THE INDIANS.

The Winter Expedition on the Eve of Departure.

HONEST REDS AND STOLEN HORSES

Composition of General Crook's Column.

WARDING OFF FROST BITES.

General Crook's Report of the Big Horn and Yellowstone Expeditions.

FORT LARAMIE, Wy. T., Nov. 3, 1876.

The arrangements for the fitting out of the Powder River expedition have progressed quietly but steadily since General Crook's return from Red Cloud Agency, and our present understanding is that we shall leave here on Sunday for Fort Fetterman, which is in reality the place of rendezvous. The column will consist of ten companies of cavalry, eleven of infantry and four of artillery, besides from 200 to 300 Indian scouts and soldiers. The troops now under orders are as follows:—

THE COLUMN.

Fourth cavalry, companies B, D, E, F, I and M; Fifth cavalry, companies H and L, and companies K of the Second and K of the Third. Companies C, F, H and K of the Fourth artillery; A, B, D, I, F and K of the Ninth infantry, D and G of the Fourteenth, and C, G and I of the Twenty-third.

General Crook will command in person. General Mackenzie, Colonel of the Fourth cavalry, will command the cavalry and Lieutenant Colonel R. I. Dodge the infantry and artillery. The other officers ordered into the field are as follows:—

Fourth cavalry—Captains Mauck, John Lee, Wirt Davis, W. C. Hemphill, Lieutenants Martin, Callahan, Mason, Bealis, Irwin, Shoemaker, Rosenquest, Budd, Otis, Miller, Lawton, McKenney, Dorst and Tyler.

Fifth cavalry—Major G. A. Gordon; Captains John M. Hamilton and A. B. Taylor; Lieutenants Rockwell, Wheeler, Ward and Swift.

Artillery—Captains H. C. Cushing, James B. Campbell and F. G. Smith; Lieutenants Taylor, J. M. Jones, Cummins, Crozier, H. R. Anderson, Howe and French.

Ninth infantry—Major G. F. Townsend; Captain Devin; Lieutenants Foote, Lee, McCaleb, Pease, Rockefeller and Baldwin.

Fourteenth infantry—Captains Vanderslice and Krause; Lieutenants Austin, Hasson and Kimball.

Twenty-third infantry—Captains Otis W. Pollock and Charles Wheaton; Lieutenants Hay, Dodge, Pratt and Clarke.

Medical Corps—Assistant Surgeon James R. Gibson, chief medical officer; Assistant Surgeons Price and Wood, and Acting Assistant Surgeons Owsley and Petteys.

There will be on General Crook's personal staff First Lieutenant John G. Burke, Third cavalry; Aide-de-Camp Walter S. Schuyler, Fifth cavalry; Aide-de-Camp W. P. Clarke, commanding Indian scouts; Captain George M. Randall, commanding the entire detachment of Indians, including Sioux, Snakes, Crows and Pawnees, and Captain Frank North will command the Pawnee scouts. Captain John B. Furey is the Quartermaster. First Lieutenant C. H. Rockwell is Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

PREPARING TO ROUGH IT.

Extensive preparations are on foot by all going who are in a condition to provide for themselves, to guard against the rigors of a winter which is expected to be very severe, and though it is said the campaign is not intended to be prosecuted on the Powder River much longer than two months the officers generally anticipate and are preparing for a more protracted struggle with the elements if not with the hostiles. It is enough to make one shiver to see the precautions that are being taken by knowing ones to avoid being frozen and to hear their terrible stories of camp life in a region where mercury freezes and one can take his

ICED WHISKEY IN SOLID LUMPS.

The troops will be fairly provided with covering, but in spite of all the precautions that may be taken I am inclined to believe that there will be considerable suffering on the trip and that more than a few will be found to have succumbed to the trials of the campaign before it is ended. That hostile Indians can be found in numbers large enough to engage the entire command there can be little doubt, if one may accept the surmises and conclusions of some of the scouts engaged on the expedition just concluded. The impression that they are still well armed and liberally provided with ammunition too prevails here pretty generally, notwithstanding the recent action at the agencies. If this action, however, result in destroying an important source of supply it will not take long to exhaust the stores now on hand, for the Indian is a very wasteful soldier and in the excitement of the fight uselessly shoots away large quantities of ammunition, though at the beginning of a battle he is generally a tolerably effective marksman. Even this much I am afraid cannot be said for the majority of the white settlers engaged in Indian fighting. Of the qualities of the troops forming the Powder River expedition it is yet too early to speak critically.

THE RIGHT MAN.

