

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

A Birmingham, Ala., special says that Joe James, colored, was lynched at Woodstock. He attempted to assault Fannie Smith, aged 17, while she was on her way to school.

An irade has been issued granting amnesty to all Armenian prisoners, except those sentenced to death for murder. The terms of the amnesty include about 100 Armenians under sentence of death for other offenses than murder.

Contrary to advices from Spain, it has been ascertained that the Spaniards were ignominiously defeated by Philippine insurgents in the combined naval and foot attack on Novelda from November 8 to 14. The Spaniards lost heavily.

A special from Paris says it is suggested that Great Britain, France and Italy, the powers most interested, offer their services in the Cuban question in order to prevent a conflict between Spain and the United States, and terminate the revolt.

Dr. E. Forbes, representing a London firm, arrived on the last steamer from the Orient in San Francisco, with cases of medical instruments valued at \$80,000. He claims they are works of art, and should be admitted free of duty. The customs authorities are withholding the instruments, however, until the duty is paid.

The postmaster of Des Moines, Ia., had his carriers look up worthy cases of poor families and delivered presents to them on Christmas morning. Several hundred dollars was subscribed by business men for the purpose. Scores of letters were received from poor children telling what they desired Santa Claus to bring them.

Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, has proposed an amendment to the sundry bill appropriating bill, providing for auxiliary fishery stations at points to be selected by the commissioner of fish and fisheries in Oregon, Washington and California, for the propagation of salmon, trout and other fishes. The amendment appropriates \$17,600 for the purpose.

Jerry Burke, the colored boy, who hacked Mrs. John Foss and her daughter, Mrs. Cavanaugh, with an ax, at their home at Cllo, Livingston parish, Louisiana, last Sunday, was captured by a posse of citizens about a mile from the scene of the crime. In view of the fact that the ladies are not dead, the plan to burn him at the stake was abandoned, and he was simply riddled with bullets.

The secretary of the treasury has sent to congress a computation of the Pacific railroad deficits made by the government treasury. The statement shows that the advances to the Union Pacific, including the Kansas Pacific, by the government, will, at maturity, the first of next July, amount to \$92,846,285, of which sufficient has been repaid to reduce the amount to \$53,289,593. The balance due on account of the Central Pacific on July 1 next will be \$80,318,377.

Dr. Thomas Powell, of Missouri, recently made some remarkable experiments before a party of doctors in Los Angeles in order to prove the efficacy of his remedy for certain diseases. He alarmed the physicians present by injecting bacillus tuberculosis and bacilli diptheria into himself, appearing to take them without effect. He also injected some bacteria into two guinea pigs, which promptly died. His next experiment will be to inject spores from a woman dying of consumption into himself.

The annual statement of construction published by the Railway Age, of Chicago shows that during 1896 only 1,802 miles of railway lines were built in the United States. This is one mile less than the total reported for 1895, and the smallest mileage built in any year since 1875. The number of lines on which this track was laid is 163, which is eleven less than the number of new lines added in the previous year. Track was laid in thirty-eight of the forty-four states and territories. The longest mileage was built in California—187 miles on eight lines.

A Paris paper publishes interviews with prominent men of France and a foreign diplomat, all of whom reproach Great Britain and Spain for abandoning France in the Mexican expedition of 1862, the object of which, they say, was to create an American government to counterbalance the power of the United States.

The Russian ambassador, M. de Nélidoff, has had an audience with the sultan of Turkey, at which he urged the introduction of reforms and the granting of amnesty to imprisoned Armenians. The sultan asserted that the reforms agreed upon by the powers already had been executed and promised to issue an amnesty decree in a few days.

Another race riot occurred near Mayfield, Ky., and a hundred shots were fired at the residence of Tom Chambers, colored, and the house afterwards burned. A number of negroes have been warned to leave town, and more trouble is expected.

The Southern Pacific train was held up by masked men about 200 miles from San Antonio, Tex. Three men ordered the engineer to stop the train, and, while one stood guard at the engine, the two others went through the express car and secured about \$70.

