

## TRAIN WRECK ON BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD THE WORST IN MANY YEARS

The awful disaster to the Duquesne flyer on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad near Dawson, Pa., Dec. 24, makes a sad Christmas for many families. It is not only the worst railroad calamity this year but the worst in many years. There have been thirty derailments and collisions during the year where the loss of life has been exceptionally large, but the collision on the Big Four railroad of No. 19, when thirty-one were killed and seventeen injured, had been the worst up to the present horror. In this one twice as many were killed and five times as many injured. It may be interesting in connection with these thirty disasters to know that twenty of them were caused by collisions and ten by derailments, which would seem to indicate that more attention is paid to the condition of the road than to the details of running trains.

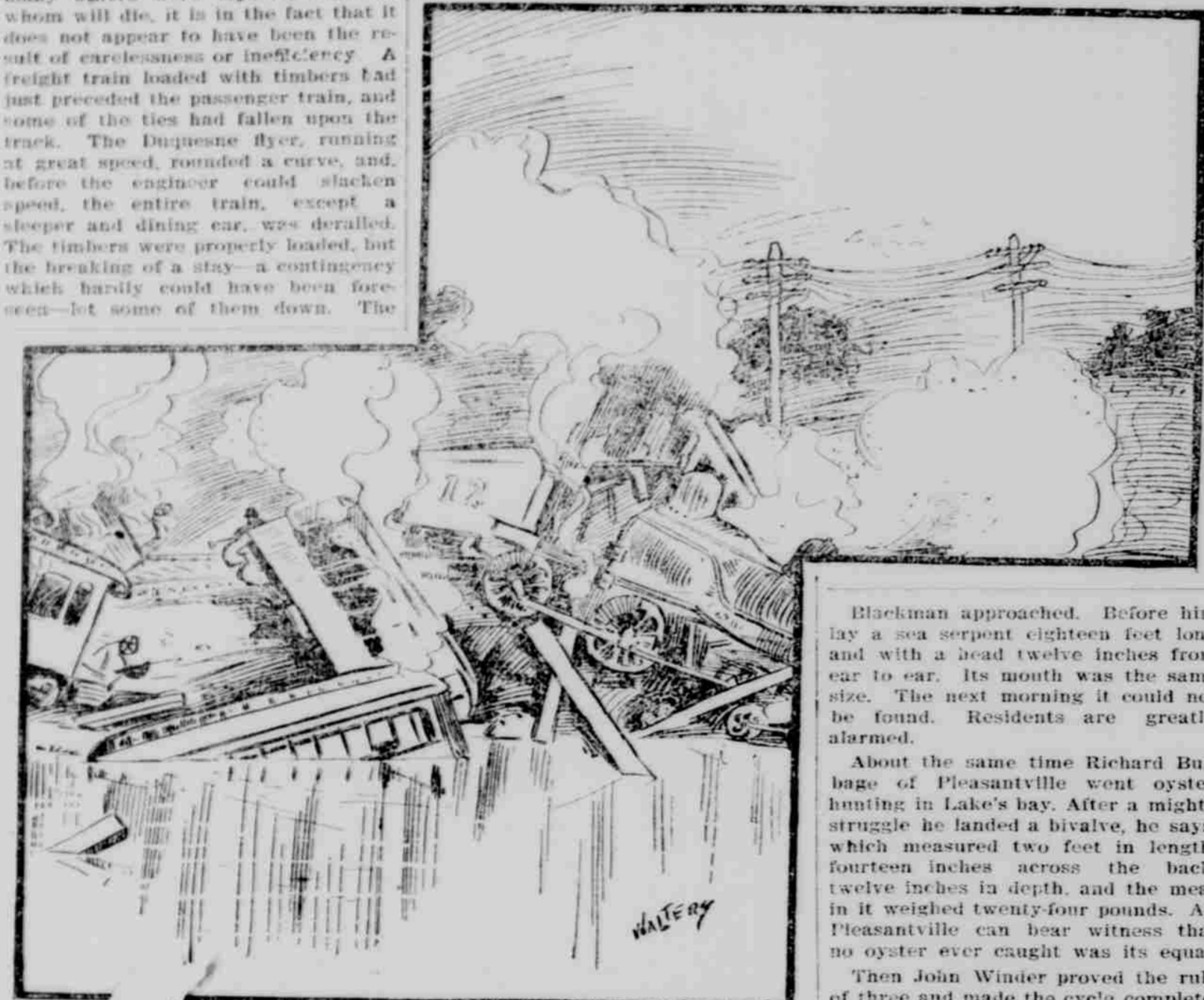
If there can be any consolation in such an accident, by which over three score persons were killed outright and many others were injured, some of whom will die, it is in the fact that it does not appear to have been the result of carelessness or inefficiency. A freight train loaded with timbers had just preceded the passenger train, and some of the ties had fallen upon the track. The Duquesne flyer, running at great speed, rounded a curve, and before the engineer could slacken speed, the entire train, except a sleeper and dining car, was derailed. The timbers were promptly hoisted, but the breaking of a stay—a contingency which hardly could have been foreseen—let some of them down. The

