NEARING THE PEOPLE.

J. Proctor Knott Expresses his Views as a Private Citizen.

THINKS CLEVELAND IS OUT OF IT.

Wouldn't Feel Set Back Greatly if Watterson was Nominated.

MIGHT go FARTHER and FARE Worse.

Rockefeller's Thank Offering to Chicago Was needed, Perhaps, By the Lord.

CHICAGO, May 8.—Ex-Gov. J. Proctor Knott was at the Palmer house a few hours yesterday, where he stopped while on his way to Duluth. The present trip, he claimed, is one of purely private business. "I cannot say that I have lost all interest in politics or horses," said the ex-governor, in answer to some questions. "I assure you that I have no personal choice even as a private citizen for the presidency. All that I demand is that the candidate shall be honest, capable and a sound democrat. Now such men are not few in number. They may be hard to find because while there are thousands of them the majority are not before the public. Cleveland is said to be quite out of the race, I believe. I have no opinion to offer regarding Hill. I don't know him. My friend Watterson has been mentioned. He probably doesn't consider the matter seriously but I wouldn't feel greatly set back if he were nominated and elected. The party might go farther and fare a great deal worse. You have a good president right here in Illinois, in the person of A. E. Stevenson, ex-assistant postmaster-general. He meets all the requirements I have named. He is honest, capable and a sound democrat. I don't suppose the thought of such a thing ever entered his mind but I don't know but what when you find a capable man like that who hasn't thought of the office, it would be a good thing to scoop him in." Gov. Knott also expressed the liveliest interest in the Columbus fair and seemed especially pleased at the prospects of the Chicago university. "I presume Chicago people," he said, laughingly, "wouldn't mind seeing Rockefeller fall sick again and get well. I don't know but what the Lord needed that thank offering."

Boy Hanged For Murder.

CHEYENNE, May 11.—The boy who was convicted of murder was hanged yesterday. Much sympathy was expressed for him on account of his youthfulness, but he was mature enough to accomplish his murder with skill and secrecy, and hence the jury, wisely enough, decided that he was mature enough to hang for them. Human sentiment is undoubtedly shocked by the hanging of boys and women. But a person killed by a boy or woman is just as dead as a person killed by a man. Less flabby sentiment, and more common sense in dealing with murderers, would be beneficial to society.

Columbia River, Portland.

PORTLAND, May 11.—An order from Washington to the commander of the cruiser Baltimore, now at Astoria, rather knocks the Portland-on-Wallamet into pie. It is that the Baltimore "proceed up the Columbia river as far as Portland." This would land the vessel opposite Vancouver, and as there is a bar of sand above the mouth of the Willamette, it may take a bale of red tape to straighten out the entanglement. Peo- begin to be anxious to know when, if at all, the Baltimore is to come up to this city.

Blind Old Back Numbers.

DETROIT, May 11.—Canada is still trying to keep up the everlasting fisheries war with the United States. England herself takes no interest in the controversy, and heartily wishes the matter was off her hands. Canada seems to be goverened by a set of blind old back numbers, who cannot see that the interests of the United States and Canada are largely identical.

Sugar Duties in Cuba.

HAVANA, May 11.—A committee composed of the representatives of all the economic corporations of the island wired the Spanish cortes a message petitioning that the duties on sugar and alcohol is Cuba be the same as those in force in Spain.

Nine Days on a Reef.

LONDON, May 11.—The French steamer Loire Imferieure, trading in the South Pacific, has been towed to Thursday island, disabled. She was ashore nine days on Cook's reef. She jettisoned 300 tons of cargo.

Received Royal Assent.

OTTAWA, Ontario, May 11.—Among the bills which received royal assent in the senate were the acts to establish reciprocity in wrecking between the United States and Canadian vessels, and to renew the modus vivendi.

THE PICNIC AT MOSIER.

An Extra Fine Day Enjoyed in an Extra Fine Way.

From the Daily Chronicle, Monday.

