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VOL. VI. CONDON, GILLIAM CO., OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1897. NO. 43.

HAS THREE TIMES THE CIRCULATION OF ANY PAPER IN THE COUNTY.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Professional cards, \$1.00 per month. One square, 1.50 per month. One-quarter column, 3.00 per month. One-half column, 5.00 per month. One column, 10.00 per month. Business locals will be charged at 10 cents per line for first insertion and 6 cents per line thereafter.

Legal advertisements will in all cases be charged to the party ordering them, at legal rates, and paid for before affidavit is furnished.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

From All Parts of the New World and the Old.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

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

The steamer Caranza, from Rotterdam, is reported lost off Cape Abjona. Six members of the crew were saved and fifteen are missing.

Police Officer Bratton was badly shot while trying to capture two burglars in a store in Tacoma. He fired at one burglar, when another, who was watching, opened fire and shot Bratton twice in the back of the head. He will probably die.

Eddie Chandler, about 11 years old, was drowned in Portneuf river, in Pocatello, Idaho. He threw his hat on the ice and tried to get the dog to get it, and, falling in this, he went on the ice and broke through into deep water. The river was dragged and the body found in about an hour.

One of the last official acts of Mayor Rader of Los Angeles, Cal., will be to attach his signature to an ordinance making expropriations upon the sidewalks of public streets, entrances to public buildings or the floors of street cars a misdemeanor, punishable by either fine or imprisonment, or both.

Chief Hazen of the secret service at Washington, has issued a circular warning against a new counterfeit \$10 national banknote on the Union National bank of Detroit. The note is the product of the same hand which produced the recent counterfeit on the National Bank of Commerce of New York. One distinguishable feature is that the back of the note is upside down.

Miss Gelia Strahm was killed by her brother-in-law, Elden Buroker, at Dixie, eighteen miles west of Walla Walla. Miss Strahm was visiting the family, and after the family had retired she went out of the door, and upon returning the noise awakened Buroker, who drew a pistol from under his pillow and shot Miss Strahm. He mistook her for an enemy, whom he had heard was intent on doing him harm.

Japan has a larger carrying trade on the Pacific than the United States, and Americans who are near enough to watch the shifting scenes in this new and rapidly developing contest for commercial supremacy find little matter for pride in present tendencies. This is the statement of United States Consul Bell, of Sydney, contained in his report to the state department upon the opening of the new Japanese steamship line between Yokohama and Australia.

The president has extended the civil service rules so as to include all officers and employees in the federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., though it is to apply to all such government institutions and to all penitentiaries hereafter created immediately upon their establishment. Attorney-General Harmon is subjecting the recent civil service schedule as affecting the department of justice to a rigid scrutiny. The present amendment is to overcome a defect in the rules promulgated and further amendments on similar lines may be expected.

Radical changes in the procedure of the pension office have been made. All claims for increase, save in extraordinary cases, hereafter will be sent direct to the medical division of the bureau, without having to be passed upon by the board of review. This action is taken on the ground that the bulk of increase cases involve only medical action. Hereafter there will be no necessity for cases before the board of review being passed upon by three or four examiners. Commissioner Murphy has fixed the number of examiners, who must review each claim at once.

The Mexican government, recognizing the increasing importance of its west coast commerce, is determined to improve the harbors. Arrangements have been made to raise a considerable sum for this work, in addition to the \$5,000,000 for the improvement of Coahuacalcoles and Salina Cruz, the eastern and western termini of the Tehuantepec road. The move to improve the harbors is also caused, it is said, by the rapidity of railroad building toward the Mexican Pacific coast, which will open fertile country and develop a large commerce through the ports below Mazatlan.

A strike instituted at Georgetown, Mass., has thrown out of work 200 men, and promises to embrace the entire six shoe factories of the town. A threatened out in wages was the cause of the strike.

