

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. 121.

"Superior" Stoves and Ranges

ARE THE BEST

J. N. LAWS, AT HAWES' OLD STAND

Christmas Goods TO SUIT EVERYBODY

- Celluloid Novelties
- Leather Goods
- Medallions
- Christmas Cards
- Booklets
- Books
- Children's Books
- Bibles
- Prayer Books
- Books of all Kinds



Do not make your selections until you have seen our stock.

GRIFFIN & REED

Christmas Next

OUR STORE IS FULL OF THE MOST SERVICEABLE AND ORNAMENTAL CROCKERY, LAMPS AND GLASSWARE, SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS.

Foard & Stokes Company

The Tail Goes With the Hide

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. When we say cost, we mean it. Give us a call and we will prove to you that you can take home more footwear for the money than you can from any shoe store in Oregon. Remember, the sign of the Big Boot, 584 Commercial street.

P. J. Goodman & Co.

Ross, Higgins & Co.

CHOICE... FRESH AND SALT MEATS

BOND STREET

Grocers AND Butchers...

UNION MEAT COMPANY

Hams, Bacon and Strictly Pure Lard

Cor. Fourth and Gilson Streets Portland, Oregon.

W. F. SCHEIBE, Manufacturer and Dealer in FINE CIGARS!

A full line of Pipes, Tobacco, and Smokers' Articles. 474 Commercial St.

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

INVESTIGATE ON THEIR OWN HOOK

Party of Engineers and Contractors Leave for Nicaragua.

THEY ARE PRACTICAL MEN

And Will See for Themselves What the Situation is—United States Must Protect Its Rights.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—A special to the Record from Washington says: The steamer Pinaros which sails from New York next Thursday carries an important delegation of engineers and contractors who propose to look over the route of the Nicaragua canal on their own hook without waiting for the report of the commission which the government recently sent to review the surveys and estimates heretofore submitted to congress. As far as can be learned this party has no connection with nor has asked no assistance from the government, although Senator Morgan, who has always taken the leading part in legislation relating to the canal, has encouraged the journey and thinks that the interest which inspired the enterprise is the most favorable sign that has lately appeared. The senator understands that the party will be composed of some of the best contractors now engaged in the construction of the Chicago drainage canal, and that they will be accompanied by consulting engineers of their own choice, who will assist them in making a practical examination of the several routes (two have been recommended and preparing estimates of the cost of construction. It is understood that Lyman E. Cooley, the well-known engineer, who was offered a place upon the Nicaragua commission, and who is a member of the international deep waterways commission, has been invited to accompany the commission, and E. W. Craig, of Chicago, who was associated with the Nicaragua Maritime Co. for some months, will also go. It is said that Mr. Craig has been furnished with the names of the other gentlemen. It is understood here that the contractors on the drainage canal are taking this step with the view of utilizing their machinery and force of employees when their present contracts are completed, and if they find things to their satisfaction, they propose either to purchase the concession of the Maritime Company or to enter into a contract to complete the canal, taking a certain amount of stocks and bonds in the corporation as their compensation. They propose, it is said, to accept as a basis of their examination the survey made in 1886, which has been endorsed by a committee of the most competent experts in this country, selected by the American Institute of Engineers. The original estimate of the outside cost of construction was \$85,000,000, including interest and contingencies of every sort, although Mr. Menocal, the engineer in charge always insisted that the canal could be dug on that route according to his plans for \$40,000,000, and after examining the improved machinery and economical methods which the construction of the drainage canal in Illinois has developed, he claims that the work can be done now for \$20,000,000. Not long ago Senator Morgan invited the contractors on the drainage canal to visit Washington and give their views to the committee on foreign affairs. While none of them had ever made an examination of the route they all agreed that Mr. Menocal's estimates and computations were reasonable and that the cost of such excavation as would be required along the line selected by him in Nicaragua can be reduced at least 50 per cent by the use of improved machinery and the processes they have used upon the drainage canal. The present situation in Nicaragua requires that some action shall be taken by the United States immediately to preserve our rights under the existing treaty and concessions. The Menocal concession, upon which the present company is working, and upon which legislation now pending in congress is based, expires in 1899. Senator Morgan does not think Great Britain will ever attempt to maintain the gentry concession that interferes with the right of the canal company, though such interference would be the cause of irritation and delay. "I rejoice to see men taking an interest in the enterprise," said Mr. Morgan. "They are the best men in the world to assist in the promotion. They are practical men of affairs. They have experience and knowledge and reputation that will make their testimony of the highest value and I am glad they are going."

