

# White Hand

## A Tale of the Early Settlers of Louisiana.

BY AUSTIN C. BURDICK

## CHAPTER II.—(Continued.)

"Hear, Simon," said the young man, turning towards his nephew, "don't you remember Goupert St. Denis?—our young Goupert, who used to come and shoot my game, and frighten you with his gun and pistol?"

"Ah—yes!" said Simon, arising and smiling with an effort. "St. Denis, your humble servant, sir. We are happy to see you again, and I am glad to hear of your success in the hunt." Goupert St. Denis had once lived very near to St. Julien's country residence, and among all the youthful visitors he was by far the most welcome. His father was a courtier and a gentleman, and Goupert was a whole-souled, noble boy. In those days, Louis and Louise were merry children, and the stout Goupert used to play with them after school and day after day. The little St. Denis, too, he used to carry the lovely little girl in his arms, and he loved to tell her that some day she should be his wife; and then she would laugh and clap her little dimpled hands, and sometimes she would pinch his cheek and box his ear, and tell him she should be stronger, and could punish him more severely when she became his wife. But those days were gone now, and while Goupert had only put on a very little more manhood, Louise had grown from a thoughtless child to be a very beautiful maiden.

"But how is your father?" asked the young man, after the party had become calm. "What brings you here into this wilderness?"

"Of a truth, my old friend, I came to seek my fortune," returned the young man. "You know my father lost his all in his meddling in the affairs of Spain, and when he died, three years ago, I found myself not only alone in the world, but nearly penniless. The little estate at Rosanne, in Lower Maine, was the only thing left. I sold it, and after paying off all demands, I found myself the owner of the enormous sum of ten thousand francs. What should I do? I had no money, but I had a plan. I had heard that a Marquis de St. Julien had settled up here somewhere. I think I must have been crazy, but when I did really come to myself, I started, and here I am."

"But didn't you know that we were here?" asked the young man, looking at Simon.

"Why, no. I thought you were in Canada."

"Yes—here we are!" cried the old man, joyfully, "and now we will live off some of the happy days again."

"Ay," added Goupert, "and forget all the dark ones."

After this, the conversation turned upon affairs in the native country, and for three hours the young man kept his nephew answering questions and retelling the news of the past six years. It was at a late hour when they separated, and with a wave of his hand, Simon called upon heaven to bless his young friend. There was something in Goupert's presence that had called up the brighter days of his past life, and he was happy in the hope that he might keep the youth a long while with him.

Louise retired to her chamber, and for a while, only a bright joy seemed to move her; but gradually her thoughts seem to take more serious form, for her countenance changed to a sober, thoughtful cast, and with her hands clasped upon her bosom, she bowed her head, and thus she remained for a long while, the color of her face changing like the declining twilight.

But there was one more whom we have seen affected by the young man's presence. Simon Lobos, retired to his chamber, and for some time he paced up and down the apartment with quick, nervous strides. His face showed that he was ill at ease, and the clenching of his hands seemed to speak of a war within.

"What's come here?" he muttered to himself. "Now we'll have more boy's play and monkey-dancing, and it will all end in his falling in love with Louise. And if he does so, and should ask for her hand, I am simply sure that the old man will simply give her. But what does she want with the young popinjay? I'll be ahead of him. And if I should be— who knows upon whom she may depend ground! Let them beware!"

## CHAPTER III.

The morning of the next day dawned brightly, and at an early hour, Goupert and Louise were astir. The latter took her friend all over the buildings, showed him the defenses, and would have passed out through the northern gate had not the marquis joined them just as they came out of the stable leading two horses by the bridles.

"How now, you young rascal!" cried the old man. "Are you going to run off with my horses?"

"Not at all," returned St. Denis, with a merry laugh. "We will only want to let the horses run off with us. But we won't go now, unless you'll go with us. Here, Louis, hold this animal of mine while I help your father to saddle him; for know he'll love to sniff the fresh air before breakfast."

The old man joined in the plan joyfully, and ere long the three were galloping off over the country. They laughed and shouted merrily on the way, and the forest rang with the echoes of their glad voices. When they returned to the house, they found Louise upon the piazza, her face radiant with surprise. She had been a spectator of the morning's sports; and when the party sat down to the table he was silent and moody. Several times he tried to hide his emotions, and finally he so far succeeded as to engage in quite an animated conversation. After the meal was done, Simon took the first opportunity to call the marquis one side, and as he said that he wished to have a few moments of private conversation, the old man retired to his library, whither Simon followed him.

