

AN APPALLING DISASTER

Scattered Wreckage Tells the Mournful Story.

THE ELEMENTS MERCILESS

Lashed to a Spar, a Man and Child Fought Cold in Death—Twenty Persons Believed to Have Perished Off Nantucket Island in a Gale.

Woods Hole, Mass., Feb. 22.—There is every indication that the good ship Asia, Capt. Dakin, went down with all on board off Nantucket Island during the north-west gale that has blown itself out. Twenty are believed to have perished. It is the most terrible tragedy on the New England coast since the Jason, in January, 1891, went head-on to the sands of Cape Cod, under Highland Light, and not a soul of her company of thirty men lived to tell the tale.

Scattered wreckage, spars, sails, scores of boxes and bales of hemp speak the story of disaster more plainly than words. All the south shore of the cape is littered with debris. A portion of a ship's long boat, discovered on the sands of Monomoy by the life-saving patrol, bears the name "Asia." The vessel's wreck, similarly inscribed, was picked up afloat by a coaster. To the eye of the sailor man these signs speak an unmistakable language.

The Asia sailed from Manila, in the Philippines, bound for Boston, with a cargo of 11,000 bales of hemp, consigned to Henry W. Peabody, of Salem, Mass. She was somewhat overdue and the consignee and the owners, who are the Taylor Brothers, of St. John, N. W., were anxiously awaiting some news of her, for she had not been reported since she left Manila.

REGINALD FENDALL DEAD

Stricken With Apoplexy in a New York Hotel.

ILL ONLY A SHORT WHILE

Relatives and Friends in This City Notified of the Sad Event—A Distinguished Member of the Washington Bar—Will Be Buried Here.

Mr. Reginald Fendall, the well known lawyer of this city, having offices in the Fenwick Building, on Louisiana avenue, died suddenly at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, in New York City, about 8:45 o'clock last night. The cause of death is said to be apoplexy.

About 8 o'clock Mr. Fendall told the clerk that he was ill, and asked that a physician be sent to his room. Dr. Ely, who responded to the call, reached his room at 8:50 o'clock and found him dying.

Mr. Fendall was about fifty-five years old, and left for New York last Monday in apparent good health. He went to New York unaccompanied.

THE GREAT PROVIDERS.

The Proof
—lies right here. We are not afraid to tell our prices—to advertise them so that you have a chance of comparing them with others. We invite comparison. It shows how invincible our prices are.

And we give all the time you wish to pay in. Large solid oak, 6-ft. extension table 5 legs solid everywhere at \$4.50—**Our Price, \$2.95.** High-back Hardwood Chair—**33c.**

Beautiful Oak Chiffonier, with 5 drawers and hat box, sold everywhere at \$6.50. **Our Price, \$3.98.** Very Large Oak Sideboard, finely carved and finished, with beveled plate glass, sold everywhere at \$16—**Our Price, \$9.50.**

Handsome Corduroy Couch, with heavy fringe, sold everywhere at \$12. **Our Price, \$7.75.** Beautiful Parlor Table in oak or mahogany finish—**39c.** Beautiful Oak Cobble Seat Rocker sold everywhere at \$4—**Our Price, \$1.98.**

Extra Furniture Specials. 5,000 Window Shade, all colors—**9c.** The Largest and Finest Solid Oak Bedroom Suite ever sold at \$25.00. We sell them this week for **\$14.50.** Fine 5-piece Oversized Tapestry Parlor Suite, sold everywhere at \$30.00. **Our Price, \$19.75.**

A Beautiful Oak Costume; regular price \$1.00. Only **58c.** Large Oak Hall Rack, with French plate mirror, sold everywhere at \$12.00. **Our Price, \$7.25.** Very Fine Quartered Oak China Closets with round French plate ends, **\$18.50.**

Large Rattan Baby Carriage, full roll, nicely upholstered in damask, **\$7.50.** Carpets and Mattings. 250 Large Brussels Rugs, with fringe; worth \$2.50, for **\$1.25.** Heavy quality Wool Ingrain Carpet. **45c.** Heavy Fancy Matting, **10c. a yard.** Extra quality Fancy Matting, **18c. a yard.** Fine quality Jap. Matting, **22c. a yard.** Large size, fine quality Tapestry Portiers, **\$3.25.** Extra Heavy Brussels Carpet, **65c. a yard.**

MAYER & PETTIT,
415-417 Seventh St.
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U. S. MAIL DESTROYED.

Fully 1,000 Letters Ground Up in the Pneumatic Tube.

New York, Feb. 22.—A large quantity of first-class United States mail in transit from station "P," in the produce exchange to the general postoffice, was ground up last night in the "Pneumatic Tube" Company's pneumatic tube, and most of it was utterly destroyed. The accident happened shortly before 8 o'clock in the evening, when the most important business mails of the day were being carried. The Postoffice Department is very reticent about it and exactly what it was that happened in the tube is not known but the result was the grinding into pulp of the mail in transit.

FREDERICKSBURG FIELD

National Park Association Organized Yesterday.

