

Oregon City Courier.

A. W. CHENEY, Publisher.

OREGON CITY.....OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Interesting Collection of Current Events In Condensed Form From Both Continents.

In Okaloosa, Wash., A. C. Lebold was accidentally shot by a boy, who was hunting squirrels. A bullet from a 22-caliber rifle struck him in the breast, and physicians fear it has separated the cavity.

In accordance with a resolution passed some time ago by the international union, the book and job printers of San Francisco went on a strike Monday. The bone of contention is a 9-hour day instead of a 10-hour day. About 300 men are out.

European dispatches announce the butchery in France of an entire family of six persons by a robber named Caillard. This human wild beast shot and killed the husband, wife and two children, cut the throat of a little girl and blew out the brains of a bed-ridden old woman.

The steamer La Bretagne has arrived in New York with 11 survivors of the crew of the British bark Bothnia, which was wrecked off the Irish coast on March 23. The Bothnia sailed from Lobos de Afuera, off the coast of Peru, November 5. When 50 miles off the Irish coast, on March 23, a squall struck the bark, upsetting her.

A seaman belonging to the British battleship Resolute was sentenced to a fortnight's confinement and deprived of his good conduct badge, for wearing the shamrock on St. Patrick's day, in disobedience to orders. A recital of the incident created a sensation in the English commons, and caused an objecting Irish member to be removed from his seat.

Antoine Variele, of the French Geographical Society, has arrived in New York with a balloon, with which he intends to make a trip from Juneau to the Klondike. A dozen persons are in the party. Arthur Tervagne, L.L.D., is president of the expedition and is also correspondent of Figaro. Variele, head of the expedition, is 45 years old and a well-known engineer and inventor in France. He claims that his balloon can be steered with ease.

General Carlos Ezeta, the exiled president of Salvador, has been vindicated by his people. His vast estates, the stocks and money confiscated by the government of President Gutierrez, after Ezeta was forced to leave his native land four years ago, have been returned to him, and Ezeta is again worth more than \$2,000,000. The general says he will never again interest himself in Salvadoran politics. He is now living in Oakland, Cal.

The committee on interstate and foreign commerce has favorably reported Mr. Tongue's bill extending the time for the erection of a bridge across the Columbia, by the Oregon & Washington bridge company, between Washington and Oregon. The committee, however, amended the bill so that instead of having two years to begin operation, the company will have one year, and instead of four years in which to complete the work, three years is allowed, all this time to be reckoned from the date of the passage of the bill by congress. This is the bridge it was proposed to build in the vicinity of La Camas several years since in connection with a road to North Yakima. The site is claimed to be the best on the Columbia.

A Cairo dispatch says: It is announced that the gunboats and Anglo-Egyptian troops attacked Shendi Saturday, destroyed the forts, captured quantities of grain, cattle and ammunition and liberated over 600 slaves. The dervishes lost 160 men. There were no casualties on the Anglo-Egyptian side.

A London dispatch says the situation in the far East is considered gloomy and unsatisfactory, and there is deep discontent here over the results of Lord Salisbury's diplomacy. The belated movement of the British fleet in Chinese waters has caused as much uneasiness in financial circles as satisfaction among other classes. This apprehension would have affected all classes of securities if American stocks had not been remarkably buoyant, and carried everything upward.

John G. Brady, governor of Alaska, came down on the last steamer from the north. He is on his way to Washington in the interest of Alaskan legislation. Governor Brady said that all seasons in Alaska will be closed, if it is within his power. He does not expect, however, that this will put a stop to the use and sale of liquor in Alaska, it being his opinion that prohibition cannot be successfully carried out there. Governor Brady declared himself in favor of high license. On his visit to Washington he will endeavor to have the general land laws of the United States extended to Alaska. He will suggest that a commission be appointed to draft a code of laws for the territory.

The senate committee on appropriations has recommended that Cleveland's forestry order, reserving large areas of land in many states, be rescinded. Should the order be rescinded, the land, about 17,000,000 acres in all, would be restored to the public domain, and the state of Washington would be extensively affected. Senator Wilson has secured an allowance of \$40,000 for the military post at Spokane, Wash., and \$10,000 for the establishment of a fish hatchery at Baker City, Or.

