

Marion Mansey and Sam MaGuire were working at a gas well nearby when the explosion occurred. Mansey was thrown fifty feet but was not fatally injured. MaGuire was thrown a hundred feet in the air and badly injured but will recover. James Gold's house, about 300 rods distant, was torn to pieces. The explosion tore a hole in the ground to the water line. A three-ton engine was torn to fragments and every animal in the neighborhood was killed instantly.

The little town of Chesterfield is a mass of ruins. Every house was removed from its foundation, windows shattered, doors smashed in, every light put out, and the plastering shaken from the walls. Several people were shaken out of bed.

At Danesville, two miles away, and at Yorktown, five miles distant, the damage was almost as great. Many people were injured, and it is a miracle that none were killed outright. The jar of the explosion was felt for fifteen miles in all directions.

The gas in the well was all blown out and a workman named Cooper lighted it and caused another explosion in which he was fatally burned.

Halifax, N. S., Nov. 27.—The explosion of a boiler at the Gold Lake mines, East Halifax, caused the instant death of the manager of the mine, Daniel Phall, and two other men, James Hennessey and John McIsaac, their bodies being terribly torn by flying wreckage of the boiler. No others were seriously injured.

Hennessey and McIsaac were testing the boiler.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A startling and horrible story of the killing of two Washingtonians and the mutilation of their bodies by the natives of the Congo Free State has just been received here in a letter to Mr. Leo Harmon of this city. The men were members of a party which, during November and December, 1894, and January, 1895, went from this city to enlist in the Belgian army, for service in the Congo State. Those existing included Edward Thornton, a command officer of the National Fencibles, employed in the war department; Lindsay G. Burke, Frank Batchelor, Barry R. Andrews, Harry Sparlin and a Mr. Mellin, or Mellen, who was at one time a non-commissioned officer of the United States army. All except Thornton and Mellin were members of the national guard of this district.

The information received by Mr. Harmon is that Mr. Burke and a party of fifty natives who were sent out to dislodge a band of dwarfs who had revolted, were ambushed and killed. An Arab who was with the command but was some distance off at the time of the ambush, states that he knows Burke was dead before the natives reached him, and that the most hideous-looking little man he ever saw walked up and cut Burke's head off with one blow of a knife. The chief then began to slice pieces of his legs and arms and to distribute them among his followers.

There were so many of the fiends that the pieces were very small, and before they had concluded there was a free fight to see who could get the little remaining. In some manner the dwarfs became alarmed and left the place, one fellow carrying off Burke's arm. The Arab saw the cause of their alarm, as Windeye, a New Yorker who had command of another detachment of the soldiers sent out on the same errand, arrived a few hours after the natives left. Windeye gathered up the remains of Burke and buried them. When he learned the strength of the rebels he hurried back to Michau and notified the commandant of the post.

The other Washingtonian who lost his life was killed on March 1st, when

the troops under the command of Baron Dhanis revolted near Kabanbarre, and assassinated a number of officers of their regiment, among them being Mellin. The body of Mellin was butchered almost beyond recognition, his heart having been cut out and burned.

Thornton is said to be in a very precarious condition at Basaka, a relief expedition has been sent to his rescue. Gage, another American, is very sick with the fever at Vangine. The killing of Burke occurred December, 1896.

Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 28.—On a large cotton plantation in St. Francis county, eight negroes went to the home of Joe Miller, a cotton-picker, and after robbing him of his savings, dragged him from bed and murdered him. The body was thrown in the river. Ada Miller, the murdered man's wife, was then outraged and the house raided. William Williams was arrested and made a full confession, implicating several others, four of whom have also been arrested. Officers are searching for the remaining four.

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 28.—A sensational shooting occurred here tonight, resulting in the death of Policeman James Wells and the serious wounding of Charles Phillips. Phillips, who was recently released from the New Westminster jail, was arrested by Wells on the charge of burglary. On reaching the city jail Phillips drew his pistol and shot Wells through the body. He then broke across the street and fired a second shot, with fatal results, at Wells, who had staggered to his feet and was in the act of taking a shot at Phillips. Phillips then broke and ran. The whole police department joined in the chase, a fusillade of shots being exchanged in the meantime. Phillips took refuge under a building. He was finally captured after he had been shot through the arm and leg.

