

THE OREGON SCOUT.

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PURSING THE APACHES.

Brave Work of Uncle Sam's Boys in Mexico.

Tucson (A. T.) telegram: Special advice from a correspondent in the field, who has just returned from the front to Guadalupe canyon, says Crawford's and Davis' command are 200 miles south of the line in the heart of the Sierra Madre, with ten companies of cavalry and 100 Apache scouts. The fight of the 7th he confirms and the wounding of Geronimo he denies. One of his squaws, who was captured, says he was shot in the stomach and the intestines cut. The report of Chief Chats' mutiny and death is denied. It is definitely ascertained that not less than 140 Apache warriors are out, but they travel in small bands of five or six. The captured squaw says they have vowed to fight till the last of them is killed, as their chiefs made them believe every one captured or who surrendered would be killed. The troops have wonderful endurance. Many of them have worn out their boots and taken their leggings and made sandals out of them. Others have their clothes torn to shreds and tied together with strings; but all are in good spirits and declare they will avenge the murders by the red fiends. There are nearly 1,000 Mexican federal troops moving in the direction of our troops, but the Sierra Madre is so fearfully rough and cut up with canyons that it makes progress slow and difficult. The citizens of the exposed settlements on both sides of the line speak in high terms of commendation of the activity and endurance of the troops.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

How Gen. Sheridan and Secretary Endicott Will Agree.

Some time ago a statement was telegraphed from Washington that a conflict of authority had arisen between Secretary Endicott and Lt. Gen. Sheridan; also that a similar difficulty had occurred between ex-Secretary Lincoln and Sheridan. It was again stated that the ex-secretary wrote a letter to Sheridan defining the authority of both. All the news that has been published by army officers, but that ex-Secretary Lincoln did communicate with Gen. Sheridan and that the situation is substantially as telegraphed, is shown by a long letter to Gen. Sheridan, dated January 17 last, which will be published in the Army and Navy Journal. Within the past few days copies of the communication have been sent to the general of the army and generals commanding various divisions. It appears the secretary of war claims the exclusive command of all staff departments whose heads are chiefs of the army and navy departments, except inspector-general and adjutant-general. The commissary-general and quartermaster-general have recently taken exception to receiving orders from Gen. Sheridan, and their position is endorsed by the secretary of war. Now that the matter has been brought to the public, the outcome of the difference between Gen. Sheridan and Secretary Endicott is awaited with interest.

CONDITION OF PACIFIC ROADS.

Report to the Labor Bureau on Western Railroads.

Chief Clerk Pickrell, of the railroad bureau, has returned to Washington from a tour of inspection of the Central and Union Pacific roads, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, Sioux City & Pacific and other lines: So far as the accounts are concerned little attention was devoted to the land grant roads, the bonded lines receiving special consideration. In their general condition little change is noted. The Union Pacific had seized upon the opportunity afforded by favorable summer weather to make extensive repairs of its road-bed, and the Central Pacific is reported in good condition. The business of the roads is not equal to that of last year, which was poorer than the preceding year. The roads assigned is the keen competition resulting from the completion of new lines. The accounts of the Union and Central Pacific companies were examined with a view to determining the amount of earnings due the government for last year under the provisions of the land grant act. A statement of the indebtedness of the Union Pacific has already been published. In the case of the Central Pacific, the ascertained amount retained by the government for transportation during the year ended December 31, 1884, exceeded by over \$400,000 the 25 per cent of net earnings due the government under the Thurman act.

Special agents of labor bureaus are sending their reports on industrial affairs to the bureau and have nearly completed their field work.

It is believed that all of the reports will be in by October 1, and preparations for the commission's report to congress will then begin, based upon the material collected by the agents of bureaus.

It is estimated that the treasury department that there has been a decrease of about \$3,000,000 in the public debt during August.

MYSTERIOUS DOUBLE MURDER.

Two Officers at Geneva, Ill., Lose Their Lives at the Hands of Robbers.

A mysterious double murder was committed at Geneva, Kane county, Ill., on the night of August 27th, the victims being two of the three officers who constitute a police force of the town. The deed was committed at night in a central place near the court house. Some dozen shots were heard by residents in the neighborhood, given in quick succession, about midnight, but no one left his bed to find out the cause of the turmoil.

