East Oregonian.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1903.

STAMPEDE TO ALASKA

CROWDS LEAVING SOUND FOR TANANA RIVER.

The Biggest Rush Since the Days of Nome Now On to the Land of Golden Promise—Miners Getting Out $5 to the Pan.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 27.—There is in this city the biggest stampede to the north since the days of Nome. The next steamer to Skagway will carry a crowd of Tacomans as well as men from other localities, all bound for the new strike on the Tanana. C. E. Taylor, connected with the trasportation deparment of the White Pass & Yukon, left Tuesday evening for Dawson, but with the intention of continuing on to Tanana. Mr. Taylor's presence is not required much before the opening of navigation, but the glowing accounts of the new strike were last week supplemented by a communication from John Scott, cashier of the White Pass Company, at Dawson. Mr. Scott is known for a conservative man, and opposed to the stampede excitement which periodically sway those northern camps. Thus his information to Mr. Taylor has resulted in the shortening of Mr. Taylor's stay in Tacoma and a rush to the new diggings. Says Mr. Scott in part:

Like the Klondike.

"I have examined into the truth of the exciting rumors pouring back into Dawson from the crowds who have left there already, and at last am forced to the opinion that this is genuine in every particular, and gold is being taken from the ground as it was the first winter after the discovery of the Klondike. I doubt no longer. Come in as quickly as you can and go there in the interests of us both. For my part I cannot get away. Pat Dickson writes 'Rampart is deserted. All the inhabitants are here. I have just been panning on Chenoa creek. Across a face of 600 feet on Mike Dundan's claim the gravel runs a dollar to the bucket, and as high as I could reach it.'

"Chenoa, Pedro and 13 other creeks head in a dome like the one back of Dawson, from which all the streams seem to get their gold. It is in the foothills about 75 miles from the mountains proper. Elmer R. Brady, the attorney, writes that while the crowd this winter arrived late, there will be enough gold washed out in the spring to set the coast afire again.

Circle is Deserted.

"He says: 'All of Circle City is now on the ground, and new arrivals are pouring in. A town is springing up at the mouth of Pedro. Provisions are selling high, and in many cases are being paid for by gold taken from the gravel in pans—just as was the case in Eldorado in 1897. All the miners who have holes down to bedrock have gold to buy with and to gamble with. Flour is $50 a sack, and bacon a dollar a pound. Great excitement and the greatest confidence that the best mines have been struck since Eldorado.' Tom Raney has written Dick Lowe's agent here that many pans show several dollars. Some of the richer creeks are but four feet to bedrock, and the miners are having difficulty trying to work them in winter open. Yet by panning in their cabins at night they are able to pay all expenses."

C. F. Collins registered at the Tourist yesterday, has departed with a party of six for the Tanana. Mr. Collins left the scene of the strike six weeks ago coming out on business of importance, and is leaving with a great buch of powers of attorney from Tacoma citizens to be used in staking claims. Said Mr. Collins:

Powers of Attorney.

"Yes, I am taking in a party and powers of attorney, though I did not propose to advertise that fact at all. I haven't much to say for publication. The fact is when I left there six weeks ago there were not more than 100 men in all that section. We had found what was proved to be a good ground, and it was not proposed to create any excitement until we had got in with powers of attorney to take up what we had discovered. No, we did not consider this as 'hogging' it. Simply availing ourselves of the fruits of discovery, that's all. It is too late now to keep it secret, though. On my way out I met scores of people rushing in from every direction as a result of the story spread abroad by a Jap whom we had neglected to bind not to tell. When he first told his story in Dawson and organized a party of Japs to go back with him, his story got into the papers. It was straight enough, but the miners of Dawson got together and threatened him with death unless he told the truth. Marchisi told all he knew, and undertook to guide the white miners also, and did, in fact, lead the way, which has, by this time, filled up the country."

Saw $5 to the Pan.

Mr. Collins was asked as to the values he saw for himself taken from the ground. He went down the four shafts on Pedro Creek and saw as high as $5 taken from a single pan without a blank anywhere. Better values were at that time reported from Lucille, Cheops and Chinon, while prospectors were just reaching bedrock on several other streams with excellent results. Timber is plentiful. Several routes are known into the country, by way of Birch from Circle City and Fort Yukon, by way of the mouth of the Tanana from Rampart, and by way of Forty-Mile from Dawson. Mr. Collins has received gratifying intelligence since his arrival on the coast several weeks ago. He declares it would be wise for those who have here advised him of their intentions to depart for the Tanana to consider well the step they are taking. The new discovery is many miles from civilization, and hardships lie in the way with little assistance from the excited stampeders. In a rush of this character it is every man for himself, and for the time at least there is little inclination to help a possible rival.

Mr. Collins left yesterday with his six friends.

Old Rivals Meet.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 27.—Much interest is being manifested in the intercollegiate debate between Western Reserve University and Oberlin College, which takes place here tonight. This is the third debate between the two colleges. In the previous encounters each institution has scored one, and consequently considerable interest attaches to the "rubber." The Western Reserve debaters have the affirmative and the Oberlin men the negative side of the question, "Resolved, That the United States should not retain permanent control of the Philippines."

Opening of Verdi Home.

