

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

From All Parts of the New World and the Old.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Called From the Telegraph Columns.

The Medford, Or., distillery, which has been in litigation for the past year, has been sold at auction by the receiver, for \$2,000. The original cost of the plant was \$10,000.

The heavy rains of the past few days have again caused Mill creek, in Salem, to rise and overflow its banks, in consequence of which Church and Marion streets and adjacent property are flooded.

In Pierre, S. D., in the mandamus case to compel the issuance of certificates to Republican electors on a partial canvass, the court has held that the board has a right to adjourn and secure complete returns. This gives the victory to the Bryan electors.

It has been reported on the Sound that a band of eighteen Indians are snowbound near the base of Mount Rainier, and that they are in danger of perishing. The government has sent out a relief expedition with instructions to spare no expense to bring the suffering Indians out safely. Among the party, it is said, there are several women and children. The party had been out hunting and got lost during the snow storm two weeks ago.

Wm. C. Powers, conductor on the South Mount Tabor (Or.) line of the East Side Railway Company, was shot by one of two highwaymen at the end of the line. His injuries are, fortunately, not fatal. Robbery was the purpose of the thugs who fired the shot.

In Keswick, Cal., there was an explosion of gasoline, resulting in the burning of twelve men, among them Arthur Dean, of Redding. Dean had charge of the electric plant, and it is presumed that the explosion took place in the power-house.

Lieutenant-Commander Drake, of the battleship Oregon, has enlisted the services of the police of San Francisco in finding Edward Perry, steward of the vessel. He deserted the ship after having squandered about \$100 which had been given him to purchase provisions.

An attempt was made to wreck a passenger train on the Iowa Central railroad, near Latimer, Ia. Iron rails were laid on the track on the upper end of a curve, where the obstruction could not be seen by the engineer. An extra freight train ahead of the regular passenger train ran into the obstruction, without damage. Robbery was the evident motive of the wreckers.

Frank H. Cheeseman, of South Berkeley, Cal., has made an eighth attempt at suicide and his life is now despaired of. In a fit of despondency he shot himself through the lung, inflicting what is thought to be a fatal wound. Cheeseman is only 24 years of age, and the physicians give insanity as the cause for his repeated efforts to end his life.

Powers of Vermont, chairman of the house committee on the Pacific railroads, heartily approves that portion of President Cleveland's message relating to the Pacific railroads. "Something must be done at once," said he. "We will bring up the bill agreed upon by the committee in the session at the earliest possible moment." He feels confident that the measure will be settled at this session.

Liquor dealers in California are up in arms over the announcement that Governor Budd has on hand a plan to secure the enactment by the next legislature of a law establishing a state liquor license. The liquor men say they now pay federal taxes, and also local, county and municipal licenses, and they propose to fight the proposed state license, the proceeds of which, it is proposed, shall go towards the maintenance of the public asylums.

The steamer Dalles City, that sank last week opposite Sprague's landing, on the Columbia river, has been successfully raised by the aid of several scows. The damage to the hull, while it is considerable, consisting of a hole more than twenty feet long, can be repaired without injury to the boat. The Dalles City has been towed to the Cascades, where a temporary bulkhead will be built around the damaged portion. It is possible she may be taken to Portland that she may undergo permanent repairs.

A tragedy occurred in Schuyler, Neb. As a result of a rejected lover's insane attempt to murder his sweetheart and exterminate her family, Deidrick Glesing is dead, his mother and father, brother and sister dangerously wounded by a terrible clubbing, another sister almost crazed by being repeatedly fired upon at close range, and Claus Destedef, the murderer, is being pursued by a determined posse. The murderer is a young man of the neighborhood, who was infatuated with Miss Glesing. His advances had been refused, and for months he had threatened murder.

Ex-Treasurer G. W. Boggs, of Tacoma, is again in jail in that city, he having surrendered himself to the sheriff at Spokane. Boggs' attorneys are preparing to petition the supreme court for a rehearing of his case.