"Now, what is it?" asked St. Julien, after they had both become seated. It was some moments before the nephew replied; but at length he seemed to collect his mental forces, and he commenced:

"M. St. Julien," his voice trembled at first, but it grew more steady as he went on. "I have now been in your family a long while, and my attachments have become strong and fixed. Six years ago you placed your children under my charge, and I have done all I could for them."

"I know—I know," uttered the old man, "and I have told you a thousand times how grateful I was."

"Yes, sir; and your gratitude has been a choice blessing to me. But remember the hours I have spent with those two children?"

"And haven't they been happy hours, Simon?"

"Indeed they have, sir, been very happy ones. But, alas! the thought has been with me of late—must they all be so?"

"How, Simon?—miser?" uttered the marquis, in astonishment. "What mean you? Do you fear that I am going to be instantaneously flash of defiance passed over the younger man's face, but he revealed none of the feeling that had given it birth."

"No, no," he replied, "I did not fear that. You do not understand me. Remember, sir, that Louise St. Julien has grown up under my care—that I have seen each opening beauty as it has gradually expanded itself into life, and each bud of promise I have seen blossom into the full rose. She has now grown to be a woman. Think you I have seen and known this unmoved? No, sir. My heart has been caught in the snare of her charms, and I am but as an outcast now, if I possess her not for mine own. You understand me now?"

"But how is Louise, understood, but he made no reply. He started when the truth first broke upon him; and when Simon ceased speaking he arose to his feet and commenced to pace the room. The nephew watched him for a moment, and then, in a tone as soft and persuasive as he could assume, he murmured:

"Reflect calmly upon this, my lord. Remember, you are growing old; your children are yet young."

"Too young for this, Simon," whispered the marquis. "And then I am not old, either. I am but fifty-five—that's all."

"Know," pursued the nephew; "but Louise is not young. Her mind is that of a woman."

"But you are one year over and above double her own age," suggested the nephew. "I must, of course, say, fully old enough to be her father."

"And yet I am not old. Have I yet reached my prime? Only five-and-thirty years. But what of all this? Speak plainly, and let me know your mind. Only remember that I have not sought your daughter's society. It has been forced upon me, and I could not avoid the result. Ah, sir, I cannot think you will refuse me."

Now, to speak the truth for the marquis—he had not the faintest confidence in Simon Lobos. He knew that his nephew would work well for pay, but he had long doubted the truth of his heart—the pureness of his motives; and what was more, he had moments when he almost feared that this latter emotion was a sort of dim, vague working of mind, without point and without shape, but yet it worked, and had its influence.

"Simon," he said, "when I left France, I left all the rotten, useless usages of society behind me, and here I resolved to form a world of my own. First among the miserable falsehoods of old society, I meant to cast away that plan which makes the marriage of the child a work of the parents. When my child is old enough to marry, she is old enough to select her own husband; and until she is old enough to use her own judgment in that respect, she is not old enough to perform the duties of a wife. Upon the marriage of my children may depend the whole weal or woe of their earthly future. Such being the case, I must leave them to choose for themselves, only hoping that they will seek my counsel, and listen to my advice, so far as my judgment is good."

"What am I to understand by this, sir?" asked Simon, not able to conceal his chagrin.

"Simply that Louise may choose her own husband."

"But you will exercise some authority? You will speak in my behalf?"

"First, I would know if the girl chooses you."

"But—but you might influence her choice."

"Not now, Simon."

"Yet you will speak one word?"

"Why so soon? Louise is young yet. Why, bless you, man, there's some time yet—some years—ere she'll be of lawful age."

"Not quite a year, sir."

"I mean ere she'll be able to do business as an heiress. Let the matter rest now."

"No, no—I cannot. I cannot live in doubt. I must know what my fate is to be."

"But what is to be gained by this haste? Louise must be free yet, unless she may recede to your own force."

"Ay," cried Simon, hotly and passionately, and speaking now without thought of consideration; "but how long is this to be so? How long before this new-fledged popinjay may seize her with the fire of his eye, and influence her to love him? He is here, and he is likely to stay here."

