

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

Gathered in All the Towns of Our Neighboring States—Improvement Noted in All Industries—Oregon.

Plans for a new courthouse for Lane county have been submitted to the county court, and taken under consideration.

Judge Eakin has decided the Huntington contested election case against the old council and mayor, and in favor of the officials elected at the last city election.

The prospects for a large grain yield in Klamath county are good. The rain here last week was quite general over the county and has relieved the farmers of their anxiety.

The Albany lodge of Elks is trying to arrange for a grand clambake for the members of that order at Newport on the 26th of June. If arrangements are made it is expected that 500 or 600 Elks will be in attendance.

An O. R. & N. eastbound train that passed through Pendleton one day last week carried 1,500 crates of strawberries, most of them from Hood river, and a few from Walla Walla. The berries filled two refrigerator cars.

There is already stored in The Dalles about 3,000,000 pounds of wool, but no sales have been made. Both buyers and sellers, says the Times-Mountain, are holding off to see what congress will do with the tariff bill.

The Bandon Recorder says that complaint is being made that persons are catching large numbers of young salmon which are about large enough to go to sea, and that because of this destruction to the small fish, the salmon canning industry will be greatly reduced in the future.

An Astoria city ordinance makes it an offense, punishable by a fine of \$20, or 10 days' imprisonment, for allowing caterpillars to nest in trees. Chief Hallock has notified citizens that he will enforce the law. It is reported there are many trees on the hills infested with these pests.

State Treasurer Phil Metschan received \$6,000 from the treasurer of Linn county, on account of state taxes for the year 1896. This is a partial payment and one of several made by that county. There is still a balance due from Linn, as well as from nearly every county in the state, but few having paid their state taxes in full.

F. H. Andrews was badly hurt by a fall that he received while climbing a cliff for duck eggs, near Kellogg, in Douglas county, last week. The rope broke and he fell about 30 feet, among large boulders. His father was with him and promptly went to his assistance, but it will be a long time before he will be able to climb cliffs again.

Washington.
All owners of good horses in Washington are expecting an era of better prices.

The Waterville creamery is being run daily, 1,000 pounds of milk being received every day.

It is stated that fully \$80,000 has been expended in the vicinity of Sprague so far this year by cattle-buyers.

The tax agent of the Northern Pacific last week paid into the Yakima county treasury \$12,000, the amount of the company's taxes in Yakima county.

Two evangelists from the gospel mission in Tacoma preached to a gang of 18 hobos in the Tacoma jail recently, and during the sermon one of the gang stole \$2 from the pocket of one of the women.

The water, which is over all the low lands on the Columbia river bottoms, has done considerable damage. Around Mount Coffin entire crops have been washed out. The same state of affairs exists at many other places along the river.

The store and hotel and the Great Northern station agent's office at Belfast, Skagit county, burned last week. The three businesses were all conducted in one building, and the building was completely destroyed. The railroad warehouse, a short distance away, was saved by hard work. The agent lost about \$75 in money.

The Spokane & British Columbia Telephone Company has set its poles all the way from Spokane to the British Columbia line, between Northport and Rossland, where it will touch the Vernon system. The wire is spinning its way, and will cover the entire route this week. Colville will then be connected by telephone with the outside world.

The Mountain creamery, owned by Frank Martin, on the Nanum, in Kittitas county, burned last week. Mr. Martin estimates his loss at \$1,500, which is partly covered by insurance. The fire caught from the firebox under the engine boiler, and before it was discovered had so far advanced that nothing could be saved. Mr. Martin has already commenced work of rebuilding, and expects to be ready for business in a short time.

THE TURN OF THE TIDE.

The Coming of Prosperity Shown by Decrease in Failures.

New York, June 7.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: The statement of failures in May in all branches of business gives much encouragement. In defaulted liabilities, the month was the smallest since September, 1895; in manufacturing liabilities, the smallest since September, 1893, except in the last month of 1894. Failures of general stores have not been as small in any month in three years as in May, 1897; in only two months out of 36 have there been smaller failures in books and hats; in only five have there been smaller failures in groceries and but one trading class in that month has reported failures larger than in any of the preceding months, furniture, in which failures were rather numerous. Nobody can mistake the meaning of such returns.

The statement that, except for the temporary depression in prices, the volume of business transacted is now larger than it was in 1893—the year of greatest prosperity—has been questioned by some. But a comparison of prices this week in the leading branches of manufacture not only confirms that view, but shows a remarkable similarity to the course of prices in the earlier months of 1879, when the most wonderful advance in production and prices ever known in this or any other country was close at hand.

The key of the situation is the excessive production of some goods in anticipation of an expected increase in the demand. So, in 1879, consumption gradually gained, month by month, until suddenly it was found that the demand was greater than the possible supply. All know how prices then advanced, and the most marvelous progress in the history of any country resulted within two years.

