

AMERICANIZING THE PEOPLE

Philippine Bands Returning to Abandoned Towns.

PRISONERS ASK FOR PROTECTION

General Hare Loses the Track of the Prisoners He Has Followed—General Wheeler Goes South.

Manila, Jan. 1.—The insurgents evacuated the coast towns between Zamboanga and Vigan, fleeing to the mountains before the advancing Americans are returning in small bands to terrorize the Americans do not occupy. The natives and the Americans are seeking the protection of American garrisons.

Colonel Wessel's cavalry, while operating in the vicinity of Trinidad, had evidence of Filipino soldiers being in that vicinity, but it was impossible to bring about an engagement. The recent increase in the garrison of Zamboanga against the threatened attack on Christmas day averted a disaster.

Colonel Hare, of the Thirty-third infantry, who has been following a party of American prisoners, lost track for three days, about December 20, of such signs and evidences of their passage as they customarily left behind them.

General Wheeler, who was recently in Manila requesting an appointment south in the line of the expected campaign, is now at Paranaque.

American Captured Stronghold. Washington, Jan. 1.—General Otis enables the war department today as follows:

Manila—Colonel Lockett, with a regiment of two battalions of the Forty-sixth, (Colonel Schuyler), one battalion of the Forty-fifth (Colonel Dorr), and one company of the Twenty-seventh infantry, and two guns (Captain Van Deusen,) attacked the enemy, 600 strong in a mountain stronghold beyond Mont Alban, northeast of San Mateo. A large number were killed and wounded, and 24 were taken prisoner. Lockett captured one cannon, 20 rifles, 20,000 rounds of ammunition, 500 pounds of powder, arsenal fortifications, all their food supplies and considerable other property.

This captured point, located on a mountain trail, was formerly supposed to be impregnable. Our casualties: Lieutenant Enlow, Eleventh cavalry, and five enlisted men wounded, mostly slight. Private Matson, Forty-fifth infantry, drowned.

Not American Vessels.

Port Townsend, Jan. 1.—The purchase of foreign vessels by the United States government for use as transports during the Spanish-American war and their subsequent sale by the government to private citizens has resulted in complicating matters for purchasers from the fact that after purchase of such vessels the government refuses to allow them to be documented in the United States as American vessels.

The case in point is the steamship Scipio, which was recently sold by the navy department and was afterwards refused documentation. The purchaser applied to the secretary of the treasury, asking that if he should break the Scipio up, whether the material of which she was constructed would be subject to duty if sold in the United States. Yesterday Collector Heustis received a circular letter covering the above case from the treasury department in which Acting Secretary Spaulding says that upon the sale of said vessel in a part of the United States the material or materials taken therefrom would not be regarded as an importation within the meaning of the customs laws, and would therefore be exempt from duty.

The Plague Scare.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—The steamer Gaelic arrived here this afternoon from the Orient, via Honolulu. The Gaelic was sent to quarantine, owing to the plague scare, but her cabin passengers were allowed to land, towboats plugging between the steamer and the city for the purpose.

The press correspondent at Honolulu says there have been no new cases of plague since last advices. There have been several sudden deaths, and in each instance rumor assigned the plague as the cause. Investigation proved otherwise. The board of health now claims but two deaths were caused by the scourge, the remaining cases being doubtful or suspicious.

Robbed of \$12,000.

Walsenburg, Colo., Jan. 1.—W. J. Milnap, a prominent stockman, was seized by two men when about to enter the Klein hotel and was robbed of \$12,000. The money was mostly in his coat and vest pockets and these garments were torn from him. No trace of the criminals has been found. Mr. Milnap was on his way to Mexico to buy cattle.

AMERICANS BUY A CANAL.

At Least They Now Own an Interest in the Panama.

