

THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE.

He cannot walk, he cannot speak,
Nothing he knows of books or men;
He is the weakest of the weak,
And has not strength to hold a pen.

He has no pocket and no purse,
Nor ever yet has owned a penny;
He has more riches than his nurse,
Because he wants not any.

He rules his parents by a cry,
And holds the captive by a smile—
A despot strong through infancy,
A king through lack of guile.

He lies upon his back and crows,
Or looks with grave eyes on his mother,
What can he mean? But I suppose
They understand each other.

Indoors or out, early or late,
There is no limit to his sway,
For, wrapped in baby clothes of state,
He governs night and day.

Kisses he takes as rightful due,
And Turk-like has his slaves to dress
him;

His subjects bend before him, too—
I'm one of them, God bless him!
—Standard.

THE BOND BETWEEN THEM.

MRS. LORAIN uttered a faint, frightened cry as a dripping little figure came into her presence that summer afternoon and put up both hands, saying: "I've been in ze river, mamma."

She folded the boy to her in an embrace that soiled her immaculate bodice and dampened the frizzes on her forehead. Wet-eyed and alarmed she asked for an explanation. Reggie gave it in his childish treble.

"So it was Gen. Dartmouth saved you, my child?" half sobbed the haughty beauty, forgetting everything in her ecstasy of joy over the return of her boy, her very all, from the swift waters of the river.

He had fallen in while at play, and the angry current was whirling him onward to the rapids below. Gen. Dartmouth, austere and stately, was taking his usual afternoon promenade when the accident occurred.

Although the child's screams brought many people to the scene, none ventured to risk life to save the General. He sprang at once into the river and snatched the boy from death at great risk to himself.

He treated the affair very coolly, and himself carried Reggie to the door of his own home, and bade him go at once to his mother. Then the dark-faced man with military bearing went to his hotel and exchanged his wet garments for dry ones.

Mrs. Lorain was one of the group of very pretty women at the Riverside Resort. She had been a guest at Willow cottage a month when her boy met with his mishap. She had noticed Gen. Dartmouth for the first time a week earlier. He had passed her once, lifting his hat with cool decorum. A hot fire had leaped into Mills Lorain's cheeks, and her heart gave a sharp bound; then the blood receded, leaving her very pale.

"How dared he intrude here?" she thought. "I knew he was at Oakland earlier in the season, and sought this secluded nook, hoping to avoid the sight of his hateful countenance."

To-day, with little Reggie folded against her wildly beating heart, Mills Lorain realized how much she owed to the General. She sat swaying back and forth, the tears coursing down her cheeks. The thought of what might have been had not been at hand when the cruel waters closed over the blonde head of Reggie quite unmoved the woman of the world.

She straightened herself up at length and sent the boy to his nurse. A maid entered with a card; it bore the name of George Dartmouth.

"It will be over," she said, "I will see him and have it over as soon as possible. How I hate that man! Why has fate been so unkind as to permit him to do me a service?"

She entered the drawing-room, never looking more beautiful, not even in the hour when she stood at the altar of the old South church, a bride of 18, seven years before. Her visitor turned from surveying a picture on the wall as she entered. Her visitor was very pale. She grew rigid the moment their eyes met. She noticed a great change in him since the hour of their parting, now some years in the past. There was a whitening of the abundant hair at the temples, a thinning of the cheeks, and a slightly perceptible stoop of the stalwart frame. He was only five and forty. It seemed to her that he had aged with unnecessary rapidity.

"I called to inquire after the boy, Mills," said he, without offering his hand. Doubtless he wished to save himself from rebuff.

"He met with no harm. How can I thank you enough, Gen. Dartmouth?" cried Mills, forgetting herself for the moment, and extending both hands toward her visitor. Then she suddenly withdrew her hands as she had advanced them. His clear gaze ruffled her, and she looked aside, dumb and confused.

"I assure you, Mrs. Lorain, I am amply repaid for the little inconvenience the affair caused me by learning of the boy's escape from injury," said the General, his gaze lingering on the fair face of the woman haughtily.

