

KEY ROUTE STEAMER CLAREMONT IS BADLY DAMAGED BY FIRE.

New Ferry-Boat Nearly Completed at the Union Iron Works Suffers Serious Mishap.

The ferry steamer Claremont, built for the Key Route and almost ready to go into commission, was practically destroyed by fire yesterday morning at the Union Iron Works.

The Claremont was built in Dickie's yard at Alameda, and was taken to the Union Iron Works to have her engines installed. This had been done, and carpenters were putting the finishing touches to her cabin when the fire occurred.

The State fire tug Governor Markham responded to the alarm and succeeded in extinguishing the flames, but not until the vessel had been virtually gutted. She was insured, and the estimate of the damage was made yesterday by the underwriters.

Water Supply in Few Days. Along the water front from the channel to the ferry, including the ferry depot, the supply of fresh water has been reduced. The district water works at the ferry depot will probably be supplied by tomorrow.

The Spring Valley people found their mains along East street, north of the ferries, very badly broken, and it may take weeks to restore them to serviceable condition. As the need for water for shipping is urgent, other means of supplying this section have been adopted.

Police Detectives Dredge the Harbor. Police Detectives Dow and Hamill were engaged yesterday in dredging the waters of the bay for the body of a man supposed to have been shot by a National Guard officer at Lombard street on April 20.

Wing and Wing Returns to Port. The schooner Wing and Wing, which left here May 11 for Alaska, returned to port yesterday to repair damages sustained in an easterly gale encountered Tuesday off the Farallones.

Notice to Mariners. The north jetty outer end buoy No. 1, a black, first-class spar at Humboldt Bay entrance, was reported adrift May 22. It will be replaced as soon as practicable.

Water Front Notes. The Spreckels steamer Breakwater is due tomorrow from Portland by way of Coos Bay. She will sail again June 1 for Coos Bay.

The Oceanic Steamship Company's liner Sonoma will dock at Pacific street wharf this morning at 10 o'clock. She will sail May 31 for Honolulu, Pago Pago, Auckland and Sydney.

The Japanese liner Hongkong Maru is due today from the Orient. Her passengers will be taken by tender to Oakland mole. The Hongkong will dock at the Pacific Mall wharf.

The liner Manchuria will sail tomorrow for the Orient. A number of her passengers are already on board.

J. E. Ebrehart of 2850 Harrison street was severely injured yesterday at the Merchants' Exchange building. A brick fell from the eighth floor and struck him on the back. He was treated at the Harbor Hospital.

Exports for the North. The steamer Umattila sailed on Tuesday for Victoria with an assorted merchandise cargo valued at \$9775 and including the following: 46,825 lbs dried fruit, 5000 lbs raisins, 482 pkgs fresh fruits, 204 pkgs fresh fruits, 106 pkgs fresh vegetables, 255 pkgs potatoes and onions, 70 sks coconuts, 10 gals wine, 124 pkgs groceries and provisions, 10 bbls ketchup, 200 lbs fuse, 20 kgs powder, 16 bbls cordage.

The Mariposa's Cargo. The steamer Mariposa, which sailed on Tuesday for Tahiti, had a general merchandise cargo valued at \$21,558. The following were the principal shipments: 1887 bbls flour, 50 bbls rice, 15,445 lbs beans, 82,312 lbs rice, 8750 lbs sugar, 40,000 lbs bread, 455 cks canned goods, 4922 lbs bran, 108 cks barley, 63 cks wheat, 100 bales potatoes, 100 bales onions, 3484 gals wine, 11 casks beer, 45,007 ft lumber, 22 pkgs wagon material, 250 bbls shoeks, 33 bales twine, 50 coils rope.

Shipment of Oil. The tank steamer Argyle was cleared yesterday for Honolulu with 25,000 barrels of crude oil in bulk, valued at \$35,000, and thirty drums of distillate valued at \$525. The cargo was laden at Monterey.

To Load Lumber. The latest lumber charters reported are: The German steamer Libeng, from Portland to Shanghai, time charter; British ship Chiltonford, from Puget Sound to Callao; schooner Fearless, from Grays Harbor to Guaymas.

