

# The Weekly Monitor

AND

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### Destruction By Flood and Fire

**Business Section of Pennsylvania Town of Three Thousand People Devastated by Breaking of Mill Dam.—Three Hundred Dead.—Two Million Dollars Worth of Lumber Destroyed.**

Austin, Penn., October 1.—Three hundred or more persons met their death through the bursting of a dam above this town yesterday. Fire followed and completed the work of destruction. The curtain of night, which was rung down on the flood, scarcely before its victims had all been claimed and its surviving spectators fully realized how great a tragedy the elements of water and fire had enacted in the natural amphitheatre of the Alleghany mountains here, was lifted by dawn today, revealing a ghastly scene of death and devastation.

Austin itself, yesterday a busy mill town of three thousand people, many of whom were enjoying a fine autumn afternoon as a Saturday half holiday, is only a ghost town today. Torn to pieces by water and eaten by fire, the wet and charred remnants of its buildings, believed to hold the remains of three hundred or more persons, were strewn along the valley's edges, piled in winnows where the main street business section was, or swept in scattered masses far down the ravine.

Spectators looked on nothing but ruins.

Spectators, many of whom barely escaped being victims of the disaster and hundreds of people from surrounding towns, looked down from the steep hillsides of Austin and Costello through a veil of fog this morning to see the wreckage here of some four hundred houses, a score of business blocks, three churches and several large lumber mills, and three miles further down the river at Costello, the ruins of more than fifty buildings. The flood did not spend its force until it raced for more than ten miles from the reservoir.

Wharton, still further on, suffered somewhat, but is practically intact.

The loss of life at Costello, where the residents had more warning, is believed to be but three.

The property loss in the valley is estimated at upwards of \$6,000,000.

In Austin, out of the hundreds directly enveloped in the deluge, hardly a dozen survived.

ONLY SIX INJURED AMONG ALL THE DEAD.

The furious flood let loose when the Bayless Paper and Pulp company's dam crumbled yesterday afternoon, picked up a huge battery of heavy timbers in the mill yards at the foot of the dam and with these thousands of planks and logs jammed its path with terrible havoc. At the hospital today there were but six injured, for the care of the small army of physicians and nurses who poured into the devastated town all day and night. The medical supplies remained unused in the cars rushed here by the Buffalo and Susquehanna and the Pennsylvania railroads, and the only use found for blankets and bedding was in the care

of the few recovered dead which, up to a late hour this afternoon numbered but fifteen.

**STATE CONSTABULARY HAVE TAKEN CHARGE OF SITUATION.**

The state constabulary arrived this afternoon and took charge of the situation, which seemed too appalling for the local committee which had worked all night.

During the night searching parties with engine head lights, auto lamps, pine torches, and improvised lanterns of every sort, poked their way into every pile of wreckage that was accessible seeking any who might be alive, but scarcely a body was found in which life has not expired.

**THE BUSINESS SECTION WAS COMPLETELY OBLITERATED.**

The immediate scene of the obliteration of Austin covers an area three-eighths of a mile wide, and one and three-quarter miles long. This comprised the business section and the valley residence portion. Nearly a mile above stood the mammoth concrete dam of the Bayless Paper and Pulp company, six hundred feet long, fifty-two feet high and thirty feet thick at the bottom, tapering to a thickness of three feet at the top. Back of this dam yesterday lay a reservoir of water a mile and a half long, and an average of thirty-five feet deep. Directly in front of the dam stood the plant of the Bayless company with four main buildings. Stacked high nearby was 700,000 cords of fifty-inch wood and slabs and also a portion of the company's immense timber stock, totalling in Austin 15,000,000 feet of hard wood and 25,000,000 of hemlock. This was a five year supply, practically the last large cut of the region valued at \$2,000,000.

**GIRL KILLED BY LIVE WIRE IN SYDNEY.**

Sydney, October 1.—The severe wind and rain storm which passed over this city last night caused much damage to shipping and property. During the gale the wires of the telegraph and electric companies were blown down and the city was in almost complete darkness for hours. One death occurred as the result of a person coming in contact with a live wire. The victim was a young lady named Mable McKay, who, while crossing Beacon street, was struck by an electric wire which had fallen during the storm, and was instantly killed. Her body was found terribly burned this morning. She was a native of Guysboro, and was in her twenty-third year.

