

A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to All

ANOTHER APPALLING DISASTER IS RUMORED LIPARI ISLANDS SAID TO HAVE VANISHED AND THE POPULATION OF 28,000 PERISH

ACCORDING TO WIRELESS NEWS

Italian Government, Aided by Other Nations, Making Herculean Efforts To Relieve Starving and Homeless.

Group Off the Coast of Sicily Sinks Beneath Mediterranean.

ROME, DEC. 31.—THE VITAL STATES THAT A WIRELESS MESSAGE FROM THE STRAITS OF MESSINA REPORT THAT THE LIPARI ISLANDS, A GROUP OF VOLCANIC ISLANDS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, NEAR THE COAST OF SICILY, HAVE DISAPPEARED.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE HAS RUSHED A TORPEDO BOAT TO ASCERTAIN THE FACTS.

Aid From United States. Washington, Dec. 31.—The state department is awaiting developments before taking action on sending any of the battleships of the Atlantic fleet to relieve the earthquake sufferers.

Rome, Dec. 31.—United States Ambassador Griscom will leave Naples tomorrow by steamer for Messina, to gather information regarding the fate of Americans in Calabria and Sicily.

Nothing But Ruins. The commander of the Russian cruiser Admiral Makaroff, which arrived at Naples yesterday with refugees from Messina, has given the following account of the disaster:

"Hearing at Aogata, Sicily, of the disaster, I hurried to Messina. The city was literally nothing but a heap of ruins. Every building there has collapsed, but in many cases the outward shells remain standing, and as a result the general contour is less changed than might be expected.

"The harbor is filled with refuse of every kind, and at one end lies the wreck of a sunken steamer. It is impossible to give even a faint idea of the desolation of the scene. Every now and then we heard the crash of falling floors and walls. This constitutes the greatest danger to the rescuers. It is not safe to approach any standing masonry. Men from many vessels had many narrow escapes, and I had seen several terrible accidents to the brave Italian soldiers who were doing more than their duty.

Saved \$4,000,000. "We lost no time in setting about the work of rescue. We established an open air hospital on the shore, where we received and treated a thousand people—men, women and children. We also saved the safe of the Bank of Sicily, with its \$4,000,000 treasure, weighing two tons.

"I estimate the deaths at Messina conservatively at 80,000. The tidal wave lasted much longer than the earthquake. During all the time we were in the harbor of Messina, our vessel shivered intermittently, as though shaken by some huge marine monster.

A Pathetic Story. "I could relate pathetic stories without number. Under some wreckage, inclosed in a sort of cubby-hole, and protected by two heavy beams, I discovered two little babies safe and unharmed. They were as comfortable as possible, and laughing and playing with the buttons on their clothes. We could find no trace of their parents, who undoubtedly lost their lives.

Ship Full of Food Flying to Messina

New York, Dec. 31.—The United States supply ship Celtic, which was to meet the returning battleship fleet with holiday cheer, sailed out of New York harbor this afternoon on an entirely different mission, but without changing a single item of her cargo. She will go direct to Messina, to give a million and a half of navy rations to the earthquake sufferers.

A Little Boy Killed by Pack of Dogs

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 31.—William Schuchard, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Reski, of Hillside Park, a hamlet near this city, was attacked this morning by seven vicious dogs, and received injuries which caused death. The lad had been sent to a store by his mother about 11 o'clock, and his lifeless body was discovered about half an hour later covered with blood, and being torn to pieces by the beasts.

COMMITTED TO SPRING ASSIZES

A Sixteen-Year-Old Amherstburg Negro Boy Charged With Parricide.

Amherstburg, Dec. 31.—The jury in Coroner Hesser's court today brought in a verdict that Elijah Thompson, the victim of a 16-year-old boy's wrath, last week, came to his death from a bullet wound inflicted by his son William, with intent to kill.

Immediately following the inquest William was arraigned before Police Magistrate McGee, and after evidence was taken was committed for trial at the spring assizes. Five witnesses were examined at the inquest—the mother of the parricide, his three brothers, Andrew, Enoch and George, and his uncle, Jefferson Golden.

Whipping Didn't Hurt. The other three children testified as to the whipping the father gave them. It did not hurt, the uncle testified, that on previous occasions William had made dire threats against him when he was displeased. While talking with Chief of Police Laporte after the arrest, William showed considerable knowledge of the physiological effects of a shot wound in the different parts of the body, and said that he had studied the shots which resulted in the assassination of Presidents Garfield and McKinley.

A LUCKY GIRL. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—At the regular meeting of the Children's Aid Society yesterday afternoon, the announcement was made that a girl who was once a ward of the society was to be married on New Year's Day. Her prospective husband is exceedingly wealthy, and has already presented his affianced bride with a beautiful home and a large sum of money.

NEW YEAR'S AT OTTAWA. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—New Year's Day will be observed with all the customary official and private receptions in the city. His excellency the governor-general will hold a levee in the eastern block; Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann will hold a reception, and the president and management committee of St. Andrew's society will be at home to the members of the society.

