

THOUSANDS FACE FAMINE IN NORTHERN SWEDEN.

Starving Thousands Live on Pine Bark and Iceland Moss.

London, Jan. 20.—Telegrams from Stockholm, Sweden, confirm the distressing accounts of the famine in Northern Sweden. About 70,000 persons are affected by the famine, which extends from the 61st to the 67th degree north latitude, and from the Gulf of Bothnia and the Russian border far into the interior.

The starving people are eating pine bark, which is dried, ground to powder, mixed with stewed Iceland moss and made into a kind of famine bread.

Coincident with the failure of the crops is the extreme scarcity of fish. The fishermen return from their expeditions empty-handed. Even Ptarmigan grouse of the northern regions—usually found in great numbers in the stricken district, have almost completely disappeared.

It is estimated that the expenditure of about \$6,700,000 will be necessary to save the population from starvation. Thus far \$200,000 has been subscribed, of which sum over \$12,500 was sent by Swedes in the United States. This amount does not include the money necessary to save the cattle or supply seed for the spring sowings.

The peasants are making pathetic sacrifices to avert the extermination of the hardy, northern cattle. In previous times of scarcity good fodder was obtainable by mixing reindeer moss and aspen bark. Now this is not available and finely chopped twigs of birch, willow and ash are substituted. The mixture is boiled and fed to the cattle warm, but it is found that milk of cattle that have been fed this is subject to typhoid fever, and disease is certain to spread unless relief is obtained.

The situation threatens a return of the famine of 1878. A special commissioner of the Swedish Government, who has just returned from the scene of distress, urges the necessity for the adoption of plans to abate the distress. His report has caused a most painful impression, and will, it is hoped, enhance the nation's efforts to provide remedial measures.

Up to the present 1,600 carloads valued at over \$100,000, represent the total quantity of provisions and fodder shipped to the famine-stricken area.

RESTRICTION ON MINING COAL.

Testimony of Men Who Complain Against the Rules.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 20.—Testimony regarding the practical working of the mines, the dockage system and the union rules restricting the miner's labor was given before the strike commission yesterday.

George Maxey, a member of the union at Forest City testified to the general good health of miners, and then touched upon the car restriction rule. He said he had talked with the head of his local union about the restriction, and complained that he had to lose much time to let men behind him in work catch up to him.

The leader had replied that the same thing had been done to him, and he had to put up with it. He did not think it right. "Isn't this restriction for the purpose of making an even distribution of the cars?" "I don't know. Possibly it is."

"If you have given more than another man, wouldn't you injure him?" "Not if he was not as capable a man as I."

"Could the mine each day hoist more coal than it does?" "I think it could."

In answer to further questions by Mitchell, Maxey said such a system restricted the output of the mines and also made good workmen lose time to let poor workers catch up with them.

Patrick Mitchell said that for thirteen years he has been a miner with the Pennsylvania company. He had been a member of the union until fined \$5 for working one night out of breaker time. He testified that he for 1000 he could mine ten or eleven cars; from then until the recent strike he had been restricted to six or seven. Practically, he said, he could work only half a day because he could not get the laborers to load more than the restricted number of cars.

The witness further testified that he was criticized by a member of the grievance committee because he got out too many cars and he had replied that he had a family to support and naturally wanted to earn all he could. He said that the restriction rule was probably made to have an even distribution of cars, but that some miners either did not or could not work their full quota.

He said he gets all the cars he wants now and one day last week his shift mined and loaded five cars instead of the six, to which they had been restricted.

Chairman Gray, who had been absent from the hearings of the Hillside Coal and Iron Company and the Pennsylvania Coal Company, introduced as evidence certain extracts from reports of State mine inspectors, tending to show that most mine accidents are due to the negligence of the workmen themselves.

DISBROW ON TRIAL FOR FOSTER'S MURDER.

Sketch of the Now Celebrated "Dimple" Lawrence Case.

Rivershead, L. I. report: The jury in the trial of Louis A. Disbrow, charged with killing Clarence Foster at Tiana Bay on the night of June 9th, was completed yesterday and the trial progressed rapidly.

Clarence Foster and Sarah Lawrence, whose friends called her "Dimple," met violent deaths on the night of June 9th last, in Tiana Bay, near Good Ground, L. I. Their bodies were found five days later in the shallow waters of the bay. They were both young, strong and expert swimmers. The theory of accidental drowning seemed untenable.