But time will prove them, and if report speaks accurately of General Mackenzie's temperament he is likely to lead his portion of the command to vigorous and decisive action should an opportunity present itself and orders permit it. He has had some experience with the Kiowas and Comanches, and is said to be "considerable on the fight," in border parlance. The short carbine of the cavalry, however, I do not consider good for much except at uncomfortably close quarters, and the conditions favorable to its effective employment seldom present themselves in Indian fighting. If the Indian warriors greatly outnumber the white soldiers they won't hesitate about coming close enough and on all sides, too, as in the Custer massacre, while if they find themselves outnumbered they contrive to keep just beyond the range of the carbine and content themselves with picking off a soldier now and then with their long rifles. I find there is at least one cavalry officer going to provide against this difficulty, and his remedy is to obtain long rifles for his men, who seem to be as glad to accept the change as he was ready to make it for them. This is Captain Egan, of K company, Second Cavalry, who has been through some lively Indian skirmishes with his command and appreciates the advantages of a long range gun.

INDIAN TACTICS.

It would seem that the Indians' favorite method of fighting is to surround the enemy as they would a herd of buffaloes, and in this style of fighting a long range gun is of inestimable advantage.

CROOK'S REPORT.

General Crook has just prepared a report of his recent action at Red Cloud Agency, from which I forward the following extracts:—

Upon arriving at Camp Robinson (Red Cloud) I learned that the Indians were and had been for some time out a considerable distance from the agency and in quite intimate communication with the hostiles who have been out from there the past summer. While waiting for Colonel Merritt's command to get within striking distance it became apparent that the principal bands were about to cave and the movement was precipitated before Colonel Merritt's command got into position.

Colonel Mackenzie, Fourth cavalry, with eight companies of cavalry and part of the Pawnee scouts left be post after dark on Sunday evening, 22d October, and early the succeeding morning surrounded the bands of Red Leaf and Red Cloud, and when daylight dawned and they saw the condition of things they surrendered without firing a shot. They were at once disarmed, their ponies taken from them, and the warriors, followed by their families with their camp equipage and property, brought to the agency, where they were released and put in camp. About 700 ponies were captured, with all the arms and ammunition the Indians had about their persons or in their lodges. The disarming of these two bands had a most salutary effect upon the other Indians at the agency.

LOYALTY REWARDED.

The other bands not disarmed, known as the Arrapahoes, Loafers and Out-of-Sioux, have been loyal to us, and to have disarmed them with the others would simply have arrayed the white man against the Indian and placed the loyal and disloyal on the same footing. By not doing this they were convinced in the most decided manner that such was not our intention, and no amount of talk about our "friendship" and "the friendship of the Great Father" would have so thoroughly impressed it upon their minds. For the first time in the history of this reservation did they see the loyal treated as well even as those who have been persistently stubborn and disloyal. This good effect was at once manifested in the desire of the warriors from these bands to enlist, and enlistments have since been going on there in large numbers. I then had a council with Spotted Tail, decidedly the most intelligent and loyal of all the head men there, at which an understanding most complete and satisfactory was arrived at. I then placed him in charge of all the tribes at the agencies, at the same time advising him to send representative men with the Commission to the Indian Territory, as desired by members then present. Enlistments from the Indians at Spotted Tail were to be at once commenced, but notwithstanding this since I left there I have been advised by Colonel MacKenzie that one of the Commission, their late agent, Howard, advised them not to do so, interfering with the interpreter "in the most wicked and vicious manner."

It is the impression of these Indians, as expressed to our interpreters, that these enlistments will have a decided effect in inducing the hostiles to accept the terms offered for their surrender. This I am prepared to believe from the experience I have had with other Indians, and notably so with those tribes with which I have come in contact on the Pacific coast, from British Columbia to Mexico. One thing is certain, it is the entering wedge by which the tribal organization is broken up, making way for civilizing and Christianizing influences. As a soldier the Indian wears the uniform, draws rations and pay, and is in all respects on an equal footing with a white man. It demonstrates to his simple mind in the most positive manner that we have no prejudice against him on account of his race, and that while he behaves himself he will be treated the same as a white man. Returning to his tribe after this service he is enabled to see beyond the old superstition that has governed his people, and thinks and decides for himself.

It is a measure of humanity, and commends itself to us, as it shortens the war and saves the lives of both white men and Indians.

THE RIVAL REDS.

I find that several people here, who profess to be familiar with Indian affairs, apprehend difficulty between the Pawnee and Sioux scouts and soldiers. The tribes have been a long time enemies. Our Sioux soldiers have not yet arrived, but will probably be here in the morning.

Over 350 of the ponies captured at Red Cloud were sold at auction yesterday, and averaged about $5 each. They were mostly a poor half starved lot, but were not dear at the price to ranchmen and others who could turn them out to grass for a while and give them a chance to improve. But they will need close watching, or the Indians will steal them back again. About 300 of the most serviceable ones were picked out before the sale for the enlisted Indians, and will be given them before we start. The money received for those sold will be turned in to the Department of the Interior and applied in some way to the benefit of the former owners of the animals. Among the captured lot were found several American horses stolen from ranches about here. These were identified by their owners and turned over on proof of ownership. This is an instructive commentary on

THE "HONEST INJUN"

professions of Mr. Red Cloud's braves. No doubt if more captures were made many more stolen horses would be found on this and the other reservations, for horse stealing is a favorite pastime with Indians, peaceful or hostile. No doubt, also, many of the very best horses stolen during the past summer by agency Indians have been rushed out to their hostile friends for war purposes, where they will be cared for, for if the Indian warrior is kind to any living thing it is most likely to be his war horse.

