

# The Independent

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WALKERTON, INDIANA  
HOMES SWEPT AWAY

## BOG SLIDE AT CASTLE ISLAND, IRELAND, UNCHECKED.

Great Glacier of Peat—Mass a Mile and a Half Wide Is Sweeping Through the Flesk Valley, Destroying Farms and Houses.

Many Lives Are Lost.

During Monday night and Tuesday morning the bog slide at Castle Island, County Kerry, Ireland, continued unchecked, a copious rainfall helping the movement. The mass of bog was a mile and a half wide, roared like the ocean, carried away bridges and roads, destroying houses and farms, and sweeping through the Flesk valley, emptying peat, carcasses of cows, sheep, and donkeys, and debris of houses into the Lake of Killarney. The people living in the direction in which the bog slide came fled. Lord Kenmare caused a cordon of guards to be drawn around the slide in order to prevent loss of life. The greatest excitement prevailed in the vicinity, and all the houses there were opened to receive the hundreds of people rendered homeless by the disaster. The subsidence of the bog seems to have been an extraordinary affair. There were terrible storms through the night, and about 3 o'clock in the morning the people of the district were alarmed by an unusual rumbling, which they feared was caused by an earthquake. The bog, which was believed to be thirty feet deep, and which had long supplied the whole neighborhood with peat, was moved for several miles along an old water course, filling a quarry twenty feet deep on the way, flooding the rivers of the country with peat water, and doing a deal of damage. At the Donelly homestead ten persons completely disappeared, leaving no trace.

### Failure of a Dallas Concern.

The failure of the Dallas, Texas, Security Mortgage and Trust Company has caused much discussion in business circles. Many business men had long expected trouble for the concern, but the public generally was surprised at the failure. The opinion is general that local losses will be comparatively insignificant, but Eastern and foreign capitalists will lose fully \$1,500,000 on their investments and ventures. The exact figures on liabilities and assets were given out as follows:

Liabilities	\$1,296,225
Interest	10,000
Quit sale mortgages	639,000
Interest	25,000
Taxes	17,000
Liabilities on stock	500,000
Cash and mortgages	1,500,000
In subcompanies	114,000
Bonds in various corporations	50,000
Mortgages sold (not collected)	650,000
Total assets	2,314,000

The subcompanies are the Trust Company Building Association, the Texas Farm Land Company, the Security Investment Company and the Cotton Mills Building Association.

### Robbed in an Elevator.

Two men armed with revolvers, at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, held up and robbed Joseph E. Spanheimer, in an elevator in the building at the southwest corner of West Monroe and Jefferson streets, Chicago. The robbers secured \$512 which Spanheimer carried in a satchel, and then, after forcing the elevator boy at the muzzles of their revolvers to lower the cage to the first floor, ran out the door and made their escape. Spanheimer is a clerk in the employ of the Wagner Palace Car Company. For more than a year it has been his custom every Tuesday afternoon to carry from the offices of the car company in the Woman's Temple to the office of the Central Steam Laundry Company, in the building where the robbery occurred, the amount of the weekly laundry bills of the car company. The robbers had followed him and made their attack just when outside aid was most remote.

### Depositors Being Paid.

The Atlas National Bank of Chicago has gone into voluntary liquidation, and on Monday morning began paying depositors. Though the Chicago Clearing House stood behind every dollar that the bank owed, many thousands of dollars were carried from the bank vaults. It is not very long ago that the Atlas made a very unsatisfactory report of its affairs, and was taken sharply to task by Comptroller Eckels, who insisted that reforms be made in the management. A subsequent report was more satisfactory, but it was evident that the improvement had been brought about only by the most desperate effort. Comptroller Eckels expresses the opinion that the voluntary liquidation of the bank will at once and permanently clear Chicago's clouded financial atmosphere.

### BREVITIES.

Theosophists are to build a college in California.

The steamer Carranza, from Rotterdam, has been lost off Cape Ajo. Six members of the crew were saved, but fifteen are missing.

The Columbia National Bank of Minneapolis, a small institution of comparatively recent establishment and \$200,000 capital, closed its doors and is now in the hands of the bank examiner. The tariff hearings before the Ways and Means Committee began at the capitol in Washington promptly at 10 o'clock Monday according to the published program. There were several large delegations in attendance and much interest was displayed.

