

WASHINGTON COUNTY HATCHET.

RIVERA A FREE MAN.

The Cuban Patriot Released From Cabanas Fortress.

Havana, Dec. 13.—General Rivera, the insurgent leader, who was captured in March last in Pinar del Rio by the Spanish troops under General Hernandez de Velasco, and who was recently pardoned by royal decree, has been released from Cabanas fortress, where he has been imprisoned for several months, and sailed today by the steamer Colon for Cadiz, his home.

The colon also carries back to Spain 800 sick, wounded and otherwise incapacitated soldiers.

In the skirmishes of the last ten days the insurgents have lost 113 killed and 1,000 prisoners. Eight chiefs and officers and 53 armed privates have surrendered to the Spanish. The Spanish column, in the same period, has lost five officers and 22 soldiers killed, with 11 officers and 110 soldiers wounded.

Juan Cossio, who was in charge of the insurgent dynamite corps in the province of Puerto Principe, is dead at the insurgent camp. He was a cousin of Evangelina Cossio.

The insurgents fired a cannon shot into the machinery of the plantation of Mr. Rigby, an American, in the Manzanillo district, destroying the machinery. The insurgents have forbidden grinding in that neighborhood, under threat of burning the fields.

The Fight in Pinar del Rio.

Havana, Dec. 13.—Latest reports of the late fight in Pinar del Rio province show the Spanish loss more than claimed. The dead or wounded include one colonel, one major, seven captains, 11 subordinate officers and 74 privates. Most of the wounded will die. The rebel loss was 14. The rebels used explosive bullets.

Want De Lome Recalled.

New York, Dec. 13.—The Spanish colony in this city has been divided by a petition sent to Madrid at the time of the assassination of Premier Canovas, asking for the appointment of a strong successor to Senor de Lome. According to the World the petition was drawn up as to attack Senor de Lome without mentioning his name, and among the 40 prominent Spaniards who signed it were several friends of the minister who did not see any attack upon him in the apparently harmless recommendation. The result is a bitterness among the factions almost as strong as their hatred of the Cubans. The petition says:

"For Spain to succeed in her relations with the United States she must have in Washington a representative of ability and firmness, whose heart will beat with the pulsations of our mother country, and with a head balanced to base all his diplomatic relations on an indisputable right, and not allow the right to be curtailed in the least by unfounded demands or unjust pretensions from the opposing party."

Insurgents Near Havana.

New York, Dec. 13.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says: An important battle is expected hourly. The insurgents have planned the most formidable demonstration against Havana of the year. General Parrados has started from this city with a strong column of troops to meet the insurgents. Senor Caneljas, the confidential agent of the Spanish government, went with him to ascertain the real conditions in Havana province.

General Rodriguez, with the combined Cuban forces under Juan Delgado Ladarez and Rafael Zeckardinas, is encamped about 20 miles south of here. He has fully 1,000 men, who are well armed and is said to have a Hotchkiss rapid-fire cannon.

Emio Cossio has hanged Antonio Rivera and a negro named Osman. They went to Consalo from Blanco with money and a proposition that he lay down his arms and accept autonomy. A note was pinned on the breasts of the hanged men announcing that any one coming on a similar mission would meet a like fate.

Starving Cubans in New York.

New York, Dec. 13.—The Journal and Advertiser says: Weyler's policy of extermination, which he called concentration, has resulted in an enormous influx of Cubans into New York. Hundreds if not thousands of them are dying of hunger here. The number of these refugees is variously estimated from 12,000 to 20,000. Perhaps the great majority are absolutely without means. There are men and women among them who were worth thousands of dollars before the war began, but are now penniless. Some of these are working as waiters, porters or seamstresses.

Emilio Agremon, president of the Marti Charity Association, says that many of them have actually died from starvation, and that the majority have preferred to live quietly in misery rather than let their desperate wants be known to those who could help them, but who have in the past known them to be people of wealth, influence and refinement.

Spain Accuses Cubans of Cruelty.

New York, Dec. 13.—A Herald dispatch from Madrid says: A storm of indignation has been provoked here by news of tortures inflicted by the Cuban rebels upon inhabitants of Guisa, where women and children are alleged to have been bound and burnt alive. The details are given by the Imparcial. The details are given by the Imparcial. The details are given by the Imparcial.

