

EPITOME OF THE DISPATCHES

Interesting Collection of Items From Many Places Collected From the Press Reports of the Current Week.

The Oregon legislature adjourned sine die Saturday.
A genuine blizzard visited the Middle Western states, doing considerable damage.
A Polish priest has sued the Catholic church for \$50,000 for excommunicating him.

It is said in London that the French must either withdraw from Fashoda or go to war with England.
The German government has now decided to appoint permanently a naval attaché at Washington, who will reach his post in January.

The British ship Blengfelt, from New York, burned off Margat, England, early Monday morning. Eleven of the crew, besides the captain's wife and children, perished.

Seven barges, containing 800,000 pounds of naphtha have been burned at the petroleum port of Astrakhan, Russia. Three persons were killed in the conflagration, and several others injured.

The war department has received a detailed description of the fortifications of Havana. Besides old guns, there are 48 new guns. These guns are principally of the Hotchkiss and Ordnance pattern, but there are a few Krupps among them.

In a head-end collision between two freight trains near Great Falls, Mont., due to a misunderstanding of orders, Engineer Charles Goddard and Brake-man Robert T. Runtz were killed, and Fireman A. L. Ritchie was probably fatally injured.

The government will undertake the transportation of Christmas boxes for soldiers at Manila. A steamer will start from San Francisco early in November, so packages must be forwarded soon. Only small quantities of sweet things will be accepted.

It is announced that Montreal and Quebec are to be thoroughly fortified as part of the scheme for the defense of Canada. Colonel Daiton, chief of the imperial defense commission, is in Montreal, completing plans for the fortifications of the cities.

A curious method of aiding charities has been initiated in Paris, where, it is announced, the saloons of the high aristocracy, which have hitherto been extremely exclusive, will be opened to strangers, on reception days, for a money consideration, which will be applied to the charitable works of which the lady of the house is a patron.

A reception was tendered the army heroes at the Omaha exposition.

Colombia will risk no future trouble and diplomatic relations with Italy have been reversed.

It is reported that Gen. Maximo Gomez has been selected for president of the Cuban republic.

A military plot against the French government was discovered and frustrated by prompt action.

The International Typographical Union in biennial session at Syracuse, N. Y., voted to abolish the referendum.

A cabinet crisis has occurred in Cape Colony, South Africa, and the assembly has voted a want of confidence in the government.

Murderer John Miller was hanged at San Quentin, Cal., for the killing of James Childs in San Francisco, in November, 1896.

The American peace commissioners were entertained in Paris with a private theatrical performance, arranged in their honor by Figaro.

Frauds amounting to millions of dollars have been discovered in the Chilean arsenal. Senor Navarro, the chief accountant, has committed suicide.

It is reported in Manila that Macabulos, chief of the five northern provinces of the Philippine islands, has rebelled against Aguinaldo, and that fighting has taken place between the opposing factions.

News to the effect that large numbers of political prisoners have been horribly tortured in Ecuador by order of the government, has been brought to San Francisco by the steamer Panama.

Han Ky, the Korean minister of justice, has been dismissed for having permitted the brutalities perpetrated by the populace on the bodies of the men recently hanged for conspiracy to poison the emperor.

Chief Sweeney, of the Chicago fire department, while directing his men at work on a fire, fell into a manhole and was severely injured. The engineer of the building, John Meldrum, was killed, and two other men were scalded by escaping steam.

Minor News Items.
The Kentucky court of appeals holds the separate coach law valid.

Commodore W. P. McCann says General Blanco is the man who ordered the Maine blown up.

T. P. Gore, a blind man, has been nominated for congress by the Populists of a Texas district.

Just at present two women—Queen Victoria and the empress of China—rule over one-half the world's population.

LATER NEWS.

Smallpox has broken out in Dawson City, N. W. T.

A family of five were brutally murdered at Stuartburn, Manitoba.

Senator Proctor, of Vermont has been re-elected by an overwhelming vote.

The dowager empress of China has begun instituting reforms on her own account.

Withdrawal from Crete of all the Turkish troops there has been ordered by the sultan.

Emperor William, of Germany, was personally received at Constantinople by the sultan.