Reports from all parts of the country now show that the retail distribution of products is unusually large and increasing. There is no improvement in the market for farm products. The iron industry is apparently expanding in production, and it is certainly getting larger contracts, because of very low prices, one cent being quoted for beams. Bessemer pig is stronger, and gray forge a shade weaker under pressure of Southern anxiety to sell. The rail mills are all working full time.

Failures for the week have been 241 in the United States, against 234 last year and 32 in Canada, against 29 last year.

HIS PLANS FOR ESCAPE.

A Folsom Convict's Clever Scheme Is Nipped in the Bud.

Sacramento, June 7.—A notorious young footpad, known as "Shy Kid" Wilson, serving a term of 40 years in the Folsom penitentiary for highway robbery committed in Los Angeles, tried to escape yesterday. Being recognized as a man who would probably make a break for liberty at first opportunity, the prison rules required that he be especially marked so that he would make a good target for the guards if he attempted to break away. A strip of bright red cloth was fastened about his hat crown, and he was compelled to wear a red flannel shirt. Wilson managed to hide behind some rocks yesterday afternoon, and there got rid of the red cloth. He had procured a long piece of garden hose to help him in his escape. He had planned to plunge in the great canal and then float down to the end of it, keeping his head and body under water and breathing through the rubber hose. He was caught just as he was about to jump into the water.

The Gunboat Princeton Launched.

Camden, N. J., June 7.—The United States composite screw gunboat Princeton has been successfully launched from the yards at Kaigan's point. Miss Margaret Updike, the daughter of Major Updike, of Princeton, christened the vessel, breaking the bottle of wine over the prow as the craft glided gracefully down the ways.

The Princeton is one of a fleet of six boats of her class and will probably be stationed in South American waters. Her cost, not including the electric lighting plant and interior fittings, is \$230,000. She is 204 feet long over all, 36 feet beam, with 1,000 tons displacement at normal draught. The armament will consist of six 4-inch rapid-fire guns, four 6-pounders and two 1-pounders.

Run Down by a Scorcher.

Kansas City, June 7.—Madison Staley, a wealthy stockman aged 55 years, died last night from injuries received in being run down by a bicycle ridden by Nelson J. Steven, an insurance agent. Steven lost control of his wheel in attempting to ride down a steep grade on Eighth street from Walnut to Main, striking Mr. Staley and hurling him to the granite pavement, fracturing his skull. Mr. Stevens surrendered to the police but was released.

Will Pay Suicide Claims.

Dubuque, Ia., June 7.—Today's session of the Modern Woodmen was devoted to the consideration of the laws of the order. The most important action was the decision to pay suicide claims, if death does not occur earlier than three years after the date of the certificate.

MURDERED AND CREMATED.

Young Illinois Farmer Falls a Victim to Thieves.

Sterling, Ill., June 4.—Robbed, murdered and cremated.

That tells the awful fate of George Kauffman. He stood guard over his father's granary to protect it from thieves, who killed him at his post and sought to wipe out the evidence of their fiendish cruelty with fire. Today all that remains of him is a corpse with its throat cut, its skull crushed and its head bullet-pierced, a charred lump of flesh. There is no clew to the murderers who committed the crime, but bloodhounds are on the trail.

George Kauffman was the son of Tobias Kauffman, a prosperous farmer, living about five miles north of Sterling. He was 22 years old. Farmer Kauffman has two dwelling-houses with about a quarter of a mile between them. He left his old home for his present dwelling a year ago, but used some of the buildings at the former residence.

Lately Kauffman discovered that thieves were ransacking his granary, located near the old residence. He asked his son George to take up his night quarters in the deserted home and watch for the plunderers. George Kauffman began his vigils two weeks ago. He was unsuccessful and regularly went to the other house for his breakfast. Tuesday morning he did not come in at the usual hour. The family waited some time without concern. Then his father became alarmed and started for the old house, accompanied by the hired man. They went to the house, but there was no trace of the young man.

They scented the strawstack, which had been nearly burned down and was still smoking. They were horrified to find on top of the smoking straw the body of young Kauffman, burned to a crisp. The victim had been clubbed and his skull crushed. His throat had been cut and the head nearly severed from the body. A bullet hole showed that the murderer had shot the young man.

Bloodhounds were put on the trail, but so far without success. The surrounding country is intensely stirred up over the crime, and friends of the young man are demanding vengeance at the end of a rope, without the quibbles and delays of the law.

EXECUTION OF DURRANT.

Warden Hale Will Issue Two Hundred Invitations.

San Francisco, June 4.—There will be 200 invitations issued for the execution of Durrant. Warden Hale has fixed 10:30 A. M. as the hour of execution. Twenty-five medical men will be permitted to witness the execution. At the request of his attorneys Durrant yesterday made a formal demand for release, claiming to be unjustly imprisoned. This will be part of the appeal to the supreme court, and is to cover the point which might be made that by failing to protest and demand his release he had lost the right to complain.

