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The Easton Gazette.

THE OLDEST PAPER IN TALBOT COUNTY

The Purest in Politics, the Subscription Lists containing the most Bona-fide subscribers.

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TWO VIEWS.

The Pessimist's View.

Life's a bubble—pricked at that!—
Substance vanished all away.
Stuffin's out—collapsed, sir,—flat!
Little wonder, then, I say,
Men should sigh,
Weep an' die.
All the world's a fraud—a cheat,
Bitter mingles with each sweet,
Stones are ours in place of bread,
Men are fools, and hope is dead.
Oh my, oh—
I told you so!
Boo-hoo! hoo!—don't you see?
That's the way it looks to me.

The Optimist's View.

Everybody can't be clever,
Anybody can be jolly;
She'din' tears won't help it, never,
Weepin' seems such awful folly,
Be a man!
That's my plan.
Dear world ever I was in—
Keeps a body on the grin!
Rain to-day?—what do I care,
Next day's certain to be fair.
Sun shines every day—some place—
Bless his kindly, good old face!
Life's replete
With all things sweet.
Ha! ha! ha! don't you see?
That's the way it looks to me.
—Elizabeth A. Vose, in Youth's Companion.

CINDERELLA'S SLIPPER.

BY POLLY KING.



THE first going away from home is a tremendous event in a girl's life; and Marion Leslie's existence had been so narrowly bounded by the Southern town where her father had his parish that when she realized that she was really going away from home, that she was going to see New York and take part in the wonderful city life, it seemed to her as momentous a step as going to India or the Antipodes.

There was a large family of children packed into the low rooms of the rectory, and Marion, as the eldest, had had her hands almost too full to give much thought to dreams. If now and then she had longed to see a little more of the world there was always some little brother to be amused or some needing to do, and with her hands occupied her thoughts would soon come back to a normal channel.

Mrs. Leslie, who was a Northern woman, had kept in touch with several of the friends of her girlhood by monthly letters, the answers to which were one of the events of the quiet rectory life. Perhaps the most delightful of these correspondents was a Mrs. Harkness, a woman who had married a rich New York merchant, and who had a daughter about Marion's own age. Her letters were looked forward to; and you can imagine the excitement that reigned in Marion's mind when her mother told her that Mrs. Harkness had written for her to come to New York and pay a two months' visit.

Marion's first feeling was too tumultuous to be described; her second was that she must not think of going, that the expense of the journey was far too great, and that she could not leave her mother with the care of all the children. Mrs. Leslie, however, soon showed her that this feeling was a very wrong one, rising from overconscientiousness; and the rectory was soon in a great whirl of cutting, sewing and planning for Marion's modest wardrobe. Everything was finally finished, neat half-dozens of white garments, a tailor-made dress, some pretty morning frocks, and, best of all, one evening dress—the pale pink silk in which Mrs. Leslie had been married years before, and which she had put away lovingly, thinking to keep it to show her children and her grandchildren. She felt that Marion must have an evening dress, and she brought out the wedding dress and spoke of refashioning it so calmly that Marion could only guess at the sacrifices that her mother was making for her. There was an abundance of silk in the full, old-fashioned skirt to make a very modish gown according to modern styles, and, with the aid of the fashion papers, which occasionally found their way to the rectory, they made a very charming evening gown; very simple it is true, but it fitted well and hung well, and the bertha of old lace about the shoulders would have carried off a much worse gown and adorned a much plainer face than Marion's.

Mrs. Leslie was more worried about the details of Marion's toilet than her daughter who was yet in ignorance of the enormous value of shoes, gloves, handkerchiefs and fans in a well-dressed woman's outfit. One of the family treasures was a little ivory fan, painted a la Watteau, which had belonged to some long dead Southern beauty. This priceless treasure was added to the girl's scant collection of adornings. The question of a pair of evening slippers seemed to be the only one which it was impossible to solve adequately. There was a pair of beautiful little bronze slippers in a shop in the town, but they were five dollars, and the rector's narrow purse had been stretched to the farthest extent; it seemed as though Marion's journey would have to be given up, when an idea struck the girl's mind; she said nothing to any one for fear of being unable to carry out her plan. Every spare moment she could get she would run off to her room and work away at a mysterious something which was wrapped carefully in a white towel; after many discouragements and failures she finally appeared before her mother holding in her hand the daintiest pair of little pink silk shoes; she had taken an old pair of slippers, and had covered them with scraps of silk like her dress; the toes were ornamented with big pink bows and a pair of old paste buckles. In fact, they were as pretty and dainty a pair of shoes as a girl could desire; and if they did show on close inspection traces of their home manufacture—as Marion and her mother agreed—who was going to inspect them?

