

GOLD HILL NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

GOLD HILL, OREGON.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

Queen Victoria is dead at her Osborne house home, at Cowles, Isle of Wight. She was almost 82 years old, and had reigned longer than any other monarch in the world.

Verdi, the composer, is seriously ill.

The severest storm on record is reported from Alaska.

A strip of Benton county, Oregon, may be annexed to Linn.

A fire at Walla Walla destroyed \$25,000 worth of property.

The next Grand Army encampment will be held at Cleveland, Ohio.

The Venezuela government is trying to blackmail the asphalt company.

Speaker Reeder, of the Oregon legislature, has announced his committees.

A new pure food law is now being considered by the Oregon legislature.

A bill is before the Washington legislature for the abolishment of fish traps.

Ex-Congressman George W. Cowles, aged 78, is dead at his home in Clyde, N. Y.

A measure has been introduced in the Oregon legislature to increase the monument fund to \$20,000.

The senate has confirmed the nomination of James S. Harian to be attorney-general of Porto Rico.

A new county, named Clearwater, will probably be created by this session of the Idaho legislature.

John H. Russel, a well known theatrical manager, is dead at the state hospital at Middletown, N. Y.

The governor of Idaho has recommended a memorial to congress asking for popular election of senators.

A measure is before the Washington legislature providing for the purchase of the Thurston county court house for a state capitol.

Rev. Charles E. Conrad, M. D., a noted missionary, died at Quincy, Ill., aged 81. He was in Calcutta during the Sepoy outbreak.

The revenue cutter Grant is to make a cruise along the coast near the United States-Canadian line to investigate the wreckage, of which so much has come ashore lately.

West Point cadets agree to abolish hazing.

Enraged Omaha citizens burned a pesthouse.

Germans contemplate a cable line around the world.

The naval appropriation bill provides for four new warships.

Astoria's big export sawmill will be located at Tongue's Point.

The term of duty in the Philippines may be limited to two years.

Minister Wu urges Americans to enter into trade with China.

Havana citizens petition congress to lower duty on Cuban products.

America's protests against Venezuela have been defied by that government.

The house will devote most of its time this week to the appropriation bill.

British ship Muel Tryvan foundered in English channel and 11 lives were lost.

T. W. Bartley, of Moscow, has been appointed fish and game warden for Idaho.

Anarchist plot to kill prominent Americans disclosed by member in a court trial.

Severe cold weather prevails in Cuba. There has been much suffering at Santiago.

Count de Lubersac and Baron de Rothschild fought a duel in France in which the former was wounded.

An Idaho bill for the repeal of the stringent law against gambling has been introduced in the house.

The Oregon legislature will be asked by the managers of the Spokane exposition to appropriate \$50,000 for an exhibit at the fair.

Two men, while rowing across Niagara river, lost control of their boat and were carried into the rapids. One of them was swept over the falls and drowned. The other was rescued.

All hopes for the recovery of Queen Victoria are gone and the announcement of her death is hourly expected. All members of her family are either at her bedside or going there as fast as steam can carry them.

DIAMOND SMUGGLER CAUGHT

Had Them Snuggly Hidden in the Pockets of a Belt He Wore Around His Waist.

New York, Jan. 21.—United States Marshal Alcott, of the Ferry district, has formally seized in this city \$17,600 worth of diamonds, which were brought into this country by Antonio Ansenias without paying duty on them. The goods were found on Ansenias' person by United States customs officials as Ansenias was leaving a steamer of the Hamburg-American line at Hoboken.

Ansenias was not arrested, but the diamonds will be held pending a decision of the Treasury department as to whether he is guilty of smuggling. His defense is that he is a Cuban merchant, and that he is merely passing through this country on his way to Cuba. The diamonds were concealed in the pockets of a large belt which Ansenias had around his body, and were accidentally discovered by a customs inspector who happened to place his hand on Ansenias' back as the latter was leaning over a trunk. There are 126 separate articles, of an appraised valuation of \$11,000, which with 60 per cent duty added would make them worth \$17,600.

THE IRRIGATION MOVEMENT.

It Receives Strong Support From Secretary Hitchcock.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock was to have been heard today by the house committee on public lands on the subject of irrigation, which is attracting attention in many Western states, but being unable to come to the capitol, he submitted a statement. This strongly supports the policy of irrigation, and says that a vast acreage capable of supporting 50,000,000 people should not be left a desert. Mr. Hitchcock points out the remarkable results experienced in the valley of the Nile, practically redeeming Egypt from bankruptcy. Professor Newell, of the geological survey; Professor Pinchott, of the agricultural department, and Representative Newlands, of Nevada, who started the movement by a bill for irrigation storehouses along the Humboldt river in Nevada, also strongly supported the plan. The hearings today were on the Newlands bill, but this has brought up the whole subject as applicable to Western states, and particularly California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South and North Dakota.

