The Islander.

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EVENTS OF THE DAY

Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

TERSE TICKS FROM THE WIRES

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

Agent W. R. Russell, of the Pacific Coast Elevator Company, of Moscow, Idaho, has purchased over 20,000 bushels of wheat at 70 cents. The last large purchase was 3,000 bushels. Some wheat in that section is being held as high as 75 cents.

Another attempt has been made to get the stranded Glenmorag off from the sands of North beach. This trial proved unsuccessful like the previous attempts and it is now thought the Glenmorag will be abandoned to the mercies of the waves.

Very Rev. Thos. J. Conaty, D. D., has been installed as rector of the Catholic university of America in Washington, D. C. It was a notable event in the history of the institution, and drew together a distinguished assemblage of churchmen and educators.

While hunting near Elk Point, S. D., W. J. Murphy, aged 17, became separated from his companions and was frozen to death. When first missed he was supposed to have returned home, and not until some time later did searching parties start after him. His body was found.

James Stephens, who is said to have started several incendiary fires in Walla Walla during the summer of 1896, has been convicted of arson in the superior court for setting fire to the Hamilton-Rourke warehouse, January 9, 1896. The defense had very little evidence to offer, and the jury, after being out one hour, returned a verdict of guilty.

In digging a well at Quilcene, Wash., at the base of the Olympic range of mountains, a vein of coal was discovered. It is thought it is a good vein, and it is located within one mile of the Port Townsend Southern railway. Within the past three years over $100,000 has been spent in prospecting for coal in this county, and this is the first coal yet discovered.

An earthquake occurred on the island of Kishma, in the Persian gulf, attended by enormous loss of life. Kishma is near the entrance of the Persian gulf and is the largest island in that body of water, being surrounded by many smaller islands. Its length is seventy miles and its average breadth twelve miles. The population is estimated at 5,000, chiefly arabs.

Two people were seriously injured and a score of others bruised and battered as the result of a rear-end collision of two trains in the Oakland yards. Instead of holding the Berkley local train as usual, the signalman allowed it to proceed on the main track, just as the sunset limited was approaching. Before the latter train could be stopped it crashed into the rear car of the local, completely demolishing it.

The senate committee on fisheries have listened to an argument by Professor Elliott in advocacy of the bill providing for a new international agreement for the protection of fur-bearing seals. Professor Elliott exhibited a large number of charts, showing the habits of seals. He contended that from an economic and humane point of view, it would be far better for the United States to kill all the remaining seals outright than to permit the slaughter to continue under present regulations.

The First National bank, of Newport, Ky., has closed its doors. Heavy investments in real estate is said to be the cause.

An important pooling arrangement has been brought about between the Alaska Packers' Association and the Alaska Improvement Company that will materially affect the salmon industry in Northern waters and the price of canned salmon in the country next season. It is said that the entire product of the coming season will be pooled and marketed at uniform rates.

Louis Contencin, chevalier of the crown of Italy, former president of the Italian chamber of commerce in New York, and formrely Italy's consul-general to the two Sicilies, died at his home in New York. He had been one of the most prominent Italians in this country and was a man of marked ability, to which Italy frequently paid honorable tribute.

A Washington special says the administration is determined that Peru shall pay the claim for $200,000 growing out of the outrage committed in 1885 upon V. H. McCord, a consul of the United States. A cable dispatch has just been sent to Mr. McKenzie, the United States minister stationed at Lima, directing him to inform the Peruvian government that the case must be settled without delay. A communication received from the minister a few days ago stated that Peru desired to investigate the case. Secretary Olney at once advised Mr. McKenzie that Peru had had more than ten years to investigate, and the time was quite sufficient.

The Minnesota State Savings bank, of St. Paul, has closed and filed a deed of assignment.

National Bank Examiner Escott has closed the German National bank, of Louisville, Ky. The bank is an old one, but for some time has been regarded as unsafe.

A bitter fight is being waged in Cleveland, O., between the Arbuckle Coffee Company and the sugar trust regarding the price of coffee. Cut after cut is being met.

ATTACKS THE TREATY.