New York, Dec. 30.—The incorporation of the Panama Canal Company of America is said to be the first move in a plan to transfer the Panama canal to Americans in order that it may have a better chance in the struggle with the Nicaraguan concessionaries. The banking houses and individuals who are understood to be interested are: August Belmont & Co., Kahn, Loeb & Co., Levi P. Morton, Charles R. Flint, J. E. Simmons, president of the Fourth National bank; Edward Sweet, George Sheldon & Co., Baring, Magoun & Co., and George W. Young, president of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company.

In addition to these, several banking houses in San Francisco and in cities in the South and West are interested in the company. The Herald says this incorporation of an American company is the result of negotiations between representatives of the French company, including Baron Openheim, who came to this city from Paris several months ago, and leading financiers of America. The representative of the French company came to this country empowered to transfer the rights of the company having now been incorporated, the transfer will very shortly be effected, the transfer to be given formal approval by the shareholders in France. These shareholders receive shares in the new American company in proportion to their holdings in the old.

This "Americanizing" of the Panama canal, as one of the gentlemen interested in the new company styled it yesterday, has been brought about in order to place the Panama canal on a footing in America more satisfactory to the French company, and to place it on the same base as the Nicaragua canal before the United States government.

An isthmian canal commission, with Rear-Admiral Walker as chairman, is now at work making an exhaustive study of all possible routes for a canal across the isthmus of Central America. This commission was created in the closing hours of the last congress, and \$1,000,000 was appropriated for its use through the river and harbor bills. Its report will undoubtedly be final as far as the United States is concerned as to the best route for a canal. Its parties, both engineering and exploring, are now scattered over Central America, obtaining material to assist the commission in forming conclusions.

The French company, realizing the importance of the commission's findings, has taken the steps which have been described, believing that the canal commission would naturally be enabled to judge more impartially between the two routes with both under American control. The gentlemen of the French company long since recognized that the undertaking of a canal across Nicaragua either by the United States or by private parties with the assistance or indorsement of the United States would be a most serious blow to their project, but the American financiers who have formed the new company, now that the two routes are on an even footing, and that judgment will be made only on the grounds of engineering and general desirability, they argue that the "Americanizing" of Panama is the only way by which the 400 shareholders can have any hope of any return from the \$200,000,000 which has gone out of France and into the canal, and they believe that this arrangement can produce only good feeling between the two countries.

Since 1884, when the French company was formed, there has been expended in work on the canal something like \$8,000,000. Several thousand men, mostly negroes from Jamaica, have been employed, and experts declare that the money has been properly expended, and that good progress has been made. There is a large number of men at work on the canal at the present time, and this force will be found at work by the canal commission when it goes over the route, which will probably be during February. The canal is about two-fifths completed, and the new American company estimates that the cost of completion would be about \$100,000,000.

Hilton Paintings at Auction.

New York, Dec. 30.—The gallery of paintings collected by the late Judge Hilton is about to be sold at auction. It is composed of nearly 200 paintings, mostly by modern French artists, and is valued at more than \$500,000. Among the masters represented are Meissonier, Cort, Daubigny, Gerome, Vibert, Makart, Munckasy, Bourgeois and Tissot.

Quarantine Against New Caledonia.

Melbourne, Victoria, Dec. 30.—A passenger who arrived here on board the steamer Australian from Noumea, New Caledonia, where the plague is raging, has been quarantined, and eight others have been placed under surveillance.

Money for Improvement.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 30.—The Great Northern directory today increased its capital stock \$7,500,000, for the purpose of acquiring new properties and making extensions and improvements on the Pacific coast. The Sioux City & Northern and Pacific Short Line, in Iowa and Nebraska, are among the new properties to be taken in.

A DOUBLE TREATY.

Portuguese South Africa Is to Be Divided Up.

New York, Jan. 1.—A dispatch to the Herald from Berlin says: The Lokal Anzeiger publishes the contents of the German-English-Portuguese secret treaty. This double treaty will have executive force as soon as the Swiss jurists, Messrs. Blaesi-Hensley and Goldau, have given a decision in the Delagoa bay arbitration.