SHOT IN THE LEG. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Bryan Devlin, the young son of Mr. R. J. Devlin, of this city, was seriously injured on Monday morning, and lies at his home with a bullet in his leg. The boy was spending a vacation at Kingsmore, and it appears that a companion was handling a revolver when it was accidentally discharged, the bullet lodging in the calf of his leg.

CANADA TO AID WITH \$100,000

The Dominion To Donate That Sum for Relief of Quake Sufferers.

(Special to The Advertiser.) Ottawa, Dec. 31.—While it has not been officially announced, it is understood that the Dominion Government has decided to donate \$100,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the Sicilian earthquakes.

WATER ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED

Hon. Adam Beck, Col. and Others Speak.

TEST WELL IS A SUCCESS

Mr. Beck Says It Showed a Flow of 150,000 Gallons a Day—Some Cross-Questioning.

The water question, especially the deep-wells proposition, was given a thorough airing last evening at the city hall. There were about 400 people present, and interruptions were quite frequent. Hon. Adam Beck, Col. J. W. Little, T. H. Smallman, John Labatt, Water Commissioner Darch and U. A. Buchner discussed the question at considerable length.

BACK TO ROUMANIA

Alleged Defaulter Is Given Up by the Montreal Police Authorities. Montreal, Dec. 31.—A Roumanian defaulter, George Catachou, alias Dragnesson, who has been in custody here since June 13, fighting extradition, has been finally turned over to a police officer from Bucharest, who came here for him and who left with him on his journey homeward today.

DEAD, AGED 102. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—At the extraordinary age of 102 years, an extraordinary old woman, Mrs. Patrick's orphan asylum, Margaret Haggarty, better known to residents of Ottawa as "Maggie, the Old Apple Woman," died yesterday.

OTTAWA ELECTION EXPENSES. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier's expenses in the Ottawa election, with those of his running-mate, H. B. McGivern, were \$4,354.99. The opposing Conservatives, Dr. Chabot and T. Birket, spent \$4,069.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY RUMORS. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—In regard to the story that Messrs. MacKenzie & Mann are after the Intercolonial Railway, Hon. G. P. Graham has nothing to add, further than what he stated at the Commercial Travellers' banquet in Toronto, "Nothing has as yet been determined," he said.

QUARANTINE MODIFIED. Albany, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Seven states, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, have notified Commissioner R. A. Pearson, of the state department of agriculture, of their willingness to accept shipments of hay and straw from New York State, except from the five counties in the western part of the state, where the foot and mouth disease exists, and which are now under quarantine.

THE WESTERN BLIZZARD. Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—Yesterday's big storm has blown itself out, but left cold temperatures, ranging from 32 below zero at Regina to 23 below here, and 10 below at the head of the lakes. Trains are running on fairly good time, though some engines have gone dead from the extreme cold. Blizzard conditions apparently prevailed just south of the international boundary, for northern Pacific trains are running several hours late, and report heavy drifts. Prospects are for a very cold New Year's.

THE WEATHER. TODAY—FAIR AND COLD. Toronto, Dec. 31.—Light snowfalls or flurries have occurred in many parts of Ontario and Quebec today, and rain has fallen heavily in the Maritime Provinces, while elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fine. More moderate temperature conditions have prevailed in Alberta, and the cold wave is progressing eastward.

LONDON ITALIANS WILL HELP STRICKEN PEOPLE OF ITALY

Meeting To Be Held This Afternoon to Deal With the Question—Toronto City Council Gives the Sum of \$5,000—London Will Be Asked to Contribute.

Across the door of the Marconi Club on Fullarton street, stretches a narrow band of crepe, bearing the simple inscription, "Lutto Nazionale, London, Ontario." In the days of rejoicing the shadow has fallen on many a home in London. Some have relatives to mourn. All feel the deep sorrow of the desolation that has touched their native land. Italy needs aid, and nobly the Italians of London are turning their thoughts to help their country in the hour of its need.

Confession of Mrs. Claudia Hains Read to the Jury in Murder Case

Father of Captain Testifies to Insanity in the Family.

Flushing, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Gen. Peter C. Hains, U. S. A., and his wife, Mrs. Virginia P. Hains, parents of Thornton J. Hains, now being tried as a principal in the slaying of William E. Annis, were witnesses in their son's behalf today. Their testimony brought out in full detail the relationship of Mrs. Claudia Hains and William E. Annis that caused the estrangement of Capt. Hains and his wife.

School Trustees in a Love Feast Last Meeting of Board of 1908

Annual Reports Were Read and Were Adopted—Other Matters.

The final meeting of the board of education of 1908 was held in the secretary's office at the city hall yesterday, and was a sort of love feast rather than a business session. The members spent considerable time in praising each other, especially Messrs. MacRobert, Granger, Fitzgerald and McCormick, who are retiring.

