

Lincoln County Leader

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TOLEDO.....OREGON

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

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

The sultan is negotiating for the building of a first-class armored cruiser.

The steamer Concho has arrived in New York from Havana with 968 bales of Cuban tobacco.

The English engineers announce that they have plenty of funds and intend to continue their strike.

It is reported that the Afridis are assembling in tribal council, with a view to concluding peace.

Eight of the principal buildings in Lebanon, Tenn., were destroyed by fire Thursday night, with a loss of \$75,000.

The death rate of Chicago for the year was 14 in the thousand, the lowest recorded for any city of over 200,000 inhabitants.

The British bark Taymount, bound from Liverpool for San Francisco, is now 224 days overdue, and her owners have given her up.

John Williams, at Marseilles, O., attacked Mrs. Flint and cut her so badly with a knife that she is not expected to live. He then fatally cut himself.

British bark Samaritan, from San Francisco, arrived in Liverpool considerably damaged from a hurricane which she encountered December 22.

Walter Gregory and Philip McNelly were instantly killed by a switching engine on the track in the yard of the Murden Boiler Works at Philadelphia.

A thief stole \$4,000 worth of jewelry from the house of Volney Mallett, president of the Indiana National bank, of Indianapolis, while the family were at dinner.

Joseph Lockley, clerk of the manager of the McHenry Estate Association, has disappeared from New York, after securing several thousand dollars by raised checks.

A fortnightly steamer service between this coast and Australia will commence in February, the Canadian Pacific line and the Oceanic line alternating their sailing dates.

French bark Lombard, from Mobile, Ala., sunk while entering the port of Cette, France. Five of the crew, including the captain, were drowned, and eight were saved.

Mrs. Sarah McGovern, wife of one of the wealthiest residents of Rankin, Pa., was shot and killed at her home Friday night, and her husband has been arrested for murder.

A new law went into effect on the first of the year in Massachusetts, providing that not over 30 per cent of the inmates of any penal institution in the state shall be employed in any one industry.

A line of steamers is to be established between Valparaiso and San Francisco.

Five shots fired by an unknown person into a saloon at Picton, Col., killed Robert Mandolini, the proprietor, and Dave Evans, and carried away a portion of the chin of Dick Owens.

A council of the Uintah and White River Utes was held Friday, and an agreement finally made to consummate the sale of their lands on the terms proposed by the commission.

A destructive wind storm visited Chattanooga Friday. A large frame church and considerable other minor damage was done. The wind was followed by a heavy snow storm.

Vladimir Bourtzoff, editor of the Narodnaya Vozta, and Wierzebecki, printer of that paper, have been committed for trial in London for publishing articles inciting persons to assassinate the czar.

The trustees appointed by Mrs. Phoebe Hearst to obtain architectural plans of the buildings and grounds for the University of California have completed the plan of an international competition which is to be issued immediately.

Colorado will not join the combination proposed among certain Western states to biennially inspect the books of large Eastern life insurance companies as a condition precedent to permitting them to do business in those states.

Morris Mueller and Victor Goldstein attempted to drag William Smith, a passer-by, into a second-hand store in St. Louis. Smith drew a pistol and fired several shots. Mueller is in the hospital dying. Goldstein has some bullet holes in his arm, and Smith is in jail.

The building trades council of San Francisco has endorsed the action of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald in urging the annexation of Hawaii, advocating the eight-hour labor law and the anti-immigration law, and striving to have a clause inserted in the specification for the new postoffice requiring all stone to be dressed in San Francisco.

LATEST FROM DAWSON.

A Party Brings Advice From There Up to December 7.

Port Townsend, Jan. 10.—Thirty-five Klondikers arrived here today on the steamer City of Seattle, bringing advice from Dawson up to December 7. J. M. Kepner, John Burke and "French Carley" Delorge left Dawson on that date, and came through in record breaking time, reaching here exactly one month after their start. The trip out was without special incident, other than the usual hardship of such a journey.

