

Gans & Klein



To-day, the anniversary of the coronation of William the Conqueror as King of England in 1066, and of Washington's victory over the British at Trenton in 1776, is Christmas.

Its observance is universal, the old Puritan prejudice against it having entirely disappeared.

A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year To You All

From now until New Year

Great Reductions

In all our various departments preparatory to

Taking Inventory.

Our Lines are Complete and Selections made easy.

Gans & Klein

FEELING FIRST RATE.

The Japanese Are, According to the Tenor of the Speech From the Throne.

CHINA'S PEACE OVERTURES DOUBTED

That Country Still Trying to Buy Warships and Enlist Foreign Officers in its Service.

Tokio, Dec. 24.—Parliament was opened to-day. The speech from the throne briefly referred to the victories achieved by the Japanese troops in every engagement, and says they are steadily pressing forward in the enemy's territory, adding that it is especially satisfactory to note that in spite of cold and hardships the troops are more than ever distinguishing themselves by their valor.

The government is still skeptical in regard to China's peace overtures, and points out that no authoritative statement has been made by China in regard to the mission, and while China now professes to wish peace, news has reached the government of Japan that China is negotiating for the purchase of the entire squadron of the Chilean navy, and agents of Von Hannekin in Europe are trying to enlist a number of officers for service in the Chinese army and navy.

London, Dec. 24.—A dispatch to the Times from Tien Tsin, which will be published to-morrow, says an edict has been issued continuing Admiral Ting, in charge of the fleet. The foreign officers in charge of the fleet, it appears, sent to Prince Kang, president of the admiralty, as well as president of the Sung Li Yamen, a unanimous protest against the punishment of Admiral Ting, who has been accused of not protecting the dock yards at Port Arthur against the Japanese fleet, as well as for the defeat of the Chinese fleet at the battle fought against Admiral Ting, and the foreign officers declare that the charges against Ting are unjust and that they will resign if he is punished.

The Chinese naval officers also sent a petition to Prince Kang, asking for the release of the Chinese fleet. The Foo Chow clique, which ousted Admiral Ting, is now, the Times dispatch adds, comprising against Admiral Ting, and is promising the censors with false accusations in order to avenge the execution of their comrade, Admiral Fong.

A dispatch from Peking to the Times, which will be published to-morrow, says: "American mediation proves to be but formal compliance with the Tien Tsin treaty, without any practical results. Hence China will dispatch a fresh mission, under American advice, and will endeavor to negotiate direct."

LAND BUSINESS.

Patents Granted for a Big Tract for the Use of the Agricultural College.

The state board of land commissioners last night received word from Washington that patents had been granted for 2,814.81 acres of agricultural college land located about twelve miles west of Bozeman. This land lies west of the West Gallatin river, in Gallatin county. Most of it is good tillable land which with water is capable of producing very large crops.

Considerable land similarly located is under cultivation, and much of it will grow pretty good wheat crops without irrigation. The money derived from the sale or lease of this land will go to the agricultural college fund.

The recent trip of the board to Virginia City cost only \$63.15. Up to today as a result of the trip the state has realized \$5,600 from the sale of state lands in Madison county.

The board yesterday turned over to the state treasurer \$10,723.21, the total amount received for the last seven days for the sale or lease of public lands.

It Was a Fearful Storm.

Amsterdam, Dec. 24.—The damage at Rotterdam by storm is estimated at 300,000 florins. Out of 135 fishing boats belonging to the latter port, twenty-five foundered and fifty were badly damaged. Throughout north Holland where the storm raged with extreme violence, the damage is tremendous. The loss in lives there is great. The island of Marken, in ten miles north of Amsterdam, was almost submerged. The dyke along the banks of the Yassel river, gave way under the great strain, and the water rushing through, swept the locomotive off the track. The land ends of the submarine cable near Harlem, which are usually six feet in sand, were laid bare, about six furlongs—Mar Jan, Jake Johnson, San Lucas, G. J. 214.

Will Not Surrender Them.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 24.—Gov. Flower will not, under any circumstances, grant the requisition asked for by the governor of Texas for the officials of the Standard Oil Trust. Judge Joyce, who attends to all requisition papers for the governor, said to-night: "If the indicted men had ever been in Texas, or committed any crime there, it would be a different matter."

