

OCCIDENTAL NEWS.

Big Scandal in the Affairs of the Stearns Rancho.

THE TACOMA SMELTER OUTPUT.

Silver Salmon Go Up Puget Sound in Great Numbers—Willapa Oysters for the Fair.

The sealing vessels have discharged for the season at Victoria, B. C., 56,647 skins.

Utah's population is estimated by Governor West at 233,805, an increase of 25,000 the past year.

A "gas-bill saving association" has filed articles of incorporation at Tacoma, with a capital stock of \$30,000.

The union miners at Canyon City, Idaho, have decided to continue their strike against a reduction of wages.

One hundred and twenty-three thousand sacks of Willapa (Wash.) oysters will be shipped to San Francisco for the Midwinter Fair.

Judge Ross ordered Charley Ah Him, a highlander at Los Angeles, to be deported. The decision was received with cheers by a crowded courtroom.

The Treasury Department has sent the United States Marshal at Los Angeles two drafts, aggregating a large sum, to defray the expense of the deportation of Chinese under the ruling recently rendered by Judge Ross.

It is proposed by an irrigation company to reclaim a large area of the Mojave Desert in the vicinity of Daggett by means of a dam across the Mojave river and a submerged flume for the purpose of tapping the underflow.

Judge Shaw has denied the motion for a change of venue in the case of Richard S. Heath, charged with the murder of Louis B. Whitzer at Fresno, and set the first Monday in January as the time when the date for the second trial of Heath will be resumed.

At Spokane Judge Moore has appointed H. E. Houghton and J. W. Binkley executors of the estate of the late Mrs. Jennie E. Cannon. No bond was required, and the executors under the will also act as trustees. Judge Houghton filed a statement of the value of the estate. Community real estate is put at \$700,000, and community personal property is given at \$600,000. Mrs. Cannon's separate estate is given at \$60,000, of which \$40,000 is real estate and \$20,000 personal property.

Silver salmon are reported as going up Puget Sound in great numbers. It is claimed that a steamer was brought to a full stop in the Straits recently by running into a school of them. There is a tradition among the older fishermen to the effect that a hailstorm always precedes a big run of the fish. A storm of this nature was reported on the lower Sound, and the report of the arrival of immense schools of the fish in the Straits immediately followed.

At Tacoma the other day Miss Cameron was conducting an experiment in the chemistry class of one of the public schools to produce musical sounds by burning hydrogen in a flask. The hydrogen was generated by putting acid on zinc. Miss Cameron neglected the caution of the instructor, and set fire to the gas immediately after opening the flask. The air entered, and as soon as the fire was set an explosion resulted and two of the pupils were severely cut by the flying glass.

The Great Northern Express Company has completed arrangements for doing business both in Alaska and Asia, and has issued a tariff of rates to those countries from Seattle. To Yokohama, Hongkong, Higo, Nagasaki and Shanghai the rates for packages valued at \$50 or less range from \$1.50 for fifteen pounds or under to \$5 for forty-five to fifty pounds, with additional rates for packages of higher value. There is an additional charge of \$1 to \$2 to Amy, Fochow, Swatow, Bombay, Batavia, Calcutta, Manila or Singapore. The rates to Alaska are 45 cents per 100 pounds to Wrangell and 55 cents to Sitka, the business being carried by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company.

A big scandal has been developed at San Francisco in the affairs of the Stearns rancho, a corporation which at one time owned 120,000 acres in California and is still one of the best-landed corporations on the Pacific Slope. The story is that a committee of three disinterested business men have been for three or four months investigating the conduct of the manager of the business of the corporation, Colonel R. J. Northam, who is a member of the Governor's staff and one of the best-known public men in the State. The committee has about completed its work, and will in a few days report to the stockholders. The committee consists of Barclay Henley, George B. Polhemus and E. W. McGraw. It is reported there will be a majority and a minority report. The majority by Henley and Polhemus will state that \$109,000 of the income of the ranch has been illegally diverted. It is not charged that there has been any embezzlement, however. In his minority report McGraw will defend Colonel Northam in his act as custodian of the property of the company.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

Cornell has 512 free scholarships, which aggregate \$150,000.

