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# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

10 PAGES—LAST EDITION.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1905. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR.

## Singer Killed And Granger Meeting House Wrecked.

### DREADFUL DEATH OF GIRL SOLOIST

Miss Nellie Mackay Meets Her Fate While Rendering a Sacred Song

### WARD CHAPEL BLOWN DOWN

Explosion of an Acetylene Gas Tank The Cause of a Most Tragical and Painful Occurrence.

### TWENTY-SIX PERSONS ARE HURT

Accident One of Worst in History of The Community—Was at a Y. M. And Y. L. M. I. A. Meeting.

There was a most frightful and shocking accident at Granger, this county, at 8:15 last night. It was caused by the explosion of an acetylene gas tank in the ward chapel. One person was killed outright, 26 were seriously and painfully hurt, while a considerable number more received minor wounds caused by the terrible concussion and by flying debris. The walls of the meetinghouse were blown out, some of them being carried completely away, while others were wrenched and twisted to their very foundation, and will have to be completely removed before future use can be made of them. Every window and door was blown out, and even the sills and frames were carried from their fastenings by the force of the explosion. The stove, organ and benches are almost wholly destroyed.

### DEAD AND INJURED.

The fatality occurred at a meeting of the Mutual Improvement Association. Miss Nellie Mackay was killed instantly while singing a sacred solo, and the following persons were more or less badly hurt, some of them having received wounds of a serious character: Eunice McKee, Ida Smith, Vivian Wallace, Nora Johnson, Elizabeth Bawden, Charles L. Bawden, Mary Harmon, Frederick Eldridge, Hazel Hemenway, Melvin Grow, Hazel Murphy, Erma Fairbourn, Minnie Fairbourn, Annie Mitchell, Arva Mitchell, Mabel Mackay, Annie Horne, Alonzo Mackay, Laura Gerber, Irene Solomon, Alice Warr, Katie Warr, Fred Thomas, Wiley Solomon, Thomas Alma Mackay, Lorilla Horne, and a considerable number of others.

### ALL YOUNG PEOPLE.

Nearly all of those present at the time of the accident were young people who had gathered for an evening's entertainment at their Mutual Improvement meeting. An interesting program was in process of rendition, when the frightful accident overwhelmed them, bringing death to one, and injury to many other members of the association. This explosion, of course, extinguished the lights, and resulted in the utmost confusion and disorder. The shrieks of the women and the cries of the men, rent the air in every direction. Following as they did immediately after the explosion, which was heard for miles around, it was known immediately in the neighborhood that something terrible had occurred. As quickly as possible men and women rushed towards the meetinghouse, to learn the dreadful story of what had happened, and to offer such assistance as they could. The excitement was terrific and many parents were loath to believe that some of the members of their household had not been killed or injured beyond recovery, until they were able to see and clasp them in their arms.

### MEDICAL AID SUMMONED.

Just as quickly as possible medical aid was summoned from Murray, Drs. Jones, Bird and DeWitte answering the call and taking with them bandages and lotions for the wounded. They spent all of the night in attending to the injured people, and today most of them are doing as well as can be expected, though it will take a week or two, and in some cases more, for them to entirely recover. The fact that a greater number was not killed is little short of a miracle. It was with great difficulty that many of the injured were rescued from their perilous position. Had not action been prompt in this direction it seems certain that some of the victims would have been cremated. The stove, for instance, was lifted from its fastenings and carried into another part of the hall, filled with live



MISS NELLIE MACKAY, The Young Singer Who Was Killed by the Acetylene Gas Explosion at Granger.

coals. Then a fire was in progress of starting near the location of the gas tank, which was in a sort of sub-basement immediately under the pulpit.

### A SONG OF DEATH.

That the terrible tragedy should have been enacted at such a moment is beyond human understanding. The evening had been a most pleasant and entertaining one. Every person who had gathered in the meetinghouse was actuated by only the best and purest of motives. The giver of all Good had been impetuously most fervently for His blessings upon those present. His name had been praised, and speech making and music had commingled together. The most delightful part of the program had just been reached. The fairest and sweetest singer of the community had taken her place at the side of the organ, and the strains of melody that came from her throat were charming her hearers. Nowhere was there the least evidence that this joyous and harmonious occasion in another instant would be transformed from joy to deepest trouble; that the edifice of worship was to become a charnel house of death and sorrow.

