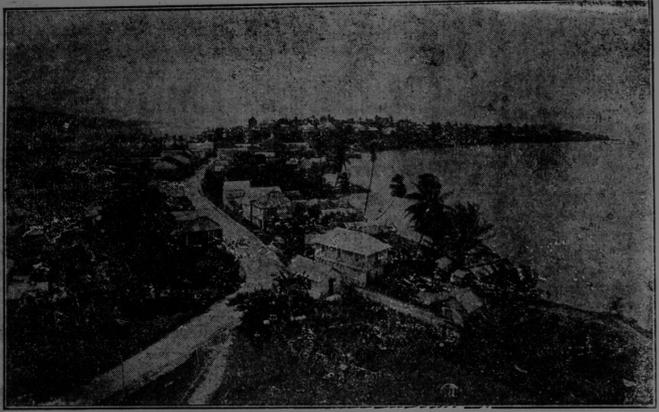


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THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1907.

## EARTHQUAKE SHAKES KINGSTON, JAMAICA, WITH GREAT LOSS OF LIFE

### Many People Were Killed, Large Numbers Injured--Fire Raging in Devastated Town, Completes the Terrible Disaster--Fear for Safety of Many Tourists.



PORT ANTONIO, JAMAICA'S CHIEF BANANA PORT

Kingston, the picturesque capital of the island of Jamaica, has been devastated by a violent earthquake. Details of the disaster are lacking as direct communication with the stricken city has been cut off. The land lines had been reconstructed to within five miles of Kingston Tuesday evening, and from message reports received through such channels as were open it has been learned that many of the most important buildings have been destroyed and that there has been serious loss of life. So far as the reports indicate, the fatalities number less than one hundred, though the hospitals are filled with injured and the list of victims may be materially increased.

Kingston and the other points of interest in the island are at this season of the year thronged with tourists from both America and England, and the greatest apprehension is felt for the safety of many persons who had recently arrived at the Jamaican resorts. The most distinguished of these were members of a party of English statesmen, agricultural experts and men of affairs, who, under the leadership of Sir Alfred Jones, had arrived in Kingston within the past few days to attend an agricultural conference.

Among those in the company were Hall Caine, the novelist; Viscount Montmorres, H. C. Arnold-Forster, M. P.; Sir Thomas Hughes, Sir Thomas Shann and others of equal prominence. The Earl and Countess of Dudley were also passengers on the steamer which carried out the Jones party.

The first great shock was felt about 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, and in the San Francisco and Valparaiso disasters, flames immediately sprang from the wreckage and carried on the work of destruction. Tuesday afternoon the fire was still burning, although it was believed to be under control.

### Eminent English M.P., One Canadian Among Victims

The Myrtle Bank Hotel, the principal hotel at Kingston, which probably housed the greatest bulk of visitors to the island, is reported destroyed. The great military hospital was burned and forty soldiers are reported dead. Sir James Fergusson is said to have been instantly killed, but according to London reports no other Englishman, Canadian or American is believed to be missing.

The extent of the destruction which has been wrought at Kingston, a city which already bears the scars of a number of disastrous visitations of fire, earthquake and cyclone in years gone by, is still left largely to the imagination. The city is one of low-lying buildings, clustered along the shores of one of the finest and most securely land-locked harbors in the West Indies. The population, which numbers 50,000, is largely made up of native blacks.

Many steamers carrying tourists to Jamaica were en route to the island when the earthquake occurred, but it so happened that, according to schedules, none of the ships from New York or Boston was in Kingston harbor Monday afternoon.

### Forty British Soldiers Among the Killed

LONDON, Jan. 15.—The colonial office tonight received confirmation of the terrible disaster which has overtaken Kingston, Jamaica, in a dispatch from Kumar Greenwood, M. P., sent from Holland Bay at the east end of the island.

The telegram says that Kingston has been ruined by an earthquake, which occurred without warning Monday afternoon at half-past three. A very great number of buildings and dwellings were destroyed either by the earthquake or by the consequent fire.

