

# The Hood River Glacier.

It's a Cold Day When We Get Left.

VOL. 6.

HOOD RIVER, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1895.

NO. 46.

## Hood River Glacier.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY  
S. F. BLYTHE, Publisher.

### SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

One year.....\$2 00  
Six months.....1 00  
Three months.....50  
Single copy.....4 Cents

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### FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Various Items of the Affairs of the Government.

Washington, April 9.—In regard to the press dispatches from San Francisco stating that it had been found that the gold coins of the Carson mint for several years past were below the standard of fineness, as provided by law, Mr. Preston, the director of the mint, stated today that this was not true. Coinage operations were suspended at the Carson City mint in May, 1885, by Mr. Manning, the then secretary of the treasury, and were not resumed until October, 1889. Coinage operations were again suspended by direction of Secretary Carlisle, from June 1, 1893, since which time no coinage has been executed at that mint. Between the resumption of coinage in 1889 and the suspension in 1893, samples from every delivery of gold coins were assayed by the bureau of the mint, and in no case did the pieces vary from the legal limit of tolerance more than allowed by law. The coins of each mint are distinguished by what are called their "mint mark." This is in small letters on the coins just below the eagle. New Orleans has the letter "O," San Francisco the letter "S," and Carson City two letters, "CO." Philadelphia has no mint mark. In order to manufacture coins deficient in fineness, it would require collusion on the part of all the officers in the mint and their assistants, as well as some of the subordinates.

A new resort for consumptives has been discovered in the Orange free state, South Africa. United States Consular Agent Laufgraf, in a report to the department, talks of the beneficial results experienced by persons who have tried it, and adds:

"No country on earth can rank with the Orange free state as a health resort. Mrs. Patterson has been all over the world, and here she has found relief. I could give hundreds of similar cases, and that so few people have come here is due to the fact that the Orange free state is so little known, and in most parts of the world believed to be a desert inhabited by brutal natives and wild beasts. Living is not expensive, and persons coming here can command from \$50 to \$60 per month. A family of four or five persons can live nicely on \$1,500 per year. Persons whose lungs are far gone should travel by stages from the sea to the Orange free state; that is, such persons should stay for a month at Ceres, next to Beaufort, until they are prepared to stand the dry climate. A direct journey to Bloemfontaine would mean death to such persons. The landing place is Cape Town.

W. S. Strobel, United States minister to Chili, announces the settlement of the question of what rate of interest the government should guarantee to the projected trans-Andine railway. The Chilean congress has passed a law which guarantees for twenty years 4 1/2 per cent on a capital of \$1,300,000. The English capitalist with whom the holder of the concession has been negotiating in order to raise the amount required to complete the road, have for some time past been demanding a guarantee of 5 per cent, but the Chilean congress refused to go beyond 4 1/2 per cent.

It Was the Colonel's Son.

San Francisco, April 10.—Colonel Boone, the lion-tamer, who was such a familiar figure on the Midway during the fair, did not kill himself at New Orleans, as was rumored in this city yesterday. According to the information given out by a showman, who was at one time associated with the Colonel, there was a suicide in the Boone family, the unfortunate one being Daniel Boone, Jr., a son of the Colonel.

Nebraska's Relief Bureau.

Omaha, April 10.—President Nason estimates it will require about sixty days to close the accounts of the relief bureau. He says that with the exception of garden seed the warehouse is pretty well cleaned out. A corps of young girls is now engaged in sorting out and packing seeds for distribution. There are twenty-five carloads of seed wheat on route from Pennsylvania.

## MET DEATH IN A MINE

Many Were Killed in the Blue Canyon Coal Mine.

NUMBER PLACED OVER TWENTY

The Disaster Caused by an Explosion of Firedamp Brought About in an Unknown Manner.

