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NO. 7.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

From all Parts of the New and Old World.

BRIEF AND INTERESTING ITEMS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Current Week.

Forest fires are said to be starting up again around Ashland, Wis.

The Santa Fe purchased the Atlantic & Pacific railroad at a foreclosure sale for \$12,000,000.

The Transvaal will observe the queen's jubilee day as a holiday as a token of appreciation.

A big fire in Pittsburg, Pa., destroyed \$3,000,000 worth of property, and resulted in one death and the injury of four persons.

The banking-house of J. B. Wheeler & Co., in Maniton and Aspen, Colo., have gone into the hands of assignees. No reason is given by the directors.

W. D. Case, of Pittsburg, Columbia county, and J. W. Duncan, of Umatilla, Umatilla county, Oregon, have been appointed fourth-class postmasters.

A Washington special says that it has been definitely decided that National Committeeman J. E. Boyd, of North Carolina, will be appointed solicitor of internal revenue.

Colonel John Hay, the newly appointed United States ambassador to England, was received with unusual distinction while presenting his credentials to the queen at Windsor castle.

It has been found that Victor Koski was the man drowned off the coast a few days ago with John Rook, while fishing near Astoria. Koski was a resident of West Astoria, 30 years of age and unmarried.

Johanna Spath, widow of Jacob Spath, is suing Katz & Sons, sausage manufacturers, of San Francisco, for \$100,000 damages. Her husband was killed in the defendant's factory and the widow charges the firm with being responsible on account of negligence.

President McKinley has sent to congress a message concerning the lynching of three Italians at Hahnville, La., August 9, 1896. He recommends an appropriation of \$40,000 for the heirs of the persons without admitting the liability of the United States in the premises.

In the German reboget Count von Kantitz, the agrarian leader, interpellated the government on the subject of the proposed United States tariff. He asked if the government wished to continue the agreement of 1891, and said the Dingley bill implied less the increase of American customs revenue than the successful expulsion of European imports from American markets.

A duel was fought at the entrance to Washington Park, Chicago, which might have resulted fatally for one of the principals, had not the seconds loaded the revolvers used with blank cartridges. The principals were W. L. King, son of a noted lawyer whom King had killed some time ago, and Colonel Jeremiah Busk, a veteran of the Confederate army, who had fought on board the Merrimack. After shots had been exchanged the duelists' honor had been satisfied, and they shook hands.

Four lives were lost in a tenement house fire in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Fire consumed the elevator and other property of the Iowa Elevator Company at Peoria, Ill.; loss, \$200,000.

Train wreckers threw a switch and wrecked a train on the Houston & Texas Central and killed one man and injured several.

The schooner Annie was crushed in an ice floe off St. Johns, N. B. The crew of twenty-five men barely escaped with their lives.

N. Burris, Son & Co., of Norfolk, Va., one of the most prominent and widely known banking firms in the South, has failed.

The insurgents against Spanish rule in the Philippine islands are still 25,000 strong and offering stout resistance in the mountains.

The Hansard union of printers and publishers in London, which collapsed in 1891, has paid a quarter of a million sterling of its indebtedness.

The mineowners of Leadville, Colo., met and subscribed \$50,000 toward draining the mines, and it is estimated that opening the mines will put 750 men to work.

The French fishing vessel Valiant, Captain Pierre, from St. Malo for Miquelon, struck an iceberg on the Grand banks, near St. John's, N. E., on the 18th inst., and almost immediately foundered. She had seventy-three fishermen on board, and all took to the boats. Only one of these boats has so far been heard from. When it left the vessel, its complement was ten men. Three perished from exposure and hunger. The bodies of the first two were thrown overboard, but the survivors, in their desperation, were driven to cannibalism, and ate the third. The boat was picked up by a schooner. The survivors are in a shocking condition, and are so badly frostbitten that their arms must be amputated.

The fourth annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Women's Congress has opened in San Francisco.

John Forepaugh and two prominent Spaniards were killed in a railroad accident near Tampa, Fla. A careless motorman left his post, and the trolley car was run down by a fast mail train.

