

THE "MIOVERA" DISASTER.

Graphic Account of It by a Canadian Resident of Honolulu.

Mr. Sanford Fleming's Mission to Australia—Robert Louis Stevenson.

(Correspondence of Montreal Witness.)

HONOLULU, Oct. 10.—The Canadian Australian Steamship line has met hard luck this early in its career. Its strong and handsome steamer "Miovera" has stranded on the coral reef at the entrance to Honolulu harbor. She was from Sydney direct, having given Brisbane the go-by on account of the Queensland government's failure to meet the terms proposed by the government of New South Wales. A wait was made, however, for mails and passengers from Brisbane by rail.

The marine lookout kept by the Hawaiian Government on Diamond Head, a promontory five or six miles from Honolulu, reported by telegraph that the "Miovera" was ten miles south at 7:30 p. m., on Monday, Oct. 2. It is quite dark in this latitude at that time of the year. A committee sent by the cable matter to the wharf and prepared to go out to meet the steamer. The pilot took lamps in his boat with him to light up the buoy on either side of the passage into the harbor through the reef.

There was some delay in getting the boat off, a hawker was run out to the steamer by an officer of the board of health. Mails had been imported by the previous steamer from the southern hemisphere of the Oceanic line, and probably the board of health meant to be particularly watchful this time. But it is also said that the pilot assigned to the "Miovera" remarked that there was no occasion for hurry. The pilot had got to about the third buoy from deep water, and the lamp was being hung upon that object, when the approaching steamer was observed to be very close in and in a dangerous place.

STOPPED AND NEVER WENT AHEAD AGAIN. "What is he trying to do?" said the pilot, as the steamer was swinging round on the leeward side of the channel. Then the vessel was observed to stop, and she never went ahead again. The pilot was on board the grounded ship, and word was sent back to port for the Government tug boat. It was less than an hour from the time of the stranding till she was resting on the reef, in full view of the principal wharves of Honolulu harbor. There was a strong northeast breeze blowing, which swung the steamship farther broadside on the reef.

The tug boat was not long in going out, a hawker was run out to the steamer's starboard quarter. On this line the tug boat strained the live long night, while an anchor and cable were let out at the bow to keep the "Miovera" from getting into a worse position. Representatives from Theo. H. Davies & Co., agents both for the Canadian-Australian line and Lloyd's, early on the morning of the 16th, called on the captain of the "Miovera" and consulted with Captain Scott on his predicament. The ship was in a very precarious position. Had a southerly gale sprung up—"kona," as the natives call it—a storm would have been a disagreeable affair for the steamer. In that eventuality there would have been no small peril in getting passengers and crew off the ship. The "Miovera" was lying in a region where breakers roll high when such a storm prevails. As the day fortunately was, the vessel was in company with the "Miovera" and the "Miovera" was sending her an atom of foam over her bulwarks.

NEWSPAPER MEN ON BOARD.

It was nearly ten o'clock before your correspondent heard of the disaster. He was attending a meeting he was on his way to a partying with Mr. T. R. Walker, the resident head of Theo. H. Davies & Co., and British vice-consul, who was to leave by the "Miovera" for England via Victoria and Montreal. About 11 o'clock I took a short boat with a few other gentlemen to the stranded ship. It was not yet two or three hours of rising. At one point after leaving the harbor our native boatmen were in some consternation at the leeward side of the steamer. The sea was making for the rising gale. Cross seas and blind rollers gave us a wailing, as well as a jolly good cracking in the cradle of the ship. We managed to make the lee side of the tug boat without mishap. After going on board the tug the wind and the sea increased, so that the little steamer pitched and tossed in fine style as she strained on the creaking hawser.

Finding that there was smooth water on the lee side of the "Miovera" a party of newspaper men, including the writer, went on board with Messrs. King and Smith, editor and Minister of the Interior and Attorney General, respectively. Everything on board the stranded steamer was as quiet as if she were lying in dock discharging cargo. The officers were busy attending to the hawser, that every now and then began to strain from chafing on the bits, when the order had to be given for the tug to stop pulling while a fresh hold was taken. Most of the passengers were in their berths. The three or four exceptions were gloomily discussing the chances of the ship's getting away without being disabled from continuing her voyage.

After consultation with the Minister of the Interior, who from having been captain of the largest coasting steamer here, was familiar with the habits of the "Miovera," and the superintendent of the Hawaiian Steamship Co.'s fleet, it is thoroughly certain that the steamer's predicament should be engaged from above to lighten the ship, and steam power to pull her into deep water. The following soundings on either side of the "Miovera" on the second day, taken from a map of the harbor with her position marked, will give some idea of the

DIFFICULTY PROBLEM.

confronting the captain and agents: From bow to stern, starboard side—17, 15, 11, 13, 12, 13, from stern to bow, port side—14, 14 (amidships), 15 (opposite bow), 22 toward the harbor and 23 seaward. All efforts by day and night failed to bring the steamer to the surface, and on Saturday all that was done was to strengthen the anchorage of the "Miovera." When the "Miovera" arrived at Honolulu, June 1, she drew 17 feet of water forward and 20 feet aft. She has a record of 384 miles a day.