We will pass over Marion's arrival in New York and she warm welcome which Mrs. Harkness gave her. Marion was too well-bred to feel out of place in the beautiful city house, although there was much that excited her admiration and surprise. In a few days she felt thoroughly at home, and she seemed to have so many thoughts and tastes in common with Mary Harkness, that the two girls bid fair to establish a friendship which would rival their mothers'.

The dictator of New York Society was once heard to say that if a girl was sufficiently beautiful and had the proper people to introduce her, she might go triumphantly through the season, an acknowledged belle, though she had not a penny of her own and but one evening gown to her back; and he cited in support of his theory several notable ladies, now millionairesses and members of titled English families, who in their girlhood's days could lighten their charms with little more than the one black lace dress of genteel poverty.

Marion's rich, statuesque beauty, her freshness and her perfect simplicity, made her a favorite at once; and although her appearance at the Horse Show was scarcely greeted by that storm of applause with which the popular novelist is wont to announce the appearance of his heroine as a reigning beauty, she did not pass unnoticed. As the winter festivities advanced, Marion felt that she was living in a perfect whirl of gayety, and the rectory at home was kept on the qui vive of excitement over long letters concerning her wonderful doings. Yet to many a New York girl Mary and Marion would have scarcely been going out at all; for Mrs. Harkness was a judicious woman, and would not allow them to undertake six or seven engagements, as so many girls do all through the winter. Then there were distinct visiting and sewing classes and other things to be done during the morning, so that Marion in many ways was quite as busy with doing for others as though she were still at home.

When her visit was about half over, Mrs. Harkness's only son Jack came back from a trip abroad. Although never much of a society man, he did not seem averse to sharing the girls' pleasures. The night of the first Patriarch's ball came, to both of the girls an important event, as being their first ball. Mrs. Harkness, with ready kindness, was anxious to provide Marion with a beautiful new toilet as handsome as her own daughter's; but it had been Mrs. Leslie's one stipulation that Marion should accept nothing more than the love and kindness that made her visit so delightful.

There was a pang, such a pang in Marion's heart when she saw Mary's beautiful tulle dress; her own silk seemed old and shabby, and the little pink shoes she had been so proud of at home seemed shapeless and ugly beside the tiny white one's that her friend wore. She stifled her covetous longings very quickly, however, and took herself well to task for finding one thing amiss when she had so much; and by the time they reached Sherry's she had quite forgotten all her bad feelings, and her face was bright with anticipation of the pleasure before her.

When the Harkness party entered the ballroom Marion was observed from every side; there were plenty of tulle dresses and plenty of pretty girls there, but Marion's beauty was of such a remarkable style and was so heightened by the rich simplicity of her gown that she soon found herself surrounded by a court of admirers, and, indeed, had the greatest difficulty in saving the two dances which she had promised Jack Harkness.

How late it was in the morning before they returned home it will not say—city people keep very strange hours; and Marion was terribly shocked to find how late—or shall I say, how early—it was. It took her some time to get over her excitement sufficiently to go to sleep, and it seemed as though she had scarcely closed her eyes when she awoke to find the sunshine streaming into her room and Mrs. Harkness standing beside her bed. She folded Marion tenderly in her motherly arms; there was something so gentle in her voice that the girl felt at once that something was wrong.

We will draw a veil over the next few minutes—the saddest and most terrible of the girl's life. A telegram had come the evening before while they were at the ball, and had lain unnoticed on the table until the morning—Mr. Leslie had had a shock of paralysis. Everything that kindness could do was done to hasten Marion's departure for home, and to save her every anxiety and strain. She scarcely remembered her parting with her kind friends—home, home, home, was her one thought, that she might reach there in time to be with her mother before the end came, if such should be the termination of her father's sickness.

Her prayers were heard; Mr. Leslie lingered for several days, and Marion was the stay and prop of the afflicted family. When the last sad rites were over, she took entire charge of the little brothers and sisters, that her mother might have rest to recover herself. What was to become of the family she could not see. Of course the rectory passed into other hands, and Mr. Leslie's life insurance would barely put bread into their mouths. Marion felt that she must go out in the world and work, and she was too sensible not to know that in these days of skilful female labor it would be difficult for her to get any employment. She wrote to Mrs. Harkness and awaited her answer impatiently. The Northern mail came in, there was no letter for her; she wondered if even those kind friends had forgotten her. The day was rainy and dreary. If her hands had not been so full she would have lost courage; but all the children had to be kept in the house, and with an aching heart she had to devise some means to keep them quiet and content. The children were finally happily setin the attic at a wonderful new game which Marion had invented on the spur of the moment. She was seated in the midst of the noisy group, when she heard the front doorbell ring. She went down just as she was carrying her little two-year-old brother, who had fallen asleep, in her arms.

