

DEFENSE OF THE PORT

General Wilson Reports on Columbia Fortifications.

PROGRESS MADE UPON THE WORK

Estimates for River and Harbor Improvements in Oregon and Washington.

Washington, Oct. 25.—In the annual report of General Wilson, chief of engineers, the following is said about defenses at the mouth of the Columbia: "The defenses include works of the older type, one garrisoned and one in charge of an ordnance sergeant. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1896, work was commenced during the year on five emplacements for 10-inch guns on disappearing carriages, two emplacements for 8-inch guns on disappearing carriages, and two mining casemates. At the close of the year, the 10-inch emplacements were completed, and three 10-inch carriages mounted. A wharf had been built for the construction of the 8-inch emplacements, all necessary plant assembled and the excavation completed. One mining casemate was also under construction. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1897, an additional emplacement for an 8-inch gun on a disappearing carriage and a mortar battery for eight 12-inch mortars will be constructed. At the close of the year, plans for these works had been partially prepared. There are no existing works of defense on Puget sound."

The following estimates are made for river and harbor improvements for Oregon and Washington for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899:

OREGON.	
Columbia river	\$115,000
Upper Columbia river	28,000
Coos Bay	60,000
Siuslaw river	100,000
Tillamook Bay	52,400
Columbia river below Tongue point	71,500
Columbia river and Lower Willamette	300,000
Canal at Cascades	284,260
Boating the waters of the Columbia river	1,000
Upper Columbia and Snake rivers	20,000
WASHINGTON.	
Gray's harbor	450,000
Puget sound	25,000
Everett harbor	150,000
Swinomish slough	47,000
Chehalis river	5,000
Olympia harbor	20,000
Cowlitz river	1,000

No action has been taken on the appropriation for a harbor of refuge at Port Orford, the secretary holding that the demands of commerce are not sufficient to occasion the expenditure.

The simple announcement is made that the secretary has not approved the project at Yaquina, and no estimate is made.

It is stated that the land has not yet been acquired for the boat railway at The Dalles. For the same reason, nothing has been done on the Seattle ditch.

CERTIFICATES NOT REQUIRED.

Judge Hanford's Ruling as to Wives and Children of Chinese Merchants.

Seattle, Oct. 25.—Judge Hanford, of the federal court, today handed down a decision in a Chinese case, in which he holds that the wives and children of Chinese merchants doing business in the United States do not have to have certificates from the Chinese government to entitle them to enter this country. Government officials here say that, if the opinion is upheld by the higher courts, it means that the important section of the Chinese exclusion act which provides that sons and daughters of Chinese merchants doing business in this country must secure certificates from their home government is no longer the law. United States District Attorney Brinker will at once report to the treasury department Judge Hanford's ruling, and it is expected that the attorney-general's office will at once take steps to have the case appealed to the supreme court.

Treasury agents claim that if the decision holds it will open the gates for a flood of Orientals, for, if certificates are not required, any number of Chinese can claim to be children of merchants in the United States.

Judge Hanford's decision is in direct opposition to that of Judge Lacombe, of New York.

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE KILLED

Terrible Loss of Life by Cyclone in the Philippines.

Madrid, Oct. 25.—A dispatch from Leyte, Philippine islands, says that place has been almost devastated by a cyclone, that many persons have been killed and that the damage to property is incalculable.

The cyclone destroyed the towns of Tagloban and Hernani, on the island of Leyte, as well as several villages. It is estimated that 400 persons lost their lives through the disaster.

Later advices from Manila say the cyclone occurred on October 12, and added that Carriga and Burga, on the eastern coast of Leyte, had been wiped out, and that an immense wave swept the island. Several hundred natives perished at Tagloban. The cyclone also swept the island of Samar. The full extent of the catastrophe is not yet known, but the damage is estimated at 7,500,000 pesetas.

Will Demand Duty.

Victoria, Oct. 25.—Hereafter every pound of goods not bought in Canada will have to pay duty before being allowed in the Klondike country. The Canadian government has seen fit to revoke the regulation allowing prospectors to take in 100 pounds of goods free of duty, and customs officers will be placed on the Stickeen route as well as at Tagish lake and on the Yukon.

