

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
Charles Cullen, night agent of the Adams Express Company at Orrville, O., disappeared with a \$10,000 package.

The United States supreme court has affirmed the decision of Judge Bellinger, of the circuit court, upholding the mortgage tax law of Oregon, passed October 28, 1892.

Joseph Hoye, a Chicago plumber, who committed suicide by shooting himself, is the third of three brothers to meet such a fate. It seems to be a case of family mania for self-destruction.

The Pacific cable bill has been agreed to in the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce. It provides for the construction of a cable from San Francisco to the Hawaiian islands.

Representative Tongue, of Oregon, is trying to arrange to have the veterans of the Indian war taken at soldiers' homes under the same regulations as are the veterans of the Mexican and the late war.

Advices from the Orient, brought by the steamship Empress of India, which has arrived in Vancouver, B. C., tell of the almost complete destruction of Manila, Philippine islands, by fire. Five million dollars' worth of property was destroyed.

There has been a heavy fall in stocks of all kinds in London in consequence of rumors from China, West Africa, Spain and America, with rumbling thunder all around the sky. There are signs of alarm in every section of the stock list, American securities showing the greatest weakness. Nothing short of a miracle can preserve the peace of the world, it is believed among British statesmen and politicians, wires the New York World's London correspondent. Not since the Napoleonic wars has danger threatened from so many quarters.

In case of war between Spain and the United States, England, it is said, will at least lend us her moral support.

The Washington Post says Mary Elen Lease, of Kansas, will speak in Oregon during the coming state election.

A London dispatch to a New York paper says that in an emergency Paris would supply Spain with money to carry on a war with the United States.

The navy department will send the dispatch boat Fern to Cuba with provisions for the starving people. It was at first intended to send the cruiser Montgomery.

A dispatch to the London Mail from Hong Kong says that a fresh rebellion has broken in the Philippines, and that 63 Spanish soldiers have been killed. No further details are known at Hong Kong.

The Royal Canadian dragoons of Winnipeg have been ordered to prepare to move to the Yukon. They will form a part of the military expedition which the federal government contemplates sending to that part of the dominion.

Recent heavy contracts for Los Angeles petroleum made by producers at Los Angeles with San Francisco have encouraged the development of the oil fields there. Several wells have been put down since the first of the month and others are being sunk.

A Teheran dispatch says: The governor of the province of Kerman routed the insurgents at several points in Persian Beluchistan. There were serious riots at Hamadan, February 22, due to a quarrel between partisans of rival priests, during which 27 priests were killed.

News was brought in to Salt Lake from Brown's Park, on the Colorado-Wyoming boundary line, that three members of the "Robbers' Roost" band of outlaws, who last week murdered Stockman Herr, had been captured and lynched by a posse of Herr's friends, and some of Sheriff Edgar's deputies.

The British sealers Anoka and Santiago, from Victoria, bound south, put into Monterey, Cal., to avoid a storm at sea. While five miles off Point Sur light on Saturday the Anoka lost two boats, containing four men, in a dense fog, and turned north to find them. Both boats landed safely near Point Sur.

An unknown man was shot in the leg by a mob near Princeton, Idaho. He fell, and, when called upon to surrender, fired a bullet into his left breast, missing the heart, and then, placing the revolver to the right side of his head, just above the ear, blew his brains out. He was suspected of being implicated in the murder of Dan Calland, a Tekoa rancher, and was being followed by a mob of men claiming to be deputy sheriffs from Whitman county.

BOWERY MISSION FIRE.

Eleven Men Were Burned to Death in the Flames.

New York, March 15.—Eleven men lost their lives in the fire which swept the Bowery mission lodging-house this morning and left it a blackened shell. Their bodies are so charred that most of them may never be recognized. The dead are supposed to be:

Elias Cuddy, 29 years old, address not known.

John Moran, Stapleton, S. I. McDermott, 29 years old, address not known.

James O'Rourke.

James Soden, of Spottswood, N. J. Six bodies unidentified.

No. 105 Bowery is one of the best-known lodging-houses on that thoroughfare. It is called the Bowery mission lodging-house, and is conducted by the Christian Herald. In one part of the building there is a cheap restaurant. The second floor is used exclusively for mission purposes, gospel meetings being held there daily. The two upper floors were fitted up as cheap lodgings, with accommodations for 150 males, who paid 10 to 25 cents each, according to the location of the room.