The Newaukum river, in Washington, is booming since the recent rains, and has done considerable damage to property. The dam at the lumber mills of Stone & Sons, near Chehalis, has been washed out and between \$2,000 and \$3,000 worth of damage to their property has resulted.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

Senate. Third day.—The senate, by the decisive vote of 35 to 21, adopted a motion to take up the Dingley tariff bill. Unexpected and surprising as this action was, it did not have the significance which the vote itself appears to convey. Immediately following it, Adrich of Rhode Island, one of the Republican members of the finance committee, moved to recommit the bill to the committee, and this motion was pending when, at 2 o'clock, the morning hour expired, and the matter lapsed as though no vote had been taken. Neither the bill nor the motion to recommit will enjoy any privilege or precedence as the result of the action today. Early in the day three sets of vigorous resolutions for Cuban independence furnished an interesting feature. They came from Cameron of Pennsylvania, Mills of Texas, and Call of Florida, and while differing in terms, breathed the same spirit of recognition by the United States of Cuban independence.

Fourth day.—The senate got into the regular channel of business today, taking up the immigration bill and partly perfecting it, and also hearing the first of the speeches on Cuba, those of Callom and Call. The immigration bill was not passed upon up to the time of adjournment, but the senate agreed to what is generally known as the Lodge bill, as a substitute to the house measure. The substitute requires that all immigrants over the age of 14 years shall be able to read and write their native language and shall be required to read and write in the presence of a United States official certain lines of the United States constitution.

Fifth day.—Call renewed attention to the Cuban question by three resolutions, one being a bitter denunciation of the manner in which it is alleged General Antonio Maceo had been killed, while under a flag of truce. Other resolutions by Call requested the president to demand the release of United States prisoners at the Spanish penal settlement on the island of Centa, and also asked the secretary of state for a list of Americans held in Spanish prisons. The three resolutions went to the committee on foreign relations. Several spirited political colloquies occurred on the floor during the day. Allen's speech, protesting against intemperate criticisms of populism in Nebraska, led to a passage at arms between him and Hoar, in which the Massachusetts senator declared it was a novel departure for senators to appear as representatives of political parties, instead of representatives of their states. In the course of Allen's remarks, he paid a glowing tribute to William J. Bryan, as the foremost citizen of Nebraska, and the greatest orator since the days of Webster and Clay.

House. Third day.—The house held a three-hour session and passed a dozen bills of minor importance. Among them were the following: To extend five years the time in which the university of Utah shall occupy the lands granted it; to authorize the use of the abandoned Fort Bidwell military reservation in California, as a training school for Indians; to provide for the location and purchase of public lands for reservoir sites in Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming; authorizing Flagstaff, Ariz., to issue bonds for the construction of a water system. The Shaforth bill, for the protection of forest reservations from fire, was defeated.

Fourth day.—Pending the preparation of the next appropriation bill, the house again today devoted its time to the consideration of bills on the calendar, but only two were passed during the four hours session. One of them was a bill to protect musical compositions under the copyright law. The other measure made a law to prohibit the sale of liquor in the capitol building. A bill advocated by the delegates from the territories, to modify the law forbidding the alien ownership of lands in the territories so as to give them the right to acquire under mortgage and to hold for ten years, real property, was defeated.

Fifth day.—Beyond agreeing to a two weeks' holiday recess, beginning December 22, the proceedings in the house today were almost entirely devoid of public interest. Most of the day was spent in a struggle over the bill of Morse of Massachusetts, to render the laws relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia more stringent. The opposition was incited to filibuster against the measure, but it was finally passed. Several minor relief bills were passed. The reported assassination of Maceo, the Cuban patriot, and its effect on the attitude of the country toward the revolutionists, was almost the sole topic of conversation on the floor before the house met, and there was a general expectation that some radically sensational resolutions would be introduced. No resolutions, however, were offered.

The Butte Company Formed. Butte, Mont., Dec. 17.—One hundred and six able-bodied men of Butte tonight signed the roll which calls on them to aid the insurgents. Resolutions were adopted condemning the methods of Spain in the war and pledging co-operation of the Cuba Libre Club and calling on the representatives in congress to do all possible to have Cuba's belligerency recognized.

Secretary Olney has received cables from the United States legation at Petropolis, Brazil, announcing that Brazil has accepted the rules for the prevention of collisions at sea, framed at the maritime conference held at Washington. The chief maritime nations of the world have now given assent to the international rules, and they will go into effect July 1, next year, a humane end that has been reached only after protracted negotiations.

