

THE OREGON MIST.

VOL. 12.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1895.

NO. 43.

OREGON MIST.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY BEEGLE & DAVIS.

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.

Subscription Rates: One copy per year in advance, \$1.50; one copy six months, \$1.00; single copy, 5 cents.

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FINGER OF SUSPICION.

Mrs. Noble Was the First to Point It to Durrant.

HE APPEARED TOO INQUISITIVE.

The Aunt of Murdered Blanche Lamont Tells How She Came to Suspect the Medical Student.

San Francisco, Oct. 15.—Ever since Durrant was arrested there has been a still hunt for the first person who mentioned his name in connection with the murder of Minnie Williams. Immediately after the horror of the library closet became known his name echoed in every mention of it. In a few hours the papers had extra editions, naming Durrant. By Saturday evening most people believed that the murderer was known. Dr. Vogel was asked to give an account of himself; the pastor told of his comings and goings on Friday evening. Elmer Wolfe had to put on his thinking-cap, and Sademan, the janitor, refreshed his memory. The detectives sought to know why Durrant was accused, but they were never able to find the exact information.

Now it comes out that Mrs. Noble, the aunt of Blanche Lamont, was the first to mention his name in connection with the tragedies.

Mrs. Noble talked freely of the case today. When asked whether Durrant told her, that memorable Wednesday evening, that he had seen Blanche that morning, she said:

"Yes; when I went to prayer meeting that evening it was agreed between Maud and myself that nothing should be said of Blanche's absence. We did not wish to make any unnecessary fuss about a thing that might be cleared up in an hour. I was so troubled that I would not have gone to the church had I not been obliged to hand in a notice for an entertainment. I do not remember whether I went in ahead of Durrant or not, but I do know that he always sat in the back of the room during prayer meeting, and his coming to where I was unusual. He asked me, as I have testified, whether Blanche would be there. He said she wanted 'The Newcomes,' but he had forgotten it and would bring it Sunday. Then he stated that he had met her on the way to school that morning.

"We suffered silently all day Thursday and Friday. It was not until Saturday that the anguish became so unbearable that we began to tell our church friends. Friday morning, a little after 9 o'clock, Durrant called her, bringing with him 'The Newcomes.' Maud answered the bell. He asked if Blanche were at home and expressed no surprise at seeing Maud who would ordinarily have been at school. When Maud told him that Blanche was not at home, he said: 'I thought I might see her.' Maud closed the door and said:

"Auntie, I believe he knows that Blanche is missing. Why should he come to see her at this hour? It is past school time and he acted rather strangely.

"We did not think he knew anything of her whereabouts; we were concerned only that the fact of her disappearance might become known. Even when the detectives commenced to work on the case and came to me for the names of her friends I mentioned Vogel's name first. Durrant was an after-thought.

"As he appeared during the trial, he offered his services to assist in the search. The following week dragged wearily on. Saturday morning Mrs. Keeler, the wife of the undertaker, called her to tell me that a body had been found and that it was not Blanche's.

"Knowing my frightful anxiety, my friends at the church feared that I would hear that a body had been found and might think it was Blanche, so they had dispatched Mrs. Keeler to tell me that it was the body of some one else. In referring to Blanche's disappearance and to the fact that Theodore was the last one to see her, Mrs. Keeler remarked that he had gone out of town. Like a flash his conduct that Wednesday night prayer meeting passed before me. I remembered it all, his seeking me at the prayer meeting, his strange call Friday morning, what Maud had said, and his dreadful interpretation of her absence. A sickening realization came to me, and I said to Mrs. Keeler:

"Durrant had killed that girl."

"That was after noon Saturday, April 13."

When the detectives were seeking this information, Mrs. Noble said that she did not know who first mentioned Durrant's name. She did not know that she herself had set the machinery of the law in operation against him.

Mr. Nolte, who found the body of Minnie Williams, said today:

"Durrant's name was not mentioned while I was at the church. In fact, I asked Mr. Gibson if he found out who did it to let me know. He did not send me word, and the first mention I knew was in the papers."

Dr. Vogel, who was called and identified the body of Minnie Williams, said:

"Durrant's name was not mentioned at the time the body was found. I heard it first in the afternoon. I was, presumably, the first person to tell him that the body was missing. That was the Sunday after the disappearance, when Detective Anthony called on me. I told Theodore on his way into the church, going up the stairs. I cannot say now how he acted when I told him. I had not connected him with her absence, and was not on the watch to see how he behaved."

The case of the prosecution in rebuttal has been carefully gone over by

PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Condensed Telegraphic Reports of Late Events.

BRIEF SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

Happenings of Interest in the Towns and Cities of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The East Oregonian will soon be set up by a typesetting machine.

The enrollment of the public schools at The Dalles for September was 612.

The present session of the circuit court will cost Josephine county, Or., about \$5,000.

