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IN A GOLD MINE

The President's Party Strikes Something New

SOME OF THE SIGHTS

Mr. McKinley Hurts His Hand Hugging a Giant Cactus—Getting Close to the People—Calls for Teddy

Congress Junction, Ariz., May 7.—President McKinley made a visit this morning to the famous Congress mine, 25 miles from Phoenix. The train bearing the president and party arrived in the vicinity of the mine just after breakfast and the whole party went on board a special car which carried them by way of a switchback to the mouth of the main shaft. The party was escorted by Governor Murphy, of Arizona, ex-Governor McCool, of the same territory, and E. B. Age, president of the mining company.

There was a half mile walk from the end of the switchback road to the mouth of shaft No. 3, leading over a dusty mountain road with great rocks lying on each side. Mr. McKinley seemed to enjoy the walk, dusty as it was, and set a brisk pace for the other members of the party. When he reached the shaft, however, he resolved not to go down in the car, a distance of about 3,200 feet. The members of the party and several others made the trip, however, and some ladies were allowed to hammer some samples of ore from the veins of mineral to be prepared as souvenirs.

While walking from the mouth of the shaft to the retort room, situated on another part of the mining property, the president stepped on a stone and nearly lost his footing. He put out his hand to steady himself and grasped the stalk of a giant cactus. The thorns wounded his hands a little, but not seriously, and he laughed and made light of the accident. In the smelting room he witnessed the smelting of 1,200 ounces which contained an alloy of gold and was worth about \$10,000. When the process was completed he and the members of the party applauded and the president shook hands with smelters and other employes.

While the president was watching the process of sweating gold, the members of the Cabinet and other members of the party returned from Shaft No. 2 and visited the stamp mill. They examined with great interest the operation of the concentrators and other machinery connected with the mine. To reach the stamp mill from the shaft the party walked underground for a distance of a quarter of a mile, workmen standing with lighted lanterns at frequent intervals along the sides of the passage and holding their hats respectfully as the visitors passed. During the walk around the mining property the president frequently stopped and patiently allowed himself to be photographed, with his fellow travelers standing in the background.

Mr. McKinley was in high spirits and talked familiarly with those who accompanied him. This was his first visit to a gold mine and he was told that this particular mine had the deepest shaft of any gold property in the world. The president expressed great satisfaction with his reception by the two or three hundred people assembled at the 14th station at the foot of the mountain. He said he had met with no more cordial people anywhere than the citizens of Arizona.

The remark has been made frequently within the last two or three days by members of the party that President McKinley is getting closer to the people during this journey than any man in his position ever did before. This morning he literally touched elbows with people of this rough mining region, for when he stepped from his car he made his way through the small crowd which, although respectful, was eager to see him. He was naturally jostled a little. Some of those with him remarked that this was a very democratic scene, and Mr. McKinley said he was very glad this was so. Some of the workmen about the mine inquired if Vice-President Roosevelt (they called him "Teddy") was of the party, and they were disappointed when they found that he had not come. The same question was frequently asked by the cowboys and bronco busters at the stations where the train stopped in New Mexico and Arizona.

On account of the necessity of walking over the mountain road Mrs. McKinley did not leave the train to visit the shaft. Although the President did not descend the main shaft, he walked underground through a horizontal shaft fifteen hundred feet below the summit of the mountain. At one place in the shaft was an American flag. "There is the flag," remarked the President. "This is the first time I ever saw it a quarter of a mile below the surface of the earth." At the railroad station a little later President McKinley made a short address to the people gathered about.

Fire as an Argument

Indianapolis, May 7.—Three mysterious fires, have occurred within the past

24 hours in Nebraska street between New Jersey and East streets, and the colored residents have complained to the police that the white people in the vicinity are trying to burn them out. On each occasion combustible materials were piled against the houses it was sought to set on fire. The purpose was so plainly incendiary that it is certain that the fires were not accidental. A number of negroes are living in this street and whites are near by. The former claim that they have been asked to leave the neighborhood and threatened with bodily harm if they refuse to go.

WASHINGTON NOTES

Items Gathered Mostly from the Post Office Department

Washington, May 7.—Special—A new postoffice has been established at Map, Irell county, with R. H. Leonard as postmaster.

Walter M. Brice, of Shelby, has been granted a pension of \$4.