Pettigrew Airs His Opinions on the Venezuela Question.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The senate today proceeded with the consideration of the Nicaragua canal bill, Turpie continuing his speech in opposition. He has not yet concluded, and tomorrow will be the third day of his speech. His remarks today were bitterly antagonistic to the Nicaragua Canal Company, the senator characterizing its methods as those of Peter Funk. Morgan will ask to have a time fixed for a final vote as soon as Turpie closes.

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, carriyng approximately $23,000,000, was passed during the day.

Pettigrew severely criticised the legislative authorities for concluding the Venezuela boundary agreement, which he said, was a complete surrender of Venezuela to Great Britain. His resolution calling on the secretary of state for information was referred to the foreign relations committee. Unanimous consent was secured for taking up the bill for an international monetary conference on Tuesday next.

In the House.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Before the Yost-Tucker contested election case from the tenth Virginia district was called in the house today there was a call of committees. A bill was passed to amend the laws relating to the general land office so as to reduce fees to be charged for taking testimony from fifteen to ten cents per hundred words and withdraw the privilege of excess fees now allowed at land offices west of the Rocky mountains.

The contested election case was called up by McCall of Massachusetts, chairman of the committee on election, at 12:30 P. M., and the house spent the day debating it. Much interest was manifested in the case, owing to the fact that the Republicans on the committee which reported the case were divided, four siding with Henry St. George Tucker, the Democrat, and sitting member, and but two, Walker of Indiana and Thomas of Michigan, with the Republican contestant, Yost. The latter is a member-elect of the next house, and Tucker is one of the most prominent and popular Democrats on the floor. Tucker had 892 plurality on the face of the returns, but several imperfect ballots were rejected under the then existing Walton law of Virginia, which, the contestant claimed, if counted, would have reversed the result. Yost himself was accorded the privilege of addressing the house in his own behalf. He was very sarcastic in his reference to the Democratic election officials of the Old Dominion state, characterizing them as "chivalrous Virginians, who assaulted the mentally weak and unarmed and robbed them of their rights."

He concluded with an eloquent appeal to the house for justice.

"The stigma of foul elections," said he, "disgraced and debauched the South for years; its deadly influence paralyzed the public conscience; but now, thank God, in Virginia, at least, the shock of this ballot broke the stupor. The fear of the negro rule disappeared. But, lashed by the scourge of public opinion, the guilty tricksters still dare to bring infamy to the doors of congress. If you accept their machinations, you approve their methods and give them fresh license."

Cannon Has a Plan.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Senator Cannon, of Utah, has introduced the following as a substitute for the Republican national conference bill:

"Within ninety days after March 4, 1897, the president of the United States shall invite the leading commercial nations of the world to appoint representatives to an international monetary conference to convene on or before October 1, 1897, at such place in the city of Washington as the president may designate, and also within said ninety days after March 4, 1897, the president shall appoint five commissioners to represent the United States at such conference; the duty of which United States commissioners shall be to urge the adoption by said conference of a plan for the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at some ratio ranging between 15 and 16 to 1 between the nations represented at such conference.

Bureau of Mines.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Senator Perkins, of California, today introduced a bill which is intended to pave the way to the establishment of a bureau or department of the government to be devoted to the mining industry. The resolution recites, by way of preamble, that the mining interests of the United States have no clear representation in the organization of the government, and it provides for a commission, to be composed of the commissioner of the general land office, commissioner of labor and director of the geological survey, "whose duty it shall be to determine the best methods of ascertaining all facts of general importance relating to mines and mining within the United States, whether by a mining bureau, a secretary of mines and mining, a commissioner of mines, or a commission, to report to the secretary of the interior a bill providing means, or securing all necessary information concerning mining and related industries in the United States."

Denials From Cadogan.

Belfast, Jan. 22.—At a banquet, the Earl of Cadogan said he was glad that the financial relations of Ireland had been referred to experts, but he repudiated the idea that the recent commission was a packed one. The theory that home rule was behind the agitation was merely trotted out as a bugbear.

The average death rate in English cities is 17.6 per 1,000, and in the rural dstricts 13.7 per 1,000.

THE BOILER EXPLODED.

Terrible Accident on a French Steamer in the Orient.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—One of the boilers of the French steamer Saghalien exploded while the vessel was off the Chinese coast, December 2, bound from Singapore for Hong Kong. Eleven of the stokers in the fireroom and one engineer were killed by the explosion or by the scalding steam. The chief stoker was so badly injured that he died a few hours afterward and four other firemen died the next day as a result of their burns. The vessel was crowded with passengers and for a time there was the wildest confusion on board.

