

THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONT., SATURDAY, MAY 10.

TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE BY ST. PIERRE DISASTER!

Forty Thousand Persons Reported to Have Perished by the
Eruption of Mont Pelee.

Flow of Molten Lava Lasted
Four Days

And Had a Sweep of Over
Four Miles.

Death-Dealing Storm of Steam
and Fire Descends.

Rescuers Unable to Approach the
Place—Eighteen Vessels Sunk With
All on Board—Disaster Unpar-
alleled Since the Days of
Pompeii.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., May 9.—It is
now estimated that forty thousand
persons perished as a result of the
volcanic eruption in the island of
Martinique.

The British schooner Ocean Traveler,
of St. John, N. B., arrived at the
island of Dominica, B. W. I., at 3
o'clock this afternoon. She reported
having been obliged to flee from the
island of St. Vincent, B. W. I., May 7,
owing to a heavy fall of sand from
a volcano, which was in eruption
there. She tried to reach the island of
St. Lucia, B. W. I., but adverse cur-
rents prevented her from so doing.

BEGINNING OF THE CATASTRO-
PHE.

The schooner arrived opposite St.
Pierre, Martinique, May 8. While
about a mile off shore the volcano
Mont Pelee exploded, and fire from
it swept the whole town of St. Pierre,
destroying the town and the shipping
there, including the cable ship Grap-
pler, which was engaged in repair-
ing the cable near the Guerin factory.
The Ocean Traveler, while on her way
to Dominica encountered a quantity
of wreckage.

OVER 40,000 PERISHED.
San Juan de Porto Rico, May 9.—
The cable officials here have received
advice from San Dominica, that the
schooner which has arrived there
reports that over 40,000 people are sup-
posed to have perished during the
volcanic disturbance in Martinique.
The cable repair steamer Grappler,
belonging to the West India and Pan-
ama Company of London, was lost
with all hands, during the eruption of
Mont Pelee. The Grappler was one of
the first ships to disappear.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.
London, May 9.—The colonial office
here has received a dispatch from Sir
Robert Leavelle, governor of the
Windward Islands, dated Kingston,
St. Vincent, yesterday, in which the
governor says that the Soufriere vol-
cano, in the northwestern part of the
island of St. Vincent, continued in
activity. Earth shocks had occur-
red for a week past, but not actually in
Kingston. On Wednesday a big cloud
of steam hung over the Soufriere, and
the inhabitants, who were greatly
alarmed, were flocking to Chateau
Belair. There were already 300 re-
fugees there who were being fed by the
authorities.

STORM OF STEAM, MUD AND FIRE
Washington, D. C., May 9.—The fol-
lowing cablegram has been re-
ceived at the state department:
"Point a Pitre, May 9, 1902.—Secre-
tary of State, Washington: At seven
o'clock a.m. on the 4th inst., a storm
of steam, mud and fire enveloped the
city and community. Not more than
twenty persons escaped with their
lives. Eighteen vessels were burned
and sunk with all on board, includ-
ing four American vessels and a steamer
from Quebec, named Roraima. The
United States consul and family are
reported among the victims. A war ves-
sel has come to Guadeloupe for pro-
visions, and will leave at five tomorrow.
—(Signed) Ayme, consul."

The state department has received
dispatches from commercial houses in
New York asking that a warship be
sent at once to Martinique to af-
ford relief. The matter is under con-
sideration.

BEYOND HELP.
Paris, May 9.—M. Bouguenot, a
sugar planter of the Isle of Martinique,
received a cable dispatch this morning
from Fort de France, sent by the man-
ager of the Francals factory, announc-
ing that he had tried to reach St.
Pierre, but found the coast covered
with ashes and the town enveloped in
dust, and could not land.
The colonial minister, M. Decrais, re-
ceived at 6 o'clock this evening two
cablegrams from the secretary-general
of the government at Martinique, J.

