

## DEFENSE OF THE PORT

### General Wilson Reports on Columbia Fortifications.

#### PROGRESS MADE UPON THE WORK

##### Estimates for River and Harbor Improvements in Oregon and Washington.

Washington, Oct. 25.—In the annual report of General Wilson, chief of engineers, the following is said about defenses at the mouth of the Columbia: "The defenses include works of the older type, one garrisoned and one in charge of an ordnance sergeant. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1896, work was commenced during the year on five emplacements for 10-inch guns on disappearing carriages, two emplacements for 8-inch guns on disappearing carriages, and two mining casemates. At the close of the year, the 10-inch emplacements were completed, and three 10-inch carriages mounted. A wharf had been built for the construction of the 8-inch emplacements, all necessary plant assembled and the excavation completed. One mining casemate was also under construction. With the funds appropriated by the act of 1897, an additional emplacement for an 8-inch gun on a disappearing carriage and a mortar battery for eight 12-inch mortars will be constructed. At the close of the year, plans for these works had been partially prepared. There are no existing works of defense on Puget sound."

The following estimates are made for river and harbor improvements for Oregon and Washington for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899:

OREGON.	
Copquille river.....	\$115,000
Upper Coquille river.....	28,000
Cods Bay.....	600,000
Suncook river.....	100,000
Tillamook Bay.....	52,000
Columbia river below Tongue point.....	21,550
Columbia river and Lower Willamette.....	200,000
Canal at Cascades.....	354,250
Gauging the waters of the Columbia river.....	1,000
Upper Columbia and Snake rivers.....	20,000
WASHINGTON.	
Gray's harbor.....	\$450,000
Puget sound.....	25,000
Fremont harbor.....	150,000
Swinomish slough.....	47,000
Chehalis river.....	3,000
Olympia harbor.....	25,000
Cowlitz river.....	1,000

No action has been taken on the appropriation for a harbor of refuge at Port Orford, the secretary holding that the demands of commerce are not sufficient to occasion the expenditure.

The simple announcement is made that the secretary has not approved the project at Yaquina, and no estimate is made.

It is stated that the land has not yet been acquired for the boat railway at The Dalles. For the same reason, nothing has been done on the Seattle ditch.

#### CERTIFICATES NOT REQUIRED.

##### Judge Hanford's Ruling as to Wives and Children of Chinese Merchants.

Seattle, Oct. 25.—Judge Hanford, of the federal court, today handed down a decision in a Chinese case, in which he holds that the wives and children of Chinese merchants doing business in the United States do not have to have certificates from the Chinese government to entitle them to enter this country. Government officials here say that, if the opinion is upheld by the higher courts, it means that the important section of the Chinese exclusion act which provides that sons and daughters of Chinese merchants doing business in this country must secure certificates from their home government is no longer the law. United States District Attorney Brunker will at once report to the treasury department Judge Hanford's ruling, and it is expected that the attorney-general's office will at once take steps to have the case appealed to the supreme court.

Treasury agents claim that if the decision holds it will open the gates for a flood of Orientals, for, if certificates are not required, any number of Chinese can claim to be children of merchants in the United States.

Judge Hanford's decision is in direct opposition to that of Judge Lacombe, of New York.

#### HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE KILLED

##### Terrible Loss of Life by Cyclone in the Philippines.

Madrid, Oct. 25.—A dispatch from Leyte, Philippine islands, says that place has been almost devastated by a cyclone, that many persons have been killed and that the damage to property is incalculable.

The cyclone destroyed the towns of Tagloban and Hernani, on the island of Leyte, as well as several villages. It is estimated that 400 persons lost their lives through the disaster.

Later advices from Manila say the cyclone occurred on October 12, and added that Carriga and Burga, on the eastern coast of Leyte, had been wiped out, and that an immense wave swept the island. Several hundred natives perished at Tagloban. The cyclone also swept the island of Samar. The full extent of the catastrophe is not yet known, but the damage is estimated at 7,500,000 pesos.

#### Will Demand Duty.

Victoria, Oct. 25.—Hereafter every pound of goods not bought in Canada will have to pay duty before being allowed in the Klondike country. The Canadian government has seen fit to revoke the regulation allowing prospectors to take in 100 pounds of goods free of duty, and customs officers will be placed on the Stikkeen route as well as at Tagish lake and on the Yukon.

