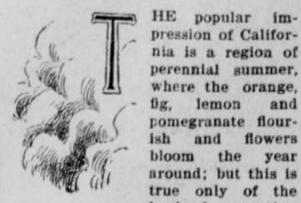


CALIFORNIA SNOWS.

REGIONS WHERE WHOLE TOWNS HAVE BEEN BURIED.

The Winter of 1899 in Plumas County—Horses Had to Wear Snowshoes as Well as the Men—A Remarkable State.



HE popular impression of California is a region of perennial summer, where the orange, fig, lemon and pomegranate flourish and flowers bloom the year around; but this is true only of the lowland counties, says the New York Post.

California is a remarkable state. Some of its counties are as large as many states and as barren as some very poor ones. While California is famous as being the land of flowers and for its mild winters, it is also the land of extraordinary snowstorms, which may be seen under many and varying conditions. Perhaps the most attractive exhibitions are seen in southern California, where from the San Gabriel valley one can watch the snow falling in the mountains while standing in the orange groves, surrounded by flowers and all the conditions of summer. The mountains are then covered with snow down to the 2,500-foot level, and the dwellers in the valleys go up the trails and the mountain railroad and, bringing down huge snowballs and snow men, deposit them in the fields of wild flowers, effecting the change in fifteen or twenty minutes, to the wonder of the tourists.

The winter of 1899 was one that will long be remembered in Plumas county. In the town of Quincy the snow was nine feet deep on the level without drifting, and where it drifted it was lapped up in literal snow mountains. It so happened that a man from the east was obliged to go to a town named Eureka Mills on some business of importance and after some difficulty obtained a guide who would take him over the mountains. Their horses wore snowshoes as well as the men, and some of the snow they passed over, judging from the trees, must have been forty or more feet deep. The supposed locality of the Mills was finally

reached. The range of hills near which the town stood was there, but the town was, to all intents and purposes, wiped out. Finally smoke was seen rising from the snow, which, when approached, was found to come from a spiced chimney, far below which was a house; as the snow had fallen the occupants had snowed the chimney, keeping pace with the deposit.

Moving around the chimney, the strangers found a chute leading down at an angle of 45 degrees and entering slid down to what proved to be the attic window of the house, thence making their way down the stairs into the buried residence. The entire settlement was buried under this terrible bed of snow and families were living from ten to twenty feet below the surface, using lamps by day as well as by night. The men were all miners, and as the mines were under ground certain work was continued. But there was much suffering, as on coming out of the mines some of the men were often unable to find their homes. Finally every one planted in the snow over his house a flagstaff with a flag, but even these were sometimes buried by the constant storms of this long-remembered year. The snow in the deep canyons became so deep that the miners who lived in them had to leave, fearing the avalanches which came rushing down the mountain side after every fresh storm. Finally the more open canyons became unsafe and one day, with an appalling roar, huge masses of snow went rushing down, crushing a large part of the town of Sierra City.

Possibly the most famous town for its experiences with snow is Gibbonsville, in Sierra county. Photographs show the tops of tall houses projecting from snow on the level. Snow fifteen feet on the level is common there in February and March, while snow thirty feet deep is uncommon. Then the houses are almost covered, many small ones being entirely concealed, the owners having to climb up and clear away the snow so that it will not crush in the roofs. All communication with the outside world is often stopped for days, and for weeks the mail is carried by specially selected men, who traverse the mountain on snowshoes, often accomplishing remarkable feats on the long, slender skis which they use.

The number of public lamps lighted in England and Wales is somewhere about 300,000.

WORK OF A TORNADO.

A FEARFUL LOSS OF LIFE IN OKLAHOMA.

The Town of Chandler Completely Wiped Out—The Dead Number More than Fifty—A Night of Indescribable Terror to the Residents of that Territory.

Ravages of the Elements.

