

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Culled From the Telegraphic Columns.

The Rhode Island locomotive works of Providence, has filed a petition in insolvency.

Dordane, a nephew of ex-President Duensk, of Salvador, is insane in a San Francisco hospital.

C. S. Kellogg, aged 76, was found frozen to death near Reno, Nev., in the Silver Hill mountains.

Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is to build a mansion at Newport which will cost between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

John Mulligan, aged 24, Lee Mulligan, 15, and Ethel Baker, 17, were fatally asphyxiated by fumes from charcoal at Modoc, Thursday night.

The sugar bounty conference announced to begin February 15 at Brussels, has been indefinitely postponed, France having renewed her objections.

Judge McMahon, in the high court at Toronto, has decided that a union is not liable on the charge of conspiracy for expelling a man from the order.

According to trustworthy intelligence, says a St. Petersburg dispatch, China has finally abandoned the idea of raising a loan in London or elsewhere.

A New York Herald dispatch from San Juan del Sur says: Conservative refugees who have been threatening an attack on the government since their failure last September rushed through the village without the slightest warning and surprised the barracks.

Judge Hanford, of the federal court, sitting in Tacoma, has rendered a decision in the case of the Tacoma Grain Company vs. the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company and the Great Northern railway, which is vital importance to wheat growers of the state and shippers.

In wild despair each man clung to the plunging craft in the rapids, which swept it along at express-train speed.

A Peking correspondent says poor old China is afraid to borrow from either Russia or England.

News has been received of a landslide at Quesnelle Forks, Cariboo. Three miners, William Allen, Joe Rich and Alex McLean, were buried.

Insane jealousy prompted the wife of William V. Place, an insurance adjuster of Brooklyn, to kill her 17-year-old stepdaughter and almost take her own life and that of her husband.

The steamer Capilano, which has just returned from the northern halibut fishing grounds, reports the drowning of two of her fishermen, named Robert Loughhead, of Ontario, and Michael Driscoll.

The house of representatives has received the official report of the death of Colonel Ruiz, the Spaniard who was executed for carrying a message from Blanco imploring the Cubans to accept autonomy.

It is announced that Hetty Green will build a railroad through Oklahoma. The proposed road will run from Medford on the Rock Island to Sherman, Tex., where it will connect with E. R. Green's road.

One of the biggest silk manufacturing houses in Europe, with mills at Cienfuegos, Germany, is to remove to this country, locating at Paterson, N. J., and build what is intended to be the largest silk mill in the United States.

The trial of M. Emile Zola and M. Perreux, manager of the Aurora, who are being prosecuted by the French government as the result of a letter which the novelist caused to be published in Aurora in December last, strongly reflecting upon high officials connected with the Dreyfus case, is creating a great amount of excitement in Paris.

The fourth session of the 14th parliament of Queen Victoria and the 26th of the United Kingdom, was opened by the commission at 2 o'clock Tuesday after with the customary ceremonies.

Previous to the reassembling of the parliament, the usual party of beef-eaters, accompanied by a number of officials and headed by the chief of police, made the customary search for imitators of Guy Fawkes, formally ascertaining that the vaults of the house of parliament did not contain anything inimical to the safety of its members.

FOUR LIVES LOST.

A Boat Containing Five Men Goes Over the Falls at Oregon City.

Oregon City, Feb. 10.—At a few minutes past 7 o'clock this morning, crossing the river in a boat a short distance above Oregon City, and while trying to find their bearings, the mighty current seized the craft and hurled it to destruction.

Five men started on the maddening ride to what seemed inevitable death, but one miraculously escaped. He was almost insensible from the shock and could not have held out a minute longer when he was picked up by the rescuers, who got out in time to see the boat go over the falls.

Three of the victims of the accident were members of the same family. All were employes of the Crown paper mills, at Oregon City. They were residents of Canemah, and were on their way to work. The lost are:

George Freeman, 50 years old, of Canemah; married.

George and James Freeman, his sons, 26 and 16 years old respectively.

L. J. Shannon, 36 years old, of Canemah; married, and leaves a wife and four children.

For years George Freeman and his sons have worked at the paper mills on the west side of the river. The trip to and from their daily labor has been made from the village of Canemah over on the east side.

