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# NEWBERG GRAPHIC.

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## LORD OF THE DESERT

By PAUL DE LAKEY.

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### CHAPTER IX.

Rescued and Lost.

The trapper followed along at the foot of the rimrocks occasionally halting to rebait a trap which he would draw from its hiding place from beneath the sands or wire grass. He was not infrequently rewarded by finding an animal in the jaws of a trap, cowardly gnawing at its own imprisoned limb and attempting to skulk away at his approach. These pelts, which were usually carried to a safe hiding place, added to the luggage on his back containing fresh baits for his traps and food supplies, made his burden quite a heavy one, but it did not cause him to abandon his Winchester, revolver and knife, which were his constant companions—and they were not caried for ornament.

Toward night he decided to climb to the top of the rimrocks and take a survey of the country. Away to the west he saw the moving forms of Follett and his companions, as their horses jogged along, leaving a cloud of dust behind them. He brought his field glasses to his eyes and surveyed the men for a moment and the thought ran through his mind: "Wonder what kind of devilry that Dan Follett is out on for his master this time?"

Hammersley had beheld the victim of these two men too long not to suspect every move they made to be a wicked one.

"If you knew how hot your trail is getting, Dan Follett, you would hunt a colder one, but I hope to see the same rope hang you and your master," said the trapper half audibly.

The trapper looked down at his Winchester and shook his head hesitatingly saying, "No, no, let vengeance come in the proper manner."

As he turned in disgust his eyes fell upon another object, far away on the opposite side of the rimrocks. A great cloud of dust rose behind it and the word "Snakes" escaped his lips. Bringing his glass to play, he was no time in making out the character of his party. After surveying it carefully he remarked, "Old Egan has been at work again." Then he exclaimed, as he looked through his glasses. "A girl captive, as sure as I live. Ah, Egan stealing horses has become too tame for you, has it? You are not satisfied with providing your stomaches and means of locomotion, and the hazard of occasionally killing a man who resists you, but now you have gone and taken some innocent white girl."

"I am not the law, neither should I attempt to punish you for your numerous crimes, for I rather like to see you harass the Lord of The Desert occasionally—he deserves it, but I propose to look into this caper of yours."

As the trapper watched the course the Indian party was taking he saw at a glance that it was making for the watering place that night, near the picture rocks. He was first to arrive at the place and secreted himself in a crevasse of the rocks near the top and watched their approach, having selected a place from which he could observe the camping grounds about the watering place.

The reader is familiar with what took place from the time of the arrival of the Indians until the interference of the trapper, for it was he who assailed Old Egan when the latter laid his wicked hands upon the person of Bertha Lyle.

Old Egan was strong and firm but the trapper was active and wiry. With the advantage, too, of having taken the Indians by surprise he soon tore him from the girl and hurled him to the ground. But as the cry made by the warriors as they came to the rescue of their chief warned him that he had not the time to finish settling accounts with his antagonist, if he so desired, he seized the girl by the hand and led the way into a crevasse in the rimrocks with which he was familiar. As they passed into the recesses of the rocks, he heard exclamations from the Indians which alarmed him as to his immediate future course with the girl. They had recognized him and knew where he lived, and to approach his home with her would be difficult should the Indians attempt to guard it. He was not long in doubt on this point, for he heard Egan give directions for them to go immediately to the trapper's place and guard it until he came.

If once hidden in the home in the same room as that occupied by the invalid, he never feared for the danger of her rescue, for the passage to this room was so secret that no one had ever been able to find it, though in his absence his home had been visited by Indians and whites, and ransacked many times.

It was easy to discern from the shouting of the Indians that while a part of the band, headed by Old Egan, were on their way to the trapper's home the others were recklessly trying to follow his trail, for knowing his marksmanship the man who trifled with him knew the risk he was taking. But the Indians knew that as long as he could prevent it he would never fire a gun, while the girl was in his company; that this would endanger her life by drawing the fire to her.

After going a long distance through the crevasse made by nature's great upheavel in the long past, Hammersley led the way into a secluded place which he thought was unknown to any except himself.

As he and his companion seated themselves the shouts of the Indians came to their ears from the distance. The girl was the first to break the silence.

"Do you live in this country, my dear preserver?" she inquired.

