CLEMENTS' DEFEAT

The British General Tells How It Happened.

RELIEF FAILED TO ARRIVE

Retirement Was Carried Out With Regularity, but Much Transportation Was Lost—Joubert's Son Was Killed.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Lord Kitchener, under date of December 15, reports to the War Office from Pretoria as follows:

"Clements has come to see me. He says the four companies of the Northumberlands held out on the hill as long as their ammunition lasted. The Boer force attacking the hill was 2000 strong, while another force of 1000 attacked Clements' camp. By 6:20 A. M. the hill was carried. Reinforcements of one company of the Yorkshires failed to reach the top. Clements' retirement was carried out with regularity, but as many native drivers bolted, a considerable amount of transportation was lost. All their ammunition not taken away was destroyed. He reports that all behaved very well. Broadwood has gone to Rustenberg and supports Olphant's Nek, which has been reinforced. A flag of truce, which has come into Commando Nek from the Boers, says Joubert's son was killed, and further reports their losses very heavy."

Lord Kitchener reports that 18 officers and 555 men are missing from General Clements' force. They consist of four companies of the Northumberland Fusiliers. Judging from the message, these were captured by the Boers. Clements' casualties December 13 amounted to five officers and nine men killed and many apparently wounded. Lord Kitchener's message to the War Office is as follows:

"Pretoria, Dec. 14.—Clements brought in his force to Commando Nek unopposed. The casualties were, I regret to say, heavy—killed, five officers and nine of other ranks; missing, 18 officers and 550 of other ranks. These latter were four companies of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who were stationed on the hill, and some Yeomanry and other details sent up to support them. Names and nature of wounds are being telegraphed from Cape Town. Broadwood's brigade took no part in the engagement. The Boers suffered severely."

Lord Kitchener reports that Knox drove Dewet north to the Thabanchu-Ladybrand line, which was held by our troops. Dewet's force, about 3000 strong, made several attempts to get through during the day, assisted by a force of Boers operating from the north. These attacks were driven back, though some of the Boers from the south were able to get through the line.

Wiring later, December 14, Lord Kitchener reports that while passing the lines in the neighborhood of Thabanchu, Dewet's force lost considerably. The South African Horse and Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry captured a 15-pounder, taken at Dewetsdorp, a pompom and several wagons with ammunition, 22 prisoners and some horses and mules. A portion of the enemy had not been able to pass north.

Kitchener's dispatch confirms yesterday's most pessimistic fears, and demonstrates that the catastrophe is among the worst of the war. The matter was brought up in the House of Commons today, but the Secretary for War, William St. John Broderick, had no information to add, except that the wounded numbered six officers and 45 men.

The newspapers see prearrangement in the recrudescence of Boer activity everywhere, the object being to strengthen Mr. Kruger's hands, while the fact that the news of the fresh disaster comes on the anniversary of the Battle of Colenso furnishes the editors with an excuse to demand the head of General Buller. The St. James's Gazette declares it has reason to credit the National Review's recent statement that Buller, after his first failure to drive the Boers from the Tugela, counseled General White to surrender Ladysmith.

A special dispatch from Staderton, Transvaal, dated December 14, says that General Louis Botha is at Ermelo taking a peaceful attitude and informing the burghers that the time has come to submit to the inevitable. It is expected that he will shortly make overtures for peace.

Protest Against Farm Burning.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Society of Friends of the United Kingdom are about to memorialize Lord Salisbury, protesting against the burning of homes, causing great suffering to women and children, as a means of checking the destruction of railways or effecting the submission of the combatants. This, the memorial will say, is a reversion to the inhuman methods of ancient and medieval warfare.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

Shortest of the Queen's Speeches—Chamberlain Again Attacked.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Parliament was dismissed until the middle of February with the reading of the shortest of the Queen's speeches. It was as follows:

"My Lords and Gentlemen—I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the expenses incurred by the operations of my armies in South Africa and China."

The proceedings today, in the House of Commons, were a repetition in miniature of the debates of the brief session. The ministers were heckled, the war was virulently denounced and Mr. Chamberlain was further attacked. The war funds were finally voted after the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Broderick, had given assurance that the government, during recess, would cordially cooperate with General Kitchener in an endeavor to end the war.

Particularly stinging were the remarks of John Bryn-Roberts, Liberal member for the South Elfon division of Carnarvonshire. He declared that the British treatment of the women of South Africa was an outrage on civilization and that it was blasphemy to hold Christian services in St. Paul's in connection with the return of Lord Roberts, while there were such proceedings in South Africa.