The number is largely increasing in America who find picnic amusements in the parks, and suburban vllas of large commercial centers, a suitable method of rest, and that this system is spreading to Oregon in the average ratio, one has but to notice the parks and suburbs of Portland, Astoria, Salem and The Dalles, on the fine sunny Sundays of spring. Yesterday, the fast and reliable steamer Regulator, Capt. John McNulty, of The Dalles, Portland and Astoria Navigation company, made two round trips between this city and Mosier Park, thirteen miles, carrying the Gesang Verein Harmonie, and about 400 invited friends on a picnic to the matchless groves, green, grassy fields, and rippling mountain streams, for a musicale of remarkable excellence in the open air, interspersed with music of The Dalles brass band, and numerous innocent games and athletic sports. Lively scenes followed in quick succession, and the programme, which was long, varied, and of fine character, was carried out to the letter, without one unpleasant incident to mar the happy day. In the foot-races, sack-races, pole climbing, etc., etc., many valuable prizes had been offered, which stimultated a good natured rivalry among the participants, young and old, and many were the practical jokes perpetrated and enjoyed, each individual being actually entertained in his or her efforts to make the event interesting to some one else, and where everybody did so well it would seem invidious on the part of the reporter to make any special allusions. "Once in several generations" says a noted writer, "society is startled by actually being entertained at one of its entertainments." Such was surely the case yesterday. Refreshments were furnished in abundance, of all kinds, and the true hospitality of all is illustrated in the case of the writer, who was so pressingly invited that refusal was impossible, and in company with five other gentlemen, joined Mr. and and Mrs. H. C. Nielsen in a bountiful meal nicely spread on the grass, in the park, under the pine trees, surrounded by at least fifty similar camps, all doing justice to the repast in hearty and social converse. The greased pig, and the men who caught it, seemed to be the only living thing on the grounds that was tired, and at 6 o'clock the last boat left for home enlivened with music and song until the whistle sounded for the wharf at the foot of Union street, where the happy throng was greeted by nearly as many people who had remained "at home" for the day, and thus ended the long to be remembered Harmonie picnic.

MOSIER PARK.

A Liberal Proposition From the Pioneer Owner.

Yesterday, as J. H. Mosier looked over the active scenes at his park, the old gentleman seemed to realize that it was a blessing to the children, and to many of the older ones, particularly tired mothers and fathers, to be able to so congregate in a healthful locality and recuperate their energies for continuance of the duties allotted to them with the recurrence of labor day, and thinking over the matter, he made a proposition to a representative of THE CHRONICLE, that if any reliable company would incorporate, under the laws of Oregon, and assume the responsibility, he would donate a considerable tract for the purposes of a public park, and a permanent pavilion, hotel, etc., could be erected and make of it as fine an outing resort for The Dalles, Walla Walla, Portland, and intermediate points, as can be found on the coast. THE CHRONICLE would suggest, that in case no other corporation should assume the responsibility, this being the natural home of the horse, and our people being more or less interested in fine roadsters, a gentleman's driving club could be profitably incorporated, with a capital of $10,000 to $15,000, and by judiciously expending the money, make a drive and park combined that would eclipse anything of the kind on this continent. The subject is worthy of consideration.

Mount Hood Takes a Smoke.

All day Tuesday a steady column of smoke and steam ascended from Mt. Hood. Parties living only twelve miles from the mountain tell us the column was as plainly marked at times as the smoke from a chimney. It is possible the recent disturbances in California have reached the underpinning of the old volcano and stirred it up to the grumbling point. At any rate, dozens of people living in the valley noticed the steady all day smoke, and as our informant was almost at the base of the mountain, it is not probable he was mistaken.—*Glacier.*

Public Speaking.

The republican candidate for congress, Hon. W. R. Ellis, will speak at the following points:

Hood River, Tuesday, May 17th, 7:30 p. m.
Moro, Wednesday, May 18th, 1:30 p. m.
Wasco " " " 7:30 "
Dufur, Thurday, May 19th, 1:30 p. m.
The Dalles, Thursday, May 19th, 7:30 p. m. 5-12-dtf.