Swords equal to the best ever made are still produced at Toledo in Spain.

HIS FIRST STATEMENT.

Luetgert Swears He Is Innocent of the Crime Charged.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—The press tonight obtained the one great feature missing in the famous Luetgert trial—the sworn testimony of the defendant himself, Adolph A. Luetgert.

Standing tonight in the gloomy jail adjoining the grim-looking graystone court building, in which his remarkable trial had at last been brought to a finish, the burly sausage-maker capped the climax of the extraordinary series of events which began with his sensational bankruptcy and the alleged frightful diabolism of boiling his wife to death at midnight in a vat in his factory cellar. Tonight, closely following the result of the trial which has attracted world-wide attention, Luetgert made under oath a statement for the press concerning the fearful crime charged against him, the first sworn statement yet made by him and the first statement of such kind ever known in newspaper annals. The affidavit was put in writing in due legal form, certified to by a notary.

Ex-Judge William A. Vincent, the leading counsel for the defendant, in this celebrated case, the man to whose brains and skill and energy Luetgert, beyond all doubt, owes his great legal victory, gave consent to the affidavit being made.

The scene in the jail when Luetgert took the oath was as dramatic as the circumstances were unique. In the dimly-lighted jail corridor, Luetgert, standing erect, and grasping the bars that still kept him from liberty, lifted his right hand and solemnly asserted, as the notary administered the binding form. The grewsome surroundings were a reminder in some degree of the midnight occurrences in the factory cellar that have become familiar to hundreds of thousands who have followed the details of the great trial. Few, if any, of the curious prisoners and turnkeys who were spectators had any inkling of what was taking place. Luetgert, the notary and a representative of the press conferred together for a few minutes and then Luetgert, without hesitation, made the affidavit and signed it in ink with the hand that is alleged to have committed one of the most fiendish crimes on record.

The affidavit explicitly declares Luetgert's innocence. The document in full is as follows:

"To the Public:
"The result of my trial, ending today, is a victory for me, because of the disagreement of the jury; but I am very much disappointed, and very much surprised that the jury did not bring in a verdict of not guilty.

"I did not kill my wife, and do not know where she is, but I am sure it is only a question of time until she comes home.

"I did not go upon the witness stand because my lawyer, Judge Vincent, was bitterly opposed to my doing so, and because he advised me that it was not necessary. I am grateful for the tremendous change in public sentiment in my favor, and time will demonstrate that I am not only innocent, but a very grievously wronged man.

"Adolph A. Luetgert."
"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of October, A. D. 1897."
"M. F. Sullivan, Notary Public."

The Jury Disagreed.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—As Adolph Luetgert, who has been on trial on a charge of having murdered his wife and boiling her body in a vat, heard this morning from the foreman of the 12 men who have been considering his case for the past 66 hours the words, "We are unable to agree upon a verdict," he was as imperturbable as ever, evincing no joy.

The wonderful nerve of the defendant was with him to the end. He stood up, and with a good-natured smile on his swarthy face shook hands with his son, Arnold, his counsel and his business partner, William Charles, and in less than five minutes was led back to jail. The jury was dismissed and the great trial was over.

THE STICKEEN ROUTE.

Arrangements Being Made by a British Company.

Winnipeg, Oct. 25.—Frank Waterhouse, president of the Fort Wrangel, Glenora & Teslin Lake Transportation Company, passed through this city today on his way to London to appoint agents and arrange for the trip from Europe to Dawson. From England the first-class fare will be \$1,000; second-class, \$750. These amounts include transportation of supplies and other necessities for one year. The company will have a line of steamers between ports on Puget sound to the head of navigation of the Stickeen river, a distance of 130 miles from Fort Wrangel. From the river to Teslin lake, a portage of about 115 miles, pack trains will convey the travelers, it being intended to have about 1,000 horses on the route. Thence on Teslin lake and the river course to Dawson, a distance of about 450 miles, boats now in course of construction are to be used.

Stockton, Cal., Oct. 25.—This afternoon the jury in the case of George Williams, charged with attempting to wreck the New Orleans express at Morano station, on the 4th ult., returned a verdict of guilty, fixing the penalty at life imprisonment.

Thessalians May Return.

