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VOL X. MORO, SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1897. NO. 18

SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

I. O. O. F.—MORO LODGE, NO. 113.—MEETS every Saturday night at 7:30 o'clock. All visiting brothers to our city cordially invited to attend.
H. S. McDANEL, Secretary. WM. HOLDER, N. G.

A. O. U. W.—MORO LODGE No. 64.—MEETS in Odd Fellows hall every Tuesday evening. All sojourning brothers are invited to attend. H. A. THOMPSON, W. M.
H. S. McDANEL, Recorder.

DEGREE OF HONOR.—HERREN LODGE No. 2, A. O. U. W.—Meets in Odd Fellows hall, Moro, every Monday night. Sojourners respectfully invited to attend.
MISS MARY PEOPLES, Recorder. MRS. AMERICA MOORE, C. of H.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—MORO Camp 351 Woodmen of the World, meets in Odd Fellows hall every Wednesday evening. Visiting choppers are invited to attend.
WM. HOLDER, Clerk. W. H. MOORE, C. C.

SHERMAN CO. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY —Meets the 3d Saturday afternoon of each month in Moore Bros. Hall, Moro. All persons interested in fruit culture in Sherman county are invited to attend.
J. M. FARRY, Secretary.

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ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
AND NOTARY PUBLIC
Practices in all Courts of this State.
Real Estate, Collection and Insurance Agency.
Abstract of Titles and Conveyancing a Specialty.
Moro, Sherman County, Oregon.
We respectfully solicit business in our line, inquiring that promptness which always follows strict attention to matters of this character, confident of our ability to handle the same in a manner satisfactory to all.

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Tents and Wagon Covers.
All kinds of repairing promptly and neatly done.
Second St., Near Moody's Warehouse

HENRY KRAUSE
The Leading Dealer in Sherman County
In First-class "Up-to-Date" .....
SADDLES, HARNESS AND SUPPLIES
Of Ever Kind in My Line of Goods. .....WASCO, OREGON.
Have now on hand a large stock of Harness and Saddles, Collars, Bridles, Whips, Robes, Brushes, Curry Combs, &c., &c. Any person in need of anything in my line will save money by giving me a call before purchasing elsewhere.

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MORO, ORECON.
J. A. AND E. M. WEST - - - - PROPRIETORS
Largest and most commodious house in Moro. Well kept, good meals, good beds. Special facilities and terms for professional men.
This popular hotel has recently been remodelled and refurnished throughout; wants of customers carefully attended to.
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The Leading Hotel of Grant.
Located within 100 feet of the depot. New building, new furniture, and everything first-class. Commodious rooms, well and neatly kept. Table supplied with the best the market affords.
Proprietors of Hotel will meet all trains. Special attention to commercial travelers. Stages leave for Goldendale and Moro every morning.

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For Prices, Terms, Etc., Call Upon or Address
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MORO, ORECON.

BARGAIN NO. 1—Hotel in Moro; 25 rooms, all calcimined; 18 bedrooms, 2 parlors; dining-room 20x30; bathroom in the hotel. Consideration, $2200 cash or $2500 on time. Ample grounds.
BARGAIN NO. 2—Two lots, good house and barn, in the city of Moro. Price $750—$300 cash; balance on easy terms.
BARGAIN NO. 3—Quarter section, 140 acres, good farm land, well fenced; water can be had easy; ¾ mile from upper Hay canyon school; 5 miles from Moro. Consideration $1000; $400 down; terms on balance easy.
BARGAIN NO. 4—259 acre farm—180 acres farm land; good $800 house; plenty of water; good fences; postoffice on the place. $1700; $500 cash, remainder to suit purchaser.
BARGAIN NO. 5—480 acre farm; 400 acres good farm land; good house; fence in good repair; plenty of water; two miles from school. $4300—$1500 cash; remainder one-half of crop each year until paid.
BARGAIN NO. 6—320 acre farm—200 acres good farm land; good house, with cellar; small barn; plenty of water; fence in good repair; near school. $1500 cash, or $2000 on time.
BARGAIN NO. 7—600 acres—320 acres good farm land; good fence; plenty of water; 130 acres of summer fallow; fine site for an orchard. Consideration, $4500—$800 down; crop payment for balance.
BARGAIN NO. 8—One-half section, 300 acres farm land; plenty of water; good outside range. Consideration $1400—$500 down; balance on easy terms.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

J. B. HOSFORD
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Practices in all the courts of this state
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J. V. O'LEARY
Stock Inspector of Sherman Co.
Rutledge, Oregon
R. C. WALLIS, Deputy, Rufus, Or.
E. OLDS, Deputy, Grass Valley, Or.
J. D. WILCOX, Deputy, Kent, Or.