The constructors of the Siberian railroad have undertaken to build a line through Manchuria, starting from a point on the river where the Siberian road joins the trans-Balkelia line and terminating at Mikolskaya, Russia. The ministerial press of St. Petersburg points out that this line will make Russia the intermediary of peaceful civilization between Europe and Asia.

ARMS FOR CUBA.

Steamers Dauntless and Commodore Apply for Clearance Papers.

Washington, Jan. 1.—For the first time since the present struggle in Cuba began this government has given permission to customs officials to clear for Cuba a vessel loaded, according to manifest, with munitions of war, presumably for the insurgent army.

Yesterday the secretary of the treasury received a telegram from the owners of the Dauntless at Jacksonville, stating that they would apply to the collector of customs at Jacksonville for a clearance to a Cuban port with a cargo of arms, but the oaths required by the statutes would not be taken. The question was asked whether under these circumstances papers would be issued. Later a telegram was received from the collector at Jacksonville stating an application to clear the Dauntless for Neuvius, Cuba, with a cargo of arms, had been made, and asking instructions.

This morning the secretary replied substantially as follows: "If the master of the vessel and the owners, shippers and consigners of the cargo comply fully with the laws and regulations concerning the manifest and take the oaths required, you may grant a clearance to Neuvius, Cuba. Oaths must be taken and subscribed in writing, as required by section 4197, 4198 and 4200 of the revised statutes."

The port named as the destination is on the northern coast of Cuba and is occupied by Spanish forces. Treasury officials therefore are of the opinion that the oaths required will not be taken.

Late this afternoon the collector of customs at Jacksonville wired the secretary of the treasury that the steamer Commodore had applied for clearance papers upon practically the same statement of facts as in the case of the Dauntless. In response the secretary wired permission to issue papers to the Commodore in substantially the same terms as were named in the former case. Up to the hour of closing the department no information had been received as to the movements of either vessel, or whether the conditions imposed had been accepted.

FIFTY YEARS IN OFFICE.

The Long Service of a Pennsylvania Postmaster.

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—Joseph Strode, of Mifflin county, is the oldest postmaster in the United States; that is to say, the oldest in continuous service, for he has held the position of postmaster at Strode's Mills since 1845, despite changes of administrations, political upheavals, the war and the silver agitation.

Strode's Mills is a pretty little village in the central portion of the state, surrounded by rich farming lands and valuable ore and sand mines.

Joseph Strode is in his 82d year, and it is believed he will hold the job until he is too old to fill it. He is the pride and joy of the postoffice department in Washington, which placed his picture in the government display at the world's fair.

The Strodes are an old noble family. They came from England in 1650 and settled in the valley of Virginia. In 1778 Joseph Strode, the present postmaster's grandfather, came to Pennsylvania and settled in the vicinity of what is now Strode's Mills.

The oldest postmaster is a Republican and has never missed voting since he was allowed to.

He has never been ill, and is possessed of all his faculties. He was appointed during the administration of President Polk.

A Village Bank Looted. St. Louis, Jan. 1.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Des Moines, Ia., says: Word comes from Sully, a small town near Newton, that robbers looted the bank at that place last night. The bank was incorporated in 1891 with a capital of \$5,000. The deposits were about \$17,000. A. S. Smith is president and L. A. Sherman cashier. Details of the robbery are hard to obtain, because the town has no telegraphic connection. It is reported the robbers entered the bank, blew open the safe with dynamite and carried away an amount of cash estimated at from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Killed an Innocent Man.

Salem, Ind., Jan. 1.—Detective Sexton and Deputy Jailer Brown, of Louisville, Ky., received information that Richard Brooks, an escaped prisoner from Louisville, was at the home of Richard Land, four miles from here, and went to the house. Land, seeing the party was armed, ordered his hired man, John Rippey, to get a gun and repel the attack. At this the officers opened fire and killed Rippey. The officers gave themselves up and are in jail. Brooks was not at the Land home.