The appeal raises a point which, according to the statement of Durrant's counsel, has never been raised in this state and must be decided before Durrant can be hanged. The contention is that Judge Bahrs inflicted two penalties—imprisonment and death—while the law says one or the other. Counsel will hold that Durrant's life in San Quentin is not detention, but imprisonment; that the position of the attorney-general is untenable, as life in the county jail carries with it no shaving, stripes and no indignity other than detention.

Durrant's first effort to gain a respite by appealing to the federal courts has failed. United States Circuit Judge Gilbert having refused today to issue a writ of habeas corpus, for which his attorney applied.

BAD FOR THE CROPS.

A Killing Frost in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Iowa.

Chicago, June 3.—Heavy frosts occurred the past two mornings over the Northwest. Snow and freezing weather are reported from Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, with much damage to vegetables and small fruit.

The Wisconsin strawberry crop may be a total loss. Tobacco in Southern Wisconsin is reported slightly injured and in Northern Illinois badly damaged.

Corn in Northern and Central Illinois is reported to be cut down by the frost. Ice formed at many points in this section. Potatoes were killed at some points and must be replanted.

Iowa reports indicate considerable damage to corn, potatoes and fruits. Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana also report much injury by frost.

Dispatches from St. Paul say reports from 100 points in Western Minnesota indicate that last night's frost was the most severe in many years. Ice formed in several localities. The weather was cloudy in Northern Minnesota and Northern Dakota and the result was not disastrous. In Southwestern Minnesota all the strawberry crop just coming to the berry is a complete loss. The reports agree in saying that corn is also probably completely ruined. Flax and barley are damaged, how seriously may not be known for a week. Wheat being a much hardier plant, the frost has been a good thing for it, as it had a good chance to root firmly and spread.

MANY ITEMS COVERED.

Senate Reaches the Metal Schedule of the Tariff Bill.

Washington, June 3.—The senate made good progress on the tariff bill today, advancing to the important metal schedule. During the day the paragraphs covering marble and stone, china, glass, brick and tiles were completed, with a few minor exceptions. Messrs. Vest and Jones of Arkansas in behalf of the minority of the finance committee, proposed numerous amendments, which were defeated by majorities of 8 to 14. The votes were on party lines in the main, although Messrs. Rawlins and White, Democrats, voted with the Republicans to increase the rate on onyx, and McEnery voted with the Republicans against Jones' proposition for a reduction of the rates on china.

As a sequel to the recent sensational speech of Tillman, Smith rose to a question of personal privilege while the tariff debate was proceeding, and made a brief but pointed denial of any speculation in sugar stock, either recently or at any time when sugar was the subject of legislation. Tillman was among those who heard the denial, but he made no comment on it.

McLaurin was sworn early in the day, raising the membership of the senate to 89.

Washington, June 3.—There was a lively session of the house today, at which the policy of Speaker Reed and the Republican majority was again made the subject of attack by members of the minority. Richardson and Simpson led the onslaught of the minority. The majority position was ably defended by Henderson and Grosvenor. The appeal of Lewis, taken last Thursday, from the decision of the chair, that a resolution relating to foreign affairs did not constitute a question of privilege, was laid on the table, and, after the skirmish over the methods of procedure, three special orders were successfully adopted, by two of which the senate bills making a special appropriation for the government printing office, and for granting the secretary of the navy authority to contract with any two vessels to carry supplies to India, were passed. The other provided for the consideration of the Frye bill, to prevent collisions upon harbors, rivers and inland waters of the United States connected with the ocean, but Payne, in charge of the latter bill, was forced to abandon it for the day to avoid the point of no quorum.

The conference report on the sundry civil bill was adopted. The compromise relative to the revocation of President Cleveland's forest reservation order excited some comment. Loud objected to one feature of the compromise, but the opposition was not carried to the point of division.

DEVASTATION OF CUBA.

Weyler Extends His Decree to the Eastern Part of the Island.

Havana, June 3.—A decree issued by Captain-General Weyler, dated Sancti Spiritus, May 27, was published here today. He announces the approaching commencement of military operations in the eastern part of the island and orders the enforcement of the provisions of his decree of January in the provinces of Principe and Santa Clara, the organization of cultivation zones, the closing of stores in unfortified towns, and the concentration of the country people and the destruction of all resources which are undefended, as was done in the other provinces. The captain-general gives the people of those two provinces one month in which to comply with the terms of the decree.

Fillbuster Dauntless Seized.

Washington, June 3.—The secretary of the treasury has received a telegram from Inspector Hampton, at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., stating that he boarded the steamer Piscayne on New river inlet yesterday, while she was transferring arms and ammunition to the Dauntless, and that he was knocked down, disarmed and driven off. The telegram was referred to the attorney-general for such action as the gravity of the occurrence may warrant.