Milan, Feb. 27.—The Asylum for Aged Musicians, built with Verdi's money, was formally opened today with nine inmates, four women and five men. There is room for 100, but not till the end of a decade will the funds be sufficient to provide for that number. An interesting feature of the institution is the museum, which contains many interesting things, including the several pianos which Verdi played on at various periods.

Daniel H. Bement, a well-known timber locator and cruiser, died suddenly on Wednesday, at Roseburg, of heart disease.

NAILS THE GRAFT

NEW MAN AT STATE HOUSE HAS EYES TO SEE.

Governor Chamberlain Vetoes Amendments to Pure Food Law—Thinks Present Provisions Are Satisfactory to the People.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 27.—Representative Olwell's bill for the amendment of the pure food law was sent to the bone yard today by Governor Chamberlain. His disapproval of the measure is expressed in the following message:

"There has been very little complaint made against the law as it now stands, but already great complaint has been made against the stringent provisions of the proposed law. So stringent is it that in the hands of an unjust and arbitrary commissioner, it could be used to the great detriment of the state.

"The present law is unquestionably comprehensive enough in its terms to protect the public against imposition, and can be enforced with much greater economy than is possible under the proposed revision.

"The latter increases the salary of the present deputy commissioner to $1200 per annum; authorizes the appointment of another at $1200 per annum; the purchase and establishment of a laboratory in Portland at $750; allows the dairy and food commissioner $250 for expenses incurred by him in attending the national association of state dairy and pure food departments held at Buffalo in 1901, and generally will be instrumental in largely increasing the expenses of enforcing the law.

"It is well to protect consumers against adulterated foods, but the law that we now have is amply sufficient for this purpose, and I can see no reason at present for the enactment of a law that meets every possible condition that may arise, and at the same time places a handicap upon industries which are being rapidly developed throughout the state.

"The establishment of a laboratory is wholly unnecessary. This work has been done by the agricultural college, and ought to be done there in future.

"If the dairy and food commissioner attends conventions in other states he ought to pay his own expenses or stay at home. If such a precendent be once established, every officer in the state, no matter what department he may be connected with, will seek at some time during his term to attend some convention each year and make the state pay his expenses therefor. Such a precedent ought not to be established, and will not with my consent."

MRS CHAMBERLAIN.

The American Wife of England's Colonial Secretary May Become a Duchess.

London, Feb. 27.—It has been seriously announced in more than one continental paper this week that on his return from South Africa Mr. Chamberlain will be raised to the peerage as Duke of Birmingham. For a variety of reasons the report is regarded here as without foundation. In the first place, it is believed that Mr. Chamberlain, like several other men prominent in public life in recent years, cares little or nothing for a title.

It is considered, however, very probable that in days to come his charming and tactful American wife will receive the high honor which was conferred first on Mrs. Disraeli, then on Mrs. W. H. Smith, and which more lately was offered and refused by Mrs. Gladstone.

The pretty notion of conferring on the wife the title which, for various reasons, a famous husband may not care to accept is said to have been first suggested by Queen Victoria herself. Should this come to pass in favor of Mrs. Joseph Chamberlain, she will be in the peculiar position of being the first native-born American who has accepted a title from a British sovereign.

Carnegie Unable to Visit Tuskegee.

Tuckegee, Ala., Feb. 27.—Owing to a slight illness that keeps him confined to the home of his sister at Cumberland Island, Andrew Carnegie was unable to visit the Tuskegee Institute today, as promised. Principal Washington trusts that he will be able to visit the institution on his way northward some time next month.

To Command Marines in Philippines.

San Francisco, Feb. 27.—Colonel Harrington, recently in command of the marine barricks at Mare Island, will sail tomorrow for the Philippines where he will assume command of the marine brigade in thos islands. His successor at Mare Island is Colonel R. L. Meade, who has been detached from the command of the marine barracks in New York.

TIMBER CRUISER'S DUPLICITY.

Locates Two Parties of Settlers on Same Timber Land.

Roseburg, Or., Feb. 27.—A few months ago 27 Easterners arrived in this city and located on timber claims 25 miles east of this city. After building their cabins, etc., according to law, they returned to their homes and have since made the necessary visits to their respective claims.

Saturday they again left this city for their claims, and arriving there, found that a party of people from Brownsville, Or., had jumped most of their claims, taking possession and breaking into their cabins. Word was sent to the remainder of the party in this city, who armed themselves and left Roseburg Sunday morning with the intention of regaining their claims by force.

The people here do not expect any serious trouble between the parties, but it is likely that if Timber Cruiser Thomas Strader is found that both parties will deal rather roughly with him, as he is the cruiser who located the last parties after having built the cabins for the Easterners. He asserts his services have never been paid for, but all the Eastern parties hold receipts for money paid for the construction of their cabins.

MANY UNEMPLOYED.

A Serious Problem Which Faces London Today—Conference Held.

London, Feb. 27.—The great problem of the unemployed, which is regarded as almost as serious in London today, as was the case 10 years ago, when riotous demonstrations were of frequent occurrence, was the subject of a national conference held today at Guild hall at the instance of the Independent Labor party. The participants included delegats from local authorities throughout the United Kingdom, and representatives of the chief workmen's and employer's organizations. The conference discussed general principles which should regulate municipal and other administrative bodies in dealing with the problem. Before adjourning preliminary steps were taken towards the formation of a permanent committee to give effect to the decisions of the conference.