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The Morning Astorian.

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN CLATSOP AND THE ADJOINING COUNTIES

VOL. LV

ASTORIA, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1902.

NO. 156

OPERATOR'S ERROR CREATES HAVOC

Passenger and Freight Collide and Twenty Five People are Killed

HEADS AND LIMBS SEVERED

Engines Rear and Roll into Ditch All but the Pullmans are Smaashed into Kindling.

LONDON, Ont., Dec. 27.—A frightful collision occurred a short distance from the little station of Wanstead, Ont., of the Sarnia branch of the Grand Trunk railway, last night. The trains in collision were the Pacific express and a freight. The express was running nearly two hours late and was making fast time. The freight was endeavoring to make a siding to get clear of the express, but failed by a minute or two.

There was a dreadful crash, the locomotives reared up and fell over in the ditch, the baggage car of the express telescoped the smoker and in an instant the shrieks and cries of the wounded and dying filled the air.

The loss of life is 25. The injured number many more and many of those may die.

Several of the dead were horribly mutilated. Heads were cut off, legs were wrenched from their bodies and a level stretch of snow became crimson with the blood of the victims.

Responsibility for the accident has not been definitely fixed, but it is believed to have been due to a telegraph operator's error. The operator at one of the stations where the two trains stopped gave the order to the freight to pass No. 5, Pacific express, at Wanstead. In the system of the Grand Trunk this order should have been duplicated, a copy being given to the conductor and engineer of the express. Instead of this the conductor of the express received a clearance order, telling him that he might run through. The freight train in the meantime had stopped at Wanstead to sidetrack and was telescoped by the express.

A blinding storm which was raging rendered objects invisible at a distance of several feet. The operator at Wanstead was going out of the door when he heard the telegraph instrument click and immediately called repeatedly the message "Stop No. 5, stop No. 5." Seeing a lantern, the operator dashed for the door and as he closed it behind him he heard the crash of the collision up the track. Fortunately the two Pullman cars on the train did not sustain any damage. They were warm and comfortable, and were converted into a temporary hospital. The injured were placed in berths and everything possible done to ease their sufferings.

THE DEAD:
ALEX STEWART and MRS. STEWART, Petrolia, Ont.
A. RICKETS, Sarnia Tunnel.
A. GILLIES, Sarnia Tunnel.
MRS. TROTTER, Petrolia.
N. LAWRENCE, Watford, Ont.
P. S. FREEMAN, Oil Springs.
NICHOLAS JEFFREY, London.
GLEN ROLEY, Port Huron.
GUY DEPNOR, La Crose, Wis.
DR. AND MRS. PENNWARDEN, Hot Springs, Mich.
J. H. BHOCK, Bruceville.
O. BURWELL, Port Huron, Ont.
WILSON MORTO, Chicago.
MRS. NELLIE GEDDES, Sarnia, Ont.
ALEX B. CAMERON, Petrolia, Ont.
EDWARD BOYCE, died in London hospital.
— SMITH, trainman.
MISS LOTTIE VYNCH, Port Huron.
ED DeBAUS, Woodstock, Ont.
MRS. J. F. BARNES, Woodstock, Ont.
H. B. LAWRENCE, Watford, Ont.
ARCHIE DOUGLAS, Alvinston, Ont.
MRS. ROBLEY, Port Huron, Mich.

PORTOCOL NOT YET READY FOR SIGNATURE
Venezuelan Affair Still Hangs Fire—Germany Wants Money Down—Castro Is Stubborn.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The weight of official opinion here this afternoon was that several days at least must elapse before anything in the nature of a preliminary protocol in the Venezuelan affair can be made ready for signature. Germany insists upon the prepayment of 10 percent of their full claims before submitting her case to arbitration and perhaps President Castro's resistance to meeting what the allies claim as obligations of honor, are believed to be now sticking points. It is hoped that some arrangement will be

made in the preliminary protocol for the raising of the blockade, though it is intimated that the allied ships will be kept ready to renew it in case of any default on part of Venezuela in her obligations.

Washington having been the pivot about which all negotiations have turned up to this point, it is surmised that it may also be the scene of the final act in the shape of the signature of the protocol.

SEVEN MEN FROZEN TO DEATH.

Cold Weather in Pennsylvania Causes Fatalities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Seven men frozen to death in Pennsylvania's record for 24 hours, says a dispatch from Philadelphia to the World.

