

MANY KILLED.

An Awful Gasoline Explosion at Cincinnati.

THE LOSS OF LIFE IS UNKNOWN.

A Large Building Blown Up on Walnut Street.

NONE OF OCCUPANTS ESCAPED

And the List of Dead May be Lengthy.

The Upper Floors of the Five Story Building that was Wrecked Occupied as Flats, and all the Families Perished.

Exciting Scenes About the Ruins. Panic in the Near-by Hotels.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 4.—At 8 o'clock to-night the five-story building (40 and 42 Walnut street, between Fourth and Fifth streets, was blown to the ground by an explosion of gasoline. The shock was so terrific that it was felt all over the city, and not one brick upon another is left in the front and rear walls of the building, while the adjacent buildings are badly damaged, and the glass in the windows of the Gibson House and large Johnson building across the street, were all broken.

The glass was broken out of street cars that were passing at the time and one of the cars was badly wrecked, but none of the passengers were seriously hurt. All the horses in the immediate neighborhood broke from their fastenings and ran away and there was not only intense excitement, but also the greatest confusion. The explosion took place four doors from the intersection of Fifth and Walnut streets, where the postoffice is located on one side and Fountain Square on the other. No part of the city is crowded more at that time of the evening and there were seen many thousands of people about Fountain Square and the space around the government buildings, while Walnut street was completely blocked. There were at first reports about fire works being stored in the building, so that there were several stampedes. Several people were slightly hurt in these stampedes.

The ground floor of 432 Walnut street was occupied by Adolph C. Drach as a saloon. He owned that part of the building and the other part was owned by M. Goldsmith and the first floor of the building at 430 Walnut street was also occupied by a saloon run by Louis Fey. The upper floors of the five story building were occupied as flats. It is not known at 10 o'clock how many people were in the flats or how many were in the saloons, but none escaped, as the building immediately collapsed. There was no fire to consume the debris and make certain death of all in the building, but the dust and dirt continued flying for a long time so densely that the work of rescuing the victims proceeded with great difficulty, although the police and fire departments rallied heroically to the work.

Many Perished. The saloons were said to be quite full of people. One of the barkeepers who was not on duty at the time and escaped, lived in one of the upper flats and was wild with grief because he knew that his wife and four children were in the ruins. One of his children was recovered, dead, soon after the explosion.

There are wild reports about the extent of the loss of life. Six bodies were recovered up to 2:30 p. m. and it is known that there are many more. The firemen are working in the rear and on both sides of the wreck, while the police are keeping the place clear and protecting the work that is going on to rescue the victims. Part of one of the side walls is still standing and on the fifth floor, plainly in view by the electric light, hangs a man's body. Several people occupying the flat while the occupants are no doubt in the debris. One of the children of Mr. Drach's was recovered dead.

The body of Mrs. Drach was found soon after the explosion, but it could not be extricated from the timber and was still in the debris at 10 o'clock. During the evening there was much excitement among the guests in the Gibson House and at all places in that vicinity or Walnut street. The excitement was the more intense because it could not be definitely learned for some time what caused the explosion.

It was finally ascertained that the saloons in the building had put in their own electric plants for incandescent lights and had just secured a gasoline engine with which to run the dynamo. The plant got out of fix and there was a flash which communicated to the gasoline and caused the explosion. The sudden collapse of the building smothered everything in the cellars so that there was no fire. The firemen were soon assisted by some expert engineers who made openings through the basement walls of adjacent buildings and were recovering some of the victims in that manner. The debris seemed to fall into one heap and not scatter about the street, so that there was the greatest difficulty in recovering the dead bodies and rescuing the injured. Although all possible efforts were made to clear up the place, it is conceded that it will be impossible to ascertain the extent of the loss of life to-night. The loss in property is quite large.

Some Experiences.

Mr. John J. James, of the Salt Lake City Herald, was just leaving the Gibson house at the time of the explosion, and with his heavy grip was blown into the doorway of an adjoining store. He was knocked senseless, but afterward recovered sufficiently to take the train to-night for St. Louis on his way west.

Noland Davitt, a traveling man for the Columbia Carriage Company, was walking along the street at the time of the explosion and was blown under a street car and killed.

