

THE FLOOD OF 61-62.

INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS PARTICIPANTS IN THE EVENTS OF THE TIME.

Last of Orleans—Birth in the Flood—Deaths in the Torrent—Rescue of Kendall and the Smith Stewart Family—Other Incidents.

The absorbing topic of conversation on the street and in public places during the past week is the late high water and former floods. The number of subjects for an argument and dispute which comes out of a discussion of these events seems innumerable. "Did the last previous high water occur in 1890 or 1891?" "How much higher was the water at that time than it was this week?" "How did that flood compare with the flood of 61-62?" "Was the big flood in '61 or '62?" "Was one rise in the latter part of December '61 and another the first part of January '62?" All these questions have been discussed with considerable warmth, by old residents whose memories may have been treacherous and by newcomers who have gathered up a few threads of the high water history of the Willamette Valley.

The Times will not attempt to decide for any of the contestants, further than to say that the flood of 61-62 was the most memorable in the history of the state. It was particularly disastrous in this locality. On last Sunday night might have been seen an occasional lantern flicker on the opposite side of the river, and now and then a half submerged cow would indicate her discomfort by a call for assistance. On a Sunday night in the winter of 61-62 it was otherwise. At that time on the east side of the river there was a village of some pretension to which had been given the name of Orleans by its founder, Isaac Moore. Among its best known inhabitants were, Isaac Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Phile, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gerhard, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Lillard, and a little beyond, there resided the latter's father-in-law, Charley Mulkey. David Millhollen and family resided in the house now owned and occupied by Mr. Buller, situated near the government jetty. All that Sunday night there was a shouting of men, cries of distress from women and firing of guns for help as the mad waters created havoc in the town of Orleans and elsewhere. That was more than forty years ago, but these now living who participated in the scenes of that night in the little village speak of them with awe and deep concern. They say that it was an awful time. Stock of every description was all about struggling for life in the angry flood, but there was no time to waste on them. There were too many human lives at stake. The rush of water came suddenly and unexpectedly, and none had taken any precaution to guard against the danger. The first alarm was given by parties who were awakened by drift logs striking against their houses. Those in the greatest danger were moved to safer places in the village. Joseph Gerhard and John Summer conveyed their wives, each with two small children, to the former's hay loft where they remained until the next day. In the mean time these two gentlemen, Philip Phile and others, were kept busy with boats rescuing others.

William Lewis and wife were young persons who occupied a small dwelling in the village, and they were determined to remain in their little home as long as possible, hoping and believing that the water would recede. Before they took leave of the house however, the wife was taken violently ill, and as the rising waters dampened the straw mattress upon which she lay, a baby girl was born to the family. The necessity of her removal was imperative, and the mother and child and the bedding were placed in a skiff. They were then rowed to the residence of Mr. Moore, and placed on the second floor through the upper story window. When day finally dawned the mother and child were brought to Corvallis, where they were able to secure proper attention. As soon as possible after daylight all the women and children of Orleans were conveyed to the west side of the river.

During the night and following morning several houses were washed away on the east side, among which was the one owned by Mr. Summer, whose family took refuge in the hay loft with Mrs. Gerhard; one belonging to Philip Phile, which was afterward hauled back and now forms a portion of the

Beach residence at the ferry. A building which had been built for a brewery was also carried away. One result of this flood was that it killed the aspirations of Orleans to become a rival of the westside town of Corvallis.

The high water of 61-62 carried away the Mary's river bridge. It had been built the previous fall. When it became known that the bridge was threatened, Tim Donahue and a man named Dodge were sent with ropes and other appliances to secure it. When the men had gotten well onto the structure to begin operations it floated away with the workmen. As it passed the ferry with Donahue and Dodge still aboard, Minor Swick, Benjamin Pilbean and Nat Lane were endeavoring to free the ferry boat from a large log which had lodged against it. The two former went to the rescue of Tim and Dodge, and finding a large rope on the bridge conceived the idea that the structure might be snubbed to a pine tree which stood on a point at the mouth of Dixon creek. While the others carried the line ashore and made fast to the tree. Mr. Swick remained on the bridge to conduct operations. But after all, the snub rope broke and the bridge passed on. Mr. Swick was taken off near the John Stewart place a mile or so below town. Here the party had breakfast.

