Condensed Masked men blew up a mile of the partially completed pipe lines of the Kansas Natural Gas company. No arrests have been made. It is understood that the farmers in the section where the piping was destroyed are hostile to the company as it is a foreign corporation.

Marcus D. Grover, general counsel for the Great Northern railway is dead at his home in St Paul, Minn., at the age of 62 years.

The oldest past master of the order of Odd Fellows in this country, James P. Sanders, was asphyxiated by gas in his home in Yonkers, N. Y., Dec. 18. He was 86 years old.

An Associated Press dispatch dated Athens. Ga., Dec. 18, says: "One negro seeks release from a condition of servitude from one of his own race. In Clark county Robert Christopher, colorea, through his attorney, has sworn out a warrant before Commissioner Kinnebrew, charging his half brother, George Christopher, with compelling him to work for the latter without any legal right to do so, and he seeks the aid of the federal court in procuring his release. The trial of the accused negro is awaited with unusual interest."

The name of W. B. Innes, member of the British Columbian legislature for Albernia, Vancouver island, has been prominently mentioned as the next governor of Yukon.

The sash and door factory of Phillip Rinn & Co., was destroyed by fire. A very disastrous accident was anticipated for some time during the fire as the factory is close to two large gas supply tanks of the People's Gas Light and Coke company.

During the past week the New England coast has experienced one of the worst blizzards for many years. New York, Massachusets and Rhode Island were right in the path of the storm and a great amount of snow fell in these states.

Four men were burned to death and four others badly injured in a fire on Standard Oil barge No. 91, near Long Branch, N. J., Dec. 19.

The board of health in Mexico denies the reports given out regarding starvation and disease in the northwestern part of the state of Sinaloa, Mex.

An Associated Press dispatch dated New York, Dec. 19, says: "J. Pierpont Morgan today purchased the oldest piano in the world from Rudolph Vivoli of Firensola, Italy, who is now in Joplin, for \$6,000. The instrument was exhibited at the Louisiana Purchase exposition by Mr. Vivoli. It was bought in 1717 by Rissni, a famous musician of Europe."

Mr. L. D. McKinney of Portsmouth, Ohio, aged 88 years is dead. Mr. McKinney had his funeral sermon preached in 1896 and ten thousand people attended the funeral services which were held eight years ago.

The magnificent home of William Patterson, the distiller, at Anchorage, a suburb of Louisville, Ky., was burned last night with its contents. The loss is about \$60,000, partially insured.

A communication from Secretary Hay recommending the establishment of a corps of student interpreters in Japan and Korea-five to be provided for the former country and three for the latter—the total cost of which is estimated at \$8,-000, was forwarded to the house.

Senator Depew said his candidacy for the senatorship of New York was in the hands of his friends and he would not withdraw from the canvass because of any action the conference might have taken. No statement was secured from ex-Governor Black.

The supply of food is said to be running short in many towns between Evansville, Ind., and Paducah, Ky., where the supplies are brought in by boat and the blocking of navigation makes their situation even more serious.

Mrs. Cassie Chadwick, the woman who has been charged with forgeries to the extent of millions of dollars has been removed to Cleveland, Ohio, to stand trial. She is in a state of nervous

collapse, however, and too ill to appear before Referee Remington who has the bankruptcy case against her.

The London Times has received the following telegram: "China having consented to pay the indemnity (growing out of the Boxer troubles) in gold, the ministers of Russia, Germany and France are now disputing among themselves as to what fresh terms they can extort from the Chinese and are seeking to force an arrangement whereby certain banks will make further profit out of the indemnity. Great Britain supports China, who counts upon the assistance of America and Japan also to secure a just settlement."

A carrier pigeon bearing on one of its legs the inscription "A. C. H. 396," arrived in Utica, N. Y., Dec. 21. The bird is thought to be the property of Adolph C. Harn, a pigeon farmer who went to Southern California, about a year ago, taking his pigeons with him. If this is so, the long flight of the bird is unparalleled.

Ten earthquakes took place, the last one vew severe, at Panama and frightened the residents so badly that they camped in the streets. These earthquakes are supposed to have been caused by the volcano Poas in Costa Rica.

In response to appeals from missionaries of the Christian churches in Japan a committee has been organized in the United States to secure contributions in aid of the sick and wounded of both the Japanese and Russian armies and widows and orphans in Japan. Bishop M. C. Harris, Methodist Episcopal bishop in Japan and Korea, had much to do with the movement and he has gone to Japan to organize a relief committee.

The French foreign office has received confirmation of the London Times' report that the sultan of Morocco has dismissed all his foreign military instructors, including the French. Following the Perdicaris affair and other disorders France sought to stop the the condition of anarchy by the organization of an effective civil and military force under French officers.

