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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.

Lord Roberts' casualties at Paardeberg, were 721, in one day's fighting.

Profits of the Kimberley Diamond Mining Company last year were \$10,000,000.

Democratic officers for minor state offices in Kentucky have been given certificates.

Evanville, Ind., people are heirs to an estate in the Fiji islands, valued at \$10,000,000.

P. D. Armour, Jr., who died recently in Pasadena, Cal., left an estate valued at \$8,000,000.

Several Klondikers were arrested in Esquimaux fortifications, under the belief that they were spies.

Astoria, Or., physicians urge the people to exterminate the rats in order to keep out the bubonic plague.

Just 10 years after the Boer victory at Majuba hill, Cronje and 4,000 men surrender to the British forces.

The transport Hancock has arrived at San Francisco from Manila, with the bodies of 605 dead heroes.

The president has nominated Henry B. Miller, of Josephine county, Or., to be consul at Chung King, China.

The British intelligence department estimates the total Boer strength at 61,898, while England has over 180,000 men.

Prince Poniatowski, of San Francisco, has purchased the island of Basilan, one of the Philippines, for \$500,000. The island is valuable for its pearl fisheries and hemp trade.

The Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, has received an order from the Paris & Orleans railway of France, for 30 10-wheel passenger engines. This is the first locomotive contract ever placed by the railway in America.

The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco, has appointed a committee to consider the advisability of establishing a branch of the New York American-Asiatic Association, the purpose of which is to increase trade with the Orient.

The steamer Australia arrived at San Francisco from Honolulu. She brings news that after 13 days had passed without a sign of plague, three cases were discovered on February 19, and all ended fatally. The victims were two Chinese, males, and a woman, half Chinese and half Hawaiian. The council has appropriated another \$100,000 to allow the board of health to carry on the work of fighting the plague.

Cronje has surrendered.

Puget Sound salmon packers have combined.

National Bimetallists will meet in Kansas City in July.

In a battle with the Yaquis, Mexican troops lost over 200 in killed and wounded.

Hamilton H. Greyson, former postmaster at Manila, died in Philadelphia, of hiccoughs.

Two Pittsburg tin plate works have resumed operations, giving employment to 1,000 workmen.

Dr. A. Wright, of Buffalo, president of the American Institute of Homeopathy, is dead, aged 74 years.

Fire in Montreal destroyed the Theater Francaise and nearly an entire block, causing a loss of \$100,000.

LATER NEWS.

Prospects for the termination of the Colombian revolution are poorer than ever.

At Vienna, the Crown Princess Stephanie, of Austria, was married to Count Von Lourey.

The total number of Boer prisoners captured at Paardeberg by the British is 4,960 men.

A party of six American rubber prospectors have been massacred by Indians in the wilds of Brazil.

The twelfth convention of the National Republican League has been called to meet in the city of St. Paul, July 17, 1900.

Frozen meats, supplied to the American army in the Philippines, is reported by officials in Manila to be highly satisfactory.

A passenger train on the Canadian Pacific, near Toronto, Canada, jumped the track, and several members of parliament were injured.

The Kentucky legislature has passed a bill appropriating \$100,000 to carry on the work of hunting down the assassin of William Goebel.

In an engagement between Mexicans and Maya Indians, near Santa Cruz, 600 Mexicans defeated 3,000 Indians. Indians killed numbered 82.

Filipino insurrection has not yet been subdued. The rebels are preparing for the rainy season and will carry on guerrilla warfare on a large scale.

William Henry, a half-breed Indian of Corcoran, Cal., shot and killed Nettie Smith, a young Indian woman, and then killed himself. Jealousy was the cause.

Forty-three and one-half inches of snow in 63 hours is the new record established at Rochester, N. Y. The railroads are recovering from the biggest fight against the elements they have had in many years.

The Cartersville, Ill., union miners, who have been on trial for the past 40 days at Vienna, charged with murdering negro miners, were acquitted by the jury. Four other charges are pending against the miners.

Belief in the efficacy of prayer as a sure cure for disease was the cause of the divorce granted to George E. White, ex-congressman and a wealthy lumber dealer of Chicago, from his wife, Mimsie A. White.

The Canadian Papermakers' Association at Montreal, adopted a scale of prices for carload lots, five-ton lots and 20-ream lots of different grades of paper. The increase in present prices is from 10 to 15 per cent.