H. C. Allen was found frozen to death forty-two miles east of Buckley, Wash., on Silver river, in the Gold Hill mining district. The body was found forty rods from Allen's cabin. He had gone out on a trapping expedition. Not returning, a rescue party went out from Buckley, and, after a week's search, found the body, which was buried in the mountains. In the spring it will be brought out by the G. A. R. post to which he belonged.

Governor Morton has refused to pardon John Y. McKane, a member of the Tweed gang, who is now confined in prison in Albany, N. Y.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

Senate.

Eighth day.—The senate today passed the immigration bill, known as the Lodge bill, with a new section providing that the exclusion shall not apply to persons arriving from Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there. The strength of the bill was greater than had been expected, the final vote being 53 to 10. As passed, the bill amends the immigration laws so as to exclude from admission to the United States all persons over 16 years old who cannot read and write the language of their native country or some other language, but an admissible immigrant over the age of 16 may bring in with him, or send for his wife or parent or grandparent or minor children or grandchildren, notwithstanding their inability to read or write. The Cuban section added to the bill provides that the act shall not apply to persons arriving in the United States from any port or place in the island of Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there; provided such persons have heretofore been inhabitants of that island. The house amendments to the bill concerning lands of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company were nonconcurrent in.

Ninth day.—The main event of the day was the presentation by Mr. Cameron of the report of the committee on foreign relations favorable to his resolution, recognizing the independence of Cuba. The proceeding was brief and perfunctory, the report not being read, and an agreement was speedily reached by which the resolution and report go over until after the holidays. Aside from the Cameron report Morgan of Alabama presented a further report on the same lines, embodying the views of himself and Mills. The offering of the reports served as a prelude to several brick exchanges between senators. Mr. Gear made an unsuccessful attempt to take up the Pacific railroad funding bill, and then gave notice it would be urged after the holidays.

Tenth day.—The senate was unexpectedly diverted today from Cuba to the Pacific railroads. An unusually large crowd was in the galleries, anticipating that Vest would continue his speech begun yesterday on the attitude of Mr. Olney toward the Cameron resolution. Soon after the session opened Mr. Pettigrew called up his resolution relative to the trust notes of the Pacific railroads. The senator made a savage onslaught on the Pacific railroads in general, charging that a combination of private interests was seeking to absorb the roads and close out the government. This opened the entire question, and Mr. Morgan followed with a bitter arraignment of the Pacific roads, charging them with fraud and crime on a gigantic scale. The speech lasted until shortly before 2 o'clock, when the morning hour expired, thus sending over the Cuban question until after the holidays. Mr. Call secured the adoption of a resolution asking the secretary of state for information relative to the killing of Charles Gavin, an American citizen, by the Spanish forces in Cuba. Further than this the session was uneventful, and the senate adjourned for the holiday recess, lasting until January 5.

House.

Eighth day.—The house today passed the third of the regular appropriation bills (that for the support of the army), and entered upon consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial bill. The latter bill carries \$21,669,369, or \$86,999 more than the law for the current year. Fair progress was made today. It is expected this bill and the military academy appropriation bill will be passed before the holiday recess. The army bill, as passed, makes no provision for the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark.

Ninth day.—Almost the whole day was devoted to a debate on the provision of the bill relating to the control of the new congressional library. Both the appropriations and library committees offered plans for the future care of the building. After a somewhat stormy contest, the appropriations committee gained the victory, defeating the substitute of the library committee by a vote of 27 to 55. An amendment designed to place the employees of the library under civil service law was also defeated, 27 to 73. Librarian Spofford's salary was raised from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The senate amendments to the immigration bill were nonconcurrent in. Barthold, chairman of the immigration committee, sought to have the bill and amendments recommitted to his committee.

