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THE ASTORIAN.

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D. C. IRELAND, Proprietor

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Agents.
L. P. FISHER, 20 and 21 New Merchants Exchange, is authorized to act as Agent for the ASTORIAN in San Francisco.
Any friend who feels an interest in the prosperity of this region, is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, in procuring subscribers.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

—Red buoy No. 2 has been again replaced by the tug Astoria.

—Kohlrabi is a vegetable for sale at Gray and Donaldson's.

—County Court for Clatsop county, Judge Moffitt presiding, convenes on Monday.

—It is said the new tug Sedalia behaved admirably on her trip to the Cape in a storm last Tuesday.

—When anything in the tinware and stove line is wanted, see the card of Jackins & Co.

For fresh Oysters, in every style, call at the PARKER HOUSE RESTAURANT.

—At Westport the people pass the evenings very pleasantly attending the debates of the local lyceum.

—On Tuesday there were ten vessels and seven steamers in Astoria harbor.

—The last heard of our fellow townsmen Messrs John Badollet and Lyman Hall, they were at Westport waiting a steamer for Astoria.

Oysters in every style, at all hours of day or night, at the PARKER HOUSE RESTAURANT, Main street, Astoria.

—The furnaces at the new bath-room in the new Westport cannery have been completed by Peter Runney, and it is said to be a tip top job.

—The brig Orient, and the tug J. C. Brenham, are reported at Coos bay. The Orient would next go to Umpqua, the Brenham to Astoria.

—Charles Binder of the Oregon Bakery, offers to board any man a week, who will take his cold away. That is a better proposition than we made.

A neat, clean, cosy place, for gentlemen and ladies to enjoy a dish of fresh Oysters—is at the PARKER HOUSE RESTAURANT.

—The young men of Astoria have adopted the name "Hermenian Club," for their social association. They give soirees semi-monthly.

—The first four winged flying fish we have ever seen, is on exhibition at Gray & Donaldson's. It came from South America in the bark Island Belle.

—James W. Welch has returned from the valley with a pair of very large, handsome work-horses, to take the place of the team lost recently by drowning.

—Capt. Rogers has just completed a metallic model of Spedden's invention for a steamer propeller, which shows the advantages of the principle, and at once recommends itself.

—The old year was rung out, and 1874 rung in, by all the bells of Astoria, midst a fearful storm of rain, hail, lightning flashes and peals of thunder. It was a Happy New Year to most folks, at any rate.

—Several new fishing boats have been constructed, and others are on the way, at Westport. The principal builders are Messrs. Sampson and Driscoll, Messrs. Bell, Andrews and Blondell are engaged in such work also.

—Sheriff Twilight will meet the tax-payers of this precinct at the Court House to day from 9 A. M. until 4 P. M. for the purpose of collecting taxes upon the assessment of 1873.

—Henry Hewett and Co., of Portland, are consignees of the Akbar, Fluor de Lis, Toftcomb, Tongoy, Mary E. Ray and Sidlaw, all foreign vessels ready to receive cargoes for the United Kingdom.

—When the Sedalia gets her life preservers, Babcock fire extinguishers, and a hundred other useless appendages to the equipment of a passenger boat, she will be ready to carry people wherever they may wish to go.

—In answer to a letter of inquiry addressed to the Postmaster General, we are informed that subscribers must pay postage on papers if delivered through a post-office whether the subscribers live on a post route or not.

—We have information from the Oregonian, that the Free Trade brought an assorted cargo. Yes, an "assorted cargo" of sand and clay. This is one of the vessels that will not visit Portland. Her cargo has been dumped out on Astoria's streets.

—It is estimated that the wheat crop of Linn county this year was 1,500,000 bushels; Lane, 700,000; Polk, 726,000; and Benton, 381,000 bushels; making the yield of the four counties 3,307,000. Of this it is thought about 2,500,000 bushels will be shipped.

