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EVENTS OF THE DAY

Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

THESE TICKETS FROM THE WIFE

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

Butte, Mont., is also organizing a company for the Cuban service. Two hundred names have already been added to the list.

A company of twenty young men left Kanawha, Ill., bound for Cuba, where they will enlist in the insurgent cause. They are under charge of an ex-soldier.

A report comes from Sing Sing, N. Y., that the Rev. T. Dewitt Talnage and Miss Susie Mann, of New York, are to be married. The event will happen within a week.

Wm. C. Powers, conductor on the South Mount Tabor (Or.) line of the East Side Railway Company, was shot by one of two highwaymen at the end of the line. His injuries are, fortunately, not fatal. Robbery was the purpose of the thugs who fired the shot.

In Kewick, Cal., there was an explosion of gasoline, resulting in the burning of twelve men, among them Arthur Dean, of Redding. Dean had charge of the electric plant, and it is presumed that the explosion took place in the power-house.

Lieutenant-Commander Drake, of the battleship Oregon, has enlisted the services of the police of San Francisco in finding Edward Perry, steward of the vessel. He deserted the ship after having squandered about \$100 which had been given him to purchase provisions.

An attempt was made to wreck a passenger train on the Iowa Central railroad, near Latimer, Ia. Iron rails were laid on the track on the upper end of a curve, where the obstruction could not be seen by the engineer. An extra freight train ahead of the regular passenger train ran into the obstruction, without damage. Robbery was the evident motive of the wreckers.

Frank H. Cheeseman, of South Berkeley, Cal., has made an eighth attempt at suicide and his life is now despaired of. In a fit of despondency he shot himself through the lung, inflicting what is thought to be a fatal wound. Cheeseman is only 24 years of age, and the physicians give insanity as the cause for his repeated efforts to end his life.

Powers of Vermont, chairman of the house committee on the Pacific railroads, heartily approves that portion of President Cleveland's message relating to the Pacific railroads. "Something must be done at once," said he. "We will bring up the bill agreed upon by the committee in the session at the earliest possible moment." He feels confident that the measure will be settled at this session.

Liquor dealers in California are up in arms over the announcement that Governor Budd has on hand a plan to secure the enactment by the next legislature of a law establishing a state liquor license. The liquor men say they now pay federal taxes, and also local, county and municipal licenses, and they propose to fight the proposed state license, the proceeds of which, it is proposed, shall go towards the maintenance of the public asylums.

The steamer Dalles City, that sank last week opposite Sprague's landing, on the Columbia river, has been successfully raised by the aid of several scows. The damage to the hull, while it is considerable, consisting of a hole more than twenty feet long, can be repaired without injury to the boat. The Dalles City has been towed to the Cascades, where a temporary bulkhead will be built around the damaged portion. It is possible she may be taken to Portland that she may undergo permanent repairs.

A tragedy occurred in Schuyler, Neb. As a result of a rejected lover's insane attempt to murder his sweetheart and exterminate her family, Deidrick Giesing is dead, his mother and father, brother and sister dangerously wounded by a terrible clabbing, another sister almost crazed by being repeatedly fired upon at close range, and Claus Dostef, the murderer, is being pursued by a determined posse. The murderer is a young man of the neighborhood, who was infatuated with Miss Giesing. His advances had been refused, and for months he had threatened murder.

Several members of the Miners' Union of Leadville, Colo., have been arrested under indictments by the special grand jury, for their alleged connection with the attack on the Colorado and Emmett mines a few months ago.

The New York Herald has a dispatch from Havana which states that Antonio Maceo has crossed the trocha with a large force. It is reported according to this dispatch, that Captain-General Weyler has been wounded at the front. All news from the scene of the engagement is suppressed by the officials at the palace.

A dispatch from Lima, Peru, says that observers there see a probability of another clash of arms between Peru and Bolivia, over the new trouble which is brewing owing to Bolivia's having proceeded to fix the limits of her frontiers in the Amazonian districts without having an arrangement with Peru for the delimitation.

In Diempe, France, an enormous mass of cliffs collapsed and damaged property to the extent of 150,000 francs. There is much excitement, as the cliffs threaten further slips.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

Senate.

