The Willamette Farmer.

SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE WEEKLY OREGON STATESMAN, SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1899.

KICKS FROM THE CUBANS

Acceptance by Gomez of Porter's Offer

Has Enraged Some of the Leaders.

Governor Brady, of Alaska, Is in Washington—The Boundary Line Is Discussed.

HAVANA, Feb. 3.—The following from President McKinley was received and transmitted to Gen. Gomez: "General Porter, Havana—The president sends his hearty congratulations and thanks for the dispatch. Convey my cordial greetings to General Gomez and the grateful appreciation of the friendly message. The cooperation of General Gomez in the pacification of the Cubans is of the greatest value for both peoples."

Among the Cuban leaders who have given expression to their views on the subject, it is asserted that General Gomez was not authorized to agree to a disbandment of the army without consulting the Cuban assembly and obtaining its permisison. Indeed, when the report arrived that General Gomez had accepted Porter's proposition on behalf of the president, many doubted it, refusing to believe that he would act in this fashion. Prominent Cubans said today:

"If the news is true, the Cuban assembly will have grounds for proceeding against General Gomez. The idea of $3,000,000 as a gift from the United States to the Cuban soldiers is repugnant, and wounds the pride of the Cubans."

ALASKANS OBJECT.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Governor Brady of Alaska, and George Brackett, of Minneapolis, the latter largely interested in a railroad enterprise in Alaska, were today interviewing the American members of the high joint commission, regarding the Alaskan interests. The report has been in circulation that, in considering the Alaskan boundary, the British members of the commission had insisted that Lion canal should be considered within the Canadian lines, and that there should be an all-Canadian port, presumably Pyramid, conceded by the United States. Both Governor Brady and Mr. Brackett protested against this proposition.

CHINA MAKES AMENDS.

Peking, Feb. 3.—The Chinese foreign office has agreed to open the treaty port of Nanking, in the province of Kiang Soo, on the river Fu, near the Tonquin frontier, which the British consider suitable for the exploitation of the west river. The foreign office has also agreed to pay $30,000 to the relatives of the murdered British missionary, Mr. Fleming. In addition, two of the murderers have been beheaded, the military mandarin of the locality has been banished, and two officials have been degraded.

COURT OF INQUIRY.

TO INVESTIGATE THE CHARGES OF GENERAL MILES.

The Cabinet Favors Giving the Officer an Opportunity to Prove the Charges He Makes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Indications are that a court martial will be ordered to investigate and report upon the truth or falsity of statements alleged to have been made by General Miles, in which the quality of beef furnished the troops during the late war was brought in question.

The matter was discussed at some length at today's cabinet meeting, and although no definite decision was reached, the consensus of opinion was that such proceedings should be had. It was argued that if the packers who had furnished beef to the army had fraudulently supplied the article as charged by Miles, the country had a right to know the fact. It was also agreed that Miles should not be suspended from office as commander of the army pending such investigation.

It is not believed that such action will be taken, however, until the war investigation committee has made its report, which is expected next Monday. No one outside of the commission is supposed to know what the nature of the report will be. The method which is to be adopted, namely, a court of inquiry to pass upon Miles' conduct is taken to indicate a knowledge on the part of the administration of what he report will have to say as bearing upon Miles' charges.

The common impression is that the court of inquiry can be ordered only upon the demand of the officer whose conduct is to be made the subject of the investigation. While that is usually the case, there is, however, a reserve power in the president to order such a court, regardless of the wishes of the officer concerned. The authority is contained in article 115 of the articles of war, which have the force of statutes.

Miles, on being informed of currently reported court of inquiry in store for him, said that after thorough consideration he had decided to say nothing on the subject.

STANDING OUT TO SEA.

Fighting Ships Will Soon Leave the Navy Yard at Brooklyn.

New York, Feb. 3.—On Monday the big fighting craft at the navy yard will begin to move out into the open sea once more. The Chicago will be the first to leave, having orders to proceed to New Orleans, to attend the Mardi Gras there. She will leave Monday morning and is expected to make the trip by February 12th. After being out of commission about four years the cruiser gets back into active life entirely remodeled. On the trip to New Orleans she will try her speed, her engines and her guns.

In two weeks the big Indiana will leave the yard. Her engines have been given a trial in the waters of the yard, and other preliminary work done for the starting out to sea. She will go to Hampton Roads first, and then proceed south.

The New York has been ordered away on February 8th. The Massachusetts and Newark will follow. The squadron will assemble in Cuban waters for three weeks of work.

The Detroit, now in Cuban waters, will also be at the Mardi Gras, and, with the Chicago, will join the others after the festival has closed.

