

GERRYMANDER CRAZE.

Very Popular Style This Year for Preserving Districts.

NEW YORK, MISSOURI AND OHIO.

A Refined System of Political Theft on Both Party Sides.

SOMETHING JERRY MIGHT ADMIRE

Dashing and Defiant Raids Upon the Electors Privileges in Certain States.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The gerrymander was never apparently more popular than it is this year. In Missouri the democrats applied it to the reapportionment of the state into congressional districts with a sweet disregard for decency and common fairness. A few weeks later the republicans of Ohio followed the Missouri example and provided for the ruthless disfranchisement of democrats. Although the latter in the coming election are reasonably certain to poll about half of the total vote they will probably elect less than a third of the congressional delegation from that state. The republicans, polling substantially the other half of the total vote, will get the rest. New York then fell a victim to this refined system of political theft. Her democratic legislature mapped out a plan of electoral brigandage which the late Mr. Gerry, were he alive to see it, would be compelled to admire the advancement of his idea. It comprehends a dashing and defiant raid on republican rights, and will enrich the democratic road agents with the spoil of half a dozen seats in congress that in justice belong to the other party. This plan may differ in detail from the accomplished work of the Missouri and Ohio artists in political spoliation, but in principle it is the same. It is thoroughly bad and intolerably offensive to the spirit of our institutions. Yet it passes practically unchallenged, save by those whom it proposes to despoil, and their voice is raised against the injury rather than against the vicious system. But the gerrymander must go. Its continuance is a menace to popular government and a standing invitation to revolution. It nullifies the citizen's franchise and stifles his voice in public affairs. It encourages political trusts and strengthens the hands of the boss and his liegers.

Use of Search Lights.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—One of the most effective means of protecting a ship in these days of torpedoes, is the grouping together of a number of stationary search lights, each illuminating its own section so that the ship is surrounded by an unbroken circle of light. It is to be adopted in the new American warships. This has been suggested by a very pronounced defect in the usual search light practice. In order to afford sufficient time for a careful examination of the water's surface at points removed from the ship, the beam of light must be revolved very slowly, and hence during a great portion of the time any particular section of the water is left in darkness. As it takes only five minutes for a torpedo boat to run a distance of two miles, it will be seen that the conditions are all in favor of the attacking force. Before the revolution of the search light is completed there is plenty of time for the torpedo boat to run up and discharge her deadly weapons.

Apparently Unrelated Phenomena.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Now that Bolivia is on the eve of a revolution, savants think it might be worth while for some of our scientific people to conduct a series of observations in South American revolutions. Chile, Brazil (2), Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, with Peru, Argentine, Uruguay and Patagonia yet to hear from. Simultaneously with these disturbances came an exceedingly large sun spot, an eight tailed comet, the occultation of Jupiter, ditto of Venus, and the reappearance of that plumed political comet, J. G. B., whose orbit and motions generally are so uncertain. It is possible that some connection may be discovered to exist between one or more of these apparently unrelated phenomena.

Death of Mrs. Hodgkin.

Salem Journal. The announcement of the death of Mrs. Hodgkin, wife Hon. Frank E. Hodgkin, assistant state treasurer, which occurred in this city on Tuesday, will be received with profound sorrow by many friends who learned to appreciate her excellent qualities of head and heart during the residence in Portland. Mrs. Hodgkin was a native of Oregon, born on the fifth of July, 1852, in the beautiful Waldo hills, near Salem. She was a daughter of Hon. Rice Dunbar, one of the best known of the early pioneers of Oregon, and a sister of Judge W. R. Dunbar, of Goldendale, and of Hon. B. O. Dunbar, associate justice of the supreme court of Washington.

Free Ballot and Fair Count.

The late election has demonstrated that the Australian ballot system cannot always secure a free ballot or a fair count, even in the city in The Dalles. As a proof of this statement, it is only necessary to refer to the case of Trevitt precinct in this city, where a free-born American citizen cast a legal ballot, and the Board of Elections refused to count said ballot.

It is asserted by the members of said board that the ballot was illegal because the printed names were erased and the elector filled the blank spaces. If the board will examine section 49 of the election law, it provides that the elector shall have the privilege, and hence ignorance or positive refusal to permit any ballot that is not in harmony with their own preconceived views, to have any force must have ruled in the decision. But ignorance of the law does not excuse the most illiterate, much less should it excuse those who had been appointed to this work for several months and made no preparation thereof.

Such boards of election that fail to prepare for their duties should be deprived of their pay for such service and since they are appointed to serve for two years, they should be impeached or asked to resign.