KILLED BY A TRAIN.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 24.—Laden with Christmas presents for epistolary little ones, George S. Smith, of Woodland, was struck by a railroad train near B street, today, and killed.

PRELIMINARIES ARE BEING PUSHED

KLONDIKE RELIEF EXPEDITION TAKING TANGIBLE SHAPE

Reindeer Ordered—Pack Trains and Supplies Will Precede Them and Prepare the Way.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The preliminaries of the Klondike relief expedition are being rapidly arranged by the war department. Lieutenant Devore and Dr. Jackson were busy this morning making final preparations for their trip to Lapland and will start for New York tomorrow to sail on the Lucania. Secretary Alger has called to Mr. Kjellman, at Alten, Norway, to contract for 500 head of reindeer in advance of the arrival there of Dr. Jackson and Lieutenant Devore. This was done to save time, so that all will be ready for the final purchase and shipment of the animals when Dr. Jackson arrives at Alten. Lieutenants Freeman and Ryan of the Ninth cavalry, have been ordered to take charge of the pack trains which are to be gathered up from points in Wyoming and convey them to Vancouver barracks. Secretary Alger believes that these trains will be of great use in getting supplies to the interior of Alaska. They will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible and without waiting for the arrival of the reindeer at Skagway or Dyea. It is hoped that a large amount of supplies can be gotten safely through to White Pass and placed in camp there, which will afterwards be used as a starting place for the trains. If this calculation proves to be well founded the reindeer will find a comfortable corral ready for them when they arrive in Alaska and so can be used to great advantage.

NATIONAL WHEELMEN.

New York, Dec. 24.—One hundred prominent cyclists from all parts of the country have issued a call for patriotic wheelmen to send a team of American riders to Europe to compete in the world's championship to be decided during August in Vienna.

TOM PAINE'S FARM.

New York, Dec. 24.—Tom Paine's old farm is to be turned into a cemetery which will rival in beauty and importance New York's celebrated necropolis—Greenwood. The property is near New Rochelle, and has just been sold to a syndicate for \$200,000. In the bosom of this land repose the remains of the author of the "Age of Reason."

DEED OF DASTARDS AND COWARDS

FOREMAN OF AN IDAHO STAMP MILL LIES NEAR DEATH

Latest Outrage Near Canyon Creek—Track Hard to Get—Seventy-five Shots Fired by the Mob

Wallace, Idaho, Dec. 24.—Mr. Whitney, foreman of the Helena-Prisco mill, lies between life and death at the Providence hospital, the latest outrage of the criminal element that has caused so much trouble on Canyon creek. As on all similar occasions, the truth of the matter is hard to obtain, direct evidence being generally observed, but the story, as nearly correct as can be got today, is that at about 5 o'clock last night between ten and twelve masked men, heavily armed, opened the door where Whitney and Watson, respectively, foreman of the concentrator and assayer for the Helena-Prisco mill, were standing, and promptly ordered Whitney to turn his face to the wall. He only caught one glimpse of the party and his companion cannot talk, so the number is not known, no one else being known to have seen them. They took Whitney out and marched him through the gate, to near Paine's stable, near the lower end of town.

What occurred there is not known, but he presumably was ordered to bend for Wallace, that being the customary practice. The mob then commenced firing, parties in the vicinity estimating that fifty to seventy-five shots were fired all together, but evidently unable to reach an either Whitney or the people in the neighborhood, as only one shot struck him. It passed through the right thigh, from behind. He was left where he fell until later a man coming up the track saw him and reported in town that either a dead or wounded man was near the end of town.

AN APPEAL TO AMERICAN PEOPLE

The Government Calls for Aid for Suffering Cubans.