Tenth day.—The house today passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, and then adjourned for the holiday recess. This is the first time in the history of congress that the legislative bill has been passed before the holidays. The day was devoted to the annual debate on the civil service law, and, as usual, the attempt to strike out the provision for the commission was overwhelmingly defeated. There was a good deal of thrashing over of old straw and sparring for political points. Brewster, chairman of the civil service commission, defended the law. The bill as passed carries \$23,669,369.02—\$86,379 more than the current bill. During the morning hour a bill was passed authorizing the railroads in the Indian territory to change their alignments.

New York, Dec. 23.—The competition between the American sugar refinery and the firm of Arbuckle Bros., coffee merchants, is on in earnest. Another reduction of one-half a cent per pound in the wholesale price of roasted coffee was made today, the second reduction this far, and there is a margin yet of four or five cents, it is said, before rock-bottom prices can be reached; that is the price at which a bare margin of profit can be made by the roasters, if any at all.

Spain's War Preparations. Madrid, Dec. 22.—El Herald asserts that the minister of war, General Azcarraga, is preparing numerous pamphlets on the geography, topography and military condition of the United States to distribute to the chief officers of the Spanish army.

Absence and an Inference. San Francisco, Dec. 24.—Timothy Sullivan, clerk of police court No. 4, has been absent from duty for several days, and today Judge Low turned over Sullivan's books to the official expert for examination.

ANOTHER MINE EXPLOSION

Twenty Men Were Imprisoned in Afterdamp.

RESCUE WORK BEGAN EARLY

Fourteen Were Taken Out Alive—Touching Scene About the Mine—Rock Fell on Dynamite Magazine.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 23.—A terrific explosion occurred this afternoon in Baltimore shaft No. 2, of the Delaware & Hudson Company. Over twenty miners were imprisoned, but at a late hour tonight fourteen had been rescued alive, and there was hope of releasing the others before the deadly afterdamp claimed them as victims.

Immediately after the disaster became known, rescue gangs descended the shaft, but it was some time before the ventilation had been so managed that they could work in safety. The party which entered the mine at 9:45 tonight succeeded in pushing their way to the plane where the imprisoned men had been working, and there they stumbled over the bodies of a number of unconscious men. As quick as the work could be accomplished they were brought to the surface, where a corps of doctors were in waiting. Wrapped in blankets, some of the victims were sent to their homes and some to hospitals. The physicians have hopes that all may recover. Had they been in the mine five minutes longer all would probably have died of suffocation.

John Healey, one of the rescuers, who was first to discover the bodies on the plane, says the men were huddled closely together. They had apparently abandoned all hope of rescue, and were resolved to die together. The supposition is that the men, when they realized their danger, made their way to the highest point on the plane. The smoke found its way to them, however, and they were all but suffocated when found.

The theory of the explosion is that there was a fall of rock on the slope where the dynamite was stored; that the dynamite exploded and the smoke filled the plane.

Grief was turned to joy when the rescued men were brought to the surface. Women and children wept and strong men clasped each other in their arms. It is probable that those who were in the immediate vicinity of the spot where the explosion occurred were the only ones killed, and they may not be over four or five in number. The mine is in the northeast section of the city, and employs, when in full operation, about 350 men and boys. About one-third of this force was at work today, and the number of workers was further reduced after 3 o'clock, when the day shift came out.

When the explosion occurred, an hour later, there were probably sixty men in the mine. Of this number, forty or thereabouts succeeded in getting safely to the surface. Those imprisoned were at work in a plane fully a mile from the shaft. They were driving a tunnel, and were in what was considered a safe place.

The first knowledge of the catastrophe came to the surface by the noise of the explosion. The men in the engine-house, who had charge of the hoisting carriages, gave the first alarm. A rescuing party was organized, but it was after several efforts had been made that the imprisoned men were reached.

A FATAL BOAT RIDE.

Three Young Men Attempted to Cross the Swift Hood River.