The Texas has been ordered from Havana to Galveston to take part in a celebration there, at which Commodore Philip will be presented with a sword. She will also go to the squadron. Admiral Sampson, whose flag now flies from the New York, will command the squadron.

SAME SORT OF TALK

AN OLD-TIME ANTI-EXPANSION SPEECH.

Oregon Was Thought to Be Too Far Away, and Would Be a Disadvantage to Us.

In 1824 President Monroe, in his message to congress, advised the occupation of Oregon, and in accordance with his suggestion a bill was drawn authorizing the establishment of a post on the Columbia river.

It was opposed by Senator Dickerson, of New Jersey, and in the course of his speech in the senate on February 26, 1825, he made the following remarks:

"As yet, we have extended our laws to no territories but such as were or are able to become states of the union. We have not adopted a system of colonization, and it is to be hoped we never shall. Oregon can never be one of the United States. If we extend our laws to it, we must consider it as a colony. As yet we have sent no military force there. What is the immediate pressure for force at this time? To protect our ships engaged in whaling and fishing, and in the fur trade and taking of sea otters? The whales are caught in the southern latitudes, and all the sea otters we shall ever take upon the coast of the Oregon territory would not pay of the Oregon territory would not pay pany across the Rocky Mountains.

"But is the territory of Oregon ever to become a state, a member of the union? Never. The union is too extensive already—and we must make three or four new states from the territories already formed. (There were then twenty-four states) * * * The distance from the mouth of the Columbia to the mouth of the Missouri is 3,555 miles—from Washington to the mouth of the Missouri is 1,160 miles—making the whole distance from Washington to the mouth of the Columbia river 4,715 miles—but say 4 650 The distance, therefore, that a member of congress from this state of Oregon would be obliged to travel in coming to the seat of government and returning home would be 9,300 miles; this at the rate of $8 for every 20 miles, would make his traveling expenses amount to $3,720. Every member of congress ought to see his constituents once a year. This is already very difficult for those in the most remote parts of the union. * * * At the rate which the members of congress travel according to law, that is twenty miles per day, it would require to come to the seat of government from Oregon and return, 465 days. Yet a young, able bodied senator might travel from Oregon to Washington and back once a year, but he could do nothing else. It would be more expeditious, however, to come by water around Cape Horn, or to pass through Behring's straights, around the north coast of this continent to Baffin's bay, through Davis' straits to the Atlantic, and so on to Washington It is true, this passage is not yet discovered, except upon our maps—but it will be as soon as Oregon shall be a state.

"If we plant a colony at Oregon we must protect it and at an enormous expense. And what advantage can we expect in return? Surely none. We form a vulnerable point where our enemy can easily reach us, and where it will be very difficult to defend ourselves."

Raspberries belong to Europe and Asiatic Russia. Black mulberries come from Persia. Gooseberries are native in central Europe and Western Asia. They have always been cultivated in Great Britain, but not till lately has the rest of Europe appreciated them.

The flax and linen industry will be a bigger thing than either wheat, hop or fruit growing or salmon fishing. But it must have a beginning.

GOMEZ IS SATISFIED

WILL CO-OPERATE WITH THE AMERICAN OFFICERS.

In Disbanding His Army and Assisting in the Reconstruction of the Unhappy Island.

REMEDIOS, Santa Clara, Cuba, Feb. 4, via Havana, Feb. 2.—Maximo Gomez, commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, placed himself squarely in a position today as an active ally of the United States government in the work of reconstruction in Cuba.

As a result of a conference with Robert P. Porter, special commissioner of President McKinley, had by Gomez, the latter cabled to President McKinley this afternoon assuring him of his cooperation in disbanding the Cuban army and distributing among the Cuban soldiers $3,000,000 appropriated for the purpose of enabling them to return to their homes. Gomez also telegraphed to Major-General Brooke, saying he would accept the latter's invitation to go to Havana.

GOMEZ IS PLEASED.

Remedios, Santa Clara, Cuba, Feb. 2. Immediately after yesterday's conference, General Gomez wrote the following letter to President McKinley, in Spanish:

"It has been a great pleasure to me to confer with your commissioner, Mr. Porter, introduced by my friend, Quesada, and I am now aware of, and pleased with, your wishes. In a short time I shall go to Havana and confer with General Brooke, so that everything will go well. Following your advice, I willingly co-operate in the work of reconstructing Cuba. (Signed) Maximo Gomez, general."

Today General Gomez is preparing for the trip to Havana. The attitude of the old fighter is much more cordial than was anticipated by Porter. He told the latter he was proud to meet a special commissioner of the president, and he is evidently much gratified at the prospect of an early solution of the disbandment problem.

