

SINKING IN THE MUD.

Prompt Word Is Necessary to Raise the Main.

Havana, Feb. 28.—The wreck of the Maine is slowly but surely sinking into the mud.

The cloudy weather and rain made the work of the divers unsatisfactory today, and very little was done.

The court of inquiry sat longer than usual today, the six divers being examined in detail than heretofore.

Late today, the paymaster's safe, with \$22,500, and his papers, was taken from the wreck.

The complaint is still made that the electric lamps are of little use to the divers, as the light is faint and uncertain.

So far as reports made public go, workmen on the Right Arm with the assistance of the naval divers are laboring hard to recover the bodies under the hatch which led to the fire room platforms.

The Havana papers print long extracts from the American papers but of course only of delayed news.

Consul-General Lee says he has received no news of importance from the state department.

The Spanish cruiser Alfonso XIII has been towed to a buoy further within the harbor to make room for the cruiser Vizcaya which is expected here tomorrow or the next day from New York.

The wounded are reported as doing well today.

The wrecking tug Right Arm is engaged in removing such parts of the wreck as it is possible to handle in advance of the arrival of strong tugs and derricks from the north.

A TRANSPORT SERVICE.

Plant Line Said to Be Prepared to Land Troops in Havana.

Tampa Fla., Feb. 28.—Although the officials of the company have not so stated publicly, nearly everybody here understands that the plant system has completed arrangements for the transportation of troops and munitions of war to Havana on short notice.

BATTLESHIPS TO BE LAUNCHED

An Important Event to Occur at Newport News Soon.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 28.—The officers of the Newport News shipyard announce that the double launching of the battleships Kentucky and Kearsarge will take place March 24, and will be the first double launching of first-class battleships in the world.

Governor Bradley and staff will come from Kentucky, and Miss Christine Bradley will christen the Kentucky with a bottle of water taken from the spring from which Abraham Lincoln drank when a boy, while Mrs. Winslow, wife of Lieutenant Wilson, U. S. N., will stand sponsor for the Kearsarge.

The Illinois, the third big battleship building at Newport News, is only a month or two behind the others.

Spaniards Eager for War.

London Feb. 28.—According to a special dispatch from Madrid reports received there from the United States to the effect that public opinion in the latter country is becoming more excited owing to the impression that the Maine disaster was not due to accident are "restirring popular feeling here (in Madrid) and the conviction is increasing in ministerial circles that the worst must be expected."

Continuing the dispatch says: "The government has no choice if the United States adopts a threatening attitude for the prospect of war is popular with all parties and the more excitable newspapers are already urging the government to take measures to enable Spain to strike the first and decisive blow."

Town Nearly Destroyed.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 28.—Floods and avalanches have partly destroyed the town of Monte Cristo, situated in the heart of the Cascade mountains. The railroad connecting the place with Everett has been washed out, and the lack of road connections has caused the concentrator and the part of the Monte Cristo mines which John D. Rockefeller owns to shut down.

In 1897 Ohio furnished almost 37,000 tons of grindstones.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Trade Conditions in the Leading Cities of the World.

It begins to look as if Leiter, for all his impudence in ignoring the advice of Tom, Dick, Harry and other old time speculators, knew something about running a wheat deal.

Armour says there is no reason why it should not be put to \$1.50. He adds he is a believer in high prices for another year. Leiter talks \$1.25. No human being can forecast a market with certainty, for it would be no market if such a thing were possible.

Leiter appreciates this or he would not be speculating his cash holding. The speculators with widest experience agree that the Leiter control is as complete as anything human could be.

There has never been a time, though, and never will be, when there are not contingencies enough about the wheat situation to keep it exciting.

Leiter has lost more or less wheat on "calls." What he has done in the pit is mere guess work. The "talent" believe his May line a very commanding one, somewhere between 5,000,000 bushels and 10,000,000 bushels.

His accumulations of July wheat last week might easily have reached 2,500,000 bushels, perhaps double that. The figures seem grandiose. Leiter's ideas of quantities are, however, different from the ordinary trader.

It will be no exaggeration, in the estimation of any professional in this market, to put Leiter's interest, with all his recent cash sales, at 20,000,000 bushels. His present profits, on paper, must be astounding, easily \$2,000,000, perhaps double that.

If Leiter continues to be favored to the end as he has been in the past the story of his huge wheat operations will read like an oriental tale, the plans too magnificent, the results too extraordinary to be everyday.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74¢@75¢; Valley and Bluestem, 77¢@78¢ per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.85; graham, \$3.30; superfine, \$3.25 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 36¢@37¢; choice gray, 33¢@34¢ per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton.

Millets—Bran, \$19 per ton; middlings, \$24; shorts, \$20.

