THE HILLSBORO ARGUS.

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EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Bubonic plague has broken out on the Pacific coast of Mexico.

Ex United States Senator Dwight M. Sabin, of Minnesota, is dead.

The food supply has begun to grow short in Caracas, in consequence of the blockade.

The federal supreme court has decided that death on the gallows invalidates insurance policies.

Senator Bacon declares that the United States will have to fight to uphold the Monroe doctrine.

Trains throughout the Middle West are delayed from 10 to 12 hours on account of severe snow storms.

Fire in the piano factory of Ernest Gilder Bros., New York, destroyed half a million dollars worth of property.

A train wreck on the Monon road in Indiana resulted in the death of two men and the serious injury of two others.

For the last five months the internal revenue receipts have shown a decrease of 20,903,470, as compared with the corresponding period in 1901.

Eight-hour bill reported favorably to the Senate.

Ten persons killed in wreck on the Southern Pacific.

German Socialists preparing for bitter election fight.

Jeffries fails to knock out Butte miner in four rounds.

Portland labor leaders plan to form a coast organization.

Dumperts, the great French swindle, captured in Madrid.

Funeral services of Mrs. Grant at Washington and New York.

Senator Morgan warns Congress that both isthmian canal routes may be lost.

Bill to open the south half of the Colville reservation introduced in Congress.

Blizzard in Rocky Mountain and prairie states blockades railroads and kills livestock.

Washington Lewis and Clark Commission recommends a state appropriation of $100,000.

Holiday trade the most active on record.

Kaiser Wilhelm welcomes Ambassador Tower.

Anarchist kills sister anarchist who rejected his love.

General increase in railroad rates to be made at New York.

Terrible blizzard blocks railroads in Wyoming and Colorado.

The House passed the pure-food bill with little opposition.

House committee reports favorably on Department of Commerce bill.

Woodmen of the World hold successful "log-rolling" at Dallas.

New light station at Desdemona Sands soon to be inaugurated.

Governor of Michigan forbids Corbett-McGovern fight in Detroit.

Hinter tells how he killed Fitzgerald, but his victim's father says it is false.

Cuban treaty makes great concessions to the United States, and will soon be ratified.

Railroads carry foreign goods from the seaboard at lower rates than for domestic freight over the same routes.

All the allies agree to let Bowen arbitrate, but with reservations; the blockade takes effect. Rebels marching on Caracas.

Secretary Root finally awarded transport contract to Seattle company, but Portland and San Francisco will each get a share.

A earthquake in Central Asia caused great loss of life and property.

President Roosevelt gave his first dinner party in the renovated white house.

Non-union miners testify to intimidation.

[illegible] and then abandoned her, in a [illegible]ble condition.

President Castro states that Venezuelan rebels are helping the allied powers; allies want United States to compel payment of claims against them, but Secretary Hay refuses; Germany and Holland send ships to the [illegible] of blockade.

[illegible] with the murder [illegible] lynched in Alabama.

[illegible] cousin of King Alfonso of Spain [illegible] arrested in an illegal gambling house.

CONSPIRACY SUSPECTED.

Unearthing of Deep Plot May Result from Arrest of a Chinaman.

Portland, Dec. 25.—Forged Chinese certificates are being manufactured by wholesale somewhere on the Pacific coast. At least the federal authorities have reason to believe so, facts having come into their possession through the arrest in San Francisco of Gee Chen, who had in his possession a counterfeit certificate.

About a month ago Chinese Inspector Dunn, of San Francisco, sent a certificate to David M. Dunne, collector of internal revenue in Portland, for examination. Mr. Dunne pronounced it a forgery and the holder, Gee Chen, was arrested in San Francisco. The forgery is a very clever one, the United States dies being imitated to perfection and every detail being minutely followed, even to the finished photograph.

The federal authorities here will not give out definite information about the case for fear it will defeat the ends of justice, but it is known that in some one of the cities of the Pacific coast a counterfeiting company is turning out forged certificates. The fine workmanship shows that the counterfeiters not only have a thorough and intimate knowledge of the inside workings of the interior department as regards Chinese affairs, but that they must be possessed of considerable means to carry on the business in such minute detail.