Mr. Broderick hotly denounced Mr. Bryn-Roberts' charges, asserting that it was criminal to make allegations which could not be proved, but which, however, would be telegraphed to South Africa to increase the discontent existing there. He held up Mr. Bryn-Roberts to the censure and reprobation of nearly every member of the House of Commons. These remarks were greeted with cheers. Mr. Broderick then repeated that the government did not desire to pursue a policy which would make it more difficult for the Boers to cease fighting, and that the government abided in the declarations of Mr. Chamberlain.

The session was suspended until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when both houses were prorogued.

In Justice to Perry Kinkaid.

PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Perry Kinkaid, the young man who was recently killed at Comstock Or., while attempting to ride a brakebeam, was in no need of money to pay for a railway ticket. He had been employed all Summer, and was no idle vagabond, seeking to beat his way. The foolish act was attempted in a boyish spirit of adventure. He had often said to a relative that he would like to ride on a brakebeam. He finally attempted the perilous feat, with a terrible result that should be a warning to all foolishly adventurous youths.

M. B.

LOCKED UP THE MARSHAL.

Robbers, Disguised as Tramps, Loot Stores and Burn Bank Building.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 15.—Five unidentified men, garbed as tramps, who asked shelter in the calaboose at midnight last night, overpowered the village marshal of Brighton, Ill., locked him in a cell, and then broke into a bank and two stores. They attempted to get into the vault of Blodgett Bros.' bank, in which there was a large amount of money, but were unsuccessful, although the strong box was partially wrecked by several explosions of dynamite. Failing there, the robbers entered the general store of E. Butler, where they broke into the safe and secured $100. Soon afterward Butler's store was discovered on fire. A loss of several thousand dollars resulted. The robbers escaped on a handcar. When the Marshal was liberated he organized a posse and started after the robbers with bloodhounds.

Mysterious Poisoning Case.

MARIETTA, O., Dec. 15.—As a result of a mysterious case of poisoning at the Forsyth mines, near here, four persons are dead, four are dying, and two others are seriously ill. The dead are: Andrew Barnick, Mary Laichak, Andrew Litchic; child, name not given. The Coroner and a physician went to the place today and learned that all the victims had died in great agony, suffering without a doubt from poisoning. A post-mortem examination was held at once on the bodies and the stomachs were secured for analysis. Three other men are sick with the same symptoms, and are considered to be in a dangerous condition. The people all lived close together, and were all taken sick last night after having eaten supper. There are many signs that poison had been put in their food, but by whom is yet to be determined. Barnick was to have been married Monday to Rosa Laichak, a sister of the dead woman. It is believed that some one jealous of the couple committed the deed.

"Little Bat" Shot.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 15.—A Journal special from Crawford, Neb., says:

Baptiste Garnier, known all over the West, especially among Army men, as "Little Bat," the fearless Indian scout, who first came into prominence for services rendered General McCook, and later for service in all the big Indian wars, was shot and probably fatally wounded in a saloon today by James D. Haguewood, the saloon manager. The trouble between the two is not known. "Little Bat" had been holding the office of chief officer in the Government service at Fort Robinson. There is slight hope of his recovery. Haguewood surrendered.

Butte Meat Shop Held Up.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 15.—Three men went into a South Butte butcher shop tonight and at the point of guns demanded all the cash in the till. Henry Strader, who was in charge, refused to deliver. One of the highwaymen shot Strader through the body. All three then ran. Strader went to the telephone and notified the police, who an hour or so later arrested a man giving the name of Harry Smith. He admits firing the shot. He and his companions were released from jail yesterday because the prosecuting witness in the robbery charges against them had disappeared. Strader's condition is serious.

Attempt to Lynch White Man.

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 15.—At Westville this afternoon, a daring attempt was made to lynch Charles Haverson, a white man, under sentence of death for murdering a merchant named Ammons several months ago. The mob was composed of nearly 1000 persons. The Sheriff and other citizens made earnest appeals for the life of Haverson, and the mob finally agreed to disperse on condition that if the Supreme Court should grant a new trial and a change of venue, the people would be given notice when Haverson was to be taken from the county.

Bank-Robber Captured.

BRIDGEPORT, O., Dec. 15.—One of the three men arrested here after a desperate fight aboard a passenger train was today identified as one of the robbers of the Bank of Seville. John Deerschuck, the owner of the Zanesville Bank, which was robbed Wednesday night, has identified part of the plunder recovered as having been stolen from his bank. The three prisoners refuse to talk. The members of the gang who escaped have not yet been captured, having kept their pursuers off with revolvers.

Diploma-Swindler Sentenced.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Dr. James Armstrong, president at various times of the Metropolitan and Independent Medical Colleges and the Illinois Health University, was today sentenced by Judge Kohlsaat to serve one year in jail and pay a fine of $500. Mr. Armstrong was found guilty of using the United States mails for fraudulent purposes. The testimony showed that Armstrong's institutions were devoted entirely to the selling of diplomas.