THE QUADRANT LAND CASE

Supreme Court Decides in Favor of Government.

RAILROAD FORFEITED ITS CLAIM

Good News for Several Hundred Settlers in Washington County—Disputed Land Contains 200,000 Acres.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Chief Justice Fuller announced today the opinion of the supreme court in the case of the United States vs. the Oregon & California and Oregon Central railway companies, involving titles to valuable lands near Portland, Or., reversing the decision of the circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit. Chief Justice Fuller did not give the court's reasons for the conclusions reached.

The court announced a recess for the holidays from Monday until the first Monday in January.

(This is a final decision in what is generally known as the quadrant case, which involves the title to some 200,000 acres of land in Washington county, and the news will be a welcome Christmas gift to the settlers on the land, who number nearly 500, and who, for several years past, have been on the anxious seat in regard to their titles.)

The land in question, as has been explained many times, consists of a quadrant-shaped tract having a radius of ten miles, situated adjacent to the point above the railroad which was started to run from Portland to Astoria, stopped, and turned at a right angle, and ran south to McMinnville. The government claimed that there were two roads to which grants were given, the Portland & Astoria road, and the one running south from near Hillsboro to McMinnville, while the railroad company claimed that the whole was one continuous road, and they were entitled to a grant ten miles in width along the whole line.

When the grant on the line from Hillsboro to Astoria lapsed, many settlers, considering this quadrant tract government land, took up homesteads and pre-emption claims from the government. Many who bought claims from the railroad company quit paying them and entered their claims under the law as public lands, and some have kept on paying the railroad company till this time. The government finally brought suit in the court here to quiet the title to these lands, and the case was decided in favor of the government by Judge Bellinger some three years ago. The company appealed the case to the circuit court of appeals, and it reversed Judge Bellinger. The government then appealed to the supreme court of the United States, which has now reversed the court of appeals, and sustained Judge Bellinger.

The settlers who have taken their claims under the government will be rejoiced at this decision. Those who have been paying the railroad company will probably endeavor to secure the return of their money, and there will be interminable litigation over the matter.

This is the first case decided by Judge Bellinger which has gone up to the supreme court of the United States, and it will be a source of gratification to him, as well as to Mr. J. M. Goarin, who acted as special counsel for the government in the case, to learn that his opinion has been sustained.

STAMPS AT YOUR DOOR.

Radical Improvement Made in the Postal System.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Postmaster-General Wilson has issued an order extending the house-to-house collection and delivery letter system so as to provide for the sale of postage and special-delivery stamps through orders to letter-carriers on slips contained in a unique official stamp-selling envelope to be furnished by the Postal Improvement Company. The order provides for one of the most radical improvements yet made in the postal system. It will be tried in Washington at once, and if found practicable, extended generally. It affords the conduct of one's business with the postoffice at home, at least so far as ordinary transactions are concerned, and it is expected to largely increase stamp sales as soon as the system becomes general. The house-to-house collection of mail by means of ingeniously contrived boxes has already been adopted and extended to twenty-five free delivery cities.

Schooners Collided in the Dark.

New York, Dec. 16.—The Clyde steamer Saginaw, Captain Johnson, which arrived today from San Domingo and Turks Island, brought from the latter port Captain Records, Mate Thompson and five of the crew of the schooner Amelia P. Schmidt, of Bridgeton, N. J., which sailed from Wilmington, N. C., November 1, for Jacmel, Hayti, lumber-laden. Captain Records reports that on the evening of November 30 he was run into by an unknown two-masted schooner and his ship became water-logged. Captain Records and his crew stood by the vessel until the 5th, when they were rescued by the brig Gabriel.

Columbus, Ind., Dec. 16.—Elder Z. T. Sweeney, in his sermon at the tabernacle Sunday, created a sensation by exhibiting a warlike spirit and declaring that if the Spaniards had murdered Maceo, the Cuban general, as reported, the United States government should lose no time in acknowledging Cuba's independence and leaving nothing else undone to wipe every vestige of Spanish rule from the American continent. The utterances were followed by a great outburst of applause.

