

BITS OF GENERAL NEWS.

President McKinley has determined to urge again upon congress the authorization of a trans-Pacific cable, and will be able to announce that a naval survey shows that the route selected is practicable. Surveys are being made by the collier Negro, under the command of Lieutenant-Commander Hodges. Because of the complete sounding taken in former years between San Francisco and Hawaii there is no necessity for further work there and Lieutenant-Commander Hodges has confined himself to the waters west of Hawaii.

Senator Foster, who has just returned from Washington to Tacoma, in an interview says he has been working to induce the war department to send transports by way of Puget sound and the Columbia river. He says there is much opposition from the East, as Eastern dealers are trying to prove they can ship hay and produce cheaper from New York than it can be sent from the Northwest ports. Senator Foster confirms the reported concession of a harbor in Alaska to the Canadians, though he says he cannot speak positively on the subject. He says strong efforts to that end are being made by the fishing interests in the East, to the end that that industry may gain by grants made to it by Canada.

The advent of the open season for Chinese pheasants has started a movement among farmers in the north end of Benton county for enforcement of the trespass laws. Nearly every farm for a distance of ten miles north of Corvallis has been closed to sportsmen by the notice of the owner to the public that all violations of the trespass law will be punished. The farmers assign as a reason that their stock has been injured and maimed, their grain trampled under foot, gates left open and fences torn down.

The president has approved the sentence imposed by the court-martial on Captain Oberlin M. Carter, corps of engineers, United States army, and a formal order was issued from the war department directing the execution of the sentence. The verdict of the court was as follows: "And the court does, therefore, sentence the accused, Captain Oberlin M. Carter, corps of engineers, United States army, to be dismissed from the service of the United States, to suffer a fine of \$5000, to be confined at hard labor at such place as the proper authority may direct for five years, and the crime, punishment, name and place of abode of the accused to be published in the newspapers in and about the station and the state from which the accused came or where he usually resides."

HAVING received information that it was the intention of the authorities at Washington to withhold for a year the report of the Nicaragua canal commission, so as to postpone the digging of the canal, the New York Journal procured and published the entire official report, and has issued it in pamphlet form "for the information of the United States senators and representatives, governors of states and members of state legislatures." This is commendable newspaper enterprise, and the fact that the report is found to be so favorable to the construction of the canal seems to give color to the Journal's allegation that it was to be withheld in the interest of the Pacific railroads, which do not want the canal built.—Oregonian.

Brigadier-General Charles P. Eagan, who was suspended from rank and duty as a result of the language employed by him before the war investigating commission, hopes to obtain vindication from congress during the coming session. General Eagan is at Washington to settle matters connected with the furniture of the house he occupied before his departure for Hawaii. It is understood, however, that he is trying to enlist the sympathies of members of congress in order to obtain a congressional investigation of the beef scandal. There is no intention on the part of the administration to restore General Eagan to duty. In fact, it is desired that he should apply for retirement, in order that the president may appoint General Weston, now acting commissary general, a brigadier and commissary-general of subsistence. The president is anxious to do all he can for the colonel. During General Eagan's stay, a determined effort will be made to induce him to apply for retirement, but many think he will not do so, in view of the fact that he is now drawing full pay, and would only receive three-quarters on the retired list.

The buoy marked "Andree Polar Expedition," which, with anchor attached, was found September 9, on the north coast of King Charles island, by the master of the Norwegian cutter Martha Larsaak, was opened in the presence of a number of experts and members of the cabinet at Stockholm, Sweden. It was found to be the so-called north pole buoy, which Andree had arranged to drop if he succeeded in passing the pole.

Immediately upon the outbreak of hostilities between the Transvaal and Great Britain instructions will be sent to Commander J. P. Merrell, commanding the

cruiser Montgomery, directing him to proceed with his vessel to Delagoa Bay and provide such protection for American citizens and their interests as is possible.

A special from Ouray, Colo., says two masked men stopped the Sheffield stage one mile this side of the Camp Bird mine, and eight miles from Ouray. They were after the daily shipment of gold bullion from the Camp Bird mine, and unloaded the mail and baggage looking for it. However, they overlooked a box containing \$12,000 worth of gold, representing two days' production of the mine. The mails were left untouched, and the passengers were not molested.

E. Wilson, said to be a noted crook, has been arrested at Knoxville, Tenn. He volunteered, in exchange for his freedom, to conduct the chief of police to the place where is secreted the famous watch stolen from ex-President Harrison five years ago. The watch was presented by the senate at the expiration of Harrison's term. The timepiece is worth more than \$1000. Wilson had a diagram of a place near Akron, where he says the watch was buried by a partner soon after it was stolen.

