

# WORK TO BEGIN

## Senators Mitchell and Fulton Push Columbia Jetty Matters.

### OPPOSITION OF HAUPT DELAYED IT

#### Secretary Root Promises to Take Action Within Ten Days - If Favorable, Work Will Then Begin.

Washington, March 9. — Senators Mitchell and Fulton today called on Secretary Root and other war department officials to urge the early approval of the report of the engineer board on the project for improving the mouth of the Columbia river. They laid before the department a large number of telegrams and letters from commercial bodies and other interested parties, emphasizing the importance of early action. Secretary Root told the senators he would act on the report in about a week, or in ten days at the outside. He said it was now held up on account of requests made by L. M. Haupt, who is bringing every influence to bear to have the board's recommendations overruled and his reaction jety substituted. The senators gave the secretary to understand that the people of Oregon are well satisfied with the board plan, and believe their unanimous judgment cannot be improved upon. In view of the great importance of the work, they do not now want any experimenting at the mouth of the Columbia river.

Secretary Root did not say what action he would take, but strongly intimated that he would approve the board report. He did say that as soon as the report was acted upon the work would be done with all possible speed, and that his department was desirous of affording relief to the commerce of the Columbia river with the least possible delay.

Senator Fulton intends, as soon as he has more data and details, to take up with the war department the matter of the right of way for the state portage road between The Dalles and Celilo, for which the legislature recently made the appropriation. He desires to secure permission from the government to construct this portage road over the right of way that was acquired for the old boat railway, which is now the property of the government, and which will not be required for canal purposes.

### BLOOD WILL FLOW.

#### Another Reign of Terror Impending in China—Empress Dowager in Plot.

Victoria, March 9. —According to advices received from Peking, an outbreak, and with it a carnival of murder exceeding the Boxer outbreak, is regarded by many as imminent. Correspondents of Chinese papers at Peking are sending columns telling of the duplicity of the empress dowager and of the threatened outbreak.

The North China Daily News, one of the best informed journals of the East, has received advices that the empress dowager and Yung Lu, the grand chancellor, are known to be aiding the movement of Tung Fu Hsiang in Kan-su, and on the authority of a Chinese "of high literary rank" at Peking, a Shanghai paper says that, while the empress dowager is issuing edicts commanding reforms on Western lines and pretending to initiate reforms, she is secretly sending instructions to viceroys and governors prohibiting the inauguration of foreign methods.

The empress is also said to be sending notifications to some viceroys that Tung Fu Hsiang is to be aided in marching his army to Peking to escort Pu Chun, son of Prince Chun and ex-hereditary prince, to the throne. On their arrival, Kwang Hsu, the present emperor, is to be made away with, says the Chinese correspondent, and the representatives of the various foreign powers and all foreigners in the capital as well as in the provinces, are to meet the same fate, without distinction.

### Crank Who Wants \$100,000.

Washington, March 9. —A Swede who gave his name as Z. Berg, of Providence, R. I., tried for an hour today to see the president. He was urged by the white house attaches to reduce his communication to writing. This he endeavored to do, but failed. One of the secret service officers interviewed him and found him possessed of hallucinations. Berg said that several years ago he had informed the United States government that the Spaniards intended to blow up one of the battleships, and wanted the president to see that he received \$100,000 for his information.

### Earthquake Shakes Saxony.

Berlin, March 9. — Earthquake shocks have been felt for two days in the district of Voigtland, Saxony, in the Erzgebirge mountains. Yesterday's shocks were slight, but those of today were violent. The inhabitants of Graditz left houses and passed into the streets. The tremors were felt as far as Poluen, Richenbach and Zwickau. Houses at Unter Sachsenburg and at Asch shook for several seconds. There was great excitement throughout the affected district.

### Barclay to Command at Bremerton.

Washington, March 9. —While no official announcement has been made, it is believed in naval circles that Captain Charles J. Barclay, commandant at the Boston navy yard, has been selected for similar duty at the Bremerton, Wash., yard, and that the assignment will soon be made. Captain Barclay stands well up on the list of captains, and his promotion to the grade of rear admiral is likely to follow soon after the transfer.

