General News.

The Venezuelan government has paid to Germany $60,000 due this month as stipulated in the protocol in partial liquidation of the German claims against Venezuela.

* * *

Colorado had a late snow his summer, on the 10th of June a heavy snow falling over the entire state, this snow melting washed out the railway tracks along the Arkansas river.

* * *

The Picket won the American Derby at Chicago, Claude second. Bernays third; time, 2:33. This breaks the record. The odds were: The Picket, 10 to 1; Claude, 7 to 1; Bernays, 8 to 1.

* * *

Colorado was well wetted down last week. These are the first soaking rains of the year that have fallen in Colorado. Every portion of the state has been reached and good grass and other crops are assured.

* * *

Ruth Hanna, the youngest daughter of Mark Hanna, was married to Joseph Medill McCormick, one of the editors of the Chicago Tribune and son of Hon. Robert S. McCormick, ambassador to Russia from the United States.

* * *

The geographical knowledge of the world has been extended by the discovery at the Antarctic circle, and well within the circle, of hitherto unknown land. It was discovered by a German exploring expedition and they named it Emperor William's Land.

* * *

On account of the unprecedented dry weather that has prevailed over the water shed that supplies the city of New York with water there are fears of a water famine, as the supply now is hardly sufficient for the wants of the inhabitants.

* * *

News comes from Gunnison, Colo., that there is likely to be trouble between the cattlemen and the sheepmen over the range. The sheepmen are driving a herd of sheep into country that has always been given to herding cattle and the cattlemen are determined to resist the invasion of the sheep.

* * *

In the naval home in Philadelphia William Mackabee will celebrate his 100th birthday next September. He is the oldest living veteran of the American navy. Born in Baltimore in 1803, he joined the frigate Constitution as an apprentice in 1817. He served nearly continuously in the navy until old age sent him to the naval home.

* * *

Plans have been made to drain 600,000 acres of swamp land that lies in one body in Florida. Prof. Wiley of the Department of Agriculture says that when this tract of land is drained it will be worth $300 per acre for growing sugar cane and capable of producing more sugar than the island of Cuba.

* * *

The United States Government has drafted a bill to prevent the exportation of inferior hemp. The natives of the Philipine islands had become careless about cleaning the raw fiber, leaving much gum on it. This added to the weight of the hemp. The object of the law is to have only clean fiber exported.

* * *

The news from the Transvaal gold diggings is favorable. The output is steadily on the increase, and although it has not yet closely approached that of September, 1899, just before the outbreak of the war, there is a chance that the yield of that month will be reached by the end of 1903. The $400,000,000 yield for the world is likely to be had in 1904.

* * *

Pension Commissioner Ware has determined to cut off the information to pension agents of new pensions issued, to the extent of withholding their post-office addresses. Like his predecessor, Commissioner Evans, he has been very much annoyed with the persistency of pension attorneys who are inclined to push a pension case whether there is merit in it or not.

* * *

Since that bachelor clergyman of Jefferson, Pa., announced that he would marry the girl who secured the largest church subscription, it is said several of the fathers are mortgaging their property to swell the fund. As a game of chance this has some advantages and disadvantages over the traditional grabbag and the solitary oyster in the soup.

* * *

Mosquitoes stopped a trolley car in New Jersey the other night and drove the passengers out. The motorman saved himself by digging a peephole through the mass of mosquitoes that enveloped his head and starting the car at full speed. The breeze blew the venomous birds away and the motorman got his car through, but he had no passengers.

* * *

George Kettler, an aged cobbler who died recently in Argentine, Kan., at one time was worth 12,000,000 Kettler was of German birth, and during the Franco-Prussian war operated a large shoe factory in Hanover. Profitable army contracts swelled his fortune to the figure named, but he lost everything in speculation. Then he came to this country penniless to begin life anew.

* * *

Oregon's prospects of securing Government irrigation reservoirs continue to improve, in addition to several withdrawals already made with this end in view, 1,880,000 acres in Malheur and Harney Counties were set aside yesterday. Whether this section will secure the first reservoir will be determined later on, but that it will ultimately be favored is certain. This latest project has to do with the storing of the waters of the Malheur and Silvies Rivers, whose waters are deemed ample to irrigate the large area set aside.

* *

News comes from the Bridger Creek country, Montana, that in all probability there will be a grasshopper plague in that section this Summer. The young hoppers are reported to be so thick now that they arise from the ground in clouds upon being distusbed. This condition is said to extend over a large territory of range country. The grass, which has attained a very good growth already, begins to show the work of the insects, and stockmen say it is likely that within a few weeks the range will be practically denuded of all vegitation.

* * *

Amanda de Lartigue, whose husband's remains were found buried in the front yard of their farm near Pomeroy, Wash., Saturday afternoon confessed, at the trial at Pomeroy, that she slew her husband with an ax and buried the remains on the night of September 23, 1902. She claims he came to her bedside while she was asleep, roused her and threatened her life; that he pursued her into the yard, shooting at her and that she seized an ax used for chopping wood and hit him on the head, burying the body herself the same night, together with his saddle. Self-defense is her plea and she disclaims malice. She was 20 years the senior of her husband.

* * *

During the storm Sunday night at North Yakima, Wash., lightning played a queer prank at the home of W. E. Thompson, on the Cowyhee. A bolt entered the rear of the house, tearing off a window casing as it passed in and breaking out all the glass in the window. An iron bedstead in which two men were sleeping was struck, bending the large frame out of place in many parts of it. The bolt was divided by one of the posts, one fork passing to a cupboard and shattering it and then passing through the floor in the room. The other bolt glanced to the chimney and followed it down to the first floor to the stove and passed out through the floor by one of the stove legs. The occupants of the bed were uninjured.

