

RUSH OF WATERS.

Unprecedented Flood Sweeps Down on Pittsburg After Incessant Rain of Three Days Duration.

THREE LIVES LOST

And Hundreds of Families Rendered Homeless.

Vast Amount of Property Ruined and Work Stopped.

Pittsburg, Nov. 27.—After three days of incessant rain, a flood unprecedented for this season of the year and quite unexpected in its fury swept down the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers last night. In their mad rush the waters

ruined hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property, and the loss of at least three lives, temporarily threw out of employment thousands of workmen by the forced suspension of the many industrial establishments lining the banks of both streams, and rendered homeless hundreds of families homeless. The fatalities are:

Frederick Koppman, aged 66 years; tripped and fell, breaking his neck, while removing goods from his home.

Joseph Davis and Joseph Flocker, mill workers, drowned by the capsizing of a skiff in the Allegheny.

A November flood is quite common, but it rarely reaches the danger line, and for this reason the steady rains of the past few days caused no alarm. The precipitation had been heavier than usual in the mountains at the headwaters of both rivers, however, and it was not until late yesterday that the warning was sent out that both streams were getting beyond their banks and that there was a dangerous flood threatened.

The lowlands in Pittsburg, Allegheny, South Sharsburg and McKeesport are inundated, and nearly every plant growing in the two rivers has been forced to shut down. Hundreds of families in this district have either been driven from their homes or are living in upper floors, using skiffs.

There were many narrow escapes from drowning during the night, and several men are reported to the police as missing, but only two fatalities were reported. Davis and Flocker, with three companions, attempted to row across the Allegheny in a skiff, which became unmanageable in a strong current. They were carried two miles down the river. At Newell island, the four-spar railroad bridge in course of construction was swept away during the night. It was being erected by the American Steel and Iron company, and was also to be used for passenger traffic by the Pittsburg & Lake Erie railroad company.

STORM WIDELY EXTENDED.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—A storm of unusual severity swept the states east of Illinois during the past thirty hours, causing numerous disasters on land and water and entailing heavy property loss. Wind, rain and snow combined to make the storm one of the worst of the year.

Wires throughout New York, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and other states were in a crippled condition and it is impossible to tell how great the loss of life will prove. Many alarming rumors have gained credence, but the worst of them, that reputed disasters can not be obtained. New York City was all but isolated from the rest of the world a great part of yesterday.

On Lake Erie the gale was severe, a number of vessels being wrecked or driven ashore. The storm waves swept in from the lake, causing serious damage to wharves and buildings along the water front. At Lorain, Ohio, the heaviest sea of the winter was reported by the government pier, threatening to ruin the harbor.

In sections of the wall of the Erie canal near Rome, N. Y., was broken, letting the water out of the sixty mile level. All vessels in this section of the canal will be left on the bottom where they are until the damage is repaired and the canal refilled.

The waterworks reservoir near Chaucery, Ohio, broke and the flow swept down on the town, one mile away, destroying a number of buildings and flooding the streets.

Throughout Ohio and West Virginia all streams were flooded and overflowed their banks, carrying away bridges and trestles, severely interfering with railroad traffic.

LI SERIOUSLY ILL.

Has Telegraphed For His Son Li Ching Fang.

London, Nov. 27.—Li Hung Chang, according to the Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post, is seriously ill, and has telegraphed for his adopted son, Li Ching Fang.

MUCH FIGHTING

In a Small Way Reported by Lord Roberts.

London, Nov. 27.—Lord Roberts, cabling from Johannesburg, under date of November 25, reports a number of encounters with the Boers at widely separated points, in which the British captured some cattle and a few prisoners and suffered slight casualties. The most serious affair was an engagement with the forces of General Delany, numbering about 1,000 men, with three guns, who opposed General Clement's march towards Reitfontein. The Boers, the dispatch says, were completely dispersed.

BERNHARDT APPEARS.

French Actress Receives an Ovation in 'L'Aliglon' in New York.

New York, Nov. 27.—Madame Sarah Bernhardt, after working until 2:30 in the morning in perfecting the details of her farewell American tour and then remaining in bed all day with a high fever, made her appearance last night in 'L'Aliglon' at the Garden Theater before one of the most representative audiences ever seen in America. Aside from the fact that Bernhardt has just returned to this country after an absence of one year, the occasion was made notable by her appearance with Constant Coquelin.

This was the first time that these two great artists have appeared together since 1881, when they left the Comedie Francaise and made their first appearance in the United States. In addition to this the latter responded in due time. Now that Bernhardt is in this city under the direction of Maurice Strakoski, it will last five weeks. After that she will make a tour of the country.

