

NOW A GENERAL IN FILIPINO ARMY

RENEGADE REWARDED.

David Fagin, a deserter of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, now leads a band of Guerrillas.

David Fagin, a deserter from the Twenty-fourth United States infantry, who has been rewarded for his treason by the post of general in the Filipino army, at the head of 150 rebels, attacked and captured a civilian launch near Arayat. American soldiers, hearing the firing, turned and recaptured the launch and the barge loaded with merchandise which it had been towing before they could be loaded.

Fagin has sworn especial enmity towards his former comrades. Of the 20 men he captured a month ago seven have returned. One was killed in a fight, his body being horribly mutilated. Fagin sends messages to his former comrades, threatening them with vengeance if they become his prisoners. It was Fagin's men who captured Lieut. Frederick L. Alstaetter, who is still a prisoner.

While scouting near Lone a detachment of the Twentieth and Twenty-eighth regiments under Capt. Beiger were attacked by 400 insurgents armed with rifles under the command of a white man whose nationality is not known to the Americans. The insurgents for the most part were entrenched. After an heroic fight Capt. Beiger drove off the enemy, killing more than 75. The fight lasted for two hours. Capt. Beiger and three privates were slightly wounded, and two of the Americans were killed.

A BRUTAL INSURGENT.

Rebel Captain Sentenced to Death for Fiercest Treatment of Prisoners.

The rebel Captain Novicio has been tried by a military commission at Baler, Northern Luzon, charged with burying alive a seaman named McDonald, of Lieutenant Gilmore's Yorktown party. Novicio was found guilty and sentenced to death. The commission's sentence is now in the hands of General MacArthur for approval.

Testimony was produced at the trial showing that Novicio also caused the death of Van Ville, another member of Lieutenant Gilmore's party, by delivering him into the hands of the native tribesmen known as Igorotes, who, under the pretext of going fishing, lured Van Ville into the woods and murdered him and two Spaniards, who were Van Ville's fellow-captives. The tribesmen bound Van Ville, opened his veins and sucked his blood until he was dead.

EXPLOSION TOO HEAVY.

Daring Attempt to Loot Bedford County Treasurer's Safe.

A daring attempt to rob the county treasurer's office in the court house at Bedford, Pa., was frustrated Friday morning by the force of the explosion, when the vault doors were blown off, breaking the windows in the building. The noise of the falling glass put the thieves to flight. The entire town, almost, was awakened by the explosion, but the robbers made good their escape. The treasurer had just collected several thousand dollars, but had fortunately deposited it in bank, and had the burglars gained an entrance to the inner vault they would only have secured about \$200. The commissioners have offered a reward of \$200 for the capture of the guilty parties.

MUST FACE SERIOUS CHARGES.

Capt. Hall, Who Commanded Marines at Pekin Accused of Cowardice.

Gen. Heywood, commandant of the marine corps, has ordered an investigation of charges against Capt. Newt Hall, of Texas, who commanded the American marines within the beleaguered legation at Pekin. Minister Conger preferred the case which practically amounts to charging Hall with cowardice.

Minister Conger claims that Hall refused an important strategic point in the legation compound, and afterwards refused to perform some routine defensive duty on the ground that it was impossible to do so. A number of Russian soldiers performed the service successfully, proving that Hall was wrong.

Transvaal is Annexed.

At Pretoria Friday the Transvaal was proclaimed a part of the British empire, with impressive ceremonies. The royal standard was hoisted in the main square of the city, the Grenadiers presented arms, massed bands played the National anthem, Sir Alfred Milner read the proclamation and 6,200 troops, representing Great Britain and her colonies, marched past.

Two hundred Boers unsuccessfully attacked the garrison at Jacobsdal. It was defended by a detachment of the Cape Town Highlanders, who had 14 killed and 20 wounded.

Will Open Negotiations.

Minister Conger has been authorized to begin negotiations at once with the Chinese envoys on the basis of the points in the German and French notes, upon which all the powers are agreed. Upon these points there is divergence of views exist the governments will negotiate to reach a further understanding. It has been decided that the ministers in Pekin shall conduct any negotiations that may be necessary with the Chinese government in place of confiding these to commissions to be sent out from each country to Pekin.

Do Not Wish to Be Sold.

Intense adverse feeling has been excited at St. Thomas by the renewal of the report that Denmark intends to sell the Danish Antilles to the United States. A meeting of the Colonial council has been convoked at St. Croix for the purpose of making a formal protest.

