

CITY SWEEP BY CYCLONE

Terrible Storm Wrecks Town of Meridian, Miss.—Fire Adds to Horror

Scores of Houses and Buildings Blown to Splinters—Telegraph Lines Down—One Structure Left Standing on Main Street

Jackson, Miss., March 3 (1 a. m.).—Meridian, Miss., was struck by a tornado at 6:30 o'clock last evening. From thirty to fifty persons were killed, scores of others were injured, the business houses in the main streets demolished and many private homes destroyed. The property loss is estimated at \$5,000,000.

At midnight the town was in darkness, and the telegraph wires all down, the only communication with the outside world being over the long distance telephone to New Orleans and Mobile.

Every effort was being made at that hour by the authorities, aided by volunteer searching parties, to ascertain the loss of life, but owing to the darkness, the pouring rain and the debris filling the streets, it has thus far been impossible to discover with any degree of certainty the extent of the loss of life and property.

Scores of houses were blown to splinters, others unroofed and badly wrecked, including three railroad depots, and the telegraph service was demoralized.

To add to the horror of the situation the wreckage in various parts of the city is burning, imperiling such buildings as escaped the fury of the storm. The latest report is that the fire is sweeping all before it and that the damage will be immense.

Chaos and Disorder Reign

Meridian, Miss., March 3.—With 23 bodies found, the fear that many more are buried in the ruins and millions of dollars worth of property lost, chaos and disorder reign supreme in Meridian tonight.

The citizens are stunned and paralyzed over the horror of the cyclone and each passing hour instead of ameliorating the situation only magnifies the havoc and ruin wrought by the fury of the storm.

Martial law has been declared and armed troops are patrolling the streets in the ruined district. Four military companies have been called into service and all thoroughfares in the path of the cyclone are being guarded by the state militia.

Day of Funerals in Mississippi

Meridian, Miss., March.—Before an army of determined men attacking Meridian's storm-swept and debris-strewn streets the vast amount of wreckage is giving way slowly but surely.

The Sabbath following the disastrous storm of Friday was a day of funerals. The merchants and residents of Meridian had never protected themselves with storm and hurricane insurance, so agents will have little beyond fire losses to pay. A million and a quarter dollars is now thought to be a conservative estimate of the damage wrought.

After leaving Meridian and entering Macon, a suburban town five miles distant, all trace of the storm seems to have disappeared. Little if any damage is reported from the country. No additions to the casualty list have been made, estimates still standing at twenty-four dead and forty-six injured.

ROUND UP UNTAMED STEEDS

Stockmen of Eastern Washington Organize to Catch Over Six Thousand Wild Horses.

Tacoma (Wash.).—Thousands of wild horses remaining uncaptured on the plains of Eastern Washington are to be rounded up next month and sold. Ten years ago many herds of these wild horses ranged over the eastern part of the State, but were considered valueless. When caught and broken they seldom brought more than \$6 per head. During the hard winters many starved to death.

The demand for horses in the Philippines, together with the influx of settlers, gradually changed conditions, so that the value of horse flesh has advanced, and each spring a number of these wild horses have been corralled and marketed.

Sunday, at Ephrata twenty-six stockmen of Douglas county organized for the final round-up of horses on the Moses Lake range, on April 23d. Two hundred men will be engaged and 6000 horses will be corralled of which 2000 will be shipped to the Eastern markets in May. Those remaining will be broken and marketed in this State and Alaska, at from \$50 to \$100 each.

Schwab Advises Buying Mines in Nevada.

Los Angeles.—A straight tip from Chas. M. Schwab: "Buy Nevada gold mines."

Where? "Oh, out on the desert up there," replied Mr. Schwab when the question was put to him.

Mr. Schwab is returning East after investing several millions of dollars in Nevada mines, having bought the Shoshone among other properties.

"I believe," said Mr. Schwab, "there are greater possibilities in the development of Arizona mining than have yet been shown. What is the best territory? Why, I should say the desert up there."

"What do you think of the general financial situation?" Mr. Schwab was asked.

"Most excellent," he replied.

Cause for Thankfulness.