FITZ TO FIGHT.

Lanky Boxer to Enter the Ring Just Once More.

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 27.—Robert Fitzsimmons has announced that at the close of his season he will once more enter the ring and then retire for good. Fitzsimmons also states that another pugilistic star manager tried to fix up a false fight but he would not consent to any such an arrangement.

The declaration that Fitzsimmons will re-enter the ring is understood to mean that there will be a championship battle, probably next June. Efforts, when he started to meet Bullin and afterward Sharkey, reserved the right to arrange a match with Fitzsimmons should the latter respond in due time. Now that Fitzsimmons has announced his intention to battle for the championship Bullin and Sharkey may be obliged to wait according to agreement.

WAS FOOTBALL CRAZY.

Ex-Yale Player Travels From Honolulu to See Game.

New York, Nov. 27.—George Carter, Yale '87, who played tackle on the team captained by Harry Beecher, came all the way from Honolulu to see the recent Yale-Harvard game at New Haven, and he brought his wife with him. He was on the road 17 days, and before he sets home he will have traveled 11,400 miles, and the trip will have cost him more than \$1,000. He stopped over in this city last night on his way back to Honolulu from New Haven.

DEATH OF G. W. WILSON

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Commis Expired This Morning.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Commissioner of Internal Revenue Wilson died this morning at 9:30 o'clock.

George Washington Wilson was 57 years of age and a native of Ohio. He



GEORGE W. WILSON.

entered the union army when 18 years old as a private in the Fifty-fourth Ohio volunteer infantry and served throughout the war, coming out a first lieutenant. In 1868 he took up the practice of law and in 1869 entered the internal revenue service, in which he served in various capacities, rising from one important position to another until he became the head of the bureau. Commissioner Wilson was regarded as the most capable and energetic man on internal revenue subjects who ever entered the government service and was consulted on all matters affecting the revenues which have been before congress for many years.

GOES BEFORE A FORTUNE.

New York, Nov. 27.—Accompanied by her sister-in-law, Miss Elsie Tyson of Humboldt county, California, and J. L. Wilson, a lawyer, Mrs. John T. Martin of Morristown, N. J., has started for Scotland to claim a vast fortune left by James Tyson, the millionaire bushman of Australia. Another resident of Morristown who is a claimant is George Tyson, who contends his claim should be made in Australia. James Tyson, who recently died in Australia, left a fortune estimated at \$15,000,000. For more than three score years he had no communication with his family.

INDIANS OFFICIAL.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 27.—The official vote cast at the recent election was: Bryan, 309,584; McKinley, 338,063; Woolley, 13,718; Debs, 2,374; Barker, 1,435; Mallory, 863. Union League, 254. Durbin, Republican candidate for governor, falls behind the Republican elector 1,316 votes.

MRS. LEASE OSUE

Will Ask For a Divorce From Her Husband.

Mr. Charles H. Lease Confirms the Rumor Today.

AN OLD-TIME QUARREL

Commenced Over an Umbrella Long Ago.

Lived in the Same House But Seldom Spoke.

WASHTUB TO FAME.

Populism Brought This Wonderful Woman Into Prominence.

This Year She Espoused Cause of McKinley.

Mrs. Mary E. Lease will this week commence a divorce suit against her husband. A rainy day and an old umbrella formed the basis for a family quarrel, years ago, which has culminated in the proceedings on the part of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Lease, now a resident of New

York city, to obtain a divorce from her husband, Charles H. Lease, a Wichita druggist. Mrs. Lease alleges cruelty and non-support, and Mr. Lease will not contest.

In a telegram from Wichita today Mr. Lease says that the report of the divorce proceedings is true, and confirms the statement that he will make no contest. To those who are familiar with the movements of this family, the announcement of a divorce proceeding is no surprise, because it has long been understood that the relations between Mrs. Lease and her husband were strained, and that, although for years they lived in the same house, they seldom spoke to each other.

Mrs. Lease, had she been in Kansas during the last campaign, would have been catalogued by the party pollers as a "Popper," but she reiterated it upon being asked for a more lucid explanation, adding to her reply: "Most people can understand what I mean if they can't understand what I mean by those words. If they are interested, I will keep tab on my fingers they will, I trust, understand, because the old adage says that 'actions speak louder than words.'"

These statements were made by Mrs. Lease on the occasion of what was probably her last visit to Topeka, as a Kansas resident. She was then on her way to New York, and was later joined there by her four children. This marked the separation of the family, since which time Mr. Lease has attended quietly to his business at Wichita, while Mrs.

