

THE PACIFIC COAST.

Letters at Tacoma Addressed to Our War Secretary.

Prominent Portland Business Man Taken for a Deer and Shot and Killed by His Companion.

The population of Utah is reported at 223,589.

Woo You, a Chinese domestic at San Francisco, was shot while on his way to work by a highlander.

Wellington strikers are ordered to appear in court at 10 o'clock to answer charges of intimidating miners.

Rev. T. B. Cherrington, formerly of the University of California, has been chosen President of Puget Sound University at Tacoma.

Money to build the San Luis Rey flume has been raised in Chicago, and work will soon begin. This will irrigate 100,000 acres of San Diego land.

The situation at Wellington is unchanged. The striking miners are still idle. There is much indignation among them over the fact that militia has been sent there.

Jack McGuirk, a resident of Mariposa county, was shot four miles north of Modesto by Howards, who was riding a horse. The shooting was the result of a feud of long standing.

The Shasta Courier says a survey is being made by Chief Engineer Hood of the Southern Pacific Company for a big tunnel through the Sierrita mountains. It will be five miles long.

Near Foley Springs, Lane county, Or., W. H. Walker of Staver & Walker, Portland, while out hunting was accidentally shot and killed by his companion, who mistook Walker for a deer.

W. N. Gregory, the Southern California agent at Occanville, was found in the depot with a bullet hole in his forehead and another in his chest, and a pool of blood dead. A revolver was by his side.

John Lembrick of San Diego while on his way to Attica, Ind., killed himself with a revolver. He was riding a horse in the San Diego land boom, and that was the primal cause leading to his suicide.

The body of a Mexican was found on the Hiasayama in Arizona a few days ago. The man had dug quite a hole with his hands where he was found in search of water. He had died from thirst.

A jam of logs on the Dungeness river, Wash., has backed up a body of water eight miles long by two miles wide. The people living miles below the boom are in great danger and have been swept away and their property ruined.

Bradstreet's mercantile agency reports twelve failures in the Pacific Coast States and Territories for the week ending August 16, as compared with only seven in the previous week and eleven for the corresponding week of 1889.

Los Angeles Native Sons say the Southern Pacific gives them \$23 rates to San Francisco, while delegates to both State political conventions are allowed a \$10 rate, and an effort is being made to secure better rates from the steamship company.

The City of Peking, twelve days and nine hours from Yokohama, reached Victoria August 12. Among the passengers for San Francisco was Rev. Dr. Newman, Bishop of the M. E. Church of the United States, who had been attending a session of the conference in Japan.

The death of Arthur Cosgrove, who was killed by a fall from a parachute at East Portland, is now said to have been a deliberately planned case of suicide. Cosgrove was estranged from his wife, and it is reported on his mind, and when going up in the balloon he said he would never be seen alive again.

Letters have been received at the post-office, Tacoma, addressed to "Hon. Redfield Proctor, Secretary of War, Tacoma, Wash." It is believed there that the Secretary is in the city, and that the letters—that of examining into the condition of the Northwest coast defenses, owing to the Behring sea complications.

An engine and four freight cars went through a wreck on the Southern Pacific railroad near Pantano, A. T. The engine fell forty feet. Engineer Edward H. Ellis was buried under the locomotive, which it nearly covered with sand and steam. His watch and part of his hand were found on the engine. The body has not yet been recovered. The cause was the boiler going tick tack," I replied, "and we will give our pursuer the slip yet."

A heavy bank was lying along the horizon to the south and east, and I saw the smoke of the engine. The chaser was about four miles astern and gaining on us. I stationed an officer on each wheelhouse, with glasses, directing them to keep a sharp watch on the right of the chaser in the growing darkness. At the same time I ordered the engineer to make as black a smoke as possible, and to be in readiness to cut it off by closing the dampers instantly, when ordered.

The twilight was soon succeeded by darkness. Both officers called out at the same moment, "We have lost sight of her." Within a few minutes the smoke was streaming far in our wake. "Close the dampers," I called out, and at the same moment ordered the helm to "hard a starboard."

