

UNWRITTEN BUT CONVINCING HISTORY WHICH AMPLY JUSTIFIES THE SECESSION OF PANAMA

Merrill A. Teague, a brilliant newspaper correspondent now on the isthmus of Panama, writes as follows on the inside abuses of the Colombian government, leading up to the secession of Panama. He says:

The whole story of that revolution will never be known, for down here revolutions are nothing more than political campaigns, elections being held according to the law of the bullet and bayonet, instead of by the ballot. For the better part of the five years during which this revolution raged the writ of habeas corpus and all other processes for the legal and judicial protection of life and property were suspended, either by decrees issued by the government at Bogota or by decree of the governor of the department of Panama.

"Volunteers."

The soldiers were never known by any other name than "volunteers," but they were the most remarkable "volunteers" the world has ever known. All schemes of conscription were discounted by Alban's methods for increasing the strength of his army. His recruiting parties would go into the bush, away from the Liberal forces, and without compassion draft the services of every able-bodied male above ten years of age with whom they came in contact.

These men, whether negroes or Colombians, whether Liberals or Conservatives, whether they knew what the revolution was about or not, would be taken into custody by the recruiting parties, which were always trusted and well paid supporters of the government. No excuses availed to secure their release. They were either shackled or had their hands bound behind their backs and then shackled with ropes about their ankles, and were driven like cattle into the government camps.

These men were the "volunteers" of the Colombian army on the isthmus, and it is axiomatic here that no man ever volunteered from the isthmus for service in the army under Alban except he appeared in camp with his arms tied behind his back and a rope about his ankles. There are in existence to this day notes written by

recruiting officers to camp commanders which run like this:

"I am sending you a squad of fresh volunteers. Please return the ropes at once, as I may be able to send you another squad of volunteers tomorrow or the day after."

Government Monopolies.

By a decree issued at Bogota the sale of salt was created into a government monopoly. Every merchant in the entire domain was forbidden by law to deal in this commodity, which was vendued by agents of the government and exchanged at exorbitant prices.

The department of Panama was compelled to divert her revenues from the ordinary uses and turn them over to the federal government, by which they were used to pay the soldiers. The government monopolized the sale of matches, just as it did of salt, and in a land where the smoking of cigarettes is universal among those of either sex and of all ages the revenues derived from this source were not inconsiderable.

In a similar manner a monopoly was created on the sale of cigars, cigarettes and tobacco, one firm in this city having been granted the exclusive rights for the entire department to deal in these articles in return for the payment of \$100,000 silver annually into the treasury at Bogota. Ice, too, was a monopoly, the right to manufacture and sell that luxury of the tropics being let at a handsome figure to a concessionaire, who used his opportunity to such good advantage that, prior to the establishment of the republic, the normal price paid in Panama for ice was 12½ cents Colombian silver a pound, equivalent to 5½ cents American currency.

One of the worst outrages, however, was that perpetrated in regard to the slaughtering of beef. Under a decree issued at Bogota a monopoly for the slaughtering of beef was created and let out to a concessionaire. By the terms of this decree it was unlawful even for the owner of a steer to kill the animal and dress it for private consumption. He had to send word to the concessionaire, who dispatched an agent to superintend the killing, collect a fee and take possession of the hide. Every hide became, at the moment of the killing, the property of the Colombian government and they were carefully collected, shipped to New York and sold for the account of the federal treasury.

GRUMBLING ABOUT MUD.

Merchants Claim it is Damaging Business.

The business men of Pendleton are beginning to grumble about the mud, claiming that it is spoiling the holiday trade and causing their sales to be lighter than for some years past.

They claim it is an unusual thing for it to be so muddy just at this time, and that the frost and thaw, the snow and the rain of the past week have softened the roads until the Umatilla county farmer, unused to such a condition is averse to trusting himself to the slippery roads, and as a consequence does not come into the city to buy things for the Christmas stockings around his hearth.

One merchant claims that his sales on Saturday last were over \$100 short of what they should have been, and were at the corresponding season last year. They are all mad at the mud and long for sun and the silver.

FUNSTON APPROVES BOISE.

Says it is a Neat, Clean, Healthful Fort and Should be Maintained.

Boise City, Dec. 21.—General Frederick Funston, in command of the department of the Columbia, who is inspecting the department posts, arrived in Boise yesterday morning. He was entertained at dinner last evening and given an informal reception later.

"I find the Boise barracks in excellent condition," said General Funston. "The buildings are old, of course, but maintained very tidily, and the business management of the post reflects great credit upon the commanding officer."

"I should like to see the Boise barracks enlarged and improved; in fact, I so recommended. Being the only post in the state, I should think the citizens of Idaho might get together and try to have it put in better condition."

Who Was the Loser?

