

Theodore Henry Durrant has been hanged, but contrary to expectation, he protested his innocence to the last. This naturally causes the public to wonder if he was guilty. Ordinarily, when a man knows that he is to meet death, and that his career on earth is about to close, he reveals the secrets locked in his heart, and if he is guilty of crime he seeks to relieve his conscience by making a clean breast of his guilt. This Durrant did not do. On the contrary, he insisted to the last that his hands were not stained with the blood of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams.

The evidence on which Durrant was convicted was all circumstantial, and though the chain of circumstances was very damaging to Durrant, there was nothing submitted that directly connected him with the crime. A Miss Blanche Lamont, a Miss Minnie Williams disappeared ten days later their mutilated bodies were found in Emanuel church. Circumstances pointed to Durrant as being the party who killed them, and the circumstances were such that he could not deny. He was therefore convicted not on the strength of the evidence produced by the prosecution, but upon the weakness of his defense. An awful crime had been committed; public sentiment demanded that some one should suffer. Durrant was the most convenient victim and he was convicted.

Finally he was faced with death, every resource to save him had been exhausted and he came face to face with the stern realization that his life must end. Had he been a natural human being, possessed of the natural faculties of a sane being, he would have known that denial of his crime could no longer be of avail, and had he been really guilty, it is but reasonable to conclude that he would have made a clear confession of his guilt. Taking all things into consideration, it would seem that an innocent man has been convicted of an awful crime, and that a guileless man has been executed.

JURY REFORM.

A move is on foot in New York for a reform of the jury system in that state. It is begun in the right way, and by collecting all laws governing the system, bringing out in this way both the good and the bad features of the various laws, and when the work is completed it is expected a comprehensive measure may be submitted to the New York legislature with all the incongruities eliminated.

The two most objectionable features of the jury system in most states are that they do not provide the best jurymen and that the power to compel the attendance of anyone as a juror often works a most serious inconvenience upon the party summoned. Both evils may be easily, in a broad way, and in a reasonable manner, remedied. The requirements of the law as to jury duty—not the mere service on a jury, which is not too onerous for many competent and intelligent men, but the enforced tedious and costly attendance when no actual duty is required—are needlessly vexatious and practically oppressive. This fact induces the class that would make good jurymen to evade the service if they can—and it is not difficult to encourage those to whom these requirements make no difference. This latter evil, however, is not so objectionable as the wide latitude of absence that are allowed in examining jurors as to their qualifications to sit in the trial of cases. Under the ruling of most courts the most competent jurors are often excused because they have some knowledge of a case or have expressed an opinion regarding it. With the present system of dispensing news, the particulars of nearly all prominent cases are discussed long before they are brought to trial, and the ordinary man who reads usually forms an opinion as to its merits, still if he is reasonable, and competent to sit as a juror, he would in most cases, when called to examine cases intelligently and justly than the man who has never heard of the case to be tried, or the man who has no opinions. Prejudice either for or against the parties interested should be the only objection that could be sustained in the examination of jurors.

PASSING OF THE BULLY.

There may or may not be truth in the story that England, Japan and Russia have arrived at an agreement regarding Korea, but it is a reflection on the position of England that such a story should be told. There is nothing more remarkable in history than Great Britain's self-abandonment of her attitude as the world's bully. Time was when she was not thought capable of trades and agreements with Russia, when she yielded nothing to explorations or treaties, when it seemed to her indignity to compromise in her robberies of weaker powers. In an earlier age England would have asked neither assistance nor assistance and would have repulsed Russian and Japanese interference in her disposal of Korea. But today her statesmen seemed to be wedded to the peace-at-any-price idea, and her people appear to relish the humiliation that she brings upon herself every time she undertakes to engage in a land grabbing operation without having previously sought the counsel and obtained the consent of her once-despised European neighbors.

OUR SOUVENIR EDITION.

It is with a feeling of pride that we present to the readers of the Times-Mountaineer our 1898 souvenir edition. It has been printed at a considerable outlay of both time and money, though we feel that it is an expenditure that is justified, for no section of the world is more in need of being presented to the world in true light than Wasco and Sherman counties. Their resources are not being developed, and their worth is but little known beyond their immediate territory. It is hoped that the souvenir edition of the Times-Mountaineer will put them in true light before the world, for we feel certain that the people of the two counties will send them broadcast throughout the land. We intend circulating this edition throughout Wasco, Sherman, Crook and Grant counties, Oregon, and Klamath counties, Washington.