James R. Francisco, who operated the John Bull locomotive which was brought from England in 1833, is dead at Fremont, Ohio.

Governor Bradley of Kentucky announces his intention of resigning. He says the place is killing him and that he cannot afford to remain in office till his health is entirely lost.

A report comes from Rome that Archbishop Corrigan of New York is to be made a cardinal.

Arthur Lingard died at Lancaster, Ohio, at the age of 107, leaving a fortune of \$2,000,000 and no kin.

### WESTERN.

The Bank of West Superior, Wis., did not open Wednesday morning. It is a small institution, with a capital and surplus of \$100,000. The failure was the direct result of the failures of the Bank of Minnesota and the National Bank of Illinois.

Professor E. B. McKay, professor of Greek in the Baptist College at Sioux Falls, S. D., hanged himself in his room. He is supposed to have been temporarily deranged, as the result of overwork and a slight illness. He came from Des Moines, Iowa, where his father lives.

In the suit at Portland, Ore., of E. McNeil, receiver, against the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company, the jury returned a verdict against the insurance company for \$72,000, the amount sued for. The suit was brought to recover insurance on property belonging to the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company that was destroyed by the burning of their large elevator three years ago.

At 7:20 Wednesday morning one of the most terrible and appalling explosions in the history of the Indiana oil field took place two miles northeast of Montpelier. It was the nitro-glycerin magazine of the Empire Glycerin Company, situated on the Elijah Gale farm. Two oil well shooters of Montpelier and their teams were blown to atoms. The men were: George Hickox, aged 42 years; Harry Wood, aged 23 years.

At Cincinnati Thomas W. Keene, who was playing an engagement at the Walnut Street Theater, was presented a loving cup Friday night. The presentation was on the stage after the second act, with Charles B. Hanaford as spokesman, to whom Mr. Keene responded feelingly. The cup was inscribed with the names of the members of the company and of the business staff. It is silver, gilded inside, and provided with three handles.

The Colorado State Supreme Court has denied the application for a rehearing in the case of Sheriff Newman of Lake County, sentenced to six months' imprisonment and confinement from office on a charge of malfeasance. The judgment against Newman will probably be carried into effect within a few days. Gov. McIntire has announced that if a successor to Newman be appointed who will enforce the laws in good faith he will withdraw the troops from Leadville.

The great activity at the Mare Island Navy Yard at San Francisco noticed is due to the fact that the station is being placed on an emergency footing. Stories of all descriptions are being received, as well as ammunition for the heavy batteries on ship and ashore. Orders have also been received to place aboard each vessel 135,000 rounds of cartridges for small arms. The sailors are expecting to have their shore leave stopped. Officials at the yard have been notified they will receive a full supply of armor piercing shells of the latest pattern.

The Missouri State Supreme Court decided that the section of the charter of Kansas City providing that each qualified voter who fails to vote at a general election should be taxed \$2.50 is invalid. It was a test case, in which the city brought suit against a voter who had failed to vote to recover the tax. The court in its decision says: "Who can estimate the degradation to the franchise to associate it with such an idea. The ballot of the humblest in the land may mold the destiny of the nation for ages."

Otto Wasmansdorff, the Chicago banker, member of the defunct firm of Wasmansdorff & Heinemann, shot and killed himself at his home Sunday morning. Feeling that his good name had been smirched and unable to bear up against the financial ruin which had overwhelmed him as a result of the failure of the National Bank of Illinois, he ended his troubles with a bullet. One of his last acts was to mortgage his personal property for the benefit of his creditors. He was before him the world as it appeared when he was just beginning his career, but his youth and energy had left him. The prospect frightened and dismayed him, and his courage failed. He believed he had lost his reputation, and without that he could not begin the world anew. So he went quietly to his son's room, and with his son's revolver ended it all.

H. W. Campbell, a prominent soil culturist of Sioux City, has signed an important contract with the Burlington. Mr. Campbell has been experimenting for the last three years on a process of turning the arid belt of lands in Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, and the Dakotas into crop-producing districts. The experiments have been of such a successful nature that he has also induced the Northern Pacific, the Soo line, and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul roads to enter into the scheme. Starting in the spring of the coming year the roads have agreed to each establish five experimental stations in places which may be designated by themselves, and men acquainted with Mr. Campbell's peculiar methods will be placed in charge of them. The farms will consist of forty-acre tracts, and the products raised will consist of corn, oats, wheat, rye, and all varieties of vegetables.

