

WORSE AND WORSE.

The Circumstances Connected with the Panama Canal as Testified to by Witnesses.

A Dirty Business—How the Sums of Money Expended are Being Traced.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The principal witnesses examined by the Panama Canal commission to-day were M. Rouvier, who yesterday resigned the portfolio of Finance, M. Constans, a former Minister of the Interior, and M. George Clemenceau, the well-known Radical deputy. M. Rouvier, on being questioned in regard to his relations with Baron de Reinach, replied that when he visited the Reinach residence the Baron appeared to be greatly agitated, that he asked the Baron if he had committed any criminal offence or bribed any senator or deputy, and that the Baron replied: "No, I have realized some profits, which I have shared with certain friends." M. Rouvier, continuing, said that he could not explain why Reinach had hoped that M. Herz would have the paper attacks upon him stopped. He (M. Rouvier) had not been aware that Reinach was to be prosecuted; his impression had been that the Baron was to be summoned only as a witness. M. Rouvier added that he had been assured by Reinach's son-in-law that the Baron had not committed suicide.

Mr. Clemenceau being called to the stand said M. Rouvier had asked him to see M. Herz on account of the desperate state of mind into which Reinach had been driven by the charges brought against him by the newspapers. The witness did not know why Reinach had applied to M. Herz to have the press attacks stopped. When witness and Baron Reinach left the house of M. Constans, the last named gentleman having denied that he instigated the paper agitation the Baron said, "I am lost." Clemenceau added that M. Herz was a shareholder in La Estime in 1884-85 to the amount of 700,000 francs, and that he himself had had frequent relations with Reinach who he believed to be connected with the Panama Canal company only in the capacity of broker.

When M. Constans was called he declined to be sworn, but testified on his honor that he had told Reinach that he had nothing to do with the newspaper agitation. He had never seen M. Herz, he said.

George Duval, the acting editor of La Libre Parole, who had been summoned to testify, has written a disrespectful letter in which he refuses to appear before the committee, and declares that M. Drumont, editor of La Libre Parole was to be liberated from prison. The seals were removed from the house of the late Baron Reinach to-day and all the documents belonging to him were taken possession of by Government officials and afterward handed to the committee investigating the scandal.

M. Thierre, the coulisier, who testified two weeks ago that his firm had received from Baron Reinach on July 17, 1888, a cheque for 3,390,475 francs drawn on the Bank of France, and that the firm had handed back 28 cheques for the same amount, payable to bearer, amounting altogether to 3,390,475 francs, was recalled to-day to give further evidence.

M. Thierre admitted that he burned the notes or counterfoils of the cheques referred to. They bore certain notes, he said, upon which the charges of bribery may have been founded. He suggested that the committee, and that every provision was made for comfort and convenience while in the city. There were splendid receptions and banquets gotten up in our honor by the municipal, state and national authorities, and on the part of the committee nothing but the most charming courtesy. The session lasted five days. All the papers were translated into both languages, and the interpreters made the extempore remarks understood.

It was a most successful and entertaining meeting. Various sanitary subjects were discussed, but an added interest was given to the discussion of the latter part of the session by the presentation of the threatened invasion of the cholera. On the subject of uniform quarantine regulations the opinions prevailed that in times of great danger the power to establish national quarantines, but in this country that power resides in each state, and each state can make its own regulations. However, some plan will, sooner or later, be devised for the establishment of uniform quarantine regulations on this continent. The next meeting of the association will be held in Chicago, as everything else is going there next year. It is a delightful prospect to come from the barren, cold, and bleak mountains of the South into this green and fertile region. I hope I shall be able to make another visit out here in the summer, when I shall have more time to spend in enjoyment."

THE GREATEST ATHLETIC EVENT.

Proposed International College Boat Race on the Occasion of the World's Fair.

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Property Belonging to Lieutenant-Governor Schultz Sold for City Taxes.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 13.—(Special.)—At last night's meeting of the city council Mayor McDonald was voted a cheque for \$1,200 for his services. The mayor will devote the amount to charity.

At a recent city tax sale the Potter house and several other properties belonging to Lieutenant-Governor Schultz were sold for taxes, under protest, however, from the owner on the ground of illegal assessment. Yesterday a bill was introduced by Mr. Honor to set aside the sale of his properties.

Joseph Lemaux, ex-M.P.P. for St. Norbert, is dead, aged 63.

Since the closing of lake navigation and the steady increase of visible supplies the prices at provincial points for wheat have fallen a few cents.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Justice Bain delivered judgment this morning in the case of the Winnipeg Street Railway vs. the Winnipeg Electric Street Railway Co., now celebrated case. The Street Railway Company protested against the granting by the city of rights to the Electric Company, claiming that their charter had not to run a number of years. An injunction to restrain the Electric Company from

running cars was applied for and has been before the courts for some time. A decision was given to-day, Justice Bain refusing to grant the injunction. The case will probably be appealed by the horse car company to the highest tribunal in the empire.