**THANKSGIVING DAY**  
OCTOBER 30th.

Ottawa, Sept. 29.—An Order-in-Council has been passed proclaiming Monday, October 30th as a day of general thanksgiving throughout Canada for the providential blessings of the past year.

### Wilson, The Digby Murderer, to be Hanged Nov. 15th

George Wilson, Jr., a Gloucester fisherman, was murdered in cold blood at Digby on Thursday last. The killing is made all the more horrible from the fact that it was committed in the presence of a third party by the victim's own brother, Harry. The murdered man was one of the three hundred fishermen who came last week to southwest Nova Scotia to vote in the election. Wilson was stopping at his brother's house, it being there that the deed was committed. Wilson's trial took place in Little Brook on Tuesday, he was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged in Digby, Nov. 15th.

It appears there had been much drinking and the mind of the prisoner was a blank during most of the time.

The jury after being out a little more than half an hour, returned with the verdict of guilty. The judge thanked the jury and agreed with their verdict. The prisoner when asked if he had anything to say, replied, "Nothing."

The judge said: "I have very little to say at this time, but I hope that during the little time that I am going to give you, you will make preparation for the salvation of your soul and your peace with God. You are to be taken from here to Digby, where you will, according to the rules and regulations, on Wednesday morning, November 15th, between the hours of four and eleven o'clock, be hanged by the neck until you are dead, and may God have mercy on your soul." Judge Meagher showed great emotion when he pronounced the sentence.

The prisoner is thirty-one years of age and has a wife and two children. The murdered man was twenty-five years old the eleventh of this month.

### THE RASH LOVER.

Reggie, you're a fine young fellow, but you're bound to have your way, and you'll marry Arabella spite of all that I can say. Though advice from me is futile, since you're firm as any rock, though the things I say seem brutal, yet I've simply got to talk. Arabella is a daisy, smoothest girl I ever saw; but the neighbors say she's lazy, and she will not help her ma. She is stylish, she is classy, and her eyes are simply grand; but the people say she's sasey to her mother, understand? I have lived and loved and suffered, and I've found it is the law that no sane well-balanced duffer'd wed a girl who will sass her ma. She may have a thousand graces to adorn her fair young life, but you'll find she'll bust the traces when you get her for a wife. You had better hunt some other damsel in this country wide, for a girl who'll sass her ma will goid brick you as a bride.

### ROYAL BANK OF CANADA ABSORBS THE COLONIAL.

Takes Over Old Institution With Branches in the West Indies.

London, Sept. 24.—Negotiations have been completed for the absorption of the Colonial Bank by the Royal Bank of Canada. C. E. Neill, assistant general manager of the Royal Bank, is here in connection with this amalgamation which is very important not only to the Royal but to the West Indies and to Canada, for it will bring the Dominion and the Islands more closely into touch.

### YARMOUTH EXPRESS STRUCK TEAM AT LIVERPOOL.

A. W. Hendry, of the Driver Injured and the Team Demolished.

Liverpool, N.S., Oct. 2.—The express from Yarmouth this afternoon struck a team belonging to J. L. Baird, on the Bristol crossing, containing A. W. Hendry, of Hendry, Ltd., and the driver, Sandy McInnes, who were bound to Milton. The horse was hurled up by the cow-catcher to the boiler and then thrown on the opposite side, receiving fatal injuries. The carriage was caught by the engine and was completely demolished. Mr. Hendry was taken from the wreck with a severe scalp wound and his back injured. He is now resting comfortably.

### Turkish Admiral A Nova Scotian

"Rancy" Buckman, is a native of Hall's Harbour, Cornwallis—Has Some Much Experience.

A former Nova Scotian will direct the naval campaigns for the Turks. This is Ranceford D. Buckman, who a few years ago was known to all the workmen of Cramps' shipyards at Philadelphia as "Rancy."

"Rancy" Buckman, as he is still commonly known among shipbuilders and sailors, is now the rear-admiral of the Turkish navy, with the title of Pasha. In 1891 he left his home, after saying to his grandmother, "I am going away from home now to make a mark for myself in this world."