J. B. Parker has been appointed a rural free delivery letter carrier at Smithfield. These postmasters have been appointed: H. V. Spruill, at Columbia, Tyrrell county, vice Maynard Davis, removed; L. L. Stanley, at East Arcadia, Bladen county, vice Maynard Davis, removed; Keith, at Keyser, Moore county, vice Paul Clark, resigned; T. L. Penny at Lemay, Wake county, vice G. B. Bridges, resigned; S. J. Clark, at Lowland, Pamlico county, vice R. L. Hopkins, resigned; C. W. Suggs, at Old Dock, Columbus county, vice G. F. Coleman, resigned; H. C. Jackson, at Jamesville, Martin county, vice S. H. Spruill, removed; R. B. Johnson, at Hyles Landing, Cumberland county, vice Frank Wade, resigned; R. E. Haynes, at Ferry, Rutherford county, vice R. R. Hayes, resigned; W. T. Keener, at Joe, Madison county, vice S. J. Yates, removed.

The Merchants' National Bank of Baltimore has been approved as reserve agent of the First National Bank of Weldon. The proposition of A. G. Brady to fit up new premises for the post office and to lease the same for five years from date of occupancy at \$500 a year, to include complete equipment, fuel, lights and fire and burglar proof safe, etc., has been accepted for Fayetteville.

ON SOLID BASIS

Wild Speculation the Only Element of Danger

Philadelphia, May 7.—A special dispatch from New York to The North American says:

J. J. Hill, the great railway magnate, has expressed his views on the present boom in stocks. "The general conditions of the country," he said, "are healthy, and the nation's prosperity is grounded on solid foundations. The only danger that I can see, if it can be called that, is the speculative fever which seems to have seized upon so many people. I do not like to see wild speculation on the margins, and I am not blind to the possibilities of over-excitement on that account. This may be one of the unavoidable features incidental to popular discovery and appreciation of the great progress making in the development of the nation's resources, but I would like to see the masses take the situation in a cooler spirit and with sober judgment."

Continuing, the great railway magnate said: "It is not well when the millers in Wisconsin or the blacksmiths and wagon-makers in Iowa or the cattle herders in Nebraska put the money they have saved, and the money they can borrow into stock speculation on margins. It is a business they know nothing about, and their investments cannot be based on an understanding of the properties in which they are putting their money. I would like to see that feature eliminated, because I fear no good can come from it in the long run. Profits which may be taken out of the stock market that way are lost again, as a rule. Eliminate this one feature, or reduce the excitement to reasonable limits, and I see nothing whatever in the future to shake confidence or to militate against absolute fair in a long continuance of substantial prosperity."

CRAZED BY THE FIRE

Fatalities in Jacksonville Known to Be at Least Six

Jacksonville, Fla., May 7.—The wife of Judge Archibald, one of the leading citizens of Jacksonville, has become insane because of fright and exposure during the great fire last Friday.

Six deaths were caused by the fire. The victims were Henry Bontheau, real estate agent; Mrs. Cornelia Thompson, a resident of the home for the aged; Willie Clark, drowned in the rear of his home at the foot of Market street; Martha Hogan, found hanged near the door of her home; two unidentified negroes. The river is being searched today for other bodies, and workmen are digging among the ruins of houses whose occupants are reported missing. Ten car loads of supplies arrived from Charleston this noon. Down to date over \$70,000 in money has been received from various sections of the country. An average of six thousand people are being fed daily. The idle and vicious, without regard to color, have been warned to leave the city. Major J. S. Maxwell has been appointed provost marshal and Captain A. G. Hartridge, trial judge. Summary punishment is meted out to all offenders against the peace of the community.

TALKED IT OVER

Platt Amendment Before the Convention

PLAIN SAILING NOW

Favorable Impression Made by the Delegates Who Visited Washington—Vote of Adoption Expected Soon

Havana, May 7.—At a private session of the Constitutional Convention today, the commission that returned from Washington a few days ago gave an account of what had transpired at the American capital. It is said that the only objection to the course pursued by the commission were made by Senator Giberger, who declared that 'commission did not go to the United States for sight seeing or to attend banquets. He added that the commission had made no recommendations. The members of the commission said that President McKinley told them the United States would not intervene in Cuba unless Cuba was attacked by another power or a state of confusion prevailed such as reigned when the United States intervened against Spain. In regard to the coaling stations there would be one at Cape Maisi, another at Cape San Antonio, and another at some point on the Gulf of Mexico. These could be leased by the Cuban government to the United States. The commission also stated that after the Cuban government was established President McKinley would appoint a commission to confer with a commission to be appointed by Cuba for the purpose of agreeing upon commercial relations between the two countries. The Cubans should in the meantime study the commercial situation in all its details, and he, Mr. McKinley, would study it from the American side of the question. The commanders of the coaling stations would not interfere with the local government. It is the general opinion that the convention will accept the Platt amendment.

