

The Coast Mail.

MARSHFIELD, OREGON.
Thursday, April 16, 1885

Latest intelligence indicates that Russia means war.

At last advices Gen. Grant was still alive but growing worse and weaker.

The state fair will begin at Salem this year September 21 and last six days.

T. B. Merry is editor of the Portland Sunday Mercury and the irrepressible Nat. L. Baker is a half-owner in the East Portland Vindicator.

The Black Diamond mine at Green river, W. T., began shipping coal on the 4th inst.—several days sooner than was anticipated. The event was duly celebrated.

We have another communication from Coquille City treating of the school troubles there. Would it not be better for the men engaged in that squabble to use their home paper to abuse each other? Or for one of the muscular teachers to seek employment at a woodpile or in a logging camp and give the other a rest?

Said a Pennsylvania democrat at Washington the other day: "All this talk about President Cleveland being so independent and non-partisan makes me tired. Why, he has no independence at all. He is controlled by a very small clique composed of Randall, Gorman and Manning, with Abe Hewitt as a silent partner. These men have the ear of the president at all times. Randall and Gorman call at the white house every day, but they never send their cards in as other people are required to do. What does that mean? Why, that means that they are running this superbly independent president. It seems to me it's not a very independent president who will make a patronage hawker like Gorman his chief adviser."

Gen. Sheridan, in speaking of Gen. Grant, says: "I saw Gen. Grant for the first time on the battle-field at Shiloh. Gen. McPherson, whose picture hangs there, was with him at the time. Although we had belonged to the same regiment, we had never met before. After the Mississippi campaign I met Gen. Grant a second time, and afterward I was thrown in with him more or less. When he became lieutenant general he placed me in charge of the cavalry service of the army of the Potomac. I accompanied him to Florida and to Mexico, and will say that our acquaintance was not only intimate, but almost lovable. He is a far greater man than people think. He was always able, no matter how situated, to do more than was expected of him. That has always been my opinion of Gen. Grant. I have the greatest admiration for him, both as a man and as a commander."

There arrived at Portland last week a party of 49 immigrants from Wilkes and Allegheny counties, North Carolina, in charge of Rev. I. T. Trevett. Among them were Dr. John L. Smith and family, 11 in number, and Jesse Dewden and A. F. Davis, with their families. The greater number of the party were stout, hardy-looking young men, who, as Trevett states, have been brought up to hard work. They came through from Marion, Virginia, in eight days, stopping one day at Kansas City. They all arrived in good health and were surprised and delighted with the beautiful weather they found here, so different from what they had experienced on the route, and were much astonished to find the trees in full foliage and the gardens gay with flowers of all kinds, while in the section they left and on all their long route across the continent there is yet scarcely a sign of spring. The party broke up at Portland and most of them came to southern Oregon. Trevett will spend several weeks in looking over the state, and will then return to North Carolina to bring out another party. There is every inducement for people to immigrate from that country to Oregon. There wages are only \$7 per month, the land sterile and the climate not so genial as that of Oregon. The heads of families in that party have means to purchase land, and the young men will soon earn enough to purchase claims for themselves.

A case of interest concerning pre-emptionists was recently decided by Judge Hoyt in the district court of Washington territory, holding terms at Vancouver. Charles L. Large, George W. Saylor and Geo. M. Rogers were severally indicted for the crime of perjury, alleged to have been committed in making final proof, under the pre-emption laws of the United States, to a certain tract of land in Cowlitz county, W. T. It was alleged in the indictment that on the 10th of November, 1882, said defendants had severally appeared before S. W. Beall, probate judge of Cowlitz county, and made oath to certain statements in relation to the occupancy, improvements, etc., of the said land, which statements were in due course forwarded to the land department at Washington, and which statements were alleged to have been willfully false. The defendants, by their counsel, filed a demurrer to the indictment on several grounds, amongst which they claimed that a probate judge was under the law not a person competent to administer an oath in such cases; that his certificate as such officer was null and void, and that the crime of perjury could not be committed in taking an oath before an officer incompetent to administer the same. After argument by counsel the court sustained the demurrer upon the above-named ground, and the actions were dismissed and the defendants discharged from further prosecution. This case has attracted a great deal of attention, and Rogers, one of the defendants, had been brought back from the state of New York upon a warrant issued upon this indictment.