When he informed her that he did, she said: "I have an uncle somewhere on the desert; his name is Lyle, Martin Lyle. Do you know him?" The trapper nodded in the affirmative.

"Oh, if we could convey word to him," she said, "he would come immediately to our rescue."

Strong as was the trapper's body and steady as was his nerve, he felt his whole frame yield, with a shudder when he learned that his companion was Bertha Lyle, and of the narrow escape she had had. When she had hurriedly told him her history and the incident of her capture by the Indians he felt relieved that she had fallen into no worse hands than Old Egan's.

To take her to his home that night through the Indian searching party would be too hazardous. He could make it alone, but he doubted the girl's ability to climb among the rimrocks and keep her footing in the crevasses, although she had shown a wonderful spirit of coolness and strength during their recent adventure. The trapper was quick to come to a conclusion. He decided to go and get his rifle and secrete his luggage, and steal into his home with the girl the following day, making as much of the way that night as possible. So leaving her in the cavern he went on his mission, at the same time avoiding the savages who were skulking among the rimrocks and making a diligent search of every nook and corner.

The trapper was not gone more than two hours, though his course was a round-a-bout one, and to his surprise and dismay on his return the girl was not to be found.

### CHAPTER X.

A Surprise and a Fight.

Egan rose from the stunning blow given him by the trapper and quickly comprehended the situation. When he ascertained that his late antagonist had escaped with the captive, he knew that he had a difficult task before him. The Indians knew of Hammersley from one end of the desert to the other and his prowess struck them more forcibly than any other characteristic of the man. While they had never come in contact with him before in cunning they knew that he was familiar with every trail of the desert and with every crevasse and cavern among the rimrocks. And now that they were in the vicinity of his home they knew that he was still more familiar here than they, and that it would take quick work to rescue the captive before he reached his home among the rimrocks. If once there he could stand out against a larger band of Indians than Egan's present detachment, and Indian sagacity suggested proper tactics instantly.

Egan ordered four of his best scouts to attempt to follow the fugitives while he and seven of his warriors made straight for the trapper's quarters to get possession, intending when the trapper arrived with his prize, in case they were not apprehended by the trusty scouts, to capture the two.

Egan had left his horses in care of a warrior, and the chief and his companions had proceeded on foot. He knew that the trapper cared nothing for the horses, and that he and his men could make better time on foot and, besides, they had to cross the wall of rimrocks in order to reach the trapper's place of abode. They moved off in a trot, traveling in this way until a late hour in the morning.

It was almost daybreak when they ascended the rimrocks, surveyed the horizon and descended to the opposite side. They saw the rocks that overhung the trapper's home and placed themselves as sentinels at a safe distance from the entrance and guarded every path that led to the place. Indian courage was not great enough to induce them to enter this place by night. While they had made a quick trip from the scene of the previous night they knew that it was possible that the trapper had made a quicker one. They had, from a lack of knowledge of the country, been compelled to take a round-about way, while the trapper could have come a straighter course, doubtless, and arrived first. They doubted this, however, as he was burdened with his companion, provided the Indian scouts had not overtaken them, and they had great hopes of finding the place vacant on the following morning, and either take the two prisoners before or after they should enter the place. It was Egan's intention to enter the place if it proved to be unoccupied the following morning, provided the trapper did not fall into their hands before that time, and then surprise him upon his arrival. If his scouts should succeed in capturing the girl, for this was all they desired, they were to signal the chief's detachment at the earliest opportunity. Thus Egan and his men concealed themselves among the rocks in front of the trapper's cave and waited for developments.

The sun rose above the level horizon as if it had popped out of the sands, and soon peeped over the rimrocks. Old Egan and his warriors, cold and still as the rocks among which they lay, were eagerly peering through the sage brush to discover if there was any life about the trapper's home. For some moments everything was quiet and the old chief was planning for a more definite reconnoiter. It was still shadowy about the entrance of the cave and nothing could be but dimly seen. The door at the entrance was closed and the marauders were coming to the conclusion that they had outtraveled the owner. They were soon surprised, however.

The door opened suddenly and a stalwart man of the desert walked out carelessly, and uncovered, as if he had never thought of danger. A hist, passed down the line of warriors, unconsciously, but almost loud enough to be heard by the frontiersman. But not suspecting danger he strolled out into the sage brush, surveying the country about him. One common thought took possession of the Indians. Quickly every man reached to his quiver, drew an arrow and placed it to the string of his bow. Carelessly the white man strolled on. Nearer and nearer he came.

