

## GENERAL GOMEZ.

### HE RETIRES CONSCIOUS OF HAVING DONE HIS DUTY.

#### Free to Return to His Home— Fifty Thousand People Make a Demonstration in His Honor.

Havana, March 13.—General Maximilian Gomez has issued the following statement to the Cuban people and army:

"By the use of the supreme faculties with which it is endowed, the Assembly, representing the army only, has deposed me as commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, which grade it conferred upon me during the last war. As commander-in-chief I always followed the dictates of my best conscience and the call of great national needs. I endeavored in all circumstances to fulfill my duty.

"The Assembly considers the fact that I do not aid it in its efforts to raise loans which later would compromise the greatest financial and political interests of Cuba to be an act of insubordination and want of respect. The primary cause for the action taken against me is my conviction that Cuba should begin the exercise of its own sovereignty as a republic of union and concord, proclaimed at Monte Cristo, and unimpeded on the field of battle free from all compromise, keeping the nation's honor spotless.

"As for the rest, as a sincere man, I confess I thank them because they relieve me of a great political obligation, and also leave me free to return to my abandoned home, which, during thirty years of continual strife for the good of this country that I love so much, has been my one aspiration. Foreigner, as I am, I did not come to serve this country by helping it to defend its just cause as a mercenary soldier; and, consequently, since the oppressive power of Spain has withdrawn from this land and left Cuba in freedom, I had sheathed my sword, thinking I had finished the mission which I had voluntarily imposed upon myself. I am owed nothing. I retire contented and satisfied at having done all I could for the benefit of my brothers. Wherever destiny rules that I make my home, there can the Cubans depend upon a friend."

Governor General Brooke was notified last night of the deposition of Gomez, and when seen this morning, he was much interested to learn the details of the Assembly's proceedings. He said he could not express an opinion as to the effect of the Assembly's action upon the future relations between General Gomez and the United States, particularly in the matter of disbursing the \$3,000,000 offered by Washington to Cuban troops as a condition of disbandment, but the impression seems to be among the American authorities that, as the Assembly has never been officially recognized by the United States Government, its actions, so far as Washington is concerned, will not amount to more than the resolutions of any other body of individuals.

The Assembly is being strongly censured by Cubans on all sides, and there were popular demonstrations this afternoon in favor of the deposed commander-in-chief, the crowds shouting "Long live Gomez!" and "Death to the Assembly!"

General Gomez during the day received numerous visitors, all of whom assured him of their affection and loyalty, and the declaration of the Assembly on whatever subject, could not represent even the army, as the elections which gave its members their present positions are really voidable for illegality and political jobbery. There is no doubt that a majority of the people support him as against the Assembly. The local press will probably attack the Assembly, urging its dissolution as the best thing that can happen, and insisting that there is no reason why the United States authorities may not continue to treat with General Gomez in the matter of the payment of the troops.

It is said on good authority that the pay-rolls Gomez is preparing to hand General Brooke are most complete, full and fair, and that when the army learns he can aid the troops in procuring \$3,000,000, whereas it is problematical whether the Assembly can obtain anything, there is little doubt as to the side the army will take in the controversy. The troops are tired of the field and of insufficient food, and the indications are that they would readily disband on receipt of the \$3,000,000 unless deceived by the Assembly with promises of a larger payment in the event of refusing to disband.

#### Tapped the Wires.

SCANTON, Pa., March 11.—The tapping of a wire between this city and New York yesterday cost the pool room men of Scanton and Wilkesbarre \$2,500. The races were liberally played and there were many surprises when it was announced that Barataria, at 4 to 1; Friar John, at 5 to 1 and Neme at 50 to 1 were the winners of the big races.

The betting had been heavy and in this city the pool room lost near \$1,200. The discovery that the wires had been tapped was not made until too late and now the better on the winning horses will have their claims satisfied at a further loss to the pool room men. Where the wire was tapped is not known. The horses staked at heavy odds were made the winners by the wire tappers and their friends liberally backed the right ones.

## A Telegraph Hero.

EDWARDSVILLE, Ill., March 10.—John F. Dickman, mangled and bruised, is the hero of Patras, a station on the Clover Leaf Railroad, just below this place.

He was in his telegraph office on Wednesday night, when he heard his station call sound and was given a train order for a local train on a siding to remain at the station. Dickman started across the yard to deliver the order to the engineer. He failed to notice a through freight which was coming along.

The train struck him and hurled him forty feet from the track. There he lay unconscious and bleeding for several minutes, and the train sped by, the crew being unaware of the accident.