Lease has been striving to meet the heavy demand made upon her for speeches and lectures at so much per lecture throughout the east, who has also been very successful financially in magazine work.

Before Mrs. Lease regarded herself as capable of espousing the cause of reform upon the lecture platform, from a mental standpoint, she persevered through great trials to educate herself and her children.

Mrs. Lease was married when quite young and gave birth to six children, two of whom died, four now living with their mother in New York city. At that time the wages received, by Mr. Lease, as a clerk in a grocery store, so Mrs. Lease has said, were not sufficient to meet the family's needs and provide an education for the children. Whatever criticism Mrs. Lease may have been the subject of during her erratic political career, no one has ever questioned her love and interest in her children.

This prompted her to "take in washings" and with her arms basted, except for the immersions of soap-suds in the wash tub, she studied and imparted what she learned to her children who sat around her. Mrs. Lease borrowed books and would, in order to return them promptly, copy the things which she desired to learn and with these extracts tucked up on the walls of the wash house she would rub the clothes and talk to the children.

As Mrs. Lease rose from the wash tub to an Alliance lecturer, the differences with her husband grew. He did not take kindly to the publicity and notoriety into which his wife had plunged and became, so Mrs. Lease says, more and more "grumpy."

The children followed their mother and the family was soon divided, with Mr. Lease alone on his side of the controversy. Mrs. Lease spent much time away from her home. She was making political speeches or dabbling in politics, but until she was appointed a member of the state board of charities by Governor Leawelling, received no public recognition.

The firm policy will be announced of holding the islands at all hazards as a part of the territory of the United States. The president has indicated a substantial general line as were laid down in Porto Rico. The need of troops to maintain order for some time to come will be expressed that while the time may not have arrived for the creation of a new form of government in the Philippines, nevertheless steps should be taken in that direction.

The president, it will be suggested in the message should not be expected to govern the archipelago exclusively under the war power. The suggestion will be made, therefore, that he be given full control of the general management of the Spooner bill, so that he could himself provide an emergency government, and thus reduce the army to the position of mere police force. This course, it is urged, would be beneficial to the Filipinos themselves, and would inspire them with respect for the civil government of the United States.

There will be an expression of confidence that all the more educated natives of the islands will be ready to adapt themselves readily to ordinary forms of municipal government, and thus receive a training which will enable them to assume the control of a constantly growing percentage of native help in the general territorial government.

Congress will be told that the conditions at present in the islands are not sufficiently stable to justify a fully equipped civil government, but the president will be made to understand the necessary authority is given the foundations could be laid during the coming session, so that during the next long recess congress would be quite possible to adapt the present territorial system of government to the islands.

The caution displayed in the treatment of this subject, it is understood, will be somewhat suggestive of the ultimate adoption of a broad colonial policy, and those who are interested in the Philippines will be quite apt to find something of that sort.

THE CHINESE POLICY. The message will be devoted to the situation in China. The position of the president on the whole Chinese question in the message will be found to be a close repetition of the important passages of the now celebrated note of July 3.

The president again will pledge this country to oppose all schemes of territorial conquest in China and he will apply to the Chinese Empire the same demand that whatever is the result in the Chinese Empire an open door to American commerce shall always be maintained. There will be necessarily a description of the terrible trial to which Minlater Conger and his associates were subjected at the hands of the Chinese troops on Chinese soil.

Those in the confidence of the president will write an account of what China to make the position of this country clear, not only in the United States, but abroad. Yet at the same time it is declared that the United States will not put itself on record as refusing to maintain a sphere of influence in China. If such a position is forced upon us by the European powers.

TO INCREASE THE ARMY. There will be no dodging the issue, so far as the message is concerned, on the army reorganization. The message will show the pressing necessity for the continued use of a comparatively large army for some time to come. It will be asserted that by Porto Rico, Hawaii, the Philippines and even the Nicaragua canal to be guarded by regular soldiers becomes apparent. In addition to that, it will be argued that the United States, taking its position in the Orient which it can only maintain by a proper show of force.

The president will call attention directly to the fact that the war which is now in the Philippines must be withdrawn within the next six months and that their places must necessarily be progress, being compelled to do so to escape the torrent of rain which was coming down on the streets. "I had my umbrella," she said, "white waiting for the rain to cease some one called on her for a speech. "I surprised myself as well as those present. It was pronounced a good effort," said Mrs. Lease afterward describing her advent into the lecture field.

MESSAGE READY.