GUTHRIE, Okla., April 1.—A tornado swept through the very center of Chandler, a thriving town of 1,500 people, about 6 o'clock last night, causing the deaths of at least 30 and possibly 50 people, and injuries to about 125 others, wrecking the best business houses and generally laying waste the place.

Fires broke out in various places in the debris and it is feared that many of the victims of the wind were burned to ashes before the succeeding heavy rainfall quenched the flames.

Twenty-three dead bodies had been recovered from the debris this morning, and as many are unaccounted for it is feared that the death list will aggregate fifty, while at least a dozen of the injured will undoubtedly succumb.

In one wrecked building five injured people were burned to death, and at another place the charred bodies of three children were recovered.

Twenty-Three Bodies Found.

The dead so far as known now are: MR. AND MRS. JOHN WOODMAN, MRS. HENRY MITCHELL, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, ATTORNEY JOHN DAWSON of Lincoln, Neb., burned to death.

F. DEMOFF, EMMA DRESSINGER, D. C. JOHNSON AND WIFE, MRS. PHILIP JOHNSON AND CHILD, The wife of DR. LEE, A. W. KELLER AND WIFE, UNKNOWN WOMAN AND BABY, FIVE UNKNOWN CHILDREN, JAMES WOODYARD AND WIFE of Eldorado, Kan., who were visiting in Chandler.

The following are fatally injured: Arthur Jewett, Peggie Johnson, Mrs. Emery Foster and baby, Mrs. Frank McCall, D. C. Gooding, Maggie Reaves, Andrew Asher and wife, Mrs. Cullum, Jennie Woodworth, The little daughter of James Woodyard.

Among the injured are: Samuel Hightower, Deputy Marshal John McCartney, The Uiam sisters, Clerk of Court P. A. Niblack and father, George Herring, Samuel Williamson, Patrick Doolan, The son of James Woodyard.

A Night of Deep Misery.

Only two buildings in the town were not damaged—the Mitchell hotel and the Rock Island store. Fully three-fourths of the structures were destroyed, causing losses placed at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The night in Chandler was one of indescribable terror. With many of its inhabitants dead or dying, and the remainder too badly injured or unable from fright or because of the darkness to render assistance no order prevailed. Rain poured down in a torrent. The injured in many cases unavailingly cried for help and lay in the wrecks of their homes till daylight made it possible for them to help themselves, or when aid from surrounding towns arrived.

The fires in many of the wrecks burned themselves out, and several were still smoldering when morning broke. The heavy rain, however, quenched many of the fires.

No Warning to the People.

The tornado struck Chandler without warning about 6 o'clock last evening, and its work of carnage began before the inhabitants realized what was upon them, and hardly any means of escape was left open. Tearing through the business district, stores were hurled right and left, lifted high into the air and tossed in every direction. The court house, in which Chief Justice Dale was holding court, was taken off its foundation and the building nearly crushed. Passing on into the residence district, the wind swept away dwelling after dwelling, and rushing into the open country finally spent itself.

The trail the storm left was one of wreck and ruin most complete. Houses rested on their tops and streets were made unrecognizable by having been piled high with debris. Then came the fires from overturned stoves, and finally the downpour of rain.

With the first realization of their predicament over, the uninjured and able bodied found themselves from fright and confusion well nigh helpless to render aid as their more unfortunate neighbors. Finally when an effort to send for outside aid was made, it was found that all communication with the outside world had been cut off, the telephone office being among the buildings destroyed.

It was several hours before communication with Guthrie was secured. A brief idea of the nature of the devastation wrought, together with an appeal for aid, had been sent the neighboring city, when the wire snapped and Chandler was again cut off. In the meantime, however, a train bearing physicians and others left for the scene. The wire came up later and further appeals for aid met prompt response and additional recruiting parties were sent out as the extent of the damage became known.

NEELY IN CONTROL.