The United States senate began the second session of the fifty-fourth congress with crowded galleries and with that accompaniment of activity and of greeting that usually attends the reassembling of congress. But the upper branch of congress never puts aside its dignity, and the meeting developed into demonstrations of dramatic interest. The reading of the president's message was the feature of the proceedings, and beyond this no attempt was made to enter upon the business of the session. To many of the foreign representatives occupying the diplomatic gallery, the message had special interest and significance, owing to the part they had taken in the conspicuous foreign events to which the president referred.

The senate settled down to business today. When a letter from the secretary of the treasury was read answering the senate inquiry as to the number of aliens in the department of the treasury, Gallinger (N. H.) remarked that he would be glad to observe that foreigners whose services had been conspicuous in the department had seen fit as a result of the inquiry to take out naturalization papers. Many papers were presented from manufacturing bodies urging the passage of the Dingley bill. Cullom (Ill.) gave notice that he would address the senate on the Cuban question. The house resolutions relative to the death of ex-Speaker Crisp were laid before the senate, and as a mark of respect at 12:25 the senate adjourned.

Third day.—The senate, by the decisive vote of 35 to 21, adopted a motion to take up the Dingley tariff bill. Unexpected and surprising as this action was, it did not have the significance which the vote itself appears to convey. Immediately following it, Aldrich of Rhode Island, one of the Republican members of the finance committee, moved to recommit the bill to the committee, and this motion was pending when, at 3 o'clock, the morning hour expired, and the matter lapsed as though no vote had been taken. Neither the bill nor the motion to recommit will enjoy any privilege or precedence as the result of the action today. Early in the day three sets of vigorous resolutions for Cuban independence furnished an interesting feature. They came from Cameron of Pennsylvania, Mills of Texas, and Call of Florida, and while differing in terms, breathed the same spirit of recognition by the United States of Cuban independence.

Fourth day.—The senate got into the regular channel of business today, taking up the immigration bill and partly perfecting it, and also hearing the first of the speeches on Cuba, those of Cullom and Call. The immigration bill was not passed upon up to the time of adjournment, but the senate agreed to what is generally known as the Lodge bill, as a substitute to the house measure. The substitute requires that all immigrants over the age of 14 years shall be able to read and write their native language and shall be required to read and write in the presence of an United States official certain lines of the United States constitution.

House.

The house, without wasting time, proceeded to business today, and before the session closed had passed three bills of considerable importance, and the first of the regular supply bills—that for pensions. Three of the bills related to postal matters. One provided for the use of private mailing cards of the same general size and character as the present postal cards, when one-cent stamps are affixed. Another provided for a limited indemnity of \$10 for the loss of registered mail matter, and the third provided for a private carrier service in towns and villages where no free delivery exists. The pension bill was passed without serious opposition, but Mr. Grow took occasion in the debate to submit some views in favor of higher tariff duties, based on that portion of the president's message relating to the tariff. The bill carries \$141,963,880, about \$75,000 less than the law for the current year.

Third day.—The house held a three-hour session and passed a dozen bills of minor importance. Among them was the following: To extend five years the time in which the university of Utah shall occupy the lands granted it to authorize the use of the abandoned Fort Bidwell military reservation in California, as a training school for Indians; to provide for the location and purchase of public lands for reserved sites in Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming; authorizing Flagstaff, Ariz., to issue bonds for the construction of a water system. The Shafroth bill, for the protection of forest reservations from fire, was defeated.

Fourth day.—Pending the preparation of the next appropriation bill, the house again today devoted its time to the consideration of bills on the calendar, but only two were passed during the four hours session. One of them was a bill to protect musical compositions under the copyright law. The other measure made a law to prohibit the sale of liquor in the capital building. A bill advocated by the delegates from the territories to modify the law forbidding the alien ownership of lands in the territories so as to give them the right to acquire under mortgage and to hold for ten years, real property, was defeated.

On His Way to Mexico.

Ferdinand Lowell, of Boston, whose astronomical researches with reference to the inhabitable of the planet mars have commanded wide attention, is now on his way to the City of Mexico, near where he has erected an observatory. He will have with him in Mexico a distinguished party of scientific men, and it is the purpose to continue the investigations in that country for at least two years, if the climatic conditions prove favorable.