The military hospital was burned and forty soldiers were reported to have been killed, together with several prominent citizens and many other of the inhabitants of the city. Sir James Fergusson is reported to have

been instantly killed, but no other English, Canadian or American are missing.

The city is quiet, but disciplined workers are needed.

The governor of the colony, Sir Alexander Swettenham, assisted by Sir Alfred Jones, is directing affairs.

The steamer Port Antonio will leave Thursday with most of the members of the party who went out with Sir Alfred Jones to attend the agricultural conference.

Up to this hour the foregoing is the most complete dispatch regarding the Kingston disaster that has reached here. The absence of details is accounted for by the breaking down of cable communication, but the announcement that no Englishmen, Canadians or Americans are missing will greatly reassure the public concerning the fate of the unusual number of tourists and others who are spending the winter in Jamaica, or who were attracted there by the agricultural and cotton conferences.

The party on board the Port Antonio only arrived in Kingston on Friday last. The Port Antonio, in addition to the members of Sir Alfred Jones party and other guests and passengers on board which gave a total passenger list of more than one hundred persons.

The news of the disaster arrived in London late last night to become generally known to the public, but it is certain to cause widespread consternation and anxiety, and it will bring home to imagination of the British people the horrors of an earthquake in a way that even the San Francisco catastrophe failed to do.

Owing to the active efforts in recent years of Joseph Chamberlain and Sir Alfred Jones, the commercial development of Jamaica has made the island much better known, and it has been given in favor as a winter resort.

### Halifax Has Cable Connection With Island

HALIFAX, Jan. 15.—The report of the destruction of Kingston, Jamaica, by an earthquake created a tremendous sensation in Halifax, which has intimate relations with Jamaica. Halifax has direct cable communication with Jamaica through the Halifax and Bermuda Cable Company, which lands at a point five miles from the city of Kingston.

The Bermuda cable was interrupted at five o'clock yesterday afternoon and has not since been working. General Manager Budge made every effort to get communication re-established, and this evening received a message from the Kingston manager, Sullivan, a native of Canada, Nova Scotia, who had reached Holland Bay, stating that all the cable staff was safe, although one cable person is endeavoring to restore communication and hope to have the cable working tonight.

Beyond the mere fact that a terrible earthquake had occurred and that the city was destroyed and that the ruins were in flames, nothing is yet known at the cable office here, but the worst is feared.

This is the height of the tourist season and English and Americans are there. Last Thursday a party of distinguished Englishmen, headed by Sir Alfred Jones of the Royal Mail line of steamers, arrived at Kingston. Their mission was to revive trade, especially the cotton industry. It is believed that all were staying at the Myrtle Bank Hotel, owned by Sir Alfred Jones, which, being in the centre of the city, would probably be destroyed.

### Marysville Man Manager of B. N. S. in Ruined City

Local interest is lent to the event by the fact that the Bank of Nova Scotia has three branches in Jamaica and New Brunswick occupy positions in these. C. H. Eason of the local branch of the bank informed the Sun that A. H. Rowley, formerly of Marysville, is at present manager of the Kingston branch. The other branches are at Port Antonio and Montego Bay. These latter places have escaped damage, however.

Another fact which in a way connects St. John with the ruined city is that the street railways in both places are controlled by the same capitalists, Matthew Nelson of Montreal, a former manager of the St. John railway, was before coming to this city, manager of the Kingston line.

### Mrs. H. C. McLeod and Other Canadians

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 15.—Mrs. H. C. McLeod, wife of the general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and her three daughters are at present touring Jamaica, as is also Hamar Greenwood, M. P., York, England. These Toronto people sailed for Jamaica January fifth, and are probably there now. Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kahle, Mrs. M. Scott, A. H. Parker, R. H. Russell, Cecil Conway, H. Blackwell, Mrs. Blackwell, Miss Blackwell, Miss Gladys Blackwell, G. M. Hunt and Lieut. Goddard.