The greater part of his early training he got under his father, who was employed in a shipyard at Hall's Harbour, Cornwallis. His father was also a sailor and was lost at sea, leaving the now rear-admiral an orphan. He went to live with Mrs. John Buckman, his grandmother, at Emerson, Mass. When he was ten years of age he was forced to live on a farm with his grandmother.

He was the first captain of a Rockefeller whaling boat to navigate a boat from the Great Lakes to the seaboard. He was captain of a number of boats on the Atlantic and the South Seas between that time and the time he became superintendent of Cramps' shipyard. Among the positions were those with the Atlantic Mail Steamship Company, plying between America and China, the American India Company and several Australian companies.

While he still held the position of superintendent at Cramps, the Madeira, the largest battleship in the Turkish navy, was built, and he was commissioned to take her to Constantinople. On arriving there he was asked to remain for a short time to train the Ottoman's seamen in the use of the new guns, and before he knew it he was appointed captain of the Turkish navy.

A little later he was introduced to the Sultan "the sick man," and the Sultan was so taken with him that he offered him the vice admiralty. Before accepting this he asked time to think it over and came to the United States. While here he married Miss Rose Taylor, of San Francisco. After his acceptance of the vice-admiralty it was but a short time before he was promoted to the position of rear-admiral, and now he is the commander of the Turkish navy.

### THE BRITISH NAVY HAS GREAT TORPEDO.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—The British navy is equipped with a torpedo said to be effective at 10,000 yards or nearly three times the range of the most powerful projectiles now used in the United States navy, according to information brought back to Washington by a United States naval expert, who recently discussed developments in gunnery, torpedo craft and the relative methods of target practice in the British and American navies with some naval experts. The existence of this torpedo has been kept a secret and it was only by a mere "slip" by the British experts that it became known.

During the discussion with the British experts it is said that one of them inadvertently told the American naval expert that "our newest torpedo has a range of 10,000 yards."

### ONE VOTER 106 YEARS OLD; ANOTHER 102.

Halifax Herald:—Among those who voted for Borden and Crosby were Thomas Parker and Thomas Palmer, of Owl's Head. The former is probably the oldest voter in Canada and the latter comes in a good second. Mr. Parker was a centenarian when he voted in the previous federal election. Mr. Palmer attained that distinction since. Halifax County has doubtless the honor of having the two oldest voters in Canada, and John A. Gillis had the honor and pleasure of driving them to the polls to record their votes against reciprocity and for the new premier.

### CORRECT ELECTION RETURNS FOR KINGS COUNTY.

The earlier election statistics for this county were widely incorrect. The official returns on Declaration Day gave Mr. Foster a majority of 151 instead of 239 as at first stated, and shows a wide difference from the figures (350) sent from Kentville to the Halifax Herald, the night of the election.—Western Chronicle.

### War Strength of the Two Nations

Italy Has the Best Navy While Turkey Has the Largest Army.

London, Sept. 29.—Italy's standing army in 1910-1911 numbered approximately 225,000 men and 14,000 officers but a far greater number could be put in the field in case of necessity. The Italian navy consists in vessels commissioned, built or building, 15 battleships, 4 armored cruisers, 17 unarmored cruisers and gun vessels, 36 destroyers an equal number of first-class torpedo boats and 22 submarines. In the naval force there are approximately 31,000 men. Seamen for the fleet are recruited by conscription and all men following the sea-faring life of twenty years old must serve at sea for eighteen months or more. There are also naval training schools for boys. As a whole the Italian navy is generally ranked fifth among nations.

**TURKEY'S FIGHTING STRENGTH**

Navy lists show that Turkey has a fighting strength of nine coast defence ironclads, five protected cruisers, six torpedo vessels, one ganboat, twenty-two torpedo boat destroyers, twenty-seven torpedo boats and two submarines.

As compared with the greater nations this is a negligible quantity. There are 31,000 officers and men and 9,000 marines. English and American officers play an important part in Turkish naval affairs. The Ottoman army, as a result of the revolution, which resulted in victory for the Young Turks is now in process of re-organization. A military council has been called into existence and a great deal of modern equipment has been purchased.