baggage and express cars were thrown into the Youngs Bayou river. The smoker followed the engine and landed squarely on top of it. This allowed the escaping steam from the engine to fill the car. The smoker was packed to its utmost capacity, and all the passengers were cooked alive.

Most of the killed were foreigners who were literally roasted to death, the baggage and immediately escaping fire. Not a single passenger in the car escaped with his life, and it is estimated that at least forty of the dead were in the smoker.

An operator at "V R" tower on the Pittsburg and Lake Erie railroad, across the Youngs Bayou river, was the first to read word of the accident and to send for relief. He was watching the Duquesne flyer as it was speeding along the Baltimore and Ohio tracks above the river.

He saw the cars pile high in the air



Dr. T. B. Mehard of Connettsville, Ind., who assisted in rescue work and attended many of the injured in the wreck near that city Dec. 24, has given a scientific medical version of the cause of the deaths. He said:

"Many persons have been mistaken as to what caused the deaths of the wreck victims, believing they were due to scalds and burns. Aside from the engineer and fireman, who died from crushing violence, the death of all the others was due to the inhalation of superheated steam, thus causing an edema of the larynx and in-

terfering with respiration, death resulting from the want of oxygen. In other words, the victims died of air starvation. "The word edema practically means an escape of the watery element of the blood in the surrounding tissues, thus causing pressure on the opening from the lungs to the throat, in the place where the vocal cords are attached. This change in the vocal cords and larynx, practically a scalding or cooking, caused the alteration in voice sounds emitted by those who inhaled the deadly steam. This death is one of the most horrible known to medical science."

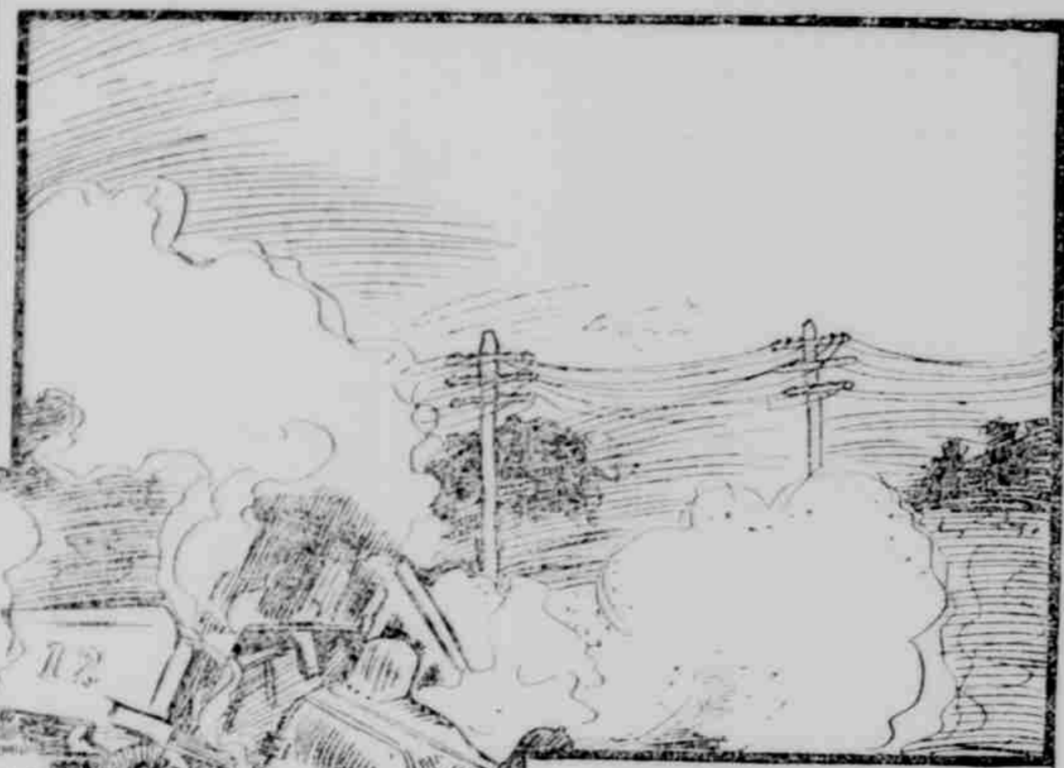
Information Seems to Show Disaster Was Unavoidable.