E. G. L'Huere, sent respectively at 5
p.m. and 10:30 p.m. yesterday. The
earlier cable reported that the wires
were broken between Fort de France
and St. Pierre, but it was added, in
view of the reports that the eruption
of Mont Pelee had.

WIPED OUT THE TOWN
of St. Pierre, all the boats available
at Fort de France were dispatched to
the assistance of the inhabitants of
that place. The second dispatch con-
firmed the reports of the destruction
of St. Pierre and its environs and ship-
ping by a rain of fire, and said it was
supposed that the whole population
had been annihilated with the excep-
tion of a few injured persons rescued
by the cruiser Suchet.

Immediately after the receipt of the
above the flag over the colonial office
was draped with crepe and hoisted at
half-mast.

NEIGHBORING PARISHES DEVAS-
TATED.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., May 9.—9:30
a.m.—The French cruiser Suchet ar-
rived at Pointe a Pitre, island of
Guadeloupe, French West Indies, from
Fort de France, island of Martinique,
this morning, bringing several re-
fugees. She confirmed the report that
the town of St. Pierre, Martinique, was
entirely destroyed at 8 o'clock on
Thursday morning by a volcanic erup-
tion. It is supposed that most of the
inhabitants of St. Pierre were killed,
that the neighboring parishes were
laid waste, and that the rest of the
population of St. Pierre is without food
or shelter.

UNDER A PALE OF DARKNESS.
The British Royal Mail steamer Esk,
which arrived at St. Lucia this morn-
ing, reports having passed St. Pierre
last night. The steamer was covered
with ashes, though she was five miles
from the town, which is in impenetr-
able darkness. A boat was sent in
as near as possible to the shore, but
not a living soul was seen ashore, and
the population of St. Pierre is without food
or shelter.

UNABLE TO ENTER THE TOWN.
The commander of the Suchet re-
ports that at 1 o'clock on Thursday,
the entire town of St. Pierre was
wrapped in flames. He endeavored to
save about 30 persons, more or less
burned, from the vessels in the harbor.
His officers went ashore in small boats
seeking for survivors, but were unable
to penetrate the town. They saw
heaps of bodies upon the wharves, and
it is believed that not a single person
resident in St. Pierre at the moment
of the catastrophe escaped. The gov-
ernor of the colony and his staff, how-
ever, were in St. Pierre and prob-
ably perished. The extent of the ca-
tastrophe cannot be imagined.

The captain of the British steamer
Roddam was very seriously injured
and is now in the hospital at St.
Lucia. All of his officers and engi-
neers are dead or dying. Nearly every
member of the crew is dead. Super-
cargo Campbell and ten of the crew of
the Roddam jumped overboard at St.
Pierre and were lost.

BURIED IN ASHES.
London, May 10.—A dispatch to the
Reuter Telegram Company from
Kingston, Jamaica, after giving the
details of the Martinique disaster al-
ready known, says: "Thousands were
killed at St. Pierre, where a terrible
panic prevailed. The eruption began
Saturday, May 3, when St. Pierre was
covered with ashes, and appeared to
be enveloped in fog. The flow of lava
continued until Wednesday, May 7.
The message adds: 'In the island of
St. Vincent the Soufriere is active and
earthquakes are frequent, but so far,
no damage has been done.'"
In response to the request of Gover-
nor Leavelle, the British second-class cruiser
Indefatigable has been dispatched
from the island of Trinidad to the
island of St. Vincent by way of St.
Lucia.

A Bridgeport, Island of Barbadoes,
dispatch says: "Dust from the eruption
in the island of St. Vincent is still
falling here. The houses are
covered an inch thick."
MOLTEN LAVA HAD A SWEEP
OF FOUR MILES.
A dispatch to the Daily Mail from
Pointe a Pitre, island of Guadeloupe,
dated yesterday, says the Monte Pelee
crater ejected Friday morning molten
rocks and ashes during three minutes,
and completely destroyed St. Pierre and
the districts within a four-mile radius.
All the inhabitants were burned. About
eight passengers from the Roraima, of
the Quebec Steamship Line, were saved
by the French cruiser Suchet. The in-
habitants of the southern districts
of the island, who were dependent
upon St. Pierre for provisions, are
menaced by famine.