Athens, Oct. 25.—The Turkish government has granted permission to Thessalians who fled from Thessaly after the invasion of the conquering Turkish troops under Edhem Pasha to return to their homes through Phourka pass, Monzenki pass and two other passes near Trikhala and Amirod.

A weak solution of salt in water is good for sore throat when used as a gargle, and this is still better if a few grains of red pepper are added.

STARVED TO DEATH.

Out of a Population of Twenty-Five Hundred, Only Five Survive.

New York, Oct. 25.—A Herald dispatch from Havana says: A local newspaper publishes and vouches for the following: At Chascapeba, in the district of San Julian, belonging to the municipality of Melana del Sur there were concentrated 2,500 persons. These reconcentrados were the only inhabitants of the place. Now there are only five survivors, the rest having died of hunger and fever. In Havana city it is no unusual sight to see 10 or 12 dead on one plaza early in the morning. The employers employ regular roundsmen to remove bodies from the parks.

There is no abatement in the activity of the rebels in the western provinces. The special regiment of Veragua on its way to the Rubi hills in Pinar del Rio, stumbled across a dynamite bomb and lost 10 killed and 41 wounded. Further on they came across another, but it failed to explode. The soldiers became terrified and refused to proceed.

In Havana province 100 rebels of Raoul Arango's command entered and raided a town. They carried away a quantity of clothing and provisions without a shot being fired by the garrison. Near Artemisa, Havana province, a band of insurgents under Acon attacked and mached the Spanish guerrilla force stationed on the Neptuno estate.

In a railroad collision between Artemisa and Mangas several soldiers were killed.

Inhabitants of a suburb of Havana report hearing firing just outside the town last night. The firing continued for several hours, and this morning some wounded troops were brought in. No details of the fight have been obtained.

Another Filibuster.

New York, Oct. 25.—The Herald has made investigation into the alleged departure of the filibustering expedition from New York on the schooner Silver Heels last Saturday. As to the suspicious circumstances attending the departure of the vessel, H. P. Brown, her agent said: "There is nothing suspicious about the sailing of the Silver Heels. She took nothing which could be regarded as contraband goods. She sailed for Norfolk and Charleston in search of a charter. As her agent, I should certainly have known if she had taken cargo from this port."

Despite the emphatic denial of Brown, the Herald learns from other sources that the Silver Heels did leave New York Saturday night loaded with arms and ammunition, and that she went direct to sea. At some point on the high seas she is expected to transfer her cargo to another craft which would have armed men on board, whose destination is Cuba. Tomas Estrada Palma, the Cuban representative, said:

"I am positive that no armed expedition left this port for Cuba."

Hold-Up on Siskiyou Mountain.

Ashland, Or., Oct. 25.—D. C. Pitzer, a gardener, living four miles south of Ashland, came to town this morning and reported that, while returning from a trip to Northern California, where he had been with a load of produce, and while on Siskiyou mountain, near Steinman, where the stage road crosses the railroad, at 7 o'clock last evening, he was stopped by two highwaymen, who ordered him down from his wagon with drawn revolvers, after which they rifled his pockets of a sack containing \$48 in silver, but overlooked \$30 in gold in a trousers pocket. The robbers then told him to get on his wagon and make himself scarce, which he did in a hurry, reaching his home at 8 o'clock, and not reporting to the local authorities until this morning. The authorities are now investigating the case. Pitzer is not able to give a very complete description of the highwaymen.

Cherokees Are Arming.

Little Rock, Ark., Oct. 25.—A special to the Gazette from Fort Smith says: It has leaked out here that the full-blood Cherokees have been secretly arming themselves and securing large quantities of ammunition for several weeks, but it has been especially brisk since the return of the attorney sent to Washington to enjoin the Dawes commission from proceeding to make the citizenship rolls. The majority of the Cherokees are opposed to the treaty, but the most bitter feeling is among the ignorant full-bloods. They are prepared to resist any attempt to change their tribal government. No immediate outbreak is anticipated, but a great deal depends upon the action of the council next Monday.

