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Times-Mountaineer.

SATURDAY..... JANUARY 29 1897

TIME TO ACT.

The Times-Mountaineer has laid before its readers in The Dalles a suggestion with reference to the threatened encroachment upon our commercial interests by the building of the Columbia Southern railroad into the sections south of here, which it believes is both practicable and feasible, and would urge that it be carefully considered by every property owner in the city. This paper is not an alarmist and does not seek to make mountains out of molehills, but it hopes to present facts as they exist, and give warning when danger threatens.

Although the Dalles merits the confidence of the farmers throughout that section lying south and east of here, and has long enjoyed their trade, through the extra facilities it has had for handling their business, it cannot hope to retain their patronage when more convenient facilities are offered them. People will not make long and tedious journeys over mountainous roads by wagon in order to bring their products here, when there is a railroad at their very doors, just because they like us. Friendship cuts but little figure in business, at least it does not supersede personal interest, hence our former patrons will desert us whenever offered more convenient facilities elsewhere These will certainly be offered the people of Crook, those residing in the northern part of Grant and the southern part of Wasco counties just as soon as the Columbia Southern road is extended to Cross Hollows, which is its objective point. All the people of those sections can then reach the railway over comparatively easy roads and without paying toll. They can haul larger loads and can reach their shipping point in shorter time, hence it will not be to their interest to come to The Dalles.

These are facts that none of us can deny, however much we would like to convince ourselves they are not true. Then it rests with us to meet the conditions as best we can and put forth an effort to overcome the threatened danger. Shall we undertake the task alone or shall we invite the assistance of others?

Possibly a large share of the trade from the south could be retained by the building of an independent line of road from The Dalles to Deschutes and up that stream, but in that case the independent line would always have as a competitor the Columbia Southern, which would in all probability get at least half the traffic, and whatever it got would go to Biggs where that road makes connection with the O. R. & N. But if the Columbia Southern could be induced to unite with The Dalles, and build a circuitous line of road from its present terminus, through Sherman county and around through to Bakeoven and Antelope countries, finally reaching The Dalles, all the trade south of here could be controlled and would finally reach this place, where very advantageous rates can be made for further transportation either by river or rail. If we are going to do anything for ourselves and for The Dalles now is the time to act. Now is when we should begin casting about and forming combinations that will make us masters of the situation in the future.

THE SENATE AND SILVER

The final vote on Teller's resolution was had in the United States senate last Friday and resulted in a very decided vote in favor of the white metal, it being 47 for and 32 against the resolution, ten senators being paired. Eleven republicans voted for the resolution and only one democrat, Coffery of Louisiana, voted against it. The resolution was:

"That all the bonds of the United States, issued or authorized to be issued under the said acts of congress hereinbefore recited, are payable, principal and interest, at the option of the government of the United States, in silver dollars of the coinage of the United States, containing 412½ grains each of standard silver, and that to restore to its coinage such silver coins as a legal tender in payment of said bonds, principal and interest, is not in violation of the public faith nor in derogation of the rights of the public creditors."

The fight against the resolution was persistent and bitter. Efforts were made to so amend it as to read that the bonds of the government shall be paid, principal and interest, in gold, but it was promptly voted down, and numerous other amendments were offered that pledged the nation to the single gold standard, but each met a fate that showed in unmistakable terms that the senate is composed largely of members who are bimetalists, regardless of party affiliation. Even the republican veteran, Chandler of New Hampshire, cast his vote with the friends of silver and registered his vote against the gold standard.

That resolution will not meet the approval of the house is a foregone conclusion. Speeker Reed has his little manikans too well in hand to allow them to go against the administration and pass the resolution. However the passage of the resolution by the senate will be notice to the world that at least one branch of congress is not wedded to the gold standard, and that the creditors of the nation are not long to be allowed to dictate as to what kind of money their bonds shall be paid in. The passage of the resolution by the senate can have no present beneficial effect, but it will bear good fruits in the future.

HIS POSITION IS PLAIN.