FOR THE ALASKA TRADE

Tropic Line Steamer Curacoa Sold at New York.

ARMY PACK TRAIN ORDERED NORTH

Prospectors on Copper River Trail Waiting for Ice to Form to Complete Their Journey—Other Alaska News.

New York, Dec. 24.—The Red D. steamship Curacoa has been sold by the owners, Messrs. Boulton, Bliss & Dallette, to go into the Alaska trade. The purchasers are said to be Pacific coast residents, and the price paid $180,000.

The Curacoa was built especially to trade between this port and Curacoa and Maracaibo, by the merchants of Philadelphia. The first essential required was a minimum draught, with a maximum cargo capacity, owing to the fact that the vessel was to navigate the shallow waters of Lake Maracaibo. Up to the expectations of her builders and owners, she ran regularly to Maracaibo until recently when she was chartered.

The Curacoa is a handsome vessel of the American type. Her cabins and state rooms are beautifully finished in white enamel and gold. In fact, she is an ideal ship for the tropical trade.

Boulton, Bliss & Dallette recently sold the Valencia, also for service in Alaska waters.

The Curacoa, on account of her light draught and large cargo capacity, is a valuable addition to the fleet now plying between San Francisco, Seattle, St. Michaels, and other points along the coast of Alaska. She has gone to Baltimore to prepare and outfit for the long voyage around the Horn.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 24.—Orders were received last evening by the quartermaster of the Eighth infantry to have the army pack train of the department of the Platte, stationed here, leave for Alaska at the earliest possible moment.

The pack train is in charge of Chief Packer Tom Mooney. He will have the entire outfit, consisting of ten expert packers and 80 trained and drilled pack mules on the cars today ready to start. The destination of the pack train is Dyea.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—E. J. Willis, a member of the party that sailed on the schooner La Ninfa for Copper river in October last, writes from Kodiak that on December 4 there were about 150 prospectors with their outfits scattered along a trail between Eyak lake, over a level stretch of country known as the grass flats, and the little Indian village of Alagnak, anxious to push on into the interior as soon as the ice in the river is strong enough to permit travel.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—Travel from Australasia to the Klondike will be heavy next year, and the Oceanic Company is preparing for it. All available space on the Mariposa, due here in February and the Moana, due in March, has been engaged. In the case of the Moana the bulk of the passengers will be from New Zealand.

PHILADELPHIA BANK FAILS.

The Chestnut Street National Compelled to Close Its Doors.

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—The Chestnut Street National bank did not open its doors for business this morning. A notice posted on the door reads as follows: "The Chestnut Street National bank is closed for business and is in the hands of a national bank examiner."

Crowds of depositors soon gathered, but there was no special excitement. The bank has had a good reputation, but it has been known for some time that its business, and necessarily its profits, have fallen off considerably. The suspension was a great surprise, especially in view of the high standing of its officers. William M. Singerly is its president and Isaac Cooper office-president.

The bank was started in 1879 on a capital of $500,000, with Robert E. Pattison as president. When the latter took his seat as governor of Pennsylvania in '91, Singerly succeeded him as president. No statement of the bank's liabilities could be obtained this morning.

The Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company, officers of which are identified with those of the bank, was also closed for business today.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Controller of the Currency Eckels said today in regard to the failure of the Chestnut-Street National bank, of Philadelphia, that the suspension was primarily due to the shrinkage in the volume of bonds and notes of the Singerly Pulp & Paper Mills, located at Elkton, Md. The capital of the bank was $500,000; the deposits aggregate $1,750,000, and its surplus is about $150,000.

Eckels said there was not the least suspicion of wrong-doing on the part of the bank, and he still had strong hopes of arranging for voluntary liquidation of the bank's affairs without the expense incident to the appointment of a receiver.

TRAIN WRECKERS AT LARGE.

Futile Attempt Made to Ditch a Burlington Passenger.