Princess Kaiulani, of Hawaii, is reported engaged to be married to Andrew Adam, a reporter.

All trade at Havana is said to be at a standstill, awaiting the future destiny of the island.

Many officers of the staff of General Gomez have resigned, owing to the trouble with their chief.

During an Indian dance near Ardmore, I. T., one man was killed and two were wounded, one fatally.

Liberia, through its special representative, Bishop Hartzell, is about to ask to be taken under the protection of the United States.

Prince Chang, president of the Chinese tung-li-yamen, announces that the health of the recently deposed emperor is improving.

Commissioner Ogilvie has broken up the monopoly of Canadian doctors in the Klondike country and American physicians may now practice there.

Blanco has acceded to the requests of the American evacuation commissioners that Red Cross supplies be allowed free entry to the ports of Cuba.

General Wood, in his capacity as governor of Santiago, has ordered the return to Jamaica of a large number of destitute negroes who had just arrived from there.

General Brooke has been placed in supreme command of the government of Porto Rico, pending the completion of a permanent plan of government for the island.

A New York World dispatch from Washington says: The United States will assume the indebtedness of the Cuban municipalities, but will not agree to pay or guarantee any portion of the general Cuban debt. It is considered a big concession on the part of the United States and a partial victory for Spain.

Three vessels were wrecked in a storm off the English coast. The Norwegian bark Frivold stranded off Spurnhead. Two members of the crew were drowned. The Norwegian brigantine Augvald was wrecked off Gouidon harbor. Seven of the crew were drowned. The Russian schooner Wilhelm was wrecked off St. Andrews. Five of the crew were saved, and one drowned.

The Fifth Illinois volunteers have been mustered out of service.

Services in honor of Ohio's soldier dead were held at Columbus.

All hostile Pillager Indians, except one, have agreed to surrender.

A large Anglo-American syndicate is being formed to buy up Cuban bonds.

A new president and a cabinet will be elected in Cuba the latter part of the present month.

The immediate establishment of a fever hospital at Havana is urged by surgeons in charge there.

The transport Pennsylvania arrived at San Francisco from Manila and Honolulu, with 29 sick soldiers.

The war investigation board has left Washington for the Southern army camps on a tour of inspection.

Naval Constructor Hobson expresses himself as confident that the wrecked Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon can be saved.

The departure for camps of the South of troops now in the East has been postponed, owing to the prevalence of yellow fever.

A cash balance in bank exceeding \$300,000 now stands to the credit of the Trans-Mississippi exposition. The attendance is also increasing.

Illinois manufacturers have urged President McKinley to establish open ports in the new American possessions. The president's reply was encouraging.

Insurgents at Lagaspi, Philippine islands have refused to allow the American steamer Hermosa to land there, on the ground that there were Spaniards aboard.

Eight hundred soldiers have sailed from San Francisco for the Philippines. The expedition included the Oregon recruits and the Washington volunteers.

The United States is now formally in possession of the island of Porto Rico as a sovereign. American flags have been raised on the public buildings and forts in the city, and saluted with national salutes.

The O. R. & N. steamer, T. J. Potter ran into and sunk the G. W. Shaver on the lower Columbia. The accident occurred off Deer Island, five miles from Kalama. The Shaver was struck in the middle and in a short time was resting at the bottom of the river. The night was dark and a heavy fog prevailed.

Rear Admiral Phelps is the only surviving member of the first graduating class from the naval academy. There were 47 members in the class.

The grand camp, United Confederate Veterans of Virginia, has placed itself on record as claiming the right to succeed from the union at will.

Queen Liliuokalani will leave Honolulu for Washington about the middle of November, it is said, to present her claims against congress for remuneration for the loss of her throne.

END OF SPANISH CONTROL

Porto Rico Given Up to the Americans.

THE FLAGRAISING AT SAN JUAN

Simple and Dignified Ceremony by the American Evacuation Commissioners—Question of Citizenship.

San Juan de Porto Rico, Oct. 20.—Promptly at noon today, the American flag was raised over San Juan. The ceremony was quiet and dignified, unmarred by disorder of any kind.

