

Lincoln County Leader

J. F. STEWART, Publisher.

TOLEDO.....OREGON

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Culled From the Telegraphic Columns.

Sheldon Jackson, United States superintendent of Alaskan schools, who has just returned from Alaska, says: There is but one solution to the transportation problem in Alaska, and that is the reindeer.

A special to the Kansas City Journal from Muskogee, I. T., says: The treaty between the Dawes and Creek commissions, which was concluded here last month, was rejected by the Creek council in session at Okmulgee.

A patrol of dervish horsemen raided a village seven miles from Berber, killing 11 men and capturing many women, children and cattle. A detachment of Anglo-Egyptian cavalry sent in pursuit of the dervishes overtook them and routed them with heavy loss. The dervishes abandoned their booty and fled.

The body of William J. Lyons, an employe of the Pacific Gas Improvement Company, of San Francisco, was found in the hills back of Berkeley with a bullet-hole in his head. He was short in his accounts and attempted to burn his books to hide his crime. Being discovered in this he killed himself in despair.

Senator Morgan, who has just returned from an extended visit to Hawaii, has expressed himself as well pleased with what he saw and the manner in which he was entertained on the islands. He is more than ever enthusiastic on the subject of annexation, and intimates that Hawaii will become a part of this country before the close of the coming year.

According to Chinese advices just received in Tacoma, Earl Li Hung Chang will no longer take an active part in government affairs.

Twenty million feet of hemlock and 2,000 cords of bark have been consumed, resulting in a loss of \$100,000 by a forest fire near Austin, Pa.

The government has completed arrangements with the Canadian authorities to have letter mail taken into Dawson City once a month during the winter season. The first carrier has just left Dyea for Circle City and Dawson.

By an explosion at the Colma fuse works, at Colma, Cal., Mary Beck was killed and eight were seriously and four slightly wounded. The remains of the dead girl have not been recovered from the building, and it is believed they burned.

The London Daily Mail says it has information from a reliable source that cholera has attacked a battalion of the Shropshire regiment, which is stationed at Sitapura, Northwest India, and that 40 non-commissioned officers and privates have already succumbed.

The Nueste Nachrichten, of Leipzig, has published a report of a conversation in which Prince Bismarck is quoted as saying that the Monroe doctrine is "uncommon insolence towards the rest of the world, and does violence to the other American interests."

A census of the Russian empire has just been completed. The population, as now published, is 129,211,113, of which 64,611,638 are males and 64,599,475 are females. The population of Russia in Europe is nearly 100,000,000, or more than three-fourths of the whole.

Telegraphic advices from the New York Herald's correspondent in Rio de Janeiro state that a servant in the employ of William T. Townes, the United States consul-general in Rio Janeiro, made an unsuccessful attempt to murder the consul-general. Mr. Townes' assailant was placed under arrest.

Admiral John L. Worden, retired, died in Washington. He commanded the Monitor during its engagement with the Merrimack in Hampton Roads during the late war. In 1886 he was retired with full rank and the pay of an admiral, the only instance of the kind.

The director of the mint has submitted to the secretary of the treasury a report for the fiscal year covering the operations of the mints and assay offices, together with statistics of foreign countries relative to production, coinage and monetary condition. The value of the gold deposited at the mints and assay offices during the fiscal year 1897 was \$129,105,500. Of this amount \$87,003,337 was original deposits, and \$42,102,162 redeposits.

By the explosion of the boiler of the steamer G. B. Force, in Charleston, Pa., the captain, James Ryan, and the cook, William Patterson, were killed. The body of Patterson was found buried in the sand and terribly mutilated. The body of the captain has not yet been found. The others of the crew were badly scorched and bruised. The explosion was so heavy that the earth trembled for more than a mile, and windows were broken throughout the town.

HIS FIRST STATEMENT.