Hay—Timothy, \$12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—10¢@11¢ per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 50¢@55¢; fair to good, 45¢@50¢; dairy, 35¢@45¢ per roll.

Cheese—Oregon, 12½¢; Young America, 13¢@14¢; California, 9¢@10¢ per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$4.00@4.50 per dozen; hens, \$4.50@5.00; geese, \$6.00@7.00; ducks, \$5.00@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 11¢@12¢ per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon, 1.75¢@2.00 per sack; sweets, \$1.75¢@2.00 per sack.

Onions—Oregon, \$2.25@2.60 per sack.

Hogs—4@16¢ per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4¢@6¢.

Wool—Valley, 14¢@16¢ per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7¢@12¢; mohair, 20¢@22¢ per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4¢; dressed mutton, 7¢; spring lambs, 5½¢ per pound.

Hops—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.25; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$5.00@5.50 per 100 pounds.

Cows—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@3.75; beef, \$2.50; dressed beef, 6½¢@7¢ per pound.

Veal—Large, 5¢@5½¢; small, 6¢@7¢ per pound.

Seattle Market.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 27¢; ranch, 22¢@25¢.

Cheese—Native Washington, 13¢; California, 9½¢.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18¢.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, 12¢; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@3.75.

Wheat—Feed wheat, \$23 per ton.

Oats—Choice, per ton, \$23.

Corn—Whole, \$23; cracked, per ton, \$23; feed meal, \$23 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$23; whole, \$22.

Hay—Puget sound, new, per ton, \$12@14; Eastern Washington timothy, \$18; alfalfa, \$12.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 7½¢; cows, 6½¢; mutton sheep, 8½¢; pork, 6½¢; veal, small, 8¢.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 6¢@7¢; salmon, 3¢; salmon trout, 10¢; flounders and sole, 3¢@4¢; ling cod, 4¢@5¢; rock cod, 5¢; smelt, 2½¢@4¢.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50¢@1.75 per box; pears, 25¢@75¢ per box; oranges navels, \$2@3 per box.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada 11¢@13¢; Oregon, 12¢@14¢; Northern 7¢@8¢ per pound.

Hops—12½¢@17½¢ per pound.

Millets—Middlings, \$23@25; California bran, \$17.50@18.50 per ton.

Onions—silverskin, \$2.50@2.75 per cental.

Eggs—Store, 11¢@11½¢; ranch, 11½¢@12½¢; Eastern, 18¢@19¢; duck, 14¢@15¢ per dozen.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 10½¢; fair to good, 7¢@8¢ per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22¢; do seconds, 21¢; fancy dairy, 20¢; good to choice, 18¢@19¢ per pound.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 25¢@1.25 per large box; grapes, 25¢@40¢; Isabella, 60¢@75¢; peaches, 50¢@1.15; pears 75¢; \$1 per box; plums, 20¢@35¢.

ARID AND SEMI-ARID LAND.

A Study of Conditions in the Pacific Northwest.

There is a work going on in connection with the geological surveys of the government that is of interest to the nation at large, also to the world in general. This is known as the hydrographic department, and relates to reclamation of arid lands by means of irrigation.

What has been known as the great American Desert, and so designated on the maps up to a generation of time ago, was not desert in the normal sense of possessing no soil, but because of the lack of water to make its soil available.

The object of the government is to make practical tests, based on scientific fact, to discover how arid lands can be made to produce harvests and so become homes for millions of people.

In the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho are wide areas that are capable of development, if water can be had to stimulate the soil.

We may suppose that sagebrush land is worthless, but wherever sagebrush grows the soil is good and generally deep. There is so much of what we call desert in the North Pacific region that the citizens of these states are specially interested in the subject of irrigation.

In regard to Oregon half the area of the state is arid, and two-thirds of all east of the Cascades. Whatever will redeem our arid lands will add greatly to the future wealth and prosperity of the state.

From Mr. Bobb, who has lately returned from a season in the North Pacific states, it is learned that at the request of a local engineer he investigated the water supply of the Dungeness district, on the Sound, where there is shortage of water for crops in June, July and August.

He placed stations on the Dungeness and on the Duwamish, Elwha and Soldeck, to ascertain what supply can at that season be depended on for irrigating ditches, in case private capital desires to make such investment.

In Eastern Washington gauge stations are located as follows: One each on the Spokane, Natchess, Wenatchee and Palouse, and three on the Yakima. He also made mountain surveys for reservoir sites to save water through the rainy season for use in summer, as is done in the San Bernardino mountains in Southern California.

