

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Boston, Feb. 22.—There is scarcely a doubt that the British ship Asia, bound from Manila for this port, was wrecked near Nantucket during the gales of the past few days, and that her entire crew of twenty men have perished.

This calculation is not only borne out by wreckage, consisting of the stern of the boat, yards and other materials which were cast ashore at Monomoy, but Captain Haley of this city telephones from Woodhull tonight that while the tugboat E. V. McCauley was steaming out to the barge Excelsior, which lies sunk on Handkerchief shoal, he saw positive evidence of the wreck of a large square-rigged vessel, and recovered two bodies from a portion of the dismantled hull.

Captain Haley stated that while off the Handkerchief lightship the tug passed through a large amount of wreckage, including bales of hemp, broken spars and broken ship timbers. Drifting in the midst of this was a portion of the wreck on which the bodies were lashed. It was discovered that the bodies were those of a man and a little girl, apparently 12 years old. The tug quickly headed in the direction of the wreck, and the crew released the bodies, and the tug returned immediately to Woodhull, where the news was sent to this city.

Honolulu, Feb. 15 (Via San Francisco, Feb. 22).—One of the most severe storms ever experienced in Honolulu took place on the morning of the 12th. The wind developed into a hurricane and the rain came down in torrents. The thunder was terrific, and lightning flashes followed in quick succession.

The storm reached its height about 4 o'clock, when the velocity of the wind must have exceeded fifty miles an hour. Houses were rocked on their foundations, sheds blown down, trees uprooted and other damage done, but all sounds were drowned by the crashing thunder.

The greatest damage reported was the total loss of the switch-board in the telephone station. The fire is said to have been caused by a bolt of lightning. Cool heads and hard work alone saved a number of vessels in port.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Cuba usurped the place of Hawaii in the proceedings in the Senate today and was under consideration for an hour or more. The proceedings were based upon a document presented by Senator Morgan of Alabama as the result of an interview between himself and a Mr. Koop of Boston, Mass. In presenting the document Senator Morgan said that Mr. Koop was a capitalist who had but recently returned from Cuba after a most exhaustive inspection of the island.

Senator Morgan laid considerable stress upon the importance of the document, which resulted from a stenographic report of the interview between Senator Morgan and Mr. Koop. The document consisted of questions by Senator Morgan and replies by Mr. Koop.

The latter said that he had been in forty-three provinces and had spent more or less time in each of them in the prosecutions of his inquiries. In no place outside of Havana, he said, was any effort made to take care of the concentrados, and he declared that the people were dying in great numbers in all places in which they had been collected together by the Spanish authorities, both as a result of the cruelty of the Spanish troops and for lack of food.

He declared that there was no evidence in the province of a more liberal treatment of these unfortunate peo-

ple under the administration of Gen. Blanco than there had been under Gen. Weyler's régime, and said that the people in general were in as deplorable a condition as they had been before the change. In no case were the concentrados allowed to go outside the military posts to collect food, and while there were some effort in certain instances to grow crops in the immediate vicinity of the garrisons, these crop areas did not extend more than 500 yards from the forts.

He added that if the people were allowed to get out if they could get enough to eat to keep soul and body together, but that when even small children attempted to go outside of the guard lines they were shot down as ruthlessly as if they were enemies in arms. He said that he had seen women and children abused by the Spanish soldiers, and that a favorite pastime seemed to be kick the women about as if they were dogs.

Mr. Koop also devoted considerable space, at Senator Morgan's suggestion, to the scheme of autonomy under the liberal ministry and pronounced it a failure from one island to the another. He said that business was at a standstill throughout the country, that few crops were growing, and that desolation and ruin stared the traveler in the face wherever he went. As a consequence property was much depreciated and the people were greatly discouraged. He said that the general estimate was that the war had already resulted in the loss of 600,000 lives, and Mr. Koop himself did not consider these figures exaggerated.

There was some comment upon the document by Senators Morgan, Gallinger and Mason, but no official action was taken. Senator Morgan said the statement was no more than he had expected to hear and Senator Gallinger declared that the picture drawn was a deplorable one. He said that two years ago he had advised that the United States should intervene to put a stop to the war, and that every development since had confirmed the wisdom of the suggestion then made.

