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NO. 2.

MINE HORROR IN FRANCE.

Greatest Disaster of Its Kind in Modern History—More Than 1000 People Lose Their Lives.

Paris, March 10.—A mining catastrophe of incalculable horror and magnitude has stricken the great coal center of northern France. An explosion of fire-damp at 7 o'clock this morning carried death and destruction throughout the network of coal mines centered at Courrières and fire followed the explosion making rescue difficult and almost impossible.

The intense excitement and confusion in the vicinity prevented early estimates of the exact loss of life, but a dispatch received here at 4:35 p. m. gave 1,404 miners entombed and probably lost. At 8.45 o'clock this evening a brief dispatch from Lille announced the total of 1,193 dead.

All France has been profoundly shocked by the magnitude of the disaster, which is said to be the greatest in the history of Continental mining.

President Fallieres sent his secretary, accompanied by Minister of Public Works Gautier and Minister of the Interior Dubief, on a special train to the scene of the disaster.

The scene of the catastrophe is the mountainous mining region near Lens, in the department of Pas-de-Calais. Here are huddled small hamlets of the mine workers, who operate the most productive coal mines in France. The subterranean chambers form a series of tunnels. Six of the outlets are near Lens, and others are at Courrières, Verdun and many other points. The output of these mines is particularly combustible and is largely used in the manufacture of gas and in smelting. About 2,000 miners work the group of mines, and, with their families, make a population of from 6,000 to 8,000 souls.

The catastrophe took place shortly after 1,795 men had descended into the mines this morning. There was a deafening explosion which was followed by the cages and mining apparatus being hurled from the mouth of the Courrières Mine. Men and horses nearby, outside the mine, were either stunned or killed. The roof of the mine office was torn off.

Immediately following the explosion flames burst from the mouth of the pit, driving back those without who sought to enter, and dooming those within.

The work of attempting to rescue the imprisoned miners was hastily begun by officials, engineers and miners from the surrounding mines, who formed parties and made heroic efforts to penetrate the smoke and foul gases and bring out the imprisoned men.

The families of the entombed miners crowded about the shaft, threatening in their efforts to obtain details to force back the gendarmes who kept them from the mouth of the pit.

The populace of the district is appalled by the disaster, which affects every household.

Paris, March 11.—The worst fears as to the enormity of the mine disaster in the Courrières district of the pas-de-Calais Saturday morning have been realized. The death list numbers 1,100, and the whole of the region stands appalled at the terrible tragedy, which has brought sorrow to 6,000 fathers, mothers, wives and children.

The last great mine disaster in France occurred in 1885, when 293 persons were killed and 80 injured; but that all others sink into insignificance before Courrières.

Dr. Manuel Quintana, president of the Argentine republic, died Sunday at Buenos Ayres. He was 71 years of age and for many years had been regarded as one of the ablest lawyers of his country. He was a prominent figure in national politics from his early life.

STATE NEWS.

Fire in the Odell Hardware Co's. store at Greensboro Friday caused a loss of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Dr. A. J. McKelway's libel suit against the Charlotte Observer will probably be tried in Mecklenburg court next week.

The Seaboard Cotton Warehouse in Raleigh was destroyed by fire Monday night causing a loss of 77 bales of cotton valued at \$4,000.

Oak Ridge has been chosen as the location for the proposed Methodist Protestant College. Profs. M. H. and J. A. Holt, principals of Oak Ridge Institute, will be at the head of the new college.

The generator house of the Salisbury and Spencer Gas and Electric Company in Salisbury was destroyed by fire Saturday afternoon, entailing a loss to building and machinery of about \$6,000.

Senator Hansbrough has reported favorably from the committee on library, a bill providing for the erection of a statue of General Nathaniel Green, on the battlefield of Guilford Court House, North Carolina.

The North Carolina Farmers' Protective Association, an organization formed to fight the Tobacco Trust, was in session at Durham last week and it was decided to establish manufacturing plants to fight the trust.

Insurance Commissioner Young Wednesday approved the charter of the Dixie Fire Insurance Company, of Greensboro, N. C., the authorized capital stock is \$500,000, with a surplus of \$250,000. Hon. Ashley Horne, of Clayton, is one of the incorporators.

A conference of delegates from all the branches of the Presbyterian and reformed churches in America, in an effort to bring about closer relations began in Charlotte, Wednesday. Rev. John Preston Scales, of New Brunswick, N. J., will preside over the sessions, which will be held in the First Presbyterian church.