Senator Villuenda, a Radical delegate, has published a manifesto to his constituents in which he says he accepts the Platt amendment. He at first thought that the amendment would be altered if the convention opposed it and that the American people would support the convention in its opposition. Now, however, he knows that the amendment was not the work of a party, but of the nation. The amendment was written for Europe. The United States proclaimed the Monroe doctrine, but England had just denied it in the Cay-Panucofote treaty. Senator Villuenda adds that the United States, from being an American power, had become a universal power. The third clause of the Platt amendment is a notification to Europe that the traditional policy of the United States has changed. This is the result of intervention in the Philippines. Between Cuba under the amendment and annexation which is looming up, he prefers the former.

The total registration in Havana for the coming elections is 27,004 against 24,004 last year.

THE SULTAN'S DEMAND

Foreign Post Offices Objectionable to the Porte

Constantinople, via Philippopolis, May 7.—After the detention and violation of the international mail bags, the porte Sunday sent a note to the various embassies demanding the abolition of the foreign post offices, declaring that they had no treaty basis and that the postal service was a state monopoly. The abolition of the foreign post offices is a long-standing desire of the porte, and the embassies some time ago promised to consider the question; but the arbitrary action of the government in seizing the mail bags has stiffened the foreign powers, who are now expected to insist upon the maintenance of the post offices.

RELIEF FOR DISTRESS

Work Will Be Given to All Who Are Able

Jacksonville, May 7.—An employment bureau was established today near the ruins with the view of giving to all who can handle a pick or shovel. The relief association believes that to be the better way of aiding those men who are at present dependent on public charity. Those who will not work, though able, will be deported at once. The ladies' committee report great destitution among well-nurtured women who shrink from asking food of the relief association. Mayor Boden has been criticised for his dispatch to Abram Hewitt of New York, saying that the wealthiest families of the city are pauperized. It is claimed that this is not only untrue, but calcu-

lated to injure the credit of the city. Mayor Boden emphatically asserts that he will not retract a solitary word of his dispatch and that it will soon be shown that Jacksonville is in need of all the outside aid she can get. Between six and seven thousand people were fed from the relief stations today. Cases of extortion and theft are coming to light, and summary punishment will be meted out to the offenders. In one instance it was found that for three trunks left by a fire sufferer with a negro, fifty cents a piece a day was being asked for "storage."

RIGID CENSORSHIP

Cebu Newspapers Make a Sensational Protest

Manila, May 7.—The Cebu newspapers, through a Manila contemporary, protest in a sensational Spanish way against the military censorship which they claim is being enforced there. They mention the officers' names, which for obvious reasons could not be cabled. They claim that the conditions there have not been bettered since the establishment of civil government by the Philippine Commission. The editors say that before that time they were permitted to indicate where censored articles were omitted by blank columns. Now they are prohibited from doing even that.

A delegation of representative inhabitants of the province of Manila has petitioned the Philippine Commission to amalgamate that province with the province of Moronga, the inhabitants of which are seeking the enjoyment of peace and the privilege that will come with civil government.

Lieutenant John D. Hartman and 63 men of the First cavalry have had three encounters with 250 insurgents in the Batangas peninsula. The insurgents were severely punished. The American suffered no casualties.

Stock Brokers Fail

New York, May 7.—Lewis A. May & Co., stock brokers, today assigned for the benefit of creditors. The firm is composed of Orrin Barum and Lewis A. May. Taliaferro & Johns, attorneys for Lewis A. May & Co., estimate the liabilities of the house at between \$30,000 and \$40,000, and the assets at \$15,000 to \$20,000.

VALET JONES STARVING

He Does Not Want to Live and Refuses to Eat

New York, May 7.—Charles F. Jones, the valet who smothered William M. Rice, the aged Texas millionaire, with a napkin soaked in chloroform, is in a dying condition in the house of detention. The district attorney fears that he will not live to tell his story in court when Albert P. Patrick, the accused attorney, is placed on trial for the murder of the wealthy Texan.

Jones is a victim of starvation. He has taken no solid food for five days and today he is too weak to raise his head from the pillow. He was kept alive last night by the use of stimulants and the administration of liquid food artificially. He will be moved, if his strength will permit, to Bellevue Hospital or to some private institution, where he will have more cheerful surroundings and where he can receive the best possible medical attention.