British troops have again occupied Rensberg.

Joubert opposes Buller with more determination.

An arid land conference will be held at Salt Lake April 18.

The Maya Indians are giving the Mexicans a hard fight.

The Puerto Rican tariff bill has passed the house by a vote of 172 to 160.

The imbricating fusiliers were caught in a boer trap at Railway Hill and unmercifully slaughtered.

Two persons were killed and several badly injured in a collision between two passenger trains near Kansas City, Mo.

During the carnival procession at Caracas, Venezuela, two shots were fired at President Castro, without effect.

All chance of saving any of the Spanish armored cruisers sunk off Santiago has gone. The Cristobal Colon has slid into deep water.

The Russian press is clamoring for intervention. They contend it is time to end the most infamous war England has ever waged through lust for gold.

LAWS FOR HAWAII

The Senate Passed the Government Bill.

CLAY SPOKE ON THE PHILIPPINES

Foreign Rice Tariff Bill Reported From the House and Made the Unfinished Business.

Washington, March 3.—The bill providing a form of government for the territory of Hawaii was passed by the senate today without division. Cullom has had charge of the measure. Clay, of Georgia, delivered a carefully prepared speech on the Philippine question. He favored the adoption of the Bacon resolution declaring it to be the policy of the United States to turn over the islands to the Filipinos as soon as a stable government could be established by them under the protection of this country. At the instance of Foraker, the Puerto Rico tariff bill was made the unfinished business, and will be considered as soon as the conference report on the financial bill shall have been disposed of.

The Democrats scored their first victory of the session in the house today on the motion to take up the contested election case of Aldrich-Robbins from the Fourth Alabama district. On two separate votes, the Democrats, with the aid of two Republicans, Mondell (Wyo.), and H. C. Smith (Mich.), beat the Republicans on the question of the consideration. An agreement was made to consider the Lord bill relating to second-class mail matter on March 20. A bill was passed to grant an American register to the ship Windward, in which Lieutenant Peary will make an attempt to reach the North Pole.

TRAIN ROBBERS KILLED.

Shot by Officers While Resisting Arrest.

Kansas City, Mo., March 3.—Lon Curry, one of the train robbers who was engaged in the Wilcox, Wyo., holdup on the Union Pacific last June, when something like \$30,000 was secured, was shot and killed by officers near here this morning while resisting arrest.

Curry was visiting the home of his aunt and cousin, Mrs. Bob Lee and Miss Lizzie Lee, in the country, 10 miles south of Kansas City, and had been there a week. Thomas Sayers, assistant superintendent of the Pinkerton office at San Francisco, discovered Logan at Cripple Creek, Colo., two weeks ago, but lost him, and finally traced him to Kansas City, where he appears to have arrived February 18. Yesterday Logan was located at the Lee home, and early this morning three local detectives and three Pinkertons, including Sayers, surrounded the house and called on him to surrender. Instead, Curry darted out of the rear door, pistol in hand. As he reached the gate and turned to fire, a volley from the detectives caused him to waver. He ran 150 yards across the road and into a cornfield before he fell. When the detectives reached him he was writhing his last. There was a bullet wound through his head. His revolver was still clutched in his hand. Curry was placed in a wagon and brought to the morgue in Kansas City.

Beliefs Seeking Funds.

New York, March 3.—A dispatch to the Herald from Madrid says: The Filipino junta here says that a special envoy from Aguinaldo will arrive in Paris in March, and will go thence to London and Berlin to seek funds for the continuation of the struggle against American supremacy. It is declared that guerrilla warfare will be continued and it is hinted that assurances of money to continue the fight have been received from Europe.

French Cannon Factory Burned.

Le Creusot, France, March 3.—Fire broke out yesterday evening in the famous cannon factory here where the Boers obtained their powerful "Long Tons." Two enormous buildings, containing gun materials, stores and a number of artillery models, were destroyed. The losses are estimated at nearly 1,000,000 francs. A large number of workmen have been thrown out of employment.

When Merritt Retires.

