

A WARSHIP RAMMED

A BRITISH TRAMP STEAMER RUNS DOWN SYREN.

First Serious Mishap to Occur to Any of the Auxiliary Naval Ships — A Great Jagged Hole Amidships Below the Water Line.

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 7.—The first serious accident to any vessel of the auxiliary navy occurred at Hampton Roads when the converted yacht Syren was rammed by a British tramp steamship. The little vessel, which closely resembles the Gloucester, was just swinging to her anchorage point in the lee of the Dolphin and as she came broadside across the channel, the big steamship Topaz, coming out from Norfolk directly in the Syren's wake, struck her with bows on.

The Syren was thrown almost on her beam ends. The steamship promptly backed out and continued on her course out the capes at full speed without stopping to ascertain the damage she had done or to render assistance. The captain will be proceeded against at the next port she puts into. The Syren immediately signaled the flagship: "Rammed; filling rapidly."

"Heck yourself," was wig-wagged from the San Francisco in reply, and the Syren promptly made for the shore at full speed. She glided upon the sand without injury and was immediately surrounded by launches and boats ordered to her assistance by the flagship. Fore and aft anchors were rigged to hold her and an examination of her injuries revealed a great jagged hole amidships below the water line. It will be temporarily repaired until the vessel can be docked at the navy yard. Her upper works were also stove to badly.

EIGHTEEN DEAD IN A WRECK.

A Train Crashes Through a Loaded Trolley Car at Cohoes, N. Y.

COHOES, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Shortly before 8 o'clock last night a trolley car of the Troy City Railroad company was struck by the night boat special of the Delaware & Hudson at a crossing at the west end of the Hudson river bridge, which connects this city with Lansingburg, and its load of human freight was hurled into the air. Eighteen of the thirty-five passengers are dead and at least ten of the remainder will die.

The cars entering the city from Lansingburg were crowded with passengers returning from a Labor day picnic at Rensselaer park, a pleasure resort near Troy. Car No. 192 of the Troy City railroad was the victim of the disaster. It came over the bridge about 7:33 o'clock laden with a merry party of people fresh from the enjoyment of the day.

The motor car was struck directly in the center by the engine of the train, which was going at a high rate of speed. The accident came without the slightest warning. The car was upon the tracks before the train loomed in sight and no power on earth could have saved it. The motorman evidently saw the train approaching as he reached the track and opened his controller, but in vain. With a crash that was heard for blocks, the engine struck into the lighter vehicle. The effect was horrible. The motor car parted in two, both sections being hurled into the air in splinters.

The mass of humanity, for the car was crowded to overflowing, was torn and mangled. Those in the front of the car met with the worst fate. The force of the collision was there experienced to the greatest degree and every human being in that section was killed. The scene was horrible. Bodies had been hurled into the air and their headless and limbless trunks were found, in some cases, fifty feet from the crossing.

The pilot of the engine was smashed and amid its wreckage were the mangled corpses of two women. The passengers of the train suffered no injury except a violent shock.

The majority of the passengers of the trolley car were young people. They included many women.

The crash was frightful in its results. Headless women with gay summer dresses bathed in their own and the blood of others; limbs without trunks or any means of identifying to whom they belonged; women and men's heads with crushed and distorted features; bodies crushed and flattened; these sights constituted a spectacle most horrible to behold.

WARSHIP SAILS FOR HAVANA.

Cruiser Resolute Leaves New York With the Cuban Commission on Board.

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—Rear Admiral Sampson, Major General James A. Wade, Major General Matthew C. Duncan and Lieutenant Colonel John W. Claus, members of the Cuban commission, left here for Cuba yesterday on the Resolute. Each commissioner had a number of aides and secretaries.

Eating Power of Animals.

A horse will eat in a year nine times his own weight, a cow nine times, an ox six times and a sheep six times.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—

Chaplain McIntyre, reported in a dispatch from Washington as having been ordered court-martialed for certain utterances said to have been made by him against naval officials, arrived here some days ago. He professed to be greatly surprised when told of the action of the department, and says that he has been misquoted and misrepresented by the newspapers and that the reported interviews with him, published by several Eastern papers, were garbled. He says he will prove his conduct to have been above par and not unbecoming an officer.

QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS

Coronation of Wilhelmina Takes Place at Amsterdam.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 7.—The coronation of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands began with a salute of 101 guns and a majestic chorus, performed by trumpeters from the crenellated towers of the five great churches of Amsterdam. The procession was headed by the kings of arms, with the heralds in their gorgeous antique costumes, bearing long trumpets adorned with pendant flags. All the splendor of the royal retinue was overlooked by the vast crowds of people, whose eyes were turned upon the central figure of this imposing function—the young queen, on foot, amidst the people, decked with all the emblems of royalty.

At her head was a diadem of diamonds. Her robe was of white silk with a long train, under a mantle of rich, red velvet, on which the lions of Nassau were displayed in gold embroidery. The mantle was bordered with ermine.

Her Majesty carried herself with grace and fortitude, but her blanched cheeks were evidence of the profound emotion inspired by the greatness of the occasion.

The sword of state was carried before the young queen by a general. The jewels worn by the queen were part of those stolen in Brussels, September 9, 1835. Some of them were recovered by the police of New York, a year later, through information which a Frenchman named Roumagne gave to the Dutch minister at Washington.

The roars of loyal cheers grew louder and more sustained as Her Majesty proceeded to the church which had meanwhile been filled with brilliantly robed women and uniformed civil and military authorities, naval officers and members of the diplomatic corps. The interior of the church disclosed a magnificent wealth of drapery, banners, palms and flowers. In front of the chancel was the throne, of gorgeous crimson and gold velvet, with the crown, orb, scepter and sword lying on low stands. On the right of the throne were members of the royal family and upon the left were the Indian princes from the Dutch possessions.

As the procession of the queen mother entered the church the assembly arose and remained standing. The queen mother wore a low necked dress of light mauve color, trimmed with lace and covered with pearls. On her head was a splendid tiara and on her breast were displayed the insignia of the Dutch orders. The maids of honor and the ladies in waiting were dressed in beautiful costumes, blazing with diamonds. They followed the queen mother who took up a position upon the left of the throne, but who remained standing until the arrival of her daughter, the sovereign.

Suddenly the king of arms, from the portal of the church, heralded the arrival of Queen Wilhelmina, who entered the building escorted by a train of generals, each bearing an emblazoned banner.

The choir, which included the greatest singers of Holland, sang "Wilhelmus Van Nassauwe."

The queen, looking well in her robes of state, bowed from side to side as she passed on to the throne, and, reaching it, she turned and again bowed and took her seat. A moment later her majesty arose and, in a clear and perfectly calm voice spoke as follows:

"Gentlemen of the States General: Since the death of my ever lamented father, and until I have completed my eighteenth year, the government has been in the hands of my mother. I have now assumed the government and I have issued a proclamation to my well beloved people."

After her address, the queen took the oath and the eldest king-at-arms proclaimed her, "Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands."

"The hour has now arrived when, amid the faithful states general and invoking the holy name God, I shall plead myself to the people of the Netherlands, to maintain their rights and privileges. On this date I draw more closely the solemn tie existing between myself and my people. The very ancient union of the Netherlands and of the house of Orange is confirmed afresh. Beautiful is my task. I am happy and grateful to be able to govern the Netherlands people, a nation small in numbers, but great in virtue of its strength of character. I esteem it a privilege and a pleasing duty to devote all my strength to the prosperity and welfare of our fatherland. The house of Orange can never, yes, never, do enough for the Netherlands. I need your support and co-operation, and I am confident you will lend me these, in order that we may be able to work together for the honor and prosperity of our Netherlands people. May this be the aim of our life and may God bless you and my labors for the salvation of the fatherland."

The representatives of the state, general then swore allegiance to the queen and the procession returned to the palace.

Six thousand homing pigeons, brought to Amsterdam for the occasion, were liberated to carry the news to the low countries.

Fields Are Being Cultivated Near Havana.