He—Do you believe that love is a disease? She—Yes; but thank goodness, it is one that we can have more than once.

CLAIM BOYCOTT IS MOSTLY IMAGINARY

DISPATCH FROM WASHINGTON EXPLAINS SITUATION

Failure of American Trade in China Traceable to Methods of Manufacture in This Country—Market Must Be Studied.

Chicago.—A dispatch from Washington says: Neither the boycott in China nor the lack of an efficient consular service is entirely responsible for the failure of American trade in the Orient to reach the proportions to which it is surely entitled. The consular bill may or may not go through congress, the political outlook being unfavorable.

The boycott is more imaginary than real, according to reports received here. That is to say, millions of Chinese in the interior cities are not reached by any boycott proclamation. There is a feeling against foreigners. This is directed today towards America, tomorrow towards Germany, later on against England, and last of all Japan will be reached. This is merely a feeling, however, of a desire to build up China for itself.

The failure of American trade to increase as rapidly as it should do is declared to be the fault of American merchants, who have not yet discovered that they must adapt their methods of manufacture and sale to the market they are looking after. Some extraordinary reports have been sent into the department of commerce and labor, going to show that much of the supposed animosity displayed by the Chinese against American goods is caused by the persistence of our manufacturers in refusing to study the Chinese market and to make themselves acquainted with the Oriental mind.

Gold Production.

Never before, reports the Mining World in a review, "has the world's production of gold been as large as it was in 1905, when it aggregated \$375,597,893. This is 9 per cent greater than the previous record in 1901, and judging by the progressive spirit which is dictating further improvements in mining and metallurgical methods and machinery to reduce the cost and make possible the profitable development of many low grade mines, the gold production in 1906 may carry the banner as the leader."

LONGWORTHS REACH CAPITAL

Groom Will at Once Take Up Legislative Duties at Washington.

Washington.—Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth returned to Washington from Cuba. They were met at the train by Mr. Longworth's private secretary and drove immediately to Mrs. Longworth's residence on Eighteenth street, where they have taken up their home.

TRANSSAHARAN ROAD BUILDING

Line Which Will Unite Oran and Timbuctoo May Be Finished Before End of Year.

Paris.—It is expected that the Transsaharan Railway line, which is to unite Oran in Algeria and Timbuctoo, will be complete before the end of the year. Already 1500 kilometers across the great desert are in operation, and a few days ago M. Jonart, the Algerian Governor-General, attended the opening of another trunk of the line.

The Sahara desert has now become a favorite winter resort like Monte Carlo and Nice, and many hotels have been erected along the line of the railroad.

Two Naval Graduations.

Annapolis.—It has been decided to graduate the naval academy class of 1907 in two sections, the first in September next and the second in February, 1907. This decision has been made because of the scarcity of junior officers in the Navy.

TRANSPORT IS ASHORE

The Ingalls, With Battalion of Twentieth Infantry, Strikes Reef.

Manila.—The inter-island transport Ingalls is ashore on Kapaporo Reef, on the southern coast of Luzon. She will probably be a total wreck.

A battalion of the Twentieth Infantry, en route to Manila, where they were to transfer to the transport Sheridan, for the United States, were aboard the Ingalls. They were rescued by a coast guard cutter. The transport Liscom has been sent to take off the soldiers' baggage and render any assistance.

The sailing of the Sheridan has been delayed.

BOARD FAVORS CIVIL SERVICE

Library Trustees Are First to Apply the Rule in Any State Department.

Sacramento.—The state board of library trustees has adopted rules placing the employes of the library under civil service.

This is the first department of the state government in which civil service rules have been applied. The employes of the library are classified as graded and non-graded.

The grade consists of heads of departments, assistants and apprentices, and candidates in the future will be required to pass suitable examinations before being admitted. Promotions will be based upon efficiency. The non-graded employes are the state librarian, assistant state librarian, stenographers, bookkeepers, janitors, etc. Their salaries remain as fixed by law or by the board of library trustees.

