

# The Hood River Glacier.

It's a Cold Day When We Get Left.

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## Hood River Glacier.

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## THE GLACIER BARBER SHOP,

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### THE VENEZUELA MATTER.

Spirited Opinions From All Shades of the American Press.

[Chicago Chronicle.]

The president's message is not only a strong appeal to American pride and patriotism in a matter now at issue; it is a clean out and vehement enunciation of the Monroe doctrine, which in his hands is vitalized as never before since its promulgation.

### Unanswerable Argument.

[San Francisco Chronicle.]

The argument of the president is unanswerable. Americans of all shades of political opinion will endorse the special message of the president in that regard.

### Approval Is Sought.

[Cincinnati Enquirer.]

President Cleveland may rest well assured of the hearty approval by the American people of the stand he has taken. He can depend on them to follow him to the fighting point, and then through the fight on this important issue.

### Few Discordant Voices.

[Iowa State Register.]

The few discordant voices in the Monroe chorus are very sorry to say, in Mr. Cleveland's own party. The New York World, which is a popular and powerful exponent of the Democratic party in New York city, calls the president's message a blunder and a humiliation.

### There Can Be No War.

[Chicago Times-Herald.]

Great Britain will not engage the United States in war for two sufficient reasons. First, because she is dependent on foreign soil for more than half her food supply. Secondly, because in addition to starvation her people would be threatened with paralysis of their industry.

### Better Late Than Never.

[Boston Journal.]

If a fraction of the administration's vigor had been manifested two year ago, it might not be necessary to speak out so plainly now and the country would have been saved some humiliating experiences. But better late than never is a sound maxim. We can afford to let bygones be bygones.

### Great Britain Will Assent.

[New York Times.]

As it stands today in the message of the president, it is a clear, grave assertion that the United States will accept justice done; neither asking nor accepting less, to any independent state on the continent. To that principle, soon or late, we believe Great Britain will assent. By that principle, in any event, the American nation will stand.

### Cleveland In New Uniform.

[New York Sun.]

Mr. Cleveland has borrowed a new uniform, but all the same it is the American uniform, and the country will follow the man who wears it. For the Monroe doctrine, as enunciated in the president's message, except for a line or two we need not consider here, the people of the United States are solid and enthusiastic. And the continuation of this interesting and important business by the administration will be watched and sustained with an unflinching spirit of pride and determination to uphold the interests of the United States. Let the good work go on.

### Insult to the South.

[Chicago Inter Ocean.]

An English newspaper sneeringly remarked a few days ago that there were more friends of Jefferson Davis than of Grover Cleveland at the South, and General Gordon repelled that insult by giving eloquent expression to the loftiest patriotism in its application to the present situation. He spoke with an enthusiasm which showed that his whole soul was in it, and undoubtedly he expressed the prevailing sentiment of the South. That section of the country is not the Ireland of America, only waiting for an opportunity to strike down the flag that waves over it. In his financial policy the president is not popular at the South, but in standing by the Monroe doctrine he has fired the Southern heart to a white heat of patriotism.

## INSURGENTS ADVANCE

### THE CAPITAL CITY OF CUBA IN IMMINENT DANGER.

An Army of 12,000 Insurgents March on to Havana in Spite of the Efforts of Captain-General Martinez de Campos—A Cuban Victory.

Havana, Dec. 27.—Further details of the rapid advance of the insurgent army, numbering about 12,000 men, upon Havana after forcing its way through the province of Santa Clara and into the province of Matanzas, in spite of the efforts of Captain-General Martinez de Campos and about 8,000 troops at his disposal in the territory invaded.

The reported important battle between the Spaniards under Campos and the insurgents at Coliseo plantation, twelve miles from Cardenas, does not appear to have been a very severe engagement. Cardenas is a seaport, and quiet an important place for Cuba, of about 40,000 inhabitants. It is only twelve miles from Matanzas, the capital of the province of that name, and the largest town between Cardenas and Havana.

The Spanish forces do not appear to have encountered the main body of the insurgents, as at first announced. The fight at the Coliseo plantation was between a portion of the northern column of the insurgent columns, now pushing through the province of Matanzas, and instead of turning out to be a great victory for the Spaniards, the result of the engagement was virtually a defeat for Campos' forces, for the Cuban army pushed onward unchecked, and is still advancing on the city.