Thayer, Ia., Dec. 24.—An attempt was made between here and Murray last night to throw from the track the Burlington train No. 2.

Whether the attempt was made for the purpose of robbery or for maliciousness is not known at present. Fortunately no particular damage was done to it or to the train, nor was anyone on board injured. On examination it was found the track had been tampered with, and footprints of men were seen on the hill leading away from the roadbed. Spikes had been pulled out of the ties for three rail lengths, the work being done with a wrench and pinchbar, which had been stolen from the carhouse at Thayer.

Hunters Frozen to Death.

Little Rock, Dec. 24.—From passengers reaching here it is learned that a party of four hunters were found frozen to death by the roadside near Dawes Creek, Newton county, Monday morning. It is believed that they were W. Hughes, H. Dolphin, John Kriet and Samuel Severe, of Chicago.

TO CONTROL THE COAL MARKET.

Plans of a Great Combine Forming in the East.

New York, Dec. 24.—It has developed that a big coal-selling combination of the anthracite railroads whereby the production is to be doled out by the supreme head, is only part of a vast project for control of the entire coal industry in the East. J. Pierpont Morgan's plan involves the creation of a similar central selling agency to cover each of the great bituminous coal districts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, and Illinois and a uniform working arrangement between them that shall put a stop to ratecutting and demoralization of trade.

The companies are to agree upon the proportion each is to mine and haul, and the buying company is to call upon them accordingly as fast as it needs coal for the market.

A Big Cargo of Wheat.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 24.—The giant steamship Algoa cleared this morning with the largest cargo of wheat ever shipped from a Pacific coast port, consisting of 10,088 tons, equivalent to 500 carloads. She sails to the Cape Verde islands for orders. So far this season 4,000,000 bushels of wheat have been shipped foreign from this port.

A Murderer Shot Dead.

Dubois, Pa., Dec. 24.—Stephen Spellan, who killed Michael Rohr last night, was shot dead this morning while attempting to escape from his pursuers. The murder of Rohr was entirely unprovoked, and it is thought Spellan was demented.

THE COAST TRAFFIC.

Mexico Backing a New Transportation Scheme.

Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 23.—Through a concession lately granted to Captain Alonzo Smith, the Mexican government appears to be reaching out for control of its Pacific coast traffic, which is at present wholly in the hands of owners of the several American steamship lines between San Francisco and Panama.

The plan embraces the construction of a port at San Jorge, at the head of the Gulf of California, and thence a railroad 86 miles long to this point, here making connection with the Southern Pacific. Only 18 miles of the road will be in the United States.

Captain Smith states that he will have engineers at work within a few days, and that they will complete their work within six or eight months.

The promoters claim to have ample financial backing in the East. Four steamers are to be put on the route, with southern terminus at Santa Cruz. They will be operated under the corporate name of the Mexican Steamship Company.

WAS A DASHING BURGLAR

Record of Elkins, the California Escaped Convict.

San Francisco, Dec. 23.—Charles W. Elkins, who escaped from a Los Angeles deputy sheriff on a north bound train Monday morning, near Fresno, is a son of a well known banker of New Haven, Conn. He came to the Pacific coast two years ago, and engaged in the real estate business in Los Angeles. He was popular and was admitted into the best society.

Soon after his appearance in that city many burglaries were committed among the aristocratic residents. Houses were entered at midday and jewelry abstracted. The thefts were finally traced to Elkins, and he was arrested on five charges of burglary. He pleaded guilty to one charge, and was sentenced to five years in San Quentin. On the way there he made his escape by jumping from a car window.

WILL FIGHT THE TRUST.

Malting Company Organized With Cornelius Sanger at Its Head.

Milwaukee, Dec. 22.—A project is on foot to organize another malting company in this city which will not be affiliated with the national combine, and which will have a capital of $125,000. Cornelius Sanger is the promoter of the company, and he said the concern had been practically organized and was now looking about for a site for a large malting house to be erected. The new company will not be connected with the new trust, but will conduct business independently.

Mr. Sanger would not give the names of the others interested in the project.

A FAMOUS ILLUSTRATION.

Several porcupines huddled together for warmth on a cold day in winter. But as they began to prick one another with their quills they were obliged to disperse.

However, the cold drove them together again. Just the same thing happened. At last, after many turns of huddling and dispersing, they discovered that they would be best off by remaining at a little distance one from another.