Louis A. Disbrow, who was known to have spent the evening of June 9th with Foster and Miss Lawrence, was mysteriously missing. He remained missing for 20 days, while detectives searched for him.

Sarah Lawrence was 17 years old, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Lawrence, of Hempstead, L. I. Foster was a stalwart fellow, 22 years old. He was married, but was noted among the young men about Good Ground for his popularity among women. Disbrow came of a good family, but was estranged from them on account of a marriage contracted five years ago. He was known as rather wild, but was popular with his set.

Disbrow had been attentive to "Dimple" Lawrence for more than a year. She seemed to lose interest in him somewhat after she met Foster. Nevertheless, Disbrow continued to go out with her as often as she would let him. On the night of the tragedy, Disbrow, Foster and "Dimple" Lawrence drove to the Hampton Pines Club and had supper. Then they drove to Tiana hotel, where Disbrow stayed, which is one mile across Tiana Bay from the Ocean View House, where the Lawrences were staying.

The theory of the defense is that Foster undertook to row the girl home, but they had some sort of accident in the boat and so fell overboard and were drowned. Against this the facts that both were expert swimmers and that the water of the bay is nowhere more than three or four feet deep.

Disbrow next morning left Good Ground early and went to Eastport. There he met a friend to whom he made mention of having had a fight with Foster the night before. Then Disbrow disappeared, and was not apprehended for nearly three weeks. Subsequently, it was learned that he tried to get passage on a schooner to Havri; also that on the day after the tragedy he called on his wife, whom he had not seen for several years, bade her good-bye and said he was going away for a long time.

In his opening address, District Attorney Smith said that he would show there was a wound over Foster's eye when the body was found, and that death was due to concussion of the brain, caused by a blow. This theory, however, was borne out by the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution, several of whom testified that there was hardly any perceptible wound on the head.

On the District Attorney's attempting to bring in testimony relative to the death of "Dimple" Lawrence, Justice Haddock ruled that it was not admissible, the prisoner being only under indictment for the killing of Foster.

Riverside, L. I. later: Nothing more remains to be said against Louis A. Disbrow. Deputy sheriff was unable to serve a subpoena on Miss Pearsall, where she is staying at Atlantic City, and her evidence, taken at the preliminary hearing last July, was admitted and read to the jury. Nothing thus far produced in the trial has made so great an impression on the twelve men. That

was easily seen by their close attention. The District Attorney swore a deputy sheriff who had been in Atlantic City and failed to serve Miss Pearsall, and Judge Maddox ruled that the deposition was admissible, and ordered it read.

Disbrow's face turned pale when this decision was given, and as the testimony proceeded, everyone connected with the defence showed evidence of grave concern.

NEWS IN BRIEF CANADIAN.

The Toronto Normal School building will be extended.

An outbreak of hog cholera is reported in Sparta, Elgin county.

Hon. J. W. Longley gave an address before the Toronto Canadian Club.

Dominion Live Stock Association will meet in Toronto on Jan. 29th and 30th.

The Supreme Court has granted leave to appeal in the case of Labelle, the Dawson murderer.

J. W. O. Boyd has been appointed Secretary of the Toronto branch of the British Empire League.

Papermakers held a conference at Montreal, and it is thought an advance of prices will be made.

Rev. Dr. Gordon, the new Principal of Queen's University, received a very hearty welcome at Kingston.

Several new cases of smallpox are reported from Anderson Township, Essex County.

The G. T. R. has sent men to Niagara Falls and Buffalo to protect its coal from American railways.

By next summer it is expected that the Ontario Agricultural University, will be opened.

Arrivals of coal at Toronto were more generous. No coal is procurable at Bay City for the civic fuel yards.

The Legislative Committee of the Toronto Council favors an immediate application for a special charter for the city.

Charles Shirley, a Quebec hotel proprietor, was shot four times by an English waiter named Jno. Guard. He may recover.

Hector Delorme, of Montreal, has been appointed assistant shipping inspector of live stock, in place of the late E. B. Morgan.

Settlers have located a large portion of the territory embraced in the concession to the Blanche River Pulp & Paper Co.

Cartage companies have issued a circular to merchants, partially blaming the latter for the recent congestion of freight traffic.

The by-law respecting Toronto billiard and pool-rooms will be amended to provide that such resorts shall close hereafter at 11 p.m. instead of midnight.

A writ has been issued for \$15,000 against the Grand Trunk on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Coote, injured in the Wanstead wreck.

The Canadian General Freight Agents' Association opens its quarterly meeting in Montreal to-day, where the Grand Trunk Railway has placed rooms at its disposal in their new offices.

