

RESPECTED THE FLAG.

It Protected Provisions at Fort Yukon From a Mob.

CAPTAIN RAY'S BRAVE STAND.

He Held Off the Would-be Robbers and Seized the Food For Distribution Under His Immediate Supervision—No Trouble With Canadian Collectors.

Washington, Feb. 9.—E. Hazard Wells, the special courier who brought Captain Ray's dispatches from the Yukon, arrived last evening. He did not bring the full copy of the dispatches, these having been expressed by General Merriam from Seattle. Speaking to a press representative Mr. Wells said:

"I cannot properly say anything as to Captain Ray's report, but I can say that I left him in a rather critical position, and the sooner the government gets support in him the better. Captain Ray had only one man with him, Lieutenant Richardson. They reached Fort Yukon somewhat ahead of a mob of between 80 and 100 of the toughest men that could be picked out of Dawson, and when I left the captain he was standing off this mob from the provision caches largely by virtue of a small American flag and his own magnificent nerve.

"When the food panic began at Dawson two companies each had a cache of provisions there. The Dawson men intended to appropriate these supplies and let the rest of the camp shift for itself. Ray learned of this, and he posted himself at one cache, while Lieutenant Richardson guarded the other. They were in uniform, and each of them had a small American flag. The mob tackled the captain first and ordered him to give up. He refused, and for a time it looked as though there would be shooting, but through his nerve and the flag the mob was overawed.

"Ray then established himself as a sort of military dictator, superintending the sale and distribution of provisions, and will make an accounting to the companies when it is all over. When I left he had the support of about 60 of the decent element, and there are about 500 of the better element there also, but a few bad men in a place of that sort can usually make trouble and run things if they get started.

"As to provisions, the people will need the government relief by the time it reaches them, but there is no reason it should not get in all right. I came out by the White Pass, and the road is good, though the Dyea trail has recently been buried by a big snowslide.

"One thing cannot be too strongly impressed upon those who contemplate joining the rush this spring. Major Walsh, the Canadian commissioner, will allow no men in over Canadian soil who does not bring 1,000 pounds of provisions. To start without that will be to be turned back.

"As to the reported trouble with Canadian collectors on American soil between Lake Linderman and Lake Bennett, I do not believe it. The Canadians were collecting at Tagish when I came out, but that is an unquestioned British territory. They seem to be a very decent class of officials, and not inclined to make trouble.

"The rush next year, so far as one can judge, is going to be on the Tanana river, in the heart of Alaska, southwest of the Klondike, and in American territory. There is where the most of the hundred thousand comers will strike.

"The transportation companies cannot get provisions enough in for all that crowd, and the government will probably have to help them again next winter."

THE WORK OF CONGRESS.

Three Propositions Affecting Cuba Introduced in the Senate.

Wednesday of last week was a dull day in both houses. The house passed the District of Columbia appropriation bill and took up the fortifications bill. Mr. Fischer, of New York, urged the erection of a fort in New York harbor. The senate passed most of the day in executive session, discussing the Hawaiian treaty.

In the senate on Thursday Mr. Caffery, of Louisiana, spoke in support of the committee report excluding Henry W. Corbett as senator from Oregon, declaring that the governor had no right to appoint, even though the legislature failed in its duty to elect a senator. The agricultural appropriation bill was passed. The house ostensibly considered the fortifications appropriations bill, while members made political speeches on prosperity. Mr. Simpson, of Kansas, declared that Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, wore an English hat. Mr. Dingley explained that the hat was made in New York, with a London trademark to please Angliomaniacs.

On Friday the house devoted most of the day to the passing of 18 of the 24 private pension bills favorably acted upon a week before. There was a long discussion on the approaching sale of the Kansas Pacific road on the government's foreclosure. In the senate Mr. Lindsay replied to the resolution of the Kentucky legislature demanding his resignation on account of his views in opposition to free coinage of silver. He declared that he was elected to represent Kentucky, rather than its legislature, and would continue to do so.

On Saturday last the house passed the fortifications appropriations bill, carrying \$4,144,915, against \$3,157,141 last year. Senate was not in session. Monday of this week in the senate Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, offered an amendment to a previous Hawaiian resolution. Mr. Morgan's amendment declares distinctly for annexation. The house passed the Military academy appropriation bill, carrying \$465,540.

On Tuesday last Mr. Allen presented an amendment in the senate recognizing Cuban belligerency; Mr. Cannon offered a resolution that this country recognize Cuba on March 4 next, and assert its independence 90 days later. Mr. Mason offered a resolution instructing the president to notify Spain that the war must cease at once, else this country will restore peace. The house considered the Aldrich-Plowman contested election case, from Alabama.

ITEMS OF STATE NEWS.

