

The Daily Astorian

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ASTORIA, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1885.

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PRESTAN AND RIEL.
Prestan, the man who set the town of Colon on fire, has been tried by court martial and hanged. He was an illiterate half-breed, and was better entitled to the name of a bandit than a revolutionary chief. The burning of Colon could not in any event have helped the political cause to which he professed attachment. It was a pure piece of devilry, and was righteously punished. In Central and South America unsuccessful revolutionists expect to expiate their offenses on the scaffold, and that it is so in one of the standing evidences of the backwardness of civilization in these countries. But in the most civilized country in the world a rebel who burned down a town of non-combatants, when the fire inflicted no particular damage on his enemy, would probably meet the same fate as Prestan.

The case of that other half-breed, Louis Riel, who is to hang in a fortnight if he is not reprieved or his sentence not commuted, is very different. Riel headed an uprising of his people which was based on certain alleged wrongs of theirs. They claimed that they had been unjustly deprived of lands to which they were entitled. They could obtain no redress in the courts. So they did as people similarly situated have done all through history—they rose in arms with Riel at their head. They were put down by force of arms and Riel was captured. According to the law and practice of Great Britain until the nineteenth century, Riel's life would be forfeit. If the American colonies had been subjugated, Washington would probably have been hanged. It was the fashion of that day. But that fashion has gone out. The English did not hang any one after having suppressed the Canadian rebellion in 1837-38. The French revolutions of 1838, 1848 and 1870 involved the executions of no political leaders. We executed no one but Wirz and the murderers of Lincoln after the close of the rebellion. The principle which governs such cases to-day is that an insurgent who honestly believes in the justice of his cause, and conducts his campaign in obedience to the laws of civilized warfare, is not a proper subject for the infliction of the supreme penalty.

KEEPING AN ACCOUNT.
New York, Sept. 7.—A Washington special says: A gentleman familiar with the affairs of the Chinese legation, says that ever since the last treaty with China was proclaimed the officials of that government in the United States have carefully preserved a record of all outrages committed on Chinese in this country, together with affidavits and evidence such as diplomatic agents are expected to get when required to do so, to furnish their government with positive proof of wrongs alleged. The Wyoming massacre, he says, will culminate in a massing of evidence for a first-class demand for reparation and satisfaction. Not that China has particular need of indemnity for the destruction of property, injury to laborers and the murdering of inoffensive people, but the United States being at the head of enlightened nations, these accumulated evidences of our superior civilization may some day be offered in extenuation of similar acts by citizens of China, alleged to be only partially civilized.

"I need not tell you," he continued, "that satire is a very potent weapon with Chinese diplomats, and I have already heard the remark that the Chinese minister will be exceedingly gratified when he knows that our post routes in the neighborhood of the assaulted laborers which require the presence of United States troops to keep them under protection. If his countrymen cannot be protected it will be a pleasure for Chen Yin Huan to hear that government mail routes are protected, though this act of friendship on the part of the United States is not a treaty of obligation. You can imagine how the members of the legation here were provoked to scornful laughter when they read the orders of the war department to Gen. Schofield about interference in the affairs of a territory."

Burned to Death.
LITTLE ROCK, Sept. 7.—The *Galveston*'s Washington, Arkansas, special says: "A mob on Sunday night visited the Pike county jail at Murreysboro, and made an attempt to shoot the Polk boys, confined for murder, but not being able to get within range, the mob hauled a load of wood to the jail, piled it around the cell, saturated the wood with coal oil and literally roasted both prisoners alive. Nothing is standing but the brick walls of the jail. The Polks murdered a peddler last year, and had several trials. The affair created great excitement, and this was the third effort by the mob to kill them."