"Simon Lobos!" spoke the marquis, sternly and quickly. "You know not what you say. Beware, sir, or I may tell you a truth that shall grate upon this ear."

"Speak, sir—speak!" uttered the nephew, still under the influence of passion. "Let me hear all."

"Listen," interrupted the marquis, "and you shall hear. I took you to my home penniless. Only remember you this: the Goupert St. Denis was one among the few, very few, true friends I ever had; and his only son has inherited all his father's good qualities, all his nobleness of soul, and all his virtues. And mark me, I love Goupert St. Denis. Yet I will speak one word more since you have brought the subject up; and I hope this may be the last time that need shall arise of alluding to the subject. When I came here, you begged that I would take you with me. I offered you a salary of four thousand francs a year in money, besides your living, to come and keep the bare account of my business, and three thousand more to teach my children. Thus far you have done your duty well. Have I not done mine?"

There was something in the look, the tone, and the words of the speaker, that struck a transient feeling of awe to Simon's soul, and in a moment he concealed all traces of his anger. He found that there was much of the old blood yet left in the old noble, and his own hopes would only serve to blast his own hopes. So he assumed a repentant tone, and with a more modest look, he said:

"Forgive me, sir. I meant not to speak ill of any one, but my tongue ran away with me. Out of my deep love for your noble child sprang a dreadful fear when I saw St. Denis come. But may I not speak with Louise? May I not ask her to be mine?"

"Of course you may."

"And if she says yes?"

"Then I should simply bid her follow her own wishes."

Simon Lobos thanked his uncle, and then left the room, and when he was alone, his hands were clenched and his brow was dark.

CHAPTER IV.

All that day did Simon Lobos watch for an opportunity to speak alone with Louise, and it was not until towards evening that he gained the desired opportunity. She was standing in the hall, her brother and Goupert having gone down to the river, while the marquis was somewhere among the blacks, giving directions for the next day's work. Simon touched the maiden upon the arm, and asked her to follow him into the study, as he wished to speak with her a moment. The beautiful girl smiled a reply, and languidly tripped along by his side to the designated apartment.

"Louise," he commenced, in a very soft, winning tone, and he could speak very sweetly, too, when he chose—"I want you to listen to me carefully, now, and weigh well what I shall say."

"How now, good master?" cried the happy girl, with a merry twinkle of the eye; "am I to take a lesson for not getting one today?"

"No, no. Listen, and be sober, for I would be serious. You know how our lives have been spent here for the last six years, and how we have moved about in our little world here in the wilderness. You have been my constant companion."

Then Simon introduced the same speech, word for word, that he had made to the parent in the morning about the expending of Louise's and Louise's money, and he ended thus: "And now womanhood has come upon you with its loveliness and goodness all nobly developed, and my heart has become captive, and is all your own."

"Good Simon, sweet cousin, I am glad you love me!" said the maiden, with a bright smile.

"Are you, Louise?" the tutor cried eagerly. "O, will you be mine?"

"Be yours? Be your what?"

"My wife, most lovely girl—my wife!" Louise St. Julien gazed for some moments at Simon's face, and then burst into a long, loud laugh.

"O, you do not mean so? You are not in earnest?" she uttered, for she could not at first realize it.

"Mean it? This unexpected turn had thrown him entirely from his studied plan.

"Mean to ask me to be your wife?" spoke the fair girl, giving each word a particular emphasis, and speaking with a pause between every one, as though she would have no misunderstanding.

"Most assuredly I do. I love you as the very core of my soul, and I cannot lose you now. How can I help loving you? How should I be with you? You are here, and I do not love you? O, blessed one, you will not crush me now?"

"It doesn't seem to me possible," she uttered. "Wake up, Simon; shake yourself, and see if you have not been dreaming this for years. Why, you are more fit for my marriage than I am. You are Simon, for you'll forgive me."

"And can the love of a true and faithful heart frighten you?" he asked.

"Most assuredly not. You may love me as much as you please—as an only cousin ought to love, or as a father ought to love, or yet, as a faithful teacher ought to love a dutiful pupil; but if you talk of marriage to me any more, I shall certainly think you are crazy, and, of course, I should be frightened, for I am afraid of crazy folks. Don't talk to me any more, or I shall surely think your brain is turned."

(To be continued.)

THE MOON.

Brought Within Easy Reach of the World by a Recent Invention.