Miss Olive Hall died at the hospital at Wichita, 'Kas., yesterday from the effects of refreshments supposed to have contained poison, eaten at the May-Weimer wedding in Wellington. This is the third death from this cause and it is feared other persons will die.

Two banks, one at Angleton and another at Velasco, Tex., both of them owned by W. W. Hoskins, closed their doors yesterday as the result of a run which started Saturday at Angleton. No statement of assets or liabilities was made.

Major E. H. Hardin who was charged with neglect in not having a sufficient guard at Malata prison, Manila, and who was court martialed, has been acquitted.

An Associated Press dispatch dated Boston, December 21, says: "Judge Braley, in the supreme judicial court today, gave a hearing on the question of allowing the demurrer of the defendants in the suit of the Bay State Gas company of Delaware against Thomas W. Lawson and others to restrain Lawson and Weidenfeld from parting with 50,290 shares of Bay State Gas company of Delaware stock, 374 (\$1,000) 5 per cent bonds of the Buffalo City Gas company and 140 (\$1,000) debentures of the Buffalo City Gas company,

Kingdon Gould, son of George Gould, and a student of Columbia university, drew a revolver and fired over the heads of several sophomores of the school who were pursuing him in order to make him furnish the fun at a sophomore dinner. He then took refuge in a house and had to be rescued by his father and three other men. The incident has occasioned bitter feeling at the university and Police Commissioned McAdoo says that he must investigate the case as young Gould "has no more right to carry a pistol without a warrant than anyone else."

About 30,000 Hibernians of Massachusetts have adopted a resolution opposing the ratification of a treaty with Great Britain by the United States. The resolutions say: "Such a treaty of arbitration thus obtained will have all the force and effect that a treaty of alliance would have

and concurrent action with England under these conditions would inevitably lead to war without the consent of congress."

The resolution of the Moscow town council which advocates popular control of government and freedom of press and of meeting, has been officially condemned by the governor of Moscow. Sviatopolk-Mirskey has demanded from the mayor an official explanation of his act.

Admiral Sir Erasmus Ommanney, the "father of the British navy" is dead at his home in Portsmouth, England, after a long illness. He was the last survivor of the battle of Navarino in which the Turkish fleet was destroyed. He was 90 years of age.

Professor Budd, for twenty-two years head of the horticultural department of the lowa state agricultural college and one of the most widely known pomologists in the world is dead.

A beef trust case is now in the hands of the supreme court of Helena, Mont. The defendant companies are Swift & Co., Armour & Co., Cudahy & Co., and the Hammond Packing company.

Governor Van Sant has announced his formal entry into the senatorial race to succeed Senator Clapp of Minnesota.

In a dense fog which darkened the streets of Paris, six people were killed in a collision between two cars. A score of others were injured.

The drouth which has prevailed in Illinois and Pennsylvania has been broken by a liberal downpour of rain. Ohio also received a share.

The business district of Sioux City, Iowa, suffered a \$2,000,000 loss by fire on the night of December 23. The fire started in a department store and before it could be extinguished two entire blocks were destroyed. One man lost his

President Roosevelt, who has been constantly receiving and conferring with callers, has announced his intention to take a rest until after the holidays.

Mrs. Roosevelt sent two barrels of candy to the Cove Neck public school at Oyster Bay where the younger Roosevelt children attended.

Peter, the king of Servia has signed the new press law which abolishes freedom of the press in that country.

Princess Louise, former crown princess of Saxony, has been refused the privilege of seeing her children, whom she had come to visit and for which visit she will forfeit her allowance of \$7,500. The princess was to be paid this amount if she should not set foot on German soil. She is overcome with grief at the reception she got.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Paris, Dec. 23, says: "There was a violent discussion of the spying system in the chamber of deputies today. The opposition deputies asserted that the secret official reports touched members of President Loubet's far.ily, Minister of War Berteau derided the action of the opposition in appearing to defend the president. He said an officer would be immediately relieved from duty if it was proved that he had made a report referring to the presidential household. Many noisy demonstrations followed requiring a suspension of the session."

The dean and faculty of Columbia university. students of which seminary attempted to haze Kingdon Gould, have suspended the paricipants in the hazing attempt. Their action has met with a storm of protest from both sophomore and freshman classes.

The commission appointed to inquire into the North Sea affair met at the foreign office at 10 o'clock Dec. 22, after the fifth member had been elected the meeting adjourned until Jan. 9.

A message from Alcazar, about sixteen miles from Tangier, states that the tribesmen have surrounded Alcazar and threaten to sack the town unless the French consul and one of the British subjects are handed over to them.