The Willamette has been rising very rapidly since Sunday, and it is supposed the current carried the boat farther than they suspected before the discovery was made that something was wrong.

In the dense fog it was not possible to locate familiar signs, and in that gray mist the men had no warning by the ominous, sullen roar of the falls as they drew nearer and nearer the most dangerous point.

The boat gave a wild lurch as the main torrent struck it. In the same instant all five of the men discovered that they were far below the usual point of crossing and that the powerful current was carrying them down at a velocity that increased every second.

Additional hands were put to the oars and an attempt was made to pull out of the swirling, rushing stream.

But it was too late. It was but a half moment later that the launch plunged into the churning waves of the upper falls. The boat was caught and whirled around. One oar was torn from the rower's hands, and then the craft shot ahead, straight through the middle current to the yawning gulf below.

In wild despair each man clung to the plunging craft in the rapids, which swept it along at express-train speed.

The occupants of the boat began to shout an alarm. Their cries reached the ears of some of the employes at the power station of the Portland General Electric works. Rushing out on the trestle walk, which runs into the shore, they could just discern the outlines of the boat containing several men.

A general alarm was then given. A boat was put out from the electric works, but it was some time before the rescuers could see anything of the ill-fated party.

Muffled cries caused them to row toward the bank. There they saw an upturned boat slowly drifting about. Harry Freeman had just scrambled on to the bank, and lay there completely exhausted.

Later he revived and stated that he had left a man clinging underneath and that he had shouted once or twice for help. In his exhausted condition, he said, it was impossible for him to tell whether it was one of his brothers or Shannon. From the survivor's statements, it is evident that three of the party were flung out in the dash over the falls. The other two got through, but the man caught under the boat could not hold out longer, and sank to his death in the eddying waters, where he could easily have swam ashore had he been released.

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TO PRESERVE THE PEACE

Fourteenth Infantry to Go to Alaska.

THE NEED IS VERY PRESSING

Troops Will Go on the First Steamer—Four Companies Ordered North—Two Others Held in Readiness.

Portland, Or., Feb. 10.—Four companies of the Fourteenth infantry, under Colonel Thomas M. Anderson, have been ordered to start for Alaska at the earliest possible date, and two more will hold themselves in readiness to follow at a moment's notice.

The order was received at Vancouver barracks yesterday, by General Merrim, commanding the department of the Columbia, who instantly set about the preparations for the movement of the troops.

The constantly increasing danger of disorder at Skagway and Dyea has led the war department to insure peace by the presence of a force sufficiently large to hold any disturbance in check.

Whether the Fourteenth will be permanently located in Alaska has not yet been determined, but it seems not unlikely, as only two companies are left at the post.

As soon as the order reached Vancouver barracks, General Merriam and Major Jacobs, his chief quartermaster, came to Portland to secure, if possible, passage for the troops on the Oregon.

The result of their interview with Agent Poston was not entirely satisfactory. The latter was not disposed to disappoint those to whom the accommodations on the Oregon have been sold, and would make no definite reply without consulting the officials of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company.

He proposed, however, to bring the Australia, a 2,200-ton steamer now fitting for the Alaska trade in San Francisco, to Portland, to carry the command, a plan which was favorably received, and which, from present indications, will probably be adopted.

In this case the start will not be made till March. Everything on the Oregon except ten berths, has been sold, so that she could be of no service to the government for the movement of troops.

It is well understood that in case of urgent necessity, the steamer could be seized, but such a course is hardly likely to be taken unless late reports should bring news of serious trouble in Skagway or Dyea.

Negotiations are also in progress for the transportation of part of the troops by way of Puget sound.

Colonel Anderson has not yet been fully apprised of his duties and authority, but it is generally supposed that he will be placed in command of a department of Alaska, which will be at least temporarily created, and be given full charge. His headquarters will be at Dyea, and two companies will be stationed at Skagway.

The two companies which are to follow will be quartered with the commander at Skagway.

Salter Worden Confessed.

Hopes Governor Budd Will Commute His Sentence.