DARING HOLD-UP.

Two Men Tried to Rob a Fifth Avenue, New York, Restaurant.

New York, Jan. 21.—Two robbers, armed with 32-caliber Colt's revolvers, entered Maillard's restaurant and confectionery store, near the Fifth Avenue hotel, just as the place was being closed at midnight, and ordered the cashier to throw up his hands. In the place were a half dozen waiters, and the very boldness of the robbers attracted attention. The cashier had several hundred dollars of the day's receipts on the desk before him, and it is supposed that he did not move quickly enough to satisfy the robbers, for one of the men discharged his revolver. The bullet crashed into the wall back of the cashier, who caught up the cash and dodged underneath the counter. The waiters concealed themselves underneath tables. The shot attracted a Broadway crowd, and the police were notified. Brandishing their weapons the robbers dashed from Maillard's, the crowd falling back and giving them all the room they wanted. One turned into Twenty-fourth street and succeeded in making his escape. The other dashed across the pavement of Fifth avenue to Madison square, and was captured by a policeman. He said he was Edward Burgess, a steam-fitter.

Conference on Canal Treaty.

London, Jan. 21.—United States Ambassador Choate and the secretary of state for foreign affairs, the Marquis of Lansdowne, had a second conference today on the amended Hay-Pauncefote treaty. An outline of the action Great Britain intends to pursue was not developed, and no definite decision is likely to be reached by Great Britain for several days.

General A. J. McKay Dead.

New York, Jan. 21.—General Andrew Jackson McKay, a distinguished veteran of the civil war, died in this city today. He was quartermaster-general on the staff of General George W. Thomas in the army of the Cumberland.

Burned by Molten Copper.

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 21.—Juan Lopez, a workman at the Copper Queen smelter, was burned to death by molten copper which fell from a swinging pot under which he stood. His clothes were set on fire and his body horribly disfigured by the liquid metal.

New Ships Building.

Ships that will be worth in the aggregate \$29,725,000 are now in process of construction at the shipyards along the Delaware river.

WILL BE ON HAND

Farquhar's Squadron Ready to Move on Venezuela.

IF THE TROUBLE IS NOT SETTLED

Minister Loomis' Dispatches Tampered With—The Scorpion Will Remain at La Guayra, Where Her Presence is Necessary.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Nothing has been heard over night from Minister Loomis regarding the situation in Venezuela. Navy department officials deny that any instructions have been given to the North Atlantic squadron to move over from Florida to Venezuela. The ships, however, are in perfect cruising trim, and could sail within a few hours after the receipt of orders, though it is not believed here that there will be any necessity for their movement toward Venezuela.

The orders to the Scorpion to proceed to Guaymas from La Guayra have been countermanded, and she will remain at La Guayra, where her presence is regarded as necessary. By direction of the state department, Minister Loomis has protested to the Venezuelan government against the exercise of censorship over any of his official communications, and it is understood that the protests have been effective.

It cannot be gathered that any very late advices have caused the change in the department's plans relative to the movements of the Scorpion. In fact, it is said that nothing has been received to show any marked change in the status in Venezuela since yesterday, when Minister Loomis spoke of the suppression of a rebellion among the troops in Caracas, the inception of which was unknown to the department of state. The fact that such a movement could gain headway in Castro's own capital, however, is very significant, and this rebellion among the troops may have led to the decision to retain the Scorpion at La Guayra, the nearest port to Caracas.

The naval authorities were consulted during the day as to the feasibility of re-enforcing the American naval force now in Venezuela, but while some such thing is in prospect, it cannot be learned that any positive orders have yet gone out. The Hartford is not within reach of the cable, being on a cruise from Port of Spain for Barbadoes, at which place she is due in about two days. She may be turned back from that port, unless the situation improves. The Lancaster sailed from Port of Spain for the Cape Verde islands, so she is entirely beyond reach. There is no disposition on the part of the authorities here to go to any unusual length in dealing with this situation, as they say frankly that it is not a part of their purpose to browbeat or coerce the Venezuelans by a formal naval demonstration, unless such a course is forced on them, which is not believed to be at all likely. But it is quite certain that Admiral Farquhar will shape the movements of the North Atlantic squadron so as to keep in close touch with the navy department and he will not be far away from a cable end for many days at a time after he leaves Florida.