New Whatcom, Wash., April 10.—An explosion of firedamp in the Blue Canyon coal mine on Lake Whatcom, at 2:45 this afternoon killed twenty-one men. W. A. Telford came from the mine tonight. He was at the bunkers when the explosion occurred. He went to the incline and found James Kearns at the mouth of the shaft, nearly dead from exhaustion. Kearns said all in the mine were dead. He had carried Ben Morgan as far as he was able and dropped him. Morgan, he thought, was dead. Kearns and X. Gellum were the only ones who escaped out of twenty-four who were at work. Tom Valentine and J. O. Anderson were the incline men, and they escaped. At the switch of the gangway, 800 feet from the mouth of the tunnel, Ecklund and Telford found the body of George Roberts, and beyond were three loaded cars, which had been blown off the track. They next found the body of Ben Morgan, where it was dropped by Kearns, Ecklund and others. They were unable to go beyond room 21, 500 feet from the angle of the tunnel and gangway. Their safety lamps went out and the gas drove the explorers back. In room 21 they found the bodies of Thomas Conlin and James Kirby. It is supposed that, in addition to the four found, seventeen perished. The gas was so thick that the rescuing party was able to stay only a few minutes. The missing men with families are:

D. Y. Jones, superintendent; James Kirby, Andrew Anderson, James McAndrew, Charles Silvorson, M. Zeiliski. The single men were:

Lucas Latka, E. P. Chase, Thomas Conlin, George Roberts, Ben Morgan, John Williams, Elec Henderson, William Evans, Isaac Johnson, William Lyster, Charles Ramberg, Sam Olsen, J. A. Morgan and Martin Blum.

Engineer J. J. Donovan, of the mine, was notified at his home in Fairhaven and left with a party of men experienced in underground work. They left this evening on a special train over the Bellingham Bay and Eastern, and took the steamer Thistle to the mine. Physicians accompanied them. Mr. Donovan says he does not understand how the explosion occurred, as safety lamps were used everywhere but in the gangway. The tunnel is 800 feet long, and the gangway 1,000 feet long, and has twenty-six rooms opening from it. The fans were kept running all the time, and the cause of the explosion is unknown. The mine was inspected three weeks ago and pronounced safe.

The Blue Canyon mine is the property of the Blue Canyon Coal Mining Company, composed of M. E. Downs, A. E. Houser and several other Montana capitalists. It was opened in 1899 by J. F. Wardner, who sold it to the present owners. The coal is of high quality, and is now being used on United States warships. The company has spent much money in opening the mine, and had just got it into paying condition.

A Seattle Paper's Account.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer correspondent returned at 2 A. M. from the scene of the terrible disaster at the Blue Canyon mine, fifteen miles from this city, on Lake Whatcom, and is in possession of all the particulars now obtainable. In the blacksmith shop near the entrance to the main tunnel, lie the blackened bodies of twenty-three dead miners, while only two of all who were in the mine when the explosion occurred lived to tell the story of the frightful catastrophe, and their own miraculous escape. The following are the names of the killed:

Mine Superintendent David Y. Jones leaves a wife; Andrew Anderson leaves a wife and one child; James McAndrews leaves a wife; James Kirkley leaves a wife; Kirk Clincke leaves a wife and four children.

All the others were single men. Their names are as follows:

Charles Silverman, C. Ramsberg, William Lyster, Samuel Olsen, James McNulty, J. A. Morgan, Martin M. Blum, E. T. Chase, Charles Carlson, H. Ravett, whose home is in Fairhaven; Phillip Binkle, William Evans, Alexander Hendrickson, Ben Morgan, George Roberts, Thomas Conlin, Lucas Lotaka.

The two men who escaped are Edward Gellum, of Fairhaven, who was working at the outer switch in the mine with George Roberts, and James Kearns. The latter was working with Ben Morgan in room 16, off the gangway, the outermost of all the works, in which work was going on.

The explosion occurred before 3 o'clock, when the shift would have been just changed, and the miners were already climbing the steep hill from the bunkhouse to take the places of the

men killed. The disaster was undoubtedly caused by the accumulation of firedamp, which was exploded by a blast in the breast of the gangway. The faces of the men who were working in the breast are badly burned, but a majority of those who were working in the rooms off the gangway were only slightly disfigured by the fire, and many of them not at all.