The victims are:
Matthew Zelnit, 45 years old; Sharpeburg; found near his house.
James H. Coates, 29 years old; Pittsburg; found in the snow.
Philip Sohn, 26 years old; Harmanville; found in the snow.
Richard McCann, 45 years old; Sygan Station.
Lucius Faller, 44 years old; Allentown; found in the ice in Little Lehigh river. He had lost his way in the darkness and fell into the river.
James H. Hannigan, York; lost in the snow.
Thomas Monaghan, 65 years old; Lancaster; fell in snow bank and was too feeble to rise.

NOTED SURGEON HONORED.

Doctor Lorenz, Who Heals Without Cutting, to be Feted by New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The freedom of the city will be extended to Dr. Adolph Lorenz by the board of aldermen Tuesday, when that body meets.

A magnificent document, engrossed on parchment and enclosed in a silver box, will bear the expression of the city's cordial welcome. It will bear the seal of the city and will recite that it is granted in consideration of the famous visitor's services to science and his charitable work among the poor of New York.

The presentation will be made in the governor's room at the city hall, in the presence of the mayor, heads of the city departments and about 100 invited guests.

USED MAIL FOR FUEL.

Proof of Need for Educational Test for Immigrants.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Two Poles who can scarcely speak English, were locked up in the county jail last night by a United States deputy marshal on a charge of rifling a mail sack, says a dispatch to the Inter-Ocean from Springfield, Ill. The men admit the crime but insist, through interpreters, that they were not aware they were breaking the law. A mail sack was found by them on the depot platform at Osprey, a station near Decatur. They cut the leather open and used the papers, letters and other contents to build a fire by which they kept warm during a cold night.

WANT LOW RATES.

Jealous of \$25 Rate Privileges of Northwestern States.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The presidents of the various bodies of business men in this city have sent a communication to the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe Railroad companies asking that immediate steps be taken to insure the transportation of industrial people to this state at as low a rate as that allowed for transportation to the states of the northwest. They state that through the press, they have learned of the railroads' offer to give a special rate of \$25 from Chicago and Missouri river points to the northwest and that the privilege has not been granted to the people wanting to come to this state.

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH.

Affection for Consumptive Leads to Unnecessary Death of Nurse.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Faithfulness to her fiancée, Professor Beck, a former instructor in Lehigh university, who died a year ago from consumption, has cost Miss Mable Mitchell of Plainsfield, N. J., her life.

When Professor Beck was taken ill, Miss Mitchell, then a school teacher, nursed him in his home at Newburg, N. Y., and after his death the young woman was stricken by Professor Beck's disease. She resigned her position as an instructor in the Washington school and died Thursday night.

FIRE IN SAN PEDRO.

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Dec. 27.—An entire business block in the center of the city was wiped out by fire early this morning. The loss will be about \$75,000 which is about one-half covered by insurance.

CHAOS RULES CHINESE EMPIRE

War, Earthquake, Fire and Flood Work Fearful Devastation.

IMPERIAL TROOPS MASSACRE

An Accident on Yangtze Kiang River Destroy Many Lives and is Disastrous to Shipping.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 27.—The recurrence of the rebellion in Kwang Si is causing a lamentable state of affairs in that province, according to mail advices received from China.

Lung Chow, a prominent walled city of Kwang Si, was being besieged by the rebels when the last advices were dispatched. Nan Ning, on the West river, was also surrounded by rebels, who sent messengers to the governor calling him to fight them. These rebels looted a steamer sent to Nan Ning with provisions and money for the governor of that city.

The province is not only suffering by reason of the deprivations of the rebels, but also of the imperial troops, who, when they have dispersed the insurgents, ravage the countryside. The "braves," eager for loot and the opportunity to display the heads of rebels slain in battle, make no distinction between rebels and peaceful inhabitants. Crops are destroyed, accompanied by indiscriminate pillaging and acts of savage vandalism. As a result, instead of contracting, the sphere of the rebellion is growing more widespread than ever, while gaunt famine stalks through the land.

EARTHQUAKE KILLS 600 CHINESE.

Brief reports are given in Tien-Tsin papers of an earthquake at Heinchiang, China, as a result of which 600 lives were lost. No particulars were given.

SEVENTEEN DIE IN PIT FIRE.

Details are now to hand of the disaster at the Tang Shan Pit, hitherto briefly reported. The disaster was due to pit fire, and in his efforts to dam the fire and save the Chinese miners, Mr. Baxter, a Scotchman, lost his life. Sixteen Chinese were also burned to death.

LOSS OF LIFE IN RIVER DISASTER.

