

OREGON SCOUT.

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UNION. OREGON.

The Lick observatory will probably be completed by the first of March.

The prohibition elections of this year show a net loss of 47,408 votes.

The Hoosac tunnel is to be lighted by 1,250 incandescent lamps.

A recent trial in Japan between German and English rails resulted in a British victory.

The first issue of nickel and silver coinage in France will appear shortly, amounting to 70,000,000 francs.

A bill has been introduced in Congress to reduce the rate of letter postage to one cent.

The average daily wages paid to miners in the anthracite coal regions is less than \$1 per day.

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It is said that out of the 400,000,000 inhabitants of the Chinese Empire, fully 300,000,000 spend less than \$1.50 a month for food.

A Chicago physician has a collection of several hundred bullets which he extracted from the bodies of Union soldiers who were shot during the war.

The curvature of the earth is such that a straight line a mile long would be 204 inches from the surface at either end.

An Arctic owl was captured near Fish Point, Maine, a few days ago and measured about six feet from tip to tip. These are rare birds.

The Mexican government has granted a subsidy of \$1,000 a round trip to a line of steamships between New York, New Orleans and Vera Cruz.

The French printers in Quebec are on strike for nine hours per day and higher wages. They are backed up by the K. of L. Some of the French papers have suspended publication.

The patchwork quilt presented to Jenny Lind by the children of the United States was buried with her remains, in accordance with her oft-expressed desire.

The building for the Ramona Indian Girls' School at Santa Fe, N. M., commemorating Helen Hunt Jackson, will cost \$30,000, being arranged to accommodate 150 pupils.

The latest craze among the girls is a hair album, made up of locks from the heads of their gentlemen friends. This is another thrust at bald-headed men.

Five hundred and ninety-four bills were introduced in the Senate in one day recently. This breaks the record. No large number was never before introduced in a single day.

In the primary schools of Stockton, Cal., the boys in the two lower classes are obliged to learn needlework just the same as the little girls, so that hereafter they can make small repairs for themselves.

Between one and two million farmers in the United States are affected by the decision of the United States Supreme Court that the drive well patents are illegal on account of priority of use.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor's remains are nightly guarded in Trinity cemetery, New York city. Two guards parade around her tomb every night and Mr. Astor employs two detectives to watch and guard against any possibility of the remains being stolen.

ALASKA comprises more than 55,000 square miles. That portion of the province north of the valley drained by the Yukon, and lying for the most part beyond the Arctic circle has about 3,000 Esquimaux inhabitants, who will not survive long the present rapid disappearance of the walrus and the whale. In the great valley of the Yukon are a hundred villages, half on the river banks and a fifth on the delta, containing 6,870 people, all savages save nineteen whites and eighteen half breeds. The Yukon is 2,000 miles long, seven miles wide 1,000 miles from its mouth, and pours into the Behring sea a volume of water one-third greater than the Mississippi delivers into the Gulf of Mexico. The lower valley of the Kuskokwim river, lying beyond the mountains towards the Yukon delta, supports a population of about 9,000, all savages save three white men.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

An Epitome of the Principal Events Now Attracting Public Interest.

Lord Stanley has accepted the Governor-Generalship of Canada.

The English steamer Maude has foundered in the Black sea. Twelve men were drowned.

Emerson Littlefield, of Peoria, Ill., aged 19, while skating, went into a hole and was drowned.

A revolt broke out on the convict ship Orne, bound for Cayenne, and eleven of the leaders were shot.

An engine jumped the track and ran into New river, at Lynchburg, Va. The engineer was drowned at his post.

The house of Sam Love, colored, at Chesterfield, S. C., was burned, and two small children who were locked inside, perished in the flames.

Tramps were put off a freight train at Palisade, Nev., and shortly afterwards the freight house was set on fire. The tramps are suspected.

Harry Burton and an unknown man were killed, and several other workmen badly injured by the falling of a bridge span at Cleveland, Ohio.

In a quarrel at Jackson, Miss., McWillie Mitchell and Bob Whitesides wounded each other fatally, both dying soon after the affray.