It was reserved for a party of merry-makers turning from a picnic a-out 1 o'clock to find the bodies of the murdered men and raise the alarm. Officer McNutt was found dead, with a bullet hole in the region of his heart, his revolver of five chambers empty and lying near him. Several rods away on the sidewalk was found Officer Grant, also with a bullet in his breast, still retaining slightly, but unconscious, and the last live spark dying out. He was taken home, a few blocks distant, and died on the way. As yet no clue to the perpetrators is found. It is surmised that both officers died in the discharge of their duty. There have been several attempted burglaries in town lately, and it is supposed that the two officers discovered burglars either at work or having the same unlawful activity and that in an attempt to arrest them the officers were killed.

"Mam'e!" said the mother reproving her six year old child, "you must not tell tales to shut up."

Mamie—"Yes, ma, but you tell me ter shut up lots of times every day, 'cept when the minister is here."

CLEVELAND IN THE WOODS.

Whereabouts of the Chief Executive and What He is Doing.

Discovery of His Retreat in the Wilds of the Adirondacks.

How He Waits Away the Time.

Plattsburg (N. Y.) dispatch: Notwithstanding the efforts of President Cleveland and Dr. Ward to keep the exact location of their camp a secret from the outside world, the irrepressible news gatherer, after a week's hard searching in the dark, old woods, has at last located the distinguished party near Willie's Point, as secluded a little forest dell as the most romantic could select.

There a log hut found in the Adirondacks and called a "campo" was reached, and the president and his camp companions, Dr. Ward and Mr. Bacon, were seen seated near the fire. The president was seated on a tree stump. The president was naturally overcome with surprise. Then he arose from his seat with a smile and said: "I assure you that my health is of the very best." Being informed that rumors of his illness had become prevalent, he looked with another smile at Mr. Ward and then down at himself, and again asserted that he was "in perfect health and had never felt better in his life."

The president seemed to have gained considerable flesh since he entered the mountains, but his manner betokened fatigue and lassitude, the arduous journey through the forest having exhausted him so much that for two days after reaching the camp he has been unable to freely move about. The life that he is living in the wilds of the wilderness is evidently too much even for him. It is totally unadapted to any but the hardest woodsmen.

The president's party are quartered in a log cabin 27 feet long, 5 1/2 feet high and about 10 feet wide. It is divided in the middle by partition. The rear of the cabin is used as a sleeping apartment by Mr. Cleveland and his friends; the front division is the storeroom and the bedroom for the guides. None of the occupants remove their clothes at night. When ready to retire they wrap themselves in a blanket and lie on the ground, which is covered with balsam boughs. A fire is kept burning outside the camp at night to keep away the bears and catamounts. The president said they had discovered bear tracks near the camp.

The party is attended by four guides, who are of the most easy familiarity with their employers. Hunting and fishing are the principal occupation of the woodsmen. The president is more addicted to the latter, and says he cares very little for shooting. He does not fish with the fly, as he thinks he can catch more trout with a hook and worm. He indulges in jack hunting, the most unique and the most sport to be found in the Adirondacks. The whole tenor of the life in the camp is wild and primitive in the extreme.

Mr. Cleveland's attire was not as picturesque or conventionally appropriate as the chiefs of the mountains. He wore trousers and waistcoat of black diagonal cord, evidently belonging to a worn out dinner suit. The trousers needed sewing. His shirt was of dark blue flannel and for a cravat he wore a piece of heavy, dark ribbon. His hat was of dark felt with a very broad rim. He dispensed with a coat even on the coldest days.

TEN THOUSAND DROWNED.

A Fearful Destruction of Life and Property in China.

A Deluge Recalling to Mind the Flood in Noah's Time.

Disease Follows the Receding Waters.

Details of the destruction in Canton, China, and vicinity by the recent great rain storm there, have been received by private parties in Washington and show the flood is the most serious which has visited Canton in thirty years. More than 10,000 persons lost their lives and a far greater number are left in a starving condition. Entire villages were engulfed and rice and silk crops in the vicinity were almost ruined. The price of rice has been raised 18 per cent in consequence of the loss of crops. Rain fell in the latter part of June filling and overflowing many of the rivers. The streets of Canton were flooded for over a week. At Le-shi City the water broke through the city wall. It is reported that several thousand persons were drowned at that place. The embankments of the river were broken in numerous places and the water swept across the surrounding country, carrying everything before it.