Herr Johann Mayer, an Austrian lieutenant, has discovered a method by which the moon can be brought within pistol-shot of the world, figuratively speaking. Nothing among the many marvels of modern invention is more astonishing than this same discovery. By his invention Herr Mayer says the moon can be brought within a distance of 100 yards, in fact, an explored most thoroughly. Prof. Gates' combined microscope-telescope was thought to be a marvelous contrivance, but this latest addition puts it quite in the shade. In his success Herr Mayer has made a wide departure from customary methods. In fact the monster telescopes do not figure in his calculations whatever. Without going into a long drawn out or technical explanation of the apparatus he has constructed, it is a novel affair, in that an enormous parabolic mirror fifty yards in diameter is the main feature of the apparatus. This concave mirror, which is the ordinary "silvered" glass, has a small convex parabolic mirror suspended at its focus; and this small mirror focuses the rays received from the larger one, and throws them on the lens of an immensely powerful microscope. Thus a clear and brilliantly lighted picture of the moon or star under examination is brought immediately under the microscope, which has a magnifying power of many million diameters. Herr Mayer explains that it will thus be possible, almost to see the time by the watch of the "man in the moon," or to see the bridges (if any) over the canals of Mars.

THE DRAMATIC CRISIS.

Mr. Fitt—Our friend Episcure has got out a new book book.

Mrs. Fitt—That's nice; it is going to be dramatized?—Ohio State Journal.

## THE LEGISLATURE

## WHAT THE LAWMAKERS OF OREGON ARE DOING AT SALEM.

Bills of Importance That are Being Introduced and Acted Upon in Both Houses—Measures Signed by the Governor—Progress of the Session for United States Senator.

Saturday.

The vote—Fulton 32, Geer 16, Wood 14, scattering 21, absent 8, present 67, not voting 1.

The Senate—Among the bills passed was one relating to houses for selling intoxicating liquors and one to provide for the removal of prisoners from the penitentiary to the asylum.

The House—Committee on education reported in favor of senate bill appropriating \$20,000 for Eastern Oregon agricultural college. Committee on commerce reported favorably on the house bill for the improvement and use of rivers.

Friday.

The vote—Fulton 32, Geer 16, Wood 14, scattering 21, absent 8, present 67, not voting 1.

The Senate—Motion to adjourn until Monday voted down. A bill was passed prohibiting child labor under certain ages. A communication was received from the governor calling attention to the scandal at the state prison. A measure was introduced to provide an executive mansion.

The House—Among the bills introduced was one providing a matron at the penitentiary and one for an eight hour working day.

Thursday.

The vote—Fulton 32, Geer 16, Wood 14, scattering 21, absent 8, present 67, not voting 1.

The Senate—A bill was introduced to describe the seal of the state. All other measures acted on were of minor importance.

The House—Bills were passed asking congress to enact better land laws and changing the time of fixing the tax levies. A bill was introduced compelling railroads to erect gates in the city of Portland.

Wednesday.

The vote today stood: Fulton 32, Geer 16, Wood 14, scattering 20, absent 8, present 60.

The Senate—Most of the day was taken up in passing charter bills. A bill was passed to create a state board of health. Bills were introduced fixing the salary of state printer; making eight hours a day's work in all occupations; and a number of unimportant measures.

The House—No measure of importance was brought up, the day being spent in special county legislation and charter bills.

Tuesday.

The vote today showed no change, excepting the appearance of George J. Baker in the field. The result was as follows: Fulton 32, Geer 17, Wood 17, Baker 5, scattering 16, absent 3, total 90.

The House—Hale's bill providing a fine and imprisonment for persons deserting a hotel bill with intent was defeated.

Representative Both's bill to relocate the county seat of Columbia county was passed this morning.

Representative Murphy introduced a bill creating the Eastern Oregon agricultural college, appropriating \$40,000 for buildings and \$10,000 per annum for its maintenance.

A joint memorial was adopted asking congress to call a convention for the purpose of framing an amendment to the federal constitution providing for election of senators by direct vote of the people.

Carnahan, of Clatsop, is in favor of doing away with the poll tax law now on the code of Oregon. The poll tax, as now provided, is \$1, which is assessed on every citizen in the state between the ages of 21 and 50. Carnahan's bill is to repeal this section in its entirety.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 75c; blue stem, 86c; valley, 78c.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.

