

The Independent

ZIMMERMAN & SMITH,
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PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

INTO AN OPEN SWITCH

FIVE LIVES THE PENALTY OF CARELESSNESS.

Express Train Dashes Into a Freight at Full Speed—United States Bonds for the People—Close to a Crisis in Havana.

Five Are Killed in a Wreck.

At 11 o'clock Saturday night two freight trains stood on a switch at Schooley's Station, seven miles east of Chillicothe. The first train pulled out, and the conductor, thinking that the second one would follow, left the switch open. Fifteen minutes later the east-bound express came along at forty miles an hour, and, running on to the switch, collided with the train standing there. Both trains were badly wrecked. The dead are George Addis, fireman freight train; J. H. Cox, fireman express train; Jess King, brakeman; Thomas Michaels, engineer of express train; Leon Mathers, fireman. The injured: J. E. Edington, postal clerk; Fitzsimmons, engineer; J. D. Murphy, postal clerk. Conductor Tom Brown of the express had to walk two miles to telephone the news to the city. Conductor Hendershot of the freight is responsible for the wreck, as he left the switch open. The passengers in the express were badly shaken up, but none were seriously injured.

Alaskan Boundary Line Drawn.

Gen. Duffield, chief of the coast and geographic survey, does not hesitate to express the opinion that there can be no serious dispute between the United States and Canada over the Alaskan boundary. He said: "The line is as plain from the treaty as if it had been recorded by deed and map." Gen. Duffield is confident that the British can find no grounds upon which to base a claim to the gold fields of the Yukon river, since a British engineer, Ogleby, in 1883, after careful observations, marked the banks of the Yukon and Forty-Mile Creek where these streams are crossed by the 141st meridian and his marks were verified by the United States survey. The only possible ground for contention which Gen. Duffield foresees is furnished by that phrase of the Russian-British treaty that at no point shall the boundary be more than ten marine leagues from the shore. The United States Government interprets this to mean continental leagues, while Great Britain might contend that ten leagues from the island shore was contemplated.

Martial Law in Havana.

The Spanish authorities confess the grave condition of affairs by proclaiming martial law for the provinces of Havana and Pinar del Rio, Cuba. Maximo Gomez has declared his purpose to penetrate into the province of Pinar del Rio. Although his forces have not reached the borders of that province, the action of the authorities is understood to indicate they have no hopes of preventing him from carrying out his threat. The insurgents are apparently making a swift advance directly upon Havana. The advance guard of their cavalry, under Gen. Lacret, was at latest accounts at Lapastre, which is only eighteen miles from Guanabacoa, the latter being but a suburb of Havana.

Rejoicing in Mormondom.

The President on Saturday issued his proclamation in conformity with the act of Congress, stating that the people of Utah have complied with all of the requirements of the law providing for the admission of Utah to the Union, and declaring that the territory has passed out of existence and that Utah is admitted to the family of States. The people of Utah showed an intense interest in every step made at Washington, and Private Secretary Thurber was importuned to telegraph immediately to Salt Lake the first news of the signing of the proclamation, and to preserve as a valuable historical relic the pen with which President Cleveland affixed his signature to the document.

Failures of 1895.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: "The commercial failures during the complete year 1895 number 13,197, against 13,885 in 1894, but the aggregate of liabilities is slightly greater, \$173,195,000, against \$172,992,856, so that the average per failure is \$13,312, in the first quarter was followed by a small increase in the second and third quarters and a large increase in the last quarter of the year. In that quarter also the deferred liabilities to each firm in business increased, and also the proportion of deferred liabilities to payments through clearing houses."

Bonds for the People.

Speculation concerning the amount and character of the new bond issue was set at rest Monday when Secretary Carlisle made public a circular on the subject. The loan will be a "popular" one, and the circular gives notice that the Government will sell coupon or registered bonds dated Feb. 1, 1896, for which purchasers will be required to pay in gold coin or gold certificates.

BREVITIES.

At Grafton, O., two Italian brothers who slept together in the same bed were awakened by three masked men, two of whom held one of the brothers while the third stabbed the other brother to death. Robbery does not seem to have been the motive for the crime, as several hundred dollars in the house was not touched. It is believed the deed was instigated by the Mafia. The three men escaped.

Another startling discrepancy has been discovered in the accounts of Omaha City Treasurer Bolin, whose downfall occurred last May. His bondsmen then discovered the shortage to be nearly \$33,000. Expert accountants, who for months have been checking up the books, have reported to the Council Finance committee an additional shortage of \$77,000.

At Milledgeville, Ky., a boy named Walters, while playing, secured a revolver and shot his two little cousins, two girls, aged 4 and 8. A third was also injured. The boy then sent a ball through his own head. He and his two little cousins will die.

EASTERN.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt is to marry Oliver H. P. Belmont, son of the late August Belmont.

The New York World advocates popular subscriptions for the forthcoming issue of Government bonds, and offers to subscribe for \$1,000,000 of them.

The Baltimore, Md., grand jury will be asked to investigate the disaster at the Front Street Theater. It is learned that, in addition to the mutilations practiced on the women who were killed in the panic in order to obtain their jewels, the box office was robbed of the entire night's receipts.

William J. Weeks, of Yaphank, L. I., aged 73 years, has issued a challenge to all persons over 70 years of age to skate him from fifty to 500 miles. He is a well-known skater and will allow any competitor one mile in every ten. Weeks has also come out with a challenge to any person in the world to contest with him in fancy figure skating and writing.

