

THE CONTRACT SYSTEM

Applied to the Cascades and Dalles of the Columbia.

THE GOVERNMENT BENEFITTED.

Work More Efficiently Accomplished. Regardless of Congress.

HOOR OF DELIVERANCE AT HAND.

Activity Shortly Looked for at the Cascades--And Another Year at The Dalles.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—In answer to an inquiry from The Dalles, concerning the speedy completion of the Cascade locks under the contract system, Representative Hermann says: "The effect of the contract system is: That the contractor undertakes to do the work according to the plans and specifications within a certain time, and at a certain price, and takes his chances on all the same, appropriation or no appropriation. But of course the liability of the government is fixed, and it is known that the payment is sure. It is to the contractors interest to do the work as soon as possible. The war department reports to congress that it could expend \$1,500,000 during the next fiscal year, and \$245,000 the year following, to complete. If this could be done by the red tape and slow process of the government engineers, a contractor can do it so much sooner, and of course so much less in cost, for this has been fully demonstrated by our recent experience with the contract system at Galveston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Sault Ste Marie. Gen. Casey tells me that he has saved twenty-five per cent. by the contract at Baltimore, which is dredging; and Gen. Poe, who has charge of the Sault Ste Marie canal and locks, tells us that he will save \$1,000,000 on the \$6,000,000 estimate for that work. The hour of deliverance is now at hand. Our next move can be on the dalles rapids, and we can consider in another congress not a temporary and costly transfer road there, but a great permanent work, which we can insist shall likewise go under the contract system, and thus open up the great Columbia all the way along its navigable water course. Next year the people of Tennessee and Kentucky will insist on putting the great Cumberland river under the contract system, which opens up 600 miles of continuous navigation. This was tried this time, but we could not safely include any more great works, and hence excluded the Cumberland."

Recognition of Mormons. SPRINGFIELD, Mass., April 11.—In one of the churches of this city yesterday, a very remarkable incident in the journey of the eastern delegates to the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, which is to meet in Portland, Or., May 10th, was alluded to. It appears that a number of the delegates, who go by the Union Pacific, have accepted invitations from the latter day saints to break their trip by spending Sunday at Salt Lake city, and worship on that day in the Mormon tabernacle. Grave doubts are expressed as to the propriety of this act. It is generally felt that this is an attention which the Presbyterians could not possibly reciprocate, and that it involves a measure of recognition of the Mormon church, which is wholly inconsistent with Christian principles; some Presbyterians declare that it will be a serious disgrace to their body.

Harrison and Cleveland. BUFFALO, N. Y., April 11.—In the long run fair-play in politics brings out the only success worth having. There are increasing signs of a Whitelaw Reid boom for vice-president, but it must be clear as the noon-day sun, that the presidential candidates for nomination on the democratic and republican tickets will be Cleveland and Harrison respectively. North Dakota has been added to the list of states which have instructed for Cleveland, and it is noticeable that every convention since Hill's New York job, has been a Cleveland convention. There have been six of them, and they send fifty-four delegates. Interviews of Gov. McKinley and ex-Gov. Campbell place both as expressing the opinion that Harrison and Cleveland would be the presidential nominees. The number of persons who hold the same opinion appears to be increasing.

Poverty Stricken Boomers. GUTHRIE, O. T., April 10.—As the time for the opening of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country approaches, the crowd of settlers preparing to enter increases. Large numbers of negroes are among the throng of intending settlers and they will be no small factor in the settlement of the new lands. Many are almost entirely destitute, making the full distance from southern Arkansas and Mississippi on foot. Upon arrival here they are dependent on the charity of their more fortunate neighbors.

Perry is the Man.

POMONA, Cal., April 11.—The mystery of the robbery of Geo. E. Holden of \$8,000 in cash, securities and jewelry, on the Santa Fe overland train, between Albuquerque and Pomona, last November, has been cleared up. Holden was robbed of his money and bonds on his way from New York to Pomona to spend the winter. The man who robbed his satchel is under arrest. Holden started for New York yesterday immediately upon the receipt of the telegram concerning the findings of his bonds in a boarding house in that city. It seems Oliver Curtis Perry, who is confined in jail at Lyons, for the bold robbery of the American Express car near Syracuse, February 21st, is the culprit. Holden says that he now recollects a young man answering Perry's description being in another Pullman car on the same train, coming west with him, who represented himself as the owner of a cattle ranch in south New Mexico, and had lots of money to spend buying Indian curiosities along the journey. Holden is sure Perry rode no further west than Prescott junction, where he left the train in the night ostensibly to go to Prescott on business. How or when he had an opportunity to rob Holden's satchel, the latter does not know.