THE BIG HORN AND YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION.

On the 24th ult. General Crook promulgated his official order reviewing the deportment of the men engaged in the Big Horn and Yellowstone expedition. It says:—"In the campaign now closed he has been obliged to call upon you for much hard service and many sacrifices of personal comfort. At times you have been out of reach of your base of supplies; in most inclement weather you have marched without food and slept without shelter. In your engagements you have evinced a high order of discipline and courage, in your marches wonderful powers of endurance, and in your deprivations and hardships patience and fortitude.

"Indian warfare is of all warfare the most dangerous, the most trying and the most thankless. Not recognized by the high authority of the United States Senate as war, it still possesses for you the disadvantages of civilized warfare with all the horrible accompaniments that barbarians can invent and savages can execute. In it you are required to serve without the incentive to promotion or recognition—in truth, without favor or hope of reward. The people of our sparsely settled frontier, in whose defence this war is waged, have but little influence with the powerful communities in the East, their representatives have little voice in our national councils, while your savage foes are not only the wards of the nation, supported in toleness, but objects of sympathy with large numbers of people otherwise well informed and discerning.

"You may, therefore, congratulate yourselves that in the performance of your military duty you have been on the side of the weak against the strong, and that the few people there are on the frontier will remember your efforts with gratitude. If in the future it should transpire that the avenues for recognition of distinguished services are opened those rendered in this campaign will be recommended for suitable reward." Pending this, the following named officers and men are mentioned as carrying on their persons honorable marks of distinction in the severe wounds they have received at the hands of the enemy:—

Captain Gilly V. Henry, Third cavalry; First Lieutenant A. H. Von Leutwitz, Third cavalry; First Sergeant Thomas Meagher, Company I, Second cavalry; Sergeants Patrick O'Donnell, Company D, Second cavalry; Andrew Grosch, Company I; Samuel Cook, Company L; Edward Glass, Company E; John A. Kirkwood, Company M, Third cavalry; Edmund Schreiber, Company K, Fifth cavalry. In addition quite a number of private soldiers are named who received wounds from Indian bullets.

SERVICE WITHOUT REWARD.

There is no doubt that the soldiers are deserving of all that General Crook claims for them. We are told that "the path of duty is the way to glory," and it is well to ponder on this assurance in Indian warfare, in which no other glory can be won than that which springs from the exact and complete discharge of arduous and disagreeable duties. It is a little unfortunate for all concerned, however, to find the border settlers so little inclined to rejoice in the deeds of the Big Horn and Yellowstone expedition during the past summer, after all the hardships those engaged in it endured. And now that it is hoped and expected the Powder River expedition will prove so much more effective, General Crook owes it to himself and to those in whose defence he goes forth to achieve a victory over his savage enemies which shall teach them a lesson of our superiority in war as decisive as he believes those peaceful measures to be which were inaugurated recently at the agencies.

STORMS BREWING.

Matters have been comparatively quiet about the ranches near here since the arrival of the troops, but I learn that the ranchmen are apprehensive of troublesome times after our departure. The Indians keep themselves informed of the movements of the soldiers pretty thoroughly and govern their stock raids accordingly, going generally to unprotected points and in numbers large enough to overcome the few persons they are likely to encounter. Some of them will probably try to get even on the pony transaction when we are gone.

Among the many officers who were out on the Big Horn expedition I have have found at least one happy man. This is Lieutenant Pardee, of the Twenty-third infantry, and his satisfaction arises from the fact that his superior, in taking leave of him, addressed him in the following manner:—

"In parting with this officer at the close of a campaign so eventful and trying as that of the past four months, the Colonel commanding finds it no easy matter to express to him his sense of the value of the services he has rendered to him and to the command. While he has been conspicuous in the faithful and efficient execution of every duty under severe exposure and unusual hardships, the manifold labors of a staff officer in the field have been discharged by him with tireless energy and intelligence.

"Lieutenant Pardee bears with him the gratitude of his commander and the esteem and respect of his comrades in arms. W. MERRITT,
Brevet Major General U. S. A., Colonel Fifth cavalry."

THE SCOUTS.

There is a queer lot of fellows here who hover about the post and hang on the ragged edges of the command. These are the long-haired, unwashed "injun slayers," whose chief delight is to be looked upon as great scouts. Some of these fellows seem to think that all they need do in order to be universally admired is to dress in an outlandish fashion, interlard their conversation with elaborate oaths and border superlatives, and become known to fame as "Grasshopper Jim" or "Jack Rabbit Bill." A good healthy Indian would scare half a dozen such frauds to death with one vigorous yell.

