

ITEMS IN BRIEF.

From Wednesday's Daily. W. H. Biggs, of Wasco, is in the city today. Richard Sigman, of Dufur, is in the city today. Pat Connelly, of Burnt Ranch, is in the city on a business trip.

Peter Ahols, of Connersville, Washington, was in the city yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Brookhouse, of the Kingsley neighborhood, were in the city today.

Mrs. O. S. Waud and little son Arthur left for Portland this morning, where Mrs. Waud goes on a business trip.

Nightwatchman Palmer returned last night from Salem, where he went with the youngsters who were committed to the reform school a few days ago.

There will be Midnight Mass at St. Peter's church next Sunday night. The choir of St. Peter's church assisted by the Bergfeld orchestra will render Wiegand's celebrated Mass.

Although the sloughs are frozen over the ice is not yet thick enough to make safe skating. One or two more nights like what we have been having will, however, put it in a shape that all may enjoy the sport.

Paul Mohr, of the Central Navigation Company, was in Astoria a few days ago looking up a location for building docks to handle the freight which his company proposes to transport from the interior to the seaboard.

The work of grading Federal street is progressing rapidly and providing the weather permits the workmen to continue, will be finished in a short time. The blasting is all done and all that is now left is to put on a covering of gravel which will take but a short time.

Miss Mabel O'Brien closed a very successful term in district number 30, near Dufur, on Friday. At the conclusion of the term the pupils contributed \$9 for the purpose of purchasing books for their school library.

The report of the teacher is sufficient proof of the interest taken by the children in their work.

Messrs. the convicted murderer of Ray Sisk, who is under sentence of death for February 2, is reported as saying to the sheriff: "My blood will forever curse every man who has had a hand in this matter. I have no preparation to make. I am more ready to die than most men who make a confession. I am as much prepared to die today as I will be February 2."

The improved condition of the roads induces many country people, who would have otherwise remained at home, to come to The Dalles for their Christmas supplies so that there are an unusual number in the city today. It does not seem to be a record, but the streets are crowded with people.

It is expected that the fire alarm strike and chemical engine will arrive in the city this week while, the alarm boxes, hook and ladder truck and the remainder of the paraphernalia, which will go to make The Dalles fire system second only to that of Portland, will follow in a short time. It was the intention to have the entire new system in place by January 1st, but unforeseen delays have prevented this, and every effort will be made to get the system in as soon as possible after that date.

The work of connecting up the new switchboard in the long distant telephone office in this city was finished today and the operators are now using the same. It is a handsome affair being made entirely of white maple, and contains all the latest appliances so that in making comparison between this board and the one which has passed out of service one can easily see the improvements which have been made during the past few years. The board is much larger than is required for present needs and future subscribers can be accommodated.

Mr. Blodgett, a mining engineer who has been supervising the work at the Ochocho mines for a San Francisco company, left with his family for San Francisco yesterday morning where he will make a detailed report to his company of the wealth to be found in this section, and spend the winter in California. For the last three years they have been placer mining on the Ochocho, but not until recently did they strike diggings that paid for the working. At present, however, they are doing much better and may develop paying property in the near future.

The fillers of our soil throughout the interior are jubilant since there is a sufficient amount of snow on the ground to protect the fallow grain from the severe frost. They were fearful that the ground would freeze up before any snow fell which would greatly damage the crop which is in

many cases several inches above ground. Ordinarily a freeze up would not be so injurious but the superabundance of moisture which is in the ground would aid in doing material injury were there no snow to protect the tender grain.

Eastern Oregon physicians are disputing about the existence of smallpox in their part of the state. Some of them make light of the wide spread fears. A resolution was introduced in the legislature to the effect that the following statements: "The disease prevailing has the clinical symptoms of smallpox, and only lacks the usual virulence to complete the typical disease. From the first cases that appeared in this neighborhood an epidemic started in the state of Missouri, which was promptly labeled by the health board of that state, smallpox. Instead of regarding this disease in the light of a trifling malady, it should be the duty of all communities to exercise care lest we find ourselves confronted with a ravaging disease."