Last night almost every bed was occupied. At 1:30 o'clock this morning, one of the lodgers discovered flames coming from a washroom on the third floor, but before he had time to alarm the house, the fire was noticed by persons on the street. By this time the flames had eaten their way to the top of the building, and were bursting through the roof when the alarm was given and the inmates aroused. Wild scenes of excitement ensued. Many of the lodgers became panic-stricken. They rushed into the halls and fell over each other in their efforts to reach the streets. Those on the lower floors got to the streets safely by the stairways, while those on the upper floors groped their way through the blinding smoke to the fire escape in front of the building. A majority of them saved only portions of their clothing, while several of them were naked. Those who made their way to the streets by the fire escapes were superficially burned by the excessive heat of the iron ladders, which in many places had become red-hot from the flames within. The firemen saved many lives.

DOLE HOME AGAIN.

He Believes That Annexation Will Ultimately Succeed.

San Francisco, March 15.—The steamer China which left Hong Kong February 12 and Honolulu February 24, arrived today, bringing these Hawaiian advices:

President Dole returned to Honolulu the morning of the 4th. After a cabinet meeting held immediately upon his arrival he was interviewed by a press representative. He spoke very frankly on matters pertaining to his mission to Washington.

"Yes, I shall be very glad indeed to tell the people anything I may know relative to annexation," said the president. "The Maine disaster absorbed the attention of the statesmen in Washington previous to my departure for Hawaii. When that has quieted down interest in Hawaiian annexation will be paramount in congress. When I was in Washington I met many friends of Hawaii. They feel confident that annexation will come. While there was a doubt whether the treaty would secure the required political votes in the senate, still it was the consensus of opinion that a joint resolution would carry in both houses. I place much reliance in what was said to me by senators and representatives who are fighting for Hawaii, for I know them to be working faithfully and earnestly."

"What is Speaker Reed's attitude?"

"When I was in the American capital I learned that he has always opposed annexation, although he has made no demonstration against the treaty. My impression of President McKinley? Well, I will reply that it is extremely favorable. I found him to be an unassuming, frank and sterling man. He seems to have set his heart and soul on the annexation treaty."

"Our reception was extremely cordial and hospitable. All along the line to and from Washington throngs of people came to see me. We shook hands, and in many instances I was obliged to speak briefly from the car platform. It was from these people that I gathered the impression that the addition of Hawaii was the popular sentiment throughout the land."

GAVE UP THE ATTEMPT.

Klondikers Could Not Get in by the Stickeen Route.

Port Townsend, March 15.—The steamer Cottage City, which arrived from Alaska tonight, brought a number of passengers from Fort Wrangel, who have given up the attempt to get into the Yukon country by way of the Stickeen route. Among them was A. L. Brown, of Massachusetts, who succeeded in getting about 40 miles above Wrangel with his outfit before the depth of the snow stopped further progress. Mr. Brown says about 1,000 men with their outfits are snowed in between Wrangel and Glenora.

Philadelphia, March 15.—Over \$6,000 was realized for the fund of the wounded survivors and the families of those killed on the battle-ship Maine by a monster theatrical matinee given at the academy of music.

THE HOLE IN THE MAINE

Everything Points to an External Explosion.

THE VIEWS OF AN EXPERT

Captain Peral's Arguments Refuted—Spanish Divers' Method of Work—The Court of Inquiry.

Havana, March 15.—It is impossible to send direct from Havana anything in refutation of Captain Peral's statement of yesterday regarding the views of the Spanish board of inquiry on the Maine disaster. However, an American expert says in effect, and his words are worthy of weight, as he knows absolutely of what he is talking:

"I am a graduate of the torpedo school and have studied the effects of torpedoes and mines from observation and experiments. A torpedo exploded at a depth of six feet would throw a column of water 100 feet into the air; at 12 feet, 10 feet in the air, and at 30 feet, would hardly raise a small wave. A detonator of gun cotton in the open air makes a mark of its own size in steel, or blows stone into fragments. In the water, a torpedo itself would not be felt at any distance. It requires the resistance of a solid body, and would be dissipated in water or mud. This disposes of the wave theory and the affecting of shore or boats in the harbor."

As to the hole in the Maine, the expert in question makes the most important statement that the Maine drew 28 to 30 feet at the time of the explosion, and had about 10 feet of water below her bottom. On the port side, where the United States divers are now at work, there is at present 27 feet of water. May this not be the hole which Captain Peral says could not be found? If it was, the hole was more than seven feet deep when the explosion took place, and had greatly filled since.

As to the finding of dead fish, the court of inquiry has not seen a solitary fish since work began on the wreck. The bodies recovered from the Maine have not been touched by fishes. Some of the fishermen in Havana testified that there were no fish inside the harbor, the waters being too foul for them.

Further, as to the alleged discoveries of Spanish divers reported to Captain Peral, five American divers have been working on the port side of the wreck on an average of seven hours per day each for nearly three weeks, in a space 50 feet long and 20 feet wide. The Spanish divers have never been inside the wreck at all, neither have they ever been on the port side, devoting the short hours which they spent under water to the starboard and forward parts and outside the hull.