Cal Crim, a well known detective in this city, who worked up the evidence against Jackson and Walling for the murder of Pearl Bryan, is among those known to have been in Drach's saloon at the time, and now among the victims of the ruins. At 10 o'clock there were twelve injured persons at the hospital. None of them were considered seriously injured.

As the night passed, the scenes about the wrecked building became more distressing than ever. Women whose husbands and sons had not reached home by 10 or 11 o'clock came down to the Fountain Square and filled up the space about the government building, where they were weeping and crying about their friends in the wrecked building.

There were quite a number of men among these weeping ones. Several men felt confident that their sons were in the large rooms at the time and among the victims. At 10:30 the three-year-old boy of Adolph Drach's was found in the ruins so badly hurt that he is not likely to live. His aged grandfather was among those who had come to the scene and soon learned that

Mr. Drach's youngest child had been taken out dead; his three-year-old boy was taken out seriously injured, and that the body of Mrs. Drach could not be extricated from the heavy timbers. The old man broke down under the news and is in a serious condition.

The Victims.

Before midnight it was known that six were killed and eighteen injured, but the work of removing the debris had proceeded so slowly that the general estimate of the killed and wounded greatly exceeded this number.

The family of Adolph Drach suffered most severely. Mr. Drach and his wife are numbered among the dead, his seven-year-old daughter is dead and his three-year-old boy is believed to be dying. Noland Davitt, a traveling man for the Columbia Carriage Company, of Hamilton, Ohio, and two others unidentified, complete the list of those known to be dead. Among the injured were Sid Johnson, barkeeper for Louis Fey, arm broken. Billy Cook, water works employee, arm broken.

Barbara Matheson, leg broken.

Joseph Memmel, not serious.

Harry Harwick, water works employee, cut on the head.

Fred. Healy, arm and shoulder injured.

Motorman Stoffel, Joseph Sprague, porter; Conductor Follard, Fisher, Huron, William Lauth, William Lohelke, H. E. Huntwick, book-keeper, S. S. Wells, clerk, W. D. Crosby, paper hanger, W. Willard E. Cook, J. D. Ward, race horse man, of Toledo, O.

Among the missing who are believed to be in the ruins are:

R. A. Frick, of Norwood.

Joseph Wirthner, bar-keeper.

Louis Fey, wife and baby. Also two servant girls in the families of Fey and Drach.

A most touching scene occurred when Fireman John McCarthy found his brother pinioned under a heavy beam and begging the men above to kill him. McCarthy said there were three other men near him and they were active. The most heroic effort to liberate the sufferers are being made up to midnight.

It was thought early in the evening that Mrs. Drach, as well as her husband, was killed. The body of Mr. Drach was recovered and taken to the morgue. As Mrs. Drach was known to be in her flat at the time of the explosion she was counted among the dead, but she was reached shortly before midnight and she was found to be still alive. She was suffering intense pain and all of the efforts of the workmen failed to rescue her. Up to 12:30 they have been able to talk to her for over an hour, while she remains pinioned under a heavy beam.

Jack McCarthy, Peter Burns and Charles Filley were taken out of the ruins alive, but it is feared none of them will live. McCarthy, Burns and Filley were rescued by digging through the walls of an adjacent building. It is, however, impossible to rescue Mrs. Drach, even in this manner. At 12:30 to-night they furnished her something to drink and are providing for her as best they can. Her feet are under an immense beam and are probably crushed. It may be necessary to amputate them in order to save her life.

Cal Crim, who was supposed to be among the victims, turned up at night to-night and the detective will continue his work in the Scott Jackson case.

Workmen report at 12:45 that one of Mrs. Drach's children was certainly still alive, as they could plainly hear it calling "Mamma."

They said that the servant girl of Mrs. Drach, name unknown, was dead as indicated by Mrs. Drach's side. This does not mean, however, that she was killed, as Mrs. Drach had been included in that list.