### THE EXPLOSION.

It is more than passing strange that Miss Mackay should have been singing a song her people loved when the transformation was wrought. She had just completed the second verse of "If There's Sunshine in Your Heart," and had reached the words,

"And his burden you will share,  
As you lift his load of care,  
If there's sunshine in your heart to-day"

when as suddenly as the coming of a bolt of lightning came the explosion. Where light and order were, darkness and disorder took their place. The meetinghouse was shaken to its foundations. The horrified cries of the injured, amid the wreck and ruin that had been wrought, were terrible to listen to. When partial order had been established and other lights had been brought upon the scene, the picture of desolation was awful to look upon. The pulpit had apparently been blown to the ceiling, carrying with it the organ and singer, which had come back to the floor with the organ on top of her now lifeless body. Severe contusions and bruises were found between her eyes and over her heart. Death had been instantaneous. Most remarkable to relate Miss Horne, the accompanying organist, who is the daughter of ex-County Commissioner W. J. Horne, escaped without serious injury, though a couple of others were caught beneath the instrument as was Miss Mackay, and escaped death. The two who thus escaped were Miss Hazel Murphy and Miss Annie Horne. Their prostrate forms were found fastened under the debris at the side of the dead singer. Great was the rejoicing of their families and friends when they were taken out alive.

The deceased was 22 years of age, and a daughter of David Mackay one of the oldest residents of Granger. She was possessed of a beautiful voice and fine personality and was one of the most popular of young women.

### CAUSE OF ACCIDENT.

County Commissioner Mackay stated to the "News" today that it was one of the worst accidents that had ever come under his observation, if in fact it was not the worst in the history of the Church. Discussing the question of probable cause, he said that it seemed almost impossible to properly locate it. The young men in charge of the lighting plant were Lambert and Willard Bawden. One of them was just proceeding to inspect the little plant when the explosion occurred. Mr. Mackay said that so far as he was concerned he could not see where the responsibility could be fastened at this time. The same plant had furnished adequate light for several years, and had given satisfaction without any indications of being dangerous.

### A DANGEROUS GAS.

In this connection it may be stated

that acetylene gas is exceedingly dangerous in the hands of under the direction of persons who are not experts with it. For a considerable time past there has been an effort to introduce it into the meetinghouses of the Latter-day Saints throughout Utah and surrounding states, but in most instances the people have wisely refrained from its installation, as the sad sequel shows in the case of the terrible affair at Granger last night.

### CORONER'S INQUEST.

A coroner's inquest was held this afternoon, under the direction of the justice of the peace, Mr. Lachonous Hemenway. The inquiry was at the residence of David McKay, the father of the unfortunate girl who was the sole death victim of the explosion. The jury consisted of Alexander Hill, Philip Wither and Jacob Hunter. Six witnesses were examined, and the testimony was along the lines given. The evidence made it very clear that no match had been struck and that the young man who started to inspect the plant had not even entered the room when the explosion occurred.

### THE VERDICT.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock the jury returned the following verdict: State of Utah, Fifth Precinct Salt Lake County.—An inquest having been held at Granger, Salt Lake county, on the 8th day of March, 1905, before Lachonous Hemenway, justice of the peace, of said precinct, Salt Lake county, upon the body of Nellie Mackay there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed, the said jurors upon their oath do say that she came to her death about 7:55 p. m., March 7, 1905, through gas explosion, at the Granger meetinghouse; cause of explosion unknown. No blame attached to janitor. In testimony thereof the said jurors have hereunto set their hand the day and year aforesaid.

### VICTIMS IN BAD WAY.

Late this afternoon there were three of the victims in critical condition. These were different from the others, whose injuries were less severe. These were badly burned, and Eliza Bawden, whose back was hurt and whose nose and arm were broken. The case of Melvin Grow is particularly critical.

### MISS MACKAY'S FUNERAL.

The funeral services over the remains of Miss Mackay will be held at the Granite stake tabernacle at Fourteenth South and State streets, on Sunday next at 4 p. m. Friends of the deceased are invited to attend.

