

THE DAYTON HERALD

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DAYTON, OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

A new medical corps is to be organized for the army.

Japan will soon open Manchuria to the trade of the world.

China has sent a demand to Russia that she evacuate Manchuria at once.

The United States cruiser Baltimore will visit the principal ports of Australia.

Russia has asked the United States to fix the date for The Hague peace conference.

Dowie says he will return to Zion City and oust his enemies from control of the colony.

Kansas City, Mo., has elected a Republican mayor on a municipal ownership platform.

Colonel Gilberto Escobar, governor of Jonoteiga, a province in Nicaragua, has been assassinated.

Chicago has voted for municipal ownership and against municipal operation of traction lines.

The French chamber of deputies severely scores the management of the mine in which the recent disaster occurred. It was declared the horror was due entirely to negligence.

The house river and harbor committee has deferred action on the Fulton bill appropriating \$400,000 for the mouth of the Columbia. The committee will meet again in a few days.

Troops will protect the Russian Jews during Easter.

The New York legislature is rushing bills for the control of insurance.

All Zion City has revolted against Dowie, taking away his power and property.

Municipal ownership is the principal campaign topic in many eastern city elections.

Floods in Alabama have stopped steam navigation for 150 miles about Mobile.

Representative Cooper, of Wisconsin, has introduced a bill admitting Porto Rico to full United States citizenship.

President Palma, of Cuba, is confident the United States senate will ratify the U. S. of P. river treaty which recognizes Cuba's sovereignty.

Women have mobbed the engineers at the Courrières, France, mine, demanding the rescue of their loved ones whom they believe to be still alive.

Commissioner Garfield finds the Standard Oil company has violated the anti-trust law many times. Prosecution of the company will commence soon.

A Russian editor has been imprisoned for writing a parody on the Lord's prayer, which was supposed to be offered by the imperial family. One line was made to read: "Let the people pay our debts, but not as we pay our creditors."

Tillman will have a hard fight to be re-elected senator.

Bristol's confirmation as district attorney for Oregon is assured.

American money has saved thousands of lives in the Japanese famine districts.

The president and senate leaders have agreed on the court reform amendment to the rate bill.

Germany has found through the Moroccan conference that she has but one friend in all Europe, Austria.

Sir Thomas Lipton has completed arrangements for the building of a challenger for the America's cup in 1907.

The New York Central and Pennsylvania roads are said to have agreed on consolidation. The present lines will also be greatly extended.

An Indiana bachelor found eight babies on his doorstep a few mornings ago. He immediately sent for the county officials to take charge.

A storm at English, Indiana, blew down a large tree, revealing the hiding place of \$21,000 placed in the roots of the tree by an old miser many years ago.

Representative Jones, of Washington, has a bill requiring all American vessels to carry sufficient oil to calm the sea whenever the vessel may be in danger in storms.

The Chinese boycott is believed to be dying out.

Storer is still recognized as ambassador at Vienna.

The miners convention has decided to accept the advance wherever granted by the coal operators and work will continue in those mines.

Representative Lacey, of Iowa, wants all agricultural lands now embraced in forest reserves thrown open to entry under the homestead laws.

Thirteen miners who were entombed in the French coal mine have just been found alive. They were in the mine 20 days and lived on horse feed.

The Iowa legislature has passed a bill which will not allow any state officer to use a railroad pass.

Another \$25,000 has been sent to Japanese famine sufferers through the National Red Cross. This makes \$125,000 sent through this source.

Announcement is made at Cleveland, Ohio, of an advance of from 10 to 15 cents per gallon for the Standard Oil in the price of gasoline and naphtha.

The Chicago beef trust trial has been set for the second Monday in December.

MOROCCO PROTOCOL LONG.

Powers Will Combine to Induce Sultan to Approve Reforms.

Algiers, Spain, April 4.—The protocol of the conference on Moroccan affairs, copies of which are in course of preparation for signature by the delegates on Saturday, is a formidable document of 123 sections.

The opening paragraph sets forth the desire of the powers to assure peace and prosperity in Morocco by reforms, without violating the three principles of sovereignty of the sultan, integrity of his domain and commercial equality, at the same time pointing out the method of procuring the resources necessary to carry out the reform proposed.

