THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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PEACE ENVOYS' CREDENTIALS

Copies of the Official Documents Made Public at Last.

JAPAN HOLDS THEY ARE INSUFFICIENT

Chinese Exclusiveness and Lack of Frank Dealing with Other Nations Responsible for the Failure of the First Peace Overtures.

LONDON, March 10.—Official copies of the notes passing between the peace envoys of China and Japan, with translated copies of the credentials of the envoys, have been received in this city. The correspondence opens with the note of the Japanese minister accrediting the Japanese commissioners:

"Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, his imperial majesty's minister of state for foreign affairs, has the honor to announce to their excellencies, the plenipotentiaries of his majesty the emperor of China, that his majesty the emperor of Japan has appointed his excellency Count Ito Hirobuni, Junii, Grand Cross of the Order of Paullownia, his imperial majesty's minister president of state, and the undersigned as his plenipotentiaries to conclude with the duly authorized plenipotentiaries of China preliminaries of peace, and has confided to them full powers for that purpose.

(L. S.)

"VISCOUNT MUTSU MUNEMITSU,

"His majesty's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs."

"Hiroshima, the 31st day of the 1st month of the 28th year of Meiji."

The credentials of the Japanese commissioners are as follows:

"Mutsuhito, by the grace of heaven emperor of Japan and seated on the throne occupied by the same dynasty from time immemorial, to all to whom these present shall come, greeting: With a view to the restoration of peace between our empire and that of China, in order to maintain the peace of the Orient, we, reposing special trust and confidence in Count Ito Hirobuni, Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, our minister president of state, and Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, our minister of state for foreign affairs, and, having full knowledge of their wisdom and ability, do hereby name them as our plenipotentiaries. We have given to our plenipotentiaries full powers to meet and treat, either separately or conjointly, with the plenipotentiaries of China and to conclude and sign preliminaries of peace.

"We shall examine all stipulations which our said plenipotentiaries may agree upon, and finding such stipulations proper and in good and due form, we shall ratify them. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our signature and caused the great seal of the empire to be affixed.

"Done at Hiroshima the 31st day of the first month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to the two thousand five hundred and fifty-fifth year from the coronation of the emperor Jimmu.

"COUNT ITO HIROBUNI,

"Minister President of State."

CHINESE OFFICIAL CREDENTIALS.

Translation of letter of credentials from his imperial majesty, the emperor of China, to his imperial majesty, the emporor of Japan:

"The emperor of China sends greeting to the emperor of Japan: Our two empires being in the same continent, hitherto there was no cause for dislike, but lately on account of the Corean affair we had to resort to arms, which had resulted in loss of life and destruction of property. This was an unavoidable step. Now, through the mediation of the United States government, both nations will appoint plenipotentiaries with full powers to meet and treat and satisfactorily settle the matter in dispute. For this purpose we appoint Chang Yen Hoon, president of the board rank, member of the Taung li Yamen, senior vice president of the Board of Revenue, and Shao Yu Lien, of the first rank and acting governor of Hunan, as our plenipotentiaries, with full powers to go to your country, trusting your majesty will receive them, so that the said plenipotentiaries may discharge their duties."

(Seal.)

(As translated by the Japanese government.)

"We decree we do appoint Chang Yen Hoon (holding the rank of president of a board), minister of the Tsung li Yamen, and junior vice president of the Board of Revenue, and Shao Yu Lien, an officer of the Button in the first rank, and acting governor of Hunan, as our plenipotentiaries to meet and negotiate the matter with the plenipotentiaries appointed by Japan. You will, however, telegraph to the Tsung li Yamen for the purpose of obtaining our commands, by which you will abide. The members of your mission are placed under your control. You will carry out your mission in a faithful and diligent manner, and will fulfill the trust we have reposed in you. Respect this imperial command."

(L.S.)

INQUIRY CONCERNING THEIR POWERS.

"Memorandum: His imperial majesty's plenipotentiaries have the honor to announce that the full powers which they have just communicated to the plenipotentiaries of his majesty, the emperor of China, embody all the authority which his majesty, the emperor of Japan, has confided to them in connection with the negotiation and conclusion of peace. In order to avoid as far as possible any further misunderstanding the Japanese plenipotentiaries desire reciprocally to be categorically informed in writing whether the full powers which have been communicated to them by the Chinese plenipotentiaries, but which they have not as yet examined, embody all the authority confided by his majesty, the emperor of China, to the Chinese plenipotentiaries in connection with the negotiations and conclusion of peace.

"Hiroshima, the 1st day of the second month of the 28th year of Meiji."

(English translation accompanied by the Chinese original.)

