

VENEZUELAN BLOCKADE

Belgium to Take Prominent Part in Administration of Customs Receipts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The Italian and British ambassadors and the German charge d'affaires, at a joint conference today, agreed to enable their government to accept a prompt acquiescence of Mr. Bowen's proposition, to enable the lifting of the Venezuelan blockade at once.

Signor Mayor des Planches, the ambassador, said the ranking representative of the allies, called on Mr. Bowen this afternoon and informed him of the dispatch of the joint telegram to the powers, and expressed the hope that it will expedite the arrival of the final answer.

Partial confirmation has been obtained here of cable dispatches that the minister in London, Mr. Bowen, is in the administration of the customs receipts.

Mr. Bowen declines to discuss the details of his plan, however, and late this afternoon he gave out a brief statement of the diplomatic debt of Venezuela and the methods for its future adjustment.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The British and Italian ambassadors and Count Quadi, the German charge d'affaires, called on Mr. Bowen, Venezuela's representative in the negotiations looking toward the blockade and settlement of the claims against Venezuela, about 10:30 to-night and were still in conference with him at 11:30.

The conference was held at half-past 10 o'clock and the representatives of the allies proceeded at once to their homes. It was made known that no agreement had yet been reached on the raising of the blockade, and that further work must be awaited from Europe before this stage of the negotiations is passed.

Mr. Bowen made the following statement: "We have been discussing to-night certain points which needed to be clearly understood. They have been referred to us by one of our officers, and we are now to be communicated at once to Rome, London and Berlin."

"The further statement was made after the conference adjourned, and absolutely no foundation for charges that Germany was delaying the signing of the preliminary protocol. The representatives of the allies who emanated from the London Foreign Office."

FOOT AT SAVANNAH. Vessels Are Unable to Enter or Leave the Harbor.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 28.—The steamers Nacoochee, from New York and Hudson from Baltimore with passengers, are lying off Tybee island unable to enter the harbor on account of the heavy fog. The steamer City of Savannah, for New York, is for the same reason unable to leave the harbor. The channel lights are obscured and vessels can get neither in nor out.

WEEPING AT A WEDDING. A Chinese matron is in customary talk, no levity and much crying. The solemnity of a funeral prevails. After the exchange of presents the bride is dressed with much care in a red gown, knitted and fitted. She can't get it; her eyelashes are painted a deep black, and she wears a heavy red veil attached to a scarlet headress, from which imitation pearls are suspended over the forehead. A feast is spread upon a table, to which the bridesmaid is led by five of her best female friends. They are seated at the table, but no one eats. The utmost silence prevails, when, finally, the music breaks off in a cry, the maids follow and the bride echoes in the chorus. Then all the bridesmaids leave the table and the bridesmaid alone takes a seat beside the chair of the bride. The bride sits. The bridegroom now enters, with four of his best men. The men pick up the throne on which the bride sits, and preceded by the bridegroom, turn to the right and enter the room or into an adjoining parlor, signifying that he is carrying her away to his own home. The guests then throw rice at the happy couple, a custom which has borrowed from the heathen.

Professional Pride. Newspaper men, from great editors down to rural correspondents, are proud of their profession, although not all sit as secure as John Black, for many years the chief of the London Chronicle.

Black supported the Melbourne administration in his paper, yet he never asked a favor of any of the ministers. On one occasion Lord Melbourne said to him: "You are the only man in England who forgets that I am prime minister."

"How so, my lord?" inquired Black, supposing that he had been inadvertently disrespectful. "I have never asked a favor of you," you are the only man I know who never asks a favor of me."

"I have no favor to ask," said Black quietly, but he never forgot to throw rice at the happy couple in England, but I am editor of the Morning Chronicle, and I would not change places with the proudest man in England—not even, my lord, with you."

