

MEXICO WANTS MONEY

Has a Million-Dollar Claim Against the United States.

Deposited a Quarter of a Century Ago with the Treasury to Abide by Litigation—Decided in Her Favor.

Within a few days the Mexican government will call upon the United States government for the return of nearly \$1,000,000 in gold, American coin, which has been held as a special deposit—at least that is the supposition—in the treasury vaults for 25 years, says a Washington special correspondent to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

This money was sent here with other amounts to pay claims against Mexico, where such claims were properly adjudicated. The story in connection with the amount to be returned is interesting.

Under the treaty of 1868 a mixed commission, as it was known, was appointed by our government and Mexico to regulate accounts between the two republics. Two of the claims against Mexico, for seized cotton principally, were those of La Abra Mining company and Benjamin Well, amounting to \$300,000 and \$400,000, respectively. The mixed commission had made awards in these cases, but the Mexican government solicited Gen. J. E. Slaughter, then a confederate commander on the Rio Grande, to look after the claims, which he did after the civil war.

On the representation of Gen. Slaughter congress refused to permit payment of the money to the claimants. The matter came up again in the next congress, and in several succeeding congresses, and finally the last congress passed an act submitting the claims to the court of claims. In an elaborate decision that tribunal decided against the claimants. An appeal was made to the supreme court of the United States, and that tribunal affirmed the decision of the court from which appeal was had.

The claimants, after some time, went to the supreme court and made a motion for a new trial. Last Monday the motion was denied. By this act of the supreme court the Mexican government will receive the money, without interest, which has been held here in trust since 1876.

Gen. Slaughter lately had a conference with the Mexican minister, and it is understood that the latter informed his government that the money was subject to Mexico's order. One of the stories is to the effect that the money has been boxed up in the vaults of the treasury all these years. But the treasury officials deny this. They do not deny that Mexico may have claim upon the government for the amount stated, but they say positively that the amount named, nor any other amount, is boxed up in their vaults, and when the Mexican minister lines up his cart in front of the treasury building for the purpose of getting the treasure he will find nothing with which to make a load.

According to Gen. Slaughter's statement, the claimants in these cases put up the biggest bluff on the congress of this country that has been made in many years. Although every committee before which they appeared decided adversely, they came again and again, every time with a powerful lobby, and when the senate finally passed on the report only five votes were found in its favor, while in the house the defeat was so strong that the ayes and noes were not called for. The testimony taken before the various committees makes 20,000 pages of printed matter.

Gen. Slaughter, who has had charge of the case for Mexico, is 71 years old. He is a nephew of Mrs. Dolly Madison, and when he was visiting her in Washington, as a youngster, only 19 years of age, she presented him to President Polk, who gave him a commission as lieutenant in the regular army. He was one of four to receive such an appointment from civil life. When the civil war occurred he was in charge of a lot of government stores, ammunition and guns, at Eagle Pass, Tex. The state of Texas, after passing the act of secession, demanded the property at Eagle Pass. Slaughter refused to surrender it, and managed, by adroit measures, to get the property on board a transport, and it reached a place of safety in spite of efforts of the confederacy to capture it. Slaughter then sent his resignation to this government, and wrote in connection with it that, while he was opposed to secession, his people had taken the step, and he would stand by them. He enlisted in the confederate service and became a brigadier general. After the war he went to Mexico and was engaged by the Mexican government as a civil engineer. While so engaged he met Gen. Shelby, of Missouri, whom he had previously known, and gave him a contract of hauling ties for a Mexican railway. Gen. Slaughter was also a friend of former Gov. Thomas C. Reynolds, of Missouri, whose legal advice was followed by Gen. Slaughter in his litigation for the Mexican government.

Gen. Slaughter is now again in the service of the government as an engineer, with headquarters at New Orleans, and in the territory in which he is engaged is Eagle Pass, where he defended the property of the United States at the beginning of the civil war.

Temporarily Dull.

"Every man should have a purpose in life," remarked the severe old lady, as she sized up the tramp through her steel-rimmed spectacles. "Yes'm," said the tramp. "Mine's makin' foot-prints in de sands o' time; an' dere don't seem ter be much doin' here. I guess I'll make a few tracks."—Philadelphia Record.

SLEIGHING CONTESTS.

Rivalry That Became a Craze in Ohio Many Years Ago.