"To the Plenipotentiaries of his Majesty of Japan: We have the honor to state that you handed to us on the 7th day of the first moon of the 21st year of Kuang-Su your commission from your imperial majesty, and at the same time a memorandum in which you ask of us a written reply respecting our full powers. We beg to state in reply that our commission, handed to you at the same time in exchange, embodies full powers given by our imperial majesty for the negotiations and conclusion of peace and authority to conclude articles to that end and to sign them. In order to insure the prompt execution of the treaty we may agree upon, we shall wire the terms for imperial sanction, and fix the date for signature; after which the same shall be taken to China for examination by his imperial Chinese majesty, and being proper and in good and due form, will be ratified.

"Eighth day of the first moon of the twenty-first year of Kuang-Su."

(Seal.)

NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITIES.

The following speech was addressed by Count Ito to their excellencies, Chang Yen Hoon and Shao Yu Lien, at the conference of the 2d of February, 1895: "The measure which my colleague and myself find it necessary at this moment to adopt is the logical result of a situation for which we are in no wise responsible. China has hitherto held herself almost entirely aloof from other powers, and while she has in some instances enjoyed the advantages accruing to her as a member of the family of nations, she has perhaps more frequently denied the responsibilities of that relation. She has pursued a policy of isolation and distrust, and consequently her external relations have not been characterized by that frankness and good faith which are essential to good neighborhood. Instances are not wanting in which Chinese commissioners, after having formally agreed to international compacts, have refused to affix their seals, and cases might be cited in which treaties solemnly concluded have been unceremoniously and without apparent reason repudiated. These unfortunate occurrences find a sufficient explanation in the fact that the Chinese were not on those occasions seriously in earnest, but beyond that it might be said with truth the officials who were designated to carry on negotiations had not been clothed with the power necessary for the purpose. It has from the first been the wish of Japan to avoid results which history teaches are liable to be the outcome of negotiations with Chinese officials who are not clothed with full power in the sense in which that term is usually understood. Consequently the imperial government made it a condition precedent to peace negotiations that the Chinese plenipotentiaries should be furnished with full power to conclude peace, and it was only upon receiving positive assurances from the Chinese government that that condition precedent had been complied with and that the Chinese plenipotentiaries were on their way to Japan that his majesty, the emperor of Japan, conferred upon my colleague and myself full powers to conclude and sign preliminaries of peace with the plenipotentiaries of China.

NOT OVER ANXIOUS FOR PEACE.

"That your excellencies' powers are, notwithstanding that assurance, fatally defective is to me a sure indication that the government of China is not yet really solicitous for peace. Criticism is nearly exhausted by a simple comparison of the two instruments which were reciprocally explained at this board yesterday, but it is not out of place to point out that one fulfills the definition which is usually given among civilized states to the term full powers, while the other is destitute of nearly all these qualities which are regarded as essential to such powers; it even fails to indicate the subject upon which your excellencies are to negotiate; it does not authorize your excellencies to conclude or sign anything; it is silent on the subject of the imperial ratification of your excellencies' acts. In short, it would seem that the authority which has been conferred upon your excellencies would be completely fulfilled by your reporting to your government what my colleague and myself might have to say.

"In this situation it would be impossible for us to continue negotiations. It may be asserted that usage is not entirely ignored in this instance. I cannot admit the sufficiency of such an explanation. I disclaim any right to interfere with the pure domestic customs of China, but I deem it not only my right, but my duty, to insist that in international concerns affecting my own country the peculiar methods of China shall yield to the superior rules of international intercourse. The restoration of peace is a matter of the greatest importance. To bring about a re-establishment of amicable relations, it is not only necessary that treaties with that object in view should be signed, but it is imperative that the engagements should be fulfilled in good faith. While Japan has found no reason to approach China on the subject of peace, she nevertheless feels bound in deference to that civilization which she represents to listen to any bona fide overtures which China may advance, but she will decline to take part in the future in any fruitless negotiations or become a party to a paper peace. The terms which Japan agrees to will be scrupulously observed by her, and she will at the same time insist upon a like observance of the terms by China.

"Whenever, therefore, China finds herself seriously and sincerely desirous of peace and will confide actual powers to Chinese officials, whose names and positions will serve as an assurance that the terms to which they may agree will be confirmed and carried out in good faith, Japan will be prepared to enter upon new negotiations."

MUST HAVE FULL POWERS.

"Memorandum—The imperial government repeatedly declared through the United States representatives at Tokio and Peking that the appointment of plenipotentiaries with full powers to conclude peace was an indispensable prerequisite to negotiations on the subject of peace. His imperial majesty's plenipotentiaries, however, find that the authorization which their excellencies, the plenipotentiaries of his majesty, the emperor of China, communicated to them on the 1st inst., is wholly inadequate for the purpose for which it is claimed it was issued. It lacks nearly all the essential attributes of full powers as usually understood. The imperial government has not receded from the position which it announced to the representatives of the United States that it had taken on the subject of full powers, and the imperial Japanese plenipotentiaries, having been entrusted by his majesty, the emperor of Japan, with actual, proper and complete powers, cannot consent to treat with plenipotentiaries of his majesty, the emperor of China, who are only authorized to discuss matters, to report to the Tsung-Li-Yamen, and to obtain the subsequent commands of the throne, by which they are to be guided.