President's Address to Congress Sketched Out.

To Hold the Islands at Any and All Hazards.

HIS FOREIGN POLICY.

Suggests Liberal Home Rule in the Philippines.

In Doubt Over Nicaraguan Canal Measure.

Washington, Nov. 27.—In the preparation of his annual message to congress, President McKinley has worked with his usual facility of treatment, so that now the message is completely sketched out and, in fact, practically completed.

The central thought of the whole message is a declaration of the strong foreign policy of the administration. Those who desire to know what the president will say in his message will have only to read his admirable address in Philadelphia. It fully forecasts the message itself. The declaration to congress is that the president will have only to take no backward steps in regard to the government in the Philippines.

Attention will be called to the fact that the islands are now actually under the control of a civil commission, with the Hay-Pauncefote treaty which is rapidly superseding the military authority at every point, thus enabling the natives of the islands to create their own local government without delay. It will be shown that what was a formidable insurrection a year ago has now degenerated into mere guerrilla warfare.

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filled before that time. Following out his expressed policy to take no backward step in the Philippines, the president will announce the congress position army large enough to carry out that policy to its legitimate conclusion.

LIBERTY PROMISED CUBA. Pending the result of the constitutional convention in the island, the message will avoid a distinct declaration as to the exact form of government in Cuba, but it will nevertheless be somewhat of a surprise to those people who have been accustomed to think the Cubans were advocates of self-government. The president will quote reports, it is said, from different military and civil officials, including the secretary of war, a highly commendatory of the peaceful disposition of the Cubans and the receptive manner in which they are already learning the lesson of self-government.

There will be a distinct promise in the message, unless all signs fail, that the purpose of the president is to turn over the island to the Cubans themselves soon, and the hope will be expressed that before the president has written a new and independent nation will have been created in the western hemisphere.

CANAL QUESTION IN DOUBT. In regard to the treatment of the Nicaragua canal project, there is considerable difference of opinion as to the extent to which the president will feel justified in recommending the canal scheme. As to his approval of the general project of building a canal, there is no doubt that he has favorable views. It is clear in that regard. There are, however, many complications to be avoided, and even the president's advisers do not seem to be fully aware of how the canal paragraph of the message finally will be written.

The president is in favor of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and will not hesitate to say as much in an indirect manner, although as the treaty remains unacted upon, the president is not going into the subject to any great extent.

The president will have before him the preliminary report of the canal commission, which will be favorable to the Nicaragua route as against all others, including the Panama canal itself. So far as can be ascertained the president is summed up of the Hepburn bill, which passed the house last spring, and which will come up in the senate a week after congress meets. It is believed the president will say this part of his message when it is finally recast as he has already indicated in the building of a canal unless the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is specifically repealed, or the Hay-Pauncefote treaty enacted.

On this account there are those who think that the canal paragraph of the message will not be entirely satisfactory to the chauvinists of the canal scheme, who want to go to work on the big ditch at once.

The message certainly will intimate that the United States is in a position to take any step which may be necessary to build the canal, but the only objection to building the canal being that the United States would be bound to make a treaty with another country years ago and never yet properly abrogated or amended.

GROWING ACUTE.

Relations Between U. S. and Turkey Greatly Strained.

Mr. Griscom Makes Another Fruitless Call.

Constantinople, Nov. 27.—The relations between the United States government and the porte are becoming acute. Mr. Griscom, the American charge d'affaires, went to the Xidis palace Sunday and received an interview with Tewfik Pasha, minister of foreign affairs and Tashin Bey, first secretary at the palace. The interview, however, was barren of results.

While the porte outwardly persists in the attitude it has assumed regarding the question of granting an exequatur to Smyrna has made a marked impression in official circles.

HOYT'S WILL.

Nothing Is Left to Relatives, All of Whom Are Distant.

New York, Nov. 27.—The will of Chas. H. Hoyt, the playwright, was filed today in the surrogate's office. It was executed October 18, 1898. After making bequests to personal friends and employees, the testator says: "I bequeath to my wife, Mrs. M. Dasher, the business of Hoyt & McKee be continued and conducted by Frank McKee as it is now managed, said said Frank McKee to receive all my shares of the profits as a recompense for his services, excepting such portion as is herein before bequeathed to W. Brynman, of the State of Ohio, said Frank McKee the said business shall cease."

Residuary legacies are the Lambs club of this city and the actors fund. "In making this, my will, at the present time," the will concludes, "I have no relatives nearer than cousins to be considered by me and my cousins and distant relatives have never shown by any act any desire for my friendship or good will; hence I have deemed it more consistent with fair dealing and justice to dispose of my property to those who during my life have been my constant friends. I have no objection to such charities as in my judgment are most fitting."