* * *

An insane man—the settlers call him a wild man—is scaring the people about Stave Lake, some distance from Vancouver, B.C., on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The man has gone back to a state of nature and is wandering the woods in a nude state. He makes his sleeping place in a big cedar stump and acts altogether as if he had gone right out of his mind. The police are after him. Provincial Constable Lane, of Mission, has been sent to arrest him. Fearing that the man might commit some serious act the residents of the district asked for police interference and Lane will search the woods for the wild man. So far the unfortunate's identity is unknown.

* * *

A Special from Dawson says from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000 more gold dust will be taken from the Klondike this season than last year, according to estimates of officials, mine owners and bank managers. Returns so far are turning out particularly well, and on some of the branches of the older creeks, Eldorado and Bonanza and Hunker, the claims are being made to yield more than ever before. Duncan Creek is turning out a second Eldorado, and a couple of millions of dollars will come from there alone before the clean-up season is at an end. Duncan is the best of all the new camps, and lots in the new townsite are selling at prices previously unheard of in a new locality in the north. The banks are taking in large amounts of gold daily, and very large drafts are being transferred to the outside.

* * *

A fortune of $250,000 it awaiting Albert Meyer, who, 12 years ago, left his home in Berlin to come to Americ, and of whom all trace has been lost during the past five years. Anxious relatives have asked the German Consul at San Francisco to locate him, inquiring as to the whereabouts of the missing heir. Albert Meyer is the son of Max Meyer, a well known grain merchant of Berlin, and a member of the Reichstag. His brother, Hugo Meyer, is an eminent specialist in Berlin. Twelve years ago Albert, then a boy of 20, left his home to come to America. He was told by his parents to write when in need of funds, but when stranded he prefereed to work for a living, and learned the trade of a cigarmaker. When last heard from by his relatives he was working in Los Angeles. That was five years ago. Shortly before that he had been in Sausalito. Two years ago the mother of the missing man died in Berlin, leaving an estate of $1,000,000, to be divided among her four children.

* * *

In the House of Lords Friday, Foreign Minister Lansdowne announced that British Minister to Servia had been instructed to withdraw from Belgrade for some time on the arrival there of King Peter, and in the meantime to do nothing which could be constructed as a recognition of the present government. Lord Lansdowne expressed his indignation at the crimes at Belgrade, and said he thought it was not desirable that Sir George Bonham, the British Minister, should be in that city when the new regime was inaugurated. The Foreign Minister added that no proposal had been received for concerted action toward Servia by the powers, but the British government had no intention of maintaining ordinary relations with persons concerned in the massacres. Great Britain has practically cut off diplomatic relations with Servia. The British Minister, Sir G. F. Bonham, will leave Monday for England. The Consul of Great Britain, W. G. Thesiger, will take charge of British interests

Constitution Nearly Wins.

NEW YORK, June 19.—If the Constitution did not defeat the Reliance on the time allowance in a 25 mile race over the course of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club in Long Island Sound today she gave the admirers of the new boat a bad scare. In more than four hours of sailing the Reliance outsailed the Constitution by only 1 minute and 50 seconds elapsed time. It is estimated that the new boat will have to allow the Constitution two to three minutes in a 30-mile race, which, if true, would give today's race to the older boat, and might give her one of the earlier races as well, when the Reliance beat her by two minutes and a fraction.

The Columbia was again outclassed from the start. Her gain of about 12 minutes on the second leg of the race was time wasted by the other boats in a ruffling match.

Between the leaders the race was hotly contested, first one and then the other getting the better of it by sudden shifts of the wind, which, when it began to blow steadily, left the Reliance about one minute ahead.

The Constitution's fast sailing today was all the more remarkable, and makes her all the more formidable, from the fact that the race was sailed in light winds and smooth water, under which conditions the Reliance has often beaten her. The course was a triangle, 10 miles across the Sound, five miles over to the Connecticut shore, and 10 miles along that shore to the finish line. Summary:

Boat.	Start.	Finish.	Elapsed Time.
Reliance	12:46:07	4:50:24	4:04:17
Constitution	12:46:10	4:52:17	4:06:07
Columbia	13:46:52	5:03:46	4:16:54

Soon after sunrise today a driving northeast rain storm set in, and there was every indication that it would continue throughout the day, so that there was little hope three hours before the time set for the start that the yachts would appear.

The rain stopped falling at 10 o'clock, but the wind died out at the same time.

A light breeze finally sprang from the east, and at 12:46 the race started. The Constitution crossed the line first, but the Reliance took the lead within a minute, with Columbia third.

Couger Attacks Girl.

Miss Ida Grimes, a young woman living on the Washington side of the Columbia, three miles north of Woodland, on the Kalama Road, beat off a young cougar with her riding whip and made her escape Wednesday morning. William Goering, who lives in that neighborhood, was in St. Helens Thursday and is responsible for the story.

Miss Grimes lives with her uncle, and every morning and evening rides on horseback to the hill ranch to assist in the milking. She was making her return trip Wednesday morning when she was attacked by the young couger, receiving several body scratches, and her clothing badly torn. Miss Grimes vigorously defended herself with her riding whip and finally pulled her horse away from the hungry cub. The animal was about the size of a dog, and had evidently just been weaned by the mother cougar. In this condition the young animals are said to be about half-starved, and will tackle almost anything that happens to be conveniently in close distance.

Sewing Machines.

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