The Sumpter Miner

## Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

 H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA subscmitios wate
One Year,
Six Months

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}POPULATION OF SUMPTER 4,500.

THERE are some newspapers in this section of country that ought to be in the pen for grand larceny. They lay for THE MINER and steal its good news mat. ter as regularly as it is issued. This thing is getting so rank that it ceases to amuse.

THE letter of acceptance of President McKinley was "released" Monday mornling. It is nine long columns af solid type, discusses every conceivable issue and says nothing about anything. Some of the "rems" which the partisan papers are culling from this state paper and clustering in Mergenthater borders are absolutely fdiotic in their transparent con game characteristics.

ANY man can now get his name in the Associated press dispatches if he adroitly announces that he voted if either Bryan or McKinley four vears ago and is going to vote for the other one at the coming election. This kind of stuff means no more than a straw vote or a prediction by a newspapet of mindividual, and why these three chestuuts are in such constant use is a mystery to one of ordinaty common sense-and besides, it is tiresome

AT the session of the physical science section of the British association for the advancement of science, now in annual session at Kradford, Sir William Henry Preece, consulting engineer to the British postoffice, made the interesting announcement that as a result of his expetiments with wireless telegraphs, he had found it with wireless teiegraphs, he had
quite possible to comvey sudible speech six to eight miles across the sea without wires. He added that it was a pratical, commercial system and might be exiended to communikste between ships, and between ships and the shore.

THE philosophers of the press are try. ling to find in prenatal influences a cause for the unnatural crime committed recently in the mountains of eastern Oregon, when a boy killed his own father. It is not necessary to go so far to tind the cause. It is stated that the lather brutally whip. ped the son tor the tritling oversight of leaving a hatchet at the camp of the prev. hous night. A sease of being the victim of outraged justike, and consequent violent resentment and more or less violent rage are human emotions that more satisfactorily explatn the motive of the horrible srime than do any far-fetched theories of prenatal intluences.

THERE are only 270 convicts in the Oregon penitentiary at present. At no time since iNSg has the number of inmates been so small, with the exception of isks, when the average was 265 . "When searchIng for evidence of good times and lixing results to causes. perhaps it would the interesting to notice the effect of prosperit on crime in this state," said state senator Baly, of Renton, in a recent interview. "The hard times which set in in Ikgz were at their culmination-and very worst in itho6. In August, isob there were over 400 convicts in the state penitentiary of Oregon, and in August, 1000, there were but 270. In fact, exiept one year, isks,
there has never been so few inmates in the state prison as now since 1885 . In connection with this fact it is well to enumerate that the population of Oregon in 1885 was 188,000 , while in 1900 it is at least 430,000 . From 1888 down, the num ber of convicts in the state prison was from 320 to 450 , or an average of 345 , and in 1888 the average was 265 ."

LATEST press dispatches state, relative to the hurricane horror at Galveston, that Mayor Walter C. Jones estimates the number of dead at 5000 and he is conservative. Over 2300 bodies have been tak en to the sea or buried in trenches. Other hundreds are yet to be taken from the ruins. These bodies are now all badly decomposed and they are being buried in trenches where they are found. Others are being buried in debris where it can be safely done. There is little attempt at identitication and it is safe to say that there will never be a complete list of the dead.
Chiet of Police Ketchum is in charge of the work of burying the dead. There are large bodies of men engaged in this work, tearing up ruins and getting out corpses. Several persons have already been shot, it is reported. A soldier of Rafferty's battery, while patrolling the beach this morning ordered a man to desist from looting. The fellow drew a weapon and the soldier shot him dead. The soldier was attacked by three other men and he killed all of them. He had tive cartridges in his rifle and each of them found a victim. It is probable that twenty-five in all have been shot. Some of these were shot for failing to halt when ordered to do so. Others were shot for vandalism. No accurate estimate has yet been made reRarding loss to property.

I. O. R. M.

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