The wreck was caused by the breaking of the castings on a carbox of bridge timbers on a westbound freight train which had passed Laurel Run not more than fifteen minutes before the passenger train. The wreck occurred on a curve, and it was impossible for Engineer Thornley to see far enough ahead to detect the obstruction on the tracks.

The big Atlantic type engine plunged into the timbers at a velocity of sixty miles an hour. The engine plowed into the embankment, and the

Offers American Army Nurses. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, the noted daughter of a noted father (the astronomer) and the only woman ever appointed assistant surgeon in the United States army, recently offered to the Japanese minister at Washington the services of American ex-army nurses in case war should break out between Japan and Russia to care for the Japanese soldiers. It was Dr. McGee's work in the war with Spain to organize the army nurse corps, and a permanent part of the army; she resigned three years ago, having got the corps into working order. Mr. Takahira answered with due appreciation of the offer, but doubted whether the occasion would arise for its acceptance.

Fortune Left to Poor Man. John Snyder, a baker in the United States navy and stationed at Mare Island on the Pacific coast, has come into a fortune of \$250,000 left by his father. Snyder, who has received honorable discharge, had been four years in the navy. The fortune is in bonds, real estate and cash.



Blackman approached. Before him lay a sea serpent eighteen feet long and with a head twelve inches from car to car. Its mouth was the same size. The next morning it could not be found. Residents are greatly alarmed.

About the same time Richard Burdage of Pleasantville went oyster hunting in Lake's bay. After a mighty struggle he landed a bivalve, he says, which measured two feet in length, fourteen inches across the back, twelve inches in depth, and the meat in it weighed twenty-four pounds. All Pleasantville can bear witness that no oyster ever caught was its equal.

Then John Winder proved the rule of three and made the cycle complete. Winder is mate of the yacht Pittsburg, and he pulled a lobster up on a codfish line, while fishing twenty miles off shore. It weighed, Winder says, forty-five pounds.

"It was either a man-eater or the original lobster," says Winder. All Atlantic City is agast at these happenings.

JOKE ON HENRY IRVING. Famous Actor Not as Well Known as He Thought. Henry Irving talks with glee of an incident which occurred shortly after he had made his name famous the world over by a series of successes in the Lyceum theater, London. He was standing in the portico of the theater one day when he saw passing an old friend with whom he had played in his days of struggle. Stepping forward Irving grasped the old actor by the hand, saying: "Smith, my dear fellow, I'm glad to see you. How are you getting on?" "Oh, so so," was the reply. "I've been over the country with a rather poor fit-out for the past year, and how about you, old man? Are you doing anything?"

Change in German Embassy. Under the hand of its new mistress, the American wife of Baron von Sternburg, the German embassy in Washington has emerged from the character of a somewhat nondescript bachelor abode. It has presented of recent years and begins now to have a cabinet of its own and to reflect something of the taste and individuality of the woman to whom for the time being it is home. The baroness was Miss Laughlin before her marriage.

Justice Brown His Own Justice. Though a very stout man, Justice Brown of the United States supreme court blacks his own shoes nearly every morning. The justice says he feels proud to imitate Abraham Lincoln even to that extent. On getting out of bed he dons his underwear and socks, puts on his shoes and then applies the brush. When fully dressed the distinguished jurist finds it somewhat difficult to catch sight of his foot covering.