The senate of the University of Toronto has made changes in the curriculum for 1903-4, in modern languages and sciences, and has altered the work for the M. A. degree. Several examiners have been appointed.

The Chinamen in Ottawa have decided to away with the queue, and the very picturesque "pigtail" will be seen no more, a week hence.

The reason assigned for the discarding of the queues is that the Chinese Ambassador, Wu Ting-Fong, to the United States, before departing for his native soil, had his once very conspicuous queue cut off, and presented it to the President.

From the Swan River Doukhobor colony news is given of an encroaching nature. Peter Verigin, the Doukhobor leader, is actively engaged in studying the entire situation, and states that as soon as he has completed his tour of all the Doukhobor villages, they will hold a big meeting at a central village. At this meeting each community would be represented, and the whole land question would be finally settled one way or the other.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN. Clement Scott, the dramatic critic, is seriously ill of paralysis.

The bill granting a rebate of duties on foreign coal was passed at Westminster.

Economic conditions in Russia are said to indicate a change for the better.

Hamburg grain dealers are complaining of the inferior quality of American wheat and corn imports.

Severely cold weather prevails in Britain, the temperatures at some points being the lowest in ten years.

The French Chamber of Deputies will not enter upon discussions of the law of associations until the budget is disposed of.

The Transvaal will contribute \$150,000,000 to the cost of the war; a guarantee will also be given for an Imperial loan of a like amount.

An official denial is given to the report that Germany is negotiating for the purchase of Panama Canal Company's shares.

The czar's health is causing some anxiety to his physicians, who advise the removal of the court to the southern coast of Russia.

The National Board of Trade of the United States passed a resolution favoring reciprocity with Canada.

A proposition to import Chinese labor for work in the land is strongly opposed by the London press.

It is estimated that 120,000 to 140,000 tons of British coal are being shipped weekly to the United States.

Mrs. Alice Chauncey denies that she is engaged to marry Lord Rosebery. When asked if the report was true, she only smiled.

The Vorwarts, the Berlin Socialist organ, says the political police tried to bribe one of its employees to reveal office secrets.

The Nova Scotia barque Veronica was burned at sea. Some of her crew were taken off by the steamer Brunsvick; others took to the boats and have not since been heard of.

The German Government will be asked to place a differential duty on refined petroleum, the real object being to break the Standard Oil Company's monopoly.

What Did She Mean. Mr. Murray-Jones old Roxley has left an estate worth \$2,000,000 at least. Wouldn't you like to be his widow?

Mrs. Murray (ambiguously)—No dear, I'd rather be your—Philadelphia Press

MISSIONARIES FLED FROM FEZ.

Armed Mountaineers Menaced Them With Threats of Violence.

London, Jan. 20.—Letters received here recently from Fez, Morocco, says the rapidly growing anti-European sentiment necessitated the hurried departure from that city of the U. S. missionary, Mr. Simpson, and his wife and three English women. For two days prior to their departure the women were openly cursed in the streets, the Moors shouting as they

passed: "What's this folk in our streets?" When the American missionaries from Mequinez arrived at Fez, the Moors exclaimed: "Oh, God, we thought they were sending the cursed dogs from us, but they are coming back."

Subsequently a band of armed mountaineers met the women and wheeled around and cursed them in chorus. The missionaries were especially urged from authoritative quarters to leave as soon as possible. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson intend to remain at Tangier for the present.

SETTLING WITH SUFFERERS

G. T. R. Has Compromised Many Wanstead Claims.

STRANGE FACTS BROUGHT OUT

A Montreal despatch says: One of the most remarkable incidents in connection with the recent disastrous accident on the Grand Trunk Railway at Wanstead is the unprecedented manner in which circumstances have presented themselves that tended to cut down the amount the railway would have to pay out in damages. Ever since the day of the accident the officials of the claims department of the railway have been busy settling claims with the injured, and with the families of the dead. Although settlement has not as yet been made in any of the more serious cases, the amount paid out to the injured has already amounted, according to the statement made by an official of the claims department, to over \$60,000.

The most remarkable circumstances in connection with the settlement for damages is that according to Canadian law in the case of death only relatives of the first degree in the ascendant or descendant order can claim damages. On this account, in the cases of the only two couples who met death together, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stewart, and Dr. and Mrs. Penwarden, no claim whatever will have to be paid. After inquiring diligently, the officials of the company have found that neither had any family, and that in both cases the parents had died. Had either couple had any children, the damages would have been very heavy.