At St. Paul the newspapers have all advanced the price of composition four cents per 1,000 ems, making morning work 42 cents and evening 37 cents.

The President sent to the Senate the following appointments: Charles W. Irish, surveyor-general of Nevada; James Speakey of Pennsylvania, commissioner to Alaska.

At Boulder, Col., Isadore Pierce, a storekeeper, shot his wife twice, in the presence of their four children, and then killed himself. The wife is fatally wounded.

Mrs. Sarah G. Ewing, an old lady living near Shelbyville, Ind., was attacked by hogs in her barn-yard while milking, and partly devoured. Her body was not found until the following morning.

Details of the wreck which occurred on the N. Y. & O. R. R., near Meadville, Pa., prove the disaster to have been a horrible one. Two engineers, two firemen and a passenger were killed outright, and a score or more were badly injured.

Two baggagemen and a mail agent were killed by a train collision on the Cincinnati Southern R. R., near Greenwood, Ky. The accident was caused by the conductor and engineer misunderstanding their orders.

Reports from Wilkesbarre, Pa., say that by a premature blast four men were killed and seven severely wounded while at work on a new branch line of the Lehigh Valley railroad near Laurel Run.

Mrs. Ellen O'Neill, a widow, in company with two of her children, one a blind girl, while walking on the track of the Hudson river railroad, a short distance above Rhinebeck station, N. Y., were struck by a locomotive and instantly killed.

The bark A. D. Snow was wrecked at the entrance of Waterford harbor, Ireland, by a hurricane, and her crew of twenty-five persons lost. She sailed from San Francisco on the 8th of August with a cargo of wheat valued at \$116,290. The vessel was chartered by Wm. Dresbach.

An explosion of dynamite occurred at a limestone quarry near Brookfield, N. S., killing four men, one of them being Alexander McDonald, the proprietor of the quarry. They were warming the dynamite previous to using it for a blast when the explosion occurred.

A most terrible accident occurred at Forgetown, Ala., in which three persons were killed and thirty injured. The colored Baptists were holding a festival in their church. So great was the crowd that the floor gave way and the building collapsed. A scene of terror ensued. Mary Allison and Mrs. Jones and her child were taken from the wreck dead.

At Macon, Ga., a man named Nathan Reid, who did not live happily with his wife, brutally murdered his whole family and then committed suicide. He sent a half-grown boy, who lived with him, after the doctor. When the doctor and boy returned they found the cabin a heap of smoking ruins and in them the charred bodies of Reid's wife and their six children. Further search of the premises disclosed Reid's body in a well with his throat cut.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. White, of Morrison, Ill.—Lillie, aged twelve; George, aged fifteen, and Charles, aged eight—were playing with their sleds on the thin ice on Rock Creek, when Charles broke through. George ran to his assistance, and in his efforts to rescue the drowning boy he also went under the ice. Their sister Lillie then made a frantic attempt to save her two brothers, and all three were drowned.

A special from St. Francis, Ark., says: Wm. Herrig, a wealthy planter, has for some time past been jealous of attentions paid his wife by Wm. Mathewson, and he forbade him to come to the house. Mathewson called and invited Mrs. Herrig to take a drive. While the woman was getting ready Herrig shot and killed Mathewson, and then forced his wife to drive to Mathewson's house with the dead body. On her return she found her home in flames, and was shot and killed by her husband. Herrig then fled. Mrs. Herrig was formerly an actress in Pauline Markham's company, and later was in W. H. Lytle's combination.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Legislation Pertaining to the Interest of the Pacific Coast.

SENATE.

Among petitions presented was one by Blair, in favor of a national prohibitory amendment, and one by Hoar against admission of Utah as a state so long as its power is in the hands of the Mormon priesthood.

Dawes, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported bills to provide for compulsory education of Indian children, and in relation to marriage between white men and Indian women.

Among the bills introduced were the following:

By Platt—For the formation and admission into the Union of the State of North Dakota.

Mitchell called up the joint resolution introduced by him for the appointment of a commission to select a site for a naval station on the Pacific coast, addressed the Senate in advocacy of it. It was referred to the Naval Affairs Committee.