—A. J. Donaldson was the recipient of a handsome pair of marine glasses, donated by the master of the Island Belle, but some notorious thief, without the fear of Heaven before his eyes, appropriated them for a new year present. Jack is in hopes that the use of the glasses will make the possessor cross eyed.

—That portion of Main street filled with ballast from South America and San Francisco, by Mr. Boelling, is a sample of good stout work. We understand that Mr. B. contemplates removing the old buildings on that portion of the street, and filling the lots also, preparatory to putting up a very creditable building on the site at an early day, for market and store purposes.

—Private advices from Washington inform us that Astoria will soon have a daily mail. The request for this service was made by Hon. John H. Mitchell on the 16th ult., backed on a statement of the matter made in this paper, and the service has been promised.

—We are informed that Hon. Ben Underwood had reached Washington the 16th with the Nehalem valley mail propositions in his pocket. He was invited to call upon Mr. Mitchell that evening, with the documents and we hope some definite action in the matter will occur soon.

—Dealers in linen and other dry goods, grain sacks, burlaps, liquors, etc., should send to Janion and Rhodes, of Portland, for their price list. Messrs J. and R. have not so many ships coming to Oregon as some, but none of those that do come are in ballast.

—The following officers of Beaver Lodge, No. 35, I. O. O. F. were installed in office on new year's night: T. A. Hyland, N. G.; C. H. Page, V. G.; Wm. P. Gray, Secretary; Lewis Wilson, P. S.; John Hobson, T.; I. W. Case, R. S. N. G.; Wm. H. Twilight, L. S. N. G.; C. S. Wright, R. S. V. G.; I. Stevens, L. S. V. G.; C. Bohau, R. S. S.; C. W. Hamblin, O. G.; Lewis Wilson, was appointed host for the ensuing term.

—The prospect of the State opening the Astoria, Nehalem, Cornelius Road seems gloomy. Owing to the depreciation of the bonds, nearly one half of the appropriation of \$20,000 was exhausted in the survey and location. And now comes the farmers through whose farms and private roads this public road has been laid, and claim damages enough to about take the remaining half of the appropriation. Hence the gloomy prospect as we see it.

THE WESTPORT TRAGEDY.

Mr. Sheppard Honorably Acquitted of any Crime—The Killing done in Self Defense.

Our Westport correspondent furnishes the following report of the recent tragedy in that vicinity. The exaggerated statements previously made will be quieted by this letter, and Mr. Sheppard's friends can congratulate themselves at the happy sequel. It appears that community has only been deprived of a bad man.

WESTPORT, Dec. 26th 1873.

EDITOR ASTORIAN

A shooting affray occurred yesterday at a place known as Lawson and Olsons fishery. It is not a place where fish are put up, but a place occupied by men who make a business of catching fish. It is located on the river between Watsons fishery and Westport. It appears that J. L. Morgan, Robert Markle and Byron Sheppard, went deer hunting in a small sized skiff and when near Olson's fishery, were hailed from the wharf by some one to make a Christmas call. They did so, and found that some of the parties at that place who had been drinking rather freely, were inclined to be quarrelsome. One Charles Peterson attempted to quarrel with Mr. Sheppard, when Mr. Morgan placed himself between them, to stop the row, saying that they did not go there to quarrel, and asked Sheppard and Markle to take the guns and go to the boat and they would proceed and have their hunt. At this time Peterson pulled off his shirt and again went in pursuit of Sheppard, towards the boat—Sheppard being in the boat. Peterson met Lawson on the wharf as he was making for the boat and knocked or shoved him over the wharf into the water. Markle was also knocked or shoved down the steps losing his gun overboard. Morgan tried to hold Peterson (who was swearing he would drown Sheppard) to keep him from getting in the boat, but as he had no shirt on he could not hold him, and Sheppard warned him not to get in the boat or he would shoot him. He still made for the boat, however, and got partly into it when Sheppard fired, and Peterson fell over the bow into the water and swam to the steps and ran up on the wharf where he lay down.