The newspaper discuss the question, declaring in bold type: "We do not wish to be sold." There is no desire, much less enthusiasm, among the population to belong to the United States.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Typhoid fever is epidemic at Titusville, Fla.

A severe snow storm prevailed in Spain Wednesday.

Several Indian skeletons have been unearthed near Sharon, Pa.

Joseph Chessor, a lumber merchant, was assassinated at Norton, Va.

Austria-Hungary has given her assent to the Anglo-German agreement.

The total catch of seals in Bering sea during the season just closed was 32,517.

The flooded mines at Hecla No. 2, Westmoreland county, are again in operation.

The total of contributions for relief of Galveston flood sufferers to date is \$1,149,368.

Fire destroyed the business portion of Dunavant, Kan. The losses are \$50,000, partially insured.

Two thousand recruits will be sent to the army in the Philippines within the next three weeks.

Frank Williams, a civil engineer, was drowned while attempting to cross a river in Puerto Rico.

Carry Caldwell, a negro, killed her three children and then committed suicide at Charlotte, N. C.

The Shenango tin plate plant, of New Castle, Pa., will resume operations in full Tuesday morning.

The New Castle and Sharon (Pa.) Street Railway Company, capital \$150,000, has been chartered.

Johnnie Leach, a 5-year-old boy at Franklin, Pa., fell into a tub of hot water and was scalded to death.

Gov. Beckham, of Kentucky, has approved the election bill passed at the extra session of the Legislature.

A trustee of Beloit, Ill., college has promised to give the institution \$200,000 if another \$150,000 is raised.

Seeds Brothers' bank at Bridgeport, Ind., was robbed of over \$100,000 in cash and a considerable sum in notes.

Alexander McKenzie, a North Dakota absconder, has been captured with \$250,000 in gold in his possession.

William Killy, a tool dresser, was killed by the explosion of a boiler at the Wilson farm, near Washington, Pa.

Four persons were killed and three injured in a Great Northern freight wreck on the coast line near Seattle.

The Columbia Zinc and Lead Company, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., has been incorporated with a capital of \$100,000.

The Hebrews of Palestine have projected a great university of Jewish learning, to be located at Jerusalem.

Mrs. T. E. Carber, of Maytown, Pa., died from lockjaw. Physicians were unable to find any wound or scratch.

Patrick Rice, formerly one of the greatest American racehorse trainers, committed suicide by taking laudanum.

The Republic Iron and Steel Company will erect an 18-inch finishing mill at their Bessemer plant at Youngstown, Ohio.

A big power plant is being established at Massena, N. Y., which bids fair to rival the famous Niagara Falls Supply center.

At Falls Village, Conn., fire wiped out the National bank, the postoffice, the Methodist church and a store. Loss, \$30,000.

The Caribon gold mine, of British Columbia, has shipped to New York an ingot weighing 753 pounds and valued at \$154,765.

Fourteen strikers at the Shenango furnace, Sharpsville, Pa., have been enjoined from trespassing and intimidating employees.

Consul McCook estimates that the Klondike will yield from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 of gold annually for many years to come.

Owing to the ravages of a mad dog, cattle are being killed at Madison, Westmoreland county, Pa., to prevent an epidemic of rabies.

The State of Alabama claims a tract of land a mile wide on the western border of Florida, and 100 miles of the southern end of Florida.

The La Belle Company has just completed at Steubenville, O., the erection of a continuous mill, which will be put in operation in a few days.

The United States transport Lawton has arrived at Seattle with 500 stranded miners brought from Cape Nome at the expense of the Government.

It is rumored that ex-President Cleveland will be offered the presidency of Washington and Lee university, vacated by William L. Wilson's death.

At St. Paul, Minn., fifty-two horses, 41 vehicles and a large livery barn were destroyed by fire.

C. D. Snapp, confidential agent for Caldwell & Smith, cotton brokers, of Memphis, Tenn., has been arrested on the charge of embezzling \$32,000.

The miners employed by the Penn Gas Coal Company at Irwin, Pa., will erect a fountain as a memorial to their late superintendent, John F. Wolf.

Chicago postoffice clerks have affiliated themselves with the Federation of Labor, with the avowed purpose of striving for an eight-hour workday.

It is reported the Laughlin Nail Company's mill, at Martins Ferry, O., is to be remodeled into a wire nail plant to be operated in opposition to the trust.

At Brushy Mountain, Tenn., Differences which led to a strike of 300 miners employed by the Crooked Fork Coal & Coke Company have been adjusted.