PREPARING FOR ACTION.

Last Saturday the democratic state central committee met in Portland, and selected Wednesday, March 23, as the date of the state convention, designating Portland as the place of meeting, that being the time and place selected by the silver-republicans for the holding of the state convention. The convention will consist of 208 delegates, based on a representative at large from each county and one for each 200 voters or major fraction thereof for W. J. Bryan at the national election.

GETTING TOGETHER.

The efforts that have thus far been made toward a union of the silver forces in Oregon have proven very satisfactory. The move was started in the right direction and showed result in the presenting of a solid front in the coming campaign. A mass meeting was held in Portland last week attended by representatives of the populist, democratic and silver republican parties. At this meeting resolutions were adopted

WE LEARN BY EXPERIENCE.

Many residents of The Dalles look upon the extension of the Columbia Southern railroad into the interior as a calamity, and a threat from which the city will not soon recover. And to some extent it will, though the damage need not be permanent. That the building of this road further south than its present terminus will extract from The Dalles much of the wheat and wool trade that now comes here cannot be disputed, for people will not make long hauls by wagon over steep and difficult wagon roads when they can reach a railroad by shorter hauls, but this does not necessarily mean that the trade of the interior will be taken away from The Dalles. Means can be adopted to cause almost all the trade of the inland Empire to center here.

The Dalles presents facilities for manufacturing and doing a general jobbing business that are not possessed by another city in the state, not even Portland. It has a good freight rate on any other point on the coast; it has low rents on business buildings; it can be adopted to cause almost all the trade of the inland Empire to center here.

MONEY LOCKED UP.

State Treasurer Meacham has made his semi-annual report, showing the balance of the state treasury, and revealing the balance of unexpended funds to be \$867,763.23. This neat little sum has been collected off the taxpayers of Oregon, and locked up in the hands of the state treasurer (presumably at least) while the state is paying interest on very nearly that amount of outstanding warrants for current expenses. This is one of the legacies left by the was-to-have-been legislature of 1897. Had the legislature organized the money collected for state taxes would have been returned through the channels of trade to the people, where it would today be performing its ordinary functions, and the interest charges would be stopped. That the money is not actually locked up in the vaults of the state treasurer, or entrusted to anybody's hands, for Mr. Meacham is not the kind of a man to allow money to lay around idle, but so far as the taxpayers are concerned it is inactive, since they will have to pay accumulated interest in time.

COLUMBIA IMPROVEMENTS.

At the present session of congress no doubt the matter of improving the Columbia river between The Dalles and Celilo will come up for consideration, and since the war department has forsaken its chimerical idea of a ship railway, the next step will be for canal locks, which appears to be the only logical method for overcoming the obstacles to navigation, for such appliances have proven practicable and comparatively inexpensive to operate, while ship railways are largely unworkable, and if successful, would always be extremely expensive to operate, whereas canal locks, when once constructed are operated at a comparative small cost.

A VICTORY FOR BOSSISM.

The senatorial contest is over in Ohio, and Marcus A. Hanna is returned to the senate from that state, both for the long and the short term. Under all ethics of politics, Hanna was entitled to the election. The campaign in Ohio last fall was made with but a single object in view—the election of Hanna to the senate. His candidacy was endorsed by the state and county conventions. The republican party of the state made a specialty of nominating candidates to the legislature who would support him first, last and all the time. The issue was Hanna regardless of the interests of the state or the taxpayers.

PEACE REIGNS SUPREME.

War clouds scurry up and then scurry away like grim specters, says the Walla Walla Statesman, but the events of the present decade have proven that the ephemeral. Two weeks ago it was thought that the dogs of war would be let loose to fight over the Chinese border. They all ran together with unwarranted haste, but the moment they saw their shadows in the water every one got afraid and now they say there has been a peaceful settlement of the difficulty. It is hardly probable that enlightened civilized nations will again engage in battle when the matter of difficulties can be easily and satisfactorily settled by arbitration. Of course war might be precipitated at any time by the rubbing of insult, but the nations are gradually awaking to the fact that a conflict comes very dear to a people and therefore are very slow to engage therein. Peace is to be desired and can generally be maintained, if the heads of governments keep cool.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FINANCIAL LOGIC OF ECONOMISTS AND THAT OF THE COMMON SENSE OF THE PEOPLE.