HELP FOR THE CUBANS

Murder of Maceo Arouses the American People.

MANY OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE

Companies of Recruits Being Forwarded From Many States—Fighting Expeditious.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The headquarters of the Cuban legation in this city was the center of interest to a number of callers today, who had come to express to Senor Quesada their sorrow at the death of General Maceo, and to offer their sympathy, and in some cases help for the Cubans. These callers included a number of congressmen, and two senators, whose names the Cuban representative declined to reveal, who told him of their desire to see some action by congress that would be of assistance to the insurgents.

Senor Quesada says he has received during the past few days about fifty letters, many of which come from persons and organizations, offering to send men to assist the Cubans in fighting for liberty. Among the states and cities represented in these letters are Washington, Wyoming, Kansas, Indianapolis, Buffalo, Evansville, Ind., and Waterbury, Conn. Responsive to these letters, Senor Quesada authorizes his former statement that the Cubans have enough men and leaders to gain the case for which they are fighting. They can avail themselves of 60,000 men, and more if necessary, but what they need is arms and ammunition, and medicines for the sick and wounded.

He says offers of assistance from abroad have been received. The Paris agent of the junta says that not only the Cubans, but the French people, after hearing of the assassination and death of Maceo, are collecting all they can to send an expedition to be called the "Expedition of General Maceo."

Senor Quesada states that from San Domingo and Mexico come assurances of contributions to the cause, while the workingmen and merchants of Tampa, Fla., say they will give not only 10 per cent of their earnings weekly, but will work three Sundays every month in order to give their wages for free Cuba. The agent at Jacksonville, Fla., writes that the people there can be counted on for a hundred rifles.

There was no information received at the headquarters today other than a telegram from President Estrada Palma, of the Cuban junta, which attributed Maceo's death to assassination, by plot arranged between Ahumada and Dr. Zertucha, which was published today.

The circumstantial accounts of Maceo's death now convince the leaders that there is little doubt that he had been killed, but they express their opinion that this will not interfere with the success of the Cuban arms.

Mr. de Lome had no additional facts in regard to the death of Maceo to communicate to the press. So far as can be ascertained, the state department has not yet been informed.

Story of the Assassination of Maceo. Havana, Dec. 15.—Further inquiries by the correspondent of the Associated Press have elicited the following additional details, which are positively reliable, of the manner in which Antonio Maceo met his death:

It is known that Maceo expected the insurgent brigadier-general, Sanchez, to concentrate his forces in Havana province, in readiness for Maceo when he should pass the trocha. It happened, however, that in passing the Spanish column commanded by Major Cirujeda, Maceo mistook the forces of guerrillas under Peral for Sanchez's vanguard, and found himself among them before he discovered his mistake. At the first volley from the Spanish, Maceo fell wounded. The insurgents taken by surprise commenced a general fire as they retreated, and abandoned Maceo in a dying condition. Colonel Feijoo has had an engagement at Campo, Florida near Havana, with the concentrated forces of the insurgents which were with Maceo at the time he was killed and which are now following the leaders Aguirre, Castillo, Cardenas, Gallo and Lozo, and which number 1,300 horsemen. Colonel Feijoo again met these forces at Tamboquarto where he inflicted a loss of eighteen killed, their wounded being carried off. The Spanish had nineteen wounded.

Gorsky's Tough Head.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 14.—Feliz Gorsky, a laborer, had a piece of rock driven into his skull by a blast at Leoma Heights quarry this morning, but was not even rendered unconscious. He was knocked down by the blow and the fragment of rock pierced the bone of his skull, but he got up without help and took a car down to the receiving hospital, where he got surgical attention. His case is pronounced one of the strangest ever treated at the hospital, for it was deemed almost impossible, for a man to be hurt so without having raised a fracture or suffered concussion of the brain. Gorsky laughed at the idea of being hurt and announced that he never felt better and was going back to work at once.

Buried With a Mate.