The joint resolution makes it the duty of the commission to examine the coast north of the forty-second parallel of north latitude, in Oregon, Washington and Alaska, and to select a suitable site, having due regard to the commercial and naval necessities of that coast, for a navy yard, and make a full and detailed report to the Secretary of the Navy, to be by him reported to Congress. Mitchell said that while \$58,000,000 had been spent for navy yards and naval stations, of which amount only 5 per cent. has been expended west of the Alleghany mountains, there was only one navy yard on the coast, on which about \$3,000,000 had been expended. One establishment, no matter how well equipped, was wholly inadequate to meet the wants of the country on the Pacific coast. He contrasted the indifference or criminal neglect of the United States government on the subject of naval establishment with the care given by the British, French, Russian, Italian and German governments to the building up of great naval establishments. It is not safe to act on the theory that this country could, whenever occasion rose, provide for it. The rapid environment of the Pacific coast by important military and naval establishments, representing British influence and British power, and military occupation by Great Britain of islands in the Pacific ocean, was of itself a subject which ought to arrest the attention of the American people, and prompt the government to such speedy and effective action as should be a fitting response to this formidable extension of British power. The whole country, north and west, was in fact environed and menaced by a cordon of British military and naval establishments, and by lines of British railroad and steamships, which, in the event of war between Great Britain and the United States, would give the former immense advantages. These forces would fall with unimpeded and relentless power upon the people, industries and commerce of the northwestern Pacific coast. Oregon, Washington and Alaska, with all their limitless resources unprotected, would become the sport and toy of Great Britain.

Dolph said that Puget Sound possessed all the advantages that could be found for a first-class naval station. The importance of the subject should not be underestimated. His colleague had referred to British influence in the Hawaiian islands, but the United States cannot permit those islands to pass under control of any European power, because their possession by any modern naval power would give to that power control not only over the Pacific commerce of the United States but also over its world-wide commerce. We cannot afford to allow foreign conquests and acquisitions to be carried to our very doors. If we do, we shall abdicate the position which our power, our independence, our wealth and our location permit us to retain among the nations of the earth.

The joint resolution was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

By Dolph—To provide for payment of claims for damages by Indian depredations. He said there were some 4,500 such claims, aggregating some \$14,000,000 or \$15,000,000.

By Hoar—To provide for a world's exposition at the national capital in 1892, and thereafter a permanent exposition of the three Americas in honor of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. Referred to the select committee on centennial celebrations.

By Dawes—To establish a postal telegraph system.

HOUSE.

Representative Hermann will introduce in the House a number of bills as follows:

Appropriating \$1,300,000 for continuing improvements at the mouth of the Columbia river; \$750,000 for work on the canal and locks at the Cascades; \$250,000 for improvements at Yaquina bay; \$100,000 for improvements at Coos bay; \$10,000 for the improvement of the Umpqua river; \$50,000 for constructing a boat railway at The Dalles.

To authorize The Dalles city to construct a bridge across the Columbia.

To authorize the Columbia Bridge Company to build a bridge across the Columbia between Oregon and Washington Territory.

Establishing a lighthouse at the mouth of the Coquille.

Appropriating \$40,000 for payment of Oregon Indian war claims.

To establish a life-saving station at Yaquina bay.

COAST CULLINGS.

Devoted Principally to Washington Territory and California.

A furniture factory at Los Angeles was destroyed by fire, loss \$125,000.

Martin Hanson, living near Moscow, Idaho, committed suicide with a rifle.

At San Francisco Thomas Adams, a waiter, was shot and mortally wounded by Martin J. Galvin.

A bill has been introduced in the Washington Territory Legislature to abolish the use of seals on legal documents.

A hotel barn at Milford, Cal., was burned, with one man and twenty-one horses. The loss is \$15,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

Fuller, who killed Archbishop Seghers in Alaska, has been found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to imprisonment in the United States penitentiary for ten years and to pay a fine of \$1,000. The court has requested that an order be issued by the department of justice to have Fuller confined in the prison on McNeil's island.