Details follow, relative to the delegates' decisions concerning the organization of the police, the repression of contraband traffic in arms, the establishment of a state bank, the creation of fresh revenue and the control of customs and public works. The signatory powers undertake to introduce legislation ratifying the engagements of the delegates.

Final ratification of the protocol will occur not later than December 13, of this year at Madrid. Meantime the signatory powers reciprocally engage to endeavor to obtain the sultan's integral adherence to the reforms outlined in order to make them simultaneously operative. The reform will be effective December 31, 1906. Existing treaties between Morocco and the various powers will retain validity, but in the event of conflict between treaties and the conference's protocol the latter will take precedence.

MINES OPENING.

Operators at Many Points Sign Scale With Miners.

Pittsburg, April 4.—With the exception of one or two points outside of the Pittsburg district, the strained situation between the operators and miners in the soft coal fields of Western Pennsylvania is hourly growing more pacific. Following the signing of the scale yesterday demanded by the miners, the mines of the operators who signed the scale resumed their operations today, although in many instances with reduced forces.

In the Pittsburg district there were 18,000 miners working at 1,300 idle. Nearly all of the mines of the Pittsburg Coal company were in operation, and it was expected that those men who are not would return within a day or so. It was explained that following holidays it was generally several days before all the men returned to their labor. The cause of the idleness today, however, was said to be their failure to receive word of the signing of the scale.

The independent operators met tonight and decided not to sign the scale and not to work their mines nonunion. They employ between 12,000 and 14,000 men, and they are all idle. The entire nonunion field of the Allegheny valley will continue work without interruption. This is what is known as the Freepoint vein.

COMING BY THOUSANDS.

Extra Trains Required to Take Home-seekers to Northwest.

St. Paul, Minn., April 4.—The home-seekers' travel continues heavy and tonight more than 4,000 holders of these tickets had appeared at the Union depot. All the regular overland passenger trains were sent out in double sections, and the Canadian contingent via the "Soo" line went out tonight in three sections, taking about 1,000 passengers.

The Great Northern and Northern Pacific sent out each two special trains, while each of the five regular trains carried from three to five extra coaches to accommodate the rush. These passengers were bound for Oregon and Washington.

The railroad men say the rush will exceed any day since the low rates went into effect, and the most conservative estimate the arrivals at 5,000. The one-way colonist rates put in effect February 15 will expire tomorrow, but will be renewed and continued throughout the summer. Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin are furnishing the bulk of the home-seekers' travel.

Texas Cattle Law Invalid.

Washington, April 4.—In an opinion by Justice Brown the Supreme court of the United States today decided the case of the Houston & Texas Central railway vs. J. A. Mayes in favor of the company. Mayes ordered 17 cars, in which to ship 625 head of cattle. The car arrived 24 hours after the time set in the agreement. Mayes sued, under Texas law, for damages done his cattle by the delay and also, under the state law, to recover \$25 per car on his contract with the company. The lower courts upheld the complainant.

Mining Frauds at Nome.

Washington, April 4.—According to a telegram recently received from Alaska, important mineral land frauds may yet be uncovered in that section of Alaska. Mr. Hoyt urges an amendment in the mining laws, so as to require publication of notice of all mineral applications for six months rather than 60 days as at present. This will shut out a foreign corporation, named, which he says has applied for patents covering many hundred acres of mineral land near Nome.

Big Guns Without Gunners.

Washington April 4.—Some surprising facts regarding the inadequacy of the coast artillery force were brought out in the recent examination of Secretary Taft by the senate committee on military affairs. The secretary presented data showing that the present authorized force of coast artillery is sufficient to provide one relief for only 34 per cent of the guns, mines, range finders, etc., now actually installed or authorized for the coast defenses.

Conference on Statehood Bill.

Washington, April 4.—This session of the joint conference on statehood today was devoted to a discussion of the main proposition, the senate amendment eliminating Arizona and New Mexico from the bill.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

OFFICIAL CANDIDATE LIST.

Names as They Will Appear on Primary Ballots at Election.