A Chicago electric car ran over, horribly mutilated, and killed little George Danemarker at Throop street Friday afternoon, as a result of the boy's attempting to steal a ride, and forthwith a crowd of several thousand persons assembled, beat the conductor severely, tried to throw the car off the track, and were barely kept in check by a wagonload of police from the Maxwell Street Station. The accident caused such an excitement that it came near leading to other deaths within a few minutes. It happened that a large crowd of spectators had gathered around the car, and the sight of such a crowd quickly attracted four times as many more. It is thought by some of the spectators that they may have been as many as 4,000 people in the street. As soon as they saw the mangy remains of the boy they were transported with rage. In the meanwhile the conductor and motorman, not knowing that there was a telephone in Kvittek's drug store at the southeast corner of the street, ran together to Center avenue to telephone the accident to the offices of the company. Only the arrival of the company's wrecking wagon, and a wagon load of patrolmen, saved the man from a lynching.

Blue Cut, made historic through the operations there of the James and Younger bands when they were pioneers in the train robbing industry, was the scene Wednesday night of its fourth holdup

by road agents. At 9:20 o'clock the St. Louis and Chicago express on the Chicago and Alton Road, which left Kansas City at 8:45, was flagged at Blue Cut and came to a standstill. It is the same train that was held up two months ago. Masked men immediately covered the engineer and fireman and compelled them to get down from their cars. At the same time another member of the bandit gang uncoupled the express car from the rest of the train, and before the surprised train men had time to collect their wits the bandits were speeding down the steep grade beyond Blue Cut with the engine and express coach. Express Messenger A. L. Frier, of St. Louis, was a prisoner in the express car. Kansas City officials of the United States Express Company say the train carried very little cash, but that the car was filled with an enormous amount of miscellaneous express of great value. Christmas boxes made up a considerable amount of the treasure. Engineer E. D. Meade and his fireman immediately after the robbery set out in search of their locomotive. They found their engine dead at 1 o'clock Thursday morning, in a cut a mile east of Glendale, with the express car, but their report said nothing about the fate of the express messenger.

SOUTHERN.

Reports from Letcher County, Ky., state that a bloody battle was fought at the home of Dan Williams, one hundred shots were exchanged. Dan Williams, a teacher, was mortally wounded. Williams' friends swear vengeance and a raid may follow.

Plunging down 110 feet through an iron trellis, an accommodation train on the Birmingham Mineral Road Sunday landed its passengers and train crew in a death trap on the rocky bottom of the Cahawba River. Of those on board only nine escaped alive. The number of the dead is estimated at thirty-five. Cremation alive was the horrible fate of a number of the victims. The startling ascription is made by one of the survivors that the wreck was the work of train robbers, and that after the human freight had been precipitated into the river they robbed both dead and dying, paying no attention to the piteous appeals for help.

A passenger train on the Southern Railway, due at Birmingham, Ala., early Wednesday morning, had a narrow escape from destruction at a point near Irondale, about twelve miles east of Birmingham. The train was running at the usual rate of speed, when, on approaching a short trestle, the engineer discovered that a rail had been removed from the structure, presumably by bandit robbers. The air brakes were applied and the train stopped in time to avoid a terrible disaster. The engine, however, went partly over the break in the rails, but remained on the trestle. Southern Railway officials claim that no one on the train was injured.

Key West, Fla., dispatch: The steamer Three Friends, Captain Lewis, arrived Friday afternoon. The captain says the vessel is from Jacksonville, and that she has been on a wrecking voyage along the reefs. The customs officials are in charge, and there is really no doubt that the vessel has just returned from landing arms and ammunition in Cuba. Nothing was found on the vessel. The vessel has several gales, and when asked the meaning of her bark, it is stated that she was chased into the harbor by the dangerous presence of several Spanish men-of-war that were lying off the keys for her. The Three Friends charged with infringing the marine neutrality regulations of the United States.

WASHINGTON.