Jones may not be trying to starve himself to death, but he admits that he does not care to live, and since his attempt at suicide in the Tombs he has been closely watched and has had no chance to do injury to himself except by refusing to eat.

Assistant District Attorney Osborne is greatly worried over the illness of Jones and he will see that the former valet receives the best possible medical attention.

Dr. Williams, the coroner's physician, visited the house of detention last night at the request of the district attorney's office and prescribed for Jones. No ante-mortem statement was taken, though it was admitted that the condition of Jones was critical. Should he die, the affidavits that he has already made can be used against Patrick in his trial for murder.

Who Will Succeed Conger?

Washington, May 7.—There was some discussion at the State Department today as to the probable successor of E. H. Conger as minister to China. It is now understood that Mr. Conger's resignation will be accepted when his sixty days' leave of absence has expired. At present no one has been slated for the position, but there are said to be several candidates. Among these are Special Commissioner Rockhill and ex-Minister Denby. The latter, having served thirteen years in Pekin, is considered well fitted for the place. Commissioner Rockhill is known to be well posted on Chinese affairs and can speak the language fluently.

Tool Factory Burned

Lowell, Mass., May 7.—Fire early this morning destroyed the buildings and contents of the Fifield Tool Company's plant. The plant was one of the best in the United States for the making of large lathes and employed one hundred workmen, all of whom lost their tools. The fire extended to adjoining houses owned by Charles J. Glidden, which were considerably damaged. A train of freight cars near by was enveloped in flames before it could be moved. The origin of the fire is unknown. A rough estimate of the loss and contents of the building is \$200,000 to \$250,000.

AS TO THE MAINE

The Vexed Question Comes Up in New Shape

HOW DID IT HAPPEN

Spanish Treaty Claims Commission Will Have to Take Evidence and Reach a Judicial Decision

Washington, May 7.—The question of how the Maine was destroyed in the harbor of Havana and where the responsibility rests for its destruction will be adjudicated before a legally instituted tribunal of judicial character. The Spanish treaty claims commission, having presented for its consideration two claims for indemnity growing out of the blowing up of the Maine, the whole question will be opened up before that tribunal.

It was probably not contemplated by any one when Congress passed the act authorizing the commission and defining its powers that this question would be brought before it. The filing of these claims for indemnity, however, involves the question of responsibility for the disaster, and evidence upon all phases of the case must be gone into in order that the claims may be passed upon.

Ex-Senator Chandler, who is at the head of the commission, said today that it was strongly his impression that the cases were properly before the commission and that the whole case would have to be gone into in order to determine the question of liability. Mr. Chandler said that until he read the briefs it had never occurred to him that that particular question was before it.

As the case of the Maine now stands the universal assumption in this country is that the Maine was destroyed through treachery, and the calamity is credited to a crime. This conviction was a strong incentive to the war between the United States and Spain. By our people a crime is laid at the door of Spain, though the report of the naval board examining the wreck merely concluded that the explosion was from the outside of the ship and did not attempt to fix responsibility, and Spain indignantly repudiated the more or less direct charge upon her national honor.

Now the question will be considered under the rules of evidence by a judicial tribunal, a decision one way or the other being reached. It will not necessarily follow, however, that complicity in a crime will have to be proven against Spain in order to affirm the validity of the claims for indemnity, since responsibility through lack of proper care in assigning the ship her anchorage, without any criminality on the part of Spanish officials, might be deemed sufficient to warrant indemnity.

A novel feature of the case is that the United States, by the assumption of indemnity claims under the Spanish treaty, becomes the defendant in these cases, and in the ordinary course of legal proceedings would resist the establishment of the responsibility.

A decision averse to the claimants in this case, however, would serve as a vindication of Spain and remove one of the popular motives for the war upon that country which has already been concluded disastrously to the Spanish government.

COW ON THE TRACK

Mixed Train Wrecked and a Man Killed

Tarboro, N. C., May 7.—Special.—Today just after twelve o'clock there occurred a very serious wreck on the East Carolina railroad a few miles this side of Piquettes in which one life was lost and one man was seriously injured. The mixed train with several box and flat cars, to which was attached a passenger coach, was running at a moderate rate of speed when the engine is said to have struck a cow. Seven cars were thrown from the track and badly mashed. On one of the flat cars were George Stiekland, a white man, and a colored man named Jake Banks. Both were thrown off the car. Jake Banks was mortally wounded in the stomach and died in two hours. George Stiekland had his leg broken below the knee and was brought to town this afternoon. Those in the passenger coach were not injured at all, but only shaken up badly. The colored man will be buried here tomorrow.