Italy in 1887 had 70,567 schools, 85,400 teachers and 3,071,000 attendance.

Joseph Pulitzer has given \$100,000 to Columbia College, New York city.

This country has fifty-two law schools, with 345 teachers and 3,906 students.

New York opens five evening high schools for the use of advanced pupils employed during the day.

The first normal school ever established for women was that opened in July, 1830, at Lexington, Mass.

There is probability that there will be no schools held in the Chickasaw nation this year on account of lack of funds.

Religious teaching in public schools was declared absolutely necessary by the Church of England Synod in Canada.

Of fifty-three young ladies who graduated this year from a famous female educational institution not one has a pet name.

The Brooklyn Board of Education has decided to increase the school hours in that city over an hour a day for the sake of physical culture.

The French Minister of Public Instruction has issued a circular which will have the effect of greatly stimulating the study of the English language.

Miss Lillian Stephenson is the Republican nominee for School Commissioner in the First Oneida (N. Y.) district. Her Democratic competitor is Miss Laura F. Mayhew.

At the end of the second week the Missouri State University had enrolled 475 students. This is forty more than the number enrolled at the same time last year.

The Mechanic Arts High School in Boston promises to be so much of a success from the rush of pupils that more land and a larger building are imperatively needed.

Oxford is to have another college for women. St. Hilda will soon be opened under the auspices of Miss Dorothy Beale, a worker in the cause of higher education in England.

There are now 300 students at the University of North Carolina, and at least 100 more are expected. The number of students at the opening is the largest in thirty-three years.

The new Searles scientific building at Bowdoin College will cost \$150,000 instead of \$60,000, as was first planned when Edward F. Searles, husband of the late Mrs. Mark Hopkins-Searles, announced the gift.

J. Grant Cramer of Orange, N. J., son of a former United States Minister to Switzerland and a nephew of General Grant, has been appointed instructor of French and German in Lehigh University, and has entered upon his duties there.

There are a dozen colleges of more or less importance in Kansas, and so far every one that has opened reports an increased attendance this year over last. This is one of the best possible indications that Kansas is all right.

Women belonging to a Baltimore cooking school have offered to train in the culinary science 100 girls attending the grammar schools of the city without charge, hoping thereby to demonstrate the utility of establishing a cookery department in connection with the public schools.

Dr. G. C. Grandison, a colored man and late President of Bennett College, Greensborough, N. C., who spoke at the recent memorial exercises at Hampton Institute, is described as one of the foremost orators, not only of his race, but of the day. His address was eloquent in the extreme, and he has command of all the resources of the public speaker. He has a dash of Indian blood in him.

PURELY PERSONAL.

Rose Coghlan, the actress, has paid \$27,000 for a home in New York city near Central Park.

Susanne, Mme. de la Bamee, mother of "Ouida," died a short time ago near Florence, Italy, from the effects of a fall. She was by birth an English woman named Sutton.

Mrs. Patti Lyle Collins, who presides over the "live-letter" department of the dead-letter postoffice in Washington, is the most expert reader of illegible handwriting in the country.

William B. Bate, Senator from Tennessee, never lights a cigar. He has always one in his fingers or between his lips, but no match is put to it. He advocates what he calls the "dry smoke."

Edwin S. Fittler, ex-Mayor of Philadelphia, mentioned eighteen months ago as possible candidate for the Presidency, begins the fall campaign with eighty pairs of trousers and fifty suits of clothes.

Gerónimo, the cruel and once powerful Indian chieftain of the West, is now a quiet and peaceful prisoner at Mount Vernon Barracks, an army post upon the Alabama river, a short distance above Mobile.

Jerome K. Jerome began life as a clerk. Then he went on the stage, which qualified him for play-writing, to which in conjunction with novel-writing and editing a magazine he has since turned his attention.

Forty years ago a mulatto boy of Chatham county, N. C., was sold into slavery, and was taken to Georgia. A few days ago he returned, a venerable-looking man and worth more than \$500,000. His name is Nathan.