Salem.—The following is a list of the Republican and Democratic candidates for nomination for senators and representatives in congress and state officers as they will appear on the official primary ballots:

Republicans: Senator—Short term, Fred W. Mulkey, Multnomah county; senators, long term, Jonathan Bourne, Jr., Multnomah county; H. M. C. C. Multnomah county; Stephen A. Lowell, Umatilla county; E. L. Smith, Waco county; E. B. Watson, Multnomah county.

Representative, First district—William C. Hawley, Marion; Samuel B. Houston, Washington; Walter L. Toozie, Marion. Second district, W. R. Ellis, Umatilla; William J. Lachner, Baker; John L. Rand, Baker; George S. Shepherd, Multnomah.

Governor—Harvey K. Brown, Baker; T. T. Geer, Marion; C. A. Johns, Baker; Charles J. Schreder, Coos; James Withycombe, Benton.

Secretary of state—Frank W. Benson, Douglas; Claude Gatch, Salem; Lot L. Pearce, Marion; Frank T. Wrightman, Marion.

Treasurer—John H. Aitkin, Baker; E. V. Carter, Jackson; Ralph W. Hoyt, Multnomah; Augustus C. Jennings, Lane; Thomas E. Ryan, Clackamas; George A. Steel, Clackamas.

Supreme judge—Robert Eakin, Union.

Superintendent public instruction—J. H. Ackerman, Multnomah.

State printer—William J. Clarke—Marion; Willis S. Dunaway, Multnomah; J. R. Whitney, Linn.

Attorney general—M. A. Crawford, Douglas; George H. Durham, Josephine.

Commissioner of labor—O. P. Hoff, Multnomah.

Democrats: Senator—long term, John M. Geering, Multnomah.

Representative, First district—P. A. Cochran, Marion; Charles V. Gallaway, Yamhill. Second district, James Harvey Graham, Baker.

Governor—George E. Chamberlain, Multnomah.

Secretary of state—P. H. Sroat, Marion.

Treasurer—J. D. Matlock, Lane.

Supreme judge—T. G. Hailey, Umatilla.

State printer—J. Scott Taylor, Klamath.

County general—Robert A. Miller, Multnomah.

Each one of the above filed the required petition with the secretary of state.

The names of Oglesby Young and H. B. Nicholas, Democratic candidates for Circuit judges in departments 3 and 4, of Multnomah county, will not appear on the official ballots. Secretary Dunaway was obliged to reject their petitions for the reason that they were verified by J. T. Miner, who had not himself signed the petitions.

Insure Water for Land.

Salem.—The State Land board is preparing to enforce a rule with regard to the sale of lands reclaimed under the Carey act, which will insure the ample supply of water for all land purchased. Until recently contracts have been entered into for the sale of land before the irrigation canals were completed or exact supply of water available known. In order that there may be no question in future, the board will insist on knowing how much water is available for each segregation and the number of acres to be sold will in no instance be more than the visible supply of water will irrigate.

Furnish Ditch is Completed.

Pendleton—W. J. Furnish announces that the Furnish ditch, which is to reclaim 80,000 acres of land in the west end of this county, is finished. Of this amount of land, 10,000 acres are now ready for water, and there are at least 10,000 more which can be brought under the ditch. This land is adjoining the big Umatilla reclamation project which the government now has in hand. The Furnish ditch is 30 miles in length, while the government canal will be 22 miles long and will also supply water for 20,000 acres.

Sheep Tax Mere License.

Salem.—Attorney General Crawford, in a letter to the district attorney of Umatilla county, holds that the state law levying a special tax on all foreign sheep entering this state is in reality a license, and coming under the police regulations of the state can be enforced as such. One of the Circuit courts held that this law imposes a special and unequal tax, and is therefore unconstitutional. The law was passed by the last legislature and was intended to keep sheep from other states off the ranges in this state.

Sees Danger to Sheep Herds.

Pilot Rock—The Cunningham Sheep & Land company has finished shearing. R. A. Kelsey, a member of the firm, reports an excellent quality of wool this season, which he attributes to the heavy rains, which washed the fleeces unusually clean. Mr. Kelsey apprehends difficulty by the sheepmen of Oregon as a result of the division of the summer range, and the invasion by Washington woolgrowers of Oregon's territory.

Storing Wool in Heppner Warehouses.