LATER—The workmen liberated Mrs. Drach after 1 o'clock, and her little child, and they were taken to the hospital. Her feet are badly crushed, but the surgeon will recover them. The dead body of Mamie Kennedy, a domestic, was recovered at the same time and taken to the morgue. The process of operation through the holes in the adjoining walls and foundations prove quite effectual, but even through these channels, Fricke, Lauth and Lohelke could not be reached up to two o'clock, although they are known to be still in the debris.

NIAGARA CHAINED.

Opening of the Great Electrical Exposition in New York by Governor Morton.

NEW YORK, May 4.—The national electrical exposition under the auspices of the National Electric Light Association opened at the Grand Central Palace to-night. It was opened by the pressing of a gold key by the chief executive of the state, Governor Morton, which sent out an electric current that discharged a cannon in San Francisco, the power of the great Niagara, Maine, and London, England, and from the roof of the exposition building. An immense crowd attended the opening. Governor Morton spoke as follows:

"I feel honored by the invitation which you have extended to me to inaugurate the electric current generated by the power of the great Niagara at Niagara and in accordance with your wishes, I now declare this exposition duly opened."

The following telegram was received from Mayor Taylor, of San Francisco: "San Francisco recognizes the electric chaining of Niagara as the one supreme triumph of this wonderful age, the result of undreamed of progress and therefore commands our congratulations."

W. H. Preece, who has charge of the land forces of Great Britain, telegraphs in answer to the signal given: "With your exposition every possible success."

Dispatches were also received from Augusta, St. Paul, and New Orleans, declaring that the guns had gone off satisfactorily.

When Governor Morton turned the key a column of fluorescent light danced through the tubes that environed the place where he stood.

Simultaneously the electric lights around the different exhibits blazed out in different colors and created a sight that looked like a scene from Fairyland.

One of the most interesting of the exhibits was the Edison apparatus showing the telegraph and telephone apparatus, the earliest forms of electric lighting, transmission motors and models and miscellaneous exhibits, together with four sets of apparatus with which experts gave exhibitions of the Roentgen rays so arranged that by using the fluoroscope put into their hands people were able to inspect their own anatomies.

Want a County Convention.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 4.—Petitions were circulated to-day asking Major J. E. Dana to call district conventions on May 23 to appoint delegates to a county convention to be held on May 25 in Charleston for the purpose of nominating a Republican county ticket and appointing a county executive committee. The reasons given for the action are the action of the present county committee in refusing to place on the primary election; that the signers believe the committee is disrupting the party in Kanawha county. The petitions already have over 600 signatures.

WOMAN QUESTION

Still Unsettled by the Methodist General Conference.

THE WOMEN MAKE A NEW MOVE

For the Sake of Harmony, but the Fight Goes On—It Now Looks as if the Woman Delegate Cause will Win—Two Committee Reports—Bishop Foss on the Question of Creating More Bishops—Wide Difference of Opinion.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 4.—The anticipation of a disposition of the woman question called out a large attendance at the general M. E. conference this morning. The delegates were early in their seats and the spectators were more numerous than on any previous day.

Bishop Merrill, of Chicago, presided, and after devotional exercises, Dr. Mueller, of Cleveland, presented a resolution favoring arbitration for all English-speaking countries, which was adopted, and a copy ordered sent to the President of the United States.

The exciting feature of the day was when Dr. Monroe presented to the conference a written statement from four women delegates. It looked as though this statement might solve the perplexed woman question, but it did not.

Following is part of the statement: "While we regard ourselves as laymen in the full sense of the term, and hold that the lay electoral conferences are entitled, under the amendment of 1887-72, to choose their delegates, subject only to the restrictions therein specified, we are unwilling to insist upon personal rights which are in dispute."

"The chief question at issue now seems to us to arise over the method to be pursued. Upon this we recognize honest differences of opinion among the most intelligent and conscientious members. It seems to us that we should not insist upon the extension of our present action, it might speedily devise a plan of admission upon which the great majority of the members could agree. While we sincerely regret to disappoint the chivalrous champions of woman's eligibility, we cannot consent to a protracted debate over our personal eligibility to this conference, with all the allegations, which we fear such a struggle might cause, when the principle is not easily provoked, think not so evil."