A foreigner, who was an eye-witness of the scenes of devastation, reports that he saw a man, a woman and a child in a bamboo boat, on the ground, which is covered with balsam boughs. A fire is kept burning outside the camp at night to keep away the bears and catamounts. The president said they had discovered bear tracks near the camp.

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THE RANCHMEN MOVING.

Cattlemen of Indian Territory Promptly Obeying the President's Order.

Thousands of Bovines En Route to Other States and Territories.

As to the Removal of Fences.

The period of forty days, says a Washington dispatch, fixed by the president in his proclamation ordering the removal of cattle from the ranches on the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservation in the Indian Territory expires to-morrow. The secretary of the interior has received advices from the territory indicating the purpose of the ranchers to comply with the terms of the proclamation to test their ability, and thousands of cattle are now en route to other states and territories. It is not believed that the services of the military forces will be required to complete the evacuation of the territory.

The impression is said to prevail among cattlemen that because the order of all fences on the public lands has not yet been enforced, they will not be. It is stated at the department, however, that the order will be enforced, and with the full force of the military if necessary.

It is not the intention of the secretary of the interior to issue any general order in regard to the removal of fences from the public lands, but has been determined to deal with the cases of violations of the law specifically. It is believed that better results can be thus obtained than from a general order, which would be looked upon as a proclamation bearing upon no one in particular. Special agents of the land office are being instructed to report to the department all cases of illegal fencing and instructions looking to the removal of fences are furnished for his guidance in each case. When the agent is able to effect the removal he is directed to do so, and when necessary the United States marshal may be called upon through the attorney-general. This action was taken to-day upon the report of an agent showing a large tract of public land illegally fenced in in southern Colorado, adjoining the Kansas line. A letter was sent to the attorney-general, requesting him to cause the United States marshal to remove the fences.

POPULATION OF NEBRASKA AND DAKOTA.

Washington Dispatch: Full Returns of the Census Just Taken in Dakota Show the Entire Population Has Increased from 135,177 in 1880 to 264,465, While the Number of Farms Has Increased from 17,435 to 82,767, and Manufacturing Establishments from 251 to 1,054.

Returns of the Nebraska census were also received to-day. They show the population increased from 425,402 in 1880 to 740,000 at the present time. The farms have increased from 68,387 to 100,000 (approximate). The cost to the government of Nebraska for the census was \$34,759.

Pierce of Dakota to-day made application to the attorney-general for reimbursement to the territory of the funds expended in making the census just taken. The claim is based on an act of congress passed in 1879. This is the first application under the law, and has been referred to the fifth auditor for a report.

MINNESOTA'S CENSUS SHOWING.

The official census of Minnesota has been received at the office of the secretary of state, showing the population of the state to be 1,118,480, a gain over the United States census of 1880 of 337,714, or an increase of 43 25-100 per cent. The principal gains were in Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis counties, and those gains in the county seats are: Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth respectively. Minneapolis records 129,200, a gain of 176 and a fraction per cent, since 1880. St. Paul a gain of 108 and a fraction per cent., and Duluth a gain in population equal to 18,000.

The question of holding a special session of the legislature for reappointment of legislative purposes, is now under consideration by the governor, on the basis of the census returns. An urgent demand is made for action in the north part of the state, where the greatest increase is shown. If not called now there can be no reapportionment until after 1890, when the next United States census will be taken.

WITHOUT WARRANT OF LAW.

A Ruling in Reference to the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims.

Illegal Payments that Have Been Made but are to be Made no More.

Sanction of the Action Taken.

