

The New North-West.

JAMES H. MILLS, PUBLISHER.

The Committee on Indian Affairs has agreed to report favorably on the nomination of E. L. Hoyt as Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Gen Sherman's recent trip was the longest official tour ever made by a general of the army. He arrived at St. Louis from the West on the 18th of October, having been absent 115 days. He traveled between 9,000 and 10,000 miles.

As will be seen elsewhere, by an article taken from the Mining and Scientific Press, an effort is to be made to preserve the beauty of the Yellowstone National Park. This effort should have been made sooner, as many of the beauties of the park have been destroyed by specimen hunters.

Delegate Maginnis in his army speech referred to the army's skeleton digging from the scaffold economy and bleaching in the wind of starvation. That is as good as Nast's cartoon showing a lot of blood-thirsty Indians pouring into a stockade and a skeleton U. S. soldier inside exclaiming "Please don't come in here."

It is rather a remarkable fact that although the United States has enacted and amended, repealed and re-enacted laws of vast number relating to parting with its title to every other kind of lands and property, it has been nearly fifty years since it enacted one relating to that most valuable property—timber. It seems time that it should receive the attention of Congress.

Delegate Maginnis is credited by the Eastern press with making the best speech delivered in the House November 10th, on the occasion of the debate on the army appropriation bill. It was certainly a fine effort, and his utterances a brave, truthful, earnest appeal for the people of the exposed frontiers. There is not one word in it of the people of the West would wish stricken out, and it were wiser economy if Congress should mould its enactments to the facts before it. We regret the speech, which is published in the Helena papers, came to hand through them too late for reproduction in our columns.

The code of civil procedure enacted at the tenth session of the Montana Legislature, makes provisions of limitation which we have not seen published, and which are of considerable importance to business men. We publish the following extracts:

Sec. 41.—An action upon any contract, obligation, or liability, founded upon an instrument in writing, shall be commenced within six years. Sec. 42.—An action upon account, or other contract, obligation or liability, not founded upon an instrument in writing; or an action upon an account for goods, wares or merchandise sold and delivered, and upon any express or implied promise not above enumerated—shall be commenced within two years.

The limitations were formerly on instruments in writing ten years; on book accounts five years.

Copp's Land Order, issued a few days ago, contains a full report of the recent decision by Secretary Schurz in the case of Thomas vs. St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad Company, which settles certain questions of very great interest affecting numerous claims of individuals and of corporations that are grantees of public lands. The main points established by it are as follows: A valid homestead entry in appropriation of the land covered by it, and remains such until a forfeiture is declared in accordance with law and with the rules and regulations of the General Land Office and until the reservation is removed. The regulations in regard to the method of declaring a homestead claim abandoned and the entry cancelled are necessary to the efficient execution of the homestead law. Cases adjudicated under a different view of the homestead law are not to be reopened. The rule now announced is for future guidance.

We had the pleasure of meeting this week Robert S. Anderson, Esq., U. S. District Attorney. The venomous press has given Mr. Anderson considerable gratuitous advertising, it being stated he was an old chum of the President, and some thirty or more years ago climbed a church steeple in Cincinnati in company with Attorney Hayes, for which fact, on the circumstance being recalled, the President kindly appointed Mr. Anderson District Attorney for Montana. We regret that a shade of discredit seems to attach to this picturesque story. Mr. Anderson is a native of McLambert, Ill., and was appointed in 1867. He is never his good day, cord at a time, twelve or fourteen miles, to a chance market, by poor men who rely upon the few dollars thus earned for the maintenance of themselves and families, there would certainly be some discrimination made if the purpose is to prevent speculative depredations on government timber. We anticipate it will only be a few days until a generous basis of settlement will be arrived at, which, while compensating the government for timber taken, will be so light a rate per cord that consumers will not realize the difference. It is a mistaken idea to suppose the Department officers are ignorant of the situation in the Territories as relates to timber, and the fact that matters under present circumstances are compelled to trespass on the public lands. The Commissioner of the General Land Office in his reports for 1876 and 1877 gave an elaborate and able exposition of the question, showing the difficulties that surround it, and urging beneficial legislation. As showing the views entertained in Washington, we cite that the Commissioner argued against the timber lands being made subject to entry, under the pre-emption and homestead laws, holding that as the pre-emption laws gave 80 months credit, pre-emptor might stop there during that time, divest the land of all valuable timber, and then remove, leaving the government without recompense for its lands. He also argued the necessity of preserving, as far as possible, the mountain timber, as it was the timber that held the snows far on in the summer and maintained the flow of water for placers and ranches, mentioning the fact that the mountain timber is of slow growth, and once destroyed, does not seem to renew itself. He suggested as one plan of legislation the retention of title to the land by the United States, selling only the right to appropriate such proportion of the timber on any given subdivision as should yet leave a sufficient quantity standing to secure the shade and moisture necessary to the results before mentioned, but believed the best method was to have the pine and fir timber lands surveyed, their value appraised, and then sold for cash at not less than the appraised value, as private ownership is a better guarantee of protection than can be secured under government title.