THE WORK OF PATRIOTS

Resolutions Adopted and Committees Appointed to Perfect the Organization—A Bill Will Be Introduced in Congress By Mr. Cummings; Banquet With American Toasts.

Fredricksburg, Va., Feb. 22.—Pursuant to a charter recently granted by the legislature of Virginia to the Fredricksburg and Adjacent National Battlefields Park Association, a large number of distinguished Federal and ex-Confederate soldiers assembled here today and formed a permanent organization for the entire country. The meeting was presided over by Judge James B. Seiser, of Washington, to whom is due largely the credit of the organization. After prayer by Dr. T. S. Dunaway, and a brief sketch of the inception of the scheme by Judge Seiser, St. George B. Fitzgibbon, of this city, in an eloquent and patriotic speech, nominated Gen. Horatio E. King, of New York, secretary of the Army of the Potomac, as permanent chairman, which was seconded by Gen. James Longstreet, of Georgia, and Hon. J. S. Potter, of Virginia.

NEGLECT OF DUTY CHARGED.

Impeachment Proceedings Against Grand Chancellor Warren.

Savannah, Feb. 22.—There is a big sensation in the affairs of the Knights of Pythias in the State of Georgia. Probably for the first time since the formation of the order in this State impeachment proceedings have been begun against the highest officer in the domain, Grand Chancellor Warren, of Hawkinsville, which fact charges preferred against him by certain officers of the grand lodge of the order of which he is the head.

LARGE STEAMER AGROUND.

The Eight Hundred Passengers on Board Were Panic-stricken.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 22.—Letters received today give details of the grounding of the steamer Queen, the largest boat in the Alaskan fleet, in Wrangell Narrows, on her last trip north, ten days ago. The rope connecting the steering gear and rudder broke, and she drifted ashore while repairs were being made. As the tide receded the steamer listed and gradually turned overboard, so that her decks were almost perpendicular.

Mr. Cleveland Slightly Ill.

Engagement in Pinar Del Rio.

Havana, Feb. 22.—It is officially reported this morning that the Spanish battalion of Valencia, commanded by Col. Deros, which was reconnoitering in the vicinity of Pinar del Rio, encountered a large rebel force under Pego. In the fight which followed, the report says, the insurgents lost ten men killed, while the Spanish had one officer, one sergeant and three soldiers wounded.

THE MARDI GRAS CARNAVAL.

Hex and His Rotunde Parade New Orleans Streets.

New Orleans, Feb. 22.—The feature of the carnival today was the appearance of Hex and his brilliant retinue. This is to be followed by a grand society ball. Tonight Cosmo will appear and will also give a ball.

MURDERED HIS WIFE.

Crushed Her Skull With a Hammer While She Slept.

Dallas, Tex., Feb. 22.—Mrs. James Moore's mutilated body, tied in a sack, was found floating in Trinity River, near here, on the night of February 12. The day following Moore was arrested on suspicion of having murdered her. This evening, while being subjected to a severe examination by the grand jury, Moore broke down and confessed that he had been jealous of his wife for a long time and that three weeks before her body was found, he murdered her at their home. While she slept, he says, he crushed her skull in several places with a hammer and stabbed her many times. Then he put the body in a sack and threw it into the river.

NATIONAL CONVENTION MEETS.

Four Thousand Creamery Men and Butter-makers in Attendance.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 22.—The national convention of the butter makers and creamery men opened here today. Exhibits of dairy products and dairy machinery are lavish and much interest is manifested. Four thousand delegates are here from all parts of the country. Secretary Nisseley says the past year has seen the creamery business increased 20 per cent in the United States, and that this increase is largely in the Western agricultural States.

Archbishop Cleary Dying.

The Government Orders Guns.

New Haven, Feb. 22.—The American Ordnance Company, of Bridgeport, Conn., has received by telegraph from its vice president at Washington an order for forty rapid-firing six-pound Hotchkiss guns, the order is for quick delivery, and the fittings for them have already been called for. The guns will all be delivered in three months.

Coal Coals

\$5.25 per 2,240, delivered, Gayton stove, 22c and nut, Powhatan Coal Co., 1208 C St. N.W.; phone 629; or dealers generally.

Beautiful 50c Neckwear—especially the Acherh's, 623 Pa. ave.

The Weather—Fair; westerly winds.

DEEMED AN IMPOSSIBILITY

Experts Assert That the Maine's Magazines Are Intact.

SOME SCIENTIFIC STATEMENTS

Havana dispatches received yesterday told of the finding of the pieces of a copper cylinder near the battleship Maine, and many persons at once inferred that one of the vessel's forward ten-inch magazines had exploded, regardless of all the evidence to the contrary which has been published repeatedly in many newspapers.

The idea is disproved, according to experts, by the fact that in one of his suppressed dispatches to the Navy Department, and in two interviews describing the explosion, Capt. Sigsbee stated positively that at the time of the disaster he had on the deck of the Maine a number of rounds of ammunition for the six-inch rifles, ready for instant action, in case of an attack upon the ship. These shells, he said, exploded, and shot high into the air, while the ship was burning.