During the meal Mrs. Stewart, who now resides at the corner of Second and Jackson streets, this city, urged Mr. Swick and Mr. Pilbean to proceed down the river in their skiff and rescue the family of Smith Stewart, who then owned and resided on what is now best known as the Eglin place. Mrs. John Stewart felt certain that her relatives were in danger. The gentlemen complied with her request, and as they neared the Smith Stewart home, they found the house empty, but Jehial Kendall was near by clinging in a small tree with the flood sweeping against his legs. Mr. Swick describes the situation as such, on account of the current, that it would have been impossible to rescue Mr. Kendall had they not providentially discovered a clothes line which had been stretched on trees in the orchard. By attaching a stick to one end of the line the boatmen were able, after many attempts, to cast it within reach of Mr. Kendall, who made it fast to a tree. With the aid of the rope thus attached the boat was drawn into such a position as enabled Mr. Swick to pull Kendall aboard. A safe landing was made on high ground some distance below the Stewart bridge.

Mr. Kendall came into the predicament in which he was found, by going to the rescue of the Smith Stewart family in company with A. J. Thayer, Levi Russel, Al Stewart and a man named Garner. They had gone down the river early in the morning, but in an attempt to reach the home, their boat was upset. Kendall and Garner became separated from the boat, and the latter was drowned. Kendall fortunately came in contact with and secured a hold on the tree from which he was subsequently taken by Swick and Pilbean. The other party remained with the boat, righted it, and was at length enabled to remove to a place of safety. The Smith Stewart family, which had taken refuge in the upper story of their home. All efforts of those in the boat to reach Mr. Kendall at the time proved unavailing with the means at hand, and he was abandoned for the time being. Attempts to relieve him were to have been renewed, but in the meantime he was rescued as stated.

Perhaps the most distressing incident of the great flood was the drowning of three children of Mr. and Mrs. Abel George. The family owned and lived on the Palmer place on the Kiger island. Mr. George was conveying his family to a place of safety and when about to make the landing on P. Avery's farm, a short distance south of town the boat was in some manner capsized. Mr. George first devoted his energies to saving his wife. With her he secured a hold on a tree that stood in the water a considerable distance from the bank. He decided hastily on the course to pursue, and with his belt tied his wife by the wrist to a limb. He then swam ashore and after a vain effort to render his children assistance, went for other help. When he returned, Mrs. George had chilled to unconsciousness and allowed her body to swing into the water. When rescued she was almost dead, and it was many weeks before she recovered. Only two of the children were ever found. Three years ago Mrs. George visited Corvallis from Southern Oregon and entertained a thought of returning here to live, but the family subsequently went to the coast region of Washington. At the time of her visit here, this paper printed the story of her terrible experience as given by herself and doubtless Times readers will remember it.

FRENCH CLAIMS.

FIRST LIEN ON CUSTOM RECEIPTS—SUFFRAGE DEFEATED IN KANSAS.

Branded Stepdughter With Flatiron—Health Day in Utah—Carelessness of Operator Causes Collision—Other News.

Paris, Jan. 28.—The attitude of the Government of France relative to the claims against Venezuela is that the French claims are in the nature of a first lien on the customs receipts, and that, under no circumstances, are they to be subordinated to other claims. This view has been communicated to the representatives of the allies, to Minister Bowen and to the State Department at Washington. For this reason the officials here express confidence that no arrangements will be made between Mr. Bowen and the allies over those of France and other powers similarly situated. It is said that 40 per cent of the customs receipts will probably be sufficient to satisfy France, the allies and all the other claimants. Previous to the meeting of Mr. Bowen and the representatives of the allies France secured an agreement with Venezuela that the French claims shall receive treatment equal to that given to any other power. The view is held here that Venezuela and all others taking part in the negotiations should take cognizance and carry out the agreement. The French authorities evidently insist that equal terms are absolutely indispensable.

Topeka, Jan. 28.—The Senate today voted down the woman suffrage bill. It was proposed to grant them the privilege of voting for presidential electors, which would require an amendment to the constitution. The House and Governor Bailey favored the measure.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 28.—Two passenger trains, going full speed, collided head-on near Tucson, Ariz., on the Southern Pacific Railroad yesterday.

Both locomotives burned oil, and the oil tanks burst, so that the fluid poured over the trains and set them on fire. The heat made resuscitation impossible, and 20 persons are known to have burned to death, 16 of them beyond recognition. Other bodies are believed to be in the wreckage.