GRASPING UNCLE SAM.

What a Chilian Writer in Brussels has to Say About us.

BLAINE AND THE LATIN REPUBLICS.

The Dream of a New World Zollverein for Both Americas.

AN EFFORT TO ALARM EUROPE.

Ibanez Firing the Heart of Great Britain, France and Germany With a Chilian Fizz.

BRUSSELS, April 11.—Senior Maximiliano Ibanez, the well-known Chilian writer, he reviews the circumstances of the Baltimore dispute between the United States and Chilian, and attempts to show that the American government was quite wrong and unjustly exacting from first to last. He recalls the annexation of California to the United States; the Washington cabinet's interference in the war between Chilian and Peru, in 1879; the pressure exercised in order to induce Peru "to surrender its resources and freedom into the hands of the American firm of Grace & Donoughmore;" the meddling of the United States in the recent Chilian revolution; and, lastly, the Washington pan-American congress, where, he says, Blaine attempted to destroy the independence of the South American states through the arbitration of a court which would have made the United States master of the fate of the new world's Latin republics. All these facts, besides the proposed Nicaragua canal, are set forth as showing that the United States is resolved upon achieving, by might or right, the dream of the New World zollverein which would place both portions of America under its sway. He discards the idea that Blaine's policy was merely inspired by electioneering purposes and proceeds to show that it is part and parcel of a general policy aiming at results highly alarming to South American states and European nations, among which Great Britain, France and Germany stand first.

Demoralized East-Bound Rates.

BUFFALO, April 12.—The report that the road had already cut the east-bound flour rate down from 20 cents to 17 1/2 from Chicago to New York finds ample confirmation. Two lake and rail lines have taken large amounts of flour already; one of them is reported to have 200 cars, and a third-line is said to be in the cut. Add to this the statement that the roads have positively made a rate of 5 1/2 cents on wheat and corn from Buffalo to New York and the situation is already very interesting. Navigation compels the railroad companies to lower their rates. This is the inevitable result when water transportation routes are open.

A Mormon Fake.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., April 11.—The basement of the temple of the reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints looked like a hospital today. The elders in attendance advertised they would heal the sick by laying on of hands, and many persons suffering with various ailments were taken to the temple. Some were on stretchers, some on cots and some in chairs. The manner of treatment was very simple and consisted of pouring a few drops of olive oil, which had been previously blessed by the prophet Joseph, upon the head of patients and the laying on of hands. No cures were effected although some professed to experience some relief. At the business the conference decided to hold the next conference at Lima, Iowa, the home of Joseph Smith.

YOUNG FIELD'S CAUSE.

Provided for Through Intercession of Mrs. Garfield.

HIS FATHER HER BENEFACTOR.

Kindness Awakened in Thankfulness for Favors Received.

THE PRESIDENT'S HEART TOUCHED.

The Young Man May have a Hard Row to Hoe, in his Chosen Field, but is Glad to go.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Concerning the report that Cyrus W. Field, jr., of New York was to be appointed to one of the several vacancies in the consular service, the Post has this to say: "He decided some months ago that he would like to go abroad in a representative capacity. He expressed a wish for a place in the consular service, and Secretary Tracy and Col. Elliott F. Shepard and other well-known New Yorkers interested themselves in his behalf. They laid the matter before the president, and the latter promised to give it careful consideration. He did nothing, however, and Mr. Field began to despair. About ten days ago Mrs. Garfield came to Washington to visit her daughter. She heard of Field's application, and she heard, too, that the young man was not a little disturbed by the president's delay in acting favorably upon it. She went at once to the executive mansion and sought an interview with President Harrison. The latter inquired the reason of her interest. She replied that she owed everything she had to the kindness of Cyrus W. Field, sr. Then she went on to tell the president that after the death of her husband in 1881, Mr. Field inaugurated the movement looking to the creation of a fund for the maintenance of her children and herself. Mr. Field himself was a liberal contributor, and through his exertions the amount finally aggregated \$300,000, which sum was carefully invested in her name. It was, she said, the only favor she had ever asked the president, and it was the only one she ever would ask if he would only grant it. The president was touched, no less with her earnestness than with her deep appreciation of the kindness she had received at the hands of Mr. Field, and he told her that what he had failed to do for Tracy, Shepard and others should be done for her. Then he sent for Mr. Field and had a talk with him. He told him that the pay of consular officers was beggarly, as a rule, and that in many cases they were compelled to lodge over small retail shops on the continent, in order to live within their income, but he assured him, at the same time, if he wanted to go abroad that the privilege would be given him. Then he told him how few desirable places were left. Mr. Field insisted, however, than he needed the salary, no matter how unremunerative the places were, and the president told him to go back to New York and await the appointment, and it is not improbable that a secretaryship of legation will be offered him.