Supervisor Rakestraw is preparing for the national educational institute to be held in Portland, Or., in August, at which it is expected all the Indian schools and agencies in the west will be represented.

ON THE AGGRESSIVE.

Insurgent Operations in Havana Province Attended With Success.

New York, May 5.—A special to the Press from Key West says: Havana advices show that the insurgents are active in that province. Tapasta was attacked last week by a force of 400 insurgents, and held for an entire day. The Spanish garrison in one of the blockhouses retired completely, while the other held their ground and did not fire at the insurgents or disturb them in any way. The Cubans took possession of the vacated blockhouse, looting it of all the arms and provisions they could find, and then set it on fire.

The other blockhouse, with a garrison of 300 troops in and around it, kept quiet, no offensive operations being attempted by the Spanish in command. The Cubans camped within half a mile of the Spanish force, and plundered the stores of the town without opposition.

La Hebra was attacked by a force from Rodriguez' army, the first of the week, and the Spanish garrison driven out. There is a small earth fort there and two blockhouses. They attacked the earthworks early in the morning, and carried them by a dashing charge, the Spanish retreating into their blockhouses at the other end of town. One of these was attacked by the Cubans, and three bombs exploded under its walls, shattering it badly and killing several inmates. The Spanish surrendered, and were paroled by the Cubans. Some firing took place between the insurgents and the other two blockhouses, but no attack was made on them, the Cubans apparently being content with the victories they had gained. They entered the stores, took what they pleased, and loaded their plunder in ox teams in plain view of the Spanish. The Spanish loss is said to have been about seventy-five killed and wounded.

Word reached the palace yesterday that a garrison of 300 men at a small place in the southwestern portion of the province deserted to the insurgents last week, carrying all their arms and ammunition and a field piece.

The insurgent captains, Rafael Mendoza Sclaros, and Ricardo Haldes, who voluntarily surrendered a fortnight ago in Pinar del Rio and were liberated under Captain-General Weyler's amnesty decree, have been arrested. They are to be deported in irons to Ceuta for confinement.

Advices from Sancti Spiritus report that the Spanish volunteers in the garrison there are becoming mutinous, owing to the government's failure to provide adequate commissary supplies. From thirty to forty are deserting daily.

Dr. Zerucha in Trouble.
New York, May 5.—A dispatch to the Journal from Havana says: "Dr. Maximo Zerucha, Antonio Maceo's physician, who is alleged to have betrayed the Cuban general to the Spaniards, was arrested at his home near Guines yesterday and brought to Havana under close guard. It is understood at the palace that Weyler has ordered his deportation to Chafarinas island, a Spanish penal settlement off the African coast."

A FORTUNE FOR A TRAMP.
Jacob Loosing is in Luck if He Can Be Found.

New York, May 5.—This story has to do with one Jacob Loosing, a tramp who ran away from his home in Havre, France, when a little boy of 16, and who has just been left \$38,000 by a rich uncle who died. The man was taken to a lawyer's office nine months ago to be examined as a witness in an assault case. In the course of an examination these facts were brought out. The man was Jacob Loosing; he was born in Havre; his uncle, who conducted a large flour business at Havre, took charge of him and sent him to a boarding school. When the boy was 16 years old he ran away, went to Paris, mastered the English language, earned a little money, made his way to Liverpool and came to this country on a cattle steamer. Finding it was necessary to work, even in America, the runaway went West and obtained a position as porter in a hotel in Iowa. He drifted to San Francisco. There, sad to relate, the wanderer was compelled to serve eighteen months in San Quentin, accused of having broken into a laundry. When liberated he came to New York.

All this Jacob told the lawyer. The latter did not place much confidence in the man's story, but after giving it careful consideration, he decided that there might be some truth in it, so he wrote to a counsellor at Havre and received the reply that Jacob's uncle had died several months ago, leaving an estate valued at \$38,000. It was only for Loosing to go there and prove his identity. Money needed for expenses would be advanced. But Loosing cannot be found.