A Pitch Lake. Trinidad, the south Atlantic opposite the mouth of the Orinoco, is famous for its pitch. There are districts where there is pitch everywhere. The beach is pitch, and so are the rocks, some of which have been carried off to supply Paris and New York with tar payments. At La Brea pines grow to perfection in a brown soil which is half pitch, but the wonder of the lake is the pitch lake as such as fifty feet deep. The space between these unlively objects is filled with oily water. In parts of the lake the pitch is quite liquid, and the ground round it falls of pitch and contains to a depth of hundreds of feet.

A SHARP DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

Remarks of Senator Rawlins Aroused the Ire of Senator Beveridge.

OVER AFFAIRS IN THE ARMY. Carmack Denounced the Charge That Democrats Were His Assailants—The Statehood Bill Debated—Proceedings in the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—A sharp debate was precipitated in the Senate today when Mr. Rawlins called up his resolution offered yesterday directing the Secretary of War to furnish the Senate the proceedings of a number of court martials in the Philippines. In the course of his remarks Mr. Rawlins referred to the death of Father Augustin and said he was murdered in cold blood. This aroused the ire of Mr. Beveridge, who demanded specifically to know who had committed the cold-blooded murder.

Mr. Carmack entered the debate and characterized the charge, which he said repeatedly had been made, that the Democrats were his assailants, as the "meanest and dirtiest" of any that had been made against that party.

Mr. Proctor defended Captain Cornelius M. Brownell, who had been mentioned in the Rawlins resolution as being responsible for Father Augustin's death.

Mr. Rawlins said he had not specifically charged any person with having committed cold-blooded murder, but his statement was based on affidavits on file in the War Department. It is in the charge, "we have called attention to tortures and there have been arraigning the American army. It is a false and infamous charge, and we will not permit the test of the men who have falsely given it utterance. I brand the statement as infamous, if not obscene." Mr. Rawlins said he had not put me in a false position which I will not occupy.

"If that is the best explanation the Senate can give," he asked Mr. Beveridge, "for his remarkable language here, I think the best friend the senator has would advise him to accept the alternative of silence, which I would accept." Mr. Hoar interrupted and asked if it was fair to impute to anybody a desire to attack the American army when the government of the United States has sent a senator to the Philippines to defend the conduct of the army in the Philippines, said that it occupied but four days of seven hours over the forehead. A feast is spread upon a table, to which the bridesmaid is led by five of her best female friends. They are seated at the table, but no one eats. The utmost silence prevails, when, finally, the music breaks off in a cry, the maids follow and the bride echoes in the chorus.

Mr. Proctor declared that Father Augustin was the head and front of the insurrection in his district. From his standing in the church, he said, Father Augustin was able to kill the contrary to the canon of the church and his revenues from their legitimate purpose and use them to further the insurrection.

JERSEY CENTRAL'S FATAL COLLISION.

The Total Loss of Life Up to Last Night Was Placed at Twenty.

OVER FIFTY WERE INJURED.

It is Believed That Several of the Injured Will Die—Fifteen of the Dead Residents of Plainfield—Engineer Blamed for the Disaster.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The total loss of life by last night's fearful collision on the Central railroad of New Jersey at Graceland, N. J., is up to tonight twenty. In addition to these Engineer Davis and Fireman McCarthy, of the Philadelphia and Reading road, who were on the hospital at Plainfield, may die at any moment and it is believed that several of the injured passengers cannot recover.

The blame for the disaster is placed by the railroad officials on Engineer Davis, who, according to a policeman who took him to the hospital at Graceland, admitted that he had seen the red and green danger lights displayed, but expecting to see them suddenly change to white, rushed on till it was too late to check speed or to plunge into the rear of the train ahead. No statement has been obtained from Davis in the hospital, but intervals of semi-consciousness and delirium he moans, "I saw nothing."

According to the statement of the slain passengers at Graceland, the engine was made to hold the express at that point by telegraph, but almost at the instant the message was received the train was struck by upwards of sixty miles an hour and the crash followed two minutes later.

Most of the passengers on the local express, on which all of those killed were riding, were well-to-do residents of Plainfield, N. J., and neighboring towns, who were returning to their homes from various places of business in New York. Of the identified dead, fifteen lived in Plainfield, and in the long list of injured, Plainfield is given as the home of a majority. Nearly every block in the town seemed to have one or more of wounded in it today, but the city's facilities for caring for its stricken people were ample.

