

SWEPT BY A WAVE

Eighty Islands Swept By a Terrible Hurricane

1000 LIVES ARE REPORED AS LOST

Death and Devastation Sweep Over the Islands of the Pacific, and Terrible Consequences Ensur.

San Francisco, Special.—News of a fearful loss of life in a disastrous storm which swept over the South Sea Islands last month, reached here Sunday by the steamer Mariposa, direct from Tahiti. The loss of life is estimated at 1,000 persons. On January 13 last, a huge tidal wave, accompanied by a terrific hurricane, attacked the Society Islands and the Puamoto group with fearful force causing death and devastation never before equaled in a land of great storms. The storm raged several days. From the news received up to the time of the sailing of the steamer, it is estimated that 1,000 of the islanders lost their lives. It is feared that later advices will increase this number. The first news of the disaster reached Papeete, Tahiti, January 26, by the schooner Eimeo. The captain of the schooner placed the fatalities at 500. The steamer Excelsior arrived at Papeete the following day with 400 destitute survivors. The captain of the Excelsior estimated the total loss of life to be 800. These figures comprised only the deaths on the three islands of Hao, Hikueru and Makokaa, whose ordinary population is 1,800. On Hikueru Island, where 1,000 inhabitants were engaged in pearl diving, nearly one-half were drowned. On an adjacent island, 1,000 more were washed out to sea. Makokaa and Hao are depopulated. Conservative estimates at Tahiti place the number of islands visited by the tidal wave and hurricane at 80. All of them are under the control of the French governor at Tahiti. The surviving inhabitants are left destitute of food, shelter and clothing, all having been swept away by the storm.

The French government, on receipt of news of the disaster, took prompt measures to relieve the distressed districts and dispatched two warships with fresh water and provisions. As the supply of fresh water and provisions was totally exhausted by the storm, it is feared that many lives will be lost before the relief ships can arrive. As far as is known eight white people were among the drowned. Included in these were Alexander Brander, N. P. Plunkett, of Oakland; T. D. Donnelly, formerly a fireman on the steamship Australia, and the local agent of C. Copenrath, a merchant of Papeete. Added to this number was an unknown woman who committed suicide from fright.

As the islands were barely 20 feet above sea-level and were not surrounded by coral reefs, it was necessary for all inhabitants to take to the cocoanut trees when the tidal wave began to cover the land. These trees grow to an immense height, many reaching an altitude of 100 feet. All of the lower trees were covered by the raging seas which swept with pitiless force about and over them. The natives in the taller trees were safe until the cocoanut roots gave way and then they, too, were swept out into the sea. The 400 survivors brought by the Excelsior to Papeete gained the ship's side by swimming three and four miles from the tops of the cocoanut trees. The Eimeo, though badly damaged by the storm, was also brought off as many persons as could swim to her side, she, like the Excelsior, being unable to run close to the shores because of the violence of the ocean swell, which continued to run abnormally high for a week after the tidal disturbances. Another schooner, the Gaulois, from the Marquesan Islands, 600 miles away, encountered the hurricane while on the way to the latter place and only the timely action of the captain in having the cargo, consisting of 30 head of cattle, 35 pigs and 30 tons of cotton, jettisoned, saved the little craft from destruction. Even with this precaution, the life of one man was lost by waves sweeping the decks.

Earthquakes in Middle West.

Owensboro, Ky., Special.—A distinct earthquake shock was felt here at 6:45 o'clock Sunday night. Pictures were shaken from walls and tables in the second story of many buildings.

Louisville, Ky.—A slight earthquake shock was felt here at about 6:45. The vibrations caused windows to rattle, but no damage was done.

Paducah, Ky.—A slight earthquake shock occurred here about 6:45 o'clock Sunday night. No damage was done and the duration of the vibration was very brief.

The Shock Felt in Illinois.

Cairo, Ill.—An earthquake shock was felt in southern Illinois Sunday evening. The seismic wave seemed to move from north to south.

Marion, Ill.—An earthquake shock was felt here. Preceding the shock a roaring noise was heard.

Dishes Rattled in St. Louis.

St. Louis.—Two distinct earthquake shocks were felt in St. Louis and vicinity between 6:20 and 6:25 o'clock Sunday night. The shock was sufficiently forceful to rattle dishes and swing doors.

Policeman Shoots Another.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—Officer Houston Childress, of the Bristol, Va., police force, was shot and killed on the streets of that city shortly after midnight, by Policeman Gratt Walk. There had been bad blood between the two officers for some time. They met on the street and after some words, it is alleged, Walk fired two shots from under his overcoat, one of which passed through Childress' body. Walk escaped.