### INDICATIONS ARE PEABODY WILL NOT HAVE THE VOTES

Denver, March 8.—The general assembly of Colorado, meeting in joint convention to consider the governorship contest between James H. Peabody and Alva Adams, discussed today the four reports submitted by the contest committee. One of these reports, signed by 14 Republican members of the committee, recommends the seating of Peabody. The other four Republican members and the nine Democrats, presenting separate reports, favor Adams and advise that Peabody's contest be dismissed. Senator Norton Alexander, who signed the Peabody report, also presented another report, recommending the general assembly to declare the office of governor vacant and to seat Lieut. Gov. McDonald as governor.

Under the rules adopted by the joint convention 10 minutes are allotted to each member to discuss the reports and any member is permitted to yield his time to another, but none can talk over 20 minutes. There are 97 members and the debate may continue for three days. A vote taken today established the fact that none of the reports submitted by the contest committee would receive a majority of the votes at the present time. On a motion to sustain the chair's ruling on a point of order the vote showed the number of Peabody's supporters present to be 42, while against him there were 52 votes with three absentees. The Democratic vote on the joint ballot is 31, and the supporters of the Alexander report, which favors the seating of Lieut. Gov. Jesse A. McDonald as governor, claim to have 22 votes. This would indicate that the full Peabody strength on joint ballot to be 44. Forty-nine is the number of votes required to seat Peabody if all the members are present when the final vote is taken.

### STRIKERS WILLING TO COME TO TERMS

Advise Mayor McClellan That They Will Consider Propositions For Amicable Adjustment.

### THE SITUATION IS IMPROVING.

Larger Number of Trains Run Than Yesterday and People Patronize Them More.

New York, March 8.—The officials of the Amalgamated Association of Electric and Street Railway Employees and the local officials of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers have sent a letter to Mayor McClellan in response to his suggestion of yesterday, stating that they are willing to consider any proposition that may bring about an amicable adjustment of the strike. The suggestion of Mayor McClellan, which was sent to both the Interborough company and the striking employees, was that adjustment of the trouble be trusted to him personally or a disinterested committee of citizens.

### SITUATION IMPROVING.

New York, March 8.—The second day of the strike on the subway and elevated lines showed considerable improvement over yesterday's conditions. Trains were run in the subway and the Sixth avenue elevated line was kept open with a larger number of trains than yesterday. At first people were timid and hesitated to ride on the roads affected by the strike, but between 8:30 and 9 o'clock when the downtown rush was at its height, the public began to realize the hopelessness of using the already overtaxed surface lines and eagerness to get to business overcame timidity. Most of the trains made fairly good time, but the long stops at stations and careful running, indicated that the company was taking no risks. On the whole the underground seems in better condition than at the same hour yesterday. Notwithstanding the improvement in the Interborough's service, much downtown traffic was carried by the surface lines.

### BOTH SIDES FIRM.

There was no sign of giving way by either side when the day opened. The Interborough officials said they were in a better position than yesterday, that they would run more trains today and that the situation was growing better for them all the time.

### STRIKE LEADERS TALK.

The strike leaders on the other hand declared that all their men were holding firm, that the company had done its best yesterday, and that from now on it would be increasingly difficult for the officials to operate the subway and elevated lines. No attempt was made to maintain schedules on either the subway or elevated during the night, but as early as 3 o'clock this morning preparations for attempting to handle the rush hour crowds were begun. In the subway the result was about the same as yesterday and in the downtown the second avenue branch operations were attempted to begin service were begun as early at other points, but obstacles of all kinds were encountered. The result was that the subway and elevated lines were running on good headway and without much trouble.

### MEN DESERT TRAINS.

Crowds flocked to the uptown stations and cars were packed long before the residential sections were left behind. On the other elevated lines conditions were different. The Third and Second avenue branches suffering more severely than any others. These preparations to begin service were begun as early at other points, but obstacles of all kinds were encountered. The result was that the subway and elevated lines were running on good headway and without much trouble.

### NO STRYCHNINE FOUND IN STANFORD RESIDENCE.

San Francisco, March 8.—The police authorities deemed it necessary to demolish persistent rumors about that they found strychnine in Mrs. Stanford's residence here. Acting Chief of Police Spillane and Capt. of Detectives Burt have given out the following statement:

"Officer Chief of Police, San Francisco, March 8.—I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the investigation in this city of the death of Mrs. Stanford has failed to result in the finding of any strychnine whatever, either at the residence of Mrs. Stanford or elsewhere."

