

MORE PROOF

Of the Safety of Foreign Legations in Chinese Capital.

CONFLICTING REPORTS ARE HEARD

President McKinley Is Asked to Act as Mediator Between China and European Powers.

LONDON, July 24.—The Chinese Minister, Sir Shih Chen Lo Feng Luh, has communicated to the press the following dispatch from Sheng, director of the Chinese railways and telegraphs and Toa Tai of Shanghai, dated Shanghai, July 23d:

"Information from Peking, dated July 18th, say that the Tsung Li Yamen deputed Won Jui, Under Secretary of the Department, to see the foreign Ministers, and he found everyone well without any missing, the German excepted.

"General Yung Lu is going to memorialize the throne to send them all under escort to Tien Tsin in the hope that the military operations will then be stopped."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing July 23d, says: "A letter from a Chinese official in Shan Tung has been received by an active functionary here, containing the following message:

"At the beginning of the month, foreign missionaries made several attempts to send messages out of Peking, but thanks to the strict watch kept on the city, the bearers were all caught and executed. On the fourth instant only 400 foreigners were left alive in Peking, and one night, when the big guns were incessantly fired, it was known that all legations and foreigners were finished, although the pretended telegrams contradicted these facts."

GO TO TIEN TSIN.

London, July 23.—Sir Haldimand McCarty, counselor and English secretary to the Chinese legation in London, asserted this evening, that the Peking legations were safe and about to proceed to Tien Tsin.

AGAIN CORROBORATED.

Paris, July 23.—M. Del Casse, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has received a telegram from the French Consul at Che Foo, dated July 21st, saying: "The Governor informs me that, according to reliable news from Peking, all foreign Ministers are safe, and the Government is taking all necessary steps to deliver and protect them."

APPEAL TO AMERICA.

Washington, July 23.—The President has listened to the appeal of the Chinese Government, as transmitted through Minister Wu, and has signified his willingness to mediate between the Imperial Government and the Powers, but only upon the conditions which first must be met by the Chinese Government. The exact nature of the terms proposed by the State Department cannot be stated until tomorrow, when it is expected that a publication will be made of the text of the Chinese appeal and of the President's message. It is known, however, that the answer is entirely consistent with the statement of the principles laid down by Secretary Hay in his identical note to the Powers, and moreover, it accords as truthful the Chinese statements relative to the safety of the foreign Ministers at Peking.

SITUATION IMPROVED.

Washington, July 23.—The Administration officials are more hopeful over the situation in China, as the result of dispatches which have come in the last few days, more particularly the European advices of tonight, asserting that the Ministers are safe. If an answer is received to the second telegram, which has been sent through the Chinese Minister here to Congor, and that answer should bear an internal evidence of genuineness, the situation will be materially improved and the Government, with the additional information which Congor may transmit, will be able to move intelligently toward the rescue of the beleaguered foreigners.

TO ASSIST CHAFFEE.

Washington, July 23.—It is generally understood in military circles that Brigadier-General Fred Grant, Adjutant-General Thomas Barry and Brigadier-General James H. Wilson have been selected for assignment to China, under General Chaffee.

A BIG FAKE.

San Francisco, July 23.—There is nothing in the extensive report of Admiral Seymour, which was received here today, by the steamer America Maru, to prove the sensational story, that was circulated the early part of this month, to the effect that Admiral Seymour, who commanded the Peking relief expedition, killed his wounded men to save them from the Chinese.

JAPAN'S PROTEST.

Denver, Col., July 23.—Gov. Thomas today received a brief communication from Secretary of State Hay, enclosing an extended letter from N. Nabe-

china, the Japanese charge d'affaires at Washington. The latter letter is in the nature of a demand upon the part of the Imperial Government of Japan that the Colorado state board of health raise the quarantine on Japanese subjects. The Japanese, according to Nabechin's letter, should not be included with the Chinese in anything. He says they are not given to plague and never have been.

AGAIN TWO TAILS.

Charles A. Towne to Remain on the Populistic Ticket.

Lincoln, Neb., July 23.—A story circulated here today, though not credited to Bryan or his visitors, is to the effect that Charles A. Towne will remain on the ticket as the Populistic candidate for Vice President, for the good his candidacy will do in the strongly Populistic states of Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota.

