

Tourist Hotels Engulfed in Sea

Italian Watering Place the Scene of Terrible and Sudden Calamity.

Famous Capuchin Monastery Involved in Ruin—The Loss of Life Great.

By Associated Press.

Rome, Dec. 22.—A terrible disaster took place this afternoon at Amalfi, the popular tourist resort on the Gulf of Salerno. About 2 o'clock an enormous rock, upon which stood the Capuchin Hotel, slid bodily into the sea with a deafening roar and without a moment's warning, carrying with it the hotel, the old Capuchin Monastery below, the Hotel Santa Caterina, and several villas. Many people were hurled into the bottom of the sea, destroying their crews. The mass of earth which slipped was about 30,000 cubic yards. The population of Amalfi is about 10,000. The town is situated in a state of terror, fearing fresh calamities. Troops have arrived on the scene and began rescues. It is believed that the loss of life is heavy, including a number of monks and the occupants of the hotel. As yet it is impossible to ascertain the exact number.

Amalfi is a small but lively town of 7,000 inhabitants, situated at the entrance of a deep bay surrounded by imposing mountains and rocks of the most picturesque forms. The Capuchin Monastery was founded in 1212 by Cardinal Pietro Canavani for the Cistercians, but came into possession of the Capuchins in 1583. The building, which stood in the hollow of the great rock, rose abruptly from the sea to a height of 230 feet, contained fine cloisters and a charming garden, and offered magnificent points of view. The town is mentioned for the first time historically in the sixth century, when it enjoyed the protection of the Eastern emperors. In the twelfth century the sea began gradually to undermine the lower portions, and a terrible inundation in 1543 proved still more disastrous.

SMALL SHIPPERS' COMPLAINT. Railroads Squeeze Them Out by Discriminating Rates to Large Operators.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The hearing before the interstate commerce committee of complaints made by shippers against the proposed new classification of freight by railroads was resumed today. By agreement Frank Harriott, general traffic manager of the Erie, went on the witness stand to testify to the new classification. Inquiries developed the admission by Mr. Harriott that on the average miscellaneous cars carrying articles paying less than carload rates were being more heavily loaded now than heretofore, and that the new classification on that class of traffic were greater.

It was determined finally that shippers should offer some testimony. Mr. Brown, representing Schofield, Schurmer & Tesgle, of Cleveland, Ohio, was sworn. He said the new classification of petroleum would be absolutely ruinous to small shippers. On less than carload lots the increase above the rates on carload lots in some instances was as much as 273 per cent, and in no case was it less than 88 per cent. Mr. Brown said the small shippers of oil could not successfully compete with the standard Oil Co. because the rates given to the Standard Oil Co. in carload lots were so much less than the small shippers could get on less than carload lots that the latter practically were shut out.

This closed the testimony and the hearing was adjourned.

LONDON'S PATRIOTISM. One Hundred Thousand Volunteers Could Be Raised in the Metropolis.

London, Dec. 6.—As I write it is a traditional November day (although in December). Damp, foggy, dull sort of weather that makes you long to go home and sit over the fire and read "Pickwick" or "Nicholas Nickleby." Somehow, I always associated Dickens with the fog. He drew such pictures of blazing fires and cosy corners; of rain and wind without, and comfort and plenty within, that I always feel as if I could go back upon him on a dull winter's day. Christmas is close at hand, and already the various carriers are getting so busy that they cannot give definite promises about the delivery of goods and parcels. Turkeys, Xmas cards, plum puddings seem to be literally floating in the air. Cakes and puddings for the Cape, parcels of all kinds for Tommy, parcels for Sergeant-Major Brown, Corporal Murphy, Private McDonald, Bugler Evans. No doubt, also, parcels for Troopers Cornstalk and Corporal Bismore. None of them are forgotten.

There will be enough plum puddings in Capetown on Xmas Day to give the whole British Army indigestion for a week. At the Cape, it is of course mid-summer at Xmas, just getting into the hottest time of the year. People here, with hazy ideas of geography, find this hard to realize. They are so accustomed to associating Xmas with frost and snow that Xmas in the summer seems a sacrilege to them.