The collision was due to the forgetfulness of an operator in not delivering orders to one of the trains.

Needham, Mass., Jan. 20.—Mrs. Ellen Chamberlain, of Charles River, was arrested this afternoon, charged with wilfully burning her adopted daughter, eight years old, on July 5, 1902.

It is alleged that Mrs. Chamberlain went away that day with a man, after cautioning the little girl not to let Mr. Chamberlain know where she had gone. Upon her return, finding that the child had told her husband of her absence, Mrs. Chamberlain, it is alleged, branded the child on the arms and mouth with a hot flatiron, remarking as she did so: "That is to teach your lips not to tell tales."

Salt Lake, Jan. 28.—A new public holiday, known as "Health Day" is contemplated by a bill introduced in the House today by Representative White of Piute County. The bill provided that the first Monday in October shall be set apart by the Governor as a day upon which the owner or lessee of every occupied dwelling—house, hotel, restaurant, church, school-house, etc., shall thoroughly disinfect same under the directions of the State Board of Health, or be fined not less than \$50. The Board of Health shall determine the disinfectants to be used, and the town or city government is to furnish them to all persons financially unable to pay for them.

New York, Jan. 28.—A terrible collision took place last night between two passenger trains on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, at Graceland, N. J.

An express train, running 60 miles an hour, struck the rear of a crowded local train and telescoped the four rear cars. The ruins immediately took fire.

At least 80 persons are known to be dead and many bodies are still in the ruins. Twenty-five are seriously injured, and several of them will die.

Washington, Jan. 27.—A concert-

grand piano pronounced the finest in the world was today placed in the east room at the White House. It is entirely covered with gold leaf and is said to be worth \$10,000. It bears the shields of the thirteen original states and the legs are beautifully carved eagles. The piano was presented by the makers. It will be used at White House musicales.

New York, Jan. 28.—Probably the finest automobile ever built in France—and the finest in the world are built there—is now at Madison Square Garden, the chief single attraction of the automobile show. It was sold last week to W. R. Hearst for \$25,000, the highest price by \$7,500 ever paid for a road carriage.

Henry Fournier, the French chauffeur and dealer, brought this remarkable machine to America and sold it.

The car, as it stands in the cafe of the Garden, is a monster. It is a Mors, 60 horse power, weighs 3,300 pounds and is capable of making forty miles an hour. It can comfortably carry six passengers and a chauffeur to Philadelphia in two and a half hours, and with a few turns of the crank it can make the entire trip without a stop.

Until this giant of the road, which had been named "The Empire State Express," was sold, the highest price ever paid for a machine was \$17,000.

E. R. Thomas paid that amount for his "Red Devil," a Panhard of much less horse power than Hearst's Mors.

Salem, Jan. 26.—The supreme court of the state this morning affirmed the decision of the circuit court in the case of A. L. Belding, the Portland murderer. Belding now has no further chance, and must hang for his crime.

Today's decision of the supreme court leaves Belding without hope, except through the pardoning power of the governor. That official has power to grant a full pardon or to commute the death sentence to imprisonment for life in the state penitentiary. However, as Governor Chamberlain represented the state as district attorney for the prosecution of Belding, this practically cuts off the last faint hopes of the multi-murderer.

The decision is no surprise as it was fully expected that the supreme court would uphold the state circuit court. The grounds for a new trial were purely technical, the defense claiming the right to a new trial because the district attorney filed his information directly in the circuit court, depriving Belding of a preliminary hearing. This is the first time such a question has been raised in this state, and the decision establishes a precedent.

That Belding has no hope of a new trial is proved by the late attempt of himself and George Smith to break jail. Belding will now have about one month in which to live. Sheriff Story will begin preparations for the execution in the near future. The death watch will immediately be put on duty again, and the stern fact that justice will soon be meted out to him will once more stare the cruel, cold-blooded murderer in the face.

Sheriff Story stated to a Journal reporter this morning that the hanging will be as quiet as possible, no one excepting officials and press representatives being admitted into the interior of the building in which the scaffold stands.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 28.—A Frankfort special to the Courier-Journal says:

"James B. Howard, of Clay county, fired the shot that killed William Goebel," said Henry E. Youtsey in his confession as to his part in and knowledge of the conspiracy which terminated in the assassination of the democratic claimant to the governorship.