Among the callers at the Treasury Department Wednesday in Washington were a bridal couple from Chicago. They were fairly started on their wedded way when the bridegroom was near the shape of Illinois. The customs officials are in charge, and there is really no doubt that the vessel has just returned from landing arms and ammunition in Cuba. A committee of three was appointed to look into the situation and it will make a report within two weeks, when another meeting will be called. Meantime, the market will be open and prices will be anything that manufacturers can get for their product. Another manufacturer said as to prices that billets were being sold as low as \$15.50 a ton, and he believed some makers were putting billets on the market at even a lower rate. This price is ridiculously low when it is considered that the price fixed after the organization of the pool was \$20.25 per ton at the maker's mill. He also said that some of the members of the pool are now selling billets at an actual loss.

MARKET REPORTS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.50 to \$5.75; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, fair to choice, \$2.00 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 7s to 7s; corn, No. 2, 22c to 24c; oats, No. 2, 16c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 37c to 38c; butter, choice creamery, 20c to 22c; eggs, fresh, 20c to 22c; potatoes, per bushel, 20c to 30c; broom corn, common green to fine brush, 2c to 5c per pound.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$3.50; sheep, good to choice, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2, 16c to 20c; oats, No. 2, white, 21c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 34c to 36c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2, mixed 21c to 22c; oats, No. 2, mixed, 19c to 21c; rye, No. 2, 35c to 37c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2 white, 20c to 22c; oats, No. 2 white, 20c to 22c; rye, 36c to 38c.

Toledo—wheat, No. 2 red, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2, mixed, 22c to 23c; oats, No. 2 white, 17c to 19c; rye, No. 2, 37c to 39c; clover, \$5.40 to \$5.50.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 spring, 7s to 8s; corn, No. 3, 21c to 23c; oats, No. 2 white, 18c to 20c; barley, No. 2, 31c to 35c; rye, No. 1, 38c to 40c; pork, mess, \$6.50 to \$7.00.

Buffalo—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$2.00 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2 white, 25c to 25c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 24c.

New York—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 9s to 9s; corn, No. 2, 28c to 30c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 23c; butter, creamery, 15c to 23c; eggs, Western, 18c to 21c.

are resolved at all hazards shall not happen. All of the Ambassadors have refused the port's request that all foreign vessels be searched for arms.

Dr. Maximo Zertucha, during the life of General Antonio Maceo attached to the Cuban leader's staff as a surgeon, and after the death of Maceo accused of treachery in causing his betrayal into the hands of the Spanish troops, has written a letter to the New York Herald, in which he says that despair drove Maceo to court death. This despair was caused, he affirms, by the lack of support which Maceo received from the insurgent civil chiefs. Upon the shoulders of some of them also Dr. Zertucha lays the charge of having received money from the Spanish Government.

The London Times Paris correspondent says: "The Washington government has been confidentially informed, although in friendly terms, that the European powers would not remain passive should the United States recognize or encourage the Cuban insurgents. If my information is correct an intimation has been further given that Germany is quite ready, even now, to take Spain's side should the United States show a disposition officially to side with the rebels. These warnings originated in the course of parleys between European coalition against revolutionary socialism."

One of the principal reasons given by the Spanish Government for insisting upon Gen. Weyler making a decisive attempt to clear the Provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana, and Matanzas within a few weeks is the urgent necessity of scoring a military success before Spain has once more to appeal to the native and foreign market for fresh loans when she exhausts the money obtained by recent interior loans—namely, in March next year. At present the Minister of Colonies disposes of cash and Cuban bonds of the value of about \$50,000,000 only. Out of the said loan come the expenses of the war, being for Cuba \$12,000,000 monthly, and for the Philippines at least \$4,000,000. Up to the present the Spanish treasury has assisted the Cuban treasury by guaranteeing advances made by foreign and native bankers upon Cuban bonds and by pledging the sources of imperial revenue for the recent \$80,000,000 loan. The moment is approaching when the Spanish budget and Spanish taxpayers must be asked to provide in the shape of additional taxation \$26,000,000 annually for the interest and sinking fund of \$240,000,000 thus raised to meet only in part the expenses of the Cuban war up to March, 1897, and which the Cuban budget and Cuban taxpayers could not possibly undertake to pay even if the war soon terminated. The budgets have shown deficits averaging \$5,000,000 annually before the present insurrection.

IN GENERAL.

Fire in the fashionable residence part of Montreal destroyed portions of the houses of Frank May, the wholesale dry goods man; John Gault, superintendent of the Merchants' Bank; and Judge Doherty. The loss will be about \$100,000.