Hoff Convicted.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The jury in the Hoff murder case has brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree and fixed the penalty at life imprisonment.

WIRELESS TELEPHONING.

Successfully Accomplished at Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Telephoning without wires was successfully accomplished this afternoon by transmitting the voice across the Mississippi River, near the Franklin-avenue bridge, Minneapolis, a distance of over 1000 feet. One hundred and fifty feet of copper wire was strung parallel on either side of the river. Along the banks and for some distance out into the stream there was thick ice, which proved particularly favorable to the lay of the wires. The sound was easily and clearly transmitted, showing the possibilities of the system under more favorable circumstances. The first experiment was tried with five volts. The sound of the voice could be distinctly heard, but it was impossible to catch the words. Later, without any change being made in the apparatus, the words could be as distinctly understood as over the regulation wire telephone, and this was followed by muddled and indistinct sounds. Other batteries were then attached, five at a time, finally cutting in 20 volts on one end of the line with five on the other. The operator at the five-volt end could not only understand what was said, but could hear others talking on the bank of the river near the transmitter.

A Mission Rock Decision.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—A decision has been handed down in the United States Circuit Court depriving the California Drydock Company of all its rights in Mission Rock and the improvements thereon, which amount to $300,000. The decision was rendered by Judge Beatty, of Idaho, on a suit in ejectment begun by the Government last August. The technical point involved was the right of the state to grant title to tide land surrounding Government property. An appeal will be taken. The Government wants the island for a coaling station. It is now occupied by the warehouses of the dock company.

All the virtues of a good old ale—creamy head, sparkling brilliancy and piquant taste of the true bitter ale all together in every bottle of Evans' Ale and Stout. Bottled at the brewery.

GREAT RAILWAY ALLIANCE

NEW TRANSCONTINENTAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM.

Combination of Northern Pacific Great Northern, Erie and Milwaukee & St. Paul Lines.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Analyzing the recent railroad deals, the Journal of Commerce says:

Much of the stock of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern is already in the same hands. Community of control is to be extended to connecting lines. Management for common purposes is in this instance to be applied to sundry systems of railways, railways serving different sections of the country, but which, operated in co-operation, will make a system extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The Erie, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific are reported to be the roads concerned.

In the first place, control of the Erie could be acquired most easily, none of the stocks selling for high prices, and Erie as the second point in the argument had the most to gain from a transcontinental alliance of connecting links. Such traffic as might be billed either to the St. Paul or the two lines which reach the Pacific Coast could easily be gained, in a great part at any rate, for the Erie, while to the Erie in like manner the St Paul, Great Northern or the Northern Pacific could shift the bulk of the freight which they might gather along their lines for shipment east of Chicago, more particularly the large portion of what might be intended for the seaboard and the port of New York. The Erie would have a further advantage in its connection at Buffalo with the Great Northern's steamship lines, while the St. Paul, in giving the Great Northern and Northern Pacific outlet to Chicago from Minneapolis and St. Paul on especially favorable terms, might well profit largely from the additional traffic of the Northwest which could be shifted to its lines. Another end served would be the regulation of competition between the granger road and the two Pacific lines in districts where all three or two of the three seek business, and the consequent guaranty of stable rates on a level permitting a fair return on the cost of transportation.

How the terms of the alliance will be disclosed, how far the settlement has proceeded, is not yet evident. Evidence of the relation of the sort may be given shortly by such a step as the election of J. J. Hill to the St. Paul's board, rumors of which are already in circulation. Signs confirmatory are also available in the appointment of J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern, and Norman B. Ream, of the Baltimore & Ohio, to the Erie's board, together with the election of another member, Robert Beacon, from the banking firm by whom the last reorganization of the Erie was carried through. It is plain that stock would not have been taken had there not been some plan under consideration by which the Erie could be made to pay. And the prospects of that property would seem to be gilded less by the promise of carrying hereafter the tonnage of the Pennsylvania Coal Company—a tonnage which it has had hitherto—than by the outlook for an alliance such as the one now said to be in view.

HILL MAKES A STATEMENT.

Says the New York Report Is the Veriest Nonsense.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 15.—Regarding the story that President J. J. Hill has resigned from the Great Northern system to establish a transcontinental traffic system, Mr. Hill today made emphatic denial, classing the whole story as nonsense.