An awkward silence followed. The drawing-room contained no other occupants save these two. Had they been friendly the hour and place was every way calculated for a delightful tete-a-tete.

"I wish I might repay you in some way, General. Reggie is my all, and the fates being unkind and permitted him to drown I should have been in despair."

"Is that all you have to say to me, Mills?"

She bowed coldly. He regarded that pale, haughty face one moment, and a great agony rushed over his soul. He trembled throughout his stalwart frame; one moment thus, then he walked to the door; on the threshold he paused unintentionally.

"I got away from nurse and come to see you, General," cried a shrill, childish voice. Two small hands clutched the wrists of Dartmouth, and tried to draw him back into the room. "See, mamma's cryin'; won't you say something to her, please?"

The General, taken by surprise, faced about and caught sight of Mrs. Lorain

with her handkerchief to her eyes. The sight seemed to move him strangely. He suffered Reggie to draw him across the carpet toward his mother.

"Mamma, don't cry; the General wants to speak to you. Tell her not to cry, General. Her Reggie ain't drowned. Tell mamma how you did it, please, Mr. General."

The child's voice had a pleading ring, and its very sound seemed to effect the soldier deeply. He suddenly lifted the boy in his arms and pressed him close to him, imprinting a kiss on the smooth, soft cheek.

And Reggie hung both arms about the General's neck and kissed him in turn, seeming pleased at the friendliness of the man whose name was in everybody's mouth, since he had recently received his party's nomination to Congress.

"Reggie," cried his mother, "go back to nurse at once, you naughty boy!"

The "naughty boy" looked appealingly at his champion. The General stood irresolute, regarding him with a long expression.

"He is our boy, Mills," he said, and then started and trembled at the sound of his own voice.

He seemed to realize that he had ventured on dangerous ground, and in this he was not mistaken. She turned upon him with the menace of an aroused tigress.

"Not yours, but mine, George Dartmouth," cried she, hotly, caressing the blonde curls that lay clustered like spun gold against her skirts. "Think you I would permit him to bear your name after the act of his father made him an orphan, in part, at least? From that hour, three years ago, he has been Lordin, and the name of Dartmouth has not been mentioned to him. He knows you not; his father died years ago, and this boy will never know him as he really was. Go now, before—"

A stern, almost angry look appeared on the face of the listening man while the woman talked. He felt a keen sense of wrong now, and resolved not to permit her words to pass unchallenged.

"Madame," said he, "I would have quitted your presence before now but for this boy, I repeat it, our boy. You had no right to take from him the name of his father. It is an honorable one. No act of mine has ever tarnished it."

"Think a moment," coolly interrupted the beautiful woman.

"What do you mean?"

"Do honorable men desert their wives and children? Was it a mark of manliness to fly from home, from wife and child in the hour of financial calamity?"

"By you had means, Mills; and I knew that you would not be happy with me after my fortune was gone."

"Ah! You knew this?"

"Yes. I was an austere man of 40 while you were young and vivacious. I was blind enough to think you loved me. I did not know till it was too late that it was my standing and wealth you craved. You filled a high niche in the social world, and was satisfied. My heart hungered for love, it was satisfied until the truth dawned one fatal day."

"The truth?"

She seemed to have lost her resentment, and was interested in what he was saying. Reggie covered in his mother's skirts and listened, wondering, to the conversation he did not understand.

"That it was for money and social position you married your father's middle-aged friend."

"You say you learned this one fatal day?"

"Yes, by mere accident. I had gone out, but missing my glove, returned to overhear words uttered in the conservatory by you."

"Indeed?"

"You were talking with your bosom friend, Almida Winans. I heard plainly what was said. She laughingly reminded you of a former lover of yours, Albert Turner. In reply you said if it hadn't been for my money and standing you might have been Mrs. Turner instead of an old man's slave."

"Did I say that?"