There seems little doubt that some law will be enacted at the next session of Congress settling the timber question in the Territories. Secretary Schurz, as is evidenced from the following, is giving it his attention, and the inadequacy of the old law to the present situation has been fully shown recently. It is estimated there are 75,000 cords of wood cut annually in Montana, of which 7,000 are cut in the vicinity of Helena, and 4,000 cords are new under seizure. It is further estimated 1,000 industrious men in Montana, who work at other vocations during the summer, go into the timber lands in the winter and find occupation in cutting wood. The present troubles have thrown many of these men out of employment. They do not wish to subject themselves to prosecution, but the green wood for next summer must be cut and split this winter. A number of these wood choppers in the vicinity of Helena applied to Marshal Wheeler requesting him to secure them permission to continue work and leave the wood in his possession until the question was settled. The following telegrams were thereupon exchanged: WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1877. R. S. Anderson, U. S. District Attorney, Helena: The seizure of wood cut on lands of the United States immediately in excess of the wants of the community may be relinquished upon stipulation given to the satisfaction of the Court that a fair value shall be paid therefor, if the adjudication shall be in favor of the United States. This will reimburse the Government for its charge. Can you cut on these conditions? If not permitted there will be no suffering. Our winters are savagely cold; timber lands are unsurveyed and the valleys are bare. Legislation for Montana is necessary. W. F. WHEELER, U. S. Marshal. WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 27, 1877. W. F. Wheeler, U. S. Marshal, Helena, Montana: The Secretary does not understand this seizure of wood for next winter or for immediate consumption and does not feel that he has authority of law to give the permission requested; in which, I concur. He will immediately use every effort to have proper legislation to reach this important matter. CHAS. DEVENS, Attorney-General. It will be seen from this that any wood chopped on public lands is liable to seizure and, further, parties are liable to criminal prosecution. All wood required for immediate use is subject to seizure by the U. S. Marshal, but may be released on bond. A test case, or instructions, will probably soon determine the amount of stumpage the United States will require in Montana, and whether or not the acquisition of timber or timber lands, will doubtless pass this winter. In the meantime persons cutting or removing timber from the public domain are liable to a visit from the United States Marshal.