Indian Affairs.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The house committee on Indian affairs today began its investigation of the problems of the territory. It was a long session. The result was a call for the commission and all others interested to appear before it next Tuesday.

Dec. 9.—The dead body of a young boy, known as the king of the robbers, who several days ago had been seen in Chinatown, was found in a room in Chinatown. The body was found at each other, and a note left by Leo Fook, while the body was found, showed that he had

DEATH AT THE STAKE.

Terrible Fate Awaiting Three Negro Friends.

Wesson, Miss., Dec. 13.—Full particulars of one of the most atrocious crimes ever recorded have just come to hand. Almost the entire family of Brown Smith, a respectable white farmer, 55 years of age, were brutally killed with a club in the hands of Charles Lewis, a black fiend. Smith was working at a gin a few miles from his home, which is situated about 2 1/2 miles from Lawrence county, a wild country. The house is off the main road, and no white family lives within two miles of it, though several negro families live near.

It was one of these negroes who, on Wednesday, some time between noon and dark, crept up to Smith's house and most brutally assaulted Mrs. Smith, then brained her, and to hide his crime, he tried to kill the children, only sparing a babe, which he left untouched. The fiend's work was not done as well as he thought, for one of the children, a girl five years old, regained consciousness, and when her father returned, told him the name of the brute. The mother and four children were found dead in the yard, their condition showing how they had struggled to escape the brute.

A posse was organized, and late yesterday the negro was captured and taken to Monticello, the county seat of Lawrence county, and at 7 o'clock was carried back to the scene of his crime, where he was fully identified by the little girl.

The accused negro is being tried before Justice Holmes. He has given testimony implicating two other negroes, Will Powell and Andy Smith, who are in custody. It is said the negroes will not be lynched tonight, but that the recent lynching at Monroe will be imitated, making it public, and that every negro will be made to carry pine knots to burn the others. The trial is being conducted in a lawful manner, and the company have charge of the prisoners, and will not permit them to be sent to jail. During the trial, Lewis broke down and confessed: "It's mighty hard for me to suffer for what some one else has done."

Upon being allowed to talk further, he said:

"Get Will Powell and Andrew Smith."

Lewis is a mulatto about 23 years of age and married. It is believed that a general clean-up will be made in this section, and a number of negroes will be lynched.

PENSION BILL PASSED.

The First Measure Disposed of by the Lower House.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The house today passed the pension appropriation bill without amendment. The amendments offered by Democrats to correct alleged existing abuses were all ruled out on the point of order that they were new legislation. As passed, the bill carries \$141,263,880.

The debate today covered a wide range. It touched not only the question of our pension policy, but that of civil service reform and the receipts and expenditures of the treasury under the Dingley law. On the latter question Dingley made an important statement, in which he expressed the opinion that the receipts would equal the expenditures before the close of the present fiscal year, and predicted a surplus of \$10,000,000 next year.

The civil service law was savagely attacked by several members, notably by Brown of Ohio and Linney of North Carolina, and was warmly defended by Johnson of Indiana. Just before the close of the session Hitt attempted to secure unanimous consent for the passage of the bill to prohibit pelagic sealing by American citizens, but objection was made. It will, under agreement, however, be considered Tuesday.

REGISTERED MAIL ROBBERY.

Amount Involved Is in the Neighborhood of \$100,000.

New York, Dec. 13.—It was learned today that one of the biggest robberies in the history of the New York post-office occurred on November 9. The amount involved is said to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000, and was taken from registered letters in the railway mail service that section of the Central railroad, of New Jersey, known as the New York, Somerville & Eastern branch. On November 9, it is stated, two packages containing \$30,000 were taken. How long the defalcations had gone on before has not been ascertained. Major Charles F. Lewis, of the Philadelphia branch of the government secret service, was in this city today investigating the robbery, which has been kept secret until now divulged by the postal authorities.

Indians for Logging Camps.

Ashland, Wis., Dec. 13.—The government is about to make the experiment of making loggers out of its Indian wards on reservations in Northern Minnesota. The plan, which is approved by Land Commissioner Herpov by Land Commissioner Herpov by Land Commissioner Herpov.