Now as to the "free ballot." It seems that unless a man votes just what the old parties of this county dictate, then every means is put forth to injure him in his business or profession. This is ballot box stuffing with a vengeance. Is this true of our city? What are the evidences? Your scribe did not vote the straight republican ticket and as a result, every nook and corner is searched and the people informed that "he is a hypocrite for he voted the whisky ticket straight," when the fact is that the ballot was so straight against the whisky traffic that it was suppressed in the count. Again, the same parties represent that your scribe voted against the only religious parties on both tickets, but the facts are these: "That ballot contained the names of twelve religious persons and not one of my opposers can say that they voted for more than three."

Then what does it all mean? Simply this. You can vote and have it counted so long as you vote what the ring dictates but the independent vote is a disturbing element in politics and must be suppressed in the count and slaughtered in business life. But as a free American citizen, I propose that my rights as a suffragist shall be recognized, and if it is already settled that voting the old party ticket or banishment from the city is a requisite, I prefer banishment. If not, then I demand that my ballot at the last election be accorded the same privilege and treatment that was accorded to those who voted the old party tickets. On this demand I stand or fall with the people of The Dalles. What shall the answer be? A. C. SPENCER.

Telegraphic Flashes.

Losses by the Havana floods this week aggregate \$500,000.

At Silver city, Idaho, yesterday during an electrical storm the home of William H. Derry was struck by lightning. Mrs. Derry and two others were seriously injured by the bolt.

A crevasse occurred in the bank of the Mississippi above St. James parish Monday. A large force is at work trying to stop the breaks.

The river Danube is on a rise. The town of Raab, sixty miles northwest of Buda Pesth is isolated from the surrounding country by the flood.

Terrific thunder storms prevailed in many parts of Spain on Sunday. At Burgos the famous old cathedral founded in 1221 was seriously injured. At Mucientes a church filled with worshippers was struck; five being killed and ten hurt. At Melias there was a similar occurrence, and one was killed and twenty-eight hurt seriously.

Carnegie's men at the homestead steel works, 3,000 strong, have until the 24th instant to decide whether or not they will accept a scale of wages which they claim will reduce their earning capacity from ten to 40 per cent. They have not formally rejected the new scale, but no person expects them to accept it, hence one of the most bitter contests between labor and capital in recent years is expected to begin.

It is reported that George V. Massey, of Delaware, who so strongly advocated the interests of President Harrison at Minneapolis has been officially notified that he will receive the judgeship on the supreme bench made vacant by the death of Justice Bradley.

Early Monday morning Acampo, Cal., was visited by the severest thunder storm in its history. Lightning struck a barn badly damaging it and killing two pigs. Considerable rain fell during the storm.

No New Planks—But.

Astorian. There are no new planks in the republican platform, for the reason that no new issues have been evolved by congress or any other agency. It is a clear, straightforward declaration. Astoria will approve cordially the plank, which says, "we favor the extension of our foreign commerce, the restoration of our mercantile marine by home built ships and the creation of a navy for the protection of our national interests and the honor of our flag."

WAR ON THE CHINESE.

Gothamites Against the Celestials as Never Before.

LEAD BY THE WOMENS' LEAGUE.

A Cyclone of Public Hatred to Drive John out of Town.

PROMINENT CHURCH PEOPLE IN IT.

The City to be Districted and Worked for all There is in it, as Vigilance Committees.

CHICAGO, June 13.—New York city has set a precedent to combat the vices of the Chinese criminal element, which must sooner or later be considered elsewhere. This crusade has been started by labor organizations, and it is their purpose to arouse against the Mongolian such a cyclone of public hatred as will drive him from the town. At the bottom of the movement is the well-known leader of the Women's National League, and it is she who has brought the matter before the Central labor union, and that organization has enlisted as coadjutors many prominent church people and men and women who take to themselves the duty of reforming the wicked of Gotham. All these elements of reform are consolidated under the New York anti-Chinese League. The city will be divided into inspection districts corresponding to assembly districts, and to each there will be assigned three inspectors, to be known as a vigilance committee. It is to be the duty of each committee to watch the Chinese in its respective district, and ascertain to what extent they are corrupting youth, and to ferret out the opium joints, and learn where opium is being vended. They are to report each week to the executive committee of the league, who will reduce the information to legal form, and prepare affidavits setting forth specific charges against the Chinese. It is intended to keep up this work for three months, at the end of which time proper steps will be taken to bring the matter before the local authorities.

Letting Oregon Down Easy.