"GLIMPSES OF HELL."
A dispatch to the Daily Mail from
Jamaica says: "The first intimation
of a disaster at Martinique was the
breaking of the cables on Tuesday. The
French cable to Martinique from
Puerto Plata was broken Wednesday.
Cable communication with all the
northern islands stopped. The sur-
vivors of the British steamer Roddam
describe the scene at St. Pierre as be-
ing 'glimpses of hell.' The Roddam's
men were killed chiefly by molten
lava. The Roraima was wrecked in a
terrible upheaval of land and sea. The
whole crew perished. Two ships were

lost with all on board, in a attempt
to approach Martinique."

COMPARABLE TO POMPEII.
London, May 10.—All the newspapers
here express the greatest horror of the
catastrophe, which they say, for its
suddenness and magnitude, is only
comparable with that of Pompeii, and
they express deep sympathy to the
French nation.

Owing to the cable break-down in
the West Indies no details of the dis-
aster at Martinique have yet been re-
ceived here. The available dispatches
from the West Indies represent the in-
habitants of the other islands as being
in deadly fear.

NO EARTHQUAKE.

Prof. John Milne, the seismologist, in
an interview published in the Daily
Express, declares that his seismic in-
struments have recorded no distur-
bance, and that they would almost in-
evitably have done so had serious
earthquakes occurred.

NO AMERICANS THERE.

Portland, Maine, May 9.—News of
the catastrophe at St. Pierre was of
deep interest to the firm of J. H.
Hamlen & Co., of this city, which is
said to be the only New England busi-
ness house with an office at St. Pierre.
Besides dealing in northern lumber,
the Hamlens are interested in the
sugar industry there, and hold consid-
erable property. Their loss will be
heavy. J. C. Hamlen, the junior mem-
ber of the firm, says that there were
no New England people at the island
connected with the business, and he
believes that none but natives were
killed. Mr. Hamlen is also of the
opinion that no New England or Amer-
ican vessels were in port, as the
season for shipping lumber, ice and
coal is over.

COAL FOUND!

While Boring for Water at Portage La
Prairie.

Winipeg, Man., May 9.—The govern-
ment well-boring machine, while boring
for water at Portage La Prairie, struck
a bed of coal at a depth of 133 feet. An
examination will be made to see if the
deposit is of commercial value.

TWO DROWNINGS

One at Hastings and Another at Marsh-
ville, Ont.

Hastings, Ont., May 9.—Richard King,
a farmer, of Perry township, was ac-
cidentally drowned here late last night.
King had been running an engine which
was being used to pump out the locks
where new gates are being put in. It
is supposed that the man fell from a
high plank when walking across to the
dredge.

Marshall, Ont., May 9.—The body of
W. S. Reid was found last night in a
dredge near here, which acts as a feeder
to the Welland Canal. He had been em-
ployed as a drydock clerk in a Hamilton
store.

KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN

Grand Commandery of Ontario Elects Its
Officers.

Toronto, May 9.—The Grand Com-
mandery of the Knights of St. John
of Ontario, in annual convention here,
has elected officers as follows:
Grand President—Sir Knight John
P. McCarthy, Toronto.
Grand Vice-President—Sir
Knight Joseph Kelz, Toronto.
Grand Second Vice-President—Sir
Knight Terence O'Laughlin, Wood-
stock.
Grand Secretary—Sir Knight W. J.
Dillon, Toronto.
Supreme Treasurer—Bro. Tacos. Cal-
laghan, Toronto.

THE BOER PRISONERS
IN BERMUDA ISLANDS

Are Divided Into Two Parties—How They
Spend Their Spare Time.