The remains of the man found four miles west of Celilo yesterday afternoon was brought in shortly before going to press today. He was evidently dead about one week and the remains were that of a man of 25 or 30 years of age about five feet, six inches tall, light complexion with light mustache. Corner Butte for the most part cost and vest about one hundred yards from the body. His hat and shoes were also found at a considerable distance and it appeared that he had removed his clothing with the intention of jumping into the river and committing suicide. His nose looks as if it had been broken by his falling forward and his hands are scarred which indicates he received some injury. Outside of these injuries no marks of violence were discovered.

A thorough examination will be made at the coroner's inquest which will be held at 4 o'clock.

Yesterday afternoon Indian George, who lives near Celilo, discovered the body of a man close to the O. R. & N. track and near to the fish wheel owned by Pete, the Chinaman, which is located about four miles west of Celilo.

On finding the body for the first time he was long to hold an investigation, as he was frightened, but went to Celilo as quickly as he could and informed Mr. Taffe of his discovery. He was unable to give any description and simply stated that the body was not a stranger to him.

There and that the man was some distance from the body, which looks as if there might be something wrong. Mr. Taffe telephoned to Sheriff Kelly, who promptly notified Coroner Butte and an inquest will be held as soon as possible. Mr. Butte has already gone to the scene of the discovery and may bring the remains here for the inquest. It is likely, that they are those of some tramp, who died from an attack of sickness or it may be a case of foul play.

From Thursday's Daily. Sheriff J. H. Gray, of Prineville, was in the city last night.

M. J. Anderson, president, and W. H. Heisler, secretary of the Summer Fallow Machine Co., of Dufur, went to Portland this morning.

J. C. Baldwin is quite sick at his home on Court street. His son, Edwin, acted last night from Eugene to attend him during his illness.

If you wish to have your shoe repaired go to H. Stoneman, next door to Time-Mountaineer. His guarantee good work and low prices. 'd 11

Hon. Otis Patterson has gone to San Francisco to spend the holidays with his daughter Zoo, who is attending school at a convent in the Bay city.

Cary Jenkins is up from Portland to spend the holidays with friends in the city. Mr. Jenkins is taking a course of study in the North Pacific Dental college.

C. Grabler has moved his bakery into his new building opposite Johnson's store, and is prepared to serve all customers with bread and confectioneries.

There will be no excuse for you not having a sumptuous Christmas dinner, since the American market has placed it within the reach of everybody to have a fine fat chicken or turkey.

F. H. Wakefield has returned from the Mt. Hood Gold & Silver Mining Co.'s mine near Mt. Hood. He reports very deep snow in the mountains and was five days making 35 miles coming from the mine.

L. H. Hazard has been appointed county clerk of Coos county, to succeed W. E. Rackliff, who violated the office-holders' rule, that few die and none resign, by vacating the place last week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Crowe will leave tomorrow evening for an extended tour through the southern states. They go first to Hot Springs, Arkansas, and from there will travel through the south during the remainder of the winter.

Chow, the old Chinaman who was head cook in the Umatilla House for 30 years, and who for the past two years has been proprietor of the Bald-

win restaurant, will leave Saturday for China, having sold his interests in the Baldwin. There are few Chinamen who ever resided in The Dalles who made more friends than Chow has during the time he has spent here.

John Donohue expects to leave in a few days for San Francisco, having disposed of his business to W. W. Wilson. Mr. Donohue has, during his 15 years residence in The Dalles made many warm friends who will regret his determination to leave the city.

Pomeroy, Wash., has a curfew law that bids fair to be effective. Instead of jailing lads found out after night, the authorities fine the parents. One of the worthy citizens of that place has just paid a fine of \$20 for allowing his boy to be out after 7:30 p. m.