As agreed at yesterday's conference, the entire amount will be in Spanish silver. At the rate of 60 cents, it will amount to $4,200,000, or nearly $100 for each man in the Cuban army.

There is no opposition to the proposition to establish the flax treating industry at the penitentiary, exceptins from two sources These are the men who think the prison labor should be employed on the public roads, and the foundry interests. But there would be plenty of convicts to carry on the latter, and to build all the roads it would be profitable to undertake to construct with this kind of labor, after detailing a sufficient number for the proposed industry. Convicts can be worked in the flax plant who could not with safety be employed on the roads. They would be kept within the walls. There is no other proposition as practicable, or promising such great and many benefits. By all means, get the men started to work developing this industry.

"On the shores of the Mediterranean sea," it is said, "Christianity is striving to push Mohammedanism back into Asia. In Africa it is dissipating the darkness of heathenism. In China it is supplanting the effete systems of Confucianism and Buddhism."

DINKELSPIEL TO DEWEY.

Vell, Chorge, how vas you gedding on
  Avay so many miles?
Und how vas eferdings abouid
  Dem Philyppeanuts Isles?
Dot fellow, Nagginaldo, he
  Vas preddy fresh, I guess!
I dink in just abou d a veek
  Dare'll be von Dago less
If he keeps fooling mit you, Chorge!
  Und dare vill be also
Goll collars mit no neck to fit
  Down ad Hel'ohello!

Vell, Chorge, ha'f Hopson got dare yet?
  If not he will some day—
Profiding dot to many gi is
  Don't stol him on der way.
Und ven he does ged ouid dare py
  Dem Philyppeanuts Isles
I vish vot all dem na'it girls
  Vould dress ub in dare smiles,
Und meet him down dare py der shore,
  Und show him he doan't know
Vot kissing is until he got
  Ouid py Hellohello!

Vell, Chorge, und dit you heard der news?
  Vas id by cable sent
Dey vas going to make you ruh-
  To be der Bresident?
Dey half id all fixed ub, and on
  Der tigget dare mit you
Dey put a friend uf yours, h's name
  Is Gif Dem Fitz Lee Hugh!
Und if you are nod busy, Chorge,
  Yust come right home and go
Und run for Bresident and shook
  Dot tam Hellohello!

Vell, Chorge, auf wiedersehn mein friend
  Und also, too wie gehts!
I hope dot ferry soon you'll come
  Pack py der Union Sdates;
Und ven you are der Bresident,
  Mit Gif Dem Fitz Lee Hugh,
Perhaps I'll gif you some atvice
  Und tolt you vot to do,
For you haf peen so long ouid dare,
  Vare eferydings is slow.
You'll need some poinders ven you come
  Pack from Hellohello!

—Baltimore American.

A REVIEW OF TRADE

CLEARING HOUSE RECORDS ARE VERY ENCOURAGING.

January the Best Month for Business in Many Years—Failures Are Decreasing Rapidly.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—R. G. Dun & Co's Weekly Review of Trade will say tomorrow:

The failures in January were smaller than in any previous month, except August, 1898, and July, 1897, and the proportion of solvent payments to the clearing house exchanges, is smaller than in any other month of which records exist. In January there were but 36 cents per $1000 clearing house payments and the smallest in any previous month has been about $1.08 per $1000. Defaulter liabilities were $7,721,897, against $10,451,513 last year, a decrease of 26 per cent, and 58 per cent smaller than in 1897.

Considering that January is usually one of the largest months of the year in failures the returns are surprising as well as encouraging.

The volume of business in January has been far beyond all precedent. The exchanges through the clearing houses have been 44 per cent larger than last year, and 59.1 larger than in 1892, and while speculation in stocks at New York materially increases the volume of payments, it was larger outside this city by 33 3 per cent than in 1892.

Failures for the week have been 224 in the United States against 335 last year, and twenty-five in Canada against thirty-nine last year.

A COLUMN OF SOLID GOLD 900 FEET HIGH.

What Might Be Constructed from the Gold Mined in This Country in 1898—World's Output Increasing All the Time.

The mint bureau of the treasury declares that the world's production of gold for the year 1898 was about $275,000,000. This is $75,000,000 more than the output of 1895, and the available figures show that the yield of the yellow metal has been steadily and rapidly increasing. Nor is it expected to pause at the present high-water mark, the prediction of the government experts being that it will exceed $500,000,000 in 1900, and that it will go on growing for at least a century to come, each year's product surpassing that of its immediate predecessor.