Active steps are being taken by the government to prevent the cutting of timber on public lands in Southeastern Washington.

S. M. Bruce, of Whatcom, Wash., has been placed on the state examining board for law students. The other members are Attorney Linn, of Thurston, and Jones, of Spokane.

The road committee of the Baker City chamber of commerce will advertise for bids for the construction of a road from Hunter's to Summit, between Willow creek and Burnt river.

In a recent search of the Pierce county, Wash., jail Deputy Sheriff Paulham found several steel saws, a new file and handkerchief tied around a stone, making a dangerous slug.

A skeleton was unearthed in Marshall, Or., the other day, while a foundation for the new schoolhouse was being dug. The site of the schoolhouse was once used as a cemetery.

The following taxes have been collected by Treasurer Lewis, of Chehalis county, Wash., during the quarter ending September 30: Taxes of 1891, \$232.36; 1892, \$1,557.30; 1893, \$5,927.59; 1894, \$1,968.87.

The scarlet fever epidemic in Seattle is gradually spreading, despite the prompt action of the board of health in establishing a strict quarantine in the affected districts, and ordering a number of school rooms disinfected.

The authorities of Baker City, Or., are after Frank West, "a very gentlemanly appearing fellow," according to the Democrat, who is accused of raising a \$2 bill to a \$20 bill and passing it at the Chicago store.

Both flour mills at Palouse are running day and night. Orders from the Sound will keep the mills busy for some time. The mills find it difficult to secure enough wheat, as the farmers are holding out for a higher price than the mills feel able to pay.

Because of the irregularity in the proceedings, by reason of which Morris & Whitehead, the Portland bankers, rejected bonds of the district to the amount of \$18,000, the Ballard school board has determined to call a meeting and decide upon another election for the purpose of authorizing the issue.

The Whatcom city council has made another sweeping reduction in municipal salaries, establishing them for next year as follows: Treasurer, \$50 per month; clerk, \$50; marshal, \$50; policeman, \$40; street commissioner and city engineer, \$50; janitor, \$50; fire chief, \$20; assistant chief, \$15; city attorney, \$2 per month; health officer, \$1 per month; street labor, 15 cents per hour.

A suit has been begun in Spokane by the Washington Water & Power Company against the Northwest Milling & Power Company, which involves the questions of the rights to use the Spokane river for other than natural purposes, and if the title to any portion of the bed of the river can rest in any person or corporation, or can be used to the detriment of any other person or corporation.

A few days ago at the Frank McGee mine, on Eagle creek, an altercation took place between H. Hackett, a teamster, and one Sullivan, a miner. The latter fired a shot at Hackett, who returned the shot. Sullivan, after being fired at, ran to the brush, and Hackett, supposing he had killed Sullivan, went to Eagle valley in haste and gave himself up. Later when he found that Sullivan was unhurt, Hackett swore to a complaint and had Sullivan arrested.

The city council of Everett, Wash., has directed the issuing of bonds of that city to the amount of \$81,900, as authorized at the election held June 15 last. The bonds are in two series, one-half payable in ten years and one-half payable in twenty years, all drawing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. The resolution directs the city treasurer to deliver the bonds to Morris & Whitehead, of Portland, in exchange at par for the warrants they are to cancel, as fast as the warrants are presented by them in exchange, in amounts of not less than \$1,000.

The curfew bell now rings at 8:30 P. M. in Albany, Or. Hereafter all boys under 18 years of age, without permission, will be promptly arrested, according to ordinance. Marshall Lee has had cards printed for parents to sign, if they want their boys to roam the streets at night. Following is a copy: "Parents' Permit Card.—To any police officer: The bearer is my son, ——. He has our permission to remain away from home after the hour of 8:30 P. M. At any time he is found upon the streets of Albany without this card, you will please take charge of him and lock him up." Considerable complaint has been made about the doings of boys, such as tick-tacking, stealing fruit, etc., and it is proposed to stop it.

HILL'S PROPOSED PLAN.

His Efforts to Unite the Northern Pacific and Great Northern.

Olympia, Wash., Oct. 14.—A decision against the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, in a case involving over \$1,000,000 worth of agricultural and timber lands in the Gray's harbor country, north of Aberdeen, has been rendered by the commissioner of the general land office. June 5, 1895, the Northern Pacific Railroad Company selected the lands in question, but prior to that date the lands had been settled upon by twenty-eight bona-fide settlers. June 26, 1895, the Olympia officers were instructed to notify these settlers that they would be allowed thirty days in which to enter the lands covered by their respective claims, and that, in the event of their availing themselves of the privilege thus granted, the company's selection of the lands would be cancelled. All of the twenty-eight applicants failed to make entries allowed, and John F. Soule, of Hoquiam, and others, made application to file upon the land, the rights of the others having been forfeited. The railroad company claimed that, as it had selected the lands prior to the applications of the second list of settlers, it was entitled to the land in the event of the original applicants losing their rights. The commissioner holds that the rights of the first applicants did not expire until July of this year, and that the railroad's selection made prior to that date would not hold. The railroad company could make selections after the expirations of the original applicants' time for entering, but Soule and those associated with him got in ahead of the railroad company and the commissioner awards to them the right to prove up on the land.