The fighting took place amid burning cane, underfoot tall grass and trees, and was of the usual guerilla nature. At times both the troops and insurgents were surrounded by walls of flames, and the smoke was so dense over certain portions of the ground contested that the Cubans and the troops were unable to see each other, and kept banging away at open space, wasting good ammunition. It is true that this indiscriminate ring was more noticed upon the part of the troops than on the side of the insurgents, but for one insurgent killed, at least 2,000 shots must have been fired. The Cubans, following their customary tactics, seemed to melt away into the distance as soon as the troops got within fighting distance of them, and nearly all the firing was at very long range, although the soldiers made several gallant charges through the burning territory. This style of fighting is termed a defeat for the insurgents, but as they succeeded in accomplishing their object—holding the Spaniards in check while the Cubans pushed on southward—the result was really a Cuban victory.

The captain-general was as near to the front as possible throughout the battle, encouraging the troops by words and actions. One of the captain-general's orderlies, who was sitting on his horse beside Campos, received a bullet in his breast and fell to the ground badly wounded. The shot was, no doubt, intended for the Spanish commander.

### ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Movement to Substitute the Popular Vote for the Electoral College.

New York, Dec. 26.—A local paper says: T. M. Curtin, a cousin of the late Andrew Curtin, who was governor of Pennsylvania, and a relative of Jeremiah Curtin, who for many years was connected with the United States legation at St. Petersburg, is preparing to spend \$100,000 to secure an amendment to the constitution of the United States. Most of the money will come from Mr. Curtin's own pocket. The balance will be given by two friends, who are earnest believers in his project and who have the utmost faith in his ability to accomplish his object.

Mr. Curtin and his private secretary are at present visiting friends in this city. The amendment to the constitution for which Mr. Curtin is now working is the election of the president by a popular vote instead of by a college of electors.

After he has accomplished this, as he feels sure he will, he intends to work for a change by which United States senators will also be chosen by popular vote. Such a change, Mr. Curtin thinks, would be of great benefit to the country and would prevent much injustice from which the people are now suffering. As a first step toward bringing about the change, Mr. Curtin and his friends are about to establish a bureau in Washington through which an expression of opinion as to the best man to be nominated for president by the leading parties will be secured. This bureau will be opened in a few days and will be at work until after the Democratic and Republican conventions.

### Report of Cuban Defeat Confirmed.

Madrid, Dec. 26.—A dispatch from Colon, province of Matanzas, Cuba, confirms the report that Spanish troops routed 4,000 insurgents on the Calma river. One hundred of the enemy were killed.

## DEATH IN HOT WATER.

The Terrible Fate of Albert Staub, a Sausage-Maker.

Portland, Or., Dec. 27.—Albert Staub, a sausage-maker, fell into a tank of hot water in the steam sausage factory at the corner of Flanders and Ninth streets, about 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and was so badly scalded that he died at 7:30 o'clock last evening.

Staub had been at work almost night and day for the past four days, rendering lard and preparing for a holiday display. After this had been taken away, he had been killing chickens, and yesterday he started to clean up the premises. He had heated water for that purpose in a steam tank, which is about four feet square and the water was two and one-half feet deep in it. The valve for shutting off the steam is at the back of the tank, so as to be out of the way. Staub stood on a sort of grating in front of the tank, which is raised from the floor on slats, and reached across to turn off the steam. As he leaned forward the grating slipped on the greasy floor, and he pitched head first into the boiling water. In a moment he had his head above the surface, sprang out of the tank, and ran to the door, calling in agonized tones, "Help! help!"

R. Gerdes and his brother, who live near by, ran to his assistance. Staub was in great agony and his screams were pitiful. They tore off his shirt as quickly as possible, and, when the sleeves were pulled down over his hands, the skin of his arms came away from the elbows down over the hands to the ends of the fingers, where it hung, like long gloves turned inside out.

As quickly as possible, physicians were summoned, and did all in their power for the sufferer.

He lingered through the afternoon, gradually failing, and finally fell into a comatose condition, and about 7:30 passed away. Staub was a Swiss by birth, about 26 years of age, and leaves a wife and infant child. He had taken out an accident policy a month or two since; so they will not be unprovided for.

### THE VENEZUELA SITUATION.

English Press Comment Is Calmer and a Peaceful Settlement Hoped For.

New York, Dec. 27.—The World publishes the following cablegrams received in reply to its requests for opinions upon the Venezuelan situation:

From the Prince of Wales.—Sir Francis Knollys is desired by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York to thank Mr. Pultizer for the cablegram. They earnestly trust, and cannot but believe, the present crisis will be arranged in a manner satisfactory to both countries, and will be succeeded by the same warm feeling of friendship which has existed between them for so many years.