These facts are extremely interesting, in view of the gloomy forebodings published not long ago to the effect that the available gold deposits of the earth were being rapidly exhausted, and that before a great while a famine of the metal would threaten all values in the markets of the world, bringing about nobody knows what disastrous consequences. How cheerful is it then, to learn that in 1898 the United States alone produced $65,000,000 worth of gold. This seems like a very big amount, but the size of it may be appreciated better by supposing all of this gold to be made into solid blocks, each one an exact cubical foot in dimensions. The $65,000,000 worth of yellow metal would furnish 900 such blocks, which, if piled neatly one on top of another in a single stack or column a foot square, would be nearly twice as high as the Washington monument.

It would be quite a job to pile up these blocks in the manner described, inasmuch as each of the 900 would weigh exactly 222 pounds. Equally striking perhaps is it to consider how great a space would be covered by the $65,000,000 worth of gold, if all of it were rolled out into gold leaf. This is easily calculated, inasmuch as $1 worth of gold makes 100 sheets of the ordinary commercial leaf, 3 by 3 inches. One dollar's worth of gold, then, would cover thirty square feet, and $65,000,000 worth would beautifully gild an area of seventy square miles. The United States produced 6 ounces of pure gold every minute during the year 1898.

Evidently the nation is not threatened with poverty. On the contrary, the mint bureau asserts that the gold output of this country will show a steady increase for many years to come, and a lessening of the available supply of the metal is not ever in sight. Gold is one of the most widely distributed of all substances, and newly discovered methods whereby low-grade ores are worked at a profit, have postponed indefinitely the exhaustion of the precious stuff which was looked forward to a while ago with such alarm. The gold production of the United States last year was greater by $15,000,000 than in 1895, and $26,000,000 greater than the output of 1894. This gives a notion of the tremendous rate at which the yield is growing.

The treasury experts estimate that in 1900 there will be in this country $1,000,000,000 worth of money gold—i. e., gold in coin and bars. This, of course, excludes what is utilized in the arts. The $1,000,000,000 worth would make 15,000 of the solid blocks of virgin metal already described, each one a foot cube. Meanwhile mining is going on busily in other parts of the earth, the entire world producing gold at the rate of nearly two pounds for every minute that passes. Thus, in 1900 the world's stock of money gold will represent a value of $5,000,000,000. Obviously, such a sum can not be grasped by the finite human mind, but a faint conception of it may be obtained by imagining a cubical block 42 feet long, 42 feet wide and 42 feet high. Such a block, of solid and perfectly pure gold—as large, you see, as a good-sized building—would stand for $5,000,000,000.

This wonderful golden brick, representing the money stock of that metal in the world at the close of the century, would weigh 7432 long tons. Chop it up into pieces of 200 pounds each, and 87,250 strong men, each carrying one such chunk on his shoulders, would be required to remove the whole. This would be a body of men more than three times the size of the present regular army of the United States, and, walking in single file as close together as practicable, they would extend, thus burdened, in a line stretching from New York to Philadelphia The total gold production of the world since the discovery of America has been about $9,000,000,000, but much of this quantity has been lost. The causes of loss of gold are various, running all the way from abrasion, incidental to its circulation as money, to shipwrecks, by which immense sums are now and then swallowed up.

CYRANO AND AMERICAN CEREBRATION.

It is recognized as an established fact that no man can justly lay claim upon the ownership of his ideas unless he copyrights or patents them in some tangible form before they become cold. There were no less than 700 claimants for the honor when James Watts discovered what steam might do under an expansion policy. The late Elias Howe had scarcely punched an eye through the point of a needle when, to use a homely expression, the woods were full of sewing machine inventors. Not less than 500 discoverers of the telephone were lined up in front of the patent office when Gray and Edison came down the steps with their papers. The man who invented the typewriting machine would populate one of the largest of our dependencies. Equally numerous is the author of "The Beautiful Snow." John A. Joyce wrote "Laugh and the World Laughs With You; Weep and You Weep alone" one night, went into ecstasies over his triumph, read it to his friends at Chamberlain's in Washington and was about to have his picture taken while in the act of copying the inspired couplet, when next morning he read it in a newspaper over the name of Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Unconscious cerebration is at once the most wonderful, mysterious, and painful of the human faculties. It may be classed, because of the disappointment, chagrin and sorrow which it brings down upon those who have inherited or acquired it, among the most harrowing of mental diseases. It is no respecter of persons, for it has attacked poets, novelists, journalists, playwrights, real estate dealers, and inventors of self-closing bung-holes without discrimination or without partiality. The brain which assimilates the ideas of others in the belief that these ideas have never been communicated to mortal man before is apt to get its owner into all sorts of difficulties, for the spiritual atmosphere literally swarms with ideas, every one of which flits like a bird from brain to brain with a twirr here and a chirrup there until it finally settles down on some congenial gray matter and tunes its gentle lay from the first stanza to the last.