Philadelphia, Feb. 4.—Owing to the fact that State Democratic Chairman John M. Garman is engaged as counsel in the trial of Sheriff Martin, at Wilkes-barre, the conference of Democrats, called in this city for Wednesday next, has been postponed until Feb. 17.

Carlisle, Pa., Feb. 8.—Elizabeth Flanders and Fannie Eaglehorn, Indian girls, who tried to burn the girls' building at the Indian school here, yesterday pleaded guilty and were sentenced to one year and six months. They said they were homesick, and wanted Captain Pratt to send them home.

Harrisburg, Feb. 5.—Governor Hastings has granted a pardon to William C. Moreland, ex-city solicitor of Pittsburg, who is serving a three years' sentence in the Western penitentiary for embezzling city funds. The serious condition of Moreland's health was the governor's motive for signing the pardon.

Meadel's, Pa., Feb. 5.—Ex-Governor Thomas J. Osborne, of Kansas, died at the Commercial hotel yesterday afternoon, after a short illness, of hemorrhage of the stomach. Governor Osborne was born in this city in 1838. In 1858 he went to Topeka, Kan., where he has since resided. He was lieutenant governor of Kansas for one term, and served two terms as governor. He was at one time minister to Brazil and Chile. He was to have married in April to Mrs. Margaret Richmond, a widow of this city.

Philadelphia, Feb. 7.—Jacob Lorillard, Jr., was granted a divorce on Saturday from his wife Abbie, who entered no defense. It was shown that the couple had utterly failed to live happily together. Seven years ago the couple were married, against the vigorous opposition of his family. When his mother died she left \$1,000,000 apiece to her other two children, expressly stating in her will that she disinherited Jacob because of his marriage. The divorce may be followed by a reconciliation with his father.

Minersville, Pa., Feb. 8.—Incendiarism has caused a reign of terror in this town. One night last week two public schoolhouses in the town were set afire. Fortunately the firemen were quickly on the scene and the flames were extinguished before much damage was done. Sunday night the torch was again applied to one of the school buildings. At the same time fire was discovered in the Delaware and Hudson freight depot. The firemen were again equal to the emergency. The people are so terrorized that they cannot sleep nights.

Chambersburg, Pa., Feb. 5.—Abram Staley died suddenly at his home at New Baltimore yesterday, aged 102 years. Staley came to this country from England in 1809. By trade he was a well digger, but in his leisure time was an ardent sportsman. In politics he was a Democrat, and until some years ago would walk nine miles to each election. He had 9 children, 63 grandchildren, 145 great grandchildren, and 11 great-great-grandchildren. He was always temperate, but used tobacco until 20 years ago. His father lived at the age of 107.

Harrisburg, Feb. 9.—A statement was issued by the capitol building commission yesterday reviewing the history of the differences between the four commissioners and Governor Hastings. The statement defends the action of the commission in rejecting the report of the board of experts, and denies that the delay in beginning work on the new state house is chargeable to the commission. The commissioners claim that a proper building cannot be erected in a manner worthy of the state within the appropriation of \$500,000 passed by the last legislature, and advocated by the governor.

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—The conference of anti-Quay Republican manufacturers and business men of Pennsylvania, which was held in the Bourse yesterday, was attended by over 400 men from all parts of the state. Every county in the state except six was represented in the gathering. General W. H. Koonz was elected temporary chairman. Resolutions were adopted denouncing Senator Quay and his methods, and with a hurrah ex-Postmaster General John Wanamaker was urged to allow the use of his name as a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor. A permanent organization for one year was formed, with General Koonz as president.

Canonsburg, Pa., Feb. 5.—This town is in a ferment of excitement over the death on Thursday evening of Mrs. J. O. Whiteside, an old and highly respected member of this community. The old lady died in convulsions while being attended by faith curists, who, it is alleged, refused to call in a regular physician. A burial permit was refused by the authorities until the coroner had investigated the case. After a long and thorough investigation the coroner's jury last night brought in a verdict charging gross neglect against Rev. C. H. Pridgen, Miss Ella McMillan and Mrs. Flora Holliday, who were in charge of the deceased, and recommending that they be made to answer to court for their neglect. Rev. Mr. Pridgen is pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of this place, and is a pronounced faith curist. Arrests are expected soon, and as all connected with the affair are prominent in social and religious circles great interest is manifested in the outcome.

Harrisburg, Feb. 5.—Attorney General McCormick yesterday sought by preliminary injunction to restrain the capitol building commission from awarding the contract for the erection of a capitol at a meeting next Monday. The petition for the injunction was presented to the Dauphin county court. The petition was combated by counsel for the commission, who insisted that it was an interference with the rights of the legislature, and might make impossible the construction of a capitol in time for the next session of the legislature. The court remarked that it was a matter of grave importance to the state, and one which would ultimately come before the supreme court, to which counsel assented. After consultation it was agreed, without issuing a preliminary injunction, that the matter should be argued next Wednesday morning, meanwhile the commission will receive bids, but will not award a contract. The petition sets forth that the commission purposes building a state house in violation of the act providing for such a structure.