CHICAGO, June 13.—According to an order issued from Director Davis, Saturday was the limit of time for state commissions to accept sites and present plans for their state worlds fair buildings. In some cases the recent organization of the commission has rendered impossible a literal compliance with the order, but up to the close of business at 5 o'clock thirty-four states were in line. One-half of the states beginning with the letter O, (Ohio) is included in the list. California and Washington, of the Pacific coast states, are also included. Idaho is ready to go ahead with work on its state headquarters as soon as some little objection to the site assigned can be remedied. Altogether the showing is taken to indicate wide-spread interest in the state branch of exposition work.

Sound American Policy.

Astorian. The folly of Cleveland and his adherents on the Times and evening Post in trying to fight the McKinley tariff here, when it has just won so splendid a triumph over the official free traders of England is simply political madness. Lord Salisbury's speech, when it is fully understood by the American people, will kill Cleveland's chances as effectually as his free trade message did four years ago. It has been the fixed policy of the United States, ever since the revolutionary war, that what is good for England must be bad for this republic and what is bad for England must be to our advantage. The McKinley tariff has injured England as greatly as it has benefited us. Therefore it is sound American policy.

Increase in Circulation.

A considerable net increase, amounting to over \$6,000,000, is shown in the volume of circulation for the month just elapsed. According to the treasury's monthly statement, the total circulation on June 1 amounted to \$1,620,010,229, an increase of over \$1,115,000,000 for the year. There has been decreases under the heads of United States notes, national bank notes, standard silver dollars and subsidiary silver, and increases in the items of treasury silver notes, gold certificates and currency certificates. The per capita circulation is estimated by the treasury's accountants at \$24.77, which represents a slight increase for the month, a little in excess of the increase noted a month ago for the month of April.

The next Oregon state legislature will stand: Senate—Republicans 18, Democrats 12; House—Republicans 36; Democrats 24.

The Minneapolis convention has demonstrated that lung power cannot nominate presidents.

GREAT WATER CRAFT.

Confidence Being Restored in Favor of Water Transportation.

For many years, because of the powerful combination of the railways against water craft of any kind, steamboats in most portions of America have actually become a curiosity. Anybody who has ever taken the least trouble to inquire, could not help but be satisfied that, as against water transportation, railways are not in it. But the railways have succeeded, in almost every instance, in driving traffic off wherever they came in conflict with water transportation. This has been the case on our own noble Columbia, one of the finest water routes in the known world, but an open river is soon to come, now; and thence and forever the scenes of life and activity will bring to mind the forlorn hope of the past, and the joyous development of a country superior in any respect to any similar scope of country on the face of the globe. Yesterdays' dispatches referred to the launch of a lake steamer at Chicago which is to carry 3,000 tons of wheat. The Buffalo Courier speaks of two transports, to be employed across lake Michigan from Kewanee to Ludington, to carry twenty-eight loaded freight cars each trip, 50 miles, two trips a day each, which means that their daily traffic shall amount to 112 cars of freight. From Ludington the freight trains will be taken by the Flint and Pere Marquette line to Detroit or Toledo, whence their cargoes will be carried by lake to the Lackawanna, in Buffalo.

"It is a bold idea," says the Railway Age, "but it is practical, and if it proves anything, proves that the railways, instead of bankrupting themselves to bankrupt and drive off water transportation, must avail themselves of such facilities in order to succeed, and wherever a railway parallels a route available for water transportation to any considerable degree, the water route must be utilized in preference to the 'all rail' route." This suits the Columbia river exactly, from The Dalles to Astoria. Lake Michigan is a treacherous water, and considerable risk will be involved in ferrying across it, especially in winter when ice abounds, none of which objections apply to the Columbia river route. The peoples' boats, the Dalles City and Regulator, have made great inroads during the short time they have been running to show where the difference comes in between mutual benefit home corporations, and a grinding monopoly, concerning which the Kliekikat Leader truthfully says:

"By the temporary tie up of the Regulator those that have to ship to or from Portland find that they have to dig deeper down in their pockets than they care about. The farmers will want their wheat shipped this fall. No one can deny but that through the reduced rates of the Regulator last fall they received an unprecedented high price for wheat, which made them come back smiling to their farms. What would they have received had not the peoples' boat been in competition with the railroad? Why, they would have received from ten to twelve cents less for every bushel of wheat they sold. Is this not proof positive that for a number of years the railroad monopoly extracted every cent possible from the farmers? The farmers were far from unanimous last fall in their support to the Regulator. Those that did not trouble then to aid the new company in their laudable and many enterprise should pledge themselves to support this commendable boat. In shipping by the Union Pacific you are going against your own individual interests, and at the same time supporting this uncompromising monster of a monopoly. Do not let them lure you into cheap buys by way of Grants, but let the farmers of Klickitat come out unanimously and patronize the peoples' boats this fall, even if those living in the upper part of the valley have to haul a little further than usual.