A letter brought by the Rio de Janeiro from the Orient yesterday, gives the details of the disaster. The passengers had just assembled in the saloon for dinner, when there was a loud report, like that of a cannon. The deck beams were torn up, gratings were sent flying in the air and the steamer trembled from stem to stern.

When the steam had cleared away men were sent below to the stakehold. Eleven of the Lascar firemen lay about the floor before the ruined boiler, dead or writhing at the last gasp, with their flesh parboiled by the terrific bath of superheated steam in which the explosion had plunged them. The chief stoker, a Frenchman, was among them. He died in the most frightful agony a few moments after he had been carried to the deck. The other firemen who were in the stakehold were badly burned. Four of them died during the night following the explosion.

SHOT HIS ARM OFF.

A Plucky Young Hunter of Ducks on Coos Bay.

Marshfield, Or., Jan. 21.—Edward Tower, son of Dr. C. W. Tower, shot his right arm off this afternoon, while duck hunting. He was accompanied by William Reichart and Harry Nasburg, and the accident occurred about three miles from town. The boys were in a small boat and Tower was picking up his gun to fire at a flock of ducks, when the gun was accidentally discharged. The charge of No. 2 shot took effect above the elbow, shattering the bone and severing the artery. A stray shot also struck Nasburg in the forehead, imbedding itself in the scalp.

Tower showed great presence of mind, and ordered his companions to tie a bandage above the wound to stop the flow of blood, and then they started to pull to town. When they reached Marshfield Tower was very weak from loss of blood, but he was very gritty. On examination, it was found necessary to amputate the arm several inches above the elbow.

NO CANAL FOR TURPIE.

Indiana Senator's Speech in Opposition to the Project.

Washington, Jan. 21.—The session of the senate was without incident. Senator Turpie spoke against the Nicaragua canal bill, and the reading of the legislative appropriation bill was completed, with the exception of sections making provisions for the congressional library, which were passed over temporarily in the absence of senators interested in the subject.

The old soldiers had a field day in the house today. Under a special order adopted yesterday, the whole day was devoted to the consideration of private pension bills. Of the 900 on the calendar, fifty-two were disposed of during the five hours' session.

An India Relief Camp.

Bombay, Jan. 21.—A correspondent of the Associated Press, who has begun a tour of the famine districts of India, telegraphs from Saratora, south of Poona, an important section of the Deccan, having an area of 48,000 square miles, and inhabited by 1,250,000 persons, saying that the famine is less severe there than in other parts of the Deccan. The first relief camp established at Nansil, on the Poona-Banglore road, in the middle of November, and there are now five camps in that vicinity. The people are lodging in mat huts, containing parents and children or three single adults. They work from sunrise until noon, and from 2 P. M. to sunset at stone-breaking. The people are contented and have sufficient food and blankets. The correspondent did not notice any distress from the cases of destitution. No general emaciation was observed, nor were the people dying by the roadside. The situation in that distirct is taken, on the whole, to be satisfactory.

Robbery in Salem.

Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—Three masked men entered the Salem Labor Exchange, in North Salem, about 10 o'clock tonight, and demanded that Manager Hoye, at the point of a pistol, open the safe. Hoye demurred and was assaulted by the men. He was finally made to open the safe, and then the men renewed their assault.

The manager was cut through the hand with a knife, and also received two bad wounds in the back of the head. The men then escaped.

The sheriff was notified and went to the scene, but he could find no satisfactory trace of the thugs. They are supposed to have secured only a small amount of money.

Weyler Goes to Meet Gomez.

New York, Jan. 21. — A Herald special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: A private dispatch has been received from Havana that General Weyler has again left that city with his column for the field. This time the captain-general marched in the direction of the borders of Matanzas and Las Villas, where Maximo Gomez is supposed to be.

Astronomers say that there is every reason to believe that human life on Mars is much like it is on this earth.

UNCLE SAM'S SHARE

Government's Part in Pacific Railway Reorganization.

ALL THAT COULD BE DESIRED

Conferences Going on Give Promise of an Advantageous Settlement of the Government's Claim.