European Armies.

A good deal of interest is felt in military and diplomatic circles at Washington regarding the prospects of a war between England and Russia. It was noted with much interest at the trial of dynamite projectiles, the other day, near Washington, that the Russian ambassador, M. De Struve, was the most interested observer. He watched the proceedings closely, taking copious notes, and in every way showed that the matters pertaining to war and its implements were of especial importance to him and to his nation at this time. The more the situation is discussed, the more grave it seems to military and diplomatic to become. What will be the result of war between England and Russia is a question eagerly discussed, for there seems a growing belief that such war is to come. When an irresistible body comes in contact with an immovable one, the result is supposed to be something terrible. When England's reputation as a fighter is considered, and then Russia's huge army, the largest in the world, is stood up alongside of it, the result of a war between these nations is looked upon with dread. The regular army of Russia consists of 780,000 men, and her navy of 373 vessels. Russia pays for the maintenance of her army \$125,000,000 a year, a sum several millions greater than that paid by any other nation for this purpose. Great Britain's standing army is only 182,000 men, against Russia's 780,000, and her army, when on a war footing, is 632,000, against Russia's 2,300,000, when on a war footing. England pays \$90,000,000 a year for her army, against Russia's \$125,000,000, and yet Great Britain's army costs \$2 37 for each head of the population, while Russia's costs her only \$1 27 per inhabitant. Even if Great Britain takes into account her India contingent—the army of British India is 190,000, and on a war footing 380,000—the total would be in either case less than half of Russia's force. Russia has the largest standing army in the world, 780,000. Italy comes next with 750,000; France next with 510,000; Germany next with 445,000; China next with 300,000; Austria-Hungary next with 282,000; British India next with 190,000; Great Britain next with 182,000. Russia's navy has 373 vessels, that of France 302, Great Britain 246, though it is proper to add that Great Britain's navy costs about three times as much as that of Russia. Besides this Great Britain has so many other matters to take her attention. In Egypt she has more than her match now. India and her South American possessions require her constant attention. Ireland cannot be trusted. In view of these things, the course of events between England and Russia is a matter of great interest.

The First Battle of the Next War.

LONDON, April 9.—There is great excitement on the London stock exchange, amounting almost to a panic, over the news of the fight in Afghanistan, which is regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war.

The Telegraph publishes a fourth edition, which was on the streets a little before 2 o'clock this afternoon. This states that the gravity of the news from the Afghan border has not been in any degree diminished by advices received by the government. The telegraph wires to Meshed have been cut for some days. The telegraph has a dispatch from Allahabad which states that Gen. Komaroff, after his victory, occupied Penjdeh, which has long been held by an Afghan garrison. The Telegraph expresses fear that British officers fell in the rout at Penjdeh.

A dispatch to the Times from Gulran, dated April 3, states that the Russians, while making a pretext of changing the position of their outposts on the Afghan frontier, attacked Penjdeh March 30, and drove the Afghans out of their position. The Afghans stubbornly resisted their assailants. The weather was wet at the time of the attack, which rendered the muzzle loading guns of the Afghans useless. Two companies held one position against the Russians until its defenders were killed. The Afghans retreated to Marachak in perfect order. The Russians made no pursuit. The Sarakhs remained neutral, but plundered the Afghan camp. The Russian losses are said to be great. British officers remained until the Afghans effected their retreat, when they joined the camp of Sir Peter Lumsden.

There is great depression in financial circles here this morning. It is too evident that the leaders of the street now feel that war is certain.

The government believe that Gen. Sir Peter Lumsden, British Afghan boundary commissioner, is at present at Herat, which he will fortify and hold if necessary against the Russians. The ordinary defenses of Herat are reported to be in good condition. It is stated that the promised orders to have the Russian advance stopped, which M. Degiers, Russian foreign minister, gave assurance he would send, were so managed that they did not reach headquarters of Gen. Komaroff, Russian commander at the front, until after his attack upon the Afghans.