The first comptroller of the treasury has made a ruling that is likely to embarrass the court of commissioners of the Alabama claims for some time to come. It is in effect that the employment of twenty-four persons borne on the rolls of the court is entirely without warrant of law and that no payments can legally be made from the treasury on their account in the future. Mr. Andrew H. Adams, disbursing agent of the court, recently made a requisition on the secretary of the treasury for \$9,000 to meet the current expenses of the court. In the usual course of business the requisition came before the first comptroller and he decided to make an investigation of the affairs of the court before authorizing the issue of the necessary warrants. His conclusions are summarized in the following statements, prepared by him for publication:

The court of commissioners of Alabama claims was created in 1821, when a law provided that to be paid out of \$15,500,000 awarded by the Geneva commission, and was continued by various acts until September 21, 1877. It was constituted of five judges, with an annual salary of \$6,000 each, a clerk at \$3,000; stenographer at \$2,500; and attorney to represent the United States at \$8,000. Provision was also made for the rent of a court room, furniture, stationery, and other necessary incidental expenses, all of which were to be paid out of said fund before judgments were paid. The court was reorganized in 1882 with the same officers and salaries as before, except that the number of judges was reduced to three. The comptroller in investigating the case found that outside of the above named officers there were on the pay-rolls the names of assistant counsel for United States clerk of the court, clerks, watchmen, messengers, etc., whose aggregate salaries amounted to \$24,500 per year. He also found in the quarterly returns that there has been paid to other assistant counsel over \$8,000 for the quarter ending March 31, 1885. He says he finds no law authorizing the payment of salaries to any of the persons named, and after consulting with the acting secretary of the treasury and with the solicitor of the treasury he has decided to stop future payment of the same.

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The requisitions which have just been refused were for expenses, including salaries for the month of July. The comptroller said the accounts of the disbursing agent for the quarter ending August 31, when received, will be disallowed. The salaries of judges and other officers of the court who are named in the organic act are not affected by his ruling. The comptroller says, also, that the secretary of state, who has jurisdiction over the court, is in accord with him in his view of the law, and has sanctioned the action taken by him.

A CYCLONE DOWN SOUTH.

Charlestown, S. C., Overtaken by a Disastrous Blow—Great Destruction of Property.

Charlestown, South Carolina, was struck by a cyclone on the morning of the 25th and one-fourth of the houses in the city were unroofed, part of the spires of St. Michael's and St. Matthew's churches were blown down and the spire of the Citadel Square Baptist church was demolished. Wharves and warehouses were badly damaged.

At Sullivan's Island two steamers went aground, and the new Ashley river bridge, now constructing, was swept away. Four vessels which arrived the day before are wrecked. Wires are down and there are no communications. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The hurricane on Sullivan's Island was terrific and destructive. A number of houses were blown away. The new Brighton hotel had over 100 guests and great fears were entertained for their safety. About 9 o'clock the storm reached its greatest velocity. At that hour while the hotel people were breakfasting, the Casino fell with a great crash. Fortunately all the rooms in that building had been vacated. There were grave apprehensions that the dining-room and main building would soon succumb to the violence of the storm.

At 10 o'clock the wind changed from the south, and the storm increased from the southwest. When the Casino fell it is thought that the maximum of the storm was from sixty-five to seventy-five miles an hour. The main building of the hotel is intact, having stood the storm without very serious damage.

At a school on the New Brighton will be \$30,000. There has been very general destruction of property on the island. The island was in the main submerged, but when the wind changed the water receded.

COST OF GRANT'S BURIAL.

Undertaker Merritt Runs the Risk of Paralyzing Himself by an Interview.

New York dispatch of the 28th: Undertaker Stephen Merritt, who had the funeral of Gen. Grant in charge, is making up his bill for the entire expenses of the funeral. There has been put in circulation stories to the effect that when the cost of the president's burial should be made known, the people would be shocked at the exorbitant rates charged. Mr. William Merritt says: "The statements that we intended to charge exorbitantly for Gen. Grant's funeral are entirely untrue. The bill will be for an unusual amount, in comparison with any ordinary burial, of course any one with an ounce of common sense can understand. But so far as its coming up to \$30,000, because it may have to be paid by the government, is concerned; that is nothing more than a stretch of the imagination for sensational purposes. When our bill is put in there will not be occasion that cannot stand full investigation or comparison. We have not yet completed the whole making out of the bill, and as to whether the expense will all be borne by the government, even that I cannot now state as a certainty. In the event, when our bill is put in, we received a telegraphic dispatch from Col. Fred Grant at Mt. McGregor ordering us to come up that night and take charge of the body and funeral arrangements. Then, after that, we received a verbal order from Col. Hodges, of the quartermaster's department, to have the carriages and attendants on hand for the president, vice-president, and Gen. Hancock and staff, and other military and official dignitaries. Then came the verbal order from the war department as to the canopy or funeral car and other details. Well, the bill to the department will now send in, but to supply the carriages we secured them all by contract for the day. They cost \$10 each, there being 500 in all, while the carriages of the president, vice-president and Gen. Hancock and staff will foot that expense up to something like \$5,000. The bill for the war department will now send in, but the expenses relating to the arrangement at Mt. McGregor and the casket, case, and more private details, we will hold to receive further orders about. But we expect the government may take the whole expense on its shoulders, as the general was one of the country's greatest men. The steel case which was made for the casket was furnished to us at cost price, and so it will go in the bill."