Chicago, Jan. 22. — The Post's Washington special says:

Settlement of the Pacific railroad indebtedness by friendly negotiations between the government and the Union Pacific reorganization committee has been delayed. Papers have been prepared which are to make the government a party to the pending foreclosure suits by the filing of cross bills; but the president, Secretary Carlisle and his official advisers are not satisfied, it is said, with the guarantee behind the $30,000,000 offer made by the committee.

It appears that the government, after the failure of the funding bill, finds itself in the position of any creditor of an insolvent company, or at any rate, in the position of any of the interests with secured liens against the bond-aided roads. It confronts, with the other creditors of the line, the dilemma of being a party to the foreclosure proceedings, or a party to a reorganization arrangement. It is therefore weighing, apparently, the comparative merits of the two courses of action, in their respective promises of return to the government for its outlay in the past. In one important respect, however, the government has an advantage over the other creditor interests, partly by reason of the failure of the Powers funding bill. The government's position is now all that could be desired. Unless the president is absolutely satisfied that the government will be fully protected under foreclosure he is not obliged to foreclose, and the first mortgage bondholders will be powerless to sell the road, on account of the sovereignty of the government. Under existing law the government would receive more than it would under the Powers proposition. But the desirability of the government dissolving partnership with the roads is admitted on all sides, and, if the president finds an opportunity of doing this under advantageous conditions, as from authentic information he will, the dissolution would undoubtedly be welcomed. In a few days the position of the government has changed from that of a suppliant to that of a practical dictator. Before the bill was defeated the government was in the attitude of asking the roads to return. Now the government, through the president, is saying to them, "You must give the government what it will deem a fair return."

On the other hand, it is clear that the administration has been conferring with the Union Pacific reorganization committee, and an agreement may be reached with that organization either comprising or dispensing with foreclosure proceedings. In reorganization schemes the various creditor interests come together and agree upon a distribution of the insolvent company's assets. In the present case, for example, the first-mortgage holders will have to receive dollar for dollar, as they would receive it under foreclosure of their mortgage. Other creditors, including the government, would come in for a pro rata share of the estimated value of their liens, based in the aggregate on the earning capacity of the property involved, and in each case upon the degree of subordinacy of their respective claims.

Indications are that the government is inclined to enter into a reorganization agreement that contemplates foreclosure and sale, with certain prearranged results, and that President Cleveland will be able to secure for the government an adequate return for its loan to the Pacific railroad companies. He is now said to have assurances from two syndicates that if the road is sold under foreclosure proceedings the bids made will be far enough in excess of the first mortgage lien to give the government a fair return for the money it is out through its pecuniary advances to the companies. As soon as these assurances are made formal, which they will be in a short time, the president, under the authority given him by the act of 1887, will enter an appearance for the government in the foreclosure proceedings began by the first-mortgage bondholders, and an order for the sale of the property will be obtained.

According to the treasury figure of January 10, the net amount due the United States by the bond-aided roads, after deducting the amounts credited on account of transportation service, is $121,310,876, the original principal of which was $64,623,512. In addition to the amount for which they were obliged to the United States, the companies under authority granted by congress, issued bonds amounting to $64,613,000, which have since by act of congress become a first lien on the roads.

There is a scheme on foot to furnish electric power to the City of Mexico from the peat beds nine miles distant owned by Boston men.

Rioting Strikers Fired Upon.

London, Jan. 22.—It is reported in a Vienna dispatch to the Chronicle that in a strike riot at Anina, Hungary, gendarmes fired upon the strikers, killing eight persons.

A Vienna dispatch to the News says a riot occurred at the Anina mines. The wives of the strikers were prominent in the riot, and several women are among the killed and injured. The military are held in readiness, as a renewal of the trouble is expected.

STORY OF ETHEL GILLIAM.

William Gray, of Palouse City, Vouches for Its Truth.