The Leavenworth Standard Changes Hands in Very Short Order.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., April 1.—Charles E. Lobdell of Lane county, at noon to-day closed the deal with Mrs. Sarah B. Lynch, postmaster, for her one-half interest in the Evening Standard, and a few minutes later sold out to United States Marshal N. Neely, who already owned a one-sixth interest. This gives Mr. Neely a controlling interest, and hereafter he will direct the policy of the Standard, which will remain Democratic.

DISASTER IN SIGHT.

Hundreds of Southern Towns and Villages Under Water.

GREENVILLE, Miss., April 1.—There are now four breaks on the Mississippi front, hourly pouring their devastating torrents into this fertile valley, and the entire Yazoo-Mississippi delta from Australia landing south to Vicksburg will be overflowed. Places never affected in former years will be under water in two days.

Thousands of live stock are drowning, and in some instances the fleeing people have close calls for their lives.

Thousands of flood bound people were caught between the three Bolivar county breaks, and no communication can be had with them. Refugees coming into the city from the country this side of the Mound break report many families in peril on the other side of the crevasse, as there is only seven miles of country between them and Stead's, and it is next to impossible for all to escape.

Two hundred and fifty towns and villages will be under water in three days, and thousands upon thousands of families will be homeless. Every lake and stream is filled with bodies of drowned animals, many thousands of horses, mules and cattle having been swept away.

NATCHEZ, Miss., April 1.—The critical time with the levees in this locality is now coming rapidly. For the last two weeks the water has been rising steadily at the rate of half a foot daily, until the stage now is 46.55, two and one-half feet above the danger line. The water is over the banks all along the Louisiana front and is coming up high against the levees.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The President has signed the Senate joint resolution making an appropriation of \$250,000 immediately available for the protection of life and property from the floods in the Mississippi river.

TREATY VOTES.

Foraker and Hoar Restrictions Adopted—Chilton's and Morgan's Rejected.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—At the beginning of the executive session of the Senate to-day Mr. Hoar's amendment to the arbitration treaty, intended to meet the objections urged in the recent debate against the agreement, was adopted.

The Chilton amendment was laid on the table, and an amendment by Senator Morgan to the arbitration treaty, providing that all disputes subject to the treaty should be settled by diplomatic negotiations instead of by convention, was defeated.

The Senate adopted an amendment, offered by Mr. Foraker, providing for a separate tribunal for each case which might arise under the treaty. Under the amendment a tribunal cannot be continuous.

PERU DEFIES UNCLE SAM.

Demand for the Release of an American Sailor Positively Refused.

LIMA, Peru, April 1.—The issue raised between Peru and the United States with respect to the imprisonment of Ramsey, the American sailor, is becoming a serious matter. The Peruvian government refuses to accede to the demand of United States Minister McKenzie to set Ramsay at liberty immediately.

To Go Into Effect at Once.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Chairman Dingley and his colleagues of the ways and means committee will attempt to have the duties imposed by the new tariff bill go into effect before the bill becomes a law. This novel and much discussed policy was definitely resolved upon at a meeting of the Republican members of the committee held last night. The committee instructed Mr. Grosvenor to offer the amendment to-day in the House. It was adopted by a vote of 159 to 120.

The Next Ambassadors.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The belief is expressed that the President desires to send the nominations of the ambassadors to Germany and Italy to the Senate at the same time. Ex-Representative Draper of Massachusetts, who is believed to have been decided upon for Italy, was at the White house in conference with the President, presumably about this matter, and it is supposed his nomination and that of Andrew D. White will go to the Senate presently.

Gen. Smith to Be Transferred.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Gen. Smith, governor of the Soldiers' Home at Leavenworth, Kan., is to be transferred. This is the decision that has been practically reached by the Board of Governors of the Soldiers' Homes of the United States. He will probably be sent to the California Soldiers' Home, and Gen. Barrett, who is the head of the home, ordered to Leavenworth.

A St. Paul Bank Cashier Indicted.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 1.—The grand jury has returned an indictment against William Dawson, jr., cashier of the failed Bank of Minnesota, charging him with falsifying the records of the bank in charging an amount of \$100,000 against the Fort Dearborn National bank of Chicago when, in fact, that bank owed the Bank of Minnesota nothing.

