

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.

Minister Conger left Pekin for home.

England rejects the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

A Filipino band was defeated near Santa Cruz.

Sixteen lives were lost by the storm in Arkansas.

President McKinley will start for the Pacific coast April 30.

Victims of the plague are dying in the streets of Cape Town.

A secret society buried alive natives friendly to Americans.

The French ex-consul at Manila is accused of dealing with insurgents.

Eight persons were killed and many injured by an explosion in a Chicago laundry.

Carnegie has offered \$75,000 for a library to Davenport, Ia., and also to Springfield, Ill.

Kirby Graves, Bill Johnson and Henry Brooks, negroes, were hanged at Richmond, Ark., for murder.

The Pennsylvania house of representatives adopted a resolution favoring the election of senators by the people.

Relatives of Oregon school directors cannot be employed as teachers without unanimous consent of the board.

A cloudburst in Maricopa county, Arizona, carried away five miles of track of the Maricopa & Phoenix railroad.

Oregon law which abolishes office of fish commissioner, and creates a similar one, involves question of whether latter repeals former by implication.

Two highwaymen entered the village of Ilpe, near Emporia, Kan., and held up a dozen people, the occupants of two stores.

Antonio Leonardodi, Antro Dimet and Abram Sarturi, miners at the Nellie mine, in Bear Creek, Colo., were caught by a snowslide.

Two men were killed outright and three injured by a dynamite explosion at a quarry near El Paso. All were Mexicans except the foreman, Chas. Shely.

Navajo Indians, in New Mexico, are becoming restless because of the absence of two or three of their number, who are attending a Chicago exhibition.

County Judge Gregory, at Louisville, held that the Pullman Palace Car Company is not a railroad and that its rolling stock cannot be taxed as railroad property.

The Colorado Stockgrowers' Association adopted a resolution requesting the department of the interior to send an inspector West to inquire into local conditions and give settlers, cattle-owners and others a hearing relative to forest reserve regulations.

Li Hung Chang is again seriously ill.

Willspoint, Tex., was wrecked by a cyclone.

Ex-President Harrison is very seriously ill.

Dewet, with 400 Boers, has escaped to the northward.

Russia assures the powers she will not annex Chinese territory.

Japan has ordered new battleship from England to Yokohama.

Megler's cannery, at Brookfield, Wash., was damaged \$15,000 by fire.

It is reported that Kitchener demands unconditional surrender from Boers.

England declines to modify the canal treaty without a satisfactory quid pro quo.

General Chaffee refuses to allow the decapitation of several Boer chiefs condemned by a Chinese judge.

Radical Cubans still hope for absolute independence, and that the United States will not enforce Platt amendment.

Lieutenant General Miles, accompanied by his staff, will leave for a trip to Cuba, where he will make an inspection of the principal military posts.

The mill plant of the Centralia Shingle Company, Centralia, Wash., was destroyed by fire. The fire is supposed to have originated from the furnace. The loss is estimated at about \$5,000; insurance, \$2,000.

The officials of the foreign office at Copenhagen deny that the negotiations with the United States for the sale of the Danish West Indies have been discontinued, and they confirm the statements from Washington that no peremptory note has been sent to Denmark by the United States.

Orders have gone forward from the navy department for the return of the battleship Oregon, which has been so long a time on the Asiatic station, to the United States. She will probably sail for home about May 1, to be replaced by the Wisconsin when the vessel has finished her official trial.

PROPOSED BY COLOMBIA.

Scheme for the United States to Acquire the Panama Canal.

NEW YORK, March 12.—According to a special to the Herald, Senor Silva, the Colombian minister to the United States, has already informally submitted proposals to Secretary Hay for the acquisition of the Panama canal by this government, and has been invited to discuss them further. Preliminary protocols were entered into some time ago with Costa Rica and Nicaragua, so that these two countries during the summer will probably be merely interested spectators of the moves which the United States, Great Britain and Colombia will make.

It is understood that these are the essential points which the Colombian government will urge: A lease for a term of years, so long as the United States may desire, not exceeding 200 years, of the territory across which the Panama canal is being constructed; in return for such lease Colombia is to receive either a percentage of the tax on tonnage passage through the canal, or a lump compensation; recognition of the rights of the French company, which will sell its concession with Colombia's consent to the United States.

IS CLOSE TO DEATH.

Li Hung Chang's Life Hangs by a Thread.

PEKIN, March 12.—Li Hung Chang is again seriously ill, and his physician says his life hangs by a thread.