The passengers have published in the Bulletin this afternoon a list of sympathetic names with Captain Scott, and thanks to agents for having provided comfortable hotel accommodations for them and quick despatch to their destinations. There were large quantities of bananas and plantain awaiting shipment by the "Miovera" at this port. Some of the bananas were put on

THE CHILDREN'S ROOM.

How peaceful at night The slumbering children lie, Each gentle breath so light Escaping like a sigh.

Who's hands are those unseen That smooth each little head? Whose lips caress the boys and girls? Whose fingers stroke the golden curls?

Whose are the yearning eyes, And whose the trembling tear? Whose heart is this that cries, Beseeching God to spare?

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WILL AND I.

I had been sitting at my desk for a full hour, engaged in the laudable occupation of doing nothing. In spite of my trouble, what wonder then that I drifted off into reverie, and my thoughts reverted to sadly pleasant retrospect?

Once more it was winter—the sunny New Orleans winter—and Will and I were together. I recalled the hours passed in reading and writing and music; the drives and walks and theaters. The most minute and trivial incidents recurred to my mind, and I found myself smiling at the recollection of a certain long, narrow, phenomenally dark passage or alleyway on Royal street, up which we glanced one night, and which Will, with his bright and quick sense of humor, immediately christened "Jack the Ripper's gallery."

This is not a sentimental story that I am about to tell. I warn my readers in advance that there is nothing startling or wildly romantic in it. From start to finish it is a simple "o'erture" and yet it was so romantic too. There was a tinge of romance, after all, when Will asked me to become his wife, to marry him in secret. We had been betrothed for a year, and he was far from strong. His health was undermined, and a horrible fear oppressed him that he would be taken away, in the prime of his vigor, with life and hope and happiness all his, it was an awful thought.

"Constance," he said one night as we stood on the moonlit gallery, with its luxuriant rose vines and the great ivy trees, "I believe that I shall see your shivers of fragrance in our faces, 'thy darling, be my wife now! Why should we wait, dear? There is nothing between our lives and happiness but the bugbear of poverty, and I shall have a fortune when I am 30. I shall be 30 next September, and I have it."

Something in the sweet tender voice made me glance up swiftly into the brave, dark eyes. Beautiful, tender eyes, where are you now? Where are you now, my Will? Hidden away forever from the world, my eyes, from beyond the clasp of my arms, gone—gone—I feel it, believe it—to that.

Beautiful, veiled, bright, moon, Where the glad ghosts meet. Something in his voice made my heart ache.

"Why do you speak so sadly?" I asked him. "Never mind the fortune, Will, I care nothing for that, if you are only spared to me." "I know it, dear, tender little heart," he answered softly. "You are the only true woman I have ever known. But I wanted to tell you, Constance, (I admit it) it was prophesied that I should die before I am 30."

"Nonsense!" I cried stupidly, "that is sheer superstition, and it is very wrong to believe in it, dear. No one knows the future. I would never think of that if I were you." "I tried to smile as I spoke—to shake off the strange feeling that would oppress me, try as I might—but all in vain. Die before 30! My true heart, noble Will, with his sunshiny eyes and tender dark eyes, I would not now, if it were absurd. So I laughed at his fears as foolishness and tried to make him forget. But he was far from strong, and that one glimpse of what might be in store for us—the awful parting that might come—made me decide. So I promised that night to become his wife at once and "in secret and silence," as the old song says.

Everything was made ready, and on the following night—the night before his departure—we were solemnly married in a quaint little old church in one of the retired streets of New Orleans. And Will and I belonged to each other for time and eternity.

The sad parting came next day—and he went back to his northern home, while I returned to my work, brightened only by the hope of meeting in the summer at quiet Long Beach. I am not a superstitious woman. I had laughed at Will for his own dread of the supernatural and his belief in omens, but we had not been parted long, and a whole month when something very curious happened. Will had written to me every day, dear, dear, sweet letters that they did my heart good—kept it alive, in fact.

But for those letters I would have given up my hold upon hope and would have succumbed to despair. But one day no letter came. I felt a strange sinking at the heart—an awful sense of depression—darkness gathered over my life. Strange thoughts came into these are the two emotions which serve to kill the human heart, to darken and blight existence. That night I went out on the little gallery where we had passed so many happy hours. The moon was bright, and one star shone in the blue vault above our heads—"our star." My heart was crushed and heavy.