Recently, to their own surprise, they brought up two cans of ammunition for the six-inch guns, not exploded. They dropped them back when the light of the surface showed that they were unexploded and what their nature was.

The Spanish divers often go down only long enough to wet their suits, and then come up and hide behind a blanket on the barge, where they sleep or rest for a couple of hours, and then go ashore and report that they cannot see anything in the mud and water. They could not have found the ram of the Maine, since they have not been down in the locality of that part of the wreck. They have not located the turret with the 10-inch guns, though the spot has been pointed out by Captain Sharp, of the wreckers. All of these facts are known by the United States court of inquiry, having been elicited by the testimony of persons who know.

The expert interviewed by the correspondent expresses the belief that the Maine was blown up by what is known as a Newport torpedo, a stationary torpedo, or something of the same nature. This engine of destruction is the joint production of the labors of Commander Converse, commander of the Montgomery; Lieutenant-Commander McLean, now in command of the torpedo station at Newport, and Lieutenant Holman, ordnance officer of the Maine at the time of the explosion. The Newport torpedo can be planted from a small boat, and the expert believes that this one was exploded by being struck on the port of the Maine forward of amidships as she swung at her moorings. He thinks this more likely than that wires were laid from shore, as the wires, if laid for any length, would sink deep in the harbor mud.

It would be singular if it should prove that the Maine was blown up by a torpedo in the invention of which one of her principal officers, Lieutenant Holman, bore a notable part.

All the foregoing statements came from the authority on which the court depended for much of its evidence, and is given to the correspondent without reservation, except as to the name and rank of the giver. The expert further believes that the destroying mine was made up of four torpedoes, of 36 pounds each, of wet and dry gun cotton, or 144 pounds in all.

In the judgment of the correspondent, the United States court of inquiry is fully aware of the views which the Spanish court of inquiry will promulgate.

TWO NEW WARSHIPS.

Government Buys Those Building in England for Brazil.

Washington, March 14.—Hoping for the best and prepared for the worst about represents the situation in the war and navy departments these days. The officials still profess confidence that there is to be a peaceful outcome of the present threatening differences, but, meanwhile, prepare with serenity to meet their duty, if events shape themselves otherwise.

It now seems probable that the Brazilian cruisers which have been several times reported as having been sold to Spain, will become the property of the United States government, negotiations for their purchase having been opened in England. Other than these vessels, the government has no warships in sight for immediate purchase, according to department officials at Washington.

The most important and significant developments of the day were the decision of the house naval committee to place in the naval appropriation bill a provision for three new battle-ships, and a conclusion, on the part of the secretary of war, to issue tomorrow morning an order creating a new military department, including within its confines that part of the country which would be in all likelihood nearest the field of hostilities in case it would come to that. The order will cause a commotion in the South.

New Military Department.

The present department of Texas is abolished, and the headquarters, which have been at San Antonio, Tex., for so many years, are abandoned. In place of the old department is created a new one, the department of the South. General Graham, at present commander of the department of Texas, will command the new department. This department will include the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas. All of the states, save the last, are at present attached to the department of the East, under command of General Merritt, of New York. It is said at the department that General Merritt is fully compensated for the strength of the command which has been taken from him, by the addition to his forces of the two regiments of artillery now recruiting.

Headquarters of the new department of the South will be at Atlanta, chosen because of its fine strategic value and its excellent railroad connections. At present, the government has no accommodations in Atlanta for the headquarters of the department, so it will be obliged to hire the most available buildings.

General Wilson, chief of engineers, who has been in Florida, is expected back tomorrow to report to Secretary Alger on the progress of the fortification work in that section of the country and probably especially as to the defense of Tortugas.

For the first time today the officials of the war department admitted that they were straining every nerve to improve that part of the defense of the country confided to their care.

The immediate purchase of a large number of rapid-firing guns for the sea coast defenses has been authorized by Secretary of War Alger. So urgent is the necessity for prompt action in this matter deemed that the allotment of the \$50,000,000 carried by the Cannon defense bill will not be awaited before making the purchases. Orders have been given to the various arsenals and armories controlled by the government to increase their working forces to their fullest extent in order to expedite the completion of existing projects.

PROCTOR SAW A SKIRMISH.

How the Spaniards Are Crushing the Rebellion.

New York, March 14.—A Herald dispatch from Key West says: Senator Proctor and Colonel Parker give a most graphic and amusing description of a skirmish between a company of Spanish cavalry and a handful of insurgents which took place while they were on a train near Matanzas and which was undoubtedly prepared for their special benefit.