In Oregon there is far more arid land in that state than in Washington. A station is established at Gibbon, on the Umatilla, not far from the hot springs; another on the Malheur; one on the Owyhee, in the extreme northeast. Mr. Bobb expressed much interest in Hood river valley, where is a station, for he saw its wonderful fruits; there is also a station on the Deschutes.

Idaho offers great opportunity for irrigation than Oregon, as she has mountain ranges and various rivers. Stations are on the Weiser, Boise, Payette, Port Neuf, Bear river, and at Montgomery's ferry, on Snake. As this work is comparatively recent, results have not as yet been so clear and certain as at other districts.

When we estimate the immense area of arid lands and know that, not including Alaska, one-third of the United States remains still public domain, and that the greater portion of this is arid land rich in soil, but without water supply, the immense importance of this work is apparent.

The interest gentlemen take in their work is apparent from the kindness with which they furnish information. Take the North Pacific states and estimate the area of arid lands, and the result is surprising. In Eastern Washington there is an area of 6,000,000 acres requiring water supply to become productive.

Eastern Oregon is yet larger, and has a much greater proportion of what is called desert, save that flocks and herds graze over it when water can be had at all.

Idaho has vast areas to the south and some on the north, but facilities for water supply are present in its various streams. The two states—Idaho and Oregon—must have 15,000,000 acres arid, making a total of over 20,000,000 in the three states, that can be transferred to homes, if water can work its magic there.

There are also extensive natural basins where water can be had by boring artesian wells, by which means much land can be made productive. While the government does not practically experiment by boring such wells, its agents study the results attained by private enterprise, and have maps, as for instance, of the Pueblo district of Colorado—to show how great an area surface has an underflow that can come to the surface; also where water supply can be had for pumping.

When we know that a quarter-section of land will make a home for a family, and take the arid acreage of the three North Pacific states for a basis of estimate; if one quarter of this area can be redeemed, it will furnish homes for 37,500 families and support a population of 250,000 people.

Take the arid portions of Oregon and Idaho, and it means that from 500,000 to 750,000 people can find productive farms if the arid lands of these states can be reclaimed. The towns, cities and industries naturally pertaining will support 1,000,000 total.

This work is furnishing valuable facts on which to base reclamation of the arid lands of this continent, which is one of the most important questions for our statesmen to consider.

Priceless Boon to Our Followers.

Of course all this vast extent of arid territory cannot be made available for farms and homes, but very much of it can be, and the work of experiment and discovery that goes on so constantly may discover more means for such reclamation. The rapid growth of population will soon exhaust all lands fit for homesteads. To add this arid area to our productive domain will be a priceless boon to those who are to follow us.

ALASKA BREAD.

How to Prepare the "Staff of Life," by a Practical Miner.

Bread in Alaska means always baking power bread or biscuit, for no other kind is possible. There is no yeast or any other means of raising dough.

An experienced miner, one who has been in Alaska five years, has just given us two of his most useful receipts.

Those who think of going to the Klondike should keep them, and those who stay at home will be interested in knowing how a practical miner prepares his "staff of life."

Bread: quart of flour, two tablespoonfuls of Cleveland's baking powder, half a teaspoonful of salt; mix up with cold water or milk until stiff. Grease the pan, bake until cooked (about half an hour).

Biscuit: quart of flour, two teaspoonfuls Cleveland's baking powder, and half a teaspoonful of salt. Mix thoroughly while dry with lard or bacon fat. Then mix with water or milk until stiff enough to roll out.

Several other Alaska receipts together with lists of groceries, clothing and supplies to take with one are published in a Klondike circular. This circular, together with a cook book of four hundred receipts, will be mailed you free if you send stamp and address to Cleveland Baking Powder Co., 81 Fulton St., New York.

Be sure to mention the Klondike circular if you want it; otherwise the cook book only will be sent.

Knob on the Pocket.

Pockets of garments may be safely closed by a new invention, consisting of a wire frame similar to pocketbook frames to be sewed into the ordinary knob catch.

Wales is the richest part of Great Britain in mineral wealth. England produces annually about \$10 to each acre, Scotland a little less than \$10. The product of Wales amounts to over \$20 per acre.

A WEAK SPOT.

A weak spot in a piece of timber may endanger a whole building, and certain it is that the man who suffers with lumbago lets down the whole framework of his anatomy.

In case of the building, it is shored up and made strong, and just so St. Jacobs Oil shores up the muscles of the back, strengthens the muscular frame and in a very short time the sufferer is restored to his native strength.

Ice-land's geysers never shoot their water higher than 100 feet, while some of our Yellowstone geysers go more than three times as high.

NEWS FOR THE WHEELMEN.