"Under these circumstances it only remains for the plenipotentiaries of his majesty, the emperor of Japan, to declare the present negotiations at an end.

"Hiroshima, the 24 day of the second month of the twenty-eighth year of Meiji."

CHINESE FORCES LOSE HEAVILY.

Ten Thousand of Them Defeated by the Japs Whose Loss Was Small.

YOKOHAMA, March 10.—On Thursday last the Japanese captured the coast forts near Yinkow, the port for New Chwang. The forts held out after the capture of Yinkow. On Saturday the first division of the Japanese army attacked a force of 10,000 Chinese under General Sung at Thien Chwang Tai. For four hours a fierce battle waged, but the Chinese were defeated, after losing 2,000 killed or wounded. The Japanese loss was only ninety killed or wounded.

General Nodsu, who succeeded Field Marshal Yamagata in the command of the first Japanese army, has been promoted.

HAVE AGREED ON TERMS OF PEACE.

Successful Negotiations Through the American Ministers to China and Japan.

NEW YORK, March 11.—A cable dispatch to the World dated Tokio, Japan, March 10, says: China has been informed in general terms of the conditions upon which Japan will consent to peace. Japan has been notified that China is ready to accept these conditions and to sign a treaty. The correspondence by means of which this agreement was arrived at was carried on through the United States ministers to the two countries, Minister Edwin Dun at Tokio and Mr. Charles Denby at Peking.

Monetary Conference to Be Held This Year.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., March 10.—A letter just received by the Summer university here from President E. B. Andrews of Brown university, Providence, R. I., cancels that gentleman's engagement for next summer. He says: "I expect to be in July either abroad at the monetary conference, else using every minute in getting ready to go." The letter is important from the fact conveyed that the international monetary conference is to be held this year and that President Andrews is to be one of Mr. Cleveland's appointees thereto.

Killed on a Railroad Crossing.

ST. JOSEPH, March 10.—At the crossing where Mallory and McBride were killed Thursday night Mrs. Thomas Allen was instantly killed tonight, Gertie Allen, her 19-year-old daughter, dangerously, and Miss Martha Deacon, 11 years old, fatally injured. The three ladies were returning from church, and drove upon the crossing just as the Missouri Pacific fast mail from the east thundered up. Mrs. Allen's body was shockingly mutilated, and she and her daughter were carried 300 feet on the engine pilot before the train could be stopped.

Nineteen Methodist Elders Ordained.

BALTIMORE, March 10.—Nineteen elders were ordained and authorized to speak the gospel and administer the sacraments of the Methodist Episcopal church. The services were conducted by Bishop Andrews, assisted by Bishop Joyce. The revered delegates to the Methodist conference now in session here preached in the pulpits of the denomination in this city and in many out of town churches today.

ABLEGATE FOR GUATEMALA

Long Vacant Archbishopric to Be Filled by the Pope.

RELATIONS OF CHURCH AND STATE

Letter of Mgr. Satolli Which Broaches the Propriety of a Representative of the United States at Rome—Constitutional Provisions Discussed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 10.—Private advices received here give an interesting and important communication from Mgr. Satolli to officials of Guatemala concerning that country's following the course of Nicaragua in sending to Rome an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary. In the course of the document reference is made as to the propriety under the United States constitution of official relations between Washington and Rome, and an interpretation given to that feature of the constitution relative to the separation of church and state.

Mgr. Satolli's letter was written while negotiations were pending, about four months ago. It refers at length to difficulties in church administration in Guatemala and suggests that certain changes desired by the government should be accompanied by an equivalent of such advantage as to render less burdensome the condition of the church in Guatemala. The document says:

"In the first place, to allow me to reflect that to re-establish diplomatic relations between the holy see and your government a 'concordat' would not be necessary, but that they could be re-established and maintained without it. Besides, it is well to reflect that the holy father enjoys always, in fact and by international right, the prerogatives of sovereignty. In the second place, the separation between the church and state (sanctioned by the constitution) excluded the action of one power over another in civil matters in regard to the church and in religious matters in respect to the state, but does not exclude official relations between the one power and the other, unless by separation is meant the inevitable hostility or open war of the civil power toward the church and its ministry. It is also to the point to consider that many nations (although they have in their constitutions the said principle of separation between church and state) maintain, nevertheless, amicable relations with the holy see, and I can also add that although the holy see has no diplomatic relations with the empires of China and Japan it has certainly found no official complication in their diversity of religion. The condition of the Catholic church of the United States, in whose constitution was inserted the article of separation of the state from any religious sect, cannot escape our consideration. I might almost say I experience a sense of surprise that up to date no official relations exist between the government and the holy see, and although the majority of the population is anti-Catholic, in the meantime the church is maintaining possibly greater development than in other states."