Colonel Nickerson, General Crook's chief of staff, returns to Omaha in the morning, having issued all the orders for the expedition before his departure. The troops at the garrison who are to join the expedition go into camp in the morning. General Mackenzie has not yet arrived with the Fourth cavalry, although he was expected this evening.

Our mail from this post to the East closes to-night, so I shall have to defer an account of to-morrow's developments to a later date.

FROM THE FRONTIER—THE SITUATION IN MONTANA—WHAT THE SETTLERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN.

[From the New Northwest (Deer Lodge, Mont.), Oct. 27.]

Major Randall, of Crook's command, arrived here via Corinne on Thursday, for the purpose of raising a body of 200 Crow scouts, for service during the winter campaign. If successful he will proceed with them directly to old Fort Reno, which will be made the base of supplies.

Crook's preparations are upon a very complete scale. A pack train of 400 animals will carry the outfit of the command and the surprise and destruction of the villages will be the work of the campaign. This, no doubt, is the only effective plan, and that sharp work will be done can hardly be doubted. Of course much and probably severe suffering must result to the troops—suffering not to be appreciated by those who have not had experience without shelter in wintry storms upon the plains—nor by those who know nothing of the hardships endured upon the Pigeon or the Northern Pacific survey trips of the Montana troops. The result must, we imagine, be the virtual settlement of the Sioux question, but while the settlement may be taking place a howl may go up from the East based upon the fact that Red Cloud and others have signed the treaty. The fact that the signing of the treaty was done under protest and with strong reference to the deceit hitherto practised upon Indians, joined to as strong intimation of Indian distrust of good intentions on the present instance, should show us all the treaties of necessity a farce. Of course it is hardly reasonable to expect the East to understand this feature of the case; but it is a feature which should somewhat lessen our western cry for blood. We cannot doubt that much Indian trouble would and could have been spared had treaties been both explained to and understood by the Indians, and their provisions observed by us of the "superior race." Even in the case of the friendly Crows, it is stated, they were cajoled into signing the Judith Basin treaty by the assurance that Major Pease would be returned as their agent. Had that treaty been ratified and its enforcement been attempted, and had the Crows rebelled, would not the East have justly "howled," and the West have called down the vengeance of federal arms upon the "untutored savage?" There are two sides to this question, one of which it is very convenient for us to forget. But another result of this settlement will be the (at any rate attempted) practical navigation of the Yellowstone. Dr. Lamme, whose energy and enterprise in the premises may yet procure him a memorial on Main street, Bozeman, will steam up the river early next season, and is so determined that no one need be surprised over an invitation to meet him at Benson's Landing. Who in Deer Lodge will order a case of goods via the Yellowstone? We of Bozeman will agree to deliver it from Benson's Landing to the owner's store door free of charge. Another result will doubtless be the location of a town at, say, Baker's Battle Ground, and Montana may as well prepare to bid some of her people godspeed to pastures new. Already the matter is being practically canvassed, and good news from Crook will but hasten the end.

BOZEMAN, October 22, 1876. J. V. BOGERT.

A RARE LIBRARY.

UNIQUE EXAMPLES OF TYPOGRAPHICAL ART—CHOICE ENGRAVINGS AND ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

Taste, money and time have been lavished without stint on a library owned by Mr. William Menzies, a wealthy merchant of this city, and having achieved great success as a collector of rare books, he now proposes to afford others an opportunity to come into possession of choice literature without much exertion. The collection of Mr. Menzies is one of the most remarkable that has ever been disposed of by public vendue, either in this country or in Europe. The sale will take place under the auspices of Messrs. E. A. Leavitt & Co. A catalogue of the books, manuscripts and engravings of this collection has been prepared by Mr. Sabin for the guidance of the purchasers, which is sold for $2. The method of selling the catalogues had to be adopted for various reasons. First, the compilation being really a great labor, nearly every book being critically analyzed, the volume becomes a most valuable addendum to any library as a book of reference. Second, the catalogue has been gotten up at great expense, and the auctioneers cannot afford to give it a way. As the expert or even amateur bibliophilist turns over the 500 pages of this carefully compiled book he cannot fail to be struck with the richness of the collection offered for sale. Among the 2,251 lots comprising this collection the recurrence of the words "very rare," "unique," "excessively rare," "most scarce," clearly and appropriately indicate the extraordinary character of the catalogue. The mediæval manuscripts are specially noticeable. A magnificent fourteenth century "Missal" (lot 1,401) is described as written upon 140 pages of vellum, and includes a remarkable series of miniatures representing the dance of death, and exhibits the curious *outré* costumes of that period. There is also a beautiful "Hours of the Blessed Virgin." Three other lots exhibit the struggle between the printing press and the monastic scribes. There are fine examples of "Hore" or "Hours," printed on vellum in imitation of the manuscript books of devotion privately in use and illuminated in gold and colors. Dated early in the sixteenth century, they are fine specimens of early typography. The presses of the fathers of printing in England and Germany are exhibited in various lots, among which No. 2,132 is an extremely rare and handsome edition of "Cicero's Offices," the first English translation, and printed in part from the first Italian types used in England in 1534, by Wynkyn de Worde. That volume of marvels called the "Legenda Aurea," or "Golden Legend," and imprynted at London, in Flete streete, at the sygne of the sonne, 1527, is in the list. The predecessor and father-in-law of the last named William Caxton is exampled in a splendid copy of "Higden's Polycronicon," dated 1482.