Caused Insanity.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—Fred L. Wood, a convict in San Quentin prison, who recently inherited a fortune of \$20,000 from the estate of his father, a Chicago millionaire, is insane. He became violent in his cell Monday night, and had to be forcibly removed to the receiving hospital. It is thought his recent good fortune, together with the constraint attendant upon his confinement in the penitentiary, is the cause of his insanity.

THEY WANT TO KNOW MORE

Venezuelans Not Ready to Ratify the Treaty.

A DELAY IN THE PROCEEDINGS

They Insist That Incidental Negotiations Shall Be Closed First—General Arbitration Treaty Completed.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Secretary Olney left the state department at 12 o'clock today and went direct to the British embassy, where he held a long conference by appointment with Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, relative to the status of the Venezuela treaty. Mr. Olney's call followed the arrival of Minister Andrade, of Venezuela, and James J. Storrow, counsel in the Venezuela case, who reached Washington late last evening. The result of the conference was guarded with the usual secrecy which prevails at meetings between the secretary and an ambassador, but there is good reason to believe it was the occasion for going over several new phases of the Venezuela question.

The officials are reticent, and will say only in general terms that the prospect of an acceptance of the settlement by Venezuela is good. It is understood, however, that there are important limitations to the acceptance which appear to make the case less hopeful of an immediate and satisfactory conclusion than has been expected.

The plan of an extra session of the Venezuela congress to ratify the treaty has been practically abandoned. There appears also to be a question as to the nature of Venezuela's acceptance. President Crespo and the government authorities have expressed satisfaction with the general settlement, so far as they secure arbitration, yet they have not yet expressed official approval of all the details of the settlement. On the contrary, there seems a very earnest desire at Caracas for more exact information of the terms of the treaty between Venezuela and Great Britain.

At present there is no disposition to await the gradual maturing of this complete treaty, and it is little short of settled that the treaty will have to be forthcoming, and all the incidental negotiations closed before the desired Venezuela ratification is secured.

In official and diplomatic circles, there continues to be a satisfactory and hopeful view of the situation. It is felt all obstacles will be cleared away in time, and there is a disposition to minimize obstacles as being under the head of minor details.

At the same time, the practical abandonment of the extra session of the Venezuela congress and the disposition to close all negotiations on the final treaty before acceptance is given do not increase the prospect of a speedy conclusion of the case.

On the question of general arbitration between the United States and Great Britain, Mr. Olney and Sir Julian have made their final draft of the treaty, and it is in the hands of Lord Salisbury, awaiting his approval. No doubt exists of its approval, and it is expected to come daily.

THE PACIFIC ROADS' DEBT.

President Cleveland Preparing to Bring the Matter to a Settlement.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The Evening Star today says: The president has had several conferences of late with the attorney-general, and the secretary of the interior and the secretary of the treasury, with a view to speedy action for the adjustment of obligations of the Pacific railroads to the government.

It has been settled that steps will shortly be taken for the foreclosure of the government mortgages on these roads, unless congress shall make provision for settlement of the question at the present session. With the amount already matured, more than \$13,000,000 of the principal of the subsidy bonds issued in behalf of the Union Pacific line, and more than \$6,000,000 of similar bonds issued in aid of the Central Pacific road, will have fallen due and been paid or must be paid on or before January 1 next. Without reference to the application of the sinking fund now in the treasury, this state of affairs will, in the opinion of the president, as stated in his annual message, "create such a default on the part of the companies to the government as will give it the right to at once institute proceedings to foreclose its mortgage lien."

In addition to the above stated indebtedness maturing January 1 next, there will mature thereafter, by January 1, 1899, the remaining principal of such subsidy bonds which must also be met by the government. These aggregate \$41,000,000, of which \$20,000,000 are on account of the Union Pacific, and \$21,000,000 on account of the Central Pacific Company.

Lost on the Swedish Coast.