The decision, it is expected, will be given in January or February and will probably be in favor of England, in which case Portugal must pay to England and America an indemnity of £1,900,000. England obtained in 1891 from Portugal the right of pre-emption in Delagoa bay, and the cession of Delagoa bay to England may therefore be expected in March next.

It is possible that President Kruger may now declare war on Portugal and attack Delagoa at once.

In order to prevent any interference by France or Russia, England concluded a secret treaty with Germany regarding the complete partition of the Portuguese colonial possessions. Germany is to receive all the Portuguese possessions in Asia, with 20,000 square miles of territory and 1,000,000 inhabitants. Germany further receives in Africa all Portuguese territory north of Mozambique, except a strip of land three miles wide, for Mr. Cecil Rhodes' trans-African railway. For this the German government will pay Portugal 25,000,000 marks.

REST AT ARLINGTON.

Burial of the Martyred Heroes of the Maine.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Upon the windy heights of Arlington cemetery, the Maine dead, brought from Havana by the battleship Texas, today were laid away in their final resting places, with simple religious services, and the impressive honors of war, in the presence of the president, members of his cabinet, officers of the army and navy and other officers of the government.

A cabinet officer, surveying the flag-draped coffins before the ceremony began, said: "The lives of these men cost Spain her colonies." But there was no note of triumph in the grim scene today. With a touch of sadness and solemn gravity, the nation performed its duty to the dead and gave its defenders a Christian burial at home, in soil hallowed by patriotic deed.

Battle With Robbers.

Seattle, Jan. 1.—Two masked men held up a Ballard street-car at 11 o'clock tonight. There were eight passengers aboard, and a regular fusillade of shots was fired. One of the passengers inside the car, C. E. Plimpton, opened fire on the highwayman entering from the rear, and three shots were returned. One broke Plimpton's arm and the other entered his breast. Shortly after midnight the police found near the scene of the Ballard street-car hold-up the body of one of the two bandits. He had been almost instantly killed by a bullet from a passenger's pistol. The body is still unidentified.

Big Buffalo Mine Turns Out Rich.

Baker City, Or., Jan. 1.—A sensational strike was made today in A. Geiser's Big Buffalo mine, two miles west of this city. The miners took several samples of ore from the tunnel, which today tapped the 80-foot ledge. By assays just returned to the owner of the mine, the samples all show gold values ranging from \$18 to \$102.75 in gold and five ounces of silver to the ton. Mr. Geiser, who was formerly part owner of the Bonanza mine, said today that if the values hold out throughout the Big Buffalo, the property will be equal to the Bonanza. The Big Buffalo is within plain sight of this city.

Killed His Young Wife and Himself.

Winnipeg, Jan. 1.—Pierre Dentzer, a German farmer, aged 50, living near Rathwell, 100 miles from Winnipeg, shot and killed his 19-year-old wife in a fit of temper. Dentzer then carried his baby to a neighbors' house and returned home. The authorities were notified, and on approaching the house found that the woman's body had been taken inside the house and a cross had been raised by Dentzer on the ground where she had been shot. Dentzer had spread a sheet on the floor, placed his wife's body on it, blew out his brains.

Went Through a Bridge.

San Bernardino, Cal., Jan. 1.—As No. 33, west-bound freight train over the Sante Fe route, was crossing Cajon creek bridge today, about 12 miles north of this city, nine cars went through the bridge into the creek bottom. Six of the cars were loaded with cotton, one with telegraph wire, and one with general merchandise and sulphur. The cars caught fire and made a terrible conflagration, destroying the entire contents and framework. No one was killed.

A Murderous Collector.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 1.—Samuel Mills, a collector for an installment house, this afternoon attempted to seize furniture in the house of Mary Venable, colored, for a small debt. The woman attempted to prevent it, and in the struggle that ensued Mills shot the woman and her little son and daughter, all seriously. Mills was arrested.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Interest to the Growing Western States.