Adam Routh, who lives on the Weippe, near Lewiston, Idaho, went hunting and succeeded in killing a large bear and a deer. He left them in the woods until next morning. On his arrival where he had left them, he found three large cougars in possession of the bear and deer, devouring the same. This made the little Frenchman angry, and with his Winchester rifle he commenced firing at them and killed all three and took them home with him.

A very sad incident occurred at Juneau, Alaska, recently. Mrs. Harding, an elderly lady residing at that place, was taken sick with pneumonia, and went to Port Townsend, W. T., for treatment. She improved and started home, and on the way up had a relapse. Shortly after her arrival at Juneau she died. In due time the funeral occurred, the body being followed to the grave by a number of friends on foot. Miss Harding, the deceased's twenty-one year-old daughter led the procession, and just as the graveyard was reached she fell dead upon the coffin containing the remains of her mother. Heart disease was the cause.

A terrible boiler explosion occurred at Seattle. A force of men were engaged driving a line of piles south of the Oregon Improvement Company's mills, and were at work about 400 yards south of the mill when the boiler suddenly exploded, blowing the house, engine and boiler into ten thousand pieces, and covering the bay with debris for 100 yards in all directions. Of the half dozen or more men at work on the driver, not one was instantly killed, though one was blown 150 yards into the water, and was rescued by boats. James Livingstone died from his injuries three hours after the explosion. J. H. Wyman, Wm. Driscoll and F. McPherson were injured.

Juneau, Alaska, is on the mainland, 150 miles north of Sitka, and is the distributing point for the Yukon and other mining districts of the interior. It has a floating population from 800 to 1,600. It has now a small church, a hospital and a school, conducted by the sisters of St. Ann, who went there in October, 1886. The new hospital is a fine structure, 40x40 and two stories high, and will accommodate twenty-five patients. The old hospital building is used for a school. The chapel is a small building, 22x40, with apartments in the rear for the priest. Douglas island, on which is located the Great Treadwell mine and stamp mills, lies off the coast about three miles. The hospital at Juneau is a great boon to the poor miners in that isolated region.

OREGON.

Mrs. Mary Clark has been appointed postmistress at Pengra, Crook county.

Nathaniel Marrin has been appointed postmaster at Royal, Lane county.

In Oregon there are 2,593,029 sheep. This is more than double the number of all New England.

This year Corvallis will erect a building for a public school, costing \$25,000 and Benton county will erect a courthouse at that place costing \$40,000.

Astoria statistics for 1887: Police made 304 arrests; 87 deaths; 121 births; 111 marriages; 17 fire alarms; 159 men declared their intention before the County Clerk to become naturalized citizens.

A shooting affray occurred in Chesman's store, at Alsea, between Lee Rycraft and H. C. Myers, which will probably prove fatal to Myers. A dispute occurred over a game of cards, when Myers drew a knife and attempted to stab Rycraft.

A most shocking accident resulting in the burning to death of two children of John Ralston, occurred at Lebanon. A little boy aged 9 and a girl aged 7 were bathing in a bath-room; while Mrs. Ralston was gone after a towel, the lamp either exploded or fell off the table. When the mother returned and opened the door she found the room in flames and the two children behind the door. The room was small and the children could only get out by climbing over the bath tub, when they attempted to do, when the little girl fell down in the tub, and the brave little lad stopped to assist her while the flames were burning his naked flesh. The frantic mother was seriously burned in getting the children from the room. The little boy died at 2 o'clock, and the little girl a few hours later. The house was badly damaged.

A STORY OF 1778.

How a Continental Soldier Disappeared in a Cloud of Smoke.

Night had set in, and in a small hut, a few miles from Trenton, N. J., sat five men, four of whom were seated around an old oaken table in the center of the room, engaged in playing cards, while they frequently moistened their throats from an earthen jug that stood on the table.

They were heavy-bearded, coarse-looking men, and, from their dress, which somewhat resembled the British uniform, they were evidently Tories. The other was a stout-built young man, clad in the centennial uniform. He sat in one corner of the room with his face buried in his hands.

