

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1513—Juan Dias De Solis discovered the mouth of the Rio Janeiro river.
- 1515—Louis XII. of France died.
- 1521—Martin Luther excommunicated.
- 1523—Knights of Malta driven from the Island of Rhodes by the Turks.
- 1540—Henry VIII. married to Anne, daughter of Duke of Cleves.
- 1589—Catherine De Medici died.
- 1604—Jesuits reinstated in France.
- 1640—Anne of Austria, Queen Regent of France, fled from Paris to St. Germain.
- 1651—Charles II. crowned King of Scotland.
- 1661—First appearance of women actors said to have been made at Lincoln Inn Fields theater, London.
- 1685—Marshall Luxembourg died.
- 1698—Whitehall Palace, London, destroyed by fire.
- 1717—Triple alliance formed by England, France and Holland.
- 1724—Philip V. of Spain abdicated in favor of his son.
- 1725—Pope Benedict XIII. opened the Holy Gates.
- 1729—Many persons killed or injured as a result of a great fog enveloping London.
- 1735—Paul Revere born.
- 1737—John Hancock born.
- 1740—Benedict Arnold born.
- 1745—Gen. Anthony Wayne born.
- 1757—Attempt made to assassinate Louis XV. of France.
- 1757—Calcutta retaken by the English.
- 1762—England declared war against Spain.
- 1776—Union flag raised at Cambridge, Mass.
- 1777—Battle between American and British forces at Princeton, N. J.
- 1781—French invaded island of Jersey and met with defeat.
- 1784—Treaty between United States and Great Britain signed.
- 1787—Arthur Middleton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died.
- 1788—Georgia ratified the constitution of the United States.
- 1792—State canal of Pennsylvania begun. . . . Alien bill passed in England. . . . Third partition of Poland arranged between Russia, Austria and Prussia.
- 1795—Josiah Wedgwood, inventor of Wedgwood ware, died.
- 1798—American Congress made gift of \$12,800 to Kosciuszko, the Polish patriot who aided in the American revolution.
- 1801—Union of Great Britain and Ireland.
- 1804—Insurrection of Irish convicts in New South Wales.
- 1806—Breslau surrendered to the French.
- 1814—Dantzig surrendered to Duke of Wustemberg.
- 1822—Declaration of independence by the Greeks.
- 1825—Ferdinand IV., King of Naples, died.
- 1828—Fall of the Villele ministry in France.
- 1829—Protests received at Washington against dispatch or delivery of mails on the Sabbath. . . . Forty killed in a mine explosion at Lyons, France.
- 1830—Methodism first introduced in Germany.
- 1835—First newspaper issued in Buffalo, N. Y. . . . Charles Lamb died.
- 1842—English began retreat from Cabul.
- 1843—Steven F. Mason, ex-Governor of Michigan, died.
- 1848—Girard College, Philadelphia, opened. . . . Insurrection at Messina, Sicily.
- 1849—Discovery of the magnetic clock by Dr. Locke of Ohio.
- 1853—Gen. Aristas resigned and Cevallos chosen president of Mexico. . . . Spain enacted stringent law against liberty of the press.
- 1854—French and English fleets enter the Black sea on their way to the Crimea.
- 1855—Victoria Bridge across St. Lawrence river carried away by ice.
- 1857—Assassination of the Archbishop of Paris (Sibouis).
- 1863—State of West Virginia admitted to the Union.
- 1875—Trial of the Beecher-Tilton case begun. . . . Garibaldi refused pension from Italy on account of national low finances.
- 1885—Earthquake shocks felt in Maryland, Virginia and New Hampshire. . . . Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia invested with the pallium.
- 1891—Emma Abbott, famous oper singer, died. . . . Settlement of frontier dispute between Persia and Afghanistan.
- 1893—Last spike driven in the Great Northern extension to the Pacific coast.
- 1895—Million dollar fire at Toronto, Ont. . . . Many lives lost in great storm on English coast. . . . Mrs. Mary T. Lathrop, W. C. T. U. leader, died.
- 1898—John D. Rockefeller donated \$100,000 to University of Chicago.
- 1899—Formal delivery of Cuba to the United States.

TEN DIE IN FIRE.

Disastrous Blaze in West Hotel, Minneapolis.

Fire in the West Hotel at Minneapolis early Wednesday morning cost the lives of ten persons, damaged the great hostelry to the extent of \$25,000 and gave throngs of spectators views of thrilling rescues by the firemen that called forth cheers from the crowds. Feats of heroism by the firefighters kept down the death list, although Captain John Berwin of hook and ladder company No. 1 perished while working to lower a woman from the fifth story.

