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[Special to the DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

San Francisco, 16.

A terrible explosion of what is supposed to be nitro-glycerine occurred at 1-15 this afternoon, in the rear of Wells, Fargo & Co's building. The explosion shook the earth like an earthquake for a circuit of a quarter of a mile. Samuel Knight, superintendent of Wells, Fargo & Co., died in half an hour, of injuries received. G. W. Bell, supervisor and assayer, was instantly killed. Mr. Wallut, Wells, Fargo & Co's assayer, Joseph Elliott, Jno. Gallagher, Frank Webster and Wm. Justin were also killed. Eight dead bodies have been taken from the ruins so mutilated that they could not be identified. Louis McLane and Capt. Eldridge, of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., and Judge Hoffman were bruised, and Capt. Felix Lariax, D. Stacey, Jefferson Taylor, H. Blum, clothing dealer, Capt. J. E. Ayres, Fried Liez, Frank Morris and others were injured, but not fatally. Some will never be identified, as fragments of human flesh, bones and brains were found nearly two blocks distant. Montgomery, Sacramento and California streets are lined with broken glass, scarcely a window, for the distance of several hundred feet, is remaining whole.

Wells, Fargo & Co's horses and everything animate or inanimate were blown into fragments. The damage is estimated at the least at \$200,000.

Wm. Havens, book keeper of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., is ascertained to be among the killed.

The cause of the explosion is a mystery. The freight agent of the Pacific Mail Co. says two boxes, each measuring about four cubic feet, were taken from the steamer dock to a place where the explosion occurred; one box was consigned to Idaho city, and the other to Los Angeles; both were stained with oil; their contents were not known.

Forty men are now engaged in removing the ruins.

Chicago, 15.

George B. Wright, of Ohio, has been confirmed Indian Agent for Montana.

General Sherman says the route over the plains from Omaha by way of Forts Kearney, McPherson and Laramie will be guarded by regular troops, and he will attempt to make the new road pretty well guarded, by the Big Cheyenne north of the Black Hills to Pawnee river, intersecting the other road near the head waters of the Yellow Stone, and will also guard, as well as possible, the Missouri river route. He says he cannot undertake to guard the Niobrara route.

In the House, Marvin, of New York, from the Committee on Territories, reported adversely to a memorial of the Utah Legislature, for an appropriation to construct roads.

Starr, of New Jersey, reported adversely on the memorial of the Utah Legislature, asking an appropriation for the Territorial library.

The Herald's correspondent denies the report of the Overland Mail contract with Ben Holladay, by way of the Smoky Hill route.

A joint resolution, protesting against

pardoning criminals by foreign Powers, on condition that they emigrate to the United States, has passed both Houses, and will be communicated to all foreign Powers, although particularly called out by the action of the Swiss Government.

Halifax, 14.

The city medical officer reports, up to last evening, 170 deaths among the passengers of the steamer England, including 40 who died on the passage from Liverpool. He reports that the disease is probably a severe form of ship fever, with many prominent symptoms of the cholera; it amounts to a regular plague. The surviving passengers are being removed, some to Her Majesty's receiving ship Pyramus, and others to tents on shore. The disease is apparently decreasing, the number of deaths being greatly reduced to-day. The disease is confined to the steerage passengers.

INDIAN COUNCIL.

It will be recollected that Major Wyncoop, a few months since, was entrusted with the important mission, by the Indian Bureau, of collecting the hostile bands of Cheyenne Indians, and placing them upon the reservations assigned them by the treaties of October last, held at the mouth of the Little Arkansas river. The special correspondent of the Kansas State Journal, under date of "Camps Arrapahoe and Cheyenne Indians on Bluff Creek, south of the Arkansas river, March 2, 1866," writes:

"I am happy to inform you the expedition arrived here on the 25th ult., bringing in twelve bands of dog soldiers, and that yesterday their chiefs and headmen signed a paper setting forth that they cheerfully and without restraint endorse the action of the said council, and agree to firmly and strictly abide by and strictly adhere to the letter and spirit of the said treaty. Medicine, Arrow, Big Head, George Bent, Harry Wolf, Bear Tongue and Red Iron, all of whose names have become a terror to emigrants since the Chivington massacre, united in signing the paper, together with six others of minor importance. The only remaining band is that of Little Rose, and I presume our further efforts will be directed towards him.

