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A FREE FERRY.

We believe that the time has come when the Dalles should purchase the franchise of the ferry boat running between this city and Rockland and make it free. We understand the owners are willing to sell on very reasonable terms.

The Centerville Leader has been pleading for a free ferry for some time. From an able article published in its last week's issue we extract the following:

OUR BUSINESS MEN.

We have often thought that a very unreasonable prejudice exists in some quarters against the moneyed men in this city because they have not done more in the way of creating manufacturing and other industries for the development and progress of the community.

WISDOM JUSTIFIED.

The people of this city are to be congratulated on the harmony that was manifested in the election that took place last Monday when the tax-payers with practical unanimity voted the necessary funds for completing the water works.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We call the attention of any of our readers who may be interested in the forfeited railroad lands to a notice from acting land commissioner Stone and the register of the land office at this city.

\$1000 a month. By September it is hoped the works will be completed when an increased income will be certain to ensue; which may be safely placed at a yearly average of one thousand to twelve hundred dollars a month.

The gross expenses to be deducted from this amount do not at present exceed \$125 a month, and will not be increased when the works are completed.

The prevailing rates for water rent are on an average as low as they ever were, and lower than when the city was smaller, and there is not the slightest probability that they will ever be higher.

The net income from these rents for the current year cannot fall short of ten thousand dollars, while the interest on the bonds already issued is six thousand, leaving four thousand for the sinking fund.

The new water bill provides that any interest on the principal of the city debt can be loaned out on short time at not less than eight per cent. per annum.

It is safe to say that the profits thus secured will help considerably towards paying the interest on the bonds. There is at present in the hands of the city treasurer about \$20,000 to the credit of the water fund.

In addition to this the water fund, as is well known, has property in Gates' addition that is reasonably worth \$50,000, and this property cannot be diverted to any other use.

It was granted to the city by the United States government for water purposes only. Besides the city owes the water fund about \$17,000 principal and interest of money received from the sale of property belonging to the water fund but misappropriated to the use of the city;

so that the debt owed by the water fund will only be increased \$5,000, by the issuance of the new bonds. The remaining \$17,000 will be added to the debt of the city and credited into the water fund.

The total indebtedness of the water fund will therefore be \$108,000. The interest on this amount at six per cent is \$6,480 a year while the net income from water rents will still leave not far from \$4,000 a year, and perhaps more to go to the sinking fund.

FOR GOD AND HOME AND NATIVE LAND.

General Land Office, Washington, D. C., April 7, 1891. Register and Receiver, The Dalles, Or.

For God, and home and native land. The words are virtue's perfect band; Beneath this banner our hopes depend.

The largest temperance meeting ever held in San Francisco gathered in the Grand Opera House on the evening of the 6th. Ex-governor Geo. C. Perkins, chairman of the evening, who strongly endorsed the movement to diminish by law the awful work which thousands of saloons are doing in this city.

At the last, he threw aside his manuscript and for a short time talked most feelingly to his own people, of whom no doubt a large number were present, upon the woes and miseries of drunkenness.

We were glad to see and hear, for the first time, this man, the head of the Roman Catholic church in this coast. We were glad to know that at least another key, and very practical a bishop, one who holds opinions and views upon practical questions and deadly evils, which we most heartily endorse, is over that great church.

Judging by the numbers and utterances of this meeting, there is reason to hope that some control over the saloon power in this city may be obtained by our citizens. At present the saloons rule and ruin the city. We ought to rule and ultimately ruin the saloons. By united, wise, fearless, and successful efforts on the part of all good citizens, this can be done.

Do you suppose they would rent out that serpent at so much a year to crunch these folks according to law? It would be a lot easier for the folks that were crushed and swelled for them than to have their friends of the same, if they were killed by act of congress.

The London Lancet, a leading medical journal, gives the following facts about liquor driving the mad in England. It is appalling to find that the drink bill of 1890 amounts to \$139,496,470, an increase of \$7,282,163 over the sum of the previous year, all common sense and medical science notwithstanding.

