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\$1.00 A Year

40,000 KILLED

St. Pierre, Island of Martinique, Blotted Out by a Rain of Fire.

SHIPS IN PORT DESTROYED

The Country For Four Miles Around Covered With Hot Lava, Followed by a Deluge of Ashes.

VOLCANO MONT PELEE EXPLODED

The Death List Exceeds That of Any Other Calamity in the History of the Western Hemisphere—United States Consul Prentiss, His Family, and Vice-Consul Testart Are Among the Dead—Eighteen Vessels in the Harbor Destroyed—Warship Saved Thirty Lives, and These Are the Only Known Survivors.

London.—The correspondent of the Times at St. Thomas, D. W. L., states that the town of St. Pierre, in the French Island of Martinique, has been totally destroyed by a volcano. All the inhabitants of the town, says the correspondent, have lost their lives, and all the shipping in the harbor has been destroyed.

London.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Point-a-Pitre, Island of Guadeloupe (French West Indies), says:

"The Mont Pelee (St. Pierre) crater ejected molten rocks and ashes during three minutes and completely destroyed St. Pierre and the districts within a four-mile radius. All the inhabitants were killed. The darkness, except where relieved by the burning city, was impenetrable. For five miles on the landward sides of the city the ground was covered to a considerable depth with hot ashes, which rendered an approach to the city by land impossible."

St. Thomas, D. W. L.—It is now estimated that 40,000 persons perished as a result of the volcanic eruption in the Island of Martinique.

The French cruiser *Suehet* arrived at Point-a-Pitre, Island of Guadeloupe, French West Indies, from Fort de France, Martinique, bringing several refugees. She confirmed the report that the town of St. Pierre was entirely destroyed by a volcanic eruption. It is supposed that the neighboring parishes were laid waste.

The commander of the *Suehet* reported that the entire town of St. Pierre was wrapped in flames. He endeavored to save about thirty persons, all more or less burned, from the vessels in the harbor. His officers went ashore in small boats seeking for survivors, but were unable to penetrate into the town. They saw heaps of bodies upon the wharves, and it is believed that not a single person in St. Pierre at the moment of the catastrophe escaped.

M. L. Moutier, the Governor of the colony, his wife, and his staff colonel, were in St. Pierre, and probably perished. The extent of the catastrophe cannot be imagined.

The British schooner *Ocean Traveler*, which arrived at Dominica, was opposite St. Pierre. She reported that when she was about a mile off the coast the volcano of Mont Pelee exploded, and fire from it swept the whole town of St. Pierre, destroying the town and shipping.

Paris, France.—The commander of the French cruiser *Suehet* has telegraphed to the Minister of Marine, M. de Lanesseau, from Fort de France, Martinique, as follows:

"Have just returned from St. Pierre, which has been completely destroyed by an immense mass of fire, which fell on the town at about 8:30 the morning. The entire population, about 25,000 souls, is supposed to have perished. I have brought back the few survivors, about thirty. All the shipping in the harbor has been destroyed by fire. The eruption continues."

The *Suehet* was ordered to return to St. Pierre with all the speed possible, and to forward details of the disaster to the French Government.

It is feared that the Governor of Martinique has perished.

Washington, D. C.—The following cablegram has been received at the State Department:

Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe. "Secretary of State, Washington. At 7 o'clock a. m. on the 8th inst. a storm of steam, mud and fire enveloped the City of St. Pierre and community. Not more than twenty persons escaped with their lives. The United States Consul and family are reported among the victims."

"AYME, Consul." The Consul at Martinique was Thomas T. Prentiss. He was born in Massachusetts as Consul at Seychelles Islands in 1871, and later served as Consul at Port Louis, (Mauritius), Rouen, and Batavia. He was appointed Consul at Martinique in 1900.

The Vice-Consul at Martinique is Amadee Testart, who was appointed from Louisiana in 1898.

Washington, D. C.—In the dispatch on the St. Pierre disaster received by the State Department from L. H. Ayme, United States Consul at Point a Pitre, Guadeloupe, he says:

"Eighteen vessels were burned and sunk with all on board, including four American vessels and a steamer from Quebec named *Koramama*."

COMPARED WITH POMPEII.

