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TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

TWELVE PAGES—WEDNESDAY MORNING JANUARY 16 1907—TWELVE PAGES

ONE CENT

Kingston, Jamaica, Ruined by Earthquake and Fire Hundred Dead, Hundreds Hurt, but Canadians Safe

OCCURRED WITHOUT WARNING MANY BUILDINGS DESTROYED

Sir James Fergusson and Other Prominent Citizens Among the Dead—Disaster Took Place Monday Afternoon and Fire Adds to the Destruction—Military Hospital and Other Large Structures Among the Ruined—British Notables Visiting Kingston for Cotton Conference Escape Injury.

London, Jan. 15.—The colonial office to-night received confirmation of the terrible disaster which has overtaken Kingston, Jamaica, in a despatch from Hamar Greenwood, M.P., sent from Holland Bay, at the east end of the island.

The telegram says that Kingston has been ruined by an earthquake which occurred without warning Monday afternoon at 3.30. A great number of buildings and dwellings were destroyed, either by the earthquake or by the consequent fire.

The military hospital was burned and forty soldiers are reported to have been killed, together with several prominent citizens and many other of the inhabitants of the city.

Sir James Fergusson is reported to have been instantly killed, but no other Englishmen, Canadians or Americans are missing.

The city is quiet, but disciplined workers are needed.

The governor of the colony, Sir Alexander Swettenham, assisted by Sir Alfred Jones, is directing affairs.

The steamer Port Kingston will leave Thursday with most of the members of the party who went out with Sir Alfred Jones to attend the agricultural conference.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Up to this hour the foregoing is the most complete despatch regarding the Kingston disaster that has been received here. The absence of details is accounted for by the breakdown in cable communication, but the announcement that no Englishmen, Canadians or Americans are missing will greatly reassure the public concerning the fate of the unusual number of tourists and others who are spending the winter in Jamaica, or who were attracted there by the agricultural and cotton conference.

The party on board the Port Kingston only arrived at Kingston on Friday last. The Port Kingston, in addition to the members of Sir Alfred Jones' party, had other guests and passengers on board which gave her a total passenger list of more than 100 persons. Among those in the company were: Hall Caine, the novelist; Viscount Montagu; H. O. Arnold Forster, M.P.; Sir Thomas Hughes, Sir Thomas Sigmund, the Earl and Countess of Dudley and others of equal prominence.

WILL CAUSE A SHOCK.

The news of the disaster arrived in London too late to-night to be generally known to the public, but it is certain to cause widespread consternation and anxiety, and will bring home to the imagination immediately sprung from the wreckage to carry on the work of destruction. Tuesday afternoon the fire was still burning, although it was believed to be under control.

The Myrtle Bank Hotel, the principal hotel at Kingston, which probably sheltered the great bulk of visitors on the island, is reported destroyed.

The extent of the destruction which has been wrought in Kingston, a city which already bears the scars of a number of disastrous visitations of fire, earthquake and cyclone in years gone by, is still left largely to the imagination. The city is one of low-lying buildings clustered along the shores of one of the finest and most securely anchored harbors in the West Indies. The population, which numbers 50,000, is largely made up of native blacks.

Many steamers carrying tourists to Jamaica were en route to the island when the earthquake occurred, but it so happens that, according to schedules, none of the ships from New York or Boston were in Kingston harbor Monday afternoon.

EXTENT OF DESTRUCTION.

The first great shock was felt about 3.30 o'clock Monday afternoon, and, as in the San Francisco and Valparaiso disasters, flames immediately sprung from the wreckage to carry on the work of destruction. Tuesday afternoon the fire was still burning, although it was believed to be under control.

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How Kingston, Jamaica, is Reached.

TORONTONIANS IN DANGER ZONE

Large Number of Citizens Who Are at Present in the Island—Either for Business or Pleasure.

OTHERS WERE GOING SATURDAY

Rabbi Jacobs, Who is Interested in Property There, Believes That Loss Will Be Heavy.