The Dalles land office holds the record of having received more homestead and land grant applications during the last fiscal year than any other land office in Oregon, Washington or Idaho. The year closed June 30, up which time over 800 applications had been filed. Receipts amounted to considerable more than \$100,000.

W. W. Wilson has bought the Clarendon restaurant and will take charge of that popular hostelry tomorrow. Mr. Wilson for the past two years has been manager of the Baldwin restaurant, and for a number of years was steward of the Umatilla House dining room, in both of which places he became very popular, and now that he has taken charge of a business for himself, it is evident that he will be a successful restaurateur.

Mr. Wilson proposes to run the Clarendon on a strictly first class principle, and will make it one of the best eating houses in the city.

The dance which was held at the Baldwin opera house last evening was an exceptionally pleasant event. There was just enough dancers to comfortably fill the hall, and a very young man to prevent the girls from posing as floral decorations for the walls, while professor Birgfeld furnished enough music to make every one feel like dancing to their hearts' content.

While the dancing Wednesday night dances are somewhat informal they are for that reason the more enjoyable. Everyone goes with the intention of having a good time and they are not disappointed. The dancing continued until shortly after 11 o'clock when the jovial crowd dispersed with the avowed intention of spending next Wednesday evening in the same identical manner that last evening was spent.

M. J. Anderson, of the Summer Fallow Machine Company, of Dufur, informs us that they at present have ten men employed in their factory and are turning out the machines daily. His company are at present figuring with the Canton Plow Company and may allow that firm to manufacture the machines on a royalty. If this is done they will be in a shape to close up their factory and to retire from business. It is their intention, however, if they can arrange to keep the states of Oregon and Washington and to increase their force to thirty men, in which case they will be able to turn out at least ten machines per day. If their business increases to this extent it will be necessary for them to move from their present location to a new building, as the present one is too small to hold the machinery and material and machines to and from their factory, and in this case they will probably locate in The Dalles.

AN ENGLISH OPINION. Poor War Sounds Death Knell of Imperial Federation.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A special to the World from Toronto says: Dr. Goldwin Smith condemns the stand taken by Great Britain in the South African war in no uncertain terms. He quotes approvingly from a letter received from "a highly educated English gentleman with the sentiment of his class," which deprecates the war as unjustified, as the violation of harmony among the nations, and as interfering with the best interests of the world.

"The stalling horse of 'enfranchisement for the uitlanders' having served its purpose, has been laid aside and replaced by 'British supremacy in South Africa.' The pretense of 'human rights,' under which the clerical abolitionists of the war shelter themselves, has been laid aside, and the watchword now being 'equality for all white men,' while the brown men, vastly outnumbering the whites, are philanthropically consigned to indefinite bondage.

"As it is the end is certain, and by this time may practically have come. The stand which this little farmer commonwealth has made for its independence against the bandied forces of a world-wide empire backed by the diplomatic encouragement of the great powers, including the American republic, has hardly a parallel in history."

Fatal Fight Between Lawyers. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—A Foot-Dispatch special from Dallas, Texas, says that F. M. Ederidge, a prominent lawyer, shot Attorney Edwin Harrell four times in a crowded elevator in the North Texas building. Harrell died later. The men were employed as counsel on opposite sides in litigation involving cotton mill property and quarrelled over their professional affair.

British Army Retreated. LONDON, Dec. 21.—A special to the Herald from Chitvel camp, dated December 17, says: General Buller's army moved back five miles today, the march beginning at 4 o'clock this morning, two brigades going to Frelers in order to defeat a possible attempt on the part of the Boers to execute a flank movement to destroy the railroad on the British rear.

Just as it should be. WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Adjutant General Corbin, the head of a committee charged with the collection of funds for the benefit of the family of the late General Lawton, is in receipt of expressions of sympathy and willingness to co-operate from all quarters of the country. There is promise of a generous response to the appeal.

ON THE ALTAR OF IMPERIALISM

Brave General Lawton Falls a Victim.