Edward H. Watson of California, a naval cadet at Annapolis, carries a timepiece which is a historic relic. It is the watch which was presented to Admiral Farragut by the citizens of Vallejo in 1858. At the time of the presentation Farragut was a Captain in the navy, and had just been relieved as commandant of the Mare Island navy yard. The watch is a plain gold timepiece, and was presented to young Watson by Loyall Farragut, son of the Admiral.

EASTERN MELANGE.

The Eighty-fourth Parallel of the Pole Reached.

MARY WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

Large Number of Deaths Caused by the Recent Storm Below New Orleans, Louisiana.

The new public building at Omaha will be built of granite.

The cotton crop is 40 per cent short of last year's yield in Southwest Texas.

For 10 cents each children under 14 are now admitted to the World's Fair.

Dengue or break-bone fever has made its appearance at Corpus Christi, Tex.

Ex-Treasurer Green McCurtin of Oklahoma is short \$104,727. He has disappeared.

A public library and literary resort exclusively for the blind has been opened in Chicago.

The Ferris wheel at the World's Fair has taken in the \$300,000 it cost and \$100,000 beside.

New York city will spend \$20,000 to make her day at the World's Fair a memorable success.

Many railway bridges have been swept away by floods in the Indian Territory and Northern Texas.

Denver has contracted to ship to Europe by the way of Galveston, Tex., 5,000 tons of Colorado hay.

The Welsh in the United States claim that they are in number as many as their countrymen in Wales.

The manufacture of cigarettes shows a remarkable and steady increase over other forms of tobacco.

The cruiser New York will be the first United States vessel to receive a battery of Whitehead torpedoes.

Eight thousand men are employed on the canal that will carry the sewage of Chicago to the Illinois river.

In New York the grand jury has made a presentment recommending that the office of Coroner be abolished.

Francis Murphy, the temperance worker, has induced over 600 persons to sign the pledge at Tuscola, Ia.

A Portland (Me.) furniture man, who has failed for nearly \$800,000, shows up with less than \$5,000 worth of assets.

The employees of the Denver and Rio Grande railroad have agreed to accept a 10 per cent reduction in wages until January.

The chilly autumn weather has brought sickness and death to the Orientals on the Midway Plaisance, Chicago.

The diminished price of silver has caused the shutdown of many Mexican mines and also greatly decreased the revenue.

Contracts have recently been made for between 800 and 1,000 cars in Nebraska for transportation of last year's corn and hay crop.

Mrs. Samuel Bennett of Tanner, Va., gave birth to her twenty-ninth child a few days ago. All the children are alive.

It is safe now to number the deaths in the recent storm below New Orleans at 2,000 and over, and the loss in property will be many millions.

The house of the late Justice Bradley, formerly the Washington home of Stephen A. Douglas, has been purchased by Papal Delegate Satolli.

The Texas Associated Press has contracted with the Associated Press for a period of ten years and severed its connection with the United Press.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune suggests the holding of a great World's Fair at New York in 1900 to celebrate the closing of the nineteenth century.

There is a movement in Canada for having a national park created in the Nepigon country, in order that the trout fishing there may be eternally perpetuated.

The New York Herald announces that President McLeod of the New England railroad has secured an entrance to the center of New York city with good terminal facilities.

Fourteen members of the Board of Freeholders of Patterson, N. J., have been convicted of making \$20,000 fraudulently in the purchase of a courthouse for that town.

At present there are seventy-one public buildings in course of construction in the United States, and the plans for forty-nine new ones, for which appropriations have been made, are being prepared in the Treasury Department.

Representative Caminetti has discovered a way to avoid the heavy expense of deporting Chinese who refuse to register. He proposes that the government send some of the old war vessels going out of commission for that purpose.

The Standard Oil Company has bought 3,000 acres of land near the lake front at Ashtabula, O., with the intention of erecting a big steel plant capable of turning out 2,000 tons per day. The location is favorable for securing supplies of cheap coal and ore.

The Old Mary Washington monument at Fredericksburg, Va., was pulled down and the box in the corner-stone turned over to the officers of the Monument Association. The box was filled with water and a confused mass of pulp. None of the objects could be distinguished. The stone of the old monument will be placed in the foundation of the new one about to be erected. The same corner-stone will be used.