The tricks of the wily heathen have given Uncle Sam trouble since the exclusion act was first put into effect. It is a constant warfare between their running linked with that of dishonest white men, and the federal authorities. They are as resourceful as Aladdin with his wonderful lamp, and as soon as the officers "tumble" to one of their games they spring a new one. At the present time, it is claimed, there are in circulation 150 forged copies of habeas corpus orders issued by Judge Bellinger. It is impossible to figure out how forgeries of these orders could have been made without the connivance of some of the attorneys handling the cases, and Judge Bellinger, it is said, has been aroused so that he threatened not only to disbar any attorney on whom suspicion might fall, but to prosecute him as well. The orders are issued in lieu of lost certificates and pass for such among the authorities. But a Chinaman getting a bogus one generally uses it in another state, so as to escape detection the more easily.

A few years ago the government exposed a certificate counterfeiting gang in San Francisco and it is known that certificates have been manufactured in Victoria, B. C., but it is believed the present company is operating on a larger scale than ever before attempted. The prompt manner in which the officers detected the forged certificate purporting to come from Portland and presented in San Francisco, shows that they are wide awake.

NEEDS OF THE ARMY.

Corbin Explains Them and Gives Reasons for Favoring General Staff.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 24.—The fifty-fourth annual dinner of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, which was held here tonight, was made notable because of the attendance of several men distinguished in war and peace. The guests of honor were: Governor Nash, Adjutant-General Corbin, General S. B. M. Young and General A. R. Chaffee, U. S. A.; John G. Milburn, of Buffalo, and Senator Hanna. These occupied the platform table, at which also sat Tom L. Johnson, Myron T. Herrick and others. The first speaker was Governor Nash, who referred to the growth of the State of Ohio, and especially of the City of Cleveland. The next speaker was Adjutant-General Corbin, who spoke to the toast "The Army and Its Needs." Major-General Corbin said in part:

"We have much that is satisfactory; our officers and men are of the best—sober, brave and intelligent. We are fortunate in having a permanent military establishment of volunteers. What is known as the regular Army is in the highest sense a volunteer army, every officer and m[illegible] taking service of his own moti[illegible] But perfection of organization is [illegible] manded—a harmonious and int[illegible]gent method of co-ordination and [illegible]rection. Laws for the administra[illegible] of the army have been drafted [illegible] statute books in many parts w[illegible] a continuity of legislative th[illegible] that, starting out [illegible]

[illegible] connected the [illegible]

2,500 WERE KILLED.

Earthquake in Asia and [illegible]

[illegible] Russia [illegible]

[illegible] so far have not been [illegible] with the destitution of [illegible] unsheltered people.

Coal Oil in Io[illegible]

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. [illegible] discovered oil [illegible] Grant City, in Sac County, [illegible] of the Oil Gulf to Asiatic Oil[illegible] analysis is said to have been found to be 80 per cent pure. The discoverer, a woman, has quietly leased 60,000 acres in the locality.

For Reciprocity in Coal.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Senator Lodge introduced in the Senate a bill authorizing the President to remove the duty on coal coming into the United States from Canada, whenever the duty on coal from the United States going into Canada shall be removed.

NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Extensive Apple Canning Industry—Driving Logs Down Rogue River—Marion County's Prosperity—Oregon an Ideal Dairy Country—Salem Growing—Lots of Wood for Insane Asylum.

Salem is making preparations to enlarge her city limits.

The superintendent of the Tunnelton mines, in the Gold Creek district, has gone to Denver to purchase a milling plant for the development of the properties.

Marion County's delinquent tax roll for last year is only $3,000, the smallest in the history of the county. The original tax roll was for $221,000 of tax money.

A joint "log-rolling" given by Ashland and Phoenix Camps, Woodmen of the World, was largely attended by delegations from Southern Oregon and Northern California, and was a grand success.