Flour—Best grade, \$4.30@4.45; Graham, \$3.45@3.55.

Millet—Bran, \$18@19 per ton; middlings, \$23@24; shorts, \$19@20, chop, 18.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15 @ 1.20; gray, \$1.12@1.15 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; alfalfa, \$9@10 per cental.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 50c@55c per cwt; ordinary, 40c@50c per cental; growers' prices: Merced sweets, \$23@25 per cental.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 11c; young, 11@12c; hens, 11@12c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$17@18c per dozen; geese, \$17@18c.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 16c; 17c; Young America, 17c@18c; factory prices, 16c@17c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30c@32c per pound; extras, 30c; dairy, 20c@22c; 23c@25c.

Eggs—25c per dozen.

Hops—Choice, 25c@26c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12c@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8c@14c; mohair, 25c@26c.

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

Veal—7c@8c.

Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7c.

Lamb—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7c.

Hogs—Gross, 6c per pound; dressed, 7c@7c.

## MONEY IN DANGER BY FIRE.

New York Assay Office Abnaze, with Millions in Bullion on Hand.

New York, Feb. 3.—Fire broke out today in a laboratory in the second story of the United States assay office, which is next door to the United States treasury, and destroyed a portion of the roof and upper story and some of the apparatus. Chief Assayer Torrey said the loss on the building would be nominal. He thought the business of the assay office, which amounted to about 75 assays a day, would not be interrupted longer than three or four days. Mr. Torrey believed that nitric acid, which is used in testing bullion, was the cause of the fire.

An alarm was turned in and the 66 government employees in the building hastened to save the millions of treasure in the safe. There was about \$100,000,000 in bullion in the vaults and about \$1,500,000 lying outside in various parts of the building. The \$1,500,000 and about \$100,000 in melted state, as well as the books of account and records were hastily locked up.

The building used by the assay office is historic. Before it began to be used as an assay office, 40 years ago, it was a government mint, and for a time it was the United States or government bank. The structure is of gray stone and brick and very old fashioned.

## BIG SACRAMENTO FIRE.

Department Store Burned, Causing Loss of \$500,000.

Sacramento, Feb. 3.—The great department store of Walcott, Labin & Co., was destroyed by fire this morning. One fireman was killed by a falling wall. One other fireman was fatally injured and several others received serious injuries.

The store was one of the largest in California. It was a four-story brick building, covering a large area of ground. An immense stock of department store goods was carried, as in addition to being the leading store in Sacramento it did a large business throughout Central and Northern California.

Colonel Walcott and the company's directors have decided to rebuild at once. Meantime, the debris will be cleared away and temporary warehouses put up. About 400 people have been thrown out of employment.

The total insurance is estimated by Colonel Walcott at about \$300,000. Loss, probably \$500,000.

## HOBSON GIVES UP.

Here of the Merrimac Designs from Navy on Account of His Eyes.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Captain Hobson, of the Merrimac, has been ordered to resign his position as naval constructor in the navy. For some time Captain Hobson has sought to be relieved, but the board before which he was examined pronounced him fit for duty, and he was ordered to duty in charge of construction work at the Bureau of Construction.

It is well known that for some time Captain Hobson has suffered from an affection of the eyes, and his friends have declared, incapacitated him from active duty. A bill to retire him has passed the house of representatives, and recently when it was called up in the senate by Mr. Dyer it was passed over on an objection by Mr. Cullum, who insisted that, an examining board, having pronounced him fit for duty, Hobson should not be retired.

In a letter to the secretary of the navy Hobson sets out the reasons for his resignation, the principal one being the bad condition of his eyes. It is understood that Admiral Taylor, the chief of the bureau of navigation, will make a favorable recommendation on Captain Hobson's resignation.

## Nome Becomes Sub-port.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The secretary of the treasury has issued an order making Nome, Alaska, a sub-port of entry.

This action was taken after a thorough investigation of the whole subject of officials in Alaska, and it is expected that it will add very materially to the prosperity of Nome and the whole territory. At present all vessels going to Nome are necessarily subject to many inconveniences and delays. Under the new arrangement vessels will enter and clear and duties will be paid at Nome the same as at all other ports of entry.