Mr. Loomis' protest against any censorship of his official mail on the part of the Venezuelan government was not idly lodged, and he acted by the department's direction only upon a well grounded suspicion that his cables were being tampered with or unreasonably delayed.

WATCHING AN EMBEZZLER.

The Confidential Clerk of a New York Wholesale House Sails for Europe.

London, Jan. 21.—The alleged forger for whose extradition the United States authorities are asking is said to be Sigmund Hertz, alias Edden, of New York city. He is supposed to be on board the steamer Corinthian, which left Halifax, Sunday, Jan. 7, for Queenstown and Liverpool. The police of those cities are watching for him.

Acting under instructions from Chief of Detectives George E. Titus, the Scotland Yard officials were cabled yesterday to arrest at Queenstown or Liverpool as he steps off an incoming steamer, the alleged defaulting confidential clerk of a large wholesale house on Walker street, New York City, who is said to have embezzled \$50,000 of the firm's funds at the time of his flight, and to have embezzled nearly \$200,000 before he was even suspected.

Want Back Pay.

Barre, Vt., Jan. 21.—Many granite cutters and tool sharpeners are taking action toward pushing their claims of back pay for work done in the service of the government of the United States nearly 30 years ago. The claims arise out of the building of the Boston and New York postoffices, the work on Dix, Hurricane and Fox islands, and work in navy yards. The claimants worked 10 hours a day instead of eight, and they are now trying to collect pay for the extra two hours a day. The navy yard men got their pay two years ago.

ANARCHISTS' PLOT.

Planned to Kill Prominent Americans Disclosed in Court Trial.

New York, Jan. 23.—Elias Masuras, a Greek, the complainant in an assault case, which came before Judge Kellogg, of Yonkers, N. Y., this morning, told a startling tale of a plot of Greek anarchists to kill prominent Americans, and would have told more had the court not stopped him and turned him over to the police, that they might quietly investigate the case. Several arrests have already been made, and a number more are planned.

On the stand Masuras said that in Greece he had been a member of an anarchist society. Some time ago it fell to his lot to kill a public man in the United States, and he was ordered to come to this country and place himself under the orders of the American branch of the society. He had never heard the name of the man he was to murder, and understood that, as in other cases, the man who was to be the victim was to be selected after his arrival in this country.

After reaching America, Masuras, according to his own story, went to Yonkers, and affiliated himself with a branch of the organization, as well as one in New York. Finally he became frightened, withdrew and refused to carry out the mission entrusted to him. From the time he left the organization he claims he was annoyed and threatened by members of the society. He remained firm in his determination not to obey the orders, however, and yesterday six of the men came here and begged him to return. When he still refused, one of the six, which one he could not say, attempted to stab him. The blow was aimed too high, however.

Masuras was apparently willing to tell more about the society, but Judge Kellogg adjourned the hearing and committed the prisoner to jail, pending further examination. Masuras was examined by the police, and as a result the warrants were issued. Joseph and James Kiptaukas and Frank Hestaus were arrested by the police. One other Yonkers man and two New Yorkers are named on other warrants, and the police are searching for them. The police assert that they believe the story told by Masuras, and they say that the affair has led to the discovery of an anarchist band of a dangerous character.

SNOW STORM IN ALASKA.

Complete Tie-Up Resulted on White Pass and Yukon Railway.

Seattle, Jan. 23.—The steamer City of Seattle, January 14 from Lynn canal, reports a great snow storm in Southeastern Alaska. For five days succeeding January 7 the fall was particularly heavy, completely tying up the White Pass & Yukon railroad. The highway was still blockaded when the steamer sailed.

Between Skagway and White Horse, the interior terminus of the road, there were eight engines and three rotaries stalled. Several of the engines were drawing trains on which were from 10 to 12 passengers each. All of the engines were without water, having to melt snow. A train near the summit of the mountains back of Skagway ran short of provisions, the crew having to pack food for the passengers from Fraser, over two miles distant. The storm appears to have extended well towards Dawson, carrying down the wires of the Dominion Telegraph Company.