Physicians and miners say that the men working in the breast must have been killed by the shock of the explosion, while the others succumbed to the afterdamp, as they slid down the rooms to the gangway, then filled with deadly gas. This gangway is reached by a tunnel 780 feet long and the distance from the intersection of the gangway to the breast, where the explosion took place, is about 1,000 feet. The main airshaft reached the gangway about 100 feet from the tunnel, and air is supplied by water-power, and which was not affected by the explosion.

Kearns, the only miner who escaped from any of the rooms, says that he was not stunned or even thrown down by the shock, though Morgan, who was working with him, was killed. Kearns' light was not extinguished, and he saw no fire. He slid down the chute to the gangway, losing his light in some way, and managed to make his way in the darkness in some miraculous manner along the poisonous passage, over dead bodies and piles of coal, loosened by the explosion, to the open air.

Before he reached the entrance, the work of rescue had already commenced. Out in the tunnel he met a party of brave miners groping their way inward as fast as the escape of the poisonous gases permitted. This party and others following pushed their way into the mine and carried out, one by one, the bodies of the dead miners, as they came among them, scattered all along the gangway. The first bodies found was that of the mule-driver, lying beside the dead animal, 950 feet away from the mine entrance. From there to the fall of the gangway, a distance of about 800 feet, bodies were scattered along as they fell from the chutes leading to the rooms. Little evidence of struggling, and in most instances death apparently came quickly.

McAndrews' body was found buried under a slide of coal, and McNulty was upon his hands and knees about twenty yards from where he had been working, and had his handkerchiefs tied over his nose and mouth. When the correspondent left the mine, just before midnight, the work of washing the faces and hands of the dead men had commenced. "All that is now possible is being done to alleviate the distress of the families of the deceased. The president of the company, M. E. Downs, now in New York, has been notified by wire.

Coffins have been ordered, and after the inquest tomorrow the bodies will be brought to the city.

### INCOME TAX DECISION.

Published Abstract Said to Be Absolutely Correct.

Chicago, April 9.—The Tribune has the following from Washington: "One of the justices of the supreme court practically admitted, after a consultation Saturday, that the abstract of the decision in the income tax case, printed in the Tribune was absolutely correct, and tallied with the printed copies. He alleged, however, that the articles was simply the work of a clever observer, who had successfully put two and two together and arrived at a result practically correct. Whether the judges had done anything to change the decision at their meeting Saturday he would not say, of course, further than to admit that the publication of the decision had become known to the judges."

A special to a daily paper in New York says: "An extraordinary conference of the justices of the United States supreme court was held today to consider the income tax appeals. Chief Justice Fuller's rough draft was further discussed, and the decision is reported to have been re-opened for argument on certain features. This has given rise to the impression that the deadlock on the main points in the statute may be broken or the decision withheld for additional modification."

Supposed Whereabouts of Brady.

Reno, Nev., April 10.—The officers here believe that Jack Brady and his companion, the two accomplices in the train hold-up near Marysville a week ago, are somewhere north of Reno, in the vicinity of Honey Lake valley, and are making every effort to capture them.

Indians Rising in the Kootenai Valley.

Nelson, B. C., April 10.—The Indians are rising in the Kootenai valley, on the Reclamation Company's works. The company has telegraphed the government for assistance. The Indians are said to come from the American side of the boundary.

The Chitral Expedition.

Calcutta, April 11.—It is reported that Freebooter Umra Khan has withdrawn his troops from Chitral. This, if true, will relieve the British garrison in the Chitral forts. The natives north of Swat river were again defeated in a fight with the British last evening.

## WILL NEVER SUBMIT

Venezuela Will, if Necessary, Resort to Force.

MOST ANYTHING BUT DISHONOR

The People Ready to See Their Homes and Their Cities Desolated and Laid in Ashes.