At last we know what position President McKinley will take on the financial question. While hob-nobbing with National Association of the Manufacturers of the United States at New York last week, he spoke in terms so plain that anyone can understand. He has deserted his former views of bimetalism, and in unmistakable words announced to the world that the policy of his administration will be in the furtherance of the gold standard. Further, he takes the position that the debtor, no matter what the contract, must pay his obligations in the highest priced money obtainable at the time the debt falls due. In short, if his contract should call for coin, or even sivler, he is morally bound to pay in gold if the creditor demands it. Here are the paincipies the president lays down:

"There is another duty resting upon the national government—to coin money and regulate the value thereof. This duty requires that our government shall regulate the value of its money by the highest standard of commercial honesty and national honor. The money of the United States is, and must forever be, unquestioned and unassailable. If doubts remain, they must be removed. If weak places are discovered, they must be strengthened. Nothing should ever tempt us—nothing will ever tempt us—to scale down the sacred debt of the nation through a legal technicality. Whatever may be the language of the contract, the United States will discharge all its obligations in the currency recognized as the best throughout the civilized world at the time of payment."

Plainly, President McKinley would discriminate in favor of the bondholder. Regardless of the wording of the bond, he would say that every other currency of the nation should be discredited when settling with the favored class, and this "sacred debt" should be paid in gold, notwithstanding the fact that the government has no means to force gold payments of obligations due it. This principle when stripped of its superfluous verbage means simply this: That there must be a continuance of the interest bearing debt of the nation. Not having any other means of securing gold but the sale of bonds, whenever the interest or principle of the bonded debt comes due, no matter how much other money it may have in its treasury, it must go into the markets and buy gold on its credit (interest bearing bonds) to meet the demands of the bond-holders. If his policy is pursued, his administration will go down to history renowned for its servitude to Wall street, and the national interest bearing debt will be fastened upon the people till time shall end.

RAILROAD POSSIBILITIES.

There seems to be little question but A. B. Hammond has negotiated for the floating of $10,000,000 bonds of the Corvallis Eastern railway (the old Oregon Pacific,) and that the money will be expended in extending the road eastward from its present terminus in the Cascade mountains, and on through Eastern Oregon to a connection that will make of it a transcontinental line. Should this road be thus extended it will give to the central and southern part of Eastern Oregon an outlet that it has long needed. But it will not be an outlet to any point in Oregon, for everything that goes west over this line seeking market will go to Yaquina bay, thence to San Francisco, while the wool and stock destined for eastern markets will go directly over the road to their destination. As a result San Francisco and New York will to a considerable extent become the jobbing towns for the Inland Empire. Merchants will naturally buy in the cities where the products of their patrons are sold, hence Portland will be a heavy loser in the wholesale trade. The Dalles, too, is threatened with loss of trade on account of the proposed road.

Here then is a proposition on which The Dalles and Portland can join hands, for they are both interested in the trade of the central part of Oregon, and it is to their interest to act jointly in creating means by which it can be retained. At present the most feasible plan for accomplishing this end is the construction of a railroad from The Dalles leading south into the country which the Corvallis Eastern proposes to tap; and sdould this be determined upon, the question arises if it is most advisable to establish an idnependent line or form a combination with some line that is already building in that direction. These are matters well worthy of the attention of both The Dalles and Portland.

PROTECT THE FRUIT.

Elsewhere in this issue is published an order from Commissioner Emile Schano to fruit growers to spray their trees for San Jose scale, which is timely. Orchards throughout the district are becoming infested with scale, and it will require the united effort of all to eradicate or even check the spread of the pest. The orchardist who cares for his trees can accomplish but little in the way of keeping down pests so long as his neighbor neglects to spray, hence it is necessary that all orchards be treated systematically and very nearly at the same time.

The fruit industry of this district is becoming of too great importance to allow it now to be ruined through neglect. Wasco county fruit has an excellent reputation in the markets abroad, but if diseased fruit is permitted to be shipped, this reputation will soon be gone. Half a car load of bad fruit sent out in a season can injure the sale of an entire crop. Buyers abroad getting a few boxes of apples or pears affected with scale will condemn all fruit coming from this section. It is therefore most important that fruit growers exercise the greatest care in keeping down pests in their orchards. If the diseases cannot be checked it is better that the trees be cut down and burned than to permit them to grow and infect other orchards.

Many plans have been suggested whereby a union of the democrats, populists and silver republicans can be effected in the state, whereby an unbroken union can be made, but the best and most effectual plan that we have yet seen presented is that suggested by Mr. M. J. Anderson in today's paper. The plan is such that all parties would have full voice in the convention and at the same time would have the benefit of the counsel of all parties interested. A ticket thus nominated would certainly be composed of such men as would be acceptable public servants, and would appeal strongly to the people. If any one else has a better plan to suggest we would be pleased to hear from them.