The government has chartered the British steamship Royalist, which it is intended to operate as a United States transport between Seattle and the Philippines.

James B. Dill, the eminent corporation lawyer, says adequate trust legislation is possible only in Congress. State laws cannot deal successfully with the question.

A total of \$20,166,687 in gold dust and bullion has been received at the assay office at Seattle, Wash., during the year, of which \$1,173,320 came from Alaska and \$16,374,488 from the Klondike.

A mysterious epidemic has afflicted the Indians along the Yukon river in Alaska, 60 in 150 dying in two months. Owing to inability to fish and hunt they are now threatened with famine.

Four engineering corps have begun laying out a railroad between Orenburg and Taschkend, Russia, for which American locomotives have been ordered. The engineers will probably finish the survey in 1900.

SOUTHERN CHINA NOW THREATENED

BOXERS GROW BOLD.

Chinese Authorities Indifferent to the Progress of Rebels—Two Thousand Villagers Retain the Town Burned.

Rebellion is spreading along East river and North river, in the province of Kwang-Si, China. It is supposed to be aimed at the overthrow of the Manchu dynasty, but the reports are so contradictory that it is next to impossible to form a lucid impression. In Canton the Chinese officials are taking the insurrection so lightly that foreigners believe it will be very difficult to suppress.

The governor of Hongkong has been informed that 4,000 villagers in the Siamtook-Kwaishin district were attacked by rebels at Pengkok. The villagers were debilitated and 2,000 of them killed. The rebels, who lost 400 killed, burned two villages containing 3,000 houses. A force of 2,000 troops went to the assistance of the villagers and engaged the rebels on October 22. No details of the result have been received.

Gen. Ho, with 2,000 troops, has returned to Hongkong, having burned the villages of Shanchauin and Malantau. Chinese officials have placarded the Siamtook district, offering several hundred dollars reward for the heads of four foreigners who are supposed to be leading the rebels. The rice crop has failed in Kwang-Si province and robbers are pillaging. Rebellion and famine there are certain.

BAYONET FOR STRIKERS.

Canadian Militia Charge Upon a Mob—Eight Soldiers and Fifteen People Wounded.

Over a score wounded, one fatally, is the result of a conflict between the militia and the striking mill hands at Valleyfield, province of Quebec. A couple of hundred men employed by the Montreal Cotton Company on the foundations of a new mill went out on strike, demanding an increase of 25 cents a day in their pay. The company refused to deal with the union. The strikers prevented the company from shipping goods, and held up the company's coal pile. The local police were powerless. Consequently a message was sent to Montreal asking for military assistance.

Thursday evening the mob gathered near the Empire mill and began throwing stones through the windows and otherwise destroying property. The troops charged the mob with fixed bayonets. They were driven back. Eight of their number were wounded, two of them seriously. The strikers had 15 men injured, one fatally.

FIRE BOSSES IN DEATH TRAP.

One Man Killed and Another Severely Wounded by a Mine Gas Explosion.

By an explosion of gas in No. 3 Barnum shaft of the Pennsylvania Coal Company at Pittston Saturday one man was killed and another fatally hurt. John B. Clark and Matthew Edwards, fire bosses, entered the mine to make an inspection preparatory to the colliery resuming operations. They had not been in the mine long until a heavy explosion of gas occurred.

Rescuers went down the mine and found Edwards trying to make his way out. He was badly burned and will die. The search continued for Clark, but he could not be found until several hours after the explosion. When the rescuers reached him he was dead, his body being badly mangled by the force of the explosion. The mine was also damaged considerably by the explosion.

Chicago Church Wrecked.

An explosion of acetylene gas which was to be used for a stereopticon entertainment wrecked the interior of the First Presbyterian Church at Austin, a suburb of Chicago, Sunday night. The operator, recently returned from mission work in India, lost his right hand and sustained other injuries. One of the tanks sprung a leak and the escaping gas was exploded by the light of the lantern.

Confederate Money for the Germans.

A band of American confidence men has been successfully doing Berlin and other German cities, passing off Confederate \$10 bills, which have been readily accepted at 40 marks each. The police have received reports of scores of victims.

Max Muller Dies at Oxford.

Friedrich Maximilian Muller, commonly known as Max Muller, corpus professor of comparative philology at Oxford University, Sunday, aged 77 years. For half a century he had been celebrated as a philologist, orientalist, scholar and author. It was intended from his birth, in 1823, that he should be a scholar.