A BAD HALF-HOUR.

THE SPECULATOR WON HIS FORTUNE, BUT LOST HIS MIND.

A Thrilling Episode in the Career of a Great Grain Gambler—His Corner Seemed a Success When the Market "Broke"—How He Snatched Victory and Yet Lost.

"Bad half hours" belong to that type of genius known as the "financier." A man can be truly called a financier only after he has faced a sudden drop at least one situation which meant his utter failure and undoing. If he wins once, the next hour in which he looks at the end is made more hopeful from the consciousness of one victory. But if he is to be great he must have the "bad half hours," and, indeed, they are the one test of his greatness.

Some years ago a man attempted to corner September wheat on the Chicago board of trade. He worked a full year with the utmost care. There must be no mistake. At last came the hour of his dreams. The "shorts" (those who sell what they have not got, depending upon buying in time for delivery) began to look for September wheat. Slowly but surely it dawned upon them that some one had been attempting a corner. The name of the genius who had it was unknown and the belief that the whole supply was in one man's hands was but vague. As the hours passed, however, the awful certainty that there was a corner began to have its effect. Men fought and shrieked like panic-stricken women, knowing ruin was certain could they not buy.

The genius of that hour sat unmoved while the price went up in quivering jumps. But the price seemed to have no effect. There appeared to be no wheat in the market. Suddenly the whole supply was in one man's hands but vague. As the hours passed, however, the awful certainty that there was a corner began to have its effect. Men fought and shrieked like panic-stricken women, knowing ruin was certain could they not buy.

"Yes, but I don't like the price." Instantly the floor was frantic. Men prayed to him, and then, as he sat silent, cursed him. The price of wheat went up in bounds. Suddenly it stopped. Some one was selling.

Then came the bad half hour. The genius thought he held it all. Could it be that he had overlooked a few hundred thousand bushels—enough to cause him to unload? If so, it meant failure, ruin, oblivion. Wheat must be forced to a certain price to let him out even, to say nothing of winning. He had bought regardless of price, and every day he had held it the carrying charges, storage, insurance, etc., had increased its price to him. But some one was selling, and buy he must. In a moment the most obscure broker he knew was in the pit for him—buying as if his life depended upon it. But in spite of his efforts the price dropped a point. Then another. The genius looked about him at the wild, fighting crowd. His mind went over the possibility of his failure, and then his success. He painted either in proper colors. His commissioners hovered about nervously, at a distance, waiting for the word to sell. But the continual selling by others brought the price down another point. He began to feel that he had made some mistake. He began to calculate hurriedly whether or not he could save himself if he unloaded at once. Could it be that they were selling short to frighten him? He did not know. He saw that he had a possible chance to save himself if he sold at once. But if he waited and the price dropped another point it was over—he was ruined. He sat silent and still. He believed he had cornered September wheat. He had taken his time, worked faithfully. He had looked squarely at the chances against him. He believed he had anticipated them all. He was certain of it on the morning of that day. He knew they would sell short to force the market. It was not a new trick to him. Why should he have less faith because the very thing he had anticipated was happening. He would not sell until he could name the price.

Ten minutes later the price steadied, and then advanced a point, then two, then three. The pit was a surging, howling, shrieking mass, but the genius sat like a stone. He sold at his price and made millions. A few months later his mind gave way.

Josephine's Piano.

What its owners assert is the most valuable piano in the world is now in a London showroom. It was made in 1808, by order of Napoleon Bonaparte, who presented it to the Empress Josephine. It was stolen during the sacking of the Tuilleries and was afterward sold at public auction. The case is of the finest rosewood ornamented with ormolu, while the keys are made of mother-of-pearl and tortoise shell. Napoleon's military taste is shown by the fact that one of the five pedals works a drum and triangle attachment.

Men Who Get Drunk on Clay.

The habit of clay-eating exists among the Indians in Paraguay and is looked upon by the natives in much the same light as inebriation by liquor in this country. The clay eaten is of a dirty white color and has a peculiar oily appearance and does not crumble, but becomes sticky when moistened. It is held in the mouth until it dissolves and is swallowed in small quantities.

No Holiday for Forty-eight Years.

C. M. Bailey, the Winthrop, Me., oleochemical manufacturer, deserves a vacation. He recently told a reporter that in the forty-eight years he had been in business he never had taken a holiday himself or closed his shops. And he now has men working for him who have been in his employ the whole forty-eight years, though most of them have had both holidays and vacations.