THE GREAT WASHOUT.

No Truth in the Report of the Morganza Levee Breaking.

THE MISSOURI CUTS A NEW ROUTE.

Stock Drowned Before the Eyes of Its Helpless Owners.

WEST DUBUQUE, IOWA, SINKING.

Stationary at Keokuk,---Worst Over at Lincoln---Water Famine in Missouri---Etc.

NEW ORLEANS, May 10.—So far no confirmation has been received of the break in the Morganza levee, reported late last night. Nothing in regard to it has been received at the state engineer's office. Private advices to the Texas and Pacific road say there is no truth in the report and the story is not credited. This levee is the strongest on the river and protects the most valuable property. A break there would entail a loss of $5,000,000.

Cutting a New Channel.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 10.—Railroad traffic is almost suspended on some of the lines into this city. There have been no trains in or out on the Santa Fe or Wabash since Saturday. No farm work is being done in this vicinity. The Missouri river cut through the revetment above this city and threatens to leave the town high and dry a mile and a half away from the channel.

Great Loss of Stock.

LOUISIANA, Mo., May 10.—The river here is only five inches below the record mark of 1888, when the Mississippi river levee broke, causing a loss of over $1,000,000 to the farmers on the Illinois side. Stock on this side of the river is in a perilous situation. In some places stock is being drowned before the eyes of the helpless owners. One man lost 250 hogs and fifty cattle.

Subterranean Lake Caves In.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 10.—The site of the old Foekler brewery, in West Dubuque, Ia., began sinking tonight, and land in that vicinity continues to sink. Nearly an acre of ground has dropped into a subterranean lake which covers a vast body of minerals.

The Mississippi at Keokuk.

KEOKUK, May 10.—The Mississippi river is stationary at fourteen and one-half feet above low-water mark tonight. The Des Moines river is rising again. It is storming, and dwellers on the lowlands are again fearful.

The Worst is Over.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 10.—The flood has reached its height and it is believed the worst is over. Every railroad track leading into the city is more or less under water, but trains are generally on time.

High River and Water Famine.

CHILLICOTHE, Mo., May 10.—The waters of Grand river continue to rise. Another foot will cut off the city's water supply.

Queen Victoria Annoyed.

NEW YORK, May 10.—A special from London says: "I hear the non-arrival of Emperor William at Darmstadt caused much annoyance to the royal party there, and that the queen and the Empress Frederick were particularly vexed. It seems that the emperor decided that it would be inconsistent with his dignity if he went just now to Darmstadt without a state reception and an elaborate military function."

Will Come up to Portland.

It is now an assured fact says the *Astorian*, that the Charleston and Baltimore will go to Portland. The water ballast on the latter vessel was pumped out today and this, together with the fact that the coal and all the ammunition was moved to the forward part of the magificent vessel on Friday and Saturday has lightered her so much aft that now she lies on an even keel and draws aft but nineteen feet and six inches. This information was gleaned from what is believed to be a trustworthy source, and is reliable. It was learned last night that the Baltimore when fully loaded with coal and ammunition draws twenty-seven feet. "If these splendid vessels make the trip successfully and without the annoying delays some of the grain fleet experience, it will speak well for the great river whose discovery they are here to celebrate." When the date is definitely fixed, 200 passengers can go down to Portland from The Dalles, and return, for $2.00 the round trip, by steamer Regulator. See advertisement.

Rockey P. Earhart Dead.

Collector of customs R. P. Earhart died of Bright's disease at his home in Portland at 12:45 o'clock this morning. He has been ill for some time and his death was not unexpected.

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCES.

Has the Columbia River Yet Been Discovered?

From the Daily Chronicle, Wednesday.