Baron de Staal, Russian ambassador, believes that the fighting in Afghanistan has been even more serious than has been reported in the different press dispatches. M. Lessor, in an interview to-day, said: The Afghans caused the fight through attacking a number of Russian pickets and driving them from their posts. The Russians then retaliated. When the fighting ended Gen. Komaroff returned across the river to the positions he had formerly occupied. Gen. Komaroff also reports that some British officers, who had been eye-witnesses but not participants in the engagements,

appealed to the Russians for protection when they saw the Afghans were beaten, but unfortunately, he says, the convey which he immediately dispatched to the relief of these officers was unable to overtake the Afghan cavalry, who carried the British away with them in their flight.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that many offers are being received from the Finns to serve in the Russian navy. Finland has agreed to equip ten torpedo boats in addition to the seventy which Russia already has in the Baltic sea.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says it is reported among Mohammedans of the northern Caucasus that the czar of Russia and the sultan of Turkey are allies. Belief is general at St. Petersburg that the relations between those two rulers are extremely friendly.

The European press considers that both England and Russia want time to prepare for war, but that a conflict is certain.

Gladstone, in the commons, appeared anxious and careworn. Lord Randolph Churchill, on entering the house, was warmly greeted by both conservative and liberal members. The general opinion expressed in the lobby was that nothing can prevent war. When Gladstone declared that the Russian attack on Penjdeh appeared to be an unprovoked aggression the house warmly approved his phrase.

England will at once demand of Russia an explanation of the Russians' conduct in forcing a battle upon the Afghans. This demand will, it is understood, be coupled with a demand for the withdrawal of the Russian forces to the north of Sarakhs.

A letter received from Meshed, whence it was dated the 7th of March, states it was at that time rumored that recently the Afghans had sent a force out from Herat, and that this force had attacked Russian troops in Zulfikar pass, and compelled them to retreat from the pass. The letter added that the rout of the Russians on this occasion was so complete that 40 of their soldiers and two officers were driven to seek refuge on the Persian side of the Herirrud river.

M. Lessor, Russian Afghan boundary commissioner, at present in London, in an interview published in this evening's Pall Mall Gazette, concerning statements made in relation to the attack, stated that he regarded the news as of the gravest importance, if it was true. He added that the Meshed letter, if reliable, afforded a complete explanation of Gen. Komaroff's attack on the Afghans at Penjdeh.

M. Lessor, commenting on the news from the Afghan frontier, says Gen. Komaroff's return to Pulikhisti after defeating the Afghans showed that the Russians had no desire to occupy Penjdeh during the negotiations with England. He believed the explanation of Degiers would be satisfactory to the English government.

The anti-Russian feeling in both parties in the house of commons amounts to a passion. If Russia's explanation of the attack on the Afghans be delayed or be incomplete, the British government will be forced to declare war or resign.

St. Petersburg merchants have telegraphed their agents at Paris not to consign goods for them via the Baltic sea in English vessels.

Most of the owners of collieries in England and Wales have canceled all orders for coal to be shipped to Russia, at the risk of being sued for breach of contract.

The Morning Post states that Gen. Wolsley has been ordered to withdraw one-third of his entire force from the Sudan for service elsewhere.

It is stated the British government is buying horses in Canada for military service.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 9.—The Official Messenger publishes the following this morning: Gen. Komaroff reports that in consequence of hostile manifestations by the Afghans he was compelled to attack them. The Afghans were posted upon both banks of the river Kushk in fortified positions. The fight occurred on the 30th of last month. The Afghan force consisted of 4000 men with eight guns, and were defeated with a loss of 500. All the artillery, two standard banners, and the entire camp outfit and all the provisions of the Afghans were captured. The Russian loss was 3 subalterns and 10 soldiers killed and 29 wounded.

The Russian force in the engagement with the Afghans consisted of two battalions of regulars, some Cossacks, and Col. Alkhanoff's Turcoman militia, numbering in all 1000 men.

The Russian government is giving orders for gunboats to Swedish builders.

LONDON, April 10.—A majority of the Paris newspapers consider war between England and Russia inevitable, unless Bismarck at once uses his influence in favor of peace.