Jack Harkness came toward her as she entered the bare, low parlor. He had seen her last with the radiant beauty of a belle, glowing in the excitement of her first ball; now she was wan and hollow-eyed, her shabby black gown intensified her pallor, she stooped under the weight of the heavy child; and yet to him she was many, many times more beautiful than she had ever seen before.

"I have come to answer mother's letter," he said.

Months after, when Marion was again in New York, not this time as a guest, but as the young mistress of the beautiful home that Jack Harkness had prepared for her, she was very much surprised to find, tucked in among her husband's collars and neckties, a pink silk shoe. She looked at it—surely it was one of the shoes that she had worn at the Patriarch's ball, that she had made with her own hands to match her dress. Her husband entered the room; she held it out to him inquiringly.

"I stole it, dear," he said. "Like Cinderella, you flew away suddenly and left one of your shoes behind you."

"And the Prince found it," she said.

"No, I stole it. They were lying on Mary's table and I happened to pick it up, thinking that they were hers; then I noticed the little stitches and how neatly the lining was pasted in; it seemed marvelous to me that a girl should be able to make such a thing herself; for of course I knew you had made them yourself—no one else could possibly be so clever; and I just put one of them in my pocket. Of course I'd been dreadfully in love with you from the very, very first, but I'd never quite realized what it was until then; and then I knew that if I went all over the world and saw all the most beautiful and wonderful women there would be only one woman in the world for me—the one that that little shoe fitted."—New York Independent.

Farmers in Cuba.

Between the condition of the planter and that of all other agriculturists whatever in Cuba the widest difference exists. The laborer has nothing, never has had anything, and is happy in the knowledge that he never will have anything. The small farmer, the owner of a few acres, is the most abjectly poverty-stricken son of the soil that I have ever met. He lives in the poorest habitation known to civilized man, a hut made of the bark of the palm tree. Beside it the adobe dwelling of the Mexican is a palace. It has one room, a dirt floor; neither window nor chimney; in this the family live like cattle, subsisting upon the poorest of food, as most that the soil produces must go to pay the taxes. Children run about, guiltless of the knowledge of clothes until six or eight years old. Books, education, the world, are things of which they have never even dreamed.

It is true that there is an intermediate group. Between these people and the planters is a small contingent of thrifty farmers. Here and there through the country may be seen a stone dwelling with red tile roof that marks the home of one who by some rare enterprise has become possessed of enough land to engage in cattle raising or fruit growing. But the prosperous, forehanded, middle class farmer is conspicuous by his absence. It is because there is no such middle class, and because the country people are either the owners of great estates or else abjectly poor, that it is a mistake to speak of Cuba as a rich country. It cannot be so while the present conditions exists. But with such a combination of soil and climate as she possesses, the island is capable of great things. Money and enterprise are needed for the development of its resources, and these are not likely to be forthcoming while the present social and political conditions remain. If the island were open to American enterprise as freely as our own territory is, a decade would suffice for the working of great changes. —Lippincott.

Terrible Struggle With a Lion.

The British Central Africa Gazette gives particulars of the death of Dr. M'Kay, surgeon on board her Majesty's ship Pioneer, who was killed by a lion on October 20. It appears that the doctor was left by the Pioneer for a few days' shooting at a village near the southwest corner of Nyasa. Two days later he started with three boys to shoot elephants. After waiting for some hours they came to a pool of water, and, seeing a lion and lioness a few yards distant, Dr. M'Kay fired twice at the lion. He wounded it, and both animals made off for the jungle. Two of Dr. M'Kay's native attendants ran away, but the doctor and his Zanzibari boy Musa went in search of the wounded lion. They espied the beast crouching down fifteen yards away, and M'Kay fired at the lion's head. At that instant the lion sprang upon the doctor with a terrific roar, and a deadly struggle took place. Dr. M'Kay lost hold of his rifle in endeavoring to keep the lion off his throat. The beast seized his left arm in its jaws and clawed his right. The doctor kicked at the lion, which threw him down and began to tear his flesh. He then called to Musa, "Musa, my arm is broken; my leg is broken; bring the rifle." Musa took it, and M'Kay, unable to hold it up, made Musa sit down, and, resting the rifle on his shoulder, shot the lion dead. A rough stretcher was made and Dr. M'Kay was carried into camp. He suffered much, and died on the 26th at 4 p. m. On the same day, a little later, the Pioneer returned, to find him dead. He was taken to the Universities' Mission Station at Likoma, and buried in the cemetery there.