A Drowning at Victoria.

Victoria, Dec. 13.—W. J. Hendrin was drowned off Beacon Hill this morning. He and a friend were out in a flat-bottomed boat, which capsized in a squall.

The Alaska Relief Bills.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Representative Ellis has introduced in the house the bills for transportation of relief supplies to Alaska, which have been presented in the senate by Senator McBridge.

ON HER BEAM ENDS.

The Unlucky Potrimpos Topples Over in the Breakers.

Astoria, Or., Dec. 10.—The unexpected has happened. For six months the Foard & Stokes Company, of this city, purchasers of the German bark Potrimpos, which went ashore on North beach at 7:30 o'clock on the morning of December 19, 1896, have been laying their plans and making strenuous efforts to float the unfortunate vessel. Expert wreckers were engaged, four or five jacking engines, winches and other valuable machinery were placed upon her, and a few days ago Lawrence Foard, of San Francisco, brother of the head of the firm here, arrived on the scene and took charge of the salvage operations. A short time ago every preparation was made to float the ship at the present high tides, but disaster unexpectedly overtook their efforts.

A special dispatch from the scene of the wreck to the Astorian from Captain C. D. Stuart, from the Fort Canby life-saving crew, who was early on the scene, says: "The bark Potrimpos went on her beam ends at 9:45 this morning. She had been afloat for the past two days. Yesterday she moved about 250 feet further north on the beach. About 9:30 this morning she carried away the port chock, tearing up the bulwarks and throwing the strain well ahead of the ship. This prevented the men in charge from keeping her head to the sea, and, there being no ballast aboard, at 9:45 she turned on her beam ends toward the sea, so that her spars struck the sand.

"At the time of the accident there were 14 men aboard, including Mr. Foard, Captain Drisko and the Chinese cook. All reached shore safely by means of shore lines attached to the ship. Engineer James Carroll had a narrow escape. He returned to the cabin for his coat and was wedged in. By breaking the cabin window he managed to get out, and reached shore safely. Lifesaving crews from Fort Canby and Long Beach arrived on the scene shortly after the men got ashore. The vessel lies about 250 feet from the drift logs, and is pretty well sanded, but Mr. Foard still has hopes of saving her. When the heavy surf subsides, he will make an examination, and, if she is not too deep in the sand, will try to right and float her."

A CUBAN RESOLUTION.

Senator Allen Opens for the Cause of the Suffering Isle.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Today's session of the senate occupied less than an hour, the time mainly being consumed by the members in the presentation of memorials, resolutions and bills.

Davis of Minnesota, reported from the committee on foreign relations a bill for prohibiting the killing of fur seals in the North Pacific ocean. He asked immediate consideration of the bill, but Hale of Maine, objected on the ground of the importance of the measure, and asked that the bill be printed.

Allen of Nebraska, presented a resolution declaring it the sense of the senate that congress should with all due and convenient speed accord by an appropriate act the political independence of Cuba. If necessary this recognition should be backed by the presence of an American fleet in Cuban waters.

Allen expressed the belief that President McKinley's statements in his message, that recognition of the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents is now unwise, and therefore inadmissible, would be a great disappointment to the members of the Republican party throughout the country. The national platform of that party had declared in favor of the independence of Cuba, going farther than the simple recognition of belligerency. He thought the president was under obligations to carry out the pledge which the party had made—a pledge which had been made to 73,000,000 of people. The president, Allen thought, had been lulled to sleep by the declaration of Spain that she could give Cuba a semi-political existence. He expressed the belief that the president's neglect to take such action as would insure the political independence of Cuba was an exhibition of "rank hypocrisy" and a "flagrant disregard of public duty," which would be corrected by the all ruling power in its own good time.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Hoar presented a resolution expressing the regret of the senate at the news of the death of Representative Ashley B. Wright, of Massachusetts, and providing for an adjournment as a further mark of respect.

At 12:55 the resolution was adopted and the senate adjourned.

In the House.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The session of the house today lasted only 15 minutes. Stone, Republican, reported the pension appropriation bill, the first of the appropriation bills, and gave notice that he would call it up immediately after the reading of the journal tomorrow.