Stated that the Disaster Can Only Be Likened to That in A. D. 79.

Paris, France.—The Parisians have scarcely realized the awfulness of the catastrophe at St. Pierre. The only sign of grief yet visible is the half-masted flag over the Ministry of the Colonies.

Beyond reproducing the cable dispatches received by the Government, the evening papers either refrained from commenting on the disaster, or confined themselves to printing histories of ancient and modern similar events.

The morning newspapers did not do much better. The *Figaro* followed the cable dispatches with a geological history of the Island of Martinique, and speculated whether the catastrophe was due to an eruption or an earthquake or to both, winding up with the statement that "it is not France alone, but humanity as a whole, that is plunged in mourning, as such calamities call up the feeling of solidarity uniting all who think and feel."

The *Matin* said the disaster is one of the most frightful catastrophes recorded, and that one must go back to Pompeii to find a cataclysm of such a calamitous nature.

London.—All the newspapers here express the utmost horror over the Martinique catastrophe, which, they say, for its suddenness and magnitude is only comparable with that of Pompeii, and they extend deep sympathy to the French Nation.

It is possible that more lives were lost in the destruction of St. Pierre than when Pompeii and Herculaneum were destroyed. An actual comparison is not possible, because the various authorities are unable to do more than guess at the figures in regard to the destruction of the ancient cities.

The population of Pompeii at the time of its destruction has been given at from 20,000 to 50,000; but according to Florrell, the General Superintendent of the excavations, Pompeii had no more than 29,000 inhabitants in its earlier days, and no more than 12,000 at the time of its destruction.

The number of lives lost at Herculaneum is believed to have been considerably less than at Pompeii.

Professor Milne's Theory.

London.—Professor John Milne, the seismologist, in an interview published in the *Daily Express*, declares that his seismic instruments have recorded no disturbance, and that they would almost inevitably have done so had serious earthquakes occurred.

Professor Milne's theory is that Mount Pelee has "blown its head off," owing to the infiltration of water through the rocks until it reached the molten material beneath, forming steam of tremendous pressure until something had to give way.

THE ISLAND OF MARTINIQUE.

A Possession of the French in the West Indies—Discovered by Columbus.

The Island of Martinique belongs to the group known as the Lesser Antilles, in the West Indies. It lies thirty-three miles south of Dominica and twenty-two miles north of Saint Lucia. It is forty-three miles long by from twelve to twenty broad, and has an area variously estimated at from 320 to 380 square miles, four-fifths of which is volcanic. The island was discovered by Columbus on his fourth voyage, on June 15, 1502.

St. Pierre, the capital of the Island of Martinique and the birthplace of the Empress Josephine, is ten miles square, with a population of 25,000 people. It is on the northwest coast of the island, being one of the largest towns of the French group. It is well built on a narrow strip of land lying along the beach of a semi-circular bay and overhanging by cliffs which approach the shore. There is an interesting old Catholic college in the town, of historical importance. While there are few manufacturing establishments in the town, the people of St. Pierre are prosperous. The harbor was the stopping place of vessels of all nations, it being good, although much exposed. The anchorage is exceptionally well adapted for vessels of more than average draught. Though not unlike other natives of the Lesser Antilles and tropical climates in their habits and methods, the inhabitants of St. Pierre were industrious. The chief popular amusement in the capital of Martinique was dancing and driving.

The Island of Martinique contains several extinct volcanoes, the highest point being Mont Pelee, with an altitude of 4,430 feet.

MANY KILLED BY EARTHQUAKES.

About 50,000 People Have Been Left Homeless in Guatemala.

Guatemala City, Guatemala.—For nearly a week earthquakes have been tumbling down cities, towns and villages on the western slope of the Sierras in this republic.

Quetzaltenango, the second city of the republic, suffered by far the most. Hundreds of residences and public buildings were either totally destroyed or seriously damaged.

Two hundred bodies have been recovered, and many persons were badly injured. Fire, as well as flood, added to the horror of the night, with the result that many people have gone insane and others have committed suicide.

Approximately 50,000 people have been left homeless.

PAUL L. FORD MURDERED

Novelist Stain by His Brother, Who Then Killed Himself.