Naval officers here assert that the cylinder found in the harbor after the explosion of the six-inch ammunition, and they still are positive that neither of the forward magazines exploded. The Times Havana dispatches published this morning in another column show that too much importance was attached to the finding of this cylinder.

Capt. O'Neil says that it is his opinion, as a professional expert in these matters, that it would be impossible for one of the forward magazines to have exploded without the other doing so also. It is now known that every pound of gunpowder on board the Maine was kept down in the hold in the after portion of the ship, and was always kept wet, and even the department has admitted that the big after magazine is still intact. It is also known that the department believes that all of the magazines are unharmed.

Constructor Hiebhorn has said repeatedly that the forward coal bunkers were empty, and that even had there been a few hundred pounds of coal left in them, it was unharmed. A high authority on explosives was seen last evening, and when shown the Havana dispatch which said that one of the ten-inch magazines had been exploded, he said:

"That is absurd and impossible. In the first place, had one of the magazines exploded, the great shells in them would have destroyed much of Havana and the Maine would have been blown into billions of pieces.

"For each 16-inch shell there were from 150 pounds of powder upward, according to its style and quality. In all, each of the two forward magazines contained 25,000 pounds of smokeless powder. It would have been impossible for the powder to explode from any internal carelessness for everything was kept in absolutely stationary steel receptacles especially prepared for them, and the detonators were kept at the mainmast. This is known to the Navy Department also.

"Had either one of the forward magazines exploded the other would have done so, too, and the turrets would have been hited bodily and carried several hundred yards by the terrific force of the concussion.

"The finding of this board of inquiry

AMERICANS WARNED AWAY

Gen. Lee Advises Them to Quit Havana Today.

ARE IN IMMINENT PERIL

They Will Sail This Morning By the Olivette, and It Is Believed Escape a Massacre—The Press Censor Is Afraid to Let the Whole Truth Be Known, But the Situation Is Very Grave—Havana Hips for an Anti-American Demonstration.

Havana, Feb. 22.—Consul General Lee has issued a semi-official warning advising all Americans to quit Havana at once. The effect has been to create almost a panic among citizens of the United States resident here.

All such citizens will, it is said, leave by the Olivette tomorrow.

A wonderful change has been wrought in the situation within the last twelve hours.

Press censorship is so strict that the exact conditions cannot be told. This much may be said, however: The Maine magazines are intact and the Spanish population of Havana is boiling with rage. It may burst out in an attack on Americans at any moment.

These facts are set forth deliberately and with no disposition to cause needless alarm. The situation is indeed grave—graver than it has been at any time since the Maine disaster. It is not going too far to say that Gen. Lee, Capt. Sigsbee and members of the court of inquiry are far from safe.

An American fighting vessel should be here to protect them.

Confirmed via New York.

New York, Feb. 22.—In a dispatch from Havana, the World's correspondent has night wires that the situation there was more grave than at any time since the Maine disaster.

"Consul General Lee," he adds, "today informally advised Americans not necessarily detained here to leave for home at once. Many families will sail by the Olivette tomorrow."

In response to inquiries as to whether the main forward magazine of the Maine blew up, the Sun received last night the following from its correspondent in Havana:

"In reply to your inquiry about the main forward magazine of the Maine, it can only be said that the magazine probably did not explode. The press censor will not permit details to be called."

PROGRESS OF THE INQUIRY.

A Significant Discovery Causes Much Speculation.

Havana, Feb. 22.—An important discovery was made today in the Maine. The divers brought up a powder case for the ten-inch gun, which they took from the port of the battleship destroyed by the explosion, and in which the main gunpowder magazine is situated. The gunpowder discovered was in a bag, and the bag was contained in a copper case. The case was entirely closed, but had an exterior mark as if some hard object had struck it on the outside, but within the gunpowder is absolute intact in its bag.

As the case was in the forward magazine, this discovery is conclusive proof that whether or not the magazine exploded, and it is the general belief that it did not explode, an important part of it, at least, where the discovered case was, remains intact.

Neither the divers nor any one having official connection with the investigation is willing to say whether or not the magazine exploded. Any positive declaration about the matter at this time would be premature, for the copper case with its powder bag intact is a fact that speaks for itself.

The case was taken from the Maine to the Fern and put in the gunpowder magazine of the revenue cutter. Your correspondent saw it. The exterior mark is merely a bruise.

The divers failed today to place an electric light apparatus inside the Maine, connecting it by a wire with the dynamo of the Mangrove. The cause of this failure is that the wire obtainable in Havana is worthless for the desired purpose. The work of the divers is progressing very slowly on account of the paucity here of materials required by them. The wrecking tug Neptune is eagerly expected here today from Key West. She will bring all the necessary apparatus to raise the big guns, and especially to clear out the way of the divers many large objects and iron pieces which are hampering them in their work. It is expected that the electric light will be in operation tomorrow and that it will greatly aid in the investigation.

Among the objects brought up today is the fine silverware of the battleship, which was presented by the State of Maine, and also a loving cup, a gift of several citizens of the same State, residing in New Orleans, and presented during the last visit of the Maine to that port.

(Continued on sixth page.)

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And everything else made of wood can be found at Libbey & Co's, 6th and N. Y. ave.