Besides this direct reference to the United States, it is said that Mgr. Satolli's argument as to the propriety of official relations between Guatemala and Rome applies also to the United States, as he states that the constitutional provision of both countries is the same respecting church and state. As to the concern with the church in Central America, the document says:

DECADENCE OF PREJUDICE.

"I am happy to state that the holy father with much pleasure learns that the ancient violent prejudices and opposition to the church are daily disappearing. Moreover, I must assure you of the lively concern of his holiness to see the condition of the Catholic church in your state, the great importance of which in Central America is well known, improve. Therefore the holy father regards as of the greatest importance from a religious and civil standpoint the existence of friendly relations, and he is not adverse to making all such concessions as may be compatible with the doctrine of the church with reference to the welfare of the faithful and with the prosperity of your country. And therefore his holiness consents to proceed to the nomination of an apostolic administrator to the see of Guatemala, who, being a stranger to every faction and without personal preoccupation, should put in order the religious affairs of the vast archdiocese, which has been for so many years without its urgent needs. The apostolic administrator should be an European, selected from among notable prelates or monks, and of tried piety and prudence; being such, he should more readily succeed in his difficult mission."

Speaking of the desirability of rendering less burdensome the condition of the church in Guatemala, Mgr. Satolli says: "Apropos of which allow me to recall to your consideration the numerous decrees issued from the 12th of December, 1871, up to 1884, and other dispositions up to 1887; decrees and dispositions of law more or less prejudicial to religious liberty, which the church, by divine right, and almost, I may say, by the right of mankind, traditional for centuries, has possessed everywhere; decrees and laws that with mature examination must be recognized as exceptional, possibly accounted for by the temporary circumstances, or that the government might secure itself against a supposed adversary, which, unfortunately, the Catholic church in Guatemala in those times was believed to be; because otherwise it would be impossible to understand how such decrees and laws accord with the separation of the church from the state, honestly and rationally considered. And, therefore, with the constitution established as the immutable basis of the republic of Guatemala, it will not be difficult to become convinced that the laws and decrees referred to above should be at least modified, or in the matter of these laws and decrees there should be some amicable adjustment with the holy see. The constitution and government would thus receive a most noble seal and guaranty for the future through the desired agreement between the government and the holy see, an agreement which harmonizes excellently with the declared separation between the church and state and an accord that would bring peace to the souls of the population of Guatemala, that is for the greater part Catholic."

The communication closes as follows: "I have believed it expedient to premise the above expressed considerations, and thus fulfill the duty imposed on me by the holy see, and to refer to your government the intentions of the holy father and his anxiety to improve in a way the conditions within Guatemala, to succeed to the full satisfaction of your government and to the great advantage of all the republic, religious and civil. Finally accept the confidential communication that the government of Nicaragua has already sent to Rome Dr. Modesto Barrios as its envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the holy see, for the purpose of initiating and completing with the greatest expediency the good relations between the same government and the holy see. I hope that your government of Guatemala will not allow much time to pass before taking the same resolution."

It is said at this time, so far as known, that Mgr. Satolli's mission has not been extended outside of spiritual questions, and has not dealt with governmental subjects.

Ship's Clearance Papers Were Defective.

FERNANDINA, Fla., March 10.—The schooner Jennie H. Parker has been seized here on account of defects in her clearance papers, and rumors are afloat that she has contraband goods on board for the Cuban revolutionists. Her papers have been returned and new ones will have to be sworn out before the vessel can put to sea.

Senator George Has Had Enough.

GREENVILLE, Miss., March 10.—It is authoritatively announced here that United States Senator J. Z. George will not be a candidate for re-election at the expiration of his present term. Senator George has been in the senate eighteen years.

ANCIENT VOLCANO BECOMES ACTIVE.

Inhabitants in the Province of Vera Cruz, Mexico, Badly Frightened.