One of those dreadful river disasters which have occurred several times on Chinese rivers took place on November 23 on the Yangtze Kiang. A strong tide caused a serious disaster among the junks off the Chinese bund. A small rice boat broke away, carrying some six other small junks above them and in a trice half a mile of junks were adrift in a seething mass, some on their beam ends, some capsized, but actually hundreds of junks were drifting up the river in batches. The North China Daily News says there was a terrible loss of life as well as property, but no estimate has been made.

MURDER OR SUICIDE?

Theory of Accidental Death of Mr. and Mrs. Singer Exploded.

DENVER, Dec. 27.—It is now completely demonstrated that John and Caroline Singer did not die Christmas day from the effects of oxalic acid but from a dose of strychnine. Crystals found in their stomachs indisputably establish this fact.

The theory of accidental poisoning by oxalic acid has been abandoned by Coroner Horan and since that time he has been conducting his investigations along the line of murder or suicide.

On petition of Julius Eckert, brother-in-law of Mrs. Singer, a letter of administration on the estates of Mr. and Mrs. Singer have been granted him by Judge Lindsey. Mrs. Jeanette Eckert and Mrs. Sophia Laun, sisters of the deceased woman, stated to the court that they desired Mr. Eckert appointed. The bond was \$4000, and was approved by the court.

An inquest will be held today.

STOCK MARKET IN NEW YORK

Money Close and Business Dull During Holidays.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The stock market has been dull and narrow owing to the interruption of the Christmas holiday and a disposition on the part of the operators to await the solution of the year end money market problem. The tightness of the money market has reflected the difficulties of that problem. But Wall Street has been inclined to confidence that money would work easier after the turn of

EIGHT MINERS SUDDENLY KILLED

Awful work of Snowslide in a Mining Camp of the North

NO WARNING WAS GIVEN

Bunk House Demolished in early Morning Hours, While Inmates were Sound Asleep.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 27.—A special from Nelson today gives details of a snowslide which occurred Christmas night carrying away the bunk house of Molly Gibson, a mine situated in Slokan, 19 miles from Kootenay lake. Eight men were killed and several others maimed, while 10 either escaped or were slightly injured.

A survivor says the slide came at 1 o'clock in the morning without the slightest warning. The house was shattered and the entire outfit was carried down an incline.

The names of the men in the bunk house were:
J. CAMPBELL, dead body found.
T. ROUSE.
L. COLLINS.
W. G. MURPHY.
L. BLOUILLÉ.
— PIETRO, Italian.
— PIRO, Italian.
M. E. HALL, assayer.
CHINESE COOK.
All are buried in the snow since Christmas night.

CASTRO WILL CONFISCATE.

Blockade May Result in Stern Measures by Venezuelans.

MRS. FREMONT IS DEAD.

Wife of Famous Soldier and Presidential Candidate Passes Away in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Jessie Dupont Fremont, widow of General Fremont, died tonight at her home here of pneumonia.

BERLIN, Dec. 27.—Lokal Anzeiger

Caracas correspondent says: President Castro intends confiscating property of British, German and Italian subjects whenever the blockade exhausts his resources.

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To My Customers

Owing to the rush incident to Xmas business, I have not the time to send cards to all of my customers asking them to call for a 1903 calendar.

I therefore take this method of inviting all who have so liberally patronized me during the year just closing to please call and get one of my calendars.

As there will be a rush of shoppers the last part of the week, I respectfully ask that you get the calendars immediately after Xmas.

Very sincerely,

Norman Wise
THE RELIABLE CLOTHING MATTER

Have You Read

"THE CONQUEST"

The true story of Lewis and Clark?

FOR SALE BY

J. N. GRIFFIN

SUCCESSOR TO GRIFFIN & REED

THE BEE HIVE

Special sale of Ladies' India Silk White and Light Colored Waists at \$2.50

Black and Colored Wool Taffeta Silk Waists \$4.00

Now is the opportunity to get a Cloak at a big reduction.

Bargains in Ladies' and Misses' Cloaks—long quarters and 27 in. lengths.

SEE DISPLAY IN WINDOWS

Children's Dresses in latest styles at astonishingly low prices.

Dainty affairs in Neckwear—Handkerchiefs and Mufflers.

See Us for Holiday Goods

THE BEE HIVE

Oregon City Woolen Mills

BLANKETS

NONE BETTER

We have them in White and all Colors
Per Pair \$3.50 to \$12.00

C. H. COOPER

TALK HAPPINESS

"The World Is Sad Enough Without Your Woes."

MAKE YOURSELF HAPPY

By Cooking your Xmas Turkey in a

SUPERIOR RANGE

ECLIPSE HARDWARE CO.