Prince Ching and Earl Li seem to think that by spreading rumors of the court's unwillingness to return to Pekin, unless this or that thing is done, they can influence the deliberations of the ministers of the powers. As a matter of fact, according to reliable reports from Sinan Fu, the imperial personages are extremely uncomfortable at Sinan Fu, where they live in the house of the governor, which is only a small structure. French missionaries who have just returned from Sinan Fu believe that the empress dowager would bring the court back to Pekin on the first offer of the allies, having as a basis the removal of the troops, except the legation guards.

HARRISON IS WORSE.

Ex-President's Condition Now Regarded as Serious.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 12.—The condition of ex-President Harrison is serious. Dr. Jameson stated today that the upper part of General Harrison's left lung was inflamed. There is some danger of the congestion extending to the rest of the lung and to the right lung. Until 3 o'clock this afternoon, General Harrison was resting easy, but at that time he became slightly worse and Dr. Jameson was called. He said that he was certain nowing was to be apprehended for the next 48 hours, but the age of the patient renders all calculations uncertain. At 5 o'clock this evening General Harrison was suffering some pain, but was resting comparatively easy.

TO ORGANIZE GOVERNMENT.

Philippine Commission Leave for Lucena.

MANILA, March 12.—Judge Taft and his associates of the United States Philippine commission, accompanied by their wives and a number of prominent Filipinos, embarked today on the United States transport Sumner and sailed for Lucena, Province of Tayabas, Luzon, where they will organize the provincial government. At the time of their departure the pier was thronged with natives.

The insurgents have surrendered 500 rifles in the Province of Panganga, Bulacan and Bataan during the last four weeks.

The Methodists report 120 converts in Manila last week, and the Philippine Evangelical church claims to have secured many new members.

Three Persons Killed by Tornado.

Forest City, Ark., March 12.—Three persons were killed and many injured in this vicinity last night by a tornado, and 16 houses, and miles of fences and many trees were leveled to the ground. Ten miles northeast the tornado shattered the house of J. A. Woody, killing Woody and seriously injuring his wife and his stepson, Bob Allen. The other victims were negroes.

German plantation experts claim that the Samoan islands have a great future in coffee, tea, tobacco, cotton, etc.

The Bell Telephone Company has bought for \$500,000 a system of self-induction coils which makes conversation between New York and London as easy as between near-by points.

OREGON STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL HAPPENINGS

A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth.

Eugene—A new opera house is to be built at Eugene.

Athens—Athens has elected T. B. Page school director and J. W. Smith clerk.

Baker City—The Baker City post-office will have a stamp-cancelling machine.

The Dalles—The Dalles treasurer had an available cash balance March 1 of \$1,655.64.

Eugene—A large electric transformer has arrived at Eugene for the lighting company.

Baker City—Improvements to cost \$20,000 will be made in the Warshuer hotel at Baker City.

Eagle Point—It is reported from Eagle Point that early frosts have not injured growing wheat.

Pendleton—Water meters for the Pendleton water system have arrived and are being sold for \$10, \$15 and \$20 each.

Gold Hill—It is reported that a rich three-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz has been struck on the old Clock place near Gold Hill.

Perry—The Grand Ronde Lumber Company will start up its mill at Perry this week. About 4,000,000 feet of logs are on hand.

Coquille—Farmers on the north fork of the Coquille report hay scarce in that part of the country; but stock is in fine condition.

Henderson—The wagon bridge at Henderson station, which went out with the last freshet, is replaced and opened for travel.

Foots Creek—Several tons of ore from the Dixie Queen mine, in the Foots Creek district, are said to have yielded over \$100 a ton.

Lakeview—The old electric system for lighting the town of Lakeview has been discontinued, and will be replaced by the town plant.

Eagle Point—There is considerable anxiety over the proposed ditch from Fish Lake to the valley, fears being entertained that the company will take so much water out of the streams that there will not be enough left for irrigating purposes and to run the grist mill.

Pilot Rock—A painful accident occurred at the Warner sawmill, twelve miles south of Pilot Rock. Will Warner, while riding on a log carriage, was struck on the head, and while stunned leaned over in such a manner that a large piece of flesh was cut out of his thigh by the saw.

Unity—It is reported from Unity, on upper Burnt river, that there was a disastrous fire in that burg. James Payton's general merchandise store was totally destroyed, including quite a stock of goods. The building was practically new, two stories high, the upper story being used as a dance hall.

Ashland—A petition has been forwarded to Washington for the proposed free rural delivery route south of Ashland. The route reaches from Ashland eight miles to W. H. Shepherd's place, and returns via Emigrant creek. The number of families which would be served on this route is 125, and the number of people 498, and one postoffice, Baron, would be discontinued.