California Races.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—The races today were ordinary. Not a favorite won. Five furlongs, maidens, two-year-olds—Dora, Experiment colt, Hapelin, 1:10 1/4; five furlongs—Lawyer, Charles Quick, Gold Dust, 1:07 1/4; five furlongs—Grandee, Red Bird, Eupenec, 1:06 1/4; about six furlongs—Mar Jan, Jake Johnson, San Lucas, G. J. 214.

SANTA CLAUS WAS HERE.

He Reached Helena Yesterday and Was Kept Very Busy.

Santa Claus arrived in Helena last evening. In fact, judging from the most reliable reports, there must have been more than one of him. There certainly seemed to be several. About 7:30 p. m. Santa Claus, accompanied by his twin brother, got to St. Peter's Episcopal church. There were 300 children, besides many of larger growth, gathered there to receive him. The church was prettily decorated, and under the arch was the loveliest of Christmas trees. Everybody was surprised to see Santa Claus' brother. Most people didn't know he had a brother and a twin brother at that. Both Santa Clauses went to work immediately and they scolded the brilliantly lit tree stripped of its pretty things and turned over to the children.

The Sunday school children of the Methodist church south enjoyed an entertainment also. There was a very pretty tree, a snow house with a big red chimney and lots of presents and good things for the little people. The church was very pretty, and it was well loaded, too.

At many other churches Santa Claus held receptions last evening. Notwithstanding his many engagements he found time to accept free tickets to homes in Helena at night. He left in his wake hundreds of happy children, children to whom the memory of his coming will always be dear.

PARKHURST DISPLEASED.

Will not Stop Work, Though the Lexow Committee Does.

New York, Dec. 24.—Dr. Parkhurst is not pleased at the prospect that the investigation of police corruption is to be stopped before the heads of departments have been called upon to testify, and still he is not pleased with the proposition, which is said to be favored by members of the Lexow committee, that Superintendent Byrnes be charged with reorganizing the department. Dr. Parkhurst said to-day that he would not stop work until he had given the congressional grist mill. Only members and senators from the far west, and those whose families are in the west, are expected to be present.

There is a prospect that the recommendations of Gen. Schofield and Gen. O'Grady, for the establishment of a military post at Spokane, will be carried out. Spokane has offered 1,000 acres of land for the post and Representative Wilson has secured in the senate a resolution providing that whenever the government secures title to the land, the secretary shall establish a military post on it. Senator Squire has introduced a bill providing for the appropriation of \$50,000 for the purpose of erecting buildings and making improvements for the post at Spokane.

Gen. Schofield, commanding the army, and Gen. O'Grady, commanding the department, favor the establishment of a new post at Spokane. Citizens of Spokane are anxious to see the discontinuance of the post at the latter place, but Senator Squire says Gen. Schofield assures him there will be no such discontinuance until after the war.

PROBLEM OF PAYING.

It Has Been Solved by the Secretary of the Interior.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The problem of making a payment of \$600,000 to the Nez Percés Indians for their lands in Idaho, which has confronted the interior department for some time, has just been settled. The payment was authorized by act of congress, but the department has experienced great difficulty in finding a way of making the payment of the large sum, as inspectors and special agents were required to give bonds for \$25,000 and consequently the amount could not be placed to their credit. There were no funds provided out of which a special agent could be paid for making the payment.

Several of the Idaho banks offered to make the payment without government expense, to secure the benefit of deposits that might be made by Indians, but the law prohibiting the acceptance of gratuitous service prevented the plan. But the commissioner of Indian affairs devised a plan for payment which has now approved. It authorizes a special agent to proceed to the lands and make up a roll of the Indians who will be made out payable to each Indian in his own name for the amount of the bonds. The roll will be forwarded in care of a special agent, who will identify each of the Indians.

There are 1,390 of the Indians, each of whom will receive about \$250.

THEY MAY COME WEST.

The Indians of the East May Be Gradually Moved to the Reservations.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The subcommittee on Indian affairs has been considering an appropriation bill several days and will report it soon after the holidays. There is a proposition to make a reduction in the expenses of the eastern schools. Representative Wilson, of Washington, a member of the subcommittee, who is preparing the bill, says there is a general feeling that the Indians can be better educated on the reservations in the west. "There is no longer a frontier," said Mr. Wilson. "Railroads, telegraphs and telephones have obliterated it."

