

MARCH—1898.

Calendar grid for March 1898 with days of the week and dates.

A sixteen-inch gun has been placed at Sandy Hook which will throw a ball 15 miles out at sea.

Japan has just launched at one of its own navy yards a twin-screw steamer built by Japanese workmen.

Georgia is getting ready to plant more acres of watermelons than ever before.

Among the 350 men on the Maine all but 117 were born in the United States, and of the latter all but 19 had taken out naturalization papers.

The combined yield of gold and silver in the United States last year was but one-third the value of the corn crops.

A Frenchman who ran away from his adversary in a duel is certified by his physician to have been suffering from tachypodia.

A car load of Illinois eggs passed through a railroad wreck the other day without having a single shell disrupted.

A French paper makes much of the idea that "the American army has yet to be brought into existence."

"Now that the government has decided to abandon the Klondike relief expedition what is to be done with the 537 reindeer, 418 sleds and the 133 Lapp, Finn and Norwegian immigrants?"

An ordinary western county seat contest is had enough, but Oklahoma now proposes to convulse the civilized world with a mad scramble for the territorial capital.

Seven years ago William Rodgers, a convict serving a 30-year sentence in the penitentiary at San Quentin, Cal., was told by Lieut. McLean, of the force of guards, to stop talking and attend to his work.

The work of the Christian Endeavor societies extends almost all over the world. According to official returns this sixteenth year of the organization has been one of the best on record.

"Private" John Allen, of Mississippi, is a total abstainer. He is now serving his seventh term in the national house of representatives and he gives this characteristic reason why he never touches liquor.

The British government has awarded a contract to the Carnegie company for 5,000 tons of armor plate for its war vessels.

WARSHIPS FOR THE NAVY

Uncle Sam Purchases Two Fine Cruisers Built for the Brazilian Government.

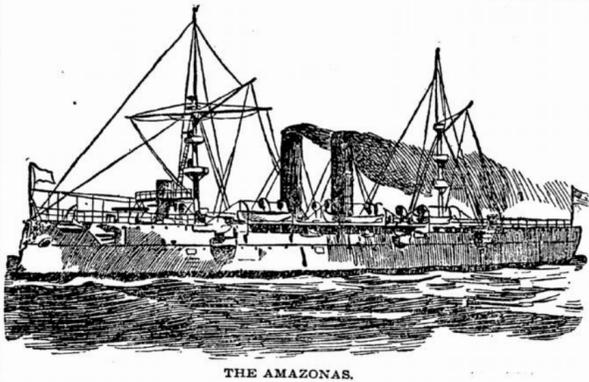
OLD GLORY TO FLY AT THE MASTHEAD.

Two New Military Departments Created—The President Will Do His Duty—Spain Wants to Know Why We Buy Warships—Court of Inquiry Leaves Havana.

Washington, March 14.—The war department Saturday promulgated its order creating the departments of the gulf and of the lakes and abolishing the departments of the Missouri and of Texas.

Washington, March 15.—A week's negotiations closed yesterday by the purchase by the navy department in London of the two fine cruisers Amazonas and Admiral Abreu, built at Elswick by the Brazilian government.

Washington, March 15.—Feeling here is that the prospect for peace has materially brightened, and that in the end Spain will yield to all the reasonable demands of the United States.



THE AMAZONAS.

terially brightened, and that in the end Spain will yield to all the reasonable demands of the United States, both as regards the Maine tragedy and Cuban reforms.

A special cable dispatch from Madrid declares that the ministry is for peace and tranquility prevails.

War Should Be Stopped at Once. Jackson, Miss., March 15.—Secretary of State Fowerton has received a letter from United States Consul Barker at Sagua la Grande, Cuba, enumerating the needs of the starving Cubans in his district.

Spain Grows Curious. Washington, March 16.—Spain has again ventured on dangerous ground. Another step has been taken that may increase the irritation in this country.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Will Force the Issue. Madrid, March 16.—Spain will stand by the report of its naval court of inquiry, regardless of any conclusion that may be reached by the American commission.

Victim of Apoplexy. Utica, N. Y., March 16.—Lillian Kennedy, the actress who was stricken with apoplexy during a performance of "The Charity Girl" at the Utica opera house Saturday evening, died Tuesday.