Luetgert Swears He Is Innocent of the Crime Charged.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—The press tonight obtained the one great feature missing in the famous Luetgert trial—the sworn testimony of the defendant himself, Adolph A. Luetgert.

Standing tonight in the gloomy jail adjoining the grim-looking graystone court building, in which his remarkable trial had at last been brought to a finish, the burly sausage-maker capped the climax of the extraordinary series of events which began with his sensational bankruptcy and the alleged frightful diabolism of boiling his wife to death at midnight in a vat in his factory cellar. Tonight, closely following the result of the trial which has attracted world-wide attention, Luetgert made under oath a statement for the press concerning the fearful crime charged against him, the first sworn statement yet made by him and the first statement of such kind ever known in newspaper annals. The affidavit was put in writing in due legal form, certified to by a notary.

Ex-Judge William A. Vincent, the leading counsel for the defendant, in this celebrated case, the man to whose brains and skill and energy Luetgert, beyond all doubt, owes his great legal victory, gave consent to the affidavit being made.

The scene in the jail when Luetgert took the oath was as dramatic as the circumstances were unique. In the dimly-lighted jail corridor, Luetgert, standing erect, and grasping the bars that still kept him from liberty, lifted his right hand and solemnly asserted, as the notary administered the binding form. The grewsome surroundings were a reminder in some degree of the midnight occurrences in the factory cellar that have become familiar to hundreds of thousands who have followed the details of the great trial. Few, if any, of the curious prisoners and turnkeys who were spectators had any inkling of what was taking place. Luetgert, the notary and a representative of the press conferred together for a few minutes and then Luetgert, without hesitation, made the affidavit and signed it in ink with the hand that is alleged to have committed one of the most fiendish crimes on record.

The affidavit explicitly declares Luetgert's innocence. The document in full is as follows:

"To the Public:

"The result of my trial, ending today, is a victory for me, because of the disagreement of the jury; but I am very much disappointed, and very much surprised that the jury did not bring in a verdict of not guilty.

"I did not kill my wife, and do not know where she is, but I am sure it is only a question of time until she comes home.

"I did not go upon the witness stand because my lawyer, Judge Vincent, was bitterly opposed to my doing so, and because he advised me that it was not necessary. I am grateful for the tremendous change in public sentiment in my favor, and time will demonstrate that I am not only innocent, but a very grievously wronged man.

"Adolph A. Luetgert."

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of October, A. D. 1897.

"M. F. Sullivan, Notary Public."

The Jury Disagreed.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—As Adolph Luetgert, who has been on trial on a charge of having murdered his wife and boiling her body in a vat, heard this morning from the foreman of the 12 men who have been considering his case for the past 66 hours the words, "We are unable to agree upon a verdict," he was as imperturbable as ever, evincing no joy.

The wonderful nerve of the defendant was with him to the end. He stood up, and with a good-natured smile on his swarthy face shook hands with his son, Arnold, his counsel and his business partner, William Charles, and in less than five minutes was led back to jail. The jury was dismissed and the great trial was over.

THE STICKEEN ROUTE

Arrangements Being Made by a British Company.

Winnipeg, Oct. 25.—Frank Waterhouse, president of the Fort Wrangel, Glenora & Teslin Lake Transportation Company, passed through this city today on his way to London to appoint agents and arrange for the trip from Europe to Dawson. From England the first-class fare will be \$1,000; second-class, \$750. These amounts include transportation of supplies and other necessities for one year. The company will have a line of steamers between ports on Puget sound to the head of navigation of the Stickeen river, a distance of 130 miles from Fort Wrangel. From the river to Teslin lake, a portage of about 115 miles, pack trains will convey the travelers, it being intended to have about 1,000 horses on the route. Thence on Teslin lake and the river course to Dawson, a distance of about 450 miles, boats now in course of construction are to be used.

Stockton, Cal., Oct. 25.—This afternoon, the jury in the case of George Williams, charged with attempting to wreck the New Orleans express at Morano station, on the 4th ult., returned a verdict of guilty, fixing the penalty at life imprisonment.