NO DUTY ON THE SHIPMENTS

Supplies of Prime Necessity Can Be Skipped to Consul-General Lee—Our People Expected to Respond.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The following appeal to the American people has been issued: "Department of State, Washington, Dec. 24.—By direction of the president, the public is informed that in deference to the earnest desire of the government to contribute by effective action toward the relief of the suffering people in the islands of Cuba, arrangements have been perfected by which charitable contributions in money of any kind can be sent to the island by the benevolently disposed people of the United States. Money, provisions, clothing, medicines and like articles of prime necessity can be forwarded to General Fitzhugh Lee, consul general of the United States, at Havana, and all articles now dutiable by law so consigned will be admitted into Cuba free of duty. The consul general has been instructed to receive the same and to co-operate with the local authorities and charitable boards for the distribution of such relief among the destitute and needy people of Cuba. The president is confident the people of the United States who have on many occasions in the past responded most generously to the cry for bread from people stricken by famine or dire calamity, and who have beheld the generous action on the part of foreign communities when their own countrymen have suffered from disastrous floods, will heed the appeal for aid that comes from those at their own threshold, and especially at this season of good will and rejoicing, and give of their abundance to this humane end. (Signed) JOHN SHERMAN."

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—Crittenden Robinson, the veteran pigeon shot, who represented California in the European shooting events last spring, has decided to attempt a second campaign across the water. He will sail from New York next week.

PIGEON SHOOTING.

Howard Gould will entertain in princely style in New York. Beautiful women and handsome men will sit at a table decorated with all that is costly.

HOWARD GOULD WILL ENTERTAIN IN PRINCELY STYLE IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 24.—Howard Gould, is to give a Christmas dinner at the Holland House. It will surpass in sumptuousness everything that has occurred in the annals of private festivities in years and his guests will number twelve persons. What the presents will be, those who remember that Mr. Gould gave a fan, the cost of which was \$50,000, to the beautiful woman who sat near him at Rodney Wanamaker's dinner in Paris last year, hardly dare to imagine. He has selected his guests admirably. Not one of them is inclined to make set speeches, to formulate toasts or to prepare phrases in dialogue like a game of chess. Every month at this dinner will be represented by its special fruit, even if that be extremely exotic, and its special flower, even if this be doomed to death by cold in a moment. Each month will be represented also by a special gem, in lace pins, in scarf pins, and in other jewels, chased by artists. There are also to be set pieces, which are bouquets that Orientals made of precious stones that spoke special passages. There are to be in this dinner parties as tall as chandeliers, meats as delicate as crystallized candy, and vegetables that facilitate caused to be prepared by cooks who were great artists. Twelve persons, six of whom are women, are to give stix to this dinner, which will have a historic and an enduring charm. The women will be beautiful and the men will be interesting.

SEALING AWARD IS SATISFACTORY

BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE MUCH PLEASED OVER THE RESULT

Paris Decision More Than Sustained—Want Other Contentions Removed—Chinese Question.

New York, Dec. 24.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: Officials at the foreign office do not conceal their gratification over the result of the sealing award, since the amount of the indemnity awarded exceeds that which congress refused to pay. The English press has constantly been reproaching America for not paying their bill of damage after the general decision of the Paris tribunal and gone against them. Inevitably the charge of bad faith will be revived if congress should again refuse to sanction the agreement. Neglect on the part of congress to appropriate the money required for settling the sealing award would be a precedent reached by the sealing commission for the seizure of the Canadian sealers will naturally increase the difficulty of adjusting the Behring sea question and this is already serious enough. The British foreign office which is now exposed to merciless criticism at home and abroad for its position of isolation and helplessness in dealing with the new and strange Chinese question, would be glad to have this chief source of contention with America removed, but it cannot act without the support of Canada, which is not willing to agree to the suspension of pelagic sealing, and a series of other contentions and questions are taken up by the United States and disposed. What is to be apprehended is a diplomatic impasse with increased bitterness between the two nations as a result. Nevertheless, the fact that two sealing conferences have been held and that the British and Canadian representatives have been compelled to recognize the justice of the American contention for the preservation of the fur seal herd can hardly fail to be helpful to Americans in the negotiations next year for the new modus vivendi under the aris award. The prompt settlement of the bill of damages agreed upon by Judges Putnam and Knox will promote the chances of a reasonable award, after experience has shown them adjustment of the chief question at issue. Otherwise the present negotiations will result in force indefinitely under the Paris award, after experience has shown them to be inadequate for the protection of the seals.