The "great sound," in which are the
islands now transformed into pris-
ons for Boers captured in South Af-
rica, is a partially landlocked sheet of
water of an area of some four square
miles, at the entrance of Hamilton
Harbor, Bermuda, and is dotted with
many islands, varying in size from a
few rods to 30 or 40 acres. The larger
ones—Darrell's, Burt's, Tucker's, Mor-
gan's, Hawkins', Port's and Hinson's—
are now thickly peopled by 4,000
burghers and troops guarding them.

Each island was divided into two
equal parts, separated from each other
by a double line of barbed-wire fence-
ing. On one side of this fencing were
to be stationed the prisoners and on the
other their khaki-clad guards.
There are no rivers or natural
springs in Bermuda and the inhabi-
tants are absolutely dependent for
water on the rainfall and the condensed
sea water.
The larger in which the prisoners
live is bounded on three sides by the
water and on the fourth by a wire en-

tanglement separating it from the
guards' laager. It comprises an area
of about 20 or 30 acres, and within it
are the tents, dining huts, school, re-
creation room and canteen of the pris-
oners. No one in the laager is allowed
to touch the wire fencing in peril of
being shot by the sentry on his beat
between the laagers. The burghers
sleep in the regulation army bell tents,
six men to a tent. These are provided
with wooden floors and are the same in
every respect as those issued to the
British army.

Leisure time is occupied in various
ways by the prisoners. Some work at
crafts, there is a large staff of doc-
tors, medical corps officers and men
on this island. A surgeon from the
United States who visited the hospitals
at the outbreak of the war was satis-
fied that the patients had all com-
forts and appointments that could be
desired.

On Port's Island are the spacious
hospitals, built by the navy, and when
a prisoner falls sick he is sent there at
once. There is a large staff of doc-
tors, medical corps officers and men
on this island. A surgeon from the
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An additional paper, called a build-
ers' agreement, is appended, in which
the Harland & Wolff orders for new
vessels and all heavy repairs that re-
quire to be done at a shipyard of the
United Kingdom. Nothing herein con-
tained, however, shall prevent the pur-
chasers from placing orders for new
steamers and repairs at shipyards in
the United States.

In return, Harland & Wolff agree to
build no ships for any other firms but
these in the combine except the Ham-
burg-American Line, provided the or-
ders of the combine keep the builders'
works fully and continuously employ-
ed.

Harland & Wolff receive from the
combine the cost of work, plus a com-
mission on the cost price; in the case
of new ships 5 per cent, new machinery
in the old ships 10 per cent, and re-
pairs 15 per cent. This agreement ex-
tends for ten years, and is only ter-
minable thereafter by a five-year no-
tice on either side.

WESTERN ONTARIO

Live Items Cullled for Busy Peo-
ple's Information.

During a severe thunderstorm at Sand-
wich West on Sunday night, the grocery
store of J. E. B. was struck by light-
ning and caught fire. The flames spread
to a barn near by, and Lamant, in re-
sponse to his horse, was severely burned.
The fire was extinguished before it had
done much damage.

A meeting of the stockholders of the
Canadian Household Supply Co., re-
cently organized in Windsor for the man-
agement of patented devices intended to
economize household labor, the following
were elected directors: Arch. McNeen,
Jr., Sandwich; Douglas, May; Rothwell,
Mayor Smythe and F. C. Sherman,
the promoter of the enterprise.

Voting took place at Stratford on Wed-
nesday by a bylaw guaranteeing the
bonds of the Globe Wernicke Manufac-
turing Company for \$200 for twenty
years and granting exemption from gen-
eral taxation. The majority in favor ef-
fected 22, the necessary two-thirds, only
twenty votes being cast against it. The
city will be secured by a mortgage on
the property and plant, on which at least
\$30,000 is to be expended, the bonds to
be paid off in annual instalments.