FROM WASHINGTON CITY.

Senator Dolph believes that silver may be maintained, but not by the Sherman law or free coinage.

Cummings from the Committee on Naval Affairs presented to the House and had passed a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information as to the amount of premiums paid contractors for the construction of warships developing speed in excess of requirements, etc. After this the bill to remit the penalties on the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius came up, and Sayers of Texas vigorously opposed it, claiming the Vesuvius was worthless for the purposes for which she was built. Talbot of Maryland read a letter from Secretary Herbert declaring the claim an equitable one and saying if the dynamite guns did not show improvement the Vesuvius would be fitted with other armament. The amount involved is \$30,000. The bill went over without action.

In the Supreme Court of the United States ex-Attorney-General Garland asked the court to advance for hearing the appeal of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company vs. J. L. Pasterson, Treasurer of Gallatin county, Mont., from the Montana Supreme Court. The propositions contained in this case involve ultimately the question of the taxability of all the unpatented surveyed lands within the limits of the Northern Pacific, Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, Central Pacific, California and Oregon, Oregon and California, Atlantic and Pacific, Texas Pacific and all other various land grants made by Congress to aid in the construction of railroads. These lands now amount in the case of the Northern Pacific grant alone to over 17,000,000 acres, an area rapidly increasing as the surveys are further extended. The area of lands in the same condition included in similar grants will more than double this. These lands are to be found in almost every State west of the Mississippi, and their taxability has been one of the great sources of revenue in those States. The Southern Pacific Company, controlling the land grants of that road, of the Central Pacific, Oregon and California and California and Oregon, refuses to pay taxes upon unpatented portions of those grants. The States along the line of the Northern Pacific have sustained the claims of the County Treasurers, and the railroad company comes to the Supreme Court for relief.

The report of Brigadier-General William P. Carlin, commanding the military department of the Columbia, which includes the States of Oregon, Washington and a part of Idaho and the Territory of Alaska, has been received at the War Department. The General devotes a large part of his report to urging the necessity for the abandonment of some small posts in the department because of their inaccessibility and the establishment of larger posts in place of them at points near the railroad and the large cities and towns. General Carlin recommends the discontinuance of Fort Spokane, Wash., and the construction of a post near Spokane. Fort Townsend, he says, is useless to protect the cities and harbors of Puget Sound, and he thinks the garrison should be removed to some important point. One, if not two, points in addition to these named could, in General Carlin's opinion, be abandoned with advantage to the government. Fort Canby, at the mouth of the Columbia river, would be of great importance in time of war with a naval power, but it is inaccessible in winter, and only a small garrison is required there in time of peace. Fort Stevens, on the opposite or southern side of the river, is also a point of great importance, and General Carlin urges that it be strongly fortified. General Carlin reports that desertions in the department of the Columbia showed an increase during the year. He says that the attempt to enlist a company of Indians resulted in a failure.

Postmaster-General Bissell is expected to devote considerable attention in his annual report to the projected 1-cent postal service. He believes the inauguration of the service is impossible at the present time, owing to a deficit of \$8,000,000 in postal funds in the Treasury.

Governor Caleb W. West of Utah, in his annual report, states that the total population of the Territory is estimated at 233,805, an increase of 25,000. Because of recent financial stringency and the decline of silver values, the population of the mining districts has materially decreased during the past six months, while there has been a steady growth in the other parts of the Territory.

Anderson of West Virginia has introduced a bill to amend Section 5,528 of the Revised Statutes by striking out the words "unless such force be necessary to repel armed enemies of the United States or to keep the peace at the polls." This is one of the Federal statutes not repealed in the Ticker bill, and the amendment is intended to prevent any army or navy officers bring troops to the polls.

Representative Doolittle of Washington has introduced a joint resolution in the House providing for a commission, consisting of three Senators and six Representatives to go over the entire route of the Nicaragua canal and make a thorough examination with a view of submitting to Congress a comprehensive report of the existing conditions and furnishing information upon which future legislation may be had. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

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