When he recovered consciousness, Dickman realized that a collision would occur if he did not get back to the station and send orders to hold a freight scheduled to leave the yards at Madison. With fractured skull and numerous bruises about the body he dragged himself slowly across the platform and reached the operator's table almost fainting.

He would have lost consciousness again had not his brother, William Dickman, a farmer, just then arrived at the depot and caught the exhausted man, who was struggling to save the lives of several trainmen. With his brother holding him in his arms Dickman opened the key and clicked of the signal "O. S.," a warning to the chief dispatcher at Charleston that the train had just left the station. His duty done, Dickman fell in a faint. The warning reached Charleston in time, and an accident was averted. Dickman's condition is serious.

#### What Cuba Needs.

HAVANA, March 12.—William Willard Howard, general manager of the Cuban industrial relief fund, which has just established its first station at Guines, the market garden of Havana, has presented his credentials to Governor-General Brooke.

"That is just what the island needs," said General Brooke. "The farmers must be provided with oxen, agricultural implements and seeds and helped to secure farms where they can support themselves, thus making unnecessary this distribution of rations."

General Brooke promised that the fund should receive all the assistance it was in his power to give. He gave Mr. Howard the following statement in writing:

"I have no hesitation in saying that the purpose of the Cuban industrial relief fund is one which should meet with success in the island. The supplying of oxen, carts and farming implements will, I believe, solve the problem of restoring the island to its normal condition."

#### Blockaded by Snow.

DETROIT, Mich., March 12.—Nearly all points in the upper peninsula of Michigan report railway traffic completely blocked by snowstorms. The heaviest snowstorm in the history of the snow belt is prevailing at Bessemer. All streets are blocked with banks of snow from four to eight feet deep. At Houghton all trains are canceled and no railroad communication with the East has been had since Saturday. Snowdrifts eight feet high are in the streets.

Calumet reports the streets completely blockaded, and in places the drifts cover the first story of some of the business places. Joseph Willmer, a miner, while coming from work last night, was overcome by the storm and was found dead today.

RAPID CITY, S. D., March 12.—The blizzard that swept over the country east of this city yesterday was the worst ever experienced here. Two men are missing—the son of Shelby Reed, a wealthy sheep owner, and Mail Carrier Pearson. It is feared others were caught in the storm and have perished.

#### Bandits Near Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, March 10.—Six bandits were captured yesterday in the neighborhood of Concepcion and all of them were formerly workers in the road gangs. They say they have no money and must either rob or starve. The six men have been lodged in the city jail, but considerable sympathy is shown in their behalf by the populace. Much the same sort of thing is happening in the district of Holguin, where a brush between bandits and gendarmes resulted in the killing of one of the former. Nevertheless it is not expected that these troubles will take a serious turn, owing to the probability that work will be resumed early next week, as the public funds, which have been stopped, are to be renewed.

Keep in the house Vio's Magic Creep Salve (25c) for this sudden disease.

## INSURANCE AFFAIRS.

### FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GUILFORD BRANCH OF THE FARMERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

#### The Transactions of the Association—Reports, of the Officers—List of Supervisors—Report of Committees, Etc., Etc.

March 11, 1899.

Jesse F. Hoskins, the Owner of the Chartered Rights, Presents the Association with an Interest in the Business and Is Thanked by a Rising Vote.

In the absence of the President, Mr. J. F. Hoskins was called to the chair. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, and of the Finance Committee having been read, were received and adopted. The recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Treasurer be allowed 5% for collecting assessments was adopted. The old officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, with the exception of Sheriff J. H. Gilmer, supervisor of Jefferson Township, whose place was filled by Mr. Walter L. Lindsay.

The following is a list of the officers: Berry Davidson, president. J. B. Wharton, secretary and treasurer.

#### SUPERVISORS.

C. L. Sockwell, Washington Township. C. A. Wharton, Rock Creek " A. G. Amick, Greene " R. K. Denny, Madison " Walter L. Lindsay, Jefferson " D. H. Coble, Clay " W. H. Rankin, Monroe " J. A. Rankin, Gilmer " Dr. Wesley Coble, Fentress " C. H. Hancock, Morehead " W. M. Kirkman, Sumner " J. Lee Ogburn, Summerfield " O. C. Wheeler, Friendship " J. Lee Ogburn, Jamestown " John A. Lowrie, Oak Ridge " W. E. Bowman, Deep River " S. E. Willis, High Point "

The following resolution was passed unanimously: Resolved, That this Association will not be liable for any loss sustained by any member who fails to pay his assessment within sixty days after receiving notice of assessment due, but that such member may be reinstated by the supervisor of his township upon payment of all his dues before he sustains a loss.