Burning of a heavy growth of tulles on the shores of the Lower Klamath Lake attracted considerable attention from the neighborhood of Ashland, 70 miles distant. The reflection on the clouds was very brilliant. The fires were started to clear off the wild hay lands, while ice and snow would prevent spreading.

Prof. G. L. McKay, head of the dairy department of the State Agricultural College of Iowa, says: "There is no question in my mind but that dairy products and bacon pork can be produced cheaper in Oregon than in any other country in the world." Prof. McKay has visited Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, and Eengand, and his investigations on this subject make him an authority unsurpassed.

Candidates for U. S. senator are exceedingly numerous.

Linn county jail is full to overflowing, the first time in several years.

The city elections at Monmouth were very quiet, there being only one ticket in the field.

A hobo was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for stealing a jar of jam. It was his second offense.

W. C. Russell, an actor, was arrested at Helix on the charge of having played a copyrighted play without permission.

Registration in Astoria previous to the recent elections showed more foreign-born voters than native Americans there.

The O. R. & N. contemplates putting a dining car on its through trains and cutting out the stop at the famous Log Cabin eating house at Meacham for meals.

About 30 members of the Marion County Bar association will try to have a continual session of the criminal department of the state circuit court inaugurated at the coming session of the legislature.

A drive of 100,000 feet of pine logs is on its way down the Rogue river. If the drive is successful many more will follow, as there is a vast quantity of fine sugar pine in the Upper Rogue river country.

An extensive and profitable apple-canning industry has been started up at Linnton. There is an almost unlimited supply of the fruit good for cooking, but for which there is no market in its natural state.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 70@71c; blue [illegible] 78@79c; valley, 75@76c.

Barley—Feed, $23.50 per ton; brew[illegible]

[illegible] 4 10; grah[illegible]

[illegible]—Bran, $19.00 per ton; middlings, $23.50; shorts, $19.50; chop, $18.

Oats—No. 1 white, $1.15@1.17½; gray, $1.12½@1.15 per cental.

Hay — Timothy, $10@11; clover, $9.00; cheat, $8@9 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@70c per sack; ordinary, 50@60c per cental; growers' prices; Merced sweets, $1.75@2 per cental.

Poultry — Chickens, mixed, 11c; [illegible] 10c; hens, 11@11½c; turkeys, [illegible] dressed, 15 @ 17½; [illegible] $6.5[illegible]

Cheese — [illegible] 16½@[illegible]

Butter — [illegible] per pound; [illegible] 30c; dairy, 20@22½c; st[illegible] 18.

Eggs — 35[illegible]

Hops — New [illegible] per pound.

Wool — Valley, [illegible] Eastern Oregon, 8@14½c; m[illegible]

Beef — Gross, cows, [illegible] pound; steers, 4c; dressed, [illegible]

Veal — 7½@8½c.

Mutton — Gross, 3c per p[illegible] dressed, 6c.

Lambs — Gross, 3½c per pound; [illegible] dressed, 6½c.

Hogs — Gross, 6½@6[illegible]; [illegible] dressed, 7@7½c.

DEATH IN COLLISION.

Ten Killed and Twenty-Seven More Badly Injured on the Southern Pacific.

Byron, Cal., Dec. 23.—Ten persons were killed and 27 injured in a collision last night between the southbound Los Angeles "owl" train and the Stockton flyer. It was a rear-end collision, the engine of the local plowing its way through the last coach on the owl, which was filled with Fresno people. The passengers who escaped instant death were hurled to the fore part of the coach, crushed between the mass of debris, their sufferings and danger intensified a hundredfold by the clouds of scalding steam poured out on them from the shattered boiler of the Stockton engine.