Washington, April 7.—It is stated by persons in a position to speak with authority that as soon as Venezuela is convinced that Great Britain has finally decided not to arbitrate or settle the boundary dispute, as suggested by the United States through Ambassador Bayard, the Southern republic will regretfully but resolutely resort to what she regards as her only course—a resort to force. It is declared that her people are ready to see their homes and their cities desolated and laid in ashes rather than submit to what they regard as national dishonor. It is said that the contention with Great Britain is not so much one of territory as one of sentiment. So firmly impressed have the people become with this that the opinion is expressed that they would rather see the country go out of existence than pass into practical control of foreign hands. A strong feeling exists in the Venezuelan government that the United States will not stand idly by if a resort to force is made.

It is understood that the position of Great Britain in declining the suggestion of the United States for the settlement of the trouble is substantially as follows:

First—Great Britain takes the position that the question of arbitration was once before proposed by Venezuela. At that time the foreign office gave the subject careful attention and submitted a reply embodying a proposition to arbitrate certain definite subjects of controversy. To this proposition Venezuela has never made a reply, either accepting or rejecting the proposed basis of arbitration. Under the circumstances it is not desirable to proceed to a second proposal of arbitration while the first remains unanswered.

Second—In any event, there are certain portions of that territory to which Venezuela lays claims, which under no circumstances will be made the subject of arbitration, as they are recognized portions of the British domain, and are not therefore subjects on which the aid of arbitration could be invoked.

Third—The subject matter is one between Great Britain and Venezuela, so that the good offices of the United States are not regarded as essential to a settlement, for it is not understood that the United States has assumed a protectorate over Venezuela or her interest more than that of a friendly government.

### MISS WICKES AN ACTRESS.

Youngest Daughter of Pullman's Vice-President Now on the Stage.

Memphis, April 10.—Miss Florence Lillian Wickes, youngest daughter of the vice-president of the Pullman Palace Car Company, of Chicago, made her debut on the professional stage last evening at the Lyceum theater, appearing in the "Sign of the Cross" with the company of Wilson-Barrett. Mr. Barrett said this afternoon:

"I can see nothing in connection with this move of Miss Wickes' which should particularly interest the public. It came about solely through the instrumentality of the late theatrical manager, John W. Norton, who was my friend, and who was killed in a railroad wreck some weeks ago. He had requested me to give certain protégés of his trials, and Miss Wickes was among the number. I had occasion thereupon to judge of her talent, and found her to possess unmistakable ability as an actress, and I am glad to have her with my company. She has great talent and I have no doubt as to her future brilliant success as an actress. At present of course she plays only the 'junior parts.'"

The Alaskan Boundary Survey.

San Francisco, April 8.—The United States steamship Patterson is now being fitted out here for a trip to Alaska with a party of surveyors, who will work on the boundary lines during the summer. The harbors about Sitka will also be sounded, and a map made of their findings. The party will be engaged up north for three years. A big supply of coal will be taken on at Puget sound, and a steam launch will be towed along in order to work in shallow inlets successfully. The first surveying will be done in Portland inlet. This is where the boundary line begins, and much dispute has arisen of late over this point between the United States and British America. Both countries' limits seem to overlap each other, and it will be the duty of Captain Morse to solve this problem for the government.

The Washington county grand jury finds the county jail "entirely unfit and inadequate for the needs of this county. We deem it entirely unsafe for the keeping of criminals or prisoners of any kind, and so constructed as to be a veritable man trap in case of fire."

### DEATH OF HEILBRON.

The Editor of the Post-Intelligencer Is Stricken by Apoplexy.

