

Morning Oregonian.

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PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1902.

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Special rates made to families and single gentlemen. The manage-
ment will be pleased at all times to show rooms and give prices. A mod-
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Madame Nordica Says:

"I do not think it possible for anyone to understand the Aeolian
unless they do as I did—see and hear it played."

An opportunity will be given you to hear this instrument at our
FREE RECITAL tonight.

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY,

M. B. Wells, Sole Northwest Agt. 355-355 Washington St., cor. Park.

ON OTHER ISLES

Martinique Not the Only
Sufferer.

2000 DEAD AT ST. VINCENT

Mount Soufriere Was in Full
Eruption May 10.

STONES AND MUD FROM VOLCANO

Relief Work Under Way at St. Pierre
and Fort de France—Further
Particulars of the
Eruption.

Words fail to describe the present situation at St. Pierre. A small detachment of French troops is making efforts to enter the dead, although the government seems to be strikingly unconcerned as to what is done in this direction.

The looting of the ruins has begun already. While coming to Port de France the Potomac picked up a lot of containing five colored men and one white man, whose pockets were filled with coin and jewelry, the latter evidently stripped from the fingers of the dead. Lieutenant B. B. McCormick, commander of the Potomac, arrested these men and turned them over to the commander of the French cruiser Suchet for punishment.

The path of the volcano lava, which swept over St. Pierre, is marked out in a strange manner. The vicinity of the shore where vessels anchored was swept by a whirlwind of volcanic ash, which ripped, tore and shattered everything in its path, but left few traces of cinders behind. On the other hand, the fort, the center and adjoining parts of St. Pierre are buried under a thick layer of cinders, which consumed everything beneath it.

PORT DE FRANCE, Island of Martinique, May 12.—The United States Government tug Potomac, which came to Martinique from San Juan, P. R., cruised along the coast of this island yesterday afternoon. She encountered an inky black column of smoke, which made it necessary for her to go five miles out of her course.

The Potomac brought a ton of supplies to Martinique, consisting in part of cod fish and flour. A famine here is imminent. The northern section of the island is depopulated. Business here is suspended, the people of the city have assembled in the churches and the cathedral, where special services are being held for the St. Pierre dead, has been thronged since daylight.

Destruction in St. Vincent.

The Potomac will leave here today for the island of St. Vincent, where conditions are reported to be worse. La Soufriere, on St. Vincent, was in full eruption May 10. A stream of stone and mud half a mile wide was then issuing from the volcano. Stones two inches in diameter fell 12 miles away. At Kingstown, the capital of the island, the houses were two inches deep. Seven hundred dead were reported Sunday, May 11. It is estimated that the total number of deaths in St. Vincent will reach 2000. Most of the seven estates on the island have been burned to ashes, and it is authentically reported that two earthquakes occurred there. It is believed the submarine cables in St. Vincent have been broken by the disturbances. The present volcanic eruption on St. Vincent is the first since 1812. Governor Hunt, of Porto Rico, has asked Louis Ayme, the United States Consul at Gaudeloupe, who is now here, what assistance he could render. Governor Hunt's offer has been communicated to the government, which will accept it.

Cremation at St. Pierre.

Strange to relate, in view of the number of inhabitants of St. Pierre who were swept to death, very few corpses have been found by those who are engaged in the work of cremating the dead bodies. This is due to the fact that the most populous quarters of the town are buried under a thick layer of cinders lava, which apparently entirely consumed the bodies of the victims.

The Danish cruiser Valkyrien, having done everything possible in the efforts being made to succor the refugees, left this port today.

The German cruiser Falke has just arrived here.

Public interest centers in the stories of the survivors, and in the efforts being made to succor the refugees. A woman named Laurent, who was employed as a servant at St. Pierre, in the household of M. Gabriel, and who was among those taken to the hospital in this city, in describing her experience, said that on the day of the terrible disaster she heard a loud report, and thereupon fainted. When she regained her senses, a few hours later, she was horribly burned, and, glancing around, saw two members of the Gabriel family still alive, but they died before assistance could reach them. Mme. Laurent, although she lived for some time after being taken to the hospital, and was conscious while under the care of the physicians, died without being able to impart any additional information concerning the catastrophe.

Succoring the Refugees.

The work of succoring the refugees continues incessantly. When the cable repair ship Pouyer Quartier started on her

(Continued on Third Page.)

JUDGE WILLIAMS AND HIS PLATFORM.



MOVE TO DELAY CANAL

INVESTIGATION OF EARTHQUAKE
PROBLEM NOW URGED.

Friends of Nicaragua Hope to Have
Bill Taken Up After the Phil-
ippine Measure.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The clash in the Senate between the canal bill and the Cuban reciprocity bill, is now expected as soon as the Philippine Government is out of the way. The men who are trying to defeat the canal bill hope to have the proposed Cuban reciprocity relief measure perfected so that it can take the place of the Philippine bill and occupy the time of the Senate. Meanwhile it is intended to slip through the appropriation bills, as only two more remain to be passed by the House and three by the Senate. This will give Congress an opportunity to get away, and in spite of many denials, there is a determination to carry out this plan. The friends of the Nicaragua bill think they are strong enough now to make the canal bill the unfinished business, and keep it before the Senate until action is taken. Quite a careful canvass has been made and not only are friends of the canal very firm, but they have been promised the assistance of the best-sugar Republicans, who want to use the canal bill to defeat Cuban reciprocity.