Company F En Route.

ONTARIO, April 11.—Company F, Capt. Powers commanding, arriving here at 6 o'clock this morning, had breakfast and went to Vale under orders from Gov. Pennoyer. The Vale mob of cowboys are waiting for daylight tomorrow, the time for preliminary examination. Five prisoners are in jail and Sheriff Fell is determined to protect them in defiance of all the cowboys in the country. The militia will assist in giving the prisoners a fair examination, which, possibly, they do not deserve, as good men say they should be lynched.

Bishop Ireland Approved.

ROME, April 11.—The Jesuit organ, Civitta Cattolica, having adversely criticized Archbishop Ireland's initiative in the Stillwater, Minn., affair, the pope has sent Archbishop Ireland a special note intimating his disapproval of the Civitta Cattolica's articles, and urging the archbishop to attach no importance to them. This action of the pope caused much comment here, as he rarely mixes in such disputes. The pope has just received from Cardinal Gibbons an important study on the school question in the United States, in which his holiness is much interested.

Opera Company Stranded.

SACRAMENTO, April 11.—At midnight tonight the Emma Juch Opera company was still in the cars at the depot, Manager Locke having failed to raise the amount necessary to transport the company to Portland. The members today said they had no complaint against Locke, that they had money of their own and plenty to eat a drink.

Overproduction in Oil.

PITTSBURG, April 11.—Leading oil producers of the southwest are preparing for a general suspension of drilling operations for six months, to bring about an advance in prices.

Accidents to Steamers.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The steamer Australian, from New Orleans for London, reported with her shaft broken, has been towed from 800 miles west of Fastnet by the steamer Catalonia to Liverpool. A fire on the steamer Monaravia, at Bremen from New Orleans, damaged 300 bales of cotton and corn in the after hold. The steamer City of Fitchburg, of the Old Colony line, from New York yesterday for New Bedford, was seriously damaged by fire. The loss is heavy.

The American System.

CHIHUAHUA, Mex., April 11.—Primary convention, in imitation of the American system, were held recently throughout the state of Chihuahua, and Saturday last a convention of the chosen delegates was held in city Chihuahua. This convention endorses General Diaz for the third presidential term, and Senor Miguel Ahumada was nominated for governor by a vote of 89 to 30.

Small-Pox in New York.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Three more cases of small-pox were discovered today, making eleven since Saturday. The cases are mostly in the downtown tenement district. The steamship Fulda, from Bremen, which arrived here yesterday, had four cases on board.

A CAREER OF CRIME.

How it was Started--Now Ending in a Lonely Death.

INFLUENCE OF EVIL ASSOCIATION.

Takes the Lead of a Gang Which Baffled the Police of the World.

IS FINALLY LANDED IN PRISON.

Turns Informer--Is Released--Becomes an Opium Fiend--Gambles Himself Away, etc.

CHICAGO, April 12.—George Wilkes, King of the Forgers, is dying in Bellevue hospital, New York city. Thirty years ago his rich uncle secured him a position in the bank of Brown Brothers & Co., New York. He soon became a favorite on account of his talent, but was finally discharged from his position of trust because of evil associations. He then started on a bold career of crime, which earned for him the sobriquet of king of the forgers. For twenty years he was leader of a gang which baffled the police of every country in the world, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were secured by the criminals through all kinds of forgeries. King George came to Chicago, his old home, in 1882, when he and his gang committed a number of forgeries on banks in Joliet, Lima, O., and Kansas City. He made \$15,000 on one deal. Detectives secured the paraphernalia of the whole gang, and the passers of the checks were found, but King George eluded the officers. In 1881 Wilkes was the leader of a band of thieves and forgers in Milan, Italy. They forged and tried to place in circulation bonds and bank notes worth \$1,500,000. Wilkes was arrested and sent to prison. He secured his release four years later by turning informer against his associates. In 1886 he was arrested in New York for swindling banks in Rochester, San Francisco, Cheyenne and Butte City, but managed to escape conviction, and went to Paris to lose his ill-gotten money, as usual, by gambling. King George has been a victim of the morphine habit for years. A policeman found him lying unconscious in a vacant lot in New York city Thursday night. Some enemy had assaulted him. He was taken to the hospital, where he is now dying.