Since the first of July the people of Alaska have contributed to the federal treasury in license money the magnificent sum of \$153,276.40 for the privilege of doing business in Alaska and developing the territory, says the Skagway Alaskan. This is in addition to the tariff duties paid, internal revenues, taxes and all other taxes common to the country at large. It is a special tax levied upon business in Alaska alone, such as no other citizens of the United States are required to pay; in fact it is a tax that was never before in the history of the United States levied against any of its people.

Plenty of Supplies at Dawson.

D. W. Bullock, lately arrived from Dawson, said to an Alaskan reporter: "Dawson is supplied with everything needed there for the winter. The report as to a great shortage of oats is not true. There is plenty of oats along the river and in Dawson to supply the interior. When we got away from Dawson, November 7, oats were selling for 22 cents a pound and hay at 15 cents. Last winter oats went to 40 and 45 cents, and hay to 35 to 50 cents. Tobacco sells in Dawson today for \$1 to \$1.25 a pound, less than it brings in Bennett. The Bennett price is \$1.50 a pound. Flour that sold for \$8 in Dawson a year ago is worth only \$4.75 there today. There will be plenty of beef in Dawson throughout the winter. Dumbolton had four scows loaded with beef on the way in, one of which is at Selkirk and one at Stewart river. I do not know where the others are. Dumbolton will take the meat through to Dawson over the ice after the river freezes. McDougall & Burns have 80 tons below Selkirk and will take it in over the ice. The labor market of Dawson is glutted. There were 1,000 to 1,500 idle men in the town when I left, and more were rushing in from up the river."

Attain Future Output.

Charles Christopher, who has negotiated more large Atlin mining deals than any other man in the country during the season recently closed, is authority for the statement that there will be no less than half a dozen large hydraulic plants put in operation in Atlin with the opening of spring. He says the output of gold in that country will exceed \$5,000,000. The gold commissioner collected royalty on about \$700,000 this summer, but he failed to collect on more than half the output. There was at least \$1,500,000 taken out of the Atlin gold fields this year, and next year the output will exceed \$5,000,000. Last summer the great majority of the miners did not get to work before August 1, and they all worked small claims and handled most of the dirt with shovels. Next year they will handle it with the hydraulic process.

Snowslide on the Pass.

News of a big snowslide on the White Pass & Yukon route, brought to Victoria, B. C., by a train, buried by a snowslide on the trail when the train was bucking out. P. O'Regan, on duty, endeavored to walk to the snowbound train, conscious, with his feet. The operator on the Skagway that the track eroded for a distance of five to 20 feet. The road beyond Glacier are down.

Heathen Chinese.

At Victoria, B. C., a heathen Chinese, a Methodist mission congregation, Chinese worshipping, a bomb made of lead pipe and filled with gunpowder was exploded. No one was injured. The deed is ascribed to heathen Chinese jealous of the introduction of Christianity among their countrymen.

To List All the Hops.

Directors of the Oregon Hopgrowers' Association met in Salem Tuesday afternoon, and were in secret session four hours. The chief business transacted was to require every local representative of the association to obtain a complete list of hopgrowers and the amount of hops now on hand in their respective districts. The board also announced that it is now ready for business.

Northwest Notes.

An opers house is one of Albany's needs for 1900.

Male-buyers from California are in Southern Oregon counties.

A Burns paper reports a sale of 2,700 stock sheep at \$2.80 per head.

It is estimated that the call for warrants recently made by the county treasurer of Whatecom county covers about \$170,000 of county indebtedness.

Figures of real estate transfers recorded in King county (Seattle) since July 1 show a total of 495 transfers, of an aggregate value of \$3,989,625, not including, of course, the value of the transfers for nominal sums.

BRADSTREET'S REVIEW.