Arthur Randall, who stabbed the Vaughan Brothers near Melita on Sunday has been acquitted. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of self-defence.

George White and Clem Austin have signed to fight eight rounds, Marquis of Queensberry rules, for \$100 a side and the gate receipts, on 23rd December, in Calgary.

The preliminary objections to the Brandon election case were dismissed by the courts to-day.

It is announced that Rev. Principal Clarke, of the Battledore Industrial School, will take a number of the more advanced Indian pupils of the Battledore school to the World's Fair.

QUEBEC POLITICS.

Premier De Boncherville Tenders His Resignation—Hon. Mr. Tupper Sent For—Likely to Accept.

QUEBEC, Dec. 14 (Special).—Premier De Boncherville had an interview with Lieutenant-Governor Chapleau to-day, during which he declared his intention of resigning. The Lieutenant-Governor expressed his surprise and regret that Mr. Tupper to Quebec. That gentleman is expected to arrive here to-night, and is generally expected that he will accept the Provincial Premiership, but should he refuse, his duty will be to resign the cabinet, will be offered the position.

AMERICAN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

Return of a Canadian Delegate to the Annual Convention in Mexico.

Necessity of Uniform Quarantine Systems Strongly Felt—A Profitable Session.

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—Dr. E. V. La Chapelle, of Montreal, is here. He is president of the Board of Health for the Province of Quebec, of which he was a prominent member during the smallpox epidemic of 1886. He has considerable influence in French-Canadian circles, and among the Liberals took a prominent part in politics. He is returning from the annual meeting of the American Health association at the City of Mexico, November 28. "I went down by way of New Orleans," he said, "and observed the peculiar sanitary system of that city, and on my return I thought I would inspect those of San Francisco and other Pacific coast cities. I had been in Mexico before, but this is my first visit to the Pacific coast. Our meeting was quite an event in the city. It was the first international gathering ever held in that city, and our reception was most cordial. There were, perhaps, 300 delegates present from every state and province in three countries, as also many health officers and sanitary specialists from the larger cities. The delegates were met on every train at half a day's journey from the city by reception committees, who received us with the most cordial hospitality. They made it their business to see that each visitor was well cared for at the various hotels, and that every provision was made for comfort and convenience while in the city. There were splendid receptions and banquets gotten up in our honor by the municipal, state and national authorities, and on the part of the committee nothing but the most charming courtesy. The session lasted five days. All the papers were translated into both languages, and the interpreters made the extempore remarks understood."

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DE LEVRON'S OFFENDING.

Lay not in His Hostility to British Sealers, but in His Neglect to Capture More.

It was for This That His Commission was Revoked—The American Catch.

The San Francisco correspondent of the Fur Trade Review (New York) prints the following in the December issue of that well known trade magazine:

"That was quite a sensational story which was brought out at Victoria to the effect that Captain De Levron, of the cruiser Zablacka, the vessel which made nearly all of the seizures on the Russian coast this year, had been declared insane and relieved of his commission. It was interpreted by some of the Victoria seeling men as an effort on Russia's part to shift the responsibility for the captain's actions and as a clear evidence of 'backdown.'"

"They are in great hopes of receiving compensation from Russia for the seizures made, but it will not be long before they realize that there is no such good luck in store for them."

"In the first place, Captain De Levron is not insane (as his arrival here a few days ago fully established) and he was not removed on account of having made too many seizures, but for the reason that he neglected his duty in not having captured more of the illegitimate hunters."

"It was proven against him that on two distinct occasions he ran into harbor once for ten days, and again for fifteen days, during the height of the sealing season when the 'poachers' were as thick as bees on the forbidden grounds."

"This offense has been considered so great in the eyes of the Russian Government that De Levron's commission has been permanently revoked, and he will never again be given command of any vessel sailing under the Russian flag. The captain arrived in this city on the steamer City of Peking from Japan, and will go direct to St. Petersburg."

The same correspondent also gives the catch of the American sealing fleet for 1892 as follows: City of San Diego, 588; Louis G. Olsen, 1,342; Star Sparks, 457; E. E. Webster, 2,172; Active, 41; Ivanhoe, 1,287; C. G. White, 988; Sophie Sutherland, 1,039; Matter, 1,187; L. L. L. 500; Bowhead, 1,813; Emma Louise, 1,009; Henry Dennis, 1,900; Kate and Annie, 1,232; La Nina, 541; Willard Ainsworth, 880; Anaconda, 550; Unadmitted, 328; De la Motte, 1,212; Maria III, 150; Anaconda, 700; Geo. White, 60; C. H. White, seized; Casco, 1; San Diego, 2,067. Total, 23,695.