TREATY WITH ENGLAND.

The Arbitration Negotiations are Drawing to an End.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The negotiations between the United States and Great Britain for a treaty of general arbitration covering differences between the two English speaking nations, present and prospective, has advanced to a stage of completeness far beyond what the public has had reason to believe. The purpose of Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote is to conclude the negotiation within the next three weeks. All of the substantial features of the treaty have been agreed on. From the present status of the negotiations, it is believed the following will be the important terms of the treaty:

First—A term of five years from the day of the exchange of ratifications within which the treaty shall be operative.

Second—A court of arbitration of six members, three to be drawn from the judiciary of the United States and three from the judiciary of Great Britain.

Third—The submission to this tribunal of differences between the two nations now pending, or to arise within the period of five years; this not to include the Behring sea question or the Venezuela question now before independent commissions, but to include the question of the boundary between Alaska and British North America.

The completion of this treaty will mark an important epoch in the relations between the two English-speaking peoples, and, in the judgment of those who have been most identified with its consummation, it will be the most important document of a peaceful character in the history of their mutual dealings. The president made a passing allusion to the subject in his recent message.

"FREE LAND."

The Title of a Pamphlet Written by Governor-Elect Rogers.

Tacoma, Dec. 15.—Governor-elect Rogers has issued a copyrighted pamphlet containing about 2,200 words, and entitled "Free Land." A copy has been sent to members of the legislature, which meets next month. He takes the position that free land is an "inalienable, imprescriptible and indestructible" right of man, and draws lessons from the freedom and enjoyment of the Payallup reservation Indians, which he thinks results from their free, inalienable and untaxable homesteads. His position is supported by quotations from Emerson, Ingersoll and Seneca.

In conclusion, he proposes an amendment to the state constitution, providing that real estate and usual improvements, to a value not to exceed \$2,500, occupied as a homestead by a private family, the head of which is a citizen of the United States, and this state shall be forever exempted from all taxation of every kind. The exemption is limited to homesteads.

The pamphlet states that in no state would the amount exempted by the amendment exceed 10 per cent of the total valuation. He says that such a plan enacted into law "will prevent that fatal clash of the classes otherwise inevitable." The pamphlet concludes as follows:

"County government should be abolished or reduced to the merest skeleton of what it is now. Township and municipal government can attend to local affairs; let the state be called in when necessary."

UP-TO-DATE CROOKS.

Opening Seattle Safes Without the Use of Powder.

Seattle, Dec. 15.—The cleverest safe-cracking job ever perpetrated in this city took place at an early hour this morning. The wholesale liquor house of F. A. Buck, on Washington street, was entered, the safe broken open by use of drills and wedges, and \$500 in money, a gold watch and some nuggets taken. The entrance to the building was gained through a rear door, which was opened with the aid of a jimmy.

Either before or after turning this trick, the safe crackers entered the Queen City laundry, on Fourth avenue, broke open the safe and took \$25 in coin. This is the first time safes have been cracked in this city without the aid of powder, and shows that up-to-date crooks are traveling about the Northwest. The police are working on a clew that may lead to the arrest of the offenders.

A Scientist Blown to Atoms.

London, Dec. 15.—A Times dispatch from Berlin says an explosion occurred Saturday afternoon in Moabit quarter, where the scientist George Isaac was experimenting with the manufacture of acetylene. Isaac and three assistants were blown to atoms. It is stated that Emperor William had intended to visit Isaac's laboratory, as his experiments had attracted the emperor's attention.

Remains Were Petrified.

Warrensburg, Mo., Dec. 15.—William W. White, an acrobat with W. W. Cole's circus, died here fifteen years ago, and was buried in a metallic coffin, in a private cemetery. Yesterday relatives exhumed the body to bury it in the city cemetery and an examination showed that it was petrified. White was a brother of C. G. White, city editor of the Sioux City Journal.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—With a determination to starve, Mrs. Ansena Anderson locked herself and 8-year old daughter, Freda, in their single living room at 342 West Chicago avenue last Tuesday, and both have existed there since without food or fuel. Tonight two police, called to the scene by the neighbors, forced an entrance into the room and took mother and child to the station. The former, it is believed, is insane, and the latter was nearly starved.