The Morning Post says the government has had telegraphic correspondence with Gen. Wolsley, with reference to a proposition to withdraw the British troops from the Sudan.

The Daily News says: "The agreement between England and Russia, that there should be no advance of outposts, must now have reached the chief of the Russian staff on the Afghan frontier. If that agreement be adhered to, war may still be avoided. The crossing of the Kushk river by the Afghans might have justified a further advance on the part of the Russians, but not a direct appeal to arms. War can now only be avoided by prompt disavowal by Russia of Gen. Komaroff's action, and a guarantee against its repetition, and by honorable action on her part regarding the joint boundary commission, which up to the present time the Russians have evaded with a scarcely disguised cynicism. The past affords little ground for

belief that Russia will observe with greater fidelity her obligations in the future."

The Times, editorially, says: "Neither the dignity nor the interests of the British empire can be served by wrangling in parliament. Gladstone's statement in the house of commons yesterday was worthy of England's representative. If it did not breathe defiance it had the ring of constancy and resolution, which neither foreigners nor Englishmen can mistake. Even if we are content to pass the affair as an untoward incident, we will still have to reconcile the Afghans, whose troops lie dead upon the field, and cannot, if we would, encounter the risks of surrender to Gen. Komaroff's defiance to the orders of his superiors. It rests with Russia to purge herself of this dishonesty by acts of adequate and conspicuous reparation. The immediate recall of Gen. Komaroff and the retirement of Russians from all positions in Afghanistan they have lately occupied will, perhaps, repair the mischief. The duty imposed upon us will not be undertaken in a spirit of levity, but is one England is capable of fulfilling, and we will not flinch until it is fulfilled."

The Standard believes the news of the battle between the Russians and the Afghans was known to the ameer before he made his speech at the durbar. The Standard also says: "The last point which Russia claims, even if it is not yet occupied, is in her grasp. Her soldiers have won it by an act of provocation and a shameful violation of a solemn promise made on the Neva. England has acted in good faith, and even with a chivalrous scrupulousness akin to simplicity. We have looked for that honesty in others," continues the article, "that we have practiced ourselves. We have our reward. We are once more on the brink of a war which may involve both Europe and Asia."

The Post, in an editorial, says it is most impossible to deal patiently with Gladstone's statement that he has asked Russia to explain the attack on the Afghans, and the additional statement that Degiers hoped the incident might not interrupt negotiations. "Even those most desirous of peace," the Post says, "must feel that negotiations are now closed. The question lies in a nutshell—Russia either did or did not acquaint Gen. Komaroff with the agreement of March 17."

In an editorial on Russian finance, the Times says: "Russia is living largely on government exactions that the people are rapidly becoming less able to bear. Extension of territory brings no relief of exchequer. This condition of things must terminate in a smash. English investors will be wise not to subscribe another sovereign to the Russian loan."

ST. PETERSBURG, April 10.—Morning newspapers throughout Russia, with very few exceptions, commenting on the recent battle between the Russians and the Afghans on the Kushk river, are very bellicose in their utterances and charge Earl Dufferin and Sir Peter Lumsden with provoking war by advising the Afghans to advance on Pulikhisti, which British officials know is a part of the Russian territory. The Afghans, they say, also fully understood Pulikhisti was Russian territory, and would never have attempted to advance their pickets to that point unless strongly urged to do so by British officials. The war party fully indorse the assertions of those newspapers and are very pugnacious over the affair.

The Journal says that Gen. Komaroff's return within his lines after driving off the Afghans indicates that the Russian attack was caused by the hostile action of the Afghans. Thus the affair assumes a less serious aspect and becomes merely an accidental conflict, difficult to avoid, considering the extremely strained condition of affairs and proximity of the Russian and Afghan outposts.

Traders here tell M. Bunge, minister of finance, that the present state of suspense is worse than war. Commercial circles believe war inevitable, and that it is better it should come now than later.

LONDON, April 10.—Russian agents in London have visited the offices of a number of steamship companies and made heavy bids for the purchase of their fast-going vessels. The extraordinary offers for these steamers aroused the suspicions of officers of the companies, who, upon inquiry, became convinced that if the vessels were sold they would be used by the Russian government for war purposes, and so reported the facts to the British admiralty.