"We, therefore, cheerfully relinquish in your honorable body and await such a settlement of a long vexed question as your wisdom may devise, confident that your action will embody the spirit of the golden rule. We desire to express our appreciation of the courtesy shown us and assure you that we shall continue to pray and to labor for the prosperity of our Zion."

The statement was presented by Jane F. Bashford, Louis S. Parker and Ada C. Butcher.

No sooner had the communication of the women delegates been offered than Dr. Kynett, chairman of the committee on eligibility, submitted the majority report of the committee. It briefly announced that the committee had decided that the women were entitled to seats in the convention. Several delegates in the convention, however, there was a universal demand for the minority report. It was a lengthy document and was read by T. B. Neely, of Philadelphia. It found that the challenge of the eligibility of the women whose names appear on the roll of the conference is sustained and that the election of women by lay electoral conferences are illegal acts, and that to select the claimants would tend to destroy all respect for that constitution of the church and for the decisions and interpretations of the general conference.

After extended debate on the merits of the two reports further discussion was postponed until afternoon, when it will be resumed as a special order of business. The conference then adjourned.

The thirteen standing committees and the special committee of Epworth League, organized permanently this afternoon and will begin work to-morrow. Among them are the committees which will consider the advisability of having more bishops, and that which will make a recommendation on the proposition to mitigate the severity of the rule governing the itinerancy of ministers.

Bishop Foss said to the Associated Press agent to-day:

"I believe that more of the bishops than not think that our number should be increased by three or four. The minority, however, is very strong. My idea, if more more bishops are chosen, is not to make bishops of India, China, Africa, etc., but to have them elected in the general sense, so that we may devote what time is necessary to this country and certain of us go to foreign lands for what time is needed there."

The supporters of the women delegate cause to-night claim that they have certainly won the victory and that the final vote will see the women. Their opponents, however, while they concede that the other side has had a large majority of the delegates from the start, declare their belief that the tide was turned by the speeches in the conference to-day. The debate will be resumed in the conference to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

It is stated to-night that Rev. A. F. Kolaszewski, pastor of the Independent Polish Catholic church of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin, has approached Chaplain McCabe with a proposition to turn his church with its congregation to the Methodist denomination.

Strikes in Newark.

NEWARK, N. J., May 4.—About 1,500 carpenters in this city went on strike to-day for an increase of pay to \$2 75 a day. The bosses want to pay only 25 cents an hour for ten hours' work. It is said that if the strike is not settled soon, the carpenters will call upon the local assemblies in other branches of the trade for sympathy, and if necessary to join in the strike.

About 200 masons' laborers also went on strike to-day for an increase of two cents an hour, or 16 cents a day. They soon gained their point and went back to work.

Fire at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 4.—Fire broke out in the four story brick building at Nos. 101 to 108 Vly street to-night and before the blaze was extinguished in the interior of the building was practically burned out and its contents destroyed. It is estimated a loss that the occupants of the building were the Goodyear Rubber Company, the William Hengerer Company and the Excelsior Manufacturing Company, of which the firms of Abrams & Hyman are proprietors. This building is owned by the Colt estate.

THE FIRST SKIRMISH

Over the Naval Appropriation Bill in the House—Mr. Boutelle Carries His Point. Rivers and Harbors Bill in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The first skirmish over the senate amendment to the naval appropriation bill, reducing the number of battleships provided for in that bill from four to two, occurred in the house to-day, when Mr. Boutelle, chairman of the naval committee, moved to non-concur in all the senate amendments and request a conference of the senate.

Mr. Boutelle undertook to chastise some of the senators for their inconsistency. He referred to the war scares of the past winter and the bellicose resolutions introduced in the senate and then sarcastically contrasted the war talk of some of the senators with their votes to reduce the number of battleships provided for in the bill.

Mr. Quigg (Rep., N. Y.) called Mr. Boutelle to order for criticizing members of the upper house, and was loudly cheered by some lively sparring. Mr. Boutelle, however, accomplished all he had intended, despite the chair's ruling.

Subsequently Mr. Sayers, of Texas, moved to concur in the senate amendment reducing the number of battleships, but by consent the motion went over for action until to-morrow, when it is likely that the whole question of large appropriations at this time will come up.

In the Senate.