The quaint old Cologne printer, Ulrich Zell, who was a workman under Schoiffer, has an example of his art in the very fine "St. Hieronymus," found on page 187. Lot 74, a volume of Thomas Aquinas, and one of the rarest books in existence, was printed by the great Guttenberg about the year 1460. This is the earliest specimen of typography now in America, with the exception of the Mazarine Bible belonging to Mr. James Lenox, and is hardly overshadowed by a very large copy of the same father printed by Schoiffer in 1471. Two leaves from the first Latin Bible ever printed, and from the press of Fust & Schoiffer in 1462, are also to be found here.

Next in importance to these early specimens of the printing art are the unique volumes of extra illustrated works. This contingent of the library is very rich, and in order to make these the finest in existence three copies of the same volume had often to be taken to pieces and leaves selected therefrom to make up a perfect book in every respect. One of the finest of this kind is the magnificent copy of "Irving's Life of George Washington," illustrated and bound in a most sumptuous style by Mathews. The owner gave up the leisure of ten years of his life in collecting the engravings and original drawings to the number of nearly 2,000, which make up this matchless work. Of these illustrations most are India proofs or proofs before letters, and are inlaid by the well known inlayer, Trent, as are also the numerous autograph letters added. The twelve volumes are in fine condition, and have cost Mr. Menzies close on $10,000. A complete assemblage of the works of the Nestor of bibliographers, Thomas Frognall Dibdin, likewise calls for mention. This collection contains upwards of 1,000 high class inserted illustrations, and is a work of art, not only from the beauty of the copies but from the binding, for which the tools used in ornamentation were prepared expressly. A copy of Warren's "American Revolution" contains 140 extra plates, and a set of the "Abbotsford Waverly Novels," and the finest copy extant, has 350 additional India proof illustrations. Sargent's "Life of André" includes rare sepia drawings and many inserted proof engravings. A fine illustrated and large paper copy of "Old New York," by Dr. Francis, is well worthy of attention. Walpole's "Painters," Knight's "Shakespeare," Franklin's "Works," containing many MSS. by the philosopher-patriot, Beloe's "Sexagenarian," Froissart's "Chronicles," Hosak's "Life of Clinton," Colden's "Life of Fulton," and many other works of a similar character have been made highly attractive and valuable by the fastidious care and additions made by the owner.

The collection of Americana in the Menzies library is about one of the most remarkable ever gathered. No scarce work of any importance relating to America is absent. The series of voyages printed under the auspices of De Bry at the end of the sixteenth century, and of which no such expensive efforts were ever after made to get together reliable particulars relating to the Americas, is represented by a set of nine volumes, which for beauty of condition is almost unexampled. A very fine copy of "Purchas His Pilgrimage," bought at the great Sobolewski sale, deserves special notice. The copy of Smith's "New York" is one of the only two known copies extant on large paper. Mather's "Magnolia" is of the highest degree of rarity, being the "tallest" large paper copy in existence. But the great interest of the buyers of Americana will centre around the Holy Bible, translated into the Indian language by Master John Eliot, pastor of Roxbury, after eight years of patient labor. The Old Testament took three years to print, and the whole is an enduring monument to the fervor of the faith which actuated the Puritan fathers.

A fine, large and perfect copy of the rare Foxe's "Northwest Passage," which gives a description of the earliest attempts to discover the northwest passage, is in the library, as also a copy of the volume, "A New England Fire Brand Quenched," by George Fox, the founder of Quakerism. In the catalogue, too, may be found such rare works as "Smith's Virginia," "Roman's Florida," "Mourt's Relation;" "Jefferson's Virginia," first edition; "Georges' America Painted to the Life," "Bullock's Virginia," "Champlain's Voyages;" "Denton's New York, 1670;" "Hamor's Virginia, 1615;" "Wolley's New York, 1701," and numerous others of the same tenor, not excluding the rare first edition of the relation of that never-to-be-forgotten seventeenth century divine, Nathaniel Ward, who describes himself as "a simple cobbler, willing to help mend his native country, lamentably tattered both in the upper leather and sole, * * * and as willing never to be paid for his work by old English wonted pay."

Of manuscripts relating to this country the collection has some noteworthy examples. "Washington's Correspondence with General Joseph Reed, of Pennsylvania" is a magnificent memorial of *Pater Patriæ*. It includes a complete journal of the siege of Boston, covering sixteen quarto pages, and also over fifty other original autograph letters written and signed by Washington. The other manuscripts are the series of autograph Presidential letters, "General Wayne's Valley Forge Orderly Book," original autograph documents relating to Peale's portrait of Washington, and written by friends and relatives of the first President, together with numerous others.