ALT ABOUT TOBACCO.

Important Decision Involving Millions Rendered in a Prominent Case.

San Francisco telegram: A decision was rendered to-day by Superior Judge Maguire, in the case of Wiltcher Jones, formerly of Danville, Va., against Joseph Branderstein and Esberg, Bachman & Co. et al., from the amount involved and the prominence of the persons concerned, has attracted much attention. The plaintiff claimed he entered into partnership with Branderstein and Esberg, Bachman & Co., September, 1881, for the purpose of manufacturing tobacco, under the name of the Seal Rock Tobacco company; that January 9, 1882, his partners, without his knowledge, formed partnership with Moses Preller, Henry Sutcliffe and others, and organized the J. B. Pace Tobacco company; that defendants have paid themselves \$1,000,000 from the dividends of the company since its organization; that the affairs of the Seal Rock company were secretly managed by his partners so as to cause a failure and absorption by the J. B. Pace company. The court decided that the Seal Rock company was merely an agency of the original partnership of September, 1881; that the J. B. Pace company was a similar agency; that the property of both companies belong to the company partners; that plaintiff was entitled to a dissolution of the company partnership and the accounting prayed for. The value of the property involved is said to be several millions.

The late Commander Gorrings cherished among his other treasures a fragment of coal marked distinctly with fern leaves, which had been found in the Arctic snows by a polar explorer.

The young ladies so far outnumber the young men at all the watering-places that a few dudes, even, would be better than no men at all.

Congressmen have a way of utilizing the mails for their own profits. That is frank.

Shipments of oranges from Los Angeles county, California, to the east have about ceased for the season.

NEWS NOTES.

The steamer William Lawrence, from Baltimore, reached Savannah, Ga., after losing overboard all the trunks of the passengers and all of her cargo between decks. A part was swept away and a part was thrown overboard and lost. The vessel had ten feet of water in her hold and her fires out for twelve hours. The loss is very heavy.

A few days ago, says a Corydon (Ind.) dispatch, there was a mad dog killed on the farm of Mr. Love, about fifteen miles south of here, and yesterday a horse belonging to Mr. Love showed signs of being sick, when two of Mr. Love's sons procured a dose of physic and proceeded at once to drench the horse. While drenching him the boys discovered that he was mad, and before they could flee from him, he bit both of them very severely, after which the horse died, and upon examination it was found that he had been bitten by some animal, supposed to be the mad dog killed on Mr. Love's farm. At this report the boys are doing well, but it is feared by their friends that they will be attacked with hydrophobia long.

WASHINGTON SPECIAL.

When Postmaster-General Vilas went last week he took occasion to talk civil service reform to some of his employees. Soon after leaving the city on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad he donned a long linen duster and took a seat in the mail car where several men were at work. He made himself acquainted in a few pleasant words and then proceeded to ask a multitude of questions about the details of the work. He rode for many miles in this way, and before leaving the car he told the clerks that they might consider their tenure of office secure so long as they did their work and did not meddle offensively in politics. This class of the government service, with 4,000 or 5,000 clerks, does not come under the civil service law, but has a civil service of its own, founded on a knowledge of work and ability to perform it, clerks being appointed for a probationary term of six months. After his visit to the postal car Mr. Vilas told a gentleman with him that he considered the railway mail service to be the best conducted department under the government.