Lee Gets "Notice."

WASHINGTON, April 1.—General Fitzhugh Lee, consul general at Havana, has been notified by cable that his services will not be needed after April 15.

TARIFF UNLAWFUL.

senator Allen of Nebraska So Declares in a Speech.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Senator Allen, Populist, of Nebraska, made a speech in the Senate on the unconstitutionality of tariff laws beyond those requisite for revenue. Mr. Allen severely criticized the trusts and combinations which, he declared, reaped the main advantage of tariff taxes. The senator's remarks were in the nature of a legal argument showing the constitutional limitations of the taxing power of Congress.

LOSSES IN CHANDLER.

THE DEATH LIST NOW FOOTS UP TWELVE.

Victims of the Tornado Buried—List of the Principal Losers of Property—Relief From All Parts of the Territory—Some Strange Freaks of the Storm.

Little Left But Ruins.

GUTHRIE, Okla., April 3.—The total death list so far at Chandler from Tuesday's tornado is twelve and it is now believed that no more bodies will be found in the ruins. The dead were buried yesterday afternoon. The injured are generally doing well and it is possible that none of them will succumb.

The only building in Chandler upon which there was tornado insurance was the court house, which was insured for \$1,000.

There would have been great suffering at Chandler had the weather been inclement, as no definite plan of relief was enforced until yesterday afternoon, it seeming impossible for the people to thoroughly organize themselves. The injured and dead were cared for, but it was the work of a few. There was no bureau of information and those trying to restore order were scattered. A relief corps of Guthrie women reached Chandler yesterday afternoon and did much to systemize the nursing of the injured.

Money is being sent from all parts of the territory and surrounding states. The cash gifts from Guthrie reached \$2,000 this morning.

Men digging in the ruins of the Colburn building this morning found the blackened bones of what the surgeons said was a child. No one, however, had reported a child missing.

Nearly 200 business buildings and residences were wrecked. Some of the larger losses are: William Spilberger, baker and confectioner, \$1,000; the court house, \$1,000; N. O. Colburn, dry goods and clothing, \$5,500; C. W. Coblet, building, \$2,000; W. H. French, Publicist printing outfit, law library, \$1,000; Masonic, I. O. O. F. and K. of P. lodges, all of their paraphernalia, hall, furniture, etc., estimated at \$1,000; John Heffran, brick building, \$4,000; Catholic church, \$1,000; Congregational church, \$1,500; Methodist church, \$1,600; A. E. Mascher, building, \$1,500; Dr. Samuel Ellis, druggist, stock and building, \$3,000; Kansas and Oklahoma Town and Investment company, building, \$3,000; James Woodyard, \$6,000; Chandler Bros., \$3,000; A. D. Wright, druggist, occupying a new stone building just completed, \$3,000; Bishop & Co., groceries, boots and shoes, \$5,000; Chandler News, \$1,500; C. A. R. hall, \$500; C. A. Filtsch, hardware, \$2,500; Hoffman, Charles & Conklin, bankers, \$4,500; Lyman Mills, livery stable, \$500; dwelling, \$500, and barn \$300; Mrs. M. M. Egbert, Manvel hotel building and contents, \$2,500; C. R. Owens, sawmill, cotton gin and flouring mill, \$7,000; Lincoln County bank, office, fixtures and vault, \$3,000; Matt Reeves, saloon, \$1,000. Many others lost everything and will be unable to replace their buildings. The Mitchell hotel was so badly shattered that it was considered unsafe and was vacated to-day. It was the only hotel left standing and had been crowded since the tornado.

The question of whether the town shall be rebuilt upon its present site is being discussed. There are absolutely no facilities for the transaction of ordinary business, and everything is at a standstill. Many persons fear to rebuild on the hill.

The tornado played strange freaks with women's clothing. All of the clothing of one woman who was caught on the street, except the underwear, was stripped off. There were several instances where every stitch of clothing was torn from the bodies of women.