Walla Walla, Jan. 19. — William Gray, of Palouse City, who is in Walla Walla undergoing medicinal treatment, recently told the Statesman the story of Ethel Gilliam, a girl who lives with her parents ten miles east of Palouse. The family is poor but honest and reliable, the parents being devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Last August this little girl was taken ill, and after three weeks, apparently died, so the story goes. For three hours she had every appearance of death. She then slowly revived, but was totally blind. She told her parents that she had been in heaven and seen Jesus and the angels and many friends who had gone before. There she saw a tree of life and a river of life. There were little children in the tree eating the fruit. Each inhabitant wore a crown bearing his or her name. The little girl saw a crown with her name on it, hanging up, and reached for it, but Jesus told her she would have to go back to earth and fulfill her mission. He wanted her to teach his people.

Although blind this girl can read by passing her fingers over the printed or written page, and can describe persons whose pictures were handed to her. The latter power was first discovered by J. B. Cawthorn, a photographer, whose mother lives in Walla Walla. He told the marvelous story to a Sunday school in Palouse City, and Mr. Gray and wife, hearing it, drove out to the home of the girl to see for them selves. Mr. Gray first handed the sick girl his watch, and she told him that it was a gold watch, and the time of day, by passing her fingers over the glass. To make sure that her power was genuine, a paper was held between her face and a photograph that Mr. Gray handed to her, and she described the picture perfectly as that of an old gentleman with gray whiskers, wearing a dark suit and cravat. She read from books and papers handed to her by the use of her fingers.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray tell many other wonderful things in relation to this child. She has now been ill 100 days, and has not been able to digest any food.

As references for the truth of the story, Mr. Gray gave the names of Rev. A. Y. Skee, pastor of the S. M. E. church, of Palouse; Rev. J. G. Kerrick, of La Grande, Or.; H. A. Gray, Thomas Cox and J. B. Cawthorn, of Palouse.

AT THE INAUGURATION.

What It Will Cost a Spectator to See the Ceremonies.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Washingtonians who are making an effort to arrange the inaugural ceremonies of Mr. McKinley so that none can complain, are disturbed by statements circulated in certain parts of the country to the effect that extortionate rates are to be exacted of those who come here to witness the inauguration ceremonies. Speaking to an Asociated Press reporter today, Chairman Bell said:

"If the people insist on making their own arrangements, the inaugural committee cannot be held responsible, but I can assure any one who will address Colonel L. P. Wright, chairman of the committee on public comfort, that he will secure for them the best of accommodations at reasonable rates. He has listed already accommodations for from 20,000 to 30,000 persons, mostly in private houses, which are well located, and which are supplied with all modern conveniences. The list is daily increasing. The rates will average about as follows: For lodging only, $1 per day for beds and 75 cents for cots; $1.25 to $1.50 for lodging and breakfast, and $2.50 per day for lodging and meals. Good horses for the parade may be hired for from $5 to $10. If persons have equipments it will be well to bring them, although such as they may not possess will be supplied by the committee at moderate cost."

Earthquake in Oakland.

Oakland, Cal., Jan. 19.—An earthquake this afternoon was productive of a remarkable scene at the Tenth-avenue Baptist church. Rev. C. M. Hill, the pastor, was just closing an eloquent sermon. Just as he asked the congregation in an impressive manner what account they would render of their stewardship, the building began to quake until it seemed that the roof would fall in. In a moment all was confusion. Some of the congregation ran for the doors; others fell on their knees to pray, while others, with faces pale, stood waiting for what seemed to many to be certain death. Deacon Joseph Plaw attempted to calm the assemblage. He asked why there should be fear, if they had heeded the words of their shepherd, and were ready for the end. He said that they should rejoice if the end came and found them prepared. The speaker quickly restored quiet, and when he had finished, all joined in prayers of thanskgiving.

Dervishes on the Move.

Rome, Jan. 19.—Massowah advices are to the effect that a body of Dervishes, believed to be the advance guard of the entire Dervish forces, has entered the Kedaref district, and is moving on Agordat. The Italian government is concentrating all the troops available near Agordat, which is well defended

Cleaned Out a Town.

Perry, O. T., Jan. 19.—Late last night robbers took in the town of Newkirk, north of here. Saloons were robbed of all the money and quantities of whisky and beer. Residences were entered and many things were taken out. The officers think the robbers came into town yesterday under the guise of tramps. Five tramps were arrested here yesterday for highway robbery. They are supposed to be members of an organized gang.

WOOLGROWERS MEET.

Resolutions Concerning the Forest Reserve Passed.