Four-Horse Loads of Merry People Entered into the Sport—Towns That Were Completely Depopulated.

A sleighing party in the Western Reserve that took on the nature of a contest between several counties took place in the winter of 1855-56. The record of the long drives and the endless processions of four-horse teams is a tale still told to the children of the older inhabitants of the reserve. The winter of 1855-56 was just the kind for making a record on runners, says the Chicago Record. The snow was abundant, while alternate freezing and thawing kept the roads in firm condition. There were almost daily light snows to "grease up" the sleighing and invite the sport-loving population to enjoy their privileges, and this weather lasted for three months.

In February the people of Solon made up a neighborhood party of seven four-horse loads and started off for a jolly good time. Among their hasty decorations they carried a muslin streamer, five or six feet long, with a rudely painted negro face on it and the inscription: "You can't come it." Such a decoration was appropriate in those days of the underground railroad, for the runaway who reached the Western Reserve was pretty sure to be well cared for.

As the sleighing party rode across from Cuyahoga county into Summit county, the people of Twinsburg were pleased to look upon the invasion as a challenge and determined to take the banner away from Solon. They collected 16 teams and returned with it a few days later. The people of Bedford, Cuyahoga county, then organized and won back the banner across the county line again.

For weeks otherwise sane people would drop everything to join the sport, until news of the mammoth sleigh rides spread over the whole country and accounts of them were published even in the London dailies. Finally the crowds outgrew the townships and a grand round-up of all the bob sleds of three counties was proposed, Medina being invited to join, and the banner was to go to the one furnishing the most four-horse and six-horse teams. The great meeting was to take place at Richfield, in the northwest corner of Summit county, where the three counties joined, and Saturday, March 15, was appointed as the date for this three-cornered battle of sleighbells and buffalo robes.

The oldest inhabitants will never forget the stirring scenes of that great day. Over the hills the great loads poured from all directions. Now their way was overarched with great oaks and walnuts; now they clambered up a rising vista that ended abruptly in the winter sky above; now the summit revealed a beautiful view of the valleys below and bells jingled furiously down the steep slope. They came in troops, like the rats at the Pied Piper's notes—big, four-horse loads, in bunches and companies. And such a collection of horseflesh! Big, well-kept fellows, in well-matched teams; scrawny, sorry plugs broken down by the winter's campaign; teams all alike and well-matched; teams picked up from all round the neighborhood, no two alike in size or color, and innocent of curbs. And as for people—some towns were completely depopulated that day, for these 462 loads were attended by many one-horse and two-horse loads that did not count at all, and it was estimated that between 10,000 and 12,000 people came out on that great ride. It is said that all this frolic took place without a case of drunkenness, although it is admitted that big sled boxes and abundant buffalo robes really make statistics on this point uncertain.

Summit had the largest representation—171 four-horse teams—and received the prize with the injunction to preserve it among the treasured archives at Akron, their county seat. But it did not molder on their hands to any appreciable extent, for they had no more than put it in cold storage for future generations to gaze on when Medina flung out defiance to the victors.

Memories of the great pioneer hunting parties came to mind, for had not their county been the scene of the great Hinkley hunt, the wonder of its day? Their horses were not jaded, since they had just entered the contest. More than that, Summit had raised but 31 teams more on its own territory. So they arose the following Tuesday and turned all eyes toward the hilltop city of Akron.

See, this winter caravan is now gaining the heights. Now the smoking chimneys of the busy little city are in plain sight. In the city cannons begin to boom, whistles shriek, bells ring—a royal welcome from a besieged city to an invading army.

The judges count horses. There is a disputed point—mules had never appeared at previous meets. Shall a bunch of these long-eared, ugly beasts win the day against them and allow a rival to take away the banner? But Medina finds that they can afford to be generous, for their four-horse teams number 182, a good margin of 11 over Summit's record of Saturday, so they throw in the mules for good measure, thus winning the prize without any cloud on their title.

The famous banner will be cheerfully surrendered to any delegation that will call for it at the county seat, Medina, with 183 teams. You see, they never really yielded that point about the mules at all. Such a delegation will find a most cordial greeting at this quiet little town, but let all sleighride parties be sure of settled winter weather when they come, for Medina mud sticks like poverty and the bottom of it is somewhere in China.

RAVAGES OF PLAGUE.