"We passed between 200 and 300 men on our way out," said Mr. Kepner. "Parties will be coming in every day now. The situation at Dawson is practically unchanged. The food supply is better than it was two months ago, on account of the people leaving."

Delorge, in an interview, said: "I cannot say exactly how much dust was brought out. I think it will run over \$100,000, and will probably reach \$150,000. I know one man who brought out between \$10,000 and \$20,000 in dust. In drafts there was more represented. One man alone has a draft for \$100,000, and others I know have large drafts. Perhaps the drafts will total up to \$250,000. There was nothing new in the way of strikes reported when we left. All mines opened were being worked, and the output next spring will be a big one."

All of the returning Klondikers tell of meeting numerous parties scattered along the route, trying to push in. Some have dogs, while many are trying to drag their outfits on hand sleds. Considerable scurvy is reported at Dawson.

T. B. Corey, of Seattle, said: "My party counted 25 boats and their passengers tied up in Lake Labarge, and twice as many on Lake Tagish. In places along the river they counted 20 more."

Mr. Corey speaks highly of the humane acts of the mounted police, who make room in their camps for men to sleep, feed them and sell necessary provisions at actual cost. They are located along the route at Big and Little Salmon creeks, Lakes Tagish and Bennett, and are making all possible efforts to get provisions into the Klondike. On Lake Bennett, the party met 14 sleds drawn by horses, carrying 1,000 to 2,000 pounds to the sled. It was their intention, if possible, to go as far as the foot of Lake Labarge, and from there send the supplies along by dog trains. Later, it was reported that 10 horses, with their loads, had been lost through the ice at Cariboo crossing.

Regarding the food situation, Mr. Corey was of the opinion that there was a shortage, but expressed no fear of starvation, as hundreds had gone down the river to Fort Yukon, and 100 or more had already come out over the trails. Before leaving, Mr. Corey visited the stores and observed that where the miners had put in orders for their year's supply of provisions, including 10 sacks of flour, but one or two sacks at most were allowed to each order.

Mr. Corey estimates that 800 pounds of gold dust passed his party coming out. He says rich quartz rock has been discovered on Deadwood creek, which is estimated to run as high as \$50,000 to \$75,000 to the ton.

J. B. and J. F. Graeber, formerly of Shamokin, Pa., who have been prospecting on the head of Hootalingqua, report that, October 8, a party of seven people left the head of Lake Labarge, since which nothing has been heard of any of the party. They also report the picking up of two deserted boats, one of which contained 100 pounds of provisions and the other 400 pounds. As near as they could make out by the marks on the sacks, they were the property of "Whitman and Parker," whoever they may have been. The owners are probably lost, although it may be possible that the boats had been lost by drifting away. They were found on Three-Mile river, between Hootalingqua river and Lake Labarge.

Napoleon Dupros and a party of six Frenchmen are said to have brought upwards of \$40,000 in dust with them. They also have a draft for \$100,000, the proceeds of a sale of some mining prospects.

In a race with the City of Seattle, the steamer George W. Elder, which runs between Portland and Skagway, set fire to her staterooms, Monday. The race occurred on this side of Fort Wrangel. The fire was extinguished.

The present trip of the City of Seattle is the fastest ever made on the Skagway run. She has been gone just 10 days. She left Skagway on her down trip Monday morning, January 3.

Rate War Ended.

San Francisco, Jan. 10.—The Southern Pacific Company and the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company have decided to advance passenger rates by rail and water between San Francisco and Portland.

At present, the Southern Pacific first-class rate between here and Portland is \$10, including sleeping berth. The new rate is to be \$17 with berth. The existing second-class rate is \$5, including a tourist berth. The new second-class fare will be \$11 with berth.

The Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company's present first-class rate by steamer is \$5. This is to be increased to \$12. The steamer is \$2.50. The new rate is to be \$3.