NOTES OF THE DAY. Most paragraphs are one pun notes. There is some talk of starting a smelter at Ogden. The net debt of the six New England States is \$38,000,000. W. H. Vanderbilt is worth only \$100,000,000. Poor fellow. Men become editors after long labor, but women by hereditary right. "Wife No. 19." An Eliza's spirited volume, has attained a sale of 80,000 copies. Kate Field found no field for her genius here, so she went to Europe for fresh fields. A Ghost practices law in Lincoln, Neb. Now can a man with that name ever be expected to succeed. Mrs. S. S. Cox has bought a fine dwelling in Washington, which she and her husband will use as a winter home. Out in Pennsylvania they call the tramp "a turnpike sailor." And yet we have seen some that didn't know how to navigate. Senator McDonald, of Indiana, began his working life as a saddle and Jesse D. Bright was once a laborer in a brick yard. "What's Honor?" asks Falstaff. That's easy. Any woman who sits behind another woman in church can tell what's on her in two minutes. A boarding-house mistress, like the rest of us, has her weak and strong points; the weak points being her coffee, and the strong points her butter. The resignation of LaGrange, Superintendent of the San Francisco mint, is in the hands of the President, to take effect December 31st. His successor has not yet been named. A prisoner in a Louisiana jail patiently feigned paralysis for three months so as to get a chance to escape; and when the opportunity came, in the language of the local paper, "he was off like a telegram." A correspondent writing from Cheyenne, Wyoming, says there are more saloons, barbers, gamblers, sabbath breakers, loafers, bums, dead-beats and bad boys in that city than in any place of its size in the world. We overheard a gentleman say this morning that he hoped the "mode" of the "band" about whom his wife talked so much, had been burned up in the patent office with the other models.—Philadelphia Press. Senator Blaine's daughter, Alice, who was shot in the forehead by the accident of the small pistol recently, will be discharged for life when the ball is extracted, as it lies between the eyes and the junction of the nose and forehead. An attorney having died exceedingly poor, a shilling subscription was set on foot to pay the expenses of the funeral. Most of the attorneys and barristers having subscribed, one of them applied to Toler, afterwards Lord Chief Justice Northrup, expressing a hope that he would subscribe a shilling also. "Only a shilling?" said Toler, "a guinea, go and bury twenty-one of them."

THE WOOD SEIZURES.

The seizure of wood cut from the public domain in Montana, under instructions from the Interior Department, is the most important subject before the people of this Territory. The seizures made in Helena and the vicinity led to prompt and energetic action to secure some basis of settlement, so that wood might be supplied as heretofore, and as the determination of the cases there will have the same effect on all other localities in the Territory, we deem it desirable to keep our readers advised of the status of these cases. As mentioned last week, the Attorney General authorized the release of the wood on bond, so that there might be no distress for want of fuel. The following is the telegram: WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1877. R. S. Anderson, U. S. District Attorney, Helena: The seizure of wood cut on lands of the United States immediately in excess of the wants of the community may be relinquished upon stipulation given to the satisfaction of the Court that a fair value shall be paid therefor, if the adjudication shall be in favor of the United States. This will reimburse the Government for its charge. Can you cut on these conditions? If not permitted there will be no suffering. Our winters are savagely cold; timber lands are unsurveyed and the valleys are bare. Legislation for Montana is necessary. W. F. WHEELER, U. S. Marshal.

The question then arose what that "fair value" is, it being regarded that the United States does not desire to demand the additional value given the wood by cutting and hauling it, but merely the value of the timber as it stands on the public lands. It was therefore determined by Judge Wado to appoint a Board of disinterested and intelligent gentlemen to investigate and report a price which ought to be regarded as the "fair value." Messrs. E. W. Knight, Cornelius Hedges and John Kinna were appointed. The Board met last Monday evening. The United States officers and wood men were present, and a full hearing was had. It appeared that from ten to seventy-five cords of wood are cut from an acre of timber lands, the average being about twenty-five cords. The Board thereupon made the following report: UNITED STATES VS. COLD WOOD. To Hon. D. S. Wade, Judge of the United States District Court for Third Judicial District, Lewis and Clark County, M. T. The undersigned, appointed and sworn to investigate and report on the question of being cut on the public domain, do hereby find and appraise the value thereof to the United States as it stood upon its land at fifteen cents per cord, and if under the act of the present Congress, the value of the absolute necessity of this taking wood from the public lands as there is no other supply, and no opportunity has been afforded by government to purchase. What ever of criminality accompanies the act is shared by every person living in the Territory, but we do not believe any department of government should be connected with or endorse any individual who with our good will regard as a crime what is a necessary and just business of the Territory. We are not planning and sustaining settlements in the Territory, but we are punishing criminality to be punished as such by fine, the undesigned have reached the foregoing conclusion by estimating that an acre of timber land yields an average of twenty-five cords, which at a royalty of fifteen cents a cord will yield the government the sum of \$3.75, or three times the usual minimum price for the same quantity of wood, and the demands of equity for cost, care and expenses to the general government and to be in accordance with precedents established by government in similar cases in other States and Territories. E. W. KNIGHT, CORNELIUS HEDGES, JOHN KINNA.

