

# Asheville Daily Gazette.

VOL. VII NO. 82

ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 15, 1902

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## WORK AMONG RUINS OF ST. PIERRE CITY

Evidence of the Hurricane Velocity of the Blazing Gas that Swept over the Town, Throwing Down Stone Buildings and Melting Iron Work—What an Inspection of Various Ruins Discloses.

(From Laffan Bureau Special Correspondent.)

Fort de France, May 14.—The commander of the American tug Pafonic left an assistant at the hospital here and furnished the authorities with a quantity of disinfectants. The Italian consul at Barbadoes, whose daughter perished in the disaster, has brought the body here in a coffin. The body was found near Carbet, a suburb of St. Pierre. The scenes around the residence where the remains were found are worse than those of St. Pierre itself. In the latter place the victims were mostly covered with ashes and debris. Near Carbet the correspondent of the Sun who accompanied the Italian consul saw 500 bodies immensely distended in an advance stage of decomposition. Nearly all were face downward. Those found in the ruins of the dwellings were badly charred. The body of a woman was found near a stream to which she evidently had fled in the hope of saving herself from the fiery flood. A large heap of bodies, apparently servants, were found in one spot. Another residence close by, partly sheltered by a hill on the St. Pierre side, escaped untouched. The windows are gone but the contents are unscathed. The only living thing seen in this district was a dog as thin as a skeleton. While the body of the consul's daughter was being removed the animal went to the beach, drank of the sea water and returned to the hillsides.

The correspondent went on foot from Carbet to St. Pierre. On the road the remains of a man and horse were passed. The body of another man was found in the attitude of prayer before a statue of the Virgin on a hill above St. Pierre was hurled from its base. This together with the fact that huge trees were uprooted show that the wave of fire must have passed over this section of the island at extreme hurricane velocity.

Every house in St. Pierre is absolutely ruined. The streets are piled twelve feet high with debris, hundreds of bodies are visible in every direction. A portion of the tower of the cathedral is still standing. The large bell lies in the center of the ruins. The greater part of the altar is destroyed, but the golden chalice is still there, damaged by falling debris. In one large chalice was seen the ashes of what had been the host. A small chalice full of wafers is not a whit charred. It is known that many who sought refuge in the cathedral perished but the bodies are scarcely visible, owing to the debris.

A visit to the sites of the club, bank, house, telegraph office and principal shops reveal the same devastation. At the police station there are large piles of bodies lying face downward as if the victims had fallen while feeling to escape. In one distillery a large quantity of rum was found intact. No official are seen anywhere. Many buildings in the city suburbs are still burning. The crater above St. Pierre was very threatening last night.

### SOUFRIERE'S AWFUL WORK

Latest Reports of the Devastation on the Island of St. Vincent—A Thousand Bodies Receive Burial.

London, May 14.—The governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Robert Llewellyn, telegraphs to the colonial office from the island of St. Vincent under date of May 13, as follows:

"I arrived here yesterday and found the state of affairs much worse than

A PLACE OF INTEREST.  
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9 rooms, W. Chestnut street, \$40.  
9 rooms, Cumberland Avenue, \$30.  
8 rooms central Avenue, \$15.  
6 rooms, Haywood street, \$17.  
9 rooms Haywood street, \$25.  
8 rooms, Montford Avenue, \$25.

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had been stated. The administrator's reports show that the country on the east coast, between Robin Rock and Georgetown, was apparently struck and devastated in a manner similar to that which destroyed St. Pierre and I fear that practically all living beings in that radius were killed. Probably 1600 persons lost their lives. The exact number will never be known. Managers and owners of the estates with their families and several of the better class of people have been killed. A thousand bodies have been found and buried. One hundred and sixty persons are in the hospital at Georgetown. The details of the disaster are too harrowing for description. I got, at St. Lucia, a steamer, which is running up and down the leeward coast with water and provisions. Twenty-two hundred persons have received relief. I have asked for medical aid from Trinidad and Grenada. All the neighboring British colonies assisting generously. Every effort is being made to grapple with the awful calamity. All the beet sugar in the Caribbean country is devastated and the cattle are dead. Anxiety is still felt. All the offices and residents are co-operating with me. The ladies are making clothing."

New York, May 14.—In a dispatch from its correspondent on the island of St. Vincent, B. W. L., the Herald says:

Admonitory rumblings and earthquakes in the vicinity of South Soufriere came two weeks ago.

On Monday, May 5, the lake in the old crater became disturbed.