WOULD BUY HER LIBERTY

Cubans Ready to Make Spain a Generous Offer.

Views of General Gomez

Peace on an Honorable Basis Would Be Welcomed—Offers by Spain of Anything but Independence, Scorned.

New York, Jan. 10.—The Herald prints the following letter from General Maximo Gomez, commander in chief of the Cuban army, dated "In the Field, December 26, 1897:"

"You ask me for my opinion regarding what effect the autonomous regime about to be implanted by Spain in Cuba, might have towards the pacification of the island. The Cubans in arms do not propose to give up, shall never yield, in their struggle with the metropolitans, until they have established their absolute independence. No matter what number of liberties is granted to Cuba by any Spanish government, even in case Spain should reserve for herself no other right than to keep the Spanish flag over Cuba as a symbol of nominal sovereignty, she will not succeed in ending the war."

"The Cuban people will admit of no other solution of the present conflict than that whereby Cuba shall be recognized as a member of the sisterhood of free nations. In this attitude of absolute radicalism we are sustained by two great motives, which, unified as one single force, impel the Cuban people as a whole as well as individuals to adopt the grand resolution of their existence—sentiment and interest; the former because the Cubans feel that they have been profoundly hurt by the horrible war methods employed against them by Spain, the latter because they are all firmly convinced that only as free men will they be able to enjoy peace and command the necessary credit to reconstruct their country, which had been devastated by Spain herself."

"In short, Cuba not only wishes, but needs to be free. It is about time that Spain should recognize that fact, and leaving aside all chaotic autonomy, should manfully confront the true problem. Let the Spanish nation acknowledge Cuba's independence which she justly claims, and receive a compensation which is right and equitable. And even let her claim from our government some advantages in the Cuban tariff to foster her own industries. Then, and only then, will the rainbow of peace lighten the horizon which is now reflected by the glare of the glowing fields and the firing of the cannon."

The Herald also prints an interview with Gomez at a date later than the above. The correspondent found Gomez in the best of health and spirits and fully convinced that the long struggle is drawing to a close.

"The Intransigents of Cuba," said General Gomez, "have been the only ones willing to continue the struggle, because they feared that Cuban triumph would result in their prosecution and the confiscation of their property. They are utterly mistaken. I, Maximo Gomez, whose word has never been broken, assure them of absolute protection. I know these people represent the thrifty business element of the island, and believe they are destined to rank among the most valued citizens of the republic. The triumph of our cause will bring to them assurance and permission to follow their vocations in peace. There will be no revolution, either political or social. All we ask of them is to help build the fortunes of the island and repair the waste of war."

"I say the same thing, too, to the Spanish officers in the field. They have been fighting us not because they hate Cuba, but because they love Spain. They have proved themselves to be loyal sons of the motherland, and when they have laid down their arms we will gladly extend to them the right hand of fellowship. We will bury the bloody past and go forward shoulder to shoulder to build up Cuba's laboring classes, which have been almost destroyed, and we shall need them to till the soil. The rank and file of the Spanish army will fill the gap."

Speaking of terms on which Cuba might win freedom, General Gomez reiterated his statement that Cuba is still waiting to purchase her liberty. It is believed that \$250,000,000 would be an equitable amount now. He said he had no doubt that an arrangement would be made with American capitalists to form a syndicate, collect customs duties and pay Spain in installments. In this way the general said there would be a positive end to the war by the establishment of friendly relations with Spain.

"When peace is declared," he said, "we want to reckon on Spain as being among our friends."

Referring to the ability of Cuba to carry on the war, Gomez said his forces were ample, and declared that Cuba could continue the fighting even if the soldiers had to go naked; that the war cost the Cubans nothing, whereas Spain's life-blood was being rapidly drained by her enormous expenses. He spoke in terms of affectionate admiration of America, describing her as the light of Cuba, and said he would welcome intervention as affording an instantaneous solution of the problem.

THE LAST CHAPTER.

Theodore Durrant Executed in San Quentin Prison.