"The fact is," he said, "a few friends have joined me in an investment in the Erie road, which is a good property and capable of being made a paying investment, as has been the case with the Baltimore & Ohio. So far as trying to organize a combination of lines across the continent is concerned, there is absolutely nothing in it. Such an undertaking would be too great for any person to handle, and besides that, it is impracticable. The conditions are too diverse to warrant any such attempt. In the East and the West the business conditions are too far apart to put them under one management. It is impossible to regulate conditions by a board of directors. Things must be taken as they exist. The whole proposition is nonsensical. As to my retiring from the presidency of the Great Northern, I was re-elected to that position at the annual meeting of the road in October, and there is no likelihood of my getting out of it. I would be glad to be relieved of some of the burdens of the work, but do not see any immediate prospect of any changes looking to such an event. I went into the Erie as an investment, and not to increase any burdens. The road has for a long time been kicked about, but lies in a good tonnage section, and it is to be improved in such manner as seems most likely to bring good returns on the investment and make it a permanently good paying property. But the whole story of a gigantic combination is the veriest rubbish."

Hill Practically Admits It.

A special dispatch from St. Paul to The Oregonian alst night gives another version of the matter, as follows:

J. J. Hill today declined to deny the report that he had resigned or would resign from the presidency of the Great Northern, but said he had long contemplated lessening his burdens and was working toward that end. A Great Northern official said:

"J. J. Hill will resign from the presidency of the Great Northern, and will become chairman of the board of directors, but these changes will not go into effect for some time."

COMBINATION IN ANTHRACITE.

J. P. Morgan & Co. Are Acquiring Very Large Interests.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—The purchase by J. P. Morgan & Co., of the Pennsylvania Coal Company in the interest of the Erie Railway is looked upon in anthracite circles in this city as but incidental and preliminary to a still greater and closer alliance between the anthracite interests. It is said that the next move of the Morgan interests will be to purchase the anthracite interests of Coxe Brothers & Co., in the Hazleton field. The tonnage of this firm, together with that of the Delaware, Susquehanna & Schuylkill Railroad, owned and controlled by it, is almost as large as that of the Pennsylvania Coal Company. Having secured these two interests the most dangerous independent competitors in the anthracite coal trade would be removed.

An authority on coal matters says:

"With the Morgan interest practically in control, there could be an entire rearrangement of the present situation so far as the geographical distribution of anthracite is concerned. Each anthracite carrier would confine its distribution within its legitimate territory, due consideration to be given to its proportional share of the entire territory."

OPENING OF CASCADE TUNNEL.

First Great Northern Train Will Pass Through Today.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 15.—The now famous Cascade tunnel of the Great Northern Railway will be open for traffic tomorrow, the first trains running through on that day and doing so regularly thereafter. This three-mile tunnel was constructed from both ends at the same time, and when the engineering crews met, they were within a small fraction of an inch of the working out of the plan, the feat being considered a remarkable one. The train which left Seattle today will be the first to pass through the tunnel, that which left this city yesterday being the first westbound train to do so. Two new large 150-ton engines will be used in the tunnel for the present, using coal from Crow's Nest Pass, which is almost entirely free from sulphur, and, therefore, well fitted for tunnel use. Later electricity will probably be used through the tunnel, but plans have not been perfected to that end.

TO WITHDRAW COLONIST RATE.

Great Northern Asks the Repeal of a Tariff It Inaugurated.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—The Great Northern road, it was stated today, has addressed identical notes to the Northern Pacific and the "Soo" roads asking them to agree to the withdrawal of the round-trip colonist rate west of St. Paul. This rate was forced on the other roads by the Great Northern for the purpose of securing settlers for contingent territory. This object, it is said, has been accomplished.

Rate to G. A. R. Encampment.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Railroads in the Western Passenger Association will make a 1-cent rate for the Grand Army encampment at Denver next year, providing that the executive committee of the Grand Army, at the meeting in Denver, Monday, agrees to postpone the date of the encampment to September. The proposition for this rate was put to the Western Passenger Association today by the Burlington and Rock Island roads, with the notice that, should the other roads concerned refuse the proposition, the Rock Island and Burlington would make the rate independently. This is tantamount to forcing the roads of the association to make the rate. That the date of the encampment will be postponed until some time in September is said to be assured.

Freight Rate Demoralization.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—As a result of the meeting of the presidents of the Western lines recently in Chicago, the agreement between the lines was suspended until January 1. It is said that this practically means that the freight agents of these lines are given freedom to make any and all freight charges they see fit in order to get the tonnage. It is not known just at present what led to the decision, but it is understood that the ineffectiveness of the Presidents' Association to stop the rate-cutting was responsible. Since the meeting it is said rates have been cut without fear of punishment, and it is believed that a lively war has started.

May Dismiss Women Stenographers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—It is possible that within a short time the Northern Pacific will discharge all of its women stenographers. The reason for such action is that young women fill places which if held by young men would put the latter directly in the line for promotion. Although it is agreed that women make more satisfactory stenographers than young men, the latter are preferred because the general knowledge they acquire through taking dictation from their superiors soon qualifies them for higher positions.