Drowned in Salmon Bay.
Seattle, May 5.—B. H. Waller, cook of the schooner Compeer, loading lumber at Ballard for Central America, drowned in Salmon Bay this afternoon. He had quit, intending to go to Alaska, and a new cook had been engaged for the schooner. They started in a small skiff for the ship, the skipper and Waller drowned. The new cook saved his life by clinging to the overturned boat.

Fire at Los Angeles.
Los Angeles, May 5.—Fire at an early hour this morning destroyed \$20,000 worth of residence property on San Julian street, this city. The fire began in the lively stable of John Goodman. This was totally destroyed, and a row of three houses owned by Dr. John P. Whistler was consumed with their contents. Six horses and four valuable hacks were burned in the stable.

As comets near the sun their velocity always increases.

HOLD THEIR GROUND

Greeks Maintain Their Positions in Thessaly.

FIGHTING AROUND VELESTINO

The Presence of Foreign Warships at Volo Reassures the Inhabitants—The War in Epirus.

London, May 5.—The Times prints the following from its Volo correspondent: When I arrived at Velestino yesterday afternoon, I had just seen the Turkish infantry advancing in two columns, intending to cut the railway. The Greeks, 1,000 strong, under General Smolenski, by whose side I watched the encounter in the rear of the Eighth regiment, under Colonel Gannikosta, gradually advanced our battalion to hold the railway, the other to support the artillery, which had mounted guns on the right center. The Seventh regiment of infantry, under Colonel Regli, advanced to a low plateau on the left, where two batteries were in position. General Smolenski had ordered the shelling to begin when the enemy was well within range, consequently the guns did not open fire before 5:30. The Turks were evidently about 1,400 strong. Their cavalry reconnoitered the wood where the Greeks were concealed, but the batteries remained silent until 6 o'clock and at the time the fire fell short of being effective, though the Greek practice was the best I have yet noticed. The Turks ran away from the shells, but continued to advance in good order. Our right was really never engaged, and the railway station was defended by only a small force with two Krupp guns. Towards the end, the large Turkish center was seen to advance in the distance, but sunset, at 6:45, caused a temporary cessation.

Trains are running to Pharsala now, and I managed to get through. Returning on horseback in the darkness to Volo, I was captured by the Greek outposts, thanks to the failure of headquarters to issue regular passports. I was treated with much civility, but was retained until a late hour.

Having met reinforcements on the way to Volo, I went out again today, when the Greeks brought up nearly the whole Pharsala force. Save in the sharp struggles during the night, the Greeks have been successful, holding their ground. The Turks maintained a battery on a hill facing the Greek left, approached the end of the wood and burned a small village.

Nearly all the fighting today has been on the extreme right, in the direction of Lake Karla and the eastern Volo roads. Whoever gains this road commands Volo and could cut off retreat there.

The trains still run to Velestino, the officials displaying great coolness and courage.

As yet the Greek losses have not been heavy. The Red Cross Society, formerly much in evidence, is now conspicuous by its absence, and this fact causes comment.

A dispatch to the News from Velestino says the presence of Crown Prince Constantine at Pharsala would be quite superfluous, if he were not the future king of Greece. He ought to remain there, if only to prove to an exasperated nation that he was the victim of an unworthy gang of courtiers, colonels, sabres and the like, of all grades of inefficiency, whom he had nominated to be his general staff.

The Assaults at the Junction.
London, May 5.—The correspondent of the Telegraph at Velestino, under date of Sunday, says: In the battle yesterday 7,000 Turks made repeated assaults on the Greek positions at the railway junction. They were driven back by the fire which poured down from the strongholds of the infantry and Evzones. The Turkish cavalry charge on the Greeks seemed maddest, for the horsemen attempted to ascend a long slope in the face of two strong intrenchments of infantry.

Situation at Volo.
Volo, May 5.—A majority of the inhabitants have migrated from this port to Athens and the island of Euboea. The town is calmer, owing to the arrival of the Greek squadron, and French, British and Italian warships. Two hundred French sailors are patrolling the streets in order to reassure the inhabitants.

The Greek treasury of Thessaly, comprising 100 chests of money, which has been lying at the French consulate, was transported on board a Greek warship today to be conveyed to Athens.

The Turks are approaching in the direction of Velestino, where 18,000 Greeks are encamped and skillfully intrenched.