The Los Angeles Daily Times has issued a very creditable annual edition of 86 pages that are replete with information regarding the resources of Southern California. The publication displays not only the enterprise of the Times, but also of the business interests of Los Angeles, which by the way is one of the most thrifty cities on the Pacific coast. The publication will be of great benefit in advertising the "Italy of America."

FACTS ABOUT THE YUKON.

"The Year Book of British Columbia," which has just appeared, contains much information regarding the Canadian Yukon. The manual is really a digest of all official reports, and of all facts collected personally by trustworthy travelers regarding the whole fascinating region of which Klondike is at present the center of attraction. The vastness of the gold-bearing area of the Yukon staggers imagination.

"The Yukon district comprises an area approximately 192,000 square miles, within Canadian territory, over 150,000 square miles of which is included in the watershed of the Yukon, or almost equal to that of France and greater than that of the United Kingdom by over 70,000 square miles."

The gold field lies in the same mineral belt as California, and is a continuation of Cariboo and Cassiar, famous for their gold diggings many years ago. In an area that is from 550 to 600 miles long and from 10 to 50 miles wide, embracing about 100,000 square miles, rich gold prospects have actually been found. When it is considered that Klondike is the only part of this territory which has been exploited, one is prepared to expect that the Yukon will prove the largest and richest gold field ever known. During 1897 some $3,500,000 was taken from the creeks near Dawson City.

"Every dollar in gold lifted by the ordinary process of mining costs a dollar to produce it. This will be found particularly true of the wealth of the Yukon. Of the 10,000 people who started this year, $500 each by way of expenditure would be a moderate estimate indeed. That represents in itself $5,000,000, as against $3,500,000 mined, and in reality $10,000,000 would be nearer the total of the expenditure in reaching the Yukon alone. Again, if we except the estimate that at least 100,000 persons will start for the mines in 1898, at an average $500 the amount expended will be $50,000,000 for one year. While the expenditure for one year reaches that enormous total, the gold that will be taken out of the creeks of the Klondike during the next 10 years is estimated at $65,000,000 or $75,000,000. The individual finds and clean-ups range from $5,000 to $150,000. Pans of gold have averaged all the way from $1.50 to $500. In the rich diggings, however, $10 and $12 a pan was a fair average. From the evidence of Mr. Ogilvie, Dr. Dawson and many others more or less competent to form an opinion, it is undoubted that the whole Yukon territory is rich in precious minerals, and that it will take many years before development has reached it height."

A description of several of the 278 claims along Bonanza and Eldorado creeks is given, in which it is stated that 100 of those on Bonanza will yield $30,000,000, that claim No. 30 will yield not less than $1,000 by itself, and 10 other claims will yield more than $100,000 each. Needless to say all the ground within miles of Dawson City has been staked off.

How a country like the Yukon can support and successfully accommodate the thousands of people who are about to rush in, is a question which cannot be easily determined; but a note of warning is necessary as to the capabilities of a country wholly undeveloped to maintain for any length of time from 100,000 to 500,000 persons, whose livelihood must depend upon mining, and, in the absence of success in that, on the resources which they carry with them. The year book describes the severe climate of the whole region, sets forth the terrible hardships of prospecting a country where the bedrock is under a crust of moss and frozen sand, tells what mining under these forbidding conditions entails for the workers, of whom nine out of ten need not expect success, and gives some idea of the risk to health and life from cheerless, comfortless existence in a mining "shack."

The Canadian government has just received a report from Major Walsh, written on Christmas eve at Big Salmon river, in which he discusses the food problem as it will have to be faced after the territory is filled up with the new population that will go in next spring. He calculates that the river boats will not be able to land more than one-half the supplies necessary to sustain the estimated population next summer. He does not believe that 50,000 people can get in. One part of his report contains important warning, of which the public should take notice. He says:

"I am informed that 15 to 20 agents and brokers have come out from Dawson City, carrying with them, some say hundreds, some say thousands, of certificates for entries of mines on all the streams in the neighborhood of the Klondike river, upon which streams I believe there never was an ounce of gold found, and on all other streams in the district and to the mountain tops, with the hope that they can be put on the market and be readily seized by the gullible public of the United States and Canada. They are trying to imitate the brokers of South Africa and Rossland, and there is no question but that it will be injurious to the country and to good properties that may be put on the market."