Morgan who was trying to keep Peterson from getting into the boat received a painful wound, one shot striking him in the left hand. Lawson says his shoulder is out of joint or dislocated and he is otherwise injured. Peterson died this morning at two or three o'clock. An inquest was held, and a verdict rendered according to the facts.

Mr. Sheppard surrendered himself, and witnesses were examined in the Justice court, resulting in an honorable acquittal, the evidence given, was not sufficient to convict him of any crime, it being proven that the shooting was done in self defence; and, also, that Peterson was a very quarrelsome man.

T. D.

—Prof. Condon's lectures on Geology, judging from reports, are very interesting. The State is fortunate indeed in having such an able man live here to devote so much time to the subject for public good.

—Advices from London state that free passage is offered by the New Zealand line of steamers for as many laborers as wish to emigrate from England to that colony, in which there is said to be room for twenty thousand families. This is the surest way to secure immigrants.

Ox for Sale.—One stout, heavy built work Ox, eight years of age, gentle and well broken, weighing between 800 and 900 pounds, is offered for sale on application at John Douglass' ranch, Lewis and Clarke river. d27*1

EXCELLENT—Those Sugar Cured Hams, and that Fresh Roll Butter, Fresh Buckwheat, (this year's crop), Corn Meal, Cracked Wheat, Hominy, etc., at CASE'S. 12tf

School Books.—I have lately received all the different kinds of New School Books required to be used in this State, that can now be found in San Francisco. Also, Slate pencils, Blotting pads, a good assortment of Stationery, Drawing paper, CARD BOARD, Perforated board, Ink, (Carmine, Purple and Black). Likewise a new stock of Crockery, Clocks and a large assortment of Lamp Chimneys, all of which will be sold cheap for cash. I. W. CASE, Chenamus st., Astoria, o1tf

HINTS TO BERGHS.

Griswold, the "Fat Contributor," who is spending a few days in Erie, contributes to the columns of the Dispatch the following "Hints to Berghs:"

It seems to me your Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, although a good thing so far as it goes, stops short of what it might accomplish. I offer a few suggestions as to the enlargement of its sphere of usefulness:

Eight hours should be a day's work on a dog-churn, the dog to be allowed one day in the week to himself. Let every dog have his day.

Life-preservers for Newfoundland dogs, to guard against sudden cramps.

A fine for imposing bogus watches on watch-dogs. The watch-dog's honest bark has often been raised against the swindle.

Protection of ants from their nephews and nieces.

Cushioned toad-stools would be highly appreciated by toads after a "hop."

Punish boys who frightens the frogs and make them jump. Sudden shocks are sometimes fatal to a nervous organization.

Encourage trout to write poetry. I have seen some very beautiful trout lines ere now.

Rostrums in the ocean for the whales to "spout" from. This is a want long felt, and the whales pout about it.

Abolish mosquito bars. They make mosquitoes irregular about their meals.

Introduce the German language into our schools of fish.

Pocket handkerchiefs for crocodiles to wipe away their tears on.

A school in accounts for adders, who also multiply rapidly.

Encourage the cultivation of plum trees for the comfort of that fastidious epicure, the curculio, who can feed upon nothing else.

An inebriate asylum for "biled owls," and others who get drunk as—Badges for hawks, so we can tell one from a henshaw.