The fire was discovered at 7:15 o'clock and the guests and employes were given prompt alarms by the hotel's system of electric bells. Fire escapes cut off by roaring flames, fanned by a cold and strong wind, and halls filled by impenetrable smoke caused three people to jump from windows to their deaths. The firemen had the flames under control within an hour and at 8:30 it was reported that it was extinguished.

The West Hotel has for many years been regarded as the leading hostelry of Minneapolis. It was built nearly twenty years ago by the late Colonel John T. West and was made as nearly fireproof as possible. Located at 5th street and Hennepin avenue, it occupied a commanding position in the city and was regarded as a show place and one of the leading attractions of the city. The facilities afforded by the hotel brought scores of conventions and other gatherings to the city and rarely were its accommodations overtaxed.

The Republican national convention of 1892 was secured to Minneapolis chiefly because of the West Hotel. The vast lobby, declared to be the largest in the United States, was easily able to accommodate the crowds which filled the place. Many other notable gatherings were held within its walls and in the afternoon and evening it was the center for business and professional men to gather. With the death of Col. West the property passed into other hands.

WALTER WELLMAN.

Journalist-Explorer Again to Visit the Polar Regions.

A new interest in Arctic exploration has been aroused by the announcement of Walter Wellman that he and Santos Dumont, the aerial navigator, will start in the near future upon an expedition which they hope will carry them to the North pole. They will go in an airship and will describe their journeys as they proceed northward by aid of the wireless telegraphy and submarine cables. It is the most spectacular undertaking in the history of Arctic exploration.

Walter Wellman is an able journalist, Washington correspondent of leading dailies, and a reliable writer. He is also an explorer, having twice visited the polar regions. On his first expedition in 1894 he reached the 81st degree. His ship was crushed in the ice and he suffered many hardships. On his second expedition—1898-9—he went to Franz Joseph Land, by way of Archangel, Russia, having 84 dogs with him. After fruitless efforts to push his ship farther north in waters which the following year were free of ice (an example of the luck that runs in the Arctic), he was forced to establish his base at Cape Yagethoff, latitude 80 degrees 4 minutes. In the autumn an outpost was established 70 miles farther north. From this outpost Wellman and his men eventually moved north and explored hitherto unknown regions, but their cherished hope of going further north than other explorers was spoiled by an injury to Wellman's leg and by the destruction of some of the camp equipment.

Ever since the second expedition Mr. Wellman has been a close student of Arctic work and conditions. Probably he has never been able to get the polar fever entirely out of his system. In addition to his newspaper and magazine work he has written much on geographical and exploration topics. He has lectured before the Royal Geographical Society of London, the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Geographical Society of Washington, the Arctic Club of New York, and other similar bodies.

WAGES SMALL FOR BIG FAMILIES

Child-Labor Secretary Discusses President's Theory.

President Roosevelt's declaration in favor of big families was discussed before the New Rochelle People's forum in New York Sunday. The Rev. Owen R. Lovejoy, secretary of the National Child Labor committee, declared that except in special cases the President was mistaken in promulgating such ideas among the American people. Many men, he said, were working to-day at the bench and in the factory for less wages than their fathers received for the same amount of work and it was costing them more to live.

Such men, he said, if they were of conscientious type, would hesitate at the responsibility of bringing children into the world to struggle and toil for a bare living without prospects of advancement. Mr. Lovejoy estimated the number of children employed at manufacture and mining in the United States at 2,000,000, which, he said, is far too many, as they are crowding men and women out of work and lowering wages.

He said that the National Child Labor committee, in conjunction with the National Consumers' League, would go to Washington this winter to try to have Congress pass a bill to establish an additional child-labor bureau, which would raise the condition of working children to that of France and Germany.

Short News Notes.

Pickering College, at Pickering, Ont., was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$75,000.

Walter R. Hill, chancellor of the University of Georgia, died in Athens, Ga., of pneumonia.

Eight persons were wounded by promiscuous shooting during the first minute of the new year in Philadelphia.

The municipal ferry operated by New York City between Staten Island and the city is costing \$500 a day more than the receipts.



CITIZEN—Now I know what they mean by "Old Line Companies."—Indianapolis Sun.

SHIPS IN A CRASH.

Battleship Kentucky Run Down by the Powerful Alabama.

The battleships Kentucky and Kearsarge ran aground and the Kentucky was fouled and damaged by the battleship Alabama during the passage of the battleship squadron under command of Rear-Admiral Robley Evans through the main ship channel out of



REAR ADMIRAL EVANS.