The committee has also been considering what to do with the improvements made by the churches for contract schools, and it has been determined to appropriate \$50,000 to buy a number of them, and to acquire them at the rate of about 20 per cent each year.

Denies the Report.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The Turkish legation has received the following official telegram: "Certain newspapers have announced the execution of thirty-six Armenians at Erzerum. The information is not correct, the facts being that out of forty-six Armenians under arrest at Erzerum thirty-six were executed, and the remaining five to ten years at hard labor. Several others were also condemned to death, but they are in flight. The condemned men were executed in the presence of the Turkish legation, and the formalities concerning these sentences have not yet been fulfilled."

Satoli's Christmas Services.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The celebration of Christmas at the residence of Mr. Satoli, papal delegate, will begin at midnight to-night, when the delegate and assistants will each say three masses. To-morrow Mr. Satoli will celebrate high mass at St. Augustine's church, where the congregation is made up mainly of colored folk.

QUESTION SETTLED.

The Montana University to Have a Suitable Home.

CAPITOLS DESERTED

Senators and Congressmen Are Off to Their Respective Homes for the Holiday Season.

INVESTIGATING THE APPROPRIATIONS

Unusual Difficulty Experienced in Paying Out a Large Sum of Money to Indians.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The subcommittee of the house committee on appropriations was to-day in session conducting the sundry civil bill. Director of the geological survey, and Commissioner Lamoreaux, of the general land office, were before the committee, explaining the estimates for their respective bureaus, and were questioned by the committee as to the advisability of reducing expenditures. Both maintained that their estimates were as low as they thought judicious. They were also asked as to the recommendations that the surveying of public lands be made, under the discretion of the secretary, by the geological survey instead of by the contract system through different states. This had been discussed by Secretary Smith with both these officers before the recommendations were made and they were in favor of the change. They so assured the committee to-day.

Assistant Secretary Hamlin, of the treasury department, also appeared before the committee and urged that full appropriations be made for carrying out the Chinese exclusion act and that provision be made for all estimates for Alaska, especially as to United States coasts, Mr. Hamlin last summer visited the Pacific coast and Alaska as well and was asked to give the committee assurance that the estimates made by the treasury were absolutely necessary for the Chinese exclusion, and that the revenue would be increased by the better service asked for in Alaska. It is the intention of the subcommittee to leave the sundry civil bill ready to lay before the full committee immediately after the holidays.

The capitol was practically deserted to-day. Only a few rambling sight-seers, and a few members of the straggling senate or representative, were the echoes of its spacious corridors. The charm of the festivities of Christmas at home was the magnet that had drawn the members of the legislature from the congressional grist mill. Only members and senators from the far west, and those whose families are in the west, are expected to be present.

There is a prospect that the recommendations of Gen. Schofield and Gen. O'Grady, for the establishment of a military post at Spokane, will be carried out. Spokane has offered 1,000 acres of land for the post and Representative Wilson has secured in the senate a resolution providing that whenever the government secures title to the land, the secretary shall establish a military post on it.

THREE MINERS KILLED.

Special to The Independent. Missoula, Dec. 24.—A special to the Missoulian from Spokane says a terrible and fatal accident occurred to-day in Frisco mine No. 3, in Canyon creek, Gem, Idaho, in which three men were terribly mangled and instantly killed. Patrick Sullivan, foreman, and James Carney and Fred Snell were at work on stopes when the timbers on which they were standing broke, precipitating the men five floors below. In the descent the bodies of the men struck against the pit again and again, and when at last they reached the bottom their bodies were fearfully bruised and mangled. Sullivan is an old miner and well known all over the west.

A FUGITIVE LOCATED.

Special to The Independent. Butte, Dec. 24.—News has reached here of the locating of Paul Metcalf at King City, Mo., in connection with the murder of Henry A. Root. He is said to have represented the Butte and Boston company. Other bidders were Joseph McDonald, of the American Developing and Mining company, and Charles F. Booth, of the Washoe Copper company. The bidding was lively between Root and King until \$90,000 was reached, when the property was awarded to King. The property is considered worth at least \$125,000, as it stands. King is thought to have been bidding for the Anaconda company.

STRETCHES OUT.

Debs' Sentence Will Keep Him in One Year.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Judge Woods today decided that the jail sentence of Debs and his six associates in the Santa Fe case shall begin Jan. 8. On motion of Attorney Gregory for the defense, the Santa Fe and government case, on which the sentences were cumulative, were separated and the Santa Fe sentence is served. An appeal will be taken in the government case.