"JOHN SPILLANE, Captain and Acting Chief of Police."

"J. J. BURNETT, 'Captain of Detectives.'"

The private detectives engaged in the case also deny that they found any poison on the premises.

### A WOMAN'S BODY FOUND.

Identified as that of Mrs. Nancy Jane Milburn.

St. Louis, March 8.—Advices have been received from Los Angeles, Cal., to the effect that the dead body of a woman, believed to have been murdered, has been found in the sea at Ocean Park and identified as Mrs. Nancy Jane Milburn, formerly of St. Louis. The autopsy showed that the woman's neck had been broken and there were indications that she had been strangled. The condition of the stomach indicated that death had resulted before the body was thrown into the sea. The identification was made by her daughter, Mrs. Nancy Jane O'Brien.

In 1853, Mrs. Milburn was a teacher in the St. Louis schools. Mrs. Milburn went to Los Angeles many years ago and engaged in the real estate business. A few weeks ago she visited St. Louis on business.

### Sentry Deserted With Prisoner

Helena, Mont., March 8.—A dispatch to the Record from Fort Keogh, Mont., says that a sentry, who was guarding two prisoners at work near the Yellowstone river, has deserted taking one of the prisoners with him. The other prisoner, although he had a chance to escape, returned to the fort.

### No Election in Missouri.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 8.—The joint ballot in the legislature today on the election of a United States senator was without decisive result. The vote stood: Cookrell, 36; Niedrighaus, 16; Korus, 15; McKinley, 5; Deer, 1; Barthol, 5; Warner, 2; Robert D. Silver, 1.

### HOW THE OBERLIN BANK DID BUSINESS

Books Showed Eighty Thousand To Its Credit While in Fact Mrs. Chadwick Had It.

### ATTORNEYS GET RATHER EXCITED

Courtroom Was Crowded When Trial Was Resumed—Receiver Lyons Was Recalled to Stand.

Cleveland, Ohio, March 8.—The federal court again was crowded today to the limit, when the trial of Mrs. Chadwick was resumed. Receiver Robert Lyons, of the Oberlin bank, was recalled. He was shown by Dist. Atty. Sullivan a number of checks drawn by Mrs. Chadwick on the Oberlin bank and certified by Beckwith and Sear. He testified that the books of the bank did not show that on any of the dates when the checks were drawn, there any money or credit of any kind belonging to the defendant. There was nothing in the bank, he declared, against which the checks could be legally honored by the bank.

Dist. Atty. Sullivan handed the witness the drafts made on the Importers and Traders' National bank by the Oberlin bank, aggregating \$80,000, made in favor of Mrs. Chadwick, and asked him if this amount was any money was in the bank to her credit. The defense objected to the drafts because they had not been mentioned in the indictment. Dist. Atty. Sullivan argued that the government should be allowed to show that Mrs. Chadwick while not having a dollar in the Oberlin bank had drawn from it \$80,000 and that this amount was in the hands of the Oberlin bank as being in New York, when it actually was in the hands of Mrs. Chadwick. Mr. Duxley protested against the introduction of the drafts energetically and the district attorney replied to his objections in strong fashion. Judge Taylor ruled that as much as the two drafts were dated on Aug. 24, 1903, the same day as a certified check for \$12,500 was given to Mrs. Chadwick, where the three papers were part of the same transaction, the question was permissible. Receiver Lyons stated that no entry of the drafts appeared on the books of the bank until Sept. 29, 1903, and that between the two dates Mrs. Chadwick had neither money nor credit in the Oberlin bank.

### MILLION AND A HALF DOLLARS FIRE IN CEDAR RAPIDS, IA.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 8.—One man killed was the only fatality in the \$1,500,000 fire in this city last night in the American Cereal plant. John Safely, the night watchman, had gone to the sixth story of the Hull house to examine the furnace when an explosion occurred. Safely was either thrown out of the building or else jumped to the pavement. He was crushed beyond recognition. The fire started burning early today and eating its way through the new mill, part of which had already been destroyed. The entire loss will reach \$1,500,000. The official list of insurance as prepared by the city shows that the fire departments from neighboring points assisted in fighting the flames.