Charlie Townsend, a negro, who murdered an old man named Freeman at Madison, about nine miles from Huntsville, Ala., was hanged on the 28th. Townsend entered the store of Freeman the evening of December 8, 1884, and asked for a nickel's worth of peanuts. The old man stooped down to get them out of a barrel, and while in this position the negro produced an ax, which he had in a convenient place, and struck the old man, cut his throat from ear to ear with a knife, and robbed him, getting only \$25.

But three army officers, says a Washington dispatch, affected by Secretary Endicott's order, sending men on long detached duty back to their regiments, have complied with the secretary's instructions. These are Capt. William W. Wherry, of Gen. Schofield's staff, who has been on detached service eighteen years and three months; Lieut. C. B. Schofield, of Gen. Schofield's staff, on detached duty six years and nine months; and Capt. J. S. Wharton, of Gen. Hancock's staff, on detached service seventeen years. Several of the officers who have not complied with the order, have telegraphed asking that their names be made in the same manner, but their friends in Washington have replied that no exceptions can be made. It is reported that some officers who have been on long detached service will resign from the army before they will rejoin their regiments.

A claim has been filed in the court of claims by John M. Langston, ex-minister to Hayti, for a balance alleged to be due from the United States on account of salary. His petition recites that the salary of the position is properly \$7,500, but owing to the failure of congress to appropriate the necessary amount, he received during the three years and twenty-four days of his service only \$5,000 per annum. He sues for a balance of \$8,660.

Wilson and Ellwood, two notorious burglars arrived in Toledo in charge of officers who had great difficulty in getting them aboard the cars at Jersey City. They appeared to the crowd to rescue them.

Bernard DeRoy, a child 18 months old, the son of Emanuel DeRoy, of Allegheny City, Pa., was taken suddenly ill with symptoms of poisoning shortly after eating his breakfast of oatmeal, and after a day's suffering died in great agony. Three white servant girls who partook freely of the oatmeal were also taken violently sick. Physicians who have made careful examination state that all have been poisoned. The colored nurse, named Mary Allen, who had been notified to leave at the expiration of her week, and who had threatened to show them all before doing so "that she was so fool," has been arrested on suspicion of having placed poison in their oatmeal.

A terrific hail storm passed over Belmont county, West Virginia. The path of the storm was two miles wide and it traveled from northwest to southeast. At Hendrysburg every window pane exposed toward the northwest was shattered. The storm lasted only five minutes but raged with great fury. A flouring mill was blown down, one-third of the corn crop destroyed, and fruit much injured.

A largely attended and enthusiastic meeting of the French Canadians of Rochester, N. Y., was held in behalf of Riel, the condemned Canadian rebel. Addresses were made by prominent Frenchmen of Rochester, and a petition addressed to Secretary Bayard, asking for the interposition of the United States government, was unanimously adopted. The petition, which was signed by all the French residents, state that Riel is a citizen of the United States, and that his trial was not a fair one.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

It is stated that Emperor William of Germany, through a feeling of sympathy with King Alfonso, has made a personal interference in order to obtain a settlement of the Caroline affair favorable to Spain. Spanish merchants and other consumers of German products threaten to boycott all German goods. Firms in Wurzburg and Eberfeld have received notices from commercial houses in Spain severing business connections with them.

The steamer "Nova Scotian," which arrived at Halifax on the 28th from Liverpool, brought from St. John, N. F., Capt. Seablossom and twenty-one of the crew of the American whaling brig "Isabella," which was lost in the ice in Hudson's straits. The "Isabella" sailed from New Bedford May 27, 1884, and was crushed in the ice on the 20th of the same month, twenty miles north of North Buff. All of the crew, twenty-three in number, and a stowaway were saved. They wandered about on the ice for four days, suffering intensely from the cold. They finally reached there until September, when the whaler "Eira" arrived off the place and they were all taken on board and kindly cared for, but owing to a scarcity of food

ON BOARD THE "EIRA" BOTH CREW AND PASSENGERS PUT ON SHORT ALLOWANCE.

While on board the "Eira" one of the "Isabella's" crew, a Swede named Francis Peniro, died of scurvy. The rest of the crew are in good health.

The ameer of Afghanistan has sent a native officer from Cabul to investigate the charges of misconduct made by the British boundary commission against the governor of Herat. The principal charge is that the governor opened a confidential letter sent by way of Herat to a member of the commission, and it is intimated that this tampering was not done in any British interest.