From the Bishop of London.—With all my heart I pray to God to avert from this country and the United States the crime and disaster of war between them; and I hold it to be the bounden duty of every man in both countries to avoid all provocative language, and to do all that he can conscientiously to promote peace.

The following unsolicited dispatch was received from the Freemasons of Manchester: "Christmas Greetings Freemasons' Club, Manchester, to American Freemasons: Glory to God in the Highest; on earth, peace, goodwill to men."

Various English religious bodies have cabled their brethren in America their sympathy with their efforts for peace.

London, Dec. 27.—The afternoon newspapers today continue their comments upon the Venezuela question, and hopes are expressed that the Christmas holidays will continue to bring about a calmer mood on both sides of the Atlantic. The possibility of war between Great Britain and the United States is regarded as past and the affair is now viewed chiefly from the standpoint of American domestic politics and its bearing upon the financial situation.

Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, is being pleasantly chafed as the result of the publication here of an alleged interview with him, in which he is quoted as describing a number of startling inventions which he is said to be ready to bring forward in the event of war.

The St. James's Gazette, commenting upon the statement attributed to John Redmond, the Irish leader, regarding the attitude of Ireland in case of war, styles him a traitor, and says it believes him also to be a libeler when he says that Ireland would go solidly American. The St. James's Gazette asks what would happen to the American politician just now who would say, in the event of war, Ireland would fight for England.

### Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf.

Kansas City, Dec. 26.—Directors of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf today voted to increase the capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000. This insures the completion of the Pittsburg & Gulf to the Gulf of Mexico without delay.

## TOWN AND COUNTY

### PROGRESS AND DOINGS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Supreme Court of Washington Sustains Acts of Capitol Commission—Over 500 Homestead Entries Filed in the Nez Perce Reservation—Oregon News.

Much valuable data is contained in the recent annual report of the engineer in charge of the improvement of the Willamette and Lower Columbia river and their tributaries. It is a very exhaustive report and covers comprehensively all the improvements and surveys under Major Post's charge. The report was transmitted to congress by the secretary of war, who summarized its principal features in his own report. Month of the Columbia river, Oregon and Washington.—The project for this work was adopted in 1894. During the year ending June 30, 1895, 138,900 tons of rock was added to the jetty which was raised to its completed height for a length of about three and a quarter miles (station 53 to station 230). Groins Nos. 3 and 4 each 1,000 feet long were also finished and the main line of the jetty with the exception of about 700 feet at the inshore end, where some additional rock is still required, was completed. An elevated track for use in constructing the shore revetment which has a total length of 3,675 feet, has been nearly finished. Soundings taken in May and June, 1895 show that there is now a direct channel over the bar seven-eighths of a mile wide and thirty feet deep at low water and that for a width of one-half mile the low water channel depth is at least thirty-one feet. Columbia and Lower Willamette rivers below Portland, Or.—The project for improving these rivers, adopted in 1877 and modified in 1891, contemplates securing a channel from Portland to the sea having a low water depth of twenty-five feet. Prior to commencing the improvement the low water depth of the channel was from ten to fifteen feet at the shoalest places. Up to 1891 this depth had been increased to nineteen feet by the construction of dams at Swan island chute, at Willamette slough, and at other sloughs in the Willamette river near its mouth, and of a dike at St. Helens and dams at Burke slough and Martin slough in the Columbia river, the effect of these works being aided by dredging and bank protection where most needed. Since the modification of the project so as to secure a channel depth of twenty-five feet, dikes have been built by the port of Portland and St. Johns and Postoffice bars in the Willamette river, and at Walker's island, Snag island, and Cathlamet bay in the Columbia river. This corporation has also dredged the channel at Swan island and Postoffice bar in the Willamette river and in the Columbia river at the mouth of the Willamette, at St. Helens, at Martin's island, at Walker's island, and in Cathlamet bay, removing a total of 330,241 cubic yards of material at these points. The work done by the United States has consisted in extending the dike at St. Helens, in constructing a dike at Martin's island, in the Columbia river, in dredging the channels of both rivers at various places, and the removal of snags wherever necessary. During the year ending June 30, 1895, the dike at Martin's island has been thoroughly repaired, and dredging has been carried on to maintain, and, as far as practicable, to increase the depth of the channel from Portland to the sea, the total quantity of material removed being 423,372 cubic yards. In the Willamette dredging was done at Postoffice bar and at the mouth of the river, and in the Columbia river, on the bars at Hunter's point, at Martin's island, at Pillar rock, at Walker's island, and opposite Astoria. Vessels drawing twenty feet can now pass over the shoalest places at low water, and, by taking advantage of the tides, vessels drawing twenty-three feet of water or more can come to Portland without difficulty. Columbia river between Vancouver, Wash., and the mouth of Willamette river.—The project for this improvement, adopted in 1892, provides for the construction of a low dam across the slough on the Oregon side of Hayden island to increase the volume of water, and by the additional scour to remove a troublesome bar in the main channel. Work during the fiscal year has consisted in dredging the bars on the north side of the island for the relief of navigation, the depth on these bars having been increased from nine feet to thirteen feet at low water. Willamette river, above Portland, and Yamhill river, Oregon.—At the time of the adoption of the present project, in 1878, the mouth of the Yamhill river, forty miles above Portland, was the head of low-water navigation, with a draft of two and one-half feet. The project of 1878 contemplates the improvement of the river by the removal of obstructions and the construction of dikes to contract the waterway at shoal places so as to secure a navigable channel for light-draft boats from Portland to Eugene, a distance of 172 miles. This project was extended in