Indians in the bitterest warfare possess some policy and some sense of reason. The first thought of all was to shoot the man down and then rush into the cave-house, secure the girl and proceed on their journey. But Old Egan reasoned. To kill the trapper, who was the friend of everybody, and had not an enemy on the desert, and who had never crossed his path before, did not seem to him exactly right. To rush upon him and capture him by force and then bind and leave him so he could not pursue them after they had retaken their captive was the plan that suggested itself to him.

But wise plans are often thwarted, when the frontiersman had approached a little nearer to the left there was a "swish," and he fell to the ground pierced through the heart by an arrow. A young warrior near whom he had approached could not resist the temptation and fired the fatal shot; and quick as he had fired the shot he rushed upon his victim with scalping knife in hand.

A loud "Ugh" rose from the Indians and they rose from behind the rocks and rushed to the scene of death, some exulting and some showing signs of disapproval, while old Egan's face wore a sign of disappointment. But before they had reached his side the young murderer clinched his victim's hair and was already twining a scalping lock about his fingers. Before the knife had touched the scalp, however, a rifle rang out a sharp crack, and then another and another. The young warrior and a companion fell full length for their last fall, and in the midst of crackling shots the others sought refuge behind the nearest rocks.

The shots had come from the loopholes in front of the trapper's home, and the Indians could plainly see the dark muzzles of rifles still in the small openings, and every time that the slightest exposure was made on the part of the red men, a puff of smoke, a sharp crack and a whistling bullet warned them to keep under cover.

It had continued thus for more than an hour when a keen whistle was heard from the summit of the rimrocks in the rear. The dim form of a man was seen upon the topmost rock, rifle in hand. He could see the skulking forms of the Indians among the rocks beneath him, and at the same time observe the entrance to the cave. He signaled the beseiged to cease firing and motioned the Indians to depart. The white men withdrew their rifles and the Indians gladly accepted the armistice.

### CHAPTER XI.

Two Villains and a New Plot.

All is astir at the stone house. The employes have returned from the annual round-up and the place, which had borne a deserted appearance for the past few weeks, is now all bustle, and men are seen here and there feeding the horses, mending bridles, saddles and harness, shoeing horses and doing everything that is required about a great stock ranch. Night comes on and finds them still busy, but they change their work to the finishing touches preparatory for the night and one by one they come and prepare for supper.

The Lord of The Desert is alone in his accustomed place. None enter his quarters except on business and only his foreman and superintendents have business with him, for all business is transacted through these. His glass sits upon the broad arm of the old chair, and now and then his hand goes mechanically to it, and brings it mechanically to his lips, and he swallows draughts therefrom mechanically. With mechanical regularity his face grows redder and his countenance sterner, while his eyes take on a wilder glare.

A knock at the door and to the response of welcome, Dan Follett enters.

"How is it?" inquires his Lordship.

"All is completed," replied the Frenchman.

"Get a glass there and fill it to the brim," exclaimed Martin Lyle.

Partially emptying the glass Follett seats himself and relates the particulars of the transaction with Old Egan, drawing forth the woman's scalp from his pocket and passing it over to the Lord of The Desert.

"Did you see the corpse?" inquired Lyle.

"No, but I deemed this evidence sufficient," replied Follett.

"Old Egan is a treacherous old scoundrel and would deceive us if he could, but the evidence seems straight enough."

"Oh, you needn't doubt that," replied Follett, "the old scoundrel would never lose an opportunity to commit murder, especially when so many ponies and mules were to be gained."

"But they will never do him much good," replied Lyle, as he placed the glass to his lips. "I have a plan, Follett, and you are the man to carry it out. My men report Egan and his men camped at the foot of Ash Butte. You are a pretty fair looking Indian anyway, and I want you to leave tomorow morning for the camp of the Warm Springs tribe, lead the warriors on Old Egan's trail, and take every animal in his possession."

"What about the deed," inquired Follett, "remember this is dangerous work and it has been a long time since our accounts have been adjusted."