HELENA, NOV. 27, 1877. Taking the fifteen cents per cord as a basis adjudged a "fair value," Judge Wade, District Attorney Anderson and Marshal Wheeler then telegraphed the Attorney General the facts and their concurrence in the rate, and asked if they should proceed to take bonds thereon and release wood. The following reply was received: WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 27, 1877. To R. S. Anderson, District Attorney Helena, M. T. The price named is entirely disproportionate to the value of wood in Helena. The Secretary can not entertain any such settlement. CHAS. DEVENS, Attorney-General. This telegram again left the officers at sea, and the District Attorney will allow the cases to take due course until definite instructions are received. No one appears to have any idea of what the "fair value" is, as required by the Department to be paid, but bond for the wood at \$3 per cord is considered ample to cover all contingencies, and Judge Wade is now releasing wood at Helena at that rate. The chief trouble about this matter seems to be that the Secretary of the Interior is advised that this wood is being cut for speculative purposes, and the public domain is being robbed for the benefit of speculators. This he desires and proposes to stop. If he knew how to bring the speculation in wood compared with the quality of the wood, cord at a time, twelve or fourteen miles, to a chance market, by poor men who rely upon the few dollars thus earned for the maintenance of themselves and families, there would certainly be some discrimination made if the purpose is to prevent speculative depredations on government timber. We anticipate it will only be a few days until a generous basis of settlement will be arrived at, which, while compensating the government for timber taken, will be so light a rate per cord that consumers will not realize the difference. It is a mistaken idea to suppose the Department officers are ignorant of the situation in the Territories as relates to timber, and the fact that matters under present circumstances are compelled to trespass on the public lands. The Commissioner of the General Land Office in his reports for 1876 and 1877 gave an elaborate and able exposition of the question, showing the difficulties that surround it, and urging beneficial legislation. As showing the views entertained in Washington, we cite that the Commissioner argued against the timber lands being made subject to entry, under the pre-emption and homestead laws, holding that as the pre-emption laws gave 80 months credit, pre-emptor might stop there during that time, divest the land of all valuable timber, and then remove, leaving the government without recompense for its lands. He also argued the necessity of preserving, as far as possible, the mountain timber, as it was the timber that held the snows far on in the summer and maintained the flow of water for placers and ranches, mentioning the fact that the mountain timber is of slow growth, and once destroyed, does not seem to renew itself. He suggested as one plan of legislation the retention of title to the land by the United States, selling only the right to appropriate such proportion of the timber on any given subdivision as should yet leave a sufficient quantity standing to secure the shade and moisture necessary to the results before mentioned, but believed the best method was to have the pine and fir timber lands surveyed, their value appraised, and then sold for cash at not less than the appraised value, as private ownership is a better guarantee of protection than can be secured under government title.

MAN-OF-WAR WEEKEND. One Hundred and Fifty Lives Lost. WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—The observer at Kitty Hawk reports at 11:35 a. m. to the chief signal officer as follows: The United States man-of-war steamer Huron struck two miles north of Station No. 7, at 1:30 a. m. The foremost and main topmast are gone, and the steamer is a total wreck. Assistance is needed immediately. The sea is breaking over her and several bodies have already been washed ashore. The number on board is 135. No cargo. The following officers are on the HURON: Lieuts. Simmons and L. G. Palmer; Masters Wm. P. Conway, H. R. Tyler and V. S. French; Ensigns Lucien Young and F. W. Denner; Surgeon C. S. Colbeck; Past W. Denner; Master Gunner G. V. Sanders; Chief Engineer E. M. Olson; Assistant Engineer H. G. Deing; Captain's Clerk J. Delgavin; Cadet Engineers, E. T. Warburton and E. M. Loomis; Draughtsman John J. Evans. The HURON was an iron screw propeller, carrying four guns, of 314 tons, and on the same class exactly as the new vessels Alert and Ranger now on the Asiatic station. She had been out from Fort Monroe only about twelve hours when the disaster occurred. At 3 p. m. the observer at Kitty Hawk, N. C., reports to the chief signal officer as follows: The surfmen have just returned and report that the HURON has gone to pieces. Thirty were saved, all the rest perished. Cooking's Letter. CHICAGO, November 24.—The Tribune's Washington special says: The Senate Commerce Committee is said not to have agreed with Senator Cullum on the tone and form of his letter to Secretary Sherman, asking information about the removal of the New York Custom house officers. The committee have accordingly referred the matter to the Senate in executive session for instructions. The committee was in session for four hours to-day.