Late Monday afternoon a child of William Hall, living in East Durham, was missed, and the father while searching heard her cries and she was then found in a well, which was fifteen feet deep to the water. The father jumped into the well in time to save the child, a 5 year-old daughter. She was almost drowned and chilled, but otherwise unharmed.

John Corn, aged 22 years, was killed near Campbell, Stokes county, a few days ago, while trying to adjust a loose belt at T. W. Hylton's grist mill. He was caught in the folds of the strong band of leather and wound round the shaft many times before the engine could be stopped. The unfortunate young man's body was frightfully mangled, one leg being torn off while his skull was crushed.

The Statesville Landmark says: The dead body of Jim McGee, colored, who lived near Elmwood, was found early Saturday morning lying beside the tracks of the Southern railway, two miles west of Elmwood. It is supposed that he was run over by a passing train. Jim was an inoffensive, hard-working negro but often let whiskey get the better of him and it is thought that he had gone to sleep on the track in a drunken condition when he was struck by a train.

In Surry county a few days ago Jack Joyce joined with his neighbor, J. N. Hollingsworth, who makes and sells brandy, in a drunk at Hollingsworth's house. Hollingsworth got disabled and went to bed and Joyce went away. Later he returned and asked for more brandy, which Mrs. Hollingsworth refused him. Then the drunken brute broke the door down, beat the woman into insensibility and threw the body into the yard, her husband being too drunk to defend her. The woman was in a delicate condition but she may recover. Joyce is in jail. He really deserves killing and should have at least 10 or 15 years in the penitentiary.—Statesville Landmark.

TRAGIC DEATH AT DEPOT.

Thomas H. Sasser Killed by Coast Line Train Last Friday.

Friday, March 9th, Mr. Thomas H. Sasser was killed by a northbound freight train about one hundred yards from the depot at Smithfield. He had been here attending court and it was late Thursday before the case with which he was connected was decided and so he did not start for home until next morning. His home is between Pine Level and Princeton and it seems he had decided to walk home. Leaving the Goldsboro road at the crossing he took the railroad and started toward Selma. It is thought he heard the train but supposed it would keep the main track so he took the side track and was walking on the ends of the cross ties farthest from the main track. The train instead of keeping the main track turned in on the siding to get out of the way of another train which was about due. The train running in on the side track overtook Mr. Sasser, knocking him down and tearing his clothes badly and bruising him in several places sufficient to cause death. He lived thirty or forty minutes but seemed unconscious all the time. At one time he called for somebody to help him.

His body was taken to the depot where it was viewed by many people who were in attendance at court and others. The family was notified of his death and the body was taken away Friday afternoon for burial. He was well known in the eastern part of the county. He was, we suppose, about sixty years old.

Two Men Crushed to Death Near Raleigh.

W. J. Weir and John Whitelaw, members of the Wake Granite Co. and prominent and esteemed citizens of Raleigh, were crushed to death Saturday afternoon by being caught under a huge boiler which they were having placed in position at the rock quarry of the Wake Granite Co., two miles east of Raleigh. They were having the boiler delivered at the quarry. It was on a big wagon for moving boilers and was being driven down a steep incline to the quarry when the wheels on the right struck a boulder that protruded in the road six inches or more. A big iron cuff about the rear axle snapped in two, the wagon lurched to the left with such force as to overturn wagon and boiler. Both Mr. Weir and Mr. Whitelaw were walking on the left side of the boiler and were caught under it in such a way that Mr. Weir's chest was crushed in and the side of Mr. Whitelaw's head crushed in. It was necessary for the boiler to be jacked up and considerable digging to be done before the two men could be extricated.

Both men were well known contractors and both leave large families.—Exchange.

A Remarkable February.

In the year 1866 the month of February was, in one respect, the most remarkable in the world's history. It had no full moon. January and March of that year had two full moons. This had not occurred since the creation of the world, nor will it occur again, according to astronomers, for 2,500,000 years.—Exchange.

Torture by Savages.

"Speaking of the torture to which some of the savage tribes in the Philippines subject their captives, reminds me of the intense suffering I endured for three months from inflammation of the Kidneys," says W. M. Sherman, of Cushing, Me. "Nothing helped me until I tried Electric Bitters, three bottles of which completely cured me." Cures Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Blood disorders and Malaria; and restores the weak and nervous to robust health. Guaranteed by Hood Bros., druggists. Price 50c.