Salem, Or., Jan. 19.—At a meeting of the North Pacific Sheepbreeders' and Woolgrowers' Association, held at the state capitol, pursuant to a call from the president, Hon. John Minto, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, The congress of the United States has authorized the president to proclaim as forest reserve 4,600,000 acres of the Cascade range of mountains, extending in an unbroken body across the state of Oregon, thereby creating a physical division of the state; and

"Whereas, This immense body of land has been placed under the care of the department of the interior, to be protected from the injury of its forest growth by the aid of the United States district court and by its officers, and citizens of the United States, residents of Oregon, have been arrested and put to cost on the assumption that grazing stock (sheep especially) within such reserve is an injury to the forest growth thereon; and

"Whereas, By an experience extending over fifty years, in some cases, members of this association know that despite grazing of sheep or cattle upon the grasss lands of Oregon, whether on the mountains or in the valleys, the reforestation of open land has extended is extending, over all pasture land, near enough seedbearing trees for the seeds to be carried by the wind; and the truth of this statement is well set forth in papers now published by the state board of horticulture, by persons who have seen these processes going forward for from forty-four to fifty-two years' observation; therefore, be it

"Resolved, These prosecutions of stockowners, whose stock has in past years ranged on the mountains of Oregon, is totally unjustifiable, on the ground of injury done by such grazing; that we, as citizens of the United States, residing in Oreogn, claim all the right of the citizens of other states to the full benefit of the use of the public domain, and of the general land laws of the national government, and believe it an oppression, unjust as well as unnecessary, to harrass stockmen by trials in the United States court for acts of technical trespass, where benefit rather than damage has been done; that we heartily indorse the concurrent resolution introduced by Senator Mulkey, in the present legislative assembly of Oregon; that we are unanimously in favor of the restoration of a reasonable tariff duty on wool, adequate for the encouragement of woolgrowing, and also favor an import duty being placed on shoddy, sufficiently high to discourage the importation of said article."

Senator Mulkey's resloution, provides for three reserves, instead of one.

THE DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Oratorical Tributes to the Late Speaker Crisp.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Most of this day in the house was devoted to oratorical triubtes to the late Speaker Crisp, of Georgia, who died during the recent recess of congress. The speeches were listened to by nearly all of the Democrats, and a large contingent of Republicans, while many Southern people filled the galleries. All of the members from Georgia and several leaders on both sides of the house delivered eulogies, which were unusually impressive, and were listened to with much more than the usual attention.

The bill authorizing the Columbia & Red Moutain Railway Company to build a bridge across the Columbia river, in Stevens county, Wash., called up by Doolittle, passed. Delegate Catron attempted to secure the passage of a bill to give the deserted Fort Marcy military reservation, at Santa Fe, N. M., to the American Invalid Aid Society, of Boston, for the establishment of a sanitarium for pulmonary diseases, but it failed on objection.

Flogging on Shipboard.

Cleveland, Jan. 19.—Senators Frye and Hale, who were responsible for the senate substitute for house bill No. 2663, which restored flogging in the merchant marine, are being severely condemned by the 300,000 members of the Western Seamen's Society and various branches. At a meeting of the local trustees of the society, who are prominent business men, resolutions were adopted protesting against the law.

Has Discovered No Lymph.

Paris, Jan. 19.—In an interview, Dr. Roux, who is connected with the department of hygiene, denied a report that he had made experiments with an anti-plague lymph. He would know how to prepare the lymph, he said, if it was needed, but he felt that bubonic plague would never get a hold in Europe. The Temps complains of the inactivity of the present Indian government in dealing with the scourge.

Victim of Commodore Wreck.

Salem, Mass., Jan. 19.—The remains of the late William Alexander Higgins, who met his death with many others at the foundering of the Cuban filibustering steamer Commodore, off the Florida coast, Sunday morning, January 3, arrived today. The funeral was held at the undertaking rooms, and was attended by a large crowd.

The Death of Maceo.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 19.—A letter has been received by one of the representatives in this city of the Cuban junta, confirming the Associated Press dispatch of Friday giving an account of the death of General Maceo. The letter is from Lieutenant-Colonel Hernandez, who was encamped with a company of cavalry and other forces near where Maceo was ambushed. The issurgents are reported to be encamped nine miles east of Havana.