The Eleventh regular infantry, with two batteries of the Fifth artillery, landed this morning. The latter proceeded to the forts, while the infantry lined up on the docks. It was a holiday for San Juan, and there were many people in the streets. Rear-Admiral Schley and General Gordon, accompanied by their staffs, proceeded to the palace in carriages. The Eleventh infantry regiment and band, with troop H, of the Sixth United States cavalry, then marched through the streets and formed in the square opposite the palace.

At 11:40 A. M., General Brooks, Admiral Schley and General Gordon, the United States evacuation commissioners, came out of the palace with many naval officers and formed on the right side of the square. The streets behind the soldiers were crowded with townspeople, who stood waiting in dead silence.

At last the city clock struck the hour of 12, and the crowds, almost breathless, and with eyes fixed upon the flagpole, watched for developments. At the sound of the first gun from Fort Morro, Major Dean and Lieutenant Castle, of General Brooke's staff, hoisted the Stars and Stripes, while the band played the "Star Spangled Banner." All heads were bared, and the crowd cheered. Fort Morro, Fort San Cristobal and the United States revenue cutter Manning, lying in the harbor, fired 21 guns each. Senor Munoz Rivera, who was president of the recent autonomous council of secretaries, and other officials of the late insular government were present at the proceedings.

Congratulations and handshaking among the American officers followed. Ensign King hoisted the Stars and Stripes on the various public buildings were hoisted by military officers. Simultaneously with the raising of the flag over the captain-general's palace many others were hoisted in different parts of the city.

The work of the United States evacuation commission is now over, and all the reports will be forwarded to Washington Friday next. The labors of both parties have terminated with honors for all concerned. The American commissioners worked without the least delay, and in the most thorough and effective manner.

Question of Naturalization.

Washington, Oct. 20.—In view of the fact that at noon today, with the acquisition of the island of Porto Rico by the United States, about 800,000 inhabitants of that island lost their Spanish citizenship, the question as to what shall become of these people politically becomes of importance.

Madrid advices report that leading citizens in Porto Rico have already taken steps to become naturalized as United States citizens. This is an error, for existing law provides no way in which this change of citizenship can be effected by the residents of the island. There is no United States court there before which a declaration of intention can be filed, and in fact no machinery at all which can be put in motion to change citizenship. Inquiry into this subject at the state department discloses the fact that it has been usual to provide a bodily transfer of the citizenship of people conditioned as those in Porto Rico, in the treaty of peace which terminates a war. It may be prudent for the commission at Paris to avoid any reference to Porto Rico again, in which case congress will be called upon by the president to confer citizenship upon the Porto Ricans in the same act as that which must be passed to provide a stable form of government for the island. Should either of these courses be found impracticable, however, it is said at the department that international law in its operation would confer American citizenship upon these Porto Ricans, the general principle being that where a treaty of session is silent upon the subject of citizenship, it changes with the soil. In the case of the acquisition of New Mexico, the residents of the territory were given American citizenship by specific provision of the treaty.

Los Angeles, Cal., Oct. 18.—Word reached this city tonight that the Southern Pacific overland train No. 3, the westbound, was ditched 35 miles west of Yuma. Mail Agent George F. Kellogg was killed. As far as learned there were no other fatalities. The cause of the accident is not definitely known, but it is thought the engine, baggage-car and mail-car were derailed on account of the track being buried in sand.

Dewey Coming Home.

San Francisco, Oct. 20.—The Evening Post says that Admiral Dewey will arrive in this city December 6. He will come here on the steamer City of Peking, which is due to arrive here on that date, from the Orient. Admiral Dewey is interested in several mining enterprises on this coast, and it is these interests that prompt his coming at this time. He has written friends in this city that he has already applied for a leave of absence.

RAN ON A REEF.

Steamer Brixham Wrecked Near Fort Wrangel—Passengers Saved.

Port Townsend, Oct. 20.—A report from Victoria says the steamer Dirigo, just arrived from Skagway, brings news that the steamer Brixham ran on a reef on Blashe island, 80 miles south of Fort Wrangel, and is probably a total wreck. A number of passengers were taken from her by the steamer Al-Kl while bound north. Some of the passengers asked the captain of the Dirigo to bring them and the crew down, but the captain states that he was compelled to leave them, as the Dirigo's accommodations were already full. The remaining passengers and crew camped on the island.