Hood River, Or., Dec. 23.—Charles Bell, Carl Woods and W. W. Edgerman, working on the flume of the irrigation ditch where it crosses Hood river, about twelve miles from town, built a boat to be used in carrying lumber over at this point. The river is very rapid, and, while crossing this afternoon, the boat became unmanageable and started down stream, striking a rock, capsizing and throwing the unfortunate men out and at the mercy of the cold, rushing water. Bell, being an old log driver, managed to reach shore in safety. Woods and Edgerman were drowned. The bodies were not recovered.

A rescue party will endeavor to recover the bodies before they float out into the Columbia. Woods and Edgerman were both single men. Woods was a resident of Hood River, but Edgerman's residence is unknown, as he had but lately arrived here.

American Students in Paris. Paris, Dec. 23.—At a meeting of the council of the university of Paris, Vice-Rector Girard read a communication from the professor of political science upon the American students in Paris. The memorandum had agreed with the views of Professor Henry Moissan, the distinguished chemist and a member of the French institute, pointing out that American universities are sympathetic to France, and that their students wished to study in French universities. But, he added, they needed to return to America with a diploma. The council finally decided to examine the suggestion of granting diplomas to American students.

An Uprising Feared. Berlin, Dec. 23.—A dispatch from the Frankfurt Zeitung from Constantinople says a rising of the young Turks party is feared there. Fifty young Turkish officers escaped arrest, fleeing from the city, and a number of army officers of high rank have been taken to Yildiz palace to be tried by court-martial. At the palace it is further stated that the usual precautions for the safety of the sultan have been doubled, and every suspect approaching the palace is arrested.

The Durrant Case. San Francisco, Dec. 23.—What may prove to be the beginning of the end of the Durrant case took place in the supreme court today. The brief of Theodore Durrant was filed, although there has been much discussion as to whether it could now be filed, the usual time for doing so having elapsed. However, Durrant was finally granted re-submission. Attorney-General Fitzgerald also filed a brief, reply to the defendant's counsel. Durrant is now given ten days in which to file a brief in reply.

HOLD-UP IN BLUE CUT.

Daring Work of Train Robbers Near Kansas City.

Kansas City, Dec. 25.—Blue cut, made historic through the operations there of the James and Younger bands, when they were pioneers in the train-robbing business, was the scene tonight of its fourth hold-up by road agents.

At 9:30 o'clock tonight, the St. Louis and Chicago express, which left Kansas City at 8:45, was flagged at Blue cut, and came to a standstill. Masked men immediately covered the engineer and fireman and compelled them to get down from their cab. At the same time another member of the band uncoupled the express-car from the rest of the train. The robbers quickly climbed aboard the locomotive and express-car and before the surprised trainmen had time to collect their wits, the bandits were speeding down the steep grade beyond Blue cut, with the engine and express-car. The express-messenger, A. J. Frier, of St. Louis, was a prisoner in the express-car. When they had gone a safe distance the robbers halted and proceeded to rifle the contents of the express-car. They forced the messenger to give up the keys of the smaller safe, and opening it secured several packages of money. They then attempted to blow up the larger safe with dynamite, but on being told by the messenger that it contained no valuables, they desisted. They then boarded the engine and went about two miles down the track where they abandoned it and made good their escape, having secured several thousand dollars.

When the robbery became known at Independence, a posse of county officers set out for the scene of the hold-up, and at midnight, County Marshal Keshlar was arranging to send out a force of officers from Kansas City.

It was at Blue cut in 1881 that the James gang held up a Chicago & Alton express train, and made one of the biggest hauls in the history of train-robbing. A few years later, another big train-robbing was committed at the same place, and two months ago tonight, on October 25, a hold-up at Blue cut occurred. The men who planned the robbery in October were novices, and got nothing. Two members of the gang have since been arrested, and are in jail.

FOUNDERED IN THE GULF.