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### HALLUCINATION OF THE TRIBUNE.

Concocts Infamous Story as to Suggested Assassination of Its Editor.

### BLAMES THE DESERET NEWS.

Man Who Furnished This Paper With Statement Comes Forth With Denial That Should Settle Controversy.

A few days ago the Deseret News published an article written by a well known citizen of Salt Lake, wherein that gentleman averred that he had overheard in a restaurant two men, apparently strangers, discussing the outrageous ravings of a local publication. One of them, he observed, said that in his opinion, nowhere else in the United States would such malicious and terrific tirades be permitted. Elsewhere, he said, such character assassinations had been known to be shot down and that juries had acquitted the slayers.

The citizen in question declares that he stands as strongly for peace and good order as any man in the community, and sent his card to the Deseret News with no other thought than to let the public know how strangers looked upon these matters. This morning the Salt Lake Tribune says that it is the paper referred to and that the article was manufactured in the office of the Deseret News, with a view to suggesting the assassination of the Tribune editor. It declares that no such incident as the one narrated ever took place. It then works itself into several kinds of frenzy and concludes with an attack upon the Deseret News, which it says is not in the habit of quoting straw men. The Deseret News has the word of a reliable and highly respected citizen of the community that the conversation referred to actually took place and that he heard it. Accordingly he came forward this morning and wrote and swore to the following affidavit, which was published in the News, and fastens the lie upon the most notorious and vindictive vilification sheet in all the land:

"To the Editor:—Since the anti-'Mormon' organ in this city not only assumed that the letter in your issue of last Saturday under the caption, 'Character Assassins,' refers to itself, but also charges that the statements made in the communication originally published in the 'News' office, I believe justice to you demands that I supplement that brief note by the further information that it was I who overheard the conversation and furnished the facts. As stated, I was seated at a table in a restaurant with other gentlemen, and happened to overhear the conversation related in the letter. One of them expressed himself to the effect that in no other community would such outrageous journalism as that which at times appears here be tolerated. And he added that in some instances just the kind of outrages upon decency had resulted in murders. 'I gave publicity to this incident, not because I approve of violence, or revenge in any form, nor ever intend to give the general public some idea of the impression 'character assassins' are producing among intelligent outsiders. That is of considerable public interest.' L. FAIRCLIST."

"Salt Lake City, March 8, 1905."

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of March, 1905."

"W. T. PLYER, 'Notary Public.'"

"My commission expires Feb. 25th, 1907."

### LAYTON FIRST NAT'L BANK

Application of Jas. Pingree and Others To Organize It Approved.

(Special to the "News.") Washington, D. C., March 8.—The application of James Pingree of Ogden, E. P. Ellison, J. Flint, George V. Stevenson and R. J. Adams to organize the First National Bank of Layton, Utah, with \$25,000 capital, has been approved by the comptroller of the currency.

### ROSEBERRY POSTMASTER.

Ira Blankenship Appointed, Vice Hotel T. Boydston, Dead.

(Special to the "News.") Washington, D. C., March 8.—Ira Blankenship has been appointed postmaster at Roseberry, Boise county, Ida., vice Hotel T. Boydston, dead.

### 'PHONE TO 'FRISCO.

Pacific States Company to Join Hands With the Bell Corporation.

The Pacific States Telephone company announces its intention to build east from Reno to the Utah state line within the next few months, connecting with the lines of the Rocky Mountain Bell company of this state. The line between Reno and Ogden will be 400 miles, and the work of construction will not occupy over two months. President Wallace of the Bell company of this city stated today to a "News" reporter that the Pacific States company covered all of the Pacific states and Arizona and Nevada, just as the R. M. Bell company does Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, and both bear the same relation to the American Telegraph and Telephone company of Boston. Consequently just as soon as the Pacific people are ready to connect with the Rocky Mountain Bell company, the latter will build without delay directly west of Ogden to the Nevada state line, and thus immediately communication with San Francisco and other coast points will be offered to Salt Lake and Ogden merchants.

### RUSSIANS ARE IN FULL RETREAT.

Under Cover of the Darkness Evacuated Whole Line Along The Shabke River.

### JAPS PRESSING THEM CLOSELY.

Before Retreating They Set Fire to Great Heaps of Supplies Which Burned Through the Night.