Historical Mortality List of the Dread Disease.

The Source of India Dates from the Second and Third Centuries, B. C.—Horror of the Epidemic.

The following figures convey an idea of the fearful ravages of the bubonic plague from the time of the first historical record of its existence: The history of bubonic plague dates from the second and third centuries before Christ, and two Alexandrian physicians, Dioscorides and Pseudo-Dioscorides, who were contemporaries of Christ, have left a description of the disease which leaves no doubt that it was the same as that of modern times. The plague never died out, but it was not until the middle of the fourteenth century that the horrible epidemic known as the "black plague" visited Europe and caused the death of more than 25,000,000 people. The disease was epidemic in London in 1348, 1361 and 1368. In 1352 two-thirds of the academic population of Oxford died of it. It was again epidemic in London in 1400, 1406, 1428, 1472 and 1499. In 1466 over 40,000 persons died of it in Paris. In 1563 it broke out again in London, and the mortality was more than 1,000 per week. In 1572 Lyons lost 50,000 of its population from the plague. In 1575 it visited Venice and carried off 70,000 persons. In 1603 the mortality of another epidemic in London reached 38,000. In 1603 an epidemic in Egypt is said to have resulted in the death of 1,000,000 people. An epidemic in London, in 1625, caused a mortality of 35,000, and in 1636 more than 10,000 Londoners were carried off. In 1656 there was a terrific epidemic which carried off 30,000 in Naples, 60,000 in Genoa and 14,000 in Rome. In 1665 a fresh epidemic in London resulted in the death of 68,500 people. This is the first absolutely accurate estimate on record. In 1679 Vienna lost 76,000 by plague and in 1681 Prague lost 83,000. In 1704 Stockholm had an epidemic, with about 40,000 fatal cases. In 1720 an epidemic in Marseilles carried off from 40,000 to 60,000 people. In 1770 and 1771 the plague killed 300,000 people in Moldavia, Wallachia, Transylvania, Hungary and Poland, and in the same year one-fourth of the population of Moscow died of plague. Since that time there have been frequent outbreaks of the disease, and it has constantly existed in Lower Hindoestan and about Constantinople, but there have been no really great epidemics. Coming to recent times, Bombay suffered an epidemic in 1896. In January the mortality was nearly 5,000, and in February, 4,600. The total mortality in the presidency of Bombay has been 164,083. In Puna, last August, there was an average of 100 deaths a day, in a population of 60,000.

It is a remarkable fact that Europeans seem scarcely susceptible to the disease nowadays and are able to withstand its ravages when infected. During the recent outbreak in Hong Kong only 11 Europeans were attacked, and the mortality in their cases was but 18.2 per cent. Among Japanese (10 cases) the mortality was 60 per cent., among Portuguese residents (18 cases) the mortality was 66 per cent., and among Chinese (2,619 cases) the mortality was 99.4 per cent.

Dr. George M. Sternberg, L. L. D., in an interesting article in the Geographic Magazine, says: "I shall have the satisfaction of stating that preventive medicine has made such progress during the past 50 years that there is very little danger that bubonic plague will ever again commit serious ravages in the more enlightened countries of Europe, or that it is a serious menace to the lives and prosperity of citizens of the United States."

FOR WOMAN'S HEALTH

Barnes Letters from Women Relieved of Pain by Mrs. Pinkham.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Before I commenced to take your medicine I was in a terrible state, wishing myself dead a good many times. Every part of my body seemed to pain in some way. At time of menstruation my suffering was something terrible. I thought there was no cure for me, but after taking several bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound all my bad feelings were gone. I am now well and enjoying good health. I shall always praise your medicine."—Mrs. AMOS FROELICH, Box 326, Romeo, Mich.

Female Troubles Overcome
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I had female trouble, painful menses, and kidney complaint, also stomach trouble. About a year ago I happened to pick up a paper that contained an advertisement of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and when I read how it had helped others, I thought it might help me, and decided to give it a trial. I did so, and as a result am now feeling perfectly well. I wish to thank you for the benefit your medicine has been to me."—Mrs. CLARA STUBBS, Diller, Neb.

No More Pain
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Your Vegetable Compound has been of much benefit to me. When my menses first appeared they were very irregular. They occurred too often and did not leave for a week or more. I always suffered at these times with terrible pains in my back and abdomen. Would be in bed for several days and would not be exactly rational at times. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and menses became regular and pains left me entirely."—Mrs. E. F. CUSTER, Brule, Wis.