### OVER A BILLION AND A HALF.

#### Total Appropriations of Last Congress Amount of Each Bill.

Washington, March 6. —The appropriations made during the session of congress which closed Wednesday aggregated \$753,484,019, as against \$800,624,496 for the last session. The total for the entire congress thus footed up \$1,554,108,514, or something more than \$100,000,000 in excess of the total appropriations for the 56th congress. The total for that congress was \$1,440,489,438.

These figures were embodied in a statement presented to the senate by Allison, chairman of the committee on appropriations. The statement also contained an itemized statement showing the expenditures for the past session by bills as follows:

Agriculture	\$ 5,978,100
Army	78,138,757
Diplomatic and consular	1,968,250
District of Columbia	8,647,497
Fortifications	7,188,142
Indian	8,512,950
Legislative, executive and judicial	27,593,953
Military academy	658,248
Navy	81,671,391
Pensions	139,847,600
Postoffices	158,401,459
Sundry civil	82,272,955
Deficiency	21,961,372
Permanent annual appropriations	132,589,523
Miscellaneous	5,250,000

### FOUND MARINE GRAVEYARD.

#### Many Other Wrecks Where the Bark Alex McNeil Was Lost.

Victoria, B. C., March 6. —Details were received by the Empress of India of the wreck of the bark Alex McNeil, which was lost on Pratas reef, as was briefly cabled, when bound from Manila to Port Townsend. She left Manila December 10, and 13 days later piled up on Pratas shoal, which, by Captain Jorgensen's reckoning, should have been 60 miles distant. The mate, Evans, and four seamen left in the ship's boat to explore the reef and nothing further was heard of them. At low water the captain explored the reef and found the wrecks of half a dozen vessels, including the wreck of a four-masted ship and a steamer.

The reef stretched for miles, and at the western end was a deserted fishing station with a joss house and half a dozen Chinese graves. There was a deserted cabin, containing pictures and articles which must have been secured from wrecks. After several days spent on the wreck, the survivors started in their patched-up cutter for Hong Kong. They were four days at sea, suffering great privations, when a Norwegian steamer picked them up and landed them at Hong Kong.

### TO RECLAIM 340,000 ACRES.

#### Tacoma Man Given Big Contract to Dam Snake River.

Tacoma, March 6. —Nelson Bennett, of Tacoma, has secured the contract for damming the Snake river in Idaho, at a point 25 miles above Shoshone falls, and building 65 miles of canal on the south side of the river and 24 miles on the north side, not including laterals, which will reclaim 340,000 acres of land under the new government irrigation law. The dam is to cost \$400,000 or more, and the canals \$2,500,000, not including the laterals. The larger canal is to be 80 feet wide at the top, and to carry ten feet of water, which is to be raised from the river 46 feet. The contract is let by the Twin Falls land and water company, of Salt Lake. Two sections of the canal must be complete in one year. For the completion of the entire work five years are allowed.

Mr. Bennett is today shipping several trainloads of his outfit to a small station on the O. R. & N. known as Kimama. The canals are to be in Owyhee and Lincoln counties.

### Ames Must Show Cause.

Nashua, N. H., March 6. —An order of the supreme court in the habeas corpus proceedings brought by counsel for Dr. A. A. Ames, former mayor of Minneapolis, who is wanted in that city in connection with the bribery scandals, was served upon Dr. Ames today at Hancock, where he is under arrest. The court orders that Dr. Ames shall appear in court on March 11 and show cause, if any, why he should not be taken back to Minneapolis for trial. It is now the opinion of the physicians that Dr. Ames' condition is sufficiently improved to permit his return to Minneapolis.

### Alaskan Treaty Ratified.

Washington, March 5. —Secretary Hay and Sir Michael Herbert today exchanged ratifications of the Alaska boundary treaty. The preparation of the cases of the two sides will proceed with all speed, as, under the treaty, they must be submitted to the arbitrators within 60 days. It will require the greatest effort on the part of the United States government to have its own case ready within the appointed time. The United States government has come into possession in recent years of a vast amount of data.

### Famine in Japan.

Yokohama, March 6. —The practically complete failure of the rice crop last year has caused widespread distress in Japan, culminating in famine in the northwestern provinces. From an official report it is learned that the destitution is much greater than was supposed. The number of starving, so far as officially known, is 147,688, with the possibility of these figures being greatly added to. The foreign element is now taking steps for relief.