Before they reached the station they noticed that the telegraph wires had been cut, and some slight obstructions placed upon the track. On a hill in the distance they could see the silhouette of a dozen insurgents outlined against the sky. In the valley the Spanish cavalry had started toward them, but they were brought to a sudden halt by the bullets from the enemy. The Spanish halted and formed a hollow square, while the officers found safety behind some convenient trees. Meanwhile the insurgents called for a truce and withdrew into the dense woods and the Spaniards returned to the station in time to meet the train and receive the congratulations of the commander of the district.

All this byplay struck Senator Proctor as most amusing war tactics. An old Confederate veteran who accompanied the party asked the Spanish officer why he had not given chase to the insurgents. His reply was that there were more than a thousand behind the hills. The story is told that each member of that cavalry has already received a medal in commemoration of his bravery in that battle.

A Kentuckian says the luckiest man he ever knew was drowned in a vat of whisky.

SUPREME COURT DENOUNCED

Arraigned by the Kansas Populist Administration.

MAXIMUM FREIGHT RATE LAW

Governor Leedy Declares the Recent Nebraska Case Decision Was Palpably Wrong—An Address Issued.

Topeka, Kan., March 14.—The Populist administration of the state of Kansas gave out a startling public address today, one bristling with severe criticism of the recent decision of the United States supreme court in the Nebraska maximum freight case. The address is significant in that Governor Leedy has already taken steps preliminary to calling the state legislature in special session, with the especial purpose of enacting a maximum freight rate law. While the address is given out over the signature of Governor Leedy, it had first been approved by Chief Justice Bosler, of the state supreme court and other prominent Populists. In giving the address to the reporters, Governor Leedy said:

"How long do you suppose a man can write treason like this without getting into jail? You may put my signature to it and make it a signed statement so that if anybody goes to jail it will be me."

The governor begins his address with the statement that for a year the press dispatches have said that the opinion in the Nebraska case would be adverse to the state. Then he says:

"The opinion has been handed down, and the Associated Press dispatches say that it is a clean victory for the railroads. On the contrary, it is an unclean victory in every respect of the case, showing that no matter how carefully the robes of justice are folded about the personnel of the supreme court, the robes can no longer conceal the cloven hoof of official malfeasance and usurpation. As this decision was due a year ago, and as there was no known reason for the delay, and as the decision as rendered confirms the statements made in the Associated Press dispatches from time to time, strong color is given to the suspicion that the press dispatches emanated from some person in touch with the court, and were for the purpose of feeling the pulse of the public and preparing it for the decision which goes much further in the direction of usurping power than any that has been made."

The governor declares that the constitution of Nebraska gives the legislature power to establish maximum charges for transportation, and declared that the supreme court has tried to abrogate it. He challenges Justice Harlan's declaration that a corporation is a person under the 14th amendment to the federal constitution, and says:

"I deny it, and so will everybody but a corporation lawyer or a subversive judicial tool of corporate interests."

Governor Leedy then quotes the 14th amendment, and says:

"How, in the name of God, can this apply to corporations? Corporations are not born; they are created—made by law. They cannot be naturalized; they can take no oath of allegiance; only human beings can do that."

After more in the same strain, the governor, still referring to the 14th amendment, says:

"Who are the persons who shall not, according to the provisions, be deprived of life, liberty or property, nor be denied equal legal protection? Everybody outside the asylum and off the judicial bench knows them to be—and to only be—natural persons. They are those who, beside the capacity to hold property and enjoy legal protection, also have life and can enjoy liberty, and that means human beings."

Continuing, the governor quotes "Hare on American Constitutional Law," and a decision by Justice Woods, of the United States circuit court, afterward supreme court justice, to prove that the 14th amendment does not refer to corporations, and declares that the Woods decision had been followed in California, Rhode Island and other states from 1870 to 1882, "when Justice Field and another federal justice of the peace named Sawyer decided the other way, and since then, whenever a corporation starts out to commit highway robbery, pick a man's pocket, or loot a public treasury, it disguises itself as a 'person' and goes out on its mission of plunder. Nobody but a slave or a knave will yield assent to the hideous distortion of meaning which Judge Harlan gives to the word 'person,' as used in the 14th amendment, and upon which he bottoms his infamous decision, and which shows to what depths of iniquity the supreme court of the United States has descended."

"I desire," the governor said, "quote some of the decisions of the supreme court of the United States before it went into partnership with Morgan, Vanderbilt, Gould & Co., in opposition to the opinion they hold in the Nebraska case." (Long decisions by Marshall in 1860 are quoted.)

In conclusion, Governor Leedy states that his maximum rate bill will be presented to the Kansas legislature.