Gen. Smith Dead.

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 27.—Gen. F. S. Smith who was surveyor general of Nebraska, died at his home in San Jose last night of heart trouble. He came to San Jose for his health about six months ago.

BEGINS BUSINESS.

President Kruger Calls on the French Premier.

Has a Secret Interview Lasting Ten Minutes.

VISIT IS RETURNED.

An Officer of the Transvaal Says His Chief

May Make His Home Here Till War is Over.

Paris, Nov. 27.—Mr. Kruger began a busy day this morning by making an official call. Before 9 o'clock he departed from the Hotel Scribe, driving in a landau surrounded by republican guards and bicycle policemen, to visit the premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau. He was accompanied by De Leyde, Dr. Van Hammel and Delegate Fischer. The party was met at the entrance to the premier's saloon by M. Ulrich, director of the cabinet, who introduced the visitors to the prime minister. The interview took place in Mr. Waldeck-Rousseau's private study and lasted ten minutes. At half-past 9 o'clock the premier accompanied by M. Ulrich returned the call.

The officers of the municipal council of Paris and of the general council of the Seine, were received at 10 a. m. by Mr. Kruger, in the Hotel Scribe. The interview was private and brief. Immediately after the visit, which was conducted by Mr. Kruger, he went to the public galleries loudly cheered the distinguished visitor. Vice President Escudier delivered an eloquent address, saying Paris had given Mr. Kruger a welcome worthy of his noble character and the grandeur of his cause. He also said: "Our hearts are with you in your fight. It is the heart of France. Let the people speak and speak loudly, and arbitration will impose itself as necessary satisfaction to justice and civilization."

The president of the general council spoke in similar terms. Mr. Kruger replied in energetic tones, thanking the speakers for the sentiments expressed. He said he was deeply grateful for the welcome which was a continuation and a crowning of that France had already given him. Since landing, the former president added, he had been on a rainy way of acclamation. He was very thankful for what had been done and for what they wished to do. He said he was still struggling and was not yet defeated. "My resistance continued and will still continue. The struggle for independence, liberty and justice. Continuing, Mr. Kruger said: "Ah! Why can not they hear your acclamation? It would redouble their courage."

Mr. Kruger also said he hoped they would yet know them one day in the future when they had recovered their independence. He regretted arbitration had been refused and he would never cease to demand it.

The Boer leaders who were then shown through the superbly decorated halls of the Hotel De Ville, once he appeared at a window and the people who were cheering. As he drove back to his hotel, he was accorded a warm greeting on the road.

The president of the municipal council tomorrow will propose in the council a vote in favor of arbitrating the Transvaal dispute.

Mr. Rochefort, accompanied by a deputaion including Deputies Millereux and Paulin-Mery, senator Dolans and Mrs. Coppe and Lemaire, today presented Mr. Kruger with a sword of honor destined for General Cronje, now a prisoner on the island of St. Helena.

COMING TO AMERICA.

New York, Nov. 27.—Samuel Pearson, formerly commissary general of the Transvaal army, who has just arrived in this country with a number of other Boer refugees, is responsible for the statement that President Kruger will probably soon seek refuge and a permanent home here.

"President Kruger will leave Paris very early in the morning," said General Pearson, "and come to America, where with his wife he will make a home until such time as he can return to the South African republic to take up again his office as chief executive of the Boers."

NEW ARMY BILL.

Minimum Strength to Be Fixed at 50,000 Men.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The house committee on military affairs today met for the purpose of considering the new army bill. The business was mostly of a preliminary character, the discussion being quite general on army affairs. The Republican members of the committee apparently are in favor of giving the president such an army as he may require. The committee will consult with the secretary of war before any action is taken.

The draft of a bill already prepared by Chairman Hull will be the basis of the measure which the committee will consider. The bill provides for an army of the maximum strength of 100,000 men, with a minimum of 50,000 and several officers at the rate of one brigadier general for each 4,000 men with major generals in proportion. Chairman Hull stated that there will be but one bill prepared and if any staff changes are contemplated they will be incorporated in that measure.

RAMBLER MINE SOLD.

Chevyenne, Wyo., Nov. 27.—The Venture corporation of London has purchased the Rambler copper mine, one of the best copper properties in this section, for the sum of \$35,000.

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—Forecast for Kansas: Partly cloudy and cooler tonight with rain or snow in south portion; Wednesday probably fair; northerly winds.