THE SPLENDID HOLIDAY TRADE

LARGEST SALES IN FIVE YEARS KEPT MANY ESTABLISHMENTS OPEN

Tremendous Retail Business—Large Orders in Steel Rails and Railway Cars—The Pacific Coast.

New York, Dec. 24.—R. G. Dun & Company's weekly review: Weekly reports show a remarkably large holiday trade, at many points the largest for five years. Moreover, at this season, when wholesale business usually shrinks, the present season has shown an unusual distribution to consumers, keeps many establishments at work that usually begin their yearly rest spell somewhat earlier. Instead of a decreasing demand for products it shows an unexpected increase in several important branches. The striking feature is the unusual demand for the season in the building of cars, of which 4000 have been ordered at Chicago by one trunk line and rails there have advanced to \$20 in the new business, with sales here of \$300 tons for home use and 2000 tons for Mexico. Building contracts in unusual numbers for the season have come up, also contracts for three drainage canals at Chicago. The Illinois steel works have eight months' business booked, with orders of 100,000 tons of steel.

The fallow for the week have been 202 in the United States against 227 last year, and 32 in Canada against 41 last year.

RETALIATORY TARIFF.

New York, Dec. 24.—A special to the Herald from Buenos Ayres says: The chamber of deputies have had a bill presented authorizing the government to increase the duties on imports as a retaliatory tariff against the United States.

A HOT TIME IN OLD CHICAGO

Quickest Fire on Record Occurred Last Night.

VERY MANY LIVES WERE LOST

Coliseum Building a Mass of Twisted Iron and Hot Bricks in Twenty Minutes—List of Injured.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—A fire tonight destroyed the Coliseum building at Sixty-third street and Stony Island avenue in which the democratic national convention was held last year. The fire was one of the quickest ever seen in Chicago. At the time when the fire originated, by the crossing of two electric light wires until the Coliseum was a pile of twisted iron and hot bricks, was not over twenty minutes. The building had been rented for the manufacturers' exposition and was filled with booths, all of which were destroyed, with all their contents. It is supposed that a number of people were lost in the flames, and although no bodies have been recovered, the following people are missing, and have undoubtedly perished: A girl named Pauline, surname not known, was seen to enter the burning building in search of her mother, whom she said was imprisoned by the flames. The girl and her mother were employed in the Irish village, the former as dancer and the latter doing chores. Two women, dancers in the Midway exhibit, were seen entering the building just before it collapsed. Two men were seen in the center of the building during the fire by the firemen. L. Ladany and his son conducted a massage booth in the building. Ladany entered the structure during the fire to search for his son, whom he declared was perished in the flames, and neither have since been seen. The injured are: Peter Fooks, watchman; burned about the face and hands. Mrs. G. A. Lyons, severely burned. L. J. Morely, hospitalized by the explosion of tubes and burned about the head. James Maser, fireman, burned while cutting a live wire with a pair of shears. Robert Harley, fireman, severely injured by debris during the collapse of the wall of the building. Miss Helen Conner, shocked by a live wire and severely burned about the right arm. The fire originated in a booth which was used for the exhibition of an X-rays machine. Crossed electric light wires which were over the exhibit are thought to have caused the flames. About three hundred people were in the building at the time of the fire and at the first alarm there was a rush for safety. Fortunately the aisles were wide, and owing to a comparatively small number of people in the building, there was little difficulty in reaching the doors.

BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

New York, Dec. 24.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: Quotations in wholesale trade, but pronounced and notable activity in the retail trade have been the salient features in this week's trade situation. Price changes which are numerous, are largely in an upward direction, and the year draws to a close with results as a whole fully equaling, and in many instances surpassing, early expectations. Perhaps the most notable feature has been the unanimity with which trade reports from all parts of the country, with some few exceptions, point to a very heavy holiday trade, in nearly all cases comparing favorably with recent preceding years. The reports are that stocks of these goods have been heavily reduced. The Pacific retail trade is active and Klondike boomers are gathering in the cities of Washington and Oregon.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.