Minister Admitted to the Bar. For years Rev. J. E. Herman of Millford, N. H., has been studying law, and now he has been admitted to the bar. "I have done all this study," he says,

The Jefferson Memorial. The officers of the Jefferson Memorial association, which organization is to erect a memorial building in Washington, are considering a proposition to enlarge the scope of their project so that the proposed structure shall commemorate all the signers of the declaration of independence instead of its author only. The building is to have four corner stones, conspicuously placed above the foundation lines. One is to symbolize the patriotic achievements of Jefferson, another his educational work, the third is to typify his part in the enactment of the Virginia statute for religious freedom and the fourth will represent his advocacy of the freedom of the press.

Wife of Senator Reed Smoot. Mrs. Reed Smoot, the wife of Utah's besieged senator, is an attractive, youthful-looking woman, much pleased with her lot. She has known her husband since his boyhood. Though a devoted family woman, she takes a keen interest in politics and has been president of the Women's Republican club in Provo.

Stified Their Constituents. There are twenty-five men who began their service in the house of representatives in the fifty-third congress who have served continuously since and who have now entered upon their sixth terms.

## SKETCH FROM LIFE OF THE WORLD'S WEALTHIEST CITIZEN



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER. A Sketch from Life, by George Varian, in Cleveland, October, 1902.

John D. Rockefeller's illness of several years ago left him wholly laid. The skin of his head is like parchment. He has not been to his office in the Standard Oil building in New York for six or seven years. While in that city he seldom very seldom goes down town. He does not often even go to board meetings. He has

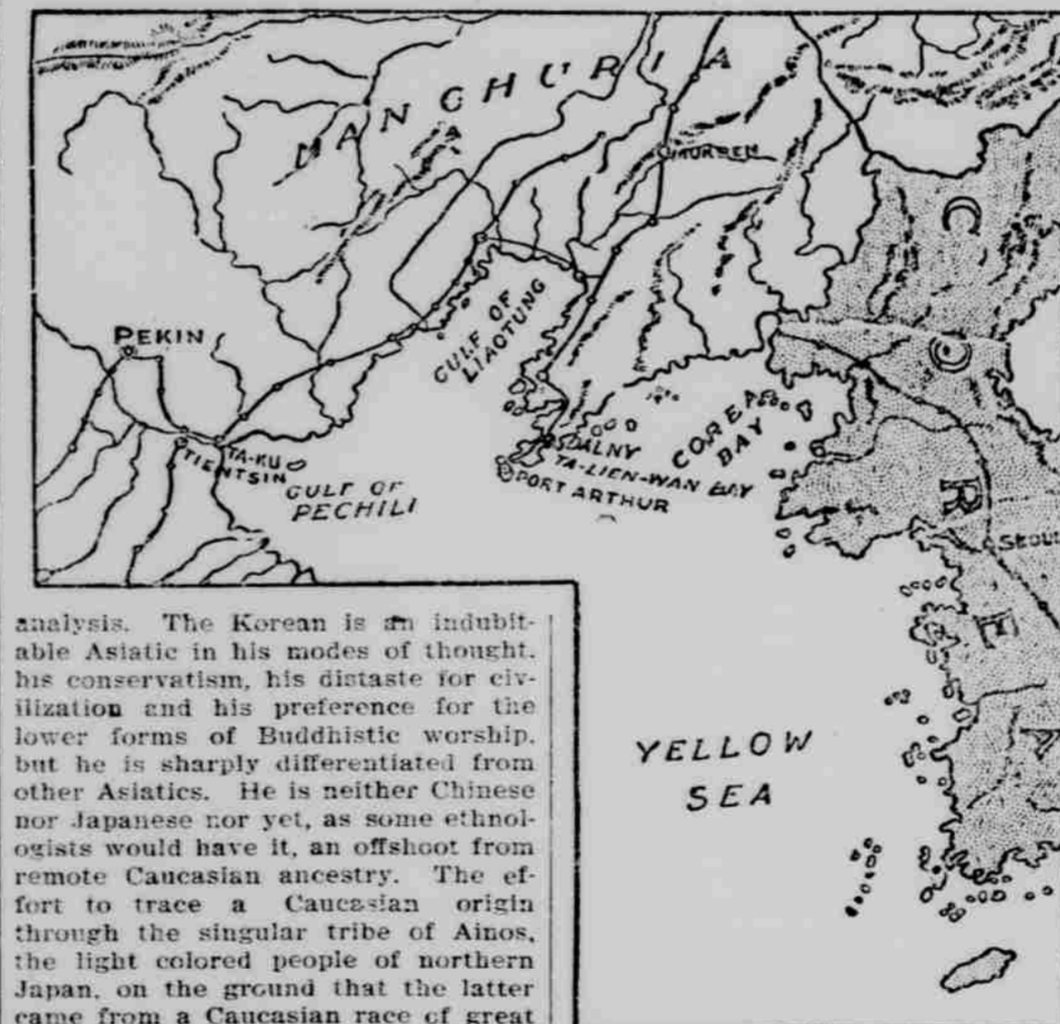
not seen his chief business agent for a year or more, having talked with him only by telephone. It is a very lonely life he leads; at least for other men it would be lonely. He lives in Gears, except when he plays golf for his health. He reads much. His age is 64.—Special Correspondence of the Boston Globe.