CORDOBA, Vera Cruz, Mexico, March 10.—The peak of Orizaba, an ancient volcano, is in a state of eruption. The signs of disturbance began to manifest themselves last Sunday and have increased in force constantly since that time. It is now vomiting poisonous gas and great volumes of smoke are emitted from 100 apertures in its great maw. The country for 100 miles around is shaken periodically by subterranean vibrations. A great alarm exists among the dwellers in the cities of Cordoba, Orizaba, Kalapa and the dozens of small villages scattered within the scope of the strange and interesting phenomenon. The shocks as yet have not been of a serious nature and no damage from them has been reported. The rim of the crater glows like fire, and the thick gases rolling down the mountain side have set aflame the grass and vegetation clothing the sides to the summit, which adds to the density of the smoke and the grandeur of the spectacle. For the public safety the governor of the state of Vera Cruz will shortly name a commission of scientists to make all the investigation into the eruption possible, and to make recommendations looking to the protection of the inhabitants of the neighboring villages. The present eruption is in the heart of the best improved country of the district in Mexico where are located many Americans who have embarked in business. The coffee plantations are not yet thought to be in any danger, nor will they be until a fall of thick ashes occurs, which is not thought to be considered probable. Masses are being said in all the churches of the locality to ward off the impending danger. Coming soon after the late destructive volcanic activities in many parts of the republic, the eruption of Orizaba has many terrors, not only to the people in its vicinity, but to all living in the great volcanic belt of Mexico, stretching from the active volcano of Colima on the west coast, and usually in eruption, clear to the gulf of Mexico on the east. Within this belt are numbered dozens of old craters, either in repose or smoking constantly. It is natural to suppose that should its eruptions continue the other volcanoes will be affected and a general earthquake period set in. The consequences of such a catastrophe are hard to foretell, but could hardly be anything less than very disastrous to Pueblo, Mexico City, and the hundreds of other towns in the heart of Mexico.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S CHANCE IS NOW.

London Times Commends Favorably on the Union with Canada.

LONDON, March 11.—The Times, in an article on Newfoundland, says that the negotiations looking to a union with Canada will be followed here with sympathetic interest. Canada can assume the responsibility for Newfoundland's debt without creating the awkward precedent that Great Britain would create by similar action. To enter the Dominion is a step forward, both in power and importance, which Newfoundland would have been well advised to have taken in the days of her greatest prosperity. Just now she is to be congratulated if such a way should be opened out of her misfortunes. The details of the French shore question can be discussed when Canada's readiness to federate shall be assured. In view of the probability of the elections changing the government of Canada, the Newfoundland authorities would be unquestionably wise not to lose time in completing the negotiations. No other permanent remedy for their troubles is likely to be so good as confederation.

MILITARY COURT ACQUITS VON KOTZE.

Author of the Scurrilous Letters as Much of a Mystery as Ever.

BERLIN, March 10.—The Boeresen Courier states that the military tribunal has acquitted Count Von Kotze of the charges against him in connection with the recent court scandal. Count Von Katze was the royal chamberlain and the scandal in which he was a principal figure has caused widespread comment. His arrest in June last was the result of four years of police investigation. During that period members of the highest German aristocracy were in receipt of anonymous letters and postal cards making the most indecent personal accusations against the persons addressed or against their friends. The innocence of the accused was finally established and he was set free and restored to his position at court. The real authorship of the letters is still a mystery, though Von Kotze's wife claims to have known the writer.

Colombian Rebels Defeated.

COLON, March 10.—The rebel forces, under the command of Ruiz Garcia, made an attack on Bocas del Toro, about 100 miles north of this city, on Friday last, but were repulsed by the government troops. An attempt was made to set fire to the town, but this was also defeated. Eleven of the rebels, including Garcia, were killed. The government loss was five killed and twenty wounded. The United States cruiser Atlanta landed a force of sailors and marines to protect American interests.

France Retaliates on Venezuela.

PARIS, March 10.—As an outcome of the trouble between Venezuela and France, growing out of the former's action in handing his passport to the French representative at Caracas, the French government has sent a passport to Dr. J. Gilfortoul, the Venezulan charge d'affaires.

Cuban Rebels Again Defeated.

MADRID, March 10.—Dispatches received here from Cuba state that after their defeat by the government troops at Baire and Los Negros the rebels occupied new positions, in which the government troops again attacked and dispersed them, inflicting heavy loss.

New Russian Imperial Yacht Launched.

COPENHAGEN, March 10.—The new Russian imperial yacht Standard, which is building here, was launched today in the presence of the king and queen of Denmark and other members of the royal family.

Fresh Disturbances in Turkey.

LONDON, March 11.—A dispatch to the Standard from Constantinople says unconfirmed rumors are current of fresh disorders at Kharasir, in the valley of Sivas.

Dodged the Officers Four Years.

PITTSBURG, March 10.—After dodging the officers for years, John A. Heitz, a newspaper artist, was arrested yesterday and will be taken back to Kentucky to serve four years and a half in the Frankfort penitentiary, from which he escaped in 1890. There was a reward of $500 on his head. He was known in Louisville as the "Dude Burglar," and worked as a tailor, reporter and artist.

Police Commission Will Do the Work.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—Speaker Hamilton Fish tonight affirmed very positively the Associated press report that there will not be a police reorganization commission for the city of New York. He said: "The reorganization of the department will be done by the police commission itself and not by special reorganization."

Kansas Counties Need No More Aid.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 10.—That better times prevail in western Kansas is evidenced by the fact that twelve counties have notified Governor Morrill that they are in need of no further outside aid. The legislature had appropriated $100,000 to distribute among the destitute in these and other western counties.