Drowned in Icy Waters.

BOSTON, April 11.—Last evening Instructor A. F. Norburg, of the Boston farm school, Thompson island, left this city with ten boys connected with the school, in a sail boat to go to the island. Midway the boat was upset by a squall, and all were thrown into icy water, but managed to cling to the vessel. No relief came, and one by one they chilled through, slipped from the insecure support and drowned, until the instructor and eight boys were gone. At the end of four hours the boat drifted ashore with the two survivors.

Incendiary for Robbery.

VIENNA, April 11.—Incendiary fires continue here, but owing to the extraordinary precautions of the authorities little damage has been done so far. They are attributed to anarchists, but it is believed many of them are set with a view to robbery during the excitement. A similar state of affairs is reported at Lyonfelden, upper Austria.

'Twas Ever Thus.

ASTORIA, Or., April 11.—Some splendid salmon, averaging twenty-five pounds each, were at the canneries today, as a result of the first day's catch; but in general the catch was small, the weather being cold and the fish scarce.

THE DURAND STYLE.

A Cleveland Man Who Has Probably Heard From Oregon.

THE DANGER OF GIVING NOTES.

A New Phase in the Methods Used by Swindling Piano Dealers.

THE CLEVELAND MAN IS IN PRISON.

Notes Duplicated by Forgery Paid by Persons Whose Names Were Signed to Them.

CLEVELAND, O., April 13.—The case of B. S. Barrett, a swindling piano dealer, now in the penitentiary, has made any amount of trouble, and suits upon notes given by his customers for pianos have brought out a new phase in the swindle. The genuine notes and some of the forged ones were sold by him to the Euclid Avenue bank. Barrett kept forged duplicates of nearly all the notes, and when his customers, ignorant of his having sold them, called to pay installments he gave them receipts and indorsed the amount on the back of the notes held by him. The bank sold the notes to J. C. Ellis after Barrett's flight, for \$500 and charged \$15,000 to its profit and loss account. Ellis began suit on several notes, alleging that as the paper was held by the bank, payment to Barrett could not be regarded as payment of the note. One victim, Mrs. Cunningham, who holds receipts from Barrett, showing that she has paid \$470 for a \$450 piano, was sued on a note for \$130, which may have been forged. Two notes against her were held by Ellis, one for \$140 and the other for \$130. A dispute arising at the trial as to whether one of the notes was not genuine, it was decided to take Barrett's deposition at the penitentiary. Barrett on being shown the two notes, tore up the one for \$140, which he declared a forgery, and handed back the one for \$130, which he said is genuine. The attorneys spoke of the snarl as something frightful, and piano buyers who failed to keep their receipts are in much trouble. In one or two cases heard of, Barrett's customers took up notes bearing their own forged signature without discovering the fact, while the genuine notes were held at the bank and are now being sued upon. The individual notes are generally for amounts from \$50 to 150, but the aggregate is over \$15,000.

Villainous Collection of Horses.

CLEVELAND, O., April 13.—This morning in answer to an advertisement for a horse to represent the drunkards faithful brute in the play of A Temperance Town, about a dozen of the most villainous looking horses ever seen in the city were hitched in front of the Lyceum theatre. They were ringboned, knock-kneed, spavined and dirty. Most of them had heaves and spring-halt. Their ribs protruded like the hoops of a flour barrel and only one or two of them could see. Up to noon the manager had not selected an animal quite disreputable enough to suit his purpose. The animal finally chosen will perform an important role in the new play.

Pretty Close Neighbors.

PORTLAND, April 13.—The outsider who has a slim idea of the expansion of this city, will be better informed when an incident is related which occurred to the east side firemen about 4 o'clock yesterday morning. Some person sent in a still alarm to chief Holmes, that a fire had broken out in Holladay's addition. The companies ran to the division, having heard that the Holladay bell had been rung. After looking some time for the fire it was learned that a fire in Vancouver had occasioned all the trouble. Some one hearing the Vancouver bell supposed it was nearer home. The firemen returned to their respective houses minus their usual happy dispositions.

Emerson Bennett.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—Newspaper discussion upon the death of Walt Whitman has caused the Inquirer to refer in a general way to other noted writers, among them Emerson Bennett. People rarely hear nowadays of Bennett, yet he was widely known twenty years ago as a novelist, his Prairie Flower having reached a sale of 100,000 copies. He is a veteran of seventy and lives in Philadelphia. Mr. Bennett is still a prolific maker of manuscript. He writes all night and sleeps all day, as George Sand was fond of doing.