* * *

In the same way the need of society drives the human porcupines together, only to be mutually repelled by the many prickly and disagreeable qualities of their nature.

The moderate distance which they at last discover to be the only tolerable condition of intercourse is the code of politeness and manners.

Those who transgress it are roughly told, in the English phrase, to keep their distance.

* * *

By this arrangement the mutual need of warmth is only very moderately satisfied.

But then people do not get pricked.

A man who has some heat in himself prefers to remain outside, where he will neither prick other people nor get pricked himself.—Schopenhauer.

WHAT HISTORY TEACHES.

History teaches that the great calamity that can befall any nation is the concentration of its wealth. There has been no nation that flourished and fell but what the concentration of wealth always preceded the fall. History does not record one exception. The Progress, of Boston, in 1889 published the following:

The eloquent Patrick Henry said: "We can only judge the future by the past." Look at the past! When Egypt went down, 2 per cent of her population owned 97 per cent of her wealth. The people were starved to death. When Persia went down 1 per cent of her population owned the land. When Babylon went down 2 per cent of her population owned all the wealth. The people were starved to death. When Rome went down, 1800 men owned all the known world.

What was France before the revolution of 1789? Nothing but an aristocracy of wealth and birth on one side, and millions of half-clad, half-fed, impoverished toilers on the other. And what was the outcome? The bloodiest revolution known to history. They reaped exactly what they sowed.—Herman E. Taubeneck, in Arena.

Mrs. Katie P. Emery, "Katie Putnam," made a $10 contribution to the St. Elizabeth hospital fund while in Baker City.

THE EXECUTION OF RUIZ

Residents of Havana Lay the Blame on General Blanco.

THE FEELING BITTER AGAINST HIM

Ruiz Said to Have Protested Against Undertaking the Mission—Blanco Denounced for His Inhuman Course.

New York, Dec. 24.—Indignation over the killing of Colonel Ruiz is intense in Havana, says the Herald correspondent. Many blame General Blanco, alleging that he forced General Ruiz to go, in spite of the latter's protestations that it meant certain death. All accounts agree that Colonel Arangueu was personally opposed to the infliction of the extreme penalty, and would have saved Ruiz, but his own life would have been sacrificed had he done so, in opposition to the orders of his superiors.

A cablegram has been received stating that General Lee has been instructed by Secretary Sherman to notify General Gomez and other rebel leaders that they need expect no American sympathy if they continued to permit firing on flags of truce.

General Lee says he has received no instructions, adding that he knew of no instance of the display by the Spaniards of a flag of truce during this war. It has never been claimed by the Spanish authorities that Colonel Ruiz was under a flag of truce, that institution being unknown to the Spanish army in Cuba, its use being interdicted as involving a recognition of the insurgents as belligerents.

Much excitement was caused on Sunday morning when a small, white warship bearing a strong resemblance to the United States gunboat Annapolis, was seen approaching the harbor.

A rumor spread that an American warship was coming in, and the people became frenzied when the stranger's guns opened in a salute to the forts, many believing the city was being bombarded. It was soon apparent that the vessel was the German schoolship Stein, but several hours elapsed before quiet was restored in the city.

All last night fires have been visible southwest of Havana, only ten miles away. Standing cane on the Toledo and Portugalete stations, which was about to commence grinding, was set on fire by the rebels and completely destroyed. The fire caused great consternation in Havana.

RIVAL FACTIONS IN CHILI.

All Efforts to Form a New Cabinet Come to Naught.

Valparaiso, Chile, Dec. 21.—Politics in Chile are sadly mixed. Since the resignation of the cabinet, which was due to the coalition of the government libraries, the conservatives and the Balmacedists, there have been several attempts to form a new one, but all efforts in this direction have gone for naught.

The coalition of the three parties was based on an agreement to give each party two members of the cabinet. Senor Ismael Tocornal undertook to form a new ministry and failed, because of the refusal of the government liberals to abide by the agreement, they being willing to give only one member of the cabinet each to the Balmacedists and conservatives.

Then Senor Pedro Montt undertook to form a ministry, but was persona non grata to certain political leaders, therefore he failed. Senor Montt was bitterly attacked by the press, and President Errazuriz was criticised harshly by even his own organizations for choosing him. Scheming against the interests of the country was charged, and the president was accused of betraying his party.