## Trolley Cars Mobbed.

Waterbury, Conn., Feb. 3.—The trolley strike in this city tonight reached the proportions of a general riot. Every car sent out from the barns was greeted with a volley of stones at various points, and no car could proceed without broken windows. Thousands of people filled the streets, and the police were powerless to control the mob, and were at length forced to request the company officials to call in the cars. The request was complied with, and the last car pulled into the barn at 11:15 escorted by the police.

## Torpedo Boat Crushed.

Corfu, Island of Corfu, Feb. 3.—The British cruiser Pioneer ran into a torpedo boat destroyer near the channel of Corfu today and 13 persons are believed to have been drowned. The torpedo boat destroyer was the Orwell. She was out on patrol at the confining tower during night naval operations, and her fore part sank in deep water taking down 15 men. Only two bodies have been recovered. The after part of the Orwell has been towed here.

## Orders to Rush Rifles.

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 3.—Orders have been received at the United States army to rush the shipment of 100,000 Krag-Jorgensen rifles to arsenals outside the country. The original cause of the order was the passage of the militia bill, but the rush feature of the order apparently has a special cause.

## GETS NO ANSWER

## BOWEN AWAITS REPLY FROM ALLIES TO HIS DEMAND.

He Has Delivered an Ultimatum—If Allies Insist on Preferential Treatment All Other Creditor Nations Will Be Called Together to Enter Protest—Situation is Grave.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The European allies have not yet answered Mr. Bowen's proposition, made several days ago, that there shall be no preference of claims of Germany, Great Britain and Italy against Venezuela over those of other nations. Minister Bowen thinks the delay should be construed in a hopeful light, on the theory that the delay in the answer of the powers indicates that they realize the importance of the matter. He still expects a favorable reply to his contention, and believes that the questions at issue will be settled at Washington between himself, acting for the government of Venezuela, and the representatives of the powers.

It is reported that an answer to Mr. Bowen's demand has been received in Washington, but the report cannot be confirmed officially, and the answer, if received, was not transmitted to Mr. Bowen. If the answer did arrive, the suspicion is that it was unfavorable to Mr. Bowen's contention, and in view of his positive attitude in the matter, was not presented to him; but was withheld by the representatives of the allies, in order that they might again impress upon their governments the importance of the question before submitting a final answer.

It became known today that Mr. Bowen had addressed to the representatives of the allies what might be regarded as an ultimatum, as defining his position. Mr. Bowen declines absolutely to discuss the question, but it is known that he said to the allies that if they persist in their determination to receive preferential treatment, he would call together the other creditor nations having claims against Venezuela, with a view to their making a formal protest against the demands of those who participated in the blockade. The effect of this would be that the other seven creditor nations would be lined up against the three allied powers, with the result that the settlement of the whole matter in all probability might go to the Hague, if it is to be settled at all. This note is believed to be having its effect in staying the final determination of the question by the allied governments.

## HARD WINTER IN ALASKA.

Much Snow and Temperature so Low that Even Eskimos Suffer.

San Francisco, Feb. 2.—Alaska is undergoing the severest winter that has visited the Northern country in 20 years. Even the Eskimos, who are accustomed to the cold, are suffering. The little cod fishing schooner Pearl, which has arrived from the North, brings news of the condition of affairs in the icebound land. The Pearl comes from Unga, Alaska, with 18,000 cod fish. Her officers state that the thermometer at Unga fluctuated between 10 and 12 degrees below zero. Snow has fallen, covering the ground to a great depth. The white men residing in Unga were greatly affected by the cold. The crew of the Pearl had also suffered. The Pearl had a hard time fighting her way out of the ice. For 16 days the schooner lay motionless in an ice field, 200 miles from Unga. Only by strenuous efforts was Captain Ipsen able to free his vessel from the pack and reach open water.

## Cuba Don't Want Spanish Guns.

Havana, Feb. 2.—The interest displayed here in the claims presented by the Spanish minister at Washington for payment for Spanish guns left in the Cuban fortress is only lukewarm, and even if it should appear that the ownership of the guns is vested in Spain, it is not probable that the Cuban government will consent to pay for them. The guns in question number 40 in all, but all save four 11 and 12 inch Krupp guns are considered of too old a type to be worth purchasing.

## Operators Close Their Case.

Philadelphia, Feb. 2.—With the exception of the presentation of statistics, the coal operators have closed their case before the Coal Strike commission and it is expected the striking miners will begin calling witnesses in rebuttal today. The miners will take up three or four days in rebuttal, after which the commission will adjourn until the following Monday. The arguments will consume the greater part of the week, commencing February 9.