COWARDLY ASSASSINATION

Maceo Was Murdered Under a Flag of Truce.

LETTERS TO THE CUBAN JUNTA

Decoyed Into a Trap by Spaniards, Aided by a Traitor, and Then Shot Down in Cold Blood by Cirujeda.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 15.—Justo Carrillo, a well-known Cuban of this city, brother of the Cuban general, Carrillo, has received the following letter from a trustworthy source in Havana concerning the reports of the death of Antonio Maceo, and showing he was killed by treachery:

"Havana, Dec. 12.—Dear Friend Justo: Our brave general, Antonio Maceo, and the greater part of his staff have been murdered by the Spaniards, the Spanish major, Cirujeda, acting the part of assassin, with Dr. Maximimo Zertucha as an assistant in the horrible crime."

"Convinced that, notwithstanding his enormous army, he could do nothing against our gallant leader, who had so repeatedly defeated the Spanish generals in Pinar del Rio, Weyler conceived the idea of appealing his beastly instincts by cold-blooded murder, and making the best of the secret relations between Dr. Zertucha and the Marquis Ahumada, he planned with the latter his hellish scheme."

"Weyler took the field, and in his absence Ahumada proposed through Zertucha a conference with Maceo, to take place at a certain point in the province of Havana, with the view of arranging plans for the cessation of hostilities. The basis was to be Cuba's independence, and a monetary indemnity to Spain, together with certain advantages that should be agreed upon for Spanish commerce and Spanish capital invested there."

"To carry out the plan, agreement was that orders should be given to the detachments of troops stationed on the trocha on the section between Mariel and Guanajay, to allow Maceo, with his staff, to pass the military line unmolested. Time was required to mature these arrangements, and to give them all the appearance of truth, Ahumada feigned that before acting he must make them known to Weyler for previous approval."

"This explains Weyler's sudden arrival in Havana and his prompt departure for Pinar del Rio. The conditions and place of meeting having been agreed upon Maceo crossed the trocha, over the road to Guanajay, without being molested by the forts, but as soon as he arrived at the place decided upon, he and his party were greeted by a tremendous volley from the troops under Major Cirujeda, who lay conveniently in ambush."

"Most of the officers of his staff fell with General Maceo. Zertucha is alive, because he was aware of the scheme and remained in the rear."

"The Spaniards know where the bodies are, but are bent on feigning ignorance to blot out the vestiges of the crime."

"Havana and all Spain are rejoicing because in their stupidity they hope the war may end with the death of this leader. Far from it. The spirit of the Cubans has grown more ardent, and today they are resolved to make every sacrifice before surrendering their arms to their relentless tyrants. In this very province of Havana, in which our army is least and has the least means of defense, the Cubans are operating with greater and greater sagacity and activity, and not a day passes that we do not hear in this city the firing on Guanabacoa."

"The Spaniards may treacherously murder some of our patriots, but no earthly power can annihilate the spirit of liberty flowing now as ever over the Cuban people."

Palma Confirms It.

New York, Dec. 15.—Estrada Palma made the following statement: "I received a telegram from my agents in Jacksonville, affirming the news that General Maceo and staff came in conflict with Ahumada, Weyler's lieutenant, and were murdered. Dr. Zertucha was present. The news does not surprise me, because the first reports of General Maceo's death were so contradictory that I saw mystery in them. I was inclined to believe the news was false, but that if General Maceo had really been killed it was through the assassin's knife. It seems now he has been murdered."

Abolition of Sugar Bounties.

Paris, Dec. 15.—The Temps announces that an international conference of representatives of Germany, Austria, Belgium, France and Russia will meet at Paris in March, of next year, for the purpose of considering the best means of bringing about the abolition of the sugar bounties.

Hamburg Strike a Failure.

Hamburg, Dec. 15.—At a meeting today the striking dockers adopted resolutions in favor of coming to some agreement with their employers. A conference between the strikers and employers will decide upon the composition of the board of conciliation.

Mother and Daughter Asphyxiated.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Catherine Corbett, aged 70, and her daughter Mary, 40 years old, were found dead in their home today. The odor of gas was strong in the house, and it is supposed they were asphyxiated.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—During a drunken quarrel at a christening at the home of William Keenan, on Archer avenue, this evening, Keenan was fatally shot by John Meehan, godfather to the child. The murderer is in jail.