On motion it was ordered that the Secretary have published the proceedings of this meeting, and that a copy be mailed to each member.

On motion Mr. S. E. Willis was allowed \$60 for services. Mr. J. F. Hoskins having presented to the Association for the ensuing year one-fourth interest in the premiums the thanks of the company were tendered him by a rising vote and the gift accepted.

No further business appearing the meeting adjourned.

J. F. HOSKINS, Pres. pro tem. J. B. Wharton, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### SECRETARY AND TREASURERS REPORT, MARCH 11, 1899.

Gentlemen:—As your Secretary and Treasurer I beg leave to submit for your consideration the following report of the transactions of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Association of Guilford County, since your last annual meeting March 19, 1898.

In spite of the loss of some members by cancellation and the dropping of others by failure to pay their assessments there is a steady gain in both membership and amount of insurance carried by our organization. Over \$30,000 of new insurance has been added since our last meeting.

It is manifestly impossible to give the exact amount of insurance in force, or the number of members. While the Association is not liable for loss when the assessments are not paid within 60 days of notification, still when they afterwards pay back assessments before a fire occurs, they are reinstated. Many members forget to pay in time—some getting behind two or three payments—but are reinstated by payment of all dues.

There are in my opinion about 800 bona-fide paying members and about \$600,000 of insurance carried by this Association.

Since our last meeting losses to the amount of \$1,695 have been paid as will be seen by the report of your finance committee appended to this report.

These losses and the other necessary expenses have been met by three assessments.

As the Eckel and Kidd fires amounted to \$800, it was necessary to levy 15 cts. on the hundred dollars instead of 10 cts. as the latter rate would raise only about \$550.

There is a balance to our credit now after paying all losses and and this amount will be increased to probably \$175 or \$200 when the last assessments now overdue are paid in. All members are urged to pay their assessments within 60 days of notice.

Within the past year two members sustained losses which could not be paid by the company because of their failure to pay within the 60 days limit.

The past year has been particularly hard on the Association. While the fires have been more numerous than in any year of the past, there is not even a suspicion of any fraud connected with any one of them. It is a subject for congratulation that so few members have withdrawn on account of having to pay more than in other years. There is no reason to suppose that the fires will be as numerous for the coming year as the past.

In consequence of the larger losses

this year, the average rate per annum paid by members for the last five years on \$1,000 insured is \$1.42. Last year for the previous four years it was only 90 cts. Judging the future by the past it is safe to predict that for a period of ten years the average will not exceed \$1.50 per thousand per year. This rate is less than one fourth the rate of insurance in the old companies. It is difficult to understand by what process of reason a prudent man can refuse to insure his property at the small rate of \$1.50 on the thousand. All other fire insurance companies are run to make money for the stock holders—ours is to save money.

With the exception of the Southern Stock-Mutual, they are foreigners—ours is a home institution, and the money is kept at home. Their officers draw princely salaries—ours draw nothing.

GREENSBORO N. C., March 10th, 1899.

To the President and Members of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Guilford County of North Carolina:

We, the committee appointed to examine the books of J. B. Wharton, treasurer, beg leave to report. That after examining the books, we find as follows:

Cash on hand last report	\$64 21
Cash from R. G. Vaughn, former treasurer	27 78
Cash rec'd from three assessments	1760 94
Paid Sarah Forbis	\$ 125.00
Paid Jno. A. Watlington	550.00
Paid J. A. Lineberry	175.00
Paid to J. N. Payne	35.00
Paid to J. G. Eitor	5.00
Paid to Mrs. S. P. McNairy	5.00
Paid Eugene Eckel	500.00
Paid W. G. Kidd	300.00
Losses 1895:	
Paid Levi Scott, Atty	10.00
Paid J. R. Hancock, wit	35 50
Paid J. A. Walker	5.00
Court Ex. \$50.80:	
Paid J. W. Wharton	.30
Paid C. A. Wharton	1.00
Paid A. G. Amick	1.00
Paid C. A. Sockwell	1.00
Assess Ex. \$2.50:	
Paid Beece & Elam	29 50
Paid W. M. Barber	5.00
Paid J. R. Wharton	20.00
Paid Wharton Bros	2.50
Paid Mitch Byers	.50
Miscellaneous \$3.00:	
Postage	5.00
Total \$1,811.30.	
Cash on hand	41.63

\$1852.93 \$1852.93

Cash on hand \$41.63. We recommend that the treasurer be allowed 5% for collecting as it is a great deal of trouble to collect the amounts.

WM. P. McLEAN, JNO. W. COOK, JNO. J. NELSON.