Tacoma Woman Kills Herself.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 25.—Mrs. Frank Alwyn, wife of a saloon-keeper, shot herself in the breast at an early hour this morning, dying almost instantly. The act was committed in St. Joseph's hospital, where she was admitted last night. She carefully planned for her death, wrapping herself in a rubber blanket, so the bed clothing would not become bloody. She left a note saying she was tired of life with directions for her funeral. In a bureau was found a shroud, made by herself, with a card pinned on it upon which was "Bury me in this." Mrs. Alwyn was 26 years old.

A Premature Explosion.

Kingston, N. Y., Oct. 25.—At Rosendale today the premature explosion of a blast in Snyder's cement quarry killed Arnold Johnson instantly and inflicted probably fatal injuries on three others.

Abyssinians Devastating Somaliland.

Cairo, Oct. 25.—News reached here from Somaliland and that the Abyssinians are devastating that country. They have already dispersed or wiped out 10 great Somal tribes.

TO BUY UNION PACIFIC

Russell Sage Forms a Syndicate in New York.

GOVERNMENT TO BE PAID IN FULL

Subscribers Are Prominent Wall Street Brokers—Seventy-Five Million Already Turned In.

New York, Oct. 25.—Russell Sage created a sensation in Wall street late yesterday by announcing that he had been invited by President McKinley to form a syndicate to bid on the Union Pacific railroad on the basis of satisfying the full government claim in the Union Pacific. Mr. Sage invited subscriptions to a plan to be hereafter brought out by him. The payment of the government claim in full is understood to be the first condition in this plan. Mr. Sage's representative announced last night that he had received subscriptions for over \$75,000,000 within two hours of his announcement. It was said that he would continue to receive subscriptions until his plan was subscribed at least three times over. As to the bond transactions, Mr. Sage thinks there is unlimited capital available for settlement of the Pacific road debt without loss to the government. Among the subscriptions reported to Mr. Sage's Union Pacific scheme were the following:

Mr. Astor's subscription is said to have been received by cable. Some of the names are said to represent other interests besides the subscribers. It is said a large insurance company will subscribe \$10,000,000.

Mr. Sage goes to Washington today to confer with the president and the attorney-general, at their request.

LAUNCH BOILER EXPLODED.

Accident to One of the Boats of the Texas.

Boston, Oct. 25.—The boiler of one of the steam launches of the battleship Texas blew up while it was alongside the battleship, and a number of men, including two officers and a surgeon, were injured, none fatally.

The explosion occurred just as the launch reached the side of the ship, having towed down two ship's boats full of men who were engaged in the naval parade. On the launch at the time were 35 men, including Lieutenant-Commander Delhanty, Lieutenant Bristol, Ensign Wadhams and Dr. W. R. Dubose, the ship's surgeon. The smokestack, the top of the boiler and part of the canopy over the boiler were blown into the air, and what was left of the launch caught fire from the flame that followed the bursting of the boiler, but the fire had little to burn.

In the pit with the boiler John Phillips, an oiler, and John Fisher, a coal passer, were thrown violently against the wooden partition. Fisher was badly injured internally. Phillips escaped with severe bruises. The coxswain, Thomas Sullivan, was thrown against the side of the launch, but was only bruised, and the sailor with him was completely blackened by soot, but unburnt. Dr. Dubose had two front teeth knocked out.

BONES WERE MOVED.

Marcus Whitman's Grave at Whitman Mission Opened.

Walla Walla, Wash., Oct. 25.—This afternoon Marcus Whitman's grave, at Whitman mission, seven miles west of Walla Walla, was opened, preparatory to the erection of a mausoleum of brick and granite thereon by the Whitman Memorial Association. President Penrose, of Whitman college; a few students and newspaper men only were present, besides the contractors.

Near the surface of the mound in one corner, four skulls nearly intact were discovered; also a number of minor bones. The skull of Dr. Whitman was recognized by the gold filling in one of his teeth and a tomahawk wound at the base of the skull.

Dr. Whitman, his wife and 11 associates, massacred 50 years ago, are supposed to be buried in the grave. The bones were brought to this city this evening, to be classified by physicians. After being placed in a glass case for inspection for a few days, they will be returned to their resting-place, and the mausoleum of brick and granite erected over them.

The Yerkes Telescope.

