

THE DAILY ASTORIAN is the biggest and best paper on the Columbia River

The Daily Astorian

THE ASTORIAN has the largest circulation of any paper on the Columbia River

FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

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NO. 118.

THE CELEBRATED

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P. J. Goodman & Co. will, until January 1, 1898, without reserve, sell their large stock of Boots and Shoes—Ladies', Misses', Children's and Boys'—choice footwear at cost.

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Astoria's Gorgeous Entertainment Hall

The Louvre..

Three Floors—Fine Music, Games of All Kinds; Two Magnificent Bars; Everything First-Class; Good Order and Everybody's Rights Strictly Observed.

HOLIDAY GLOVES and HANDKERCHIEFS at DUNBAR'S

READY TO GO TO THEIR RELIEF

Investigating Corps Will Start on the 23d Instant.

CANADA IS NOT SATISFIED

Claims Unfair Treatment in the Klondike—Crews Going into Alaska by Each Steamer.

Vancouver, Wash., Dec. 21.—Major Rucker, leaving here on the 23d for Dyea, on the preliminary investigation, will be accompanied by Lieutenant R. Field, Fourteenth Infantry. They will be followed later by Captain B. Edrijan, Assistant Surgeon P. N. Kemp and fifty enlisted men of company H, Fourteenth Infantry, who will take charge of the relief stores and take them over the trail to the suffering miners.

CANADA KICKING

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 21.—The board of trade has taken up the complaint of the British Columbia board that Canadian goods going to the Yukon district are subjected to vexatious regulations on the part of the United States customs authorities, and has adopted resolutions calling on the government to communicate with the United States government, and declaring in the event that government not taking immediate steps as may lead to fair regulations that the government of Canada should at once take steps to close all the Canadian ports of entry for trade entering the Yukon district from the Pacific coast excepting Leonora or Port Colahay.

OVER DALTON ROUTE

Portland, Or., Dec. 21.—A Nappach, just down from Stewart City, Alaska, reports that engineers are now in the field locating a railroad over the Dalton route, and that the road will be completed during the coming summer, so as to connect with the coast with the head of navigation on the Yukon.

FOR ALASKA

Tacoma, Dec. 21.—The steamer Corona sailed today for Skagway and Dyea. She was compelled to refuse freight and second-class passengers because of lack of accommodations. The Corona will carry to the north 200 passengers, 50 per cent of whom are prospective miners, and 800 tons of general merchandise.

REINDEER DRIVERS

Plenty of Them in Astoria for Secretary of War Alger.

The Progressive Commercial Association has decided to telegraph Secretary of War Alger that it is entirely unnecessary to send to Europe for drivers for the six hundred reindeer he has ordered from Alten, Sweden, for the Klondike relief expedition. The secretary of the association has secured the names of more than twenty hardy, rugged American citizens, natives of Finland and Norway, residents of Astoria, who are as familiar with reindeer as a Laplander, and each one of them is more than anxious to brave the rigors of the cold and frozen north in an effort to help Uncle Sam land provisions in Klondike before the last of the cold winters have succumbed to starvation.

Whether or not the secretary will give the Astorians a show remains to be seen. The following is the list of names of volunteers and if there are any others who desire to enter this work, they can leave their names with the secretary of the association: Norway—K. J. Johansen, A. A. Wirtzboese, Martin Dahl, Louis Severson, C. H. Tidwald, Jacob Jackson, H. A. Hanson, John Moe, J. C. Johnson, L. Thorsik, Neil Larsen, Olof Brakka, Antone Lindabak, Andrew Lee, Andrew Dahl, Knute Torrick, Leupe Wegon, Joe Lund, Jacob Edson, Erik Gustafson, Neil Edson, Finland—A. Sanders, Paul Holap, Henry Wierala.

ON WALL STREET

Henry Clews Says President's Message Made Good Impression.