Report of Jesse F. Hoskins' county agent. The records of his secretary and treasurer show that the following members of his association have been reinstated in their misfortunes by wind, lightning, and fire during the past five years.

Thos. E. Cook, T. L. Rumley, Richard Bell, T. E. Bell, S. H. Mendenhall & Co., L. L. Kernodt, Frank Bettini, H. G. Moor, Mrs. Sarah Morris, J. R. M. Baxter, Mrs. Sarah Forbis, Jno. A. Watlington, J. A. Lineberry, J. N. Payne, J. G. Eitor, Mrs. S. P. McNairy, Eugene Eckel, W. G. Kidd, amounting in the aggregate to \$33.29.

There are on the Secretary's books 800 names in good standing and about \$600,000 of insurance in force. Showing a gain of 40 members and about \$30,000. His records also show the average assessment for the last five years to be \$1.42. Our association is therefore strong, vigorous and growing, and as an impetus for a continuous growth, and to make each member feel that he has an interest in the profits arising from new insurance, I hereby present to the association a one-fourth interest in the premiums for the next year, to pay contingent expenses and balance if any to pay losses.

A former report of the Secretary shows that I did this once before and the amount realized was more than sufficient to pay two losses.

JESSE F. HOSKINS.

#### Mollie Sowers Acquitted.

LEXINGTON, N. C., March 11.—The case of the State vs. Mollie Sowers, charging her with infanticide, was given to the jury at 3 30 this afternoon. At 5 o'clock the jury filled into the court room and announced the verdict, "not guilty." The defendant, who was standing when the verdict was announced, sank back into her chair for a moment, then sprang up and rushed to shake hands with her attorneys before she could be restrained. The verdict is almost universally commended.

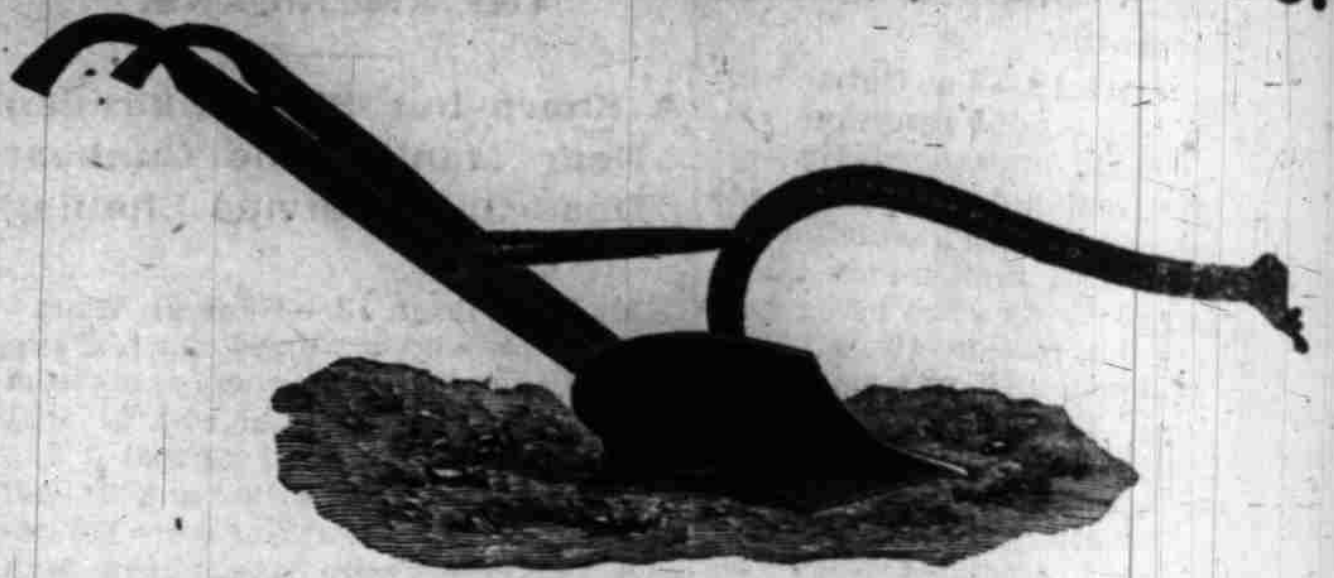
#### Controls a Torpedo Without Wires.

LONDON, March 10.—The Daily Chronicle has an interview with Oring, the Swedish inventor, who came here to test a new torpedo, which, he asserts, he can steer from the shore or a vessel, without any connection, on some new principle of light transmission and electrical induction, similar to the X-rays. He says he can dispatch the torpedo at the rate of twenty-two knots and control it for a distance of six miles, possibly more, as well as bring it back.

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