The outlined programme for the senate procedure this week was shattered early in the day's session by two unexpected motions. When the intended action to consider the river and harbor bill was attempted it was antagonized by a motion of Mr. Turpie (Dem., Ind.) to consider the Dupont election case.

Mr. Mitchell, with considerable display of feeling, sought to prevent this course, but by an aye and nay vote, resulting 24 to 31, the senate decided to take up the Dupont case. Later an agreement was effected to postpone the matter until the river and harbor bill was passed, the final vote in the election case to be taken two days after consideration was begun.

At 2 o'clock the unfinished business came up in the form of the bond investigation resolution. Mr. Peffer refused to further delay the matter and his motion to proceed with the resolution was upheld by 38 to 28, thus displacing the river and harbor bill. Mr. Hill thereupon took the floor and spoke until adjournment. He will proceed to-morrow.

A HORRIBLE CRIME

Almost in the Shadow of the National Capitol—A Young Girl Brutally Murdered.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Elsie Kregg, a white girl sixteen years old, was murdered to-day in a ravine near the national zoological park. The body was found in a small creek about 100 yards from the girl's home. Cries for help were heard by the Kregg family, and a sister and a colored boy rushed to the scene whence the cries proceeded. They found Elsie standing in a creek of shallow water between two hills. The latter, however, overcome by loss of blood and exhaustion, fell back dead into the water before help arrived. The girl's throat had been gashed six times with a knife. No arrests have been made.

The circumstances of the murder are such as to make it one of peculiar atrocity. The young victim's clothes were partly torn from her body and strewn about for quite a distance, showing that she had made a desperate resistance against the attempts of her assailants, who, the officers believe, sought to criminally assault her. The pathway leading to the bottom of the ravine was bespattered with blood and the water in which she was standing was red with it when she was found. The affair has caused much excitement. A lady riding in the vicinity about the time of the murder saw a negro running across the road just at that time and this, besides the finding of a pistol nearby, is his only clue. The Kregg family are industrious, well-to-do people and the victim was one of five sisters.

THE JACKSON TRIAL

Sensational Evidence which Appears to Have Been Concealed.

NEWPORT, Ky., May 4.—Judge J. B. Locke, who owns the farm where the body of Pearl Bryan was found, testified that he found two spots of blood on the ground and also found blood on the leaves of the bushes. He also said that he saw marks of the wheels of a carriage on the grass close beside the gate which led from the road to the spot where the body was found. He went up the road away from Cincinnati to see if he could find where the carriage had turned and found no mark of that kind. This corroborates George Jackson's story, according to which the carriage turned on the road in the other direction.

The most sensational evidence was given to-day by William R. Trusty, of Urbana, Ill. He was a brakeman on the Southern railroad at the time of the Bryan murder. He testified to meeting Emma Evans at 10 o'clock on the night of the murder. They were joined by an old doctor who was a friend of the woman. Through these parties Trusty was employed to drive a cab.

Trusty testified that he was called by the doctor and that he drove across the Newport bridge and stopped near the place where Pearl Bryan's body was found the next morning. The old man carried the body across the fence and afterwards they drove back to Cincinnati. Trusty testified that they drove a gray horse and rig similar to the one that George Jackson described. The old doctor, whose name Trusty never learned, gave him \$10 for the job. Trusty afterward returned to his home at Urbana, Ill., where he told the story about the midnight drive to his father. The witness identified certain letters on cross-examination. One was to Pearl Bryan's father from William R. Trusty, the father of the witness, stating that Trusty and his son were related to a detective and that they could solve the mystery of Pearl Bryan's murder. Mr. Bryan referred the letters to Mr. Hayes, his attorney.

Mr. Hayes afterwards received letters from Trusty soliciting the defense for himself, telling that the employment would prove that Pearl died in Cincinnati, and that he and his son and their cousin, who is a detective, could thwart this evidence. The cross-examination also showed that their cousin was John Seward, who had considerable experience in working up testimony.

The prosecution presented evidence that William R. Trusty had been under sentence and sensational evidence was produced about Father Anderson and Seward, especially in this case.

The up testimony.

CURES, absolute, permanent cures have given Hooch's Sarsaparilla the largest sale in the world and the first place among medicines.