As a result of the investigation made into the fur seal question by British and American experts, it is expected by officials of the State and Treasury Departments that Great Britain will be more willing to agree to changes in the award.

The Bessemer Steel Association, better known as the steel billet pool, is still intact, reports to the contrary notwithstanding. One of the leading Pittsburgh members of the organization, who has returned from the meeting in New York, said: "The sessions were secret and some misleading information has been put before the public. I can state positively that the pool, as the newspapers call it, is still in existence and that it has not been dissolved. The only firms out of the combination are the Bellair Steel Company, which withdrew, the Shoenberger Steel Company, which never went in and a small concern in Indiana. A committee of three was appointed to look into the situation and it will make a report within two weeks, when another meeting will be called. Meantime, the market will be open and prices will be anything that manufacturers can get for their product." Another manufacturer said as to prices that billets were being sold as low as \$15.50 a ton, and he believed some makers were putting billets on the market at even a lower rate. This price is ridiculously low when it is considered that the price fixed after the organization of the pool was \$20.25 per ton at the maker's mill. He also said that some of the members of the pool are now selling billets at an actual loss.

UNITED STATES AS MEDIATOR.

A Washington dispatch says: It has been learned from an authoritative source that Secretary Olney and Senator Dupuy De Lome, the Spanish minister, have practically terminated the negotiations on the Cuban question which are based on the recent official communication from Premier Canovas, addressed to the Secretary of State. The Premier clearly states the terms which Spain will accord to the insurgents and practically asks the United States to propose these conditions to her rebellious subjects. In return for our good offices Spain assures this government that she sincerely deplores the great commercial loss which we have sustained on account of the Cuban disturbance. She assures us that she is even now considering a reciprocity treaty which will deal mainly with Cuban products and which will be framed in such advantageous terms toward this government that our losses, both in commerce and in the destruction of American property in Cuba, will be most generously compensated.

DRAGGED DOWN BY THE ATLAS.

As a result of the voluntary liquidation of the Atlas National Bank of Chicago, J. S. & William M. Van Nortwick, who held 464 shares of stock in that bank and were borrowers therefrom to the amount of \$300,000, made an assignment to the Equitable Trust Company of Chicago, who took possession of the Van Nortwick's bank at Batavia Monday afternoon. The failure involves the entire interests of the Van Nortwick, whose estimated wealth, according to their last statement, is \$2,500,000, often estimated at three times that amount, and representing, besides the Van Nortwick bank and other property, large manufacturing interests. The total liabilities will probably be near \$2,000,000.

NEWS NUGGETS.

Rev. E. H. Vaughn, professor of Saul College at Dodge City, Kan., has been deposed from the ministry for lying.

Governor Bradley of Kentucky has several companies of the Second Regiment of the State militia practically under arms, owing to the fear that an attempt would be made to lynch Johnson Howe, the negro held at Paris for the murder of Policeman Charles Lacey at Cynthiana. The Governor is supposed to call out the militia only at the request of the sheriff, but there have been so many lynchings recently and the sheriffs have been so inactive that Governor Bradley has prepared to act on his own responsibility. There are still rumors that a mob may visit Paris, but it is safe to predict that they will meet with a warm reception.

A Washington scientist proposes to build a laboratory at Niagara Falls for the manufacture of large diamonds from carbon.

A dispatch from Rome says a landslip has entirely destroyed the Village of Santa Ana de Pelago, demolishing 118 houses and rendering 150 families homeless. There was no loss of life.

The Wilson Line steamship Volo is a total loss at Wingat, off the coast of Sweden. The crew and passengers were saved. The Volo was a screw steamship built at Hull in 1890 and registered 510 tons net.

A London Times dispatch from Calcutta says that the long-lost birthplace of Buddha has been discovered in Nepal.

Stockholders of the failed Bank of Minnesota at St. Paul have appointed a committee to formulate a plan to reorganize the concern.

## HEADS CHOPPED OFF.

### SUMMARY DEALING WITH CHINESE PIRATES.

Counterfeiter Also Meet the Same Fate—Porte Is Obdurate and Virtually Defies European Powers to Act—Kentucky Militia Under Arms.

### The Oriental Way.

According to the lastest advices from the Orient, Li Ku Chuch, superintendent of the Canton police, Nov. 23 seized a large number of counterfeit Chinese coins and materials for their manufacture. The chief co