The first known of the collision was a train which was struck and derailed by the Earl of Angus, with his huge sweeping brand, challenged an opponent to fight and at a blow chopped assunder his thigh bone, killing him on the spot.

With Confidence We Direct You to the Never-Failing Health Builder.

PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND Quickly Elevates Constitutional Condition of all Run-down and Sick People.

In the winter season, when many people, especially women and children, are confined in close and stuffy apartments which lack proper ventilating facilities, the blood becomes watery, pale, sluggish, and impure; the nervous system is impaired, the brain is tired, insomnia begins its terrible work, and a general collapse of the whole system ensues.

Paine's Celery Compound is the life-giving and tried anchor of hope that all may lay hold of with a certainty of new life and vigorous health. Paine's Celery Compound is doing the same heaven-blessed work to-day for the suffering as it did in the past. It quickly furnishes that new, pure, and fresh blood which is the foundation of true health; it promotes cell-growth, builds up weak bone and tissue, and elevates the constitutional condition of every sick person, and defends them from germ and bacterial dangers. Why Paine's Celery Compound? It reads and your efforts will be fully and happily rewarded.

Do not throw away old clothes. Make them look like new with DIAMOND DYES. Direction book and 47 dyes samples free. DIAMOND DYES, Burlington, Vt.

FATAL COLLISION. TUZON, ARIZONA, January 28.—The Southern Pacific passenger train collided head-on when running at full speed near Yuma, fifteen miles east of Tucson early to-day. Eleven cars were smashed in a few minutes. Engineer Bruce and his fireman and Engineer Wilcox were burned to death and another fireman seriously injured. Eight bodies have been found. How many are injured cannot be determined. A relief train has returned, bringing seventeen injured.

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Another Fatal Collision. TUZON, ARIZONA, January 28.—The Southern Pacific passenger train collided head-on when running at full speed near Yuma, fifteen miles east of Tucson early to-day. Eleven cars were smashed in a few minutes. Engineer Bruce and his fireman and Engineer Wilcox were burned to death and another fireman seriously injured.

IN THE GHOST'S PATH

By Lester Grey

Mary Manners was at war with herself with all the work she would do. She thought that this was not a case where "present company is excepted."

"No," she said and she looked at the black and shrewish curls bobbed in her eyes. "No, I don't want to go to the theater. I want to be alone and to think. Who could think in a hot, stuffy theater? We will go to the park."

She ventured to hint that even his presence might be a bar to the flow of thought. "I could not go alone, stupid! It would not be proper."

"Oh, it's going into the water! Save it! Save it!" Mary Manners was at war with herself with all the work she would do.

She flushed him a look, and he smiled gloomily, but his high satisfaction was evident.

Intelligent Robins. The following incident seems too remarkable to be true, and yet it is vouched for by a writer whose word should not be doubted: Two robins were trying to get their little one to fly. It attempted to cover too great a distance and fell to the ground. My little boy caught it, and I told him to put it on the roof of our side porch.

COMMERCIAL WILMINGTON MARKET.

STAR OFFICE, January 28.

SPICRIS TURPENTINE—Market firm at \$8.00 per gallon. ROBIN—Market firm at \$1.55 per barrel for strained and \$1.00 per barrel for good strained.

MARKET FIRM ON A BASIS OF 8 3/4 PER CENT FOR MIDDLING. Quotations: Ordinary, 6 3/4 cts. per lb. Good ordinary, 7 3/4 " " " " Low middling, 8 3/4 " " " " Middling, 9 3/4 " " " " Good middling, 9 3/4 " " " "

RECEIPTS. Spirita turpentine, 18 Hoin, 382. Quotations same day last year—Spirita turpentine firm at 45¢; Hoin firm at \$1.10-1.15; tar firm at \$1.25; crude turpentine firm at \$1.35 @ 3.50.

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