

Details of the Recent Disaster in Society Islands Not Yet Received



The officials of the Department of State have received no advices regarding the tidal wave and hurricane FORETELLS ACTION OF TIDES.

of Papeete alone were destroyed, and dwelling houses and the Catholic church in Fanaran were washed away. All the important buildings on Motaita Island were destroyed. Throughout the path of the storm breadfruit, coconut, banana and plantain trees were blown down, and the result will be a tremendous hardship to the natives.

The village of Tarona was completely swept away. A settlement of several hundred Cook Islanders, British and American, and French consular officials were seriously damaged. It will require years to restore the islands to their former state of prosperity, and a general appeal for succor has been made.

The new Granite State of Texas, whose magnitude of granite deposits probably outranked those of any other state. It could with equal fitness be styled the foremost cattle state; and, judging from its famous undeveloped iron ores, it may become a center of metallurgy. With but a fraction of its acres devoted to grain, it produces nearly 200,000,000 bushels a year of wheat, corn and other grains.

The immense machine shops of the Northeastern railroad, employing about 600 hands, had their location here. The city has always been reckoned one of the cleanest as well as one of the prettiest towns in the South, the business section being about 350 feet above the sea level, with the many beautiful residences of the inhabitants overtopping the business district by about a hundred feet.

Meridian is also noted as being the home of the East Mississippi Female College, considered to be one of the leading educational institutions of the Southeast. From the farming districts within a radius of 10 miles of the city from 150,000 to 175,000 bales of cotton are shipped into the city each year.

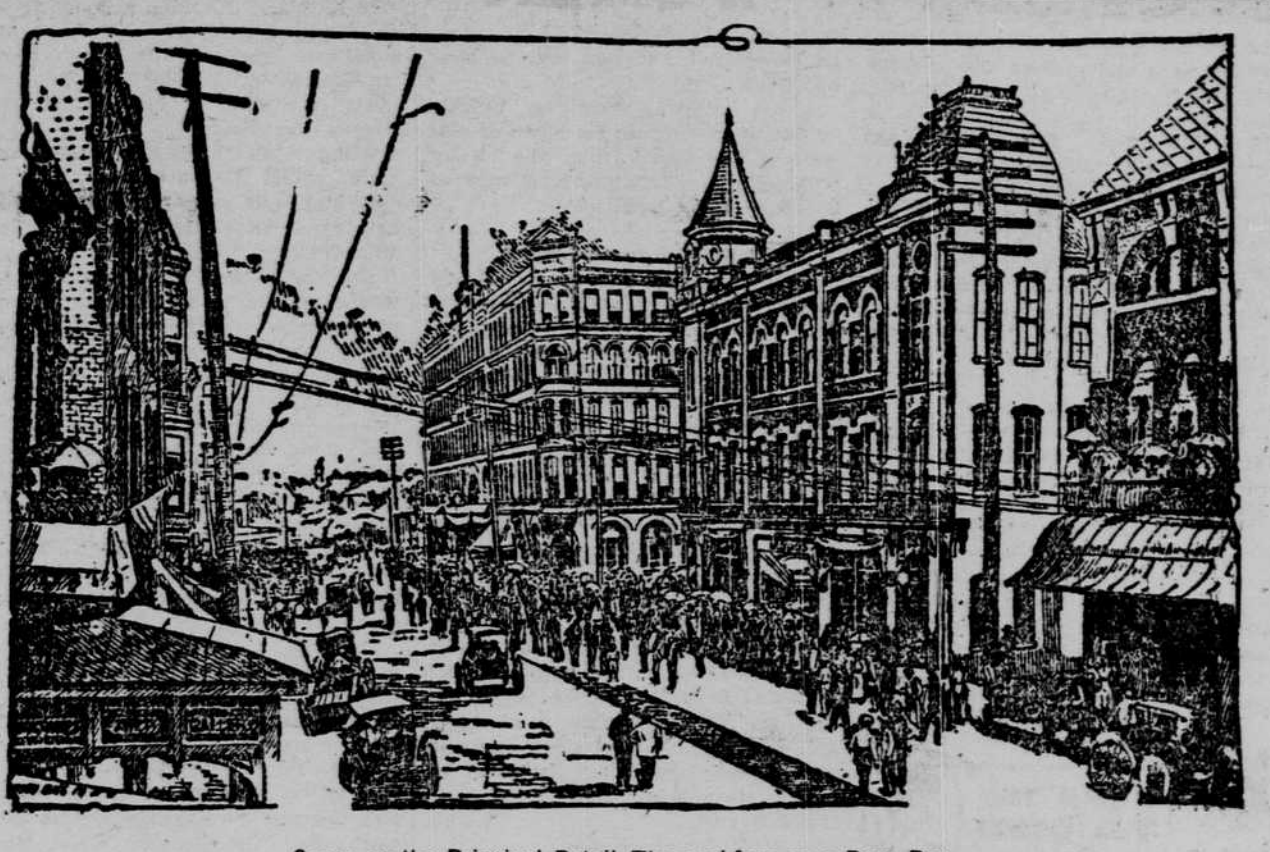
Some idea of what the extensiveness of the city's industries were can be obtained from the following figures: Value of cotton annually marketed there, \$5,000,000; increased value from manufactured cottons, \$200,000; annual cottonseed crop, \$1,000,000; annual pay rolls of Meridian's factories, \$650,000; annual pay rolls of the railroads in Meridian territory (cutting yellow pine), \$70; (cutting hard wood), 17.