Heppner—Wool is beginning to arrive at the warehouses here, where it will be stored until the sales days in the latter part of May and the first of June. A large crop will be produced in this county this year, and very little is being contracted, stockmen preferring to hold until the sales days, when it will be sold to the highest bidder.

Cut Timber Illegally.

Prineville—John Dea and A. R. Eastwood were arrested before United States Commissioner M. R. Biggs last week on a charge of cutting timber on government land. They were held in the sum of \$50 to appear before the United States grand jury.

SPEAKERS FOR CHAUTAUQUA.

Willamette Valley Directors Making Up Program for Year.

Oregon City.—The board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua association is preparing the program for the 1906 assembly to be held at Gladstone next July. Dr. Charles Edward Jocke, who was in Portland 10 years ago, but is now pastor of one of the largest Methodist churches in the United States, at Brooklyn, N. Y., will be one of the speakers. Captain Jack Crawford, the famous post-scout, has been engaged for the coming assembly, as has also Rabbi Leon Harrison, of St. Louis, who will be heard in two lectures, on "Shylock" and "The Glory and Shame of America."

Professor Mark B. Beal, of the Occidental college of oratory, of Los Angeles, will be the elocutionist. This year, Dr. W. C. Sherman, of Sacramento, who last year had charge of the class in Bible study, has been retained for another year. Other classes will be conducted as usual in music, domestic science, English literature, physical culture, junior Bible study and a W. C. T. U. institute.

The Chautauqua management is in communication with a local

organizer and entertainers with whom contracts will be entered into if possible. Another meeting of the board of directors will be called soon, when the program will be completed.

New Rail Lines for Lane.

Eugene—Portland, New York and Eugene capitalists who received the approval of the city council for franchise to construct a system of street railways here, announce that they intend to build an electric line between Eugene and Springfield and a steam railway from there up McKenzie river to the Blue river mining district. Length of the electric line will be four miles. That of the steam road about 45 miles. The Willamette river will be bridged at Eugene, and the line will reach Springfield via the eastern banks of the river.

Improve Linn Roads.

Albany.—County Judge C. H. Stewart has announced that the County Court would thoroughly improve a road from the city to the farm lands, lying two miles beyond the city limits, making it a model drive. This road is now one of the worst in the county. In order to make a better impression on visitors to Albany the court proposes to improve roads near the city and bring them up to the same high standard as the rural districts. Roads leading out of the city will be scientifically rebuilt.

Cherry Crop Destroyed.

Scappoose—Early cherries, with few exceptions, are killed by the early frosts. Royal Annes are completely destroyed, as well as early pears. Apples, plums and plums are apparently all in good condition, having been uninjured. Nearly all orchards in this locality are being sprayed this season. Frosts from the Scappoose district are not inferior to any in quality, as attested by premiums won at the Lewis and Clark exposition.

Plan to Supply Court Reports.

Albany.—A county court will probably order the Supreme court reports, 44 volumes—for use of the court and county officials and the Circuit court. An effort may be made at the next session of the legislature to secure a measure providing that the state shall furnish the County courts of each county with the Oregon reports as statutes and session laws are applied to county officials and justices of the peace.

New Mill at Scappoose.

