

Holding the Fort.

Chinese Make a Stubborn Stand at Wei-Hai-Wei.

Safe Arrival of Two Belated Steamers.

More Bodies Recovered from the Wreck of the Elbe.

Emperor William's Monument to Cost 4,000,000 Marks.

The Prince of Wales Seeking a Husband for His Daughter—Seven Men Killed in a Colliery.

A FAILURE.
LONDON, Feb. 7.—The new Chinese loan has proved a failure.

COLLIERY CATASTROPHE.
LONDON, Feb. 7.—Seven men were killed by an explosion in the Limebury colliery, near Bristol, today.

EX-EMPRESS FREDERICK IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Ex-Empress Frederick arrived at Osborne today. She was cheered by the people upon her arrival.

4,000,000 MARKS FOR A STATUE.

BERLIN, Feb. 7.—The budget committee of the Reichstag today voted the second instalment of the fund for the Kaiser Wilhelm memorial—4,000,000 marks is the sum fixed as the maximum cost by the Reichstag.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Board of Trade returns for January show that during the month the imports decreased \$3,550,000, and the exports increased \$350,000, as compared with those for the corresponding month of last year.

HUSBAND-HUNTING.

ROME, Feb. 7.—The Giornale says the Prince of Wales will visit Rome in the spring in connection with a project to marry the Prince of Naples to one of his daughters. It is stated the Princess Maude of Wales is the lady destined to become the wife of the heir to the throne of Italy.

MISSIONARIES DRIVEN OUT OF CHINA.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—A correspondent in Shanghai says: "The missionaries of the Ho Chang, on the border between the provinces of Sang Tung and Kiang Su, are fleeing to the coast to escape the hostility of the natives. An American warship will meet them at Nagan Ting and take them aboard."

BELATED STEAMERS ARRIVE.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The steamer Princess May arrived at Stranraer at 11 o'clock today. Her passengers were unable to proceed farther, the railways being blocked with snow.

The Cunard steamer Cephalonia, from Boston, Jan. 26, for Liverpool, passed Brownhead this morning, two days behind. She signaled that she was in need of coal.

BODIES FROM THE ELBE.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The fishing smack Specular arrived at Lowestoft this morning bringing in the bodies of two of the Elbe's passengers. Coin and bank notes were found on their persons. They had gold rings and gold watches. Upon one body was a key stamped "Marvin Stamp Company," and another key "L. L. Bates & Co., Boston."

The body brought ashore yesterday, which is supposed to be that of Chief Steward Pechunder, is now believed to be that of Herr Hartman, the musical director of the Elbe.

LADY THOMPSON'S RELIEF.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Sir Wm. Harcourt replied in the House of Commons today to the inquiry of Mr. Johnstone as to whether any provision would be made by the Government for the relief of Lady Thompson and the junior members of the family of the late Sir John Thompson. He said there was every reason to believe that the people of Canada would make some provision for Lady Thompson and her children in recognition of the eminent services rendered by the deceased statesman had rendered to the Dominion.

NO NEWS OF THE GASCOGNE.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Standard's correspondent in Paris comments on the fears for the safety of the steamship La Gascogne: "Lieut. Deloncle succeeded Capt. Santolla in the command of La Gascogne on the eve of starting. Many friends of the passengers continue to inquire at the company's offices, and the negative information given there has done little to allay their fears. The company has issued a note to the press saying there is no reason to fear a disaster, and that presumably La Gascogne's machinery has broken down or she is detained by the weather."

While La Gascogne is nearly five days overdue, the White Star steamer Teutonic, which should have reached here on Wednesday morning, has not been heard from up to 10 o'clock tonight.

The Rhyndland, from Antwerp, is also overdue, all of which shows that the delay is general.

The Anchor Line steamer Circassia, from Glasgow, and the Prince Line steamer Black Prince, arrived this afternoon, each reporting stories of extremely violent gales and heavy seas during the latter part of the voyage.

IN THE COMMONS.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—In the House of Commons today Sir Edward Grey, Under Foreign Secretary, declined, pending the conclusion of the Armenian inquiry, to present to the House any consular report in regard to the trouble in Armenia. To do so, he said, would not tend to the advantage of the Armenians and might hinder the combined action of the powers. He denied the statement that the Porte had asked that the reports be not issued.