Swords equal to the best ever made are still produced at Toledo in Spain.

#### DEATH IN THE GALE.

##### Schooner Caspar Wrecked on the California Coast.

Point Arena, Cal., Oct. 26.—Thirteen seamen, comprising almost the entire crew of the schooner Caspar, were drowned early this morning by the wreck of their vessel. The rocky shore in this vicinity was strewn with wreckage today, but there was no way of identifying the ship until this evening, when two men from shore, who had gone out in a small boat to secure any of the crew who might still be alive, picked up Captain Anfinsen and Seaman Chris Larsen, who had been floating about on an improvised raft for over 14 hours.

To his rescuers, Adolph Peterson and Henry Anderson, the captain said the bark struck on a reef this morning and seven minutes later capsized. When she tipped over, all the crew were washed overboard. The steamer carried 15 men, but from the moment the accident occurred the captain has seen none of his crew except his companion, Larsen, and has no doubt that the other 13 have all been lost.

When thrown into the water, Anfinsen and Larsen by good fortune were enabled to raft some pieces of floating timber. They succeeded in drawing the boards together, and clung to the improvised raft from the time of the accident until late this afternoon, while the storm beat about them, being exposed to the most fearful gale of the season. They had almost succumbed from cold, exposure and exhaustion, and were with great difficulty saved by their rescuers.

The sea has been so high all day that it has been impossible to launch a boat from shore, and even this evening the two men who went out and accomplished the rescue risked their lives in the breakers.

Later in the evening the steamer Alcazar cruised about the scene of the wreck, but could find no trace of the other seamen.

This is a very dangerous locality for shipping, and when a vessel is once thrown on the rocks she is certain to be doomed, and there is little chance for the escape of her unfortunate crew.

The Caspar sailed from San Francisco yesterday for Usal, where she was to load lumber for San Francisco. She was owned by the Caspar Lumber Company, and registered 300 tons. The drowned are: Morris Peterson, first mate. Andrew Anderson, second mate. George Offerman, chief engineer. John Kuhn, assistant engineer. N. C. Helverson, seaman. The cook, name unknown, and five others whose names are also unknown.

#### THE NOTE ANSWERED.

##### Spain Says She Has Done All in Her Power to End the War.

Madrid, Oct. 26.—In the special note to Minister Woodford, the government declares that Spain has done all in her power to end the war in Cuba, and cites the many sacrifices which have been made by the nation, the number of troops sent to Cuba, and the reforms which are carried out on the island, which are fully described.

The note ends with the statement that "Spain will not admit the right of any foreign power to interfere in any of her affairs."

El Tempo publishes with reserve the announcement that the reply of the Spanish government to the United States, presented to General Woodford, the American minister at Madrid, declares that, if the United States does not stop the sailing of filibustering expeditions from American ports, Spain will re-establish the right to search vessels anchoring in Cuban waters.

El Liberal thinks a rupture possible as the result of negotiations between Spain and the United States, and thinks Spain ought to avoid this rupture, so far as duty and honor permit, but that the government should act in a spirit of moderation and that the nation will under no circumstances authorize a renunciation of Spain's rights.

#### Australians Klondike Crazy.

San Francisco, Oct. 26.—Australia will add its share of gold-hunters to the Klondike region next year. When the Alameda sailed from Sydney the offices of the Oceanic Steamship company were being besieged with miners anxious to get to the new land of gold. Hundreds of letters a day were being received, asking for information about the land of glaciers and treasure. A lengthy circular containing the general information that was sought was prepared and copies of it were sent to inquirers.

It is thought by the officers of the Alameda that the next steamer will come to this port crowded with gold-hunters for the Yukon.

#### Fatal New York Fire.

New York, Oct. 26.—Two men lost their lives in a fire today on Broadway, near Ninth. When the bodies were found, one was in a standing position, the upper part of the body being over a beam. The other was at a front window, indicating that the man had struggled to reach air and escape the flames. The fire was in a three-story brick building, owned by the Sailor's Snug Harbor estate, and occupied by the laundry of Gardner & Vail. The loss is \$25,000.