American Prospectors Robbed in Mexico.

STERRA MOJADA, Mex., March 10.—Frank Ward and H. D. Samuel, American prospectors, who left here a few weeks ago for the mining camp of Carmen, near the Rio Grande, were attacked by Mexican outlaws and robbed of their money and horses. The outlaws escaped across the river into Texas.

General Rosecrans Ill.

LOS ANGELES, March 10.—General Rosecrans has been ailing for some time and there has been no change in his condition recently. Carl Rosecrans, his son, said today that there was no cause to apprehend anything serious. The general lives on a ranch near Redondo.

CAUGHT IN A BURNING MINE

Fate of Eight Miners May Not Be Known for Several Days.

MARVELOUS ESCAPE OF ONE MAN

Fell Two Hundred Feet in the Bucket and Then Climbed Out of the Air Shaft—Three Others Find Their Way Out.

WHITE OAKS, N. M., March 10.—At 3 o'clock this morning fire broke out in the change room at the hoist house of the Old Abe mine, and in a few minutes the structure, a large and well built one, was a mass of flames. It was completely destroyed, together with the wood and smith shops. The mill, sixty feet away, escaped without damage. The woodwork of the shaft was burned out and the hoisting machinery destroyed. The damage runs high up into the thousands, but the most distressing feature is the fact that eight men are imprisoned in the mine whose fate is unknown. There is little ground for hope that they have escaped suffocation. It will not be possible to enter the mine to search for them until some time tomorrow. Rescuing parties have been unable as yet, 1 p. m., to get down further than the third level by the air shaft. The smoke and gases from the charred wood of the hoist shaft have penetrated the upper levels and it is impossible to pass them. The entombed men are:

CHARLES SHERRICK.
F. J. WILLIAMS.
FRANK WILSON.
JOHN DAVIS.
GEORGE BAXTER.
— WHITE.
JERRY CONNOVER.
W. B. MITCHELL.

Wilson, Davis and Baxter are married. White is a new man and was on his first shift. Williams and Sherrick are old in mining experience, and have faced like dangers before. They are cool-headed, and if any place of safety was to be found they found it. The fire drove the engineer from the hoist while George Wilkinson was going down on the bucket to work. He had reached the ninth level when the hoist was abandoned, and was shot 200 feet to the thirteenth, where the bucket struck, tipped and threw him into the drift. He was stunned, but recovered and climbed back to the second level and escaped by the air shaft. Coke Keith, Mike Gallagher and Anton Howgate escaped through the air shaft.

This is the only serious mining accident since the burning of the South Homestake shaft several years ago, when two men were smothered.

GREW OUT OF A POSTOFFICE SITE.

Simmonds Alleged to Have Impersonated an Officer to Further One Faction.

DENVER, March 10.—The arrest of C. B. Simmonds, alias C. B. Sawyer, at Pueblo, on the charge of impersonating an officer of the government, is the result of a very bitter contest over the location of the new federal building in that city. About two years ago the government decided upon what was known as the Baxter site. Advocates of other locations have never relaxed their efforts to persuade the government to choose another site instead. Now that work will soon be started, anything that is to be accomplished must be done quickly, and a fund, it is stated, has been started to push the matter to the end. It is also said that the anti-Baxters have gone so far as to enlist the services of ex-Governor Foraker and Charles Foster of Ohio, two prominent lawyers and politicians, in their cause. C. B. Simmonds, now under arrest, it is said, had letterheads printed similar to those used by Collector of Customs Spencer. He then, it is claimed, waited on contractors and builders in Pueblo, representing himself to be a special agent of the United States Treasury department. The matter was reported to J. Polk Johnson, special agent of the treasury at St. Louis, who ordered an investigation, resulting in the arrest of Simmonds.

DAKE GOT MOST OF THE ASSETS.

Stockholders in a Colorado Cattle Company Think They Got the Worst of It.

DENVER, March 10.—Attorney F. E. Carstarphen has filed in the United States circuit court a bill in equity in which Jennie E. Rosecrans of Washington, D. C., is plaintiff and the Montezuma Cattle company and Alvin C. Dake and F. A. Williams, trustee; H. W. Green, Lyman Dake, William Bennet and other directors are defendants. It is averred that Mrs. Rosecrans holds stock in the company to the value of $1,000. The original capital stock of the Montezuma company, which was organized in 1884, was $100,000, but in March, 1893, it was increased to $150,000, $140,000 of which was subscribed. The company operated in San Miguel, Guadeloupe, Mineral and Chavez counties and along the Pecos river in New Mexico. The complaint alleges that through the management of Director Alvin C. Dake the company became financially embarrassed, and that notes were executed which have resulted in Dake's securing possession of most of the company's assets.

Murderer Confesses to Other Crimes.