Brotherhoods Want Recognition.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—The five brotherhoods of railway employes in Illinois asking for recognition on the state railroad and warehouse commission was a decided innovation in railroad matters. It has long been contended by the brotherhoods that a practical railroad man should be on the board. The organizations which intend to have a voice in matters in which they are so much concerned are: The Brotherhoods of Locomotive Engineers, Firemen, Trainmen, Switchmen and the Order of Railway Conductors of Illinois.

Shipping Logs by Rail.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 15.—President Mellen, of the Northern Pacific, who has been trying for the past two years to convince the lumbermen of the Northwest that they can ship their logs by rail at no great cost and more rapidly than by the old-fashioned method of rafting them, is now going to put his theory into practice. He has contracted to carry 90,000,000 feet of logs from Cloquet, in the northern part of Minnesota, to Stillwater, Minn. It is the largest contract for the transportation of logs on a railroad.

DAILY CITY STATISTICS.

Real Estate Transfers.

Peter Schmeer and wife to George S. Shepherd, lot 12, block 3, Tabasco Addition, East Portland, July 27, 1898 $ 1

David J. Culy to Jacob F. Gilbert, lots 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, block 6, Peninsular Addition No. 2, East Portland, November 7 500

Phoebe A. and Elizabeth Claggett to Louis Miller, 270 acres in T. 1 S., R. 4 E., December 10 400

L. D. McArdle and wife and M. Billings and wife to the Co-operative Investment Co., south half lot 2, block 71, city, December 10 10

Elizabeth and J. R. Hanson to Lelia Grace Lamberson, lots 5 and 6, block 234, Holladay's Addition, East Portland, December 11 1800

T. J. Jellison, referee, to J. B. Osborne, lots 16, 17, 18, block 15, Arbor Lodge, December 11 80

Ed. Tomlinson et al. to Paulina A. Gessell, lot 4, block 1, Tomlinson's Addition, city, December 13 400

University Land Co. to Sarah J. Van Bebber, lots 1 and 2, block 44, University Park, December 13 150

W. T. Jacobson to Caroline Wade, lots 3 and 4, block 9, Central Albina, December 13 450

Anna C. and Thomas J. Hammer to Christiana McIntyre Smith, lot 11, block 7, Sunnyside, December 14 1

Sheriff of Multnomah County to Washington National Building, Loan & Investment Association, lot 10, block 6, Cloverdale Extension, December 15 758

Canada Settlers' Loan & Trust Co., Ltd., to C. C. Barker, lot 5, block 222, city, December 15 1850

Building Permit.

Johnson & Frey, stable and storehouse, extending from First to Front, between Jefferson and Columbia streets, $2000.

Marriage Licenses.

Arvid Nelson, 21, and Helma C. Peterson, 23; Gustav Burevus, 28, and Alma Neilson, 30.

Death Returns.

December 13, Helen M. Erikson, 721 East Thirteenth street, aged 20 days; anaemia.

December 14, Ernest Groocock, Good Samaritan Hospital, aged 29 years; valvular disease of heart.

December 10, James Banks, St. Vincent's Hospital, native of Ohio, 72 years; Bright's disease.

Contagious Diseases.

Frank Whitehead, 575 Mississippi avenue, 8 years; scarletina.

Mrs. P. A. Preston, 520 East Fifteenth street, 45 years; typhoid fever.

Fredia Bengenheimer, 470 Goldsmith avenue; measles.

(The following cases of contagious diseases through error were published under the heading "Death Returns" in yesterday's paper:

December 13, Charlie Gregory, at North Seventh, near Couch street; diphtheria.

December 15 Effie Steinmiller, at 106½ Union avenue; diphtheria.

December 10, Georgie Franklin, at 208 Market street; typhoid fever.

December 11, Mr. Gifford, at Selling-Hirsch building; typhoid fever.

December 12, Hoffman, Jr., at Sixteenth and Clifton streets; measles.)

Illegal Concerns.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 15.—Attorney-General Oren has decided that the business of various debentures, diamond contract and tontine companies, operating in Michigan, is fraudulent and against public policy, and today announced that he would begin proceedings to drive them from the state. He says the law provides ample proceedure, either by proceeding criminally against the officers or by quo warranto proceedings, and that the business must stop.

WANT ASTORIA FRANCHISE

LOCAL CAPITAL ASKS FOR STREET-RAILWAY PRIVILEGES.