Knox, Ind., Dec. 15.—The body of Ed Fetter, a horsedealer, was found buried with the carcass of a male Friday, and today Fetter's partner, William Sutherland, was arrested, charged with the murder. The grave had been carefully dug, and the animal's body placed so as to conceal that of the man. It is claimed by the authorities that several people are implicated in the crime.

TREATY WITH ENGLAND.

The Arbitration Negotiations are Drawing to an End.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The negotiations between the United States and Great Britain for a treaty of general arbitration covering differences between the two English-speaking nations, present and prospective, has advanced to a stage of completeness far beyond what the public has had reason to believe. The purpose of Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote is to conclude the negotiation within the next three weeks. All of the substantial features of the treaty have been agreed on. From the present status of the negotiations, it is believed the following will be the important terms of the treaty:

First—A term of five years from the day of the exchange of ratifications within which the treaty shall be operative.

Second—A court of arbitration of six members, three to be drawn from the judiciary of the United States and three from the judiciary of Great Britain.

Third—The submission to this tribunal of differences between the two nations now pending, or to arise within the period of five years; this not to include the Behring sea question or the Venezuela question now before independent commissions, but to include the question of the boundary between Alaska and British North America.

The completion of this treaty will mark an important epoch in the relations between the two English-speaking peoples, and, in the judgment of those who have been most identified with its consummation, it will be the most important document of a peaceful character in the history of their mutual dealings. The president made a passing allusion to the subject in his recent message.

"FREE LAND."

The Title of a Pamphlet Written by Governor-Elect Rogers.

Tacoma, Dec. 15.—Governor-elect Rogers has issued a copyrighted pamphlet containing about 2,300 words, and entitled "Free Land." A copy has been sent to members of the legislature, which meets next month. He takes the position that free land is an "inalienable, imprescriptible and inextinguishable" right of man, and draws lessons from the freedom and enjoyment of the Puyallup reservation Indians, which he thinks result from their free, inalienable and untaxable homesteads. His position is supported by quotations from Emerson, Ingersoll and Seneca.

In conclusion, he proposes an amendment to the state constitution, providing that real estate and usual improvements, to a value not to exceed \$3,500, occupied as a homestead by a private family, the head of which is a citizen of the United States, and this state shall be forever exempted from all taxation of every kind. The exemption is limited to homesteads.

The pamphlet states that in no state would the amount exempted by the amendment exceed 10 per cent of the total valuation. He says that such a plan enacted into law "will prevent that fatal clash of the classes otherwise inevitable." The pamphlet concludes as follows:

"County government should be abolished or reduced to the mere skeleton of what it is now. Township and municipal government can attend to local affairs; let the state be called in when necessary."

UP-TO-DATE CROOKS.

Opening Seattle Safes Without the Use of Powder.

Seattle, Dec. 15.—The cleverest safe-cracking job ever perpetrated in this city took place at an early hour this morning. The wholesale liquor house of F. A. Buck, on Washington street, was entered, the safe broken open by use of drills and wedges, and \$500 in money, a gold watch and some nuggets taken. The entrance to the building was gained through a rear door, which was opened with the aid of a jimmy.

Either before or after turning this trick, the safe crackers entered the Queen City laundry, on Fourth avenue, broke open the safe and took \$35 in coin. This is the first time safes have been cracked in this city without the aid of powder, and shows that up-to-date crooks are traveling about the Northwest. The police are working on a clew that may lead to the arrest of the offenders.

A Scientist Blows to Atoms.

London, Dec. 15.—A Times dispatch from Berlin says an explosion occurred Saturday afternoon in Moabit quarter, where the scientist George Isaac was experimenting with the manufacture of acetylene. Isaac and three assistants were blown to atoms. It is stated that Emperor William had intended to visit Isaac's laboratory, as his experiments had attracted the emperor's attention.

Remains Were Petrified.

Warrensburg, Mo., Dec. 15.—William W. White, an acrobat with W. W. Cole's circus, died here fifteen years ago, and was buried in a metallic coffin, in a private cemetery. Yesterday relatives exhumed the body to bury it in the city cemetery and an examination showed that it was petrified. White was a brother of C. G. White, city editor of the Sioux City Journal.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—With a determination to starve, Mrs. Ansen Anderson locked herself and 8-year old daughter, Freda, in their single living room at 343 West Chicago avenue last Tuesday, and both have existed there since without food or fuel. Tonight the police, called to the scene by the neighbors, forced an entrance into the room and took mother and child to the station. The former, it is believed, is insane, and the latter was nearly starved.