Hull, England, Dec. 30.—The Wilson life steamship Volo is a total loss at Wings, off the coast of Sweden. The crew and passengers were saved. The Volo was a screw steamer built at Hull in 1890, registering 841 tons net.

THE BOILER EXPLODED.

Fireman Fatally Scalded at the Medical Lake Asylum.

Medical Lake, Wash., Dec. 31.—At 12 o'clock this morning this town was shaken by a heavy explosion, which was by many thought to be the shock of an earthquake. Some buildings were very perceptibly jarred, and their windows rattled furiously. It was not until after daylight that the cause was generally known, when it was found that one of the boilers at the hospital for the insane had exploded. There were four boilers in use, generally for steam and heating purposes, all incased in a brick house at the rear of the hospital, but immediately adjoining. One of these boilers had exploded with such force as to utterly demolish it, throwing fragments in every direction. A large section of it was driven backward against the head of one of the other boilers, driving the latter from its foundation and partly into the rear wall of the house.

Fritz Theilman, the night fireman, was standing near the boiler at the moment of the explosion, and was blown into the yard along with the flying bricks, pieces of boiler, timbers, etc., and so badly scalded and internally injured that his life is despaired of. He says everything was in proper shape with the boilers, and he cannot account for the explosion. The boiler-house will have to be entirely rebuilt and the remaining boilers reset on their foundations.

A DESPERATE SUICIDE.

Woman Throws Herself Under Her Husband's Locomotive.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 31.—Ella Eager, whose body, torn and dismembered, was found on the road of the Shore Line in this city, committed suicide by throwing herself under the wheels of the locomotive which her husband, Engineer Fred Eager, was running. The couple had quarreled two weeks before and had separated. The wife grew moody over her misfortune, and the neighbors say that she often remarked that she wished she were dead.

At 6 o'clock in the evening she put on her things and went out. She went to the station and her husband saw her there just as he had come on for duty, ready to make his run to New London. He did not appear anxious to see his wife, and it is supposed that Mrs. Eager, noticing his indifference, became desperate and resolved on suicide. The woman walked away from the depot and followed a route along the railroad track. Her husband's train started at 6:55. At that hour she was a few hundred yards from the depot. The train came on with increasing speed and achieved rapid momentum when it came to Mrs. Eager. To carry out her resolve was the work of an instant.

After being killed her body was carried along for 1,000 yards when it was caught in a frog of the track and thrown to one side. The husband sped away on his engine, little thinking of what the machinery under his feet had done.

MAINTAINS HIS INNOCENCE

American Prisoner in Mexico Claims to Be a Victim of Conspiracy.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 31.—Americans throughout Mexico are watching with great interest the movements of the authorities in the case of Carlos A. Miller, an American citizen and resident of Cuajinicuilapan, state of Guerrero. He is in Belima prison, City of Mexico, charged with the murder of a Mexican engineer named Eduardo Zepeda, at Omotepac on October 6.

Miller claimed from the first that the officers at Omotepac and in his own town with the unpronounceable name had conspired to bring a murder charge against him and encompass his ruin and death if possible. He claims he knows the identity of the murderers, and offers, if released under guard, to furnish evidence of a wholesale conspiracy in the state of Guerrero not only to do away with him, but to defraud the government out of a large amount. Reputable people of the state forwarded to the government statements setting forth that Miller is all right, and is the intended victim of enemies in public affairs.

M'KINLEY'S ESCORT.

Chicago Hussars and Cleveland Grays Will Share the Honor.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—When Major McKinley takes the oath of office March 4, his personal escort will be formed of the Chicago Hussars squadron and the Cleveland Grays, Cleveland's crack organization. The hussars were asked and promised last night in a big meeting at the Great Northern hotel to accept the honor of the escort.