CAN'T BE DONE.

Portland's city council is undertaking to legislate against the "high hat" nuisance at theaters, presumably having nothing better to occupy its attention, since it has about given up hope of suppressing gambling, prostitution and other like evils. But it will likely be no more successful in abating the former evil than it has in stopping the latter, nor should it. High hats at theaters and public gatherings are annoying, but no community will ever be able by legislation to prevent their being worn, however custom of society can. A woman with any consideration for her neighbors will not hoist a towering mass of millinery on her head so as to blind the vision of all behind her, but if she has worn such a contrivance to a public gathering will remove it if custom will permit her to do so. If the leading women of society would make a practice of removing their hats when they enter the church or theater, the same as men do, it would be but a short time until the custom would be universal. But the American woman will never submit to a law dictating what she shall, or shall not wear. However, if the Portland councilmen are determined to work a reform among theatre goers, why should they strike at the "high hat" as the only nuisance? Why not pass an ordinance preventing men once in the theater from going out to see a friend between acts? This habit is just as annoying to the women as is the high hat to the men. If Portland is going to have reforms, why not have them by the wholesale, and wipe out all evils at once?

THE HAVANA HORORS.

The whole truth about the situation in Havana has not been told by the American press correspondents, but facts occasionally leak out from the local newspapers which enable one to form a fair impression of the conditions that impelled our government to issue that appeal for the relief of the starving people. La Discussion yesterday printed the following:

"The scenes witnessed at the residence of Dr. Castro Jesus del Monte, previous to the distribution of food to the reconcentradoes, are too pathetic to be described. As soon as the doors were opened a mass of beggars, living skeletons of all races, all ages and both sexes, invaded the places where food was to be distributed, with outstretched hands, almost fleshless, and imploring and almost frightful spectral faces, at the sight of food. Many were not strong enough to endure the food, and fell in the streets as they passed away; a few others more fortunate, seemed to gain some vitality."

It doesn't make any difference whether Spain likes it or not, humanity demands that a speedy end be put to the hellish state of affairs in Havana. We cannot feed a famishing foreign people interminably, but we can compel Spain to either furnish them with food or relinquish her protectorate over them.—Portland Telegram.

The prosecution of the case of the government against Seufert Bros., the third trial of which has just been completed at Portland, seems to be needless at this time. The government seeks to condemn a right-of-way for a boat railway around the dalles of the Columbia, an improvement that will likely never be made, since the chairman of the rivers and harbors committee will recommend that the scheme be abandoned, and canal and locks be substituted. In this event the right-of-way for the boat road would be useless, and it appears to have been needless expense both to the government and defendants to have dragged the case into court the third time. It should have been let rest until it is determined if the right-of-way will be occupied.

The Oregonian is right in asserting that there can be no middle ground taken by congressional nominees on the money question this coming year. The candidate must come out squarely for or against the gold standard No questionable protestations of faith is permissable with either party. The republican nominee must declare emphatically for the gold standard, while the nominee of the opposition parties must be emphatic against it. The coming election will be one in which candidates must define their principles.

A late issue of the Yomiuri, one of the leading Japanese papers, says: "The financial panic which occurred in Osaka is only the first of the disasters that will follow the adoption by Japan of the gold standard. Several big Osaka merchants have become insolvent and as the circulating medium is becoming less daily embarassment will increase." The gold stahdard means less and less business and the centralization of what business there is in a few hands.

It is pleasing to note the dispatch with which the Teller resolution was disposed of in the house Monday. Not because of lack of merit in the resolution, but because of the foregone conclusion that it could not pass. It would have been useless to have taken up a week discussing a measure on which every member had fully determined how he would act. The resolution was defeated by a majority of 50, only two republicans voting for and two democrats against its adoption.

Oregon legislators are paid only $3 a day during the session of the legislature and mileage to and from the capital, still there are plenty of good men ready to accept the job. Sheriffs and county clerks get from $150 to $300 a month the year round, but it is said if their salaries were reduced we could not get good men to accept the offices. How would it do to give the matter a trial? The people are willing to take chances on getting good officials at reduced salaries.