ANTI-TARIFF PROTESTS.

Japan and Argentine Republic Enter Formal Objection to the Dingley Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The first open and formal expressions of dissatisfaction with the pending tariff bill on the part of foreign nations have come to the state department from Japan and Argentine. The Japanese minister has expressed the regret of his government at the proposed adoption of silk schedules, which "without promising to help out the manufacturers of the United States, threaten seriously the important trade Japan has built up at great expense with the United States in raw and partly manufactured silk." The Argentine minister added his protest, not as has been stated, in the form of a threat of reprisals, but in the usual diplomatic form, against the proposed duty on hides and other raw materials coming from his country in great quantities to the United States.

An Army Officer's Daughter a Model.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Miss Kate Mielles Bradley, daughter of the late Colonel George W. Bradley, United States army, returned to her home here after eight years' absence in the West. When she and her mother left here, Miss Bradley was an almost hopeless invalid. She has completely regained her health and is now a professional model. She intends to continue in this work until she can establish herself as a teacher of physical culture.

Appropriation Bills in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Senate committee on appropriations has agreed to report the sundry civil and Indian appropriation bills practically as they were agreed to before the adjournment of the last session of Congress. A change was made in the provisions for the rights of inheritance of children born of white fathers and Indian mothers so as to provide that the mother should belong to her tribe "by blood." The original provision reads "by blood or descent."

Milan, Mo., Under Water.

MILAN, Mo., April 3.—Incessant rain in this city for the past forty-eight hours has caused the almost complete inundation of all low lands and are doing great damage to the farmers.

Bear Admiral Russell Dead.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Rear Admiral John H. Russell, retired, died at his residence here to-day, after an illness of about a month. He was born in Frederick, Md., in 1837, and entered the navy as a midshipman when only 14 years old.

LIFE FOR LIFE.

Four of the "Button Gang" Pay the Penalty for Murders.

SANTA FE, N. M., April 3.—Francisco Gonzales y Borrego, Antonio Gonzales y Borrego, Sauriano Alarid and Patricio Valencia, condemned to death for the murder of ex-Sheriff Frank Chavez, who was killed from ambush on the night of May 29, 1892, were hanged together on one scaffold at 9:10 o'clock this morning.

The four men were perfectly stolid at the close. There was no sign of disturbance, the authorities having taken extra precautions and militia being stationed about the jail.

The four men were members of the executive committee of what was known as the "Button Gang," a league organized to combat the political influence of Chavez, who was a Democratic leader in Santa Fe. On the night of May 29, 1892, Chavez was a giant in strength and absolutely fearless, was assassinated while on his way home. The next night Juan Pablo Dominguez, who openly declared that he knew who murdered Chavez, was shot and killed. For this crime Francisco Borrego, who had been seen fleeing from the scene of the murder, gave himself up, pleaded self defense and was acquitted. For twelve months the "gang," which controlled both the police department and the sheriff's office was supreme in Santa Fe and no attempt was made to avenge the Chavez murder. When Governor Thornton was appointed in 1893 he removed District Attorney Twitchell and Sheriff Conklin from office, and the new sheriff began hunting for evidence against the murderers of Chavez and soon obtained confessions from two of the conspirators, Francisco and Antonio Borrego, Lauriano Alarid, Patricio Valencia and Frank Rivera were arrested and Hyppolyte Vigil, chief of police and coroner was shot dead while resisting arrest. At the trial Rivera, Louis Gonzales and other minor members of the "gang" turned state's evidence and the two Borregos, Alarid and Valencia were convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hanged. The case was appealed on a writ of error to the United States supreme court, which finally decided against the murderers. Pending the hearing of the supreme court, Alarid and Valencia confessed.

The murderers were to have been hanged February 23, but President Cleveland granted a respite for thirty days. Then President McKinley granted a further respite until to-day. Yesterday he refused to interfere any further and so telegraphed to Governor Thornton.