Many Lives Lost in a Bark Off Vera Cruz.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 5.—A terrific storm occurred in the gulf of Campeche on the 11th and 12th of this month. Among other casualties reported is the wreck of the bark Jamaica with twelve passengers and most of the crew lost. She was bound from Campeche to Vera Cruz, and had a valuable cargo and some treasure aboard. She encountered a norther on the night of the 11th, but got through until the afternoon of the next day, all the time working westward toward Vera Cruz.

So long as the ship remained in good condition she succeeded before the wind toward Vera Cruz, and at one time that port was sighted, but one accident after another occurred to the rigging, finally making it impossible to live in the enormous seas. With almost all the sails blown away the Jamaica returned and attempted to back into Campeche, but without success.

In the afternoon of the 12th the rudder became disabled, throwing the vessel at the mercy of the storm. The passengers took up the boats, which were repeatedly swamped. Most of the crew simply put on life preservers and jumped into the sea. The captain was one of these. He strapped 100 Mexican dollars on him, and, clinging to a barrel, tried to reach shore. The survivors saw him sink owing to the weight of the metal.

The sight was a terrible one as one passenger after another sank, the boats proving unmanageable. The crew was all drowned, and only three men and a boy of the passengers escaped. The vessel sank soon after she was abandoned. The wreck occurred off the port of Dos Rayas, Tabasco.

Trapped Across the Continent.

New York, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Estby and her daughter, Clara, aged 19 years, the transcontinental pedestrians, completed the journey from Spokane to this city at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon. They left the Western city May 5, on a wager with a New York woman that they could cross the continent in less than seven months. The conditions of the wager were that each woman was to leave town with only \$5 and earn their living en route. If any sickness befell either, the time consumed by it was to be abstracted from the total time.

On the way across the continent they did housework, sewing, and sold photographs of themselves. At Lincoln, Neb., Mrs. W. J. Bryan fed them and bought photographs. In Ohio they called on Major and Mrs. McKinley.

Spain's Warlike Preparations. London, Dec. 25.—A Rome dispatch to the News says: All indications here seem to prove that Spain has been preparing for the event of warlike complications with the United States. The hurried manufacture of a large quantity of cartridges has been ordered at Brescia, and four cruisers have been ordered from the Ansaldo yards in Genoa.

Colfax, Wash., Dec. 25.—The O. R. & N. Co.'s freighthouse, depot, shops, water tank, coalbankers, and about forty freight cars on sidetracks are in possession of the county treasurer and under guard, having been levied upon by him to enforce the collection of a debt for delinquent taxes of 1895. Business is carried on with difficulty. Freight is loaded and unloaded on a box car on a switch. Engines are re-fueled with coal and water, and traffic is interfered with in other ways.

Grain Prices in Bengal. London, Dec. 25.—A Times dispatch from Calcutta says: The official report of the prospects in Behar says that the rainfall has hardly any effect in lowering prices which are still high throughout Bengal. The danger of famine has been removed in South Behar, but there is grave anxiety in many southern districts.

No Fresh Troops. Madrid, Dec. 25.—In ministerial circles here it is denied that the government intends to call out fresh contingents of troops.

A TRAP IS SET FOR GOMEZ

Spaniards Forming Three Lines to Crush Him.

OPERATIONS ARE IN MATANZAS

Weyler Expected to Strike a Hard Blow, So That Spain Can Call for Another Loan—Cubans Confident.

Cincinnati, Dec. 23.—A special to the Commercial Tribune from Key West says: Havana advices are that Gomez's advance guard has captured the town of Las Pasasga, in Santa Clara province, taking the entire garrison and all the stores. A battalion of fresh troops was sent from Havana to Matanzas this morning, to be sent to the front. Great exertions are being made to get a strong force to oppose General Gomez, and three lines are being forced to get the Cubans entangled between them and crushed.

Funds Running Low. New York, Dec. 23.—A Madrid special to the World says: It is rumored that General Weyler has delayed fresh operations against the insurgents in order to give time to discover the disposition of bands and their chiefs since the death of Maceo, with a view to feeling his way to prepare the ground for finishing the present Cuban war like the past insurrections in Spain and Cuba, where official negotiations proved more telling arguments than force of arms, directly the insurgents saw no more hope of foreign aid.