Police Chief Shot.

Bamberg, S. C., Special.—Chief of Police J. B. King was shot and killed by Joe Davis, at the latter's home. King, it is said, went to Davis' house at the instance of Davis' wife. The latter had quarreled with her husband and desired him to be placed under a peace bond. As King entered Davis ordered him to stop. King advanced and tapped on the door when Davis shot him from a window with a shot-gun, killing him.

Hobson's Resignation Accepted.

Washington, Special.—Naval Constructor Richmond P. Hobson's resignation has been accepted by Secretary Moody, who has written Mr. Hobson as follows: "The Department acknowledges receipt of your recent resignation tendered January 20, 1903; also your telegram of February 5, 1903, declining to reconsider the same. Your resignation from the United States navy is accepted to take effect from this date, February 6, 1903."

Death of Maj. Donaldson.

Baltimore, Special.—Major Walter A. Donaldson, superintendent of the National Cemetery in this city, died Saturday from blood poisoning, as a result of a slight wound on his head. Donaldson was also a veteran actor and played with Junius Brutus Booth in 1853. In previous years, since the civil war, he had been superintendent of national cemeteries at Antietam, Marletta, Ga.; Winchester Va., City Point, Va., and Beaufort, S. C.

For Liberian Scheme.

Atlanta, Special.—The republic of Liberia, through Bishop H. M. Turner, of this city, has donated to the Colored National and Commercial Association the sum of \$25,000 to assist in purchasing a steamship to ply between the United States and West Africa, for commercial purposes, as well as for emigration. It is the bishop's desire that white as well as colored people purchase shares in this enterprise, and assist negroes who wish to remove to Liberia.

Civil War in Honduras.

Panama, By Cable.—A cablegram received Tuesday morning from Honduras announces that civil war has broken out in that country. According to the dispatch Gen. Sierra, the retiring President, having refused to give up the presidential post to the President-elect Senor Bonilla, the latter has started a civil war. The date of the revolutionary outbreak is not known.

When you are only skim-milk in ethics you cannot make up for it by being cream in theories.

A Greater Need.

A German physician has invented an apparatus by which milk can be brought into the form of a powder, looking like flour. All it needs is the addition of water to return to its original condition. Somehow people are all the time trying to find some excuse to add water to milk. What is more needed is a method for adding cream.

OUR LEGISLATURE.

Doings of Those Who Are Making Our Laws.

Against Kissing Bible.

In the Senate Wednesday the judiciary committee offered a substitute for Senator Godwin's bill to prohibit the kissing of the Bible. The substitute instead of prohibiting kissing the Bible simply abolished the necessity of kissing the book. Dr. Pollock objected to these innovations, people had been kissing the Book here for 200 years and if these microbes had now got into the Bible he thought that it was time to stop. People could get a new Bible. Mr. Henderson explained the bill and the substitute. He was not an expert on microbes, but he read that there were 10,000,000 in a pound of cherries and he was sure there were many more on a Bible cover handled by indiscriminate crowds. He did not think the change would detract from the solemnity of the matter. Mr. Godwin, patron of the bill, argued for it. The only thing stricken out by the bill from the Code was "and he shall kiss the Holy Gospel." Most people did not kiss the book now but ladies and children obeyed the judge when he says "kiss the Book." Mr. Wellborn opposed the bill. Mr. Hicks, of Granville, said that the court house kiss was not the kiss of affection and the witness was not expected to take half the Book in his mouth. Mr. Granville said there was a "white supremacy" Bible, the judge having ordered one Bible for colored people and one for white. He appealed to the Senate not to destroy this old landmarks but he wanted the landmarks clean. Now if a man really obeyed the judge he would have to violate the rule of personal cleanliness. He did not think it possible to keep a court house Bible clean. Mr. White said he would naturally be opposed to restricting kissing but he favored this bill because he thought it would promote health. Kissing was growing unpopular, observed Mr. Baldwin. Men formerly kissed each other and now some States wanted to license kissers. He thought the right way in which the oath was administered was often responsible for perjury. He pleaded for preserving the old custom. Mr. Marshall said that the men who would tell a wilful lie would swear one. He sent an amendment to strike out "so help me God," and substitute "in the presence of the Almighty." Mr. Mitchell moved to lay on the table. This failed. The committee's substitute was adopted. Mr. Marshall withdrew his amendment. The bill then passed second reading and went over upon Mr. Mitchell objecting to its third reading. In the House Wednesday the Watts temperance bill was favorably reported with amendments and made a special order for Tuesday next.