The difference between the financial logic of economists and that of the common sense of the people is that the former is based on the theory of supply and demand, and the latter is based on the theory of justice. The economist would argue that if a man has a piece of land and another man has a piece of land, and the first man's land is more fertile than the second man's, it is only fair that the first man should receive a larger share of the produce. The common sense of the people would argue that if a man has a piece of land and another man has a piece of land, and the first man's land is more fertile than the second man's, it is only fair that the first man should receive a larger share of the produce.

AMERICAN COMPETITION.

LONDON, Jan. 11.—Right Hon. James Price, radical, speaking at Wolverhampton on foreign competition, dwelt especially upon that of the United States. Mr. Price, after pointing out that electrical appliances and articles were produced in the United States "enormously cheaper" than in England, said: "It is a pity we should allow this, while, if as is not unlikely, protection in America should be applied to such advanced lengths as to be overthrown, we would have to face a more severe competition."

HILL STILL A DEMOCRAT.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Journal, in an article discussing the probability of former Senator David B. Hill seeking to regain the democratic leadership in this state, quotes Mr. Hill as having said in New York in the past week: "It is true that I took no active part in the presidential canvass of 1896, but I voted the straight democratic ticket, just the same."

A BRITISH VIEW OF IT.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—The morning Post, in an editorial on the dispatch from the Times' correspondent at New York, says: "President McKinley is drifting helplessly and trying to satisfy everybody. The result is chaos in the republican camp and the rapid growth of Bryanism in the mountains. The Dingley tariff policy has proved a ridiculous failure."

WANTS FIVE MILLION.

Dr. Herz Asks the Government to Put in a Claim Against France. WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Counsel for Dr. Cornelius Herz has presented to the state department a claim for indemnity in the sum of \$5,000,000 against the French government for an alleged illegal attempt to persecute Dr. Herz. The case is remarkable in many ways, and it is said at the department that it is without precedent.

Important Fact.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—It was announced in Wall street today that the Oregon Pacific reorganization committee had obtained the controlling interest in the Oregon Short Line. Also it is said through this they would soon take control also of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company.

A FARE FABRICATION.

SOUTH MCALESTER, L. T., Jan. 12.—The whole story of the Indian uprising in a false. Today all acquainted with the situation gave it as their opinion that the story was a pure fabrication, originating with a railroad agent at Earlsborough.

Fusion in Minnesota.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 12.—The fusion of all the silver elements in Minnesota is officially endorsed by the state central committee. Bryan, in his speech, concluded at 2 A. M., devoted considerable time to endorsing the fusion idea.

The Nomination Went Over.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The nomination of Attorney-General McKenna to the justice of the supreme court was reported to the senate today, and Hon. sought to have it acted upon. Objection was made, however, and it went over.

Walker Wants More Money.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Rear Admiral Walker, president of the Nicaragua canal commission, writes to the secretary of the treasury under date of December 29, recommending an additional appropriation of \$100,000 for the use of the dominion.

A Fullmer Captured.

HAVANA, Jan. 12.—The Spanish gunboat Algarra has captured off the coast of Cuba, near Manzanillo, a fishing smack from Jamaica having on board a cargo of war material, medicines and clothing.

For Sale.

A choice stock ranch of 300 acres all deeded, 300 acres under good three-wire fence, with plenty of wood and water, about 50 acres in cultivation, and eight acres in orchard and vineyard, two barns and some outbuildings. This ranch is equally as good for dairying as for raising stock. Located 44 miles from The Dalles on Chenoweth creek Price \$2200. Apply at this office or at the farm of J. A. FLECK.

The Success of Dr. Lannberg.

The success of Dr. Lannberg, the eye specialist, in the treatment of business and a thorough knowledge of the eye. Persons with defective eyesight should not fail to call at his office, since the delicate nature and many eyes examined free of charge.

Choosing a Husband.

George Eliot says that almost any woman can marry any man she makes up her mind to. Whether this is truth or fiction, certainly a husband often than not chooses his wife on a whim. Men are not unselfish enough to willingly assume the duties of a husband, unless they are attracted by a woman's beauty, and she is as possible in a modest, womanly way to give the man a sense of the benefits of a good marriage.

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FAMINE UP NORTH.

Circle City is Now the Seat of Danger. WANTS BIG DAMAGES. Dr. Herz Demands Five Million Dollars From the French Government.