Friedrich Max Muller's title to rank as one of the most distinguished philologists of the century is secured by a long lifetime's output of industrial researches into the origin of languages.

Will Revise the Tariff.

The Philippine commission has decided to compile the revised Philippines customs tariff from its own investigations, assisted by the report of the army board. The result will be forwarded to the United States for publication and discussion among those interested in foreign commerce. The details appear to be satisfactory and the draft has been approved by the secretary of war. The commission will promulgate it here as a law. The measure has taken on a new and international commercial interest and the course of the commission is heartily commended here.

Fortune in One Nugget.

The biggest nugget of gold ever received at the assay office has arrived from a mining company in British Columbia, consigned to the New York agents of the Bank of Montreal. It contained a fraction over 753 pounds of the yellow metal and is valued at \$154,000. It came in a solid cone and stood about two feet high. This cone was wrapped in canvas and fitted into an oblong box made of two-inch planks and heavily bound with iron. It required four men to handle it.

GOLD MINERS STRIKE.

Object to Recent Orders and Three Hundred Walk Out.

At Victor, Col., all miners employed at the Independence gold mine, about 300 in number, have quit work. The cause for their action is the personal search plan that was begun at the mine in order to stop the alleged pilfering of ore. A meeting of miners was held at which it was unanimously resolved that: "After this date all men employed at the Independence mine shall leave the mine in the digging clothes."

Several weeks ago, when the managers of various mines in the district announced that the miners must strip to the skin in the presence of guards before leaving the mines, the men at the Independence, where the order was first put in force, reached an agreement with the management resulting in a modification of the rule to the extent that all miners working under ground should wear their underclothes and pass before a detective when going off shift. The resolution now adopted takes no cognizance of the former agreement. Claims are made by the men that other grievances must be settled before they will return to work.

STUDENTS' WILD CAPERS.

College Boys Take a Cow to Third Story of Girls' Hall.

One hundred students from Mount Union college at Alliance, O., robbed in white and closely masked, obtained entrance to the girls' hall by breaking in a window sash. President Riker's family cow was then taken into the building, carried up to the third story and securely tethered. Then amid cheers and songs the students made their way to the college. They overpowered the watchman and proceeded to upset the stoves, overturn the college piano and throw all movable furniture out the windows.

The faculty were serenaded, after which the white-robed figures made their way down town and ended the demonstration with a war dance on the public square. It is expected that any action from the faculty as a result of the demonstration will meet with concerted resistance.

MONEY SCARCE IN SWEDEN.

Balance of Foreign Trade Against the Country—Crisis Threatened.

The extraordinary scarcity of money which has been growing more acute for a month is so seriously affecting commercial circles as to threaten a crisis. The balance of foreign trade continues against Sweden, and the repeated contraction of gold loans abroad fails to palliate the situation. Industries are daily launched, but adequate capital is not available and the newspapers are filled with appeals from manufacturers in desperate straits for money.

Rural people, attracted by the industrial activity, are flocking to the towns and, consequently, the demand for houses is so great that rents have advanced 20 to 30 per cent. The civil servants have already been granted 20 per cent. increase to meet the hard times, and it is expected the employers generally will have to follow suit.

SUICIDE WITH GOLD LEAF.

Two High Chinese Officials Dodge Punishment for Inciting Excess Outrages.

Two high Chinese officials, Kang Yi and Yu Shien, whose punishment was demanded by the powers for inciting the Boxer outrages, have solved that part of the Chinese question by committing suicide. This information has been communicated to the state department by Minister Wu, Governor Yu, who enticed missionaries into his yamens, to be butchered, killed himself by the aristocratic Chinese method of eating gold leaf. Prince Tuan was driven from the imperial court and was severely censured.

Emperor Kwang-Hsu has commissioned Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to fix the penalties of those offenders whom the powers have designated for punishment. The latest Chinese decree announces that several princes have already been punished.

Drops Dead While Speaking.

George W. Blake, of Ottawa, Ill., Democratic candidate for member of the Legislature from La Salle county, dropped dead at Dana while making a campaign speech. Heart disease is said to be the cause.

Tortured by Robbers.

Two burglars stabbed and slashed A. G. Rubey, of Chicago, with a physician's lancet, in an attempt to make him tell where he had concealed his money. For nearly half an hour the robbers tortured the man. Failing to make him tell the hiding place of his money, they cut his tongue a number of times, until Rubey cried out for mercy and revealed the hiding place of \$480 in paper, \$80 in gold and \$300 in Illinois Steel checks. The robbers then made their escape.