The "owl" left the Oakland Mole about 5 o'clock, and on the way to this point it was noted that there was a leak in the flue of the engine. This increased to such an extent that it was deemed advisable to stop here and take up a freight engine for relief. The train officials knew that No. 84, the Stockton local, was following a half hour behind and a flagman was sent back down the track to give warning of the presence of the "owl." It is said that the Stockton train in charge of Engineer MaGuire and Fireman Joyce, got the warning signal in due time and gave the usual response with whistle blasts. Why the incoming train was not checked, however, has not been thus far explained, the men who could give the facts being numbered among the badly injured.

LATER REPORT.

Death List Has Now Reached 25, with Four More in Critical Condition.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—The latest revised list of the victims of the railroad collision on the Southern Pacific railroad near Byron station shows that there are 25 dead.

There are still 20 injured survivors of the accident, but the condition of four of these is extremely critical, and additional names may yet have to be added to the death list.

An official investigation into the cause of the disaster has been begun by Coroner Curry, of Contracosta county, who proposes to thoroughly sift the evidence in order to fix the responsibility. There appears to be no doubt that the Stockton flyer, which ran into the Owl train, was signalled and that the engineer responded with a whistle and threw on the brakes. The question which remains open is whether or not the signal was given in time to avert the accident.

CANAL PROJECT MAY FAIL.

Senator Morgan Says Title to Panama Route is Insecure.

Washington, Dec. 23.—There were 20 senators in their seats when the Senate was called to order for the final session before the Christmas holidays. They heard a vigorous address by Morgan on the isthmian canal negotiations.

Morgan contended for the making good of contracts entered into by President McKinley with Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The negotiation of these agreements he characterized as a masterful act, and said they were about to be trodden under foot. Why this was true was not a question for a Democrat to solve, but he could, at any rate, say he did not agree with the mind-readers and spirit medium who had since declared that Mr. McKinley did not mean what he said in the contracts.

He then went on to express apprehension that if the United States did not avail itself of the opportunity to build a canal by the Nicaraguan route, none would be built, and he said the appropriation of $180,000,000 for the construction of the canal could be covered into the Treasury about June 28, 1904, if not used before that time.

Attention was called to the fact that under the Colombian law, only the Congress of that country can ratify a treaty. There had been no Congress there since 1899, and there was not likely to be any unless the Panama Canal Company should pay its expenses out of the $3,000,000 on hand or the $40,000,000 promised by the United States. He therefore expressed apprehension that a treaty that might be accepted by this government would fail of action in Colombia.

After quoting from the concession granted to the liquidations of the old Panama Canal Company, which Mr. Morgan said was also made a law of Colombia, he said:

"It is a surprise to jurists and laymen alike in our country that the Attorney General, in his opinion given to the President on the right and power of the new Panama Canal Company to revoke a title to the United States of its property in Panama, omitted to notice the prohibition in the concessions and in the laws of Colombia, through which it derived all its property rights in Colombia."

To Create Game Preserves.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Senator Perkins, of California, today introduced a bill authorizing the President to set aside areas within forest reserves to be preserved as breeding places for wild animals, birds and fish. Within these areas all hunting, fishing and killing of game is to be prohibited at all times. The Senator has drawn his bill along lines recommended by the President, and with a further view largely to doing away with state protection of game within reserves.

Successful Trial Trip.

Rockport, Mass., Dec. 23.—The trial [illegible] Monitor Nevada was held off [illegible]ann today. As timed from the [illegible] the Nevada covered 26 miles in [illegible] minutes and 30 seconds, or [illegible] 13 knots an hour, allow[illegible]utes for turning. Her [illegible]d for 11½ knots.

MAY NOT ACCEPT

ROOSEVELT DOES NOT WANT TO ACT AS VENEZUELAN ARBITRATOR.

Thinks That The Hague Tribunal is the Proper Court to Decide the Matter—Should Allies Insist, He May Accept, Although He Realizes the Difficulties of the Undertaking.

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt has not accepted the position of arbitrator of the Venezuelan controversy. In fact, when the official day closed he had not received formally or officially a request from the European powers that he act as arbitrator of the dispute. These statements were made on the highest authority.