The steamer Olympia brings news of the loss of the steamer White Cloud, a paddler-steamer, which was proceeding from Hong Kong to Manila under an American charter. The vessel foundered when about 90 miles from Hong Kong and seven men were drowned. The crew had just time enough to get away from the steamer when she foundered. The mate's boat, containing six men besides himself, was drawn into the vortex with her. The captain's boat, containing six people, was picked up by a Chinese junk and taken to Shanghai. The disaster is said to be due to the ravage of the white rat. The vessels seams opened out and she simply collapsed. The loss is estimated at \$20,000.

La Fronde publishes the report of an interview with Professor Calmetze, the Pasture institute commissioner, who has returned from Oporto, in which the professor says, before his arrival the mortality among those stricken with plague amounted to 33 per cent. Of 15 treated with the serum, he adds, not one died. This restored public confidence, and in three days he inoculated 342 persons.

The suggestion is made that while England is very much engaged in the Transvaal difficulty, the time is ripe for the United States to press a settlement of the Alaskan boundary question and secure good terms. It is understood that Secretary Hay is not well pleased with the delay which has ensued, and that if he could obtain the consent of the president, he would make stronger representations than have hitherto been made. It would no doubt be a good time for the United States to insist on a settlement of the Canadian dispute, as the friendship of the United States during the war in South Africa would be more valuable than the petty claims of Canada.

The Filipino envoys called upon Major-General Otis Monday and discussed matters, with no result. General Alejandro said to a member of the Associated Press that he had no instructions except to deliver a letter, which was rejected.

It is now estimated that 1500 persons perished in the earthquakes in Asia Minor around Aiden. The first shock occurred at 4 o'clock in the morning of September 20, and lasted 40 seconds. The effects were appalling. Whole villages were completely destroyed. The earthquake was felt as far as Scio, Mitylene and Smyrna. The latest advices from the stricken area show that men, women and children were buried in the ruins of their dwellings before they realized their danger. Numbers of bodies still lie beneath the debris. About 500 persons were killed at Skareni, and some 500 at Denizli, where three fourths of the buildings fell. There was proportionate loss of life in many of the smaller villages. The disturbance has not yet subsided, although its strength appears to be spent. The shocks continue almost daily, but with no great violence. The population is encamped in the open. One consequence of the earthquake is the subsidence of the level of Aiden district by two yards. Sulphurous springs burst out in the valley of Noander, and the country between Aiden and Denizli became full of crevasses, out of which rushed black, muddy water with sufficient volume to wash away a flock of 1000 sheep.

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TILLAMOOK WEATHER.

Temp.	Maxi.	Mini.	Mean.	Rain-fall.
1	65	55	60.0	0.05
2	68	49	58.1	0.00
3	68	53	57.1	0.50
4	68	52	60.0	0.00
5	66	51	58.1	0.45
6	65	45	55.0	0.01
7	70	45	57.1	0.03
8	66	46	56.0	0.01
9	69	47	58.0	0.00
10	72	51	61.1	0.00
11	69	52	60.1	0.03
12	65	56	60.1	0.08
13	62	52	57.0	0.00
14	67	47	55.0	0.00
15	65	47	56.0	0.00
16	67	47	57.0	0.00
17	65	42	53.1	0.04
18	66	44	55.0	0.01
19	62	48	55.0	0.03
20	59	52	55.1	0.00
21	63	46	54.1	0.00
22	63	45	54.0	0.04
23	65	50	57.1	0.00
24	67	50	64.1	0.01
25	70	50	60.0	0.02
26	57	49	53.0	0.02
27	61	50	55.1	0.04
28	60	45	52.1	0.05
29	62	45	53.1	0.50
30	57	47	52.0	0.40

Sum. 1955.....1454.....1698.5..... 2.87
 Mean 65.5... 48.5... 56.6.....0.00
 SUMMARY.—Mean temp., 56.6; max. temp., 79; date, 24th. Min. temp., 42; dates, 17th. Total precip. inches, 2.87; total snowfall inches, 0; number of days clear, 8; partly cloudy, 9; cloudy, 13. Dates of frost—Light, 9; Killing, 0. Dates of hail, 30; sleet, 0; thunder storms, 4th and 30th; auroras, 0. Prevailing wind—Direction, N. W.

REMARKS—11th, first flock of geese went south.
 4th, at 11 a.m., a thunder storm started S.W. along the coast, by Newton, storming all day and evening at sea. Along the coast line heavy rain falling all the time.

CAPT. JOSEPH J. DAWSON, Voluntary Observer.

CANAL WILL BE BUILT. So Declares Rear-Admiral Walker, of the Commission.

NEW YORK, Oct. 1.—Rear-Admiral J. J. Walker, Alfred Noble, Colonel Peter C. Haines and W. H. Burr, members of the committee of the isthmian canal commission, who went to Paris to study the work of the Panama Canal Company, returned to-day on the American liner, Colonel O. H. Ernest remains in Paris. The commissioners have been abroad six weeks. They spent a month in Paris, and afterward went on a tour of inspection, visiting some of the great canals in England and on the Continent. Rear-Admiral Walker said to-day that the commission had some hard work while abroad.