MANILA, Dec. 19.—General Henry Lawton has been shot and killed at San Mateo. He was standing in front of his troops, was shot in the breast and died immediately. Lawton started from Manila last night with cavalry under Captain Lockett, and battalions of the Twentieth and Twenty-seventh infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Sargent, for the purpose of capturing San Mateo, where General Geronimo was said to have 300 insurgents.

Another Call on India. LONDON, Dec. 19.—The war office has been in communication with General William Lockhart, commander-in-chief in India, with a view of ascertaining what troops can be spared from his forces, and it is understood that, as a result of these inquiries, a force will almost immediately leave Bombay for Durban, including four regiments of mounted troops, with an ammunition column and a big anti-air battery, including horse and field batteries. It is hoped this force will reinforce General Buller within a month.

One More Commission. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—A bill authorizing the appointment by the president of a commission to visit China and Japan and report upon the commercial and industrial conditions of those countries was introduced in the house today by Hepburn (Iowa). It provides for a commission of five members—one each from the Eastern, Middle, Southern, Western and Pacific states. The commission is to spend at least one year in China and Japan, and \$75,000 is provided for expenses.

CONSUL PIERCE IS CONFIDENT

Says England Cannot Whip the Boers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Charles D. Pierce, consul in the city from the Orange Free State, said last night that applicants for enlistment in the Boer army were still visiting his office in a steady stream.

"I cannot do anything for them," said he, "because I have no authority to take such a course. I refer them to our consul at The Hague, and tell them they will have to pay their own expenses, which would amount to about \$400, in getting to South Africa. The majority of the applicants are American soldiers who fought in the Spanish-American war."

Asked what he thought about the way things were going in South Africa, Mr. Pierce said: "The British can send 1,800,000 troops down there instead of 180,000 if they want to, and still they won't get the upper hand for a year or two. It is not the side with the most troops that is going to win, but the side that shoots straightest."

TROUBLE INCREASING. Emperor of Abyssinia Threatens to Give England a Thrust.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—London papers just received display much anxiety over the attitude of Menelik, emperor of Abyssinia, toward England. At present there is a dispute between this potentate and Great Britain as to the boundary between Egypt and

THE CANAL BILL MUST WAIT

Little Hope of its Passage at This Session.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Legislation providing for the construction of a transatlantic canal is not probable under the present session of congress. Both the Nicaragua canal committee in the senate, presided over by Senator Morgan, and the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, presided over by Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, propose to take the matter up without waiting for the report of the Walker commission. It is extremely improbable, however, that they will be able to get a bill through either house of congress before that report is available.

The Walker commission will leave New York on January 6, going direct to Graytown, Nicaragua, by the regular mail steamer. They will go over the route of the Nicaragua canal to the Pacific side and will then go by steamer to the Pacific end of the Panama route. The commission has on the field 10 surveying parties. The commissioners estimate that it will take about a year for them to complete all their work and make their report.

Senator Morgan has never given his approval to the sending of the additional commissions to the isthmus, being satisfied with the information already available as to the practicability of the canal. He will endeavor to have his bill reported from his committee soon. Representative Hep-

burn also believes the provision for the Walker commission was intended to delay the construction of a canal.

Mr. Hepburn will endeavor to have his committee take up the subject immediately after the holiday recess.

White is short of ammunition. LONDON, Dec. 21.—The chief cause of uneasiness which brings back the shadow of English faces is a suspicion that the Ladysmith garrison is short of ammunition and incapable of a prolonged defense. The war office does not admit that Ladysmith is in serious danger or short of ammunition, but the censorship somewhat has allowed the alarming reports to reach England. The censor, it is apparent, sometimes falls asleep, or is dragged by too candid and too inquisitive friends.

Boers Ready for Peace. NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A dispatch to the World from Brussels says: Herr Holbert, in charge of the Transvaal agency here, asked today what truth there is in the report that President Kruger is ready to sign a treaty of peace if Great Britain will ask for no further privileges for the uitlanders, and will pay what the war has cost the Boers, answered: "No such proposal have been formulated yet. A contingency inviting proposals of peace would be welcome under certain conditions. If any government desires to mediate, the South African republic will treat."