Williams Bay, Wis., Oct. 25.—Charles T. Yerkes' splendid gift is now in the possession of the university of Chicago. Shortly after noon, Mr. Yerkes formally presented to President W. R. Harper the keys to the observatory which contains the Yerkes telescope. The ceremonies covered two hours, and the greatest refracting telescope in the world, having a 40-inch lens, is dedicated and ready to be used by astronomers from every part of the globe.

Sherwood Depot Burglarized.

Sherwood, Or., Oct. 25.—The Southern Pacific depot at this place was entered by burglars Sunday night, and a box containing about \$20 in cash and all the tickets belonging to the office were taken.

Examination of Captain Lovelidge.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—The officers of the army constituting the court of inquiry to examine into the facts connected with the alleged ill-treatment of Private Hammond by Captain Lovelidge, of the Fourth infantry, arrived at Fort Sheridan today and began the work of investigation. As the senior officer of the court, Colonel Simon Snyder, of the Fifteenth infantry, opened the proceedings and took charge of the examination.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 715-716 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)

We have had a very nervous, sensitive market in wheat the past week, but the undertone has been very strong at times, and prices were up 5 cents over a week ago. The news has been quite bullish in tone, and foreigners have been liberal buyers of wheat for nearby shipment. About the only thing that at all favored the bears was the fact that rains had fallen moderately over the drought stricken area, and that fall work was again in progress in the winter wheat sections. Receipts of wheat have been large, with an urgent demand for good milling wheat from nearly all quarters. Exports for the month of September were the largest on record, footing up 26,000,000 bushels. The American visible supply shows an increase of 109,000 bushels for last week, and now totals 24,629,000 bushels, against 57,385,000 a year ago. The fact that France has again been a large buyer of wheat the past week has done much to stimulate prices, and were it not that speculation is very light we should have seen a far greater advance. Wheat is on a legitimate basis—the basis of supply and demand—but every one seems to be afraid of it because they compare prices with what they were a year ago, and many predict declines, but while the cash demand is as urgent as it is now, and foreigners are buying our wheat and flour at the rate they are now doing, there is no chance for more than slight reactions and everything favors a higher range of values. We feel very bullish on the situation, and advise our friends to get hold of some wheat and it will soon show them a good profit.

There has been more weakness shown in corn than the most sanguine bear had looked for, and as holders became easily frightened and threw their holdings on a market that was narrow and with light trade at the start, the result can easily be foreseen—rather sharp decline with shorts the best buyers. Receipts have been large.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 80@81c; Valley and Bluestem, 83@84c per bushel. Four—Best grades, \$4.50; Graham, \$3.70; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 34@35c; choice gray, 32@33c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$14 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$15.50. Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—22 1/2c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 25@35c per roll.

Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c; California, 9@10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50@3.00 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$4.00@5.00; ducks, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cential. Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cential.

Hops—8@15c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 6@7c. Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20@22c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$2.50@2.60; dressed mutton, 5c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.50; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$5.50@6.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.50; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Large, 4 1/2@5c; small, 5 1/2@6c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 23@25c; ranch, 10@15c. Cheese—Native Washington, 10@12c; California, 9 1/2c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 28@30c. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, 11 1/2c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@4.00.

Wheat—Feed wheat, \$26 per ton. Oats—Choice, per ton, \$21@22. Corn—Whole, \$22; cracked, per ton, \$22; feed meal, \$22 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton sheep, 6c; pork, 6 1/2c; veal, small, 6c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4c; salmon, 4@5c; salmon trout, 8c; flounders and sole, 3 1/2@4c; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2 1/2@4c.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 75c@\$1 per box; Salway peaches, 50@60c; clings, 30@40c; prunes, 1/2@3/4c per pound; pears, 75c@\$1 per box.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 14@16c per pound. Hops—11@15c per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22; California bran, \$15.00@15.50 per ton.

Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, \$1.00@1.15 per cential. Butter—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; do seconds, 25@26c; fancy dairy, 23@24c; good to choice, 20@22c per pound.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12 1/2c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound. Eggs—Store, 18@26c; ranch, 36@35 1/2c; Eastern, 15@22c; duck, 20c per dozen.

Potatoes—New, in boxes, 20@70c. Citrus Fruit—Oranges, Valencia, \$1.50@2.00; Mexican limes, \$2.50@3.50; California lemons, choice, \$2.50; do common, \$1@2 per box.