### Port Antonio Escaped Without any Damage

BOSTON, Jan. 15.—Allen Ainslie, of the firm of Ainslie and Grabow, proprietors of the "Hilthfield" hotel at Port Antonio, receives a cablegram tonight from his partner, Edward R. Grabow

### Reports May Prove to be Exaggerated

ST. THOMAS, D. W. I., Jan. 15.—According to further, though still meagre, details of the Kingston earthquake received here, it would appear that the first reports that the city had been "destroyed" were exaggerated. The work of fighting the flames was still being pursued with energy, and in this respect the situation seemed to be improving. It was thought that the work would be under control tonight.

The statement is made that the total loss of life may yet be ascertainable. The number of dead at less than a hundred, and the number of wounded several hundred. The hospitals are filled with injured persons, and everything possible is being done for their comfort.

The principal hotel of Kingston (probably the Myrtle Bank) and other important buildings have been destroyed and other houses in Kingston sustained considerable damage. The flames apparently were confined to the docks and the warehouse district. If this is so, only a small portion of the city has been burned over. No mention is made of a continuance of the earth shocks.

### Jamaica Man Now in the City

W. L. Marsh of Jamaica is a guest at the Royal, Mr. Marsh, with his brother, G. W. Marsh, of Toronto, also at the Royal, is interested in the Canada-Jamaica Fruit Line, running between the island of Jamaica and St. John and Halifax. When spoken to last evening concerning the disaster, he expressed the opinion that the reports were quite exaggerated. Mr. Marsh got communication from Kingston on Monday. However, it is very likely that this cable was sent before these remarks on the fact that he had received a cablegram from Kingston on Monday. However, it is very likely that this cable was sent before these remarks on the fact that he had received a cablegram from Kingston on Monday. However, it is very likely that this cable was sent before these remarks on the fact that he had received a cablegram from Kingston on Monday.

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### Jamaica, its Population, etc

Kingston, the capital and the largest city of Jamaica, is a city about the same size as St. John, its population being 50,000.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Jan. 15.—Reports have been received here that Kingston, Jamaica, was visited by a terrible earthquake yesterday afternoon at four o'clock. There was a great destruction of property and loss of life, and Kingston is now on fire.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF NATURAL HIS. SOCIETY

Senator Ellis Re-Elected President  
A. G. Leavitt, Wm. McIntosh and J. R. Campbell Life Members

Last evening was indeed a busy one at the new rooms of the Natural History Society, as both a regular monthly and annual meeting were held. Dr. Geo. U. Hay occupied the chair and read the reports of the president, Senator Ellis, who was not able to attend on account of his absence from the city, and his thanks to the society for having conferred on him the honor of a life membership.

The following gentlemen were elected ordinary members of the society: Charles A. Macdonald, Alderman T. H. Bullock, R. T. Leavitt, E. A. Smith, Joseph Finley, W. J. S. Myles, W. B. Raymond, H. A. Doherty, Henry Puddington, Jas. D. Magee and Rev. E. Bertram Hooper.

Numerous donations were received, including a mounted collection of weeds, the work of Miss Francis M. Crawford of the Kingston Consolidated school, presented by E. Allan Schofield; a rattlesnake skin by Mrs. Jas. Allman; a black ear-shell, by Mrs. A. H. Pope; several carved ivory ornaments from India by Miss M. A. Rainford; a rattlesnake skin by Mrs. Jas. Millican; tropical corals and shells by Miss Bowman; a blackboard pointer by H. Gordon Leavitt; and a number of books and pamphlets for the library. A vote of thanks was passed to the donors.

The report of the council on the year's work of the society made exceedingly interesting reading and in detail gave the work of all the committees as well as the general operations, viz: the purchase and alteration of the new tract between the removal of the society's collections.

The treasurer's report showed that the year's transactions had been the heaviest in the history of the society, and also that the financial condition was healthy.

The society now has a total membership of 207—256 per the report and eleven elected last evening.