THE CONVENTION

At Bellaire that will Renominate Dausford, Opens To-day.

THE PRESENT REPRESENTATIVE

Has No Opposition in His District, and will be Nominated by Acclamation. Lively Contest for the Honor of Voting for McKinley at St. Louis—Messrs. Gill, Cunningham and McGavran are the Candidates—The Situation Sized Up.

The candidates and delegates to the congressional convention of the Sixteenth Ohio district, to be held at Bellaire to-day, began to gather there yesterday. The first to arrive on the ground was Congressman Lorenzo Danford, whose renomination will be by acclamation. This is his first visit home since he took his seat last December, and he was called upon by quite a number of citizens and delegates during the evening.

Always a favorite in this section, he is a greater one to-day, because of his unflinching devotion to the principles of the Republican party that brought prosperity, not only to the Ohio valley but the whole country. A tried, true devoted McKinley man, he has faith that the will of the people in a country like this must always prevail.

The second distinguished guest to drop into town was Hon. J. J. Gill, of Steubenville, surrounded by a host of admiring friends, who were joined by more at Bellaire. Mr. Gill will be selected as one of the delegates to the St. Louis convention practically without opposition, perhaps without any at all.

It was expected that Major Cunningham and Dr. McGavran, of Cadiz, would both arrive late in the evening. Both are candidates for delegate to St. Louis, and in the contest in their home county Dr. McGavran secured fourteen delegates and Major Cunningham twelve. But both will go into the convention and the best figures obtainable last night gave Major Cunningham fifty-five votes and Dr. McGavran forty, without counting the votes of Belmont and Monroe at all. Belmont has sixty-five votes and Monroe sixteen. In the convention it was necessary to a choice. With eighty-one votes not reckoned at all in the estimate given where Major Cunningham needs thirty-four votes and Dr. McGavran forty-nine, the reader can do his own guessing. If the Intelligencer was to guess at all it would name Major Cunningham as the winner.

The matter of alternates has not figured in the convention at all so far, but one of them may be given to Belmont, as Col. W. A. Hunt and Hon. J. C. Heinlein are both mentioned, but the probabilities are that one will go to Monroe county and the other to the defeated candidate for delegate from Harrison, while the elector will likely go to Carroll county.

PRESTON'S PRIMARIES.

Republicans Pull a Heavy Vote and the Result is Close.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

KINGWOOD, W. Va., May 4.—The Republican primary election was held in this county Saturday afternoon from 2 to 7 p. m. One of the largest votes ever cast in the county was polled, and the count has been greatly delayed on account of the length of the ticket. Six precincts of the thirty-six in the county are yet to report, but they are small and are not likely to change the result except possibly on sheriff and assessor on the west side. Estimating the missing precincts on the basis of those in, it is generally conceded that the following ticket has been nominated:

Sheriff, Lloyd C. Shaffer; prosecuting attorney, D. M. Watring; clerk of circuit court, John W. Watson; clerk of county court, George A. Walls; house of delegates, west side, J. W. White; house of delegates, east side, William H. Glover; assessor, west side, Thomas M. Summers; assessor, east side, A. R. Peater; surveyor of lands, A. F. McMillen.

The contest for sheriff and assessor, east side, is very close. Mr. Shaffer will lead Mr. Lehnart by more than fifty votes, and he may yet be nominated. William F. Menor is giving Summers a close race and may win yet. Walls, for clerk county court, was fought hard, but he came out of the fight with a majority over all three of his competitors—a signal victory for the young Republican element in the party which is forging to the front. Mr. Glover has nearly 1,000 majority over ex-State-Senator John P. Jones for house of delegates. Mr. White had no opposition. The ticket will be one of the strongest ever put up by the party.

The Date Not Fixed.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HINTON, W. Va., May 4.—The Democratic executive committee of the Third congressional district met in this city to-day and after a sharp contest selected Charleston as the place for holding the Third congressional district convention. The date was not fixed.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

The true amount of the gold reserve in the treasury is now \$121,612,876.

The street car strike in Milwaukee is on in full force. Only a half dozen cars were running yesterday.