The latent patriotism in the British people has been bubbling over lately with a vengeance. If a hundred thousand volunteers were asked for to-morrow, to go to the Cape, they could be had in London alone. London men take to soldiering as a duck takes to water, and make good soldiers, too. The latent patriotism of the British people is only to be equalled by the wooden-headedness of the war office and Horse Guards officials. They know that the Boers were practical soldiers, that they were regular volunteers who had been used, and yet they send battalion after battalion on to fight men that have got the industrialism of the Boers get licked in one place, they comfortably retire and form again in another.

They wanted to fight the Boers on the Aldershot system, and it can't be done, as any colonial could have told them. W. STANLEY SEAW.

THE NEW PACIFIC. An Interesting and Timely Book by Herbert Bancroft.

(First Paper.)

One of the most remarkable books of the year has just been issued by the eminent author of the series of west American histories, which so long filled the mind of the literary world as one of the most rugged and thorough of historical efforts. The closing scenes of the nineteenth century seem to impress themselves upon the author's mind as of more than passing interest. In the war with Spain he sees something more than a transient disagreement between two great political powers, to be fought out and dismissed from the mind with the usual tropes to the winner. In the deliverance of Cuba, he sees something more than the rescue of a hand of the oppressor of a weak and down-trodden people. The gravest issues were here at stake, as important as any which ever affected human progress or human destiny.

By our forefathers liberty was held dear, and rather than part with our freedom of thought, and speech, and action, we would die. But here was involved something more than the principle of progress, which a higher, a nobler, a purer liberty than which the mind of man had hitherto conceived. It was the principle of progress, which a higher, a nobler, a purer liberty than which the mind of man had hitherto conceived. It was the principle of progress, which a higher, a nobler, a purer liberty than which the mind of man had hitherto conceived.

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STORIES OF STATESMEN. Curious Counterparts and Imitations Seen in Washington—Latest Roosevelt Anecdotes.

Washington, Dec. 22.—There are always to be found in Washington a number of individuals who in appearance and manner counterfeit historical characters of the past or present. James G. Blaine, though deceased, is to-day a familiar figure—at all events, strikingly imitated—on Pennsylvania avenue. There is the same face, the same cut of grey beard, the same walk, the same wonderfully accurate though not so accurate as the original, Benjamin Harrison, though now a resident of Indiana, is similarly represented by a "topple-gang" on the street by the capitol, and a "true copy" of Mark Hanna will brave you for 15c. in a little basement shop opposite the capitol.

These counterparts, however, are persons of no special consequence. It is more interesting to discover in the halls of Congress men who are being imitated, and the outward presentation of greatness wherever lodged. Representative, R. G. Connelley, in fact, is being imitated, and he adopted with apparent relish, the physical aspect and even the manner of Tom Cullen, the late young Congressman who came to Washington and that is the likeness. If it be the result of deliberate effort Connelley has certainly succeeded in working up a reputation for himself. He has acquired the well-known stride, reproduces his drawl, and is accused by his associates of imitating the late Congressman in his manner of walking, and in his manner of wearing a chin strap and a top hat, and that of the great emancipator. Then, too, cut off at a single blow, the domain of the young Congressman, who is being imitated, is the costume of the war President, made so familiar through the medium of countless pictures, and which after having been carelessly of effect.

Another imitation considered palpable is that of Abraham Lincoln by Shelby M. Cullum, of Illinois. Unquestionably Senator Cullum has a look of Lincoln, and he has the harness of visage, with deep furrows in the cheeks. But this resemblance is much accentuated by the long upper lip and wearing a chin strap and a top hat, and that of the great emancipator. Then, too, cut off at a single blow, the domain of the young Congressman, who is being imitated, is the costume of the war President, made so familiar through the medium of countless pictures, and which after having been carelessly of effect.

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PLANNED BY AFRIKANDERS. Many Years Since They Determined to End British Rule in South Africa.