It is also believed in diplomatic circles that Spain will take advantage of the disposition of President Cleveland and Secretary Olney to negotiate quickly and directly with the United States to secure a neutrality by granting discriminating concessions in the compromised Cuban tariff, and fair promises of colonial autonomy before the accession of McKinley.

One of the principal reasons of the Spanish government for insisting upon Weyler making a decisive attempt to clear the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana and Matanzas, within a few weeks, is the urgent necessity for scoring a military success before Spain has once more to appeal to the native and foreign markets for fresh loans, when she shall have exhausted the money obtained by the recent interior loan, which will be in March of next year.

At present the minister of the colonies disposes of this cash, and Cuban bonds to the value of about \$5,000,000 only remain out of the proceeds of the loans. The expenses of the war in Cuba are \$12,000,000 monthly, and in the Philippines at least \$4,000,000. Up to the present time, the Spanish treasury has assisted the Cuban treasury by guaranteeing advances made by foreign and native bankers upon Cuban bonds, and by pledging the sources of imperial revenue for the recent \$80,000,000 loan.

The moment is fast approaching when the Spanish parliament and the Spanish taxpayers must be asked to provide, in the shape of additional taxation, \$24,000,000 annually for the interest and sinking fund of \$250,000,000 thus far raised, to meet only in part the expenses of the Cuban war, up to March, 1897, and which the Cuban budget and the Cuban taxpayers could not possibly undertake to pay, even if the war were soon terminated, considering that their budgets showed deficits, averaging \$5,000,000 annually, before the present insurrection.

Rivera Warns Weyler. New York, Dec. 23.—A special from Key West to the World says: Steamship passengers say that General Rivera, who is in command of the army of Maceo, has sent a formal warning to General Weyler. General Rivera notified the Spanish captain-general that if he persisted in his threats to kill pacificos found in the country, the Cubans will make reprisals on all Spaniards whom they may capture.

General Weyler is affecting to disregard the warning. Those near him, however, say he will not dare to carry out his ideas as ruthlessly as he intended. His guerillas still have full authority to capture or to kill pacificos in the country and to force their families into the garrisoned towns. As the troops in such places have little extra food and the residents none to spare, this order lays a great hardship upon the poor country folk. Hundreds will soon be starving.

General Rivera is moving out of his entrenchments. All indications point to an important engagement soon. General Weyler has visited various points on the trocha and San Cristobal. He is always accompanied by a large force.

There is skirmishing daily along the trocha and on the outskirts of Artemisa. A battle has been fought in Santa Clara province between guerilla bands. The Cubans forced the Spaniards to retire into Remedios with heavy loss. Regia, across the bay from Havana, was attacked again last night almost under the guns of the fortress. Several houses were burned and a running fight maintained for two hours.

A Drunkard's Act. Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 23.—While leaving the Santa Fe train at the First street depot in a drunken condition, Mason Birkley stumbled, fell and threw his 6-year-old boy Harry under the moving train. The child was crushed to death.

Candlesticks, with chimneys, and having perforations in the bottom of the tray for the admission of air, are made by an Englishman.

Caught by the Fire. Albany, Or., Dec. 25.—Yesterday, at Foster, eighteen miles above Lebanon, a man named Wadli, who recently purchased the flouring mills at Foster, went from the mill to the house after his books. He found the house on fire, gave the alarm, rushed in to save his books, was overcome by the heat, and burned to death in the presence of his father, brothers and a crowd that had assembled. His charred remains were recovered after the house had burned down. He was a single man, recently from Minnesota.

A MOB OF BOHEMIANS.