GENERAL NEWS.

Albert T. Patrick, the condemned murderer, has again been respited by the Governor of New York till May 18th.

The Virginia University has received a contribution of \$50,000 from Charles Steele, of New York, and \$10,000 from Miss Helen Gould.

In the north of France Monday 17 men lost their lives while searching for bodies in the coal mine in which over 1,000 were killed on Saturday.

In Augusta, Ga., Thursday, M. L. Cohen, who had been married but six weeks, shot and killed his wife and then killed himself. No cause assigned.

Mrs. Standifer, who on Friday killed her sister in Atlanta has been admitted to bail in \$5,000 for the reason that she is a consumptive and her confinement will endanger the life of her child.

In answer to criticisms of the wanton slaughter of Moros in the recent battle, General Wood explains that the women killed wore trousers and the children were used as shields by the fighters.

The French Chamber of Deputies on Monday unanimously voted \$100,000 for the relief of the victims of the Courrières disaster. The Miners Association has voted \$40,000 for the same purpose.

The United States Supreme Court has filed a decision remanding the case of Caleb Powers to the Kentucky courts; he is under sentence of 20 years for participation in the association of Governor Goebel.

Andrew Carnegie, who arrived in Richmond Tuesday en route for Hot Springs, Va., gave \$10,000 to the Railroad Y. M. C. in Richmond and increased his library offer to the city by \$100,000, making it \$200,000.

L. Stuckey, editor of the People's Demands, was shot and killed at Colfax, La., Thursday, by A. M. Goodwin, editor of the Colfax Chronicle. The cause of the tragedy was the publication of an article by Stuckey which, it is alleged, was a reflection on the character of Goodwin.

On Sunday night 150 miles off Sable Island, the steamer British King foundered and 27 men went down with her; two steamers stood by and at great peril 13 men were saved by one and 11 by the other; rescue work had to cease on account of rough sea and darkness and during the night the ill-fated vessel plunged to the bottom the rest on board.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, returned to Indianapolis Monday to preside at the National Convention of Miners on Thursday. When asked concerning the refusal of the anthracite operators to grant the demand to the miners, he said it looked as though the operators "are looking for a strike." President Roosevelt is not taking any further action for the present.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Naval Affairs to investigate hazing at Annapolis, made its report Tuesday. The officers of the Academy are censured for permitting hazing and graduated punishment for hazing is recommended, as the committee thinks the present system of expelling midshipmen of hazing is vicious and too sweeping. It was found that 281 members of the three upper classes have been guilty of hazing and could have been expelled, including the class recently graduated.

A Scientific Wonder.

The cures that stand to its credit make Bucklen's Arnica Salve a scientific wonder. It cured E. R. Mulford, lecturer for the Patrons of Husbandry, Waynesboro, Pa., of a distressing case of Piles. It heals the worst Burns, Sores, Boils, Ulcers, Cuts, Wounds, Chilblains and Salt Rheum. Only 25c. at Hood Bros. drug store.

600 MOROS SLAIN.

Fierce Battle in Philippines—American Losses 18 Killed and 52 Wounded.

Clambering up the side of a mountain covered with lava ridges and a thick growth of timber, a force of American soldiers and bluejackets, assisted by a detachment of native constabulary, stormed a hostile Moro fortress in the crater of Mount Dajo, on the island of Jolo, and completely routed the enemy, killing more than 600 Moros.

The American losses were fifteen killed and thirty-nine wounded, the Philippine constabulary losing three men and having thirteen wounded, making a total American loss of eighteen killed and fifty-two wounded.

Hostilities began on the afternoon of March 6th and ended on the morning of March 8th. The mountain is 2,100 feet high, and is covered with ridges of lava and dense timberland. The last 500 feet has an angle of fifty degrees, and the dispatch states that the artillery was hoisted by means of a block and tackle by the American soldiers under a fierce fire by the enemy.

Reaching the crater, a desperate encounter took place, as the Moros felt it was their last stand. Finally, they were forced to lay down their arms, after 600 of their dead lay on the lava beds around them.

The top of the mountain was defended by rude fortifications and was the one stronghold in the Philippines that had never been taken by the American forces in battle. Once, by means of strategy, the United States troops occupied the fort. Those who know the steep ascent of the mountain and the strength of the fort say the feat is the greatest achievement yet accomplished by the American army in the Philippines.—Washington Post.