Washington, March 3.—Major General John R. Brooke, who has been in this city since his recent detachment from duty as governor general of Cuba, has been delegated to the military department of the East, with headquarters at New York. The change in that command will not occur until June next, when Major General Wesley Merritt will retire. General Brooke was offered the choice of the commands of the department of the East, and expressed his preference for the latter assignment. General Merritt's retirement will result in the promotion of Brigadier General E. S. Otis (major general United States volunteers), commanding the military forces in the Philippines, to the grade of major general in the regular establishment.

Late Winter Storms.

St. Louis, March 3.—Every railroad running into the city, especially from the West, is suffering as the result of the heavy fall of snow in the Mississippi valley during the past two days. In St. Louis the streets are deeply covered with snow, and traffic is much impeded.

New York, March 3.—Reports from all interior points in the state indicate the worst snow storm in many years. The blizzard weather is general.

BUSH FIRES IN AUSTRALIA.

Fast Tract Burned Over—Seven Persons Perished.

Vancouver, B. C., March 5.—The steamer Aorangi, from Sydney, today brings an account of the most disastrous bush fires in Victoria experienced in the last 50 years. The entire Warrnambool district has been devastated, and the damage is estimated at \$2,000,000. The fire broke out simultaneously in various parts of the colony, and burned for two days and three nights, finally burning itself out the morning of January 31. The whole country between Dunkeld and Mort lake is a mass of blackness. Seven persons perished in the flames, which swept over a tract 40 miles long and 90 miles wide, consuming 1,000,000 acres of grass, six wool warehouses, 2,000 sheep and 1,000 cattle and horses.

The latest news from Noumea prior to the sailing of the Aorangi was to the effect that the plague had again broken out among the kanakas. In almost every case the disease has proven fatal to the kanakas, but in the majority of cases cures are effected among Europeans. In five weeks the mortality has been nine Europeans and 64 kanakas and Asiatics. So far, owing to the strict measures taken by the authorities to prevent the pest extending to the country, it has only been reported at Neponi. The village of Neponi has been quarantined. One case of bubonic plague is reported from Tasmania, and there was also one case at Sydney, but both recovered. There was a tremendous scare all through the Australian colonies, and rigorous quarantine regulations have been enforced, with the result that no other plague cases have made their appearance.

The coast defenses of New Caledonia are being strengthened, large sums being expended in erecting forts on the hills and in the suburbs of Noumea. Convicts are being employed in the construction of earthworks and batteries. These public works, utilizing the services of all the convicts, none of the latter will for the future be let out to private enterprise.

The scarcity of labor has necessitated a cessation of mining operations. The government has entered into negotiations with the Japanese government to bring over 2,000 Japanese as agricultural laborers, and 3,000 for work in the mines.

The Sydney papers have a story about Miss Logan, an American girl, 21 years of age, who is termed the "Heroine of the Caroline Group." She is the daughter of the first missionary to the group sent from Boston by the Congressional board of the United States. Rev. Robert Logan died 12 years ago, and since his death his wife has been carried on by his widow, who was the first white woman in the islands. Through illness Mrs. Logan was obliged to return to the United States, and her daughter volunteered to remain alone at the mission.

NEEDS OF THE NAVY.

Secretary Long Submits a Statement to Congress.

Washington, March 5.—Secretary Long has made a statement to the house naval committee on the general needs of the navy and the desirability of not building new ships in government yards. As to the new ships, he held to his recommendation at the time congress met, namely, three armored cruisers of about 13,000 tons each, with the heaviest armor and most powerful ordnance; 12 gunboats of about 900 tons each, three protected cruisers of about 8,000 tons each. As to building warships on the navy yard, Mr. Long said they cost much more than those built under contract, and took twice as long to build them.

Admiral Dewey suggested to the committee that he leave off the 12 gunboats and give three new battleships instead. He said that the battleships would be more serviceable, as General Otis had just purchased 14 gunboats, and had turned them over to the navy. They were in fair condition, and the admiral said that from his experience, he thought they were just the vessels needed for service in the Philippines.

Boxing in Chicago School.

Chicago, March 5.—The boxing bouts which were held in the basement of the South Division High school under the supervision of Principal Smith, find favor in the eyes of the board of education authorities. President G. H. Harris stated that he saw nothing wrong in them as long as Mr. Smith supervised them. Superintendent of City Schools Andrews not only indorses the exercise, but says that he believes that boxing is the best sport in which the students can partake.

France's Naval Policy.