After this cursory review of a few of the very many notable items, a perusal alone of the catalogue and the descriptions therein of the other volumes of great rarity and uniqueness can supply the deficiency, and where ample ground for study and wonderment at the perseverance and taste of Mr. Menzies is to be discovered.

The sale will commence on the 13th of November, under the auspices of Messrs. George A. Leavitt & Co., Clinton Hall, and continue for four days.

IN HIS FATHER'S DEFENCE.

Peter Hoffman, aged seventeen years, of No. 157 Fourth street, was arraigned before Justice Flammer, at the Essex Market Court yesterday, charged with stabbing Laurentz Koenig, of No. 160 Third street. The evidence showed that Koenig and the prisoner's father were engaged playing a game of cards on Wednesday night and quarrelled, when Koenig struck Hoffman senior, knocking him down. Young Hoffman, on seeing his father assaulted, caught up a large pair of shears from a side table and stabbed Koenig in the forehead, wounding him severely. He was held for trial in default of $500 bail.

WORK IN GENERAL SESSIONS YESTERDAY.

Recorder Hackett presided at the opening of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace yesterday and delivered the usual charge to the Grand Jury. The calendar was light and the business of the day resulted as follows:—The Recorder tried and sentenced Mary Stuart and Alfred Smith to five years in the State Prison for robbing Benedict Lazarus on October 22d last. In Part 2 Judge Gildersleeve tried and acquitted George Hill, charged with grand larceny; Rose Murtha, same charge, and Patrick Doyle, charged with petit larceny. He sentenced Daniel W. Falls, charged with robbery, to three years in the State Prison. The calendar will be resumed to-day.

ALABAMA CLAIMS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9, 1876.

In the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims to-day the following judgments for the loss of personal effects and wages were announced:—No. 1922, Bernard Redmond, Salem, Mass., dismissed; No. 1982, Joseph Le Barre, Provincetown, Mass., $450; No. 1981, John W. Davis, Provincetown, Mass., $450; No. 2024, Frank L. Alline, dismissed; No. 2025, Ernest R. Domansky, dismissed.

GREAT GUNS.

The Monster Cannon and Half-Ton Projectiles at the World's Fair.

Fifteen-Mile Ranges and Fabulous Charges.

IRRESISTIBLE FORCE OF ARTILLERY.

The Heaviest Plating of Iron-Clad Ships Riddled by Bolts of Steel.

HUGE ENGINES OF WAR.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 9, 1876.

Few objects in Machinery Hall and in the United States Building have been viewed with greater interest than the immense and ponderous weapons of war that are there exhibited. Everybody has heard or read of the great Krupp gun, whose mighty power was mainly instrumental in laying the lovely Paris, that gayest and most fascinating of European capitals, at the feet of Frederick William, whose ancestor bore the modest title of Elector of Brandenburg. The great twenty-inch Rodman gun, exhibited by the United States Ordnance Department, and the huge sections of armor plating for iron-clad ships of war, were also things of which the reading public had a faint knowledge, and therefore they commanded much attention.

It is instructive to look back for the comparatively short period of twenty-five years and contemplate the astounding improvements which since then have been made in the manufacture of weapons of war. At that time there was not a rifled cannon in existence, the small bore percussion musket was yet in the hands of the troops belonging to all nations, and the improved Minié ball in a rifled small-arm was being tried in the British and French armies by way of experiment. There were then wiseacres among the martinetish officers of both armies who scouted the idea of admitting the new-fangled system into service; yet still the idea of rifled arms forced itself favorably into men's minds, and soon became by its resistless merits an accomplished fact. The German needle-gun was the first breech-loading arm which any Power had formally adopted, and the decisive victory of Sadowa taught the world that henceforth rifled arms must be placed in the soldier's hands. If, then, said experimental artillerists, such excellent results can be had from rifled small arms, why cannot the system be applied to great guns? It was applied, and very successfully, too. Mr. William Armstrong produced

A BREECH-LOADING RIFLED CANNON

which went a great way to revolutionize the different artillery systems in Europe. Nearly all the Powers set themselves to work, and nearly all of them introduced a distinct system; many of them showing a surprising amount of mechanical ingenuity and skill, but few standing the severe tests of active service and much firing.

Among the great guns which have been successful the Krupp breech-loading cannon takes, perhaps, the first place; certainly, as it now appears on exhibition at Machinery Hall, it is difficult to imagine a more effective or complete piece of artillery. There are several calibres of the gun, from the fourteen-inch (the largest made) to the two and a quarter inch mountain piece, to be seen in Machinery Hall, mounted and ready for service. The gun has claimed since its invention so large a share of attention from professional artillerists and others that it is presumed no apology need be made for giving here some idea to the general reader of the sort of thing which may be called Mr. Krupp's pocket pistol. It will serve also to illustrate the great fact that the means of attack are still superior to those of defence, for no ship would float that could be built with armor sufficiently strong to resist the largest calibre of this notable cannon.