Strikers Give Up. Taunton, Mass., March 15.—The 1,100 operatives of the Whittendon cotton mills returned to work Monday after a strike lasting five weeks.

report that the theory that the Maine was destroyed by an accidental explosion is at all tenable the Spanish government will consider the decision final and will not consider any other theory.

Hopes There Will Be No War. Princeton, N. J., March 16.—Former President Cleveland says all loyal citizens should support the government in any exigency that may arise, but he is hopeful that there may be no war.

London, March 16.—The Standard, reviewing editorially aspects of the Cuban affair, says: It will be a genuine triumph of statesmanship if President McKinley, who has hitherto shown conspicuous caution and judgment, can succeed in avoiding war.

Washington, March 17.—Orders have been issued for the return of the Montgomery from Havana to Key West. This is taken as an indication that the board of inquiry has completed its work, and it is now thought that the report of the Maine disaster will be in Washington very soon.

The Fleet at Key West. The fleet at Key West is the strongest assemblage of ships, for other than review purposes, since the war. It is as follows:

Cruiser New York, battleship Massachusetts, battleship Indiana, battleship Iowa, battleship Texas, cruiser Detroit, gunboat Nashville, cruiser Marblehead, dispatch boat Fern, torpedo boats Dupont, Cushing, Porter, Winslow and Ericsson.

ELEVEN LIVES LOST.

Flames Destroy the Bowers Mission House in New York and Inmates Are Cremated.

New York, March 14.—Eleven men lost their lives in the fire which swept through the Bowers Mission house at 105 Bowers early yesterday morning.

The building was six stories high and had a frontage of 58 feet on Wabash avenue, and extended back 160 feet to the alley. The principal occupants of the building were: Conover Piano company, Presbyterian Board Publication, Sweet, Wallach & Co., photographic supplies; Olmsted Scientific company, school apparatus; National Music company, Emerson Piano company, Chicago Cottage Organ company, Alfred Berl, music publisher, and Alfred Peats, wall paper.

It is estimated that 400 persons were at work in the building when the fire was discovered. The origin of the fire is in dispute. By some it is said to have been caused by an explosion of colloid in the wall paper warehouses of Alfred Peats, on the third floor, and by others to have been the result of an explosion among some photographic chemicals in the photographic supply house of Sweet, Wallach & Co., on the sixth floor.

SIR HENRY BESSEMER.

Death of the Inventor of the Process for Making the Steel Which Bears His Name.

London, March 16.—Sir Henry Bessemer, the celebrated inventor of Bessemer steel, died Tuesday evening. (Sir Henry Bessemer, whose name is inseparably connected with the development of the steel industry, was born in Hertfordshire, in 1813. His discovery of the means of rapidly and cheaply converting pig iron into steel by blowing a blast of air through the iron when in a state of fusion, was the result of costly and laborious experiments which extended over a long period, and in which the end was attained only after many disheartening failures.)

Heavy Customs Receipts. Washington, March 17.—The receipts from customs Wednesday amounted to \$1,319,737. This is the highest point by nearly \$365,000 that the customs has reached since the new tariff act went into effect about eight months ago.

Aged Stage-Coach Driver Dead. St. Louis, March 14.—Capt. E. B. Evans, who was the oldest stage-coach driver in the west, was buried in East St. Louis Saturday. He had been known for years to hundreds of persons on both sides of the river.

Lost with all on Board. Lowestoff, March 17.—The bark British Princess, from Leith for Liverpool, was towed in here Wednesday with her bow stove, having been in collision at three o'clock Wednesday morning off Gibbard lightship with an unknown steamer.

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BURIED IN RED HOT RUINS

The Burning of a Business Building in Chicago Proves to Be a Frightful Disaster.

EXPLOSION OF CHEMICALS THE CAUSE.

Three Persons Are Known to Be Dead and Many Others Are Missing—The List of Injured Reaches Thirty, and the Property Loss Is Over Half a Million Dollars.

Chicago, March 17.—It required just 20 minutes Wednesday for one of the most savage fires Chicago has seen since the famous cold-storage warehouse fire on the world's fair grounds in 1893 to take anywhere from five to fifteen lives, maim 30 people and reduce a six-story brick building to a pile of blazing timber, red-hot bricks and twisted iron.

The number of dead is still in doubt, and probably will not be definitely known until the debris of the building is sufficiently cooled to admit of search being made for the bodies of those who are undoubtedly in the ruins.