Reported Concessions. CHICAGO, Nov. 24.—The Tribune's Washington special says: There are certain indications of an attempt to compromise the difference between the Republicans and Democrats, in order to avoid the protracted filibustering and wearisome night sessions, and possibly the barren results which would be certain to follow obstinacy on either hand. Persons skilled in parliamentary tactics will be engaged until Monday in endeavoring to arrange that compromise. If made it will be in effect that the Democrats will consent to the taking of a vote upon the Kellogg case without any considerable debate. If the Patterson and Conover pledges are worth anything, Kellogg will be scaled. By virtue of the same professions, Butler, of South Carolina, would also be seated. It is probable that Ennis would be next seated. This would preserve the relative balance of power in the Senate as it now is, provided that Butler shall have been seated and Conover and Patterson co-operate with their Republican associates. Attempted Assassination. BELLINGHAM, November 19.—A Pole has been arrested here on suspicion of intending to attempt the assassination of Emperor William and Prince Bismarck. Judicial investigation has been instituted. BELLINGHAM, November 19.—The Pole, suspected of designs on the lives of the Emperor and Prince Bismarck, was arrested at the railway station, but not as was first reported at the one at which the Emperor arrived on his return from hunting. The affair caused great excitement, as the first erroneous reports were to the effect that a man had been taken in the act of firing at the Emperor. The police received information of the plot which is attributed to the Pole, and immediately for the prisoner, and are looking out for the prisoner's supposed confederates. BELLINGHAM, November 19.—The Pole arrested on suspicion of intending to attempt the assassination of Emperor William and Prince Bismarck, was recognized as a forger, whom the police tracked from West Prussia. When arrested he voluntarily stated he had come to assassinate the Emperor and Bismarck, but as soon as he was recognized he confessed his first statement was untrue. The Eastern War. LONDON, Nov. 20.—The leading Turbophilous journal speaks of the fall of the most serious catastrophe of the war, and concludes that the further resistance of Turkey is practically at an end unless Mehmet, winter or chance will prevent the fall of Plevna. A public meeting is called to express sympathy for the Turks in their present desperate condition. The terms of peace are a subject of great discussion, no doubt being expressed as to the desire of Turkey to make peace in the event of the surrender or destruction of Osman's army. In the peace discussions the attitude of Germany is creating much anxiety. It is thought Russia will be willing to grant acceptable terms, but the fear is expressed that Germany may urge Russia to demand terms which England could not permit to be accepted. Much uneasiness is felt here and the impression prevails among shrewd financial men and politicians, that the end of Turkish resistance is at hand, the settlement of terms of peace is full of peril to Europe. England is more alarmed at Germany than Russia, not knowing where to secure allies in case of a rupture with the former. France is not ready for a foreign war, and is greatly embarrassed, of course, by the magnitude of her domestic difficulties. Mexico and the United States. NEW ORLEANS, November 21.—Señor Zamacoa, Señor Mata's successor as representative at Washington of the Diaz Government of Mexico, arrived at New Orleans yesterday. He was accompanied by William Barron, the English banker, who it is asserted, is accredited with extraordinary powers, and ready to make every reasonable concession to secure recognition by the United States, realizing the necessity to the prosperity of Mexico and perpetuity of his own power, that relations between the two republics should be friendly. Zamacoa disavows plenipotentiary powers, but hopes to arrange for an improvement in commercial relations. He asserts that the border troubles originate among bad men, who stir up strife for personal profit, and that it should be the common aim of both countries to put them down. Mexican Affairs. WASHINGTON, November 23.—Both official and unofficial advices from Mexico show that Diaz is not only desirous of treating the United States with respect, but of preserving peace, and with this view only has recently ordered a large force to the Texas and Mexican. It is known that the Mexican forces now there have fallen or purposely neglected to carry out the orders of Diaz, hence the reliable troops from different portions of the republic have been dispatched to take their places, and to cooperate with those under General Ord. It does not appear on inquiry at the War Department, that Gen. Ord has been appointed, applied for an additional force to meet any anticipated collision with the Mexican forces. Smoked Out. DEADWOOD, Nov. 23.—The soldiers having surrounded the Keets mine under the direction of Sheriff Ballock, closed all the openings except the main shaft, and the men were smothered by the fumes of the shaft. The men were rescued and successfully carried out. The last of them came up at 20 o'clock last night and are now all under arrest. Joseph's Arrival. ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The Nez Percé Indians captured by Gen. Miles, including the chief, Joseph, arrived here last evening and were placed in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, where they will be kept until a reservation in the Indian Territory is provided for them.