Scappoose—The Brace Lumber company is building a sawmill on a tract bought of Rev. Mr. Brown. The mill will cut 30,000 feet a day. This makes five mills within a radius of eight miles of Scappoose. The new mill will be in operation in about three weeks.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 66¢; bluestem, 66¢; 68¢; red, 64¢; white, 68¢. Oats—No. 1, white feed, 27.50; gray, 27.00 per ton. Barley—Feed, 23.50 to 24 per ton; brewing, 24 to 24.50; rolled, 24.50 to 25.50. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, choice, \$17.18 per ton; common, \$13.14; valley timothy, \$8.95; clover, \$7.50 to \$8; chest, \$6.75; grain hay, \$7.68. Alfalfa, \$15.00 to 2.75 per box.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 8¢ per pound; cabbage, 13¢; 23¢ per crate; cauliflower, 22.25 per crate; celery, 75¢ per dozen; head lettuce, 35¢ to 40¢ per dozen; onions, 40¢ per dozen; radishes, 20¢ per dozen; rhubarb, \$1.125 per box; spinach, \$1 per box; parsley, 25¢; turnips, \$1.125 per sack; carrots, 65¢ to 75¢ per sack; beets, 85¢ to \$1 per sack. No. 1, 70¢ to 90¢ per sack; No. 2 nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 50¢ to 60¢ per hundred; ordinary, nominal; new California, 5¢ to 6¢ per pound; sweet potatoes, 24¢ to 25¢ per pound. Butter—Fancy creamery, 20¢ to 25¢ per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16¢ per dozen. Poultry—Live old, 13¢; 14¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 13¢ to 13.5¢; broilers, 25¢ to 30¢; young roosters, 13¢ to 13.5¢; old roosters, 11¢ to 12¢; dressed chickens, 15¢ to 16¢; turkeys, live, 16¢ to 16.5¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18¢ to 20¢; geese, live, 8¢ to 8.5¢; geese, dressed, 10¢ to 11¢; ducks, 17¢ to 18¢.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10¢ to 10.5¢; old, 8.5¢ to 9.5¢; medium, 7¢ to 8¢; prime, 5¢ to 6¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15¢ to 20¢; valley, 24¢ to 25¢ per pound; mohair, choice, 25¢ to 28.5¢. Veal—Dressed, 3¢ to 4¢ per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 3¢ per pound; cows, 4¢; country steers, 4.5¢ to 5¢; Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 9¢ to 9.5¢ per pound; ordinary, 4¢ to 5¢; lambs, with pelt on, 10¢ to 11¢. Pork—Dressed, 6¢ to 8¢ per pound.

For The Term of His Natural Life

By MARCUS CLARKE

CHAPTER IX.

It was a shock, and the relief guard was coming from the after deck. The crowd of prisoners round the door held their breath to listen.

"It's all planned," says Gabbett, in a low growl. "When the door opens we rush, and we're guard, check the door before they know where they are. Drag 'em back into the prison, grab the harm rack, and it's all over."

"Stand from the door, Miles," says Pine's voice outside, in its usual calm accents.

The crowd was relieved. The tone was an ordinary one, and Miles was the soldier whom Sarah Purfoy had bribed not to fire. All had gone well.

The keys clashed and turned, and the bravest of the prison guard, who had been turning in his mind the notion of risking his life for a pardon to be won by rushing the guard, checked the door and rushing forward at the right moment and alarming the guard, checked the cry that was in his throat as he saw the men round the door draw back a little for their rush, and caught a glimpse of the guard's brilliant scalp and bare head.

"Now!" cries Jenny Vetch, as the iron-plated oak swung back, and with the guttural snarl of a charging wild dog, Gabbett hurled himself out of the prison.

The red line of light which glowed for an instant through the doorway was blotted out by a mass of figures. All the prison surged forward, and before the eyes could find a glimpse of the most desperate were outside. It was as though a sea, breaking against a stone wall, had found some breach through which to pour its waters. The contagion of battle spread.

Caution was forgotten, and those at the back, seeing Jenny Vetch raised up on the crest of that human billow which reared its black outline against an inextinguishable prospect of struggling figures, responded to his grin of encouragement by rushing furiously forward.

Suddenly a horrible roar-like that of a trapped wild beast was heard. The rushing torrent choked in the doorway, and from the doorway a gleam of light, which the giant had rushed forward, followed by a groan, as the perdition sentry fell back, shot through the breast. The mass in the doorway hung irresolute, and then, by sheer weight of pressure from behind, burst forward, and as it so burst, the heavy door crashed into its jambs, and the bolts were shot into their places.

All the time took place by one of those simultaneous movements which are so rapid in execution, so tedious to describe in detail. At one instant the prison door had opened, at the next it had closed, and the picture which had presented itself to the eyes of the prisoners was momentary. The period of time that had elapsed between the opening and the shutting of the door could have been marked by the sunset.

The report of another shot, and then a noise of confused cries, mingled with the clashing of arms, informed the prisoners that the ship had been taken. How would it go with their friends on deck? Could they succeed in overcoming the guards, or would they be beaten back? They would soon know, and in the hot dust, straining their eyes to see each other, they waited for the issue. Suddenly the noises ceased, and a strange rumbling sound fell upon the ears of the listeners.