The committee on elections and currency was given leave to sit during the session of the house. At 12:15 the house adjourned.

Christmas Money Orders.

New York, Dec. 10.—In the mail bags which went out on the St. Paul today were 9,000 foreign money orders, amounting to \$24,544. These orders are for Christmas presents, and most of them go to Norway and Sweden. The money-order business in the New York postoffice this year is about double that of the last holiday season. There were 20,000 money orders handled yesterday, as against 10,000 on the corresponding day last year.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 711-714 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)

Light speculation was the dominating factor in the wheat market last week.

Its force was felt more keenly than at any time since prices left 64 cents five months ago. The bear element is working on the idea that all the bullish influences have been discounted by the advance in prices of 36 cents from the low point in the spring. Wheat that cleared last week was all bought a month or more ago, and prices were advanced at the time. Now that the stuff is moving out, the bulls think that prices should continue to go up, because the stuff is being delivered to the buyers. The latter are not taking hold as freely, but export sales during the week were heavy. For three months the market has backed and filled around 90 cents for May, getting 5 cents above it recently, and has been 2 cents below it. The bears have been unable to maintain a break for more than a day or two below 90 cents. December sold 4 1/2 cents to 17 cents premium over May. The position of the bulls and their intention are as much of a puzzle as ever. They stand ready to pay for 5,000,000 bushels of wheat, and are very liable to get it before the first of the year. Elevator people, however, are not disposed to make any deliveries until navigation is closed, as they want to keep the wheat in their houses. The Leiter party have from 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 bushels bought. There are also scattered lines that will reach about 2,000,000 bushels held by parties outside of the pool. The claim is made that there is no shortage, except on the part of the elevator people. The latter have been bringing wheat down from Duluth. It is a deal that no one except rich men can afford to be in. The bulls claim that the wheat brought down from the Northwest by the elevator people has not shown any profit. If such is the case, it seems rather strange that two such shrewd business men as Armour and Weare should be so actively engaged in it. Government report gives crop of winter and spring wheat at 350,000,000 bushels. Visible supply of wheat decreased 101,000 bushels, and now totals \$4,744 bushels.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 72@73c; Valley and Bluestem, 75@76c per bushel. Four—Best grades, \$4.25; graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$2.25 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 34@35c; choice gray, 32@33c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$17. Hay—Timothy, \$12.50@13; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton. Eggs—18 1/2 @ 25c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 50@55c; fair to good, 40@45c; dairy, 30@40c per roll. Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c; California, 9@10c per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1.75@2.50 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$5.50@6; ducks, \$3.00@4.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@11c per pound. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@45c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental. Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental. Hops—8@14c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c. Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20@22c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.00; dressed mutton, 5c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.00; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$4.50@5.00 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.75@3.00; cows, \$2.25; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound. Veal—Large, 4 1/2 @ 5c; small, 5 1/2 @ 6c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 28c; ranch, 16@18c. Cheese—Native Washington, 12 1/2c; California, 9 1/2c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 30@32c. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@3.75. Wheat—Feed wheat, \$23 per ton. Oats—Choice, per ton, \$19@20. Corn—Whole, \$22; cracked, per ton, \$22; feed meal, \$22 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton sheep, 7c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 7c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4@5c; salmon, \$@4c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4; ling cod, 4@5; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2 1/2 @ 4c. Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50c@\$1.25 per box; peaches, 75@80c; prunes, 35@40c; pears, 75c@\$1 per box.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 7@8c per pound. Hops—10@14c per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22; California bran, \$17.50@18.00 per ton. Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silver skin, \$1.40@1.60 per cental. Eggs—Store, 23@25c; ranch, 27@30c; Eastern, 14@16c; duck, 20@25c per dozen. Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 15 1/2c; fair to good, 7@9c per pound.

OREGON STATE NEWS.

Brief Review of the Week Throughout the State.

Thirty-four marriage licenses were issued by the Marion county clerk in November.

Fishermen on the Umpqua are shipping sturgeon overland via Drain to Portland.

Four panthers were killed near Marshfield last week. One measured 7 1/2 feet from tip to tip.