Gold Comes to San Francisco from Australia.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—The steamship Alameda, from Australia, which is due here Jan. 13, carries in her strong box nearly 300,000 gold sovereigns, equal in amount to \$1,000,000, sent to the Anglo-California bank of this city. The remittance added to previous ones makes the total gold received during the present season from the same source \$12,500,000, a much larger amount than has ever come from Australia as a balance of trade in California's favor during the same period of time. Shippers of grain, lumber and canned goods expect a large trade with Australia the coming season.

SKATTELL, JAN. 11.—A 1-1/2 year from Dawson, and Dec-9-9 says: Advice from Circle City as late as November 12 state that the steamer P. D. Weara a D. Bolla or their way down were frozen in there. The steamer Victoria, from the mouth of the river, is also there. Two or three hundred people, who started from Dawson for Circle City, are stranded there, but most of them procured small boats and continued on their way to Fort Yukon, which is 90 miles distant. Circle City, owing to the unexpected increase in population, was almost devoid of grain. Of the 127 residents of that camp, nearly all were calculating on sending to Fort Yukon for supplies. Briefly, were it not for the supplies at Fort Yukon, which to a certain extent are an unknown quantity, the situation at Circle City would be far more desperate than at Dawson.

ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES.

COMFORTS.

The greatest value ever offered—A good heavy comfort for..... 50c Better grades proportionately reduced.

CHILDREN'S HOSE.

All Wool, sizes 5, 5 1/2, 6, 6 1/2..... 16c These are our regular 25c goods.

LADIES UNDERWEAR.

A SEASONABLE OFFER—Our \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 values for..... 75c This is one of the best offers of the year.

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS.

Our Regular \$10.00 values for..... \$7.85 Our Regular \$13.50 values for..... 9.65 Our Regular \$15.00 values for..... 11.35 We have these Overcoats and Ulsters in Frieze and plain goods, either Grey, Brown or Black in color.

PEASE & MAYS.

Dr. Herz Asks the Government to Put in a Claim Against France.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Counsel for Dr. Cornelius Herz has presented to the state department a claim for indemnity in the sum of \$5,000,000 against the French government for an alleged illegal attempt to persecute Dr. Herz. The case is remarkable in many ways, and it is said at the department that it is without precedent.

The facts set forth in this scientific French as an electrical expert and physicist, although born in France to French parents, is an American citizen. When he was about three years old his parents came to New York and acquired American citizenship. Young Herz was educated in the free academy of New York, and received two degrees. He rounded this out by courses in European universities.

At the age of 16 he was a lieutenant in the United States army. In later years he held posts of responsibility and honor in Chicago, San Francisco and New York. He married an American woman, and when his children were born in Paris he caused them to be registered as Americans at the consulate.

His claims for damages relate to his arrest at Bournemouth, England, in 1893, when the French tried to extradite him under charges of fraud and embezzlement, growing out of the Panama canal scandal. Owing to Herz's illness, the case dragged until May, 1896, when a British magistrate decided that the charges were utterly invalid.

The French government had instituted numerous proceedings against him in France, which he had successfully repelled. He was arrested in Paris by the French government, and he demands that the State department shall prefer a claim against the French government in full reparation.

A City Laid in Ruins. FORT SMITH, Ark., Jan. 12.—One of the most terrible storms that ever struck this section of the country tore through this city shortly before midnight last night. Everything is in confusion as the result of the great destruction of life and property, and as yet it is impossible to give anything like an accurate estimate of the number killed or injured. Fifty persons were killed, and as many missing. Homes have been wrecked by the score and hundreds of people are without food or shelter.

Two of the largest houses of worship in the city, the Baptist and Central Methodist churches, were completely destroyed. The Brownsome church was also wrecked, and the tower and the roof of the High school building was blown off.

The storm struck the city in the southwestern sector, at a point where the rivers come together and near the old fort. From there it spread out over the city, dipping down and scattering destruction everywhere. There is a rise in the city toward the east to meet the hills on that side, and most of the damage to property and loss of life was through that section.

After leaving Fort Smith, the tornado veered over and touched at Alameda, six miles northeast, causing considerable damage, but whether there is any loss of life is not known.

The debris of many buildings in the lodging-house district caught fire and those unfortunate who were not at once extricated alive perished miserably by being burned to death.

Many people in the outside districts were killed in the crash of falling residences. All the nurses and doctors that can be pressed into service are being utilized, and there are scores of temporary hospitals throughout the city. The morgue is taxed to its utmost capacity, and additional bodies are being brought in every few minutes.