"Tut, tut, man, don't worry about that. I'll have all that arranged for you by the time you return. Take a drink, order an early bearkfast and be off with the rising sun. I shall depend upon you, Dan, I shall depend upon you."

Martin Lyle sat and drank and thought. For many hours he was in deep meditation.

"With my brother and his daughter dead and out of my way, nothing can ever disturb my rights here," ran through his mind.

Dan Follett left with the morning sun to perform his mission.

(To be continued.)

## DEATH IN EXPLOSION.

Thirteen Killed and Scores Were Injured in Chicago Accident.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—With a deafening report a boiler in Swift & Co.'s plant exploded shortly after 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Thirteen lives were sacrificed, and scores of employes, visitors and others were injured. Huge boilers were sent through the roof of the boiler house, and hurled hundreds of feet. Nobody within the boiler room survived to tell the story of the accident, and it may never be known what caused the explosion. A careful investigation today, however, convinced the experts that the explosion was the result of carelessness on the part of an employe, whose own life was lost. Five minutes after the explosion nothing of the boiler house but a pile of twisted iron, bricks and mortar remained. Flames sprang from the ruins, and the spectators realized that it would be impossible to save the lives of those who were caught in the wreck. The explosion was of such force that adjoining buildings were wrecked, torn and twisted like toys. Men, women and boys at work in adjoining departments were hurled through windows to the ground below. Many of them escaped with slight bruises, but most of the victims were hurt to such an extent that it was necessary to remove them to hospitals. The others were taken to their homes.

It was soon rumored that from 50 to 100 persons were caught in the wrecked building. This report caused great excitement, and in response to repeated calls, a dozen patrol wagons and as many ambulances were sent from all parts of the city. Extra calls for fire engines followed, and soon the flames were being fought from every side.

While the fire was still burning firemen and employes of the packing house began digging in the ruins. Soon the mangled remains of a man were discovered. At the same time other rescuers were digging with desperation to rescue several victims who were still alive. Bodies torn, bruised and mangled were taken from the ruins and sent to the morgue. A boy, scalded from head to foot and bleeding from cuts and bruises, staggered toward the office of General Superintendent Young. The boy was Mr. Young's personal messenger. The lad, however, had been so badly disfigured that Mr. Young did not recognize him.

It is not thought that the loss to Swift & Co. will amount to more than $50,000. The officials of the company declare that this will cover the damage, as nearly as they are able to estimate at the present time. The building in which the boilers were located was the only structure to be entirely destroyed, and it was a small structure, one story high. The storehouse, which stood close to the boiler house, was badly damaged, a portion of its walls being torn, but it is only two stories high.

## AMERICANS BETTER OFF.

Mosely Compares Their Condition with That of English Workmen.

New York, Dec. 2.—Alfred Mosely, the retired English merchant, who with a number of workmen has made a six weeks' tour of this country to study industrial conditions here and in Canada, says:

"Our trip, on the whole, was eminently satisfactory. We were all impressed with the thorough up-to-dateness of everything we saw. Another thing that impressed us was the courtesy and frankness of American employers and the pains they were willing to take to explain the methods in use at their respective factories and works."

All the delegates will report their impressions to the unions of their respective trades on their return to England. Terrence Flynn, of the tailors' union, said:

"Counting the extra outlay in rent and clothes—for food and all else are cheaper—the American workman is 25 per cent better off than the workman in England. On the whole he is far better cared for in respect to good sanitation, general comfort and better equipment than we are, and on the whole he lives as long or longer in harness than the English workman. This 'too-old-at-50' principle does not prevail among the workmen, wherever else it may be found. We speak from observation. Here pauperism or penury in old age is almost unknown. The records of the English workhouses speak for themselves."

### Explosion on the Texas.

Hampton, Va., Dec. 2.—The battleship Texas had a narrow escape from being blown up yesterday afternoon. She left the Portsmouth navy yard yesterday morning to the Capes, where gun practice was held. Two of the large turret guns exploded, filling the gun room with glycerine and water, but the magnificent work of the gunners saved the vessel from serious damage, as well as the lives of those on board of her. The ship returned to Old Point this afternoon and a special inspection board is making an examination.