FIGHTING IN AFRICA.

ROBERTS REPORTS DEFEAT OF THE BOERS SATURDAY.

Another Message Tells of the British Forces Having Heavy Losses Inflicted by the Enemy.

LONDON, July 23.—The war office has received a telegram from Lord Roberts, dated Pretoria, Sunday, July 22d, which says:

Methuen continued his march and occupation of Heckport, and engaged the enemy's rear guard at Zindfontein, July 20th. The casualties were one killed and one wounded. Early on Saturday he attacked the enemy again at Oliphants Nek and completely dispersed them, inflicting a heavy loss. Our casualties were slight.

By these successes, Rustenberg has been relieved and Methuen and Baden-Powell have joined hands. Hunter reports that Bruce Hamilton secured a strong position on Splraty, yesterday, with a battery and the Cameron Highlanders and 500 mounted men. Our casualties were three killed and Capt. Keith-Hamilton, of the Oxford, Capt. Brown and Lieutenant Stewart, and thirteen men of the Camerons, wounded.

PUNISHED THE BRITISH.

London, July 23.—The Daily Express has the following from Machododorp: "There has been severe fighting during the last three days, and the Boers have inflicted heavy losses upon the British at Dedodorp. Six hundred women and children, from Pretoria, have arrived at Barberton."

UNFIT FOR WORK.

London, July 23.—Letters, reaching London from the British troops in the Orange River Colony, assert that both men and horses are on short supplies and are not fit for hard work. If this be true, there is little cause for wonder at the failure to capture DeWet, and at the apparent paralysis of the operations.

RAPE FIEND HANGED.

Negro Strung Up Near the Scene of His Crime By a Mob.

Huntsville, Ala., July 23.—Ehjah Priest, who yesterday assaulted a 13-year old girl, was taken from jail to night and lynched near the spot where his crime was committed. Will Vining, who attempted to rush through the crowd and up the jail steps, was shot by the sheriff and dangerously wounded. The mob drove the sheriff and his prisoner into the third story of the building.

DREAD YELLOW JACK.

American Troops in Cuba Suffering with the Island's Affliction.

Havana, July 23.—Yellow fever has broken out in the barracks of the Seventh United States Cavalry, and the First United States Infantry in Pinar del Rio. There have been nine deaths during the last month, and eleven cases are now under treatment.

THE LAW INVALID

BICYCLE LEGISLATION NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTION.

So Decided by Judge A. F. Sears, of the Multnomah County Circuit Court, Yesterday.

The case recently brought in Multnomah county to test the constitutionality of the bicycle tax law, was yesterday decided by Circuit Judge A. F. Sears Jr. The learned judge, one of the ablest on the Oregon bench, decides against the law. The Portland Telegram of last evening, in reporting the decision has the following:

"Judge Sears holds the law to be unconstitutional on several grounds, the principal one that seemed to strike the court with greatest force, being that the law provided for double and unequal taxation of one class of personal property. Bicycles, as well as all other personal property, are supposed to be taxed, and it is repugnant to the constitution to single them out for special and additional taxation. The law is obnoxious to the constitution in still another respect, in that it does not impose the tax in proportion to the value of the bicycle; the ad valorem principle, that is supposed to underlie all state taxation, is not adhered to, and a bicycle worth \$5 is taxed as much as one worth \$500.

"The law, in the opinion of the court,

is also unconstitutional upon the ground that it is local legislation on a subject in which such legislation is prohibited by the constitution. This act provides for this species of taxation in certain counties of the state and exempts other counties from its provisions, and hence is local legislation, in two respects, of the kind prohibited by the constitution. First, in regard to taxation, and second, in regard to opening and maintaining public highways. As narrated in the Telegram last week, the Supreme Court of Oregon has gone to extreme lengths in holding such legislation valid, but Judge Sears is evidently of the opinion that this law goes beyond any that has been held good by the Supreme Court. At least he decides the case according to his view of the constitution and the statute, leaving the Supreme Court to determine the case as it pleases.

"The law was attacked on several other grounds, but the court did not specifically pass on all of them, basing his decision on what seemed to it most important. The case will be appealed at once to the Supreme Court."