In the house of commons to-day Gladstone said that he was received from Russia last night. This stated that Russia had already asked Gen. Komaroff to explain his conduct in attacking the Afghans at Penjdeh.

The Tories ridicule Russia's reply to England's demand for an explanation of Gen. Komaroff's attack upon the Afghans. They argue that it will be impossible to receive Gen. Komaroff's defense within less than 16 days, and that Russia will occupy that interval, in reinforcing her army and strengthening her positions on the Afghan frontier. The whig section of the liberal party has joined the Tories in demanding more vigorous measures. They are urging the government to send engineers, officers and troops to occupy and strengthen Candahar, the capital of central Afghanistan, which is connected by rail with Quetta, and which commands the most practical route from Afghanistan into northern India.

War preparations in all departments of the military and naval service continue with unabated vigor.

Leading officials at the Woolwich arsenal have been summoned to the war office, to attend a conference upon the question of the dispatch of war material to India.

The Sir William Armstrong gun manufacturing company have received orders from the government for the immediate construction of 90 field guns. Employees in this company's establishment are already working on double time to fill government orders.

Treasurer's Notice.
All Coos county scrip, indorsed prior to April 11, 1884, is now payable. No interest will be allowed after April 15, 1885.
A. F. OWEN, County Treasurer.

Manning and the Money.

The new secretary of the treasury has engaged the services of a fresh expert, the first fruit of whose labor is a statement of the national debt in a new form. The new statement is not clearer or more compact than the old one. Indeed it makes a jumble in some particulars of what was already simple and easily understood; yet it may have its uses in bringing the democratic mind to understand, through a statement under authority of its own administration, that Tom Hendricks and all the rest last year were lying intentionally and demagogically in their talk about the surplus in the treasury.

The statement, rendered in the old form, would have made the cash in the treasury on the first of the present month amount to \$484,474,184, against which there are outstanding in gold and silver certificates and other certificates of deposit about \$330,000,000, leaving a cash balance available of \$153,813,451. This large sum has been held mainly for the purpose of giving steadiness to the vast legal tender paper circulation of the country. Such reserve is necessary to prevent "corners" in the gold market like those formerly made in New York. In other words, we have so large a volume of paper, specie payments can be maintained only by holding a strong reserve of gold and silver in the treasury, just as a bank holds a cash reserve to protect itself.

The new administration, in looking into the treasury, finds the specie all there as reported by the "fascals" who have so long been keeping the books; and it also finds the records of certificates of deposit against it as reported. Finding the treasury all right, the first thing the new administration does is to set apart \$100,000,000 in cash as a reserve fund for the redemption of the United States notes or greenbacks, alleging that the same is required by law; and as this method of book-keeping adds the \$100,000,000 to the liability column, the available cash balance in the treasury is diminished (according to the statement) by this great sum. That is to say, the sum of \$100,000,000 is specifically set apart as a distinct reserve to maintain greenbacks at par; then deducting fractional silver coin and currency, which the new expert holds is not an available asset because it is not legal tender for more than \$5—the amount of such coin and currency being \$31,500,000—there is reported a net cash balance in the treasury of only \$22,259,025. This is no more than a fairly working amount for the business of the treasury.

This new statement is, in effect, a confirmation and vindication of republican management of the treasury department. Last year when Hendricks, Randall and other demagogues asserted that the times were hard because the republicans had looked up between four and five hundred millions of dollars in the treasury, the answer was that against the large sum in the treasury liabilities were also reported sufficient to offset much the greater part of it; that the cash must be kept on hand to meet these liabilities; that the volume of currency throughout the country had not been diminished by the amount reported in the treasury, nor by any amount, since gold and silver certificates were in circulation for every dollar deposited therefor; that the government was not the owner of this money any more than a bank was owner of the funds placed on deposit in it, and that of the remainder of the specie reported on hand there was only enough, after deducting what must be held to maintain the paper currency at par, to carry on the current operations of the government. All this is now confirmed by the new expert working under the direction of Secretary Manning. But the democratic administration in one important particular goes further in the direction of "hoarding" than any republican administration has ever done. No republican secretary ever withdrew, set apart and locked up \$100,000,000 as a specific redemption fund not to be available in any circumstances for any current purpose; nor had it occurred to any republican secretary that the subsidiary silver coin was not to be reckoned among the assets of the treasury on the ground that bondholders could not be paid with it.