## KOREA AWAITING HER FATE

Not the least curious feature of the critical situation rapidly developing in the far east is the attitude of Korea and the apparent apathy of the Koreans themselves in the face of the threat of national extinction. Their country forms the bone of contention and may yet be the fighting ground upon which Russia and Japan are to settle the question of supremacy in the Orient, but their possible preferences and their future position are still a mystery.

Presumably some light might be thrown upon the question of Korea's ultimate destiny and upon the probable tendencies of its people by an examination of their racial characteristics, but even here the student meets with difficulties which defy

With a population variously estimated at from 16,000,000 to 15,000,000, and a territory about as large as the area of Great Britain, Korea awaits the decree of fate and apparently has less voice in the matter than any of the other nations concerned. The official classes by turns have paid deference to China, to Japan, and to Russia. Korea's dependency in one way or another upon the two former powers having lasted for centuries. The people themselves, docile, tractable and indifferent, are too unenlightened to care, though since Japan's aggressions in Korea in 1894 they have been credited with a deep-seated dislike of the Japanese. Russia alone, with its slow-moving policy of gradual encroachment and adroit intrigue,



Where Korea and Manchuria meet seems to have gained ground with out arising antagonism. India Prince in New York. A prince of India has arrived in New York, tall, handsome, rich, a law student in England and a ward of the British foreign office. He is the Sahabzada Nasir Ali Khan, brother of his highness the Nawab Hamid Ali Khan of Rampur. He has come on a visit of observation, not in search of an American wife, and at present the guest of Mrs. Henry Duveen of New York, where he will spend a few weeks. In talk and manner he is a typical young Englishman, except for his very dark complexion.

Queen of the Iron Trade. J. Pierpont Morgan's great rival in the iron world is Miss Antoinette Bertha Krupp, heiress to the great Krupp gun and iron works in Germany. Miss Krupp is probably the richest young woman in Europe. She is the elder of the two daughters of the late Baron Alfred Krupp. His last will and testament made her heiress to all his millions, including the gun works at Essen, the ship works and wharves at Kiel and all his iron ore and coal mines in Westphalia and in Spain. Conservative estimates make the value of this great property at least \$75,000,000. When Miss Krupp becomes of age all this wealth becomes hers absolutely. She is 19 years old.

Diaz Partial to Americans. Though a very busy man President Diaz of Mexico rarely if ever refuses an audience to American visitors. Usually a letter sent a day or two ahead is sufficient to secure an interview. The general's knowledge of English is hardly more than rudimentary, so he always has an interpreter at hand on such occasions.

## SISTERS OF CHARITY

Use Pe-ru-na for Coughs, Colds, Grip and Catarrh—A Congressman's Letter.



In every country of the civilized world the Sisters of Charity are known. Not only do they minister to the spiritual and intellectual needs of the charges committed to their care, but they also minister to their bodily needs.

With so many children to take care of and to protect from disease and disaster, Pe-ru-na was suffering from fatigue, loss of voice, and loss of strength. The result of the treatment was most satisfactory. She found great relief, and after further use of the medicine we hope to be able to say she is entirely cured.—Sisters of Charity.

The following letter is from Congressman Meekison, of Nashville, Ohio:

Dear Sir:—The young girl who used Pe-ru-na was suffering from fatigue, loss of voice, and loss of strength. The result of the treatment was most satisfactory. She found great relief, and after further use of the medicine we hope to be able to say she is entirely cured.—Sisters of Charity.

The young girl was under the care of the Sisters of Charity and used Pe-ru-na for catarrh of the throat with good results as the above testifies. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio.

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W. N. U., Omaha. No. 1—1904

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