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Progressive City of the Southwest Suffered Severely from Cyclone



Scene on the Principal Retail Thoroughfare on a Busy Day.

There is not a city in the South-east that has made greater strides in progress than the devastated town of Meridian, Miss. almost wiped out by the cyclone of March 2.

Advantageously situated upon five different railroad lines that stretch out from the city in all directions through the fertile agricultural lands and the forests of the surrounding country, it has advanced in population from 4,000 people in 1880 to 24,000 at the present time.

Agriculture and manufacturing industries constitute the wealth of the place. There were within the city limits four cottonseed oil mills, one large cotton factory, a fertilizer factory that was built with a capital of \$300,000 and manufacturing plant for soap, leather, drugs and candy, and also a number of extensive brick yards.

MISS REID POPULAR IN LONDON.
Daughter of American Ambassador May Wed English Peer.

Is Miss Jean Templeton Reid, daughter of the American ambassador, Whitelaw Reid, about to lose her heart to some dashing English peer? Those who are in a position to speak with authority upon this interesting topic assert with positiveness that the question will soon be answered in the affirmative.

It is a recognized fact that Miss Reid has been the magnet that drew many of the best known noblemen of England to the brilliant social functions of the Reids since their introduction into the official life in London. She has been escorted on occasions by peers whose names have been identified with English history since the Norman conquest, and it is noted that her popularity in court circles is increasing hourly.

NICHOLAS "TSAR" OF RUSSIA.
Proper Title of the Ruler of the Northern Empire.

Though we occasionally read in the newspapers of the Czar, referring to Nicholas II, he is almost universally designated as the Tsar. Though many learned etymologists have said that the national title of the Russian sovereign is a corruption of the word Caesar, like the German Kaiser, this is a mistake. The cause of the error is that at the beginning of the eighteenth century we knew the Russians only through the Poles, with whom we had long international intercourse before we became acquainted with the Muscovites. The word "Czar" is the Polish form of the word "Tsar," with the slight difference in the pronunciation which distinguishes the two words derived from the Slavonic language.

The Russians, like all the Slavs, belong to the Greek church, using the Cyrillic alphabet, containing thirty-eight signs still employed in the sacred language, but reduced to thirty-one in the common language. The Catholic Slavs, like the Poles, having kept the Latin alphabet of twenty-four signs, were compelled to resort to the combination of double letters to take the place of the syllabic consonants which are found in the Cyrillic alphabet. The "cz" forms one of these combinations; hence the Polish orthography, which was adopted at first by some illustrious writers like Voltaire and Saint-Simon.

The same rule applies to the derivatives of the word "tsar"—tsarine, tsarevna, tsarevitch. These words are even spelled Cesarin, Cesarvna and Csarevitch, as a tribute to their imaginary origin. But the word "tsar" has no Latin etymology and is not a translation of the word Caesar.—London Mail.

Indian Woman's Worthy Ambition.
Laura M. Cornelius, a full-blooded Indian of the Oneida tribe in Wisconsin, has gone to New York, where she intends to study law in Barnard college. At a county school she won a scholarship in a seminary in Fond du Lac and afterward studied for a time in Stanford university, California. Miss Cornelius is unmistakably Indian in features and build and is proud of it. Her object in studying law is to be of service to the people of her own race. "My religion," she says, "is this: I believe in God, in minding my own business and in hustling for what one wants."

Mrs. Thaw in Law Suit.
Mrs. Mary C. Thaw, of Pittsburg, whose daughter is countess of Yarmouth, commissioned a firm to put a stained glass in the Third Presbyterian church of Pittsburg, for which she agreed to pay \$25,000. When the work was done it failed to give her satisfaction and she ordered it torn out. The firm did so, practically rebuilding the window at a cost of \$16,500. This Mrs. Thaw refused to pay and now the company has brought suit to recover.

Early Hardships Leave Mark.
It is remarked with surprise that the labor members of parliament are not large men, nor are they apparently especially robust. T. P. O'Connor, writing on this subject, explains in this way: "The lives of many of them have been hard; they began the struggle for bread in the mine, in the workshop, before the furnace, at an age when they ought to have been learning their lessons and playing marbles, and those years of early toil nearly always tell."

Wholesale Cutting.
"Yes, we used to sit out on the old porch in the beautiful moonlight. Strange to say, Jack never believed he kissed me as often as I accused him of doing."
"Ah, how did you convince him, dear?"
"Why, the next night I told him to cut a notch in the porch each time he took a kiss."
"How did the scheme work?"
"Very well for a while, but—or—by the end of the week there wasn't any porch left."