—Hon. Wm. Reid, American Vice Consul at Dundee Scotland, writes to the Oregonian as follows: I am satisfied that at the present day nine-tenth of the British people do not know where or what Oregon is, and, unfortunately, your Legislatures and people do not seem disposed to enlighten them. My attention was two and a half years ago drawn to a description of Oregon and Washington in the United States Statistical report. I was thoroughly astonished at the facts therein stated, and the advancement in railways, steamers and civilization which your coast was making. Sometime ago I apprised the owners of the City of Paris and Otago (which lately took away cargoes of wheat from your port,) of your wants in shipping, and at the present time I am endeavoring to get some ship-owners to promote a regular line of twelve clipper ships to trade regularly between Oregon and Glasgow-on-the-Clyde. What, however, disappoints me, is the apathy which the Legislatures of Oregon and Washington seem to have in not circulating information to these countries, not attending to immigration thereto, which all the Australian and New Zealand colonial governments are "up and doing," and have not only each a resident Commission on Emigration in this country, but actually give all agricultural and domestic servants free passage to their respective colonies, and thus draw all the emigration they can from this country. You possess a country with advantages not equaled by any British colony, and still you make no effort to tell the world so. Party politics, and not the development of your coast, seem the all-engrossing topics of your people, and your country, with all its vast resources, are (outside your State) almost unknown. Why is this? If your Legislature will not act, cannot the various Farmers' Granges, or the Commissioners in each county, meet together and adjust statistical and other information for publication and circulation, relating to each county? Can the Farmers' Granges not agitate for immigration by the State Government of British agricultural and domestic servants, which I see your country so much needs at present? Failing to have this accomplished, let them organize private associations for the importation of this class of labor. A well formed scheme of immigration,

either public or private, and the distribution in this country of the various samples of Oregon and Washington productions, with reliable information thereon, would make the north Pacific coast a popular field of emigration by the British people, to whom it is peculiarly suited in climate and resources. Your citizens know not the prize they possess in proudly saying, "We are a gold-paying State," and the value of that statement abroad. Let your Legislatures and people, then, hold fast to specie payments, and they will there by not only prevent internal financial disorders, but draw into them foreign capital for permanent investment on your shores. I propose making an extended tour through Oregon and Washington Territory next year. A Scotch gentleman of 16 years experience of emigration, and of the various British emigration fields, proposes accompanying me. If his report is satisfactory, he intends and has the ability to direct a large emigration to the North Pacific coast.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

—President Orton, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, disposes of Postmaster General Creswell's ideas of a Postal telegraph, in a genteel way, showing, by statistics, that so far from increasing telegraph facilities the Government control of telegraph must inevitably be more expensive than existing arrangements, and will thus either deteriorate service or cheapen it at a great loss, in which case the masses must be taxed to pay the expenses of telegraphic service for the small percentage of people that employ it.

—A railroad strike is up on the Pan Handle, because of the ten per cent reduction in wages on the first of December.

—Jay Cooke thinks the Pacific Division of the North Pacific Railroad, from Kalama to Tacoma, will be profitable and that the company will be able to carry the road and eventually complete it.

—The President has appointed Caleb Cushing Minister to Madrid. The nomination will be sent to the Senate immediately on reassembling. The resignation of Sickles, has been officially accepted.

—The growing conviction that the President will nominate Pierpoint if Williams is rejected is strengthening the latter and will secure his confirmation if, as his friends claim, he is exonerated from charges affecting his personal character.

—Estimates in the Postoffice Department have already been so much reduced that no further extension of railroad postal service can be made during the fiscal year.

—The Court at Havana, has condemned the *Virginias* as a lawful prize.

—As there is no absolute necessity for heavy appropriations for the improvement of harbors, rivers and fortifications under the Engineer's Bureau of the War Department, the estimates for such improvements, amounting to \$20,000,000, will probably be reduced to \$3,000,000.

—Scarlet fever prevails in all the Eastern cities, but in none is the disease as fatal as it was in San Francisco during the month of November. The were 20 fatal cases in Buffalo.

—Scarlatina continues abundant in San Francisco during the past week. Fifteen deaths are reported from this cause, making 70 deaths so far this month against 59 last month.

—Already we hear of the glowing prospects of the next years crops in Oregon. David Newsome, of Marion county, in a letter to the Bulletin, discourages the idea of devoting so much acreage to wheat, and favors a rotation in crops. He would have the soil preserved—a good idea. Summer fallowing and very deep sub-soil plowing will rest, cleanse and renew our fields. There are very profitable crops here besides wheat.