The European wheat crop is reported as follows on a basis of 100: Austria, 104; Hungary, 117; Prussia, 94; Saxony and Bavaria, 100; Baden, 97; Wurtemberg, 99; Denmark, 116; Sweden and Norway, 105; Italy, 70 to 85; Switzerland, 125; Holland and Great Britain, 95; Russia, 75 to 100; Roumania, 80 to 115; Servia, 110.

The cholera has appeared in Ponce, near Acqui, in the province of Alexandria. Eleven cases and four deaths from the disease have been reported. The contagion was conveyed by a family from Marseilles.

It is semi-officially stated that the French government has requested England to investigate the circumstances attending the alleged murder of Oliver Paine by British officers in the Sudan, and to obtain the fullest possible information concerning the whole subject.

NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

The treasury department is informed that a party of armed Cubans have left the island of Cuba for Florida Keys, and it is supposed their object is to organize a filibustering expedition to overthrow the Cuban government. Instructions have been issued for the revenue cutters to look out for the party and prevent their landing.

Mr. Bell, supervising architect of the treasury, filed a memorandum with the acting treasurer in defense of the specifications in which proposals were recently invited for safe and vault work during the present year. He makes a general denial of the allegations of Marvin & Co., and asserts that the specifications are just and fair to all manufacturers, and as definite and specific as the character of the work required and it was possible to make them.

He says further that the bids of Farrell & Co. and Hall & Co., the acceptance of which has been recommended, were exceedingly low, and much more reasonable than the prices now being made by the same department for similar work. He intimates that the object is for the purpose of securing gratuitous advertising.

had no supplies and were unable to procure any, and that unless food was immediately secured for them they would go on the march. These are the same conditions that a few weeks ago were reported to be without food and in a starving condition. Temporary relief was afforded them by drawing on the military store.

The pension laws provide that soldiers who have lost a leg at the hip joint, or an arm at the shoulder joint, in the service of the country, shall be entitled to pensions at the rate of \$37.50 per month. It has been the custom of the pension department to construe this law strictly. There are less than a dozen cases on the pension rolls in which amputation has taken place exactly through the joints mentioned. Commissioner Black, in ruling upon two test cases brought before him, declines to hold to the strict letter of law and allows the full amount of pension though amputation did not take place at the joints. He holds that if amputation is so near the hip or shoulder as to render the stump unusable the pensioner is entitled to the same compensation as if no stump were left. This rule will apply to a considerable number of pensioners who have been receiving pay at the lower rate.

The white house was reopened to the public on the 1st. The building has been cleaned and renovated during the president's absence and is now in condition for his return.

The census taken in Dakota shows that the population of the entire territory is about 416,000, and not 293,000, as previously stated.

The Portuguese government has informed the postoffice department that owing to the prevalence of cholera in Spain and the possibility of its introduction through the mails, no registered samples or package containing woolen in any shape sent via Spain will be received or delivered in Portugal.

An impression is said to prevail among the cattlemen that the order of the president calling for the removal of all fences on the public lands will not be enforced. It is stated, however, that the order will be enforced, and with the full force of the military if necessary.

NOT A BAD DEFAULTER.

Plea of Col. Norris, Late Pension Agent, in His Own Behalf.

A. Wilson Norris, late pension agent in Philadelphia, returned to that city recently and sent a letter to the third auditor of the treasury in regard to the statement made public by the latter to the effect that Col. Norris' accounts for June had not been settled up. Col. Norris says that the letter from the third auditor calling his attention to the fact was not forwarded to him, and that he did not see it until recently. He says in his letter to the third auditor that forty days were allowed in which to settle such accounts, and more if the circumstances warranted; that in this case he would find no safe place of custody of the \$20,000 vouchers for that month until July 20; that since that time his clerks had been busy in making an abstract of them; that this abstract will soon be ready to forward to Washington and the balance to the late pension agent's account now in the treasury of the United States to his credit will be formally covered into the treasury. Col. Norris asks, in conclusion, to be released of the unjust charge of being a technical embezzler and defaulter, it being impossible for him to draw a dollar of his balance under any circumstances.

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