GENERAL WILSON'S REPORT

Progress Made Upon Columbia Fortifications.

CONDITION OF PRESENT FORTS

Estimates Made for Further Improvements of Oregon and Washington's Rivers and Harbors.

Washington, Oct. 25.—In the annual report of General Wilson, chief of engineers, the following is said about defenses at the mouth of the Columbia: "The defenses include works of the older type, one garrisoned and one in charge of an ordnance sergeant. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1896, work was commenced during the year on five emplacements for 10-inch guns on disappearing carriages, two emplacements for 8-inch guns on disappearing carriages, and two mining casemates. At the close of the year, the 10-inch emplacements were completed, and three 10-inch carriages mounted. A wharf had been built for the construction of the 8-inch emplacements, all necessary plant assembled and the excavation completed. One mining casemate was also under construction. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1897, an additional emplacement for an 8-inch gun on a disappearing carriage and a mortar battery for eight 12-inch mortars will be constructed. At the close of the year, plans for these works had been partially prepared. There are no existing works of defense on Puget sound."

The following estimates are made for river and harbor improvements for Oregon and Washington for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899:

OREGON.	
Coquille river.....	\$115,000
Upper Coquille river.....	25,000
Coolidge river.....	600,000
Siuslaw river.....	100,000
Tillamook Bay.....	325,000
Columbia river below Tongue point.....	71,550
Columbia river and Lower Willamette.....	300,000
Canal at Cascades.....	334,350
Gauging the waters of the Columbia river.....	1,000
Upper Columbia and Snake rivers.....	20,000

WASHINGTON.	
Gray's harbor.....	\$400,000
Puget sound.....	25,000
Everett harbor.....	150,000
Swinomish slough.....	47,000
Chehalis river.....	3,800
Olympia harbor.....	20,000
Cowlitz river.....	1,500

No action has been taken on the appropriation for a harbor of refuge at Port Orford, the secretary holding that the demands of commerce are not sufficient to occasion the expenditure.

The simple announcement is made that the secretary has not approved the project at Yaquina, and no estimate is made.

It is stated that the land has not yet been acquired for the boat railway at The Dalles. For the same reason, nothing has been done on the Seattle ditch.

CERTIFICATES NOT REQUIRED.

Judge Hanford's Ruling as to Wives and Children of Chinese Merchants.

Seattle, Oct. 25.—Judge Hanford, of the federal court, today handed down a decision in a Chinese case, in which he holds that the wives and children of Chinese merchants doing business in the United States do not have to have certificates from the Chinese government to entitle them to enter this country. Government officials here say that, if the opinion is upheld by the higher courts, it means that the important section of the Chinese exclusion act which provides that sons and daughters of Chinese merchants doing business in this country must secure certificates from their home government is no longer the law. United States District Attorney Brinker will at once report to the treasury department Judge Hanford's ruling, and it is expected that the attorney-general's office will at once take steps to have the case appealed to the supreme court.

Treasury agents claim that if the decision holds it will open the gates for a flood of Orientals, for, if certificates are not required, any number of Chinese can claim to be children of merchants in the United States.

Judge Hanford's decision is in direct opposition to that of Judge Lacombe, of New York.

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE KILLED

Terrible Loss of Life by Cyclone in the Philippines.

Madrid, Oct. 25.—A dispatch from Leyte, Philippine islands, says that place has been almost devastated by a cyclone, that many persons have been killed and that the damage to property is incalculable.

The cyclone destroyed the towns of Tagloban and Hernani, on the island of Leyte, as well as several villages. It is estimated that 400 persons lost their lives through the disaster.

Later advices from Manila say the cyclone occurred on October 12, and added that Carriaga and Burga, on the eastern coast of Leyte, had been wiped out, and that an immense wave swept the island. Several hundred natives perished at Tagloban. The cyclone also swept the island of Samar. The full extent of the catastrophe is not yet known, but the damage is estimated at \$5,000,000.