DEMANDS FOR MONEY REFUSED

Assaultant Had Been Dishonored by His Father, Encouraging a Bitter Feeling—Author Shot While Sitting at His Desk in His Library—Brave in Face of Death—Sole Witness to the Tragedy.

New York City.—Paul Leicester Ford, the deformed author of "Janice Meredith" and "The Honorable Peter Sterling," never conceived a climax in any of the novels that have made him famous so dramatic as that which has brought his eventful life to an abrupt end. In the library of his home, surrounded by the books he loved, he was shot to death by his brother, Malcolm Webster Ford, a tall, stalwart man, scarcely less famous for his athletic achievements than was Paul for his writings.

Before he had fallen from the chair where he sat when the shot was fired Paul saw his brother shoot himself and fall lifeless. The tragedy was the result of a feud growing out of the recent eccentricities of the father of both men, the father who had dishonored Malcolm and who had given the lion's share of his \$2,000,000 estate to the deformed son, Paul.

Mr. Ford was seated at his desk working on the notes of a new novel, and Miss Hall was also occupied in another part of the room, when Malcolm Ford, who had been admitted into the house by a servant, entered the library.

He paid no attention to Miss Hall, but walked directly to his brother's desk. Paul, looking up, said: "Good morning, Malcolm." Miss Hall did not hear Malcolm return the salutation, but she did hear him say: "I am at the end of my rope. I want you to—"

Miss Hall did not hear the conclusion of the sentence. They then engaged in a whispered conversation of a few minutes.

The last words that Miss Hall heard came from Paul. They were: "No; I cannot."

Miss Hall heard a step back of her, and saw Malcolm back away and raise his arm. Then she heard the report of a revolver. Miss Hall leaped from her chair and looked around in an agony of fear. She saw Malcolm standing, tall and erect, within two feet of the chair where Paul Ford was crouched.

She dashed through the portiers with a scream of fright. Then she heard Malcolm call: "Miss Hall, Miss Hall; come back—come back and see me take my own life."

Looking through the curtains Miss Hall, with blanched eyes, watched him deliberately raise a revolver to his left breast, and, with his face turned toward the window, press his finger on the trigger. She heard rather than saw the body of the athlete as it swung around toward her and dropped heavily to the floor. Miss Hall then reached the chair just as Paul Ford was about slipping from the seat to the floor. Putting her two arms around the frail body she half lifted and half led him to a couch that stood on the other side of her desk.

Her screams for help had attracted the servants, and one of them was sent for the family physician near-by, Dr. Baruch, who arrived five minutes after the shooting. He immediately examined the dying author upon the couch and discovered that the bullet had entered the left breast, and had penetrated one of the larger arteries, inflicting a surely fatal wound. Dr. Baruch administered a stimulant, under which Mr. Ford regained consciousness, and asked: "How am I, Doctor?"

The doctor made no response. Mr. Ford looked up at him again, with a feeble smile, and asked once more: "How am I, Doctor? How am I?"

He read his fate in the face of the physician, for, with a strong effort to keep up, he said: "I will try to die bravely. How am I now, Doctor?"

The doctor assured him that he was acting bravely. With the assistance of the women servants the doctor carried the body of the novelist into an adjoining apartment and placed it on a bed.

Dr. Baruch had an exciting quarter of an hour between trying to retain life in the feeble body of Paul Ford and to prevent the servants from advising Mrs. Ford of the tragedy that had robbed her of her husband. He succeeded in retaining life in the body of Paul Ford for fifteen minutes. He was leaning over the dwarfed figure when the end came.

Dr. Rosenberg, who also had been summoned, had made an examination of the body of Malcolm Ford. He had been shot in precisely the same spot as had his brother, whom he had murdered, and his death was almost instantaneous.

The physicians proceeded to the apartments of Mrs. Ford, who is shortly to become a mother. They learned that Mrs. Ford had demanded of one of the servants the cause of the noise and confusion down stairs, and had been told that Mr. Ford had been shot. The physicians found her hysterical and in urgent need of their skill. So critical was her condition that neither physician dared leave the room for four hours after the tragedy occurred.