A number of petitions and bills were introduced, the most important being: An act to prevent the spreading of contagious disease among domestic animals.

An act to prevent the seduction and abduction of married women.

An act to protect timber dealers.

NEW BILLS.

Among the new bills in the house Mr. Clifton, to amend the code in reference to demurrers.

Mr. Wade, to outlaw slot machines.

Mr. Sinkler, by request, to provide for a State bacteriologist; also a bill to require towns and cities to furnish mortality statistics.

Mr. Gaston, relating to increase in salary of coroner of Chester.

Mr. Hill, to increase number of magistrates of Colleton county.

Mr. Rainford, to provide for the sale of the State farms.

Mr. Kelly, relating to a new jail for Lee county.

Mr. Moses, to change and designate certain townships in Sumter county.

Mr. McMaster, to extend the rights and remedies of employees of railroad corporations as provided by the constitution to employees of cotton and textile mill corporations and telegraph companies.

There were a majority unfavorable reports on Mr. Lanham's bill to require railroads to allow each passenger 200 pounds of baggage without charge, and Mr. M. J. Johnson's bill to provide all railroads operating in this State to protect the rates of freight stipulated in the bill for carriage of all freight, goods wares and merchandise, and to provide penalties for the violation thereof.

There was also an unfavorable report on Mr. Mauldin's bill to provide against usury.

Mr. Pollock's dispensary bill was re-committed to the joint committee on public schools and the dispensary. This bill proposes radical changes in the dispensary law.

TRACHERS' EXAMINATIONS, ETC.

Mr. Kirby's bill to regulate the granting of certificates to teach in the free public schools came up as unfinished business and was killed.

Mr. D. O. Herbert opposed the bill. It is an abrupt and unnecessary junketing trip for the State board of

education. It also means that graduates of normal colleges must stand these examinations when the object of normal colleges is to prepare teachers for their work. He objected particularly to members of the State board of education traveling around over the state granting certificates. He objected to giving college graduates merely one-year certificates.

Mr. Kirby defended the bill on the same line of his speech Monday. Mr. Herbert had endeavored to find all the bad points in it, but had overlooked the good features.

Mr. Fraser opposed the bill. The advantages of a college education do not consist in the knowledge of a number of isolated facts, but in the training of the mind to fit itself to work. There is but one examination for doctors and in other professions, then why should teachers be subjected to such harrassing examinations every few years.

Mr. Barron, of York, opposed the bill. In behalf of the most legislated against class in the State, the common school teachers who gets a miserable pittance for five days' hard work, he opposed the measure. Qualifications to teach do not consist in the knowledge of a few facts, but in common sense, patience and general intelligence. There is already a paucity of teachers in this State and such requirements as this will still further cripple the profession. This was Mr. Barron's first effort in the house, and he acquitted himself very well.

Mr. Richards declared that the bill had been reported unfavorably by all of the committee except the author of the bill.

The house killed the bill by an overwhelming vote.

There was considerable discussion over a concurrent resolution to provide offices in the State capitol for the State superintendent of education. The resolution was killed on motion of Mr. Moses.

Mr. Wingo contended that it was "side tracking" this official to have his offices on Main street. Mr. Moses replied that these offices are really more comfortable and as accessible as those in the State house.

Governor Heyward informed the house that Lieut.-Gov. John T. Sloan had resigned from the board of trustees of the South Carolina college. Received as information.

The house killed Mr. Wade's bill to provide for the office of commissioner of agriculture to receive \$1,800 per annum out of the privilege tax fund. The house did not seem to be much interested.

Mr. Wade declared that agricultural interests are lagging, and the only salvation is diversified farming. This is an agricultural State, but the agricultural interests are neglected. Clemson College has not come up to its expectations. Commissioner Stevens is worth a million dollars a year to Georgia. He cited instances in which farmers had made great success with innovations in farming. The average farmer is a "slow coach" and doesn't catch on to ideas quickly. They don't subscribe to agricultural papers. We need a bureau where outsiders can get information. This is a very serious question and a very important matter. The salary of the commissioner, \$1,800 was to come out of the privilege tax fund and he thought this a mere bagatelle in comparison with the good it would do.

Mr. Tatum supported the measure. The bill was killed by an overwhelming vote.