Department officials say they have no doubt the Dauntless had just returned from a successful landing in Cuba of munitions of war, and her capture is regarded as highly important. The persons who maltreated Inspector Hampton will be rigorously prosecuted.

May Have Been Hypnotized.

San Francisco, June 3.—A young woman known among her friends by the name of Henrietta, for several years in the service of the family of Louis F. Montague, of this city, has mysteriously disappeared. It is supposed that she is now in the neighborhood of San Mateo. The young woman was supposed to be the victim of hypnotic influences, and detectives were employed to find out if there was any crime being committed in the matter, and to locate if possible the criminals. Dr. A. A. d'Acona attended the young woman, and Mayor Phelan is said to have taken interest in her case. She is well spoken of by her friends and her disappearance is causing them much concern.

An Omaha Bank Failure.

Omaha, June 3.—A special to the Bee from Lincoln, Neb., says the Merchants' bank closed its doors at noon. No statement was given out. The bank had a capital of \$50,000.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

It was a quiet week in the wheat market last week. The bulls continue to have the benefit of the statistics; the bears of the speculative dullness and of the relative cheapness of all the other grains. The crop news was about equally divided. Complaints came from abroad, particularly from France. On the other hand, the advices from the Northwest were exceedingly bearish. The extreme Southwest had also a great deal to say of an early harvest. At the opening of the week there was a considerable shipping business, and the seaboard did a fair export trade from Monday up to the Saturday close. Here there was a lessened demand during the latter half of the week. The out movement, however, as the result of sales made the week before, was very large; sufficient to lead to the expectation of a reduction in the Chicago stock Monday of 1,000,000 bushels. Prices continued to show "premiums" instead of "carrying charges," the fact unquestionably which troubled the bears more than any other. May was le over July at the close and July 5c over September. That sort of relationship left no room for any of the usual philosophizing about "burdens." It was apparent from the quickness with which shorts took alarm on any news unfavorable to them that they recognized that they were granting all the advantages at the start.

There will this week probably be flaring announcements of harvesting in Indian Territory and Texas. It will not be many days before the crowd begins to anticipate the June 10th government report, which will give the first announcement as to spring wheat area and condition. The former will show a large increase and the latter will be high.

Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., June 4, 1897.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$3.75; Benton county and White Lily, \$3.75; graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$2.60 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74@75c; Valley, 76c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 38@40c per bushel; choice gray, 37@39c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.00@14.00 per ton; clover, \$11.50@12.50; wheat and oat, \$11.00@12.00 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, \$16.50 per ton; brewing, \$18@19.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$14.50, shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$23.50.

Butter—Creamery, 30c; dairy, 20@22½c; store, 17½@30c per roll.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 25@35c; Garnet Chilies, 55@65c; Early Rose, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$2.75 per cental for Merced; new potatoes, 1½c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.25@2.50; geese, \$4.00@6.00; turkeys, live, 12½c; ducks, \$3.00@5.00 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 11c per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon, 11½c; Young America, 12½c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c.

Hops—7c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50; cows, \$2.50@3.00; dressed beef, 5@6½c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 2½c; dressed mutton, 4½@5c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$4.00@4.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed \$5.00@5.50 per cwt.

Veal—Large, 3½@4c; small, 4½@5c per pound.

Seattle, Wash., June 4, 1897.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$26@27 per ton.

Oats—Choice, \$23@24 per ton.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$4.60; Novelty A, \$4.30; California brands, \$4.90; Dakota, \$5.65; patent, \$6.40.

Barley—Rolled or ground, \$20 per ton; whole, \$19.

Corn—Whole, \$20 per ton; cracked, \$20; feed meal, \$20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00 per ton; shorts, \$17.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, \$13.00; Eastern Washington, \$18; California, \$15.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$18.00 per ton; middlings, \$22; oilcake meal, \$30.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 11c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.50; ducks, \$5@6.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 15c; ranch, 10@12.

Cheese—Native Washington, 11@11½c; Eastern, 12c; California, 9½c.

Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, \$12.00@14; parsnips, per sack, \$1; beets, per sack, \$1.25; turnips, per sack, \$1.25; rutabagas, per sack, 50c; carrots, per sack, 75c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, \$1.75; onions, per 100 lbs, \$1.50.

Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, \$3.50; new potatoes, 1½c per lb.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 14@15c.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 7c; cows, 6½c; mutton, sheep, 7c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 6½c per pound; veal, small, 6@7c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4@5c; salmon, 6@8c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and soles, 3@4c.

Provisions—Hams, large, 11½c; hams, small, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 7c per pound.

Fruits—Lemons, California, fancy, \$2.50@3.50; choice, \$2; California fancy navals, \$3.50@4.