New York, Dec. 21.—A substantial advance has taken place in the stock market during the past week, and prices are now approaching a level that will induce realizations unless fresh stimulus to the rise is obtained. This advance has been entirely due to the improvement in political and business affairs and was thoroughly justified by conditions. President McKinley's message made a splendid impression. His position on Cuban affairs, which have long been a serious source of disquiet, was eminently satisfactory to men of responsibility and

thought. On the currency question he takes the side of progressive reform, and his certain position, breathes the spirit of peace and reconciliation. What is equally important, congress is in a less irritable mood than formerly, and is likely to give more attention to pressing home questions than to disquieting international affairs. The presidential election is behind us, and the tariff question has been settled; so there is, happily, less occasion for bombastic speeches and resolutions for political effect than a year ago. Currency, bankruptcy and railroad legislation are likely to occupy more effective attention than Cuba or Hawaii; for which, if results are accomplished, the nation will devoutly return thanks. This promised freedom from disturbing political agitation is destined to have a powerful influence in the restoration of business prosperity; for nothing has so completely fettered enterprises in the last three or four years as the chronic fear largely developed by political disturbances.

Nor is the improvement confined to political affairs. These have a very close connection with business conditions; but the latter show a recovery of their own. The great foreign demand for our wheat at high prices has imparted a wonderful stimulus to business in the west, which is not likely to subside when that cause is spent. The whole interior is apparently about to start on a new era of development. Kansas cares little about free silver now that its citizens are getting out of debt and becoming prosperous. The iron trade is confidently looking forward to a very large business in 1898. The south is fairly prosperous in spite of low-priced cotton and the check imposed on traffic by the yellow fever scare. Here and there the finger can be placed upon some spots, some of our industries are still suffering from overproduction, and at the big eastern centers, where the brunt of hard times had to be borne, the recovery is naturally slower than in younger and smaller centers. The general trend, however, is certainly towards expansion; and the strong undertone of confidence which now prevails will within a few weeks express itself in action. This, however, is not the season for business activity, and great improvement need not be expected before the spring.

Railroads are now having their full share of the slow prosperity. Earnings, both net and gross, are showing the most gratifying gains. The uniformity and steadiness of these gains is something very unusual. For the last three months the 21 to 30 roads regularly reporting their earnings each week have shown gains of from 10 to 20 per cent. Very few roads reported declines, and these were unimportant. As a result a few dividends have been increased, and others are certain to follow if the roads only refrain from rate-cutting. The preferred stocks of reorganized companies have of course been strong, because under these conditions they would be first to benefit. Some properties have also benefited by funding their debt at a lower rate of interest; a process which is likely to find favor with stockholders. The darkest side of the railroad situation is the pooling question. Railroad managers are not in the brightest frame of mind in this respect. They are united in their demand for congress to legalize the pooling method; but they are very properly not prepared to accept the terms upon which congress seems willing to act—that of surrendering the rate making power. Stockholders should make themselves felt in this matter. Thus far they have left the whole burden of influencing legislation to their managers. This is not a very promising means of success.

CUBAN VERRISON

Crushing Defeat Inflicted Upon General Pando. New York, Dec. 21.—Following is the Cuban version of the battle fought at Yachia Ford, on Cauton river, December 14 last. The details were received through the mails by Captain Alfredo Rodriguez, a Cuban insurgent officer, who is an invalid in this city. It tells of the crushing defeat inflicted upon the Spanish General Pando. Captain Rodriguez's correspondent says: "The Cuban loss in this engagement was 36 killed and about 200 wounded. General Rabi's men found 20 Spanish dead, and General Aldave, in his report to Havana, said his wounded numbered 30. The Cubans believe they have inflicted much more damage than this, as the Spanish troops carried away many of their dead and mutilated the number of wounded, reporting only one fourth. Pando has reported to General Blanco that 30,000 men are needed to break the backbone of the insurgent opposition in the East.