When Sir William Harcourt reappeared in the House he was congratulated by his Ministerial colleagues upon his recovery from the indisposition which kept him away yesterday. Sir William Harcourt announced that the Government would immediately

appoint a committee to inquire into the condition of the unemployed and seek means to mitigate their situation. The inquiry, he said, would extend to the provinces.

THE EASTERN WAR.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—A dispatch to the Globe says the Chinese fleet has shelled that part of Wei-Hai-Wei which is occupied by the Japanese. Three foreigners named Walpot, Schnell and Thomas are reported to have been killed or taken prisoners.

The native papers at Shanghai say that the Japanese general—Nodzu—was killed at Hai Cheng.

A dispatch from Shanghai reports that five Japanese war ships continue to bombard the island forts at Wei-Hai-Wei and the Pei Yang fleet of Chinese war ships which are lying in the harbor. The Japanese report that the task is much more difficult than they expected it would be, but they are confident that the forts will be taken within a few days, as their defenders will soon be starved out. It is expected the Japanese fleet will engage the Japanese ships or be destroyed by Admiral Ting to prevent the vessels from falling into the hands of the Japanese.

Soldiers arriving from Che Foo, H. I. to Feb. 3 the squadron maintained a heavy bombardment on the forts at Zhili and Eastern Liu Kung from outside the bay. The Chinese ships Ting Yuen and Lai Yuen, with their gunboats, assisted in the defense of the forts, keeping up the fight until dark each day. Latterly the firing from the Zhili fort has become greatly diminished. The principal Japanese squadron has been waiting outside the bay expecting the Chinese would make a sortie, but in this the Japanese were disappointed.

A Chinese prisoner states that Admiral Ting has ordered that although the defenses on the mainland fall, the fleet must remain inside the bay and defend the fort at Liu Kung to the last extremity.

The Japanese casualties during the three days of fighting at Wei-Hai-Wei are as follows: Second division, 120 killed and wounded; sixth division, Gen. Otera and 22 others killed and 93 wounded.

A dispatch from Kai Ping dated Feb. 6 says: "There is a great increase of Chinese forces in the vicinity of Yen Kow."

The Chinese ironclads, the Chen Yuen and Ting Yuen, reported to have been sunk, were the most powerful ships belonging to an Asiatic power. They were sisters. Each had a displacement of 7,430 tons, and 6,200 horse power. They had belted fourteen-inch steel armor, and heavily armored barbettes. The primary battery of each consisted of four 30 12 centimeter Krupp rifles, two 15 centimeter rifles, and four 6 inch guns. The Ting was launched in 1881; the Chen next year. They were 14 1/2 knot ships, with dimensions as follows: Length, 338 feet 5 inches; breadth, 20 feet; beam, 59 feet. Both vessels were engaged in the great battle at the mouth of the Yalu River early in the war, when so many Chinese war ships were sunk, but escaped with slight injuries.

The Central News' correspondent in Shanghai says: "The Ting Yuen and Chen Yuen were struck by the torpedoes in three fathoms of water."

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Completion of the Whiteway Cabinet—Meeting of the Legislature.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Feb. 7.—The Whiteway Cabinet crisis was ended tonight, and the new Ministry will be gazetted tomorrow. The Cabinet proper will be composed of: Sir William Whiteway, Premier and Attorney-General; Robert Bond, Colonial Secretary; Henry Woods, Surveyor-General; W. Harvey, Edward Morris and George Emerson, members without portfolios. P. J. Scott will be Receiver-General, and Eli Daws chairman of the Board of Works, without seats in the Cabinet.

The new Cabinet is the same as in the original Whiteway Ministry, which was dissolved last year, except that George Emerson succeeds James Fox. The Legislature will meet tomorrow, when the new Cabinet will probably declare its policy.

HIS FACE BLOWN OFF.

Terrible Accident to a Workman at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Feb. 7.—About 1 o'clock this afternoon a workman named Wm. Archer, who has been employed grading the T. H. and B. railway, was brought into this city by two fellow workmen and taken to St. Joseph's Hospital. Just about noon, while at work on a section of the road near Dundas, he was terribly injured by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge that was being placed for blasting purposes. The unfortunate man got the terrible charge in the face, which was so horribly injured that he could not be recognized. The injuries are not thought to be fatal, but there is very little hope of being able to save the sight of either eye. Archer belongs to this city, but is said to have no relatives here.

THE AYRSHIRE BREEDERS.