Paul Leicester Ford was born in Brooklyn in 1865. His health in childhood and early manhood prevented the fulfillment of Paul from going to school or college, but he found a real university in his father's library. Paul Ford's historical publications, big and little (including reprints of scarce writings, edited by him, number 100 at least.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Great Representative Religious Body Meets in Asheville.

Asheville, Special.—The forty-seventh session (67th year) of the Southern Baptist Convention began here Friday. The attendance will be large. The first session was called to order by Hon. John W. Northern, of Atlanta.

This convention is the largest organized body of Baptists in the world. It embraces 19,558 churches in the States east of the Mississippi river and south of the Ohio; also in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Missouri, Arkansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Texas, Mexico and Cuba. The convention is not a legislative, but an advisory body. Under the denominational teachings of the Church the convention does not make laws for its constituency. The delegates meet for co-operation in missionary and educational work. The meetings of several societies and bodies auxiliary to the general convention were held during the day. The main questions for consideration by the convention will be education and home and foreign missions. Both the home and foreign boards have increased their work greatly during the last year and will report free of debt. It is said the home board, of which Dr. McConnell, of Atlanta, is secretary will report a balance on hand of something like \$5,000. The report of the foreign board, the headquarters of which is in Nashville will be made by Dr. R. J. Williamson.

Mr. Northern having declined a reelection as president, there was much speculation among the delegates as to who would be the presiding officer. Many were of the opinion that Mr. Northern would yet be induced to serve another term.

The Baptist Young People's Union held a meeting Thursday morning. Among the speakers were President John H. Chapman, Mr. Chapman told of the remarkable growth of the organization and predicted even larger growth this year. The association was shown to be in a highly flourishing condition.

The American Baptist Educational Society met in the afternoon and elected the following officers: President, A. Gaylord Slocum, LL. D., of Michigan; vice president, John F. Forbes, Ph. D., Florida; John H. Harris, LL. D., Pennsylvania; recording secretary, Rev. H. B. Grose, Massachusetts; corresponding secretary, H. L. Morehouse, D. D., 111 Fifth avenue, New York; treasurer, E. V. Carry, Mont Clair, N. J.; auditor, G. W. Murray, New York; members of the executive board, 1902-5, Eugene Levering, Baltimore, Md.; Rev. F. T. Tomlinson, Elizabeth, N. J.; Rev. Fred T. Gates, New York; Joshua Levering, Baltimore; G. W. Murray, New York; Col. J. A. Hoyt, Greenville, S. C.; E. W. Stephens, Columbia, Missouri; J. W. Bailey, Raleigh, N. C.; J. B. Gambrell, Waco, Texas.

In the absence of the secretary of the board Dr. Norman Fox, of New Jersey, was elected as recording secretary pro tem. The executive board of the society submitted its report, showing grants had been authorized to ten institutions during the year. The number of high schools in the South has increased from 431 in 1899 to 1,358 in 1901. The report of Treasurer E. V. Carry showing receipts for the fiscal year of \$77,075.73, was read by Dr. Moorehouse and adopted. President Boatwright declared there was a great educational revival going on. State and private aid, he said, were building up State institutions. "The loss of denominational patronage may make the weak-hearted think denominational institutions must be given up," he continued, "but the denominational schools are the bulwarks of the nation. When the State institutions foster a sustained Christian citizenship, secular schools may be needed, but not now. The demand is for schools which shall support Christianity, not church tenets."

Dr. J. P. Greene addressed the society on "The Bearing of the Modern Educational Revival on Denominational Colleges." Dr. E. M. Poter, of Philadelphia; J. M. Prestige, of Louisville, and others also delivered addresses.

The trustees of the Baptist Seminary at Louisville were in session. Hon. Joshua Levering, of Baltimore, presiding. Reports of the various committees were read and the institution was shown to be in a most flourishing condition.

The Dry Goods Market.

New York, Special.—The market was quiet again for all descriptions of cotton goods. There was more inquiry from exporters following a rise in the market for silver, but little actual buying. Prices are maintained in both staple and fancy lines. Print cloths are inactive for narrow and wide goods.

Newsy Notes.

Wheat growers in Northern Missouri are alarmed over the heavy rains of the past two days.

The resignation of Eliza M. Mosher, woman's dean of the University of Michigan, was tendered Thursday.