On Tuesday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the mountain began a series of volcanic efforts. Severe earthquakes accompanied these terrible noises and detonations succeeded quickly. At 7 o'clock in the evening steam issued from the crater and lasted until midnight.

Terrific explosions followed and on Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock there was another sudden violent escape of steam. This ascended for 3 hours, when other material was ejected.

At noon three craters appeared to open and began to vomit lava. Six streams at once ran down the sides of the mountain, making an awful scene. The mountain labored heavily for half an hour after the appearance of the lava. Fire flashed from the edges of (Continued on fifth page.)

## NIXON RELINQUISHES LEADERSHIP OF TAMMANY; TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE

New York, May 14.—Lewis Nixon announced to the members of the Tammany executive committee this afternoon that he had sent in his resignation as president of the finance committee. This is equivalent to relinquishing the leadership of Tammany. He said he could not retain the position and his self-respect, owing to the interference of the "kitchen cabinet," headed by Freeman, Croker's business partner, and of Croker himself.

## CARNEGIE OFFERED TO PAY \$20,000,000 TREATY PRICE FOR PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

New York May 14.—Through President Seward of the Fidelity and Casualty company, who is an intimate friend of Andrew Carnegie's, it is learned that Carnegie was so hostile to the acquisition of the Philippines that he offered to President McKinley to pay the \$20,000,000 which the treaty of Paris stipulated the United States should pay Spain for the Philippines. Seward says Carnegie informed him of this, saying he made the offer to McKinley during a conference with the latter before the ratification of the treaty. Carnegie told the

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## DISAPPEARING GUN CARRIAGE

DISCUSSED BY SENATE, IN CONNECTION WITH FORTIFICATION BILL.

A New Conference with the House Conferred Upon the Omnibus Claims Bill.

### NAVAL APPROPRIATION DEBATE IN THE HOUSE

KITCHIN OPPOSES IT—ELLIOTT (S. C.) DWELLS ON IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL APPALACHIAN FOREST RESERVE

Washington, May 14.—The senate today temporarily sidetracked the Philippines civil government bill and discussed the fortifications appropriation bill. Several senators attacked the feasibility of the disappearing gun carriage. Penrose considered it sheer folly to expend money on the disappearing carriage until conclusive tests as to its utility had been made. Proctor pointed out that it was only used in modified form in England.

Warren, who favored the disappearing carriage, said England should not be taken as a criterion, as she was as far behind in warfare as she was in the march of industrial progress. The bill was finally laid aside and the senate adjourned.

Early in the session a further conference on the omnibus claims bill was requested by the house and new conferees appointed.

Washington, May 14.—The house session was devoted to debate on the naval appropriations bill. The discussion took wide scope. Elliott (S. C.) dwelt on the importance of establishing the National Appalachian forest reserve.

Kitchin opposed increasing the navy as proposed by the bill. He said it was not a lack of patriotism for the navy that led those who believed with him to take the position that it was not necessary to build more than one battleship and one protected cruiser in a year. He advocated the consolidation of the bureaus in the navy department and the construction of submarine torpedo boats. He argued in favor of the construction of ships in the government yards.

## PAGE'S WARM RETORT TO JUDGE CLARK

Strikes Back at the Judge Sharply but Humorously on Many Points of the Latter's Allegations—Aycock not a Candidate for Senate Nomination.

Special to the Gazette.  
Raleigh, May 14.—The warmest contribution yet to the Clark literature is a letter from Henry A. Page, which will appear in the Morning Post tomorrow.

It is addressed to "Major Joseph Daniels, my dear old friend and playmate." He declares he never knew of Judge Clark's letter to Russell concerning his (Continued on 5th page.)

## FIGHTING IN HAYTI EXPECTED TODAY

Port Au Prince, Hayti, May 14.—Admiral Killick, commander of the Haytian fleet, has started for Cape Haytian with Italian warships Crete-A-Pierot and Toussaint L'Ouverture, having declared himself in favor of General Firman, the former minister to Hayti at Paris, who is the head of the revolutionary forces in the northern part of the island.

The northern revolutionists have seized the custom houses of Cape Haytian, Port de Paix and Gonaves and are collecting duties. Protests against this action on the part of General Firman have entered by the National bank and the diplomatic corps.

A severe engagement between the northern revolutionists and the southern forces, meaning the troops from Port Au Prince and of its vicinity, is expected to take place tomorrow or Friday.

A steamer from Kingston, Jamaica, is expected here today or Thursday, bringing a number of Haytians who have been in exile. Among them are Fouchard and Pierre, two more candidates for the presidency.