TURNED ON THE GAS

Death of Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper and Daughter.

CASE OF MATRICIDE AND SUICIDE

The Young Woman, a Victim of Melancholia, Carried Out Her Threat to End Both of Their Lives.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—The death by apoplexy of Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper and her daughter Harriet this morning has produced a profound sensation in this city. No woman in San Francisco or on the entire Pacific coast was so prominent as Mrs. Cooper, who had devoted her life to religious and philanthropic work, and was actively connected with every reform movement. She was a cousin of Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll, with whom, despite their opposite religious views, she maintained a warm friendship.

The mother and daughter were found lying dead in the same bed, about 9 o'clock, by their Chinese servant. Miss Cooper had wrapped the clothes carefully about her, but Mrs. Cooper had evidently attempted to arise when she detected the escaping gas, and was too much overcome to leave the bed. Two gas jets were turned on full, and all the windows and doors were carefully closed.

The coroner and police detectives made a careful examination of the room, and concluded that, while her mother slept, Miss Cooper had arisen, turned on the gas jets, closed the doors and windows, and then calmly returned to bed. The officials are convinced that it was a case of matricide and suicide.

Dr. Worth, the family physician, states that Miss Cooper had been suffering for months from melancholia, with homicidal and suicidal tendencies. Her father committed suicide ten years ago, and two cousins, nephews of her father, also committed suicide. Harriet Cooper had made several previous attempts to end her life, once attempting to jump from a ferry-boat, and several times announcing to her mother that "she longed to turn on the gas at night so that she and her mother could pass away together."

Mrs. Cooper concealed her daughter's condition from all except a few intimate friends, and had arranged to take her daughter East soon, to place her in the care of relatives, hoping the change might restore her health.

Mrs. Cooper had been prominent for many years in church work, and both her and her daughter were prominent in the prosecution of Rev. C. O. Brown in the famous trial in the First Congregational church, when Dr. Brown was accused of immorality with Miss Mattie Overman. Many of the Brown faction bitterly denounced Mrs. Cooper, and more especially Miss Cooper for their action in joining the ranks of Brown's opponents.

Strong Case Against Mrs. Carew.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—The preliminary examination of Mrs. Elith Carew, accused of poisoning her husband, has terminated in her being held for trial by the court in Yokohama. Reports of the trial, as given by the Japanese papers, brought by steamer, show the case against the woman to be a strong one. Nearly all the testimony seems to strengthen the story of the wife's guilt. During the hearing several compromising letters were submitted by the prosecution, which tended to show that a conspiracy existed. A physician testified to finding arsenic in the remains of Mr. Carew, and other minor evidences being concluded the accused woman was asked to plead, but declined to make a statement. She was then held for trial, and in the meantime will be confined in the British jail in the settlement.

Two Indian Women Killed.

Port Townsend, Dec. 14.—The steamer Willapa arrived from Alaska tonight. The steamer brought news of another brutal murder on Douglas island, the second of the kind that has occurred there in less than three weeks. Two Indian women were killed, the murderer being an Indian named Shoga. One of the women was his wife, and the other was visiting an Indian woman who lived near Shoga's home. Shoga gave himself up to an Indian police officer, and confessed that he had stabbed two women. He was indicted by the coroner's jury, and there seems to be little doubt but that he will be hanged for his crime.

To Identify the States.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, has introduced a bill in the senate declaring the intent of the act of 1865, indemnifying the state for expenses in maintaining the national defense. By a decision of the court of claims, the interest on the money was not allowed. This was reversed by the supreme court, but as the treasury department had passed upon the claims, it refuses, under the Dookery law, to reopen them without further legislation. The Mitchell bill is to cover this point. Nearly every state is interested in the matter, and interest charges have been disallowed.