MURDERED BY GUIDES.

Bangor, Me., Dec. 24.—Sheriff Reid and Deputy Lancaster to-day went to the scene of the murder of Celia Nashan and Charles Langley, to a hunter's camp at Millbrook, and took in custody Joseph and Newell Gabriel, Indian guides, who are charged with the crime of murder. Their camp was found to the ground, with the bodies of the two murdered men in the ruins. Newell Gabriel claims he went away from the camp for a while and when he returned he saw his brother kill Langley and Nashan with a hatchet.

TWO FAILURES.

Milwaukee, Dec. 24.—Wochstader & Co., retail clothing, doing business under the name of "The Hub," failed to-day. Peter Van Vechter was appointed receiver, furnishing bonds in the sum of \$50,000. In St. Paul this firm carried on a clothing business under the name of the United States Clothing company. The liabilities are \$120,000. The Chapman Carriage and Sleigh company also assigned to-day. The receiver's bond was for \$25,000.

WILLING TO BEAR THE STIGMA.

Mr. Carnegie states that he who dies rich dies in disgrace. Mr. Carnegie's life up to the present time indicates that he is like most of the rest of humanity, willing to take the disgrace, and the more of it the better.—Kansas City Times.

REMAINS THE SAME.

As Shown by the Official Count Which is Completed, Helena's Majority is Still 1,906.

SPORTS MAY NOW PAY THEIR BETS.

The official vote on the Capital, Congressman and Supreme Court Justice Finally Announced.

The state board of canvassers yesterday morning received the corrected returns from Teton county. It took the board but a few minutes to verify them, after which the official count for permanent seat of government, representative to congress, justice of the supreme court and the joint representatives to the state legislature were given out. The official count on the capital vote gives Helena a majority of 1,906, or just what had been previously but unofficially published. The vote by counties as certified to the governor by the board is:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Vote Count. Includes Anaconda, Beaverhead, Cascade, etc.

CONGRESSMAN.

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Vote Count. Includes Beaverhead, Cascade, Choteau, etc.

JUSTICE SUPREME COURT.

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Vote Count. Includes Beaverhead, Cascade, Choteau, etc.

DROVE UPON THE TRACK.

Cape May, N. J., Dec. 24.—At Tuckahoe, twenty-five miles north of here, on the South Jersey railroad, last night, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Miss Emma Jones and another young girl, returning from church, drove upon the track just as a train came along. The engine struck the carriage, instantly killing Mrs. Lewis and severely injuring Miss Jones and the other girl. Mr. Lewis escaped. The girls saved themselves by jumping.

SOLENCY OR SURRENDER.

London, Dec. 24.—The Times to-day, in the course of an article on Newfoundland, says that to grant a loan of £1,000,000, which has been asked for by that colony, would be cruel kindness which it would be impossible to concede without fullest inquiry. The Times adds: "If the choice lies between solvency and the surrender of their constitution, it is well that the alternative be faced without delay."

HIGHWAYMEN IN OMAHA.

Omaha, Dec. 24.—Omaha highwaymen began their work early to-night, and before 6 o'clock a number of hold-ups were reported in various parts of the city. Dr. Cornelius Satterfield was the victim of the most serious case. As he approached his home in the center of the city, on a well lighted street, two revolvers were thrust into his face. He thought it was a joke and knocked the weapons up. He was immediately shot down. He will recover.

THEY VISIT THE POPE.

Rome, Dec. 24.—The pope has decided to receive the officers of the United States steamship Detroit at noon on Wednesday. The American officers will be introduced by Mr. O'Connell, and will afterwards be entertained at an official dinner which will be given at the American college.

REFUSED THE RATE.

Massillon, Ohio, Dec. 24.—The miners at the Pocock mine refused to go to work today at the 90 cent rate. This action may have the effect of influencing men at other mines to quit work on the basis decided upon by the arbitration committee.

RAILROAD DIVORCE.

Asked on the Ground That They Can Do Better Alone.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 24.—Petition for a separate and independent receiver of the Oregon Short Line & Utah Northern Railway company was filed in the United States court to-day by Joseph Simon, representing the American Loan and Trust company, trustees of the consolidated bonds of that company.