San Francisco, Feb. 10.—Salter D. Worden, convicted of wrecking a mail train bearing a guard of the United States soldiers, near Sacramento, during the great strike in 1894, and in whose behalf the supreme court of the United States declined to take favorable action on his plea for a new trial, has confessed his crime to Governor Budd with a view to receiving a commutation of the death sentence from the executive of the state.

Worden's confession covers 3,700 words, and gives the full details of the crime. He says he, with several others, had been ordered by a committee of strikers to remove the rails from the Yolo bridge for the purpose of wrecking the train carrying the troops. He gives the names of his accomplices and makes known many details of the work of the strikers heretofore unknown to the general public.

Ex-President Cleveland interested himself in Worden's behalf, out of sympathy for the mother of the condemned man, and Governor Budd determined to probe the matter to the bottom before deciding the case, with the result that Worden confessed in the presence of the governor, Warden Aull, of the Folsom prison, and a stenographer.

Worden throws the blame for the hatching of the trainwrecking plot on Harry Knox, chairman of the grievance committee of the Sacramento lodge, A. R. U., who, he says, gave him all his instructions, and decoyed him into accompanying the gang of wreckers to the Yolo bridge. He also charges complicity in the plot to Mullin and Compton, the other two members of the committee, who, with Knox, managed the strike on the Sacramento division of the Southern Pacific railroad.

Worden's story is that Knox instructed him, as a member of the A. R. U., to procure a team to convey eight men to Davisville, saying that Tom Kelly, another striker, would accompany him, "knew all about it." At the same time Knox gave Worden an order on a Sacramento livery stable for the team. Worden says that in the wagon they drove out from Sacramento were Kelly, Dunn, Hatch, Appleman, Barrett and Wheeler. He then describes how the train was wrecked, and concludes his confession with an appeal to the governor to save him from the gallows.

Spanish trains so seldom leave stations on time that the time tables in many cases merely indicate the hour of departure—say 8 and "minutes"—this is, an indefinite number of minutes after 8.

HAWAII'S CHAMPION.

Senator Teller Urges the Ratification of the Treaty.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Senator Teller occupied the entire hours of the executive session in the senate today in discussing the Hawaiian annexation treaty. During the course of his speech Teller took occasion to say that he should have been glad to discuss the treaty in open session and to the remark he added the opinion that the time had almost come when the question of annexation should be debated on a bill looking to legislation by both houses of congress rather than on the basis of the treaty.

While he thought there might be a bare possibility of securing the 60 votes necessary to ratify the treaty, he considered that under the present circumstances this was exceedingly doubtful, and he thought the sooner the fact was recognized and a change of front made, the better it would be from all points of view.

Senatorial Routine.

A communication was received by the senate from the secretary of war presenting the urgency for immediate action to control the disorderly element that is assembling in Alaska.

Chandler presented a memorial calling the senate's attention to one of the thrilling events of the civil war. The memorial was prepared in 1884 by the late Admiral Worden, who, as a lieutenant in the navy, commanded the Monitor in the historic fight in Hampton roads between that vessel and the Merrimac.

Chandler said that Admiral Worden conceived the idea that it would be proper for the government of the United States to pay the officers and crew of the Monitor the sum of \$200 each in the nature of prize money, but after having prepared the memorial, concluded not to present it to congress, lest his motives might be misconstrued.

Chandler said he now took occasion to present the memorial himself, and he hoped that congress might see its way clear, in view of the wonderful victory by Admiral Worden, to do something substantial for the surviving members of his family, who are not in good financial circumstances. He asked that the memorial be referred to the naval affairs committee.

A house bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to purchase or have constructed a suitable revenue cutter for use on the Yukon river, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, was passed.

Washington, Feb. 9.—The house today passed the military academy bill, with only one important amendment. The debate on the measure was desultory and touched a variety of political topics.

As passed, the bill carries \$453,540, being \$26,032 less than the amount carried by the current law. The bill to limit the period for the refunding of the certificates of deposit of 1879 to December 31, 1899, was passed. Tomorrow the house will take up the Aldrich-Plowman contested election case.

A Spanish Victory.

Havana, Feb. 9.—According to information from Spanish sources, a column of troops commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hervas has been engaged with an insurgent force at Canalaveja, province of Santa Clara. After inflicting some loss on the enemy, the Spaniards followed the insurgents in the direction of Arroyo Honda and later became engaged with 600 insurgent infantry and 60 insurgent cavalrymen, who occupied an entrenched position.