New York, Feb. 23.—The Press says: There is a possibility that the bark Agate which sailed from this port last week bound for the Yukon river may have been wrecked. The bark carried forty men who were going to the Klondike to seek their fortunes, in addition to the crew of sixteen men.

The steamship Kingsland which arrived here yesterday from South American ports encountered bad weather. When twenty miles southeast of Barnegat. The Kingsland fell in with a quantity of wreckage. There were parts of deck houses, portions of ceilings, white painted woodwork, spars and a buoy in addition to casks and boxes of merchandise. Captain Scott of the Kingsland says the wreckage extended for a distance of forty miles. No attempt was made to pick up any portion of it.

Quebec, Que., Feb. 23.—Four lives were lost by an avalanche at South Quebec last night which destroyed two houses which stood under the cliff opposite the Grand Trunk railway sheds. One house was crushed by the weight of the snow from above, while the upper stories of the other were cut clean off from the first story and overturned upon the street. In the lower part of one of the houses resided a man named Angers, his wife and six children. The father and two children were taken out dead. Mrs. Angers is in a critical condition. In the other house James King resided with his wife, son and daughter. Mr. King and his son and daughter es-

caped serious injury, but Mrs. King was killed.

London Feb. 23.—Two government cutters have been capsized in a gale off Wells, Norfolk, drowning sixteen persons.

Paris, Feb. 23.—There was increased excitement today in the precincts of the palace of justice where M. Zola and Perreau have been on trial since February 7, charged by the government in substance with making libelous comment upon the conduct of the Esterhazy court martial.

M. Laborie, counsel for M. Zola, resumed his argument for the defense, and was followed by M. Clemenceau, counsel for M. Perreau.

The case was then submitted to the jury, which rendered a verdict that M. Zola was found guilty on all charges.

M. Zola was sentenced to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of 3,000 francs.

Provincetown, Mass., Feb. 23.—The tug Mercury T., Captain Evans, has arrived here bringing news that three men of the crew of the British ship Asia were rescued yesterday. The men were taken from a piece of wreckage on which they had been floating for 24 hours and were greatly exhausted.

The Asia struck on Great Round Shoal off Nantucket during the gale Monday and went to pieces. Captain Dakin, of the Asia, with his wife and daughter, were among those on board at the time and are supposed to have perished. It is reported that the body of the captain's daughter is at Woodshol, having been recovered with that of a man supposed to have been the mate of the vessel.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 22.—The most revolting crime ever perpetrated by white men in South Carolina was committed at Lake City, Williamsburg county, at 1 o'clock this morning, when Postmaster Baker, a negro, and his family were burned out of her home, the postmaster and a babe in arms killed, his wife and three daughters shot and maimed for life.

Baker was appointed postmaster three months ago. Lake City is a town of 400 inhabitants and the negro population in the vicinity is large. There was a protest at Baker's appointment, but it was not a very vigorous one.

Three months ago, as the postmaster was leaving the office at night, in company with several colored men, he was fired on from ambush, but it was not known who the would-be assassin was or whether it was prompted by other than personal malice. Since then Baker moved his family into a house on the outskirts, where he also established the postoffice.

Last Tuesday night a body of men, who kept concealed behind buildings and fences in the neighborhood, riddled the building with shot and rifle bullets. They shot high and no one was hurt, but it was supposed to convey a warning.

A short time before that Senators Tillman and McLauren and Congressman Horton had asked the postmaster-general to remove Baker because of his color, and the request had been refused. Baker did not move his family and gave no evidence of being frightened. He felt confident of protection from Washington.

At 1 o'clock this morning a torch was applied to the postoffice and Baker's house. Back just within the line of light, were over a hundred white men, armed with pistols and shotguns. By the time the fire aroused the sleeping family, consisting of the postmaster, his wife, four daughters, a son and an infant at the breast, the crowd began firing into the building. A hundred bullet holes were made through the thin boarding, and many found lodgment in the people within.

Baker was the first to reach the door,