Movements of Steamers. TO ARRIVE. Steamer From Date. Eureka Seattle May 24. Centralia Portland & Astoria May 24. Alberde Humboldt May 24. H. K. Mar. Seattle May 24. G. F. Kilburn Portland & Way Ports May 24. Dandell Seattle May 24. Santa Bay Humboldt May 24. Porto Pr. Arica & Albiga May 24. Santa Rosa San Diego May 24. Nome City San Pedro May 24. Coronado San Pedro May 24. Sea Foam San Pedro May 24. Norwood San Pedro May 24. Frontiers Sea Harbor May 24. Breakwater Portland & Coos Bay May 24. Bismarck Seattle & Tacoma May 24. Kearsy Portland & Astoria May 24. Puma Humboldt May 24. Coos Bay San Pedro May 24. S. Barbara San Pedro May 24. Chehalis San Pedro May 24. Newport San Pedro May 24. Nevada Hoquiam & Kahlui May 24. Urdin Seattle May 24. Costa Rica Humboldt May 24. Eureka Humboldt May 24. Puiton Humboldt May 24. Santa Rosa Portland & Astoria May 24. Arctic Portland & Astoria May 24. Vanguard Humboldt May 24. G. Dollar San Pedro May 24. S. B. Jones San Pedro May 24. Sonoma Portland & Way Ports May 24. State of Cal. San Diego & Way Ports May 24. Coos Bay San Pedro May 24. Newport San Pedro May 24. San Jose New York via Astoria May 24. Sumner Hamburg & Way Ports May 24. Northland San Pedro May 24. Santa Rosa Humboldt May 24.

Table with columns: Steamer, Destination, Sails, Pier.

Table with columns: Sun, Moon and Tide.

Table with columns: Time, Ft., Time, Ft., Time, Ft., Time, Ft.

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MONTEVIDEO—Sailed May 22—Stmr Orizaba, for San Francisco. SHIELDS—Sailed May 21—Br ship Glen-sion, for Los Angeles. YOKOHAMA—Arrived May 22—Stmr China, hence May 9, via Honolulu. KOBÉ—Sailed May 21—Br stmr Dakota, for San Francisco. GUAYMAS—Sailed April 25—Stmr Defiance, for Port Townsend. Arrived May 16—Schr Resolute, from Grays Harbor.

MEMORANDUM. STANLEY, May 22—Repairs on Br ship Caradog, from Liverpool for San Francisco, previously reported here in distress, took about two months. Per schr Wing & Wing—On May 22, southwest of Farallones, encountered heavy east gale, carrying away foremast and chain plates.

ATTACH PUTER'S MONEY. Eastern Dupes Tie Up His Ill-Gotten Gains in Portland. PORTLAND, Ore., May 23.—When Stephen A. D. Puter made his sensational escape from Secret Service Agent Burns in Boston two weeks ago, he was forced to leave behind him a large sum of dollars of his ill-gotten gains, and within twenty-four hours the money was attached by wealthy Easterners who had been the victims of his swindles. Burns named Puter had placed a large sum in a Boston safety deposit vault, and his first act after the escape of his prisoner was to wire to some of the latter's victims, instructing them to give him power of attorney to attach the funds. They lost no time in sending the desired authority, and when the safety deposit company opened for business the following morning Burns was on hand with attachments. Stripped of the fruits of his frauds, Puter dropped out of sight.

For two months Puter eluded his pursuers, only to run into their hands at last at San Francisco. Puter had amassed a large sum of money by his operations in forged school land certificates, and the bulk of his plunder had been "cached" in a Boston safety deposit box. Puter's swindling operations within the last year are known to have netted him a very large sum. He and his confederates, of whom Horace G. McKinley was chief, are known to have secured about \$150,000 from wealthy Eastern timber men. Puter turned state's evidence, and in order to save himself he turned over a mass of information to Francis J. Heney, the Government prosecutor. It was through this information that important convictions were subsequently obtained.

When it became known that Puter had turned informer there was panic among many of the wealthy Eastern timber men who had had dealings with him. Puter was quick to see his opportunity, and opened negotiations with C. A. Smith, the millionaire lumberman of Minneapolis, whose immense holdings of California and Oregon timber had been secured through Puter and by methods that attracted the close attention of the Government officials.

Smith paid Puter \$7000. The money was paid here in Portland, and was deposited in a local bank to Puter's credit. All other legitimate money-making closed. Puter then attempted the big steal of Oregon school lands and was caught at it.

NOT AN OFFICIAL MATTER. Location of Chinese a Commercial Proposition, Says Sir Cheng. OAKLAND, May 23.—Sir Chengtung Liang Cheng, Chinese Minister to the United States, who is here from Washington looking after the welfare of his people who were burned out in San Francisco, says that the matter of the rebuilding of Chinatown site is not an official matter of the government, but a commercial proposition to be determined by the Chinese merchants and business men of San Francisco on a commercial basis. Personally I think the Chinese prefer to remain in the vicinity of San Francisco rather than go to Portland, Seattle, etc. It may be that many of them will take up their residence in Oakland.