A detachment of Evzones is guarding the railroad station here.

The French flag has been hoisted over the hospital.

To Make a Stand at Volo.
London, May 5.—A Times dispatch from Larissa says it is alleged there that the report that Volo had been occupied by the Turks is not true, and that the Greeks have resolved to concentrate their forces there and make a stand.

Greeks Leaving Pharsala.
Paris, May 5.—Telegrams from Constantinople today confirm the report of the Greeks leaving Pharsala, retiring on Domokos. The Greek troops, according to the Constantinople advices, are also evacuating Arta.

Killed by a Train.
Martineburg, W. Va., May 5.—While walking on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad track near here, Benjamin Shepard and Martin Rizer, farmers, were killed by a train.

THE DAY IN THE SENATE.

Several Important Questions Came Up for Consideration.

Washington, May 5.—After a recess covering practically ten days, the senate met today with a large accumulation of routine business and several important questions, including the Morgan Cuban resolution, awaiting attention. The attendance was unusually large. Among the bills introduced was one by Chandler of New Hampshire, for the issue of certificates of indebtedness up to \$50,000,000 to meet deficiencies of revenue. It was referred to the finance committee.

A resolution by Pettus of Alabama, was agreed to asking the secretary of the treasury for information as to the amounts paid as drawbacks during the last ten years.

Vest's resolution, directing the committee on commerce to investigate and report on the causes of the Mississippi floods was favorably reported from the committee on contingent expenses.

The Cuban resolution was called up by Morgan, who asked for a vote. Hale of Maine, just returned after an extended absence, desired time to prepare his remarks. He assured Morgan there was no purpose to delay the resolution for the mere sake of delay. After proper debate, he said it would be voted on, as he was anxious as any one to have the resolution disposed of. Morgan endeavored to have a day fixed for a vote, but there were objections.

In the House.
Washington, May 5.—In the house today Joseph B. Shovalter, recently elected to represent the Twenty-fifth Pennsylvania district, to fill the place of J. J. Davidson, deceased, took the oath of office.

Bailey of Texas presented a resolution that the Nelson bankruptcy bill, recently passed by the senate, be taken up by the house on Monday, May 10, and considered until disposed of. He asked unanimous consent for immediate consideration of the resolution.

Brewster, Republican, of New York, objected. Simpson of Kansas rose to a question of personal privileges, and sent to the clerk's desk to be read an extract from the New York Mail and Express accusing him of being an obstructionist and predicting that he would be pulverized under the speaker's triphammer.

A NEW COALING STATION.
The United States May Yet Establish One at Santo Domingo.

New York, May 5.—A Herald special from Washington says: General Grant's project for the establishment of a naval coaling station in Samana bay, Santo Domingo, may yet be realized. According to Mr. Henry Smythe, minister to Hayti, and charge d'affaires to Santo Domingo, under the Cleveland administration, the Domingo government is ready to cede such a station to the United States without asking the payment of a dollar.

Mr. Smythe has not submitted an official report on this subject to the state department for the reason that his resignation was accepted before he had time to prepare it, though he had called on Secretary Sherman, to whom he made an oral report.

In a letter recently written by Mr. Smythe to a former friend in Washington, he says that he discussed with the Dominican foreign office a treaty which embraced the following heads and divisions: Commerce, navigation, extradition and reciprocity of interests and concessions.

Under this latter division he obtained the concession of a coaling station for the use of the American navy during the continuance of the treaty on the sole condition that "coaling facilities" be allowed the Dominican navy in American ports. The coaling station was to be located at any point in the bay of Samana, or in either of two fine harbors east of Santo Domingo or the Caribbean sea.

STRANDED IN JUNEAU.
Two Hundred Men There Are Unable to Get Away.

Port Townsend, Wash., May 5.—The steamer Al-Ki returned this evening from an uneventful trip to Alaska, bringing but four passengers and very little freight. A large number of stranded people are at Juneau. They went north without supplies, expecting to beg food from others while en route to the Yukon. They were given to understand they would starve if they started on the trip, so they remained at Juneau. The recent raise in fare from \$15 to \$22 from Juneau to Sound points preclude their leaving Juneau, and the result is that there are upward of 200 men there, without money or the means of getting either to the mines or back to the Sound.