ST. LOUIS, March 10.—Jim Murray, a negro, now in jail at Clayton under sentence of death for killing Edgar Fitzwilliams, made a confession today, in which he implicates Harry Smart and William Hensley in the murder of R. McMackin McCullough, who, at the his death, was paying teller of the State Bank of St. Louis. McCullough was killed in May, 1893, at his home in Woodstock, a suburb of this city. Murray says he took no part in the murder, but was present when it was committed. He makes this confession, hoping to gain a respite from Governor Stone.

Second Horse on the Rider Burrows.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 10.—In the circuit court at Vernon, Ala., yesterday the Southern Express company got judgment for $4,400 against Allen H. Burrows, father and administrator of Rube Burrows, the train robber. The verdict was for the amount of money of which Rube had robbed the company. Allen Burrows two days before recovered a judgment against the company for $294, the value of Rube's guns, pistols, a team of oxen and money found on his person when captured and killed. Rube bought a big farm with his plunder and it will now go to the company.

Indiana Legislature Will Adjourn Today.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 10.—The Indiana legislature will adjourn tomorrow night. There are now in the governor's hands about sixty bills, among them being the Nicholson temperance bill. The Moore temperance bill, a drastic measure, has already been signed. Among the more important bills that have become laws are the Roby bill, to prevent winter racing, the constitutionality of which is questioned, and the congressional and legislative apportionment bills. A bill was also passed giving councils the power to gerrymander cities every two years, which is distinctly a partisan measure.

No Smallpox at Yale.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 10.—The scare that was started yesterday by the illness of G. Duke Smith of Yale with smallpox at his home in Andover, Mass., that the disease is prevalent at Yale is without foundation. Only three students have gone home ill. Dr. Foster, the physician of Yale, was seen tonight and said there was not the slightest sign of smallpox or any other contagious disease in the college.

TOLEDO HIGH SCHOOL DESTROYED.

Fire Started by an Explosion Consumes the Entire Structure.

TOLEDO, O., March 11.—The High school building, a four-story brick structure, occupying the square bounded by Madison, Adams, McHagan and Tenth streets, and one of the best appointed educational institutions in this part of the country, was almost completely destroyed by fire between 1 and 2 o'clock this (Monday) morning. A little before 1 o'clock an explosion that took out part of the east wing startled the few pedestrians who happened to be on the street, and a moment later there was a blaze in the heart of the structure. The flames spread so rapidly that before an alarm could be given the main part of the building was doomed. The explosion was probably caused by chemicals in the laboratory. The loss is estimated at $150,000. Insurance not known.

RIOT IN JUVENILE REFORMATORY.

Police Have a Hard Time Subduing Young Female Prisoners.

CHICAGO, March 10.—Riot broke loose in the Illinois State Home for Juvenile Offenders in Indiana avenue this evening. Thirty-four girls, ranging in years from 10 to 18, rose in rebellion against the matron, Mrs. Dayton. Mrs. Dayton and her assistants were powerless to control the charges, and were compelled to shut themselves in their rooms to escape their frenzied assailants. The girls went through the house, breaking furniture and windows, smashing crockery and everything they could lay their hands on. The police were summoned and restored order, but had no easy time, as the ringleaders fought desperately. Four of the most prominent of the girls were arrested. The trouble arose over the punishment given by Matron Dayton to Mamie Davis, 16 years old. According to the girl's story, the uprising was due to great dissatisfaction in their ranks over their treatment in general. It arose particularly because of the system of punishment, which included imprisonment in a dark room, 10x12 feet in size, the culprit being chained to the floor by a heavy chain, and also a system of dieting, in which the offender was not allowed meat and was half-starved.

HAZE OBSCURED THE OBSERVATION.

Lick Observatory Succeeds, However, in Getting Some Views.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 10.—The following was received from the directors of the Lick observatory:

"MOUNT HAMILTON, Cal., March 10.—The total eclipse of the moon which occurred this evening was observed at the Lick observatory under somewhat unfavorable circumstances, the sky being obscured at the time by athin haze. The moon was obscured by one-half of the earth's shadow when it appeared at 6 h., Pacific time. Totality began at 6h. 51m. 55 s., and lasted until 8 h. 27 m. 30 s. The moon left the earth's shadow at 9 h. 25 m. 29s, and penumbra about 10 h. 35m. The moon's disc was visible at all times, being conspicuous a greater portion of totality. The color of the unobscured portion of the disc varied from yellow to a light copper hue. The times at which the edge of the shadow passed across some of the prominent craters were noted, and the time of occultation of several small stars were observed."

EXPENSIVE FIRE IN A COAL MINE.

Will Cost at Least a Million Before it is Subdued.