Although the scene at the place is sickening and horrible. A heavy rain followed the terrible tornado and it was probably 20 minutes before the city awoke to the fact that it had been visited by a calamity. The fire department was called out and in less than 30 minutes the streets were crowded with people and willing hands were ready to render all the able-bodied emergency.

The scene is one of the most appalling and destructive ever witnessed in this section of the southwest.

HANNA GOT THREE.

He Had a Majority of One on Joint Roll Call in the Ohio Legislature. COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 12.—The bitter senatorial contest is ended, and Marcus A. Hanna has been elected senator for both the long and short terms, by the senate and house of the state legislature in joint session assembled. Senator Hanna received 73 votes, a majority of one over the combined strength of the opposition. McKieson received 69 votes for the short term, and 70 for the long term. One representative, Cramer, was absent during the voting, on account of illness.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

Senate Approved For the Safety of Americans in Cuba. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Senator Cannon, of Utah, today presented the following resolution to the senate, and it was adopted: "Resolved, That the president is requested, if it is his opinion it is not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit to the senate at his earliest convenience a statement showing what measures are in force by this government in connection thereto, to protect the lives, liberty and property of American citizens now dwelling in Cuba."

Among the other measures reported to the senate today was the pension appropriation bill. It was placed on the calendar.

At the close of the morning business the immigration bill, the unfinished Louisiana, was recognized for a speech in opposition to the measure.

The house today entered upon the consideration of the agricultural bill. The bill carries \$3,332,402, being \$135,500 in excess of the amount for the current year. Walworth, republican of New York, chairman of the agricultural committee, explained that the

INCREASES WERE DUE TO A CONSTANTLY GROWING DEMAND FOR INSPECTIONS OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT.

Under the latitude allowed for Missouri, Williams, democrat at St. Louis, submitted an extended and somewhat lengthy report on the establishment of the postal savings bank system.

ALL QUIET AT HAVANA.

Riotous Disturbance Quelled at Least Temporarily. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Consul-General Leo reports to the state department from Havana, under date of yesterday, the facts connected with the riotous disturbance. While officials do not divulge the text of the dispatch, it is said it corroborates generally the newspaper reports on the subject. According to Leo's report the disturbance has been quiet for the time, but he was apprehensive of another outbreak at any moment.

Dr. Leo did not ask to have a warship sent to Havana, and in the opinion of officials that is sufficient reason for the assumption that there is no occasion for sending one.

Officials are evidently not apprehensive of any trouble in the immediate future that will require the forcible intervention of our government.

The disquieting feature of the situation is the horrible condition of the poor in Cuba. According to Leo's advice, no less than 20,000 people on various contiguous thereto, to protect the lives, liberty and property of American citizens now dwelling in Cuba."

The naval authorities maintain their serenity, notwithstanding the rumors of radical action. Although there is no expectation at the navy department of any trouble just now, still in case it should occur the navy is more strongly represented in Florida and West Indian waters than it has been in the past ten years.

FROM OCEAN TO OCEAN.

Vanderbilt in Control of a Through Transcontinental Line. The New York Central is the first road in the combination from this point. At Buffalo it connects with the Lake Shore for Chicago, from which point the chain is carried on to Omaha by the Chicago & Northwest, and from there the Union Pacific, the Oregon Short Line and the O.R. & N. Co. let the line to Portland and Puget sound. All these roads are Vanderbilt roads, and the total mileage is 13,420.

Alaska Route to Co. TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 12.—The rush to Alaska from this port has begun in earnest. The wharves are crowded with people today to see friends off on the steamer City of Seattle for the land of gold. The passenger and freight accommodations are not sufficient, although the boat is allowed to carry 800 people. The amount of freight permitted each passenger is limited to 100 pounds. Nearly vessels will leave for Alaska regularly from now on, all accommodations are secured in advance for two months ahead. Several steamers are now building here and others are being bought for the Alaska route as fast as possible. The city is rapidly filling with strangers, all stores are occupied, and several additional hotels are being fitted up to accommodate the rush.

San Francisco BEER HALL.

F. LEMKE, Proprietor. Fine Wines, Liquors, and Cigars. ALL KINDS OF BOTTLED BEER. Columbia Brewery Beer on Draught. Second Street, bet. Court and Union.

Claim Chandler served free every day except Sunday, from 11 a. m. till 1 p. m.

New York, Jan. 13.—The control of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company having been obtained by the republican committee of the Union

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