This being the year of centennial observances in this part of the continent, leads us to remark: what might have been the result, had Columbus discovered this side of the continent first? It has been claimed that the Chinese did discover this portion of the continent, thousands of years ago, but no great discovery, no great invention, no great philosophy or religion was ever announced, to which the Chinese did not promptly arise and declare that they discovered the same thing thousands of years ago. Indeed the Chinese did so many things so many thousands of years ago that they got thoroughly tired out in the early infancy of time, and have done nothing since, and if it were a fact that they did discover the Columbia thousands of years ago, the period of their slowness has no comparison except that of the United states officials put in charge of constructing locks at the cascades of the Columbia. However, according to Hermann, we now hope to celebrate the completion of that work within two years. This will lead up to other discoveries so important that men can be found both in and out of congress who will freely assert that the Columbia river had not, in any comprehensive sense, been discovered May 11th, 1792, on the same principle that in 1506, when Columbus died, America had not been discovered. In 1592, one hundred years after the alleged discovery, America was almost as uninhabited by white men as is the store of a man who does not believe in advertising. Cortez had marched through Mexico. But he and his men were so blind that they couldn't see anything but yellow gold, and though they devastated Mexico *they never discovered it*, and never found anything but gold which they stole, and thousands of so-called savages, more civilized than themselves whom they murdered. Pizarro marched through Peru much as a whirlwind would march through a sheepfold. But he was not a discoverer; he was simply an accomplished murderer. One hundred years later, in 1692, things were not much better. The impression had come to preval that there was quite a strip of country over here, but nobody knew much about it. There were straggling settlements along the Atlantic coast, most of them built within sound of the sea, but the great interior of the country was unknown; its tremendous extent was not suspected, and its inexhaustible resources were not even guessed at. In 1792, it is unnecessary to say that America was still undiscovered, for that date was thirty years before the incorporation of a city. Of course America was not then discovered. To be sure George Washington ruled over a group of young states, strewed like a string of beaded sea-shells along the coast. But George Washington, though he was a good man, knew but very little about America. So it is with the lordly and majestic Columbia river. There are a few vain people who fancy that the Columbia has, at last, in 1892, been found. But this is a gigantic delusion. There are a few settled along its borders, to be sure, but the country still consists mainly of intervals. It has only a few centers of population, with big spaces between. Its entire population is but 200 or 300, while it is capable of easily holding and providing for millions without crowding. Very much indeed, of this country has made no progress since May 11th, 1792. Its abundant resources are like those of a continent surmised but not disclosed. There is an immense field still left for future discoveries, for the area of possibilities in this Pacific Northwest is limitless. When The Dalles is discovered, in about two years from today, it will take a large army of discoverers to exhaust the opportunity of finding the dormant resources which are lying around loose just waiting for somebody to come along and pick them up and go into business.

Church Notices.

German services will be held next Sunday at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. A cordial welcome to everybody is given by the pastor, Rev. A. Horn.

Rev. W. Kropp of Ritsville, Wash., will preach tonight at the German Lutheran chapel on Ninth street, at 7:45 o'clock. Mr. Kropp is on his way home from attending the German Lutheran convention held at Portland, May 5th.

Religious services will be held at the Court house every evening this week, at 8 o'clock, by Elder J. T. Eshelman. Other speakers, including Elder Jenkins, will be present. All are cordially invited.

We are informed that Dr. Aug. C. Kinney is having more surveys made at the cascade rapids to get all the information necessary to a thorough understanding of the problem there. The doctor proposes that the tops of a few rocks there shall be removed, and asserts that with that done boats will be able to navigate those rapids during ordinary high water, say three months of the year.

In San Francisco, yesterday, wheat was selling at $1 47½@1 50 per cental for good to choice shipping grades; milling wheat, $1 52½@1 55 per cental.

THE GENERAL OPINION.

The Astoria Celebration, as a Leading Idea a Success.

OF THE FORTUNATE ONES PIONEERS

Speakers Relate Their Varied Experiences Before and After Jay Gould.