#### An Aged Soldier.

Valparaiso, Ind., Oct. 26.—Uncle Charles Decker, the oldest man in Portococo, and probably the oldest soldier of the late war, is dead. He was 99 years old. During the war, at that time being 61 years old, he enlisted in company I, Nineteenth Indiana cavalry, serving one year, when he was discharged for disability.

Apples, pears and plums when taken without sugar diminish rather than increase the acidity of the stomach.

#### ARMY AND ALASKA.

##### General Nelson A. Miles Makes His Annual Report.

Washington, Oct. 25.—General Miles, major-general commanding the army, has made his report to the secretary of war. General Miles says in part: "The army, although inadequate in point of numbers, was never in a higher state of efficiency."

"The progress that has been made on the Pacific coast in the establishment of modern batteries of artillery have made it necessary to occupy new ground and to adopt a new system of defense."

Attention is invited to the report of General Merriam, commanding the department of the Columbia, especially to the need of a larger garrison at the entrance to the Columbia river, and to his report on the condition and necessities of the great territory of Alaska.

As all the other territories have been occupied by military posts and measures have been adopted for building military roads, bridging rivers, and, in fact, aiding and blocking out the way for occupation of the vast territories by citizens, it is deemed but just and advisable that the same liberal spirit should be manifested toward that great and important territory. He says:

"As far as practicable it would, in my opinion, be advisable to have its waters thoroughly examined by such of the naval force as could be used for that purpose, and as military reconnoitering and exploring parties in past years have been sent to the country to furnish knowledge of its character, resources and necessities, this, in my judgment, should be continued on a larger and more liberal scale. While there is no conflict between the population, composed of some 20,000 Indians and the white explorers and settlers, yet, as the former are supplied with modern arms, they may become turbulent and troublesome. Such has been the history of nearly all the tribes in the other territories. Hence, it would be but reasonable to anticipate the necessity for a military force in that territory by the establishment of at least three military posts to support the civil authorities, to give protection to the white settlers, and to aid in maintaining law in that remote section."

In the last 10 years much attention has been given to coast defenses, and most beneficial results are apparent. Approximately, \$26,000,000 has been appropriated by the government, which is nearly one-third of what is required to put the country in a safe condition of defense. Although the general desire of our people, he says, is to maintain peace with all nations, and the policy of the government is one of goodwill and peaceful relations with all others, it would be more judicious to provide defenses than to remain in a condition of insecurity and permit the accumulated wealth of many generations to be destroyed or endangered by any foreign power with which we are liable to come in contact."

He recommends fortification appropriations in the West as follows:

San Diego.....	\$ 720,000
San Francisco.....	1,326,000
Columbia river.....	625,000
Puget sound.....	1,140,000

He recommends strongly an increase in the army of at least two additional regiments of artillery, saying that by December 31 a number of positions will be armed in part or fully with modern appliances of war, and that in these important positions there are no troops stationed and none available for assignment to the stations where they are at present imperatively required.

He suggests the necessity of adding four infantry regiments, and recommends that congress fix a standard of strength on a basis of the total population. This standard, he thinks, should be a maximum of one enlisted man to every 1,000 population, and the minimum, one soldier to every 2,000 population.

Robbed Their Benefactor. Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 25.—Andrew Norlin was held up last night near Puyallup and robbed of \$40. Norlin had been working in Montana, and while in Spokane, met two men who were "dead broke" and beating their way to the coast. He had \$75, and took pity on them, paying their way on freight trains. In repayment for all his kindness, as soon as they got off the train at Puyallup, they almost choked their benefactor to death, and took what money he had left. Norlin gave a fairly good description of the robbers, and the police have hopes of capturing them.

Life on the Trail. Chicago, Oct. 25.—A letter by C. J. Gregory, formerly of Chicago, who left here for Alaska in August, is a clear portrayal of the hardships of the White pass: "There have been six suicides," he writes, "three hangings and eleven killings, besides a number of deaths from exposure. It costs \$1 to get a letter through to Skaguay, and 10 cents to get it mailed. Prices here are very high. Flour at Lake Bennett brings \$60 a sack; bacon, \$1 per pound; beans, \$1 per pound; horseshoe nails bring 50 cents a piece; a pair of shoes will bring any price you like or want to ask; overalls, \$5."