Highwayman Will Die.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 23.—P. B. Callahan, a highwayman, lies dying at Sacred Heart hospital, as the result of last night's adventures. At midnight Callahan entered Garabaldi Albi's saloon, one block from police headquarters, took a drink with the proprietor, and covered him with a gun. Albi ran away and gave the alarm. Callahan robbed the till, then ran down Washington street. In the darkness he plunged over the Great Northern retaining wall, falling on boulders 18 feet below. Both his jaws were broken, and the base of his brain injured. He was taken to the hospital where he will probably die. Albi is a brother of William Albi, who killed a robber named Lacey two years ago, in revenge for having held him up.

Glass Works to Close Down.

Hartford City, Ind., Jan. 23.—The American Window Glass Company and the Independent Manufacturer's Association today agreed to close their plants until April 1, instead of June 1. Eighty factories and about 30,000 workers will be affected. The object of the shut-down is to curtail production and maintain prices.

Soldier Commits Suicide.

San Francisco, Jan. 23.—Edward M. Baytel, a convalescent soldier, committed suicide at the Presidio yesterday by shooting himself through the head with a Krag-Jorgensen rifle. He was a Russian, enlisted in Chicago, and assigned to company E, Thirty-seventh infantry. His sister resides in Pullman, Ill.

New Negro University.

The University of West Tennessee, which has just been chartered in that state, is to be built at Jackson by prominent negro educators.

PURPOSE BLACKMAIL

Venezuela Trying to Squeeze an American Concern.

ENGLAND WILL GIVE NO PROTECTION

Offers to Restore the Asphalt Property for One Million Dollars—Insurgents Gain a Battle.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, British West Indies, Jan. 23.—The arrivals today from Venezuela confirm the reports of the existence of a critical condition of affairs in that republic. A former Venezuelan minister asserts that the politicians at Caracas are making a determined raid on the Bermudez Asphalt Company. He adds that they tried it before on a modest scale, squeezing \$30,000 out of the company, when United States Minister Loomis protested and stopped further action of this description. The government, the minister also says, listened to reason then, but has now lost its head and offered to restore the property for \$1,000,000, although it is said to have been illegally taken by a dictatorial decree. In addition, the assertion is again made that if foreign governments permit the action of the Venezuelan authorities to pass without some protest, all foreign investors will be driven from South America, for the latter always claim they are being illegally plundered. In this connection, the assertion is made that no former Venezuelan government would have dared to act as this one does toward Washington. It is explained that the Venezuelan authorities are counting on the disinclination of strong nations to coerce weak ones.

At the office of the Orinoco Company, whose two steamers were recently seized by the Venezuelan authorities, the manager says the British minister at Caracas, Mr. Haggard, has informed the American minister that the British government will not protect the company because its shareholders are Americans. The company is said to be losing heavily through the seizure of the steamers.

The commander of the French cruiser Suchel, stationed at Curapano for the protection of the large French interests in that vicinity, reports that disturbances are increasing. The insurgents of Venezuela have just gained a battle near Guacia.

Germany Not Interested.

Berlin, Jan. 23.—The German foreign office shows no interest whatever in the reports regarding the situation in Venezuela, and characterizes the newspaper accounts of the difficulty as exaggerated.

A WESTERN FIGHT.

But the East is Willing to Help Obtain Appropriation for National Irrigation.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Some hundred prominent daily Eastern newspapers recently have editorially expressed views favorable to a system of national irrigation. It would seem that the East is well in line in wishing the development and reclamation of the great area west of the hundredth meridian, and that it is realized that such a development would benefit the entire country and be a national benefit, adding to the general wealth and power of the nation. While the East is thus willing to assist and co-operate, it expects, of course, that the West will make its own fight. Every local Western organization of whatever character—chambers of commerce, boards of trade, commercial clubs, business associations—everything with a president and secretary should discuss and take action upon this question of national irrigation and government appropriations for the building of storage reservoirs, and then stand ready to co-operate with the National Irrigation Association, for whatever procedure is necessary.

Accident to the Bailey.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The torpedo boat Bailey has come to grief again. The accident which disabled her in this case is peculiar. While lying in Newport, about to undertake a trial trip on the following day, the intense cold froze the water in her boilers, bursting a number of the tubes. The boat has been sent to New York for repairs, and the trial boat has been ordered home.

School Act Passed.

Manila, Jan. 23.—The act establishing the department of public instruction was unanimously passed by the Philippine commission today, after a debate between commissioner Moses and Judge Taft, over the section permitting religious instruction in school houses.

Piano Two Hundred Years Old.

D. Decker, of Charlottesville, Ind., is the possessor of a piano made 200 years ago and which is yet in good condition and of excellent tone. It is made of solid mahogany.