New York harbor Sunday. The Kentucky was so badly damaged that it was unable to proceed with the fleet. The Maine, Admiral Evans' flagship, was the only vessel to carry a pilot and was leading the squadron, the Kentucky, Kearsarge, Alabama and Illinois following in close formation in the order named. An ebb tide and a west wind combined to urge the vessels toward the east side of the channel and the Kentucky went aground. There was not room for the Kearsarge to sheer off into the main channel without a collision, so her commander drove her aground. The Alabama attempted to make the channel and struck the Kentucky a glancing blow on the starboard quarter, carrying away the rail and all belonging to it. The upper steel plates of the Kentucky were bent for a distance of about ten feet. Both the Kentucky and Kearsarge freed themselves and the Kearsarge joined the fleet outside the bar.

Rear-Admiral Charles H. Davis, in command of the second division of the squadron, with the Alabama as flagship, explained the accident in detail, but would not comment on it other than to say that the high wind, the action of the tide and the narrowness of the channel were directly responsible. He would not say that the Kentucky was seriously disabled. It was of the opinion that his own vessel, the Alabama, was not.

PATTISON NOW GOVERNOR.

Democratic Anti-Liquor Man Inaugurated in Ohio.

Under unwonted conditions—both physical and political—John M. Pattison was inaugurated at Columbus as Governor of Ohio Monday.

The political peculiarity of the ceremony was that the new executive is a Democrat—the first the buckeye State has called to office in many years. Mr. Pattison introduced a unique feature at the inaugural ceremonies by reviewing the parade while standing in a glass cage which had been erected on the reviewing stand to guard him from the wintry air. Gov. Pattison had been ill with a severe cold for several days and under no other conditions would his physician permit him to venture beyond his home.

The spectacle of a new Governor standing in a glass cage to review the parade celebrating his induction into office attracted an immense crowd of people, every section of the State being represented. Gov. Pattison and his party stood in the cage, which was ten feet high and about twelve feet square, with a peaked roof, and watched the troops and civic organizations as they filed past.

While trying to arrest some Italians at Torrington, Conn., Robert Newitt, a policeman, was fatally shot and L. S. Hull, chief of police, was stabbed. Eight Italians were shooting at each other when the police appeared and the rioters turned their weapons against them. Chief Hull will recover.

President Faulkner, in a letter issued at Cleveland, urges the members of the Amalgamated Window Glass Workers of America to accept a reduction of wages in order to meet the competition of machines made goods.

ROOSEVELT REPORTS ON CANAL.

Sends to Congress the Annual Reports of the Commission.

President Roosevelt transmitted to Congress Monday the annual reports of the Panama canal commission and the Panama Railroad Company, with the Secretary of War's letter of transmittal to him. Speaking of the work on the isthmus, Mr. Roosevelt says:

"All the work so far has been done, not only with the utmost expedition, but in the most careful and thorough manner; and what has been accomplished gives us good reason to believe that the canal will be dug in a shorter time than had been anticipated, and at an expenditure within the estimated amount.

"From time to time various publications have been made, and from time to time in the future various similar publications doubtless will be made, purporting to give an account of jobbery, or immorality, or inefficiency, or misery, as obtaining on the isthmus. I have carefully examined into each of these accusations which seemed worthy of attention. In every instance the accusations have proved to be without foundation in any shape or form.

"Any attempt to cut down the salaries of the officials of the isthmian commission or of their subordinates who are doing important work, would be ruinous from the standpoint of accomplishing the work effectively.

"The zeal, intelligence and efficient public service of the isthmian commission and its subordinates have been noteworthy. I court the fullest, most exhaustive and most searching investigation of any act of theirs, and if any one of them is ever shown to have done wrong his punishment shall be exemplary."

ELOPEMENT PROVES FIASCO.

Miss Busch and Lieut. Scharres May Not Marry After All.

The two principals in the strenuous St. Louis romance, who apparently are not to be married after all. Brewer Adolphus Busch's daughter went to Belleville, Ill., with Scharres, who is a suitor from Stuttgart, Germany. They sought a marriage license, but could not get one. The girl communicated with her father, who ordered her home, saying she could be married there just as well. However, Miss Busch has been taken to the



MISS BUSCH AND SCHARRES.

country home of the family, and rumors that he frightened Miss Busch into consent by displaying a pistol are not discussed by Scharres. He is also reported to have demanded a million-dollar dowry for his intended bride.

From Far and Near.