England in Behring Sea.

MONTREAL, April 11.—The Canadian Pacific authorities have received a telegram to the effect that 250 sailors and marines, destined for the Pacific squadron, would sail on the steamer Carthaginian from Liverpool for Halifax, and from there will take a Canadian Pacific special train, which will leave at once for the Pacific coast. It is believed the present detachment is being sent over to reinforce the crews already doing duty in Pacific waters.

Must Be a Sparrow.

ST. LOUIS, April 12.—The Republic, speaking of the South American troubles says today: "Three South American republics are in various stages of internal revolution. The white-winged dove, especially assigned to look after the peace of South America, must be a sparrow."

Will Resume at Once.

MANITOWOC, Wis., April 13.—The loss of the Manitowoc Manufacturing company by the fire yesterday will aggregate \$300,000. The special feature of this business, school furniture and opera chairs, is now in such demand that they will rebuild and renew business on a larger scale, at once.

The Real Thing.

ASTORIA, April 13.—Boom, boom, boom, is the uppermost word and thought here now, since the croakers have subsided, with reference to railway matters, and added additional thousands to the valuation of their corner lots. If the present state of things continues, we expect to hear of investment excursions, gotten up in the boom centers of the west, for the object of visiting Astoria, to find out what the real thing is like.

Light-Hearted People.

CHICAGO, April 13.—In the fury of the late devastating cyclones Chicago has marvelously escaped. At the Palmer house today an Oregonian was relating the exemptions of his state from such scenes, and he closed by saying Chicago has the finest and the biggest business houses, but said he: "The occupants of upper floors in Chicago's sky-scraper buildings must feel light-hearted when they see a cyclone coming across the prairie."

Southern Floods.

NEW ORLEANS, April 13.—The destruction of human lives and property by the floods in northern Mississippi is appalling. Hundreds of lives are lost. Last night one man rowed several miles in the dark on the river with twenty-six bodies he picked up. The flood came suddenly, and no one was prepared. All sorts of crafts are being improvised to go to the rescue of the survivors perched on the highest ground without food or shelter. The loss of property is over \$1,000,000. The citizens of Lousdes county, will petition Congressman Allen to ask government aid, as their own means are inadequate. The loss of livestock is beyond computing but will be enormous.

A Christian Burial.

WINLOCK, Wash., April 13.—The murderous whisky fiend Dick Hancock, who attempted to kill his wife; and perhaps thinking he had done so, immediately afterwards killed himself, by sending a bullet into his miserable heart; was given a christian burial according to his just deserts. As a visitor to Winlock puts it: "It was amusing in a ghastly way, to see the way in which the people up there vented their indignation upon the body of Hancock, whom they would have hung again had there been any use in it. They just put him, dressed in an undershirt and trousers, into a common dry-goods box and placed him under the ground without the least semblance of a funeral service."

Wyoming Cattle Thieves.

CASPER, Wyo., April 12.—Fighting between the invading army of detectives, employed by the big cattle companies, and the so-called rustlers now seem to be general along Powder river, the army being broken up into squads. The militia has been ordered to be prepared to march to the front immediately. A man from Riverside reports that Sheriff Angus, of Johnson county, swore in 180 deputies and went out to arrest the force sent out by the cattlemen, and that the sheriff tried to take them into custody. Twenty-eight of the regulators and eighteen of the deputies were killed. Every man in the town is a walking arsenal, and the excitement is intense. Doc Williamson, from Big Horn basin, reports a great fall of snow there Friday night, and that it is impossible for the army to get in there unless they go in on snowshoes. He says they don't expect any trouble in the Bonanza part of the basin.

New York Incendiarists.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The existence of a gang of incendiarists and anarchists, who have been starting fires in tenement houses in Brooklyn since January, was first demonstrated today. Two men are under arrest. One of the accomplices of the gang made a full confession. Their plan was to arrange with dwellers in tenement houses who were overinsured to burn the property for a percentage of the insurance money.

Holman Nominated.

LAWRENCEBURG, Ind., April 12.—Congressman W. S. Holman was renominated by acclamation by the democrats of the fourth district.

Commercial mileage is another name by which railways hope to inveigle congress into permission for allowing cut rates.

All is quiet in Vale. The presence of Company F had the desired effect. Eight militia men are kept constantly on guard at the jail, but little fear is entertained of an attempt at mob violence. It is expected that F company will return today in charge of the prisoners. Another report says that an attack was expected last night and that the cowboys mean business.