WHOLE TOWN DESTROYED.

But Little Left to Show Where Shawneetown Stood.

Chicago, April 6.—A Chronicle special from Carmi, Ill., says: The disaster at Shawneetown, Ill., came when the great majority of the people were in their homes eating supper. The break in the levee occurred a mile above the town, and was within 10 minutes more than a half mile wide. A stream of water 12 to 20 feet deep, carrying half the current of the flooded Ohio, descended on the unsuspecting people. It came in a great rush, like a tidal wave. There was no slow rising of waters to give warning.

The houses on the outskirts were lifted up and rolled over and over. Most of them were torn into splinters. Their inhabitants were drowned in them. Nearer the center of town brick structures stopped the onrush of the water for a few minutes, but about two-thirds of the dwellings were floating, careening out into the current of the river.

After a few minutes the horror of the situation was added to by the catching fire of a large house that had started down stream with the others. The people on the roof were already in danger of being thrown off by collisions with other floating houses, but the occupants of this floating firebrand added horror. As it struck one house after another in its course, some others caught fire and their unfortunate occupants were compelled to trust themselves to the mercy of the swirling water on pieces of wood to avoid a more terrible death by fire.

The break in the levee flooded four miles of valley land and cut off communication on two railways, the B. & O. Southwestern and the L. & N. When the water had slackened somewhat, many houses were still standing, but it was quickly seen that the frame ones would not last in the flood. By means of rafts and swimming in the cold water 70 or 80 people were transferred from their garret windows and roofs to the flat top of the Gallatin county bank, a brick and stone building, and the courthouse, which is of brick. It was hoped that these would withstand the pressure and the undermining, but when the single courier, who rode for help to Cypress Junction, left Shawneetown, only those two buildings showed above the broad sheet of the flood in the lower part of the town, and it was doubtful if they would not collapse and throw the refugees into the river.

Besides the hundred or more who were on the roofs of the two sound buildings it is known that nearly 1,000 of the inhabitants managed in one way or another to make their way to high hills back of the town, or to houses in the higher section of the village. A few of these survived the sudden burst of the waters, but the first and sometimes the second floors were under water. Those who made their way to them went only in the clothes they were wearing when the water came. No one had time to secure either treasure or clothing. The property loss is very great.

The scene at the upper end of the town, where men and women were struggling against the muddy water to higher ground, some carrying babies on their heads where water was up to their necks, others half swimming, half floating on odds and ends of lumber from homes that had gone floating down the river, many struggling in vain and sinking in the roaring waters, was one that will live in the memory of every beholder.

In one place a mother had reached a safe spot, and turned to help her husband, who had followed with their child. As she reached down from a window for his hand he was thrown from his footing, and he and the child were swept away in the current. The woman saw him sink and then threw herself into the water.

Another family paddled half way to safety on a plank, which held them out of the water. The current caught them and sent them out toward mid-stream, where in the rougher water they were seen to capsize and sink.

An old man, named Griffin, living on high ground, stepped in the upper story of his trembling house to secure a hoard of money hidden under the bed. His son, a young man of 21, had to climb up the porch to rescue him, so quick was the rise of the water, and when the two attempted to swim to safety the younger man supporting the older, a floating house came running in the current and overwhelmed them.

A woman, supposed to be Josephine Simon, was warned of the danger in time to get to higher ground, but in turning back to help her mother, was caught with the older woman in an eddy and they were drowned.

A woman made an effort to save her lover by throwing a clothesline to him from her house. His house was swept away at the moment, and he was thrown into the water. He swam to the aid of the girl, but she was standing on the side of a gable roof, and was pulled from her footing. Both were drowned.

These are some instances told by John Graham, who reached Cypress Junction, from which place he telephoned here for help. He said that he himself helped 12 persons out of the water. Governor Tanner, of Illinois, has issued an appeal for aid. Congress will be petitioned also.

North Levee Gave Way.

Ridgeway, Ill., April 6.—According to the best information obtainable here as to the flood at Shawneetown, the levee on the north was the one that broke. The north end of Shawneetown, except Main street, near the river, was built up of one-story buildings of inferior construction, which were mainly inhabited by negroes. It is believed the larger portion of those lost were colored people.