MAJOR RENO.

Another Dark Spot on a Disgraced Officer. NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Major Reno's conduct in the battle which resulted in the massacre of Custer's command is severely criticized in view of Sitting Bull's corroboration of the suspicious stories by stories heretofore derived from scouts and friendly Indians. The Herald says as soon as it became possible to construct from the excited stories of the participants and witnesses a connected and logical chronicle of that bloody fight, it was seen that the conduct of Major Reno called for an explanation. Observations were made at the time upon the circumstance that this officer, appointed to co-operate in a combined advance upon the Indian position, did not do so, but was actually engaged in an encounter with some of his own men. On encountering these men he allowed himself to be captured, and was subsequently placed and saved his men, within sound of the fire that annihilated the force with which he was to co-operate. Sitting Bull now tells the story of the battle, which implies that Major Reno had so completely withdrawn from the fight before Custer got into it, that the Indians thought there was only one column which had withdrawn from the first point to attack another. It was under the sense of encouragement given them by Reno's fight that the Indians assailed Custer's command with equal thoroughness but for Terry's arrival. This new light on the battle, therefore, will give new occasion for regret that Major Reno is still an officer in the army under a token remission of his sentence for another offense. The Tribune says if Sitting Bull tells the truth, Reno's first attack was merely a lull skirmish, and his force remained perched upon the heights facing the squaws and superannuated warriors, when, if he had renewed the assault in accordance with Custer's plan, he might have saved the lives of his gallant comrades. Reno has stated in his official report that he knew nothing of Custer's engagement. Sitting Bull says that the squaws in front of Reno heard distinctly the sound of firing. Major Reno is not in a position to command public sympathy. He was condemned by court martial for springing for insulting a lady, and was suspended from rank and pay for two years.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The Herald's Washington special says that Major Reno is visiting Washington, and was wanted upon a correspondent of that paper concerning the charges made against him in the account of the Rosebud fight given by Sitting Bull. He was not disposed to discuss the subject at any length. He sees no occasion for reopening the question of the Little Big Horn battle; that question is well understood by the officers of the army who were engaged in it and by their superiors under whose supervision their reports passed. He attaches very little importance to the statement of Sitting Bull, especially to that part in which the chief says that Custer charged him with cowardice and gallantry as a man of war. He was personal friends, he says, and were upon the best of terms, having been in the Military Academy at West Point together, and knowing each other for many years. Reno has very little confidence in Sitting Bull or any other Indian, and wants no further vindication of his character as a soldier in regard to the Little Big Horn fight, than the official reports of Sherman, Cook and Terry, and the statements of the survivors of the battle.

The Pittsburg Contempt Case Decided. PHILADELPHIA, November 12.—A special court this morning announced its decision in the case of the attachments for Governor Hartranft and other State officials and Gen. Britton, to appear before the Grand Jury and testify concerning the riots. The decision of Judge Kirkpatrick granting the attachments is reversed. The Chief Justice said, in announcing this, that the opinion could be delivered at present for want of time, but he directed the Prothonotary to enter the judgment of the lower court reversed. This relieves these officials from embarrassment and from revealing any State secrets. Mexican Representatives. NEW ORLEANS, November 21.—Señor Zamacoa, Señor Mata's successor as representative at Washington of the Diaz Government of Mexico, arrived at New Orleans yesterday. He was accompanied by William Barron, the English banker, who it is asserted, is accredited with extraordinary powers, and ready to make every reasonable concession to secure recognition by the United States, realizing the necessity to the prosperity of Mexico and perpetuity of his own power, that relations between the two republics should be friendly. Zamacoa disavows plenipotentiary powers, but hopes to arrange for an improvement in commercial relations. He asserts that the border troubles originate among bad men, who stir up strife for personal profit, and that it should be the common aim of both countries to put them down.