"There was about four thousand Indians at the council yesterday, eight hundred of whom were warriors. Major Wyncoop made a long practical speech to them, setting forth the advantages that would accrue through a resumption of friendly relations, and warning them against continued acts of hostility, promising that the Government will never again make like omissions; and if fight we must, would make an unconditional and relentless war. He was interpreted to by Uncle John Smith, and responded to by Medicine, Arrow and Big Head.

"We procured from the dog soldiers a young lady captive named Amanda Fletcher, fifteen years of age, who was captured near Fort Halleck on the 1st of August last, while en route for Idaho with her parents. Her mother was badly wounded at the time, and may have died, but her father escaped. The family was from Minersville, Henry county, Illinois. She will be taken back to Fort Larned, and will remain there in charge of the lady of Major Dryer until claimed by her relatives."

—[Dollar Star.]

THE SUBMARINE VOLCANO.

The following is an account of the late eruption of the submarine volcano at the island of Santorin, Grecian Archipelago, and the result of an examination by several scientific men, as given by the United States Consul at Piraeus, Henry M. Canfield, Esq., in his dispatches to the Department of State:

A remarkable phenomenon has for several days occupied the attention of the inhabitants of Santorin. On the 18th of January, 1866, a low, rumbling sound was heard from time to time at New Cameni, and especially at the place called Vulcano, where the mineral waters are. Stones detached themselves from the sides of rocks and mountains and rolled down to the levels.

On the morning of the 19th the walls of the buildings and the ground were covered with cracks. Towards noon the rumblings became more frequent, and sounded like the successive detonations of artillery. In the port of Vulcano, where copper bottomed vessels are cleaned, the sea was violently agitated, and an innumerable multitude of bubbles rose incessantly to the surface; and the surface, itself, was covered with white vapors with a sulphurous odor. That afternoon the agitation of the sea increased, and the soil along the shores began gradually to sink.

On the morning of the 20th, on the sea and near the western part of Vulcano, flames burst forth, forming a conical fire of 10 to 15 square metres at the base and from four to five metres in height, which disappeared in about one hour.

The entire southwestern portion of New Cameni was shattered to pieces. A chasm commencing at the western shore, near the port of St. George, and running towards the east divided the conically-shaped hill into two equal parts, and also, nearly the entire island. The southwestern portion of the island is completely covered with a network of fissures. It was never fit for cultivation, as it is formed of an accumulation of volcanic stones and sand, really the powder of basaltic rocks. Four small lakes of pure clear water appeared on this part of the island, which were continually growing in size.

White, suffocating vapors arose from the sea, and emitted a sulphurous odor, resembling that of rotten eggs. Spots of a greenish color appeared, which proved that the vapors which arose were hydrosulphurous and hydrophosphoric in their nature. The sinking of the ground was much greater in the western than in the eastern portion of the island. This depression of the ground was almost imperceptible, but on measuring, it was found to have sunk sixty centimeters in four hours. The sea bore a reddish color, like water containing a quantity of argillaceous mud. Its temperature was like the other parts of the sea, but the water was bitter to the taste. The boiling of the sea, doubtless, was caused by a number of springs of sulphate of iron, which arose with force from its depths.

At five o'clock p. m. a slight shock of an earthquake was felt.

On the night of the 20th and 21st the sea about New Cameni was white as milk, and for some time flames of a red color hovered over its surface. At the same time a rapid current sprang up in the port of St. George, accompanied by a strong south wind, which prevented the vessels from going out. Five other lakes of clear water had now appeared, while the sinking of the ground still continued.

During the nights of the 21st and 22d flames appeared in the chasm or rift before mentioned. On the 23d the fissures increased in width, the water in the small lakes became salt and bitter, and the sea water at Vulcano became scalding hot. The rocks on the shores became hot also, and the focus of volcanic action seemed to be on the west of the chasm and to the west of its westernmost arm. At night the odor and smoke become intense, and red flames were seen at the center of volcanic action, which continued for about an hour and a half. After their disappearance a reef or bank was seen, which gradually increased in size until it became quite an island.

