

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

BUZZARD'S BAY, Mass., Aug. 24.—Announcement was made by President Cleveland at Gray Gables tonight of the appointment of D. R. Francis of Missouri as secretary of the interior, vice Hoke Smith, who recently resigned the secretaryship because of his financial views.

Mr. Francis will probably assume office on September 1st, as that is the date named in Secretary Smith's resignation.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 24.—Ex-Governor David Rowland Francis is nearly 46 years of age, having been born at Richmond, Madison county, Ky., Oct. 1, 1850. His education was received in Washington university, this city, his family having moved to St. Louis. In 1870 he graduated, receiving the degree of B. A. His first employment was with a grain commission house, continuing until 1877, when he began business for himself. In 1884 the D. R. Francis & Bro. Commission company was established, and as a result of the growth of his firm that same year he became president of the Merchant's exchange. His first political position was that of delegate to the National Democratic convention of 1884. In April, 1885, he was elected Mayor of St. Louis, having been nominated as a dark-horse on the 185th ballot. In 1888 Mr. Francis was elected governor of Missouri. At the expiration of his term in 1892 he resumed the active management of his old firm, which had been kept up by the other members of the house, with occasional supervision by the governor himself. His connection with politics since 1892 has been that of a simple citizen with an active interest in the welfare of his party and country. He has always been a consistent Democrat.

Mrs. Francis is a leader in St. Louis society. They have four children.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 24.—A wreck on the Pittsburg & Western railroad at Valencia, twenty-two miles west of here, at noon today resulted in the destruction of three passenger coaches, eighteen freight cars and the injury of twenty-five passengers, five of whom will probably die.

The wreck was a peculiar one and one in which were involved three trains—the local freight No. 27, the through freight No. 2 and the east-bound passenger No. 4 from Chicago. The local was standing at Valencia station unloading freight when the through freight came to the top of the grade just east of Valencia. The engineer who was on the lookout for No. 25 put on the air-brakes, but they refused to work, and his train went crashing into the local. Just at the time the two freights collided the passenger came along on the eastbound track and was struck by the freight cars, which were derailed at that moment. The engine and baggage car of the passenger train got through safely and broke away from the balance of the train. The first passenger coach, in which were a great many ladies, was crushed by a carload of oil-well tubing. The tubing was thrown with terrific force in every direction, causing most of the wounds received by the passengers. The wreckage was piled twenty or thirty feet high in places.

RIO JANEIRO, Aug. 24.—Numerous conflicts are reported to have occurred between the Brazilians and the Italians in Sao Paulo on Saturday and Sunday, and the agitation still continues. It is believed that the Brazilian government will withdraw the exequatur from the Italian consul, whom the newspapers accuse of supporting the Italians in their agitation.

LOWELL, Mich., Aug. 25.—Charles Church, the junior member of the private baking house of C. J. Church & Co., shot and fatally wounded his wife and then committed suicide this morning. The bank was closed yesterday, for the alleged reason that it was unable to realize upon assets. This morning Deputy Sheriff Cowan called at Church's house to serve a writ of attachment. Church locked the door and immediately three pistol shots were heard. The door was broken in and Mr. and Mrs. Church were found lying on the floor, the former dead, the latter mortally wounded. The elder Church was disappeared.

ZANZIBAR, Aug. 25.—The sultan of Zanzibar, Hamid Bin Thuwain Bin Said, is dead. He was about 40 years of age, a nephew of the late sultan Ali Khalif and Burgash, and succeeded to the sultanate on the death of Sultan Ali, on March 5, 1893. He was one of a number of claimants and selected as the most fitting by the British government which exercises a protectorate over the sultanate.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Senator Arturo Baldassano Topete, the consul general for Spain in this city, today received the new decree of the captain general of Cuba, extending to October 31 the time for all foreigners resident in Cuba to register and procure their certificates. When General Weyler's decree is in full operation, it will do away with a number of old certificates now used by people claiming a dual nationality.

Many of them, foreigners, it is alleged, are rebel agents and when arrested claim British, French or American citizenship. The new decree, it is thought, will facilitate the maintenance of public order on the island.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—The new Venezuelan blue book, which will be issued here shortly, was forwarded to Washington Saturday last.

It contains dispatches dealing with the condition of affairs in Armenia during 1895-6. The chief point of interest is found in the fact that the dispatches are published showing that Sir Phillip Currie, British minister to Turkey, in December, 1894, informed the Earl of Kimberly, the then secretary of state for foreign affairs, that the sultan was preparing to strike a terrible blow against the Armenians in Zaitoun on Marash.

In an editorial this morning, commenting upon the issuance of the blue book, the Times says:

"We presume the government's object in issuing yesterday the blue book containing exclusively Dr. Schomburgk's letters in relation to the boundary mission stations from 1841 to 1844, was for the purpose of refuting the Venezuelan allegations relating to the extension of the Schomburgk line twenty years after Schomburgk's death."

Continuing the Times says:

"The blue book disposes of these myths very completely, thus refuting and silencing imputations which ought never to have been made against Great Britain."

WASECA, Minn., Aug. 26.—Fire has consumed the milling plant and flour house of Everett Aughenbaugh & Co. The estimated loss is \$75,000; insurance \$25,000. The plant will be rebuilt.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Aug. 26.—John A. Carman, recently elected state chairman of the Democratic committee has been nominated for Congress in the Twelfth district.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Aug. 26.—According to two cablegrams received in this city, the steamer Laurada, which sailed from this port for Cuba, August 6th, has landed the most formidable filibustering expeditions yet shipped for Cuba and then sailed to Port Antonio, Jamaica. The Laurada landed 200 men and an immense cargo on the southern coast of Cuba, Santa Clara province. The cargo consisted of 53,000 pounds of dynamite, eleven field guns, four cannon, seven Gatlings and a quantity of ammunition.

DUBLIN, Aug. 26.—The *Kilkenny Journal*, commenting on the release of John Daly, the Irish political prisoner, from Portlaoth prison, says:

The red Indians' torture of the captives is humane when compared with the torture inflicted upon Daly in England.

Continuing, the periodical mentioned refers to the allusion in the queen's speech to the outrages in Armenia and adds:

"The queen can find nearer home more vent for her hypocritical tears than among the Kurds," and asks: "Where is the queen's clemency? Daly was released a few months before death would have released him, and three others have been driven mad by torture in penal servitude compared with which Siberian exile is drawing room imprisonment. This is the way Victoria wishes to signalize her record reign. She would not have been a loss to the victims of her brutal rule in Ireland if she had gone years ago. At the present moment she knows that she is standing in the way of those who wish to see her in her royal sepulchre, and she has neither the grace to abdicate, nor the humanity to open her prisons to Irishmen until they precede her on the voyage from which none returns."

HANANA, Aug. 26.—It is reported here that the insurgents recently burned a number of coffee and cocoa plantations in the province of Santiago de Cuba. Among the larger plantations burned were the splendid estate of Aurora, Sempalla and Dolorita. It is estimated that more than \$1,000,000 worth of property was destroyed.

These estates were owned by French citizens who were not sympathizers with the insurgents, but who have remained neutral from the commencement of the trouble in Cuba.

At a meeting of the board of trade tonight, it was deliberately announced that the decree prohibiting the planting, cultivating and harvesting of the coffee and sugar crops would be strictly enforced. Some of the merchants were evidently discontented, but the majority of those in attendance, who are apparently loyal to Spain, approve the measure.