Mrs. Catharine M. Fowler, who was
the widow of Wm. Fowler, M.C.R. car
department, and lived at 47 Ross street,
St. Thomas, was as usual Tuesday
evening. She had been around all day and
in the evening was visited by her daugh-
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returned about 9 p.m., he found Mrs.
Fowler seated in a chair dead. Dr.
Henshaw was summoned and found that
the lady had been dead for some time.
Mrs. Fowler was a daughter of the late
William Henshaw, of Toronto, and was
sixty-one years of age and had lived in
St. Thomas for twenty years. She was
a member of the standing of the
Central Methodist Church. The remains
will be taken to Ingersoll for interment.

Following is the standing of the
pupils of the public school for the
month of April: Senior IV, Class—Roy
Martin, Arthur Martin, John Annell,
David Herbert, Junior IV, Class—Ina
Lackey, Mary Houlton, Robbie Mullis,
William Henshaw, Tomlinson, Senior
III, Class—Ella Tomlinson and Lloyd
George (equal), Pearl Foster Vera Mc-
Martin, Junior III, Class—Matthew Ear-
ber, Nellie Mullis, Gordon George, Eddie
Douglas, Second Class—Fred Houlton,
Silvia Henshaw, Mabel Rawlinson, Team
II—Harold George, Joe Mullis, Grace
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showing expected. There is no reason,
however, to believe that they will drag
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Boston and Baltimore are all composed
of seasoned, experienced players, and
each carries a strong staff of pitchers,
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rapidly forge to the front. All three
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"THE COMPANY IS ENGLISH."
The following important clause oc-
curs at the end of the White Star
agreement: "Inasmuch as the com-
pany is English, and domiciled in Eng-
land, all questions concerning the sell-
ers arising under or pursuant to this
contract shall be controlled or decided
by English law."

The agreements cover many printed
pages, and include intricate arrange-
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the London accountants, Ismay, Imrie
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fourteen years. In the Dominion Line
agreement the sellers promise to use
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BUILDERS' AGREEMENT.

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the Harland & Wolff orders for new
vessels and all heavy repairs that re-
quire to be done at a shipyard of the
United Kingdom. Nothing herein con-
tained, however, shall prevent the pur-
chasers from placing orders for new
steamers and repairs at shipyards in
the United States.

In return, Harland & Wolff agree to
build no ships for any other firms but
these in the combine except the Ham-
burg-American Line, provided the or-
ders of the combine keep the builders'
works fully and continuously employ-
ed.

Harland & Wolff receive from the
combine the cost of work, plus a com-
mission on the cost price; in the case
of new ships 5 per cent, new machinery
in the old ships 10 per cent, and re-
pairs 15 per cent. This agreement ex-
tends for ten years, and is only ter-
minable thereafter by a five-year no-
tice on either side.

SPORTS OF

ALL SORTS

Gossip of General Interest

Apropos of Various On-
tario Pastimes.

Today will see the opening of the City
Baseball League, and from the inter-
est already manifested in the practices
and make-up of the teams, a large
crowd should turn out at Tecumseh
Park. London has always shown a
decided partiality to baseball, and with
good, keen contests this interest will
be kept alive this summer. Just a
word to the players and clubs, be-
fore the season advances. Do not spoil
your games by useless kicking at the
umpire. Play the game for all it is
worth, and if you get the worst of a
decision grin and bear it. Avoid pro-
tests in the committee room wherever
possible. To win a game by protest
only stirs up friction and endangers
the unity of the league.

Former Eastern League baseball
players are making good in the Na-
tional and American Leagues this
year.

Two weeks from today the lacrosse
season will really open. London en-
thusiasts will then have a chance to
get a line on the local team when they
meet Paris. Western Ontario promises
to have a boom in lacrosse this year,
and some good contests are assured.

In securing "Cory" Hess, of Corn-
wall, Woodstock will have one of the
best goal-keepers in Canada. He made
a great name for himself in the fac-
tory town, and though not the gentlest
of players, Hess is always to be found
on the spot when a hot shot comes
towards his goal.

Jack Kearns, of last year's Orange