1892 to include the removal of obstructions in the Yamhill river from its mouth to McMinnville, and by the river and harbor acts of 1892 and 1894 allotments of \$8,000 and \$2,000, respectively, were made for the purpose from the appropriations for improving the Willamette river above Portland. During the past year snagging operations have been continued from Portland to Eugene on the Willamette river and to McMinnville on the Yamhill river. Amount that can be profitably expended in fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, \$25,000.

### Washington.

Davenport wants a new town hall. The construction of the new Catholic church at Marysville has been commenced.

It is reported that an electric light plant will be put in at Stella to light up the water front.

Hanson's Ferry is to have a two-story building, the lower floor to be a postoffice, and the upper story to be a public hall.

The Commercial Club at Everett is to publish pamphlets descriptive of the place, 20,000 copies of which are to be printed in January.

The Asotin flouring mill, recently burned, is to be rebuilt on a larger plan. The work of rebuilding will be commenced shortly.

The New Whatcom council has been petitioned for a franchise by the B. B. & E. Railroad Co., to build a bridge and single track railroad. The motive power to be steam or electricity.

The prospective owner of the Tacoma, Lake Park & Columbia River railway has arrived for the purpose of looking over the road with a view to extend it through the Cowlyitz pass.

The North Yakima Commercial Club wants the Northern Pacific to put up a new depot building there, adequate to the needs of that section and in keeping with its commercial importance.

It is reported that a charter has been applied for from the Columbia river to the Kettle river district and that the road will be built next season. The Canadian Pacific is reported to be back of the enterprise.

One of the biggest jams known in the Skagit for five years occurred recently. Loggers claim that 16,000,000 feet of logs came down. The river was filled so solidly for three hours that it could be safely crossed.

Iron ores has been brought from the Conner mines near Hamilton to Everett to be tested. It is rumored that the tests have proven satisfactory and that soon shipments at the rate of ten carloads a day will commence.

It is now understood that the agent of the Boston capitalists, who thought of advancing funds to complete the Blaine & Eastern have decided to report unfavorable, because of the scattered condition of the subsidy proposals.

Eastern orders have taken a sudden snuff and the shingle trade is at a standstill. For the past three weeks little or no business has been done by the dealers than to clean up the orders on hand. The situation of two months ago is reversed.

The new gymnasium of the university of Washington offers unexcelled facilities for athletic training. The number in attendance at the college this year is somewhat smaller than last year, owing to the standard being raised and two departments, music and art, being dropped.

The supreme court has sustained the position of the capital commission. This removes the last barrier to the board awarding the contract. The decision was written by Judge Gullen and is concurred in by the entire court. A call for a meeting of the commission has been issued and new bids will be doubtless called for.

The loggers of the Sound, controlling about three-fifths of the output have held a secret meeting for the purpose of forming plans with which they can compete with mill-owners. They intend to put an end to excessive competition by combining with an established and uniform price and classification, and by amicable agreement of the mill-owners to secure advance of prices whenever the condition of the market warrants it.

### Idaho.

James R. Sheldon, a pioneer of Lewiston, is dead.

Five thousand rabbits were killed at a recent drive at Oakley.