A falling elevator killed one man and seriously hurt two at the Aultman Company's plant, Canton, O.

A valuable bell, cast in St. Petersburg and shown at the World's Fair, has been stolen from a Russian church in Chicago, Ill.

The cornerstone of the Ohio McKinley Memorial College of Government will be laid at Washington, D. C., May 14 by President Roosevelt.

HE MUST APOLOGIZE

Bill Arp on Roosevelt's Remarks About Davis.

BILL SAYS THEY WERE WRO'G.

That Roosevelt Should Hasten to Make Ample Amends For the Mistake He Has Made.

Once more unto the breach, good friends—once more. I would like to know about what time President Roosevelt is going to retract what he wrote about President Davis. It has now been proven by the official records at Jackson, Miss., that Mr. Davis never was governor, nor was he ever a member of the legislature of that State, and in a public address made after the act of reprobation, he declared he was opposed to it and the debt ought to be paid, and this amateur historian denounces him in his book as an arch traitor and repudiator. Mr. Davis fought in Mexico for the honor of the flag; won the victory at Buena Vista; was repeatedly wounded and for five years walked with crutches; married General Taylor's daughter for his first wife and didn't run away with her, either; was secretary of war under Franklin Pierce, remodeled the curriculum at West Point and it stands as he framed it; was a member of the United States Senate when his State seceded and, like General Lee, he went with his people. He did not seek the presidency of the confederacy and insisted that another be chosen. Now all this has long since been established and if Mr. Roosevelt did not know it he could have known it. He certainly knows it now, and if he is a gentleman he will retract it and apologize to Mrs. Davis and the family and to the saintly shade of Miss Winde and to the people of the South. He called him an arch traitor and arch repudiator and compared him to Benedict Arnold and that slanderous libel is in print in a book of so-called history and has poisoned the minds of all the fools, fanatics and idiots who have read it. When is he going to retract?

The International Encyclopedia, edited by distinguished professors of Columbia university and Dartmouth college, says of Mr. Davis, "He was a ripe scholar, a vigorous writer, a splendid orator, a brave soldier, a true gentleman, a sturdy champion, a proud, true patriot, a lover of liberty, a Christian hero—this is the Jefferson Davis that history will cherish." General Lee was his bosom friend and confidant and yet this so-called historian, this rough rider and bear hunter, praises Lee while he defames his friend, a man infinitely his superior in every moral attitude and every noble emotion. But maybe he will retract and apologize, though Tom Moore says:

"But faith, fanatic faith, once wedded fast To some dear falsehood hugs it to the last."

He had better retract, for some of our old soldiers are very mad about it. They are talking about suing him for slander and garnishing the government for his salary. Killing bears in the wilderness won't save him nor will that little brush we had in Cuba. That is perhaps the biggest little war we have ever had and every small politician and stump orator who wants an office jumps up and says we are all brethren now. We fit and fust and bled together at San Juan and Santiago and then we crossed the wide ocean to whip out some niggers and we will soon all be on the pension roll. An old veteran said to me, "That little Spanish war reminds me of the fellow who was drowned at Johnston, and when he knocked at the gate St. Peter didn't recognize him and refused to let him in. 'Why, my dear sir,' said he, 'I am one of the Johnston sufferers. I was drowned in that flood.' So the good saint relented and let him in. He wandered about heaven, looking at the beautiful things and after a while came across an old man and said, 'Good morning, old gentleman; glad to see you. Been here a long time, I reckon?' The old man said nothing. 'I am one of the Johnston sufferers. I was drowned in that great flood.' The old man did not reply, but turned and walked slowly away. So the fellow went to St. Peter and asked why that old man was. 'He would not speak to me,' said he, 'though I told him I was in the great flood at Johnston.' And St. Peter replied, 'That old man, sir, is Noah and he had a flood of his own to think about.'"