The opinion of those who have examined these phenomena is that the old island will almost, if not entirely disappear, and a new one will form, where the reef or bank arose.—[Dollar Weekly Star.]

WHALING.—The whaling companies in Monterey, Cal., according to the Gazette of that place, recently killed a right whale off Point Cypress. They shot him with a boom lance under the shoulder blade. He measured eighty feet in length, and about the same in circumference; twenty-one feet and eight inches across the fluke (point of tail). He will render 100 barrels of oil, and over 1,000 pounds of whalebone. The yield to his captors will be over \$4,000.

HIGH WATER IN THE SACRAMENTO.—The Union, of April 2, states that the water in the Sacramento opposite that place, was twenty-three feet five inches above low water mark, lacking but seven inches of its greatest height in the great flood of 1862. The city was all right and safe, but the surrounding country for many miles was under water. The prospect was that there would be a few inches more added to the rise.—[Stockton Ind.]

THE AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN TELEGRAPH.—The following is a telegraphic dispatch sent to St. Petersburg by the line from the Amoor, mailed to New York city and transmitted to Colonel Bulkley, of San Francisco, the Superintendent of the Western Union enterprise:

"Count Sabasa telegraphs his brother at St. Petersburg, from Irkutsk, February 9th: 'The entire extent of the line between the Anadyr and Ochotsk Districts has not only been surveyed but the route of the line has been determined by me in person. Notwithstanding the extreme scarcity of labor in the country I have commenced the preparatory work in Anadyr, Ghiginisk, Towsk and Ochotsk. The engineers from the mouth of Anadyr river I have not yet met, but I have sent a party to look out for them. I am in daily expectation of meeting the corps of engineers from Nicolaiefski. I am going myself to meet them. We shall avoid submarine lines, except at the Ochotsk Sea.' This is very encouraging, and shows that the work is being pressed with diligence."

AUSTRALIA.—Heavy rains had fallen in different sections of the Province and the farming prospects were very promising. The sheep disease, which has raged so fearfully in the Australian Colonies, has reached its culminating point; the number of animals infected on the 1st of November last being only 16,000. The prospects of the wheat crop in all parts of Australia are reported to be very fine. The effects of the late drought were terrible. Bush fires were raging on all sides; animals were perishing with thirst by thousands; the heat was intense; and the earth was literally scorched. No wonder the people hailed the welcome rain with joy, and offered up prayers for the grateful benefaction.

THE CUT WORM IN WHEAT.—The Contra Costa (Cal.) Gazette says: We have recently learned that a new danger threatens the crops, in the form of the cut worm, which have proved a destructive enemy in several localities. One farmer informs us that he expects to lose about twelve acres of wheat by its depredations, and others we hear will lose a somewhat less quantity in Ignacio Valley. San Ramon Valley has also been extensively visited by this pest. It is principally the late sowed grain that suffers.

THE Detroit Tribune mentions the final settlement of a case that was in court over three hundred years. About the year 1560, August Troutwein, living in the northern part of Germany, loaned a sum of money to Count Mansfield who died without paying the debt. Nearly all the claims were contested by the heirs of Count Mansfield, and the whole estate, being indebted to a great extent, was put under sequestration, and has ever since been under the administration of the Prussian Government. Lately however, the case has been settled, and the money loaned three hundred years ago with accumulated interest, amounting to over a million dollars, paid to the heirs of Troutwein. One of these heirs lives in Detroit, and he received his share, which was an eight hundred and fortieth part of the whole sum.

THERE is in the parish of Helmingham, Suffolk, England, an ancient grave-field of human skeletons. The bodies are several hundreds in number, lying in a thin layer of flint gravel on the boulder clay of the district, within two feet of the present surface. They are placed very closely side by side upon their backs, with their feet to the east and heads to the west, and in a remarkable state of preservation. They all supposed to date from the year 800.