TROUBLE HEAPING UP

Spain Is Now in a Dispute With Germany

OVER THE CANNAMABA AFFAIR

A Warship on the Way to Cuba to Enforce the Emperor's Demands —Sentiment Changing.

Berlin, April 5.—The sentiment in Germany in official and unofficial circles early today was that the Spano-American crisis had veered considerably during the course of the week, and is now decidedly more favorable to the United States. This, it is asserted, is partly due to the moderation of President McKinley and the conservative manner in which the United States minister, General Woodford, has dealt with the authorities at Madrid, and partly to the bitterness engendered by the alleged attack of a band of insurgents upon the German sugar refineries at Cannamaba, in the Trinidad district of the province of Santa Clara, Cuba, and the murder of four persons connected with the refinery, March 18, which has taught Germany that Spain is unable to protect even the lives of foreigners in Cuba.

As previously announced, the German foreign office is demanding full and immediate redress for this outrage, and a German warship will soon be sent to Havana if satisfaction is not forthcoming in short order. The Spanish ambassador here, Senor Mendez de Vigo, has had lengthy conferences with Baron von Bulow, the German minister of foreign affairs, who convinced the ambassador that Germany intended to have complete satisfaction, including an indemnity for the property destroyed and for the lives taken. The ambassador was also informed that, unless the redress was forthcoming, Germany would herself act, secure damages and punish the offenders. As an incentive to quick reparation, Baron von Bulow added that provisional orders had been cabled to the commander of the German warship Gier to sail in the direction of Cuba. The Spanish ambassador promised that he would exert himself to the utmost to comply with the German demands.

The newspapers here are also changing their tone, and now concede in the main the justice of the American demands, acknowledging that Washington has acted with the moderation which many another government would not have shown under similar circumstances.

Three of the papers eulogized President McKinley's calm statesmanship and express confidence that whatever he ultimately decides will be directed by some good reason.

The United States ambassador, Andrew D. White, in an interview said that thus far, acting under instructions from Washington, he has not formally inquired of the German government what its attitude would be in the event of war. He had, nevertheless, been repeatedly assured informally by Baron von Bulow that Germany would in no case assume an unfriendly attitude toward the United States, nor join in any possible combination of the powers having that end in view.

In regard to Emperor William's personal views, Mr. White says his majesty has been grossly misrepresented by the foreign press. The emperor has repeatedly given Mr. White to understand that he felt most favorably disposed toward the United States in this crisis.

Asked for an Armistice.

Washington, April 5.—The Spanish minister has received a telegram from Havana stating that the autonomist cabinet had addressed an appeal to the insurgents asking them to adjust an armistice to fix terms of peace. The full text of the message could not be secured tonight, as its translation was not made at the legation. The insurgents are appealed to on the ground that they are all Cubans and should unite for peace and liberty, which all want. The appeal also states that Spain is willing to enlarge the present scope of autonomy, and will suggest such a plan to the cortes, which is soon to meet.

Spain's Ships in a Bad Way.

London, April 5.—The London Times correspondent has ascertained from reliable sources that the Spanish ships are in bad condition. The Pelayo started from Toulon for Cartagena last night in tow, with 125 French workmen on board fixing her boilers and making other repairs. The Carlos V started yesterday from the Seine ship-building yards at Havre for Ferrol, with her turret out of condition and her guns unmounted. Neither ship will be ready for service for a month. They have left French waters presumably in fear that war might begin before the repairs were finished, in which event they would not be permitted to leave.

Minister Woodford Advised.

Chicago, April 5.—A Tribune special from Washington says: Minister Woodford has been given by cable an abstract of the president's forthcoming message, and informed of the temper of congress. He will communicate the facts to Spain. This is in the nature of an ultimatum.

Chicago Carpenter's Strike.

Chicago, April 5.—Three thousand carpenters will go on strike in this city tomorrow. About 20,000 men will probably be laid off on buildings, repairs, etc., as they cannot work unless the carpenters do. The strike is due to the refusal of the journeymen to agree to the demand that no work shall be done for business outside of the Builders' Association.

Six thousand people sleep in the open air in London every night.

WAR CANNOT BE AVERTED

Unless Spain Surrenders Cuba and Backs Down.