### Murder in First Degree.

Eugene, Or., March 6. —Elliott Lyons, who, while resisting arrest for horse stealing at his home west of Eugene on February 5, shot and killed Sheriff Withers, of this county, was found guilty of murder in the first degree by the jury in ten minutes. He will be sentenced today.

# BAD OPIUM GANG

## Operating Between British Columbia and Puget Sound.

### NEW REVENUE CUTTER IN THE FIELD

#### Persistent and Determined Efforts to Be Made by Treasury Department to Land the Gang in Prison.

Portland, March 5. —Opium smugglers, who have been operating in Portland and other coast towns, are now actively sought by agents of the treasury department. It is possible that the opium ring, which has existed for several years past, may be broken up and those implicated in smuggling the drug clapped into prison.

During the past month unwonted energy has been observed on the part of the treasury department. It is asserted that an aggressive, persistent and unswerving campaign has been ordered directed against the smugglers of opium and Chinamen. It is an open secret on Puget sound that the campaign is on, yet the officials stationed in Portland express absolute ignorance of the activity which is now common talk in the towns farther north.

Owing to its ideal location, Puget sound has for many years been infested with smugglers, while the cities and towns farther south along the coast have frequently been used either as headquarters or as storage depots for the "dope." The last big ring was smashed about eight years ago, but the federal officers have reason to believe that the trade has never been abandoned.

Everything points to the fact that there is now operating a gang of smugglers as daring and successful as the old ring. Even government officials are willing to admit that they have been suspicious that such is the case. The reason they do not wish to acknowledge candidly the presence of the ring is that of policy. If an officer could be induced to talk the would say that Portland is one of the central points of operation for the gang, but it is against the rules for the men in the governmental service to discuss such affairs for publicity.

Orders were issued by the treasury department last month that no stone should be left unturned to unearth the smugglers and break up the ring. These instructions were emphatic and the officers became aroused and grew more suspicious than ever. It was plainly hinted in the departmental orders that all persons interested in violating the customs laws should be captured or, at least, their business wrecked. There is a standing rule urging energy on the part of the officers, but the tenor of the latest command showed that a campaign had been declared and it was to be persistently carried on.

There are two revenue cutters on Puget sound and these lost no time in following instructions. They have been overhauling every suspicious craft in those waters for the past few weeks. Sloops are their special prey, for it is in this style of craft the smuggler runs his opium into the United States from the British possessions. Realizing that there is a vast territory of water to cover, dotted with islands and snug coves, the department will place in commission a third cutter of great speed.

### WRECKED WRONG TRAIN.

#### Miscreants Plotting Against Fast Passenger Smash a Freight.

Washington, Ind., March 5. —Train-wreckers, in an attempt to ditch No. 13, one of the fastest express trains on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern, wrecked a fast freight, No. 98, resulting in the death of Fireman Joseph Hughes, of this city, and Harvey Friend, of Odia, Ill., who was learning the stations on the road so as to work as a fireman, and fatally injured a brakeman, W. L. Lucas, of this city, near Lebanon, Ill., last night. Engineer Wedding escaped by jumping.

The train was running fast near Bennett's mine, a lonely hollow, 24 miles east of St. Louis, when the engine dashed into an open switch. The engine ploughed into the switch and turned over. Eleven freight cars piled up on the engine and fire broke out in the debris. The railroad officials believe the wreck was caused by persons leaving the switch open, with the intention of ditching and robbing the fast express, which carried considerable money. The freight arrived a few minutes ahead of the express and was wrecked and the passenger train thus escaped.

### Big Gift to Princeton.

New York, March 5. —The Evening Journal says Andrew Carnegie has given Princeton University \$1,000,000 for the construction of a graduate school. The gift is made in payment of a debt of gratitude Mr. Carnegie felt that he owed his physician, Joseph Garmany, who attended him during his recent illness in Europe. Dr. Garmany declined to accept a personal gift, but suggested that something be offered Princeton, where Dr. Garmany graduated.

### Election in Delaware.

Dover, Del., March 5. —For the first time in four years the state of Delaware has secured full representation in the United States senate. At a special session the state legislature elected State Senator J. Frank Allee (Union Republican) to the senatorship which expires in 1907 and Congressman L. H. Ball (Rep.) to the term expiring in 1905.