The Cape Times, just received by mail, contains an important letter from Mr. Theodore Schreiner, a brother of the Cape Premier, well known for his temperance and religious work, based on a manifesto issued by the Orange Free State burghers by Mr. Reitz, state secretary of the Transvaal. Mr. Schreiner says: "In this shameful and shameless document, Mr. Reitz, the Queen of England, the British cabinet, Mr. Chamberlain, and the British nation are declared to be murderers, robbers, breakers of treaties, etc., and the responsibility for the present war between the Republic and England is sought to be placed upon the shoulders of the British people, and the responsibility for the present war between the Republic and England is sought to be placed upon the shoulders of the British people, and the responsibility for the present war between the Republic and England is sought to be placed upon the shoulders of the British people."

I feel impelled to write the following lines, not to discuss matters, which have passed beyond the pale of argument, but to throw a little personal historic light on the question as to who is responsible for the present war, which may serve to show that not England, nor England's Queen, nor England's government, are the real originators of the same. I met Mr. Reitz, then a member of the Orange Free State, in Bloemfontein, between seventeen and eighteen years ago, shortly after the retrocession of the Transvaal, when he was busy with the fishing the Afrikaner Bond. It must be patent to every one that at that time, at all events, England, and her government, had no intention of taking away the independence of the Transvaal, for she had just "magnanimously" granted the same, no intention of making war on the republic, for she had just made peace; no intention to seize the Rand goldfields, for they were not yet discovered. At that time, then, I met Mr. Reitz, and he did his best to get me to become a member of the Afrikaner Bond, but, after studying its constitution and programme, I refused to do so, whereupon the following colloquy in substance took place between us, which has been indelibly imprinted on my mind ever since: "Reitz—Why do you refuse? Is the object of getting the people to take an interest in political matters not a good one?"

Myself—Yes, it is; but I seem to see plainly that between the lines of this same, no intention of making war on the republic, for she had just made peace; no intention to seize the Rand goldfields, for they were not yet discovered. At that time, then, I met Mr. Reitz, and he did his best to get me to become a member of the Afrikaner Bond, but, after studying its constitution and programme, I refused to do so, whereupon the following colloquy in substance took place between us, which has been indelibly imprinted on my mind ever since: "Reitz—Why do you refuse? Is the object of getting the people to take an interest in political matters not a good one?"

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LEA AND PERIN'S OBSERVE THAT THE SIGNATURE OF Lea & Perrin's IS NOW PRINTED IN BLUE INK DIAGONALLY ACROSS THE OUTSIDE WRAPPER OF every Bottle of the ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

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Order of sale by public auction, at post free for \$1.50 from EVANS & BONS, LTD., Victoria, B. C. Martin, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southamptn.

A MILKING RECORD. A noteworthy milking record has been established by the Red Poll cow Crocus, which belonged to the famous Norfolk dairy herd at Whittingham.

She gave birth to her third calf on May 11, 1890, since which date she continued uninterrupted in milk till September 28, 1890, a period of over nine years, her milk yield in the last week of her life being at the rate of 43½ lbs. of nearly 4½ gallons. During the nine years four months that she was continuously in milk she yielded altogether 50,428 lbs., or nearly 25 tons of milk. Over the last five years the average quantity of butter fat in her milk was as high as 4.3 per cent. Her live weight when sent to market, after being on grass feed for the last six months of her life, was 10 cwt., 1 qr. 11 lbs. In the nine years since her last calving she gave something like 45 times her own weight in milk, and her average production during that period was 5,403 lbs. of milk, or considerably over 500 gallons per annum. For a moderate sized cow this is a remarkable performance which has aroused much interest amongst the breeders of Red Polls.—London Times.

POSTAL CLERKS' PAY. From Our Own Correspondent. Vancouver, Dec. 22.—The World says it is in a position to announce that the government will increase all post office clerks under \$800 five dollars a month. As the post office inspector's report is not in, the inspiration must have come from other sources.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Notices have been issued by a number of the kindy ways from Chicago to the effect that the grain car blockade that existed among the lines east bound from this city during the past two or three months has been lifted. Old railroad men say that the blockade was the worst in local history.