

# The Daily Morning Astorian.

EXCLUSIVE TELEGRAPHIC PRESS REPORT.

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ASTORIA, OREGON, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1894.

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## MURDER AND SUICIDE.

### An Awful Human Butchery in a Missouri Town.

#### DOLPH ON NICARAGUA CANAL.

#### A Synopsis of the New Banking Bill—The Recent Hurricane.

Associated Press.

Dodge, Mo., Dec. 11.—The most horrible human butchery ever reported in this section was committed five miles southwest of this city today. David G. Spragg, in a fit of insanity, murdered his wife and two children, and mortally wounded his stepchildren and then took his own life. The weapon which the maniac used was a large butcher knife. In a few hours numbers of people arrived from neighboring towns, and an investigation of the scene was made. A most sickening sight met their gaze. Lying in the yard near the gate was the remains of Mrs. Spragg, mutilated beyond all recognition. In the little dwelling in one corner of the sitting room, lay the lifeless body of little Casey, six years old, and in the other, Albert, a four years old boy. On the kitchen floor with blood besmeared all over his hands and face, and still clenching the terrible instrument of death, lay the author of the awful crimes. Two step-children of Spragg's, both under six years old, were taken to the home of a neighbor, where they are dying from wounds. The particulars of the butchery are learned from Dora, the eleven-year-old step-daughter of Spragg, who escaped to the neighbors and gave the alarm. Spragg had been complaining all morning of his head, and the nearest neighbor, Mr. Meyers, was sent to Ridgeway for a doctor. Soon after Meyers left, Spragg began his work. When the people began to arrive, they were kept from entering by Spragg, who stood in the door with a loaded shotgun. Finally he locked the door and it was then that he butchered his step-children. Just as the crowd was preparing to break into the house two shots were heard and when the door was finally forced open Spragg was dead.

#### YESTERDAY'S SENATE.

Dolph Speaks at Length on the Nicaragua Bill. Washington, Dec. 11.—In the senate today, Call gave notice that tomorrow he would ask the senate to appoint a committee to investigate the operations of the Honduras Lottery Co., of Florida. The senate proceeded to the consideration of the Nicaragua Canal bill, and Dolph addressed the senate in favor of the bill. Dolph said the people of the Pacific coast were a unit in favor of the bill, and discussed the advantages which the canal would bring to the whole country. The canal, if owned and controlled by the United States, would be of great service in time of war. In that event Lake Nicaragua could be so utilized by the navy as to soon re-embargo the United States for any outlet made by this country. The main difficulty to be encountered would be the question as to the amount of money to be paid out to the company for the work already done and the concessions possessed by it. He devoted some time to the considerations of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and declared that the instrument presented no obstacle to the construction of the canal by the United States and control of it. Dolph said the United States had adopted a policy, had declared a principle which is approved by her people, and well understood by the world, which is just, right and to the interest of the people of this hemisphere, which would be maintained at all hazards. In brief, the chairman pointed out that the only provision of the Nicaragua bill that he was not entirely satisfied with was the amount to be paid the maritime company, which he thought was entitled to only the amount of money expended in the enterprise thus far. He wanted the bill stripped of all doubtful provisions in this respect, and to have refunded to the company all the expenditures made by it. Having said that, the government could proceed to the work of construction without interference by the company.

#### THE BANKING BILL.

A Synopsis of the Bill as Presented to the Committee. Washington, Dec. 11.—The following is a synopsis of the bill presented to the banking and currency committee by Horace White: The first section provides that no banking association shall be required to deposit United States bonds either

as preliminary to the commencement of banking business, or for the security of circulating notes to be hereafter issued.

Section two provides that in lieu of the deposit of bonds, each national banking association shall be entitled to receive circulating notes from the comptroller to the amount of — per cent of its paid up and unimpaired capital, upon paying to the amount of 2 per cent of such circulating notes and thereafter a tax at the rate of one-half of one per cent per annum upon the average amount of its circulation for one year. The 15 per cent and proceeds of the tax are to constitute a guarantee fund for the redemption of notes of insolvent national banks, and the tax is to be collected until the fund amounts to not less than five per cent of the entire circulation issued. This fund is also to be in addition to the five per cent redemption fund now provided by law.

Section three provides that in addition to the amount of circulating notes provided for, each association shall be entitled to receive from the comptroller circulating notes to the amount of 25 per cent of its paid up unimpaired capital upon paying to the treasurer two per cent of such additional circulation, and that a tax of one-half of one per cent per annum on the average amount of the same outstanding, and an additional tax at the rate of four per cent per annum upon the amount of such additions to the circulation outstanding for the year, all of which sums are to be paid into the guarantee fund.