Tried to Lynch a Motorman Who Ran Down a Boy.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—George E. Denmark, 7 years old, was killed by a trolley-car at Troop and Eighteenth streets, this afternoon. Fred Bernier, motorman, was threatened with lynching, for killing the boy, and was with great difficulty rescued from the mob of Bohemians, who, incensed at the terrible accident, surrounded the car and dragged Bernier from the platform, determined to hang him. Patrick Hanley, the conductor, managed to save Bernier from the mob, and then a riot call was sent to the Maxwell street station. The police took charge of the motorman and conductor and locked them up.

After the boy had been killed, Motorman Bernier took refuge in the car, which stood within a few feet of where the accident occurred, and in an instant it was besieged by angry men. He attempted to keep them out by latching the doors on the inside, but they broke the doors in, knocked him down and kicked and beat him for a few moments in a shocking manner. He managed, however, to get away from them, and ran to the door of the drugstore, where he was handed a pistol, and was admitted inside by Mr. Kvittek, the proprietor, before any further harm befell him. The crowd surged around the store and yelled: "Break it in! Kill him!"

It looked for a minute as if the store would be raided, but Mr. Kvittek had made use of the telephone. He called on the Maxwell station first for an ambulance, but by that time matters had got so warm that he requested a patrol wagon. In a few minutes the wagon brought a number of officers, who did all they could to quiet the mob. When some degree of quiet had been restored the police arrested the endangered man and took them to the station. There the men seemed unconcerned, and declined to make a statement.

There were many versions given of the accident. Well-informed people living in the neighborhood said they had been expecting something of the kind for a long time, and were only surprised that it did not happen sooner.

THE SON'S SACRIFICE.

Benton Wilson Went to Prison to Save His Father.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 23.—Benton Wilson, who went to the penitentiary for a long term of years for murder, came into Spokane last night, and today went to Mica, where his parents live. He had been unexpectedly pardoned.

The circumstances under which Wilson was sent to jail were most peculiar. Two years ago, some small boys unearthed the body of a man that was subsequently identified as that of James Johnson, brother-in-law of Benton Wilson. The body was found two miles from the Wilson homestead. Benton Wilson and his father were arrested and charged with murder. The father was first placed on trial, and the case looked black for him. Perceiving this, Benton arose and confessed to having murdered his brother-in-law. He said Johnson had abused his wife, Wilson's sister; had returned to the farm and had threatened his wife, if she did not come back to the city. Wilson said that he accompanied them to a lonely stretch of woods, and, at an opportune moment, fell upon him and clubbed him to death. For this he was sentenced to a long term of years in the penitentiary. It is a case of a son sacrificing his life to save that of his father.

CHARGED WITH SMUGGLING.

American Arrested for Driving Into Prohibited Mexican Territory.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 23.—Harry Mansur, the American who was arrested several weeks ago by the Mexican customs officials at Tia Juana for alleged infringement of the laws governing the free zone, has been released by the Ensenada authorities and is again at his home on this side. His release was obtained through the intervention of Hon. Anthony Godde, American vice-consul, and a cash bail was obtained, which allowed Mansur to leave the country.

Mansur said today that his case was temporarily settled, and he did not expect it to come up again for six months or a year. It is probable the cash bail will be quietly accepted and no further action taken, especially as Mansur's infraction of the law was slight.

Mansur's wife's family lives at Rosario, about two miles south of the free zone. Mansur had often visited them, taking his team and paying no attention to the law, being an old resident and acquainted with the officials. But a new administration of the Tia Juana custom-house, Senor Motvelasco, caused Mansur to be arrested for smuggling a horse into the country, and imposed a heavy fine upon him. Failing to pay the fine, Mansur was arrested and sent to Ensenada to be dealt with by the higher authorities. Since that time until a day or so ago he had been in jail.

A steel fly wheel twenty five feet in diameter and requiring 250 miles of wire in its construction, has been made in Germany.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 23.—Dr. J. W. Robertson's sanitarium was partly burned this morning. It was occupied by thirty patients, suffering from nervous disorders. The first care was for the patients, many of whom were still in bed. There was great confusion, but they were all safely removed. The house was formerly Livermore college, and, while only two stories high, occupies a large area. The damage will be under \$5,000. A defective flue caused the trouble.