Paris, March 5.—In the chamber of deputies today, while the naval estimates were under consideration, M. Lockroy, ex-minister of marine, made a notable speech, explaining his view regarding the proper naval policy for France to follow. He declared it necessary for France to make great monetary sacrifices for her navy, as her foreign policy depended upon her naval strength.

Bishop Gilbert Dead.

St. Paul, Minn., March 5.—Bishop Gilbert, coadjutor of the diocese of Minnesota (Episcopal), died here today, aged 52. He had previously been located in Montana.

FACING BOER ARMY

Roberts Moves His Camp to Osofontein.

SIX THOUSAND DUTCH NEAR HIM

The Main Force Is Being Concentrated Further North Under Joubert, Where Battle Will Occur.

London, March 5.—Lord Roberts, at Osofontein, six or eight miles east of Paardeberg, faces the re-formed Boer army, from 5,000 to 6,000 strong. This may be merely a corps of observation ready to retire on prepared positions. Doubtless it is receiving reinforcements from the late besiegers of Ladysmith, and from other points. What ever the force may be, Lord Roberts has ample troops to cope with it. As a heavy rain is falling on the veldt and the grass is improving, this will be a good thing temporarily for the Boers.

British Camp at Osofontein.

Osofontein, March 5.—The British camp has been moved here. A heavy rain is falling, the veldt is improving, supplies are rapidly arriving, and the men are in good health, despite the fact that they have been on half rations for a fortnight. Cecil Rhodes has sent a quantity of champagne from Kimberley to be drunk to the health of Lord Roberts.

Lord Roberts has published an order thanking the troops for their courage and for the zeal and endurance they have displayed amid the hardships of a forced march. He says that their fortitude and general conduct have been worthy of the queen's soldiers.

A slight skirmish occurred several miles southeast, in which Colonel Remington had a horse shot under him.

The Boer forces on our front are believed to be under the joint command of Botha, De la Rey and Dewet. They are expecting reinforcements from Natal.

The guns that were captured at Paardeberg have been brought here. The rifles captured have, in many cases, scriptural texts engraved upon them, for example, "Lord, strengthen this arm."

It is said that just prior to General Cronje's surrender there was almost a mutiny in camp.

MONEY GOES BACK.

Puerto Rican Duties to Be Used for Starving People.

Washington, March 5.—Two hours after the receipt of a special message of the president recommending the immediate passage of a bill to place in his hands all the moneys collected upon Puerto Rican goods since the Spanish evacuation of the island, to be used for the relief of the Puerto Ricans, he had passed and sent to the senate a bill to carry out the recommendation.

The message came like a bolt out of a clear sky to the minority. They were at first inclined to hail it with delight as a proof of the majority for the passage of the Puerto Rican tariff bill. The Republican leaders, however, had a bill ready to carry the president's recommendations into effect. Cannon asked immediate consideration of it, and this was given. It was only when the debate opened and it had been agreed that 20 minutes should be allowed on a side that, under the lead of Bailey, of Texas, the Democrats began lining up against the bill, because it placed no limitations upon the president's discretion in the use of the money. The bill was passed by a vote of 162 to 197. 13 Democrats, 2 Populists and 2 Silver Republicans voting with the Republicans.

Billion-Dollar Trust.

New York, March 5.—A special to the Tribune from Wheeling, W. Va., says: A combination of iron and steel industries, with \$1,000,000,000 capital, will be completed within six months from April 1. It will include the American Tin Plate Company, the National Steel Company, the American Hoop & Wire Company, the National Steel Company (now forming) and another which is already in existence and which is as large or larger than any of the concerns named. The name of this latter concern is withheld. This information is given by a man who holds interests in all save one of these combinations, and who, with W. T. Graham and Judge Moore, of Chicago, planned the American Tin Plate Company and the National Steel Company.

Germany and the Peace Conference.

Berlin, March 5.—During the debate in the Reichstag today on the foreign office estimates, Herr Grandnerer, Social-Democrat, requested to be informed as to the attitude of the government in regard to the Hague peace conference. The minister of foreign affairs, Count von Bulow, replied: "Our aims are always directed toward peace, and it will not be broken by us. I can give no guarantee of the action of others. Therefore, we must be armed. We gladly participated in the labors of the conference, but could not agree to obligatory arbitration, and can only decide upon recourse to arbitration as cases arise."