The Dalles should begin to put on its best appearance to receive those who will soon be here attending the wool growers' convention. Sidewalks should be repaired, streets cleaned and the city put in a presentable appearance to receive its guests. If the city is put in good repair, it will attract the attention of those who will come to the convention, and when they return to their homes they can at least give The Dalles a good name.

It is said no new enterprises will be built in The Dalles until foreign capital is induced to invest here. Possibly this is true, but it seems to us there is sufficient local capital to set the wheels going if it were only put into employment. While we are waiting for foreign money to come in, we are allowing lots of good things to slip by. When we learn to help ourselves, we will have learned an excellent lesson.

The widow of Capt. D. W. Bradshaw, of company D, Seventh Illinois cavalry, will cease to draw a pension after this month. It is her own request that the pension be discontinued, and in a letter to the commissioner of pensions she returns the certificate, adding that she no longer desires to draw a pension of $8 per month from the government, since she has recently fallen heir to an estate valued at $200,000.

In the public schools of Brookline, Mass., they have introduced a new idea. Alternately the girls as well as the boys, are taught the use of the ordinary tools for working in wood, and the boys are taught how to do simple cooking, such as making coffee and broiling steaks and chops. The plan has been a notable success and other schools are adopting it.

If this congress fails to pass a law requiring the publication of the pension list, it will have failed to enact a measure that is calculated to discourage fraud, and to save money for the taxpayers. Very few fradulent pensioners would stay on the list a year if their names were published every six months. Somebody would make it so warm for them that they would be more than glad to hide from public gaze.

That meeting of representatives of republican clubs in Portland was intended to effect harmony among the clans. Whether that end was accomplished or not can be bester told on the evening of June 6th next. It will require a practical demonstration to ascertain if the acts of February 1st were conducive of general good feeling in the ranks of the party.

That there will be no extra session of the legislature called before the June election is a foregone conclusion, but after the election look out. If sufficient pressure can be brought to bear on Governor Lord he may convene the legislature to elect a senator, especially if the republican party should not be successful at the polls in June.

This is one year in the history of Oregon when the politicians and professional officeseekers should be required to step aside and give the people a chance. The state has been run long enough by politicians, and it is time those who are to be governed be given an opportunity to chose their governors.

What Oregon needs today is fewer laws and lighter taxation. No man should be permitted to take a nomination on the legislative ticket of any party who will not pledge himself publicly to labor for a reduction of salaries and the repeal of all laws creating boards and commissions.

The gold fever spreads like a disease which is both epidemic and contagious. Since the Klondike excitement began in the west, New York has become so much interested in mining that no less than 4000 gold and silver claims have been recorded in that state within six months.

When one thousand or more men seek to patch up old grudges between two political classes, they have undertaken a big job. It is a thing easier said than done, as some who attended the love feast in Portland are now ready to testify.

Railroads, wheat farmers, cattle raisers and wool growers are prosperous beyond question, but other branches of indurtry are not much improved over a year ago

WANT TO POOL ISSUES.

CHICAGO, Feb. 2.—A Tribune special from Washington says:

Quiet negotiations have been going on in the senate for several days, looking to a sensational combination of the friends of both Hawaii and Cuba with the object in view of precipitating a crisis on both questions without waiting either for the annexation treaty in the Pacific or the slow movements of autonomy in the Atlantic.

When the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was before the house, the democrats made several efforts to tack on an amendment for recognition either of the belligerency or the independence of the Cuban insurgents. The house has strict rules against the insertion of new legislation on appropriation bills. Similar rules exist in the senate, but they are seldom or never applied, and the upper house of congress is always relied upon to fill the appropriation bills with purely legislative enactments, which then become a part of a conference report, and are not specifically the subjects of points of order in the house.

Take advantage of this situation, three or four prominent republican senators, among whom is at least one member of the foreign committee, have a scheme for bringing immediate action in these two matters. The scheme involves a union of forces between the friends of Hawaii and Cuba.

Although the annexation treaty is said not to command two-thirds of the whole senate, it has in its favor an undoubted majority representing all parties, and the same is said to be true as to Cuba. It is proposed, therefore, to draft an amendment to the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, containing, first the entire wording of the Hawaiian annexation treaty, and secondly, a private declaration that a state of war exists in the island of Cuba. A mere majority vote would be sufficient to pass the amendment. As it would be part of a general appropriation bill, there would be no rule of the house which could prevent its consideration, and if passed by that body it would go to the president, who would be put in the position of having to approve or veto both propositions at the same time.