The outcome of the whole matter is that the present administration is forced to carry on business substantially as former administrations did. There is no "surplus" to be "unlocked," and never has been. Hendricks lied when he said last year: "To-day we have \$450,000,000 of the people's money locked up in the treasury by a republican administration, and this it is that causes the stringency and distress of which the people in all parts of the country so justly complain. What we demand is that this money be taken out of the treasury by the purchase of the public debt, so that it may find its way into the channels of industry and trade." Yet now a democratic administration reports that the money must be held as republican administrations have held it; that no considerable departure can safely be made from republican methods, and that about all that can be done is to present the statement of business in a somewhat altered form. Our democratic brethren who voted last year under the impression that they were to get their dividends out of the treasury surplus will wait awhile for them.—(Oregonian.)

To the Ladies.

They will find at Mrs. F. MARK'S the Ross Novelty Rug Machine. Very simple and easy. Any child can use it; but any one not fully understanding the art can receive instructions, free of charge, from Mrs. Capt. Chester, who will be found at Mrs. Mark's. Clamps and frames, and Turkish rugs of all patterns and styles. Also all shades of yarn, for \$1 10 per pound. J. J. 2025

Where Counterfeits Are Detected?

In the counting and handling of paper currency, the treasury women have almost superseded men. They count better and faster, and in the detection of counterfeits are unequalled. Notes which circulate freely through every bank in the country are readily detected the instant they come into the hands of the women operators in the treasury. It will be noticed by anybody who ever gave any attention to the subject that the warnings to look out for counterfeits invariably come from the treasury department. This means that the counterfeit has circulated with impunity until it reaches the fingers of the women experts in the treasury; then it is instantly detected. As an example: A counterfeit of the last issue of \$5 bills was known to be floating about some time ago; the treasury sent out the alarm, but the officials, judging from experience, knew that it would probably not be detected until it reached the treasury in a package of money from one of the banks. At last it came in a bundle from a big New York bank. The young woman counting the bills in the treasury picked it out instantly. The note was traced and found to have passed through half the banks in New York without suspicion, to be spotted at the first glance by this young woman who, it is said, has never yet passed a counterfeit. Nor one single cent has ever been stolen by women since their employment in the treasury. When the work was done solely by men, discharges for small thefts were frequent.

Alvin B. Dimmick, charged with the crime of horse-stealing, committed in eastern Oregon some time since, successfully evaded arrest at Gervais, Marion county, one night last week. The marshal of Gervais and six other men went to a house where he ascertained Dimmick was stopping, for the purpose of arresting the fugitive. The officer knocked at the door, which was answered by Dimmick in person. The marshal at once presented a loaded shotgun, and pointing the muzzle at Dimmick, demanded his immediate and unconditional surrender. Quick as a flash, and before the officer could think, much less act on the defensive, Dimmick sprang forward, and grasping the weapon with both hands, wrested it from the marshal. To change the heavily charged and cocked shotgun around and turn the tables on the surprised official was but the work of a second. Dimmick, thus armed, kept the marshal and the other six men covered with the weapon, and walked triumphantly away. Aided by the darkness, the fugitive easily effected his escape. It is said the seven men admitted they felt and looked like a squad of idiots; but could do nothing more than gaze at the two threatening, yawning tubes of the gun and gracefully submit. One thousand dollars' reward is offered for the apprehension and conviction of Dimmick, but it is not probable he will fall an easy prey, especially as he has friends all through the valley who will protect and conceal him. He is described as about 5 feet 9 inches high, dark complexioned, has small mustache, dark hair, inclined to curl, high cheek bones, square forehead, limbs on the left leg; weighs 175 pounds, aged 27 years.

R. MAINS,

MERCHANT

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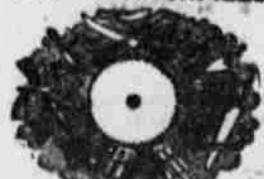
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