Joseph's Arrival at Buford. FORT BUFORD, D. T., Nov. 8.—The Nez Percé, Cheyenne and Sioux prisoners arrived opposite Fort Buford on the evening of the 6th inst. They are escorted by a battalion of the 1st Infantry, consisting of four companies of that regiment, one company of the 2d Cavalry and one company of the 5th Infantry. Up to a late hour last evening the Indians had not been crossed, although it is expected that with good luck they will all be landed on this side by the present date. Two companies of the 1st Infantry will escort the wagon train to Bismarck overland, while the two remaining companies of the same regiment will endeavor to reach Bismarck by mackinaws, conveying as many Indian prisoners as they can by this means. Many of the Nez Percés prisoners are suffering from wounds received in General Miles' last battle, and one of the number died before reaching Buford. I learn that they are singularly uncomplaining with regard to their wounds, and do not always acknowledge that they have received any, especially when it is possible to get along without showing them. Joseph, "the redoubtable," is a fine fellow of about 35 years of age, and one has no trouble in discovering his intelligence, which is displayed at all times whenever an occasion presents itself. Whenever and whenever you meet a soldier who has fought the Nez Percés band, you are sure to find a person who will say a good word for them. I have yet to meet one who does not consider them far superior to the majority of our Indians in this section, not only as brave fighters, but in many other respects wherein your average redskin falls deplorably.

Smoked Out. DEADWOOD, Nov. 23.—The soldiers having surrounded the Keets mine under the direction of Sheriff Ballock, closed all the openings except the main shaft, and the men were smothered by the fumes of the shaft. The men were rescued and successfully carried out. The last of them came up at 20 o'clock last night and are now all under arrest. Joseph's Arrival. ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The Nez Percé Indians captured by Gen. Miles, including the chief, Joseph, arrived here last evening and were placed in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, where they will be kept until a reservation in the Indian Territory is provided for them.

Waterston as a Lecturer. NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—Henry Waterston, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, made his appearance as a lecturer at Chickering Hall, New York, last evening. The event was apparently one of great interest in social and professional circles, as it attracted a large audience which nearly filled the hall, and which in point of character was very far above the average lecture audiences. The World says Mr. Waterston was introduced by Parks Goodwin and was greeted with enthusiastic applause. His lecture abounded in points, the humorous and serious being happily interwoven.

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TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The resumption report bill has passed the House by a vote of 133 to 130. The following is the text of the bill as passed: A bill to repeal all that part of the act approved January 14, 1875, known as the resumption act, which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to dispose of U. S. bonds and redeem and cancel greenback currency. That all that portion of the act approved January 14, 1875, entitled "an act to provide for the resumption of specie payments" which reads as follows: "And whenever and so often as circulating notes shall be issued by any such banking association, so increasing its capital or circulating notes, or so newly organized, as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem and tender U. S. notes to the amount of \$200,000,000, and to contract a loan of 15,000,000 marks and 50,000,000 represented by loss on the resumption of gold currency." New York, Nov. 19.—The reported outbreak of leprosy in the Chinese quarter is officially contradicted. It is believed the cigar makers started the report to prevent San Francisco Chinamen being sent here.

BLACK HILLS NEWS. The Pioneer says new and rich discoveries of gold and silver have been made in Saw-pit Gulch. Dan Castello, the citizens man, who has invested in the Black Hills, has already commenced work on his ten-stamp mill at Lead City. J. B. Crocker's quartz mill commenced work on the Fairview ore on Wednesday last. A well defined strata of pure white quartz, about a foot in thickness was found in the Hoedobly lead. Above and below it was the oxidized quartz, so common in the Hills. An \$88.82 nugget was found on claim No. 23, Potato Gulch, last week. The biggest nuggets taken out in the Hills have been from this gulch. Four quartz mills consigned to Sam Lawrence, late of Minneapolis, arrived in Deadwood last week. Service will be ordered on the Ft. Pierre route to the Black Hills when the Department gets ahead on funds. James Walters and Thomas Stephens were recently crushed to death by the caving in of a portion of the Hidden Treasure mine. The company gave the widow of Stevens a purse of \$300. The Black Hills Times says S. D. Partee has discovered unmistakable evidences of mining operations in the Hills in 1865. The Pioneer speaks in the highest terms of Major Newson's drama of "Life in the Black Hills," and pronounces it an immense success. Deadwood, according to the vote of the people at the recent election, remains the county seat of Lawrence county. Upwards of 3,800 votes were polled in Lawrence County, Black Hills at the second election, about 1,000 of this number being in Deadwood.