The woman's face was white as death, and she seemed scarcely to breathe. He stood up tall and stern, continuing:

"The truth hurt me terribly. I felt like a criminal. Although there had been no coercion on my part, I could see that my money had won you and I was miserable. I think, but for our baby boy, I should have been coward enough to take my own life. The revelation of the lie broke my heart. Scarcely a month later the collapse of a bank nearly ruined me. I had \$50,000 in bonds; these I turned over to you through a friend, then quitted your presence forever. I knew that you could obtain a divorce at the end of two years for desertion."

"It was to please me, that you left me?" the woman asked hurriedly.

"Certainly. I knew you wished to be free from bonds that were galling now that wealth was gone."

"Gen. Dartmouth, what if I tell you that I never received those bonds you speak of?" asked she with changing color.

"What if I tell you that my bosom friend, Almida Winans, disappeared at the same time you did, and that gossip coupled your names?"

"What I said that day in the conservatory was the idle prattle of a silly girl, and meant nothing whatever?"

"You did not receive the bonds?"

"No. I have lived on the little left me by my father, who died soon after your disappearance. I have had to bear the stigma of being spoken of as a deserted wife. Can you blame me if I almost hated you?"

"Perhaps not, but I meant it for the best. Are you sure you were not in earnest when you told your friend that you married old Dartmouth for his money, Mills?"

"Was I so wicked as to say that?"

"I think my memory serves me correctly."

Mrs. Lorain had sudden recourse to her handkerchief. The General stood in an embarrassed attitude.

"It was the boy who brought us together, Mills. For his sake may we not part friends?"

He held out his hand. She did not see the movement, her eyes being hidden in the handkerchief. Reggie quickly divined the situation and seized and conveyed his mother's hand to that of the General.

"We part friends, I hope, Mills?"

"Y-e-s, if we must part, General," faltered a small voice from behind the handkerchief.

"Mills, do you mean—"

"I mean that I have been a silly fool," she said. "I—I never loved any one but you. Can you ever forgive me, George?"

The pitiful little sob that accompanied the request quelled the business of the General. He stepped nearer to her and said gently:

"It is my opinion that we were both fools, Mills. If it were not for that divorce—"

"There has been no divorce, George."

"Is it possible? Then you are still Mrs. Dartmouth?"

He trembled like one in a chill.

"I am still your wife, George," she murmured.

While he stood irresolute a small voice piped from below:

"Kiss mamma, General! Kiss mamma!"

And Gen. Dartmouth did—Waverley Magazine.

TOO SMART FOR HERRMANN.

A Card Sharp Who Beat the Wizard by Losing to Him.

The dead magician, Herrmann, loved nothing better than a game of poker, and by his wizard touch could manipulate the cards beyond the possibility of detection if he so willed," said R. W. Scully, of Boston.

"But Herrmann scorned to do any thing crooked. If he ever cheated he did so for a joke and invariably refunded any money won by his act. Once he was tricked in a very funny way. He got into a two-handed game with a noted Western gambler who was almost as expert as Herrmann. The latter had been told to look out for this man, but he hadn't the slightest doubt of his ability to protect himself.

"The pair sat in to play freeze-out for big money. Herrmann had a lot of rather worn paper currency and some gold and silver, while the professional had mostly crisp new bills of large denomination. The game was warm and very interesting, but Herrmann and the best luck, and was arranged to get hold of the new bills of high figure, the gambler acquiring the old notes and a major part of the coin. Herrmann quit a heavy winner, and then said to his opponent: 'I want you to take back all the money I have won of you, for I did not play fairly. I wouldn't keep a dollar unless I had won it on the square.'

"To his surprise the gambler absolutely refused to accept the offer. 'I played just as crookedly as you did,' he said, 'and whenever a man beats me at my own game he is welcome to my money.' All efforts of the magician to get him to reconsider were unavailing, and finally Herrmann went away with about \$500 of the fellow's new currency, while the gambler took off something like \$300 that he had acquired from the wizard.