Washington, April 6.—The Post says that unless Spain, within 48 hours, yields by surrendering Cuba, war cannot be averted. It sums up the situation as follows:

President McKinley's message to congress will be a ringing, vigorous document that promises to meet the full expectation of congress and the people. It will be a scathing arraignment of Spain, showing that she has demonstrated her utter incapacity to govern; that her colonies have declined in population as the result of misrule and oppression; that American commerce has been damaged and American lives and property imperiled, and that existing conditions should and will not be tolerated by this government.

The destruction of the battleship Maine and the slaughter of 266 officers and seamen serving under the United States flag will be commented upon in strong language, and Spain will be held responsible for that disaster. The president will make no direct recommendation, but his message will point clearly to the necessity of armed intervention to restore order and peace. He will not recommend the recognition of the independence of the island, because the insurgents have no established form of government, and the president and cabinet believe that a travesty would be presented to the world if following the recognition of independence of the island the United States should, as a result of war, take the independence away by seizing and annexing the island.

The president's message will be equivalent to a declaration of war, and hostilities can now only be averted by Spain yielding all.

Pope Leo XIII is mediating between Spain and Cuba. The efforts of his holiness have already resulted in an appeal from Spain to the insurgents through the autonomist cabinet for an armistice pending an agreement for peace and independence. It is learned that his holiness has represented to Spain that it is the part of wisdom to make every possible concession, even to surrendering the island absolutely, rather than go to war with the United States, which would inevitably result in the loss of Cuba and other Spanish colonies, and at the same time endanger the dynasty.

The United States has ceased all negotiations, and will not accept mediation. The administration and congress see no alternative but war.

Mines in Havana Harbor.

New York, April 6.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says: Forty floating submarine mines were secretly planted in Havana harbor last Wednesday night by the Spanish government. This information comes from official sources and is absolutely correct. The mines contain sufficient force there to paralyze the biggest ships afloat.

IS HELD RESPONSIBLE.

Inpatient Senators Make Open Charges Against Spain.

Washington, April 6.—It was frankly and openly charged in the senate today by Perkins (Cal.) in a set speech that Spain was responsible for the Maine disaster, as it had been brought about by Spanish machinations and Spanish treachery. The speech of Perkins was only one of four prepared addresses on the Cuban question delivered in the senate today. Clay (Ga.), while hoping for a peaceful solution of the problem the country is now facing, declared strongly in favor of the independence of the Cubans, and pledged to the administration the loyal support of the South, which, in the event of war, would have to bear the brunt of the conflict. Perkins took substantially the same grounds, and his vigorous treatment of the subject aroused the crowded galleries to enthusiastic applause.

Mantle (Mont.), while expressing confidence in the administration, maintained that the time for action had now arrived, and that action must be to the end that Cuba should be free. Rawlins (Utah) entirely eliminated the president from consideration in his speech, contending that the case against Spain was already made up and that with congress rested the responsibility of declaring war, and that forcing us to wait longer was only to invite criticism. He declared for the most vigorous action immediately.

In the House.

Washington, April 6.—While there was no attempt to force consideration of a resolution regarding the Cuban situation in the house, there was a brief outbreak in the course of which the war-like temper of the crowded galleries was so manifest that Speaker Reed threatened to clear them if it was repeated. The outbreak occurred over a bill to authorize the president to erect temporary fortifications in case of emergency upon land, when the written consent of the owner was obtained, without awaiting the long process of legal condemnation. This led to a demand by Bailey, the Democratic leader, for information as to the facts which warranted all these war measures.

The Oregon at Callao.

Callao, Peru, April 6.—The United States battleship Oregon has arrived here.

Preparing to Flee.

Havana, April 6.—The Mangrove and the Bache are expected here tomorrow to take to Key West such Americans as desire to go. Consul-General Lee has been authorized to hire merchant vessels if necessary, and will probably employ the steamer Florida, due here tomorrow, the Mascotte, which is due here Wednesday, and the Oliveette, which is due here for an extra trip on Thursday. The Fern will remain here, so far as is known.

THE ISSUE MADE UP

President Regards War as Inevitable.