Denver, Dec. 14.—Orders were issued today for the return of all members of the National Guard to Leaville for duty. This applies to several hundred men who have been at home on indefinite leaves of absence, and is said to be due to the fact that over 200 of them are alleged to have joined a company now being raised in Denver for service in Cuba. A recruiting office has been open here for the past three days, and about 800 names have been enrolled.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Co.'s Review of Trade.

Portland, Or., Dec. 15.—The foreign news regarding the wheat situation has been uniformly bullish during the week past. Seeding in France and Central Europe has been stopped by cold weather, and the acreage planted will show a decrease compared with last year. The reduction in French acreage is estimated at ten per cent. Advice from the Argentine report crop prospects worse, and estimate their exportable surplus as smaller than last year's. Australian requirements for American wheat during 1897 are estimated at 100,000 tons, or 3,730,000 bushels. The news from India is rather more favorable, but the real scarcity there will not be felt until next year. The position in America is even stronger than in Europe. Two small crops in succession have followed a large reduction in surplus yields from previous crops. The amount of wheat still in first hands is estimated at 65,000,000 bushels less than in December last year. The quality of much of the winter wheat remaining is too poor for milling purposes. The demand from interior millers for wheat from centers of accumulation continues brisk, and their advances indicate that supplies of red winter wheat for milling are practically exhausted. The speculative conditions have changed considerably during the week. Longs have been eager to secure profits. The volume of trade has fallen off materially and the market has lacked speculative support. The result was a decline to 75 1/2c for May wheat on Thursday, which was followed, however, by a rally on Saturday to 80 7/8c, making the loss from a week ago a trifle more than one cent. The local sentiment is bearish, temporarily, and with the approaching holidays and lack of general trade values may sink a little lower.

We regard conditions as warranting higher values next year, and on any further decline in prices consider wheat to be a safe and profitable purchase.

During the last week the corn market ruled weak in tone, prices showing a decline of about 2c per bushel. Liquidation by long, cold, dry weather throughout the West, and a consequent increase in offerings by country shippers all contributed to the heaviness. In order to effect sales, holders were obliged to make sacrifices. Sentiment continues conservatively bearish in view of the large supplies at points of accumulation and lack of speculation.

The oats market showed the effect of liquidation, sales prices declining in closing with a slight improvement. This cereal has many friends, as the demand for cash is good, while supplies are not overabundant.

Provisions have been fairly active during the past week on the hog estimates. We are of the opinion that the consumption of the product will be large the coming year, and advise purchase of May product on breaks. Prices are low, the trade selling product relatively cheaper than the live hog; therefore do not believe there is any profit to be made in selling on the low basis of a 5c hog.

RUSSIA HAS CONTROL.

Mantchuria Ceded to the Czar—China's Treaty Made Public.

London, Dec. 15.—The text of the Russian-Chinese treaty, reproduced here from the North China Daily News, has aroused considerable discussion on all sides, and it is regarded as a matter of the greatest importance. Some of the newspapers refuse to believe it authentic, as it would be such a victory for Russian diplomacy. The Spectator says today, however, it believes it to be exact, and adds:

"No longer would have tried so elaborately to protect the pride of China. While securing every Russian object, nothing is ceded openly. Russia is permitted to run a railway to Kirin, and is expressly authorized to keep all the troops she pleases to protect the Mantchurian stations, and she is also to fortify Port Arthur for China. 'No glass is required to interpret phrases like these, which completely invest Russia with military control of Mantchuria and the Liao Tung peninsula.'"

Continuing, the Spectator says it thinks the arrangement threatens Japan more than Great Britain, "which can resist when her commercial rights are threatened."

Killed by a Woman.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Grace Dolan, a comely white woman, about 24 years old, shot and killed Henry Jackson, a young negro porter employed at the New York store, at her home, on Liberty street.

Her husband was away from home, and Emma Ott, a young friend, was staying with her. The negro, whom they had never seen before, tried to climb into the window, but Mrs. Dolan fought him off with a curtain pole. He returned, but by this time she had got a revolver and frightened him off with a threat to shoot.

When they thought he had gone the woman ran out to give the alarm, but found him rushing back towards the house with a brick. He forced his way into the house and Mrs. Dolan pulled out the revolver and fired three times, killing him. She was placed under arrest.