Why Physicians Use an "R."

A woman of an investigating turn of mind started out the other day to discover why physicians begin their prescriptions with the letter "R." Well, she found out, but it took time and caused her some trouble. It seems that during the middle ages, when astrology was in fashion, a character very much like our "R" was the sign of Jupiter, the preserver of health. The physicians, being then equally devoted to the science of medicine and astrology, invariably began their prescriptions with the following words: "In the name of Jupiter take the following doses in the order set down hereinafter." In the course of time this formula was abbreviated, until at present only the letter "R" remains to teach us that the medical art was once associated with the science of the stars.—Boston Traveller.

Opening Court With Prayer.

One of the learned Justices of the Maine Supreme Court, than whom no man better knows how to appreciate a really amusing thing, was holding Court at Ellsworth, and, according to honored custom, called in a local clergyman to open the session with a supplication to heaven. This worthy gentleman came, and after a chat with the Justice, proceeded to address the Giver of all good and perfect things thus: "Almighty God, we beseech Thee to bestow upon the presiding Justice the wisdom which he so greatly needs!" It is said that the same Judge once opened Court after prayer which began this way: "Oh, Lord, we pray Thee to overrule the decisions of the Court to Thine own honor and glory."—Bangor Commercial.

The Duke and the Scrap of Paper.

Not long ago I was walking in the garden at Hawarden with Mr. Gladstone. "What would you do with that?" he said suddenly, pointing to a bit of newspaper lying on the lawn. "I think I'd pick it up and take it away," I answered, astonished. "Ah! Well, this is what I do with it," said Mr. Gladstone. Thereupon he placed the point of his walking stick on the middle of the scrap of paper, twisted the stick round and round, and with much dexterity left the pit of paper in the soil and out of sight. "The Duke of Buccleuch taught me to do that," he said, as we resumed our walk. "It is good for the ground."—The Realm.

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The Shops and Tools of William H. Withgott, opposite Wilson's Mill, Easton, Md., also the tools of E. J. Biery, I am now prepared to do all kinds of Blacksmithing and repair all kinds of Machinery, from a sewing machine to the largest and heaviest machinery made. A competent blacksmith and machinist always in charge of shops. I shall also continue to carry on my old line of
Contracting and Building
Plumbing and Gas Fitting, Steam and Hot Water Heating.—Agent for the Aremotor Windmill. All work carefully and promptly done. Give me a call. I think I can please you.
LEWIS WHITEHOUSE, - Prop'r.
E. J. BIERY, Foreman.
☞N. B.—Mr. William J. Biery has also located his wheelwright business in the same shop with me, and is now prepared to do all kinds of Repair work in his line in his usual prompt and careful manner.

THE NEWS.

Maude Leach was arrested in Hunting on, W. Va., on the charge of forging a receipt. ——Joshua Sooner was sentenced to life imprisonment in Staunton for stealing thirty-seven cents worth of bacon.——Governor Marvil was reported to be somewhat better. ——Gold has been found within the corporation limits of San Francisco.——At the funeral of Rev. Dean Seymour at Auburn, N. Y., Rev. Father Faherty was ordered out of the vestry.——The liabilities of G. A. Budd & Co., of Elyria, O., may reach half a million.—— The Illinois Senate committee on appropriations has ordered a favorable report of the bill appropriating $15,000 to provide for the representation of Illinois at the Cotton States and International Exposition, to be held at Atlanta next fall.——Leroy Fernall, convicted of murder, starved himself to death at Alfred, Me.——The members of the Church of the Good Shepherd at Rochester, N. Y., have withdrawn from the church.——The execution of Leach and Kerrigan, confined at Sing Sing, has been postponed, an appeal having been taken.——The president of the American Cotton Growers' Protective Association advises farmers not to increase the acreage in cotton.——Patrick Looney was killed near Cripple Creek, Col., in a fight with a constable.

The Order of the Comrades of the Battlefields will hold its annual meeting at the Chickamauga Park on September 19—the time of the dedication.——The three-masted schooner Jon L. Sheppard, of East Braintree, Mass., which had been given up for lost, was towed into New York harbor in a bad condition, and with her crew exhausted. ——W. A. Snyder and Harry Stone were arrested at Braddock, Pa., for swindling laborers, for whom they advertised to go to work in gold mines.——Rev. Dr. Parkhurst will engage in Sunday reform work in St. Louis.——John Heinz, aged twenty-one years, fired three shots at Mollie Unold, aged nine ten years, on a crowded street in New York city. The couple had been living together at the home of the girl's mother. The young woman's right breast was pierced by a bullet.——Miss Mollie Carruthers, of Roxton, Texas, gave her three children large doses of morphia, killing the two younger ones.——J. E. Elmer, a real estate dealer of San Diego, Cal., was arrested, charged with attempting to sell some property which he did not own, by means of a forged deed. He was admitted to bail and committed suicide by taking strychnia.

