

BIG TOBACCO TRUST.

ONE COMPANY TO CONTROL PLUG TOBACCO BUSINESS.

Liggett & Myers Concern to Enter Deal and Ruinous Competition Between Rival Manufacturers to Be Stopped—Boston Elevator Wrecked.

Tobacco Combine at St. Louis. A gigantic deal has been secretly consummated at St. Louis, whereby the Continental Tobacco Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000,000, is being organized to absorb all of the plug tobacco factories in the United States. It is understood that Harrison L. Drummond, president of the Drummond Tobacco Company of St. Louis, is to be made president of the new company; J. B. Duke of New York, vice-president; Pierre Lorillard of New York, secretary and treasurer. The deal contemplate the amalgamation of the烟叶 plant of the Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company of St. Louis with the Continental company at an early date, although it is said the Liggett & Myers people have not yet signed any formal agreement to join forces with the new organization. From what is considered the very highest authority it is learned that the deal provides for the separation of the plug tobacco business from the manufacture of smoking tobacco and cigarettes, and that the long and disastrous fight over the trade on one side and the Liggett & Myers and Drummond companies on the other will be stopped at once. Under the new arrangement the American Tobacco Company will take all the factories making smoking tobacco and cigarettes and return to its original field, and the Continental will assume the exclusive manufacture of plug tobacco.

TROOPS FOR ALASKA.

Military Form of Government to Be Established in the Yukon.

Captain H. Ray, Eighth United States Cavalry, who spent the winter in Alaska, has arrived at Portland, Ore., from the north and went immediately to Vancouver barracks. Captain Ray will recommend to the War Department the sending of troops into the interior of Alaska and the establishment of a military form of government in the Yukon. He will also recommend that the Government pack train now at the head of Lynn canal be used for the expedition. Expeditions into the interior, which had been considered impracticable for packing in the summer season, Captain Ray states that he does not believe the spring cleanup of gold will show more than \$8,000,000.

LEITER'S WHEAT BURNS.

Great Elevator at Boston Destroyed by Fire—People Frightened.

The elevator at the Hoosac tunnel docks on the Charlestown water front, Boston, Mass., was destroyed by a fire caused by the explosion of grain dust. The total property loss approximates \$500,000. The explosion raised the roof of the big structure high in the air, depositing it upon a block of tenement houses across the street, causing the brick facades to burst forth, and within a few hours the \$100,000 building, its contents of 350,000 bushels of grain and five runs or galleries connecting with the great steamship freight sheds, which cost \$40,000 to construct, were in ruins.

Butte Miner Attempts Murder.

Cyrus A. Bell, a miner of Butte, Mont., has been arrested charged with attempting to kill to death his housekeeper, Mrs. Mary Reilly, and her two children. The man entered her house, bound and chloroformed her and her oldest daughter and then set fire to the house. The flames alarmed the neighbors, who rescued the inmates and put out the flames.

Death Before Disgrace.

A. R. Reynolds of Paris, Tenn., shot himself through the brain in the Supreme Court room at Jackson, just after Justice McCallum had pronounced the lower court sentencing him to six years in the penitentiary. He was roadmaster on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and was convicted of making false entries. He left a note saying he was innocent.

Race for the Pennant.

Following is the standing of the clubs in the National Base Ball League:

W. L.	W. L.
Chicago 2	Brooklyn 1
Baltimore 2	Boston 1
Pittsburg 3	Cleveland 1
Cincinnati 2	St. Louis 1
Philadelphia 1	Washington 0
New York 2	St. Louis 0

Stadling Going to Klondike.

Prof. Andrew, the balloonist who started last year in an attempt to cross the arctic region in a balloon, has decided to proceed to the Klondike, owing, it is said, to the fact that geographers give credence to the report that Andrew has been heard from in those latitudes.

Moh's Mad Work.

There was a serious disturbance at Malaga, Spain, resulting in an attack upon the United States consulate. Stones were thrown and one of the balloonists proceeded a ladder, tore down the shield having upon it the arms of the United States and dragged it along the streets.

California Cattle Starving.

Owing to the extreme dryness of the season, thousands of cattle in California are expected to succumb to hunger and thirst during the present season. A repetition of the vast losses of 1877 is expected unless the parks are opened to the herds.