Section six is devoted to the insolvency of the national banking association, and it is provided that when such insolvency shall be ascertained in the case of any particular association its outstanding circulation notes shall be redeemed by the treasurer of the United States out of the guarantee fund, if that be sufficient, and if not sufficient, out of any funds in the treasury.

#### RE-ORGANIZATION OF CURRENCY.

#### The Hearing Before the House Banking Committee Resumed.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Hearing before the house banking and currency committee on a question of re-organization of the currency laws was resumed today. Among those present were Horace White, of the New York Evening Post; G. G. Homer, of Baltimore, chairman of the committee of national bankers, to formulate the so-called Baltimore plan, and R. E. Hepburn, of New York, ex-comptroller of the currency. These gentlemen represent the currency ideas embodied in the Baltimore plan. Homer stated the committee of national bankers had not yet formulated a bill. Johnson, of Ohio, asked White's opinion of Secretary Carlisle's currency plan. White answered he did not think the secretary's plan would give the elastic currency it sought to secure. It compelled the banks to put up thirty cents every time they issued seventy-five cents.

#### ARMENIANS RESPONSIBLE.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The Turkish legation has received an official communication regarding the Armenian troubles which lays all the charges of cruelty at the doors of the Armenians, about three thousand of whom, under the leadership of a rebel named Hamperboun, committed horrible crimes and depredations upon the neighboring Musselmans.

Regular troops were sent to the spot to put down the rebellion. The belief is that Hamperboun fled to the mountains with eleven associates. He was captured alive, but not without killing two soldiers and wounding six. By the end of August all the insurgent bands had dispersed. Women, children and invalids were treated with due consideration, and according to the dictates of Islamism and humanity. The insurgents who were captured will be punished by law.

#### FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Secretary Carlisle presented a bill embodying his financial plan to the committee of banking and currency this afternoon. In the senate today Dolph reported a memorial from the citizens of Phoenix, Ariz., in the matter of Indian depredation claims.

#### A TEST VOTE.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The previous question was ordered in the house on the pooling bill, with a result of 174 to 100. This is considered practically a test vote on the bill.

#### A DECENT JOB.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 11.—Three of the notorious Meacham gang in Clarke county have been lynched. The Meachamite gang has for many years run illicit distilleries, made counterfeit money, and committed murder and robbery.

#### THE WHITE DEVILS.

Peking, Dec. 11.—The angry feeling of the Chinese population here against foreigners is increasing.

#### TILLMAN ELECTED SENATOR.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 11.—B. R. Tillman was elected United States senator at noon, receiving 121 out of 155 votes cast.

## THE WHITE METAL.

### Two Notable Speeches On Bimetallism at Denver.

#### ROCK ISLAND TRAIN ROBBED.

#### A Burglar Representing Himself a Detective Robs a Portland Couple of \$495.

Associated Press.

Denver, Dec. 11.—Two notable speeches on bimetallism were delivered at a banquet of the Denver Manufacturers' Exchange tonight. David Holmes, of Burnley, England, chairman of the parliamentary committee of the trades union congress of the United Kingdom, representing 1,250,000 wage-earners, speaking to the toast, "Bimetallism and wage-earners," said: "Thinking men account for the present trade depression by the appreciation of gold and the consequent demonetization of silver of 1873 and since. If silver is restored to its former position it will revive the trade and commerce of the world. Public opinion in England has recently grown rapidly on the subject. Bimetallism will be an important factor at the next British general election in 1895."

Hon. Wharton Baker, of Philadelphia, speaking on the question of bimetallism and manufactures, said: "The proposed plan of the bank currency set forth in President Cleveland's message should be opposed by every citizen who has the welfare of the people at heart. Bimetallism must be restored by independent action, by America, and can be whenever the people are determined to have the financial as well as industrial independence."

"The road to American prosperity," he said, "is bimetallism and protection. A true protective system will protect American labor, extend American commerce and at the same time preclude trusts, combines and monopolies."

#### ANOTHER TRAIN ROBBERY.

Hennepsey, O. T., Dec. 11.—At midnight last night the north bound Rock Island Express was robbed near Red River bridge, two miles south of Terrell, I. T., by five men. About \$50, and ten or fifteen watches were secured. After the bandits had done their work they fired several volleys and disappeared in the woods. Deputy marshals are on their trail with bloodhounds.