The French steamer Olinda Reixgues, on which ex-President Sam embarked yesterday, is still in the harbor of Port Au Prince. She was to have sailed yesterday but was retained by the French minister, M. DePrese. She will remain here until a foreign ship reaches Port Au Prince. The absence of a foreign warship is causing great uneasiness in the foreign colony here.

After the embarkation of Gen. Sam, all the political prisoners were released and last night they, with groups of drunken soldiers, paraded the streets. Shots were fired from time to time and it was feared that the plundering of stores and residences would follow. The provisional government constituted by M. Boisrond Canal, a former president, is attempting to control the situation, but General Saint Felix Colin, the district commander, and General Kobrau, are the only officials who appear to be exercising any authority. They formed a corps of respectable citizens yesterday evening and succeeded in disarming most of the dangerous characters. As a result the night was much quieter than otherwise it would have been.

Washington, May 14.—In view of the critical state of affairs in Hayti and San Domingo, the navy department is making plans to send the training ship "Topeka," now at Port Royal, S. C., to San Domingo City to fill the place made vacant by the dispatch of the "Cincinnati" to Martinique. Orders have gone forward to have the "Topeka" ready for sea and unless the situation in the two little republics is materially alleviated she will sail for the scene of the trouble in a short time.

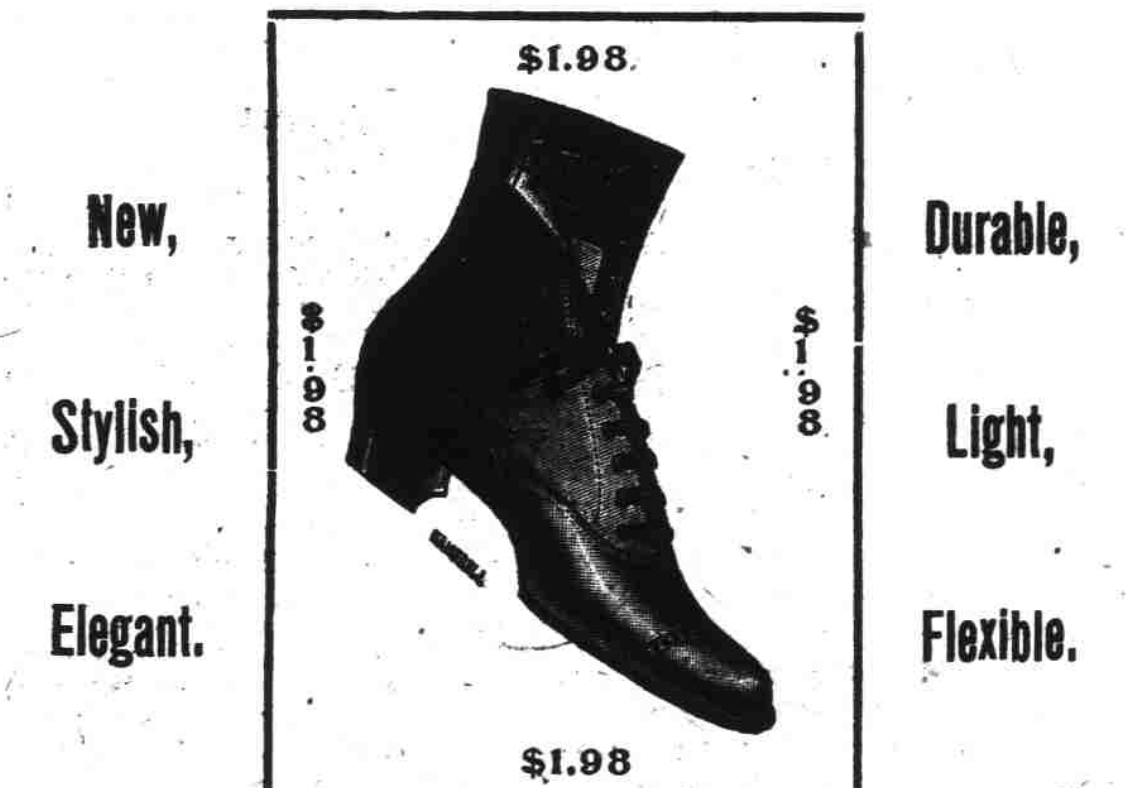
### VESUVIUS IN ERUPTION

Paris, May 14.—A despatch from Naples to the Journal says Mt. Vesuvius shows signs of activity. Lava is flowing from the crater on the Pompeii side, while hot cinders are thrown up from time to time.

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