San Quentin, Cal., Jan. 8.—When William Henry Theodore Durrant died on the gallows Friday morning for the murder of Blanche Lamont, he gave an exhibition of coolness and nerve as has seldom been seen under similar circumstances. Hopeful almost to the last that something or some one would intervene to save him, he walked to the scaffold this morning and made his little speech protesting his innocence as calmly and with as distinct enunciation as if he had been addressing an assemblage of friends upon some ordinary topic of the day. His face was pale, and his eyes were red, but his voice was firm and he stood as solid as a rock while he proclaimed his innocence and professed forgiveness to those who, he said, had hounded him to death.

There was not a hitch or accident to mar the plans of Warden Hale in carrying out the sentence of the law. The noose was adjusted, the trap was sprung, the stout rope held and Durrant's dead body dangled at the end. The neck was broken by the fall of over five feet and 15 minutes later the murderer's body was cut down and placed in the coffin.

In despite of the exciting event of last night, when Durrant was besieged by newspaper reporters and talked to his parents till 11:30 P. M., he rested easily during the night and shortly after 6 o'clock he awoke and bade his guards good morning. Warden Hale had provided a neat suit of dark material for the occasion and those clothes Durrant quickly donned. He noticed the absence of collar and necktie, however, and knowing full well the reason for this omission, he asked for them, explaining that a turndown collar would not interfere with the noose. Then he sat down to an excellent breakfast and ate heartily. During the early morning hours, Durrant did not have much to say beyond expressing a desire that no newspaper men should be allowed to see him. This request was complied with.

Consistent to the last, Durrant died professing religion. But he died, accepting at the last moment the comforts of the Catholic church, instead of the Baptist church, in which he was reared. Rev. Mr. Rader, a Protestant minister, had arranged to ascend the scaffold with Durrant, but the minister would not say that he thought Durrant innocent, and the condemned man declined his services until Rader professed belief in his innocence. Then it was that the once ardent Baptist turned to the Catholic church for consolation, and called upon Father Lagan, the priest who had frequently visited him in prison, to attend him. Father Lagan responded promptly and performed the last solemn rites of the church. Durrant remained in close consultation with the priest and seemed to be deeply interested in the impressive ceremony.

As the hour of the execution approached the prisoner became somewhat restless. His father and mother were admitted to bid him a last farewell. The elder Durrant clasped his son by the hand and the young man turned to comfort his mother, who cried hysterically. Durrant said: "The hour has come for us to part," and put her gently away. The grief-stricken mother was led to a private room where she remained until after the execution. The father, however, went to the execution room and, supported by two friends, saw his son meet his death.

Warden Hale did not attempt to hurry matters, but allowed all possible time for the supreme court at Washington to take some action. Finally, when word was flashed across the continent that the supreme court had declined to interfere, the warden ordered the programme of the day carried out.

At 10:34 o'clock, Durrant, accompanied by Father Lagan, appeared at the door of the execution room. He was followed by his father, a friend, Warden Hale and the guards. The father and his friend walked around the gallows to the front, while Durrant and his keepers climbed to the gallows platform. Instantly on arriving at the gallows, his legs and arms were pinned and the rope was placed upon his neck.

The hangman was about to adjust the black cap when Durrant announced his desire to speak. Permission was given and the doomed murderer spoke as follows:

"I desire to say that although I am an innocent man, innocent of every crime that has been charged against me, I bear no animosity toward those who have persecuted me, not even the press of San Francisco, which hounded me to the grave. If any man thinks I am going to spring a sensation, I am not, except it is the sensation that I am an innocent man brought to the grave by my persecutors, but I forgive them all. They will get their justice from the great God who is master of us all, and there I also expect to get the justice that is the justice of an innocent man. Whether or not the perpetrators of the crime of which I am charged are discovered, it will make no difference to me now, but I say this day will be a shame to the great state of California. I forgive everybody who has persecuted me, an innocent man whose hands have never been stained with blood, and I go to meet my God with forgiveness for all men."

