The Daily Morning Astorian.

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FOREIGN NEWS AND GOSSIP.

Russia has made propositions to Germany for a joint reduction of forces on the frontier.

It is said of Prince Bismarck that he eats at one meal enough for half a dozen persons in good health.

It is often forgotten that "the Mahdi" has been at his victorious sieges and massacres now for three years.

Fifty thousand persons attended the funeral of M. Rouher—the last, it may be said, of the true blue Bonapartists.

Ninety-six students were lately struck off the list of the University of Berlin because they had not even paid for one lecture.

London wine merchants are badly off, owing to the decrease in the consumption of all wines, except claret and champagne but the whisky trade flourishes.

Sir Henry Brand, who recently resigned the speakership of the British house of commons, has been elevated to the peerage, with the title of Lord Hampden. He claims to be a descendant of John Hampden.

One thing can be plainly read at least through the Lasker affair as settled, and that is, that when Bismarck dies, the American congress will not pass any memorial resolutions in his honor.—*Volksblatt.*

A strong movement is on foot in the Province of Galicia in favor of emigration to America. The magistracy of East Galicia have unanimously petitioned the governor of the province to proibit the sale of passenger tickets for American ports.

The slave trade flourishes in African lands nearer to England than the Soudan is. In Tangier last month, a Spanish newspaper states, a negress of seventeen was sold for $39; and of twenty-five for $42; another, middle aged, for $35; and a girl of eleven for $37.

Victor Hugo is said to have excused his appearance at the French academy on the occasion of Pailleron's reception in plain evening dress on the ground that his suit of uniform was worn out, and that at his time of life it would be foolish to order another.

A movement in England has for its object the abolition of the action for breach of promise. Such suits are alleged to have become so numerous that their influence is demoralizing, and the justice obtained by the action has become insignificant in comparison with its demoralizing results.

CABLEGRAMS.

It is said that Montenegro is making preparations for a campaign in Albania.

Parnell is actively promoting a company to further immigration from over populated districts in Ireland.

In Cairo, lately the French consul refused to serve a ministerial writ surpressing the *Bosphore*, an Egyptian newspaper.

The ambassadors of all the European powers have been instructed to compliment the Eblgish government upon Gen. Graham's victory.

Advices have been received of a great financial panic at Peking, in which many native merchants and bankers have failed. The populace of the country are greatly excited.

In deference to the memorial of Irish members of all shades of politics, the government will introduce into the house of commons a motion to amend the purchase clauses of the land act.

The *North German Gazette* (Bismarck's organ) condemns tho proposal of the secessionists to offer in the Reichstag a resolution thanking the United States house of representatives for its action on the death of Lasker.

The French authorities are aiding English detectives in their efforts to discover dynamite conspirators. The Fenians haye become alarmed at this, and are preparing to remove their headquarters from Paris to Geneva.

The French academy of science has declined to comply with Prime Minister Ferry's request to elect delegates to the coming Meridian congress at Washington, on the ground that the government should appoint them.

Insect Life in a Snowflake.

Some of the imaginative and wonderfully learned German scholars tell us that every snowflake is inhabited by happy little being who are born, hold their revels and live their long lives of happiness and delight, die and are buried, during the descent of the snowflake from the world of clouds to the solid land. I do not know whether to believe the scholars or not. They are of that same school which tells you that every square foot of air possesses some 12,000,000 or 15,000,000 of more or less perfect little beings, and that at every ordinary breath we destroy a million more or less of these happy lives. The sigh of a healthy lover is supposed to swallow up about 15,000,000. They insist that the dust which will as all know, accumulate in the most secure and secret places, is merely the remains of millions and billions of these little beings who have died of old age. All this, of course, is mere speculation. But I do know that the snow is, in some parts of the world, thickly inhabited. I have seen snow in Idaho black with little insects. They call them snow-fleas. They are lively as possible, and will darken your footprints, walk as fast as you may. They are found only on the high mountains, and only in very fresh and very deep snow. They, of course, do not annoy you in any way They are infinitely smaller than the ordinary flea, but exactly the same in locomotion.—*Joaquin Miller.*

Mr. John Lane, of Hyde Park, Cook county, Ill., aged sixty, states that after six months suffering with the gout and rheumatism without relief, he finally tried St. Jacobs Oil, the great pain-cure, and was cured.

A Tattooed Woman Gives Birth to a Frescoed Baby.