Thursday's Session.

Thursday the compulsory school law was considered.

THE BILL.

The features of the bill which passed the third reading are as follows:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any parent or guardian living in this State to neglect or refuse to cause or compel any person or persons who are or may be under their control as their children or wards, to attend and comply with the rules of some one or more public or private school or schools, for a term of eight weeks or more, during each successive year from the time said children or wards are eight years old until they are 12 years old, inclusive, unless they may be prevented by illness or reside more than two miles from a school house, or by reason of already being proficient from attending such public or private schools, and provided that in such case they shall be excused by the board of trustees of the school district in which said children or wards may live at the time of such failure to attend such public or private school or schools.

Sec. 2. That any person or persons violating this act shall be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty dollars for each and every offense. Said fine shall be imposed by any court of justice having jurisdiction on sufficient evidence of the same being furnished by two or more credible witnesses, and all fines so collected shall be placed in the school fund of the school district in which the fines are collected: Provided, That no prosecution shall be instituted under this act except upon the affidavit of one of the trustees of the school district in which the offend-

ing parent or guardian resides, and such affidavit may be made on information and belief.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS.

Mr. Raysor's bill providing for biennial session of the general assembly passed a third reading and was sent to the house.

Saturday's Session.

Saturday's session in the House was featureless, a great many members having gone home on leave of absence. The Senate took up a few third reading bills, and a number of enacted laws were ratified.

NEWSY CLEANINGS.

London policemen patrol 244½ miles of streets.

Third-class railway fare in India is less than half a cent a mile.

The dam in the Nile at Assouan will throw back water 140 miles.

More than 150 books on the war in South Africa have been published.

The Kansas Legislature has tabled a bill that proposed to disfranchise the negro.

In Berlin 833 public buildings are owned by the state and 497 by the municipality.

A lock of the Duke of Wellington's hair brought \$20 at a London auction the other day.

The Russian military barracks just completed near Warsaw are the largest in the world.

France is discussing the advisability of inaugurating a Supreme Court after the American plan.

The Paris Figaro may publish an American edition at the Exposition in St. Louis, Mo., during 1904.

There is an authenticated record of ninety-six sheep being killed by a single lightning stroke in Colorado.

It is proposed to license all music teachers in Illinois through a State Board appointed for that purpose.

The British Board of Trade is at work on the improving of the consular and commercial representative services.

British Guiana is enjoying a diamond boom. In 1901-02 the number of stones found was 91,206, against 4981 in the preceding year.

German shipyards in the past year built 227 steamers, of 212,283 tons, a decrease of three steamers and 49,000 tons in comparison with 1901.

Forty of the 240 public school teachers in Washington County, Maryland, have resigned their positions within a year because of the small salaries that were paid to them.

LABOR WORLD.

Dundee, Scotland, has started evening classes for its policemen.

The standard rate of wages for stone masons in England is \$10.50 a week.

The company to rewrite the city of Hamilton, Ont., must employ union labor.

Street car conductors in Switzerland are paid eight cents a day of twelve hours.

In Canada street railway cars must be vestibuled from November to March inclusive.

Telephone girls at Butte, Mont., have secured an increase of \$15 a month after a short strike.

Coal miners at the Dark Lane Colliery, Mirfield, England, have been on strike for 112 weeks.

Weekly pensions of 7s. 6d. have been granted to aged employes of the Leith (Scotland) gas works.

Building trades at Birmingham, Ala., will form an alliance and act as one body for mutual protection.

A large number of British navvies and railway laborers are being engaged in England for South Africa.

Clothing cutters at Baltimore, Md., will receive an increase of twenty-five cents a day beginning April 1.

Laboring men of Beatrice, Neb., have organized under a charter from the American Federation of Labor.

Providence (R. I.) labor unions are projecting a new labor temple to be erected and owned by union men.

Chicago electrical workers will demand an increase of \$1 a day beginning April 1. Their scale is now \$4.

In Belfast, Ireland, district, no fewer than 70,000 people are employed in connection with the linen manufacture.

Glove makers at San Francisco, Cal., will present a new wage schedule to their employes to go into effect on March 1.

A new scale of wages to be presented by the hoisting and pile driving engineers of Omaha, Neb., has been approved by the Central Labor Union.

Rooster's Legs Too Long.

The Peterson, Ia., Patriot tells of a young rooster in that town which is so long-legged that it cannot eat off the ground. The bird was slowly starving to death when its owner noticed the trouble and placed the food on a high shelf.