

# The Morning Astorian.

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ASTORIA, OREGON, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1900.

NO. 243



## The Drain

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## GREAT FLOOD AT AUSTIN, TEXAS

**Dam on the Colorado Broken  
and the City Inundated.**

**MANY LIVES ARE LOST**

**Deluge Extends to Surrounding Country for  
Many Miles and the Destruction of  
Property of All Kinds is  
Inc calculable.**

AUSTIN, Tex., April 7.—This city tonight is in pitch darkness with a raging river, one mile wide and swollen far beyond its natural banks, roaring and surging through all the lower portion of the town, having spread destruction and death in its wake. In addition to the vast loss to property interests, it is calculated that between thirty and forty lives have been sacrificed and reports coming in from the tributary country tonight do not tend to improve matters.

The flood is not unlike the disastrous Johnston flood of some years ago, in that the raging river, already swollen far beyond its capacity, bore too heavily upon an immense dam spanning the river, breaking it and letting loose a reservoir of water thirty miles long, half a mile wide and sixty feet deep, to aid in carrying destruction down the valleys of the Colorado river.

The great dam on the Colorado river gave way at noon today from enormous pressure of water and debris, and with a roar and a crash swept the valleys below the city, wrecking the immense light and power plant and drowning eight workmen.

Following is a list of the known dead, including those killed in the power house:

Frank Kinney, Frank Kinney, Walter Flower, Walter Johnson, Alfred Johnson, Frank Fitzgerald, Walter Blossman, Joseph Newman, Dick Morris, colored, John Pross, Charles Burchard, and six negroes.

Last Wednesday night it began to rain very hard at this place, the storm extending north of here along the watersheds of the Colorado river. The precipitation continued until this morning, the Colorado river having risen forty feet within ten hours. The river began to rise so rapidly that it became evident that the dam, power house and contents, costing one and a half million dollars, were in imminent danger.

Houses, trees and debris commenced descending the river and piled up against the upper face of the dam. The crisis came shortly after 11 o'clock, when, suddenly, with a report like the roar of the ocean, a great wedge, twenty-five feet high, 500 feet wide and about eight feet thick rolled out of the center section of the dam, down the face of the 60 foot fall, deep into the river below. This left a hanging gap in the middle of the dam, through which the debris and water poured, while the flood, already raging, was threatening everything in its path.

The released water poured into the power house, catching eight employees at work there, and drowning all of them.

A crowd of white people, numbering about thirty, living just below the dam in tents were seen just before the dam broke and have not been accounted for since. It is generally believed that all were swept away.

A family of six negroes living in the valley south of the city are known to have been drowned. The International and Great Northern and the Austin and Northwestern railroads, both entering this city, have suffered severely.

The south bound cannon ball train from St. Louis on the International and Great Northern was wrecked at McNeill, nine miles above here, as a result of a washout. The engine and cars plunged into a culvert, but fortunately no lives were lost.

**PATRIOTISM AND GOOD SENSE.**

How General Wheeler Meets the Attempts of Politicians to Use Him.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—General Wheeler's attention being called to a recent suggestion of himself as a vice-presidential candidate, he made the following statement:

"I do not think my name has ever been mentioned in that connection except as very many other gentlemen have been referred to, simply in the way of a personal compliment. I have appreciated these flattering allusions to myself but never regarded them as at all or other than the kind expressions of partial friendship.

"The greatest ambition of my life has already been realized. I have seen those who were once confederate soldiers fight under the Stars and Stripes against a foreign foe as soldiers of the United States. I have seen the masses of the people of all the Southern states eagerly and earnestly offer their services to fight in the country's cause and have seen them thus become participants in the events which have suddenly made ours the leader among the great powers of the world and opened avenues which enable us to establish the most favorable commercial relations with countries containing nearly one-third of the earth's population.

"I have seen the cordial relations which existed during the first seventy years of our government firmly re-established between the people of all sections of all our common country, and in this I believe I see the dawn of a new prosperity, in which the Southern states will be the largest beneficiaries."

The realization of conditions so advantageous to our country fills the measure of my desires and beyond that I have no ambition whatever."

**LEFT TO OTHER DISCRETION.**

He Will Not Be Ordered Home but May Leave When He Thinks Best.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The statement is made in authoritative quarters that no order has been given as yet to Major-General Otis to relinquish his command in the Philippines and return to the United States.