HAZELTON, Pa., March 10.—The worst mine in the anthracite region for some time is now raging in the Hazelton slope of the Lehigh Valley Coal company. When the fire broke out, six weeks ago, it was at first thought to be of little consequence. The slope was closed shortly afterward. Since then hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent in efforts to subdue the flames. The chances of getting the fire out in the next six weeks are dubious. The mine was the most valuable operated by the company, employing 1,100 men. The subterranean openings connect the Hazelton mines with three other valuable properties, and these latter are also imperiled. It is estimated that before the outbreak itself shall have been overcome $1,000,000 will have to be expended.

THEIR HORSE BALKED ON THE TRACK.

Three Women Horribly Mangled by a Missouri Pacific Train.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Missouri Pacific passenger train No. 194, which left this city at 3:10 p. m., ran into a spring wagon seven miles below this city fifteen minutes later, and killed Mrs. Thomas Allen, aged 65, and seriously injured Miss Gertrude Allen, aged 25, and Mattie Dickinson, aged 12. Miss Dickinson will die. The party was horribly mangled. The horse, when on the track, balked, and could not be driven off in time. The victims are all residents of this county.

BOULTER GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER.

Cheyenne Cattleman Who Had Killed Three Men Finally Convicted.

CHEYENNE, March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles Boulter, a retired cattleman, on trial for the murder of Thomas O'Neill, was today convicted of manslaughter. The jury was out forty-eight hours. Boulter has killed three men during the past ten years, but has heretofore escaped punishment.

Piled Ties on the Track.

VALPARAISO, Ind., March 10.—An attempt was made last night to wreck the midnight passenger train on the New York, Chicago & St. Louis west of this city. A pile of ties had been placed on the track, which was struck with great force by the engine, knocking it from the rails and plowing up the track for about 200 yards before the train could be stopped. None of the passengers were injured. It is supposed to have been the work of train robbers.

Jury Said They Were Both Guilty.

MURPHYSBORO, Ill., March 10.—The most famous murder case ever tried in Jackson county ended today in the conviction of Frank Jeffrey and Douglas Henderson for killing James Towle last December. The case was given to the jury at 5 o'clock last evening, and at noon today the verdict was rendered, fixing the death penalty. The court will pass sentence.

Courtney Urged as Peel's Successor.

LONDON, March 10.—The Daily News, in a leader, urges the claims of Rt. Hon. Henry Courtney to the speakership of the House of Commons in succession of Rt. Hon Arthur Peel, whose resignation is imminent. Mr. Courtney is an advanced liberal.

Convicted of Murdering His Companion.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., March 10.—Colonel Conley, a well known Linn county man, has been convicted at Mound City of murder in the first degree. He killed James Mapes, a companion, at a Fourth of July celebration in 1894.

Bishop Thomas to Be Buried at Topeka.

SALINA, Kan., March 10.—The funeral of Rt. Rev. Elisha Smith Thomas, Episcopal bishop of Kansas, who died Saturday night, will be held at Grace cathedral in Topeka on Wednesday at 12 o'clock.

Large Chicago Foundry Burned.

CHICAGO, March 10.—The extensive foundry plant occupied jointly by Harry Perry and the Challenge Machine company burned tonight. Loss, $75,000, partly covered by insurance.

Indiana Banker Drops Dead.

COLUMBIA CITY, Ind., March 10.—E. L. McLallen, aged 59 years, head of the banking firm of McLallen & Co., dropped dead this evening. He was a thirty-third degree Mason.

Carpenter's Funeral Will Be Held Tuesday.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 10.—The funeral of the late A. V. H. Carpenter of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway will be held Tuesday afternoon, March 12.

Good View of the Eclipse in Colorado.

PUEBLO, Colo., March 10.—Not a cloud obscured the sky in Colorado and the lunar eclipse was observed most satisfactorily.

Admiral Gifford Dead.

LONDON, March 10.—Admiral Sir George Gifford, retired, is dead. He was born in 1815.

HOW MUCH WILL THEY SPEND

State's Pocketbook Now in the Hands of the Legislators.

FLOATING INDEBTEDNESS SURE TO GROW

Amounts Already Provided for Are Large and Those Impending Will Increase the Total to an Unprecedented Sum—Some Figures.

LINCOLN, March 10.—(Special.)—Upon the work of the legislature during the next two weeks depends the answer to the question, will Nebraska's floating indebtedness become larger or smaller within the ensuing fiscal biennium? The appropriation bills are printed and in the files of each member. The house has but eleven days remaining. None of the bills have been touched so far, and consequently their consideration cannot be much longer deferred. Even if the house transacts no other business the remaining days of the legal session will hardly suffice to finish the appropriation bills. Old and experienced members of the house agree with this view. Representative Casper of Butler county, whose long experience, not only as a member of the house, but of the ways and means committee, makes him a good authority, said today that he believed that at the very lowest calculation the two bills could not be passed and sent to the senate within eight days.

Mr. Casper was chairman of the ways and means committee two years ago. Second on the committee was Church Howe.