ARMY AND ALASKA.

General Nelson A. Miles Makes His Annual Report.

Washington, Oct. 25.—General Miles, major-general commanding the army, has made his report to the secretary of war. General Miles says in part:

"The army, although inadequate in point of numbers, was never in a higher state of efficiency."

"The progress that has been made on the Pacific coast in the establishment of modern batteries of artillery have made it necessary to occupy new ground and to adopt a new system of defense."

Attention is invited to the report of General Merriam, commanding the department of the Columbia, especially to the need of a larger garrison at the entrance to the Columbia river, and to his report on the condition and necessities of the great territory of Alaska.

As all the other territories have been occupied by military posts and measures have been adopted for building military roads, bridging rivers, and, in fact, aiding and blocking out the way for occupation of the vast territories by citizens, it is deemed but just and advisable that the same liberal spirit should be manifested toward that great and important territory. He says:

"As far as practicable it would, in my opinion, be advisable to have its waters thoroughly examined by such of the naval force as could be used for that purpose, and as military reconnoitering and exploring parties in past years have been sent to the country to furnish knowledge of its character, resources and necessities, this, in my judgment, should be continued on a larger and more liberal scale. While there is no conflict between the population, composed of some 20,000 Indians and the white explorers and settlers, yet, as the former are supplied with modern arms, they may become turbulent and troublesome. Such has been the history of nearly all the tribes in the other territories. Hence, it would be but reasonable to anticipate the necessity for a military force in that territory by the establishment of at least three military posts to support the civil authorities, to give protection to the white settlers, and to aid in maintaining law in that remote section."

In the last 10 years much attention has been given to coast defenses, and most beneficial results are apparent. Approximately, \$26,000,000 has been appropriated by the government, which is nearly one-third of what is required to put the country in a safe condition of defense. Although the general desire of our people, he says, is to maintain peace with all nations, and the policy of the government is one of goodwill and peaceful relations with all others, it would be more judicious to provide defenses than to remain in a condition of insecurity and permit the accumulated wealth of many generations to be destroyed or endangered by any foreign power with which we are liable to come in contact."

He recommends fortification appropriations in the West as follows:

San Diego.....	\$ 720,000
San Francisco.....	1,326,000
Columbia river.....	605,000
Puget sound.....	1,140,000

He recommends strongly an increase in the army of at least two additional regiments of artillery, saying that by December 31 a number of positions will be armed in part or fully with modern appliances of war, and that in these important positions there are no troops stationed and none available for assignment to the stations without taking them from stations where they are at present imperatively required.

He suggests the necessity of adding four infantry regiments, and recommends that congress fix a standard of strength on a basis of the total population. This standard, he thinks, should be a maximum of one enlisted man to every 1,000 population, and the minimum, one soldier to every 2,000 population.

Robbed Their Benefactor.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 25.—Andrew Norlin was held up last night near Puyallup and robbed of \$40. Norlin had been working in Montana, and, while in Spokane, met two men who were "dead broke" and beating their way to the coast. He had \$75, and took pity on them, paying their way on freight trains. In repayment for all his kindness, as soon as they got off the train at Puyallup, they almost choked their benefactor to death, and took what money he had left. Norlin gave a fairly good description of the robbers, and the police have hopes of capturing them.

Life on the Trail.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—A letter by C. J. Gregory, formerly of Chicago, who left here for Alaska in August, is a clear portrayal of the hardships of the White pass:

"There have been six suicides," he writes, "three hangings and eleven killings, besides a number of deaths from exposure. It costs \$1 to get a letter through to Skagway, and 10 cents to get it mailed. Prices here are very high. Flour at Lake Bennett brings \$50 a sack; bacon, \$1 per pound; beans, \$1 per pound; horseshoe nails bring 50 cents apiece; a pair of shoes will bring any price you like or want to ask; overalls, \$5."