Of the injured still confined to the hospital at London, the most serious case, as far as at least as possible damages are concerned, is that of W. Quinn, of Oakville, who stands on the list as being a married man, and whose wife had been badly burned, and it is very doubtful whether he will ever be able to provide for his family. The officials of the company state that with the exception of two cases, they were able to make an amicable settlement at once. In the cases of the serious damages payment will be made after the official report of the accident is issued by Mr. C. M. Hays, general manager.

GOVERNOR SHOT EDITOR.

Result of Political Quarrel in South Carolina.

Columbia, S. C., despatch: N. G. Gonzales, editor of the State, and widely known throughout the south, is a young man of an excellent political condition, as a result of a pistol wound inflicted by James H. Tillman, Lieutenant-Governor of South Carolina. The shooting took place along the street that Jim Tillman had shot N. G. Gonzales. At once a rush set in towards the capitol. The offices of the State are in the same block as the scene of the shooting, and it took only a few moments for a throng to assemble in front of the building. Policeman Boland, immediately after the shooting, arrested Lieutenant-Governor Tillman and took him to police headquarters, where he was relieved of two pistols, the one with which he shot Editor Gonzales and a second large revolver. From the police station he was taken to the county jail, where he is to-night in full protection of the officers.

No fight or words occurred between the men preceding the assault, and only attributed cause for the shooting is that during the recent primary election Editor Gonzales opposed Lieutenant-Governor Tillman in his race for Governor and vigorously assailed him editorially.

Most of those who saw the affair, said there was nothing said until after the shot. One of Tillman's escort says he thinks Tillman said: "I received your message," and then fired. He is not certain as to this, but thinks such words were spoken. Another says he did not hear anything, and thinks he would have heard any words had they been uttered.

Editor Gonzales himself gave an explicit statement of the whole affair prior to being put under anaesthetics, and was very emphatic in saying that he had not sent any message to Mr. Tillman at any time, and that the Lieutenant-Governor said nothing until after he fired.

After the shot he said something about taking him (Gonzales) to his word. Mr. Gonzales said he took this to mean that Mr. Tillman told him he was settling old issues face to face with him.

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FIRED AT THE FORT

German Cruiser's Method of Enforcing Orders.

Puerto Cabello, Jan. 20.—The German cruiser Vesta at sunset last night fired a shell at La Viga, the fort crowning the hills behind this port. The shell, which was fired because men were believed to be in the fort, exploded without causing damage. The people of Puerto Cabello were at a loss last night to understand the action of the German cruiser. To-day, however, Commodore Schuler sent the following communication to the Venezuelan authorities through William H. Volkmar, acting American Consul here: "Referring to my letter of the 14th instant, I have to inform you that I fired a shell at Fort La Viga because, against my explicit prohibition, the presence has been observed there of unauthorized persons. Judging from reports these persons were soldiers." From information gathered to-day the statement of the German Commodore that there were unauthorized persons in the fort is incorrect.

A VALUABLE DOG.

Swallowed Diamond Ring—Now Worth One Thousand Dollars.

New York, Jan. 20.—Nero, a Great Dane owned by William Oppenheim, a dress goods dealer, of No. 120 East 71st street, is ordinarily worth \$300. On Monday night he suddenly acquired a value of \$1,000.

The Oppenheims had some guests at dinner on that night, and when the coffee was passed Mrs. Oppenheim called in Nero, and showed the guests how cleverly Nero could catch crackers which she threw to him. Then she let Nero let her \$800 diamond ring slip. Nero caught that, too.

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A veterinary surgeon, Geo. Cohen, tried six different stomach pumps on Nero, but none of them troubled Nero or brought out the ring.

KEPT WARM WITH \$5 BILLS.

Strapped Money Around Legs—Jailed for Stealing Coal.

White Plains, N. Y., Jan. 20.—Joseph Gotsch, of Pelham, who was brought to the White Plains jail to-day to serve ten days for stealing coal in Pelham Manor, which he said he took to keep his family from freezing, had his legs bound with rolls of greenbacks. Warden John Phe found \$100 in \$5 and \$2 bills, strapped to his right leg, while on the other leg were 150 \$2 bills.

Asked why he didn't buy coal with his money, he said: "The dealers wouldn't sell it to me, so I stole it." Gotsch said he didn't believe in banks, and so he had to carry the money, thought best to use it as a protection against freezing. He had the money bound to his legs with leather straps.

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