The Southern Pacific's Excursions East. Low round trip rates to every large Eastern city, Missouri River, Texas and beyond. Tickets on ninety days. Round trip, with use 7-8-9, September 8-10. Many ways with possible stops. If you're going East on business, note the dates, these rates, city ticket offices, 1704 Fillmore and Ferry depot, San Francisco, and 12 San Pablo ave., Oakland.

WELL-KNOWN DRYMAN CUTS HIS OWN THROAT. William Chalmers is Found Dead in Temporary Structure, Victim of His Own Hand. William Chalmers, formerly of a well-known dry cleaning firm of this city, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor in a barn here on Tuesday, or temporary purposes on Fifteenth street, between Howard and Folsom. The body of the unfortunate man was discovered early last evening. The razor was beside it.

Chalmers disappeared, left his home early in the morning, but nothing was thought of his absence, as it was believed he was attending to business. When he did not return for supper a search was made and the body was found. Just what caused the act is not known. Chalmers was married and formerly resided at 227 Thirteenth street.

Building Houses Location. New building just completed. Reasonable rent. Frontages on two streets, S.W. corner Sansome and Washington streets. Apply to Edgar Painter, 514 Kohl bldg.

FRESNO Blacksmith Commits Suicide. FRESNO, May 23.—Thomas Howden, a blacksmith of this city, committed suicide this morning by blowing the top of his head off with a shotgun. He was dependent because of his inability to stop drinking. Howden was 45 years of age and leaves two small children.

INJURED CLIPPER COMPLETES A LONG AND PERILOUS VOYAGE Makes New York From Kobe, Japan, Under Jury Rig Alter Typhoon.

A. G. Ropes Sets a New Record Through Energy of the Skipper. NEW YORK, May 23.—Under jury-rig from Kobe, Japan, to New York harbor, the noted clipper ship A. G. Ropes arrived today, completing successfully what was the first attempt in the chronicles of the American merchant marine to take the dismantled hull of a great, full rigged ship across two seas.

The voyage began last December, following a typhoon experience last summer near Hongkong, when practically everything above the ship's deck went overboard.

The course of the A. G. Ropes from the moment that the storm struck her until today has been filled with adventure and with striking demonstrations of American enterprise displayed by her skipper, Captain Rivers. For four days after the typhoon the ship drifted, her crew in despair, and the American skipper never once below decks. After refusing exorbitant offers for towing, his ship was taken into port by a steamer for \$500. At Kobe the ship was sold at auction to A. G. Luckenbach of New York, and the nearly six months' voyage home under a makeshift rigging began.

The A. G. Ropes was built in 1844, at Bath, Me., is 250 feet long and 2460 tons gross register. Sheerin's Laundry, 700 McAllister st., Phone Park 310. We take laundry and return in 3 days.

Hensley-Green Records Lost. R. Mason Smith of the Hensley-Green Company, who saved all the records of the company from the fire, says he had the card system in his dress suit case in the front of the White garage at Van Ness avenue and Market street yesterday. He turned to pick up the case to put it in the automobile, but it had disappeared. He thinks some one took it by mistake. The contents are valuable to the Hensley-Green Company only.

Physicians Meet Today. A meeting of the physicians of the city is to be held at Liane Hospital at 4 o'clock today. All physicians are invited.

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Eastward Thro' Tourist Sleepers Via the Burlington.

SAN FRANCISCO TO BOSTON—Personally conducted every Thursday via Southern Pacific; Rio Grande through Salt Lake City, scenic Colorado and Denver; Burlington to Chicago and Michigan Central east.

SAN FRANCISCO TO OMAHA AND CHICAGO—Personally conducted Thursdays and Fridays via Southern Pacific; Rio Grande through Salt Lake City, scenic Colorado and Denver; Burlington east.

SAN FRANCISCO TO OMAHA AND CHICAGO—Personally conducted Wednesdays via Southern Pacific; Rio Grande and Colorado Midland through Salt Lake City, scenic Colorado and Denver; Burlington east.

SAN FRANCISCO TO KANSAS CITY AND ST. LOUIS—Personally conducted Thursdays via Southern Pacific; Rio Grande through Salt Lake City, scenic Colorado and Denver; Burlington east.

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Through Sleeper from San Francisco Leaves 7 p. m. daily, arrives Truckee 6:15 next morning. Sleeper returning leaves Truckee 9:15 p. m., arrives here 7:08 a. m.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC

Opheum (Formerly Chutes Theater) LOOK AT THE NAMES. Valerie Barjore & Co.; Musher, Houghton & Mosher; Eva Mudge; Gilroy & Burke and Orphan Nation; Pictures; Last Times of Keno, Walsh & Malross; Caprice, Lynn & Fay, and Armstrong & Holly.

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