"Tom," said one of the Tories, rising from the table and seating himself near the young prisoner, for such he evidently was, "Tom, you and I were schoolboys together, and I love you yet. Now, why can't you give up your wild notions and join us? You are our prisoner, and if you don't we shall hand you over to headquarters to-morrow; while, if you join us, your fortune is made; for, with your bravery and talents, you will soon distinguish yourself in the royal army, and after the rebellion is crushed out your course shall be rewarded by knighthood and promotion in the army. Now, there are two alternatives; which do you choose?"

"Neither," said the young man, raising his head and looking the Tory steadily in the eye.

"I am now, as you say, your prisoner, but when the clock strikes twelve I shall disappear in a cloud of fire and smoke, and neither you nor your comrades, nor even myself can prevent it. You may watch me as closely as you please, tie me hand and foot if you will, but a higher power than yours or mine has ordained that I shall leave you at that time."

"Poor fellow! his mind wanders," said the Tory; "he'll talk differently in the morning." And he returned to his seat at the table, leaving the youth with his head again resting on his hands.

When the clock struck eleven the young prisoner drew a pipe and some tobacco from his pocket and asked the Tory leader if he had any objections to his smoking. "None in the least," he said, adding with a laugh, "that is, if you will promise not to disappear in a cloud of tobacco smoke."

The young man made no reply, but immediately filled his pipe, having done which he commenced pacing the floor.

He took half a dozen turns up and down each side of the room, approaching nearer the table each time, when, having exhausted his pipe, he returned to his seat and refilled it.

He continued to smoke until the clock struck twelve, when he arose from his seat, and slowly knocking the ashes out of his pipe, said:

"There, boys, it is twelve o'clock, and I must leave you. Good-bye!"

Immediately all round the room were seen streaks of fire hissing and quivering; the cabin was filled with dense sulphurous smoke, amidst which was heard a clap of thunder. The Tories sat in their chairs paralyzed with fright.

The smoke cleared away, but the prisoner was nowhere to be seen. The tables were overturned, the windows smashed to pieces, and one chair was lying on the ground outside the building.

The Tory leader, after recovering from his stupor, gave one glance around the room and sprang out of the window, followed by his comrades. They ran through the forest at the top of their speed in the direction of the British encampment, leaving their muskets and other arms to the mercy of the flames, which had now begun to devour the cabin.

The next day two young men dressed in centennial uniform were seen standing near the ruins of the old cabin. One was our prisoner of the night previous. "Let us hear all about it, Tom," said the other.

"Well," said he, "last evening as I was passing this place two Tories ran out of the cabin and took possession of me. Before I could make any resistance they took me in—and who do you suppose I saw as leader of their party but John Burton, our old schoolmate! He talked with me and tried to induce me to join them, but I told him I couldn't do it; that at twelve o'clock I was going to escape, disappear in a cloud of fire and smoke, but he laughed at me and said I was out of my head.

About eleven o'clock I asked him if I might smoke. He said he had no objection, so I filled my pipe and lighted it and commenced walking the floor. I had about a pound of gunpowder in my pocket, and as I walked I strewed it all over the floor. When the clock struck twelve I bade them good-bye, and told them I had to go; and then knocking the ashes out of my pipe, the powder ignited and a dazzling flame of fire shot across, around, and all over the room, filling it with suffocating smoke. Before it cleared away I hurled a chair through the window, sprang out and departed, leaving them to their own reflections. You know the rest."

—Boston Traveller.

—Mr. Bumpus—"I saw you taking a horseback ride this morning. Your own horse?" Mr. Wumpus—"No; only a lively hack." "He looked like a very fine charger." "So I thought until I paid the bill. Then the owner of the stable cast him all in the shade."

—Harper's Bazar.

—Raw Tomatoes.—Skin the tomatoes by putting them in scalding water for a minute, allow to cool, cut into slices and squeeze a good lemon over them. —Boston Budget.

TARTAR BOYCOTTERS.

How Mongolian Laborers in the Crimea Drive Out German Farmers.