"For one month we have been at work in the office of the Panama Canal Company, in Paris," he explained. "We have studied the reports, the plans and the work that has been done. We have also consulted the engineers. I cannot say what the result will be. We will report to Washington.

"The commission will go to the isthmus in the near future, and will spend the winter there studying the situation and going over the ground. We are much encouraged by what has been done so far, and there is not the least doubt that the canal will be cut through. Of course, I cannot say when, but the people have seen the demand and the necessity for the canal to be built, and built it will be."

While the members of the commission have been in Paris, the other members of the committee have been busy. Surveying parties have been organized and are now in the South, surveying the territory. Speaking on the visit of the committee to the European canals, Admiral Walker said:

"We visited the Kiel canal, and from there we made a tour of inspection to the North Sea canal, Amsterdam. After looking over this waterway, we went to see the Manchester ship canal. We looked fully into the hydraulic and electric power and the locks. Some of the things we saw will probably be adopted in the new canal."

Admiral Walker went to Washington to-night.

Real Estate Transfer.

- Sept. 27—S. M. Bayley to L. Parrish, tide land F. and A. on lot 4 block 2, town of Garibaldi.
- Sept. 28—U. S. to John Kuns E 1/2 of Ne 1/4 and E 1/2 of Se 1/4 of sec. 14 tp. 2 S, R 7 W.
- Sept. 29—Geo. W. Grayson to Charles L. Smith, E 1/2 of Se 1/4 of sec. 36, tp. 1 S, R 87 with Trask river toll road.
- Sept. 30—U. S. to Wm. M. Mills, E 1/2 of W 1/4 of sec. 8 tp. 2 N, R 8 W.
- Sept. 30—Emma M. Edmonds to B. G. Faust Sw 1/2 of Nw. 1/4 of sec. 8 tp. 3 S of R 10 W.
- Oct. 2—U. S. to Clara Thompson E 1/2 of Sw 1/4 and lots 3 and 4 of sec. 18, tp. 1 S, R 6 W.
- Oct. 3—Clara Thompson to Peter Harvey, E 1/2 of Sw 1/4 and lots 8 and 4 of sec. 18 tp. 1 S, R 6 W.
- Oct. 2—Jennie Currie to Astoria Company, Sw 1/4 of sec. 9, tp. 2 N R 9 W.
- Oct. 2—Jacob Ripley to Frederick Bardou Nw 1/4 of Sw 1/4 and Ne 1/4 of Nw 1/4 of sec. 18, tp. 2 N R 9 W.
- Oct. 4—U. S. to F. R. Steinhauer, to N 1/4 of Nw 1/4 of sec. 13 and E 1/2 of Sw 1/4 of sec. 12 tp. 3 N R 10 W.

TIMBER LAND "GOBBLED"

So Says a Tillamook County Citizen Who Professes to Know.

Fred C. Baker, editor of the Tillamook Headlight, says his community has been in a state of feverish excitement as to the timber lands lately thrown open for settlement, and there has been something like an exodus or stampede toward Oregon City. "Had it not been for the use of scrip by professional gobblers," said he, "the whole of the land would have been claimed by citizens. It is doubtful if more than two dozen people outside of Tillamook have filed upon claims. This is greatly due to the stanch loyalty of Walter J. Smith, of Wilson, who has refused to locate outsiders to the prejudice of his own fellow-citizens, although he suffered a severe pecuniary loss by that course. About 37,000 acres were gobbled up, it is reported, by A. B. Hammond, of the Astoria & Columbia River railroad, by the use of scrip, at a cost of \$4 per acre, thus depriving citizens of a chance to exercise their right. Those who went to Oregon City found that most of the available land had been covered by this scrip.

"Owing to the prosperous condition of Tillamook county, very many, if not all the settlers possess or can command the means to purchase the timber lands they have filed upon. Many of them, I understand, have borrowed money, while many had the means at hand. The unity of the move, and its appearance as an organization, is probably due to three or four prominent citizens, who recognized the value of the lands and the advantage which would accrue to Tillamook county from their being locally owned. There can be no question as to the great value of these lands in the near future, and, realizing this, the citizens of Tillamook lost no time in securing them, hence the stampede to Oregon City to file upon them. These timber lands are all accessible to water, and it is estimated that the logs can be transported at an expense of 25 cents per 1000 to tidewater. Tillamook people have filed on 12,000 to 15,000 acres in a body. Probably not one-quarter section would be estimated to have less than 6,000,000 feet of timber. It must be understood that at a value of 75 cents per 1000, two ordinary trees would pay for an entire acre."—Oregonian.

J. S. Kenyon, a Baker county rancher spent two years in the Klondike, and brought back over \$40,000, according to the Democrat. While he was mining, his wife successfully ran the ranch.

TWO LIVE PAPERS.

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