In an informal manner the president has been notified that the European powers intimately concerned in the present South American difficulty desire that he should undertake the responsibility of acting as arbitrator of the points at issue between them and Venezuela. Thus far they merely have been "taking soundings," with a view, probably, of ascertaining how he would receive a formal proffer to act as arbitrator. The president, as soon as he received the first intimation that he was desired to be arbitrator of the Venezuelan controversy, expressed emphatically his judgment that the matters to be arbitrated should be referred to The Hague tribunal. His views of the suggestions made have been conveyed to the European powers, together with a strong presentation of his reasons for the view he holds. No response of a formal nature to these representations has been received.

The president and Secretary Hay had a long conference today after the former's return from his Virginia trip. They carefully went over the situation as it had developed since Saturday, but it is understood that nothing has arisen during the past 8 hours to warrant the president in changing his opinion as to the undesirability of his acceptance of the position of arbitrator. So far as can be learned, no specific reasons have been advanced by the European powers for objecting to the arbitration of The Hague tribunal. It is held by the administration that the tribunal at The Hague was constituted to arbitrate just such controversies as that which has arisen between Venezuela and the powers, and that it would be desirable from this viewpoint that the dispute should go to that tribunal for adjudication.

How strong are the objections which the allied powers have to a reference of the Venezuelan difficulty to The Hague tribunal is not known to the administration at this time. Even the nature of the objections, if there be any, is not known. The negotiations looking to the selection of an arbitrator have not progressed sufficiently yet to develop such objections as the powers may have.

DIAMONDS FOUND IN OREGON.

Big New York Firm Developing Mine in Harney County.

Burns, Or., Dec. 25.—The fulfillment of the prophecy made 30 years ago by Professor Clayton, a geologist in the employ of the United States government, that some day diamond mines would be discovered in Oregon, is at hand.

The mine is in the Blue mountain range, 40 miles from Burns, the seat of Harney county. There is no question of the quality and quantity of the precious gems, but there is a question as to their commercial value. The stones thus far discovered are generally too small for the trade. They are no larger than a small pinhead. A few have been discovered that would sell for from $30 to $300, but they are rare.

Were diamonds malleable like gold, if there was any process known to science by which the miniature stones could be welded together, then Harney would no longer be known as the "cow county," and Oregon would rank with the diamond producing regions of the earth.

The commercial value of the diamonds is now being determined by the great diamond firm of New York, Tiffany & Company, whose confidence in the new field is sufficient to warrant them in furnishing the capital for further development. They are co-operating with the local owners.

The diamonds are found in layers of volcanic ash. Geologists and mineralogists agree that the formation being the volcanic ash of ancient origin, is the same as that indigenous to South Africa, where the largest diamonds in the world have been exploited. This is the formation that Professor Clayton referred to when observing the geological conditions of Oregon in his offical capacity, 30 years ago. It is said to be next to the oldest formation found on the North American continent, only that through which the St. Lawrence river runs being older. The layers thus far mined yield only extremely small stones, but it is expected and hoped that other layers will be discovered that bear the precious gems of commercial importance.

To Wipe Out Coney Island Bowery.

New York, Dec. 24.—The first important step for the acquirement for park purposes of 132 acres of land at Coney Island, thereby wiping out the Island's Bowery and converting the island into a national seaside resort, has been taken. At a meeting attended by man[illegible] prominent residents of Brookl[illegible] and officials the plan was [illegible]ously approved. The assesse[illegible] of the land purposed to be [illegible] by the city amounts to $[illegible]

PURE FOOD BILL.

Congress Passes Measure with Little Opposition—Text of the Law.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The House has passed the pure-food bill by a vote of 72 to 21. There was not a quorum present, but the point was not raised by the opponents of the measure. The speakers were Richardson of Alabama, Hepburn of Iowa, Gaines of Tennessee and Schirm of Maryland, for the measure, and Chandler of Mississippi against it.

A bill was passed to donate a piece of ground to Clallam, Wash.

At 3:30 the House adjourned.

What the Bill Includes.

