

The Evening Times

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ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1908.

EIGHT PAGES—ONE CENT

EARTHQUAKE STORIES AND EXPERIENCES

SCENES OF INDESCRIBABLE HORROR IN THE STRICKEN ITALIAN CITIES; NUMBER OF VICTIMS OVER 100,000

Thirty-five Cities and Towns Have Been Destroyed—Greedy Flames Are Completing the Razing of the Beautiful City of Messina—Prompt Measures Being Taken For the Relief of the Sufferers—Panic Stricken Refugees Fleeing To The Mountains.

A TERRIBLE RECORD There is no country of the world that has yet to feel the death-dealing influence or suffer the devastating effects of the earthquake. Its toll in deaths has been millions of souls, the financial loss it has wrought is incalculable.

Bands of Looters Fight Over Booty

Rome, Dec. 29.—Bands of looters entered the wrecked houses at Reggio and then fought over the loot. One of the bands sacked the home of a rich merchant, leading a deaf car to his pitiful appeal to help himself, and his family who were pillaged by the walls. They stole the treasures and set fire to the ruins.

There are but three other disasters of record, where the fatalities have been anywhere near as great as this last one at Antioch. These occurred at Jeddah, Japan, and in Sicily. At Jeddah, 200,000 persons are said to have perished, and 100,000 died at Antioch and in Sicily.

Palermo Citizens in a State of Panic

Palermo, Dec. 30.—There was a slight earthquake early last evening, and it caused a terrible panic. The population fled the city, and carried out the images of the saints and sacred vessels, then marked in a procession through the streets, imploring a cessation of the earthquake scourge.

Rescuers Had to Fight Superstition Many terrible stories are related in connection with the rescue work. The rescuers have to contend with a superstition so deep rooted in the Sicilian mind that in many instances injured men and women clung to crumbling walls, refusing to let go their hold and seek a safer position.

Messina Refugees Tell of Suffering

Catania, Dec. 29.—Tales of terror and suffering are told by the Messina refugees, who have reached here. The majority of these are being treated in the hospitals, while the others have secured shelter in private homes. A woman, who escaped unhurt told of her experiences.

Magnificent Homes Reduced to Ruin When day dawned the entire shore line of the surrounding country was utterly changed in appearance. The coastline was almost entirely altered, while of all the magnificent houses along the shore only a few tottering ruins remained.

Summary of the Damage Done

Rome, Dec. 30.—The premier has received a telegram from Signor Felice, a deputy at Messina, summing up the situation as follows: "Messina is completely destroyed and razed to the ground. The victims may be numbered by tens of thousands. The congregation, which is still raging, is completing the destruction of the city. Sacking implements, firemen and soldiers must be sent immediately."

Thousands of Persons Buried in the Ruins Catania, Dec. 30.—One of the Messina survivors gave a vivid account this morning of the appearance of that city. He says that only a small proportion of the total population escaped. Thousands of persons are still buried alive in the ruins, where they are suffering slow death by torture.

No Relief Train Can Get Into Messina

Halifax, Dec. 30.—(Special)—While trying to make Canoe harbor at an early hour this morning in a blinding snow storm, the Gloucester schooner, Vera, Capt. Martin Garcia, struck on that dangerous head land, White Point, which has proven the graveyard of so many steamers, and sailing vessels.

NEW BRUNSWICK GOVERNMENT ISSUES ITS ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL FINANCES

The Receipts for the Year Are Shown to be \$3,089,187.80—A Detailed Statement—Interest Charges on Money Owed by Province Are Nearly \$234,000.

The auditor general publishes in the Royal Gazette today the following statement of the provincial accounts for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1908:

Table with columns for RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURES. RECEIPTS: Balance 31st October, 1907, \$5,389.40; Dominion subsidies, \$21,363.90; Territorial revenue, \$48,292.77; Fees provincial secretary's office, \$2,373.61; King's printer, \$1,419.89; Liquor license, province share, \$18,629.54; Dominion government share, \$4,809.54; Miscellaneous, \$3,129.50; Private and local bills, \$810.00; Dominion government grants, \$10,000.00; Succession duties, \$3,000.00; Succession duties, \$32,489.37; Tax on incorporation, \$4,494.19; School books, \$1,091.71; Ordinary revenue, \$1,086,736.34; London Guarantee & Accident Co on amount defalcation, \$5,000.00; Deputy Surveyor General, \$5,203.37; Proceeds treasury bills, 1908, \$1,907,888.38; Deposits by bridge contractors, \$3,573.03; Interest held to meet payment on treasury bills due Feb. 15th, 1909, \$15,730.81; Equity court deposits, \$4,991.30; Total, \$3,089,187.80.

VESEL STRIKES ON WHITE POINT

The Gloucester Fishing Schooner Vera on the Rocks Near Canoe—Two Men Swept From Her Deck and Drowned.