Boys' Eddy Riddled.

While hunting near Concord, Pa., Walker Symmerman, aged 10 years, saw a squirrel and called to his brother to band him the gun. While walking backward with the weapon the lad fell. The gun was discharged, the load of shot riddled the entire upper portion of Walker's body and killing him instantly. Both eyes were torn out.

Fought Sheriff's Poss.

A sheriff's posse in pursuit of five prisoners who escaped from Doniphan jail overtook the men near Dalton, Ark. A battle was fought and two members of the posse were dangerously wounded. Three of the prisoners were wounded and one recaptured.

Will Send Christmas Presents Free.

Secretary of War Elihu Root has sent out orders relative to the sending of Christmas presents to American soldiers in the Philippines. The name of the command of each soldier must be plainly marked on each box, and the box sent to Columbia storage, Pier 22, Brooklyn, so as to reach Brooklyn not later than November 15, when the transports leave New York for the Philippines. Provided the transportation charges are paid to Brooklyn, the government will take the packages from there free.

THE BOERS ARE STILL BATTLING

RENEWED ACTIVITY.

They Now Have Fifteen Thousand Men in the Field and Are Giving the British Much Trouble.

According to a dispatch from Cape Town, a force of Boers attacked and surrounded a patrol of Cape police with a convoy near Hoopstad, Orange river colony, and a sharp fight ensued. The police were compelled to abandon two Maxim's. Ultimately reinforced by the Yeomanry, they succeeded in getting away with the convoy; but they lost seven killed, 11 wounded and 15 captured. The colonials were outnumbered to ten to one, and the engagement lasted two hours.

The Boers have 15,000 men in the field, nearly half of whom are in Orange river colony. These are divided into commandoes of some 300 each, but are capable of combination for large operations.

Lord Roberts cables from Pretoria that in the fight between Gen. Barton and Gen. De Wet "the British losses were heavier than at first reported. An additional officer and 12 men were killed and three officers and 25 men were wounded. The Boers left 24 dead and 30 wounded on the field and 26 Boers were taken prisoners. Those Boers who held up their hands in token of surrender and then fired on the British were court-martialed, convicted and sentenced to death. I have confirmed the sentence."

Barton afterwards scattered De Wet's Boers near Frederickstad, but 50 cavalrymen were ambushed by Boers between Phillipolis and Springfontein and only seven escaped.

FREETRADE ESSENTIAL.

Greater Organization for England Advocated by Sir Hick-Beach.

The chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in the course of an address before the Liverpool chamber of commerce advocated closer commercial union between the different countries of the empire and greater organization for the empire's common interests. He said, with regard to the former, that it was impossible for Great Britain to be other than a free-trade country, and that he sympathized with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Dominion premier, in his opinion that an imperial Zollverein was unobtainable without free trade within the empire.

So far as imperial organization was concerned he said he did not think there was any immediate danger of war, and he expressed a hope that the principles of the Anglo-German agreement would be universally accepted.

COLOR LINE IN CUBA.

It is Being Drawn Very Closely, Causing Bitter Feeling.

Telegrams from Santiago de Cuba say: The departure of provincial delegates to participate in the progress of the forthcoming constitutional convention at Havana caused an immense demonstration. It is estimated that they were escorted to the wharf by upwards of 12,000 persons of whom nine-tenths were colored people.

The political parties are drawing the color line very closely and this is causing bitter feeling between the races. The whites predict that the convention will last a year, alleging that most of the delegates will prefer \$300 a month to the establishment of a Cuban republic.

All the local papers dramatically exhort the delegates to fulfill their duty and quietly expel the Americans from the island.

REBEL CHIEFS ACTIVE.

They Are Carrying Everything Before Them in Southern China.

Refugees from Hui-Chow say the rebels are welcomed everywhere. They take nothing without payment and are treated as guests instead of as enemies. Their leaders are supposed to number ten, each commanding a separate band. The leader operating in the Kow-Lung hinterland is a mere stripling, but is everywhere successful. He is reported to have defeated a large body of imperial troops, killing 100 of the Chinese soldiers. The surnames of four of the rebel chiefs are Fong, Ho, Ching and Chan.

Negro Killed by His Own People.

Gloster Barnes, colored, was lynched by a mob of his own people in Mississippi Tuesday night. In a drunken fury Barnes murdered his wife, stabbed and badly wounded a negro who interfered, and engaged in a rifle duel with a white man who attempted to arrest him.