Troops for India.

London, Oct. 25.—A large draft of soldiers has been ordered to get ready to reinforce eight British cavalry regiments now in India.

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

A Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

News Gathered in All the Towns and Our Neighboring States—Improvement in All Industries—Oregon.

A fishing crew caught between 800 and 1,000 herring in one night last week, in Yaquina bay.

A farmer of Malheur county, this year sold 73,000 pounds of wool and a head of choice beef cattle.

Eighteen thousand dollars in gold bullion was the output of the Bonanza mine in Baker county last month.

The Ashland iron works are working on a \$1,500 order for pulleys, shafting, etc., from the Sissons Lumber & Mill cantile Company.

The keel for the Alaska Gold Mining & Navigation Company's boat, which is being built in the Siuslaw, near Florence, measures 125 feet in length.

There are now 1,200 signers in Astoria to the petition for the bridge across Young's bay. Only about 1,000 names are required to put the measure through.

Among Mr. Dade's sheep on Brecken creek, in Umatilla county, is a lamb with only one ear and one eye. It was born thus, and is fully developed in every other respect.

Contractor Jacobson, who is working on the jetties on Coos bay and on the Siuslaw, has about 130 men employed. He says his contracts will be finished in two or three months.

There are no empty houses in Vale, Malheur county. Several farmers have been compelled to give up the idea of living in town in order to send their children to school, because of the lack of houses.

The run of chinooks in Coos bay was light last week, and silversides were scarce also. There has been a great improvement, however, in the last few days, and boats on the lower bay are making good catches.

One day last week Hume's fishing crew at the mouth of Rogue river made a regular old-time catch of salmon, raking in 3,750 at one haul of the seine. There is a large run of salmon coming into Sixes river, in Curry county.

A fish eight or nine inches long and somewhat resembling the Sound mackerel is being caught along the water front in Astoria. No one seems to know just of what specie it is, but such a fish was seen in these waters about five years ago.

There is greater activity witnessed in and around Drain this fall than has been seen here before for years. New buildings are being built, old ones repaired, sidewalks made and improved, empty houses are rapidly filling up, a brick kiln of over 100,000 is already ready for burning, and thousands of cords of wood are being handled by woodmen.

A disease called glanders is causing the death of quite a number of horses in Paradise, Walla Walla county. The people there have asked the county court to order the stock inspector to that place to take steps to prevent the spread of the disease. At this particular time, however, the county is without a stock inspector, but the matter will be attended to at the next session of the court.

Movement of the hop crop has not yet started, except on sales contracted before harvest, and neither buyers nor growers are able to say when it will. A few sales are reported from Polk county at 15 cents, and it is stated on good authority that 15½ cents has been offered in Salem for choice hops. The price, generally offered, however, is from 13 to 13½ cents. This, growers are unwilling to take, and in some instances, agents having failed to buy at these figures, the orders have been recalled.

The Lincoln county tax levy has been fixed at 16 mills.

The shingle mill in Kelso, Cowlitz county, is cutting 170,000 shingles in 11 hours. This is at the rate of over 150,000 in 10 hours.

By a vote of 10 to 4, the Tacoma city council passed an ordinance making it imperative for women to remove their hats in places of public amusement.

Tea Inspector Palmer has rejected 200 cases of Japanese tea, recently brought to Seattle on the Nippon Yusen liner, Kinshui Maru. The inspector says the tea has apparently once been used.

A farmer of Yakima will this fall sow a lot of the much-talked-of Bermuda grass, which is said to thrive on dry hilly ground without irrigation. If the test proves successful the grass will be largely sown for sheep fodder.

Tests made at the Washington state agricultural college of beets grown on irrigated lands in Yakima county under the system of experiments inaugurated by the Northern Pacific, show a range of from 14 to 20½ per cent of sugar, with an average above 18 per cent. These results are said to be very satisfactory.