Halifax, Dec. 30.—(Special)—While trying to make Canoe harbor at an early hour this morning in a blinding snow storm, the Gloucester schooner, Vera, Capt. Martin Garcia, struck on that dangerous head land, White Point, which has proven the graveyard of so many steamers, and sailing vessels.

POLICE COURT

James Powell and James Martin, who were arrested on Sheffield street on Christmas eve for fighting, gave contrary dictory versions of the quarrel in the police court today. Powell, who lives from Waterloo, Kings County, alleged that while he was journeying to the dance in Bjou Hall, Martin insulted him and drew a bottle from his pocket, attempting to hit him. Powell brandished a false hood, his antagonist's assertion that they met originally in one of the disreputable houses on the street.

Unforeseen expenses, \$3,851.02; Expenditure chargeable to ordinary revenue, \$1,042,196.48; Late dep. surveyor general defalcation, \$18,393.33; Ordinary expenditure incurred prior to Nov. 1st, 1907, and paid since charged to funded debt, \$215,781.48; Board of Works for permanent bridges, 7 Edw. VII, Cap. 18, \$15,380.40; International Railway subsidy, \$4,000.00; Vte. Cap. 11, \$25,000.00; N. B. Coal and Railway repairs etc., 7 Edw VII, Cap. 18, \$28,180.48; Bridges, 7 Edw. VII, Cap. 18, \$172,591.38; Redemption 6 p. c. debentures, \$48,000.00; Redemption 4 p. c. debentures, \$2,500.00; Treasury bills due in London, \$3,871,100.00; Equity court withdrawals, \$4,000.00; Balance, \$136,936.51; Total, \$3,089,187.80.

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THE SALE OF CIGARETTES TO MINORS

"It had better be understood observed Magistrate Ritchie this morning in imposing a fine of \$10 on Frank Hart, 'that in the future if a package of cigarettes is broken and one cigarette sold to a minor the full penalty will be enforced. The fine will be less if the minor is under sixteen years of age, but there is an object in it.'"

Frank Hart, an Englishman, with a story in the west end was reported by the west side police for selling cigarettes to Arthur Nise, aged 13. The boy stated in the hearing today that accompanied by a playmate he purchased one cigarette from the defendant for one cent on Saturday afternoon. The magistrate quoted the law which empowered him to adjudge whether a minor is under sixteen years of age by appearance. As practically every storekeeper sold cigarettes to boys irrespective of age without prosecution, Hart said he inferred the law did not prohibit such sales. A fine of \$10 was paid.

The examination of William Short accused of assaulting and robbing Charles Wong, a Chinaman which was scheduled for commencement this morning, was again adjourned indefinitely. It is expected that the two suspects will be captured in a few days and if such proves the case the trio will receive a joint hearing, as honor frequently observed that as success breaking would be less expensive than serving the head of a rooster ingivigle oath to the Oriental it would be advisable to procure the saucer.

William Paterson who has been in jail on remand for assaulting his wife was again remanded. His counsel announced that he was unable to persuade the prisoner's brother to furnish sureties to keep the peace but if liberated Paterson promised to depart immediately for St. George where a position awaits him. The magistrate desired more reliable assurance of the safety of families and relatives in the province are in a state of direful apprehension. The greater portion of the Italian employed on the construction of the transcontinental railway belong to that province of Italy where such tremendous havoc has been wrought, and many fear for the safety of families and relatives left behind. A local Italian banker interviewed here this morning said that in Southern Italy nearly all the people carry arms, and there is a large proportion of the lawless element, so that stories of loot and pillage following the earthquake can be easily credited. The local Italian Bank which is headquarters for the local Italian settlement has, since the news of the disaster appeared in the press, been besieged with enquiries from Italian anxious to learn the fate of relatives left behind but other than the dispatches can be easily credited. The local Italian Bank which is headquarters for the local Italian settlement has, since the news of the disaster appeared in the press, been besieged with enquiries from Italian anxious to learn the fate of relatives left behind but other than the dispatches can be easily credited. The local Italian Bank which is headquarters for the local Italian settlement has, since the news of the disaster appeared in the press, been besieged with enquiries from Italian anxious to learn the fate of relatives left behind but other than the dispatches can be easily credited.

HON. H. R. EMMERSON IN THE CITY TODAY

Hon. H. R. Emerson, M. P., passed through the city at noon from Ottawa en route to his home in Dorchester. Asked for an expression of opinion on the Hon. G. P. Graham's policy of retrenchment, the I. C. R. he said that the earning power of the I. C. R. was a difficult proposition to deal with. On a company operated such a move would mean a great opposition, but on a government road people did not pay so much attention to retrenchment. The plan would reduce incomes and, of course, would meet with protest.

"However," said Hon. Mr. Emerson, "I will do my talking when the time comes."