THE ORIENT

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—In mercantile circles much attention is paid to news from the Orient. The intelligence that a Russian fleet had occupied Port Arthur, following so closely on the news that Russia had obtained a firm grip on Corea, leads to the belief that active hostilities between the Yfkans and the Czar cannot be long averted. It is regarded as significant that agents of the Russian empire have recently made extensive purchase of army supplies in the United States for the garrison at Vladivostok. Several days ago a cablegram from Vladivostok was received in this city inviting several firms to bid on an immense quantity of provisions. The merchants here anticipate a great demand for supplies to maintain the fleets and armies now assembling in the Orient.

GERMS OF TROUBLE IN NEAR FUTURE

Two United States Sailors Killed by the Japanese.

FRANCE RETALIATES UPON US

Increases the Duty on Hog Products From United States—Civil Service Must Be Maintained.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—The department of state has undertaken the investigation of two very disagreeable incidents that may contain the germs of serious trouble in the near future. They are the killing of two sailors attached to the United States fleet on the Asiatic station. The exact conditions under which the killing occurred are not now known here, and the state department is trying to learn, through the United States minister to Tokio and United States consuls in Japan, preliminary to determining what steps shall be taken to secure reparation, if the killing was as is expected, unjustifiable. The first killing was of a sailor named Montgomery, formerly attached to the Yorktown, who was on the Asiatic station, and the last was Frank Eppe, a sailor, a native of Chicago, and an apprentice on the flagship Olympia. He was killed at Nagasaki.

FRANCE RETALIATES

Washington, Dec. 21.—The action of the French chamber of deputies yesterday in passing a bill increasing the duties on hogs, hog products, lard, etc., is regarded as retaliatory in effect against the United States. For some time negotiations have been proceeding between France and this country toward making a reciprocity agreement. They came to a stop recently when the authorities here asked a recognition of such an agreement that France would raise its restrictions against American cattle and meat products. The French ambassador, M. Patenotre, communicated with his government, but no reply was given. He was soon after directed to return to Paris, where he now is in conference with the French authorities. No word has been received as to the purpose of France since the ambassador left, but the action in the chamber of deputies yesterday, when a raise of duties on certain meat products was put through by the premier, M. Meunier, leads to the conclusion that the French policy will not be towards abolishing restrictions but toward their stringency. Figures on the foreign bureau of the agricultural department show that American shipments to France with the one article of lard reached \$1,273,322 pounds last year.

CIVIL SERVICE SUSTAINED

Washington, Dec. 21.—Today's discussion at the cabinet meeting was devoted almost entirely to the operation of the civil service. The resolution adopted by the senate last Friday, calling on the executive heads of the several departments for information concerning the application of the civil service rules to their departments and for an expression of their opinions as to what if any modifications ought to be made in them, was the subject directly under discussion. All the members of the cabinet were present, except Alger, and there was no dissent from the opinion that the civil service law should be, and would be upheld. The principle of the system, in the opinion of all, must be maintained, but there was some difference of opinion as to the extent of its application.

BANK NOTES RETIRED

Washington, Dec. 21.—Mr. Coffin, acting controller of the currency today called attention to the fact that the retirement of national bank notes during the first 20 days of the month reached the sum of \$3,000,000. This is said to be the first time during the last ten years that a voluntary retirement has reached this amount in any one month. Under the national bank act the United States treasurer is not allowed to receive for the retirement of circulation more than \$1,000,000 in any one month, and hence all deposits to retire the notes during the last ten days of the month must be refused. This exceptional condition, Mr. Coffin says, is due to the prevailing low rates of interest arising from the superabundance of money for investment, which has advanced the price of United States bonds. Mr. Coffin expressed the opinion that the law should be amended in this particular, as it interferes with the elasticity of the currency and the general laws of trade.