Met Shocking Death.

We have learned that Mr. Whitfield Wood, one of the most prosperous young farmers of the Blackman's X Roads section, met a most shocking death last Saturday. While felling some trees he cut one that lodged against another. To dislodge this tree he cut another against it which also lodged. While going forward to make a survey of the situation the last tree cut suddenly gave way and fell, catching Mr. Wood under it, killing him instantly.

The deceased was a highly respected young man and his sad death has cast a gloom over the entire community. He leaves a young widow and three small children to mourn his untimely death.

Tongue Twisters.

Some elocutionist has made a collection of more than two hundred "tongue twisters."

"A growing gleam glowing green."

"The black breeze blighted the bright broom blossoms."

"Flesh of freshly dried flying fish."

"Six thick thistle sticks."

"Two toads tried to trot to Tedbury."

"Give Grimes Jim's great gilt gig whip."

"Strict, strong Stephen Stringer snared slyly six sickly silky snakes."

"She stood at the door of Mrs. Smith's fish sauce shop welcoming him in."

The first three are the gems of the collection. It is said to be impossible for any one to repeat them rapidly.—New York Tribune.

A Lively Jussie

with that old enemy of the race, Constipation, often ends in Appendicitis. To avoid all serious trouble with Stomach, Liver and Bowels, take Dr. King's New Life Pills. They perfectly regulate these organs, without pain or discomfort. 25c. at Hood Bros., druggists.

EXTERMINATION OF MOROS.

General Wood Says Women Wore Trousers in Battle.

Washington, March 14.—A cablegram from General Wood regarding criticisms of the recent battle of Mt. Dajo on the Island of Jolo, together with correspondence between the President and Secretary Taft on the subject were made public today. General Wood's cablegram was in answer to one sent to him at the direction of Secretary Taft who called attention to the criticisms of "wanton slaughter of Moros" and asked him to send all the particulars. General Wood's reply denies that there was any wanton killing in the fight because they were actually in the works when assaulted; that the Moro women wore trousers and that children were used as shields. The reply was sent by Secretary Taft to the President with a note in which the Secretary says that General Wood's answer seems to have shown to him most clearly that the unfortunate loss of life was wholly unavoidable, to which the President replied that General Wood's answer "is of course entirely satisfactory."

CLAYTON NOTES.

Messrs. George Ellis & Son lost a fine mule Sunday.

Messrs. L. W. & J. H. Brannan, of Wilders, were here on business Wednesday.

Dr. T. N. Ivey preached at the Methodist church Sunday morning and evening.

Mrs. Ashley Horne is visiting her sister, Mrs. George L. Walker, in Atlanta, Ga.

The farmers of this section are preparing to plant a smaller cotton crop and manure better.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Young will move to the residence recently vacated by Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Smith.

Our town was again besieged by drummers Wednesday. There were not less than a half dozen here at one time.

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Smith left Wednesday for Onslow county, where Rev. Mr. Smith has accepted a call to preach.

Miss Craig, Mrs. Etta V. Johnson's very popular milliner, is away at Northern markets, buying a big supply of Spring and Summer millinery.

The Clayton Oil Mill Co. is putting out a quantity of guano this season, and we hear the farmers saying it's as good as any fertilizer they have ever tried.

We are glad to note that Miss Pauline Gulley is steadily improving, after such a severe attack of pneumonia. We hope ere long she will be fully recovered.

Mr. Frank L. Jones, the contractor, who is moving the old Methodist parsonage, is going right along with the work. It was quite a job to get the thing started, though.

There will be a great entertainment here Monday night, March 19th. Some of the very best local talent will be displayed—and there's something fine in store for all who are fortunate enough to take advantage of it.

March 14th. YELIE.

Doctors Are Puzzled.

The remarkable recovery of Kenneth McIver, of Vanceboro, Me., is the subject of much interest to the medical fraternity and a wide circle of friends. He says of his case: "Owing to severe inflammation of the Throat and congestion of the Lungs, three doctors gave me up to die, when, as a last resort, I was induced to try Dr. King's New Discovery and I am happy to say, it saved my life." Cures the worst Coughs and Colds, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Weak Lungs, Hoarseness and LaGrippe. Guaranteed at Hood Bros. drug store. 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

A special term of the Federal Court has been called at Greensboro, April 17th, for the trial of Congressman Blackburn.