Numerous plots for the rescue of the prisoners were thwarted by the vigilance of the territorial authorities, and a military guard was stationed at the jail for some time under orders from Governor Thornton.

FARMERS' TRUST.

One Being Organized to Control the Products of the Soil.

TOLEDO, Ohio, April 3.—A gigantic farmers' trust is now being organized in this country. One of the national organizers, registering as P. F. Brown, Johnstown, Pa., after being here some days, left his papers at the Jefferson house when he left for Columbus, and in this manner the secret leaked out. While here he conferred with leading legislators, such as ex-Representative Charles P. Griffin, Hon. Jonas Stanberry, who was placed at the head of the organization in this section, and many others. Several branches were secretly organized, and the order is strictly oath bound. It originated at Lancaster, Pa., and was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey as the Agriculturists' National Protective Association. It is the purpose to do nothing this year in the way of controlling the markets, because the organization is not yet complete. Next year, however, the crops will be limited to the actual living needs of the members of the organization. If the plan is carried out, not a dollar's worth of farm produce of any kind will be sold for general consumption. After 1893 there will be erected or rented in each county, in such numbers and so located as may seem best and most convenient, storehouses in which all products for the market will be placed.

Convention Hall Being Torn Down.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 3.—Convention hall, in which President McKinley was nominated, is being torn down. Last night the severe storm that visited this section helped the work of demolition, blowing down a portion of the east wall, which fell without doing any damage.

Receiver for the Y. M. C. A.

SEFALIA, Mo., April 3.—On the application of the trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association, Judge Longan appointed George W. Cummings receiver to wind up the affairs of the association.

Agreed on Ike Lambert.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Cy Leland and Senator Baker have agreed that the lucrative appointment as United States district attorney for Kansas should go to "Ike" Lambert of Emporia.

Fred Grant Offered a Place.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Colonel Fred Grant of New York, son of the late U. S. Grant, has been offered the position of assistant secretary of war, and has the offer under consideration.

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GIANT REDWOODS OF CALIFORNIA.



On this page we illustrate a Washingtonian or Giant Redwood of California. These were first called Wellingtonians, in honor of the Duke of Wellington. Naturalists named them "Wellingtonia gigantea," and by that name they are still known in European books. The reason for this name being given is that they were reputed to have been discovered by an English traveler and naturalist named Lobb. An agitation arose in the United States to give the trees called after the name of Washington. The true botanical name is sequoia gigantea. It is difficult to give an idea of the height and size of these trees. Some conception may be obtained by noticing in the picture the comparative sizes of the people at its base. The tree in the picture is between 200 and 400 feet in height, and the age is probably greater than 4,000 years. When Alexander the Great was leading his victorious army over the plains of Asia this tree was 300 years old. When Caesar was fighting the barbarians in Britain, this tree had already felt the breeze of a thousand summers. In fact, when it reared its first tender shoot from the earth, blind Homer was begging from city to city and David was singing among his sheep on the hills of Judea. Since its

beginning a hundred nations have risen, attained their highest glory and decayed. The dynasty of David with its fourteen kings has come and gone; Babylon, the golden kingdom, has seen its day and has disappeared; Media, Persia and Greece have extended their rule through slow-moving centuries, and lastly the Roman power, existing for a thousand years, has prevailed and fallen. Yet this tree lives on, green as ever, and bids fair to be a living monument of vegetable nature centuries after all existing nations have passed away.

There are many of these large trees, grouped sometimes by two and three, sometimes scattered among other varieties of forest growth. Some of them range from 20 to 30 feet in diameter, and have bark from 12 inches to 43 inches in thickness. In one locality there are, or were, 80 of these large trees within a circumference of a mile, but for the most part they are scattered. They grow on rich black and well-watered soil. Probably these trees are the relic of a past age, an age of gigantic vegetables and of gigantic animals. They should be protected from the vandal and be carefully preserved for future generations.—From the Farmers' Review.