive in the company of Theodore Durant, a young medical student, and assistant superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with the church, who is suspected of having taken the life of the Williams girl, who is known to have been a warm friend of Miss Lamont. They were members of the church, which they frequently attended together, and belonged to the same Sunday-school class.

When the disappearance of Minnie Williams was in possession of sufficient evidence to cover his guilt in connection with the disappearance of Miss Lamont, concluded to decoy her into the church and silence her forever. The police argue that Durant had heard the statement of the Williams girl and momentarily feared exposure. As she continued to declare that her friend had been murdered, Durant concluded to kill her.

One of the most damaging witnesses against the young medical student is Charles Hills, who resides across the street from the Emmanuel Baptist church. Shortly after 3 o'clock Easter night he saw a man and woman standing near the street corner. They chatted together for some time, and finally started up the street toward the church. When the church was reached the man caught the girl by the arm, and said that she had to go to the gate, leading to the pastor's study. After a few minutes conversation the couple passed through the garden and finally entered the church through a side door. Hills is positive that the man opened the door with a key and was apparently thoroughly familiar with the premises. Suspecting that something was wrong he waited outside for a few minutes, but hearing no outcry, concluded that the couple were members of the church and went to his home.

The description of the man who accompanied the girl tallies with that of Durant. Thorough search is expected to have been made for Durant, and it is expected he will be arrested to-night.

Rev. J. George Gibson made a satisfactory explanation to the chief of police as to his movements since last Friday, and was allowed to depart.

Theodore Durant was arrested at Walnut Creek, thirty-five miles from this city.

CIRCUS TRAIN WRECKED.

Considerable Damage Done, but No Loss of Life.—CHICAGO, April 14.—George W. Hill's circus, en route from San Antonio, Tex., to Evansville, Wis., was wrecked last evening while passing through the switching yards of the Northwestern railroad here. The train was backed into by another train composed of freight cars and being pushed by a switch engine. The baggage car of the circus outfit was demolished and the next car, a sleeper, was much shattered. In the latter were the troops.

Mrs. Hall, wife of the proprietor, had her left hip fractured, and is supposed to have been internally injured. Several other persons were slightly injured.

A BLOODY WARFARE.

Between Homesteader Settlers and Full-Blooded Indians.—PERRY, Okla., April 13.—Serious trouble prevails in Beaver county, in the extreme western portion of Oklahoma, between homesteader settlers and full-blooded Indians. Many reports of killings and battles between the two factions. Many complaints have been made to the secretary of the interior and special agents have arrived at Perry City to make investigations.

TERMS OF PEACE.

Finally Arranged by the Negotiators at Shimomoseki.

LONDON, April 15.—The Morning Post has this dispatch from Shanghai: "A private telegram from a Chinese official in Hiroshima reports that the terms of peace were finally arranged by the negotiators in Shimomoseki Saturday."

However, a Yokohama dispatch, also in the Post, says that the envoys did not meet Saturday, but were expected to reach a final decision yesterday or today.

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