### New Tunnel to Brooklyn.

New York, Dec. 2.—Work has been inaugurated by the Interborough rapid transit company on the extension of the underground system to Brooklyn, through a tunnel underneath the East river. The opening was made at Broadway and Ann streets, Manhattan. When this work shall have been completed the subway system will be in operation, and it will be possible to ride from Brooklyn to any part of Manhattan without change of cars.

### Safeblowers' Successful Raid.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 2.—Safeblowers made a successful raid last night upon the State bank at Stanford, a village 10 miles southwest of here, and $3,000 was taken. The burglars escaped.

## NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of the Past Week—Brief Review of the Growth and Development of Various Industries Throughout Our Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

The postoffice at Pokeama, Klamath county, has been discontinued.

The building boom, which has been in progress at Weston for several weeks, shows no signs of abatement.

The citizens of Helix will hold an election December 10 to vote on the proposition of incorporating the town.

But very little of the 1903 wheat crop in the big Umatilla belt will be fall wheat, the rain proving so heavy that all seeding has been stopped.

Dr. Leckenby, of Union, has discovered a process whereby he can take photographs in which all natural colors are reproduced. He will not keep the discovery a secret, but will give it to the world.

The soldier who was arrested at Fort Stevens for setting the numerous recent fires has escaped from the officers and no trace of him can be found. He confessed to having started the fires as accused.

The second term at the state normal school at Monmouth shows a marked increase in interest and attendance. One noticeable feature is the unusually large number of young men, some 190 being enrolled at present.

The sugar beet crop this year in the neighborhood of La Grande was exceptionally good and more beets were turned into the factory than ever before. The amount received is 17,500 tons, which yielded 4,600,000 pounds of refined sugar.

A great many people in the east are writing to the state agricultural college for information regarding this state. There are many people in the Middle Western states who would come to Oregon if they knew of its advantages. The Portland chamber of commerce is devising plans to advertise Oregon in such states as Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Iowa. A number of the boards of trade throughout the state are also issuing literature, and early in the spring a great influx of people with moderate means is expected.

Eugene has secured an additional mail carrier for city delivery.

Three prisoners under detention at the county jail at Union, made their escape by sawing through the bars of their cells. The prisoners were awaiting a hearing before the grand jury, two charged with assault and one with mayhem.

Burglars entered a Salem residence and ransacked the place, securing a small amount of cash and some jewelry.

A number of cities throughout the state will hold municipal elections December 1. Considerable local interest is being taken on account of factional fights, prohibition measures, etc.

The Baker City lodge of Elks has purchased a site and will erect a two story stone and brick building 50x100 feet. When complete the structure will cost about $25,000.

A six-stamp mill with a capacity of 50 tons a day has been purchased for the Red, White and Blue mine in the Malheur district. The mine is owned by a Boston syndicate.

The Oregon dairymen's association will meet in Corvallis December 16 and 17. Cream separator and other dairy supply firms are invited to make exhibits of their goods. Addresses of interest will be delivered by well known dairymen. Special rates will be given by the transportation companies.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 71@72c; bluestem 77@79c; valley, 74½@75c.

Barley—Feed, $23.50 per ton; brewing, $24.00.

Flour—Best grade, 3.60@3.75; graham, $3.20@3.60.

Millstuffs—Bran, $19.00 per ton; middlings, $23.50; shorts, $19.50; chop, $18.

Oats—No. 1 white, $1.15@1.17½; gray, $1.12½@1.15 per cental.

Hay — Timothy, $10@11; clover, $9.00; cheat, $8@9 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@80c per sack; ordinary, 50@55c per cental, growers' prices; Merced sweets, $1.75@2 per cental.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3.50@4.25; per pound, 10c; hens, $4@4.50 per dozen; per pound, 11c; springs, $3.00@3.50 per dozen; fryers, $2.50@3.00; broilers, $2.00@2.50; ducks, $4.50@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, young, 12½@15c; geese, $6.00@6.50 per dozen.

Cheese — Full cream, twins, 15½@16½c; Young America, 16½@17½ factory prices, 1@1½c less.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@32½c per pound; extras, 30c; dairy, 20@22½c; store, 15@18.

Eggs—25@30c per dozen.

Hops—New crop, 23@26c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12½@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14½c; mohair, 26@28c.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3½c per pound; steers, 4c; dressed, 6@7c.

Veal—7½@8½c.

Mutton — Gross, 3c per pound; dressed, 6c.