Gold Pieces Baked in a Cake.
Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Richmond of this city have just celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary, attended by near relatives and the immediate family.
A feature of this unusual event was the placing of fifty twenty-dollar gold pieces in the huge cake, and as it was carved the coins fell to various members. One son was so fortunate as to receive three of the double eagles in his one slice of the anniversary cake.—Lima correspondence, Columbus Dispatch.

BIG BATTLE IN JOLO.

General Wood Reports Sanginary Struggle in Southern Archipelago.
MANILA—An important action between American forces and hostile Moros has taken place near Jolo. Fifteen enlisted men were killed, a commissioned officer was wounded, four enlisted men were wounded and a naval contingent operating with the military sustained thirty-two casualties. The Moros lost 600 men killed.

Major General Leonard Wood, commander of the division of the Philippines, reports as follows from Jolo, capital of the Sulu Islands:
"A severe action between troops, a naval detachment and constabulary and hostile Moros has taken place at Mount Dajo, near Jolo. The engagement opened during the afternoon of March 6 and ended in the morning of March 8. The action involved the capture of Mount Dajo, a lava cone, 2,100 feet high, with a crater at its summit and extremely steep. The last 400 feet were at an angle of 50 degrees and there were fifty perpendicular ridges covered with a growth of timber and strongly fortified and defended by an invisible force of Moros."

"The army casualties were fifteen enlisted men killed, four commissioned officers and thirty-two enlisted men wounded. The naval casualties numbered thirty-two. Ensign H. D. Cooke, Jr., commanding the Pampanga, was severely wounded and Coxswain Gilmore was severely wounded in the elbow.

"All the defenders of the Moro stronghold were killed. Six hundred bodies were found on the field.

The attack was made under the most hazardous circumstances. Starting early in the afternoon of March 6, the assailants climbed for a distance of 2,100 feet up a lava cone, the thickly wooded ridges of which furnished the only foothold. The last 500 feet of the ascent was at an angle of fifty degrees, and the last fifty feet almost perpendicular. At the top were 600 fanatical Moros armed with rifles and knives and supported by native artillery. The fortified crater was almost invisible and seemingly inaccessible. At the word of command the troops rushed into the crater and a hand-to-hand encounter followed.

FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE.
Appropriation, as Agreed Upon, Carries \$191,358,848.
WASHINGTON—An appropriation bill carrying \$191,358,848 for the postal service was finally agreed upon by the house committee on postoffices and post roads and will be reported to the house in about ten days. Two important law provisions are carried in the measure, one forbidding the government departments franking anything through the mails which an individual cannot mail at regular postage rates, and the other prevents committees, organizations or associations of citizens from enjoying the franking privileges.

Last year's appropriation for the postoffice department was \$181,022,000. It is estimated that the amount of mail increases 10 per cent annually, and the increase in appropriation agreed upon is considered by the committee as being as small as will satisfactorily meet the growth of the mails.

SENATORS BY DIRECT VOTE.
Favorable Report of House Committee on Norris Bill.
WASHINGTON—The house committee on election of president, vice-president and representatives in congress has agreed to make a favorable report on a bill by Representative Norris of Nebraska providing for extending the term of members of congress to four years, and for the election of members of the senate by popular vote.

THOMPSON REACHES MEXICO.
New Ambassador from United States Presents Credentials.
MEXICO—The American ambassador Mr. Thompson, presented his credentials to President Diaz in the presence of a large and brilliant assembly. Complimentary speeches were made by the ambassador and President Diaz regarding the friendly feeling existing between the two republics.

CONTRACTORS WANT MORE TIME
But Are Turned Down by the Secretary of the Interior.
WASHINGTON—The application of Messrs. Robinson & Maney of St. Louis, for an extension of time for the completion of the work on the interstate canal, North Platte irrigation project in Nebraska, under their contract of June 12, 1905, and supplemental contract of December 14, 1905, which later contract provides for completion of the work by May 1, 1906, has been denied by the secretary of the interior. The present conditions do not warrant granting the extension asked for, and if the force employed is properly increased it is believed the work can be completed on time.

Knox Don't Want the Job.
WASHINGTON—Associate Justice Henry Billings Brown of the supreme court intends to retire from the bench, and has so notified President Roosevelt. The president offered to appoint Senator Philander C. Knox to the vacancy, but the latter declined.

Spanish Editor in Trouble.
BARCELONA, Spain.—The editor of El Divulivo, a local daily paper, has been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for printing an insulting dispatch concerning King Alfonso.

Anti-Pass Bill.
WASHINGTON—The Ransdell anti-pass bill was offered in amended form Wednesday to the entire house committee on judiciary by a sub-committee, and was made a special order for Friday.

Accepts Resignation.
WASHINGTON—The president has accepted the resignation of Past Assistant Paymaster George Deering, United States navy, tried by court martial and convicted of irregularity in his accounts.