The president has had several conferences with the leaders of the three parties, but so far as can be learned, he has arrived at no decision as to whom he will select to form his ministry.

A mass meeting of workingmen was held here to protest against the president's policy of refusing all offers to build more railway cars and locomotives at home. The speakers demanded that such work be done in order to give employment to those who need it to support themselves and families. A resolution embodying the sense of the meeting was forwarded to the government in Santiago.

NEW YORK'S UNEMPLOYED.

Industrial Conditions in That City Are Improving.

New York, Dec. 21.—According to the World, of 297,750 workers in this city, the records show that 92,075 are out of work. Last year at this time 125,375 were idle. Eastern Boehm, secretary of the Central Labor Union, estimates that fully 100,000 persons are in enforced idleness. This estimate is probably very near the truth, for if to the 92,000 shown to be idle by the World's figures, be added the many clerks, bookkeepers, accountants, etc., who are seeking work, the total would surely reach 100,000.

Comparisons show that so far as the number of unemployed is concerned, the situation is a marked improvement over that of a year ago. More men by the thousands are at work. This is particularly true as to men engaged in the building trades. Within several years there has not been so much building as now. In some instances walking delegates have been unable to find a sufficient number of workmen for employers. The increase of employment comes for the most part to skilled labor. The only striking increase in unskilled labor has been in the ranks of labor on street contracts.

The story is told at labor bureaus. The most interesting comparison in this line is offered by the figures of the free labor bureau of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. This shows that in December, this year, 841 persons secured employment through this bureau, while in December, 1896, but 263 places were secured.

TO SURVEY THE YUKON.

United States Ship M'Arthur Will Shortly Be Sent North.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 21.—The United States geodetic survey ship McArthur has been ordered to Alaska, and with the opening of spring will head for the Yukon, there to remain until a series of important surveys have been accomplished and a thorough study of the country made. The McArthur lies on the ways at the Hay & Wright's shipyard, receiving repairs, but will soon be in readiness for active service.

Captain I. W. Helms, in charge of the ship, upon instructions from the navy yard, has received bids for towing a small sternwheel steamer to the mouth of the Yukon, to aid in the surveying work and to serve for the navigation of rivers too shallow for the McArthur.

The McArthur will work up the Alaskan coast, taking observations, until the mouth of the Yukon is reached. Then the sternwheeler will be brought into use, and the crew and officers will go up the Yukon as far as possible, carefully surveying the country and making charts for a new government map of the district.

INDIAN TROUBLE FEARED.

Coming Abolishment of Tribal Courts to Be Resisted.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says:

Trouble in the Indian territory is expected by the commissioner of Indian affairs and by others who are familiar with the condition of affairs there. On January 1 the tribal courts will be abolished by an act passed at the last session of congress, and the United States courts given full jurisdiction over the territory. In many quarters the officers of the Indian courts have declared that they will forcibly resist all efforts to prevent them from doing business. The United States marshals have given notice that any tribal courts attempting to sit, and those assuming to conduct them will be arrested.

A delegation of eight Cherokees, seven of them full-bloods, is now in the city. A few days ago they presented a memorial to congress asking that the law be rescinded, but congress has now adjourned without action, and when it again convenes the Indian courts will be out of existence.

Meanwhile the sub-committee of the senate committee on Indian affairs, appointed to consider the problem presented in the territory, practically decided to recommend an amendment to the law applying to the apportionment of all lands held by the five civilized tribes among the members of these tribes, and also an amendment providing that all valid leases shall be recognized by the government of the United States and the money paid on account of them covered into the treasury of the United States for the benefit of the various tribes.

The Dawes commission has reported its failure to come to any conclusion with the Indians. Such agreements as have been concluded vary so in their provisions, that, in view of the fact that eventually a uniform system of government must be provided for Indian territory, it is questionable whether any of the agreements should be definitely ratified by congress until the desired and necessary uniformity can be reached.

Secretary Bliss thinks no government will be satisfactory until congress shall provide for a single uniform system of laws for the Indian territory that shall place all its inhabitants in possession of the rights of American citizenship.

OVER A PIECE OF GROUND.

Dispute Between the United States and the State of Texas.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—A special to the Chronicle from Fort Worth, Texas, says:

The state of Texas and the United States government are in conflict over a piece of ground on the east end of Galveston island, on which is located the state quarantine station and which has been taken possession of by the federal authorities, who intend erecting a torpedo station thereon.