Lambs — Gross, 3½c per pound; dressed, 6½c.

Hogs—Gross, 6¼@6½c per pound; dressed, 7@7½c.

## LOST WITH ALL HANDS.

Steamer Goes Down in Storm on Lake Erie With Eighteen Men.

Detroit, Nov. 29.—In a furious gale on Lake Erie the steamer Sylvanus Macy sprang a leak off Point Barrell, Ont., and plunged to the bottom, probably carrying her entire crew with her. The barge Mabel Wilson, which was being towed by the Macy, broke away from the steamer in the darkness and succeeded in sailing up the lake to Amherstburg, where she arrived this afternoon.

The first news of the disaster was reported by the steamer Albright, which passed up the river early this morning. She reported having passed through five miles of wreckage yesterday 30 miles southwest of Long Point, parts of the cabin, life preservers and doors of some vessel. The cabin was painted white, but there was no distinguishing marks to tell what vessel it was from. The arrival of the Wilson, however, leaves no doubt that the wreckage is from the Macy, as the last seen of that steamer was in the near vicinity.

The Macy, with the Wilson in tow, left Buffalo with a cargo of coal. When half way up Lake Erie the gale was encountered, and when abreast of Point Barrell the tow line of the barge was thrown off by the crew of the Macy, leaving the schooner to shift for herself. When last seen by the crew of the Wilson the Macy was laboring heavily in the sea, and was evidently making for shelter. If the crew had time to leave the ship before the plunge to the bottom, it is not believed that the small boats could have lived long in the terrible sea running. That nothing has been heard of them has convinced the owners that all are lost. The Macy craried a crew of 18.

## MAMMOTH CATTLE RANCH.

Utah Capitalists Acquire Vast Domain on the Mexican Border.

Salt Lake, Nov. 29. — The purchase of millions of acres of Mexican territory along the border of the United States, for the purpose of creating one of the largest cattle raising ranches in the world, is the result of recent negotiations of American capitalists, with Utah men as principals. The Utahans involved in the transaction are J. D. Wood, W. S. McCornick, F. J. Hagenbarth, H. C. Wood and Josiah Barnett. Associated with them is O. M. Stafford, a banker and capitalist of Cleveland.

The purchased land comprises nearly 4,000 square miles of territory, and extends along the border for 150 miles from a point 16 miles west of El Paso, Tex. The purchase involves an initial expense of about $1,000,000.

It is the intention of the promoters of the enterprise to make this Mexican ranch a breeding ground for cattle, and for this purpose they will place from 7,500 to 10,000 head of stock upon the land the coming season.

## ON SCENT OF BIG SWINDLE.

Detectives Arrest Cotton Exporter on Suspicion of Stealing $200,000.

New York, Nov. 29.—William Landau, said to be a wealthy cotton exporter of Texas, was arrested here today on suspicion of being connected with a swindle involving, it is said, the sum of $200,000 or more. The firm alleged to be swindled is that of Ladenburg, Thallmann & Co., bankers of this city. The detectives took every precaution to prevent the news of the arrest becoming public and it was admitted at midnight only when an assistant district attorney stated that the prisoner was at police headquarters.

The arrest, according to the assistant district attorney, was made in the office of the banking firm this afternoon. Members of the firm will not talk about the case and further details are lacking. The charge against Landau is "suspicion of felony."

### Wiping Out Ladrones.

Manila, Nov. 29.—The constabulary are carrying out an aggressive campaign against the ladrones in the northern part of the Island of Leyte and in the Island of Biliarn. Inspector Crockett, with a force of constabulary, engaged the ladrones six times near the village of Ormoc, on the south coast of Leyte, and killed 39 of them. Corporal Montague, at the head of another detachment of constabulary, defeated a band of ladrones near Tailbang, on Biliranis land, killing 13 and capturing 36 of them.

### To Discipline Venezuela.

Berlin, Nov. 29.—Three additional cruisers, the Niobe, Ariadne and Amazon, have been ordered to leave Kiel and proceed to Venezuela. Telegraphic instructions were sent to the navy department yesterday evening ordering their immediate fitting out, and orders for the necessary supplies of ammunition and other equipment have been issued. It is expected that the three cruisers will be ready to sail about the middle of next week.