Present System Will Be Absorbed and Line Extended and Greatly Improved.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 15.—At a meeting of the City Council next Monday, an application for a street-car franchise will be presented by Judge C. H. Page, Martin Foard and F. R. Stokes, of this city. In the application it will be stated that the present street-railway system will be absorbed, an option having been secured on it. They will also state that the road will be extended and improved, and that to do so they have interested sufficient Eastern capital in the undertaking.

Officers of Alaska Fishing Company.

The stockholders of the American Packing & Canning Company, of Astoria, held a meeting last evening and elected the following board of directors: Charles Rogers, F. R. Stokes, P. H. McDonnell, F. A. Fisher and George Johnson. The object of the company is to construct and operate a cannery in Alaska.

Washington Notes.

Shoplifters are active at Buckley.

The case against Rev. Mr. Carlson, at Port Townsend, was dismissed Friday. He was charged with misappropriation of money belonging to Mrs. Doneison.

White River is again shifting its course into the southern and old channel called White Creek. In consequence, the Buckley water plant has been moved to higher ground.

E. N. Solling and E. D. Wheeler, of Manistee, Mich., have bought 8000 acres of timber lands lying in different parts of Pierce County, but mostly in the southern part. The purchase price was $20,000. The lands were held by F. T. Cameron.

George M. Barrick, accused of murder in Yakima, is reported at the Sheriff's office as having left the country. He was recently released on $500 bonds. The bondsmen are A. J. Shaw, E. W. Dooley, F. E. Thompson and two others, each qualifying for $100. Barrick is accused of having murdered an Indian woman named Nettie, July 4, 1900.

Dr. P. Frank, of the Yakima Commercial Club, has been in correspondence with a Milwaukee brewery man who contemplates the erection of a large brewing plant, ice factory and bottling works at North Yakima. Arrangements have been perfected for the investment of $50,000 in the combined plants, and an effort will be made to secure the guarantee of at least $10,000 in stock in the proposed company, to be taken by local men.

State Horticulturist J. E. Baker, in his report to the Legislature, will recommend an appropriation to defray the expenses of a horticultural exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo, next Summer. Mr. Baker and Mr. C. A. Tonneson, and many other prominent fruit men of the state, believe this exhibit is of the first importance to the fruit interests of Washington, but so far little or no work has been done toward getting such an exhibit together.

S. A. Callvert, Land Commissioner-elect, has announced his appointments to the positions in his control at Olympia for the next four years as follows: Chief clerk, John L. Murray, of Friday Harbor; bookkeeper, George Hopkins, of Olympia; chief engineer, E. I. Andrews, of Ellensburg; assistant engineer, Edmund S. Hincks, of Whatcom; abstractors, W. F. Callvert, of Whatcom, and J. C. Kennedy, of Wahkiakum County; stenographer, Mrs. Clara Van Etten, of Olympia.

Rev. Thomas Pearne, one of the native Yakima Indians, who has been converted to Methodism and is a preacher of that faith, has gone to Washington to confer with the President on matters pertaining to the business of disposing of lands held by his tribe. A survey made some years ago it is claimed robbed the Indians of about 300,000 acres of their reservation. The lands are the best in the Cascades slope of the red men's allotments. Whites have located on the properties. After some years of dispute the lands have been transferred to the Indians. They have all received their allotments and do not desire more lands. This new tract is therefore for sale. The Indian commission recently visited the lands and attempted to treat with the Indians, offering them approximately 25 cents an acre for their lands. This offer the Indians spurned. The mission of Rev. Mr. Pearne is to show the President and the Secretary of the Interior that his tribe desires to be treated right in this matter. It is probable that an agreement will be reached and the lands sold to settlers at its approximate valuation.

New Association to Be Formed.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Detailed plans for the Standard Fraternal Association which, it is intended, shall reinsure the members of the Chosen Friends, were made public today. A meeting will be held in this city Tuesday and the plans already decided upon by the officers of the new order will be indorsed. All those called to the meeting have been prominent in the Chosen Friends and will hold official capacities in the new order. The officers of the Standard Association will be: Past supreme president, Joseph Clark, Jr., New York; supreme president, W. F. Gibson, Indianapolis, formerly of San Francisco; supreme first vice-president, S. C. Wallis, San Francisco, now supreme recorder for the Pacific Coast of the Chosen Friends; supreme second vice-president, A. Rosengartner, Louisville; supreme secretary, T. B. Linn, Indianapolis; supreme treasurer, L. S. Staber, St. Louis; supreme medical examiner, Dr. C. A. Burhans, Cincinnati; supreme marshal, David Sanders, San Antonio, Tex.; supreme guard, P. H. O'Brien, New Haven, Conn.; supreme vidette, L. M. Smith, Chicago. The table of rates has been decided upon for members of the new order.

Rights of Hawaiian Chinese.