Edward Binz, 2925 Prairie avenue; worked for Sweet, Wallach & Co. Samuel A. Clark, was in the employ of the W. A. Olmsted Scientific company.

The missing are 17 in number, of whom nothing could be learned at a late hour, and most of whom are without question buried in the wreck.

The burned building. The building was six stories high and had a frontage of 58 feet on Wabash avenue, and extended back 160 feet to the alley.

Inmates in a Panic. It is estimated that 400 persons were at work in the building when the fire was discovered. The origin of the fire is in dispute.

Escape Cut Off. Ten minutes after the explosion all escape for the inmates by stairs and elevators was cut off.

Leaped from the Windows. Clark was a bookkeeper for the Olmsted company on the top floor. He might have escaped had he not remained to put the books in the vault.

The losses by the fire amounted to \$820,000, according to the statements of those interested last night. The total insurance on the three buildings, 213 to 223 Wabash avenue amounted to \$408,950.

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MINOR NEWS ITEMS.

For the Week Ending March 17. Five persons committed suicide in St. Louis on the same day.

George H. Leonard, city marshal of Cameron, Mo., was murdered by a negro burglar.

The Benson savings bank in Waterford, Pa., closed its doors with liabilities of \$40,000.

The populist state convention at Atlanta, Ga., nominated Thomas E. Watson for governor.

The inheritance tax law in Missouri has been declared unconstitutional by the state supreme court.

The chief of Merere, with 80,000 followers, has rebelled against German rule in Uheheland, Africa.

The heaviest frost of the season occurred in southern California, doing serious damage to the fruit crop.

Col. Parker, who recently visited Cuba with Senator Proctor, declares the insurgents are in control of the island.

Albert Lathwell, a barber 30 years old, shot his wife, another woman, Alice Toomey, and himself in Niagara Falls, N. Y.

The Rhode Island democratic state convention at Providence nominated Daniel Church, of Tiverton, for governor.

The Victor woolen mills in Cohoes, N. Y., employing over 1,000 operators, were destroyed by fire, the loss being \$400,000.

The Spanish fishing smack Carmen was seized at Punta Gorda, Fla., by United States officials for violation of the navigation laws.

The Grand and Thames rivers in western Ontario overflowed, causing great damage in London, Galt, Brantford and other towns.

The tramway over Chilkat pass, Alaska, is completed, and freight is being transferred from Taiya to the summit for seven cents a pound.

The marquis of Salisbury, prime minister of England, has been compelled to relinquish the burden of his public duties on account of ill health.

William J. Koerner, a newspaper artist, was sentenced in New York to imprisonment for life for the murder of Rose Redgate, his sweetheart.

In the South Pacific island of Suva three volcanoes, extinct for centuries, have broken forth, completely obliterating farms and killing all human and animal life thereon.

The Tennessee supreme court has decided that the state law requiring railroad companies to provide separate coaches for white and colored passengers is constitutional.

All classes of Mexican citizens sympathize with the United States in its controversy with Spain and the alleged blowing up of the Maine, which is called a characteristic Spanish trick.

MANY PATENTS ISSUED.

The Annual Report of the Commissioner Shows a Great Increase in Inventions.

Washington, March 15.—The report of the commissioner of patents for the calendar year 1897 was laid before congress Monday. It is dated January 31 and was prepared by Assistant Commissioner A. P. Greely, who was acting commissioner for several months preceding the death of the late Commissioner Butterworth.

In 1897 there were received 45,661 applications for patents, and, in addition, a large number of applications for designs, trade marks, etc. Patents granted amounted in number to 23,729, including designs; 65 patents were reissued, 1,961 trade marks registered and 14 labels and 16 prints. The number of patents that expired was 12,926.

The total expenditures were \$1,122,343, the receipts over expenditures, \$292,728. The total balance to the credit of the patent office in the treasury of the United States January 1, 1898, was \$4,971,438.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

For Some Unknown Reason a Young Man Kills a Married Woman and Himself.

Manchester, O., March 14.—At Robb-town, Ky., a name given to a small group of houses at the railway station across the Ohio river opposite this place, Thomas Robb, 19 years old, went to the home of Mrs. Rosa Read Saturday and called her to the door on the pretext that he had a letter for her.