Lone Highwayman.

Calistoga, Cal., March 5.—The Calistoga and Clear Lake stage was held up today by a lone highwayman on Mount St. Helena, six miles from this city. The robber secured \$4.50 in cash and Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express box, which is said to have contained but little of value. The stage was driven by A. R. Palmer, and it contained four passengers, three women and one man, an Italian gardener, who contributed the \$4.50. The passengers were not molested.

MINES AND MINING.

Prospecting and Mining in Cape Nome Country.

Newspapers and private letters received from Cape Nome via Dawson say that considerable prospecting was carried on this winter. Many miners have an idea that at and below low water mark the richest sands will be found. Therefore, as soon as the ice was solidly frozen to the bottom of the shore they began prospecting to solve a much-voiced question as to the origin of the gold in the beach sands. Prospecting in the tundra warrants the belief that it is impregnated with gold much in the same manner as the beach.

Tundra prospecting, the advices say, had not been carried on extensively, owing to the difficulty encountered in sinking to bedrock on account of water. The ground freezes to an unknown depth, the same as in the Klondike, and if it should prove rich an area of country will be developed that will be greater than a score of Klondikes rolled into one. From what has already been done, it was said to be reasonable to predict that the tundra would prove very rich. Rich prospects had been found in dozens of places, right from the grass roots, but the weather has not yet been sufficiently cold to enable bedrock to be reached.

Anvil creek is the Eldorado of Western Alaska. Claim No. 1 below has thus far proved to be the banner claim, and is owned by Japhet Linderberg. The output has been enormous, when it is considered that it was worked but six weeks. From this claim \$117,000 was cleaned up, while Discovery yielded \$58,000 in three weeks; No. 2, above, \$30,000; No. 4, \$30,000; No. 5, \$40,000; No. 6 was worked, but the pay streak was not located. No. 7, owned by Dr. Kittelsen, produced about \$30,000; No. 8, belonging to Price & Lane, \$192,000; No. 9, belonging to the Swedish Mission, \$68,000; Nos. 10 and 11, owned by C. D. Lane,

How to Write Advertisements.

The most successful policy which can be adopted in writing any advertisement is to so word it as to win the confidence and respect of the reader. If you can make such an impression upon the reader's mind that he will believe that you are in earnest in what you say, that you really believe it yourself, and that you are laying the case before him in a plain, business-like manner, without any exaggerations or attempts to mislead him, you are nearly sure to get that person's trade.

were worked on lays, and the Lapland and Snake rivers have been prospected to a limited extent. Enough has been done, however, to warrant the belief that the work of next summer will reveal Eldorados and Bonanzas by the score.

Fire destroyed the store of the North American Transportation & Trading Company at Fort Yukon, January 9. All the valuable contents of provisions, dry goods, household goods, furs and everything else in the building was destroyed with it.

A Department of Mines.

A new cabinet officer, to be known as the secretary of mines and mining, is provided in a bill favorably acted on by the house committee on mines and mining. The bill creates an executive department which shall have entire charge of affairs relating to mines, including geological surveys.

The proposed secretary of mines is to have the same rank and salary as other cabinet officers, and an assistant secretary.

Another mining measure favorably acted upon establishes mining experiment stations in each of the mining states, similar to the agriculture experiment stations, and provides for the appointment of a government geologist at \$5,500 and an assayer at \$3,500, in the several mining states. These officers are to furnish assays, issue public bulletins and conduct explorations of mining regions.

Mining many years ago left the realm of speculation and now occupies a dignified and important position among the legitimate industries of the world. As the years pass gambling, as a feature of mining enterprises, is fast disappearing. While gambling in mining stocks may continue indefinitely, the mining industries, per se, is free from illegitimate practices as in any other business. Hence it should receive the same interest, fostering care and protection, at the hands of the general and local governments, as do other industries.

A commercial club has been organized at Vale, Malheur county, Or., to promote the business interests of the community.

When a soldier enlists in the English army he has given him a little volume, containing among other things three blank forms for a will. These are usually found properly made out on the body of the soldiers killed on the battlefield, but often wills are left in other ways. It is related that an English soldier, found dead on the battlefield, had scratched on the inside of his helmet, "All to my wife," using the end of a bullet to write with. The war department held the will to be valid.