The largest Krupp gun has a calibre (diameter of bore) of 14 inches, or 35.05 centimetres; length, 22½ feet from the plane of the muzzle to that of the breech; weight, including breech block, 115,600 pounds; weight of forged iron carriage, 37½ tons; weight of empty steel projectile (in round numbers) 1,020 pounds; weight of driving charge, 280 pounds prismatic powder, and the almost incredible range, according to the inventor's own figures, is 15 miles, or 25,400 yards! We are not told what elevation must be given to the axis of the bore to obtain this astounding—if true—result; but as the carriage on which the piece is now mounted admits of but 19 degrees of elevation above the horizontal, the estimated range with this elevation is simply impossible. It may be well to remember that the length of the gun in calibres is 19.3. The siege carriage on which it is mounted places the axis of the trunnions at an elevation a fraction over nine feet ten inches, so as to admit of firing over a parapet six feet in height. A hydraulic recoil check composed of two cylinders, placed one on each side of the rear transom, serves to stop the retrogressive movement of the piece after firing, when, by a simple movement of a lever staff, the gun runs out again into position at the foot of the parapet. There is a strong crane placed at the right side of the piece, by means of which the mammoth projectiles are hoisted up to the rear of the plane of the breech and on a level with it, from which position they are slid forward to their place in the chamber, when a few turns of a lever spoke slides the breech block into position. The carriage is fixed to a pivot and runs on trucks over three separate segments of circles laid with iron tracks. At the rear of the carriage is a graduated arc of a circle in brass which shows the angle of lateral movement given to the gun. The whole vast machine is so constructed that a few men can manage it with facility. The sights are almost as fine as those of a Creedmoor rifle. In front of the trunnions, at either side of the gun, the forward sights are placed, and the rear sights, with tangent scale attached, are let into the body of the metal a few inches from the breech and parallel to the front sights. The line of vision is through a delicately adjusted peep-sight, supplied with a vernier, to allow for lateral deflection. The rifling of the barrel has eighty grooves, the twist being uniform. The

INITIAL VELOCITY OF THE PROJECTILE

is about 1,550 feet per second. The power of the piece may be imagined when it is stated that the penetrative force of the projectile is calculated as being sufficient to perforate a solid 24-inch plate of iron at a distance of 1,968 yards. Now, the plating of the most formidable iron-clad afloat is but eleven inches in thickness, and, therefore, would be altogether inadequate to resist the shock of the Krupp gun. The projectile would pass through a ship's side plated with 11-inch armor with the same facility that in former times a 68-pounder spherical shot would riddle a wooden ship.

The inventor claims for this monster gun a superiority over the much talked of Woolwich infant of 81 tons. He makes the following comparison of their respective merits:—Weight of the English gun, 83,000 kilogrammes; of the Krupp, 57,500; weight of projectile for the Woolwich gun, 571.5 kilogrammes, and of Krupp's, 520; charge of cubical powder for the British piece, 194.3 kilogrammes, and for that of Krupp, 135 of prismatic powder. The initial velocity credited to the British gun is 470 metres per second, and that of Krupp, 500; while the total effective force of the projectile thrown from the former is 6,450 against 6,625 of the latter. It thus appears that the Krupp gun has a superiority of one and a half per cent in the total force of its projectile over the English, and that while the latter weighs no less than 25,500 kilogrammes more than its rival, the German cannon carries a far heavier charge and gives a much greater initial velocity to the projectile. We are not told anything about the curvature of trajectory of either piece, but doubtless it will be found that the higher the velocity the greater will be the difference between the actual trajectory and that laid down by the parabolic theory. With a regulation charge of 280 pounds of powder the Krupp gun pierced sectional targets representing sides of the British iron-clads Hercules, Devastation and Inflexible at a distance of 1,800 metres. The armor of the inflexible, being the heaviest tried, was unable at that great distance to resist the cylindro-conical projectile sent against it with such tremendous force, and the armor of the other ships was perforated even at considerably greater distances.

PLANS FOR THE DEFENCE.

While artillerists have been successfully employed in contriving the means of battering down every obstacle that might be opposed to their guns, marine architects and the ablest among the professional mechanical engineers were as busily occupied in preparing the material for resisting the wondrous masses of steel and iron that can be thrown against ships of war and fortified places. From the time when Ericsson's monitor (that looked like "a cheese box") drove off the rebel Merrimac until now, thousands of experiments have been made and millions of money spent in developing the different systems proposed for iron-clad ships of war. When in 1855 the Dunderberg, with its 4-inch plates of wrought iron armor and solid ram, was launched in New York people thought that the maximum standard of defensive means had been reached, but since then ships have been constructed in comparison to which the Dunderberg is a mere plaything. The present theory is that a war vessel should be only a floating battery, carrying from two to four guns capable of sinking anything that could be brought against them. The United States have got only a few ships that would be of any service when pitted against the floating iron mountains which England and some other European Powers have at their command. England, in pursuance of her well known policy, which aspires to the sovereignty of the seas, has been most persistent in her efforts to acquire possession of the best guns and the strongest iron-clad ships.