This matter was considered early by President-elect McKinley. Both of these bodies offered their services. Finally the Grays were selected. The Grays deliberated, and then decided it would be the nice thing to invite the hussars to share the duty with them. All the members of the escort will be mounted on black horses, and they count on making an effective display. The hussars will stop over on the way home at New York for one day and perhaps give a fancy ball.

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

A Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

News Gathered in All the Towns of Our Neighboring States—Improvement Noted in All Industries—Oregon.

A project is on foot in Brownsville to have a free reading-room. Stockbuyers are paying \$13 to \$17 for 2-year-old steers, and \$15 for cows, in Grant county.

Cattle on the range in Grant county are looking thinner than ever at this time of the year. Empire City's town treasurer holds \$1,200 town funds, and the city boasts of no indebtedness.

The colored miners at Beaver Hill, in Coos county, are organizing a lodge, supposedly of Masonry. There are about thirty taxpayers in Wallawa county, who pay taxes on property valued at over \$5,000 each.

Elgin has shipped 787 carloads of grain, stock, wool, lumber and ties in the last ten months valued at \$105,000. Strange as it may seem in midwinter the bunchgrass is growing on Grant county's hills, says the Canyon City News.

Mr. Herrick expects to have work begun on his cannery at The Dalles in a few weeks, to put it in shape for the spring run of salmon.

S. B. Edson, representing Edson Bros. of Gaselle, Cal., who has been in Lane county for some time buying cattle, will ship about 850 head, eight carloads, to Gaselle. The cattle are mostly 2-year-old steers. In answer to a request from the Milton board of trade for a conference upon the question of dividing Umatilla county, the Pendleton chamber of commerce has written that the question of division is one for the people of the county; but that, as an association, it is opposed to division.

Last summer P. Boler, who lives in Springfield precinct, in Lane county, raised several hundred bushels of canary seed, and sold it in Portland, Salem and Eugene. He received 4 cents per pound for the seed. It is better than the canary seed raised in California and the other states, weighing considerably more to the bushel. An old couple, while on their way to The Dalles last week in a two-horse hack, were upset in a snowdrift on a steep grade on Ten-Mile, and went rolling down the hill. A young man went to their assistance tried to get the horses out of the drift, and the horses and hack went tumbling after. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt, nor was much damage done to the rig. Harold Parker has returned to Baker City from Omaha, after an absence of several months. Last spring Mr. Parker left Huntington with 13,600 sheep, the property of Gutierrez, Foss & Co., of Omaha, to be driven overland to Clark, a station near the metropolis of Nebraska. Although it took Mr. Parker four months or more to make the drive, he was so successful that he lost but ninety sheep.

Washington. A great deal of wheat has been sold in Ellensburg lately. The city treasurer of Fairhaven has issued a call for warrants numbered from 2970 to 3050 inclusive, drawn upon the general fund, there being funds on hand with which to pay them. Buckley citizens are now circulating a petition for the establishment of a wagon road from that town to the Summit mines, and pledges of assistance are said to be numerous. The aggregate value of real property in Klickitat county in 1896, as equalized by the county board, is \$1,612,508. The population of the county is 7,500. The county has fifty-six organized school districts, with an attendance of 2,530 pupils.

The Washington state board of pilot commissioners for the Columbia river and bar have submitted their report to the governor of vessels bound in and out of the Columbia river from July 1, 1896, to October 5, 1896. It shows that there were sixty-four bound in and sixty-one bound out between these dates. The city of Ellensburg has been ordered by the court to make a special tax levy of four mills a year for four years to pay the amount of the judgment in the Lorence case, wherein a verdict for damages against the city was rendered, because of an accident resulting from a defective sidewalk. The judgment now amounts to about \$10,000.

Superintendent Barnett, of the St. Louis mine, was in Everett the other day from Silverton. He brought down five pack horses, and had to make them swim the Stillaguamish river three times. It was a perilous undertaking, for the stream was high and swift. The company has a drilling outfit ready to put in the mine as soon as the machinery can be transported by rail, and then work will be continued all winter.