Chairman's Report. Mr. C. M. R. Graham, chairman of the board, read his review of the year's work and made a number of suggestions to the next board. In his opinion a new gymnasium should be provided for the Collegiate. Grand avenue and Wortley road schools should be enlarged, and a kindergarten provided for the district surrounding the Grand avenue school.

Record of Meetings. No. 1 committee held eighteen meetings during the year. Mr. Westervelt attended 16; Mr. Fitzgerald, 15; Mr. Graham, 13; Dr. Teasdale, 15; Dr. Muggan, 7; and Dr. Tillmann, 8.

Bereaved Parents Commit Suicide. New York, Dec. 31.—Grief-stricken over the death of their 18-year-old daughter today, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Gardy, of West One Hundred and Sixteenth street, committed suicide together immediately afterwards by means of chloroform.

A Clever Scheme To Swindle Bank

One of the cleverest, and at the same time most simple and successful schemes that has been worked for some time on banks, has been brought to light in a circular received by local bankers yesterday from the head office of the Bank of Toronto. The bank has discovered that by a clever trick their five-dollar bills have been passed in a number of places as tens. The scheme, according to the circular received, has been worked as follows: The man passing the bills first secured some five and ten dollar Bank of Toronto bills. The left-hand corner of each bearing the five and ten in figures was then torn off, the ten thus secured was then cleverly pasted on

GOOD NEWS. Toronto, Dec. 31.—Good news was received today by the private secretary of Mr. S. F. McKinnon, who, with his wife and niece is sojourning in Italy. This was a letter written from Algiers, Dec. 15, intimating that the party would stay there three weeks.

TERREMOTO SICILIANO

Enormi Perdite di Vite e di Proprieta—150,000 Morti—Beni Distrutti, \$300,000,000.

SUA MAESTA E LA REGINA SOCCORRONO VITTIME

Reggio e Messina Totalmente Distrutte—In Messina e le Vicinanze le Vittime Ammontano a 120,000.

For the benefit of the many Italian residents in London who cannot read English, and who have therefore been unable to grasp the vastness of the catastrophe that has befallen a section of their country, The Advertiser herewith presents in Italian a news summary of the disaster:

Roma, Dec. 30.—Ulteriori particolari del terremoto e maremoto di lunedì, confermano le notizie di martedì, annunciando perdite di vite e di proprietà enormi. Le prime scosse si sono avute verso le 5 di mattina lunedì, e son durate 22 secondi.

In Messina gli abitanti, presi da panico terribile hanno abbandonato le loro abitazioni, disperdendosi per le vie e per le campagne, nonostante la pioggia dirottata che imperversava. Lunghe le coste, estese aree di terreno sono affondate nel mare. La metà della popolazione di Calabria è morta; l'altra parte pange.

La notizia del nuovo terribile disastro prodotto dal terremoto in Calabria è stata partecipata a Re Vittorio, mentre il sovrano trovava ad una partita di caccia. Il Re si è messo immediatamente in comunicazione telegrafica col presidente del Consiglio del ministro, Cav. Giolitti, al quale ha manifestato il suo desiderio di partir subito per la Calabria, per visitarvi i luoghi danneggiati.

Una notizia da Messina annuncia che il Re e la Regina sono arrivati sulla scena del disastro oggi, il 30, Dicembre. I morti sono 150,000. Le perdite di proprietà ammontano a \$300,000,000. Lo scosse sui luoghi del disastro sono impetuosissime. Quando la regina realizza l'estensione della rovina e svelta.

Poche di disgraziati, circondavano sua maestà, domandando aiuto e pietà. Racconti terribili aspettavano sua maestà. Dopo avendo ascoltato questi pazientemente, si mise personalmente a soccorrere i feriti. La regina quasi subito si ristabilì e seguì l'esempio coraggioso del marito. Eessa si devoto specialmente ai fanciulli. La regina salvò un bambino di trenani colle proprie mani, e lo portò immediatamente all'ospedale.

La cattedrale, il municipio e le prigioni di Messina sono totalmente distrutte. Di 280 impiegate dalle ferrovie, 275 sono morti. Migliaia di persone sono sepolte vive nelle rovine, e l'ultima notizia annunzia che ora, aggiunto a gli altri disastri vi è quello del fuoco. Centinaia di persone stanno bruciando.

I primi soccorsi venivano da marinai; i lavori e l'eroismo di questi sono stati meravigliosi. Combattendo rovine, l'acqua, ed il fuoco hanno salvato centinaia di vittime disperate. I salvati si recano all'aiuto dei più sfortunati.

Treni di soccorso da Palermo a Messina, sono stati costretti a ritornare, le rotte essendo demolate. Lo scendere del treno dichiara che le case lungo la ferrovia dimostrano l'effetto del terremoto. Un dispaccio ricevuto a Napoli da San Eufemia, una città di 6,000 abitanti, 16 miglia da Reggio, annunzia che i morti sono 1,000. Le case che rimangono sono tutte in fiamme.

L'ultima Notizie da Messina e Sicilia. Roma, Dec. 30.—11:30 p. m.—L'ultima notizia da Sicilia affermano che i