It is rather curious on what a little thread the opposition to the canal is hung. The earthquakes in the West Indies have given some of the opponents of any canal an opportunity, and they are now insisting that the earthquake problem should be investigated before the Government spends \$200,000,000 in building a canal which might be destroyed by a single shock. The late Senator Cushman R. Davis, of Minnesota, when he opposed the Nicaragua canal in the interest of the transcontinental railroads, made a speech some 10 years ago in which he proved to his own satisfaction that the Nicaragua route would be destroyed by a volcano. It is already the talk to have the Isthmian Canal Commission investigate further the probabilities of danger from earthquakes, and thus a delay would be secured, which would postpone canal legislation for two years. The friends of the canal fully understand this, and are going to make a fight to prevent such postponement, but they are fully aware of the strength of the opposition when it can be exerted indirectly, and that is what is now going on.

CANNOT ENTER OREGON CAMPAIGN.

Odel's Time All Taken Up—Expresses
Hope of Republican Success.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Senator Mitchell telegraphed Governor Odell, of New York, who is now in California, asking him to make a few speeches in the Oregon State campaign. He has received a reply that Odel's time has all been taken up, and that he could not go to Oregon, although he expresses the hope that the Republicans will be successful in the State.

JOHN L. WILSON'S "PULL" GONE.

Trip to Washington for Ide Not
Likely to Have Any Effect.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Ex-Senator John L. Wilson, of Washington, is going home tomorrow or next day. He has been about the Senate every day for a week or more, earnestly talking with Senators and insisting upon the confirma-

tion of Clarence W. Ide. It is doubtful if Wilson has had any effect upon the Senate one way or the other, and he has probably learned that an ex-Senator cannot come back here and discredit his successor. It is understood now that there will be no charges filed against Frye, but an effort will be made to hold up his nomination until there has been a decision in the Ide case.

HERMANN LAND-GRABBERS' FOE.
He Will Report Adversely on Any
Bill for Leasing of Ranges.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Land Commissioner Hermann is preparing an adverse report on the bill recently referred to the Interior Department permitting the leasing of the vacant public lands in Nebraska for grazing purposes. The bill is then to become practically subject to the same objections as were raised against the Millard and Bowersock bills a few weeks ago. Commissioner Hermann contends that much of the 5,000,000 acres of land in Nebraska is susceptible of agricultural development, and any law permitting its leasing would have a tendency to retard homestead settlement. He further contends that the enactment of a leasing law for Nebraska would be regarded as a discrimination against stock owners of other states, and eventually would lead to a general leasing law.

The argument has been made before the department that much of this vacant land is suitable for grazing purposes only, and that many of the homesteads made in recent years have not been in good faith, but merely to enable the homesteaders to secure title to small tracts for grazing their own stock.

To this contention, the commissioner replies that in his judgment it is better that the 5,000,000 acres be placed in the hands of several thousand homesteaders, who may enjoy the privilege of grazing their own stock, than to have the land turned over to half a dozen cattle kings for an indefinite time. He contends that if this land goes to settlers there will be permanent homes established on the new public domain, whereas, if the land is leased, it will be controlled by a few barons and, in a short time, settlement will be hindered, if not prevented, and many settlers now perfecting homestead entries on different parts of the public domain will be driven out. Commissioner Hermann is opposed to any leasing law whatever.

The Lacey bill, introduced a short time ago, and which is to be considered by the House committee on public lands tomorrow eliminates the most objectionable features of the Millard and Bowersock bills, but goes to the opposite extreme. This bill will also be adversely reported on by Commissioner Hermann. He says there is no demand for a leasing law save from the cattle barons, that the homesteaders do not want such a law, and the small stock owners do not want it. Present conditions are satisfactory to all save the few monopolistic owners, and the Commissioner does not believe in legislating for the benefit of the few, and to the detriment of the many.

To Repair Washington Settlers.
The Senate committee on public lands today favorably reported Representative Jones' bill to repay to settlers on the north half of the Colville reservation, Washington, \$1.50 an acre.

More Money to Spokane and Tacoma.
The Senate public buildings committee today agreed to allow increases from \$40,000 to \$100,000 for sites for public buildings at Spokane and Tacoma.

Loubet Goes to Russia.
PARIS, May 12.—President Loubet, who is on his way to visit the Czar of Russia, left here this evening.

MANY PRIZES FOR OREGON

CHARLESTON FAIR AWARDS IT
FOURTEEN GOLD MEDALS.

Four Silver, Seventeen Bronze and
Eighty-two Favorable Mentions—
First Gun Fired by Judges.