"Later on the wizard saw the method in the professional's madness. He was telling some friends of his queer experience while taking a drink in a bar-room, and Herrmann, saying he was enough ahead to set-up the wine, offered a \$50 bill in payment. The bar-keeper, after a second's hesitation, handed him back the money. It was a counterfeit, and so was all the rest. That was Herrmann's last game of poker outside his own circle of personal friends."

FATHER OF AN EMPRESS.

Played Zither for Money and Said His Daughter Had Married Well.

The death of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria has brought out many stories of her and her family. Some of the most interesting are about her and her mother. Some of the most interesting are about her father, the Duke Maximilian. This man was a remarkably simple and genial character. Once he was making a pedestrian tour and stopped in a small tavern to eat. He had a zither with him, and some guests asked him to play, thinking on account of his plain clothing, that he was a strolling musician. He obeyed readily and played everything that he could think of till coins rained into his hat. Then he ordered a meal that was so expensive for a strolling musician that the tavern-keeper became suspicious that his strange guest intended to run away after eating without paying. There was hesitation about serving the food, and while the Duke was waiting a corporal of one of his regiments entered the inn. He saluted, and who threw the money for the meal on the table and ran away, says the New York Press.

Once the Duke was in a train traveling to Vienna to visit the imperial family. In the coupe with him was a banker, who, misled by his fellow traveler's simplicity, patronized him, and in the course of a conversation told him that he had a daughter in Vienna who had married very well. She was, he boasted, the wife of one of the richest bankers in the city. "So?" said the Duke. "Why, that is quite a coincidence. I have a daughter in Vienna who has married very well, too." "Who is the husband of your daughter, my good man?" asked the banker, and in his most harmless tone Maximilian answered, "The Emperor of Austria."

An Heroic Lad of Long Ago.

"In 'The Field of the Cloth of Gold,' in St. Nicholas, Robert B. Nelson says that it was not King Henry VIII or Philip I of France, but the peasant lad, Victor Bacheaux, that was the hero of the day. When 200 young Frenchmen were appointed to storm a hill held by the English archers, their flag was given to him, to bear against the foe. And gallantly he bore it, in the face of cannon-balls and flying arrows; though his companions turned tail and fled down the hill, believing, as he did, that it was a real, and not a sham, battle that they were engaged in. But the English girth and archers had been instructed to aim above the heads of their assailants, and the gallant boy was welcomed with cheers when he reached the summit of the hill.

A Little More Appropriate.

"Your wife?" asked the casual acquaintance as the aggressive-looking woman passed.

"Well," replied the little man, doubtfully, "perhaps it would be a little more appropriate to say that I am her husband."—Indianapolis Journal.

Matrimonial Item.

"Maud says she would be willing to marry if the proper man came along."

"And I guess he would not have any too proper at that."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

PHILIPPINE CONGRESS.

Authorizes Aguinaldo to Declare War.

NATIVE WOMEN WANT TO FIGHT

An American Sentry Kills a Captain of Philippine Artillery at Tonto.

Manila, via Hong Kong, Jan. 28.—Republica, the official organ of the Filipinos, announces that congress at Malolos has adopted a Philippine constitution, passed a vote of confidence in Aguinaldo and empowered him to declare war on the United States whenever he may deem it advisable. At a mass meeting of the women of Cavite yesterday, the paper adds, it was enthusiastically resolved to petition Aguinaldo for permission to take the men's places in defense of independence and to bear arms if necessary.

An American sentry yesterday killed a captain of the Filipino artillery at Tonto outpost. As a result the native press is intensely excited and denounce it as a "cowardly assassination."

On Saturday, January 21, five Filipinos determined to have revenge for the captain's death and attempted to enter the American lines. An American sentry killed one of them, who was armed with a revolver. After an exchange of shots the others were arrested. The incident has intensified excitement here.

The cabinet yesterday insisted on the liberation of Spanish civil prisoners, in commemoration of the proclamation of the Filipino republic and also donated money to the native clergy.