CANADA WANTS HER FREEDOM

Sentiment Favoring Independent Government is Spreading.

Montreal, Dec. 14.—The strong decurrent of sentiment throughout Canada favorable to a separation from Great Britain and the establishment of an independent Canadian republic, this continent has begun to take a definite shape. The organization of independence clubs has been in progress during the past five or six months and a convention has been called to meet in this city in March next, with the object of federating groups and clubs of the Dominion. Until then the chief work will be group individuals favoring the independence movement throughout Canada; that is, to effect the co-operation of all those who favor national independence by pacific means.

The Associated Press correspondent is informed that the movement is gaining ground rapidly in the rural districts, especially in Port Neuf, Drummond, Granby and the most remote districts. Two organizers are traveling in the interest of Canadian independence clubs throughout Canada, centers in the United States and the eastern townships, where the work seems to meet with great favor.

An important meeting was held last night in Montreal. The meeting was secret, but the Associated Press obtained a copy of the by-laws and constitution which were adopted. The preamble, which is perhaps the most important part of the document, reads as follows:

"This association shall be known as the Independence Club of Canada, and shall be composed of all persons desirous of obtaining political liberty and the independence of Canada."

"Its objects shall be: "First—The study of the Canadian people and of the resources of the country."

"Second—The encouragement of true national spirit amongst the population."

"Third—To obtain the liberty and independence of Canada by legitimate and pacific means."

ELEPHANT TO BE EXECUTED

Famous "Gypsy" Must Suffer the Penalty for Her Crimes.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Gypsy, the famous old circus elephant which has four keepers, is soon to suffer for the terrible past at the hands of the executioner. The monster, which has been the last several years being run by Harris Nickel-Plate circus to suit himself, will be wiped off the earth by stroke of lightning. Mr. Harris believes that Gypsy will be more to humanity when made into soap the animal will be electrocuted at tarsal's as soon as a date can be fixed upon.

Gypsy is well known all over the United States, and is considered the most dangerous elephant in captivity. She has toured the country with Harris combinations for ten years, and is at present at the winter quarters of the circus. Last winter the animal escaped from its home and caused excitement on the West Side by running through the streets, damaging everything she came in contact with. Before she was captured Frank Scherer keeper, was killed, the elephant stepping on him and crushing out his life. Since then she has had a number of keepers. The men stay a week or sign rather than risk their lives in the man in charge of Gypsy threw up his job and the big circus man, unable to find another keeper, was poked food into the animal with clothes pole. Tiring of this, he decided to turn Gypsy over to Scherer and lightning. Manager William Harris show, applied yesterday to the collector for a permit to electrocute the brute, providing the city authorities thought there was enough electricity in the sky. If there is not, he will tap all the trolley wires in the city and send her to her fathers in rapid-transit plan.

THE SULTAN IS MAD.

Protests Against President Cleveland's Language.

New York, Dec. 14.—A Washington special to the World says: President Cleveland has been called to account by the sultan of Turkey. An emphatic protest was made yesterday by the Turkish government against the language used in the president's message to congress respecting the massacre of Armenians and general conduct of the government towards the Christians of the empire. The situation is said to threaten a rupture of diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey. Mustapha Bey, the Turkish minister, it is rumored at the Turkish parliament, has intimated that if amendments are not made by the president, he will be obliged to ask for papers and will return to Constantinople.

Plague Spreading in Bombay.

Bombay, Dec. 11.—The plague is spreading everywhere. Yesterday there were fifty-five fresh cases, thirty-seven deaths here. There have been, in all, 1,126 cases and 894 deaths.

In railroad building across the deserts the French engineers are beginning to employ iron ties.

Cape Town, Dec. 14.—Advised

Blantyre, the chief town of British Central Africa, dated October 25, announced the despatch of three regiments against 30,000 warriors of Chief Chikusi II, who invaded the west Nyassaland and burned the fish missionary station besides creating the inhabitants of a number of villages. The Portuguese at Tete invited the co-operation of the British troops, which later only numbered 800.