A MANILA BONNET.—Lester B. Davis, of this city, who served as a private in the late company M. Second Oregon Volunteers, in the Philippines, yesterday appeared on the street with a remarkably cool and comfortable hat Lester purchased the headgear while in Manila, paying therefor \$2.50 American money, the value of the article in this country being about \$10. The hat is hand woven, made from a native fibre of unusually fine texture. The hat can be crumpled into a ball the size of your fist, but when released, being very elastic, will resume its former figure and be none the worse for the treatment. The hat is washable and will wear a lifetime. Lester finds much pleasure and comfort in wearing the "bonnet" these warm days.

DIED IN SAN FRANCISCO.—Robt. E. Crawford, who drove stage for some years between Salem and Silverton, died last Sunday at the Presidio, on his return from Manila, where he went last January in the service of the Government. He was a brother of Prof. T. H. Crawford and of Mrs. M. Clay Starr, a son of Dr. Crawford, a pioneer of Brownsville. He was 54 years of age and left a family.

STATE TAXES.—State Treasurer Chas. S. Moore yesterday received \$2000 from Clatsop county, on account of delinquent state taxes for the year 1892. Curry county also sent in the balance of its 1892 tax, amounting to \$1448.18.

CRITICALLY ILL.—Mrs. Benjamin Wheeler, aged about 75 years, of Highland, is lying critically ill at her suburban home. Her condition is such that she cannot live but a short time.

The first Rosa Bonheur prize has been awarded by the Paris Beaux Arts. It went to Grausht Taylor, a pupil of Cormon, for his salon painting "A Fisherman's Widow."

TO STOP SHIPMENTS.

London, July 23.—The House of Lords, this evening passed to second

IT WAS MILD

Few Smallpox Cases Among the Thousands at Cape Nome.

THE TOWN'S ENORMOUS POPULATION

The Alaska-Canadian Boundary Survey Not Satisfactory to Miners in Porcupine Diggings.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23.—Advices from Cape Nome, received by the Alaska Commercial Co., state that up to July 10th there had been nineteen cases of smallpox in the camp, only one being reported since July 5th. According to the records of the custom house, 114 vessels have entered Nome, and 13,437 passengers have landed, not including those who came down the Yukon river, nor those who landed from vessels which did not report to the customs officers. From 6000 to 10,000 persons will probably winter at Nome.

AMERICA'S LOSS.

Skagway, Alaska, July 16, via Seattle, Wash., July 23.—The work of delimiting the provisional boundary in the disputed Alaska-Canadian territory having been completed in that part crossing the Dalton trail, and touching the Porcupine district, the Americans in the district find that they have lost a large part of what they believed was rightfully American territory. A survey has been run and monuments set within the last few weeks. The surveyors simply followed instructions, as set forth in the modus vivendi agreed to provisionally some months ago. The survey and demarcation of the line leaves nearly one half of the Porcupine gold mines in British territory.

The American miners in the Porcupine have addressed a protest to President McKinley. Copies of the protest have been sent to the Chambers of Commerce of Seattle, Skagway, San Francisco and Portland, with the request for co-operation.

The Porcupine placer mines, it is estimated, will yield \$250,000 this year.

TO STOP SHIPMENTS.

London, July 23.—The House of Lords, this evening passed to second

reading the bill, empowering the Queen to prohibit the exportation of arms and ammunition to any country "when there is reason to believe that these or others may be used against the British forces, or foreign forces co-operating with them."

A FATAL EXPLOSION.

New York, July 23.—By the explosion of a naphtha launch on Long Island Sound, tonight, Mrs. A. E. Crowe and her 16-year old son, Chilton, were instantly killed, and A. E. Crowe, perhaps fatally injured. Mr. Crowe is a wealthy resident of New Rochelle.

CHANGED HIS PLAN.

President McKinley Decides He Cannot Travel on Sunday.

Chicago, July 23.—President McKinley, who was scheduled to reach Chicago Monday, August 27th, to attend the National Encampment, G. A. R., today notified Executive Director Hartman that, inasmuch it will necessitate Sunday travel to reach here on that day, he will change his plans. He will arrive in Chicago on Saturday, August 25th.

THE GOLD RESERVE.

Washington, July 23.—The Government's holdings of gold today reached the highest point in its history, and amounted to \$427,498,482.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

Fort Scott, Kans., July 23.—Three threshers, working near here, were killed by a bolt of lightning.