Flood in Virginia. RICHMOND, November 24.—The incessant rains for the past twenty-four hours has resulted in heavy floods in the Western portion of the State. All trains on the western division of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, and on the Jackson and Savannah railroad have stopped. The water is higher than at any time since 1870. One hundred and fifty feet of the treating of the Savannah bridge has been swept away, and the water is up to the bottom of the chords of the iron bridge. Several washes are reported. South river is also very high. Telegraph communication with Lynchburg and other places is interrupted. The James river has risen over the canal at Lynchburg, and all trains on the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio railroad are stopped. It is feared the flood will reach the dimensions of that of 1870, when so many lives were lost and millions of dollars worth of property destroyed.

Bank Closed. CHICAGO, November 21.—The Central National Bank closed its doors this morning and will go into liquidation. This action was consequent upon a determination of a meeting of the directors and stockholders last evening. The institution did only a small commercial business, and is backed by substantial business men of this city. It is claimed that it will pay dollar for dollar to depositors and make a good showing toward paying the stockholders in full. Liabilities to depositors, \$300,000; assets, \$400,000; of bills receivable and cash, \$75,000; its capital stock, \$300,000. W. P. Endicott is president, and John Greenleaf, cashier. It experienced a slight run yesterday, and since October 1st, although none of the depositors have closed their accounts, some \$300,000 have been drawn out.

Joseph's Arrival at Buford. FORT BUFORD, D. T., Nov. 8.—The Nez Percé, Cheyenne and Sioux prisoners arrived opposite Fort Buford on the evening of the 6th inst. They are escorted by a battalion of the 1st Infantry, consisting of four companies of that regiment, one company of the 2d Cavalry and one company of the 5th Infantry. Up to a late hour last evening the Indians had not been crossed, although it is expected that with good luck they will all be landed on this side by the present date. Two companies of the 1st Infantry will escort the wagon train to Bismarck overland, while the two remaining companies of the same regiment will endeavor to reach Bismarck by mackinaws, conveying as many Indian prisoners as they can by this means. Many of the Nez Percés prisoners are suffering from wounds received in General Miles' last battle, and one of the number died before reaching Buford. I learn that they are singularly uncomplaining with regard to their wounds, and do not always acknowledge that they have received any, especially when it is possible to get along without showing them. Joseph, "the redoubtable," is a fine fellow of about 35 years of age, and one has no trouble in discovering his intelligence, which is displayed at all times whenever an occasion presents itself. Whenever and whenever you meet a soldier who has fought the Nez Percés band, you are sure to find a person who will say a good word for them. I have yet to meet one who does not consider them far superior to the majority of our Indians in this section, not only as brave fighters, but in many other respects wherein your average redskin falls deplorably.

Smoked Out. DEADWOOD, Nov. 23.—The soldiers having surrounded the Keets mine under the direction of Sheriff Ballock, closed all the openings except the main shaft, and the men were smothered by the fumes of the shaft. The men were rescued and successfully carried out. The last of them came up at 20 o'clock last night and are now all under arrest. Joseph's Arrival. ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The Nez Percé Indians captured by Gen. Miles, including the chief, Joseph, arrived here last evening and were placed in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, where they will be kept until a reservation in the Indian Territory is provided for them.

Waterston as a Lecturer. NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—Henry Waterston, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, made his appearance as a lecturer at Chickering Hall, New York, last evening. The event was apparently one of great interest in social and professional circles, as it attracted a large audience which nearly filled the hall, and which in point of character was very far above the average lecture audiences. The World says Mr. Waterston was introduced by Parks Goodwin and was greeted with enthusiastic applause. His lecture abounded in points, the humorous and serious being happily interwoven.

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