The Spaniards, it is claimed, after some lively firing, dislodged the insurgents, who retreated with a loss of 27 killed, and leaving one wounded prisoner. The loss of the Spaniards is said to have been insignificant.

Armed Troops Obnoxious.

Chicago, Feb. 9.—A special from Ottawa says: An official announcement was made in the Dominion house of commons tonight that armed troops of the United States will not be permitted to accompany the American relief expedition to Dawson. The government also stated that the question of allowing United States troops not under arms to do so was under consideration by the cabinet, and was also the subject of negotiation with the Washington authorities.

It is generally conceded that an unarmed body of American troops will be permitted to accompany the expedition over Canadian territory.

Rescued Crew of Sinking Schooner.

New York, Feb. 8.—It is reported that the schooner Ida K. Hull, Captain Gabrielson, which arrived today from Savannah, met the schooner Jacob Reed, Captain Bunker, in a sinking condition, took her crew off and brought them to this port. The Reed sailed from Ferdinand, for New York. The locality in which the reported rescue was effected could not be learned tonight.

Dole Returns Home.

Washington, Feb. 8.—President Dole, ceased to be a guest of the nation tonight when he started for Buffalo, and thus began his return journey to the Hawaiian islands. The president arrived at the Pennsylvania station a few minutes before his train was ready, and was not kept waiting, but immediately went to the private car Coronet, which he will occupy on his trip to Buffalo.

Cast Into the Sea.

Honolulu, Feb. 9.—The health department has ordered 1,778 tins of opium seized by the customs department dumped into the sea. The government has unsuccessfully tried to dispose of the drug in the San Francisco, Portland, Vancouver, Hong Kong and Sydney markets in order to realize a sum sufficient to cover the expenses of seizure.

A Brazilian doctor says that coffee is a certain cure for anemia.

CITY OFFICIALS POWERLESS

Citizens of Dyea and Skagway Want Martial Law.

ASK FOR GOVERNMENT AID

Local Authorities Are Unable to Cope With the Situation, Owing to Hordes of Bad Characters.

Seattle, Feb. 8.—A petition is being circulated in Skagway and at Dyea asking the war department to send 300 troops there that law and order may be preserved. The petition also asks that martial law be declared. The petition is being signed by nearly all the best element. It reads as follows:

"To the Honorable Secretary of War, Washington—We, the undersigned citizens and business men of Alaska, respectfully petition and set forth:

"That there is an extraordinary condition of affairs existing at and near Dyea and Skagway, Alaska, which calls for prompt attention from the proper authorities. As a result of the recent discoveries of gold in and near Dawson City, N. W. T., Canada, during the past two years, there is an enormous rush of people to that country from all parts of the world, and it is estimated that there will be 250,000 people starting for the gold fields of Alaska and Northwest territory during the present year, and not less than 75 per cent will attempt to get in by way of the Chilkoot and White passes. Even at this early date, the full capacity of every steam and sailing ship on the Pacific coast is taxed to its utmost capacity to carry the passengers and freight that are being offered, and they are being dumped off at these two points to the number of 300 a day, which will soon be largely increased.

"In view of the fact that there is no local civil government in the territory of Alaska, and no one with sufficient authority to enforce the laws of the land, much less to prevent crime and disorder, and in view of the large number of the undesirable and criminal class, who are now flocking to our community to prey upon the unwary and innocent pilgrim, and in order to have sufficient numbers to prevent disorder and blockades on the trails leading to the Lakes Lindemann and Bennett, and to protect the property of citizens of the United States, we, the undersigned, petition that immediate action be taken by the proper authorities:

"And, believing this to be an extraordinary emergency, we believe that martial law should be declared in all this part of Alaska, comprising the communities of Dyea and Skagway, and the trails leading therefrom to the international boundary. And that sufficient troops, not less than 300, be immediately dispatched to these points to enforce the laws and preserve order."

It is stated that Governor Brady has ordered one of the government vessels, now stationed at Sitka, to this place, to preserve order. The cutter will arrive in a few days.

