

The Oregon Register.

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THE BALLOON BURSTED.

Now the Most Experienced Aeronaut in the World Met His Death.

The coroner's inquiry into the death in Essex, England, of the famous aeronaut, Simons, has brought out a singular feature of the accident by which he lost his life and his two companions were dangerously injured, and indicates a new danger in ballooning. The evidence shows the accident, which followed an attempt to land, during which the anchor was caught in a toll, was caused by the bursting of the balloon.

The silk was unusually large and correspondingly heavy, but it was not ripped with one large rent, as would have been the case had it caught on a tree, but was found torn into several distinct pieces. Besides this the burst was accompanied by a loud report which was heard not only by those near by who were watching the balloon, but by persons a considerable distance away, who knew nothing of the balloon until afterward.

Mr. Simons was an aeronaut of thirty years' experience, and this was his 49th ascension. When he landed from his last previous ascent a few days before an old lady said to him: "You men can not have much care for your lives," and he replied, "I have made 494 ascents and I don't feel very much fear now."

The balloon was the *Cosmo*, one of largest ever made, holding 62,000 cubic feet of gas, and capable of carrying 2,400 pounds. The basket was of iron wire network, instead of wicker. He carried a thirty-pound grapnel and ninety-one feet of rope—too light an anchor and too short a rope, some experts say.

He went up about the middle of the afternoon with W. L. Field and Mr. Meyers, the latter of South Kensington Natural History Museum, both of whom had made previous voyages. It was intended to cross the channel to France, but darkness coming on the party decided to descend for the night. The country was somewhat wooded, and two or three attempts were made to land, but each time balloon had to be thrown out and the balloon sent up again. A field that seemed fairly clear was at last chosen and the grapnel let out. It dragged through a field of wheat and then caught in a large tree. In an instant the huge balloon pulled up short, swung to the ground, and began to bump up and down, straining at the end of its tether. Simons pulled desperately on the valve rope and shouted to Field to help him. Meyers held a bag of ballast awaiting an order to throw it out. Three times in scarcely more than as many seconds the great balloon bounded up and down struggling frantically like some immense wild beast at the end of a long rope. Each time it sprang sixty feet in the air. As it rose the third time to that height there came a sudden report, the silk collapsed, and the car with the three young men in it fell to the ground. Men from the fields running up, found it battered into a shapeless wreck and its three late inmates unconscious. The impression prevails that the committee will ask for a reduction on the comittee of coal, which he claims exists there in large quantities.

The Senate sub-committee on finance has occupied much time in hearing opposing claims of the wool growers and wool manufacturers on changes in the tariff on wool. The impression prevails that the committee will ask for a reduction on the comittee of coal, which he claims exists there in large quantities.

Governor Swineford, of Alaska, estimates the annual resources of the territory at about \$9,000,000; minerals, \$2,000,000; all other resources, \$3,000,000. He urges the development of the territory's mines, especially that of coal, which he claims exists there in large quantities.

The beard of Indian commissioners, their recent annual meeting, adopted resolutions deprecating the practice of changing Indian officials for partisan reasons and urging the extension of the civil service system to the Indian service, also opposing the removal of the tribes from their reservations where they are settled and are making progress toward civilization.

The President has returned to the Senate without his approval the bill to pay \$3800 to William D. Wheaton and Charles H. Chamberlain, for many years prior to 1879 register and receiver of the land office at San Francisco. These two officers were required by an order, issued July 17, to turn thereafter into the treasury certain fees to which they were entitled by law.

A movement is on foot to secure a pension for Postmaster Louis Purdy, of Yorktown, Westchester county, New York, who is ninety-three years old, and who enjoys the distinction of being the oldest postmaster in the country, having voted for President Harrison and his grandfather before him. Purdy was appointed postmaster of Shrub Oak by W. H. Harrison in 1841, and has discharged the duties of his office ever since.

S. N. Sun.

Blew Himself Up With a Bomb.

An extraordinary suicide has just occurred at a village near Angers. A peasant named Bordereau was working in a field with his wife and brother-in-law, when a trifling dispute took place. Bordereau left the field and returned to his cottage, whither his wife soon followed him. As she was about to enter the house her husband called to her to remain outside, and a moment afterwards there was a tremendous explosion, which sent all the glass flying and filled the air with smoke. The neighbors rushed to the spot and promptly extinguished the flames that were bursting out of the cottage. Then, entering Bordereau's room, they found him lying lifeless on the shattered bed, his body fearfully mutilated, while the walls were smeared with blood. He had undressed and lain himself on the bed, placing at his side a shell which he had brought home with him on his return from the military service. He had then ignited the shell and blown his body to atoms. Bordereau, though still young, was in very bad health, and when he died his way to the cottage, his wife had a presentiment of something approaching disaster. —London Telegraph.

Jones—"Hello, Smith. Congratulations I bear that you are engaged. But, between friends, old fellow, I don't see how you plucked up courage to do it." Smith—"Well, you see, we got to talking politics, trusts, rings, and drifted right on to the master we knew it."

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

THE TERRITORIES READY TO ENTER THE GALAXY OF STATES.

The Conditions on Which Montana Will Enter—Pension Legislation—Oregon's Militia Bill Becomes a Law—The Inaugural.

The nomination of Walter L. Bragg to succeed himself as interstate commissioner, has been favorably reported in the Senate.