TORONTO, Feb. 7.—The eighth annual meeting of the Dominion Ayrshire Breeders' Association was held here today. Mr. Wm. Stewart, Menie, presiding. Secretary Wade presented the annual report, which referred to the increased demand for the Ayrshire breed was recognized. Mr. W. A. Ballyntyne, Stratford, was elected president, and Mr. H. E. Eyre, Harlow, vice-president for Ontario.

The following marriage license has been issued at Detroit: 17,532—Alexander Smith, 20, Bridget, Ont.; Maggie Fisher, 18, Chelsea.

Death came to Richard Isaac Smith, machinist, M. C. R. shops, St. Thomas, with terrible suddenness on Thursday morning. He was engaged in conversation with his mate, Richard Middleton, when blood spouted from his mouth and he fell backwards. John C. Smith caught him in his arms. Dr. McCrimmon was hastily summoned, but Mr. Smith died in two minutes. The deceased was born in London, England. He was in the 50th year of his age. He came here from Hamilton eleven years ago, and has since been employed in the M. C. R. shops. He leaves a wife, six sons and two daughters.

The Ice King Rules.

Fierce and Biting Blasts Sweep Two Continents.

Their Fatal Effects Fall on Sea and Land.

The Coast Line Strewed With Shattered Ships.

Railway Travel Impeded or Entirely Blocked by Drifted Snow—A Number of Casualties Reported—Sad Spectacles at Viareggio Haven.

ON THE OCEAN.

SOUTHAMPTON, Feb. 7.—The steamer Lahn, from New York, experienced easterly gales for five days, she was compelled to stop blindfold, hours by the violence of the weather.

THE SCHELDT FROZEN SOLID.

ANTWERP, Feb. 7.—The river Scheldt is frozen over with ice so solid as to enable people to cross on foot. Navigation is totally suspended above Antwerp.

THE MERSEY ICE-BLOCKED.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 7.—An ice flow from the upper Mersey has drifted down to the river's mouth, forming a mass half a mile long and several hundred yards wide. The ice has blocked access to the landing stage and compelled the stoppage of the ferries.

IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The thermometer in this city stood at five degrees above zero at 8 o'clock this morning. Both the North and East rivers were covered with ice, but the ferry slips were kept reasonably clear. The East River was especially frozen.

THE IMPRISONED BY ICE.

Canarsie, Barron Island and half a dozen fishing resorts in Jamaica Bay cannot be reached owing to a snow blockade on the railroads and the tempestuous weather on the water. It is feared some of the residents of the little settlements must be approaching the starvation point by this time, and it is said the supply of coal is limited.

DANGER LIGHTS DESTROYED.

SANDY HOOK, N. J., Feb. 7.—The electric buoy lights in Gedeny's Channel and the one on Southwest Spit have all been extinguished by the heavy floating ice. The lights are incandescent lamps of 100 candle power.

LOST IN A BLINDING STORM.

MILES CITY, Mont., Feb. 7.—Lee Parish, William Moore and Spencer Henry left here yesterday in a sleigh for a ranch several miles distant. They became lost in a blinding storm, and late in the afternoon Henry returned on foot. He thinks his companions were frozen to death.

A HERMIT FROZEN.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Feb. 7.—Edwin H. Brown, a hermit, was found today in a hut which he occupied in the woods. The body was frozen stiff.

THE VOYAGE OF DEATH.

VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass., Feb. 7.—The afterpart of a good-sized vessel covered with ice, with what appears to be the lifeless bodies of three men encased in ice and frozen to the top of the cabin, has drifted ashore on this island.

VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass., Feb. 7.—There is no doubt that the portion of wreck which drifted ashore at Lambert's Cove on the north side of this island last night is what there is left of the schooner T. P. Dickson, of Rockland, Me., Capt. Boswick, which vessel left New York on Feb. 3 for Rockland. The bodies of three men and a dog were on the top of the cabin. When found they were hanging down the cabin skylight, which was open. The log book was found floating about the cabin, which upon examination proved to be the log of the schooner T. P. Dickson. When the bodies were landed on the beach one of them was immediately identified as that of Capt. Joseph Boswick, Dickson, Capt. Wall also identified one of the bodies as that of Martin Lee, mate of the Dixon.

A PERILOUS PASSAGE.

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 7.—The Red Cross steamer San Domingo arrived at St. John's, N. S., yesterday from Halifax, and reports having encountered fearful weather. Her decks were swept and her wheel chain broke, and she went broadside to the sea and nearly capsized. She battled two days with the storm.