I stood leaning against one of the columns which supported the gallery, the moonlight and the star above me, and I thought of all around me. And as I stood there, something—a light touch—fell upon my

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The Government of Hawaii will take a prominent part among the nations which are to be specially represented at the Midwinter Exposition. Their commissioners are devoting themselves to the embellishment of two acres which have been granted them, and where the South Sea Island commissioners are uniting with them in preparing an exhibit. In this space the era of progress in the Hawaiian Islands and other islands of the Southern Sea will be exemplified to the fullest extent, its strong contrast to the past history of the islands being emphasized by accurate pictures of native life. There will be native huts surrounded by tropical verdure. The dances and native pastimes will be illustrated, and Hawaiian boatmen will exhibit their wonderful prowess in the canoe upon artificial lakes within the border of the concessions.

There have been enough applications for extra concessions in connection with the Exposition to fill Golden Gate Park in its entirety. From these there have been selected a large number of the most desirable, and in the carrying out of the plans therefore there have been good many picturesque and thoroughly beautiful buildings added, all of which are in perfect harmony with the design of the Exposition and in keeping with the desire of the management to afford the world the greatest amount of interest and entertainment that can possibly be consolidated within the space occupied by an Exposition.

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Here also will be the Cearda-Hungarian, where Hungarian life will be represented in the gypsy girls in characteristic costumes. With the Swiss national costumes will be the leading features of the exposition. Only a little way from the Vienna Prater work is being pushed forward on the concession to Oriental nations which is to embody many of the best features of the Midway Plaisance. The Turkish theatre will have a place there and, running all around it, will be the Casino street, where wedding processions on camel-back, where the bride and all the other accessories, will be seen three times a day. Here also will be a Cafe Grand, and the abolition of the coast early in the present year, was composed of 300 men. Villiers subsequently abandoned the expedition in order to join Sir Gerald Portal. Gregory proceeded with an escort of 40 men and on reaching Kani ascended 17,000 feet over snow-covered glaciers at a temperature of 28 degrees below zero.

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Spokane Review: An industry of a peculiar kind in that which James Sutton, an Esch gardener, is introducing in the cultivation of the floor plant. Mr. Sutton has several bunches of the plant on a five-acre garden spot and it is doing remarkably well. The slips were planted about two years ago, and the roots are now six feet long and about three-quarters of an inch thick.

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Spokane Review: At Hoquiam the directors of the public schools are having difficulty with citizens who formerly dwelt in the South. A man from Texas has complained because one of the teachers read several daily passages from "Uncle Tom's Cabin." He has been told that they were not as good as persons born in the North. Other complaints are made that such songs as "Marching Through Georgia" have a tendency to keep alive sectional feeling. Another demands the expurgation from the school books of all references to the war of the rebellion. Evidently this country has gone thoroughly Democratic.

San Francisco Bulletin: A remarkable gold story is reported from Summit Falls in Western Washington. This mine is 265 feet high, and the pool below it is 200 feet deep. During the past week some lumbermen have been shooting logs over the cataraet. One particular log went took a graceful curve on the glassy surface of the water, shot straight downward and had risen to the surface and floated down the stream, it was seen to have a rock imbedded in one end, which, upon examination, was found to be quartz and rich in gold. It is reported that the discoverer of this remarkable and unparalleled find will make some attempt to locate it.

Ores and Metals: Prospectors when out of reach of assays, to test their ores, can do so by means of a portable battery, which is used to test a certain mineral or metal. When you desire to make the test pulverize the rock very fine, then take one part of the pulp and two parts of common gunpowder; mix them together with enough water to make a stiff dough; work it up and mix thoroughly together in your hands; then form a pyramid and let it dry in the sun or near a fire. When dry set the cone on a flat stone and put a live coal on top of the cone. When it has cooled and spatters itself out, the mineral, if there was any, will be found in the shape of a button on the stone.

Toronto Empire:—The prevalence of kleptomania in the large dry goods stores of the city had a very painful ventilation in the Police court on Saturday. Two respectable well-dressed women, who were seen stealing a pair of boots. Relative of the prisoners appeared in court and appealed to the magistrate to impose a fine. Colonel Denison, in sentencing them to twenty days in jail, said: "I have had again and again brought before me, ladies of respectable appearance, in comfortable circumstances, and of previous good character, who are perpetually doing this sort of thing. I used to let people go on suspended sentence, and they insisted that all they had to do was to keep their names out of the papers. Owing to this there has been a constant increasing number of cases of this kind which the dry goods stores in this city, for shop-lifting will be more severe every time."