At Newark, N. J., fire broke out late Monday night and destroyed the Kinney Block and its contents. The building was occupied by the Western Union and the Postal Telegraph companies, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the Erie, and the New York and Greenwood Lake Railroad companies. Haworth, Engle & Clark, clothiers; Chas. Charles' estate.

Herman P. Gerold, cashier of the Brookfield, Mass., Savings Bank, has disappeared. It is believed he is a defaulter for between \$10,000 and \$15,000 and his disappearance strengthens this belief.

About three weeks ago George W. Johnson, president of the bank, was appointed receiver. He discovered that Gerold's

accounts were wrong. Attachments have been placed upon Gerold's property in Brookfield and in Hampden County.

The Pittsburgh tobacconist Harry Brown ran aground at Glasshouse Rille, Brunton's Island, Monday morning. The pilot attempted to back into deeper water to release the fleet, when a heavy cable parted, the ends striking Jonathan Wood and a deck hand known as "Whitey." The latter was instantly killed and Wood was seriously but not fatally injured. Two coal boats and one barge, containing 60,000 bushels of coal, are at the bottom of the river as a result of the accident and the channel is blockaded. The sunken boats will be blown out with dynamite by the Government. The loss will be very heavy.

With a detonation that was heard two miles the fireworks stock of Detwiler & Street, a Greenfield, N. J., firm, stored in the rear of 309 North 2d street, St. Louis, exploded Thursday afternoon. Four persons are dead, six missing, one fatigued and thirty-two seriously hurt. Adjoining buildings were crushed like paper boxes, and in their fall carried scores of inmates down with the rain. Windows were broken for blocks around, and the air was filled with powder smoke, sparks and flying debris. Two other explosions followed the first in rapid succession, completing the work of death and destruction. In addition a property loss of \$100,000 was entailed by fire.

WESTERN.

William Everhart shot and killed Arthur Jones, aged 15, near Bainbridge, Ohio. Everhart bet Jones he could shoot his hat off his head without hurting him. Jones won the bet.

Walter Sanger, the bicycle rider, and Miss Dora Kotzenberg, of Chicago, managed to steal away from a skating party in Milwaukee Friday evening long enough to get married.

It is estimated that 500 claims in the Cripple Creek district on which owners have failed to do full assessment work in 1895 have been jumped. Although armed men are holding claims in all the outlying portions of the district no fights have yet been reported.

Three persons were shot and a whole train-load of passengers were thrown into a panic by the attempt of Special Detective David McQuaid of the Monon Road to arrest John Weinhardt, an alleged lunatic, who, according to McQuaid, started in to clear out the Monon express which left the Polk street depot at Chicago Tuesday night. None of the injured died.

A San Francisco paper says the Government is preparing to prosecute the conspirators who perjured themselves to aid James Addison Perot-Ravens in his mythical claim of \$3,000,000 acres of land in New Mexico, worth \$75,000,000. Nearly every witness who testified in the case will be indicted. It is said that Attorney General Harmon will send Edward B. Whitney and Joshua E. Dodge of Washington, to assist United States District Attorney Footh in the prosecution.

Mrs. J. Sam Brown, wife of a national banker; Mrs. Hamlin, wife of a merchant; and Miss Laura Blincoe, principal of one of the public schools, bantered each other to take a ride in the "luxury" wagon from the Union depot in Wichita, Kas., to the city jail through the main thoroughfare of the city with a policeman. Mr. Brown, the husband, not only consented, but secured the wagon from the chief of police. The thing was unknown to the public, and as the wagon dashed through the street with Mrs. Brown, who is a society queen, it caused a great sensation. Five hundred people followed them to the jail.

It was learned Thursday that a well-paying gold mine has been in full operation almost within the city limits of Duluth, Minn., for the last few months and that the owners have taken out many thousands of dollars' worth of metal. The news has caused considerable excitement, and the surrounding hills will be gone over carefully by prospectors. The men who are interested in the mine now in operation are S. W. Clark, M. Lewis, John De Graw, Dr. Landry and A. Miner. The mine is down seventy feet. It is located on the county road, just outside the city limits, and the owners are preserving the utmost secrecy regarding it.

A fire horror claimed six victims in Columbus, Ohio, Thursday morning. At 4 o'clock the residence of John H. Hibbard was discovered to be on fire, and before the flames could be extinguished six members of the family were suffocated by the smoke and their bodies partly carbonized. Mr. Hibbard was secretary of the Central Ohio Natural Gas and Fuel Company and was connected by marriage with the Dealers, Huntingtons and others of the wealthiest families of Columbus. Four sons less than 15 years of age and the colored servant, aged 18, escaped by jumping from the second-story windows. Natural gas was used in the house, but the fire evidently originated from some defective construction in the wood work.

Through the treachery of an officer in the San Francisco custom house two carloads of Chinese from the Atlanta exposi-

tion have slipped through the hands of a score of United States inspectors and are now somewhere in Chinatown, out of the reach of Federal control or interference. The Chinese were landed in that city before daylight and were hurried in carriages into the Chinese quarter. How many there were in the party is not definitely known. Collector of the Port John H. Wise received what is considered to be reliable information that 104 were coming reliable to the city, but the agents of the Chinese claim that only forty-three were spirited into the district. In Federal official circles the opinion prevails that over 100 Chinese escaped the officers.

Chicago has the lowest death rate of any city of 200,000 or more population in the world. This is shown by the annual report of the city health department, completed Tuesday. The death rate, based upon the uncorrected figures, is 15.11 in a population of 1,000, as against 15.24 for last year, less than any previous record for the city. The whole report shows the health of the community to be in excellent condition.

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