The contract was given to the Pennsylvania Steel Works for the Boston subway, intended for the use of electric cars. The subway will cost about $30,000,000.——In a fire in a mine near White Oaks, N. M., five of eight imprisoned miners were suffocated.——Pauline, daughter of Chief Justice Fuller, filed a bill in Chicago for a divorce from her husband, James M. Aubrey, with whom she eloped six years ago.——Judge Charles M. Sterns made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide.—— Mrs. Julia Flowers, of Huntington, W. Va., while temporarily insane, attempted to kill her children.——It was announced in Greenville, Miss., that Unl ed States Senator McKay lost hold of his rifle in reelection.——The inmates of the Illinois State Home for Female Offenders, in Cuieago, rebelled, and compelled the matron and attendants to lock themselves up. ——William Curry and John Crawford were seriously injured in a fight with a panther, which unexpectedly attacked them.

The oil and coal fields in Mexico will be worked by the International Oil Refining Company of Chicago.——An upheaval of the earth in the Pacific Ocean March 2nd, was reported by vessels at San Francisco.——At San Jose, Cal., the Barron will contest for the two million dollar estate of Edward Barron was closed with a verdict in favor of the contestee, George Barron, who was disinherited by his father, the property being bequeathed to Elward Barron's second wife, Eva Rose Barron.—— The four-story building at 255 South Second street, Philadelphia, occupied by G. Walker Kelly and Co., furniture agents, and Al Zugsmith, manufacturer of jewelry boxes, was gutted by fire loss; about $12,000.——It is rumored that Dr. Otto von Mueller, formerly of Kansas City, has murdered his wife at Crocow, Poland, and has been arrested. ——Smallpox prevails in parts of Missouri and Kentucky.——Rev. Elijah Teller was torn to pieces by wild animals in Logan county, W. Va.——M. O. Sullivan, a postal clerk, was arrested in Philadelphia, charged with rifling letters.

At Nashville the Supreme Court sentenced Matthew Call way, colored, to be hanged on April 20th, at Columbia, for the murder of James Waters, colored. Mary Waters, wife of the victim, who was indicted on the charge of aiding and abetting in the crime, was sentenced to imprisonment for life.——At Malamazoo, Mich., Lieutenant Governor Milnes was nominated by the Republicans to succeed in the House of Representatives James C. Currows, lately elected to the United States Senate.——Three firemen were fatally injured by a train at Detroit.——Mrs. Eliza Cowen and her three children, of Northfield, O., were poisoned by eating fried beef.——M. B. Waldo, the cashier of the Cuyahoga Falls Bank at Fostoria, O., up to the time of its failure was arrested, charged with being short $8,000 in his accounts.——Fire broke out on the United States transport Fern, off Cape Cod at night. Within a few feet of the fire were stored four hundred pounds of smokeless powder. The hero efforts of the crew, however, saved the ship.——The long senatorial contest in Idaho finally terminated in the reelection of Senator George L. Shoup.——Near Beverly, W. Va., Charles Slavin shot and killed Ham Collins in a fight.——The steamship Istrian arrived at Newport News from Bermuda, after a rough voyage.——At Lexington, Va., the grand jury indicted C. M. Figgat, late cashier of the Bank of Lexington, for embezzlement, and also R. K. Goodwin, bookkeeper, for making false entries, and C. W. Irvine for receiving money, knowing his bank account to be overdue.

WRECKED BY GAS.

Supply Pipes Cut in a Kansas City House by an Incendiary.

An explosion of gas, said to be deliberately planned by an incendiary, wrecked the two-story brick building of Lewis H. Day, in Lydia avenue, Kansas City, and caused the death of three firemen. The explosion was caused by a gas pipe leading from the basement being cut and letting the gas flow through the house, which had apparently been set on fire. Soon after the firemen arrived the whole side of the house was blown out and the remainder of the structure shattered.

OUR FLAG FIRED ON.

United States Mail Steamer Alliance Attacked.

FROM A SPANISH CRUISER.

The American Was Not Hit, and Left the Spaniard Behind in a Race at Sea—An International Question May Be Involved.

A despatch from New York says: The American mail steamship Alliance, while proceeding from Colon to New York, on the morning of the 8th instant sighted a barkentine-rigged steamer under the land off Cape Maya, the eastern edge of Cuba, which headed directly toward her. At 7 o'clock, when about two and a half miles distant, she hoisted the Spanish flag, which was saluted by hoisting the American ensign and dipping it, which act of courtesy was answered by the Spaniard.