HONOLULU, Dec. 7.—A Treasury Department ruling in the matter of Chinese citizenship has created excitement and surprise among the Chinese population here. It declares that the Chinese who were naturalized citizens of the Republic of Hawaii did not become American citizens by virtue of the provisions of the territorial act. Section 4 of that act declared that "all persons who were citizens of the Republic of Hawaii on August 12, 1898, are hereby declared to be citizens of the United States." Under this section Chinese citizens of the late republic were supposed to be Americans, and they were allowed to vote. The question arose here when some of the supposed American citizens wanted to leave Hawaii for the United States. Collector Stackable wrote to Washington and received the new ruling on the 29th of last month. The number of Chinese affected by the ruling is small, but they are mostly wealthy merchants.

Midnight Mass New Year's Eve.

WASHINGTON Dec. 15.—It is learned at the papal legation that coincident with the close of the 19th century, every archbishop and bishop in the United States, as well as elsewhere, is expected by Pope Leo to pontificate publicly at a midnight service in his cathedral, provided there are no impediments to interfere with the programme. At Baltimore, Cardinal Gibbons will conduct the commemorative rites, and in Washington Archbishop Martinelli has promised to officiate as celebrant of midnight mass at St. Patrick's Church.

Waldorf Astor Unjustly Taxed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Justice Andrews, in the Supreme Court, today decided that the personal estate of William Waldorf Astor, in this city was illegally taxed by the Commissioner of Taxes and Assessments for the year 1899, when he claimed to be a resident of London. His personality was fixed at $2,000,000. When examined before the Tax Commissioners he swore he had given up his residence here and purchased a residence in London and had no intention of again residing in this country. Justice Andrews' opinion is that Mr. Astor's application for remission of taxation should have been granted, as his evidence was not contradicted, and there was no reason to believe that his testimony was not true.

Justice Andrews also handed down a decision refusing to vacate the assessment on Bradley Martin's personal estate for the same year which was fixed at $200,000, holding that he must still be considered a resident of New York.

ARE JUDGES ENOUGH.

Too Many Lawyers Are Interested in Litigation.

Portland Dispatch.

As the time for the convening of the Legislature approaches, there is the regular clamor for additional Judges to relieve the burdens of the Supreme Court. The voters sat down pretty heavily last June on the proposed amendment to the constitution by which the number of Supreme Judges could be increased. The most profitable way to the people and general taxpayer to remedy this matter is to decrease the business of the Supreme Court. It is useless to have every little petty case go to the Supreme Court, and if the lawyers will not stop when they are defeated in the lower court, the law should step in and compel them to do so. If the people elect competent Circuit Judges—and the men now occupying those positions throughout the state will compare most favorably in legal ability with our Supreme Judges—there is no reason why they should not be entrusted with final action in most cases now appealed. The lawyer will argue that every litigant has a right to go to the highest court. This is true. But in answer to this it is only necessary to say that when the litigant commences an action he knows how far he can take his case, and when he has reached the court he gets the verdict of the highest court that has jurisdiction over his case. The Supreme Court in many cases becomes simply a final resort for cases that go there to gain time. There is another and a greater evil in regard to this appeal privilege. It gives the rich an undue advantage over the poor. In many instances just verdicts have been rendered for a poor client and, after such a verdict, compromised simply on account of delay and expense resulting from appeal. The expenses of administering the judicial departments in the state have increased within the past 10 years more rapidly than those of any other, and the people are not blind to that fact, and they demand that there be a halt. A gentleman looking over the lower house of the last Legislature remarked: "I tell you there are too many lawyers on that floor." There are also too many lawyers interested in increasing litigation and the number of Judges.

Alaska Reindeer Exp d. ion Expense

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The Secretary of the Treasury has recommended that Congress appropriate $1300, to be placed to the credit of Major True, United States Army, to recompense that officer for a like amount which he paid to Dr. Sheldon Jackson to cover the latter's expenses on his trip to Europe several years ago, when he was in search of reindeer and native drivers, for outfitting a relief expedition to rescue certain stranded miners in the Yukon Valley. This is an old account which it is desired to clear up by squaring the Major's accounts.

League of Municipalities.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 15.—The League of American Municipalities, which has been in session here since Wednesday, concluded today and adjourned. The next meetings will be held at Jamestown, N. Y. These officers were elected: President, J. A. Johnson, Fargo, N. D.; vice-presidents, Mayors Ashley, New Bedford, Mass.; Smythe, Charleston, S. C.; Stephens, East St. Louis; secretary, John McVicar, Des Moines; treasurer, D. P. Taylor, Bridgeport, Conn.

Transports Sail for Manila.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The transport Logan sailed this afternoon for Manila via Honolulu with a large amount of treasure and 100 recruits.

