

and hunted and trapped on his own account. The Utes were extremely hostile to the whites, but Baker succeeded in getting on very friendly terms with Ignacio, then a young buck and war chief. Baker induced a squaw, a sister of Ignacio, to leave the tribe with him. Ignacio swore vengeance, and for a long time Baker was in constant fear lest some Ute should take him unawares. Finally the squaw returned to her tribe and for his own safety Baker joined the Sioux Indians and became a Sioux squaw man. Afterward he left the Sioux for the Cheyennes and also lived for a time with the Arapahoes. There are incidents without number told of Baker by old pioneers. In 1857 Baker acted as scout for Captain Marcey's expedition that went into Utah to drive out the Mormons. The Mormons stole a march on Marcey and drove off all his horses and mules, taking the greater share of the provisions. The men were in a desperate condition. Baker offered to cross the main range and go to Fort Garland for relief. It was early in December and the snow on the range was from two to forty feet deep. Baker started to work his way straight across the range. He became worn out and nearly famished. In descending the range he became so exhausted that he was forced to give up and would have perished had not a band of Ute Indians found him and cared for him. Had they recognized him he would have been killed, because the Utes had marked him for death. He succeeded in reaching the fort in safety and securing the necessary relief.

At another time Baker was camped alone in one end of a canyon, and a party of white men were camped below him. About 2 o'clock in the morning Baker awoke, came down to the camp, and warned them to hurry to a place where they could defend themselves. He said he felt that the red men were going to attack them. Two hours afterward a war band descended on the camp, which by that time had been vacated. In 1861 Baker, with Jim Beckwith, took up a ranch on what is now Capitol Hill, Denver. Beckwith was a mulatto, and for a long time chief of the Crow Indians. He was born at St. Charles, Mo., in 1793, and went west in 1818. The Crows had never seen a negro, and in some way conceived the idea that Beckwith was a Crow Indian who had been stolen from their tribe when a child. They watched their opportunity and kidnapped Beckwith, afterward making him chief. He became a great warrior, and was much feared by the Indians. Baker and he were great friends, and went into partnership when Beckwith left his tribe in 1860. Beckwith married a colored woman, and in 1864 murdered a man named Jim Payne, who insisted on paying attentions to his wife. Beckwith and Baker were fast friends when sober, but quarreled and fought like tigers when drunk.

In 1869 Baker had one side of his face torn off by the explosion of a rifle. Many versions of the affair have been given. The correct one has rarely been told. In Indian camp, about twenty miles from Denver, the agent had distributed a lot of rifles and cartridges. Baker succeeded in getting hold of one. As he tried to fire it the cartridge in the stock exploded, and blew it to pieces. One-half of Baker's face was torn to pieces. Without a complaint, and all the time conscious, he stood the ride of twenty miles to Denver, where Dr. Strode fixed up his torn jaw by the use of wooden pins and sewed it up. Three months afterward Baker had en-

tirely recovered, but he carried a bad scar to the end of his days.

Baker's love for free life and the excitement of fighting and hunting was unbounded. On one occasion he killed two full-grown grizzly cubs with a hunting knife when his rifle lay unused on the ground. He and a companion saw the two cubs as they were pasing up the side of a mountain. Baker proposed that each of them should kill one of the cubs with a hunting knife alone, "because it would be a great thing to tell about afterward." Putting aside their guns the two hunters attacked. Baker killed the cub and went to the rescue of his friend, who was hard pressed and yelling for help. As soon as Baker went to his assistance the other man ran away. Baker killed the second cub.

If Baker had one incurable failing it was gambling, and he usually lost. On one occasion, when he had been unusually fortunate in gathering a large stock of furs, he made up his mind to return to the states, buy a farm and settle down for life. On reaching a rendezvous where many of his kind were assembled, he was coaxed into a game of Spanish monte, and lost all he possessed. The value of his pelts was about \$9,000. He then went back to the mountains, where he remained to the time of his death. Baker once went to New York city, where he was annoyed by the narrowness of the streets and the height of the buildings.

"I wish you would show me the way out of these canyons," he remarked to a friend whom he met.

Baker belonged to a generation that has almost passed away, and a few more years will take the remaining members of that little band of men who tramped the wilderness ahead of civilization.—New York Sun.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

New York, Aug. 8.—A special to the Times from Washington says:

Representatives of the great ports of the United States will be interested in some of the figures which the bureau of statistics of the treasury department has just compiled regarding the import and export trade of the various ports of the country and comparing the year's business with that of preceding years.