At 7.15 she fired a blank cartridge to leeward, which was soon followed by another. The American ensign was again hoisted and dipped, but the course and speed of the ship was not changed, and no hostile demonstration was anticipated as the Alliance was more than six miles off the land at the time.

The Spanish man-of-war was not satisfied, however, with even the double salute to her flag, but proceeded to chase the American at her full speed, her guns and the smoke that came from her funnel, and, seeing that the Alliance was drawing away, she yawed to bring her guns to bear and fired a solid shot, which struck the water less than an eighth of a mile away from the ship and directly in line. This was followed by two more solid shots, which, fortunately, did not reach their mark, though they struck the water in plain sight of the ship. At each shot, however, the Spaniard yawed to get the range of the American ship before firing on her, plainly showing the intention to hit her if she could.

Captain Crossman of the Alliance, knowing he was more than two leagues from land and on the high seas, did not consider it his duty to detain the ship or find out the reason for such an outrage, even for so summary a demand, and assembled full steam and gradually drew out of range. The chase was kept up for more than twenty-five miles, however, before it was abandoned.

The Alliance has been running between this port and Colon for a number of years, making one trip each month. She leaves this port on the 26th of each month and starts on her return trip on the 6th of the following month. She carries the United States mail and has passenger accommodations for 15 cabin passengers. Including the officers, she carries a crew of 60 men.

SECRETARY GRESHAM NOTIFIED.

Immediately after the steamer Alliance reached her pier Capt. J. A. Crossman sent the following letter to the Secretary of State at Washington:

Columbian Line steamer Alliance, Pier 43 North River, New York.—To the Hon. Walter Q. Gresham, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.—Sir: The American mail steamer Alliance, under my command, while on her homeward-bound voyage from Colon, R. C., to New York, was, on the morning of March 8, off the coast of Cuba. At 6.30 o'clock a barkentine-rigged steamer was sighted under the land, steaming directly for us. She showed her colors, proving to be a Spanish gunboat. Immediately I ordered the American ensign to the topmast and saluted the Spanish which salute was duly returned by her. I then sailed once more, and supposed the matter was at an end.

But, about five minutes later, the Spaniard fired a blank cartridge and a few moments later another gun, followed shortly afterward by three solid shots, all of which fell short of the Alliance, but showing very conclusively that the Spaniard was firing at us. Being fully six miles off shore and on the high seas, paid no further attention to the Spaniard, but kept my course. The Spaniard kept up the chase, although gradually dropping astern, for fully 25 miles. I desire to know if the Spaniard has any right to fire on my ship with the possible chance of endangering the lives of the passengers and crew under my charge, or to compel me to heave to, as he probably intended. I respectfully ask for information on that subject, as I did not and do not propose to heave to, thereby losing time on my voyage, to oblige the Spanish gunboats or any other except in case of distress.

Respectfully,
J. A. CROSSMAN, Commander.

Capt. James A. Crossman, the commander of the Alliance, came into public notice in the fall of 1893, when he was put in command of the Cruiser America, formerly the Britannia, which had been purchased by Flint & Co. and fitted out as a war vessel for the Brazilian government during the late troubles there.

DISASTERS AND CASUALTIES.

A fire truck was struck by a Lake Shore locomotive at a crossing in Detroit, and the driver was fatally injured.

Andrew Dilbay and W. E. Warren were killed and two other men were injured by the explosion of a boiler in a saw mill in Piedmont, South Dakota.

Part of a passenger train on the Indianapolis and Vincennes Railway was detached between Marco and Sanbora, Indiana, and five passengers were injured.

Annie Bohan, twenty-nine years of age, a stenographer, and her sister, Maria, aged twenty-two, a dressmaker, were found dead in bed in their rooms in Chicago, having been asphyxiated by gas escaping from a defective meter.

A three-year-old daughter of Charles Gates, living near Harrisburg, Summit county, Ohio, was attacked by a large hawk, which fastened its talons in her neck and face. Mr. Gates drove the bird away with a club, but the child was shockingly lacerated.

It is believed in St. Louis that the progress of the small-pox epidemic has been checked. The health authorities have permitted the re-opening of two schools which were closed two weeks ago on account of small-pox among the pupils.

An ice boat containing a party of nine persons from Menominee, Minnesota, ran into an air hole and the party had a narrow escape from drowning. The boat sank and the men were all more or less frozen in reaching shore. One of them is in a critical condition.

CABLE SPARKS.

The Egyptian council of state has decided to extend the railway to Assouan.