It is quite remarkable that the British have sent neither cannon nor military small arms to the Centennial Exhibition. At Vienna, Paris, London and Dublin the English Ordnance Department was well represented, but here we have little to remind us that the Empress of India is the sovereign of a military Power. As if, however, to show the people of the United States the gigantic power of England's iron-clad fleet, she sends over for our edification a few sections of plating with which her ships are armored and shows the effect of her heaviest artillery upon them. By far the most formidable plate on exhibition is one of 6 feet long by 3½ broad and 11 inches thick. It is from the plating of the Temeraire, weighs 9,002 pounds and was tested at Portsmouth in May, 1875. The section as originally cut for the great ship was 16 feet long, 3½ feet wide, inches thick and weighed 24,717 pounds. The cut on exhibition bears the marks close together of four eight-inch conical steel projectiles, none of which perforated the slab. One of the shot marks—the deepest—penetrates the plate to a depth of fully nine inches, and considering the great inferiority of an 8-inch shot as compared with the 14-inch projectile of Krupp's gun, it must be apparent that the German cannon would have gone clear through the side of the Temeraire even if her armor were backed by several thicknessess of hard wood. Another piece of armor sent over to give the Americans some useful hints in ship-building is a piece of a plate which, when it left the foundry, weighed more than twenty tons. It was made for the Italian government, and destined for a test at La Spezzia by the 100-ton Armstrong gun. This gun, which English artillerists believe to be the best known, has a bore of 19 inches in diameter, carries a shot weighing nearly a ton, and takes a charge of 350 pounds cubical powder—nearly one-seventh of the weight of the projectile. As the gun here spoken of is yet but an experiment, it remains to be seen how its performances will compare with the Krupp. There seems to be no good reason why, in proportion to its superior calibre and weight, it should not make as good a record as the German piece. It is well-known that, as workers in iron and steel, the British are surpassed by no nation, if not by the Americans, and therefore it is difficult to see why the 100-ton gun should not surpass in penetrative power its smaller rival from the celebrated foundry of Essen. At any rate, considering what has been already done by the last mentioned weapon, there is no blinking the conclusion that no iron-clad can be floated which would be capable of resisting

THE POWER OF ARTILLERY

as now employed. There are several other pieces of armor plating exhibited by the British that also deserve mention, if the space in this letter would admit of it.

Russia, Brazil, Spain and other Powers have on exhibition a number of siege, garrison and field guns, in brass and steel, but in them no new principle is developed that would be worth while to dwell upon. Russia and Spain show the method of carrying mountain artillery, which is much the same as that in use among ourselves. The gun used is generally the 8-centimetre calibre Krupp. This piece has an effective range of more than 3,000 yards, with an elevation of 25 degrees, and is by far the most powerful weapon for mountain warfare that has ever been introduced in any service. Russia shows a model in brass of the same gun; it is shorter, lighter, and therefore much less effective than the German piece, which is of steel. Russia also exhibits some rifled brass mortars of 8 and 10 inches calibre, but these, from the manner in which they are mounted, the length of chase and way in which they should be handled, partake more of the properties of Lowitzers than anything else. In addition to the guns built upon the Krupp system there are in the Russian, Spanish and Brazilian departments several models of the French breech-loading siege and garrison cannon. Exteriorly the pieces which are constructed on this system differ but little in general appearance from others of the Germans, and guns of the same calibre, built upon both systems, would probably differ but little in effectiveness or rapidity of fire. But the German method of closing the breech and providing a gas check seems to be preferable to that of the French.

THE UNITED STATES ARTILLERY.

American inventiveness has always proved equal to the emergency, and now that a splendid opportunity is offered for some one to give us a gun worthy of the people, it is to be hoped that a speedy and efficacious remedy will soon be provided for our present want of an artillery system. A visit to the Ordnance Department found Lieutenant Whipple in charge. The attention of that gentleman was drawn to the fact that Krupp claims

A RANGE OF FIFTEEN MILES

for his gun.

"Yes," said Lieutenant Whipple, "that is a pretty hard thing to accept. A range of that kind would carry the ball beyond the horizon line, out of sight. I have neglected to ask Mr. Krupp about this extraordinary range, the like of which has never been heard or read of before."

Those acquainted with the subject will, doubtless, remember that an extreme range of seven miles was claimed for the Armstrong gun; but this was with a maximum charge and an elevation from 47 to 52 degrees. Lieutenant Whipple agreed that, mounted on its present garrison carriage, it would be quite impossible with but 19 degrees of elevation to attain a range of anything like 15 miles.

The 20-inch Rodman muzzle-loading smooth bore gun is the most powerful one used in the United States sea and land services. It weighs 115,100 pounds; the length is 20 feet 3 inches; maximum diameter, 5 feet 4 inches; tensile strength, 30,078 pounds; density, 7.1999; weight