Hay—Wheat, 12@15; wheat and oat, \$11@14; oat, \$10@12; river barley, \$7@8; best barley, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$9.50; clover, \$9@10.

ARMY AND ALASKA.

General Nelson A. Miles Makes His Annual Report.

Washington, Oct. 25.—General Miles, major-general commanding the army, has made his report to the secretary of war. General Miles says in part: "The army, although inadequate in point of numbers, was never in a higher state of efficiency."

"The progress that has been made on the Pacific coast in the establishment of modern batteries of artillery have made it necessary to occupy new ground and to adopt a new system of defense." Attention is invited to the report of General Merriam, commanding the department of the Columbia, especially to the need of a larger garrison at the entrance to the Columbia river, and to his report on the condition and necessities of the great territory of Alaska.

As all the other territories have been occupied by military posts and measures have been adopted for building military roads, bridging rivers, and, in fact, aiding and blocking out the way for occupation of the vast territories by citizens, it is deemed but just and advisable that the same liberal spirit should be manifested toward that great and important territory. He says:

"As far as practicable it would, in my opinion, be advisable to have its waters thoroughly examined by such of the naval force as could be used for that purpose, and as military reconnoitering and exploring parties in past years have been sent to the country to furnish knowledge of its character, resources and necessities, this, in my judgment, should be continued on a larger and more liberal scale. While there is no conflict between the population, composed of some 20,000 Indians and the white explorers and settlers, yet, as the former are supplied with modern arms, they may become turbulent and troublesome. Such has been the history of nearly all the tribes in the other territories. Hence, it would be but reasonable to anticipate the necessity for a military force in that territory by the establishment of at least three military posts to support the civil authorities, to give protection to the white settlers, and to aid in maintaining law in that remote section."

In the last 10 years much attention has been given to coast defenses, and most beneficial results are apparent. Approximately \$26,000,000 has been appropriated by the government, which is nearly one-third of what is required to put the country in a safe condition of defense. Although the general desire of our people, he says, is to maintain peace with all nations, and the policy of the government is one of goodwill and peaceful relations with all others, it would be more judicious to provide defenses than to remain in a condition of insecurity and permit the accumulated wealth of many generations to be destroyed or endangered by any foreign power with which we are liable to come in contact."

He recommends fortification appropriations in the West as follows:

San Diego	\$7,000,000
San Francisco	1,250,000
Columbia river	600,000
Puget sound	1,140,000

He recommends strongly an increase in the army of at least two additional regiments of artillery, saying that by December 31 a number of positions will be armed in part or fully with modern appliances of war, and that in those important positions there are no troops stationed and none available for assignment from stations where they are at present imperatively required.

He suggests the necessity of adding four infantry regiments, and recommends that congress fix a standard of strength on a basis of the total population. This standard, he thinks, should be a maximum of one enlisted man to every 1,000 population, and the minimum, one soldier to every 2,000 population.

Robbed Their Benefactor.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 25.—Andrew Norlin was held up last night near Puyallup and robbed of \$40. Norlin had been working in Montana, and while in Spokane, met two men who were "dead broke" and beating their way to the coast. He had \$75, and took pity on them, paying their way on freight trains. In repayment for all his kindness, as soon as they got off the train at Puyallup, they almost choked their benefactor to death, and took what money he had left. Norlin gave a fairly good description of the robbers, and the police have hopes of capturing them.

Life on the Trail.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—A letter by G. J. Gregory, formerly of Chicago, who left here for Alaska in August, is a clear portrayal of the hardships of the White pass:

"There have been six suicides," he writes, "three hangings and eleven killings, besides a number of deaths from exposure. It costs \$1 to get a letter through to Skaguay, and 10 cents to get it mailed. Prices here are very high. Flour at Lake Bennett brings \$60 a sack; bacon, \$1 per pound; beans, \$1 per pound; horsehoe nails bring 50 cents apiece; a pair of shoes will bring any price you like or want to ask; overalls, \$5."

Troops for India.

London, Oct. 25.—A large draft of soldiers has been ordered to get ready to reinforce eight British cavalry regiments now in India.

Survey of Seal Islands.