SEATTLE, Dec. 15.—The transport Kintuck sailed for Manila this afternoon with 504 horses and 311 mules for Philippine service, besides 1200 tons of miscellaneous Army supplies. She will touch at Honolulu and there give the animals a rest from confinement aboard ship.

Boy Murderer in Prison.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Alexander Stewart, the boy murderer, whose recent sentence for the killing of Edward Piesel, a playmate in the House of Refuge brought tears to the eyes of Judge Fursman, is now in prison. The boy, it is said, is a third cousin of the famous New York merchant, A. T. Stewart. According to Keeper Connaughton, he is the smallest prisoner ever received at Sing Sing.

Population of Montana Towns.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The population of certain incorporated places in Montana, having a population of more than 2000, but less than 25,000 is as follows:

Anaconda	9,350	Kalispell	2,526
Billings	2,221	Livingston	2,178
Bozeman	3,215	Missoula	4,366
Great Falls	14,930	Red Lodge	2,530
Helena	10,360	Walkerville	2,621

Vice-Consul Shot Himself.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—Paul Antoine, Vice-Consul of France and acting Consul, shot himself through the head last night and will probably die. The shooting was witnessed by a woman known as Bell Chappell, with whom he has kept company for three years, but who refused to make a statement.

Santa Fe Trainmen May Strike.

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 15.—It is rumored that the Santa Fe trainmen will be ordered out by 7 o'clock in the morning. Everything indicates that they are expecting an important development of some kind. It was stated tonight that the yardmaster here had been advised to be prepared for a trainmen's strike.

Football Injuries Caused Death.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 15.—W. B. Coppinger, son of the late State Senator Coppinger, died today at Alton, Ill., aged 21. He was injured in a football game at Dunkirk, N. Y., Thanksgiving day, and contracted a severe cold also. Prostration resulted, followed by uremic poisoning, resulting in death.

New Revolution in Venezuela.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Dec. 15.—Advices received here from Demarara, British Guiana, under date of December 5, announce the arrest in Caracas, Venezuela, of 56 prominent citizens on the charge of plotting a new revolution. The arrests, it is added, have created great excitement.

New Food Trust.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 15.—The Natural Food Company, of the city of Niagara Falls, with a capital stock of $10,000,000, has filed articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State. The corporation tax alone amounts to $12,500.

Honesty the Best Qualification.

Saturday Evening Post.

In common honesty there is no compromise. A man who is partly honest is wholly dishonest. It is the real common honesty that the world needs, not only in its business but in its social life, its religion and its politics—honesty that will do what is right and will bravely face every duty. The man who has this virtue need have no fear of success in this world, for his reward in material gains, as well as in the higher honors of life, is just as sure as anything can be in this world. There never was a time when the man of common honesty was so much in demand, and there never was a time when common honesty was so profitable. The trickster and the shyster have their day and their hour, but they are sure to be caught in the end. But common honesty is for a life-time and for the good name that endures long after life is over.

In The Dentist's Office.

"I have found that your liquid SOZODONT, used full strength, yields more satisfactory results in the treatment of root canals, preparatory to filling, than any other agent I have yet used. I have likewise found it quite useful as an auxiliary in the removal of salivary calculus." *Sample, 3 cents.* 25c.

ANTISEPTIC SOZODONT

For the TEETH and BREATH.

By mail, 50 and 75c. HALL & RUCKEL, N. Y. City.

Y. W. C. A. Committee on Rooms.

The committee on rooms of the newly formed Young Women's Christian Association has not yet succeeded in finding suitable accommodations for the association, but is busily employed searching for them, and expects to be able to announce the result in a few days.

Death of Mrs. Walling.

Mrs. Mary J. Walling, widow of the late A. G. Walling, a pioneer printer, died early yesterday morning at her residence, 383 Front street. Mrs. Walling had been an invalid for over a year, and death came as the result of heart disease with complications.

"Suppose," suggested the teacher, "that you take a piece of beefsteak and cut it into halves, then cut the halves into quarters, the quarters into eighths, and the eighths into sixteenths, into what could the sixteenths be cut?"

"Hash," responded Tommy, whose mother kept a boarding-house.—Exchange.

Samples of "Figprune Cereal"

Have been distributed in Portland, and we trust every family has tried the new food beverage.

Figprune consists of 54 per cent fruit and 46 per cent grains. It is the most nutritious of any of the cereal coffees.

Figs and prunes combined with selected grains make a natural and acceptable substitute for coffee and tea.

"These grocers sell it."

Apach, M., 63 North Third.
Baker, J., 690 Front.
Blake, F. T., 281½ East Pine.
Bristol, J. W., 292 Morrison.