ROBBED A BANK.

Portland, July 23.—Joseph Rapley, wanted in Williamsburg, Va., for robbing the Peninsula Bank, of \$5500 last May, was arrested here today.

AMONG THE WHEELMEN.

Salem Riders Unsuccessful at Scio Program of Races May Be Held Here on August 4th.

Salem's Bicyclists, who went to Scio last Saturday to participate in the races that had been deferred from the local Fourth of July celebration, did not fare very well. In the first race both Betty and Stanton sustained bad falls, which put them out of business, being unable to participate in the subsequent events. "Bunt" Smith, of San Jose, California, who is visiting in this city, succeeded in capturing two second places.

Local bicycle enthusiasts are making arrangements for holding a big meet in Salem at the state fair grounds, on Saturday, August 4th, when four first-class races will be provided. The proposed tournament depends entirely on whether or not riders can be gotten together from other valley towns. The plan is to have four good races, with all merchandise prizes, thus excluding all professional features, and making of the meet purely an amateur exhibition. An effort will be made to have riders present from Scio, Albany, Corvallis, Monmouth, Portland and other valley towns.

A DESTRUCTIVE PEST.—Prof. McElfresh, assistant entomologist at the State Agricultural College of Corvallis, has pronounced the "army worm" that was recently furnished him for analysis, the "cut worm" the classification of which he has thus far been unable to ascertain. It is proving a very destructive pest and does not confine its operations to one class of vegetation. It has attacked the potatoes destroyed both the vine and the vegetable also onions and cabbage. In the north end of the county it has put in an appearance in the hop yards where it is devouring the green vine but hop growers have not yet become alarmed over the operation of the pest in their yards for the reason that the vines are all healthy and strong and are not liable to suffer any damage from this pest.

A GLOOMY PICTURE

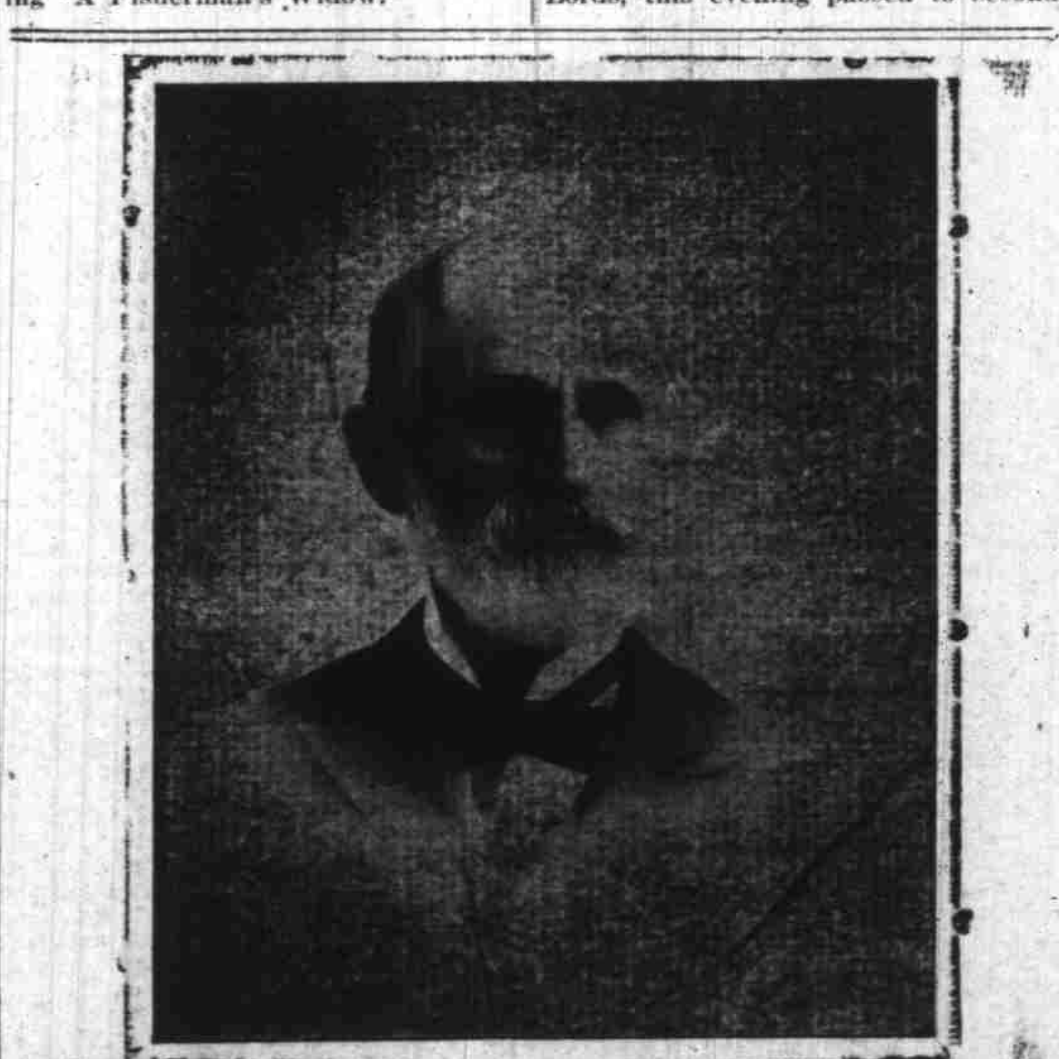
FRED H. GEER WRITES TO HIS FATHER, GOV. T. T. GEER.