IMPORTANT CABINET MEETINGS

Spain's Answer Is Entirely Unsatisfactory to This Country—The Matter Goes to Congress.

Washington, April 4.—There is little doubt that the president and members of his cabinet now regard a conflict with Spain as almost inevitable. In his message to congress, which in all probability will be sent in early in the week, it is understood that the president will review at some length the record as it stands between this government and Spain, but will not insist upon further time in which to continue negotiations looking to a peaceful settlement of the Cuban problem.

The cabinet meeting this morning was unquestionably the most important held in many years. It received Spain's answer to the ultimatum of this government, and finding it unsatisfactory, practically decided upon a policy which at this hour seems certain to involve hostilities. The whole record will be laid before congress, and the question is now under earnest consideration of what shall be the particular form our policy shall take in bringing to an end the horrors in Cuba, and securing the independence of the island.

Propositions ranging from a simple recognition of Cuban independence to a straight out declaration of war have been urged at the capitol, but there is hardly a doubt that the majority of congress await the executive lead before taking action, and are disposed to adopt Mr. McKinley's suggestions on this point. It is not thought that any of the resolutions, except, possibly, a simple recognition of independence, would lead to war.

There were, of course, all sorts of rumors in circulation, including reports of mediation by some European powers, but no such suggestion has come to this government, for as late as 5 o'clock, in response to a direct question, Secretary Day said there had been no offer of mediation by any foreign government.

Cabinet Member's Statement.

One member of the cabinet, in speaking of the meeting today, said:

"In the morning, it was apparent to all of us that, having exhausted all diplomatic efforts to bring about a better condition of affairs in Cuba, the whole question must be submitted to congress. At our afternoon meeting, the president requested each member of the cabinet to express freely his individual opinion as to what should be done. The discussion was entirely on the lines indicated by the members. Nothing definite was decided upon, and no conclusions reached. The president will now take the views submitted to him under consideration, preparatory to his message to congress, which will be sent early in the week."

"President McKinley has done a great deal of work recently, and appears pretty well fatigued. Consequently, he will take some little rest before beginning work on the message. He has not yet determined what recommendation will be communicated to congress."

"My own individual opinion is that but little faith can be put in promises made by Spain, and this makes me hesitate about accepting with any confidence her latest proposals. In the first place, she promised a long time ago that the reconcentrados would be released; the result shows this promise has not been kept. Now she proposes to release them, but keep them under military supervision. Who can tell whether she will adhere to this expressed intention?"

"Broadly, there appears to be three courses open to the president in dealing further with this matter. The first of these is to accept the proposals submitted by Spain in reply to the American representations, the second to relegate the whole matter to congress, and let that body do as it seems proper—which I think would mean intervention—and the third, to take a middle stand. But, as I said before, nothing has yet been determined upon by the president, or, if he has reached a decision, he did not communicate it to the cabinet."

"Yes, reference was made by Spain to the Maine matter in the reply she sent through Minister Woodford. She made no offer to pay for the loss, but suggested that the matter be settled by arbitration. So far as I recall, she expressed no regret for the sad occurrence, and the whole thing was regarded as a cold-blooded statement."

The reply of Spain is said in effect to be representation that the independence of Cuba means the parting or cession of Spanish territory, which cannot be done without the consent of the Spanish cortes, which will not be in session until April 24. Then a counter-proposition is submitted that the Cuban matter shall be settled upon a basis equitable among nations. The United States is asked to give Spain time to treat with the insurgents and ascertain what can be done in the nature of a peaceful settlement.

At Porto Rico.

Madrid, April 4.—The Spanish torpedo flotilla has arrived at Porto Rico.

Kruger Was Not Assassinated.

London, April 1.—A report was current on the stock exchange today to the effect that President Kruger, of the South African republic, has been shot and killed. The general representative of the Transvaal discredits the report. The story is probably a stock exchange canard.

ENGULFED BY A FLOOD.

Terrible Loss of Life at Shawneetown, Ill., by Breaking of a Levee.

Louisville, April 5.—A special to the Courier-Journal, from Evansville, Ind., says: This evening the levee at Shawneetown, Ill., broke a mile above town, and from information obtained, it is learned that a greater part of the place is destroyed and, perhaps, a large number of citizens have been drowned.