The socialists were successful in the municipal elections in Marsalis, Lacloot, Narbonne, Otte, Calais, Robaix, and Carmaux, in France.

Captain John F. McGleny, retired, United States Navy, died in Washington yesterday. He was a native of Pennsylvania, resided in Richmond, Va., and entered the navy in 1857.

After the coronation of the czar of Russia Li Hung Chang, the Chinese premier, will visit the treaty powers with the object in view of inducing them to agree to an increase of the ad valorem on imports at all treaty ports.

J. L. Cowan, the absconding Pittsburgh lumber dealer, who was captured in Central America, has been brought back by the authorities. He has made a full confession, and implicates a number of people whose names are kept secret.

The initial step has been taken by the employees of the Adams Express Company in a strike that may affect 10,000 men employed by that corporation. The strike is against a heavy cut in wages and an increase in working hours, and will include clerks, drivers, porters and stablesmen.

The national executive committee of the Knights of Labor will arrive in Pittsburgh to-day to try the thirty-seven members of the window glass union whom President Harris charged with insubordination. The accused men expect to get a permanent injunction from the courts restraining the executive board from proceeding with the trial.

ASSASSIN CONFESSED.

The Murder of the Shah of Persia the Outcome of a Conspiracy.

TEHERAN, May 4.—It has been definitely ascertained that the assassin of the late shah of Persia, Zax: Ed Din, who was fatally shot near the heart during the afternoon of Friday last, while entering the inner part of the shrine of Shah Abdul Azin, as exclusively telegraphed to the Associated Press from here on Friday afternoon, is Mollah Reza, a follower of the well known agitator, Sheikh Jem Aledin, who was exiled in 1891 after having been convicted of high treason. The prisoner has confessed that the assassination of the shah was the outcome of a deliberately and long planned conspiracy and that he (Reza) was chosen to do the deed.

The assassin has also admitted that upon many occasions he has succeeded in approaching the late Shah under various aliases, but it was not until Friday last, in the mosque of Shah Abdul Azin, that he got near enough to fire the fatal shot.

The murderer is believed to have a number of accomplices. He has already admitted that eight persons were in the conspiracy. Two of them, who have been arrested, are the prisoner's nieces. They are both domestics, employed until made prisoners, in the harem of the shah. Reza has confessed that the girls kept the conspirators informed regarding the movements of the shah, and, on Friday morning, the chosen assassin was informed that the shah intended to visit the shrine of Sustan Abdul Azin.

Finally Reza has informed the authorities that he intended to commit suicide by blowing out his brains, as soon as he was certain that he had killed the shah, but, he added, he was seized and detained before he could carry out his intention.

The entombment of the new shah, Muzaffer Ed Din, at Tabriz, on Saturday, was accomplished without any disorder being recorded, and his majesty started soon afterwards for the city to attend the funeral of his father whose body has been embalmed and will be interred at Koom.

The new shah's eldest brother, Massoud Reza, governor of Isfahan, was one of the first to profess allegiance to the new shah. No ground has been found for the report that Massoud Reza was in any way connected with the fatal conspiracy.

The prisoner later made a further confession, admitting that his accomplices had also planned to murder the grand vizier.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Inside of the Revolt Gradually Coming to Light.

CAPE TOWN, May 4.—A long telegraphic correspondence between Sir Hercules Robinson, Dr. W. J. Leyds, secretary of state of the South Africa republic and Sir Jacobus A. Dewett, British agent at Pretoria, covering the period between April 20 and April 30, has been published. In brief it shows the extreme disquietude prevailing in the Transvaal at the time in regard to the alleged massing of British troops on the western border of the Transvaal republic, or in the vicinity of Mafeking.

It appears that President Krueger was not inclined to accept the assurance of Sir Hercules Robinson that the gathering was not one of hostile intent and that troops were not being held at Mafeking, but were being started as promptly as possible for Bulawayo and elsewhere.

Sir Jacobus A. De Wet finally proposed with the approval of President Krueger the sending of a joint commission of Boers and Englishmen to inquire into the reported gathering of British troops at Mafeking. Several of the British troops at Mafeking replied that he trusted he would have no more such preposterous proposals.

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