FORCING THE UNITS INTO A WHOLE

F. X. Mathieu of French Prairie the Oldest one Amongst the Pioneers. Other News.

ASTORIA, May 11.—The opening day of the Columbia river centennial celebration, on the whole passed off very pleasantly, and it is the general opinion that it was a success. The accommodations are entirely inadequate for the number of visitors and much dissatisfaction was expressed by those who were not fortunate enough to secure a place to stay. To add to their discomfort, many arrived in a cold, drizzling rain, and had to wander up and down the city in search of lodgings. The members of the Pioneer Association suffered the most, as they are old men and women, who are unable to put up with the hardships and inconveniences which younger people would not mind. Most of them spent the first night sitting on the chairs and camp stools of the steamer. To occupy their time and to make the best of their miserable situation and experience, a meeting was called at 1, which lasted two hours. The meeting was presided over by John W. Cochran, and some excellent addresses were made by the pioneers from different parts of the state. The speakers related their varied experiences and eulogized the memory of those who are no longer among the living. The programme arranged for the first day was not fully carried out on account of the confusion and disorganized state of affairs. What was done during the day has already been stated. In the evening a grand musicale was given at Ross' opera house under the direction of J. B. Wyatt. The entertainment was given by the local talent of Astoria, assisted by the Marine band of Portland. The fine banquet and the enjoyments of the day put every one in good humor, and the troubles of the first night were speedily forgotten. A number of prominent citizens of The Dalles and other cities are present, and doing their share toward making the celebration a complete success. F. X. Mathieu, of French Prairie, who came here in 1842, is said to be the oldest pioneer in attendance. The government cruisers Baltimore and Charleston continue to be the chief features of interest, and all are anxious to see the warships which have attracted so much attention. Capt. Whitehead, of the Baltimore, when asked in reference to his ship visiting Portland, could not give any decided answer. But later advices state that official orders have been given to have the vessels make the trip.

Not an Off Hand Affair.

BOSTON, May 12.—It is well to bear in mind, in making any forecast of the nomination at Chicago next June that the choice is not likely to be made by an off-hand count of noses. There will be many a confidential conference among the sagacious leaders from the different states before the balloting begins. Delegates will be weighed as well as counted, and the counsels of those who come from democratic states and from states that can be made democratic will weigh much more than the counsels of those who hail from states that are hopelessly republican. Preferences and prejudices will all have to yield at last to the superior consideration of success. The question is not, Whom can we nominate, but, whom can we elect.

General Gresser Worse.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 11.—The illness of General Gresser, prefect of police, who is suffering from blood poisoning arising from the use of an unclean syringe in administering an injection, is increasing. Mortification in the legs is spreading, and he is delirious. There are crowds of anxious inquirers surrounding his home. Seven doctors are attending the patient.

Portland Live Stock Market.

PORTLAND, May 12.—The following prices of live stock in this market are furnished by A. Fargher & Co.: Cal. steers, average 1,150 to 1,250 lbs., $4.00 @ $4.15; Grass fed steers, average 1,000 to 1,200 lbs., $3.75 @ $4.00; Grass fed cows, average 900 to 1,100 lbs., $3.00 @ $3.80; Hogs, block, average 125 to 200 lbs. $6.00@6.25; Stock, average 80 to 125 lbs., $5.75 @ 6.00; Grass fed sheep, average 80 to 95 lbs., $4.75 @ 4.90; ditto average 100 to 110 lbs. $5.00 @ $5.10; Grass fed sheep, Eastern Oregon, average 95 to 110 lbs., $5.00 @ $5.10. The market is strong, or good stock.

First-class job work can be had at the CHRONICLE job office on short notice and at reasonable prices.

AWAY UP THE COLUMBIA.

This Mighty Highway of Commerce Pictured.