The wreck was above water, and the tides and currents were swishing the stern to and fro. Her hold was filled with water, and it is feared that her cargo is a total loss. The disaster occurred on the night of October 13. The passengers were all put ashore without unusual incident, although the night was very dark.

The Brixham sailed from Seattle for Skagway October 8, with 50 passengers and a large cargo of general freight. She is owned by the Boston & Alaska Transportation Company. It is stated that she is fully insured. During the summer she was on the St. Michaels run, and this was her first voyage to Lynn canal ports. She was brought around the Horn from Boston last spring to enter the Alaska trade. She is valued at \$70,000.

Passengers on the Dirigo say the Brixham was four miles out of her course when she struck the rocks. Both pilots were on the bridge at the time. A heavy fog, accompanied by a strong wind, prevailed, and the steamer was feeling her way under a low bell.

The vessel is lying in a dangerous position. Appearances indicate that her back is broken. The captain and crew are camped on the beach, and are doing everything possible to protect the wreck until assistance is obtained.

QUESTION IS SETTLED.

American Attitude in the Matter of the Cuban Debt.

Paris, Oct. 20.—Spain can no longer have any doubt regarding the ultimate attitude of the United States towards the so-called Cuban debt. The American commissioners have declined to assume it, or any part of it, by express treaty, or by contract. They also declined to accept cession of sovereignty to the United States, for in that case Spain would claim that such cession by its own force would impose the obligation for that debt. It is confidently believed that in refusing to accept a cession of sovereignty, the American commissioners are acting also on the announcement to the world in the intervention resolutions, disclaiming any intention to exercise sovereignty or authority over Cuba except for pacification, and that to leave the island to the control of its people.

General Horace Porter, the United States ambassador, gave a banquet this evening at the American embassy to the United States and Spanish peace commissioners.

The meeting of the two commissions at the same table was a notable event here, and borrowed special interest from the semi-prediction of the Paris correspondent of the London Times that the Spanish commissioners would not meet their opponents at dinner under the roof of the American embassy.

Riot Near Newport News.

Newport News, Va., Oct. 20.—A riot occurred at a saloon in Phoebus late tonight. Five regulars from Fort Monroe were shot, one being killed and another mortally wounded. No civilians were hurt. The names of the soldiers and other details are unobtainable tonight. It is understood that the men were shot by the proprietor or employees of the saloon, which is owned by P. F. Fagan. After the shooting, the soldiers set fire to the saloon. At midnight the town was in a turmoil, the civil authorities being powerless to preserve order. After continuing their threatening demonstration for some time, the riotous soldiers were taken in custody by a detail from Fort Monroe.

Death on the Rail.

London, Oct. 19.—A terrible railway accident occurred this evening on the Great Central railway, near Barnet, about 11 miles north of London.

An express train, going at the rate of a mile a minute, came into collision with a freight train that was switching across the track at Barnet junction.

The express piled up, a complete wreck. Nine dead and 13 seriously injured have been recovered, and there are others under the debris.

France Preparing for War.

Paris, Oct. 18.—The Soleil publishes a dispatch from Toulon, which says that Vice-Admiral Fournier, who is now at Tunis with M. Lockroy, minister of marine, will return immediately to Toulon, where orders have been received to prepare the armored cruisers Admiral Theouart, Bouvines, Jemmapes and Valmy for active service, and also to send to Brest without delay the largest possible number of gunners to man the forts and batteries.

Cretean Murderers Hanged.

Candia, Oct. 20.—Seven Mussulmans, who were convicted of the murder of British soldiers during the recent outbreak, were hanged today.

Fatal Storm in Santa Clara.

Havana, Oct. 20.—At Trinidad, province of Santa Clara, great damage has been caused by a recent storm. Eight persons lost their lives and many houses were blown down.

German Exports to America.

Berlin, Oct. 20.—During the last quarter the northern half of Germany exported to America \$11,247,880 worth of merchandise, an increase of \$3,190,835, compared with the same period of 1897.

RUSSIA MASSING TROOPS

Warlike Preparations at Port Arthur.