A TERRIBLE WEAPON

Big Gun Being Manufactured for the Government

Washington, May 7.—The War Department is having completed at the Watervliet arsenal a new gun which is said to be the most destructive weapon ever manufactured. The rifle is an experiment and will weigh 130 tons. It will be eighteen inches in muzzle diameter and over forty-nine feet in length.

Captain Wheeler of the ordnance bureau, has been ordered to inspect the completion of the gun.

The new American 18-inch rifle will be the most marvelous weapon ever constructed. It will be used for coast defense and is capable of throwing a projectile weighing 2,370 pounds a distance of 21 miles and will use a charge of 570 pounds of smokeless powder.

The weapon, when completed, will be sent to the Buffalo Exposition. If the tests are satisfactory, the government will order forty of them. Of this number 18 will be placed in New York harbor; ten at San Francisco, 8 at Boston and four at Hampton Roads.

TAYLOR FEELS SECURE

Ex-Governor of Kentucky Buys a Home in Indianapolis

Indianapolis, May 7.—W. S. Taylor, former Governor of Kentucky, who is charged with complicity in the murder of Senator Goebel, has purchased the residence property at 2121 North Delaware street from Former Judge Hackney, of the Supreme Court, and his friends announce that he has received assurances of protection and has determined to make this State his future home. The assurance that Governor Durbin will not honor a requisition for his return to Kentucky is said to have come indirectly through the executive, but so direct that Mr. Taylor feels that there is no probability of his being surrendered to the Kentucky authorities, and he has invested \$9,000 in a home in one of the most slightly residence districts in the city.

Why Boers Surrender

Pretoria, May 7.—Dutch refugees who have arrived here from Pietersburg say the reason there have been so many Boer surrenders recently is because General Botha wishes to get rid of his weak fighters, who, instead of helping him, are an incumbrance. These refugees say that General Botha recently made an address to the burghers, in which he stated that he wished to retain only those who are willing to fight to the finish. The fact remains, however, that the best of the Boer fighters steal away and surrender whenever they have a chance, as they are heartily sick of undergoing hardships without any object in view.

SOLD TO LEITER

Richmond Locomotive Works Under New Management

Richmond, May 7.—Joseph Leiter of Chicago has purchased the Richmond Locomotive and Machine Works. The price paid was \$3,000,000.

The Richmond Locomotive and Machine Works has long been one of the most important enterprises in Richmond, giving employment to from fifteen hundred to two thousand men at good wages. It has made nearly all the locomotives used during the last quarter of a century by the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Southern and the old Richmond & Danville railroads, and during the past few months has received orders from all parts of the world for engines. The company in one day made contracts to build 105 locomotives. Engines have been built there for railroads in many foreign countries, including Russia. The machinery for the battleship Texaz was also built at this plant.

Joseph Bryan was the president of the works and the largest owner of the stock. It is understood that Mr. Leiter proposes to enlarge the plant, increase the stock and carry on the business upon a larger scale than before.

Fatal Explosion of Powder

Wilkesbarre, Pa., May 7.—A terrific explosion of powder took place at the head of the Hillman plant, at the Henry colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company this morning. Twenty miners and head men were standing at the top of the slope and five of these were frightfully torn and burned and will probably not recover. Several others were cut and bruised.

Enormous Bank Clearings

New York, May 7.—The New York bank clearings today broke all previous records. There were checks passed through the clearing house for \$52,817,206, compared with the previous high record of last Thursday of \$52,251,108. The balances today were unusually large, amounting to \$21,076,783, compared with the high record of \$24,170,338 March 5th of this year.

Wire Working Combine

Boston, May 7.—From reliable sources of information it is learned that an extensive consolidation of telephone and telegraph interests is near. Plans now being prepared embrace a consolidation of the Western Union and American Telephone Company (the Bell) and probably the Postal Telegraph Company. What is known of the tentative arrangements includes the Western Union and the Bell and indicates that the Postal also will be included.

Baby Farming in Sweden

Christiana, May 7.—A judicial inquiry in regard to baby-farming sensation has led to a charge being made against three women named Olsen, Johansson and Andersen, of having killed twenty-seven children since last summer. Many of the children were suffocated while others were starved to death. The mother belong to all classes of Society. Some of them appeared to have known the fate that awaited their children.