#### A DARING ROBBERY.

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Brown, who arrived here last week from Portland and were en route to Eureka, were robbed of \$495 this afternoon by a most daring burglar. The robber wore a badge and claimed to be a detective. He entered their apartments on O'Farrell street while Mrs. Brown was alone, and after accosting the woman and her husband of complicity in a recent robbery, coolly proceeded to search their trunks. The burglar found the money in a stocking. He charged that it had been stolen, and after frightening Mrs. Brown into a condition of helpless terror, he boldly walked out of the house.

#### MARQUAM GRAND LEASED.

Portland, Dec. 11.—S. C. Heilig and E. W. Lester, of Tacoma, today leased the Marquam theatre for a term of five years from February 15th, when the lease of Al Hayman expires.

#### THE KELLY JURY STILL OUT.

Portland, Dec. 11.—The jury in the trial of "Bumby" Kelly for the murder of G. W. Sayres, was unable to agree at midnight, and Judge Stevens ordered them locked up for the night.

#### BONDSMEN WILL LIQUIDATE.

Tacoma, Dec. 11.—Late last night Gov. McGraw returned from Walla Walla. Before he left Francis Blason, one of the bondsmen, said that the bondsmen would make good Coblenz' default. The governor thinks the shortage will reach about \$15,000, or

possibly more. When asked if Coblenz had any outside accomplices, the governor said, "I am not prepared to say, but the whole matter is being stirred to the bottom, and the truth will be known."

#### COBLENTZ' DOUBLE LIFE.

#### Was Known as Moody at Orleans, Nebraska.

Seattle, Dec. 11.—It has developed that John H. Coblenz, warden of the state penitentiary, who committed suicide to escape prosecution, was known as Peter Morrison Moody, in Orleans, Nebraska, where he was agent of the Buckeye Machine Co. He married a school teacher there, and had three children. One of his enemies was found dead in a field there, and it is supposed he killed him, but it was not proven. He skipped out of Orleans in 1879, and was found to be a defaulter of the Buckeye company to a large amount. Later developments showed that he had left a wife in Ohio.

It is believed that the young man who was found drowned in the bay last Friday, was murdered. Two weeks ago the same man approached a patrolman and said two men had tried to steal his coat on which he was sleeping. It is thought the thieves went back, completed the job and threw him overboard. His identity has not been established, but he is thought to be a rancher.

#### ONE MAN KILLED.

#### The Recent Storm Uses the Steamer Farnalon Roughly.

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—The steamer Farnalon arrived from Port Angeles today, and reports a very rough experience during the recent storm, which she encountered on the 8th. Several of her sailors were injured, and one passenger was killed. Frank Heyman, a steamer passenger, came out from the companion-way to the deck. A mountain of water caught him with full force and washed him against the combing of the hatch, and then dashed him against the pilot house. His skull was crushed and he was injured severely internally. That evening he died. The next morning the body was dropped into the sea. Heyman was a German and boarded the vessel at Tacoma.

#### SEARCHING FOR A BODY.

Corvallis, Dec. 11.—The river here is being searched for the remains of Pryor Scott, a pioneer of 1845, missing since last Sunday morning. He is supposed to have committed suicide. The financial trouble has made him despondent and he often talked of drowning himself. A hat identified as his was found on the river bank.

#### FOR TAKING PENSION MONEY.

Portland, Dec. 11.—M. S. Preston was arrested near Forest Grove last night by federal officials on a warrant from St. Louis, Mo., charging him with taking from the mail a letter containing pension money which did not belong to him.

#### FREIGHT CLERK DROWNED.

Tacoma, Dec. 11.—R. M. Hocker, aged 28, assistant freight clerk of the steamship Urmellia, was drowned at the wharf last night. He was not missed until the vessel was ready to sail at 11 p. m.

#### WAS KNOWN IN PORTLAND.

Denver, Dec. 11.—Dr. Rudolph F. Price was convicted today of criminal malpractice on Miss Ida Hume Jeffers, a Grand Junction school teacher. Dr. Price left Portland, Oregon, under a cloud, some time ago.

#### APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The senate has confirmed the nomination of James W. Ball, for collector of customs for the district of Yaquina, Oregon.

#### MARKET REPORT.

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—Wheat—there was a better feeling to the market this morning, and matters generally had a steadier look; 90c for No. 1 shipping, with 91 1/4 for something better; milling grades are in moderate request; 59@61.00; Walla Walla, 75 3/4@82 1/2 for fair average; 85 for choice heavy; 77 1/2 for No. 2, and 65@70 for grades.

Liverpool, Dec. 11.—Wheat—market, poor; No. 2 red spring; 48@50; No. 1 hard; 48@50; No. 1 California, 54 1/2; Hops at London, 10s.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—I

# Royal

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