PLAGUE AND FAMINE

The Appalling Calamity Hanging Over India.

TERRIBLE SCENES IN BOMBAY

United Action by the European Powers to Prevent the Introduction of the Disease.

Bombay, Jan. 19. — Plague and famine are stalking arm-in-arm through densely populated portions of the British empire; thousands are dead or dying, and the outlook grows blacker and more terrible every day.

Millions of hapless men, women and children are starving, and the famine-stricken districts, having a population of nearly 40,000,000 pepole, will have to depend upon the aid of charity for food enough to keep body and soul together until April or later. Other districts, with a population numbering about 50,000,000, are already feeling the pangs of bitter privation from food, and this must be endured well on into spring, before permanent relief will be afforded by nature. Funds for the relief of sufferers are being raised on all sides, but a very large amount of money will be needed to provide food even for those unfortunate people who live on almost nothing (in comparison with Europeans and others.)

The calamity, awful in its its intensity, is possibly not much greater than the ravages of the dreadful plague here, threatening to spread through the crowded cities to other parts of India, and, if it reaches the greatly weakened famine sufferers, the mortality may be terrible. The natives have been reduced by lack of food to little less than living skeletons, in the most heavily stricken districts, and as such they cannot but fall victims by the thousands to the plague.

The mortality here has quadrupled, without counting the deaths which have occurred among thousands of people who have fled in terror from Bombay, in many cases abandoning their all in their hurried flight from the great peril.

Up to recently, Bombay, with its population of about 850,000, enjoyed the reputation of being one of the healthiest cities in India, its sanitary works being equal to those of the European capitals. But all this is changed. More than half of the population has disappeared, and those who remain are either helpless and cannot get away, or are crowding out of the city by rail, water and road, or else contemplate so doing unless there is a change for the better shortly. The government officials are seriously alarmed, the native physicians have nearly all left the city, business is paralyzed, the mills are closed or closing, the streets are partly deserted, and on all sides are empty houses, boarded up or wide open. The passage of funeral parties through the streets goes on day and night, burning grounds, or ghats, light the skies with their reflections, and line after line of bodies there or at the parsee burial spots are awaiting consignment to the flames or to mother earth.

The number of deaths from the plague in this city is now estimated, unofficially, to be 3,000, and there are about 170 additional victims daily, with this number increasing as time wears on. The Europeans, however, have been singularly free from contagion up to the present time, only three deaths among them being recorded to date.

At Karachi, Poona and Bandra, where large numbers of refugees have sought safety, the plague has broken out in most threatening form. At Bandra, for instance, 129 deaths are recorded out of 180 cases of plague, causing consternation, even among the physicians. In this city there are thousands of houses without native servants, nearly all the latter having joined the fleeing multitudes. Employers are helpless because of the departure of clerks and porters, and stores are closed on account of the utter stagnation in business. The mortality during the past week here has been unprecedented, while the returns of deaths from remittent fevers are extraordinarily high above the plague rate, which is naturally interpreted as meaning that numbers of people who have fallen victims of the plague have been officially recorded as having died of remittent fever.

A VENGEFUL HUNGARIAN.

He Beheaded the Man Who Had Outwrestled Him.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Jan. 18.—After being bested by Joseph Kalata in a wrestling bout, John Cournott, a Hungarian, beheaded his successful rival. The men were rivals for the hand of Anna Jopkapotah, with whose father they boarded.

There was a gathering at the house and Cournott challenged Kalata to a wrestling match. Cournott was defeated, and in his anger left the room, returning in a few minutes with a butcher knife. Rushing at Kalata, he swung the knife around his head, and with all the force he could muster brought it down on Kalata's neck. The keen blade cut its way through the muscles, arteries and jugular vein, severing them and stopping only at the opposite side of the neck. Kalata fell to the floor without so much as a groan.

Corpus Christi, Tex., Jan. 19.—It is a well-known fact among certain parties here that while Dan Stuart was in Coprus Christi last May, he held several consultations with a leading Brownsville attorney, the result of which was the lease of an island in the Rio Grande river from the Mexican government. Several knowing ones here assert that the probabilities are that the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight will be pulled off on the island, which is about ten miles from Brownsville.