Fatal Boiler Explosion.

Marselles, Dec. 14.—The boiler of the Messageries Maritimes steamship Saghallen exploded shortly after she left Hong Kong recently, killing several stokers. The Saghallen succeeded in reaching Saigon.

A Ship-up in Sealskins.

London, Dec. 15.—At the late sales, Alaska sealskins declined 16 per cent; Copper Island declined 17 per cent; Northwest coast declined 20 per cent.

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Sister States—Oregon.

The electric plant at Milton has been closed down temporarily. There are now about 70,000 bushels of wheat in storage in Albany held by farmers.

The Baker City Democrat says that the county jail is the only vacant building in that city at present.

The students of the state university who are musicians have decided to organize a band. Thirteen have already joined.

J. N. Holcomb, of Eagle valley, picked and marketed 100,000 pounds of apples last season. He has also set out 1,000 more fruit trees.

It is reported in Baker City that William White, jr., of Pittsburg, Pa., has secured an option on the Ibea mine, in the Sumpter district, for \$60,000.

Raising honey in the John Day valley seems to be a very lucrative business. Nearly every rancher has bees and can readily dispose of the surplus product at good figures.

The late grand jury in Baker county failed to find a single indictment at the present term of court. It will be the cheapest term of court for the taxpayers, no doubt, that has been held in the county for years.

The Grande Ronde Lumber Company now has a total of 5,000,000 feet of sawlogs along the Grande Ronde river for the next spring drive. This is about one-half the quantity that will be required for next season's run.

E. Willard purchased last week 100 head of cattle in Eagle valley, Union county, for Portland shipment. He says there are a good many cattle in that vicinity notwithstanding the fact that buyers have been picking up a good many head.

One night last week when train No. 59 was crossing the hill near Blalock, the trainmen were treated to a beautiful sight. A large and very bright meteor was seen falling from the heavens, and when apparently about a mile from the earth seemed to stand suspended for a moment, and then passed on in its northerly flight. The meteor was visible for about five minutes and had the appearance of an immense ball of fire flying through space.

About three weeks ago, says the Line Mountain Eagle, Mr. Rambo left Long Creek, in Grant county, with his family, for College Place, Wash. He took with him a big tomcat. No sooner was the cat free in College Place when he disappeared. He was afterwards seen by several freighters near Pendleton, and arrived in Long Creek soon after, having traveled 140 miles, over a road that he had never been before, except when taken out in a wagon.

Washington.

The town of Waterville now owns its own light and water plant.

Four deer were killed on Hartstein island, in Mason county, last week.

There are about 15,000 bales of 1895 hops stored in Puyallup warehouses.

Tacoma salmon fishermen are now setting for herring that will be used as bait by the halibut fishermen.

The next jury term of the superior court for Walla Walla will convene January 10 next. An unusually full docket is expected.

The rowboat in which the two young men left Seattle on a hunting excursion has been found. It is now the general opinion that they were drowned.

North river loggers got over 1,500,000 feet of logs below the falls during the late flood, and there is about 1,000,000 feet above the falls to come down.

Ten dozen bob-white quail have been received by the Rod and Gun Club in North Yakima. They will not be turned loose until the winter is fully over and in the meantime they are receiving every attention.

There are now said to be 116 applicants for the office of fish commissioner to one who will get it. It seems incredible that forty-six ministers of the gospel should be among the number, says the Whatcom Revelle.

An order, signed by Secretary of War Lamont, and approved by President Cleveland, has been received at the local land office in Seattle whereby Marrowstone point is reserved for battery purposes for high-power guns. This permanently establishes the point for military purposes.

Robert Hughes and Elias Wilson were out hunting near Blaine last week. Wilson mistook Hughes for a deer and fired at him. The ball struck Hughes in the shoulder, making a painful flesh wound, and, after passing through his shoulder, struck and dented the barrel of his gun. It was a lucky escape, and should prove a lesson to anyone who does not know what he is shooting at when he pulls the trigger.

The tax levy on city property in Seattle for 1897 has been fixed at 11 mills for the old limits, or for the eight wards, and 8 mills for the new limits, or ninth ward.

President Penrose, of Whitman college, has addressed a