The pure-food bill inhibits the introduction into any state or territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other state or territory, or from any foreign country, or the shipment to any foreign country, of any article of food or drug which is adulterated or misbranded. The above inhibition is made to apply to any one shipping, delivering or receiving, within the regions named only, such food adulterated. Adulterations in the bill are defined as follows:

In the case of drugs, if sold under a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopeia, and the drug differs from the standards of strength, quality and purity as determined by the test laid down in such pharmacopeia, at the time of the investigation, so that its strength or purity falls below the professed standard under which it is sold; if it be an imitation of or offered for sale under the name of another article; and, in the case of a confectionery, if it contain terra alba, barytes, talc, chrome yellow or other mineral substances, or poisonous colors or flavors.

In the case of foods, when any substance is mixed with it so as to lower or injuriously effect its quality or strength, so that such product, when offered for sale, shall tend to deceive the purchaser.

If any substance or substances have been substituted so that the product when sold shall tend to deceive the purchaser.

If any valuable constituent of an article has been wholly or in part abstracted.

If it be an imitation of or offered for sale under the distinct name of another article.

If it be mixed, colored, powdered or stained in a manner whereby damage or inferiority is concealed.

If it contain any added or poisonous ingredient which may render such article injurious to health.

If it is falsely labeled as a foreign product or imitation of another substance of a previously established name, or which has been trade-marked or patented.

If it consists, in whole or in part, of a filthy, decomposed or putrid animal or vegetable substance, or any portion of animal unfit for food, or if it is the product of a diseased animal or one that has died otherwise than by slaughter.

The last section of the bill provides that any article of food or drug that is adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of this bill, and is transported, or being transported from one state to another for sale, or if it be sold in the District of Columbia or the territories, or if it be imported from a foreign country, shall be liable to confiscation by a process of libel for condemnation in the United States courts. Such goods, if it also provided, shall not be sold in any state contrary to the laws thereof.

BLOCKADE IS ON.

All Venezuelan Ports are Closed.—Grace Allowed Ships En Route.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 23.—Admiral Douglas, of the British fleet, has ordered the blockade of La Guayra, Carenero, Guanta, Cumana, Carupano and the mounths of the Orinoco River. This blockade is now in effect. Days of grace are allowed as follows:

To vessels sailing prior to the date of the decree of blockade from the West Indian ports and from the east coast of the continent of America—Steamers, 10 days; sailing vessels, 20 days.

From other ports—Steamers, 20 days; sailing vessels, 40 days.

Vessels in the blockaded ports will be allowed 15 days to obtain clearances. Violators of the blockade will be liable under the law.

It is intimated here that the blockade probably will not last longer than 30 days.

Germans Hurried Them.

Caracas, Dec. 23.—When the German cruiser Falke captured the Venezuelan schooner Victoria in the Gulf of Maracaibo, the captain of the vessel was given 10 minutes to leave his ship. A heavy sea was running at the time, and the small boat in which the Venezuelans disembarked was nearly capsized. As it was, one of the schooner's crew was drowned. It has been learned that the captain of the Victoria was not aware of Venezuela's difficulties with Germany and Great Britain.

MARCHING ON CARACAS.

Rebel Army of 10,000 Said to Be Coming Towards the Capital.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 23.—It is reported here that the Venezuelan revolutionary Generals Penaloza, Rolando, Riera and Solague, with a force said to number 10,000 men, are marching on Caracas, and are believed now to be near that city. Cable messages coming from Venezuela to this port are subjected to censorship.

Chinamen Sent Back Home.

New York, Dec. 23.—United States Commissioner Benedict has ordered the deportation of 12 Chinamen who had not been registered under the exclusion act and could not show that they arrived in the United States before the passage of the act.

WIRES OUT OF DATE

WIRELESS MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN CANADA AND EUROPE.

King of Great Britain and Governor General of Canada Exchange Greetings—Experiment was Entirely Successful—Practical Utility of Great Invention Fully Established.