Senhor Goncalves Ferreira, Brazilian minister of the interior, has resigned.

Fire destroyed $4,000,000 worth of property in Port Spain, on the Island of Trinidad.

The question of restricting Jewish immigration to Germany was discussed in the Reichstag.

Seven men were killed while descending the shaft of the Mail-Beach lead mine, near Shrewsbury, Eng.

The failure of Congress to make an appropriation to pay the Bering Sea award was discussed in Parliament.

The French has seized the island of Nossivey, in St. Augustine Bay, on the Southwest coast of the Island of Madagascar.

The Japanese have occupied New Chang, a treaty point on the gulf of Pechili, the first treaty point to be molested by the invaders.

Madame Collett, the Norwegian novelist and leader of the Norwegian woman's rights party, is dead. She was eighty-two years old.

An engagement between Spanish troops and insurgents is said to have been fought near Santa Clara, and the regulars were defeated.

The captain-general of Cuba has demanded the recall of the American consul-general at Havana, and the Spanish cabinet will support the demand.

The Duke of Noailles is dead, aged sixty-nine years. His younger brother, the Marquis of Noailles, is the famous French diplomat and literateur.

A colony of 700 negroes has just been located in the State of Durango, Mexico, and is the first emigration of the African race to enter that Republic.

The steamship Friesland, with a large party of American excursionists on board, is aground in the harbor of Port Said, Egypt. None of the passengers are in danger.

Mexicans living along the United States border are said to be displeased with the abolition of the free zone and are urging their government to adopt retaliatory measures.

THE CROP REPORT FOR MARCH.

Plenty of Corn in the Country, but Wheat is Very Scarce.

The crop report of the Department of Agriculture for the month of March consists principally of estimates of the distribution of corn and wheat, the stock remaining in the hands of farmers, and the proportions of merchantable and unmerchantable. The report is based on county estimates of the percentage of last year's product remaining in first hands, obvious errors and inconsistencies of statement being corrected and differences harmonized. All grain in the hands of farmers, including amounts remaining over from previous years, are embraced in the estimate given. The corn on hand, as estimated, aggregate 475,534,453 bushels, or 33.2 per cent. of the last crop. This proportion has been exceeded but four times in the last 10 years; the quantity, however, is unprecedentedly small one. The consumption of corn for eight months is an unusually small one, which fact is explained by the large amount of wheat fed to stock.

The aggregate sold from farms to go beyond country boundaries is 162,914,64[illegible], or 13.4 per cent. of the crop. The proportion merchantable is 999,401,6[illegible], or 82.4 per cent. The values returned for merchantable corn average 41.8; for unmerchantable 28.6, making an aggregate value of $598,713,129, which is $46,000,000 less than the December valuation of the crop, and averages 41.9 per bushel.

The estimate amount of wheat in farmers hands is 75,000,0 0 bushels, or 16 3 per cent of the last crop, and is 39,000,0.0 bushels less than last March. The explanation for this is large measure is to be found in the fact that large quantities have been fed to hogs and other stock. Returns from North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas indicate unprecedented exhaustion of last year's crop, correspondents in many counties reporting not enough on hand for spring seed and necessary food supply.

EX-QUEEN LIL SENTENCED.

Given Five Years' Imprisonment and Fined $5,000.

The work consequent to the rebellion, so far as the military organizations were concerned, was practically completed on Friday.

The ex-Queen has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $5,000. She is still confined in the room in the Executive Building, where she was placed on the day of her arrest, and is under military guard. Just what is to be done with Liliuokalani is a question which the government has not yet answered. Undoubtedly before the end of the month some proposition will be received from the ex-Queen's representatives whereby she will either take up her residence on one of the other islands or leave the country, doubtless to go to England. She has a private income of about $10,000 a year which will not be interfered with by the Government.

The movement for annexation is gaining among the natives, and the formation of an annexation league by Sam Parker, one of the ex-Queen's commissioners to Washington, and other prominent native Hawaiians and half-breeds, will doubtless result in monster annexation petitions from all parts of the islands.

TRAIN WRECKED IN GEORGIA.

A Mother and Daughter Killed, and Others Hurt.

The Florida Southern fast train going south at the rate of fifty miles an hour struck a tampered switch and was wrecked at Scotland, Ga. The train consisted of three Pullman cars, first and second-class coaches, mail and express car. Every one of these was derailed. The Pullman and first and second-class coaches were thrown on their sides. One of the coaches was occupied by the Roland Reed theatrical company and the other had a full complement of passengers.

Mrs. C. W. Subers, of Pickens, Miss., with ticket to Ocala, Fla., and her five-year-old daughter were killed.