The Atlanta left New York Saturday morning for Hayti. It is thought that the vessel's presence is necessary to preserve peace.

Secretary Whitney says the State department has done all it can in the Samoa matter. It now rests with Congress, which alone has power to declare war.

The pension department has granted to Henry F. Phillips, of Seattle, and John B. Wenmcy, alias J. Smith, of Lewiston, Idaho, a survivor of the Mexican war.

Vice President-elect Morton was in Washington last week, looking about the city for a desirable residence, but failed to find a suitable one. He does not desire to build or buy a home at the capital.

The Dakota delegation now in Washington feel confident that a bill will now be passed for the admission of South Dakota into the Union; also the passage of an enabling act for the early admission of North Dakota.

The President has approved the act to provide arms, ammunition, etc., for the militia of Oregon; the act to provide stores for the militia of Montana, and the act amending the postal laws.

A Sioux City, Iowa, lawyer has been ordered by the "white caps" to leave the place.

An earthquake was felt in New York last week in the Adirondack section.

The crew that abandoned the ship Christina at sea have arrived at Charleston, S. C.

Axworthy, the defaulting city treasurer of Cleveland, Ohio, will take up his residence in Toronto.

Diplomatic circles in Europe censure the United States for the continued fighting in Samoa.

The libel suits instituted by the Chicago police against the Times of that city have been dismissed.

J. J. Patterson, ex-United States Senator from South Carolina, has been sued for breach of promise.

The belief is growing that the relations between the United States and Germany are becoming strained.

The police of Knoxville, Tenn., recently raided a private car and arrested the occupants for gambling.

It is again rumored that Charles Francis Adams will soon retire from the presidency of the Union Pacific.

Mrs. Sarah Sniver, of Glendale, W. T., was burned to death recently by the explosion of a coal oil lamp.

A car-load of lobsters has been shipped to Puget Sound. Scow bay has been chosen for lobster raising.

E. H. Dunn escaped from the Napa asylum last week and was found shortly afterward hanging to a tree.

Detective A. B. Lawson at Los Angeles shot himself while taking a revolver from his desk recently. He will recover.

The Portland water-works want to issue \$1,500,000 bonds to enable it to supply 20,000,000 gallons of water a day.

Miss Nellie Reche, living near Colton, California, was terribly stabbed last week by an unknown man, who made his escape.

J. R. Moody, of Colusa county, who tried to kill his wife a short time ago, has been sentenced to four years in the penitentiary.

It is reported that Senator Hearst, of California, has purchased the now famous Harqua Hills mines, in Arizona, for \$250,000.

There is good reason to believe that the Klamath Indian reservation in northern California, will soon be open to settlement.

A pension has been granted to J. H. Eaton, of Portland, a Mexican survivor, and an increase to Garrison Datson, of Grant's Pass, Cal.

Stephen T. Morse, a prominent fruit grower of Sacramento county, Cal., while loading hay from a scaffolding last week, fell and broke his neck.

The man employed by the San Bernardino county grand jury to export the county treasurer's books has since gone to jail for petty larceny.

A warrant was recently issued for the arrest of John Hall, a prominent architect of Los Angeles, on a charge of perjury in a timber culture claim.

Col. Frank Posey has been nominated for the unexpired term in Congress occasioned by the resignation of Congressman Hovey, now Governor of Indiana.

In the camp of a gang of thieves in Indian Territory was found, recently, a diary detailing a murder in Ohio in 1863, which the owner of the diary committed with an axe and secured \$1000.

The Mexican Telegraph company has arranged for the laying of a new cable across the gulf to Galveston, the present one being found inadequate to transact the Mexican and Central American business now handled.

Judge Lyman Follett, who left Grand Rapids, Mich., two years ago and went to Honduras, leaving a large amount of trust funds unaccounted for, was arrested in Helena, Montana, and will be taken back to Michigan.

Forty saloon-keepers, who are to be tried for contempt in violating temporary injunctions issued under a prohibition law at Canton, Ill., have agreed to abandon their places and leave the state on condition that the cases be dismissed.

The dead of Reading, Pennsylvania, who were crushed in the debris of the collapsed silk mill, number eighteen, and five persons in the paint shop were burned to death. The injured are about ninety. At Pittsburgh seventeen were killed by the falling Germania bank building walls. Over fifty were injured.

A bill has been introduced in Congress authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Joseph Pennig of Linkville, Or., the sum of \$10,000 for injuries received at the hands of the Indians in the Modoc Indian war.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

THE CRUSHED AND KILLED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA STORM.

Prospectors Find a Watory Grave

in the Colorado River—Nezada's Miner's Home.

Heavy snow storms are reported from Dakota.

Ex-Congressman Singleton, of Mississippi, is dead.

The Cincinnati shoemakers contemplate striking.

General Rosecrans will soon be placed on the retired list.

An offer of \$30,000 has been refused for the trotter Ambassador.

Massachusetts Republicans have renominated Senator Hoar.

Senator Mandeson, of Nebraska, has been selected to the Senate.

The Colorado river will be investigated by government officials.

The "white caps" are creating terror in many places in the East.

Governor Fifer, of Illinois, opposes organized racing companies.

An effort is to be made to annex Lower California to the United States.

Boys in the employ of the Chesapeake oyster pirates are treated as slaves.

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PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

NEW DISCOVERIES IN THE NORTHWESTERN MINING DISTRICT.

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