SWEPT AWAY BY TIDAL WAVE

Thousands Killed and 100 Islands of Society Group Overwhelmed

Entire City of Papeete Devastated—Terrific Hurricane Adds to Desolation Caused by Wall of Water—28,000 People Made Destitute.

San Francisco, March 3.—Tahiti and all the islands of the Society group were swept by a tremendous tidal wave on the night of February 7, and the tidal wave was followed by one of the most disastrous hurricanes ever known in the South Seas.

More than one hundred islands were devastated, the principal island, Tahiti, probably suffering less in proportion to its importance than any of the others, and about 28,000 persons were affected by the great disaster.

The steamship Mariposa commanded by Captain Lawless brought the news today, but it had sailed from Papeete before the full extent of the disaster was known, and there is only conjecture as to the damage done. At Papeete there was little loss of life, but almost the entire city was destroyed. Nearly a hundred neighboring islands more exposed than Tahiti to the force of the sixty-foot tidal wave are reported to have been practically swept away. The smaller islands are of coral formation, with about twenty-five feet of soil above sea level at the most. There are reports that these lands have been cut down to the level of the sea, and it is that is the truth probably not less than 6000 persons perished.

There has been no such other tragedy in the South Seas during modern times, and it is improbable the historic devastation, similar in nature, of about 125 years ago was of such serious consequence.

The water front of Papeete suffered terribly, being almost totally destroyed and houses swept two or three hundred yards up town.

The postoffice and the harbor master's residence were entirely destroyed. The streets are obstructed by broken houses, furniture, lumber and bedding. What was once a thriving town is now a howling wilderness.

If during the day of February 8 a southeast gale had not sprung up there would not have remained one stone upon another in the whole city.

VILLAGE FALLS IN LAKE

Over 1100 Italians Left Destitute by Total Destruction of an Italian Town.

Rome.—The partial destruction Sunday morning of the village of Taperola, which stood on high cliffs bordering Lake Iseo, in the province of Brescia, by the falling of the cliffs into the lake, was made complete, what had remained of the village being swallowed by the lake.

The 1100 inhabitants who had taken refuge at a distance from the lake are destitute and in terror lest further calamity befall them.

VISITING OLD SOUTH.

No Other Building in America the Scene of More Thrilling Events.

An alert boy of 12 or 13 years, visiting in Boston for the first time, was asked what historical building he would like to visit first, and he replied very promptly:

"The Old South Meeting-house. I like to see places in which there has been something doing in the past. They did things in the Old South Meeting-house, both before and during the Revolution, didn't they?"

Indeed they did! No building in America has been the scene of more thrilling events than has this ancient house of worship.

Had this boy, who was eager to see the Old South Meeting-house because of all that it stands for, been in Boston on the 29th day of last April, he might have gone into the time-honored old building in company with hundreds of other boys, and a great many girls, who came from all parts of the city to be present at the "Children's Hour" in the "Old South." This is a semi-yearly event in Boston. It is a part of what is called the "Old South Work" which is a good work, having for its chief purpose the bringing of the young people of Boston and America into an intimate knowledge of early American history.

On this 29th day of April the Old South Meeting-house was packed with boys and girls from the public schools, to hear about William Blackstone, the first settler in the city of Boston. A large orchestra of boys and girls from one of the public schools played patriotic airs, and I remember that at one "Children's Hour" in the Old South two hundred school girls sang the ode which was composed and sung when President George Washington visited Boston in 1789. You see that they still "do things" of a patriotic nature in this old meeting-house—hallowed, as it is, by memories of Washington and Adams and Otis and Hancock and all the good men and true who helped to give our country its most valued possession—Independence.—St. Nicholas.

Twisted.

Willie—Pa, message isn't good to eat, is it? Pa—No; what are you talking about?

Willie—Why, Mr. Tangler, our Sunday school superintendent, kept telling us all the time to-day that "Esau sold his birthright for a pot of message."—Philadelphia Press.

CHASE CHINESE INTO CANYON

IMMIGRATION INSPECTORS KEEP WATCH ON BORDER

Trail Celestials a Hundred Miles Through the Mountains—Their Guide Will Go to Penitentiary, it is Predicted.