Regarding Conditions on the Beach at Nome—Miners Anxious to Leave—M. E. Pogue's Legal Fee.

Gov. T. T. Geer yesterday received two letters from his son, Fred H. Geer, who is a member of the Salem party of Argonauts now in Nome, Alaska. One of the letters is written under date of October 6th, and in it Mr. Geer expresses his supreme disgust for the entire gold beach, and paints a gloomy picture of the conditions prevailing in that Mecca of the world's treasure hunters. Below are a few excerpts which the Statesman was kindly permitted to take from the epistle:

"I want to tell you that a fellow's chances here are just as slim as they would be on top of one of those sand hills in Eastern Oregon—that is, as far as making money is concerned. I talked to fifteen different men this morning, and they are every one trying to get enough money ahead to buy a ticket home. It is the poorest town, financially, I ever saw; not a man anywhere who can buy a ticket out, except the saloon men. I saw two men nearly fight yesterday, over a 5 cent piece that one of them picked up in the street, and the other one said it was his, that he lost it the day before. I did not stay to the finish, for I knew they would begin to shoot pretty soon, so I left.

"There is not a man in Nome that



GEORGE W. GRAY.

OLD RESIDENT DEAD

G. W. GRAY DIED IN HIS EIGHTIETH YEAR LAST EVENING.

Lived in Salem Since 1865, and is Survived by Widow and Six Children—Funeral Wednesday.

George W. Gray, a resident of Salem since 1865, died about 9 o'clock last evening at his residence on East State street, after a lingering illness covering the major portion of the past three years. Mr. Gray was in his eightieth year and prior to his last illness was a very active person for one of his advanced years.

Mr. Gray was a native of Tioga county, Pennsylvania, where he was born on August 5, 1820. He acquired an education by attending the Academy at Wellsboro in the same county. He removed to Marion, Iowa county, Iowa, in 1840 where he did his first merchandising. In 1848 he was married to Minerva Berry, who with six children survives him. The

Fine printing, Statesman Job Office.

BORN

FINZER.—At the home in Woodburn, Monday, July 23, 1900, to Captain and Mrs. W. E. Finzer, a son.

DIED.

BOLTER.—At the Salem Hospital at 11 p. m. Sunday, July 22, 1900 of appendicitis, Ollie, the 14-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Bolter, of Brooks.

The deceased was a beautiful young woman and was brought to Salem Saturday for treatment, expecting to undergo an operation but her condition was such on Sunday that the operation had to be deferred. The disease failed to abate and her young life ebbed away Sunday night.