The Port of Astoria.

Astorian. No one who studies the map of the United States can doubt that Astoria is destined to be a great city. Our port is the outlet for a region of vast extent and great productivity. While the Atlantic seaboard has many ports, the one great port of the Pacific coast is Astoria. San Francisco is the port of California and holds an enviable position as such. But Astoria is the port of that great region which extends southward to Colorado and eastward to Montana and Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas. The greater part of each of these states is as near Astoria as New York. Our own and other states of the far west are still largely undeveloped. Their present productiveness is small compared with what more labor and more capital could accomplish. In proportion as the development of the states goes on, so will Astoria advance in wealth and commerce. Their surplus products will come here for shipment, and to this port will return the merchantmen laden with valuable cargoes from Europe, the Indies, China and Japan.

A storm in Chicago yesterday, at 3 p. m., accompanied by terrific thunder and lightning and torrents of rain and hail did immense damage. An idea of the force of the wind may be gleaned from the fact that a six inch timber was driven endwise through a box car. Armour's elevator, was struck by lightning and completely wrecked. The storm was duplicated at 9:30 p. m.

RUINS AT MARE ISLAND.

A Horrible Spectacle Follows Disaster at the Magazine.

TWELVE PERSONS ARE KILLED.

Bodies are Mangled and Thrown 200 Yards From The Scene.

AN EARTHQUAKE CONCUSSION.

Bodies Thrown into the Bay Recovered by Boats From Mills on The Opposite Side.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 14.—People at Vallejo were startled yesterday morning about 11 o'clock by a report which shook the town like an earthquake. Immediately the fire bells in the yard were rung, and the concussion reached such that there was a fire on Mare Island, down at the magazine, that belched forth into the sky an immense cloud of smoke. As soon as it was high enough the peoples eyes were turned thither, and for half an hour after report after report was heard as the shells exploded. Immediately the entire navy-yard force rushed for the scene and when true facts came to light a horrible scene presented itself. The first spectacle to greet the eyes was the burned and charred bodies of two apprentice seamen on the beach, 800 yards from the scene of the explosion. In the meantime one more body of a seaman was on the way to the hospital. Going further on to the scene a horrible sight met the gaze. Amidst the ruins and all around on the sidehills were seen bodies and pieces of bodies scattered here and there. The bodies were taken out as fast as possible, and when all were put along side each other they counted twelve. Some were cut in two, others minus a leg or arm or head. Twelve were killed outright, and three were taken to the hospital wounded, but dying. Two of these were the apprentices picked up on the beach. The explosion had thrown them into the bay, and a boat from a merchant-man at Starr mills, on the opposite side, rescued them and went on to the smoke and ruins for the others. The cuticle of almost the entire bodies of these two, as well as their clothes, were blown off, and yet they were conscious and were able to move, but will die.

Southern Sentiment.

WASHINGTON, June 14.—There is no doubt that the democratic politicians of the southern states regard the coming presidential contest as of the very greatest importance to them. They believe that the fate of the south and of southern institutions, as they are pleased to term existing social conditions, are involved in the result of November. They believe that unless the democrats succeed in the contest next fall the republicans will pass a force bill that will practically reverse political majorities in the south and give to the blacks and their white political allies a permanent ascendancy in the various southern states. Believing this, southern action in regard to presidential candidates will not be due in any great degree to affection or dislike for any aspirant. The southerners are not looking for a man on whom to lavish admiration and favor, but for a man who can win. Sentiment for once in the sentimental south is held rigidly in abeyance. The necessities of the occasion have come to the front. Judged by this standard, southern action in the convention of June 21st, may be regarded as extremely uncertain and not likely to be controlled by caprice or enthusiasm. It may bring about unexpected results.

The Worst Yet.

Waitsburg Times: Since our advent in the newspaper business we have encountered many adversities, some of them sorely trying; almost intolerable. We have had the misfortune on more than one occasion to have farms pied; have had our roller melted by a careless devil; have had belts to break and governors to fly off, and once a sow came along and bit off the end of our roller just after we had carefully washed it, and while we were waiting for it to dry. The latest and the worst was the destruction of our copy by the mice, after the paste upon it.