Shawneetown is 75 miles below Evansville, on the Ohio river. It is situated in a valley of extremely low land, with hills skirting it in the rear, and with a 25-foot levee running from hill to hill. The town is very much in the position of a fortified city, and when the levee gave way a mile above town under the pressure of very high water, the water shot through a 20-foot opening and struck the place like a hurricane, sweeping everything before it.

Houses were turned and tossed about like boxes. The people were not warned, and for that reason many were caught. Those at home sought refuge in second stories and on house tops. Those in the streets were carried before the avalanche of water, and probably a majority were drowned.

Citizens came from the place by skiffs to a telephone several miles away and asked for aid from Evansville. They said that more than 200 people were drowned, and they had reason to believe that the number would reach 500, or even 1,000. The water stands from 20 to 30 feet all over the town.

There are, of course, no fires or lights in the place, and total darkness envelops the desolate city. Consequently, it is impossible for them to have anything like definite information.

At 10 o'clock two steamboats started for Shawneetown under a full head of steam, and it is thought they will arrive there before morning. They carried large supplies of food and blankets, quickly collected by city officials.

Late news from Mount Carmel says the disaster is probably worse than at first supposed, and the loss of life will be over 200. The survivors will be without food or fire, and will suffer considerably. Communication with the ill-fated place will not be had for several hours.

Communication Cut Off.

Chicago, April 5.—At 12:30 this morning the operator in the long-distance telephone office at Mount Vernon, Ind., informed the press that the estimated loss of life at Shawneetown was at that hour 200. Mount Vernon is 30 miles from Shawneetown, and the information is based on reports believed to be reliable. The company's wires to the stricken city failed soon after 4 P. M. At that hour it was known that the damage was heavy, but it was not thought the levee would go to pieces quickly enough to occasion loss of life. At 5 o'clock it was known in Mount Vernon that many people had been drowned. A relief-boat bearing food, blankets and surgeons was started down the river, and was expected to reach Shawneetown before morning. Gradually the reports of loss of life increased, the estimates coming from various points near the scene of the flood showing clearly that the disaster was far worse than was at first believed. People at Mount Vernon and surrounding towns besieged the telegraph offices frantically asking for tidings from friends and relatives in the flooded town. No attempt at an accurate list of the lost was possible, however, and the crowds stood all night before the bulletin-boards on which were posted the meager reports being received.

Levee Had Shown Weakness.

Evansville, Ind., April 5.—The man who ventured out in a skiff at great peril to his life to call on Evansville for help for Shawneetown says that the dam had shown weakness for several days. However, the people were lulled into security by the fact that a guard was put on the levee to give warning in case of danger. This man, who did not give his name, and who was so much excited that he could not be prevailed upon to stay longer, said that when he came he floated through streets ringing with the frightened cries of drowning women and children, and with brave words of exhortation by their rescuers. He said the whole neighboring country was flooded for miles.

Places Lost at Five Hundred.

Chicago, April 5.—A Chronicle dispatch from Carmi, Ill., says: A courier has just reached here from Shawneetown. He estimates the loss of life at from 200 to 500. His name is Jackson Phillips and he has lost a wife and two children in the flood.

Some of the Victims.

St. Louis, April 5.—A Globe-Democrat special from Ridgeway, Ill., says: It is hard to learn the particulars of the flood at Shawneetown, but it is known that 200 persons perished, among the number being Sheriff Gallovay's family, the wife of Zach Meier, Charles Clayton, Wash Callicott and wife, Paul Phalen's family, and others.

South Carolina Town Burned.

Charlotte, N. C., April 5.—Fire at Rock Hill, S. C., destroyed 12 buildings involving a loss of \$250,000, upon which there was an insurance of \$150,000, distributed in 16 companies. The origin is yet a matter of speculation. The Charlotte fire department arrived there after the fire was under control.

Arbitration Is Suggested.

Paris, April 5.—The French International Arbitration Society has sent letters to the Spanish minister, Gallon, and to the American secretary of state, Sherman, urging the advisability of arbitrating the differences between Spain and the United States.

Justice Willie, of the Supreme Court of Texas, has rendered a decision that a debt paid to the state of Texas in confederate money during the war is void and does not satisfy the debt.