B. B. Mitchell, a stock broker of San Francisco, Cal., has closed his doors. His liabilities are \$100,000.

Mrs. D. Stuart Null of Wellsboro, Pa., was killed in a runaway accident. Her husband and Miss Emma Mathers were badly injured.

Miss Goldberg, aged 22, a sister of B. B. Goldberg, a merchant of New York, was probably fatally burned at their winter home at Thomasville, Ga.

About 150 cutters, pattern-makers, machine operators and finishers employed by A. B. Kirschbaum & Co., clothing manufacturers at Philadelphia, are on strike for the eight-hour day.

The Board of Public Safety at Louisville, Ky., ordered that the police regulations regarding the standing in aisles and blockading of passages in theaters must be strictly enforced.

Walter A. Florer of Gray Horse, O. T., well known as a trader among the Osage Indians, died in Denver from tuberculosis of the brain.

The announcement was made of the sale of the beautiful home site in Pasadena known as Carmelita to L. V. Harkness, the Standard Oil magnate, for \$180,000.

Charles W. Hecker of Chicago and John Kelly of Memphis, employed on the engineering boat Bannee, were murdered and robbed near St. Joseph, La., by a negro named Asa Bee, who was captured.

TAFT ON THE CANAL.

SECRETARY DISCUSSES ISTHMIAN AFFAIRS.

Letter to the President on Panama Conditions Sent to Congress—Action on Type Delayed—Railway Bond Issue and Market Criticized.

The letter of the Secretary of War to the President transmitting the annual reports of the Isthmian Canal Commission and of the president of the Panama Railroad company, together with the reports, were received by the two houses of Congress.



SECRETARY TAFT.

The report of the canal commission has been made public. Secretary Taft in his letter advised the President that there is to be a majority and a minority report from the board of consulting engineers as to the type of canal to be recommended, and he hopes that the whole matter may be presented for submission to Congress by Feb. 1.

The Secretary takes up the report of the president of the railroad company and discusses two transactions referred to in the report—the issue of bonds and their repurchase by the company and the market contract for feeding employes on the isthmus. Of these the Secretary says:

"The question of issuing the bonds was not submitted to you or to me before final action was taken by the board of directors. The policy of selling the bonds was a doubtful one and should not have been adopted until after a conference with higher governmental authority. I have not the slightest doubt that the president and directors of the company acted in entire good faith in what they did, and, as they thought, for the best interests of the government; but considering the anomalous and peculiar relations between the directors and the company and the government, the bonds should not have been issued without your approval or mine.

"In view of this fact, by your authority, I instructed the president of the railroad company to proceed at once to repurchase the bonds. The bonds themselves contained a stipulation providing that they might be redeemed either Oct. 1 or April 1 upon the payment of the previous six months' interest, the principal, and a premium of 5 per cent.

"Arrangements were made with the purchasers by which the bonds were bought back at the premium paid, 105, and accrued interest to date of repurchase from Oct. 1. To make the repurchase it was at first thought necessary for the railroad company to borrow \$100,000 from the canal commission."

In future, the Secretary says, questions of this character "will not be acted upon until after conference with the proper authorities."

Discusses Market Contract.

Secretary Taft then discusses the cancellation of the market contract for feeding the Panama laborers. He says:

"The reason for the cancellation of the contract was that, in carrying out Mr. Markel's recommendations, the railroad company, under Mr. Stevens, had been able to furnish food to its employes and those of the commission at a less price than that fixed in the contract. Mr. Markel still insists that the estimate of cost made by him was reasonable and that the results obtained by the company were due to two circumstances—one that all the elements of cost to the contractor were not included in the railroad company's estimate for the cost of first-class meats, and the other that the specifications of the contract required for meals for the second class of employes a more expensive meal than the company was actually furnishing."

After stating that Mr. Markel was later allowed \$10,745 for his expenses under the contract, Mr. Taft says:

"This action was taken without consulting either you or me, and was not brought to my attention until some time after my return from Panama on Nov. 15. Looked at from a purely and strictly legal standpoint, if the amendment of the contract with respect to the cancellation of the contract by the President was to be strictly construed, a cancellation would end the obligations of both parties under it and leave them without any claim for damages by either against the other, and therefore Mr. Markel would seem to have no claim against the railroad company after the right of absolute cancellation had been exercised by the president. In other words, it would appear that the payment ordered by the directors was gratuitous and without legal consideration."

Panama Railway Report.