The United States claims it under the terms of the Texas annexation treaty, which requires the ceding to the government by the republic of Texas of all lands used for the purpose of military defenses or upon which fortifications were standing. The state will dispute the claim on the ground that there were no available fortifications in existence on the ground in controversy at the time the treaty was made.

A MEASURE OF PRECAUTION.

New Light on Russia's Occupation of Port Arthur.

Paris, Dec. 21.—The Paris correspondent of the Cologne Gazette telegraphs that paper that he learns on reliable authority that the Russian occupation of Port Arthur was connected with the visit there of the British warship Daphne a week ago, when, in spite of the protests of the Chinese, the Daphne entered. The Daphne entered the inner harbor illegally to ascertain whether or not there were Russian ships there. China complained of the incident to the representatives of the powers at Peking.

The British far eastern squadron is said to be at Talicoan, and, according to the correspondent quoted, is shortly expected at Port Arthur.

The Cologne Gazette regards the occupation as merely a continuance of the co-operation of Germany with Russia in Eastern Asia.

JEALOUSY THE MOTIVE.

Chicago Man Shoots the Object of His Affections and Himself.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—George Thurston shot and probably fatally wounded Mrs. Lizzie Parker and then fired a bullet into his own head in the woman's home last night.

After wounding his victim and before turning the weapon on himself Thurston fired one shot at Mrs. Emma Scott, Mrs. Parker's sister, but missed the mark. Mrs. Parker is shot in the right breast. She is at Mercy hospital.

The bullet which Thurston fired at himself took effect in the forehead. His death is expected hourly. Jealousy was the cause of the shooting.

Three Deaths Resulted.

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 22.—As a result of last night's freight wreck, caused by a runaway train on the Pennsylvania road, three men lost their lives, and damage to the amount of $75,000 was done to the rolling stock. The dead are: S. Kuster, Charles J. Numer and S. C. Corbin. Three locomotives, four passenger coaches and 28 loaded frieght cars were wrecked.

Other Mills Follow Suit.

Manchester, N.H., Dec. 21.—Notices of a 10 per cent reduction in wages on January 1 have been posted in the Amor, Stark and Jefferson cotton mills, in this city. The Amoskeag mills, employing 9000 operatives, posted similar notices last week. The Amor, Stark and Jefferson mills employ 11,000 operatives.

Portland-Bound Bark Lost.

Auckland, N. Z., Dec. 22.—The British bark Blairlogie, Captain McKay, from Delagoe bay, for Portland, Or., has been lost, with her cargo, off the island of Matahiva, in the Tuamotu group. The crew have reached Papetta.

The Ashland mine, one of the best known quartz properties in Southern Oregon, located near Ashland, Jackson county, has been sold to eastern people for $20,000.

MAY LEAVE THE SENATE

Senator Wolcott Alleged to Have Threatened to Resign.

IS ANGRY AT THE ADMINISTRATION

The Colorado Senator Charges the President and Secretary Gage With Betrayal of Their Trusts.

New York, Dec. 23.—The World today prints the following special dispatch from Washington:

The exclusive publication in the World of Senator Wolcott's threat to resign from the United States senate, created a sensation here in political circles. While many believe his indignation may sufficiently cool to prevent the relinquishment of his seat, all agree that his return to the advocacy of the free and unlimited coinage of silver is certain.

The position in which Senator Wolcott stands is understood by those who realize the peculiar situation which has developed with respect to the administration and monetary commission of which the Coloradan is champion. Either President McKinley and Secretary Gage are at variance or Senator Wolcott and his sympathizers are utterly deceived as to the president's attitude. Mr. Wolcott has, since his return from Europe, talked long and earnestly with the president, and he defends the president, while taking a position of open antagonism to Gage. The assertion is made by Mr. Wolcott's sympathizers that Gage misrepresents the administration, and that if it were not for political disturbance it would cause Mr. Gage would be retired from the cabinet. This statement, which is now made privately, is likely to be made public before long. If this is done the issue will be raised and the public will know the facts. The result will probably be that Wolcott will find that he has misunderstood the position of the president, and will then dramatically announce his indignation at the administration.