BALTIMORE, March 1.—Laura Lavarnie, one of the three tattooed women in America, and well known to museum frequenters, gave birth to a boy yesterday morning in this city. The child's skin bears the same marks, or tattoed figures, as the mother's. Not only are these figures reproduced identically on the child's epidermis, but they are in the same colors as the marks on the mother's body. The colors are blue and red. The father, whose name is Adolph Mareth, has lately been running a small museum, showing in the country towns of Maryland. He said yesterday that sometime ago he went to the husband of Dora Hildebrant to get him to tattoo his wife. Dora is the original tattooed woman and her husband refused to tattoo any woman who would prove an opposition to his wife. Moreth then set to work himself. He found it too great a job, and as he was traveling he engaged men in various places, commencing with Cincinnati, to tattoo his wife. It took several months to completely tattoo the woman, and during this time she was in a delicate condition.

Five weeks ago his wife was taken ill in Cumberland, Md., and since that time she has not been on exhibition. The child is healthy and weighs fifteen pounds. Dr. A. Trego Shortzer, a reputable and well known physician in this city, attended Laura Lavarnie, or Mrs. Moreth, during her confinement. The managers of a dime museum in this city have engaged the tattooed mother and child and will place both on exhibition in this city as soon as the mother is able to go out. The tattoo marks on both mother and child are of various designs, representing snakes, animals, flowers and symmetrical figures. Both are doing as well as could be expected.

She Knew What She Wanted.

"Oh, dear!" exclaimed Mrs. Blank, "you are always getting things wrong."

"What is the matter now?" asked Mr. Blank, spreading out on the floor a magnificent black fur rug which he had just purchased.

"Don't you see how long and straight that hair is?" asked Mrs. Blank.

"Certainly, that is its beauty."

"And it is black."

"Of course; black and glossy."

"But I told you to get a goat skin, with red, curly hair."

"I know," said Mr. Blank, "but I looked at the others and considered this much more handsomer."

"But think of the trouble we'll have at our meals," persisted Mrs. Blank.

"Trouble?"

"Yes; our cook has straight, black hair."

"Well."

"Whenever we find any in the food, she will blame it on the rug. That is why I wanted red."

First Death in the Cœur d'Alene Mines.

William Henry Allen was the first man to die at the new mines of the Cœur d'Alene. He was an old man, a Scottish Mason of the thirty-second degree, and much respected. He belonged to the Yerba Buena Lodge of Perfection, Cal., and was also a Knight Templar. He was born at Montpelier, Vt., 1825, and died at Eagle City, Idaho, 1884. At the time of his death he was carrying wood into his cabin, and was observed to fall. He was picked up, but life was found to be extinct. His death was caused by heart disease. He was buried with all honors and has the distinction of starting the graveyard at Eagle City.

Costa Rica.

"If I were a single man to-day," said James H. Hood, late resident engineer in the construction of the Ohio River railroad, running from Wheeling to Parkersburg, "I would pull up stakes and go to Costa Rica. There is no country like it for making money. Few Americans are there, the country is richness itself, the people honest and ignorant, and I know of no country where a fortune can be made so speedily."

ARAB EARNESTNESS.—Illustrative of the earnestness of the Arabs on the present Soudan uprising a London *Standard* correspondent with Baker Pasha relates the following: Yesterday morning a spy was discovered outside our camp, lying on the sand. Although only a boy of fifteen years, he fought desperately when surrounded, and wounded one man with his spear. He was himself bayoneted and is not expected to recover. His gallant behavior excited the admiration of the entire force. When asked if he wanted anything, he replied: "Let me spear one Egyptian before I die."

A wealthy young merchant of Augusta, Ga., has accepted sixteen challenges to fight duels from as many different young men. His physician has doubtless advised him to indulge in this harmless but invigorating southern recreation for the benefit of his health. It is less expensive, too, than taking a trip to the sunny clime of Italy, and quite as conducive to longevity as sawing a cord of hickory wood every morning before breakfast.

Mutso Hito I, Emperor of Japan, who is now thirty-two years old, is the 123d sovereign of that country. He has reigned since the death of his father in 1867. His is the only dynasty that has ruled in Japan, and began 660 B. C. There is no other monarch in the world who can boast so unbroken a descent from so ancient a stock.

The Massachusets legislature is thought to be more opposed to woman suffrage since the appearance of the last Boston census. From that interesting record it appears that Boston has 18,000 more women than men, and it is believed that Boston women have everything pretty much their own way already.

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