The steamer Alpha, from Bermuda, and Baracoa, from New York, are overdue, doubtless to the strong north-west gales of the three days past.

A dispatch says the steamer Cienfuegos, running between New York and Cuba, is ashore outside.

ECHOES OF THE BLAST.

The Union Pacific trains on the St. Joseph, Mo., division are snowbound. The heavy snow storm is prevailing now throughout Texas.

Boston harbor is completely frozen over—a rare occurrence.

At Evans Mills, ten miles north of Watertown, the spirit thermometer indicated 33 degrees below.

SCOTCH SNOW PLOWS SNOWBOUND.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The traffic of small vessels is greatly endangered by heavy ice packs at the mouth of the Thames. The railways in Scotland are still blocked by snow. Snow plows which have been sent out have themselves been embedded in snow, and men operating them have suffered severely from the intense cold.

SEAMEN IN SAD FLIGHT.

CHATHAM, Mass., Feb. 7.—The schooner William Smith, from St. Johns with a cargo of lumber for New York, came from seaward with distress signals flying. She was covered with ice, and her crew were blown from the boat. The crew were exhausted and frostbitten. Those on board had almost given themselves up for lost. The life savers took charge of the schooner, clearing off the ice and fixing the sails.

SNOW BLOCKADE IN IRELAND.

CORK, Feb. 7.—Snow has fallen for

fifteen hours in Southwestern Ireland. Several trains are embedded in drifts, and no railway in the region is operating regularly. Communication with Killarney, Tralee, Mallow and Bantry has been suspended.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

The South Perth Election Trial Virtually Ended.

BOWELL KEEPS QUIET.

TORONTO, Feb. 7.—The Prime Minister and several members of his Cabinet were present at a meeting held tonight in the club rooms of the Young Conservatives. President Newsome presided. Sir Mackenzie Bowell spoke briefly, and refrained from discussing political questions, his voice being weak. Sir Hilbert Tupper talked for two hours, touching on the Manitoba school question. The Minister of Justice said the Government would treat the question as a judicial and not as a political matter, until the time came for it to come into the political arena. They would then face the political responsibility which this would impose on them.

Hon. J. C. Patterson said the Government might at an early date need the assistance in the country of some of the speakers of the Young Conservative Club. This was the only remark at all indicative of a general election.

THE SOUTH PERTH CASE.

STRATFORD, Feb. 7.—The South Perth election trial was resumed here this afternoon before Mr. Justice Burton and Mr. Justice Osler. The bulk of the evidence was directed towards proving the agency of Jas. Dougherty, of Mitchell, who had hired a rig for the election day in the interest of Mr. McNeill. Thirty witnesses were examined without further corrupt practices being established than one, proved against Dougherty at Mitchell last week. After argument by counsel, the judges announced that although the question whether Dougherty was an agent for McNeill was reserved by them for argument, the evidence had not shown corrupt practices sufficient in their judgment to void the election. The question of agency would only affect a small portion of the costs. They set down the 16th inst., at Osoyoos, B. C. to hear argument on the reserved point.

ELECTIONS NOT FIXED.

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.—The Citizen today says that no date has yet been fixed for the general elections. Nothing definite will be done in the matter until the Ministers have returned to the city. Sir Adolphe Caron and Hon. George Foster have returned to the city. Hon. J. A. Oulmet has gone to Montreal.

NOTES.

Sir A. P. Caron has been asked to oppose Dr. Guay in Loup, giving up his present seat in Rimouski.

TWO SIDES TO A STORY.

The Company Has Something to Say About the Elbe Disaster.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Pending the official inquiry into the collision and sinking of the Elbe, neither the company nor its agents can make reply to the sensational stories and charges printed, further than to point to the enclosed copy of a cable repeating the utterances of prominent English journalists they bespeak the same leading position accorded the stories referred to.

(Cable from Messrs. Keller, Wallis & Co., agents for the North German Lloyd.)

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Rescued passengers of the Elbe arriving in the Umbria may repeat sensational statements made in English press. Please note they made no statements or complaints when before the American consul-general, and the following is extracted from the Liverpool Shipping Telegraph: "Our London correspondent, in reference to the allegations against the Elbe's crew, telegraphed last night: After reading the reports I am satisfied that the correct account has been made public. From a knowledge of the Elbe's decks, I am prepared to risk the assertion that the crew of the rescue boat did not behave improperly, the newspapers forgetting the deck house between the port and starboard sides, and the relative positions of the boat and deck during a heavy sea."