The president can hardly be in sympathy with both Secretary Gage and the Colorado senator, as Gage stands simply for gold and Wolcott for silver alone. As things are now tending, the president will probably have to break with one or the other of them, and unless he is misunderstood by the leaders of his party and persons closest to him, the break will not be with the secretary of the treasury.

The committee room of Wolcott was today besieged by those desiring confirmation or denial of the authenticity of the statement that he contemplated forwarding his resignation to the governor of his state unless the president's approval of Gage's plan should be less pronounced. No satisfactory reply was given to these inquiries. Without making a definite statement, Wolcott left the city and will not return until Thursday.

Senator Teller will not discuss the question affecting his colleague. He foresaw the inevitable break. President McKinley, he thinks, cannot long ride two horses going in opposite directions.

A STATEMENT BY PALMA.

Gives the Details of the Execution of Colonel Ruiz.

New York, Dec. 23.—T. Estrada Palma, of the Cuban junta, made the following statement last night:

"The death of Colonel Ruiz did not occur as the Spanish have put it, while he was negotiating as a peace messenger under a flag of truce. Again and again have the Cubans promulgated a law that all who came to them with peace propositions not based on the independence of Cuba, should be treated as spies and be dealt with accordingly. Colonel Ruiz knew of the existence of the law, and according to the Spanish accounts was personally warned as to his fate.

"General Blanco and Secretary-General Congosto, too, were well aware of the existence of the decree. Nevertheless, these latter took advantage of the unfortunate Quixotism of Colonel Ruiz and sent him to the Cuban lines. The blood of Colonel Ruiz is not on the hands of the Cubans, but upon the heads of Blanco and Congosto, who sent him to his fate. If the penalty of the law had not been carried into effect, doubtless Spain would have taken advantage of the fact to show that the Cubans were not in earnest in their rejection of autonomy absolutely, but were willing to listen to arguments.

"This decree was not promulgated because Cubans are afraid of disaffection in their ranks, but because it is known that innumerable commissioners would otherwise be sent, and on their return make false statements, encouraging the belief that peace might be established on a basis other than independence. Such statements would only serve the interests of Spain in gaining time with the resulting death of thousands, owing to the useless prolongation of the war.

"Besides, the Cubans are advised that the Spanish are seeking to enter the insurgent lines with the purpose of assassinating the more important leaders. Documentary proof of this fact is in our hands and we are the more cautious when we remember that in 1879 General Blanco authorized General Polavieja, in Santiago de Cuba, to execute as many unarmed Cubans as the later thought necessary as an example.

"It is somewhat remarkable that with the first news of the death of Ruiz came the announcement of the killing of over 40 insurgents found in a hospital, and not a voice was raised to protest thereat. The shooting of Cuban prisoners by the score passes almost without comment: the thousands of wounded Cubans slain in hospitals attract but little notice. According to all the laws of civilized warfare, the Cubans, from the beginning, had the right to retaliate in kind, but they never have done so. On the contrary all prisoners taken by them were set at liberty and the wounded attended to.

"We are denied by the entire world status as belligerents, and might therefore claim that we have no obligations to conduct the war as belligerents, but we do not intend to take this stand. The conditions obtaining in Cuba and the character of the Spanish, demand, however, that we take the necessary measures to speedily terminate the war by convincing the world that independence alone can satisfy us. We accordingly issue a decree and solemnly warn the Spaniards of its enactment. If, despite this warning, they persuade a man to be rash enough to come to us to treat on the basis of autonomy, we must either acknowledge that our laws are made only to be broken, or be compelled by a painful duty to carry them out."

GOVERNMENT ARMOR PLANT.

Rivalry Among Eastern Cities for Its Location.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—"If the government decides upon constructing an armor plant, Chicago will make a bid for its location on the shores of Lake Michigan," said Congressman Lorimer, last night. "There is a vast deal of rivalry in the matter," continued he. "To my certain knowledge Pittsburg, Newport News, Philadelphia, Milwaukee and Waukegan are purposing bidding. None of them, however, can offer the advantages that Chicago will be able to place before the government when the time comes.

"In this connection I will mention a matter that has not heretofore been made public. In the bill before congress to let a 20-years' contract for armor plate at $200 a ton, a number of business men of Chicago who did not desire to have their names appear in this connection, came to me and said they would donate to the government all the land necessary on a water front in the city providing the plant be located here. They went further and authorized me to insure the government that for ten years they would make up the difference in the rates of transportation from here to the shipyards as between any other point asking for the plant.