New York, Dec. 24.—The following dispatch from Marconi, dated Glace Bay, N. S., December 24, has been received by the Associated Press:

"I beg to inform you, for circulation, that I have established wireless telegraph communication between Cape Breton, Canada, and Cornwall, England, with complete success. Inaugatory messages, including one from the Governor-General of Canada to King Edward VII, have already been transmitted and forwarded to the Kings of England and Italy. A message to the London Times has also been transmitted in the presence of its special correspondent, D. Parkin, M. P.

"G. MARCONI."

Text of the Messages.

London, Dec. 24.—The London Times confirms the receipt of a message by wireless telegraphy from Marconi at Cape Breton, N. S. The text of the wireless message from the Times correspondent, which was transmitted from Glace Bay, N. S., to Polhu, Cornwall, is as follows:

"Being present at its transmission in Signor Marconi's Canadian station, I have the honor to send, through the Times, the inventor's first wireless trans-Atlantic message of greeting to England and Italy."

Exchanged Compliments.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 24.—The following message, received by Lord Minto, Governor-General of Canada, from Marconi today, shows that wireless trans-Atlantic telegraphy is a success:

"Grace Bay, N. S., Dec. 24, 1902. His Excellency, the Governor-General, Government House, Ottawa: Have the honor to inform Your Excellency that your message has been transmitted by me from Cape Breton to Cornwall by wireless telegraphy, and has been forwarded to destination.

"MARCONI."

Lord Minto telegraphed Marconi as follows:

"Delighted at your message, just received. Warmest congratulations on your splendid success.

"MINTO."

Hon. W. S. Fielding sent a telegram of congratulation to Marconi tonight, and Sir Richard Cartwright, Acting Premier, has cabled to England, congratulating the British people on the new method of communication between two countries.

WARSHIPS' FURNITURE.

American Navy to Be Fitted Throughout With Fireproof Furnishings.

New York, Dec. 24.—Steel furniture, made in the Brooklyn Navy-yard, will be used on the new cruiser Baltimore. The furniture of the state rooms, crews' quarters, the commander's office, and even of the show-room, will be of steel. Several months of experimenting on the part of Naval Constructor Capps and his assistant, Constructor Nutting, has developed the fact that almost all the essential furniture of a man-of-war can be made of steel.

Serious damage was done during the war with Spain by furniture on the ships taking fire. The Baltimore in the battle of Manila Bay was seriously damaged by such a fire.

The equipment of the Baltimore with the new furniture will cost $30,000. The old wooden furniture, handsome and elaborate in design and finish, did not cost more than one-third of that amount. All the ships of the navy are to be fitted with the steel furniture as fast as the plant can turn our the articles. The United States Navy is the first to adopt the fireproof interior furnishing plan.

TRANSPORT CONTRACTS.

Portland Gets a Share, but Bulk of Business Goes to Seattle.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The fight over Government transportation business to and from the Philippines is closed. President Winsor, of the Boston Steamship Company, waived the condition in his bid that his line should receive three-fourths of the Government business, and agreed to take such shipments at his contract rate as the department sees fit to divert to Seattle and Tacoma. Secretary Root, under these circumstances, accepts the Puget Sound bid, and from now until June 30 next all shipments of troops and supplies made from Seattle or Tacoma will go by the Boston Steamship line. Under the adjustment made today, Portland's status is unchanged. Whenever hay, oats, lumber or other supplies are purchased tributary to Portland, they will be shipped from that port on vessels chartered for the trip, as heretofore. Portland trade will not be monopolized by the Sound, but will depend altogether upon the relative bids at Portland, the Sound and San Francisco.

Citizens Kill Highwayman.

Ardmore, I. T., Dec. 24.—Two highwaymen, heavily armed, were attacked by a posse of citizens as they rode into the town of Provence, in the Chickasaw Nation last night, and an exchange of shots followed. The horse was shot from under one of the men, George Slocum, and finally he was shot and captured. The second man escaped. Slocum died later. The men are supposed to have committed a bank robbery near Provence yesterday.