San Diego.—Six Chinese were landed in the county jail by Immigration Inspector W. E. Agard, who has been following the bunch for a week and finally came up with them between Oak Grove and Temecula.

They have, with other Chinese, been near the border in Lower California, with the evident desire to come across.

The officers have been watching the heathen, but could not do anything with them as long as they stayed on the Mexican side of the border line. Some time on Monday night they came across the line, and with a Mexican guide started for Los Angeles by the mountain route. Agard and Cameron started after them and, though they lost track of them once they followed them over a hundred miles through the mountains and finally came up with them.

There were two other immigration officers ahead of them, so that the Mongolians would have been captured even if Agard had not caught up with them.

They will be deported and their guide will probably serve a term in the penitentiary.

BIG LOSS BY PRAIRIE FIRE

Million Acres of Fine Pasture Land in the Panhandle Swept by Flames

Roswell, N. M.—More than 1,000,000 acres of pasture land in the western part of the Panhandle, and just east of Portales N. M., have burned in a prairie fire that has been sweeping east and south for two days and is still beyond control, with a head 150 miles wide and under a stiff wind.

J. P. White of the Yellowstone ranch and L. F. Doughty, one of the biggest stock raisers in the southwest, state that the loss already is \$1,000,000. The feed on probably a dozen big ranches has been burned.

MUCH SUFFERING IN JAPAN

Unprecedented Cold Increases Hardships of Those in Famine Stricken Provinces.

Washington.—The secretary of the American Red Cross has received information from Japan that the unprecedented cold in northern Japan has greatly increased the suffering in the famine stricken provinces.

Millet is being bought with some of the relief funds, as that is cheaper than rice. Many have starved to death or died of the cold, and many more deaths are looked for in the next few months.

THE IMPERIAL VALLEY

Misleading Statements Have Been Spread Abroad Concerning Conditions in the Valley.

Probably one of the most talked of sections of California during the past year has been the Imperial Valley, that vast domain of reclaimed country lying in the southernmost part of the State.

The settlers in this valley have done a marvelous work, and have abundantly proved that when water is applied to California desert land that the land is no longer a desert, but blossoms as rich as any section of the earth's surface.

But these landowners and settlers have had their troubles, not so much in the way of actual hardships as in misleading statements. It has gone abroad throughout the country that they have been flooded and the entire valley was under water. As a matter of fact a very small portion of this valley, the lowest portion, the dry bed of the ancient salt sea, has been flooded by the waters of the Colorado river, which swept through poorly made and insufficient headgates during flood time, and in a manner not foreseen by the founders of the colony.

There has never been any danger that the new Sulton sea would reach the present settlers whose farms are still several hundred feet above the present lake in the desert but the breaks in the canals as the waters rushed to the lower levels have caused some loss and great inconvenience.

A large amount of money has already been spent by the Southern Pacific Railway Company and by the promoters of the colony in endeavoring to repair the damage and just as they seemed about to succeed an inopportune winter flood came along and destroyed their dam. Nothing daunted, however, they have again gone to work in another place and this time it appears certain that they are going to keep it at it until the Colorado River, so useful and so beneficent, as well as so destructive, is finally harnessed and made to serve the useful purposes of fructifying the soil of this great domain.

The Imperial country in five years from now will be one of the finest illustrations of irrigation possibilities that is to be found in this road land.—Cal. Products.

Find Rich Ore in New York City.

New York.—In sinking a shaft for a new building in Broadway, quartz was struck that carried gold, silver and iron.

The foreman who discovered the gold-bearing quartz is of the belief that the earth under New York City is filled with enough gold to make it worth while to dig for it.

The quartz found assays \$20 to the ton.

Realty men and brokers are elated over the discovery.

Help Some.

Pa Twaddles—What can we do to keep Tommy from learning so much profanity? Ma Twaddles—You'll just have to quit shaving yourself.—Cleveland Leader.

IN FIELD OF HUSBANDRY

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS AND ORCHARDISTS

Treeless Farms—Begin At Home—Ornamental And Useful Fence—Watermelon—The Fig of Commerce—Raisin Prices.