Good prospects have been found on the big Salmon river. Prospect holes have been sunk to the depth of 54 feet, but water interfered with the work before bedrock was reached.

Inspector of Mines McGregor, who started for Dawson some weeks ago, with several tons of supplies and a number of horses, has abandoned the trip. McGregor got as far as Lake Labarge, where he received orders from Major Walsh, administrator of the Yukon district, who is camped at Big Salmon river, to abandon the trip because of the impossibility of reaching Dawson with horses. McGregor has gone to Big Salmon to confer with Major Walsh.

The recent order of the Canadian customs officials at Lake Tagish, prohibiting any person to pass there with less than 1,000 pounds of provisions for each man, has had the effect of stopping many people who had started for Dawson with less than that amount.

ACCIDENT AT A DANCE.

Supports of an Overcrowded Balcony Gave Way.

Chicago, Feb. 38.—A panic among 200 dancers was narrowly averted last midnight at the North Shore hall. Thirty spectators were crowded into the little balcony watching the dance. The supports became loosened and slipped back to the wall. The balcony sank gradually, allowing the spectators to slide topsy-turvy to the polished floor. When the creaking and pulling indicated that the balcony was falling, the large number of people gathered underneath quickly stamped toward the central portion of the hall, leaving John Krusie behind.

Krusie was caught by the falling timbers, and had his side crushed in. As the north end of the balcony commenced to fall, the musicians became panic-stricken and, seizing their instruments, made a dash for the door. The dancers followed. Several police stationed at the door shut it and held it against the panic-stricken dancers, thus averting a certain catastrophe on the narrow stairway. Of the 30 persons in the gallery, Krusie alone sustained serious injuries. All of the others, however, were painfully bruised.

New Port in Texas.

Houston, Tex., Feb. 8.—The steamship Drumelsier sailed today from Sabine Pass, the new harbor on the southeast coast, for Liverpool. She is the first European steamer to sail from that port. While there were 24 feet of water on the bar for two years, nothing has hitherto been shipped except lumber. The Drumelsier carried out a general cargo, most of which came from the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf road.

NO ESTIMATES MADE.

Congress Has Not Provided for Continuing Deep Waterway Work.

New York, Feb. 9.—The secretary of war invites the attention of congress to the desirability of continuing the work now in progress under the board of engineers for deep waterways during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, as no estimate for this work was included in the estimates submitted heretofore, says the Tribune's Washington correspondent.

In brief, the duties imposed on the board by congress are to examine and investigate certain projects for deep waterways from the head of Lake Superior to tidewater, the Hudson river, and to prepare plans and estimates of the cost. The commission in 1897 estimated the cost at not less than \$600,000.

After careful consideration the board is of the opinion that \$225,000 can be profitably expended on the work during the year ending June 30, 1899. It therefore recommends that this sum be appropriated, and says that if a smaller sum is granted the cost of administration and supervision for the whole work will be increased. The board says that it will be glad to submit full information regarding its work and plans and submit estimates, verbal or in writing, to the department or to congress if desired. The resolution signed by Major Raymond, of the corps of engineers, who is president of the board, is submitted for transmission by Acting Secretary Meikeljohn. The amount recommended for the year ending June 30, 1899, is \$150,000.

Such surveys, examinations and investigations are to be made by the board of three engineers designated and appointed by the president for this purpose in 1897, in compliance with act of June 4, 1897.

REPEATS HIS CONFESSION.

Belew Freely Admits That He Killed His Brother and Sister.

Suisun, Cal., Feb. 9.—Frank Belew has repeated to the district attorney his confession of the murder of his brother and sister. He said that before he left the ranch on the afternoon of the day he put the poison in the kettle, he emptied the powder out of its package and folded it in a newspaper, throwing the bottle away. He thinks he burned this paper. He also said:

"When I held Susie's hand while she was dying I did not give her water or broth to drink or anything else. All that I gave her was some ice. It is not true that my brother Tom knew anything of the poisoning. He is entirely innocent. I am sorry for Tom and Arthur, but I don't see why they want to worry."

Arthur Belew cried bitterly when he met his brother in his cell, but the prisoner seemed stolid.

"Tell me with your own lips, Frank,"