AMERICAN NEWS.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 13.—Samuel C. Herrin, chairman of the State committee of Populists, was arrested here to-day for embezzlement and taken to Lewis County. He collected a note for a client, Mrs. Gertrude De Neely, and departed with the money. It is said Lewis lost \$4,000 at faro during the past six months, and the money belonged to the Populist State committee.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 13.—There was a daring attempt to rob a train on the Chesapeake and Ohio last night. Two masked robbers entered the car at the depot and endeavored to hold up the passengers. The train was stopped, and the money was shot dead. The robbers fled from the train without booty and were followed by a posse, but escaped. The officers are securing the country.

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—Mrs. Besant, the most widely discussed woman in England as a philanthropist, socialist and high priestess of theosophy, will deliver lectures in India's mystery, giving two lectures here in a short time, when the sunlight of her soul will break through clouds of world consciousness. She has crossed the ocean on the steamer "The Pacific," and will find many worshippers at theosophy's shrine.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—The United States steam cruiser Ranger has been commissioned by the authorities at Washington to proceed to Samoa to look after the interests of American citizens on the island, pending settlement of the present difficulties among the natives. Captain Longnecker will be in command. The Ranger has recently been undergoing repairs at Mare Island. On the 24th inst., the Ranger will go to San Diego on a trip to test whether the island is healthy or not, and return about January 1st, and if she works well she will proceed at once to the islands.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13.—James G. Blaine, jr., said to-night to a reporter of the United Press that his father was improving and progressing nicely, and that they had no apprehensions as to the final outcome of his indisposition.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—The Cincinnati Presbytery in secret session voted late yesterday afternoon upon the second and third charges against Prof. Henry P. Smith, of Lane theological seminary. He was found guilty of both charges which pertain to his views on inspiration. The committee appointed to report the penalty to be visited upon him submitted two reports this afternoon. The majority recommended rebuke and the minority suspension. The Presbytery suspended Mr. Smith from the ministry.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The will of Jay Gould was filed this afternoon in the County Clerk's office. The exact amount of the property mentioned in the will is \$72,000,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The Commercial Advertiser says: "It was Jay Gould's intention at one time to found a training school which was to be the first step in a university career. It is declared that he intended to appropriate \$1,000,000 in trust for the purpose and the school was to be open for all. The Advertiser does not undertake an explanation as to why there is no mention of such a gift in the will, but believes a codicil with such a provision was attached to the original will. A number of other bequests are mentioned in the will, but Mr. Halford may be improved in health before President Cleveland appoints a Democrat as minister."

An empty sow which was tied to the wharf and foot of Johnson street has filled with water and is now almost totally submerged.

CABLE CORRESPONDENCE.

Uncertain Prospects of the Home Rule Bill—A Disquieting Manifesto Appears.

Prince Ferdinand's Increasing Responsibilities—The Queen's Movements—Faster Arrivals in England.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Union Conservative association held its annual meeting in Sheffield to-day. The conference adopted a resolution declaring in favor of the return to Parliament of the candidates of the Labor party. Considerable interest was manifested as to the course the conference will pursue regarding the question of protection. A motion was discussed that the conference confirm the resolutions adopted at the last conference, which declared in favor of the restriction of the arrival of pauper aliens and preferential fiscal arrangements between England and the colonies.

The report that King Charles of Roumania will abdicate shortly in favor of Crown Prince Ferdinand is reiterated with great positiveness. The King is said to have decided to renounce the throne immediately after the marriage of the Crown Prince with Princess Marie of Edinburgh. He was moved to the decision by the unpopularity of his wife, Queen Elizabeth, and his ministers by his unstable attitude at a time when Queen Isabel was trying to marry Prince Ferdinand to Mlle. Vasconcelos. A definite reason was found in the incurable illness of the Queen.

The general debate on the German military bill continued in the Reichstag to-day. The minister of war spoke strongly in favor of the bill. The Nationalists, opposed the bill, and said it could not be passed unless altered. August Bebel, the Social-Democratic leader, denounced the bill from beginning to end.

Queen Victoria is to leave Windsor Castle next Friday for Osborne and, according to present arrangements, the court will remain on the Isle of Wight about nine weeks. There is not the slightest chance of the Queen opening Parliament in person.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, who are to return to Marlborough Wednesday afternoon from visiting the King at Windsor Castle, will proceed to Sandringham next week, and will reside there until after the anniversary of the death of the Duke of Clarence, leaving Chelsea about January 19. After a visit to Windsor for memorial service to the Duke of Clarence, and to Osborne, where they will be guests of the Queen for a few days, they will go abroad. According to present arrangements the Prince and Princess are to join the Royal yacht Osborne at Marseilles and will cruise in her along the coast of Italy and very possibly visit Corsica, Sicily and Corfu, their ultimate destination being Athens, where the Princess and her daughter will stay some weeks with the King and Queen of the Hellenes. The Prince and Princess of Wales will probably remain in the south of Europe until the end of March.