No court will be held in Alaska for several months to come. A Juneau paper says that there are so few cases for jury trial upon the district court calendar for the May term that the circumstances will not warrant the great expense which the summoning of a jury would entail upon the government.

Washington Supreme Court.
Olympia, Wash., May 5.—The supreme court has granted a petition for a rehearing in the case of the State vs. McCann, from King county, and in the City of Tacoma vs. Tacoma Light & Water Company.

The Durrant Case.
San Francisco, May 5.—The attorneys for Theodore Durrant today filed copies of a bill of exceptions on the appeal to the supreme court of the United States. The exceptions are to proceedings in court April 10, when a motion for a continuance was denied and when Durrant was sentenced to be hanged at San Quentin prison June 11.

The London markets have been flooded with pearls since the outbreak of the plague at Bombay.

A FIRE AT PITTSBURG

Three Million Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed.

BEGAN IN WHOLESALE GROCERY

The Buildings Burned Were Mostly Fine Structures Situated in the Business District.

Pittsburg, May 4.—The greatest fire that has visited this city since the memorable one in 1845, started shortly after midnight this morning, in the immense wholesale grocery establishment of Thomas C. Jenkins, on Penn avenue and Liberty street. Three large blocks, extending from Liberty to Penn avenue, and from Fifth to Sixth streets, have been reduced to smoldering ruins. The loss will exceed \$3,000,000, and is well covered by insurance.

Among the buildings destroyed are Jenkins' wholesale grocery establishment; Horne's six-story dry-goods establishment; Horne's office building, the Duquesne theater, and the Methodist Book Concern.

The fire started in the cellar of the Jenkins building, in a pile of barrels filled with waste paper. The flames were discovered by Watchman Hunter. He had smelled smoke early in the evening, but believed that it came from the outside and paid no attention to it. The flames leaped rapidly up the elevator shaft, and he made a vain effort to extinguish them with buckets of water. An air shaft used to ventilate the great building fanned the flames, and he found it impossible to do anything. He made his escape from the building with great difficulty because of the immense volume of smoke. The alarm was turned in about the same time by Officer Milton Bailey, who noticed smoke issuing through the windows.

The fire made rapid headway, and by 12:30 o'clock flames began to pour out of the Penn-avenue front. All the fire department of the city and of Allegheny was summoned, and the firemen fought bravely to check the progress of the conflagration. The fire, however, attacked the immense quantity of barreled oil, sugar and molasses and flour that this building contained, and 12:45 o'clock the Penn-avenue and Liberty-street fronts were a mass of flames. The fire ate its way so rapidly that the firemen narrowly escaped falling debris. Flames filled Penn avenue completely, and shot into the air 200 feet or more, presenting one of the most magnificent sights seen for years.

The building of Joseph Horne & Co., opposite, caught, and the firemen worked desperately to prevent its loss. At 1 o'clock the Horne building was burning from cellar to roof, and the flames had communicated to Horne's immense office building adjoining. The structure was of stone, six stories in height. It was occupied by W. P. Grier & Co., china dealers; Bon Marche Glove Company, Snaman's carpet house, and scores of physicians.

Huck's cigar factory and Hall Bros.' building next fell, and they were quickly followed by the Duquesne theater, Methodist Book Concern building, and the Surprise clothing store. The latter was an immense five-story building, running back 200 feet. The fire was the most magnificent sight seen in Pittsburg in years. When the Jenkins and Horne buildings had become enveloped in the conflagration, Penn avenue was one mass of flames, and sheets of fire, with heavy columns of smoke, were sent 200 feet into the air. The glare of the flames could be seen for miles, and the streets for blocks around were brilliantly illuminated.

As soon as the fire attacked these buildings, several streams of water were turned on them, but the water had no more effect than if it was not an extinguisher. The flames from the burning oil in the Jenkins building rolled out against it, and in five minutes the two beautiful Horne buildings were burning briskly.