An elaborate programme has been arranged for formal ratification of the constitution today. Nothing was accomplished at the conference here yesterday, and it is rumored the Filipinos at their next meeting will give the Americans eight days in which to accede to their demands for recognition. The rumor is discredited.

CYCLONE SWEEP THE SEAS.

Many Persons Drowned and Much Property Destroyed.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 28.—The steamer Aorangi, from Australasia, brings details of the terrible cyclone which swept the South seas about the middle of December, devastating villages, wrecking shipping and causing many deaths. At Samarai, in New Guinea, on December 11, the gale was terrific. Cocoa palms went down by hundreds and were carried to sea. Torrents of rain fell. Twelve vessels were wrecked.

The cutters Mayflower and Nabua were total wrecks at Basilaki. The ketches Babel and Baikan were lost off Goodenough island, and Mr. Kennedy, manager of the New Guinea Development Company, was drowned, together with his crew, save one boy.

The schooner Ellen Gowan and the cutter Ivy were lost in the Kossman group and Captain Godet and crew were drowned.

In the Solomons the hurricane did the most damage, whole villages being destroyed. Hundreds of cocoa plantations were uprooted and yam patches leveled.

Over 500 natives are reported to have been killed.

Captain Pentecost of the yacht St. Aubin, who brought the news of the disaster to Sydney, says he saved a woman who was to have been killed as a sorceress, she being accused of having caused the hurricane. He bought her, the purchase price being a pig, and took her to another island, where she was released.

Urging Release of Prisoners.

New York, Jan. 28.—Through the French embassy here Spain has again urged the United States to procure the release of Spanish prisoners held by the Philippine insurgents. Information officially received by the Madrid government from the Philippines shows that the lives of Spanish women and children, as well as men are in danger and that the prisoners are not receiving proper treatment.

Secretary Hay replied that General Otis had been instructed to give immediate attention to the matter, but that this government has no promises to obtain the release of the prisoners. It is the growing belief that they will be able to obtain the release of the prisoners only by force.

The Search Abandoned.

New Orleans, Jan. 28.—Lawrence Jones, owner of the ill-fated launch Paul Jones, which was lost near Breton island about January 5, with all on board, and Mayor Taggart, of Indianapolis, whose daughter was among the party, have returned to the city from the river after having made a fruitless search for some trace of the victims of the disaster. They only found some wreckage, among which is a part of the stern of the launch.

Strike Riots in Russia.

London, Jan. 28.—There have been serious strike riots in the cotton mills of the St. Petersburg district. The police, while attempting to raid the workmen's barracks in order to arrest a ringleader, were attacked by the workmen, one policeman being killed.

Oklahoma Wants to Be a State.

Guthrie, O. T., Jan. 28.—The territorial statehood convention has resolved for a constitutional convention in June and a state election in October on a proposition to go to congress and demand admission in December.

Accident on the New York.

New York, Jan. 28.—While cleaning a boiler in the cruiser New York today six men were injured seriously by escaping steam. One of them will die. Three others were scalded slightly.

Another Earthquake.

Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 28.—A severe earthquake shock was felt throughout the island on Saturday morning, and was followed by another on Tuesday night, the direction being from west to east. No damage has been reported. The Northern West Indies are telegraphically cut off. The reason is unknown, but in all probability it is due to an earthquake.

A Schoolboy's Crime.

Albany, Mo., Jan. 28.—T. B. Hunter, a teacher in the Adams school, 12 miles northeast of here, has been fatally stabbed by a 13-year-old pupil named Charles Ayres, whom he was whipping. The boy is in jail here.

Christiania, Jan. 28.—United States Senator Knute Nelson, of Minnesota, American commissioner to the Bergen exposition, and O. T. Thorpe, of Chicago, have been gazzeted Knights of St. Olaf.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The president

talked with a number of callers from congress today about the peace treaty. He expressed satisfaction that an agreement had been reached for a vote and expressed confidence in the result. The president told his callers there was need for prompt action, and the situation was one that should not be prolonged.