### AN EX-SLAVE'S DEVOTION.

#### Wants His Old Master to Take Possession of a Valuable Property.

A remarkable instance of negro attachment to his former owner is now arousing a good deal of interest in the West and more particularly in Nebraska, where the negro, John Flannigan, lives. By a recent court decision a large area of Omaha suburban real estate, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, has fallen into the possession of the former slave, and all of this he is willing and anxious to turn over to his former master, John Bowles Flannigan, of Shackleford, Va.



JOHN FLANNIGAN.

Flannigan, the negro, is 110 years old and lived most of his years as a slave in Virginia. In the lifetime of John Bowles Flannigan's father the negro had been promised his freedom, but the elder Flannigan having died suddenly before he could manumit him the negro remained in his slavery. Not only that, but the son, John Bowles Flannigan, sold the negro to a Kentucky planter, thus separating him from his family, and the slave did not gain his freedom until General Grant's attack on Fort Donelson, when he made his escape north, settling at Omaha.

Flannigan's fight for the Omaha lands has lasted twenty years, during which time the prairie, of which the property consisted when the suit was instituted, has been surrounded and over-spread by the growing city of Omaha.

Soon after the court decision letters began to arrive from the kinfolk from all parts of the country, asking for all kinds of assistance. Others wrote giving information of his people.

Among the very first letters was one which set the old man wild with joy. It was from his young master, now a man 80 years old, but still young in the mind of the 110-year-old ex-slave. All resentment at his sale had long since died out of the negro's mind, and his one idea, after receiving the letter, was to see the "young master" and place his property in his hands, and thus an urgent request was sent to John Bowles Flannigan, of Shackleford, to go to Omaha and assume the entire charge of the property. The Virginia man is the sole remaining representative of one of the great families of the Old Dominion State. His family is all dead and he is alone in the world.

### GHOST SCARED EXPLORER.

#### Specter Frightened Sir Richard Burton and Killed His Dog.

Where was there a braver man, I wonder, than Sir Richard Burton? Once, though, his face paled and his breath came in gusts. A ghost did it, of course, and this was the manner of it. Burton was told of a house in London—quite a poor sort of house, by the way—which was said to be haunted. "I do not believe it," replied Burton. Then he was told that it was a specially terrible kind of ghost, and he said he didn't believe that either. He would go and see. To the empty house (the three last tenants had been found dead in bed, and such things get talked about) went Burton with a friend and a dog. "Come up with me," said he to his friend, and at his own request the companion locked Burton in the room and took the key down with him. "I shall be all right here; I've got my dog, too," the great traveler whispered confidently. "However, if I ring, get ready to come up; and should I ring twice, well, come quickly."

The friend waited as he was bid. Minutes passed like hours. His eyes were glued on the bell hanging motionless. A long wait. Full of foreboding he was on the point of breaking the conditions and going up to prospect when the bell did ring. And before he had tackled the first flight of stairs it pealed out again and—Up those stairs he rushed, two and three at a time, you may be sure. To open the door was the work of an instant, and then into his arms reeled Burton, almost dead with terror. "The place is accursed," he gasped. "What have you seen?" begged the friend. Burton's head shook. "No, no," he cried. "My poor dog's dead; I'm almost palsied with fright. More than that, no, no, I cannot tell you." Now this is quite true, and the house was immediately afterward pulled down. What did Burton see? No one knows. He is dead now, poor fellow, and no one ever will. The three tenants could tell us, but terror and death came together to them.—London Tattler.

### The Ears of Japanese.

The Japanese have no ear lobes. This discovery has apparently been made for the first time by Dr. Von Der Heyden, director of the public hospital in Yokohama. Even if he was not the first to discover it, he is certainly the first to draw public attention to it. The absence of the ear lobes, he claims, is in some respects the most marked distinction between the Japanese and Europeans, and he maintains that the probable reason why the latter have lobes is because their ancestors for many generations wore heavy earrings.

### Made Close Calculations.

Perhaps the most remarkable instance of the nicety of calculation employed in modern manufacturing is that of the Cambria Steel Company, of Johnstown, Pa., which recently completed 800 steel cars for the West Virginia Central Railroad without having a single piece of material of any kind left over.

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