Springfield, O., March 16.—The Interstate Baseball league met here Tuesday and each club placed \$550 in President Powers' hands as its forfeit. The league was divided into the western and eastern divisions. Grand Rapids, Fort Wayne, Toledo and Mansfield constitute the western division, Dayton, New-castle, Youngstown and Springfield the eastern division.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., March 16.—Maj. C. L. Davidson, chairman of the board of railroad commissioners of Iowa, was stricken with apoplexy Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock at his home at Hull while preparing to go to Des Moines to attend the reception of Gov. Shaw and dropped dead.

Paris, March 17.—The minister for the colonies, M. Lebon, has refused the petition of Mme. Dreyfus, wife of the former Capt. Dreyfus, to share the latter's imprisonment on Devil's island.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

A Daily Summary of the Work Being Done by Our Law-Makers in Washington.

ALL IMPORTANT PROCEEDINGS GIVEN.

In the Senate Bills and Resolutions Are Discussed and Passed—in the House a Variety of Measures Are Under Consideration—Busy Days at the Capital.

Washington, March 10.—By a unanimous vote the senate yesterday passed the \$50,000,000 defense bill without debate, it was sent to the president and he immediately signed it and it is now a law.

Washington, March 11.—A bill to re-verse the grade of lieutenant general in the army was reported favorably in the senate yesterday from the committee on military affairs.

Washington, March 15.—Senator Hoar introduced a bill in the senate yesterday prohibiting the importation into the United States of birds or their feathers for ornamental purposes, and imposing a fine of \$50 for each offense.

Washington, March 16.—The time in the senate yesterday was passed considering the measure providing for a national system of quarantine.

Washington, March 17.—A joint resolution in favor of the annexation of Hawaii was reported to the senate yesterday. T. V. Powderly was confirmed as commissioner of immigration.

Section 1. The government of the republic of Hawaii, having in due form signified its consent in the manner provided by its constitution to cede absolutely and without reserve to the United States of America all rights of sovereignty of whatsoever kind in and to the Hawaiian islands and their dependencies, and also to cede and transfer to the United States the absolute fee and ownership all public, government and crown lands, public buildings or edifices, forts, harbors, military equipment, and all other public property of whatever kind and description belonging to the government of the Hawaiian islands, together with every right and appurtenance thereunto appertaining; therefore, be it

Resolved, That said cession is accepted, ratified and confirmed, and that the said Hawaiian islands and their dependencies be and they are hereby annexed as a part of the territory of the United States, and are subject to the sovereign dominion thereof, and that all and singular the property and rights heretofore mentioned, are vested in the United States of America."

Washington, March 10.—A bill was introduced in the house yesterday appropriating \$100,000 for the return of the bodies of the Maine victims to the United States and their burial at public expense at such places as the relatives of the deceased might designate.

Washington, March 11.—In the house yesterday the time was spent on the Indian appropriation bill. The senate amendments were nonconcurrent in and the bill sent to conference.

Washington, March 12.—The bill to pay the Bowman act claims, aggregating \$1,200,000, for stores and supplies furnished the union army during the war, was discussed in the house yesterday. The bill for the cession of all arid lands to the states in which they are located was reported favorably, as was also a joint resolution amending the constitution providing for the election of members of the house of representatives for terms of four years.

Washington, March 15.—The time in the house yesterday was devoted to District of Columbia business. Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, introduced a bill to prevent the use of the United States flag as a business advertisement or the use of any government publications as advertising mediums.

Washington, March 16.—In the house yesterday it was agreed to consider the bill for the relief of the legal heirs of the victims and survivors of the Maine disaster as soon as the post office appropriation bill is out of the way, discussion of which occupied the entire session.

Washington, March 17.—Mr. McCleary presented a protest in the house yesterday from the people of Minnesota against unrestricted immigration. The Cuban question and Hawaiian annexation were discussed, and during the debate Mr. Grosvenor (O.) took occasion to deny emphatically the stories afloat to the effect that the president desired an early adjournment of congress in order that he might effect a settlement of the Cuban question without congressional interference.

Denver, Col., March 14.—Counterfeit silver dollars, dated 1888, and having a small "O" under the eagle, have been discovered at the mint in this city and it is estimated that there are fully \$2,000,000 worth of these spurious coins in circulation in the country.

Chicago, March 12.—Dispatches from various points in Michigan and Wisconsin tell of heavy falls of rain and snow. In some localities rivers have overflowed their banks.