Our chaser was altered eight points, the cruiser was thrown off the track, and two days later we arrived safely at Bermuda.

The Rapidity of Thought. Prof. Doniers, of Utrecht, recently made some interesting experiments in regard to the rapidity of thought. By means of two instruments, which he calls the neomatograph and the neomatometer, he promises to measure the speed of the mind. His experiments up to date show that it takes the brain one .067 of a second to elaborate a single idea.

"Doubtless the time required for the mind to act is not the same in all individuals; I believe, however, that these instruments may be perfected until we will be able to determine the mental caliber of our friends, without our friends knowing that we are testing their aptness." The professor further says: "For an eye to receive an impression requires .077 of a second, and for the eye to apprehend a sound .149 of a second; that is a necessary, and which, however, that the eye acts with nearly double the rapidity of the ear."

BLOCKADE RUNNING.

How the Steamer Lee Threw a Doleful Bomb.

During the civil war Nassau was the chief depot of supplies for the Confederacy. Blockade-runners plied between it and the ports of Charleston and Wilmington, carrying out cotton, and bringing back such articles as gunpowder, iron, etc. Captain Wilkinson, in his "Narrative of a Blockade-Runner," relates many adventures which befell him on such trips. He was in command of the Lee, and on the 15th of August, 1863, sailed from Wilmington to Nassau.

We passed safely through the blockade-fleet off the New Inlet Bar, receiving no damage from the few shots fired at us, and being offing off thirty miles before daylight. By this time our supply of English coal was exhausted, and we were obliged to commence upon North Carolina coal of very inferior quality, which was very inferior to the coal we had used.

This was a little after daylight. Very soon afterward the vigilant look-out at the mast-head called out: "Sail ho!" and in reply to the "Whereaway?" "Right ahead, sir, and close."

The morning was very clear. On going to the mast-head I could just discern the royal of the chaser; and before I had time to get down the top-gallant showed above the horizon.

It was evident that our pursuer would be alongside of us by mid-day at the rate we were going. The first orders were to throw overboard the deck-load of cotton and to make more steam. The second of these orders proved to be more easily given than executed; the chief steamer in the fleet was drawing so much of the main steam to her wretched fuel, filled with slate and dirt.

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EASTERN ITEMS.

The Louisiana Farmers' Alliance Denounces the Lottery.

The Governor of New Mexico Wants United States Troops to Suppress the White Caps.

The Pennsylvania crops will be far below the average.

The drought will almost depopulate certain portions of Kansas.

It is said that the lottery crowd is certain to get \$500,000 in Dakota again.

John W. Mackay has been elected a Director in the Canadian Pacific railway.

The net debt of Pennsylvania in 1880 was \$10,940,488, and in 1890 it is \$1,788,026.

Kansas City, Kan., has a population of 38,170, an increase in ten years of 28,820.

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Superintendent Porter expects the work of counting the population of the country to be completed before the end of the present session, and Congress, if it so desires, can proceed to pass an apportionment bill and so determine how many members shall constitute the next House. The proposed work of the country is estimated at 64,000,000.

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THE "GYMKHANA."

A Medley of Outdoor Games Indulged in by English Officers in India.

A "gymkhana." Well, what is it? The word is used in a compound Hindoostanee term meaning the "home of games," and with many another Indian phrase has been incorporated into the sporting vocabulary of the sport-loving Anglo-Saxon race. To put it tersely, it is a medley of games. To enliven the monotony of garrison life in the many stations in India the officers from time to time set up stevedores and athletic sports for the men. After the conquest of the Punjab men learned new games that were immediately dubbed "good." Tent pegging, lemon cutting, and last but not least, "polo," was at once adopted by the English. All these sports were incorporated into the programme and added a new zest.