What had taken place? This, the men pouring out of the darkness into the glare of the lanterns, rushed, bewildered, across the deck, seeking his promise, did not fire, but the next instant Vickers had snatched the firelock from him, and, leaping into the stream, turned about and fired down to reach the prisoners. The attack was more sudden than he had expected, but he did not lose his presence of mind. The shot would serve a double purpose. It would warn the men in the barracks, and perhaps check the advance of the guard by the doorway with a crash. Back he struggled and indignant, amidst the storm of hideous fates, his humanity vanished, and he aimed deliberately at the head of Miles Vetch; the shot, however, missed its mark, and killed the unhappy Miles.

Gabbett and his companions had in the time reached the foot of the companion ladder, there to encounter the sentries of the battlements, and, guided by the glow of the lanterns, he glanced up the hatchway showed the giant that the arms he had planned to seize were defended by ten firelocks, and behind the open doors of the partition which ran above the deck, stood the remainder of the detachment, stooping their arms. Even his dull intellect comprehended that the desperate deed had failed, and that he had been betrayed. With the roar of despair which had penetrated into the prison, he turned to fight his way back, just in time to see the crowd in the barracks fired by Vickers. The next instant Pine and two soldiers, taking advantage of the momentary cessation of the press, shot the bolts and secured the prison.

The mutineers were caught in a trap. The narrow space between the barracks and the battlements was choked with struggling figures. Some twenty or thirty men, as many soldiers, struck and stabbed at each other in the crowd. There was barely elbow room, and attacked and attackers fought almost without knowing whom they struck. Gabbett bore a cutlass from a soldier, shook his huge head, and calling on the Mochoer to follow, bounded up the ladder, desperately determined to brave the fire of the guard. Thus Mocher, close at the heels of his leader, followed him, and, grasping his wrist, struggled for the cutlass. A brawny, bull-necked fellow next him dashed his clenched fist into the soldier's face, and the man, maddened by the blow, let go the cutlass, and drawing his pistol, shot his new assailant through the head. It was this second shot that aroused Maurice Freere.

As the young lieutenant sprang upon the deck, he saw by the position of the guard that others had been more mindful of the safety of the ship than he. There was, however, no time for explanation, for as he reached the hatchway, he was met by the ascending gang, who uttered a hideous cry at the sight of this unexpected adversary, and at the sight to strike him, locked him in his arms. The two men went down to the guard on the quarter-deck, and there, not at each other, rolled across the deck. The guard on the quarter-deck, seeing the existence of a man upon the slender thread imaginable.

The Mochoer, spattered with the blood and brains of his unfortunate comrade, had already set his foot upon the lowest step of the ladder, when the cutlass was dashed from his hand by a blow from a clubbed firelock, and he was dragged roughly backward. As he fell upon the deck, he saw the crowd spring out of the mass of prisoners, who had been an instant before, struggling with the guard, and gaining the cleared space at the bottom of the ladder, hold up his hands, as though to shield himself from a blow. The confusion had become suddenly stilled, and upon the group before the battlements had fallen that mysterious silence which had perplexed the inmates of the prison.

They were not perplexed for long. The two soldiers who, with the assistance of Pine, had forced to the door of the prison, rapidly unrolled a trap door in the battlement, and, at a signal from Vickers, three men ran the loaded howitzer from its sinister shelter, and, training the deadly muzzle to a level with the opening in the battlements, stood ready to fire.

"Surrender!" cried Vickers, in a voice from which all "humanity" had vanished. "Surrender, and give up your ring leaders, or I'll blow you to pieces." "There was no tremor in his voice, and though he stood, with Pine by his side, at the very mouth of the leveled cannon, the mutineers perceived, with that acuteness which imminent danger brings to the most stolid of brains, that they hesitated an instant, he would keep his word. There was an awful moment of silence, broken only by a sickening noise in the prison, as though a family of rats, disturbed at a four cask, were scampering to the ship's side for shelter.

The entrapped men looked up the hatchway, but the guard had already closed in upon it, and some of the ship's crew were peering down upon them. Escape was hopeless.

"One minute!" cried Vickers, confident that one second would be enough—"one minute to go quietly, or—"

"Surrender, mates!" shrieked some unknown wretch from out of the darkness of the prison. "Do you want to be the death of us?"