The Presbyterian church of Boise has decided to erect a parsonage.

The Albion State Normal school will be completed about the first of April. The state treasurer has given notice that the capital building bonds Nos. 28 to 50 are now payable by him.

Two or possibly three new steamers will be built on the Kootenai for passage between Bonners Ferry and Lake Bounds next spring. A special agent of the treasury has disbursed in payment \$50,000 to the Nez Perce Indians. It is estimated that 348 native Nez Perces have died since the Fletcher allotment of lands was completed in 1893. The births are recorded to the number of ninety-four. These statistics show the destiny of this favored Indian tribe.

## NEW FARM INDUSTRY

### FLAX-RAISING WILL RECEIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION

At the Hands of Northwestern Farmers — Whatcom Board of Trade Encourages the Raising of Flax Fibre on Puget Sound.

Success in flax culture for fibre depends upon thoroughness and attention to the lesser details of practice, says the Montana Stockman. Three things are essential: A most careful selection of the soil, with a thorough soil preparation and fertilizing; the use of the best seed that can be purchased; and, lastly, careful and intelligent handling and manipulation of the crop from the time the flax is pulled until the straw is ready for the operation of cleaning or scutching. Only the first two considerations interest the farmer, the third consideration belonging properly to the manufacturing side of the industry, although some foreign flax farmers do pull and ret their crops. The Belgian farmer selects a deep and well cultivated soil that is not too heavy, experience proving that in a dry, calcareous soil the stalk remains short, while in a heavy clayey soil it gives greater length, though at the expense of finer fibre. In Ireland, any clean land in good state of fertility that will produce a good crop of wheat, oats or barley is considered suitable for flax. On heavy soils the Dutch seed is thought to give the best results, while Riga seed is sown upon the light or medium soils. Recent experiments in our own country have demonstrated that the heavier soils, when well drained and of proper fertility, are preferable to lighter soils, known as sand loams. But more depends upon soil selection, where reasonable care has been exercised. Among the favorable soils mentioned in the report of the agricultural department experiments are "dark, rich, loamy clay," "heavy clay loam well drained," and "soils varying from sandy loam to the heavier alluvial of the timber lands." In general terms, a moist, deep, strong loam upon upland will give the best results.

### Will Flax Pay?

Will flax-raising pay? The Montana Stockman says: "Well, we should say so. A yield of from two to four tons of flax straw and from fifteen to twenty-five bushels of flax seed can be raised to the acre. Hacked flax sells in Boston at from \$70 to \$80 per ton. Scutching flax fetches from \$180 to \$500 per ton and the seed sells in Chicago at 90 cents per bushel. Dr. Thornton says that a necessary plant to hackle flax could be put in for \$11,500 and expense account of \$28,000 for the first year, a total of \$40,000, the net profit on which would be \$31,250. This is important to Teton county, if true, because the farmers can raise flax to beat the world. It grows wild there."

### A Remunerative Crop.

The Whatcom board of trade says: "We have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the linen manufacturers of the country that flax fibre of the finest quality can be grown on Puget sound and we feel certain that flax will be the leading and safest crop of our farmers and the most remunerative."

"In Whatcom county each acre yields four tons of flax straw, which makes one and one-third tons of scutching fibre. For this fibre, properly prepared, there is always a ready market at prices ranging from \$140 to \$800 per ton, according to quality—the better the quality the greater the demand. "Besides fibre, each acre produces fifteen bushels of seed, worth from \$2 to \$3 per bushel. "The cultivation of flax and preparation of the fibre requires the greatest care and skill, and we advise farmers without experience to sow flax in small quantities the first year, and to grow none at all except for seed, unless arrangements are made to properly ret and scutch the fibre. For seed part of the flax should stand still fully matured."

"We recommend the building of cooperative scutch and oil mills. A scutch mill will cost from \$300 to \$500; an oil mill is a trifle more expensive. "Further information can be obtained from the secretary of the board of trade, with whom all persons desiring to grow flax next season should immediately correspond in regard to seed."

"Farmers' bulletin, No. 27, relating to flax culture, can be obtained free from the United States agricultural department."

In ordering trees for planting, select the two-year-old apple, pear and plum trees instead of three and four-year-old trees, as they almost invariably have more fine, fibrous roots in proportion than do the older trees. The most extensive planters prefer to plant young trees.

There is danger that the prevailing price for cotton will tempt planters next year to abandon, to a considerable extent, the safe plan of raising abundant home supplies.