Manager Dorwin increased the force at the Jewett mine and will hereafter run night and day shifts.

Samuel Henry, a veteran of the civil war, celebrated his 94th birthday anniversary at Jacksonville last week.

It is estimated that over 20,000 boxes of apples have been shipped from the Coquille valley this season, and there are several carloads yet to be forwarded.

The owners of the Oregon Bonanza mine contemplate running a blind tunnel, to begin on the Powell creek side of the mountain and extend westward a distance of 800 feet.

Another shipment of Wallowa county beef cattle was made from Elgin the latter part of last week by a Chicago dealer. He paid 3 1/2 cents for the steers weighed at Joseph.

A lot of cattle were recently bought on Smith river, in Lane county, and driven to Harrisburg. The average weight of 16 of the band was estimated to be 1,750 pounds each.

A three-foot ledge of bituminous coal has been found in the south end of Jackson county, as good as that produced in eastern states. Indications are that the vein is very extensive.

The judgment in favor of the state of Oregon and against Baker county has been recorded in Baker City, and a tax levy will have to be made to raise the amount of the judgment, \$10,928.60.

It was blowing a gale when the Chilkat crossed the Coos bay bar Monday, and two tremendous seas boarded the little steamer. Her stern was stove in, and she is at North Bend, undergoing repairs.

An old store building, a landmark, at Uter City, Coos county, collapsed during the recent storm. As many surveys started from the old building as a corner, some trouble will be caused in running lines.

It is a foregone conclusion that we will be treated to the operations of a first-class English mining company, in the Ashland district very soon, as one of the best and largest quartz mines is now being mined on the London market.

At the Clackamas hatchery about 1,000,000 young fish have been turned out so far this season. There are now about 5,000,000 eggs in the troughs in all stages of hatching. The eggs were obtained from the Little White Salmon river station, in Washington.

There was a heavy run of salmon in the Siuslaw this year, and at the Florence cannery 3,500 cases of canned salmon and 600 barrels of salmon were recently shipped to San Francisco. Mr. Hurd says that 10,000 cases could have been put up had the market price justified.

During the last two months one man has shipped from Brownsville, to outside markets, 1,150 turkeys, 650 chickens, 71 geese and 95 ducks, making a total of about 15,000 pounds of poultry shipped by him alone. There are several other poultry buyers in Brownsville, who have shipped a large amount also.

There have been shipped from Medford station this season thus far about 40 carloads of apples, and there remains to be shipped yet 20 carloads more of merchantable apples. This includes fruit hauled from the Applegate and surrounding country. Two carloads of dried fruits of different varieties have been shipped eastward from that station, too, and about eight carloads more remain to be shipped.

The Albany Fruit Company has shipped to Davenport, Ia., 600 boxes of Oregon winter apples. The company is also arranging to ship a carload of winter apples to Missouri. There is a good demand for Oregon apples in the East, but they must be salable. This company has dried 8,000 pounds of apples, which were not good keepers. It is also now arranging to carry out the experiment of drying vegetables for the Alaska trade.

While workmen were excavating a ditch in Elgin, at the intersection of Front and C. streets, last week, at a depth of two feet or a little more they began to uncover human bones, and in a short time almost the entire skeleton was unearthed. A few feet further on they unearthed portions of another skeleton. From the shape of the skull found, the remains are undoubtedly those of Indians, buried long before the whites settled there, says the Elgin Recorder.

There has been received at Astoria a fish from the life-saving crew at Fort Canby that no one seems to recognize. Some pronounced it a devil fish, and others are certain it is an octopus. It is about three feet long and of dark brown color. Its girth is probably 10 or 12 inches and from the tail to the gills varies but little in size. The head is attached to the body with a sort of swivel, and the mouth is hid beneath a clump of tentacles about a foot long.

A Lake county man who left last June to assist in driving 8,000 head of sheep to Amadee, Cal., has returned. He says that the sheep were bought before shearing or lambing for \$1.75 to \$2 a head, and that Flanagan & Dunn, the purchasers, have made a little fortune on the speculation, as the culls of the band are worth \$3 a head at Amadee. He thinks their profit will be nearer 200 per cent than 100. They had a successful drive and spent the summer in the Bryan country, in Lane county.