### Gold Standard in Siam.

Bangkok, Siam, Nov. 29.—The gold standard scheme for Siam has become law, and the mints have been closed to the free coinage of silver. If success attends the new departure the profits arising from the minting of ticals (a Siamese silver coin, worth 50 cents) will be set aside as a special gold reserve fund for the purpose of establishing a gold currency.

## WILLING TO SETTLE

VENEZUELA OFFERS TO PAY CLAIMS OF ALL THE POWERS.

President Castro Sends a Secret Mission to Europe to Negotiate—Terms Made To Be Subject to the Approval of the United States—All Details Still Being Kept Secret.

London, Dec. 1. — The Associated Press learns that important steps were taken in London today with a view to satisfying all the financial and diplomatic claims by foreign powers and bondholders against Venezuela. It is maintained that if the contemplated action meets with approval Germany and Great Britain will have no cause to take the vigorous steps now contemplated. The details of the suggested settlement have not as yet been communicated to the European governments. Their gist will be made known first to the United States, probably tomorrow. The medium of communication is one of the most importance to Anglo-American bankers.

Venezuela's propositions were mentioned to Ambassador Choate today, but pending the result of the direct representations at Washington no action will be taken by the embassy toward suggesting that Venezuela be given time to submit her proposals.

The new development in the crisis, which is regarded as hourly growing more serious, is due to the arrival in Europe of a secret delegation from the Venezuelan government empowered to deal with the outstanding liabilities. Until a suitable plan could be arranged, it was considered inadvisable to communicate with the foreign ministers at Caracas, with whom relations have become so strained. Such a plan has now, in the belief of the delegation, been arrived at, and through the Anglo-American bank and the attitude of the United States the result will be assured. Besides the state department will be put in a position to be able to judge of the value of Venezuela's offer and her good faith in the matter.

It is explained that President Castro has had no opportunity of taking up the question of national finances, but, while he himself was engaged in suppressing the revolution, he sent to Europe the secret delegation, with the view of accomplishing what was regarded impossible of execution at Caracas. Secrecy was regarded as imperative, in view of President Castro's belief that, if it had been known that Venezuela contemplated a new financial settlement, he would have been inundated with claims of every description, and the dealings with the bondholders would have presented many more difficulties.

## CUBA ASKS FOR MORE.

Will Probably Accept Reciprocity with 25 Per Cent Cut in Tariff.

New York, Dec. 1. — If the Cuban reciprocity treaty, as now proposed, concedes a 25 per cent reduction in tariff duties, there is a strong probability of its acceptance by President Palma and the senate, cables the Herald correspondent at Havana. Secretary of State Zaldo and secretary of Treasury Montes, the commission on the part of the Cuban government to negotiate the treaty, submitted five objections. Three of these are conceded by the United States. The fourth relates to Porto Rican fees and it is believed can be conceded by the United States without difficulty. This leaves only the question of the amount of reduction on the United States tariff. If the proposed 20 per cent is increased to 25 per cent, President Palma will likely send the treaty to the senate for ratification.

### Killed by Ladrones.

Manila, Dec. 1.— Constabulary Inspector Hendrix, who has been stationed in Samar island, was killed last week by a band of ladrones. His detachment of constabulary was routed and Hendrix, with one soldier, killed. The sultan of Bacolod, after professing friendship for America, has written a letter to Captain Pershing, at Camp Vicars, in which he calls Americans "hogs, hogs who eat hogs," and challenges them to fight. It is probable that Captain Pershing will be ordered to take a column to Bacolod.

### Pensions on Union Pacific.

Omaha, Dec. 1.—Rules and regulations for a pension system, which will go into effect January 1, 1903, have been completed by the officials of the Union Pacific railway, by which its old employes will be retired on pensions. The details of the system will not be made public until later, but it is officially stated that they have been worked out and the regulations printed. It is also stated that it will involve the annual distribution of over $300,000.

### Outlaws Captured.

Rifle, Colo., Dec. 1.—Charles Dykes and "Kid" Murphy, who are charged with having terrorized this town November 20, by shooting at everything in sight, and having raided several ranches and wounded David Wolford, were captured today in the mountains by Deputy Sheriff J. C. Emerson and a posse of five men, who had followed their trail for eight days. Dykes and Murphy were without food for several days, and were almost exhausted when taken.