Roland Reed had his leg and back injured. Miss Mary Myers, New York, was severely wrenched in the back and shoulder. Neither was severely hurt.

Roland Reed distinguished himself by rescuing, at great risk, three of the ladies from the upturned car.

The switch had been turned and nailed down by unknown parties.

SHOT AND KILLED.

Ham Collins The Notorious Virginia Moonshiner.

BROKE JAIL SEVEN TIMES.

Two Bullets from Charles Slaven's Winchester Put An End to Ham Collin's Career of Crime and Bloodshed.

A special despatch from Richmond gives the details of the killing recently in the mountains of Virginia and West Virginia of the notorious desperado, Ham Collins, by Charles Slaven. Collins, his son, and Peter Kramer, had been to Beverly, W.Va., where they purchased a keg of whiskey. All three drank freely of the liquor and were intoxicated when they arrived at the lumber camp at the summit of Cheat Mountain. They were joined at the camp by Jasper Varner, who had been working there.

All went well until the party neared the home of Gratz Slaven, on the Staunton and Parkersburg pike. Without apparent provocation Collins felled Varner and beat him unmercifully. Gratz Slaven was asleep and did not hear the disturbance, but his brother Charles, who lives a short distance up the road, was awakened by the disturbance, and thinking that his brother was being attacked, seized his Winchester and started toward his brother's house.

When near the scene of disorder he met Varner, covered with blood, and so terribly injured that he was unable to speak. Collins, determined to finally persist in the good fight, and with renewed strength and courage to maintain it until it reaches a triumphant end in conclusive victory for the right."

Varner near the scene of disorder he met Varner, covered with blood, and so terribly injured that he was unable to speak. Collins thought that Slaven would take sides with Varner against him, and tried to get possession of the rifle, but being foiled, the veteran moonshiner, in a frenzy of rage, drew a knife, and, advancing toward Slaven swore to kill him.

Slaven sprang over the bank of the road, and instantly turning, sent two balls through the body of the most fearless man who ever inhabited the mountain State. After the coroner's inquest was held, Slaven was taken to Pocahontas, the county seat, where he is held for trial.

Collins was an all-round desperate character, and lived in defiance of any and all laws. Almost the entire category of crime had been laid to his door. He had broken jail seven times.

RESCUED FROM A MINE FIRE

Ten Men Were Imprisoned by a Blaze in a Shaft House.

The Sultana mine shafthouse at Rat Portage, Manitoba, took fire in the drying-room. Two miners are dead and eight others were almost suffocated to death.

The fire is supposed to have been started by a pipe in the pocket of a coat hanging on the wall. Foreman Johnson, noticing the fire, called men to assist in putting it out, but all ran, being afraid of explosives in the drying-room. Johnson rushed into the burning room, removed two boxes of powder and then tried to save the building. The fire started at 9 o'clock; and until 1:30 no effort could be made to assist the men in the shaft. As soon as the ruins were sufficiently cooled it was found the timber lining the shaft were blazing, and water was then directed on them, but in the excitement a greater portion fell useless down the shaft. Then help arrived from Rat Portage, and the flames were soon extinguished in the shaft.

Motley Bell, as ayer at the mine, and Foreman Johnson, descended the shaft and found six men on the first level, apparently all suffocated. They descended to the lower level and found three more, but they were in better condition than the others, and efforts were begun to raise the miners. The first three raised were suffering badly, but were resuscitated after a short time with medical service. The fourth man was very low when brought to the service and died shortly after. The others were in a critical condition when brought to the surface, but all recovered.

The air shaft ignited and caused a suction of air from the bottom of the shaft, thus depriving the men of fresh air and also causing smoke to descend the shaft. When found all the men were unconscious and leaning against the side of the shaft.

The building was completely consumed, but the mine is fairly covered by insurances. The fire did not affect the mine property and work continues.

SAVED BY U. S. SAILORS.

Port of Spain Nearly Wiped Out By a Great Fire—Estimated Loss 4,000,000.

A despatch from Port of Spain, Trinidad, says:

This city narrowly missed total destruction by a great fire which will cause a loss of $4,000,000, the chief business section having been the centre of the conflagration. Nearly 10,000 people would have been homeless if it had not been for the assistance given by the sailors from the United States North Atlantic Squadron and H. M. S. Buzzard in extinguishing the flames.

Soon after the flames began to get halfway in the town Rear Admiral Meade signaled from the New York to the Raleigh and the Cincinnati to land as many men as could be spared, and simultaneously the flagship's boats went into the water. There was a lively rivalry among the men from each ship to reach the scene of the fire first, especially as the British cruiser Buzzard, having a nearer anchorage, was also besieging