The rivalry among the coast cities for the honor and profit of handling a satisfactory proportion of the foreign commerce has been unusually sharp in the past year or so. The rapid growth of the carrying trade along the chain of great lakes and then by canal or rail to the coast, the sharp competition and reduced rates by rail from the grain fields of the west to the south Atlantic ports and the increased rail and water facilities of transportation between the Upper Mississippi valley and the Gulf ports, together with improved harbor facilities at various points, have produced material changes in the drift of the great bulk of the grain and provision product of the country which goes to Europe, while our increased commerce with Asia and Oceania has materially and advantageously affected the business of the ports on the Pacific coast. These facts, together with the claims that certain ports enjoy special advantages in railway rates and terminal facilities have made the interest in the comparative business of the various ports unusually great.

A comparison of the figures covering the exports and imports of the various ports during the fiscal year with those of preceding years presents some interesting and suggestive facts bearing on this subject. They show that the Atlantic ports, considered as an entire group, retained, when compared with the preceding year, their normal proportion of the exports of the year, but

lost in imports the total increase in exportation from these ports being 17.61 per cent, while the total increase in exportation from the entire country was 17.3 per cent; the total importations on the Atlantic ports, however, fell 21.4 per cent, while the total imports into the country decreased but 19.3 per cent. The Gulf ports did not, as a whole, maintain the rate of increase which the country at large made in exports, their percentage for gain being but 8.6 per cent, while their loss in imports was still greater, being 29.9 per cent.

The Pacific ports made the most satisfactory record of any group, their gain in exports being 25.7 per cent, while they actually gained in imports 16.4 per cent.

The northern border ports made the largest percentage of gain in exportations, the total for the year being 27.3 per cent greater than that of the preceding year, while importations lost 21.1 per cent.

The Gulf ports increased their exportations materially, especially wheat and wheat flour, though in corn there was a heavy decrease. Galveston increased her exports over those of last year 17.6 per cent, while those of New Orleans increased 11 per cent.

In imports Galveston made a marked increase, those of 1898 being 49.7 per cent greater than those of 1897, while New Orleans lost materially in her imports, which in 1898 were 41.9 per cent less than in 1897. The export at New Orleans in 1898 amounted to 1.57 per cent of the total imports into the country, against 2.17 per cent in 1897; 2.67 per cent in 1894 and 2.4 per cent in 1891, while the exports were 9.15 per cent of the total of the country in 1898, against 9.66 per cent in 1897; 9.18 per cent in 1893; 12.74 per cent in 1892 and 12.69 per cent in 1890.

Galveston's share of the total exportations of the country in 1898 was 5.56 per cent against 5.54 per cent in 1897; 4.12 per cent in 1896; 3.93 per cent in 1894; 3.43 per cent in 1892 and 2.88 per cent in 1890.

Pacific coast ports, as already indicated, show a gain in imports and exports. San Francisco exported in 1898, 3.34 per cent of the total exports of the country, against 3.08 per cent in 1892 and 4.24 per cent in 1890. Her percentage of the imports was in 1898, 6.98 per cent; in 1879, 4.5 per cent; in 1895, 4.95 per cent and 1890, 6.18 per cent. The Puget Sound customs district gained materially in her share of the commerce of the country, her exports in 1898 being 1.45 per cent of the total against 1.13 per cent in 1897; .78 per cent in 1896; .55 per cent in 1893 and .39 per cent in 1890, while the imports of the year, although slightly less than those of 1897, were much greater than those of any prior year.

Brig. Gen. John S. Poland died at Asheville, N. C., today of fever contracted at Chickamauga. The remains will be taken to his home in New York state.

The organization of a new electric light company is contemplated here. The new company has arranged to purchase the Provo Woolen Mills company's franchise, and power will be supplied from the Telluride Power Transmission company's plant in Provo canyon. The plant at the woolen mills, which has furnished power in the past, will be used exclusively by the mill. The new company will increase the wires now owned by the old company, and promises a reduction—probably one-half in rates charged for lighting. The present rate is \$1.25 per month for a 16-candle power incandescent light. Among the members of the new company will be Reed Smoot, of the woolen mills, and L. L. Nunn, of the Telluride Power company.