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One of the first special concessions made was to the Chinese "Six Companies," of San Francisco, who are already building a structure of their own, a purely Oriental affair, 100 feet long by 90 in width, with a central courtyard, 80 x 40 feet, set out with rare Chinese plants. On the other side of the courtyard are open booths for the manufacture of rare and costly Chinese products. The crowning exterior feature of this building will be the celebrated tower of Nanjing. The roof will be of tiles, with fantastically twisted carved figures of the fabled dragon projecting from the angles, and with fluttering dragon flags of blue, red and yellow combining to produce a pleasing and fantastic effect.

Arrangements have been completed and work is now progressing on an immense Japanese tea-garden, which is to be another prominent feature in connection with the exposition. Entering by a castle gateway, or Shuron-ome, the visitor will find himself in a veritable Japanese domain, even the shrubbery being transplanted from the "Flowers Kingdom," and where Japanese maidens in their dainty gowns will serve tea and confections, while Japanese dances and Japanese music may be seen and heard on every hand.

Another concession is for a reproduction here of the celebrated Prater of Vienna, in an area of 72,000 square feet adjoining the central court of the exposition. Entrance to the grounds will be through a massive artistic gateway, beyond which will be various bits of architecture of a pleasing and striking character. All these are now in course of construction. There is a concert hall 75 feet square; a theatre of Moorish design, 60x90 feet; a Levantine restaurant and a score of ornamental booths in which Austro-Hungarian wares are to be manufactured and displayed.

Here also will be the Cearda-Hungarian, where Hungarian life will be represented in the gypsy girls in characteristic costumes. With the Swiss national costumes will be the leading features of the exposition. Only a little way from the Vienna Prater work is being pushed forward on the concession to Oriental nations which is to embody many of the best features of the Midway Plaisance. The Turkish theatre will have a place there and, running all around it, will be the Casino street, where wedding processions on camel-back, where the bride and all the other accessories, will be seen three times a day. Here also will be a Cafe Grand, and the abolition of the coast early in the present year, was composed of 300 men. Villiers subsequently abandoned the expedition in order to join Sir Gerald Portal. Gregory proceeded with an escort of 40 men and on reaching Kani ascended 17,000 feet over snow-covered glaciers at a temperature of 28 degrees below zero.

Dr. Gregory, of the British museum, has just returned to London from an expedition to equatorial Africa. The principal object of the expedition was to make the ascent of Mount Kenya. Dr. Gregory managed to ascend 18,000 feet above the sea, the point reached by him being higher by 3,000 feet than that attained by any previous traveler in those regions. The expedition to which Dr. Gregory was attached, originally organized by Lenx Villiers, of the First Life Guards, and started from the coast early in the present year, was composed of 300 men. Villiers subsequently abandoned the expedition in order to join Sir Gerald Portal. Gregory proceeded with an escort of 40 men and on reaching Kani ascended 17,000 feet over snow-covered glaciers at a temperature of 28 degrees below zero.

London Daily News.—There are five printing presses in Iceland. Ten newspapers and eight magazines are published, and the Icelanders have a great impulse to intellectual production is proved by the fact that the 12,000 Icelanders who have emigrated to Manitoba have founded twelve newspapers.

Post-Intelligencer: The run of silver salmon is about over, and nearly all the fish now taken are of the variety known as dog, or fall salmon. People who want salmon can certainly get them cheap enough at the present time, as they are sold at the rate of two for fifteen cents, or four for a quarter.

At the recent fall fair, says the Waterloo (Quebec) Advertiser, Messrs. J. and P. H. Kraus, of St. Armand, exhibited a splendid pair of five-year-old oxen that tipped the scales at 4,490 lbs. The oxen are young enough yet to grow, and if they are not sent to the block too soon should add another ton to their present weight.

Spokane Review: An industry of a peculiar kind in that which James Sutton, an Esch gardener, is introducing in the cultivation of the floor plant. Mr. Sutton has several bunches of the plant on a five-acre garden spot and it is doing remarkably well. The slips were planted about two years ago, and the roots are now six feet long and about three-quarters of an inch thick.

In London there is a quaint old organization known as the Fellowship of Free Porters. It was organized some time in the thirteenth century, and for nearly 600 years its members had the monopoly of the distilling of gin from boats coming up the Thames. A century ago the organization had 2,600 members, with a surplus which in 1852 grew to 281,000. The construction of docks, and the abolition of metage or messengers of gin, destroyed the prosperity of the Fellowship. It has been languishing for several years, and refuses to die because no provision has been made for the disposal of its funds. An arrangement has been made recently whereby the funds are to be

distributed, and meanwhile each member is to be paid ten shillings a week.

Seattle Telegraph: The Washington and Oregon Shingle Manufacturers' association have called a meeting of representatives of shingle manufacturers, to meet in Seattle November 15, 1893, "for the purpose