It is very opportune that the final action of congress upon the matter of opening the Columbia, so far at least as the cascades is concerned, comes at a time when the attention of all the world is turned to this mighty artery of commerce in the imposing ceremony of celebrating the one-hundreth anniversary of the discovery of the Columbia river by Captain Gray, May 11, 1792. While there are assembled in Astoria today thousands of people to celebrate the event, including hundreds of pioneers, some of whom have anxiously awaited the time for thirty years or more, when congress would do so much as was done last Tuesday through the final efforts of HON. BINGER HERMANN, the people of The Dalles, and this vast Inland Empire, send greetings. From far up toward the sources of the Columbia, illustrations will be exhibited by transparencies at Astoria tonight, selections from one hundred and forty photographs, giving visitors a good idea of the grand and picturesque scenery at little dalles, Kettle falls, Priest rapids, Rock island, and other points on the upper Columbia from the boundary line of British Columbia. The whole collection will be sent to Chicago for similar exhibitions at the Columbus fair. The stretch of this grand river, along which these views have been taken, is yet almost an unbroken wilderness, as primitive as the scenes about Astoria a hundred years ago, yet there are fearless pioneers occasionally to be found far inland, whose pluck and enterprise in attempts to develop the bountiful resources to be found there, commends itself to the public. One of these is the Ellensburg and Okanogan Transportation company, whose card we have through favor of Mr. Linus Hubbard, and from which we glean the information that by this river route:

A saving of 350 miles is affected to the Okanogan mines.

One hundred and fifty miles of dusty staging is saved.

The most magnificent scenery in the Northwest.

Nearest and most direct route to the great Lake Chelan summer resorts.

The finest hunting and fishing in the world, etc.

Writing to Mr. Hubbard, thanking him for his thoughtful remembrance of the E. and O. T. Co., in sending them one of his whaleback souvenirs, the manager says:

ELLENSBURG, May 9.—In reply will say that we are doing all we can to aid in getting appropriations for the upper Columbia. I saw a letter from Senator Allen recently, saying that he was going to introduce a bill and ask for an appropriation of $10,000 for a new survey of the upper Columbia river. I have examined the bad places on the river, and I am satisfied that if the money that is appropriated, was expended in the right way it would not take a very large amount above Priest rapids to make the river navigable to the mouth of the Okanogan river, a distance of about 150 miles above Priest rapids. I hope to see this work let by contract, as it is by far the cheapest and quickest way to have it done. Our boat is making regular trips and doing a good business. In fact more than we anticipated at first.

It is pitiful, in this city full, to see the people who love Saddle Rock oysters from experience in eating them, as they come around to THE CHRONICLE show-window and weep over the shells here to be seen. As one said last evening: "I love The Dalles, but I'd rather stay where I can get Saddle Rocks every day." The sight of those shells carry the mind of the writer back to Havelys, and—well, rather makes the mouth water for more than a sight such as this. "Shades of Schafer, Fulton market, New York, the oyster room never to be forgotten," says another.

In the San Francisco wool markets business has been good for the past week, and representative dealers have had a liberal share of trade. At the moment, there is no supply of really good free stock, as both shippers and scourers take such wool as fast as offered. The bulk of the bright foothill and good San Joaquin arrivals have been sold and there is a continued demand at ruling prices. The only styles of wools that have not moved freely are defective and poor descriptions, both short staple and year's fleece. All other wools go off quickly. Report sales foot up nearly 400,000 pounds at from 10 to 16 cents per pound.

There will be another brisk shower of old chestnuts fired at Hermann during the coming campaign. Every old swamp-land swiper, every onion-eyed, red-nosed and howling old political sorehead in his congressional district will tell again and again what Hermann didn't do, and promised to do, and might, could, would or should have done. And yet Hermann, the people's champion, will be re-elected by a overwhelming majority. He will also sit above them like Democritus, turning harmless jokes on the follies and sorrows, the feeble struggles and the evanescent chestnuts of the simple old soreheads. Such is political life! Now we represent the esthetic and more beautiful spirit of politics and talk decently about decent folks, and again, we stand not with the angels, but with the apple woman, and fire unclean missiles through the ambient air.