"This would be a great advantage and saving and the item will have much weight. The men who made this proposition are leaders in the business enterprises of Chicago, and are identified with the railroad interests of the country. Before I return to Washington, I shall call on them and learn if they are in the same mood. I have no doubt they are.

"There is no surmising when the bill will come up. There is considerable opposition to what is termed the government going into business. While there are those who are opposed to paying the prevailing price for armor plate, yet there are others who are averse to the establishment of a government plant. The house is largely in favor of the latter, but as it cannot originate the measure, the mode of procedure will be about as follows:

"The committee on naval affairs will recommend an appropriation fixing the price of armor plate at $400 per ton. The house will cut this down to about $300. Then it will go to the senate, where it is hoped the appropriation will be stricken out altogether, and a report for the construction of a plant by the government indorsed. Should it come back to the house in that shape we can then get at it and the result will be its location in Chicago."

Mr. Lorimer added that the manufacture of armor plate would not be the only industry connected with the plant. It will be the beginning of a great industry. In connection with it will be constructed an arsenal for the manufacture of large and small arms.

MISS HERBERT KILLS HERSELF.

Daughter of Ex-Secretary Herbert Throws Herself From a Window.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Miss Leila Herbert, daughter of the ex-secretary of the navy, died at her home in this city this morning, as the result of a fall from the third story of her home on New Hampshire avenue, in the most fashionable part of the city.

The sudden death and the tragic features surrounding it were a great shock to the large circle of friends she had made in Washington.

Her death was traceable indirectly to an accident while horseback riding in her native state, Alabama, about two months ago. This morning she was unusually bright and cheerful. Shortly before 10 o'clock she dressed to go down stairs, but instead of descending went to a rear room of the third story, from which she fell, sustaining injuries which caused her death.

The death was reported to police headquarters as a case of suicide, due to melancholia and temporary aberration of mind as the result of a long illness.

Miss Herbert was the eldest of ex-Secretary Herbert's three children, and was a charming figure in Washington society. Socially she was exceedingly popular, and her presence was sought at all gatherings. Her social triumphs were repeated in Europe, where she went to attend the great naval demonstration at Kiel. Within the past year she has not enjoyed robust health, but this only induced her to redouble her devotion to out-of-door sports and exercises, and it was while regaining her health by out-door riding that she met with the accident that indirectly resulted in her death.

The coroner returned a verdict of suicide through temporary insanity. As the facts were clear, he decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

CROSSED WIRES CAUSED IT.

Fire Destroys Kansas City Auditorium and Auditorium Hotel.

Kansas City, Dec. 22.—The Auditorium, the largest and finest playhouse west of Chicago, and the Auditorium hotel, one of the most fashionable hostelries in the city, situated at Holmes and Ninth streets, were gutted by fire this morning. The 105 hotel guests escaped in safety, although many were compelled to leave the building in their nightclothes.

The loss on the entire property, which is owned by Alexander Frazer, a local business man, will aggregate $450,000; aggregate insurance, $85,000. Owing to the high insurance rate, a great deal of insurance had been allowed to lapse.

The fire originated in an unoccupied room of the sixth floor of the theater, resulting from the crossing of electric light wires.

NO RATE IS FIXED.

Pittsburg Miners' Convention Decides Not to Act Independently.

Pittsburg, Dec. 22.—The convention of miners and operators of the Pittsburg district, which met to fix the rate for mining for the ensuing year, decided to postpone the matter of a rate for this district, pending the outcome of the movement for an interstate convention at which a uniform rate for Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois would be fixed.

The convention was one of the largest ever held in this city. A committee formed of Messrs. Robbins, Osborne and Alexander Dempster and Messrs. Ratchford, Pearce and McKay, of the Miners' Association, was appointed to arrange the details for an interstate convention, which will be held some time in January.

A Missouri Tragedy.

Marysville, Mo., Dec. 22.—John J. Joyce, retired railroad man, shot R. A. Montgomery, a prominent and wealthy real estate agent, shortly after noon today. There has been bad blood between the men for some time, and when Joyce met Montgomery today, he shot him without a word. Montgomery died instantly. The murderer made no effort to escape.

The late C. F. Crocker, of California, left an estate value at $7,032,129.