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 27.—Samuel Tongue and Wm. Dow, prominent citizens of this place, who went to Lake Tellen a week ago on a hunting expedition, returned yesterday and reported that they had shot and killed Jas. McConnell, a desperado, who has terrorized the settlers of Nippissing district many years. McConnell attacked them while they were crossing the lake, and in self-defense Tongue shot him through the stomach. McConnell died a few minutes later. Settlers are rejoicing over his death.

New York, Nov. 29.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says:

The World's first figures of Cuba's starvation were timidly moderate. They showed the death of only 200,000. But every painful fact unearthed tends to prove them nearly double that number. When the grim returns are all in it is now almost certain that this Cuban massacre of the innocents will reach 400,000. And this awful number does not include those killed in battle or the thousands and thousands of women and children who have died of exposure, disease and massacre in the swamps. It now seems certain that more than half a million people for the most part loyal subjects of Spain have been killed by the Spanish war in Cuba!

A week's trip through the provinces of Havana, Matanzas and Santa Clara has tended to make moderate this tremendous extreme figure. The figures of Spanish official reports show but a part of the morality. They only give the number buried in consecrated ground—they do not give that fully.

And yet, these official ultra-Spanish reports of burial permits issued admit that in the province of Santa Clara there have died and been buried since Weyler's fiat, 71,847 persons.

The number of people for whose existence Weyler is directly responsible is 155,132 in Santa Clara province.

And of these he has killed 86,216, or over one half of them.

Santa Clara has so far been by far the least destitute of provinces. It has many cattle and not a very thick population. Between its 53 per cent dead to Pinar del Rio admitted, are the provinces of Matanzas and Havana, with a 60 or 70 per cent mortality, respectively. These percentages are established now by the actual figures in some thirty cities and towns. Applied to the denser populations of their respective provinces the total deaths since Weyler's "bando" will foot up nearly a million.

London, Nov. 29.—The gale which swept the English coasts yesterday, doing great damage at Holyhead and other places, raged all night and this morning amounted almost to a cyclone in many places, accompanied by snow and hail.

A long list of fatalities, wrecks and damage to property has already been received. All the coast towns have suffered and a score of bodies have been washed ashore. Falling walls and flying debris have added to the loss of life. Vessels are reported on shore on every part of the coast and many ships are known to have foundered with the probable loss of all hands. There is much wreckage about the Goodwin islands.

At lowest of the Yarmouth and elsewhere, the sea has flooded the quays and neighborhoods, washing away the esplanades and doing other serious damage.

The British ship Larnica, Capt. Burgess, from St. John, Nov. 1 for Fleetwood on the Wye was driven ashore there by the force of the gale. Her position is dangerous, but all of her crew were removed.

The Larnica was built at Gardiner's creek, N. B., in 1878, and is of 1,748 tons register. She hails from Windsor, N. S., is about 209 feet long, has 39 feet beam, is 22 feet six inches deep and is owned by Bennett Smith.

According to the latest advices, the storm is traversing various parts of the continent.

Port Huron, Mich., Nov. 29.—Asphyxiation caused the death of three men in the Grand Trunk railway tunnel last night. The dead: Henry J. Courtney, engineer; Arthur Dunn, conductor; John Dalton, brakeman.

A train which was being hauled through to the Canadian side broke in two. The engine backed down to get the detached portion of the train, but for hours nothing was heard of the crew. Finally a searching party found the dead bodies and also rescued Michael Dunn and Henry Potter, brakemen, in an unconscious condition. Three members of the searching party were also overcome but were rescued by another party. The tunnel gas arises from the hard coal used by the locomotives.

Southampton, Nov. 29.—North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse from New York for Bremen via this port, passed the Lizard at 9 o'clock this morning.

Should the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse make the run from Lizard to Southampton in seven hours and thirty minutes, the usual time, she will lower her eastward record by two hours.

San Francisco, Nov. 30.—The writ of mandate applied for by the attorneys of Durrant, to compel Judge Bahrs to set a date for the trial of the murderer for the murder of Minnie Williams was denied by the supreme court this afternoon.

This means that there will be no interference with the decree of the courts in the Blanche Lamont case and it now begins to look as if Durrant will have to expiate his crime at a date sooner than his attorneys anticipated.