An Important Treaty.

POCATELLO, Idaho, Feb. 2.—C. G. Hoyt, of the Fort Hall Indian commission, has practically concluded a treaty with the Bannock and Shoshone Indians for the purpose of the Fort Hall reservation for the lump sum of $525,000. The treaty also carries a provision for the payment of $75,000 to the Indians for the relinquishment of their hunting rights in Jackson's Hole. The treaty is the result of more than a year's work on the part of the commission. About one-fourth of the land to be sold is fine agricultural land and the balance mineral land. It is thought that the treaty will be ratified before congress adjourns.

Zelaya Inaugurated President of Nicaragua

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—Cable dispatches from the Herald correspondent in Managua state that President Jose Santos Zelaya took the oath of office yesterday for his second term. In his message to congress President Zelaya referred in glowing terms to the prospect of a realization of the canal scheme, and pledged himself to exert every effort to bring the work to a successful issue.

In the Yosemite Valley a while ago, a young fellow went out on the edge of a shelving precipice two thousand feet high, and balanced himself on his head. A little slip or little puff of wind would have sent him to eternity. Not one man in a million would be that kind of a fool. But nine men in ten are all the time taking foolish chances.

There is no deadly peril about a little fit of indigestion or biliousness, and yet if a man allows these troubles to get a hold on him he is taking serious risks. Dyspepsia alone seldom kills anybody; that is, it only kills you by inches, and takes a good many years doing it. But it weakens and undermines the constitution so that it is all ready to receive and fertilize the dangerous diseases which do kill you outright.

Disease-germs won't grow in healthy blood any more than corn will grow on a rock. A man who keeps his digestion perfect and his blood pure may eat and drink and breathe disease-germs, but they gain no foothold. They are cast out of the system. But a man with a dyspepsia-weakened constitution breathes in typhoid or diphtheretic germs and down he goes.

The best health-insurance a man can have is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It acts directly on the stomach and liver. It gives the blood-making organs power to make healthy blood. It clarifies the blood from all impurities, and builds up the healthy flesh, muscular power and nerve energy, which fortifies you against disease.

His life-long success in the treatment of chronic diseases has given Dr. Pierce's medicines a world-wide reputation. His "Pleasant Pellets" cure constipation.

CONCERN IS GENERAL

The President and Cabinet Discuss the Situation.

PREPARING TO FLY

The Son of Inventor Edison Has Struck on a Plan For Aerial Navigation.

Frank Phiseator Will Lead a Government Expedition Into Alasku—Iowa is Struck With Klondike Fever A Rich Strike.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—General Merriam yesterday opened at Seattle dispatches brought by Special Messenger Wells from Captain Ray, the department's special representative in the Klondike, and telegraphed an abstract to the department. Acting Secretary Meiklejohn was so much impressed with the statements wired that he submitted the dispatch at once to Secretary Alger, and the paper was finally sent to the White House, where it formed the subject of consideration at the cabinet meeting today.

It is said the report fully justifies all that has been done to relieve the situation at the Klondike The report is particularly acceptable in view of the conflicting statements as to the conditions in the gold fields, for it is not doubted that Captain Ray had a broader field of observation than others who made reports. This report is taken as establishing facts for all official purposes.

The state of affairs in the Klondike, as thus revealed, is worse than was expected at the war department. So large is the task that remains to be executed in order to insure the safety of life and property on the American side alone that the war department officials have concluded to advise congress as to the facts and place upon the legislative branches the duty of devising ways and means to meet the exigencies of the situation.

TO NAVIGATE THE AIR.

Young Edison Thinks He Has Solved the Problem.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Thomas A. Edison, jr., is experimenting with an airship which he believes will be a success. It is the invention of Frank Sauther, of Milwaukee, but Edison hit by accident on a gas which he believes is the orly thing required to make the ship a practical one. Sails were substituted instead of any propelling power. Mr. Edison says:

"It was at this point that I conceived the really new principle. It struck me that it would be a good idea to inflate the sails with gas, thus making them serve as balloons as well as supplying the sailing power. It would not do to make baggy balloons for the sails, so they are divided into numerous compartments, which, when inflated, resemble water bags. The tubes running to the balloon are tapped in three places to supply gas to the mainsail, and rubber tubes carry gas to two jibs. The compartments of the mainsail are connected by narrow openings, the gas thus flowing freely through the entire sail. A rudder completes the airship.