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 12.—(Special Correspondence.)—The jury on awards fired its first gun today, and quite a large shell exploded in Oregon's agricultural department. Picking up the fragments, we find 14 gold medals, four silver medals, 17 bronze medals and 82 honorable mentions. Among those receiving gold medals are the State of Oregon for grains, grasses and forage plants; hops, wool and mohair; vegetables; Oregon Agricultural College, grains and grasses; American Linseed Company, Portland, oil and meal; J. R. Brown, Corvallis, flax; W. B. Glafke, Portland, creamery butter; J. H. Kiser, potatoes; Lamberson Sons & Co., seeds; Oregon's Woman Flax Fibre Association, flax and its products; Pacific Pine Needle Company, Grant's Pass, pine needle fibre and products; A. J. Sawtelle, Corvallis, teasels; Southern Pacific Company, Portland, cepsals and grasses. Henry E. DOSCH.

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LESSON IN BIG FAIR

Omaha Made Exposition Pay
in Face of Hard Times.

LOCAL RICH MEN AGAINST IT

But Once Started, Everybody La-
bored With a Will—Some of the
Difficulties Encountered—
Mistake as to Site.

OMAHA, Neb., May 8.—(Staff Correspondence.)—To Omaha belongs the distinction of having given the most successful fair ever held in the United States. To be sure the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, of 1893, was a small thing compared with the Columbian at Chicago, in 1893, or with the Centennial at Philadelphia. There was no attempt to equal or rival these big affairs, no pretense of being in their class. The success of the Omaha fair lay in this, namely, that it was all it pretended to be, that it accomplished the object which its promoters had in view, and that it "paid out" or practically so in a financial way. A result of this kind is worth investigating, especially in view of our plans for 1905, and I have been putting in a very busy two days in learning how the thing was done.

To begin at the beginning, Omaha was terribly in the dumps during the years 1893-94-95. To the embarrassments which followed the general financial depression of that period was added the distress of three almost rainless years, which left the country parched and made half the wells in the country dry. Omaha, as the center of the afflicted district, and as a city relatively new and largely on a boom basis, was hard hit. "There were whole days," said a citizen to me today in describing this period, "when you could safely have fired a cannon down Farnam street. The very life seemed gone out from the town. The whole country round about for 500 miles was in no better condition. For lack of water many thousands of farmers in the states close about here could raise nothing and those who did manage to get a crop could get no price for it. The drought, while it nowhere created immediate physical want, had a depressing effect upon the public mind. People grew hopeless; and there was a time here in Omaha when the situation seemed almost desperate."

This was the situation when the so-called Trans-Mississippi Congress, in the course of its peripatetic career, held its session for 1895 in Omaha. This association, it will be remembered, was one of the agencies through which the free silver propaganda attempted to work up support—or the appearance of it—for the fight it was making in Congress and before the country. Pretending to large purposes in behalf of the Western part of the country, it was in fact a mere organ of the silver-miner owners and of men like Bryan who sought somewhere outside of the field of nominal Populist politics for a free-silver ally. In its whole career this association did one—and just one—useful thing; or, to speak more exactly, its session at Omaha gave opportunity for a few men of Omaha having little part in sympathy with the association itself, or its purposes, to use its name in a worthy enterprise.

Things came about in this way: A little group of Omaha citizens and property-holders had conceived the project of a fair, or exposition, but they lacked a reason for it. There was no striking historical or other basis for it—nothing to suggest it as a sentimental or patriotic duty. While the matter was under discussion the so-called Trans-Mississippi Congress met in Omaha. Here was the opportunity to gain a name—and one of high sound—and a nominal authority and backing, even though one of small practical account. A resolution authorizing the people of Omaha to organize and hold a Trans-Mississippi Exposition was prepared, and Mr. Bryan, who naturally was the leading figure in the congress, was invited to introduce it. Of course the thing went through with a whoop—and upon this basis those who had conceived the exposition as a local enterprise set to work. A little company of about 20 men came together and by a sort of passing-the-hat process raised a subscription of \$12,000.

Upon this small basis the ball was opened. The rich men of Omaha were generally against it. Times were hard, it was argued; it was a time to save money rather than to spend it; a mere entertainment would do nothing for the town, for while it might make a transient and artificial activity, it could not alter the conditions; the thing would be certain to fail, and in its failure it would do Omaha infinite harm; when the show was over it would leave behind a condition of paralysis and so aggravate rather than mitigate the prevailing distress. The changes were rung on these forebodings, but to no effect. The thing had gotten in the public mind; it had caught on; to turn back was not possible without loss of credit. Just in time to turn the scale decisively and to give spirit and vigor to the project, the State Legislature of Iowa, without any lobbying, or even prompting, made an appropriation of \$10,000 in aid of the projected fair. That settled it. There was no further talk of turning back; and though the grumbling did not cease, there was no thought, after the voice of Iowa was heard, of anything but to push the movement along. To Iowa belongs the credit equally with Omaha for the success of the fair, for to this first subscription other donations were added, and from first to last the patronage of Iowa was one of its main resources.

Appeal was made simultaneously to Congress and to the people of Omaha, and in both instances good results were attained. Congress gave by direct appropriation the sum of \$200,000 and at a

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