Seattle, April 8.—George H. Heilbron, part owner and editor of the Post-Intelligencer and manager of the Guarantee Loan and Trust Company, was found dead in the bathroom of his residence at 9 o'clock this morning. Mr. Heilbron arose about 8 o'clock, in order to attend a meeting of the directors of the Guarantee Company, which was to be held in the morning. He took the morning paper and entered the bathroom as was his custom. After preparing breakfast and waiting some little time for Mr. Heilbron to appear, the servant knocked at the door, and obtaining no response, entered the bathroom. She found Mr. Heilbron dead. A physician was summoned, who said that death was due to apoplexy. This was confirmed by the autopsy subsequently held.

Mr. Heilbron was a native of Boston and 35 years of age. He was a graduate of Harvard, and practiced law for a while in Boston. He came to Seattle early in 1887, and, after practicing law for three months, he, with L. E. J. Hunt and others, organized the Guarantee Loan and Trust Company, of which he was secretary and then manager. The latter position he held at the time of his death. He was an ardent Republican, and was recognized as one of the leaders of that party in this state. He was married in January, 1886, to Miss Adelaide E. Piper, of Boston. His family consists of two children, a boy and a girl.

It is reported that Mr. Heilbron had \$147,000 insurance on his life. He had four policies, aggregating \$100,000, in the Mutual Life of New York, \$40,000 in the Equitable Life and \$7,000 in secret societies chiefly in the Royal Arcanum. His estate is supposed to be worth from \$50,000 to \$60,000, and his business affairs were in good shape.

### SON AGAINST FATHER.

Nature of the Charges Made by Rudolph Spreckles.

San Francisco, April 8.—Rudolph Spreckles, the youngest son of Claus Spreckles, has sprung the latest sensation in the family altercation. In the course of the trial of his injunction suit against the Nevada bank, Rudolph Spreckles' attorney handed in an affidavit full of ugly charges against his father. Rudolph has signed the document and duly acknowledged it before an attorney. Its purport is to charge Claus Spreckles with endeavoring to injure the credit of his two younger sons to prevent them from paying the indebtedness of C. A. Spreckles to his father. In the event of the obligation not being met, certain securities in the Nevada bank, turned over to guarantee payment, would become the property of Claus Spreckles. Rudolph in his affidavit denies the charges made by the bank that he aided or abetted the Hawaiian revolution. He also charged that the Nevada bank is not a bona fide purchaser of the stock, but is trying to assist Claus Spreckles in the performance of a threat publicly made that he would yet ruin and destroy Rudolph and break with him. The affidavit also alleges that Claus Spreckles is trying hard to injure the credit of Rudolph and prevent the payment of the debt of C. A. Spreckles when it falls due. "The case will go on tomorrow."

### REMARKABLY RICH ORE.

A Big Strike in an Idaho Mine Unexpectedly.

Boise, Idaho, April 9.—News has been received here of a remarkably rich strike made in the Alta mine at De Lamar. An air shaft is being sunk. Some time ago it struck into mineralized matter, apparently a flat vein, similar in that respect to the other veins in that locality.

During the past few days it became apparent that the ore was valuable, and it has been sampled. The result of the sampling and assaying has been astonishing. The average value of the first fifty feet of ore is shown to be \$27 per ton in gold. The next eight feet averages \$70 per ton in gold. Below this the shaft has penetrated two and one-half feet of ore that has not yet been assayed, but which shows to be very rich. The Alta mine adjoins the De Lamar mine. It was recently bonded to Dutch parties, who have transferred the bond to Chicago capitalists. The price at which the Chicago people take the property is understood to be \$100,000, and they have paid \$5,000 to bind the contract.

The Southern Pacific Employees.

San Francisco, April 10.—Superintendent J. A. Fillmore, who has just returned from a tour of inspection over the Portland and Oregon lines, declares that there is absolutely no truth in the story that a strike is imminent. The engineers, he says, patched up all their differences with the company by agreeing to the schedule of wages now in effect. As for the trainmen, whose organization includes conductors, brakemen and switchmen, they have agreed with the company to work under the terms of the readjustment enacted at the beginning of the year until June 1, on which date the company will consider any complaints against any feature of their wage schedule.

## SOME CENSUS FIGURES

Interesting Because of Supreme Court's Decision.