## Explosion in Oil Refinery.

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 2.—As a result of an explosion at the works of the Standard oil company today, four men were more or less injured. One of them probably will die. The others, it is thought, may recover. A safety valve on an oil still blew off and a tremendous explosion of gas followed. The pecuniary loss is slight.

## ANKNEY IS NAMED.

Washington Legislature Selects the Man from Walla Walla.

Olympia, Jan. 30.—Levi Ankney, of Walla Walla, became United States senator from Washington yesterday, receiving 99 votes on the 13th joint ballot. After the action of the caucus the voting was merely a formality, but it brought with it more oratory of an explanatory nature than has ever before been heard at Olympia on the last ballot of a senatorial contest. The sudden death of John B. Allen, who in years gone by had fought fierce political battles on this field with the man now elected, threw a sombre spell over the joint session, and much of the rancor and bitterness which has marked the closing hours of the fight had vanished before the shadow of death which hung heavy over the hearts of the men who had stood by the dead leader in many a similar contest. This almost tragic closing of the life of one who had made so much political history in Washington, coming simultaneously with the long-deferred victory of his rival of many years' standing, gave an intensely dramatic air to the situation, and at the joint session tumultuous applause for the living mingled with eloquent and heartfelt tributes to the dead.

The final ballot was: Levi Ankney, 99; Harold Preston 9; John L. Wilson 2; W. L. Jones 1; George Turner 23. Preston and Wilson were put on the committee to introduce Ankney, and all three made speeches, in which there was a note of sadness on account of the death of John B. Allen.

## PREPARING FOR TROUBLE.

Venezuelan Crisis Causes Increase in Appropriations for Army.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The Venezuelan situation, especially the attitude of Germany, was discussed by the senate committee on military affairs today, and the situation influenced the committee on some matters pertaining to the army appropriation bill, among which was the decision to accept the house provision relating to transportation—that they be retained in the service.

The committee also provided for an increase of electricians, skilled gunners, machinists and others who take care of and handle guns in the smallest defense. Some other additions were made in the bill with a view of improving the service.

The discussion was general and earnest, and the conclusions reached were that the honor and dignity of the country would be maintained, and that Germany should not be allowed to "blind" the government by any attitude she might assume.

## WILL RETAIN ARMY TRANSPORTS.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The senate committee on military affairs today made an adverse report on Senator Perkins' amendment to the army appropriation bill authorizing the secretary of war to lease the army transports for terms of five years and to award contracts for transportation of troops and supplies for a similar period. This action is taken to mean that the committee favors a continuance of the present transportation service, sending by commercial lines only mail, freight and supplies as transports cannot handle.

## MEXICANS STEAL BULLION.

They Break Into Bonded Car and Throw Out \$40,000 in Silver Bullion.

Alamogordo, N. M., Jan. 31.—Somewhere between this place and El Paso, Tex., a United States bonded car, in transit from the El Paso smelter to Chicago, loaded with 600 bars of silver bullion, was entered by robbers and 80 of the bars stolen.

At Jarilla Junction the broken seal was discovered, and an investigation revealed three Mexicans in the car. When an attempt was made to eject them they pulled knives and a lively fight took place, in which the crew was victorious and drove the robbers away. At Dog Canyon Sheriff Hunter saw three Mexicans, who took to the brush. A call to halt was answered by a fusillade. A running fight ensued. Hunter shot a Mexican through the heart. The other two men escaped, but possess are after them. Officials are of the opinion that the bonded car was entered by the robbers just outside of El Paso, who threw the bars out of the car, to be gathered up by confederates. The value of the missing bullion is estimated at \$40,000.

## Judge for the Philippines.

Washington, Jan. 31.—John M. McDonald, formerly secretary of state of New York, has been nominated by President Roosevelt with a view to his appointment to the position of assistant justice of the supreme court of the Philippines. The letter written by the president to Mr. McDonald amounts practically to an offer of the place if McDonald desires it. The vacancy among the justices is caused by the promotion of Colonel James F. Smith.

## Urged to Be Brutal.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—Major General Elwell S. Otis, in a lecture before the students in the college of commerce and administration at the University of Chicago tonight, declared that prompt action in the Philippines by devastation and murder.