

**The Dalles Daily Chronicle.**

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WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 27, 1897

**A MAN OF ZEAL.**

Whitman has been criticised for his refusal to leave his mission at Waitapu in time to save his own life and the lives of those around him. The massacre did not come without warning. The Indian demeanor underwent a distinct change before it culminated in an outbreak of savage atrocity. To considerable extent Whitman had deprived the old chiefs and medicine men of their authority, and the deposition rankled in their savage breasts. They were jealous of his rising power and prosperity, and other members of the tribes took alarm at the inrolling wave of immigration which threatened to dispossess them of their lands and hunting grounds.

These sentiments smoldered for years, and finally the opportunity came for the jealous head men to fan the smoldering fire into flame. The immigrants brought a wasting fever and measles, and these were imparted to the Indians. Whitman was tireless in his work of ministering to the sick, but the Indians would not observe his sanitary instructions, persisted in mixing up his treatment with their crude system, and he was more successful in curing the whites than in curing the red men. An ugly rumor ran from band to band that the missionary was casting the "evil eye upon the natives, and that he and Mrs. Whitman were engaged in a conspiracy to kill off the Indians and give their lands to the whites.

Keen students of Indian nature warned Whitman that trouble was brewing, but the missionary zeal ran through his veins, and he would not heed their warnings. If he had been a more prudent man, he would not have been the Whitman who lives in song and story. He would never have crossed the Rocky mountains to found his mission, and he would not have made his terrible midwinter ride to save Oregon to the union.—Review.

If the Union Pacific settlement goes to congress again, it will become a national scandal, with infinite corruption attendant upon it. The pressure for postponement of the sale, with congressional action as its end, will undoubtedly be great and will probably succeed. Conservative business men and constructive financiers like Mr. J. P. Morgan will stand little show in a scramble of this sort with our enterprising and resourceful members and ex-members of congress. The hope of the country has been to see this troublesome matter arranged without its again being thrown into the football field of the national capital for the lobbyists to swarm about. But if this is not to be, the history of the Pacific railways, fraudulent contracts, Credit Mobilier and all, can be made consistent to its close.—Oregonian.

The disaster on the New York Central railroad, by which the Buffalo express was thrown into the Hudson and many lives lost, is one of the most distressing railway accidents in recent years. So far as investigations have proceeded, the managers of the road and their employes in charge of the train, do not appear accountable for the wreck, the theory being that the foundation of the roadbed was undermined by the water in a manner which only its collapse could disclose. It is well known that the New York Central is one of the most carefully managed

and thoroughly built and equipped roads in the country, and it is only fair to presume, at least until evidence to the contrary is shown, that the accident was one that human vigilance could not avert nor human judgment foresee.

From Australia comes the news of an impending stampede to the Klondike. A recent London cablegram states that the officials of steamship companies expect to carry 20,000 gold-seekers from Great Britain. South Africa will send a large contingent, and every state in the Union will send numerous parties. All indications point to another rush like that which peopled Australia and California. Alaska has ceased to be a land of mystery and solitude.

**SMOOTH DIPLOMACY.**

The Old Man Knew How to Collect a Bill.

Julian is only 14 months old and a fine child, though I say it myself. I had him on my knee in the parlor of our flat when a knock came at the door. I opened it, whereupon a decidedly elderly gentleman pushed his way in. "What a fine boy!" exclaimed the stranger, looking in admiration at Julian. "I can tell it's a boy. He's so sturdy."

I had been inclined to resist his unceremonious pushing of himself in, but he took so much pleasure in Julian and Julian was so delighted by the attention that I hadn't the heart to say anything.

"Six teeth, eh?" continued the paternal and kindly old gentleman. "Two years old, I judge, sir?" "No, sir," I replied. "It is true he looks fully two years old, but he is only 14 months."

"Impossible," was the reply, in a tone of wonder.

Julian meanwhile was crowing and laughing at the stranger and held out his arms. It suddenly dawned on me that I had not asked my visitor his business, but by this time he had Julian in his lap.

"The child actually weighed all of 25 pounds," he declared. "By the way, I came to see you about the gas bill. Actually 25 pounds! Only 14 months old! Ha! ha! little boy."

I had been angry for a week about my gas bill. The company had taken away my meter on account of non-payment of a most outrageous charge, and for some time I had been using candles. My intention was to sue the company.

"Hear him laugh!" cried the venerable old gentleman, who was now dandling Julian on his knee. "Fourteen months old and weighs 25 pounds! Well, well!"

Julian was in ecstasies. "Well, now," I said, "I don't think I ought to pay—"

But he was so wrapped up in Julian that he really did not hear me. He brought forth an old wallet and drew my gas bill from it.

"Here, little boy," he cried, "is something for you to play with. I really believe he'll have another tooth through in a week. There isn't another baby in Brooklyn to equal him."

Julian was waving that gas bill in his little fist, and the two made the sweetest picture together—the old gentleman and the child. I had a \$10 bill that I was hearing to buy a new coat and vest with, and I brought it out with a sigh. The old gentleman accepted it casually.

"Well, well," he said. "I must be going. Twenty-five pounds! Fourteen months old!"

As he walked downstairs he looked back two or three times to wave his hand and cry "By-by" at Julian. He was certainly a superior and well educated old gentleman and I have no doubt he was reduced to the necessity of taking up his present occupation by reverses of fortune, but I wish I had thought of asking him to have my gas meter brought back.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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