An amendment has been offered to the sundry civil bill in the senate appropriating \$20,000,000 to pay Spain, in accordance with the terms of the peace treaty.

BUTLER'S AMENDMENT.

He Proposes to Provide for ex-Confederate Soldiers.

Washington, Jan. 28.—As the senate seemingly was about to conclude consideration of the pension appropriation bill, Butler (Pop. N. C.) offered his amendment announced some time ago, providing for the pensioning of ex-Confederate soldiers. Upon this he took the floor and delivered a speech which, as he proceeded, developed into a most unexpected utterance. While his colleagues on both sides of the chamber listened with interest, Butler defended the position taken by the South during the great civil conflict of a third of a century ago. He declared that the South was right, and that history would so record, and that every shot fired in defense of the rights of his state constitution, in self-defense, and in defense of his home and fireside.

The amendment was finally withdrawn.

Mallory (Fla.) was then recognized. He said that in the very face of the declaration of our disinterestedness in Cuba we propose to take Porto Rico and the Philippines. He thought we ought not to be inconsistent. We could not, therefore, afford to take the Philippines, although in the case of Porto Rico the case might fairly be regarded as different. The Philippines, he said, were 7,000 miles away from our shores, and inhabited by a people with which we could have nothing in common—a people who were semi-barbarous, if not absolutely savage. He complained that if the treaty of peace should be ratified, the inhabitants of the Philippines, from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 in number, would have the right to come to this country and compete with our own laborers, and if they did not actually come here, they would have the right to send their products here to compete with those of our own laborers.

The senate committee on commerce has agreed to report favorably Hanna's steamship subsidy bill.

Without preliminary business, the house today resumed consideration of the army bill. The debate drifted into a discussion of the government's new island possessions, and lasted until 5 P. M. At the night session the feature was an hour's speech by White (Rep. N. C.) the only colored member of the house, against the election methods in the South. At 11:14 the house adjourned.

Irving Coming to America Again.

New York, Jan. 28.—The Herald says: "Sir Henry Irving is now in active negotiations by mail and cable with several American managers looking to the completion of his plans for the tour of America, which he will make next season. He has personally communicated to them the ideas he has in mind for the trip.

"Sir Henry Irving's present intention is to produce 'Robespierre,' his new Sardou play, at the Lyceum in London at Easter, and his engagement there will last until well into the summer. At its termination and after a short rest he will sail for America early in October. His tour in America will be limited to 30 weeks, and in that time it is his wish to visit all the principal cities. He is particularly anxious to play in San Francisco, where his previous engagement several years ago was remarkably successful in every way.

Cuba Welcomes Lee.

Havana, Jan. 28.—General Lee returned to camp tonight from a trip to the southeastern part of the province, ending at Guines, which is the next largest town after Havana. The journey was made with a team of mules along the highway and the return by rail. A battalion of the Fourth Illinois preceded General Lee, and was accompanied there upon his arrival.

The American troops were welcomed everywhere, and their presence was made the occasion of demonstrations. General Lee received an enthusiastic welcome at Guines. Insurgent troops escorted him, and the town was decorated with American and Cuban flags.

Chinese in Hawaii.

Honolulu, Jan. 28.—The supreme court this morning rendered an opinion in the eight Chinese habeas corpus cases submitted last week. It sustains jurisdiction, but gives the collector-general of customs authority to enforce United States laws. Chief Justice Judd concurs in the first proposition, but dissents from the second one. The Chinese will appeal from the decision to the secretary of the treasury.

Customs of Santiago.

Havana, Jan. 28.—As a result of a conference between Governor-General Leonard Wood, governor of the military department of Santiago, a mutual understanding has been reached regarding the customs receipts at Santiago. Santiago's \$280,000 will not be used in other provinces, but will be mortgaged to defray the cost of works now under way.

Mastering Out Volunteers.

Captain Taylor, mastering officer, was given official notice to the officers and members of the Eighth California volunteers, that they will be mastered out of the service of the United States on Tuesday next.