The Empire is divided into seven army corps districts and there are two independent divisions at Medina and Tripoli respectively. The total fighting strength is close to a million men and by the existing recruiting laws all Mussulmen are liable to military service. Christians and certain sects have paid the exemption tax. The Hermand Arabs, although liable to service by law furnish few or no recruits, and many Kurds evade service. Much the best of the army is in European Turkey.

### Italy at War With Turkey

**Claims That Her Subjects at Tripoli Have Been Mis-treated by Turkish Authorities.— Italian Navy Patrolling Coast of Tripoli, Ready for Action.**

Rome, Sept. 29.—Italy has declared war on Turkey. The official announcement was made late this afternoon. It declared that the two countries were in a state of war beginning at half-past two o'clock on the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 29.

It is understood that the Ottoman government completely conceded Italy's economic claims but evaded a direct answer demanded by this government, which had set forth in its ultimatum that Turkey must say that she would not resist the proposed occupation of Tripoli and Cyrene.

Instead the Porte sent a conciliatory note, suggesting further delay. It was known that at the same time Turkey transmitted a note to the Powers, in which it is assumed that she represented herself as the injured party, and, by inference at least, sought their interference.

Malta, Oct. 2.—Word just received from Tripoli says that the Turks and Arabs are entrenching behind the city. Sixty thousand Arabs, said to be armed with Mausers, hold a strong position fifty miles behind the town in a country which is an excellent natural strong hold. An advance guard is stationed twenty miles from Tripoli. The Turkish Garrison have left the forts.

It is concluded that no mediation will be accepted by Italy until she has accomplished the military occupation of Tripoli. After that negotiations will be much easier, and are not unlikely to be successful, if Turkey will accept a money indemnity for allowing Italy to establish herself in Tripoli, as Great Britain did in Egypt.

Evidently Tripoli has not been bombarded, and is not likely to be, if the Turks do not oppose the Italian landing. The warlike operations are confined to a blockade and the capture on either side of a few small vessels. It is now admitted from the Turkish side that Prevesa, in European Turkey is not occupied. Italy's announcement that she has no intention to carry the war into European Turkey will do much to allay apprehension over the Balkan or other complications. Turkey's ministerial difficulties have not been solved but generally the situation looks more hopeful.

### FOX BREEDING IN P. E. ISLAND.

Robert Horne and wife, of Bloomfield, P. E. Island, who have been visiting the latter's brother, C. Edgar Smallman, at his home in Dartmouth, returned to their home on the island recently, after a pleasant visit here.

Mr. Horne is engaging in fox breeding, an industry which is assuming large proportions in Prince Edward Island. The expansion of the business is only limited by the supply of foxes. It is more profitable as a business than gold mining if conducted successfully.

If anybody has any spare black foxes to dispose of Prince Edward Island is the place to take them.

A fox breeder recently sold seven foxes for \$3,000. Mr. Horne himself paid \$3,000, the price of two automobiles, for one little black fox. If anybody went his way with a mate for this fox it is likely a sale could soon be arranged.

The foxes are kept in big enclosures with high wire fences surrounding them. Guards at the top keep the foxes from getting over the fences. The foxes would burrow their way out if ordinary fences were built, so the wire has to be run down about five feet beneath the surface.

To remove rust from steel articles rub them with kerosene oil and let them soak 24 hours. Make a paste of emery dust and kerosene and rub on to give a polish.

### THE MISSIONARY'S ENGLISH.

A sightseeing visitor recently went aboard a tramp steamer in the harbor. Noting that the deckhands were Chinese, she approached one of them and said: "You no speak English!" The Chinaman looked bored and answered nothing. The woman continued: "Me go your country soon. Me learn speak Chinese, teach little Chinese boy and girl. You savvy 'missionary'?"

The Chinaman looked at her a minute and answered: "Madam, if you are not more successful in mastering our language than you appear to have been with your own I fear that your attempt to enlighten our race will prove anything but satisfactory. Good afternoon."

The Chinaman sought the other side of the ship and the woman sought oblivion. She had been addressing a Yale graduate who was working his passage back to China.

### THREE HUNDRED KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Toulon, France, Sept. 25.—The battleship Liberte was torn apart and totally destroyed in an explosion of her magazines today. Three hundred officers and men were killed. The battleship Republic was badly damaged, and the battleships Democratic and Verite also suffered severely from the masses of twisted iron and armor plate that were hurled upon their decks.



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