Troops for India. London, Oct. 25.—A large draft of soldiers has been ordered to get ready to reinforce eight British cavalry regiments now in India.

Survey of Seal Islands. Washington, Oct. 25.—General Duffield, of the geodetic survey, has word from the Pribyloff islands, under date of September 6, which indicates that the party engaged in the survey of the seal islands, under the direction of his son, will complete their labors this season.

Yellow Fever at New Orleans. New Orleans, Oct. 25.—A 7 o'clock 50 new cases and five deaths had been reported.

## TO BUY UNION PACIFIC

### Russell Sage Forms a Syndicate in New York.

#### GOVERNMENT TO BE PAID IN FULL

##### Subscribers Are Prominent Wall Street Brokers—Seventy-Five Million Already Turned In.

New York, Oct. 25.—Russell Sage created a sensation in Wall street late yesterday by announcing that he had been invited by President McKinley to form a syndicate to bid on the Union Pacific railroad on the basis of satisfying the full government claim in the Union Pacific. Mr. Sage invited subscriptions to a plan to be hereafter brought out by him. The payment of the government claim in full is understood to be the first condition in this plan. Mr. Sage's representative announced last night that he had received subscriptions for over \$75,000,000 within two hours of his announcement. It was said that he would continue to receive subscriptions until his plan was subscribed at least three times over. As to the bond transactions, Mr. Sage thinks there is unlimited capital available for settlement of the Pacific road debt without loss to the government. Among the subscriptions reported to Mr. Sage's Union Pacific scheme were the following:

Mr. Astor's subscription is said to have been received by cable. Some of the names are said to represent other interests besides the subscribers. It is said a large insurance company will subscribe \$10,000,000.

Mr. Sage goes to Washington today to confer with the president and the attorney-general, at their request.

#### LAUNCH BOILER EXPLODED.

##### Accident to One of the Boats of the Texas.

Boston, Oct. 25.—The boiler of one of the steam launches of the battleship Texas blew up while it was alongside the battleship, and a number of men, including two officers and a surgeon, were injured, none fatally.

The explosion occurred just as the launch reached the side of the ship, having towed down two ship's boats full of men who were engaged in the naval parade. On the launch at the time were 35 men, including Lieutenant-Commander Delahanty, Lieutenant Bristol, Ensign Wadhams and Dr. W. R. Dubose, the ship's surgeon. The smokestack, the top of the boiler and part of the canopy over the boiler were blown into the air, and what was left of the launch caught fire from the flame that followed the bursting of the boiler, but the fire had little to burn.

In the pit with the boiler John Phillips, an oiler, and John Fisher, a coal passer, were thrown violently against the wooden partition. Fisher was badly injured internally. Phillips escaped with severe bruises. The coxswain, Thomas Sullivan, was thrown against the side of the launch, but was only bruised, and the sailor with him was completely blackened by soot, but unharmed. Dr. Dubose had two front teeth knocked out.

#### BONES WERE MOVED.

##### Marcus Whitman's Grave at Whitman Mission Opened.

Walla Walla, Wash., Oct. 25.—This afternoon Marcus Whitman's grave, at Whitman mission, seven miles west of Walla Walla, was opened, preparatory to the erection of a mausoleum of brick and granite thereon by the Whitman Memorial Association. President Penrose, of Whitman college; a few students and newspaper men only were present, besides the contractors.

Near the surface of the mound in one corner, four skulls nearly intact were discovered; also a number of minor bones. The skull of Dr. Whitman was recognized by the gold filling in one of his teeth and a tomahawk wound at the base of the skull.

Dr. Whitman, his wife and 11 associates, massacred 50 years ago, are supposed to be buried in the grave.

The bones were brought to this city this evening, to be classified by physicians. After being placed in a glass case for inspection for a few days, they will be returned to their resting-place, and the mausoleum of brick and granite erected over them.

#### The Yerkes Telescope.

Williams Bay, Wis., Oct. 25.—Charles T. Yerkes' splendid gift is now in the possession of the university of Chicago. Shortly after noon, Mr. Yerkes formally presented to President W. R. Harper the keys to the observatory which contains the Yerkes telescope. The ceremonies covered two hours, and the greatest refracting telescope in the world, having a 40-inch lens, is dedicated and ready to be used by astronomers from every part of the globe.