LODGING HOUSE FIRE

Six Persons Burned to Death in New York.

INMATES WERE PANIC STRICKEN

It Was in the Cheap Bowery Section, and Property Loss Was Only About \$3,000.

New York, March 6.—Six persons were burned to death and two were injured early this morning in a fire which occurred in a seven-story lodging house at 44 to 48 Bowery. The dead are: Charles Buttie, 40 years old; John Clark, 50 years old; Edward Doyle, 35 years old; Henry Jackson (colored), 35 years old; one unidentified man about 50 years old; Stephen Carney, 75 years old. Martin Gallagher, 53 years old, was burned about the face and hands and also removed to the hospital. Edward Walker, 47 years old, was burned, but after having his wound dressed, remained at the lodging house.

The fire was discovered shortly after 9 o'clock. Smoke was pouring from the windows of the fifth floor, and the flames were making rapid progress.

The lodging house was cut up into 132 rooms, and 90 of these small places were occupied when the fire broke out. Policemen sent in an alarm and burst into the place to arouse the inmates. They notified the night clerk, who immediately rang the alarms all over the house. The hallways were instantly filled with a crowd of excited people. The policemen forced their way to the upper floors in an effort to rescue some of the helpless, believing one or two were overcome with smoke. They carried out Thomas Harper, a one-legged man, and Ed Walker, who had been burned and partially overcome by the smoke. Stephen Carney was found lying on the floor in his room, where the flames had already burned the old man's face, hands and body, but a policeman picked him up and carried him out of the building.

The firemen succeeded in putting out the flames without great loss to the building. After the fire was out they began a search. The bodies of all five of the victims were found on the fifth floor, where the fire did the most damage. Buttie was suffocated in his bed. John Clark was found on the floor of his room dead, as was also Edward Doyle. The colored man was found dead at a window, and the unidentified man had been overcome just as he was dragging himself from the window to the fire escape. All the bodies were taken to the morgue. The damage to the building will amount to about \$3,000. The place was conducted by Domingo Milano, and was a cheap Bowery lodging house.

Carney, who died tonight, is said to have been a licensed priest of the Catholic church.

Prevention of Forest Fires.

Washington, March 6.—Investigation of the causes, effects, and means of prevention of forest fires in the West, will be carried on this summer in Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, South Dakota. Besides field study, designed chiefly to discover means of preventing the evil, the forestry division is making a historic record of all important fires which have occurred in the United States since 1754. Although yet incomplete, this indicates that the annual recorded loss by forest burnings in the United States is, at the very lowest, \$20,000,000. It will probably run far above this sum, as the Pacific coast states have been only partially examined. Accounts of over 5,500 disastrous fires have been obtained in the 17 states already examined. Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin have suffered the most severely.

Head Was Shot Off.

London, Ky., March 6.—Millard Hughes was murdered and Henry Blevins and others were injured last night at a dance near East Bornstadt, a mining town. Leonard Smallwood, Hamp Gregg and others attacked Hughes. Hughes' head was shot off, and Blevins and others were hit by stray shots. Smallwood later went to sleep in the room where his victims lay. Today he and Gregg were arrested as principals, and Edward Smallwood, father of Leonard, and his daughter Lizzie, were arrested as accomplices.

Revolt of Convicts at Cairo.

Cairo, March 6.—A serious revolt of 70 convicts at Tourah, the great prison near Cairo, nearly involved 600 other prisoners. Blank cartridges having failed to operate the malcontents, a volley was fired from a window opposite through the window of the room occupied by them. Five were shot, and two, it is believed, fatally wounded. All of them then surrendered and were confined in their cells.

Large Tannery Burned.

Corry, Pa., March 6.—The Western Union tannery, at Spartansburg, and contents were destroyed by fire today. With no means of fighting the fire, the citizens had to stand helplessly by watching the only industry of the town being destroyed. The loss is \$80,000, fully covered by insurance.

Sweep Over Niagara Falls.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 6.—Scarcely a doubt remains that the man whose ories for help were heard coming from the Niagara river last night was Ashton Smith, 27 years old, son of Rev. Henry Ashton Smith, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, at Fort Erie, Ont. Young Smith left Fort Erie in a rickety boat at 8 o'clock last night, and attempted to row across the swift current of the Niagara to Niagara Falls on an important errand for a friend. He has not been seen since.