British's Guns Were Lost. NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A dispatch to the Herald from London says: Little credence is placed in the report that the guns lost by the British were not captured by the Boers. Had the story been true, General Buller must have referred to it. Sir Redvers' artillery cannot now muster much more than 30 guns, while the captured British weapons have no doubt been mounted in the Boer lines and can be used, since the ammunition wagons seem to have been lost with them.

CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE PUBLIC.

Our store now assumes its holiday attire and we are in perfect readiness to meet our friends and patrons. Come one come all and make your presence known by seeing our pretty goods whether you purchase or not.

Short, Terse, Convincing Arguments why your Christmas Novelties should be purchased here and now. The varieties, qualities and prices prove beyond a doubt that this department excels any of like nature. To confirm this claim, permit us to name a few of the values it is giving. They are not all, only enough to serve fairly as samples.

Dress Goods. Who has attempted to show as elegant line of Dress Goods, especially Crepons, Cheviots, Serges and Broadcloths as have been displayed over our counters this season? We can suit the most fastidious.

Party Fabrics. Have you not a young lady friend who is attending the various functions that are taking place among the "upper crust of society" who would be overjoyed at the thought of getting a handsome Organdy, Lawn or Swiss Gown? If so let us show you the proper things. We have them in abundance, and exquisite shades in linings that are just as dainty as the fabrics themselves.

Table Damask. What makes a more acceptable present for a friend than a dainty piece of Linen Damask with a dozen napkins to match? This is one of the many nice things we have to offer you at greatly reduced price from now until the holiday season closes. These prices are just right, and you will think so when you see the goods.

Leather Goods. Pocketbooks, collar and cuff boxes, ladies' and gents' toilet cases, special purchases for our holiday trade. Grain alligator, seal and fancy leathers, mounted or plain. Ladies' pocketbooks, all colors 25c, 35c, 50c, 65c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.35, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.25, \$3.50 each.

Silks. You know, of course, that we have the choicest line of Silks, Satins and Velvets ever shown in this city, and the price for your especial benefit has been cut down to meet the times: 50c India Silk, 24-in. wide.....43c \$1.00 Taffeta Silk, the best.....85c All other Silks reduced from 15 to 33 1/2 per cent.

Handkerchiefs. Tomorrow starts the selling of that prodigious handkerchief purchase. It's the one great handkerchief event of the local history, doubly important because of the proximity of the holidays. Never before could you buy handkerchiefs as cheaply. Don't take our word for it, stop around and compare. That's the quickest, fairest way to put this statement to a test. Here's the price story in brief.

Gent's Furnishing Department. Your savings of the past few days may be satisfactorily invested at this store. We have a vast stock of needful goods displayed for your selection at prices that won't pull hard on your purse. We are offering some splendid bargains in Holiday Gifts in this department.

Silk Skirts, Novelties, Etc. At a money saving reduction of 25 per cent regular price on all collarettes in stock that sell for over \$5.00. Glove boxes, handkerchief cases, jewel cases and ink wells with handsome tinted covers, ranging in price from 15c to \$4.50.

Headquarters for... Farmers' and Miners' Tools. Powder, Fuse and Giant Caps. Rubber and Cotton Hose. Aermotor Wind Mills. Shot Guns and Revolvers. Garden Tools. Barb Wire and Nails. Bicycle Tires.

Delft Blue and White Enameled Ware. A Complete Line of Spraying Material for Fruit Growers. Dunn's No. 1 Spray, also Lime, Sulphur and Salt.

Garland Stoves and Steel Ranges. In addition to the above we run a Tin and Plumbing Shop, Bicycle Repair Shop and General Machine Shop.

Our Grocery Line is complete in every respect. Give us a call before buying elsewhere. MAIER & BENTON.

All Goods Marked in Plain Figures. Pease & Mays, The Dalles, Oregon.