The annual report of the Panama Railroad Company for the ten months ended Oct. 31 last, submitted to Congress, shows that after payment of all fixed charges and cost of operation for the period covered there remains \$354,248, or somewhat in excess of 5 per cent on the capital stock. The total earnings of the road for the transportation of all kinds of traffic show an increase of \$302,204, or 18.77 per cent over the corresponding ten months of the previous year.

Merciful Rabbit Trapping.

It is confidently stated that the shocking cruelties of the steel trap in common use for catching rabbits can readily and cheaply be prevented by twisting a few turns of copper or brass wire closely around each jaw, below the teeth, where the spring flies up, so as to insure the teeth being always fixed a full quarter of an inch open when the trap is sprung. Rabbits are thus caught with equal ease, and when taken out of the traps are found uninjured. To complete their purpose, the traps must be placed far down in the holes and be regularly visited early and late. These modified traps are most successful, with advantages relative to food, while dogs, cats and birds derive proportionate freedom from suffering when trapped by mistake.

Don't Wait.

Hanna, Wyo., Jan. 15th (Special)—Delays are dangerous. Don't wait until all the awful symptoms of Kidney Disease develop in your system, and your physician shakes his head gravely as he diagnoses your case. If you suspect your kidneys, turn at once to the great Kidney Specific—Dodd's Kidney Pills. You can do so with every confidence. A few of Dodd's Kidney Pills taken in time have saved many a life. The early symptoms of Kidney Disorder may be the forerunners of Bright's Disease, Diabetes and Dropsy. Mr. W. H. Jeffries, a resident here, tells below how he treated an attack of Kidney Trouble. He says:

"Before I commenced taking Dodd's Kidney Pills, I had always a tired feeling every morning when I got out of my bed, and my Kidneys were in very bad shape. There was always a dull heavy pain across my loins, and I had hard work to stoop. I took two boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills, the tired feeling and back pains have entirely gone, and I am now cured."

No Cause for Alarm.

"I see there are a couple of oil magnets in the audience," said the minister to the doorkeeper at the lecture; "give them back their money. I won't have any tainted money!"

"You needn't worry," replied the doorkeeper; "they both came in on free passes!"

Numerous Pictures.

Bacon—I see the Baron has two oil paintings in one of his rooms.

Egbert—They are his ancestors, I suppose.

"But in another one close by there are hundreds of pictures."

"Yes, no doubt they are his creditors."

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding Protruding Piles. Druggists are authorized to refund money if PAIN OINTMENT fails to cure in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

Buying Cheap Trees.

There is an almost universal complaint among fruit growers that the trees obtained from nurseries nowadays do not possess vitality nor bear the quality of fruit that did trees years ago. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that the demand for trees at low prices has induced nurserymen to obtain their scions for propagating purposes from trees in the nursery rather than from selected bearing trees. In other words, the individual merit of the tree from which to perpetuate is no longer considered. We appreciate the value of proper breeding with our stock, but can see only the cost of the tree when it comes to that part of the investment. It is expensive for nurserymen to obtain proper material for first-class trees, and such trees can not be sold for a few cents each.

Fortunately, there is likely to be a decided change in this condition, for some of the larger nurseries are preparing to offer trees at different prices, strictly in accordance with the excellence of the tree in all ways. As these men are reputable, there will be no doubt about honest dealings. Twenty years ago, when our first orchard was set, we paid 25 cents each for apple trees in hundred lots. Last year we bought better-looking trees for 8 cents each, but we do not believe they will bear fruit to compare with that given by the trees of the old orchard for many years back. Don't forget there is such a thing as false economy.

UNCONSCIOUS POISONING.

How It Often Happens from Coffee.

"I had no idea," writes a Duluth man, "that it was the coffee I had been drinking all my life that was responsible for the headaches which were growing upon me, for the dyspepsia that no medicines would relieve, and for the acute nervousness which unfitted me not only for work but also for the most ordinary social functions. "But at last the truth dawned upon me, I forthwith bade the harmful beverage a prompt farewell, ordered in some Postum and began to use it. The good effects of the new food drink were apparent within a very few days. My headaches grew less frequent, and decreased in violence, my stomach grew strong and able to digest my food without distress of any kind, my nervousness has gone and I am able to enjoy life with my neighbors and sleep soundly o' nights. My physical strength and nerve power have increased so much that I can do double the work I used to do, and feel no undue fatigue afterwards."

"This improvement set in just as soon as the old coffee poison had so worked out of my system as to allow the food elements in the Postum to get a hold to build me up again. I cheerfully testify that it was Postum and Postum alone that did all this, for when I began to drink it I 'threw physic to the dogs.'" Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason. Read the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville," in 10 pages.