The League of American Wheelmen numbers nearly 2,000 below the 100,000 mark within the last few weeks. In spite of this startling diminution, the maximum of health may be attained by those who use the comforting and thorough tonic, Hoyer's Stomach Bitters, which promotes digestion, a healthy flow of bile, regularity of the bowels, and counteracts kidney trouble.

The cologne of a sovereign (about \$5) costs the English mint 3/4d (about 1 1/2 cents).

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.

There are parts of the Ganges valley in India where the population averages 1,200 to the square mile.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.

All Eastern Syrup, so-called, is usually very light colored and of heavy body, made from glucose. "Tea Garden Syrup" is made from sugar cane and is strictly pure.

The fastest flowing river in the world is the Sutlej, in British India, with a descent of 12,000 feet in 18 miles.

CATARH CANNOT BE CURED.

With local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease, Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies.

The British steamer Algea loaded for Europe at Tacoma, a few weeks ago, 377,000 bushels of wheat, which at 60 cents to the bushel, gave a total of 11,810 short tons.

I never used so quick a cure as Piso's Cure for Consumption. J. B. Palmer, Box 1171, Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25, 1895.

The Czar's New Cruiser.

The official trials of the cruiser Svetlana, built at Havre, France, for the Russian government, have just taken place.

The contract speed of 20 knots was exceeded by 21-100ths in trials which lasted six consecutive hours. Work on the Svetlana was begun on December 7, 1895.

She is an armored cruiser, armed with guns and torpedo tubes, and at the same time is a yacht. She is officially intended for the use of the Grand Duke Alexis, grand admiral of the Russian navy.

The Svetlana's armament consists of 16 guns, six Canon quick of 15 centimeters and ten quick-firing 47 millimetre guns. The grand duke visited the yacht and expressed himself as extremely satisfied. The cost is 6,600,000 francs, or about \$1,300,000.

Gallop Proof Bridge.

The new Milan bridge at Topeka is one of the few structures of the kind in the country that will not have a sign above it reading in this way: "Five dollars fine for riding or driving across this bridge faster than a walk."

A handy attachment for weighing scales consists of a printing register attached to a sliding weight on the scale beam, the figures on the beam being raised to be inked and print a card by the impression of a lever attached to the mechanism.

A Russian admiral has invented an ice plow capable of breaking through ice from 12 to 20 inches thick.

! !

Beware of "cheap" baking powders. Alum makes good medicine but bad food.

Ask your doctor.

The officers of a leading London hospital believe that the general increase of cancer is due to excess in meat eating.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MEAT EATERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA" and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark.

I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper.

The only surviving daughter of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, is living in a small town in California, in nearly destitute circumstances. She is a temperance advocate.

FITS Permanently Cured. No fitter nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. R. H. KLINE, M.D., 153 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The common pond frog's natural life time is 12 to 15 years.

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for anyone who wishes to try it.

Do not accept any substitute.

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A Wonderful Statement

From Mrs. J. S. McGilias, of 113 Kilburn Avenue, Rockford, Ill.

"I was dreadfully ill—the doctors said they could cure me, but failed to do so.

"I gave up in despair and took to my bed. I had dreadful pains in my heart, fainting spells, sparks before my eyes, and sometimes I would get so blind I could not see for several minutes.

I also had female weakness, inflammation of ovaries, painful menstruation, displacement of the womb, itching of the external parts, and ulceration of the womb. I have had all these complaints.

"The pains I had to stand were something dreadful. My husband told me to try a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's medicine, which I did, and after taking it for a while, was cured."

Electric Life

It Cures You While You Sleep. It makes weak people strong by invigorating the nerves and organs, storing fresh energy in the vital parts and renewing the healthy action of all parts of the body.

Stop drugging, and try this new and certain cure. Books, "Three Classes of Men," and application. Call or address.

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FERRY'S SEEDS and always get your money's worth. Five cents per paper everywhere.

Always the best. Seeds of Annuals, etc. D.M. FERRY & CO., Detroit, Mich.

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Moore's Revealed Remedy will do it. Three doses will make you feel better. Get it from your druggist or any wholesale drug house, or from Stewart & Holmes Drug Co., Seattle.

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WHEAT Make money by successful speculation in Chicago. We buy and sell wheat on margins.

CHILDREN TESTING. Mrs. Wrenlow's screaming baby should always be used for children testing. It soothes the child, softens the gums, relieves all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty five cents a bottle.

FAT FOLKS REDUCED 15 to 25 pounds per month. HARMLESS. No starvation diet. No purgatives. No pills. No medicine. H. P. SYDNEY, P. O. Box 27, Chicago, Ill.

RODS For tracing and locating Gold or Silver Ore, lead or buried treasure. N. D. FOWLER, Box 37, Southington, Conn.

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