A banker on his way home found a \$10 bill, took down the number of it, put it in his pocket and went on his way rejoicing. When he reached home the butcher was there with a meat bill of \$10. The banker paid the butcher the ten he had found. The butcher in turn paid the same to the printer, and the printer to the grocery man and the grocery man to the banker. He noticed that it was the same bill which he had found and at the time noticed that it was a counterfeit. Who was the loser?—Exchange.

Olympia Beer—Olympia Beer.

The most popular brand for family use. On draught at Anton Nolte's. He also handles the bottled beer in any quantity desired.

X'mas Presents Free

Beginning Friday, Dec. 18, and continuing until Saturday Night, Dec. 26

WE WILL GIVE EACH OF OUR CUSTOMERS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT, THE VALUE OF THE PRESENT DEPENDING ON THE AMOUNT OF HIS OR HER PURCHASE.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

With every Man's Suit of Clothes a good **Hat**, worth 20 per cent of the value of the suit [with a \$10.00 Suit a \$2.00 Hat, etc.]

With every Boy's Suit of Clothes a **Hat** worth 20 per cent of value of suit.

With every Overcoat, men's or boy's, a **Pair of Gloves** worth 10 per cent value of the overcoat.

With every pair of Long Pants a **Pair of Suspenders**.

With every pair of Shoes a **Pair of Socks or Hose**.

With every Lady's Coat a **Fine Fur** worth 20 per cent of the value of the coat (with \$10.00 coat a \$2.00 fur, etc.)

With every Lady's Skirt a nice **Shirt Waist** worth 20 per cent of the value of the skirt (\$1.00 waist with \$5.00 skirt, etc.)

To every person buying \$1.00 worth or more goods not mentioned above a bottle of fine **Perfume**, or any 25c article from our toilet case.

THE FAIR

THE BEST PLACE TO TRADE

Pianos and Organs

At Bargains Extraordinary

I am back to my old stand on Main street near the bridge and have inaugurated

A GRAND HOLIDAY SALE

And extend to one and all an invitation to call and investigate my money saving offers. You'll find it no idle boast when I say that you will find this one of the great opportunities to get a Piano or Organ at a price that will work an epoch in your life's economy.

Such chances to get a Piano at such prices as we offer during this holiday sale do not come than once. Consider the fact that we handle Packard, Hardman and Fischer Pianos, the standard of excellency in piano building, and the Esiey Organ is recognized as the peer in organs.

SLAUGHTER SALE of Rugs, Art Squares, Portiers, Lace Curtains, Mats, Window Shades and Window Poles. Four Velvet Rugs, 9x12 worth \$25 and \$30 for only \$20 each.

Arabian point lace curtains from \$4.00 up. The best oil opaque shades 50 cents. Good oil opaque shades 25 cents. Large line of framed pictures almost given away

Steam dressed Feathers and Pillows. A few more Ostermoor Mattresses, best made.

Don't get confused, I am back at my old stand

JESSE FAILING

901 Main Street Near Bridge

Christmas Presents FOR ALL

For Mother

Nice felt Julietts Slippers, with fur trimmings. Black and red, \$1.25; in black, red and drab, \$1.50; in black, red and green, \$2.00. These are warm and comfortable. Jersey Leggings, best quality, \$1.00. Seven-button Over Gaiters, 50c; 10-button over gaiters, 75c. Storm Rubbers, best grade, 50c. Crocheted Slippers, all colors, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

For Father

Any of the following articles will tempt him to spend his evenings at home: A pair of those fine leather slippers, with hand turned soles, russet and black, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.25; and if he is obliged to go out in the cold world you could fit him to a pair of those warm 4-buckle arctics at \$2.25, or a pair of cloth top storm rubbers for \$1.00.

For Sisters

Best Jersey leggings, 75c and 85c; felt Julietts, red, fur-trimmed, \$1.00 and \$1.25; school gaiters, 2-buckle, 90c and \$1.00. Patent calf, welt sole shoes, sizes 8½ to 11, \$2.50; 11½ to 2, \$2.75; 2½ to 5½, \$3.00. Crocheted slippers, all colors, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

For Grandma

Nice warm felt slippers, wide toes, from \$1.25 to \$2.00. Grandma's flannel lined felt lace shoes, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Also a common sense kid slipper, \$1.50.

For Grandpa

Get him a pair of those nice warm buckled arctics—they'll cost you \$1.25; or a pair of felt slippers at \$1.50 and \$1.75.

For Any Member of Family

We have shoes, and our line is so complete that the correct thing for each one can be found.

For the Boys

Nice kid slippers, sizes 11 to 2, \$1.75; 2½ to 5½, \$1.25; leather leggings, \$1.25.

For the Baby

We have those cute tiny little shoes, with patent vamp in pink, blue, white and drab tops.

It will be a pleasure for us to help you make your Christmas selection.

Dindinger, Wilson & Co.

Good Shoes Cheap