The first word of the Kingston disaster caused considerable excitement in the city. As a popular winter resort for Canadians during the past few years, Jamaica has probably had more tourists than any other watering place, and the fact that several prominent citizens with their families had sailed this month for the south caused anxious enquiries and grave concern. Canadians on the island are:

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. McKinnon, 410 Sherbourne-street, Toronto.
Mrs. H. C. McLeod and family, 678 Huron-street, Toronto.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Blackwell and family, 58 Pearson-street, Toronto.
Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Stovel, 2 Ashcroft-place, Toronto.
Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Tuckett and daughter, Indian-road, Toronto.
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kahle, Toronto.
Miss Louise Hayter Bingham, 2 Ashcroft-place, Toronto.
Mrs. Wm. Russell and family, Toronto.
Miss Isabel was Missy, Toronto.
Miss M. Reid, Toronto.
G. M. Hunt, 228 Shaw-street, Toronto.
Cecil Conway, 20 Reid-street, Toronto.
Lieut. George Gokney, Toronto.
J. Bogert Bartram, 20 Tyndall-avenue, Toronto.
R. R. Baker, Toronto.
W. H. Parker, Toronto.
S. C. Brandon, Toronto.
C. S. Boone, 57 East Bloor-street, Toronto.
C. B. Taylor and wife, New Liskeard, Joe Scott, Blind River.
B. E. A. Law and wife, Hamilton.
J. A. Wales, Markham.
W. D. P. Barker, Toronto.
Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Tuckett, and Miss Sarah Tuckett left Toronto several weeks ago for a three months' tour of the southern islands. Mr. Tuckett, who was in the real estate business, was going to spend a month holiday in Kingston and San Antonio. His brother is in the same business in Kingston, and other members of the family reside just outside the city.

S. F. McKinnon, president of S. F. McKinnon & Co., wholesale millinery, left New York on the 5th inst., accompanied by Mrs. McKinnon. Mr. McKinnon, who has been in poor health for several months, contemplated a long rest in the south.

Alfred T. Blackwell, Mrs. Blackwell and their three daughters left Toronto several weeks ago to reside at Kingston, where Mr. Blackwell had gone to take charge of a large plantation. Until lately he was connected with the Imperial Yarns Works, when he sold his interest to Jas. Langmuir, who was also to have sailed for the island on the famous winter resort next Saturday.

F. W. Kahle and wife were on a pleasure trip.

On Business.

G. M. Hunt, inspector of the Standard Life Insurance Company, sailed for the south on business.

Mrs. H. C. McLeod, wife of the general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and her daughters, Miss McLeod and the Misses Edith and Vivian, with their friend, Miss Isabel Van Maher, were spending the winter six miles from Kingston. Mr. McLeod.

Continued on Page 8

The Very Best Mixer of All.
Either Scotch or rye whiskey is much improved by being mixed with that empress of table waters, Radnor. Radnor water is bottled at its spring in the foothills of the Laurentian Mountains, and, besides blending perfectly with spirits, is admirably suited for the convalescent and mixes well with milk.

Soud, ripens ale-like Port Hope Pale Ales agrees with any digestion.

New Ready.
The Sicbe price list for 1907 is now ready and may be had on application to the head office, 81 York-street, Toronto. The Sicbe Gas Co., Limited.