Fort Klamath—Melhase Bros., of Fort Klamath weighed 184 head of beef cattle last week at the Mitchell ranch and delivered them to George Kohlhaugen of Roseburg. The average weight was 1252 pounds, from which was deducted four per cent, making the selling weight 1201 pounds. The price paid was 7½ cents, an average of \$45.03½. The total price paid for all was \$8,286.90.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 55¢@56¢; Valley, nominal; bluestone, 57½¢ per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, \$2.80@3.40 pre barrel; graham, \$2.60.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$17.50; chop, \$16.

Oats—White, 44¢@45¢ per bushel; gray, 42¢@43¢.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$7@9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22½¢@25¢; dairy, 18¢@20¢.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 12¢@12½¢; per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50 @4; hens, \$4.50@5; dressed, 11¢@12¢ per pound; springs, \$4@4.50 per dozen; ducks, \$5@6; geese, \$5@6 per dozen.

Potatoes—45¢@60¢ per sack.

Dried fruits—Apples, evaporated, 5¢@6¢ per pound; sun dried, sacks or boxes, 3¢@4¢; pears, 8¢@9¢; prunes, Italian, 5¢@7¢; silver, extra choice, 5¢@7.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers, \$4.75; ewes, \$4@4.50; dressed, 6½¢@7¢ per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5@5.25; light, \$4.75@5; dressed, 6¢@7¢ per pound.

Veal—Large, 7¢@7½¢ per pound; small, 8½¢@9¢ per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.50@4.75; cows, \$4@4.50; dressed beef, 7¢@8¢ per pound.

NEW COMPANY FORMED.

Ultimate Object is to Operate Boats and Cars From Spokane to Portland.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., March 13.—The Upper River Transportation Company has been incorporated for the purpose of controlling a line of steamers on the Columbia river. The boats will make regular daily trips from Priest Rapids to The Dalles and carry the great wheat crop of Eastern Washington to market. The incorporators of the company are J. M. Russell, George C. Blakely and T. A. Hudson. In addition to operating on the Columbia, they will run a line of steamers to Lewiston, Idaho, on the Snake.

In connection with the navigation of the rivers a plan is under consideration to construct an electric railway through the counties of Douglas and Lincoln, in Eastern Washington, and connect with Spokane. The road will reach all of the wheat centers and be used for hauling wheat to Priest Rapids. There it will be loaded on steel barges and hauled down the river to The Dalles. A portage railway will be used to haul the barges around the falls and into the Columbia below, when the boats will be towed to Portland and the Pacific coast points for shipment to the Oriental markets.

The steamer Billings, which has been lying on a rocky bar 20 feet above water a few miles below Pasco, is now being overhauled preparatory to launching for the upper river traffic. A line of steamers will be run from the upper Columbia to Priest Rapids and open up the trade from the great mining districts in the Republic and surrounding country.

MUTINY ON ALBANY.

Sailors on American Cruiser Rebelled at Hong Kong.

TACOMA, Wash., March 13.—Advices brought by the steamship Godwin state that 75 sailors mutinied on board the cruiser Albany at Hong Kong last month. The cause was lack of money and liberty. The refractory sailors were placed in irons and taken to Cavite for trial.

The Mohammedan rebellion in Kan Su has assumed such alarming proportions that the empress dowager has commanded General Feng Tze Sai to proceed northward from Canton with haste and undertake their subjugation.

The gunboats Ball and Sugrib, built at Hong Kong, for Siam, have been turned over to that government, with the object of striking terror to the rebels at Canton. Fourteen brigands were executed February 14. Four other men are being starved to death in cages exposed to public view.

DEPUTY SHERIFF KILLED.

Fought a Pitched Battle With Two Highwaymen.

MILTON, Cal., March 13.—News has just been received here that Deputy Sheriff Holman, of Calaveras county, was shot and killed at Wallace, a small town near here, in a pitched battle with two highwaymen. One of the latter is reported seriously wounded.

Two prominent residents of Wallace were held up and robbed by the bandits. The men who were robbed immediately reported the affair to the county officials, and Deputy Sheriff Holman, with a small posse, went to Wallace to arrest the robbers with the result above noted.

General Young Returning.

Washington, March 13.—The quartermaster general is informed that the transport Logan left Nagasaki Thursday for San Francisco with Major General Young and the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth Volunteer regiments. General Young, on his arrival at San Francisco, will relieve General Shafter of the command of the department of California, and the latter will be retired as a major general.

EIGHT LIVES LOST.

Forty-Two Persons Were Injured and Several Are Missing.

CHICAGO, March 13.—By the explosion of a boiler in the Doremus laundry, 458 West Madison street, this morning, eight persons were instantly killed, 42 were injured, and several are missing.