The steps are left, in a measure at least, to the general's discretion and he is to determine just when he feels it proper for him to leave his post of duty on the islands on the leave of absence the war department has promised him.

General Otis has been absent from his family for a long time and the opinion is expressed that he is entitled to a respite from the long and arduous labors with which he has been engrossed since his departure from the United States. He will turn over the command to the next general officer now on duty in the Philippines, General MacArthur.

**JOHN CODMAN DEAD.**

BOSTON, April 7.—Captain John Codman, the famous advocate of free ships and free trade, is dead, in his 86th year.

**GERMANY IS EXPANDING.**

Ceremonies Incident to Taking Possession of the Samoan Group.

CHICAGO, April 7.—A special dispatch to the Record from Apia, Samoa, dated March 17, says:

"The imperial German flag was raised and undisputed German rule over the islands of Upolu, Manono, Apolima and Lavili, began on March 1. The ceremony took place at Mulinu, in front of the governor's house. Fully 5,000 native Samoans, besides nearly all the foreign residents, were present.

"At 5 o'clock in the morning all the vessels in the harbor ran up their bunting, and almost every building in town displayed the national colors. At 9 o'clock a detachment of bluejackets landed from the German man of war Cormorant and formed in front of the German school. The procession then moved to Mulinu.

Consul Grunow presented the flag to Governor Solf, who said:

"By order of his majesty, the emperor, I now declare these islands to be German territory and the German flag which I now receive from the hands of the imperial German acting consul and which henceforth shall wave over the islands as a token of German sovereignty, I, assisted by the commander of H. M. S. Cormorant, now solemnly hoist."

**SENSATIONAL CHARGES.**

Populist Party Has Been Trying to Sell Out at Pendleton.

PENDLETON, April 7.—Most sensational proceedings occurred today in the democratic county convention, when R. M. O'Brien, a populist, walked to the rostrum and charged that republican influence was being exerted to defeat the union of the democratic and populist parties.

A few minutes later D. B. Watson, a democratic delegate, arose and in tones of the fiercest denunciation, accused J. T. Hinkle, secretary of the populist county committee, with having repeatedly offered his influence, first to the democrats, and when not receiving it, making the same offer to the republicans.

Watson offered to prove his statements entire.

**ANOTHER PORTLAND FAILURE.**

PORTLAND, April 7.—The announcement was made today that the Portland University would go out of existence on June 1st and all the alumni of the Portland institution will be enrolled on the records of the Willamette University at Salem.

**BOER PRISONERS ESCAPE.**

CAPE TOWN, April 6.—A determined attempt to escape was made today by the Boer prisoners at Simonstown and fourteen of them succeeded in getting away.

**GATACRE AGAIN ENGAGED.**

BLOEMFONTEIN, April 4.—Wednesday.—General Gatacre had an engagement with the enemy at Reddersburg today.

## NO FRESH NEWS FROM THE FRONT

**Boers Around Ladysmith Resuming  
Offensive Tactics.**

**THEY THINK BULLER AFRAID**

**Gatacre Reported to Have Had Another En-  
gagement at Reddersburg, but No  
Details Have Been Allowed  
Past the Censor.**

LONDON, April 8.—No news was issued by the war office last night. None was received from the front except that from Bloemfontein, dated April 4, relating to an engagement of General Gatacre at Reddersburg, which seems to have been held back by the censor.

It is reported from Ladysmith that the Boers are beginning to construe General Buller's inactivity as a sign of fear or inability to resume active operations. Hence they are showing much activity, particularly around Biggarsburg, and are said to be planning to outflank General Buller by an advance in force by way of Helpmavoor.

The Boers state that the Colenaberg and Stormberg commandos, numbering six thousand men and ten guns, have reached Kroonstad.

**GAME OF COUNTERSTROKE.**

Methuen's Success More Than an Offset to the Boer Raids.

NEW YORK, April 7.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

The game of counterstroke has been played on both sides with success. General Methuen has entrapped a small body of Boers near Boshof, surrounding them and taking fifty-four prisoners after a four hour's fight.

His force included the Imperial Yeomanry, whose exploit will be a popular one in England where great interest has been taken in this body of rough riders and crack shots. The casualties were nearly equal on both sides, apart from the prisoners.