Now That the War Is Over.

HAVANA, Sept. 7.—The Cuban forces are now concentrating at Rojos, near Calabaren, where they are expected to lay down their arms. General Rodriguez reports that General Maximo Gomez is in very feeble health. The news of a concentration of the Cuban forces with a view to laying down arms and ending the war has already had a good effect. The cultivation of fields has been resumed in some quarters. On several estates near Guines, this province, work has been begun at a daily wage of 70 cents.

POSTMASTER IN CUBA.

FIRST AMERICAN POSTOFFICE AT SANTIAGO.

Presided Over by Major James E. Stuart, Late Inspector of the Chicago Division—Story of His Life—Personal Characteristics.



THE new postmaster at Santiago, Maj. James E. Stuart, is a Scotchman by birth—in all else, it might be remarked, he is an intense American. He has the dominant traits of the Scot; he is discreet, persevering and honest, qualities which are demanded of any man who aspires to fill the place of an inspector in the post-office department. He came to this country in 1851, when he was 10 years old, and as soon as he could comprehend the meaning of legal terms he began to study law. He was a student when the war of the rebellion broke out, but he dropped his books for the musket and went to the front as a sergeant in the Twenty-first Wisconsin volunteers. The battle of Stone river made him a second lieutenant, Chickamauga added a bar to his shoulder straps, and Atlanta made him a captain. General Harrison C. Hobart then made him one of his staff, and he remained a staff officer until the close of the war. Major Stuart entered the railway postal service in 1866, when that branch of the postoffice department was in its infancy. He gained promotion rapidly, and in 1871 was chief clerk in the railway mail service for Iowa. He could have been superintendent of the service, but declined the place because it would necessitate his removal to another part of the country. The work of the inspector's department attracted him, and he was

appointed thereto upon application. This was the beginning of Major Stuart's real career. He soon demonstrated to the government that he was especially qualified for the peculiar detective work required of an inspector, and the department soon showed its appreciation by intrusting some of its biggest and most important cases to his handling. He invariably succeeded in what he went about. His splendid work in ferreting out the famous star route frauds in the west secured his appointment as inspector in charge of the northwest division in 1876, and this enlarged Major Stuart's opportunities for fine achievements. Through his efforts and by his suggestions the postoffice department succeeded in driving the Louisiana lottery out of the United States, Major Stuart advising changes in the law which would enable prosecution of lottery companies at the point where their mail was delivered. His most famous achievement was his successful prosecution of the principals in the noted "Fund W" and the Guarantee Investment Company, two fraudulent concerns which robbed thousands of persons by the use of the mails. In the "Fund W" case Major Stuart exceeded his authority in his zeal to capture the promoters. He held the mail of the concern, and as it piled up, the conspirators were frantic to secure it. Their business was being ruined. Stuart refused to yield. They offered him \$20,000 if he would simply keep his hands off property he had no right to hold, but Stuart smiled blandly and told them to save the money for their defense. After the iniquity had been crushed the government thanked Stuart and indorsed everything he had done. It is one of Major Stuart's proud boasts—he rarely boasts, however—that he never went after a thief and failed to get him. Although inspector in charge, he takes immense satisfaction at times in handling a difficult case personally, and some of his experiences have been of a thrilling sort. The postal division in charge of Major Stuart embraces within its limits Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. While not the largest in area, one-sixth of all the money-order offices are located in this division, and

TO UTILIZE MARSH GRASS.

Company Formed to Manufacture from It Twine, Rope and Matting.