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TIMBER LAND ACT, JUNE 3, 1878. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, ROSEBURG, OREGON, April 20, 1900. Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timberlands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," WILLIAM H. MOORE, of Roseburg, County of Jackson, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement, No. 961, for the purchase of the N¹/₂ Sec. 6, of Township No. 34, Range No. 2 E, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Roseburg, Oregon, on Wednesday, the 18th day of July, 1900. He names as witnesses: William H. Moore, of Roseburg, Iowa; J. E. Olsen, of Medford, Oregon; J. H. Hefner, of Medford, Oregon; and B. H. Hight, of Medford, Oregon. Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 18th day of July, 1900.

J. T. BRIDGES, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Land office at Roseburg, Oregon, May 23, 1900. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Geo. Newbury, county clerk of Jackson County, Oregon, at Jacksonville, Oregon, on July 14, 1900, viz: MARLIN E. MERLE. On his H. E. No. 9178, for the E¹/₂ Sec. 14, N¹/₂ Sec. 14, T. 34 S., R. 2 E. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: B. F. Edmondson, R. L. Parker, W. L. Edmondson and J. J. Patton, all of Big Butte, Jackson County, Oregon.

J. T. BRIDGES, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Land office at Roseburg, Oregon, May 2, 1900. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Geo. Newbury, county clerk of Jackson County, Oregon, at Jacksonville, Oregon, on July 9, 1900, viz: WILLIAM J. COLVIN. On his H. E. No. 8465, for the SE¹/₄ Sec. 14, N¹/₂ Sec. 14, T. 34 S., R. 2 E. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: C. W. Hekel, Nelson Nye, H. C. Vaughn and Melbaud Pardee, all of Prospect, Jackson County, Oregon.

J. T. BRIDGES, Register.

Administratrix's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the County Court of Jackson County, Oregon, administratrix of the estate of Charles Williams, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to me at the office of J. H. Neil, in Jacksonville, Oregon, on or before the sixth day of the month of the first publication of this notice.

Dated May 25, 1900. MARY E. WILLIAMS, Administratrix of the Estate of Charles Williams, Deceased.

Summer Resorts.

To the mountains our people in increasing numbers yearly look for those days of relaxation and recreation necessary to maintain the human machine in fair working condition. The languorous sloth of the seashore proves very seductive while it lasts, but many have decided that the annual outing should provide not only radical change of air and surroundings, but also some stimulation of flagging energies as well as provide brain and vigor for the return to labor. For this they turn to the mountain climb and ramble, the balsam of the mountain pine, and the clear, undisturbed mountain air.

In this direction the Shasta Route now affords a wealth of attractions. The entire line of road from Ashland to Redding is studded with charming and accessible hotels and camps, where are cheer and comfort and healing at reasonable cost, and where you can hunt, fish, ride, loaf, or play with equal facility.

Or if you look for healing waters, none better can be found, hot or cold, than the springs of Ashland, Coalinga, Anderson, Bartlett, Byron and Paso Robles.

Before visiting Europe, the people of the Northwest should see the glories of Yosemite Valley, and the wondrous groves of Mariposa and Calaveras; the Parklands are likely to make inquiries concerning these attractive resorts.

Send to Mr. C. H. Markham, General Passenger Agent, Portland, for new booklets on Castle Crags, Shasta Springs, McCloud River, Yosemite, and excursion rates thereto.

—In matters of final proof THE MAIL will make out all papers necessary for the commencement of proof free of charge.

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J. T. BRIDGES, Register.

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SOCIETIES OF MEDFORD.

F. of A.—Court Mt. Pitt No. 24, meets in Foresters Hall every Wednesday at 8 p. m. O. W. STEPHENSON, Chief Ranger. I. L. FULBURN, Financial Secretary.

I. O. O. F.—Lodge No. 88, meets Int. I. O. O. F. hall every Saturday at 8 p. m. Visiting brothers always welcome. S. H. SHANKS, N. G. J. H. STEWART, Rec. Sec.

I. O. O. F.—Stogus River Encampment, No. 30, meets in I. O. O. F. hall the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8 p. m. D. T. LAWTON, C. P. W. T. YORK, Scribe.