This episode throws little light upon the mysterious operations which General Methuen has been conducting north of Kimberley. It indicates the facility with which the British commanders can adapt themselves to the guerrilla warfare into which the Boers' tactics are rapidly degenerating.

General Villebois Mareuil, who was killed on the Boer side, was General Joubert's military adviser in Natal, and was engaged by Dr. Leyds at the outbreak of the war. His record in the French army was brilliant and Dr. Leyds made an excellent investment in securing his services. He had been in the French war office and staff college and was chief of staff in the Algerian army. French officers have considered that his abilities were over-rated, but he has evidently been most useful to the Boer generals in Natal, in showing them how they could adapt their tactics to new conditions of warfare.

He was the best foreign expert on the Dutch side, and his death is a serious blow, especially as the Boers have lost two of their best men—Joubert and Cronje. If he suggested the new policy of counter-attack upon the lines of the British communications, as he has been reported, he has fallen a victim of his own tactics.

The Boers have followed up their success at Korn Spruit by a similar stroke aimed against General Roberts' line of communication. The new tactics followed by the Boers have a dispiriting effect upon the thoughtless observers who had fancied that the war was virtually over, but veterans in the service are not disconcerted by them nor seriously alarmed.

Abundant estimates, printed by sensational newspapers, of the strength of the Boer raiders are rejected in official circles as unworthy of credence. Instead of having 20,000 men and being in readiness to invest Bloemfontein, the Boers are not believed to have more 5000 or 7000 burghers. Inaction in the north was fatal to them and they were forced to adopt new tactics and attempt a series of counter attacks.

General Buller's inaction is not understood by military men here and the opinion is expressed that Warren's division will be ordered to the Free State.

The Ashanti outbreak is considered inopportune but not of serious magnitude.

**FAVORS SECTARIAN SCHOOLS.**

Senator Vest Praises the Work of the Jesuits Among the Indians.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—During almost the entire session of the senate today the amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, offered by Jones (dem.), of Arkansas, providing for the

continuance of the government's employment of contract Indian schools, in certain circumstances, was under consideration.

The debate took a wide range, the whole question of sectarian schools being gone over at length. A notable feature of discussion was the eloquent speech delivered in support of the amendment by Vest (dem.), of Missouri. The amendment was pending when the senate adjourned.

In the course of his remarks, Vest paid a tribute to Booker T. Washington, who had done great work among the colored people of the South. Prof. Washington had struck the keynote of the great negro problem, he said, by teaching the colored youth how to labor. This, he added, was the true secret of the success of the Catholics in their work among the Indians. They taught them how to work.

This great undertaking had gone forward until, Vest said, the A. P. A. and towards who are afraid of it, had struck down the appropriation for the continuance of the work. He declared he was ashamed that any Americans should uphold such work of a secret political society. He would denounce it, if it were the last act of his life.

He ridiculed the A. P. A. for adopting a resolution demanding his impeachment for saying on the floor of the senate what he was now saying. Vest eloquently told of the results of the work of Jesuits among the Flat-head Indians.

He said the Jesuits were not doing their work for love of the Indians but "for love of Christ."

"I don't believe," said Lodge (rep.), of Massachusetts, addressing the senate in reply to Vest, "that it is right to tax one man to support another man's religion."

Gallinger (rep.), of New Hampshire, opposed the amendment, in the course of which he referred to the work done by Mr. Duncan among the Metakatta Indians.

Shop (rep.), of Indiana, called attention to the fact that while Duncan's work was the most notable in his opinion ever accomplished by one man among the Indians, he had performed it without one dollar of assistance from the United States government."

**THE HOUSE.**

Question of Whether Magoon Ever Rendered Inconsistent Opinions Will Be Inquired Into.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The house today paid a tribute to the memory of the late Richard Parks Bland, of Missouri, popularly known as "Silver Dick" Bland, who was a member of the house for 28 years.

Splendid eulogies of the life and career of the great champion of silver were offered by members on both sides of the political aisle.

A resolution was adopted calling upon the secretary of war for information as to whether Charles E. Magoon, legal adviser of the insular bureau, had ever rendered an opinion that, by the treaty with Spain, the constitution was extended over Puerto Rico and the Philippines.