Treeless Farms.

There are too many farms without the beautifying and sheltering influence of a grove or less extensive. Go to the farm where trees exist and compare comfort there with a treeless homestead and there will be no doubt as to the form of resolution the contrast will inspire.

Begin At Home.

It may be set down as a maxim that improvement must begin at home. The civic improver whose enthusiasm does not lead him to clean up first and then beautify his own premises before he preaches to others is in a very weak position for any real work.

Ornamental and Useful Fence.

One of the most attractive of barn lot inclosures I have seen is made of pine boards. Lumber of the widths of eight inches and one foot is cut in lengths of about five feet, the narrower being cut six inches longer than the other. The boards are nailed on alternately, thus making a solid fence with a very ornamental but plain extension of the narrower boards. When completed, the fence is stained with green creosote or painted dark green, and you have an enclosure that will harmonize with its surroundings and make a durable fence. Or, it may be covered with the famous whitewash made under the government formula, which is as good and lasting as paint.

Watermelon.

Light, sandy or gravelly soil is necessary for the best watermelon. They seldom do well on heavy adobe or clay soils, and these lands should be avoided for watermelons as a farm crop. In the garden the soil can be made suitable by spading in each hill some well rotted manure and sand or loam.

Plant the seed about the first of May, in hills about five feet apart. Use five or six seeds to a hill, and thin out to two plants as soon as the second or third leaf shows. Use about four ounces of seed to 100 hills, or as a farm crop, two to four pounds per acre.

The Fig of Commerce.

No one thing of recent years is fraught with so much that is full of promise and future greatness to California horticultural wealth as the successful introduction of the genuine Smyrna Fig of commerce, together with the Fig Wasp (Blastophaga grossorum). The culture of the orange is more or less confined to the thermal regions of the State, where biting frosts are unknown, and the thermometer never goes below 22 degrees. With the fig, however, the area adapted to its culture is much wider. It can withstand 18 degrees and not suffer. Hence, its geographical distribution is much wider, and as applied to the Pacific Coast, embraces nearly all portions of this State, the sheltered sections of Arizona and New Mexico, Southwestern Texas, the extreme Southern States, Old Mexico, the Hawaiian Islands, the Philippines and Australia.—Cal. Cultivator.

Raisin Prices.

The Philadelphia Grocery World, referring to the recent reduction in the prices of raisins, says: "In making this decline after they repeatedly declare that they wouldn't, the California raisin interests are again compelled to swallow the same bitter pill that they have swallowed several times before. This year's complication arose through a controversy between the packers and the growers. At the beginning of the season the growers controlled, and had their own way about the naming of prices. They calculated that they controlled 90 per cent. of the output, and could, therefore, do as they pleased. Instead of controlling the situation, the fact is that the association has been at the mercy of the outside houses from the very beginning. Either the combine did not control 90 per cent. or, if they did, the remaining 10 per cent. was sufficient to supply most of the current trade. During the whole season the independents have at all times had plenty of loose and seeded raisins to sell, always at prices much below the combine's. The association is, therefore, left at the tag end of the season with more raisins than it can possibly sell, no matter what price it makes on them."

Calendar For March.

The hatching season is about at hand. During this month the nests for sitting hens should be placed in a warm, protected place. Do not set a hen until you find that she is thoroughly broody. At this season of the year she is apt to change her mind. Do not give a hen more than eleven eggs, as she can not keep a larger number properly warmed. The chicks should be kept indoors for the first two weeks, as the weather will be too changeable for them. Turkeys generally begin laying from the fifteenth to the end of this month. The egg crop is increasing nicely. It is not too late yet to mate up the breeding pens. Be careful not to inbreed.—Farm Journal.

IMPORT FOOD FOR PARASITE

Eleven Cases of Codlin Moth Brought From Australia by the Ventura.

San Francisco.—The oceanic liner Ventura brought from Australia on her last trip eleven cases of codlin moth. These moths are imported as food for a parasite, its natural enemy, recently imported to clear the orchards of California of the pest.