The tendency so characteristic of the present age to put to practical use what has heretofore been considered largely waste or useless material has found fresh exemplification in a new enterprise, at the head of which is ex-Senator Warner Miller of New York. Throughout Wisconsin, southern Michigan and Minnesota are thousands of acres of marsh land upon which grows tall, rank, coarse grass, which is practically without any commercial value. Some of the finer varieties are utilized as hay, although without any pronounced edible or nourishing qualities, and occasionally some of the coarser varieties are used as bedding for stock, but as a rule only an exceedingly small portion of the million of tons which grow every year finds any use whatever. All this, by the aid of ingenious machinery, can be readily converted into a number of cheap and useful articles of commerce, such as binding twine, rope, cotton bagging, matting, and a substitute for carpet paper, and promises to develop into an industry in which thousands of people will find employment. The enterprise is called a new one, although it has been in successful operation for over a year, but it is only recently that plans have been perfected for pushing it on an extensive scale. Within the last few weeks the large plant of the Northwestern Cordage company of St. Paul has been purchased by the new company, and is being put in shape for handling the product, while contracts have already been made for 15,000 or 20,000 tons of marsh grass for use during the coming season. The grass, which will be mostly used, is what is known as "wire" grass, which has a tough, hard, round stem, and is absolutely without any value as a food product. This can be made into a binding twine, which is said to be ful-

FIRST NEBRASKA IN IT

FIRE FIRST SHOT AT THE DOUGHTY DON'S.

Become Tired of Idly Watching the Spanish Behind Manila Fortifications and Start the Ball to Rolling—Rear Brunt of Second Night Attack.

OMAHA, Sept. 7.—The Bee prints the following excerpts from the reports sent to the Hong Kong Mail by its Manila correspondent. They contain an account of the part the First Nebraska took in the operations around Manila. From the account it appears the First Nebraska fired the first shot sent by the American army into the Spanish lines:

Within half a mile of the front line, the natives have returned to their homes. Here we have peace and war in congruous juxtaposition and it is not till the American outposts are passed, some distance beyond the diversion of the "Camino Real" towards Pasay, that we find the houses deserted. The American troops under General Greene's command have invested the Spanish lines from the beach some few hundreds of yards inland towards Pasay. The soldiers were marched out there with instructions to entrench themselves between the Filipinos and the Spanish lines and on no account to fire unless first attacked by the Spaniards. The new trenches are eighty yards beyond the insurgent lines, near Malate, and the American lines embrace two houses of European design—one said to be the house of an Englishman, the other the residence of a Spaniard. The Englishman's house is nearest the shore. Beside it, Captain Grant of the Utah field artillery has thrown up heavy earthworks in which one field piece will be mounted. A line of rifle pits connects Captain Young (also of the Utah light artillery), whose earthworks extend eastward beyond the Spaniard's house. We were introduced in the trenches to Captain Young, who is a grandson of the late Mormon prophet, Brigham Young. Gabions of bamboo wattletree were thrown up and the men were busy with pick and shovel building up a substantial earthwork and preparing platforms for the two field pieces lying ready at hand to place in position.

FIRST SHOT BY A NEBRASKAN.

These operations were covered by a battalion of the First Nebraska volunteers, who had replaced the First Colorados in the trenches that morning. The two houses in the lines presented a terrible example of the destructive effects of the Spanish and insurgent fire. The walls have been perforated by shot and shell. Everywhere the woodwork is pitted and torn by bullets. In the lintel of one doorway we counted no less than thirty-seven bullets. American soldiers, with their bayonets and other instruments, were picking out the bullets to keep as souvenirs of the operations in the Philippines. There may come a time when these same young fellows will have become so familiar with bullets and other warlike missiles that their proclivity for relic hunting will disappear. A portion of a two-inch shell, some Mauser bullets and leaden pellets fell to the lot of our party. On the second floor of the Spanish house four cement barrels filled with earth were stuck through the wall facing Malate fort. Behind each barrel crouched a Nebraskan sharpshooter, his rifle ready to knock over the first Spaniard appearing above cover. My companions had returned to the trenches and the infantry officer and I were endeavoring to distinguish some figures on the landscape, when the man next to me pulled the trigger and sent the first American bullet speeding towards the Spanish lines. I confess I could not see any Spaniard. A minute or two before a Spanish officer appeared at the broken roof of a thatched house, took a survey of the American movements through a telescope and four cement barrels filled with earth were stuck through the wall facing Malate fort. Behind each barrel crouched a Nebraskan sharpshooter, his rifle ready to knock over the first Spaniard appearing above cover. 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