MURDER AND SUICIDE

Chicago, Dec. 21.—George Thurston shot and probably fatally wounded Mrs. Lizzy Parker and then fired a bullet into his own head in the woman's home last night. After wounding his victim and before turning the weapon upon himself, Thurston fired one shot at Mrs. Emma Scott, Mrs. Parker's sister, but missed the mark. Mrs. Parker is shot in the right breast. She is at the Mercy hospital. The bullet which Thurston fired at himself took effect in the forehead. His death is expected hourly. Jealousy was the cause of the shooting.

NO NEWS OF PELICAN

Seattle, Dec. 21.—The steamship Kamakura maru arrived here today 18 days from Yokohama. Captain Trent reports passing through very rough weather. He saw nothing of the steamer Pelican, long overdue.

CATTLE DISEASED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has issued a circular to the railroads and transportation companies notifying them that a contagious and infectious disease known as

TROUBLE IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY

Tribal Courts to Be Abolished by Act of Congress.

LOCAL OFFICERS WILL RESIST

U. S. Marshals Give Notice They Will Carry Out the Law—Conspiracy to Burn U. S. Court House.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: "Trouble in the Indian Territory is expected by the commissioner of Indian affairs, and by others who are familiar with the condition of affairs there. On January 1 the tribal courts will be abolished by an act passed at the last session of congress and the United States courts given full jurisdiction over the territory. In many quarters the officers of the Indian courts have declared that they will forcibly resist all efforts to prevent them doing business. The United States marshals have given notice that any tribal courts to sit upon and those assuming to conduct them will be arrested. A delegation of eight Cherokee, seven of them full-bloods, is now in the city. A few days ago they presented a memorial to congress asking that the law be rescinded, but congress has now adjourned without action, and when it again convenes the Indian courts will be out of existence. Meanwhile the subcommittee of the senate committee on Indian affairs appointed to consider the problem presented in the territory, practically decided to recommend an amendment to the law applying to the appointment to all lands held by the five civilized tribes among the members of these tribes, and also an amendment providing that all valid leases shall be recognized by the government of the United States, and the money paid on account of them covered into the treasury of the United States for the benefit of the various tribes. The Dawes committee has reported its failure to come to any conclusion with the Indians. Such agreements as have been concluded vary so in their provisions that in view of the fact that eventually a uniform system of government must be provided for the Indian territory, it is questionable whether any of the agreements should be definitely ratified by congress until the desired and necessary uniformity can be reached. Secretary Ripps thinks no government will be satisfactory until congress shall provide for a single uniform system for the Indian territory, and shall place all its inhabitants in possession of the rights of American citizenship.

WILL PLEAD GUILTY

New York, Dec. 21.—The Herald says: While District Attorney Young of Queens county is noncommittal upon the matter, he has, it is said, finally decided to allow Mrs. Mack to plead guilty to manslaughter in the first degree. It is asserted that the prosecuting officers have gone over carefully the evidence against the woman and have reached the conclusion that it would be impossible to convict her either of murder in the first or second degree. Her confession made at the Thors trial could not be used against her, it is alleged. She probably will be arraigned before Justice Garretson at the January term of the supreme court which opens in Long Island city on Monday, January 3 and be allowed to plead.

SHIPS SCARCE

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—Vessels for the Australian trade are almost unobtainable. There are now three cargoes awaiting shipment from this port to Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide and a ship to take them over cannot be obtained. There is at the present time 450,000 feet of pine lumber on Fremont street which is destined for Adelaide for which A. A. Moore & Co. would gladly secure a vessel. They almost had one bargained closed, when the managing owner backed out. He preferred to wait for the spring trade to the Klondike than to take chances on not having his vessel here when the season opens.

BRYAN NOMINATED

New York, Dec. 21.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: The president has definitely determined to carry out his original purpose in nominating Charles Pace Bryan of Illinois to be minister to China. He has so informed one of Mr. Bryan's personal supporters. The nomination will be sent to the senate immediately after the holidays. The president reached this decision after giving consideration to the protests of Senator Frye, Worcester, and Teller, and upon receiving assurances from Senator Mason and Senator Cullom that Mr. Bryan would be immediately confirmed.

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