### FALL OF MUKDEN IS IMMINENT.

Kuroki is Nearing Fushan—Ominous Silence Reigns in St. Petersburg.

Gen. Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, via Pusan March 8, Morning.—The Russians last night under cover of the darkness, evacuated the whole line along the Shabke river and are now in full retreat northward. The Japanese infantry is pressing them closely. Before retreating the Russians set fire to great heaps of supplies which burned through the night. The fall of Mukden appears imminent. The Japanese are pushing the Russians hard on the east.

### NEWS OF DEFEAT REACHES RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, March 8, 8 p. m.—The dispatch of the Associated Press from its correspondent with the army of Gen. Kuroki announcing the withdrawal of the Russians from their positions on the Shabke river and that the Russians were in full retreat was the first definite news received here to the effect that the battle was ended and that Gen. Kuropatkin was making the best of his way northward. It does not come unexpectedly.

The defeat of Gen. Kuropatkin has been expected since Field Marshal Oyama made his brilliant stroke against the Russian right.

### PURSUITING THE RUSSIANS.

Tokio, March 8, 4 p. m.—The following dispatch has just been received from the headquarters of the Japanese army in Manchuria: "Our force which has been engaging a superior force of the enemy in the neighborhood of Machantou, (southeast of Mukden), dislodged the enemy from his positions at 8 o'clock this morning and is now pursuing him northward."

### KUROKI MAKING PROGRESS.

St. Petersburg, March 8, 1:50 p. m.—Tokio dispatches announcing that Gen. Kuroki is making progress and had already advanced a point 14 miles south of Fushan yesterday showing that Lieut. Gen. Linvitch, commander of the First Manchurian army, is again giving way. The Russian army was word which reached St. Petersburg this morning regarding the situation at the front. With the fate of the gigantic struggle between Gen. Kuropatkin and Field Marshal Oyama, the Russian army decided, as it is now 7 o'clock at night in Mukden, and St. Petersburg is waiting breathless for news, ominous silence reigns. No private or press dispatches giving news of today's battle have yet arrived here and the mere fact that the curtain is run down, taking a leaf out of the past experience, is pessimistically interpreted. There are ugly rumors circulating in the streets that the day is lost and that the Russian army is in full and disorderly retreat, with only the guard corps guard lighting off the victorious Japanese.

According to other rumors the lack of news is accounted for by the report that the Japanese have cut the Russian telegraph lines. But these rumors are still rumors. All the military critics this morning, however, agree that Kuropatkin's position is extremely critical and that today should decide the fate of the Russian army. They are of the opinion that Kuropatkin has held his ground as long as possible and that they are unable to see how, if beaten, he can escape utter ruin, at the same time all dwell on Kuropatkin's excessive prudence, his refusal to take the risks of war at an opportune moment, being indeed the cause of much censure, and the fact that he has stuck to his position, therefore encourages the hope that he is preparing for a great counter-stroke, such as he planned at Liao Yang, but flinched before when Gen. Oshima was crushed. The situation at Liao Yang is now duplicated with the turning movement reversed. Kuropatkin behind strong works is holding the Japanese center and right, while concentrating for a blow at the Japanese turning column on the plain west of Mukden. Those who still pin their faith to Kuropatkin declare he must have concentrated all his reserves on his right flank and that he has been waiting for a moment when the herculean efforts of the Japanese to crush and envelop the wing will be exhausted in order to launch a blow which will determine whether he is the victor or the vanquished. It is significant that Gen. Dragomiroff, Russia's greatest strategist, now an old man whom the emperor has called upon to act as his military adviser, has openly joined the ranks of Kuropatkin's critics, going to the extent of defending Gen. Gripenberg's course in an article in the military organ. This is interpreted as sealing Kuropatkin's fate if the battle has gone against him. On the other hand a victory would confound the detractors of the commander-in-chief and give him an unassailable position. The public interest is at a higher pitch than at any time during the war. From different motives every class is most eager to learn the result of the battle. Groups surround the bulletin boards and the evening editions of the newspapers are snatched from the hands of the newshy.

### INES OF COMMUNICATION NOT CUT.

St. Petersburg, March 8, 2:45 p. m.—The Associated Press is now in a position to positively deny the current ru-