"After many failures we were successful. The ship actually flew, and we succeeded in steering it. I believe that the inflated sail idea is the one that is going to solve the aerial problem."

IN THE SERVICE OF UNCLE SAM.

Frank Phiscator to Lead an Exploring Party in Alaska.

NEW CARLISLE, Ind., Feb. 1.—Frank Phiscator, the Klondike king of Baroda, near this city, who sold his claim for $1,000,000, has left for Alaska with a compady of prospectors. He was recently in Washington conferring with Secretary of war Alger in regard to explorations in Alaska. He agreed to accompany any party of explorers in the interest of the government, and they will leave Seattle March 1 to begin their work. Phiscator, before leaving, said:

"The greatest drawback in the country now is the lack of provisions, but this will soon be overcome, as I believe that a year from now will find railroads running to all points in Alaska. I am taking a number of good, strong men back with me and I will devote the greater part of my time to the government's interests."

Coming From Iowa.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Feb. 1.—Between 40 and 50 goldseekers will leave here for Alaska within the next two weeks. Two parties will leave tomorrow. They will go by way of Skagway pass without dogs. A third party will leave tomorrow from Clayton and Allamakee county. A party of 10 will leave here next Monday for a point 600 miles north of Dawson city, with 12 dogs, and will go via Chilcoot pass. James Elwell, of Cassville, Wis., who came down from the Klondike last fall with $75,000, starts February 15, with a party of 25 and a carload af dogs.

Thirty Lives Were Lost.

PLYMOUTH, Feb. 1.—During a fog this morning, the mail steamer Channel Queen struck on the rocks off the island of Guernsey. The captain was saved, but 30 persons are supposed to have been lost. Early reports said the loss of life was light, but later advices say that of 65 persons on board 44 were lost. The remainder were saved in boats, the launching of which was very difficult, one boat being swamped. The Channel Queen ran between Plymouth and the island of Jersey.

Another Rich Strike.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 1.—A party of 34 from Stamford, Con., have arrived here and have purchased the schooner Moonlight, on which they will sail next Tuesday for the mouth of the Copper river. They have with them a snow sled with a 20-horse power engine. The sled weighs about seven tons and is propelled by a stern wheel fitted with spikes to catch in the ice and with paddles for snow.

Vengeance Was Swift.

BRAMWELL, W. Va., Feb. 1.—An unknown negro who was refused the privilege of walking through the tunnel of the Norfolk & Western railway near here, last night, shot Harry Draper, the watchman, killing him instantly. At midnight 50 men took the prisoner from the jail and lynched him, after which his body was riddled with bullets.

Small pill, safe pill, best pill. DeWitt's Little Early Risers cure biliousness, constipation, sick headache Snipes, Kinersly Drug Co.

SPECIAL in

Muslin Underwear....

In order to make room for our Spring Stock of Muslin Underwear, we will offer our present stock at the following prices: - - - - - - - -

25c Values	18c	$1.25 Values	$ 90
35c Values	24c	$1 50 Values	1 10
50c Values	38c	$1.75 Values	1 35
75c Values	55c	$2.00 Values	1 59
$1.00 Values	78c	$2.50 Values	1 98
		$3.00 Values	2 29

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LUMBER!

Lumber Lumber

We carry constantly on hand a large stock of Rough and Dressed Lumber of all kinds.

SASH AND DOORS.

Paints, Oils and Glass, Building Paper, Cedar Shingles, and Redwood Shingles. . . .

JOS. T. PETERS & CO.

THE DALLES, OREGON

NOT FAVORABLE TO CORBETT.

Coffery Supports the Committee Report Adverse to Seating Him.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—In the senate today Germany's order prohibiting the importation of American fruits called out a resolution from Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, calling on the president if not incompatable with the public interest, to transmit to the senate correspondence and other information bearing upon the matter in his possession. The resolution was agreed to.

In accordance with notice previously given, Coffery called up informally the resolution declaring H. W. Corbett is not entitled to a seat in the senate from Oregon. Coffery spoke in support of the committee report against seating Corbett. He claimed a constitutional legislature had failed to elect, and the senate could not put a premium on such a dereliction of duty, and thereby allow the governor to place a favorite of his in the seat.