The boats probably required ten hands to manage her. The officers in charge very likely belonged to that part of the boat. I should say the boat when in the water was nearly level with the promenade deck, and was shoved off to avoid swamping by the sinking ship. Bearing in mind that the rescued boat was on the listed side and that the other seemed to show no sign of list at the time of the shoving off there was no one else at hand to take into her. Hoffman and Vevera, I fancy, will turn out sensation mongers who have been turned by public attention into the boat and pulled her into the boat is incredible and indicates general exaggeration (shown by the fact that the facts now elicited that the true officer, purser's assistant and Steward Kobe drew the woman into the boat). The following verbatim extracts from the leading papers in Liverpool speak for themselves:

"Passengers' stories must always be received with even more than the proverbial grain of salt, and the stories going the rounds of the press with respect to the behavior of the crew on board the Elbe in that terrible moment do not seem worthy of credence. The North German Lloyd has been practically found to blame by some journals for the irreparable loss of life and limb under the excitement naturally born of a great disaster, and eked out by other details which are on the face of them conflicting."

The same papers publish a letter signed by British ship owners strongly urging a suspension of judgment in the face of the conflicting statements, and pointing out that the mouths of the crews and owners are closed pending the official inquiry.

TWO CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.

CONCORD, N. H., Feb. 7.—At Andover Center yesterday afternoon, two little girls, children of Frank G. Boyd, a brakeman on the Northern Railroad, were burned to death in their home. Mrs. Boyd went out, leaving the children alone. When the mother returned after an absence of less than half an hour, she found the elder child dead and the other so badly burned that she died in two hours. It is supposed the children's clothing took fire from a coal stove. The older child was 3 years old and the younger one 1 1/2 years.

KINGSMILL'S

The bargains to be had in Staple Cotton goods just now are extraordinary. The most reliable goods have dropped and dropped, and hurrying, hard times prices. Not one line, but many. Factory Cottons, Bleached Cottons, Gray and Bleached Sheetings, Pillow Cottons and Cotton Towels.

When we say we are selling the cheapest Cottons in Canada we keep our promise, and no great trick to do it. We buy direct from the mills in largest quantities. Our Staple Department pays no rent. You pay no extra bonus for prize sales or fine furniture. You meet with straight legitimate merchandising, and this month we get no profit on Cottons. Be economical and buy your supply now.

Never within our recollection of 26 years of drygoods business in this city have cotton manufactures been at such little prices as now; never before such values; never before such high standards of qualities. COME — EXAMINE—COMPARE.

It is with the confidence of being able to save you something that we talk of Cottons. All bleached Cottons fell in price 10 per cent within the past two weeks. We bought at the lowest mark, so can sell you on the same conditions. KINGSMILL'S are always the cheapest.

It is not often you can get an extra heavy 72-inch bleached twilled Sheet- ing at 20 cents. We have it. We can sell you an 8 x 4 plain Sheet- ing, free from dressing, at 18 cents, and a 42-inch heavy Pillow Cotton at 12 cents; a good pair of Cotton Towels at 25c. Have you seen these?—If not, why not? It is no trouble to show you.

COMING AND GOING — All pleased seemed today to be the way of our Cotton customers. Whatever and wherever they looked at or looked to was attractive. Have you examined the values we offer? Our Factory at 5c was never equalled; our prints at 75c the dress cannot be had elsewhere. Feel our 8c Cotton, bleached.

Within the last week we have opened out and passed into stock nearly 20,000 yards of English and American Prints, Chambrays, Zephyrs, Drills, Ducks and Satins, bought for the spring trade, especially to meet the known wants of this community. All that fashion favors is here for your choice.

Just from the makers—COTTON UNDERWEAR for ladies, Corset Covers, Night Dresses, Chemises and Drawers—for this month at manufacturers' prices. We would ask you especially to visit our Basement; here can be had everything to your liking. If not in stock anything can be made to your order as cheap as ready-made garments. Come and see.

All Wool and Cotton are opposites, but just now we want you to think of both at once. Have you felt the quality of our 40-inch all-wool French DRESS GOODS in cardinals, black, pink, cream, navy, blue and brown at 20c? The cheapest goods we ever sold.

Agents For Butterick's Patterns and Publications. They are the best in the world — Any pattern or book not in stock can be procured to order without extra charge.

KINGSMILL'S Dundas and Carling Streets.

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are returned to their
owners by a 15-word
ad in the Advertiser.
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