There is a rumor in London, but little to chronicle respecting the sayings and doings of the Irish Nationalists. The Parliament is jubilant over the result of the recent election, and if the East Clare election falls, their triumph will be complete, but gloom has settled down upon their rivals and in the league meetings of the party last week the greatest depression prevailed. Until Saturday the more sanguine members still affected to believe that the Home Rule bill was safe, and John Morley's speech at Newcastle gave them much needed encouragement for the moment, but Sir Edward Reed's manifesto fell like a bolt from above, and for the present, at all events, the belief obtained that the prospect is exceedingly gloomy. Such a result has been the language heard at their meetings during the last two days. They may be right, too, although limited action may still accomplish great things. The Parliament's position makes it impossible to accept any home rule on the lines indicated by the Cardiff letter, and if that letter be not a mere trick the introduction of any bill which goes further than that measure will wreck the government. The more conservative members of parliament, however, think that the Cardiff letter was not intended to mean what it purports to mean and that the Parliament would hardly dare carry their fight to the length of wrecking the hopes of Ireland. At any rate it is hard to see how Mr. Gladstone can avoid keeping his promises to the Irish party, and as yet he has shown no disposition to avoid keeping them.

When passing through Berlin the other day, on his way from Vaux to Friedrichsruhe, Prince Bismarck again lamented the loss he had suffered in the death of his fidus Achates, Lothar Bucher, who had served him as private secretary and literary penman for so many years. At the time of his decease he had something to say about the character of the man who drew up the Imperial German constitution in a few hours, and he was Bucher also who, in July, secretly wrote Count Bernstorff, Prussian ambassador in London, sending a copy of the famous Bismarckian letter to the Kaiser, in which he urged the Emperor to pass it on to the British constitution by cable.

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FROM THE NORTH.

What the U. S. S. "Adams" and the "Bear" Accomplished—Interesting Experiences.

More About the "Helen Mar"—Crushed in the Ice—But Few Survivors.

PORT TOWNSEND, Dec. 14.—A correspondent sends the following from the far North: U.S.S. Adams and Bear left the Behring Sea December 1 bound for San Francisco, after nearly seven months of hard, diligent services in the protection of seal life in Behring Sea and the maintenance of the rights of our government as set forth in "The American Case." The Adams steamed this season over 13,000 miles, which is more than is ordinarily done in a three years' cruise, while the Bear will have proceeded as far north and east in the Arctic Ocean as Point Barrow, which she provisioned; transported over 300 reindeer from Siberia to Alaska, near Port Clarence; saved one or two whalers from wreck; assisted a number of others; towed an abandoned schooner over 600 miles to secure anchorage near St. Michael's; rescued from starvation the men left by the sealing schooner Mattie Dyer on St. Matthew's island; carried Rev. Sheldon Jackson thousands of miles in the performance of his duties as Government Commissioner of Schools, also as collector of the exhibits from Alaska for the World's Columbian Exposition; as well as for the mission museum at Sitka.

Further news from the Helen Mar has reached here. The survivor states that when the Mar was crushed in the ice, he, with the captain, carpenter, and eight others, floated off from the wreck on the cabin house. The captain and several others perished from exposure. The survivor and the carpenter launched a dingy from the top house and pulled away in search of assistance. The carpenter became insane and was very violent, yelling and thrashing about the boat, which during the struggle upset. The carpenter was drowned, while the other man climbed on to the bottom of the boat, from which he was rescued by the whaling ketch Jesse Freeman, whose officers had been first attracted to the overturned boat by the cries of the delirious carpenter. The survivor will probably lose both feet as a result of their being frozen. He does not know the names of the men left on the house, but thinks they must have all perished.

COLLIERY DISASTER.

Many Lives Lost in a Lancashire Colliery by a Terrible Explosion.

Hopes That There are Yet Numerous Survivors, Though Hemmed in by Fire.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—There was an explosion to-day at Bain Furlong colliery, Wigan, Lancashire, and not far from lives were lost. The men went to work as usual this morning, and after the colliery had been inspected in the usual way, they were not at work long when a terrible explosion shook the earth to a great distance and a great cloud of smoke shot up through the shaft into the air. A multitude of people rushed towards the mine and the greatest excitement prevailed. It was soon ascertained that a large number of the men had perished, and wailing and weeping women and children made an indescribable scene. Steps were immediately taken to ascertain the full extent of the disaster, and a crowd of volunteers promptly offered to explore the mine. It is believed that the explosion was caused by an accumulation of coal gas, which had escaped the notice of the officers charged with the inspection of the mines.