The convicted man now says that he has made a clean breast of the details of the plot and has told everything he knows "fully and frankly." He said that the shot was fired from the front window in the private office of secretary of state Caleb Powers, and that he and Jim Howard were the only persons inside of the room. He named William S. Taylor, Charles Findley, Caleb Powers, John L. Powers, William H. Culton, Wharlen Golden and William J. Davidson as conspirators with him.

New York, Jan. 27.—At a joint meeting of the American Ethnological Society and the New York Academy of Sciences, Dr. Maurice Fishberg, a well-known anthropologist, delivered an address, in which he made declarations that there was no such thing as the Hebrew race, and that the Hebrews were not the descendants of Abraham, Jacob and Isaac, but in reality were Armenians.

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Executor's Notice

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Benton County. In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of G. C. Vanderpool, deceased. Notice is hereby given that David Vanderpool is the duly appointed and acting executor of the Last Will and Testament of G. C. Vanderpool, deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same with proper vouchers to me at Wells Station, Benton County, Oregon, or at the office of Yates & Yates, Attorneys, Corvallis, Oregon, within six months from this date. Dated this January 13, 1903. DAVID VANDERPOOL, Executor.

Contest Notice.

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, Nov. 7, 1902.

A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by G. W. Eigham, contestant, against homestead entry No. 12774, made May 11, 1900, for SW 1/4 and S 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 10 Township 8 S, Range 7 W, by George H. Jackson, Contestee, in which it is alleged that Contestant "knows the present condition of same; also that said entry was never resided upon or cultivated or improved said claim since making entry or at all and that said alleged absence from the said land was not due to his employment in the Navy, Army, or Marine Corps of the United States as a private soldier, officer, or during any other war in which the United States may be engaged," said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegations on a hearing to be held at the United States Land Office in Oregon City, Oregon.

The said contestant having, in a proper affidavit, filed on Nov. 7, 1902, set forth facts which show that after due diligence, personal service of this notice can not be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by due and proper publication.

CHAS. B. MOORES, Register. GEO. W. BIBBE, Receiver.

Summons.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Benton County.

A. F. Laws, plaintiff versus Sarah Stewart defendant.

To the said Stewart the above named defendant, In the name of the State of Oregon—You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint of the above named plaintiff in the above entitled court, now on file with the clerk of said court within six weeks from the 17th of January, 1903, the date of the first publication of this summons, and you are hereby notified that if you fail to appear and answer said complaint as hereby required, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief prayed for in said complaint to-wit: The foreclosure of a certain mortgage made and executed by Mary Maud Hoffman through her duly authorized attorney in fact, to plaintiff on the 15th day of April, 1902, to secure the payment of a certain promissory note of Mary Maud Hoffman, for \$21,000, payable year after date, with interest thereon at the rate of four per cent per annum, from date said mortgage made and executed by said Mary Maud Hoffman, the following described real property situated in Benton County, Oregon: Lot number 4 in Block 25, original town of Corvallis, Oregon. And a further decree barring and foreclosing said Sarah Stewart of and from, all right, title or interest in or to said real property and every part thereof.

This summons is published by order of the Hon. Virgil E. Waters, Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon, made at Chambers in Corvallis, Oregon, January 14th, 1903. The date of the first publication of this summons is January 17, 1903, and the last publication thereof February 25, 1903.

WEATHERFORD & WYATT, YATES & YATES, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Notice for Publication

Timber Land, Act June 3, 1878, United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, July 12th, 1902.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land states by act of August 4, 1892, Adalbert D. Perkins,

of Toledo, county of Benton, state of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 6069 for the purchase of the N 1/2 NE 1/4 of Section No. 25 in Township No. 12 S Range No. 7 West, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes and to establish his claim to said land, before Victor P. Moses, Clerk of Benton County, Oregon, Corvallis, Oregon, on Wednesday, the 5th day of April, 1903.

He names as witnesses: John W. Hyde of Philomath, Oregon. Frank M. Spencer of Corvallis, Oregon. William Brazleton of Toledo, Oregon. Charles Kroger of Corvallis, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 5th day of April, 1903.

CHAS. B. MOORES, Register.

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E. R. Bryson,

Attorney-At-Law.

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