The firemen then left the Jenkins building to its fate and used their united and desperate efforts to save the Horne buildings. All the streams that could be summoned were turned on these buildings, but they were now one mass of flames. The fire department then turned its attention to the surrounding buildings, but the raging flames rapidly ate their way to all sides. At 4 o'clock, the fire was finally mastered, but was still burning with intense fury within the blocks bounded by Fifth and Sixth streets east and west, and Liberty street and Penn avenue north and south.

The loss, it is now believed, will be greatly in excess of the first estimates, and is estimated at \$3,000,000.

A number of firemen were injured by falling walls and live wires, but none of them seriously.

Struck for Eight Hours.
New York, May 4.—Two hundred and fifty union plumbers, steamfitters and gasfitters struck at Newark today for eight hours' work, with no reduction of wages. They were working nine hours. The carpenters and lathers have won their fight. The bricklayers and masons receive the same pay as last year.

Heavy Custom-House Business.
New York, May 4.—There was a big rush of importers today to pay duties, and the receipts reached \$2,407,829, a record exceeded by only two days in the history of the custom house. The heaviest duties paid today were on sugar and tobacco.

During the last twenty years the railways of the world have absorbed 50,000,000 tons of steel, or almost half the total product.

RAILWAYS IN MEXICO.

English Contractors Preparing to Build Several Lines.

City of Mexico, May 4.—An important company has been incorporated here, with a capital of \$1,000,000, the larger part of the shares being taken by Pearson & Son, the English contractors having in hand the drainage of the Valley of Mexico and the port works at Vera Cruz, with a few Mexican shareholders. The new company will be known as the Mexican Land, Navigation & Railway Company. The first object of the company is to build a railway from some suitable point on the National Tehuantepec road to a desirable point in the state of Vera Cruz. The government gives a subsidy of over 8,000 acres of public lands per kilometer of railway constructed. On some 400,000 acres of land thus acquired the company will settle European and other colonists. Among other plans of the company is to acquire railways in the southern part of Vera Cruz, and also the railroad line has already been located, and construction will begin in two months.

THE LEVEES ARE HOLDING.
Worst Is Apparently Over North of the Red River.

New Orleans, May 4.—Dispatches from all points along the river today show that the levees are holding. A fall of one-tenth at Providence strengthens the belief of engineers that the worst is over from the mouth of Red river to the Arkansas line. The danger points now are from Red river landing southward. At Plaquemine today the river rose four-tenths, and the levee workers in that vicinity are having a hard time keeping the line in a condition of safety. The gauge here shows 19.30 tonight.

Major Richardson, chief of the state engineers, came to the city at the governor's order to act as advisory engineer on the local work, and declared the defense well constructed. Here and elsewhere the day was devoted to hard work, and no mishaps have occurred. There is considerable alarm about Davis levee, but extensive reinforcements will be begun there tomorrow.

The High Water at St. Louis.
St. Louis, May 4.—The continued high water has excited a great interest, as was evinced by the enormous crowds that flocked to the river front today. The river continues to rise, marking 30.95 at 4 P. M. At a number of places along the levee the railroad tracks were under water. The terminal association, whose tracks are partly under water, expresses no uneasiness. One of the officials stated it would take five feet of water before all their river tracks had been submerged, and that they had engines which would work in three feet of water, therefore it would take a rise of eight feet beyond the present stage before the company would be inconvenienced.

Situation at Natchez.
Natchez, Miss., May 4.—With the exception of a half-tenth rise during the last twenty-four hours, the river situation remains unchanged. The weather having cleared, the situation tonight seems more hopeful. While the levees are in fair shape, they have many streams of water running through them, necessitating a large ditch to be dug to carry off the water at Vidalia. They are being worked on by a large force and closely guarded. In many places the river is within less than a foot of the top, and the current is very swift.

Circulation of Currency.
Washington, May 4.—The monthly statement of the controller of the currency shows that on April 30 the total circulation of national bank notes was \$232,802,244, a gain for the year of \$7,700,899, and a loss for the month of \$906,650.

The circulation based on United States bonds was \$208,758,549, a gain for the year of \$5,365,410, and a loss for the month of \$999,783.