It is said to be equal to one-twelfth of the estimated income of all persons, to one-fifth of the national debt, and to be eight times more than the income of all the Christian churches. It is not our business to moralize on this expenditure. To us it means so much scrofulosis, Bright's disease, gout, rheumatism, insanity, etc., disabling employment, taking the pleasure out of the life of families and bread out of the mouths of children.

The drink bill for last year is larger than for any year but that of 1878, when it was more than one hundred and forty-two millions of pounds.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

General Land Office, Washington, D. C., April 7, 1891. Register and Receiver, The Dalles, Or.

Blaine is Ready with His Reply to the Italian Government. WASHINGTON, April 15.—Secretary Blaine completed his reply to the last letter from the Italian government yesterday and sent a copy of it to Marquis Imperilli last night for transmission to Marquis D. Rudini.

A Dishonest Rich Man. A Chicago Lumber Dealer Charged with Bribery. CHICAGO, April 15.—S. R. Howells, head of the wealthy firm of Howells & Co., lumber dealers, with headquarters in this city and branches at Omaha and Atchison, Kas., was secretly arrested by the federal authorities and held in \$5,000 bail for his future appearance.

HUSTON'S SUCCESSOR. Nebraska Accepts the Position and Talks with the President at Long Range. WASHINGTON, April 15.—A letter from United States treasurer Huston resigning his position and the president's acceptance of the same, dated April 13th, was made public today.

DISHONEST RAILROADS. Flagrant Violation of Interstate Commercial Law Charged. CHICAGO, April 15.—It is reported that a flagrant violation of the interstate commerce law on the part of several roads has come to light through information furnished through discharged employees of the packing firm of Swift & Co.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 15.—When the presidential train reached here this morning fully 3,000 people assembled at the station, and a salute of twelve guns were fired. The station was decked with national colors and evergreens. The party took the electric cars, which were covered with flags and bunting and were soon landed at the incline at Ft. Look-out mountain.

Death of Secretary Halford's Wife. WASHINGTON, April 15.—Mrs. Halford, wife of the president's private secretary, E. W. Halford, died this morning. Mrs. Halford died of bronchitis from which combined with asthma, she had been a sufferer for many years. She was 42 years of age.

General Spino's Funeral. NEW YORK, April 16.—The funeral of General Spino took place this morning from the church of Immaculate Conception. A congressional delegation from the Washington G. A. R., and hundreds of politicians were in attendance.

Paris, April 15.—Dispatches from Chili state that a desperate battle, resulting in victory for the Chilean insurgents, occurred at Capiapo, the capital of the Province of Atacama.

Spokane Falls, April 13.—A Review special from Deep Creek Falls, this county, says: At 1:30 this morning the medicine building was entered by two masked men and the postoffice safe was broken open and ransacked.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Or., Feb. 2, 1891. Complaint having been entered at this office by William Bird against John Anderson for failure to comply with the law as to Timber Culture Act No. 2196, dated June 15, 1886, upon the N. E. 1/4 Section 14, Township 4 north, Range 15 east, in Wasco county, Oregon, with a view to the forfeiture of said entry, the said Anderson has been summoned to appear at the office of the Register and Receiver of the United States Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, on the 15th day of April, 1891, at 10 o'clock A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said entry.

U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Or., April 6, 1891. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim to the land described in section 14, Township 4 north, Range 15 east, in Wasco county, Oregon, with a view to the forfeiture of said entry, the said Anderson has been summoned to appear at the office of the Register and Receiver of the United States Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, on the 15th day of April, 1891, at 10 o'clock A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said entry.

U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Or., April 6, 1891. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the register and receiver of the United States Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, on May 25, 1891, viz: Edward C. Fitzpatrick.

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U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Or., March 16, 1891. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the register and receiver of the U. S. Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, on May 25, 1891, viz: Wm. S. Barnette.

U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Or., Feb. 2, 1891. Complaint having been entered at this office by William Bird against John Anderson for failure to comply with the law as to Timber Culture Act No. 2196, dated June 15, 1886, upon the N. E. 1/4 Section 14, Township 4 north, Range 15 east, in Wasco county, Oregon, with a view to the forfeiture of said entry, the said Anderson has been summoned to appear at the office of the Register and Receiver of the United States Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon, on the 15th day of April, 1891, at 10 o'clock A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said entry.

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