Twenty-Three Victims Already.

Catania, Sicily, Oct. 14.—A woman known as Gaetana Stomoli has been arrested here for the wholesale poisoning of children with phosphorus. She administered the poison by mixing it with wine and prevailing upon the children to drink it. Her victims already number twenty-three. It is stated that they died in fearful agony. The woman has confessed to having committed the deed, and offered as an explanation that she wanted revenge for the death of her two children, who had been bewitched. A crowd of people attempted to lynch the woman, and were prevented with great difficulty.

NO REBATE ON PREMIUMS.

Executive Officers of Life Insurance Companies Have So Agreed.

New York, Oct. 15.—The executive officers of the most of the large life insurance companies held a meeting Saturday to devise means of stopping the practice of giving rebates on premiums. President J. R. Hedgman, of the Metropolitan Life, presided. Resolutions, drawn by Commissioner G. S. Morrill, were adopted. After setting forth the facts that the legislatures of twenty-one states have enacted laws forbidding rebates under penalty, and that such laws have generally been a dead letter the resolutions state that the companies have placed themselves, without exception, in opposition to rebates, and that the practice can be suppressed only by the active organization and co-operation of all life insurance companies. The resolutions are as follows:

Resolved, That each of the subscribing companies agrees that it will not pay or allow or offer to pay or allow, nor permit any person connected with it in any capacity to pay or allow, or offer to pay or allow any rebate or premium in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly; that a reference be appointed who shall examine into and decide all charges of rebating by agents or others, and whose decision shall be final; that on the decision of the referee that any person connected in any capacity with any subscribing company has made any rebate, such person shall immediately be dismissed from the service of the company, and shall not for a period of two years thereafter be again employed by any company party to this agreement."

The referee is empowered to procure prosecutions for violations of the laws against rebating and to employ counsel to assist him. A fund of \$10,000 to be made up and maintained in the referee's hands by assessment on the subscribing companies. The referee is to receive salary of \$2,000 a year and his incidental expenses, and is to be further allowed an amount not exceeding \$3,000 for a secretary and clerical assistance. The agreement is to go into effect November 1 next.

Ex-Governor William E. Russell, of Massachusetts, was suggested as the referee called for in the agreement.

ALIEN CONTRACT LABOR.

Three Young Englishmen Illegally in This Country.

Kansas City, Oct. 14.—Three young Englishmen are under surveillance at Wichita, charged with being in this country in violation of the federal law. They are George Aldred, Samuel Estridge and E. H. Steele, and they were sent to Kansas by the International Emigration Association of London, England, under contract to work for Kansas farmers. They claim they paid A. L. Atkinson, president of the association, of London, \$200 each, for which he agreed to give them first-class passages to Kansas, and guaranteed them work on farms for one year and \$5 a month the first six months, and \$10 a month for the last six months. The men were brought in the steerage of a steamship to Montreal, where they were met by an agent, who brought them to Kansas and turned them loose to shift for themselves. The federal authorities, with the aid of Vice-Consul Burroughs, of this city, have been investigating the matter, and are on the track of the three mentioned, and their arrest it is said will soon follow.

Consul Burroughs will forward his evidence to the English government and have Atkinson and his men suppressed, while the agents of the association in this country, who are known to the authorities, will doubtless be prosecuted for importing alien contract labor, which offense is punishable by a fine of \$1,000.

On a Technicality.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 14.—A question of conflicting jurisdiction, or rather no jurisdiction at all, will result in the release, without the formality of a trial, of Henry Anderson, charged with the murder of an Osette Indian named Philip Brown, May 12, 1895. Anderson and Brown quarreled about a seal skin, and in a fight that followed the Indian was shot down. When the case came before the superior court for Clallam county, Anderson was remanded to the United States district court, on the ground that the offense was committed within federal territory. Today Judge Hanford ordered Anderson back to the superior court, on a showing that the spot where the killing took place is in the jurisdiction of the state. Werd has been received that the county officers will not prosecute, and that Anderson will go free.

From Another Source.

New York, Oct. 15.—A cablegram to the world from Tokio says: Persons wearing Japanese dress and carrying Japanese swords were among the rioters who lately attacked the royal palace in Seoul, Korea. At first it was supposed they were Koreans disguised as Japanese, but now it is suspected that the Japanese sushi apparently hired ruffians. The Japanese government has ordered an inquiry. The chief curator (prosecutor) of the court of Yokohama has been sent to Korea to direct the investigation.