The circulation secured by lawful money was \$24,033,696, an increase for the year of \$3,335,589, an increase for the month of \$92,503.

The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulating notes was \$232,749,300, and to secure public deposits, \$16,313,000.

Gunboats Ordered Into Commission.
Washington, May 4.—The first result of the laying-up of the big cruiser Columbia is manifested in the preparation of orders by the navy department for the commission of two new gunboats, Helena and Annapolis. The Helena will go into active service for the first time on June 1, and the Annapolis a week later, on the 7th. These boats will be kept on the North Atlantic station for about three months, when, being thoroughly shaken down, they will be sent to one of the foreign stations, probably China, to relieve some of the larger cruisers now in need of overhauling.

Alaska Mail Service.
Washington, May 4.—The first regular mail service authorized for an entire year in Alaska has been contracted for by the postoffice department, the service being from Juneau to Circle City, 900 miles each way. The contract calls for one round trip a month, beginning July 1, 1897. William F. Saller, of this city, is the contractor, the contract price being \$9,999.

Battle-Ship Oregon's Injuries.
Washington, May 4.—The full report of Naval Constructor Capps and Captain Barker, upon the condition of the Oregon, after her mishap at Bremerton, on Puget sound, has been received at the navy department. As indicated by the telegraphic report, the injuries were not of a nature to disable the ship, and although there is a long list of bent frames and plates, caused by contact with sunken piles, there was no leakage and no necessity to repair the bents.

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Star States—Oregon.

Wild pigeons are flying along Coos river, and the gunners are out. Six carloads of wheat were shipped from Eugene to Portland last week.

There is much activity in Douglas county hopyards this year, and few, if any, yards will go uncultivated.

In digging a well on the Warm Springs reservation recently, George Krause found human bones and teeth at a depth of forty feet.

Six or eight Greeks in Astoria sold out their nets and other fishing gear last week, and, with the money, started back to aid the mother country in her struggle with Turkey.

The semiannual statement of the financial condition of Grant county March 31 last showed that the county's liabilities amounted to \$138,004, and the resources to \$87,944.

Two pairs of Mongolian pheasants from Oregon have been turned loose in Rockbridge county, Virginia, where they will be carefully protected in the effort being made to propagate them.

The firm to secure the government work of the upper Coquille is arranging for the commencement of the work. The improvement will be confined largely to points between Robert's landing and Rackliff's mill, or about one mile below Myrtle Point.

Hood River has doubled the acreage of its strawberries this spring. The new plants will not bear this year, but next year should have a full crop, and this next year should furnish 1,500,000 pounds of crimson lusciousness, or 750 tons, says The Dalles Chronicle.

Dairying in Curry county is in full blast. The number of cows has not been decreased by the hard winter, but, owing to the increased demand for cattle and the better prices paid, more calves will be raised and the output of butter will probably not equal that of last year.

The Tillamook Lumbering Company is operating its water pipe factory night as well as day, for the purpose of filling in order for about 2½ miles of pipe, which is required to extend the water system at Kalama, in Washington. It will require about 50,000 feet of lumber. The pipe will be shipped on the steamer Harrison.

Union county butchers are becoming somewhat uneasy over the prospect of securing beef cattle for this season's business. Heretofore it has been easy to secure all the beefs they needed at any time, but the unusual demand for cattle this season threatens to change former conditions. Not only are buyers purchasing all the salable steers they can find, but they appear just as eager to secure dry cows.

Washington.
Potatoes are plentiful in the Kittitas valley, and are selling at \$9 a ton.

The business men of Snohomish are working to get a hospital for that city.

A farmers' institute will be held in Ellensburg during the first week in June.

A movement has been started in Oakesdale to raise a fund to help the Greeks.

Frank Terry is to be the new Indian agent for the Crows at Puyallup Indian reservation.

Klickitat county farmers shipped three tons of bacon from The Dalles to Roseland last week.

Mate Jenner, an old 49er, drowned in Pemahmoo bay, near Blaine, last week. His boat capsized during a heavy wind.

Stevens county millmen are beginning to ship their lumber to British Columbia.