Oliver Hebeke Lodge No. 98, meets in I. O. O. F. hall first and third Tuesdays of each month. Visiting sisters invited to attend. Mrs. LILLIAN HARVEY, N. G. Mrs. MINNIE CALKINS, Rec. Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Meets first Friday on or before full moon at 8 p. m. in Masonic hall. W. L. LIPPINCOTT, Rec. Sec. N. L. NARRAGAN, W. M. S. E. COLE, K. of R. and S.

K. of P.—Tallman Lodge No. 31, meets Monday evening at 8 p. m. Visiting brothers always welcome. EDWARD ORR, C. O. S. E. COLE, K. of R. and S.

Knights of the Maccabees—Triumph Tent No. 14, meets in regular review on the 1st and 2d Tuesdays of each month at 8 p. m. in A. O. U. W. hall at 7:30 p. m. Visiting Sir Knights cordially invited to attend.

W. T. YORK, H. K. G. L. WHEB, Commander.

A. O. U. W.—Degree of Honor—Hester Lodge No. 56, meets every second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month at 8 p. m. in A. O. U. W. hall. Mrs. CHARLES M. CHOCUM, C. of H. Mrs. LILLIAN DODGE, Sec.

A. O. U. W.—Lodge No. 98, meets every first and third Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m. in their hall in the opera block. Visiting brothers invited to attend. N. L. NARRAGAN, C. of H. N. L. LAWTON, Recorder.

Woodmen of the World—Camp No. 90, meets every Friday evening in Adkins-Deuel block, Medford, Oregon. W. H. MERRIN, C. O. JOE SHONE, Clerk.

Chrysanthemum Circle, No. 44, Women of Woodcraft—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8 p. m. in Woodmen hall. Visiting sisters invited. HARRIE WEBB, G. M. ADA M. MILLER, Clerk.

W. R. C.—Chester A. Arthur Corps No. 34, meets second and fourth Monday of each month at 8 o'clock p. m. in Woodman's hall. Visiting sisters invited to attend. Mrs. J. H. WHITMAN, Pres. MARY E. HENRY, Sec.

G. A. R.—Chester A. Arthur Post No. 47, meets in Woodman's hall every second and fourth Monday night in each month at 7:30. Visiting comrades cordially invited to attend. D. R. ARDRE, Com. F. M. STEWART, Adjutant.

W. C. T. U.—Meets every other Wednesday in the Halley Block. ADDIE HALLEY, Pres. Mrs. MAY COX, Sec.

CHURCHES OF MEDFORD.

Baptist Church—Rev. T. L. Crandall, pastor. Sabbath services: Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 a. m.; H. Gilkey, supt. Class meeting every Sabbath at close of sermon. Levi Fawcett, leader. Epworth League every Thursday evening at 8:00. G. Fawcett, pres. Regular weekly prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Ladies' sewing circle every week. Missionary society meets the first Friday in each month.

Methodist Episcopal Church—W. H. Moore, pastor. Preaching every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. H. Gilkey, supt. Class meeting every Sabbath at close of sermon. Levi Fawcett, leader. Epworth League every Thursday evening at 8:00. G. Fawcett, pres. Regular weekly prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Ladies' sewing circle every week. Missionary society meets the first Friday in each month.

Presbyterian Church—Rev. A. Haberly, pastor. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Junior Endeavor Society at 3:30 p. m. Sunday Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Baptist church—Rev. T. L. Crandall, pastor. Sabbath services: Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 a. m.; H. Gilkey, supt. Class meeting every Sabbath at close of sermon. Levi Fawcett, leader. Epworth League every Thursday evening at 8:00. G. Fawcett, pres. Regular weekly prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Ladies' sewing circle every week. Missionary society meets the first Friday in each month.

Christian church—Corner of Sixth and 1 streets. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Junior Endeavor at 3:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening. Ladies' Missionary Auxiliary to C. W. B. E. first Thursday 7:30 P. M. each month. Choral Union every Friday at 7:30 p. m. The people welcome. O. J. Gist pastor. Resides at the church.

Methodist Episcopal Church South—Rev. E. F. Wilson, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Epworth League, prayer and praise meeting each Sunday at 9 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock; Woman's Home Mission Society first Thursday in each month at 2:30 p. m. Mrs. E. H. Pickett, president.

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