**PREPARING TO CLEAN UP.**

Republican Senators Hope to Finish the Session Before June 15.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The republican caucus committee in order of business of the senate held a session today, but when it adjourned the members declared that nothing had been definitely decided upon beyond a steady effort to secure the final disposition of the measures now receiving the attention of the senate. These are the Quay case, the Philippine bill, the Alaskan code bill and the appropriation bills.

They estimate that the disposal of these bills will require two or three weeks time and say that there will yet be plenty of time to decide what measures to take up next. They are quite determined to close the session during the first half of June, and on this account may have to temporarily sacrifice several measures which are very seriously championed by individual senators.

**ANOTHER WAR AVERTED.**

For the Hundredth Time the Troops of Rival Kentucky Claimants Avoid a Conflict.

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 7.—There is great excitement here tonight. Two soldiers at the state house were arrested by the police for drunkenness while in the street near the state house. A squad of 25 soldiers dashed out of the state house yard and rescued their comrades from the policemen. The policemen resisted and a number of shots were fired, but no one was hurt. The soldiers of the opposing administration were drawn ready for action and trouble was very narrowly averted.

**FRANKFORT, Ky., April 7.—Chief Justice Hawes** of the court of appeals today granted a writ error from the decision of the court of appeals to the supreme court of the United States in the contest over the offices of governor and lieutenant governor.

## DUBLIN'S WHIRL OF FESTIVITIES

**The Visit of the Queen Has  
Transformed the Old City.**

**GOOD WILL ON ALL SIDES**

**Leading Country Families From All Sections  
of the Country Are Flooding to the  
City to Pay Their Respects  
to Her Majesty.**

LONDON, April 7.—From a city of nervous forebodings, political excitement and almost stagnation in business, Dublin has been transformed into a capital as gay and as busy as any European center.

The coming of the queen, though to a Catholic country, in the middle of Lent, has started a whirl of festivities such as there has not been in Ireland since the good old days of which Lever wrote.

The Irish nobility have flocked across the channel from their English homes in unprecedented numbers, and from the south, the west and the north of Ireland itself, old country families have poured into Dublin.

The depressing incidents of the week have caused Englishmen to resign themselves to a long struggle. The disposition to find fault with the war office for not having anticipated the necessity for an enormous number of horses seems unjustified, for it is learned that before the dash on Kimberley and the destruction of horse flesh caused by the surrounding of General Cronje, the war office wired to its agents all over the world, particularly in North and South America, giving them unconditional power to buy horses unlimited until further orders.

Conditions in the way of assembling and transporting animals were such, however, that horses bought a month ago can hardly reach Lord Roberts before June.

**THE DEMOCRATS "RESOLUTING."**

They Actually Imagine They Can Secure the Defeat of the Puerto Rican Tariff.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The democratic members of the house of representatives held a caucus tonight to determine upon plans in connection with the approaching vote on the Puerto Rico bill. About 90 members were present.

The chief attention was given to the question of pairs, as the vote is expected to be so close that the result may depend upon the pairing of members. The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That all democratic members are urged to return to Washington at once."

"That hereafter democratic members will make no general or permanent pairs."

"That all pairs shall be made in writing and shall be signed by one of the members designated by our party caucus to arrange pairs."

Richardson, the democratic leader of the floor, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That as a party we declare our unalterable opposition to the measure now pending before congress entitled 'a bill temporarily to provide revenues for the relief of Puerto Rico,' and hereby enjoin upon every democrat to be present in the house of representatives when the vote is taken thereon and record his vote against it."

The action taken will enable the minority to make an exceptionally strong showing against the bill when the vote is taken next Wednesday.

**ADHERES TO PROTECTION.**

Germany's New Commercial Treaty Will Maintain the Present Tariff Policy.

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BERLIN, April 7.—Regarding Germany's projected new commercial treaty, the policy of various semi-official utterance during the past week shows that the Imperial government does not intend to vary from the protective tariff policy. In no case will there be a lowering of duties.

The South African war, throughout the week, was commented on in the usual spirit. The smallest success of the Boers was magnified and hailed, while the British successes were belittled.

**CLOUD BURST IN TEXAS.**

CHICAGO, April 7.—A special to the Record from Austin, Tex., says:

The country southwest of here was visited by a cloudburst last night. The Nueces river and other streams were converted into raging torrents that overflowed thousands of acres of growing crops in the valleys. The Southern Pacific railroad bridge at Loeber was washed away and several miles of track are under water.