FORTY THOUSAND MEN READY

Report That Great Britain Has Demanded the Restoration of the Emperor of China.

London, Oct. 19.—The Odessa correspondent of the Standard says that Russia has hastily concentrated 40,000 men at Port Arthur, to be in readiness for any emergency at Peking.

Must Be Restored.

London, Oct. 19.—A dispatch to a London news agency from Shanghai says:

"Reports from Japanese sources are in circulation here to the effect that Sir Claude MacDonald, British minister at Peking, has informed the Chinese government that sovereignty appertains solely to the emperor, who has been forcibly abducted and deposed, and that he must be restored to his position, while Kang Yu Wei and the other reformers must be pardoned. Failure in compliance, Great Britain will enforce these demands.

WANTS OUR PROTECTION.

Liberia Seeks the Shadow of the Stars and Stripes.

Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 19.—Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell, of the Methodist Episcopal church, whose bishopric is in Africa and who is attending the meeting in this city of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, stated tonight that he had been commissioned by the negro republic of Liberia to go to Washington and ask that the republic be taken under the sheltering wing of the United States. Threatened inroads upon its territory by the Germans, French and English prompted the government to seek the shadow of the Stars and Stripes.

"I am on my way to see Secretary Hay," he said, "as the special representative of the republic of Liberia, to secure a protectorate, either quasi or actual. What they want America to do is to say to the European powers in Africa: 'We have an interest in Liberia; this country belongs to us.'

"Whether the actual protectorate can be established or not will depend upon how far the Liberian government is willing to go, assuming that the United States answers favorably."

SPAIN QUIT TOO SOON.

Took Alger Seriously and Now Has Cause for Regret.

Washington, Oct. 19.—Information has reached the war department that a high officer of the Spanish army, very recently made the statement that had the Spaniards been aware of the condition of the American army, its inability to withstand the hardships of a campaign, its lack of medical and other supplies and general inefficiency, as told in the American papers, the Spaniards would not have given up, but would have continued the fighting for a long time to come, fully believing that they would have been able to prevent the capture of Cuba by American arms. This statement is known to have been made to the American officers now in Cuba, and causes some uneasiness in official circles, as it may mean that the Spaniards are not yet ready to yield the island, under the terms of the protocol.

LOWER POSTAL RATES.

Efforts to Have International Postage Reduced to Two Cents.

Washington, Oct. 19.—Third Assistant Postmaster-General Garrett, in his annual report, recommends immediate negotiations with the postal administrations of England, Germany and France to reduce the international postal rates to 2 cents a half ounce or fraction thereof. The report says:

"The department now realizes nothing in the way of revenue from ocean letters, practically all the postage paid on them going to the steamship companies carrying the mails. If the rate should be reduced, the same state of things would exist; the steamship companies would suffer no hardship and the stimulus given to correspondence by the reduction of rates would no doubt eventually give them as much compensation in the way of postage as they now get."

Murder and Suicide.

Flint, Mich., Oct. 19.—W. P. Murray, of Clinton, Ia., today shot and killed his wife, Harriet, an incurable inmate of Oak Grove asylum, located here. A letter was found in Murray's pocket, saying that the only way to relieve his wife from her suffering was to kill her, and that, as it was against the law to do so, the only thing he could do was to shoot himself also.

Death Before Disgrace.

Berlin, Oct. 19.—Gruesenthal, superintendent of the imperial printing office, has committed suicide. He was charged with the theft of bank notes to the amount of over 4,000 marks.

Flour for Japan.

Washington, Oct. 19.—According to figures transmitted to the state department by Consul Govey, at Yokohama, there has been astonishing increase in the exports of American flour at Japan. In 1892 the total import of that flour was 1,200,000 pounds, but in 1896, the business had swelled to a total of 32,000,000 pounds, with a marked increasing tendency. During 1897 the quality of imports fell off slightly, but the value increased \$36,183 as compared with the preceding year.

CRISIS WAS REACHED.

Judge Day Made Positive Demands on Spain.