Venezuelan Ex-President Dead.

A special cablegram from Caracas, Venezuela, to the New York World says that General Francisco Crespo of Venezuela was killed in battle with Hernández, the leader of the rebel forces.

Street Railway Lines Sold.

The Main street inclined plane and Mount Auburn electric line in Cincinnati, owned by Louisville parties, and over which there has been much litigation, were sold at auction by order of the United States Court. The property as a whole was bought in by the Cincinnati Consolidated Street Railway Company for \$78,000.

Shaken by an Earthquake.

The shock of an earthquake was experienced at San Francisco. There was a gentle swaying motion, very slight, in tall buildings. Ten minutes later a much heavier shock occurred, but it was mild in comparison with that of a few weeks ago. The second shock lasted 20 seconds. No damage was done.

First to Blackfoot Lands.

A portion of the Blackfoot reservation, near Monte, Mont., has been opened to settlement, and a thousand or more people, mostly prospectors, rushed to locate mining claims. A troop of cavalry was present. The reservation is rich in minerals, especially in copper.

Lumber Destroyed by Fire.

A bomb was discovered a few days ago in the coal supplies at the Washington navy yard. About the same time one of

PORTO RICO IN REBELLION.

Rioting Follows the Elections, and Revolution is Feared.

According to advice from Porto Rico, the name of the island, the political public order is not preserved, business is at a complete standstill, and an internal revolution is feared. Street fights and serious rioting followed the election. The polls were raided, and the military finally intervened, killing two and wounding twenty. At Caguas 200 political arrests were made, including well-known newspaper men. The cabinet of three autocrats have not been accepted. There have been demonstrations also at San Juan, where the police by active measures have restored order, but there is no confidence in autonomy, and election frauds have been freely charged. The activity in improving the fortifications at San Juan continues. The American government there is under the protection of the Spanish troops. At last comes the Vizcaya and the Almirante Oquendo were still at San Juan.

MANY ON COPPER RIVER,

Steamer Excelsior Returns from Port Valdez with News.

The steamer Excelsior, with Copper River, arrives, having left Seattle, one of her six passengers, Chris Weber, when the police by active measures have restored order, but there is no confidence in autonomy, and election frauds have been freely charged. The activity in improving the fortifications at San Juan continues. The American government there is under the protection of the Spanish troops. At last comes the Vizcaya and the Almirante Oquendo were still at San Juan.

COAL IS CONTRABAND.

Great Britain So Instructs Colonial Authorities at Jamaica.

The British colonial authorities at Kingston, Jamaica, have instructions from the home government to declare coal contraband in the event of war.

The authorities have strict reserves defining the exact nature of the instructions, because hostilities have not been begun, but they will, it is understood, use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to the island—From Republican Platform adopted at St. Louis.

They Promise.

From the hour of achieving their own independence the people of the United States have regarded with sympathy the struggles of the other American people to free themselves from European domination. We watch with deep and abiding interest the heroic battle of the Cuban patriots against cruelty and oppression, and our best hopes go out for the full success of their determined contest for liberty.

The government of Spain having lost control of Cuba, and being unable to protect the property and lives of resident American citizens, or to comply with its treaty obligations, we believe that the government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to the island—From Republican Platform adopted at St. Louis.

They Wabble.

Nor on the standpoint of expedience do I think it would be wise or prudent for this government to recognize at the present time the independence of the so-called Cuban republic. Such recognition is not necessary in order to enable the United States to intervene and pacify the island.

To commit this country now to the recognition of any particular government in Cuba might subject us to embarrassing conditions of international obligation toward the organization so recognized. In case of intervention our conduct would be subject to the approval or disapproval of such government; we would be required to submit to its direction and to assume to it the more relation of a friendly ally—President's Message of April 11, 1898.

Gold Bonds.