A Double Murder.

Cornwall, N. Y., Dec. 23.—A horrible double murder occurred at Rathbunville, fifteen miles west of this city, last night. William Allen, William Harrington and Floyd Myers obtained a buffalo robe while in an intoxicated condition. Myers had the robe at his home, and Allen and Harrington drove there at 10 o'clock last night and demanded it. They were met by Myers who had a shotgun with him. When they demanded the robe, Myers shot them. They were in the buggy at the time, and the horses started at the report of the gun. Both men are dead.

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

A Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

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

The sheep inspector of Benton county says there are very few scabby sheep in that county.

Prominent men in Heppner say that they will build a telephone line from Heppner to Long Creek, in Grant county, if they can arrange for a satisfactory bonus.

The legal complications that have so long arrested the operations of the Divilbiss quartz mill in Coos county, have finally been satisfactorily adjusted, and the miners of the Johnson creek district will now have free use of the mill.

Superintendent Morrison, of the Western Union construction department, has finished receiving and storing at Flavel 2,000 poles for the main telegraph line between Astoria and Portland. It required two acres on which to stack this material.

While leveling off the grounds about the house on his Blind Slough ranch, in Clatsop, Martin Impo found buried two feet in the earth an Indian stone weapon, shaped like a ship's marlin spike, having a hole bored through the handle, which had evidently been made by a stone implement, says the Astorian.

Some very old residents claim that Rogue river was up where the Grant's Pass depot now stands in 1862. The river bed has deepened and widened very much since then, and there is very little probability that it will ever overflow its left bank again. The winter of '62 made gullies and gulches where all was level before.

Fully 100 men are hard at work along the Alderbrook water front cutting wood for their winter's use, says the Astorian. During the recent freshet hundreds of cords of wood, and about 2,000 single bolts from the Cowlitz river were thrown upon the beach. It was an interesting sight to see these men cutting huge logs into stove-wood lengths, and rolling them up the beach to their homes. They used a large instrument like a pair of ice tongs with which to drag the logs along.

Fisher and William Logan, brothers, were caught out in the cold snap of last month in Crook county, while driving cattle. They left their cattle and tried to reach the cabin that was their destination, but, thinking they could not find it, they built a fire under a rim-rock and remained there all night. It was the coldest night, and others who were out say it was thirty-four degrees below zero. The men made themselves as comfortable as they could. They had no blankets, and while sitting around the fire both fell asleep, and after awhile young Logan was awakened by his clothes' catching on fire. On waking up he found that both of his feet were frozen. They also discovered when daylight came that they were in sight of the cabin.

Washington. There are said to be fully 500 cases of measles reported and unreported in Walla Walla.

The Northern Pacific Railway Company paid \$9,008.60 taxes into the Lewis county treasury last week.

Burglars attempted to open the safe in the office of Indian Agent Erwin, at Fort Simcoe, one night last week, but failed to get away with anything of value.

The United States revenue cutter Bear has been taken to Quartermaster harbor to be put on the drydock for repairs to her hull. A \$5,000 contract has been let, and extensive repairs are to be made.

Work will be resumed at the Coweeman shingle mill, in Cowlitz county, as soon as the water recedes sufficiently to permit of it. Attorney Fisk will have charge of the plant. It is the intention of the company to pay off all claims as soon as possible.

A mandamus sued out to compel the commissioners of Jefferson county to make a special levy to pay certain road warrants was quashed last Saturday at Port Townsend. The effect of the decision is thought to be to invalidate the road warrants issued under the law of March 7, 1890.

It is estimated that to build the telephone line from Eastern Washington to Puget sound points it will take 16,000 poles, 1,884 miles of No. 10 hard-drawn copper wire, 15,000 cross-arms and braces and 32,000 pins and insulators. The estimated cost of material and labor is \$72,000.