And now we read that all the horrors of our civil war are being repeated in the Philippines. In our war it was the white yankees who made war hell for us, but now they are making hell for the negroes in the Philippines. We were trying to smother what our people suffered, but they won't let us and now boast that General Sherman found it the best way to shorten the war. No, we old men and women can't forget and I hope that our children and grand-children will learn it all in some Southern history. The civilized world has not forgotten Herod nor Nero nor the duke of Alva nor the massacre of St. Bartholomew, where 30,000 Protestants were butchered in a

night. But when will Teddy repent, retract and apologize? He has got it to do sooner or later or go down in history as a malicious defamer of one whose shoes he was not worthy to unloose. He and Miles will get together some time and some where. Now, why does not Teddy consider the feelings of our people in his appointments to Southern offices? Why did he not give Savannah a white man for a collector? Appointments of negroes to be postmasters and revenue collectors are an insult to us, and he knows it. If he has such affectionate regard for those negroes why not give them a place at Washington or Albany or Boston or a consulship at Hayti or San Domingo? These offices are the nearest of all to our people. The postoffice is our trying place, a kind of Mecca, and the postmaster our confidant. That office should always all others be accessible to the majority of the people. The collector has the commerce of a city in his hands and under his control, and that commerce is all white—none of it comes from the negro race. What excuse can he give for such appointments? None, and when is he going to retract and apologize for that slander of Mr. Davis? Euno answerers when?—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

NEW ROUTE TO COLUMBIA

Important Railroad Building That Is to Give a Short Line.

Hambet, Special.—Mr. Ernest Williams, president of the Charlotte, Monroe & Columbia Railroad Company, and owner of the Apex Lumber Company, will establish a planing mill at this place and will do a large business in finished and dried lumber.

Mr. Williams, together with some associates, has large lumber and saw mill interests in Chesterfield county, S. C. For the development of this intricate railroad is now being built from a station called McBee, in South Carolina, on the Seaboard road, towards Monroe. The company building this road is the Charlotte, Monroe & Columbia. The railroad is in reality secondary to the lumber interest and is being built to develop the latter. The railroad is now finished and running from McBee to Hamburg, about 12 miles. It is also graded 10 miles further to Jefferson in Chesterfield county, and the additional ten miles should be in operation in about three months. Jefferson is only about 15 miles from Monroe. President Williams thinks he will have the road completed from McBee to Monroe in side one year from now. When this road is finished to Monroe it would make a short line from Charlotte to Columbia and if it should be operated by the Seaboard through trains might be operated over it from Charlotte to Columbia. McBee station is in Chesterfield county, S. C., between Cheraw and Camden. Mr. J. H. Diggs, of McBee, S. C., is general manager of the company's lumber and saw mill interests in South Carolina. When the Charlotte, Monroe & Columbia road is finished to Monroe it will add to the importance of that town as a railroad centre.

Simmons' Good Work.

During the session of the Senate committee on public buildings and grounds Friday, Mr. Simmons, who is a member of the committee, performed some practical and valuable services for his State. He secured the consent of the committee to report favorably an amendment granting \$75,000 to repair the postoffice building at Greensboro, and also an amendment which carries \$135,000 for the purchase by the government of the court house at Winston, and \$25,000 for making improvements thereon. Both these amendments now go to the conference committee and it is believed that the Greensboro appropriation will be allowed to stand, as the merits of this proposition are universally admitted. Relative to the Winston appropriation there is a large element of uncertainty, as it is known that Chairman Messer, of the House committee, will to a great extent defer to the wishes of Representative Blackburn, who has succeeded in holding the matter in abeyance in so far as the House committee is concerned. The committee also agreed to an amendment giving an additional \$5,000 to Elizabeth City.

Must Not Drink.

Winston-Salem, Special.—A Winston man has left his wife because she objected to his taking a glass of beer when he felt like it. The husband went away on one of the Norfolk & Western trains a few days ago and it is understood that he has gone to West Virginia.

Before leaving town the husband, it is stated, wrote a note to his wife, in which he said something like this: "Dear Wife: You know that I have been a kind husband and provided you with a very good home and living. Now I will have only this to say—if you will allow me the pleasure of taking a glass of beer when I choose to, I will return and live with you; otherwise, I will leave town, never to return. This is my final proposition. Please answer."

The proposition (in writing) was delivered to the wife and immediately after reading it she wrote her husband briefly, but emphatically, notifying him that she would not accept his terms. The husband boarded the train soon after perusing the wife's answer to his message. The wife will return to the home of her father, in a neighboring town. The household property has been shipped.