The queen, it is believed, is dead. Tai Won Kun is supreme. He has forced the king to issue a decree degrading his consort to the level of a concubine, and outlawing her family. The foreign legations at Seoul are guarded by marines from the foreign warships at Chempulpo. All is quiet.

Two Sailors Died of Cholera.

New York, Oct. 12.—The British tea steamer Benholo, which arrived today from Yokohama, Shanghai, Foo Chow and other Chinese ports, was detained in quarantine because two Chinese sailors had died of cholera while the vessel was still in Asiatic waters.

WHAT MORA WILL GET

Dividing Up the Money Which Was Paid by Spain.

FAT FEES OF HIS ATTORNEYS.

Decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office in the Marquam Case Affirmed.

Washington, Oct. 10.—It is expected that the state department, which is custodian of the funds paid by Spain on the Mora claim, will pay the money on the different parties in interest Thursday. The amount finally agreed on for Antonio Maximo Mora, principal in the claim, is \$867,085. This sum has been reduced somewhat by assignments, and the actual amount to be paid Mr. Mora will be slightly above \$700,000.

The next payment of importance will be \$287,000 to Jose I. Rodriguez, who has been the attorney of Mr. Mora since the inception of the case in 1870. A further amount, approximately \$285,000, will be devoted to the payment of Mr. Nathaniel Page, who was at one time attorney in the case, or to those to whom he may have assigned his interest.

In the original agreement between Mora and his attorneys, he was to retain 60 per cent and they were to have 40 per cent, the latter sum to cover all legal expenses.

Mrs. Waller, wife of ex-United States Consul-General Waller, now imprisoned by the French government, will arrive in New York Saturday, and steps are being made to have her met by representatives of the state department. Her son, Paul Bray, will also go to meet her. She is accompanied by her young children, the family having made the long journey from Madagascar by way of Paris. Relief funds for her have been raised in Kansas, Iowa and Washington, and will be available for her support after landing. Thus far she has been helped homeward by private contributions, the state department aiding her from Madagascar to France, and Ambassador Eustis advancing her funds for her trip to New York. Ethelbert Woodford, a young American in Madagascar, supplied her immediate needs until assistance was rendered by the state department. It is expected she will settle in Iowa.

Secretary Smith has affirmed the decision of the commissioner of the general land office awarding to P. A. Marquam land in the Oregon City district which he has purchased from the state as swamp land. Peter Snomela entered the land as a homestead, and his entry is denied, on the ground that the land was a swamp at the time of the grant.

In the case of Almon V. Brown against George W. Hinkle, for a tract of land in the La Grande district, the secretary decides in favor of Hinkle.

In the case of Henry E. Wilcox, B. D. Mullens, H. J. Hunt and John W. Manning, grantees of the state of Oregon, against the Oregon Central Wagon-Road Company, Lakeview district, the secretary decides in favor of the company.

Assistant Secretary Hamlin has written a letter in which he states that the attorney-general has rendered an opinion which hereafter will govern the department's action, holding that white lead manufactured from pig-lead produced in bonded smelting and refining establishments from a mixture of domestic and imported ores, is not entitled to the drawback under the provisions of section 22 of the new tariff act. This decision, it is said, is based upon the fact that the amount of imported ores entering into the white lead product cannot be ascertained by a chemical analysis nor will the manufacturers be permitted to show by other evidence the proportions of domestic and imported ores used.

More Rioting Reported.

London, Oct. 12.—A Paris dispatch to the Times reports that the missionary agency at Lyons has received letters reporting aggressions against the Europeans and Christians of the central provinces of China. The mission station at Nan Ching has been destroyed, and some of the converts killed and others wounded. The Russian consul, in the absence of the French consul, was appealed to. He insisted that a telegram be sent to the local authorities ordering stringent measures for the restoration of order. Nevertheless, disturbances continue. The Mohammedans of Northern Shen Si have revolted. Advances from Shanghai say that infamous Hunan prints are being again distributed throughout the central provinces.

DeYoung on His Way Home.

New York, Oct. 12.—M. H. DeYoung left today for San Francisco, after a six months tour, which included the principal countries of Europe. Mr. DeYoung's trip abroad was in the interest of the memorial museum, which was established to commemorate the success of the big fair last winter, of which Mr. DeYoung was director-general, and which was built and furnished from the profits of that enterprise. Several cases of curios which Mr. DeYoung purchased in different countries are now en route for San Francisco. The memorial museum, it is said, has now the richest collection of Napoleonic souvenirs in the United States.

Waite Says Coxe Will Be Released.

Ottumwa, Iowa, Oct. 12.—Ex-Governor Waite, of Colorado, who is here, says he has just returned from Ohio, and it is a sure thing that Coxe will defeat Campbell and Bushnell for governor.