The cause of the explosion has not been determined with accuracy as yet, and it will probably require an official investigation to settle the matter.

Reports of the number of dead in the ruins run all the way from six to 20. It is known that 36 employees of the laundry had entered the place before the explosion occurred, because the automatic timekeeper found in the ruins showed that number of registered arrivals. Two or three were entering at the moment of the explosion, making the approximate total of 40 employees in and around the building.

It is reported that an officer of the boiler inspection department warned Mr. Doremus that the boiler was unsafe to use in its present condition. Laundry employees, however, declare that the boiler had not been inspected, and therefore not condemned.

The wreckage near the boiler and in the east part of the building at once took fire, and through the blinding clouds of dust and smoke and escaping steam could be seen struggling men and women, some of them half buried in wreckage, others feebly endeavoring to climb to some place of safety, while from various parts of the ruins came cries for help.

The fire department soon extinguished the flames and the work of rescue began at once. One by one the wounded and bleeding girls were carried to near-by stores, where they were given hasty medical attention and then taken to hospitals in ambulances.

ENGLAND SAYS "NO"

Declines to Accept the Amended Canal Treaty.

GREAT BRITAIN'S REPLY IS RECEIVED

No Counter Proposal Made—If Negotiations Are Resumed It Must Be on this Side—The Text Withheld.

Washington, March 13.—The long expected answer from the British government to the state department's communication reciting the action of the senate upon the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was returned at noon today. Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador, had already acquainted Secretary Hay with the fact that he had received a communication from his government on the subject and it had been in his possession for several days. Secretary Hay had acquired a general knowledge of the character of the British response. Lord Pauncefote came to the state department at noon by appointment. He brought the answer with him and read it to Secretary Hay. It was in the form of instructions from Lord Lansdowne, the British minister of foreign affairs, to Lord Pauncefote, and he left a copy of these instructions with Secretary Hay. At the conclusion of the conference, it was stated that the instructions to Lord Pauncefote were to notify the government of the United States that the British government did not see its way clear to accept the senate amendments.

The amendments were treated in detail at some length in argumentative fashion, the purpose of the British government being to show that it had sound reason for declining to accept them. After disposing of the details, the note concludes with an expression of regret that such a course was forced upon the British government. There was nothing in the nature of a counter proposition, nor was any opening left for further action by the British government. It was stated that if there is to be a further attempt to amend the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, so as to authorize the United States to construct a waterway across the isthmus, then it is for the United States to make the overtures. The British government simply drops the matter at this point.

The Hay-Pauncefote negotiations have been in progress for something over two years, and owing to the great interests involved, they have constituted the leading international question at issue before the state department. The treaty was signed prior to the opening of the 56th congress, and was submitted to the senate in December, 1899. It at once encountered opposition in that body, but after some delay was finally ratified after several amendments had been adopted. The chief issue was made on what was known as the Davis amendment. While in terms this did not give the United States a right to fortify the canal, yet in general language it expressed the right of this country to adopt such measures in regard to the canal as were deemed necessary for the proper maintenance of American authority. After extended debate in executive session two other amendments were adopted, and the treaty was ratified as amended. The other two amendments abrogated the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and struck out the provision of the treaty which invited other foreign governments to express their approval of it.

BOERS HELP BRITISH.

Two Thousand of Them Are Ready to Enlist.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 13.—General Dewet is reported to be moving northward steadily, at the rate of 25 miles a day, with a view of crossing the railway to the eastward. He should now be west of Kroonstadt. Several small commandoes are in possession of the southeastern portion of the Orange River colony, from which the garrisons of Dewetsdorp, Weepner, Smithfield and Rouxville have been withdrawn.

It is impossible not to be struck with the fact that a great portion of the former enemies of Great Britain in South Africa now frankly throw in their lot with the British. Brandfort, Kroonstadt and Bloemfontein companies of ex-burgers are now bearing arms against the Boers. They state their object is not to operate against their former comrades, but to defend their homes and property against marauding bands. Every town in the Free State occupied by the British will soon become a center of British influence, extending a long distance in their vicinity. Over 13,000 refugees are now within the British lines, and many of them demand arms and permission to take the field. If their requests are granted it will be easy to get 2,000 ex-burgers enrolled on the British side.

JAPS WITH BOGUS PAPERS.

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 13.—It is reported that a number of Japanese immigrants attempting to cross the boundary line from British Columbia to Washington recently had in their possession fraudulent British naturalization papers, the date of their passports showing they had resided in this province only a fraction of the statutory period. It was supposed the traffic in fraudulent papers had been broken up when the commissions of several notaries connected with the practice were canceled by the government some months ago.