Oscar Hudson & Company, Chartered Accountants, 5 King West. M. 4788

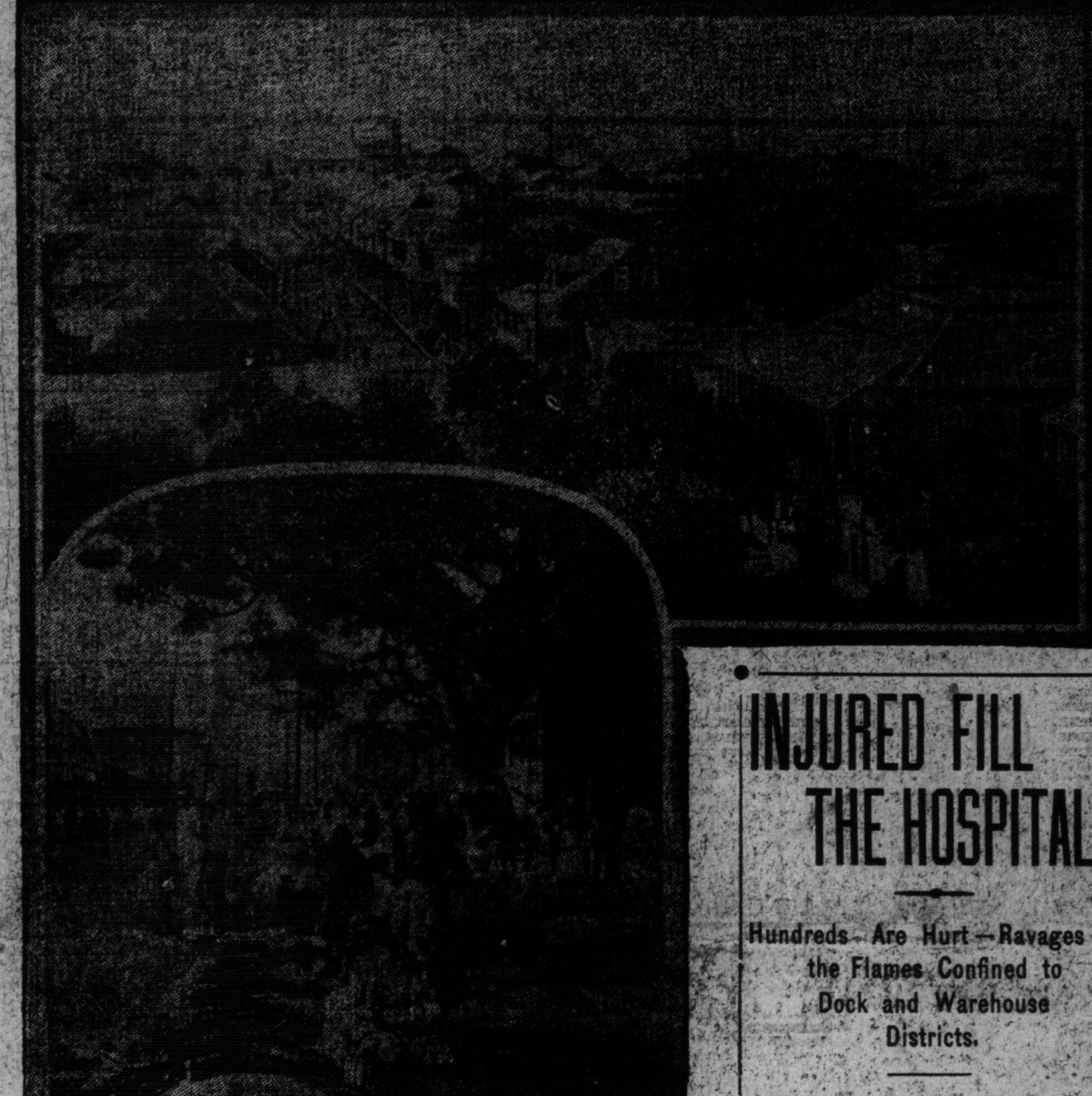
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General View of Kingston and the Harbor, and of the Market-place



NOTED BARONET
ONE OF THE DEAD

Career of Sir James Fergusson—Left London in December, But Reasons for His Presence in Jamaica Not Definitely Known.

London, Jan. 15.—Sir James Fergusson, who is reported killed at Kingston, Jamaica, left here for Jamaica the middle of December. He was expected to return the end of January. It is not known definitely what took him out to the West Indies, but he possibly was interested in one of the conferences.

Probable Cause of Earthquake Explains—Shocks Occurring Somewhere Nearly All the Time.

New York, Jan. 15.—Prof. J. Kemp, head of the department of geology at Columbia University, to-night discussing the disaster at Kingston, Jamaica, said:

"The earthquake was no doubt due to what is known in geology as a 'fault'—in this case at San Francisco. There is a great crack or fissure formed, one side of which slips from the other, either in a downward or a sideward direction. At San Francisco there was a slide to one side. The coast of Cuba from Santiago eastward is very abrupt and precipitous and gives an area of decided 'fault.' Probably the tidal wave which usually accompanies an earthquake shock has been the cause of the damage. This is more destructive to cities on the coast line than the shock itself. It is produced by a sudden shaking beneath the sea, which starts a great rolling upon the land.