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES.

More British Vessels Ready to Proceed to Chinese Waters.

SHANGHAI, Feb. 3.—The China Gazette says the Rritish Indian, Australian and Pacific squadrons have been ordered to be ready to reinforce a fleet capable of coping with "any combination opposing the British policy."

"Meanwhile," adds the Gazette, "the British claims in the Yang-tse-Kiang will be supported by a strong squadron stationed at Chusan, to which place two other warships are en route. In the event of Russia hoisting her flag at Port Arthur, the British admiral has been ordered to hoist the British flag over Chusan, and the Japanese fleet will ascend the Yang-tse-Kiang as soon as the river rises.

"About 7500 Russian artillery and cavalary and quantities of stores and munitions have arrived at Kirin.

A Settlement Reached.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Japan has been removed as an element in opposition to the consummation of the annexation of the Hawaiian islands by the United States. This result has been attained by the conclusion of an agreement between both governments, which, by practically settling the status of the Japanese in Hawaii, removes the only substantial difference that existed between the two governments.

The exact basis of the agreement has not been made public, but its general scope is understood to be recognition of the rights of the Japanese in the United States under the treaty with Japan proclaimed in 1895.

Encouraging Signs.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—It now looks as if the war that has so long been raging in Cuba with such appalling disaster to both life and property, will be brought to an end. It is certain that state department officials have been in earnest consultation with the insurgents, and the concentration of the big naval force of the United States about the island of Cuba carries out the theory so prevalent that the time has arrived to put a stop to further barbarities.

Five Below Zero.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2.—This is the coldest day of the season. At 8 o'clock this morning the thermometer registered 5 degrees below zero. East and North rivers are full of ice and navigation is much impeded. Surface and elevated railroads run behind time and local traffic is considerably congested. The Third avenue cable broke down.

A Defaulting Cashier.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2.—William J. Quinlan, jr., cashier of the Chemical National bank, has resigned. He acknowledges in a letter to the directors that he loaned $393,000 of the bank's money without consulting the president, and knowing that the directors would not approve the loan. He denies that he profited by the loan.

The Storm in New England.

BOSTON, Feb. 2.—The financial loss caused by the great storm which swept a great part of New England Monday night and yesterday will amount to more than was first thought. In this city alone it is estimated that the loss will amount to over $1,000,000. The Boston Elevated Railway Company lost about $225,000 by the storm. Today the company has nearly 7500 men at work clearing the tracks.

Reports of stranded vessels along the coast continue to come in, and it is thought at least 15 lives were lost by wrecks at various points.

To Cure Constipation Forever.
Take Cascarets Candy Cathartic. 10c or 25c. If C. C. C. fail to cure, druggists refund money.

THE END NOT FAR OFF.

Negotiations Pending for Ending the Cuban War.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

Secret negotiations are now actually in progress between the state department and the insurgents in Cuba looking to a stoppage of the war on some financial basis to be agreed upon hereafter. President McKinley has not recognized the insurgents as belligerants, and he cannot therefore treat with them openly, as he would do with a diplomatic representative of an independent nation. Direct communication has, however, been had within the last few weeks between the insurgent government and the administration here.

The insurgents have expressed perfect willingness to assume a reasonable share of the Spanish bonds issued against the Cuban revenues. The proposition has been considered with some favor, and the president and his cabinet have discussed several plans for guaranteeing the Cuban debt on the sole basis of independence.

These negotiations have gone side by side with the gradual massing of the ships of the North Atlantic squadron within striking distance of Cuba. Orders to the cruiser Montgomery to sail at once for the harbor of Matanzas have been issued, and the ship is expected to be received there quite as cordially as the Maine was in Havana. The orders to her commander contemplate a call on Consul Brice at Matanzas. Should everything be found peaceable the ship will proceed to Santiago de Cuba, but should affairs look threatening at Matanzas, another ship will quietly be slipped to the latter port, and before Captain-General Blanco knows what is happening to him American ships will be in the harbor of every important port in Cuba.

The gradual occupation of the island by a naval force is understood to be part and parcel of the negotiations with the insurgents. When they are concluded, if everything goes on well, the United States will be in a position to offer Spain a heavy financial bonus for giving up the island, while at the same time the insurgents will find themselves in a position to make a junction with the United States naval forces at any one of the half dozen ports.