A COMPILATION OF STATISTICS

They Show the Farms and Homes Owned and Rented by the People of the Country.

Washington, April 11.—The compilation of farms, homes and mortgages statistics, made by the last census, is interesting in view of the decision of the supreme court. The statistics do not, however, give details concerning rents paid. A summary of the statistics shows there are 12,690,197 families in the United States, and of these families 52 per cent hire their farms or homes, and 48 per cent own them, while 28 per cent of the owning families own subject to incumbrance, and 72 per cent own free of incumbrance. Among 100 families, on the average, 52 hire their farms or homes, 13 own with incumbrance, and 35 without incumbrance. On the owned farms and homes there are liens amounting to \$2,132,949,593, which is 37 per cent of the value of the incumbered farms and homes and this debt bears interest at the average rate of 6.65 per cent. Each owned incumbered farm or home on the average is worth \$3,352, and is subject to a debt of \$1,257.

In regard to the families occupying farms, the conclusion is that 34 per cent of the families hire, and 66 per cent own the farms cultivated by them; that 28 per cent of owning families own subject to incumbrance, and 72 per cent own free of incumbrance. Among 1,100 farm families, on the average, 34 hire farms, 19 own their farms, with incumbrance, and 47 without incumbrance. On the owned farms there are liens amounting to \$1,085,995,960, which is 35 per cent of the value of the incumbered farms, and this debt bears interest at the average of 7.07 per cent. Each owned and incumbered farm on the average is worth \$3,444, and is subject to a debt of \$1,224.

### WALLS GAVE WAY.

Collapse of Two Business Structures at Wheeling.

Wheeling, W. Va., April 11.—At 8:20 o'clock this morning the south wall of the four story brick building of Hutchinson & Co., on the corner of Main street and the alley south of Twelfth street, collapsed without warning. Next door north was Chapman & Son's place. They were just finishing a five-story brick block and they had already stored in it about \$14,000 worth of paints, glass, etc., and were doing business there. Hutchinson & Co. dealt in hardware, saddlery, etc., and that building was packed full of goods. The wall on the alley first fell out, pulling with it the partition wall between Hutchinson's and Chapman's. The crash of the falling buildings was terrific, and soon drew thousands to the scene. The horror of the accident was increased by a fire which broke out, and as there was large quantities of oil and turpentine and like material in Chapman's, the situation was hard to meet.

Four employees were caught in the Hutchinson building. They were Robert Winchester, Eugene Birch, P. J. Horan and M. J. Ford. The first three have not been found, and are doubtless dead. Ford was rescued. Charles Haller and Adam Blum, the junior partner, were pinned against the rear wall and were released uninjured. Mr. Hutchinson was in the second story and was badly injured, but was rescued alive and hopes are entertained that he may recover.

When the collapse came Ford was selling goods to Benjamin Pritchard, a wagon manufacturer of Buchanan, W. Va. Pritchard's body was found lying across Ford's legs. A short time before the accident Rev. Father Parke, vicar-general of the Catholic diocese of Wheeling, was seen to enter the alley, and he was believed to be killed. This belief was sadly confirmed this evening, when his body was recovered. He was 72 years old, a distinguished clergyman, chaplain of Mount Dechantal academy, and had been twice administrator of the diocese.

A Western Union messenger boy, Harry Cowl, aged 14, is also thought to have been in the alley, but his body has not been recovered. No others are known to be lost. There was an early report that a cab, its driver and four occupants were buried by the falling walls, but this proved to be untrue.

The falling brick and timbers knocked a hole in the three story brick building across the alley, occupied by G. M. Rice & Co., wholesale milliners, and smoke and water ruined their valuable stock. The smoke also penetrated the adjoining house occupied by Speyer Bros., wholesale milliners, and their loss will be heavy. Several other establishments in the neighborhood were damaged to a small extent. The fire was not extinguished until 9 o'clock in the evening. The total loss will amount to over \$200,000.