The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year: Hon. John V. Ellis, president; Dr. G. U. Hay and Dr. Geo. F. Matthew, vice-presidents; A. G. Leavitt, treasurer; W. L. McDiarmid, secretary; W. L. Ellis, J. D. Librarian; Wm. McIntosh, J. W. Banks and Jas. A. Estey, curators; J. Roy Campbell, H. G. Auld, M. D., and W. F. Burditt, additional members of council.

Reports were read from committees recommending A. Gordon Leavitt and Wm. McIntosh for life membership, on account of distinguished services to the society; and on being elected as such, both made suitable replies in acknowledgment of the honor conferred on them.

J. Roy Campbell was also made a life member on account of a donation to the society.

An acknowledgment of the conferring of life membership was made from Prof. W. F. Ganong.

### CONGRESS FAVORS SUBSIDIES TO U. S. MERCHANT MARINE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—After a fight which lasted all day and extended to the floor of the house, threatening to bring about much filibustering at one time, the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries finally decided at 8 o'clock p. m. by a vote of 8 to 7, to make a favorable report on a ship subsidy bill prepared by Representative Littauer of New York as a substitute for the Grosvener bill, which has been under discussion for many weeks.

### Scotch Coal, and Broad Cove Soft.

C. E. COLWELL has on hand a stock of Scotch Coal, and is expecting, daily, some Broad Cove Soft.

Telephone West End, No 17,  
C. E. COLWELL,  
Old Fort, West End

### TENNYSON SMITH BLAMES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

(Special to the Star.)  
FREDERICTON, N. B., Jan. 15.—E. Tennyson Smith had another crowded house this evening at the Opera House. Mr. Smith's subject was the "Tag of War." In his remarks he strongly criticized the Dominion government for putting on its statute book a law like the Scott Act and yet at the same time allowing the contents in our barracks. The tag of war was similar to that enacted in other cities.

### AMERICA HAS SLOW PARALYSIS SAYS HILL

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 15.—This country is facing, in a commercial sense, the disease one might call slow paralysis," declared James J. Hill, President of the Great Northern R. R., at the opening session of the North-western Lumbermen's Association, today. Continuing Mr. Hill said:

"The railroads today are blamed for everything, practically that is wrong. The Great Northern road is blamed. I am blamed because it is intimated that I own the Great Northern Road. There are 230 shareholders in the company, 110 of whom are women. You never know that before, but that is the situation and when we ask our shareholders to subscribe \$50,000,000 more stock to our already large capital in order that we may build more trackage to carry the business of the west to the east, we are made defendant in a suit brought by the State of Minnesota."

In discussing the congestion of traffic on the northern roads, Mr. Hill said:

"At this time, when the lumber business is a constantly increasing factor, the lumber trades of the country is being concentrated on the forests of Washington and Oregon. I was talking to the president of the Northern Pacific within a month. Their capacity is measured by the tunnel through the Cascade range. Everything working fairly, good grade and good rails, they can get from 300 to 350 cars a day in each direction, and that is all they can move through that hole, and often they are called on to move six hundred or seven hundred cars a day.

"The remedy today is more trackage facilities and we cannot increase those facilities without more money. It is not more cars, but more movement of cars already in use which will solve the car shortage problem."

### OPPOSE JUDICATURE ACT.

It was decided at a meeting of a number of provincial barristers yesterday, that it would not be advisable to pass the new judicature act. A communication signed by those present was sent to Allan O. Earle requesting that a meeting of the Barristers' Society be called for the further consideration of the matter.

A number of the barristers are opposed to the passing of the act as they claim that under it, too many applications must be made to the judge during a suit.

### Railroad advertising has induced thousands of farmers to visit every section of our country.—G. H. Daniels, G. P. A., N. Y. C. & H. R. R.

### ASTORIA—Stylish, without being extreme. Looks best with large puff collar. Ample room between points, 1 1/2 inches at back. Choplines neck-fit in Quarter Sizes.

Even a cotton foreign collar has surface licks; but for wear's sake get collars made of Irish linen, for service. Doubly-sewn.

20c. Each Demand the brand W.F.P. 3 for 50c.

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