He was caught by a posse after a desperate fight, in which he was shot through the thigh. In charge of two colored deputies Barnes was started for the county jail at Vicksburg. On the road his escort was put to flight by a big crowd of negroes who took the murderer into a thicket and shot him to death.

Fails to a Fearful Death.

Headless and stripped of every particle of clothing, the body of John Guerrero, an Italian miner, was picked up at the bottom of the shaft of the Kennedy mine at Suter Creek, Cal., killed by a fall. Guerrero was on the day shift and two hours earlier in the evening he jumped on the "skip" at the seventh level, in company with 10 other miners. Guerrero lost his balance and fell down the shaft, a distance of 1,600 feet.

Refused to Quit Piece Work.

At Quebec, thirty shoe factories, employing 1,000 men, have shut down as the result of difficulties between the union and the manufacturers. The trouble grew out of the refusal of a union man to work for weekly wages instead of piece work. He was discharged and a non-union man engaged. As a result all the men in the factory went out. The manufacturers' committee thereupon decided to shut down.

Five children near Cumberland, Md., were poisoned by eating jimson weeds, and one is dead.

WILL END STRIKE.

President Mitchell Predicts That Monday Will Witness a Resumption—More Companies Agree to the Increase.

At the national headquarters of the United Mine Workers Tuesday the belief was unanimous that the end of the strike will come in a very short time. As soon as all the operators signify their willingness to pay the advance until April, the national executive board will be called in session to vote on ending the contest.

President Mitchell's statement in a speech at Pottsville Tuesday that he believed that the strike would be ended by next Monday if all the operators posted notices guaranteeing the advance until April 1, was received here with much pleasure by both sides. It is believed that nothing will now intervene to delay the ending of the contest.

The miners' strike has been declared off by the United Mine Workers' officials, so far as it affects all companies which have complied with the strikers' demands. The strike will be continued against the companies which have not granted the terms offered by the Scranton convention. The strikers will return to work on Monday at the places where the strike embargo is lifted.

BANK TELLER ARSCONDS.

New York First National Bank Robbed of \$700,000 by Trusted Official.

Charles L. Alvord, Jr., note teller of the First National bank, New York, is a fugitive and a defaulter to the extent of \$700,000. The announcement of the defalcation, made Tuesday afternoon, created the utmost excitement in the financial district, but the well-known stability of the First National and a statement issued by the bank had a quieting effect.

An official connected with the bank said: "A proof that the bank is not likely to suffer by the defalcation is that its profits for the year ending September 1 were \$1,350,000. The surplus is increasing fast. The par value of the stock is \$100 a share, but it has brought as high as \$1,523 at auction. The book value of its stock is \$3,105 per share, and as high as \$3,600 has been bid. The percentage of increase to capital according to its last year's earnings is 270.12 per cent. It has for several years paid annual dividends of 100 per cent."

EXPLOSION AT INDIAN HEAD.

Shock Felt Twenty Miles—Powder Magazine Supposed to be Destroyed.

An explosion occurred at the Indian Head proving grounds about 11 o'clock Wednesday night. A flash of light visible some distance accompanied the explosion, which was followed by a fire.

The explosion shook the windows of houses in Alexandria, 19 miles away. There is no direct communication with the proving grounds and details cannot be had. The grounds are 25 miles down the Potomac river from Washington, and the big guns and armor for the battleships are tested there.

It is believed the powder magazines and other buildings were destroyed. A number of explosions followed at intervals, illuminating the surrounding country and the opposite bank of the river.

GIVING AWAY HIS FORTUNE.

Rich Alaskan Chieftain Making Graves Happy. Will Impoverish Himself.

The greatest potlatch given for many years in Alaska, is now in progress at Kulickwan, near Pyramid harbor. George Klarfish, the richest Alaskan chieftain, who made his money in trading, is giving away the savings of 20 years that his name may be handed down as a generous chieftain. Two thousand Indians are present. Feasting, dancing and gaming make up the program, which will last for a month.

Ten thousand dollars' worth of blankets, flour, tents, guns and hymn books will be distributed. By the time the feast is ended Chief Klarfish will be penniless.

John Addison Porter Doomed.

John Addison Porter, formerly secretary to President McKinley, lies dangerously ill at his residence in Pomfret, Conn., suffering from a disease which must result in death. Recently a very dangerous operation was performed. Mr. Porter rallied from the shock and is resting comfortably, but while his death is not expected immediately, no hopes are held out for his recovery.

Oil Gusher on a Poor Farm.