Galva, a town in Illinois, 45 miles north of Peoria, was wrecked last Tuesday evening by a cyclone. Several persons are known to be killed. The town is entirely cut off from telegraphic communication with the rest of the world, and the information comes from trainmen. They reported the Burlington and Quincy roundhouse, Rock Island depot and many other buildings destroyed. All the churches were more or less wrecked, and Hoyes' pump and planter works badly damaged.

Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers is a popular preparation in one bottle, and colors evenly a brown or black. Any person can easily apply it at home.

LETTER FROM THE DALLES.

Report of Mr. Clark C. Foster on His Observations Here.

We have been permitted to copy the following from a letter to Mr. Wm. Henderson, of Saginaw, Mich., from Mr. Clark C. Foster, who is here on a tour of observation. Mr. Foster says:

"Remembering my promise to write you a few lines while on the Pacific coast, I may state that I arrived at The Dalles about two weeks ago and have since had a very pleasant time in seeing and visiting places that are both novel and interesting to me. On arriving here, we were received by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, who has been so thoughtful of our entertainment that I think we shall often find ourselves recalling places and scenes that would certainly be incomplete were not the kindly presence of Mr. Taylor the central figure of them.

"I have spent several days in visiting the beautiful orchards and vineyards of the Columbia river fruit company, and although my expectations ran high, I was not prepared for the very agreeable surprise that was in store for me, as the vast yield of fruit this season and the rapid progress which the vines are making on those sunny hillsides is simply marvelous. The climate, the soil and the locality are all that could be desired for a great enterprise like that which this strong company is rapidly bringing to a successful development, and I have no doubt but that the time is not far distant when many of the states in the union will receive largely of their fruit supplies from this much favored section. I could write you page after page on such industries as salmon fisheries, wool growing, stockraising and the fine agricultural country surrounding this place, but I feel that they would be too voluminous for me to undertake to tell you of, in a letter, and I therefore prefer to wait until we can draw our chairs together and talk them over at our leisure.

"One of the things which gives me great faith in this place, and Grand Dalles, on the opposite side of the river, is that they are the key or the gateway of the whole country for a distance of about 200 miles back on both sides of the Columbia, and all of its product and supplies either here, or must be shipped or received at these two points. The Interstate improvement company, by wise foresight, has recognized this fact and is now offering inducements on Grand Dalles property that are far beyond the ordinary, to manufacturers and those who men business. In my opinion, The Dalles and Grand Dalles are destined to become cities of great commercial importance, and those who now invest in either of these places will have invested wisely and well. I am well acquainted with the gentlemen of the interstate company and can speak of them as men of honor and great business ability.

"Hoping this will find you well, and with kind regards to friends at home, I remain,
Yours very truly,
CLARK C. FOSTER.

CROPS WEATHER BULLETIN.

For the Week Ending June 14, 1892, Eastern Oregon.

Weather: Cool and partly cloudy weather prevailed with general showers on the 15th. The rainfall varied from 0.6 of an inch to one half inch.

Crops: More rain is greatly needed. The wheat prospects were never better up to May 20th, which could be represented by 110 while now they are down to from 60 to 70, rain inside the next week would raise the prospects 10 points or more. Volunteer wheat is about a failure. In Umatilla, Morrow, Sherman, Gilliam and Wasco counties the wheat was damaged by the hot winds of May and some fields will not be worth cutting. Spring grain was also injured by the frosts on the 2d inst. in many localities. In Union, Wallowa and a few interior counties the conditions are more encouraging and far better; excellent prospects prevail in the Grand Ronde valley where wheat and fruit promise large yields. The rain on the 10th, was worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The wheat prospects are certainly gloomy but yet it may become better by the occurrence of seasonable rains. Rye hay is being cut and yielding two tons to the acre. The frosts killed tender plants about Fort Klamath, on the 2d. The fruit prospects are better than they are in western Oregon. Sweet corn will be ripe about The Dalles within two weeks.

Rivers: The Columbia river fell but is now rising again, but several of its tributaries have passed their greatest rise and are now falling and will continue to fall. B. S. PAGE.

Badly Broken Up.

Klamath Star. The ticket-fixer is as badly broken up as the tail of a dog under a cart-wheel. He bows no more at the polls, nor does he "fix" your ticket any more. The Australian ballot law has run over him, and what there is left of him wouldn't be noticed by a hen or a manure pile. His whiskey-laden breath, like himself, is down in the month, and his "pull" is a tug at the oars on the Salt river ferry boat. The precincts are now as orderly and peaceful as a ladies' auction, and the people go and vote in secret and in the presence of their God only. Hurrah for the Australian ballot law.