The Badger Gold-Mining Company.

of Susanville, Or., has within the last six weeks shipped 75 tons of ore to the Selby smelting works at San Francisco, the values ranging between \$160 and \$300 per ton.

During his incumbency of the executive of Oregon, Governor Lord granted 55 pardons, and 63 pardons to restore citizenship, and commuted 23 sentences.

The Three Bridges Across Yellowstone.

the Walla Walla cemetery road, have been reported washed away, and travel is impossible.

The heavy grade a mile above Marcus, Wash., in the place commonly known as the Seven Devils, has slid down on the railway track of the Spokane Falls & Northern railway, causing a complete blockade of the line, and necessitating a transfer of all business. It is probable a week will elapse before the blockade is broken.

Spokane Hackmen Have Organized.

and have raised the rates. They still carry passengers from any of the depots to Howard street for 25 cents, with the usual extra baggage charges. If the passenger desires to go beyond Howard street, however, 50 cents is charged.

About 4,000 feet of the Astoria Railroad Company's track between Clifton and Brenson has been torn up by a slide and carried into the river.

Miss Millie A. Wilson Will sue

Olympia for \$5,000 damages sustained by fall through a sidewalk last July

NEWS OF NORTHWEST.

Items of General Interest Gleaned From the Thriving Pacific States.

To Freeze Out Americans.

The government measure recently enacted into law, and aimed at the Americans in the Atlin district, provides for the amendment of the placer mining act, providing that no one who is not a British subject shall take out a free miner's license, and that no company shall have the same license unless incorporated or registered under the laws of the province. The act is not retrospective. Licenses take out previously may be renewed, but under a renewed license no one is entitled to take up new claims. Section 5, which is the most far-reaching, provides that no free miner after the passage of this act shall hold any claim under the British Columbia placer mining act or an interest therein as trustee or otherwise for any person who is not a British subject, or for any corporation not authorized to take out a free miner's certificate. A miner's license taken out by any person not authorized to do so by this section shall be null and void. This section shall not affect free miners' licenses issued before the coming into force of this section, and such licenses may be renewed from time to time. The only necessities for a person to become naturalized are that the applicant is a person of good character and has resided in the Dominion for three years.

For Upper Yukon.

Within the next two weeks three river steamers constructed on the plan of Missouri river craft will be taken in sections to Lake Bennett, where they will be put together ready for service when navigation on the Upper Yukon opens. The machinery and material for the vessels weighs 340 tons. The steamers will draw 12 inches draft and 8 1/2 feet when loaded. The capacity of each will be 400 passengers and 200 tons of freight.

Sale of Big Steamships.

Anthony T. Prichard and Charles Stewart, of Tacoma, have sold to the North American Mail Steamship Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Washington; Steamships Olympia, consideration, \$150,000; Tacoma, \$137,500; Victoria, \$240,000. These vessels were formerly operated by the Northern Pacific Steamship Company between Tacoma and the Orient, and recently received American registers.

To Close Up Cannery Combines.

It is reported that A. B. Hammond has left New York for Astoria. Upon his arrival he will close up the cannery combine deal if it is possible. In the event of the combine being consummated, it is said, by one who is familiar with the plans of the combine, some new and important features will be introduced, one of which will be the development of the deep-sea fishing industry.

To Buy a Sunken Ship.

A joint stock company is being formed at Tacoma to buy and raise the sunken ship Andolana in case the insurance company decides not to attempt the almost impossible task of raising her themselves. The ship sank in the Tacoma harbor during a storm recently.

First of a New Line.

The steamer Belgian King, the first of the fleet of five vessels of the California & Oriental Steamship Company plying between Hong Kong, Yokohama and San Diego, Cal., has arrived. Over 200 carloads of freight are awaiting shipment on the return trip to the Orient.

Embassier Sentenced.

