

MR. ROSENBERG REPLIES TO UP-RIVER GEAR.

Mr. Rosenberg Replies to Up-River Gear. HE DEFENDS GILLNET MEN.

Declares That Wherever Stationary Appliances Are Used, Including Columbia River, the Fish Supply Is on the Decline.

ASTORIA, Or., Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregonian evidently intends to lead the newspapers of this state in giving special attention to views and measures proposed by the up-river Columbia fishermen, now rapidly being destroyed by over-fishing. I wish to emphasize again the fact that the lower and upper river fishermen or cannerymen.

The fight against a system of fishing in the Columbia river which has been abolished in Washington, Alaska and Canada. The new and old fishermen are not interested in stopping the fish supply, but in stopping the fish supply.

Encouraged by this success, the up-river fishermen are now endeavoring to get leading citizens of the state interested in presenting to the direct vote of the people the measure to close fishing in the narrow of the Upper Columbia, launched the committee measure to practically stop fishing in the lower river.

Leading citizens from all parts of the state are the sponsors of a bill stopping fishing in the narrow of the Columbia. And these men accepted these duties because it is generally recognized that the main cause of the destruction of our salmon.

Who Sponsors River Bill? The bill against lower river fishing is not favored by any one on the petition sheets. Of late, Mr. Neff, of the Dalles, the man owning the narrow of the Columbia river, has commenced to champion it. Now, Mr. Neff's bill is the first section of a prohibitory law in the Columbia river.

It is true that during a certain part of the day, the fish are not so plentiful as they were. It is true that during a certain part of the day, the fish are not so plentiful as they were.

Stop Fishing Above Tidewater. Sunday closing laws and other closed seasons have proved a failure in the narrow of the rivers either by stationary or by mobile fishing.

It is true that United States Fish Commission Bowser, for reasons best known to himself, but which are generally known to all fishermen, has seen fit to oppose the closing of the Upper Columbia, where the fish are not so plentiful as they were.

Two Kinds of Immunity. PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—During our Civil War a youthful Congressman was captured in Annapolis, who promptly swallowed the insult which had on it important data. He was at once tried by court-martial and sentenced to be executed, but was offered immunity if he would divulge the secret of the movements of Bragg's army.

Parcel Post and Tom Richardson. PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to the recent address of Tom Richardson, manager of the Commercial Union of Portland, who wishes to see an argument that would be better if there were no railroads or telegraphs, as they bring to the coast the fish and four days' time of the West, which wagon roads would not do, and so give to the people the benefit of the fish.

Nearly Drowns in Wine. Drunken Workman Saturated by Flow From Barrel. PARI, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—A workman in this city has been within an arm's length of death in the manner attributed to that famous Duke of Clarence, who is said to have selected as his mode of exit from this world drowning in a butt of wine.

Seaside Has a Guessing-Bee. SEASIDE, Or., Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)

DEFENDS BARNAUM

GRANTS PASS WRITER BLAMES EDITOR PUTNAM. Says Criticism of Non-Indictment of Barnum Was Violent and Unjustified.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Jan. 24.—(To the Editor.)—Residents of our state, when they have read the sensational and misleading press reports that have been sent out from Medford, the fierce criticisms of the newspaper, and the editor's attitude in the waiting yet belittling resolutions of the Press Club and the Ad Men's Association of Portland, will be led to believe that the editor of the Oregonian, who has been in Oregon since the day of the Medford Tribune, was convicted in the Circuit Court and fined by Judge Hanna for criminal libel.

That Judge Hanna would abuse his authority as Circuit Judge and attempt to muzzle the press is not believed at all by those who have known him in the 23 years that he has presided over the Circuit Court for the first time in Oregon. It is his instructions to Judge Justice, who has shown himself to be just and generous and thoroughly posted on the law, and his decisions have not been held in contempt by any one.

There was a time, and not so very long ago, when the press was not so free as it is today. Today such performance creates nothing but disgust. It is wonderful how the habits and customs of the people have gradually improved, and how the conduct has become the unwritten law of society, without any other aid than the common sense of the people.

The reason is plain enough. The unwritten law of civilization coincides with the written law. The written law is a reflection of the conditions, but our written temperance laws do not. Man naturally obeys the laws of his nature, and not the laws of his conscience.

It can be truthfully said that our prohibitory laws have greatly hampered civilization in its temperance work. It is a fact susceptible of proof that wherever prohibitory laws have been enacted and attempts made to enforce them, the result has been a general demoralization of the people.

The power of the law is very limited, especially in a democratic government. Much more powerful than any legislation are social conditions. If our saloons are social conditions, would you expect the time which they use for advocating and enforcing prohibition, for the purpose of bettering the conditions of the people, they would do a thousand times more for temperance as they do now.

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AMERICA IS LIKE ROME

Mr. Andrews Finds Basis for Historical Comparison. RUGENE, Or., Jan. 24.—(To the Editor.)

As between Rome and Carthage, the American people are like the Romans. The latter, though based on the ruins of the former, still had certain ideals, some of which were the product of her own local conditions, and some of which were inherited from her Greek and Latin ancestors.

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WRITER DISCUSSES A NEW MEANS TO RAISE REVENUE.

Constitutional Amendment by Initiative Proposed by Oregon Reform Association Is Unfair. VERNONIA, Or., Jan. 24.—(To the Editor.)

This letter does not touch the question at issue, namely, why was the finding of a grand jury declared conclusive and indisputable by the court which was trying Putnam for his alleged libelous criticism of the grand jury's action and why was he forbidden to introduce testimony bearing on the nature of the offense charged? Putnam, who declined to indict Barnum? Without entering the dispute over the nature of the assault, it may be said that the laws do not give the grand jury the right to indict, which Judge Hanna assigned to the grand jury that declined to indict Barnum.

It was stated in your circular letter that quite a number of the voters of this state are so stupid as to believe that the real purpose of this amendment is a step in the direction of relieving taxation from any burden. Now, it is quite possible that there are some who can see no step in that direction. But on the other hand, I can see a number of steps in that direction.

As between Rome and Carthage, the American people are like the Romans. The latter, though based on the ruins of the former, still had certain ideals, some of which were the product of her own local conditions, and some of which were inherited from her Greek and Latin ancestors.

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TREATING HABIT TO GO

Work of Catholic Church Societies Is Warmly Indorsed. PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)

Though at this late hour it may seem but an afterthought, yet I would voice my indignation against the habit of drinking. It is a habit that is not only a curse to the individual, but a curse to the community.

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PILES GETS GOOD ADVICE

Not What He Was Looking For Except, However. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 25.—The representatives of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition and the other members of the Washington Congressional delegation have been enjoying a very pleasant stay in the city of Washington.

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RECORD CROP OF ORANGES

Estimated Output Will Reach Enormous Sum of 30,000 Carloads. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 25.—The orange harvest in California is now in full season and in quantity and quality promises to break all records.

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