TACOMA, Sept. 7.—The ship *Benj. F. Packard* of Bath, Me., Waterhouse master, arrived here to-day, to take a cargo of 3,200 tons of wheat under charter by Balfour, Guthrie & Co., 30s, U. K.
For Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint, you have a printed guarantee on every bottle of Shiloh's Vitalizer. It never fails to cure. Sold by W. E. Dement.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.
MADRID, Sept. 7.—Dispatches just received regarding German occupation of Yap state had hoisted the Spanish flag, and had lowered it at sunset for the night, as is customary with all nationalities, and that immediately afterwards the German gunboat ran in, landed marines and sailors, hoisted the German colors and formally occupied the place, despite the protestations of the Spaniards. Count Bismarck has offered to withdraw the German forces from Yap, provided Spain will not occupy it, pending a diplomatic solution of the question as to Spain's claim over the island. Germany will acknowledge Spanish occupation of Yap, provided Spain proves that the Spanish flag had been hoisted on the island before the German gunboat had arrived in the harbor. Excitement in Madrid over the affair has quieted down. Everything was tranquil last night.

BERLIN, Sept. 7.—A semi-official note describes the hoisting of the German flag at Yap as preliminary and without prejudice to an ultimate agreement between Germany and Spain. Prince Bismarck, who is at Varsin, signifies no intention of leaving there. The statement that Spain had refused to submit the question of ownership of the Caroline islands to an arbitration is not confirmed, nor is it believed, for the reason that such a refusal would probably result in decisive action by Germany for retention of the islands. War is regarded as entirely out of the question. The worst that can happen because Spain refused to apologize is a suspension of diplomatic relations.

PARIS, Sept. 7.—*La France* publishes a statement to-day to the effect that a mob had murdered the German consul at Saragossa, Spain. The report is not believed, and no information in confirmation of the story has been received.

Land Instructions.
The following are instructions relative to proof in support of pre-emption claims and commuted homestead entries: "The claimant must show at least six months' residence next preceding date of final proof, which must be made on the day and at the place advertised. Residence must be actual inhabitation of, and not occasional visits to the land. The party must actually reside upon, cultivate and improve the land for at least the period above mentioned. Persons doing business in town and residing there, or elsewhere than on the land entered or filed for, or otherwise not actually living on the land, must not be allowed to acquire title thereto by pretext or assumption of 'constructive residence.' The character of the improvements and amount of cultivation must be such as will evidence entire good faith on the part of the claimant. Persons applying to give notice of their intention to submit proof should be advised that it will be a useless expenditure of time and money if they will not be able on the day fixed to show full compliance with the law."

Russia's Railway System.
LONDON, Sept. 8.—The ameer of Bokhara has abdicated in favor of his son Turani, who is inimical to Russian interests and friendly to wards England. Russia has determined to extend her railway system through Bokhara, despite the protests of Turani. The Bokharan embassy is at present in St. Petersburg discussing the question with the Russian ministry. A concession for building a railway was obtained by Russia from the father of Turani, and is in connection with the Trans-Caspian railway.

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast," and thousands who suffer the pangs of rheumatism have had their hopes of a cure realized by the use of St. Jacobs Oil.

Scientific men say that the curve is given to a pitched ball by making it revolve swiftly as it leaves the hand. If the axis is perpendicular it will curve in or out, according to the direction of the revolution; if horizontal it will curve up or down.

The Present Generation Lives at telegraphic speed—eats too fast, retires too late, does not rise betimes, smokes and chews too much tobacco. The consequences are dyspepsia, a general absence of that robust and manly vigor which characterized our ancestors, and a manifest proneness to early decay. Regular hours, a due allowance of time for meals, the disuse of excessive smoking, and altogether of chewing tobacco, in connection with a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, will in nine cases out of ten efface the consequences of the abuses of the past of health as dictated above. A want of stamina, dyspepsia, nervousness and biliousness are among these consequences, and they are bodily fit to the removal of which the Bitters is specially adapted. Nor is the Bitters less fitted to overcome and prevent fever and ague, kidney and bladder troubles and rheumatic ailments. It is also a fine appetizer and promoter of convalescence.

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U. S. SCOTT, President