

The Hood River Glacier.

"IT'S A COLD DAY WHEN WE GET LEFT."

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NO. 28.

HOOD RIVER GLACIER

BLOCKS THE CANAL.

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NEWS OF OREGON

UNITED STATES MAY NOT TAKE UP NICARAGUA ROUTE AGAIN.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The cabinet meeting yesterday was devoted almost exclusively to the consideration of the status of the reciprocity treaty with Cuba and the canal treaty with Colombia. The bitches that have occurred in the negotiations were discussed, as were also the prospects of settlement.

Secretary Hay, while presenting the subject of the canal negotiations, was not able to report that any progress had been made during the past week. In fact, it appears that the negotiations have come to a dead stop, and while no such thing as an ultimatum has passed, the precise situation may be described in the statement that the Colombian minister here, Concha, has distinctly informed the state department that he cannot, in the opinion of his government, accept the last proposal of the United States as a basis for a canal treaty. The state department has already let it be known that it has come to the end of its concessions, so the chances of a renewal of the negotiations in the near future are not very bright.

This state of affairs will stimulate the negotiations with Nicaragua and Costa Rica for the alternate route, but it now appears that the diplomatic representatives of those countries are not disposed to allow themselves to be coerced by Colombia, and therefore are desirous of remaining in the background until it shall be clearly established that no treaty can be made between Colombia and the United States.

One of the statements of fact in connection with the Panama route which has been brought to the attention of the state department is that the original canal concession will expire in 1904, and it has been suggested that the Colombian government had that fact in mind, and is disposed to refrain from taking a treaty now, in expectation that the franchise will lapse, and it thus be in a position to build the canal itself, or to sell a new concession. Such a course would raise a very serious question between the Colombian government, the Panama canal company, the French government and the government of the United States as to whether or not a supplementary decree extending the concession 10 years from 1904 was valid.

SPANISH WAR CLAIMS.

UNITED STATES TOOK THE PLACE OF SPAIN IN CUBA.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The Spanish claims commission has enunciated the principles by which it will be governed in passing upon the various demurrers which have been submitted to it in connection with the claims now under consideration on account of the war between Spain and Cuba. The general basis is laid down that in assuming the responsibility which would have otherwise been Spain's the United States is bound to pay all claims for which Spain could have been held. It is further held that the insurrection in Cuba had gone beyond the control of the Spanish government and that it was not responsible for damages done to foreigners by the insurgents. It, however, is shown that the Spanish authorities might have prevented the damage done in any particular case by the exercise of due diligence, the commission announces that it will hold that Spain is liable.

The commission announces further that it will take judicial notice that the Cuban insurrection passed from first beyond the control of Spain, and so continued until the intervention of the United States. It is further held that Spain was entitled to adopt such war measures for the recovery of her authority as are sanctioned by the rules and usages of international warfare. If, however, it be alleged and proved in any particular case that the acts of the Spanish authorities or soldiers were contrary to such rules and usages, Spain will be held liable in that case.

This decision does not, however, go to the extent of saying that the reconcentration orders were legitimate acts of war. There is to be a further argument on that subject.

Ex-Senator Chandler, chairman of the committee, and Commissioner Mauri dissent from the rules adopted.

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