I should not for a moment imagine that the Crim Tartars have learned much of the Irish agrarian science of boycotting through the channels of the Russian press, as the Russian vernacular is only very imperfectly understood among them. Yet they have developed during recent years a system of boycotting the German proprietors in the Crimea, which appears to have been highly successful. The lands formerly apportioned by the crown to thirty thousand Tartars in the Crimean peninsula have through the nomadic habits and ignorance of these people been gradually and easily acquired by the princely and other large proprietors for what may, in these instances, be very appropriately termed old songs. These lands have been subleased, in most cases to the ubiquitous and enterprising Germans. All these estates are worked by Tartar labor, and so long as the proprietor was there or a descendant of one of the old Tartar chieftain families things went smoothly. A German agriculturist with capital a few years ago discovered in these broad tracts and cheap bargains a promising field for enterprise, with the prospect never absent from the Russo-German's visions of gradually ousting and supplanting the native. This, however, required time, but the German reckoned on the long-suffering patience of the industrious, sober, ignorant and stolid-looking Mongolian laborer. The result has proved the German proprietor to have been a long way out of his sanguine reckoning. In many cases he acquired estates covering areas of from fifty thousand to two hundred thousand acres, but the entry of the German into possession of his estates was the signal for a rapid migration of every Tartar laborer and herdsmen. The Tartar proprietors, who were his neighbors, refused the services of their horses, oxen and camels at any price, no matter how tempting. The storekeepers in the neighboring towns and fairs would not supply the German's wants. This Tartar boycotting has now succeeded in driving the greater number of the German proprietors to abandon their estates and holdings at ruinous losses. The Governor of the district has now submitted a project to the imperial Government for the repurchase of these lands and their division among the Tartars. It is further proposed that in addition to these crown grants of small holdings to some twenty-five thousand Tartars the Government shall in all necessitous cases supply each Tartar family with a few necessary agricultural implements and a yoke of oxen. There is little doubt that this project will not be accepted by the Government.—London Daily News.

FAMOUS PIANISTS.

Anecdotes of Liszt, Chopin, Rubinstein, Leopold de Meyer and others.

To genius we allow many special privileges; artists, of whatever ilk, claim eccentricity and capriciousness as a birthright, with which they may or may not choose to divert themselves. Famous opera singers lead the world for capriciousness; not far behind them comes the great Liszt, of whom and other eminent pianists and composers F. S. Saltus gossips as follows:

Pianists, as a rule, are good natured; Von Bulow is the exception, for there must be one.

Liszt will probably rank with Chopin and Rubinstein as the greatest pianist of the century. He was a great deal of a poseur, and was a wit, too; but once he met his match and succumbed. The match was that terrible, sarcastic Italian, Rossini. One night at a party in Paris a lady went to the maestro and said: "You see your friend Liszt over there? Well, he has refused to play for all the ladies, and you must use your influence." "Madam," said Rossini, "he will play." Then, in a loud voice, so that every body in the room could hear him, the author of "Barbiere" cried out: "Eh! Ami Liszt, please give us your usual improvisation." Liszt played. He had a habit of learning some terribly difficult morceau and then making out it was composed on the spur of the moment.

Rossini was a superb pianist, himself, and so was Meyerbeer. One day a pianist called on Rossini and asked him to listen to two pieces he had composed. Rossini consented, and when he had finished the first piece he said: "I like the other one best."

Leopold de Meyer was full of fun, too. One day in a parlor he went to the piano and played a difficult passage, saying, "Thalberg does that better than I do." Then he gave a difficult trill, adding, "Rossini can beat me on that, but here is something neither of them can do," and he turned a hand-spring.

Most competent judges say the coming pianist is Carlos Sobrino. He surely is a marvel in every way. The king of living pianists, Rubinstein, honored Sobrino when in Madrid by choosing him to play with him, "et c'est tout dire."

The dreamer pianist, Gottschalk, will not be forgotten. This Creole sound poet passed like a brilliant meteor in the musical sky, and for a peculiar Orientalism and voluptuous languor will never be equaled.—American Musician.

—Lady (to fond mamma)—"O, the little boy will improve as he grows older." Fond Mamma—"His papa gets out of patience with him! He intends to educate him, as he will be good for nothing else." —Judge.

—The Red river froze over at Winnipeg this year earlier than at any time within seventeen years.