Eastern newspapers devoted to the gold propaganda are busy devising plans to make the war with Spain an excuse for fastening the yoke of gold on the necks of the people. While certain Western monetary reform organs are fearful that silver may be given a chance because of war, Eastern newspapers are urging that quite the converse of this proposition should be maintained. In discussing war financial measures the New York Commercial-Advertiser blandly says: "We cannot borrow to advantage on our present basis of payment. We should have to make our bonds payable in gold, or submit to a costly discount or increase of interest. This was illustrated in Cleveland's last bond sale, when the buyers offered to take 3 per cent, if the bonds were made payable in gold and Congress refused." It would be impolitic but smoldering ruins remained of the largest and most successful independent plate glass works of the United States. The loss is estimated at \$750,000, with an insurance of about \$450,000.

Murdered for \$6.

At Kingston, N. Y., Elting Roe, colored, 18 years old, has been arrested, charged with the killing of David Marr, of the same age, and a junk dealer. Roe, it is said, was shot in the head, and his body was found on a pile of brick and was instantly killed, both being terribly mangled, while Fredericks in his fall, was stopped by a guy rope for an instant, then again, being caught a short distance below by a bolt in the framework, upon which he hung suspended for a second, then dropped to the ground. He was unconscious when picked up and his hand was broken him of \$6.

Struck by a Hurricane.

British Bark Will Scott Towed Into Port Daily Damaged.

The steamer Arctia, bound in from Cook Bay, sighted the British bark Will Scott, under jury rig, ten miles off of Duxbury Reef. The tug Reliance was immediately dispatched to aid the vessel and succeeded in towing her into San Francisco. The Will Scott is severely damaged, but is still afloat. Her crew of 120 men, who was unable to reach her destination. She is about as badly damaged as she could be without being a total wreck. She was struck by a hurricane Feb. 13 and completely dismasted.

Injurious to the Flag.

It has been learned that a few nights before Captain F. J. Ray, Eighth United States consul at Santiago de Cuba, left that port under instructions for Port Antonio, Jamaica, a mob of Spaniards made a demonstration before the consulate and threw stones at the flag pole and the men who were standing near the door and one was fatally injured.

The riverside iron works is building a large coke plant, and George Prince, James Sullivan and Edward Fredericks were employed on a derrick 100 feet high, which was used in putting the heavy pieces in position. The boom pole of the derrick and the men were pulled and heading to the ground. Prince and Sullivan alighted on a pile of brick and were instantly killed, both being terribly mangled, while Fredericks in his fall, was stopped by a guy rope for an instant, then again, being caught a short distance below by a bolt in the framework, upon which he hung suspended for a second, then dropped to the ground. He was unconscious when picked up and his hand was broken him of \$6.

Plates Glass Factory in Ruins.

The extensive plant of the Penn Plate Glass Company, in North Irwin, Pa., is in complete ruins. Fire started near the new casting hall, caused by the blowing of a pipe.

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Acts Like an Ingrate.

A singular act of ingratitude is developed in the eloquence of Mrs. George S. Brown, wife of a captain of a river steamer, and Robert Goss, an ex-conscript. When Goss' sentence expired two months ago, Captain Brown, confident of his innocence, resolved to assist him on his feet again. He took him to Vicksburg, Miss., made him an inmate of his own home, vouching for his respectability in society and became sponsor for him generally.

Fusion in South Dakota.

The Democratic State central committee met at Mitchell, S. D., and selected Aberdeen as the place to hold the State convention June 22. At the same time the Populists will hold their convention.

Resolutions were adopted to co-operate with the Populists if they can secure representation on the State ticket. If not, the Democrats will put up a ticket of their own.

Army Mobilization Ordered.

An order mobilizing practically the entire army was issued by the War Department.

The measures to be taken in case of war were issued by the war department.

The Fourth Regiment of infantry, now stationed at Fort Sheridan, Chicago, is ordered nine hours so as to be available to the service.

Earthquake on Pacific.

Thirty-two distinct earthquake shocks of unusual severity occurred at Point Arena, Cal. No material damage was done there, but at Greenwood, where a large number of houses were twisted, and chimneys fell.

Big Coal-Washing Plant Burned.

The coal-washing plant of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company at Belt, Mont., was burned to the ground, loss \$250,000; no insurance. Cause of the fire unknown.

Miners Return to Work.

The 2,000 striking miners of the Massillon, Ohio, district have agreed to return to work, the operators having consented to make the demanded changes in the strike.

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Grim and Growing Suspicion.

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