"I do not know of any recent shocks that we would be justified in connecting with this one. The Samoan islands are too far away, and it is not likely that the recent disturbance there is identified with that at Kingston.

"We need not feel any anxiety in Kingston on account of earthquakes, because we have never had any important shocks, and we seem to be pretty safe. Earthquakes are occurring somewhere almost all the time. We would not have attached so much importance to the one recently at San Francisco had it not been for the 'tidal wave' which accompanied it.

Edward Morgan & Company, Chartered Accountants, 26 Wellington-street, Phone Main 1123.

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CAPITAL CITY OF LOVELY ISLE

Description of the City of Kingston, Jamaica, Principal Seaport and Commercial Place of the British West Indies.

NOT THE FIRST CATASTROPHE

Earthquake, Flame and Cyclone Have All Played Disastrous Parts in City's History—Buildings Easy to Crumble.

Kingston is the capital of the island of Jamaica and the principal seaport and commercial city of that island. It is situated on the south coast and on the north side of a fine harbor. The latter is a land-locked basin, available for the largest ships, and is enclosed on the south by a long tongue of land at the extremity of which is Port Royal. The population of Kingston is about 50,000.

The only volcanic formation on the island is that at the Low Leyton and Retreat estates in the Parish of Portland, a mile from the sea, in the County of Surrey, in which Kingston is situated.

In 1692 a great earthquake destroyed Port Royal, of whose 3000 houses only 200 remained standing. It was this catastrophe which led to the founding of Kingston.

In 1822 a severe conflagration visited Kingston, destroying property valued at \$2,500,000, and in 1843 another fire caused damage of about \$1,000,000.

In August, 1880, a cyclone destroyed nearly all the wharves in Kingston harbor and damaged shipping.

There was a double earthquake at Kingston on Dec. 7, 1889. A tremendous hurricane visited Jamaica in 1815. The island was deluged, hundreds of houses were washed away, vessels wrecked and about 100 persons drowned.

A Pretty Place.

Kingston is laid out with regular and wide streets, and the better class of houses are neatly built, with wide verandas and surrounded by hand-some gardens. Street cars run to the suburbs, and two lines of railway connect the city with the northern and eastern parts of the island.

Kingston has a botanical garden, library, museum, hospital and various other public buildings, and is the seat of an Anglican bishopric.

The harbor is considered to be one of the finest in the world, and is protected by forts. There is a naval arsenal at Port Royal. Nearly all the trades of Jamaica centre at Kingston. The exports are mainly sugar, rum, coffee, and cocoa. At the intersections of King and Queen-streets, a plaza or parade ground is situated.

FAIR AND COLD.

Metropolitan Office, Toronto, Jan. 15.—(8 p.m.)—Fair, cold, weather now prevalent in all portions of Canada; the temperature still remains decidedly low in the western provinces; it is also below zero in northern Ontario and over the Province of Quebec.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Fair and cold.
Ottawa Valley—Upper and Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Fine and decidedly cold.

Maritime—Decreasing, northerly to northwesterly winds; fine and decidedly cold. Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan—Fine and not quite so cold. Lake Superior—Fine and continued very cold.

THE BAROMETER.

Time	Bar.	Ther.	Wind.
8 a.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
10 a.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
12 p.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
2 p.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
4 p.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
6 p.m.	21	29.5	12 N.
8 p.m.	21	29.5	12 N.

DEAN RENTS TOBAGGANS. Tel. Park 439

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

Jan. 15	At	From
11 a.m.	St. John, N.B.	Liverpool
11 a.m.	New York	Rotterdam
11 a.m.	Nantucket	Boston
11 a.m.	St. John, N.B.	London
11 a.m.	Liverpool	St. John, N.B.
11 a.m.	St. John, N.B.	Bremen
11 a.m.	New York	Naples

IN MEMORIAM.

EAKIN—in loving memory of Isabella, beloved wife of W. J. Eakin, and daughter of James Ayles of Toronto. Died Jan. 16, 1904.

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