Temporary Reaction From the Heaviest Holiday Trade on Record.

Bradstreet's says: Holiday influence and stock-taking impart an appearance of dullness to general distributive trade, broken, however, by fair activity in re-order business to fill up stocks depleted by the heaviest holiday trade that has ever been experienced.

Anticipation of spring trade wants has given a more than ordinarily active appearance to business in dry goods at New York, while in industrial lines the efforts of manufacturers to keep up with filled order-books is resulting in unusually active operations. Following the flurry in money, stocks and in some lines of speculative commodities noted last week, has come, as was expected, a more cheerful tone, and a firming up in quotations is noted in such staples as cotton, which was effected by last week's money developments, and also in hog products, coffee, copper, tin and lead. The strength of textiles is still a feature which finds justification in current statistics of larger season's receipts and sales of wool, and in reports of enlarged old and heavily increased new capacity in manufacturing lines.

In iron and steel, seasonable quiet as regards new business is observable, but unabated activity on earlier booked orders is reported. In some cases, no shutdown was made for the holidays by mills and furnaces.

Wheat (including flour) shipments for the week aggregate 3,610,557 bushels, against 2,813,714 bushels last week, 6,292,625 bushels in the corresponding week of 1898, 5,495,061 bushels in 1895.

For the year, failures are the smallest in number for 17 years past, and were it not for a few heavy financial suspensions in December, liabilities, which will exceed those of 1892 slightly, would have been smallest for 12 years past.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.

- Onions, new, \$1.00 to 1.25 per sack. Potatoes, new, \$16 to 20. Beets, per sack, 75 to 85c. Turnips, per sack, 80c. Carrots, per sack, 50c. Parsnips, per sack, 75 to 85c. Cauliflower, 75c to \$1 per dozen. Cabbage, native and California, 75 to 90c per 100 pounds. Peaches, 65 to 80c. Apples, \$1.25 to 1.50 per box. Pears, \$1.00 to 1.25 per box. Prunes, 80c per box. Watermelons, \$1.50. Nutmegs, 50 to 75c. Butter—Creamery, 32c per pound; dairy, 17 to 22c; ranch, 22c per pound. Eggs—Firm, 30 to 31c. Cheese—Native, 16c. Poultry—9 to 10c; dressed, 13 to 14c. Hay—Pugot Sound timothy, \$12.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$17.00 to 18.00. Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$25. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$21; whole, \$22. Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.35; blended straights, \$3.10; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; Graham, per barrel, \$3.80; whole wheat flour, \$3.10; rye flour, \$3.80 to 4.00. Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$16.00; per ton, \$17.00. Rolled feed, \$20.50 per ton; oil cake, \$22; oil cake.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 50 to 55c; seconds, 42 1/2 to 45c; dairy, 37 1/2 to 40c; store, 25 to 35c.

Eggs—18 to 19c per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50 to 3.50 per dozen; hens, \$4.00; springs, \$2.50 to 3.50; geese, \$7.00 to 9.00 for old; \$4.50 to 6.50 for young; ducks, \$4.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13 1/2 to 18c per pound.

Potatoes—55 to 70c per sack; sweets, 2 to 2 1/2c per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 90c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; parsnips, \$1; beans, 5 to 6c per pound; celery, 70 to 75c per dozen; cucumbers, 50c per box; peas, 3 to 4c per pound; tomatoes, 75c per box; green corn, 12 1/2 to 15c per dozen.

Hops—8 to 11c; 1898 crop, 5 to 8c.

Wool—Valley, 12 to 13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8 to 14c; mohair, 97 to 30c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3 1/2c; dressed mutton, 6 1/2 to 7c per pound; lambs, 7 1/2c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$5.50 to 6.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50 to 4.00; cows, \$3 to 3.50; dressed beef, 6 1/2 to 7 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6 1/2 to 7 1/2c; small, 8 to 8 1/2c per pound.