An animal race always forms part of a "gymkhana." Here each competitor brings to the starting post some quadruped or biped. Pigs, dogs, fowls, cats, mads, rabbits, the gentle tortoise, all are eligible, and it is not unusual on a race that can be procured the form is all the merrier. Each animal or bird must be held by a string, but it is not advisable for the harmony of the race to place the dog next in line to the cat, or the latter in juxtaposition to the rat. The writer, when in Africa, saw a race in which a secretary bird was entered with every chance of winning. Next it was a rat. The bird espied the rodent a few moments before the start, and with one thump of its foot killed it. The next second the rat had been swallowed. The secretary bird was ruled out of the race.

This is a race for men, and it must be left to the ingenuity of the stewards to devise the obstacles. A race the writer remembers began with some fairly stiff hurdles; beyond these an entanglement, easily made with stout sticks and wire, run in a circle, was placed around them. Beyond that was a wide water trench and then a tarpaquin, riveted in the ground, under which the competitor had to crawl. Next a table, with a good dry bun for each, which had to be eaten, and then a large bottle of effervescent ginger beer. Flour barrels were used as a premium of \$10 suspended from a scaffold, improved the appearance of the men when they dived through them, and a last climb over palisades, built close together, was about as much as most men cared to go through in an obstacle race.

A handful of thesebarrow races is amusing, especially when the stakes are made straight for one of the adjoining ditches. For the horsemen, a pretty and excellent competition is "tent pegging." An ordinary tent peg is firmly fixed in the ground. Each competitor, at full gallop, with his lance fixed to the tip of the pole, strikes off on the tip of the lance. These lances are made of bamboo and tipped with steel. The rider carries the lance in his right hand, with the elbow of the arm bent well outward. If the peg is squarely struck, the lucky rider brings it home on the point of his lance. As a rule, on reaching one's limit, jump off, saddle their ponies, light a cigar and make the best time to the winning post. The cigar must be alight when the judge is reached.

Local industries may be used in aiding the programme. A race for soldiers in full uniform, with bayonets fixed to the barrels of their rifles, is a favorite of the village will gladly join in a potato race. In this a certain number of potatoes are placed in a line, and each youth's task is to run and pick them up, one by one, and return them to a basket.—New York Tribune.

A Thievish Goose. Mrs. Bohem, of Dover, N. J., missed many valuables from her house. A goose, owned by a flock owned by Mrs. Bohem, had a habit of tapping on the kitchen door to ask for food. When the door was opened it would walk into the kitchen and, after being fed, would sit down near a window in which the sun shone. If left alone it would pick up anything it could and carry it to a box in a closet and push it under out of sight. One day it was left alone for a moment. One of the family entered the room and suddenly and caught it running toward the closet with a Waterbury watch in its bill. The watch had been lying on a table. A search was instituted and the hiding place discovered. Among the things found were two gold thimbles, a comb, two sear pins, several spools of sewing silk and some lace.—Exchange.

swallowed a Dollar. James Clemens, a prominent young farmer, who lives near Athens, Ga., swallowed a silver dollar. Clemens was lying across a bed at his home and had a dollar in his mouth. Being very tired, he suddenly dropped off to sleep. He awoke very soon and found with a most excruciating pain, and it developed that he had swallowed the money. He arose immediately and came to the city. Dr. W. A. Carlton endeavored to draw the dollar from the throat by means of an instrument, but owing to the nervous condition of the patient he was forced to postpone the operation a day. The money had passed down the throat and lodged in the esophagus. Clemens was placed under the influence of ether, and after a difficult and dangerous operation the dollar was brought up through the mouth.—Cor. Savannah News.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

Great Discontent Reported to Prevail in Finland.

The Excessive Heat Causes an Alarming Amount of Sickness in the Austrian Empire.

The King of Holland is in a feeble condition.

Professor Alphonso Favre, Swiss geologist, has been released.

The estimated fortifying of Heligoland will cost \$500,000.

Persiani, the Russian Minister to Serbia, has become insane.

A slave trade in Punjab women has been discovered in Scinde.

Workmen on Parnell's Arklow quarries at London have struck.

Baron Leon of Vienna has been killed by falling over a precipice in the Alps.