#### Sherwood Depot Burglarized.

Sherwood, Or., Oct. 25.—The Southern Pacific depot at this place was entered by burglars Sunday night, and a box containing about \$20 in cash and all the tickets belonging to the office were taken.

#### Examination of Captain Lovelidge.

Chicago, Oct. 25.—The officers of the army constituting the court of inquiry to examine into the facts connected with the alleged ill-treatment of Private Hammond by Captain Lovelidge, of the Fourth infantry, arrived at Fort Sheridan today and began the work of investigation. As the senior officer of the court, Colonel Simon Snyder, of the Fifteenth infantry, opened the proceedings and took charge of the examination.

#### WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

[Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 711-714 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.]

We have had a very nervous, sensitive market in wheat the past week, but the undertone has been very strong at times, and prices were up 5 cents over a week ago. The news has been quite bullish in tone, and foreigners have been liberal buyers of wheat for nearby shipment. About the only thing that at all favored the bears was the fact that rains had fallen moderately over the drought stricken area, and that fall work was again in progress in the winter wheat sections. Receipts of wheat have been large, with an urgent demand for good milling wheat from nearly all quarters. Exports for the month of September were the largest on record, footing up 26,000,000 bushels. The American visible supply shows an increase of 199,000 bushels for last week, and now totals 24,629,000 bushels, against 57,285,000 a year ago. The fact that France has again been a large buyer of wheat the past week has done much to stimulate prices, and were it not that speculation is very light we should have seen a far greater advance. Wheat is on a legitimate basis—the basis of supply and demand—but every one seems to be afraid of it because they compare prices with what they were a year ago, and many predict declines, but while the cash demand is as urgent as it is now, and foreigners are buying our wheat and flour at the rate they are now doing, there is no chance for more than slight reactions and everything favors a higher range of values. We feel very bullish on the situation, and advise our friends to get hold of some wheat and it will soon show them a good profit.

There has been more weakness shown in corn than the most sanguine bear had looked for, and as holders became easily frightened and threw their holdings on a market that was narrow and with light trade at the start, the result can easily be foreseen—rather sharp decline with shorts the best buyers. Receipts have been large.

#### Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 80@81c; Valley and Bluestem, 83@84c per bushel. Four—Best grades, \$4.50; Graham, \$3.70; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 34@35c; choice gray, 32@33c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$14 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$15.50. Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—22 1/2c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 25@35c per roll. Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c; California, 9@10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50@3.00 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$4.00@5.00; ducks, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental. Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental.

Hops—8@15c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 6@7c. Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20@22c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, western and ewes, \$2.50@2.60; dressed mutton, 5c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.50; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, 55.00@6.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.50; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound. Veal—Large, 4 1/2@5c; small, 5 1/2@6c per pound.

San Francisco Market. Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 14@16c per pound. Hops—11@15c per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22; California bran, \$15.00@15.50 per ton. Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, \$1.00@1.15 per cental. Butter—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; do seconds, 25@26c; fancy dairy, 23@24c; good to choice, 20@22c per pound. Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12 1/2c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound.

Eggs—Store, 18@20c; ranch, 36@38 1/2c; Eastern, 15@22; duck, 20c per dozen. Potatoes—New, in boxes, 30@70c. Citrus Fruit—Oranges, Valencia, \$1.50@3.00; Mexican limes, \$2.50@3.50; California lemons, choice, \$2.50; do common, \$1@2 per box.

Hay—Wheat, 12@15; wheat and oat, \$11@14; oat, \$10@12; river barley, \$7@8; best barley, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$9.50; clover, \$8@10.

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#### STARVED TO DEATH.

##### Out of a Population of Twenty-Five Hundred, Only Five Survive.

New York, Oct. 25.—A Herald dispatch from Havana says: A local newspaper publishes and vouches for the following: At Chacapeba, in the municipality of Melana del Sur there were concentrated 2,500 persons. These reconcentrados were the only inhabitants of the place. Now there are only five survivors, the rest having died of hunger and fever. In Havana city it is no unusual sight to see 10 or 12 dead on one plaza