This accounts for the fact that so many of us see our thoughts in print. We have received a hurried visit from the winged idea, we have caught a note here and there. We have felt the delicious sweetness of the air and our intellects have been fanned by the wings of a happy thought, but it has passed on from ours to other minds until it finally rests upon the cerebral tissue of the brain of its choice.

Commenting on this tendency, the Chicago Inter-Ocean says: "We apprehend, nay, we are inclined to believe, that when the testimony is all in, our Mr. Goss will be able to show that the ideas which gave birth to 'Cyrano de Bergerac' were his for a time. And it is equally certain that the man to whom Mr. Mansfield is indebted for a play that draws good houses while it irritates the critics can prove equally much. It would not be surprising to learn when the case is heard that Reginald De Koven, Chatfield-Tayor, William Lightfoot Visscher (formerly of Oregon, Washington, and many other places), Bog Givins, Jack Crawford, have all conceived the character of Cyrano at one time or another, and that, owing to a pressure of business, lack of time, or want of opportunity, each has failed to immortalize himself by putting the thought into tangible form on the typewriter."

The more one inquires into this subject the more likely is one to become involved in a discussion of the unknowable. This being the case, perhaps it is better to let it rest where it is for the present.

CAUSED BY THE COLD

Explosion of a Range in Corvallis.

Narrow Escape of Mrs. Bryson.

The Stove Blown to Pieces and Scattered Throughout the Residence—Frozen Water Pipes.

CORVALLIS, r., Feb. 2.—An explosion this morning wrecked a large range in the kitchen of Mrs. Mary Bryson. Pieces of the stove were hurled through the door of the dining room and embedded in the opposite wall. Windows were smashed, the walls filled with pieces of cast iron, and the large residence shaken violently by the force of the explosion.

Mrs. Bryson had lighted a fire in the stove a short time previously, and was up stairs when the explosion occurred. The accident is supposed to have been due to the steam, which generated quickly in the coil of frozen water pipes inside the furnace of the range.

House joint resolution No. 1 was adopted by the upper branch of the legislature at Thursday morning's session. This is a resolution proposing to submit to the people the question of adopting a constitutional amendment providing for the initiative and referendum. It was adopted by the house at this session, and must be adopted by both houses at the next session, before being submitted to a vote. This would bring the question to a vote at the general election of 1902. The amendment proposed in this resolution provides for a "mild form" of the initiative and referendum. Under its provisions 5 per cent of the legal voters must petition (the initiative) for the submission of a law, and 5 percent must petition for a vote upon a law enacted by the legislative assembly, and in the latter case the petition must be made within ninety days after the adjournment thereof, and sole authority is left with the legislative assembly in measures for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety. A number of republicans in the legislature voted for this measure who will not favor its adoption of the amendment if it comes to a vote in 1902. They so explained their votes. But they said they were willing to leave the matter to the people to decide by a majority vote for or against. The resolution in the senate was adopted by a vote of 20 to 8, and in the house the vote was 42 to 9.

The democrats in the next senate will be weaker than they have been at any time since the early days of the reconstruction period. They are likely to be weaker still in the senate chosen two years later. Present indications are that the democracy in the election of 1900 will get a harder drubbing than they experienced at any previous time since 1872. In 1896 the democrats were hit by only one issue, that of silver, while next year they will be struck by expansion as well as by silver. Bryan, it is safe to say, can have the next nomination if he wants it. The outlook for the democracy is reasonably sure to be so gloomy that the contest in that party's national convention will not attract many aspirants.

This is an era of plain talking by British public men. Colonial Secretary Chamberlain tells France that by "means of alleged rights under anticuated treaties" she has strangled the British colony of New Foundland, and adds that if France wants amity with England she will "abandon those anticuated rights for a satisfying compensation." Nobody is accusing the Salisbury ministry of "nervelessness" these days. The Americo-English alliance is a long way off, but the American friendship for England has given a vigor and a directness to the foreign policy of that country which recall the days of the elder Pitt.

The New York Observer says: "There is religious insanity, just as there is ordinary insanity, and it is unfortunate that Christianity is often made to appear unnecessarily unreasonable in the eye of society by the eccentricities of individual exponents of it."

While the czar is talking of universal peace he makes no reference to his new warships. Still it's hardly needed, as they speak for themselves.