The remains were prepared for burial and shipped to Brooks yesterday morning. Funeral arrangements will not be completed until the arrival of a brother from Dunsmuir, California. He will arrive on the 4:04 Shasta Express this afternoon and the funeral will probably be conducted at Brooks at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, burial to take place in the Gervais cemetery.

pair he had for sale, and he wanted \$15, so I went on about 50 yards and asked another man what he wanted for some that had been shipped here from Seattle. I expected they would be \$40 or \$50, but he only asked \$3 for them, so I bought them. I went over to buy some vaccine points, and one doctor wanted \$3 a piece or \$5 for two; so I went to another who had nearly sold out, but said, if I would take two, I could have them for \$1.50.

"It is the rottenest place! Oh, Gosh! It is rotten, that's all there is to it. The men that boosted this country and caused all these poor devils to come here ought to be shot. The laws are rotten; one man has 150 to 200 claims, with twenty acres in each one, and wants to sell, like every other man who has claims, and there is not a man here that could buy 10 feet square, so the claim holders are soaked, and the rest of us are soaked.

"So here we are, 25,000 strong, lying around like a set of blasted fools. The men that died with smallpox I consider lucky, and they will be the only lucky ones in Nome. I won't take it for about three days yet, and may have it light on account of vaccination, which has just taken.

"If I was not afraid of losing every red I have, I would go over and shoot craps, but I have watched 500 men go flat broke and could not take up one solitary coin, just bucking at those cursed games.

"I thought once, I had a job, playing a cornet in a variety show, but before they got their tent up, some of their fair damsel got cold feet, and went home, so that finished me there. Now the manager of the company is playing a cornet in a saloon, trying to get money to follow them. They only prospect I see ahead, is a good one for a big storm; it has been fixing up for two or three days, and I expect every tent in this town to be washed and blown into eternity, and I don't care how soon it begins to wash and blow.

"I would make up my mind to stay over this winter, if it was not such a hard proposition. Think of six months' darkness and the thermometer 60 degrees below zero, and 3000 miles from any place. I dug a hole yesterday, about 10 feet deep, and struck solid ice that had not thawed out for over 2000 B. C., and it will not thaw either until this place is in hades.

"I think Pogue will stay. He sent a man yesterday and received 100 pounds of evaporated onions for his fee."

The second letter, written under date of July 13th, is a little more cheerful. The following excerpts are taken from it:

"The weather here is just a little too warm for comfort. We had one threat about a week ago, but it did not storm. It is so dry the miners can not work their claims.

"I will never be sorry that I made the trip, and something may show up yet this season. Some one of us has been sick in bed nearly all the time so far, except what time we were building our boat. Brandenburg has not healed up yet from the smallpox.

"There are some claims not far from here that are immense. Some people went out there the other day and took a look at them, and they said, they never saw anything like it. They had two or three gold pans level full of gold dust, and had not been long at it, either, but that does not help us, only to prove that the gold is here in the ground, but a dozen men have the whole of Alaska staked and recorded, and the rest stand no show.

We may go to work on some man's claim for 50 per cent long after we all get staked on our feet again.

"There follows came up here, partners from Frisco, and had all kinds of machinery. The other day one of them went to work and sold all the machinery and all other property belonging to the three and pulled out for Frisco, and left the other two here without a cent; now that is the way a man does his friends and partners in this place."

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"I will never be sorry that I made the trip, and something may show up yet this season. Some one of us has been sick in bed nearly all the time so far, except what time we were building our boat. Brandenburg has not healed up yet from the smallpox.

"There are some claims not far from here that are immense. Some people went out there the other day and took a look at them, and they said, they never saw anything like it. They had two or three gold pans level full of gold dust, and had not been long at it, either, but that does not help us, only to prove that the gold is here in the ground, but a dozen men have the whole of Alaska staked and recorded, and the rest stand no show.

We may go to work on some man's claim for 50 per cent long after we all get staked on our feet again.

"There follows came up here, partners from Frisco, and had all kinds of machinery. The other day one of them went to work and sold all the machinery and all other property belonging to the three and pulled out for Frisco, and left the other two here without a cent; now that is the way a man does his friends and partners in this place."

"I would make up my mind to stay over this winter, if it was not such a hard proposition. Think of six months' darkness and the thermometer 60 degrees below zero, and 3000 miles from any place. I dug a hole yesterday, about 10 feet deep, and struck solid ice that had not thawed out for over 2000 B. C., and it will not thaw either until this place is in hades.

"I think Pogue will stay. He sent a man yesterday and received 100 pounds of evaporated onions for his fee."

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