London, Oct. 19.—A dispatch to the London News Agency from Paris says: "Today the conference reached a crisis for the first time. Judge Day presented the demands of the American commission in threatening words. He said that delay was the only possible object obtainable by the persistent efforts of the Spanish commissioners to saddle the United States with the Cuban debt, and would be tolerated no longer, as the United States would neither assume nor guarantee any part of the debt.

"The Spaniards replied that this placed Spain in a position of repudiating or of reducing the face of the Cuban bonds from 50 to 60 per cent, paying only half the stipulated interest on reduced value. Before they would adopt either alternative they would surrender to the United States the entire Philippines.

"Judge Day responded that the surrender of the Philippines would probably be demanded, irrespective of the Cuban or any other debt.

"This, to the Spaniards, the first intimation of the intentions of the United States as to the Philippines, resulted in a whispered conference, followed by a request for an adjournment in order to communicate with Madrid. Judge Day said that President McKinley had instructed him to demand the entire surrender of Porto Rico, and the delivery of every town to the United States officers before midnight, together with the evacuation of Havana on or before November 1, when the United States would be at the gates of the city ready to take possession.

"There was no alternative offered in the case of either of these demands; the session consequently was very brief."

DEATH IN THE STORM.

Fatal Fate of a Young Boy Near Florence, Colo.

Denver, Oct. 19.—A special to the Rocky Mountain News from Florence, Colo., says: On Saturday William Lullin and his 10-year-old boy came to Florence, from their home, six miles from Florence, to do some trading. After spending the day about town, at 6 P. M. they started home in their wagon. It was raining when they left town, but when out about five miles the rain turned to a blinding snow storm. The father lost his way, and wandered about among scrub pines and in the hills all night. The wagon and team was abandoned, and an effort was made to reach home on foot.

As the night wore on the little fellow became cold and numb and froze to death in his father's arms. The father managed to get alive by walking, until he could walk no more from numbness of limb. Daylight broke, and Lullin knew he was not far from home, but was unable to walk. At 9 o'clock his cries were heard by his wife, who went to his rescue. Neighbors were summoned and the old gentleman was assisted to his home, but he was so near dead that he could not give an intelligent account of the night's wanderings, but the dead body of the boy told a pitiful story of a lack of sufficient clothing to keep him warm. He wore knee pants and a small coat, but no underwear nor outer coat. His shoes and stockings were almost completely worn out.

"Booty" Tobacco Admitted Free.

Washington, Oct. 17.—Assistant Secretary Howell, of the treasury department, has consented to the admission, free of duty, into Santiago, of 100,000 pounds of Cuban tobacco in the possession of General Franco Sanchez, having charge of the insurgent army at Mayari. This is a lot of "booty" tobacco, and the proceeds of the sale will be expended for the benefit of the Cuban army, which needs supplies of clothing and subsistence. The question was referred to the war department by General Lawton, and in turn sent to the treasury department for its recommendation.

Preparing for War.

Paris, Oct. 19.—Confirmation is given at the ministry of marine to the report that Admiral Fourar, now at Tunis, has been ordered to return to immediate active service, and orders have been issued that the largest possible number of gunners go to Brest to man the forts. These preparations are thought to be the result of the Fashoda affair with Great Britain.

Papers here say three British ironclads are engaged in gun practice off Dizert, a French naval station in the Mediterranean.

Near Boiling Point.

Bayonne, France, Oct. 19.—Advices received here from Madrid point to effervescence in military circles there. Members of the Military Club openly and severely criticize the government for concluding what they term as a "humiliating peace," and some of them even suggest the establishment of a military dictatorship under the present dynasty.

The officials at Madrid deny the report current on the Continent that Captain-General Blasco has resigned.

Many Lives Lost.

Margat, England, Oct. 19.—The British ship Blengfelt, from New York, burned off this place early this morning. Eleven of the crew, besides the captain's wife and children, perished.

Four Were Killed.

Reading, Pa., Oct. 19.—Four men were killed by the explosion of a Wilmington & Northern freight engine at Joanna station this afternoon. The dead are:

William Herficker, engineer, aged 50; George Mills, fireman, aged 35; Willis Woodward, a brakeman; Harry Hudyam, conductor.

All lived at Birdsboro, this county, and all were married and leave families, except Hudyam.