"Wait Till the Clouds Roll By."

At Port Royal, Jamaica, for six months in the year thunder storms are of almost daily occurrence, and guests to picnics and garden parties are usually invited to assemble "after the thunder storm!"

A GREAT FLOATING DOCK.

Remarkable Progress Made in This Branch of Maritime Architecture.

The new floating dock for the city of Havana which was recently completed at Newcastle, England, is a magnificent example of the progress which has been made in that branch of maritime architecture. Hundreds of distinguished persons were present at its launching upon the Tyne a few weeks ago. A Newcastle newspaper in describing the occurrence said that it seemed before the launching as if the immense mass of the dock would occupy the entire width of the river, and that, in anticipation of the wave which its immersion would produce, the spectators were forbidden to approach too near the shore. Taking advantage of the tide, the launching was effected with entire success, and in less than five minutes the dock, which seemed like an immense floating castle, was brought up to the wharf of the shipyard.

There are thirty water-tight compartments in the dock, which has the capacity and power to lift ten thousand tons in two hours and a half, its pumps throwing out fifteen thousand tons of water in that space of time. Not only in its general plan and structure does the dock stand as a type of that kind of construction, but in the machinery, pumps and electrical apparatus with which it has been fitted.

One of the directors of the company said at the banquet which celebrated the launching that the time of its building, exactly six months, established a record for that kind of work. The construction of a floating dock of similar dimensions would ordinarily, he said, have occupied two years, and would have cost four times as much money as did this.

The dock was towed to Havana by one of the larger steamships of the New-Zealand Shipping Company. Another smaller vessel accompanied this, to aid in manoeuvring and working the huge structure. The dock carried its own separate crew of captain, officers, engineers and seamen, berths having been arranged for them in one of the compartments. It had also a provisional outfit of masts and rigging, and a steam propelling apparatus to direct its own progress.

At the time of the launching, a long cart, drawn by seven horses, approached the wharf. In this was a huge twenty-two inch cable of manilla hemp, weighing five tons. It was used, in connection with steel cables, to tow the dock, and it is said to be the largest rope ever made in England. It consists of 2,400 strands of selected quality, and it was necessary to employ special machinery in its construction.

FISH OF THE DEEP SEAS.

A Wonderful Specimen Brought Up in the Dredge.

The systematic study of oceanic ichthyology, or that of the deep-sea fishes, commenced scarcely two decades ago, yet the progressive and interesting results, during so short a period, equal in value that of any other study of nature. Twenty years ago only a few specimens of fishes had been obtained, which from their anatomical structure it was believed inhabited abyssal depths.

In 1858 Prof. Alexander Agassiz published his work, "Contributions to American Thalassography," the result of his observations of the work of the United States Coast Survey and Fish Commission. Since then the deep-sea



SWALLOWS FISH LARGER THAN ITSELF.

work has been practically abandoned, but Goode and Bean in 1895, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution gave us their "Oceanic Ichthyology," a work which discusses "all forms of fishes found in the seas of the world," and gathers in systematic form all previous knowledge of deep-sea fishes.

The efforts of these laborers in a comparatively new field have produced results not only of great value to science, but of much general interest. It has been found that upward of 1,000 species inhabit the waters of the great oceans, at depths varying from 500 to 16,500 feet. Many of these fishes were found to be modified forms of surface types, exhibiting abnormal shapes, sometimes grotesque and sometimes beautiful, with resplendent colorations.

Among the many other curious forms of fish life found in the deep seas, that of Chlamodon must not be overlooked. It has been found in 5,000 feet of water, and is capable of swallowing a fish many times greater than its own size. It is evidently an inhabitant of very great depths.

His Fruitful Years.

Philetus Sawyer, formerly Senator from Wisconsin, asked by an interviewer at what time of his life he did the best work, responded as follows: "I believe I was the strongest between 45 and 65. My brain was quicker then, and I had plenty of nerve. I did not get to making big deals until I was 45. Yes, I consider my years between 45 and 65 as having been my prime." Mr. Sawyer's testimony will be verified by many successful men.

Eczema All Her Life.

Mr. E. D. Jenkins, of Lithonia, Ga., says that his daughter, Ida, inherited a severe case of Eczema, which the usual mercury and potash remedies failed to relieve. Year by year she was treated with various medicines, external applications and internal remedies, without result. Her sufferings were intense, and her condition grew steadily worse. All the so-called blood remedies did not seem to reach the disease at all until S.S.S. was given, when an improvement was at once noticed. The medicine was continued with favorable results, and now she is cured sound and well, her skin is perfectly clear and pure and she has been saved from what threatened to blight her life forever.

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