Judge Gilbert ordered that a hearing on the application for an independent receiver be heard on Jan. 15, at the time the receivers of the Short Line & Utah Northern, who are also receivers of the Union Pacific system, are cited to appear to show cause why the application should not be granted and an independent person or persons appointed to the receivership of these railways.

Should the petition be granted, it means a divorce of that road from the Union Pacific system and its cooperation as an independent property, or possibly in close connection with the Oregon Railway and Navigation company. It means that the Ogden gateway to Portland will be open to the Burlington, Rock Island, Santa Fe, Denver & Gulf, Missouri Pacific and Rio Grande, which will be given an outlet from Denver via Ogden over the Short Line to Portland.

HOLIDAY OF HOLIDAYS.

It Will Be Appropriately Observed in Churches and Homes.

This is the holiday of all holidays, and it will be appropriately observed in Helena. All banks and business houses will be closed and the day will be given over to quiet enjoyment. There will be services in most of the churches, at which the Child of the Manger will be the theme of the discourses.

There will be three celebrations of the holy communion at St. Peter's Episcopal church to-day, the first at 8 o'clock, the second at 9:30 and the third at the 11 o'clock service. Bishop Brewer will preach the Christmas sermon at the 11 o'clock service.

Rev. M. DeHuff and Rev. C. Larson will conduct services in the First Scandinavian Lutheran church at this morning. The Christmas tree celebration will take place at half past 7 in the evening. All are cordially invited.

At the Scandinavian Lutheran church, corner Idaho street and Twelfth avenue, there will be services at 11 o'clock this morning. The Yule tree celebration will take place at 6 o'clock this evening. Rev. C. N. Hauge will preach this morning at 6 o'clock and 11 o'clock, at the northeast corner of Rodney street and Broadway. All Scandinavians are cordially invited.

TWO, NOT SEVEN.

Mortality in the Race Trouble in Georgia not Very Great.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 24.—Advices from Brooks county to-day say that only two negroes were killed in the rioting there yesterday, instead of seven, as at first reported. A Quilman special to the Journal says the whites are still highly incensed, and are patrolling the settlements fully armed in the search for Waverly Pike, the negro whose brutal slaughter of Joseph Isom last week started the trouble. There is danger of other lives being sacrificed. Pike is captured and two black lynched yesterday were not implicated in Pike's crime, and were apparently slain because they would not reveal his whereabouts.

Good citizens are incensed, and unless the mob can be quelled will arm themselves to protect the darkies. The sheriff is organizing a posse to take to the town of trouble. The governor will be telegraphed for troops. The trouble cannot stop. A large number of whites and blacks are here, the negroes appealing for protection. Excitement is intense.

CROKER DENOUNCES COCHRAN.

New York, Dec. 24.—The Morning Advertiser to-morrow will say: "Richard Croker yesterday denounced Congressman Bourke Cochran in violent terms. In an interview at his Broadway office, he said with emphasis and satisfaction that certain publications about the Tammany hall organization and myself have been inspired by Bourke Cochran, and I have no hesitancy in saying I believe he has been going around in corners to talk about me and acting in a way that sometimes leads one to be termed an informer. Now, I submit that it would be disgraceful for me to be so manly and dignified for him to come right out before the executive committee of Tammany hall and say what he has to say."

MADE FULL CONFESSION.

Paris, Ill., Dec. 24.—Noah Foster made a full confession to-day in the Taylorville jail that he murdered Arthur L. Binion near here a week ago. Binion's father went to Taylorville this morning with a gun, threatening to kill Foster. Foster confessed in the presence of Binion's father, who raved like a maniac. The latter was unarmed at the time. Foster said he killed the boy in a quarrel as to who should buy the same pipe. He made the boy's acquaintance on the night of the murder.

GAY STILL IN DENVER.

Denver, Dec. 24.—Bill Gay, outlaw and murderer, is still in jail here. The programme for his release has been going on for some time, but it has not yet been carried out as Sheriff O'Meara fears Gay's friends may attempt to rescue him. The guilty approaches to Castle, Mont., and is expected to be released today that he had information which led him to believe Gay's friends would interfere.

THE ENVOY ARRIVES.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Gen. Tcherkoff, who was sent as special envoy to announce the accession of Czar Nicholas to the throne of Russia, arrived here this afternoon. He was received with military honors. Thirty thousand people were assembled, along the streets, through which the general passed, and he was heartily cheered. He will see President Casimir-Pier to-morrow.