The words were delivered slowly and distinctly and without emphasis.

ALASKA RELIEF SUPPLY

Contract Divided Between Seattle and Portland.

EXPEDITION TO START SOON

Some of the Proposals Received Could Not Be Considered on Account of Not Conforming With Specifications.

Portland, Or., Jan. 10.—The award on the bids for supplies to be furnished for the government relief expedition, which were received at the office of Captain Allison, chief commissary of war, Vancouver barracks, at noon yesterday, were made and given out by Captain Brainerd today.

Portland and Seattle were the cities submitting bids for the supplies, and the contract will be divided between these points.

The proposals submitted were numerous, and it was no small task to segregate and classify them in such a manner that the proper awards might be made. Captain Brainerd stated that the awards in each case had been made to the lowest bidder when the proposals conformed with the conditions and specifications named in the advertisement.

In a number of cases, proposals which would otherwise have received consideration had to be laid aside for the reason that they contained conditions not in conformity with the advertisement. For instance, several bidders submitted their bids on goods to be delivered at some certain point, as at Skagway or Dyea, while the advertisement gives the government the option as to the point of delivery.

The following orders have been received from the war department:

"First Lieutenant Guy H. Preston, Ninth cavalry, having reported at these headquarters in compliance with telegraphic instructions from the major-general commanding the army, is hereby assigned to duty with, and will assume charge of, the pack trains reporting from the department of the Platte. The train, men and animals, will be thoroughly organized and outfitted for winter service in Alaska, including harness and appliances necessary to admit using the animals (in tandem) in hauling sleds, should that method of transport be found expedient. The chief quartermaster will meet promptly all requisitions for supplies necessary to carry out the requirements of this order. The train will be ready for the service indicated by the 15th inst."

"First Lieutenant James A. Ryan, Ninth cavalry, having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with par. 2, S. O. 113, series 1897, from headquarters, department of the Platte, is assigned to duty with the pack train organized for service in Alaska, and will report to First Lieutenant Guy H. Preston."

The Seattle Hardware Company, of Seattle, was awarded the contract to furnish sleds and woolen stockings with which to equip 50 men from company H, Fourteenth infantry, who are to go in advance of the relief expedition.

G. P. Rummelin & Sons, of Portland, were awarded the contract for sleeping bags.

ENVIOUS OF GERMANY.

Russia Wants a Permanent Hold on Port Arthur.

London, Jan. 10.—According to a special dispatch from Shanghai, Russia is endeavoring to obtain terms similar to Germany's for the occupation of Port Arthur and the Kiao Tung peninsula from a point considerably north of La Lien Wan. It is believed that the attitude of England and Japan will frustrate her designs.

The Hong Kong correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says:

The Russian occupation of Port Arthur completely blocks the entrance to Peking, and it is imperative that the court should be transferred to Nanking (the southern capital).

It is learned on excellent authority that in the event of Great Britain's guaranteeing the new Chinese loan, the concessions required will be the opening of the new treaty ports to all nations alike. According to a special dispatch from Shanghai, the existence of an Anglo-Japanese alliance is openly asserted there in well-informed quarters—an alliance to maintain the status quo in China and Korea and to declare the independence of Korea under the joint guaranty of England, Russia and Japan.

Bishop Hartzel in Africa.

New York, Jan. 10.—A correspondent of the Associated Press at Delagoa bay writes that Bishop Hartzel, of the Methodist Episcopal church, is being received with great enthusiasm on his African trip. One donation included 6,000 acres under the British flag in a mountainous and healthy region. The bishop is on his way to Beira, 50 miles further north on the east coast, from which point he will go inland to locate his concessions. His plan is to make this point a base of operations to extend missions northward to the equatorial regions and northward to Angola, on the west coast, from which a chain of Methodist missions is already being pushed. The bishop's wife accompanies him.