W. H. Donaca, the 32-year-old postmaster at Sweet Home, Or., who embezzled \$1,257 postal funds, was sentenced by United States Judge Bellinger, at Portland. He was fined \$1,257 and sentenced to six months imprisonment in the county jail.

Puget Sound Exports.

The exports of Puget Sound customs district for the month of December, 1898, exceed imports by \$1,584,464. Imports for the month were valued at \$1,328,793, while exports amount to \$1,728,257. The duty collected was \$19,872.83.

A Large Mortgage.

The largest mortgage ever recorded in Wasco county, Or., was that executed recently by the Columbia Southern railroad at The Dalles, in favor of the New York Security & Trust Company. The consideration is \$2,100,000.

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Vice-Consul Advanced.

Wellesley Moore, British vice-consul in San Francisco, has been advanced to the consular post at Porto Rico, W. I., to succeed George W. Crawford, who died at Saen, France, recently. Mr. Moore's head clerk, Montague Hankin, has been advanced to the position of vice consul at Buenos Ayres.

Government Control of Locks.

The preliminary proceedings looking to the purchase by the government of the locks at Oregon City have been taken up by the secretary of war, under whose jurisdiction the matter comes. He has been authorized to report to congress, after making a thorough investigation, as to the amount of money needed for this entire enterprise.

Lower Rate on Prunes.

Fruitraisers in the vicinity of Spokane are asking for lower rates on green prunes to St. Paul. The present rate on apples is 75 cents, and on mixed fruit \$1.12 1/2. The fruit men want the rate on mixed fruit reduced to 37 1/2 cents, and they state that the prune industry cannot live unless this reduction is made.

Settling an Estate.

Transfers to the amount of \$18,000 in deeds were made in connection with the estate of Henry Buckman, of Portland, this past week. It was simply the settling up and division of the state of the deceased, who died intestate.

Increase in Insurance Business.

Insurance Commissioner Clunie, of San Francisco, has made a report showing that the amount of insurance written on the Pacific coast in 1898 was \$556,057,065, an increase over 1897 in the former total of \$150,000,000, and in the latter total of \$2,400,000. The coast losses amounted to \$5,838,021 last year, and \$4,400,541 in 1897.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.
Onions, 85¢@90¢ per 100 pounds.
Potatoes, 15¢@20¢.
Beets, per sack, 75¢.
Turnips, per sack, 50¢@75¢.
Carrots, per sack, 45¢@60¢.
Parsnips, per sack, \$1.
Cauliflower, 50¢@90¢ per doz.
Celery, 35¢@40¢.
Cabbage, native and California \$1.25 per 100 pounds.
Apples, 35¢@50¢ per box.
Pears, 50¢@1.50 per box.
Prunes, 50¢ per box.
Butter—Creamery, 26¢ per pound; dairy and ranch, 18¢@20¢ per pound.
Eggs, 33¢.
Cheese—Native, 12¢@12 1/2¢.
Poultry—Old hens, 14¢ per pound; spring chickens, 14¢; turkeys, 16¢.
Fresh meats—Choice dressed beef steers, prime, 7 1/2¢; cows, prime, 7¢; mutton, 8¢; pork, 7¢; veal, 6¢@8¢.
Wheat—Feed wheat, \$23.
Oats—Choice, per ton, \$24.
Hay—Puget Sound mixed, \$9.00@11; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$15.
Corn—Whole, \$33.50; cracked, \$24; feed meal, \$23.50.
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$25@26; whole, \$23.
Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.50; straight, \$3.25; California brands, \$3.20; buckwheat flour, \$3.75; graham, per barrel, \$3.60; whole wheat flour, \$3.75; rye flour, \$4.
Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$14; shorts, per ton, \$16.
Feed—Chopped feed, \$20@22 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$17; oil cake meal, per ton, \$35.
Portland Market.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 60¢; Valley, 62¢; Bluestem, 63¢ per bushel.
Flour—Best grades, \$3.20; graham, \$2.65; superfine, \$2.15 per barrel.
Oats—Choice white, 41¢@42¢; choice gray, 39