That the parasites have done their work effectively is shown by the fact that it has been found necessary to import a stock of the moths as food for the parasites now kept on hand as a reserve by the state board of horticulture.

Dwarf Trees and Giant Results.

Gather apples and pears two years after planting the trees? Impossible, you say? Not at all. I have done it, others do it, and so may you. Of course, the large orchard trees commonly seen take five or six years to reach fruiting age, but by planting dwarf trained trees the seemingly impossible may be obtained. The owner of a very small garden need not despair of enjoying luscious pears and juicy apples from his own trees, either. Let him plant dwarfs; they occupy so little room that even the average city plot would easily accommodate a score.—The Garden Magazine.

STOCK OWNERS ORGANIZE

California Cattlemen Adopt By-Laws and Constitution at Meeting in Salinas.

Salinas, Cal.—The California Cattlemen's association has been organized here by a large number of prominent stock owners. A constitution and by laws were adopted on Saturday and the following executive committee, representing each county, was appointed:

Charles W. Loe, Santa Clara; H. W. Lynch, San Luis Obispo; P. Thompson, Santa Clara; L. Buell, Santa Barbara; Hamilton Otis, Sonoma; G. M. Durant, Los Angeles; Thomas A. Knight, San Francisco; George S. Smith, Kern; G. A. Kirkwood, Amador; A. S. Nichols, Sierra; S. J. Smith, Lake; T. L. Matthews, Monterey; Crain Brothers, Stanislaus; Hartley Brothers, Solano; Occidental Land and Improvement company, Madera.

California Items of Interest.

The Los Alamitos sugar factory reports contracts already signed for over 6000 acres, and beet seed for 3000 acres. In some localities beets are up and nearly ready for the thinners.

On the 22nd a carload of trees were received by the town of Oxnard to be planted on all the streets of the city. Work has already been done on putting them in place.

In and about Lodi the growers have made big sums of money from Tokay grapes. These figures are accurately given, but there is no reason why Tokay grapes should always bring enormous prices.—Exeter Sun.

With a prospect for 5000 or 6000 car loads less fruit this year than last there is every reason to believe that the growers and packers of the fruit will receive fully \$3,000,000 more than last season.

Actual returns from all citrus fruit sold this year have averaged to date \$250 a car, against \$500 a car for all of last year and \$400 a car the preceding year. These figures are for fruit on the cars in California.

It is getting so that they regard it as a dull day in Tulare county when some new town doesn't spring into existence. The latest to be recorded is the town of Lindoore, which is to be laid out twelve miles east of Visalia.

The California Promotion Committee reports a synopsis of the State Dairy Bureau's compilation of dairy statistics for California for the year ending October 1, 1905. The production for the year totals 41,961,047 pounds, an increase of 17 per cent over the previous year.

For a number of years, Oregon dairymen and farmers have felt the need of a crop that would provide green feed for dairy cows during the eight or ten weeks of dry summer weather. So they have turned to alfalfa for relief and have asked the assistance of the railroad people.

A dispatch from Marysville says: It is announced that the Butte county Canal will be extended this year for a distance of three miles, which will bring it to the south line of Sutter county. A spillway will be run to the Feather River through which to release the surplus water from the ditch. A largely increased acreage will thus be brought under irrigation.—Cal. Cultivator.

SCALE EFFECTS JERSEY

Orchards in the Country Estates Near Morristown Suffering.

Morristown, N. J.—The orchards on the beautiful country estates about Morristown are threatened with destruction by San Jose scale.

Many orchards are affected so that the only apparent remedy is the ax and saw.

Hickory trees are diseased so that their leaves turn yellow and the nuts do not mature, and many acres of peach and apple trees have died during the last two years.

Japs Lost 59,000 in Battle; 25,000 by Disease.

Tokio.—An official report of the casualties in the war with Russia has just been made.

From this it appears that the Japanese who were killed or died from wounds received in action was about 59,000, and that those who died from disease or accident was about 25,000, making the total of deaths about 84,000.

The number of men actually in the field was 1,245,000. There probably has never been another army in which the deaths from disease did not far outnumber those from wounds.