

The Weekly Chronicle.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF WASCOCO COUNTY. Entered at the Postoffice at The Dalles, Oregon, as second-class matter. SUBSCRIPTION RATES. BY MAIL (POSTAGE PREPAID) IN ADVANCE.

THE AMERICAN NAVAL OFFICER.

Any landsman who has cherished the proud conviction that the organization of our naval service is a close approach to perfection can have his eyes opened by reading the vigorous criticisms of Park Benjamin published recently in Harper's Weekly. It seems that while the naval equipment has been improving in its mechanical features the system by which it must be utilized in time of battle is decidedly primitive.

Mr. Benjamin presents a supposition case in which members of three generations of the same family are in service on the same man-of-war. They are a son, a father and a grandfather, and all are lieutenants. The grandfather was a lieutenant thirty years before, and his grandson will likely be a lieutenant thirty years hence.

The talk of ten days ago has been revived about an Indian uprising at Pine Ridge agency predicted by Dr. Magillcuddy as one of the early possibilities of 1893. It is not unlikely. Peace to an idle Sioux Indian, with his pony satisfied with grass, is almost as unendurable as soap.

It is said there is much talk in England of the propriety of abolishing the office of poet laureate. That there is none great enough to fill the chair held by Tennyson is signally and painfully apparent, and no doubt a large portion of the English-speaking public would be more than content to see the office remain vacant.

"One thing is sure," said Joggles, "Our party was weak to begin on; now some of 'em are insisting on changing the name from poples to populist. I've heard it said, that to change the name of a teething child means death! I do believe it."

ANOTHER NEW MINE.

There is an excellent probability that the wild excitement of 1862 will be partially repeated next spring in the vicinity of Mitchell, Crook county. Mr. Wm. Bethune has recently made discoveries on his farm, the McGraw patent, purchased by him of I. N. Sargent, which show the country to be rich in ledges that resemble the famous Comstock lode in Virginia city.

It is hardly possible to predict the outcome of this discovery. Mr. Bethune has taken the precaution to secure himself against trespassers, but has not yet fully decided what course of action will be taken respecting the development of the mine. It may lead to a revival of the sunny days of gold in The Dalles in 1862.

With the silver district of Mount Adams north of us, and the gold regions of Apereopolis, as Mr. Bethune calls his mine, south; with the second finest water power in America, The Dalles ought in time to be able to assert herself, and invest the scenes of 1862. All the conditions are now very much more favorable than they were then for unexampled prosperity.

Mrs. Harrison, it is believed, is slowly but surely drawing to the close of life, and the scenes about the White House are very sad. The president has become so depressed that it is only through the greatest effort that he can give any attention whatever to public business, and he now denies himself to all callers, except his most intimate friends and the cabinet officers.

A dispatch from Coffeyville, Kan., says that Emmet Dalton will recover from his wounds. In that event, will go to a good deal of trouble for nothing.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Wasco County. In the matter of the estate of Abner B. Smith, deceased, notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of Abner B. Smith, deceased; all persons having claims against said deceased are notified to present them to me, with proper vouchers therefor, at the office of Messrs. Huntington & Wilson, The Dalles, Or., within six months from the date of this notice.

TOWERS NOWLY LINED WITH GOLD.

Wealth in the Old Chimneys Where the Bonanza Ores Were Refined.

For nearly a quarter of a century two tall towers have stood at the foot of Hyde street, near Leavenworth, almost on the edge of the beach. One rises to a height of 110 feet and the other reaches more than fifty feet in the air. They are both very broad and thick, and they have brick enough in them to construct several buildings.

They are relics of the flush old days of the Comstock mining era, when Flood, O'Brien, Fair and others banded together and erected the famous Selby Smelting and Refining works. There, from the bonanza days of 1860 to as late as 1885, the great chimneys belched forth fire and smoke. They never stopped. Wreaths of flame and volumes of soot circled in the air over the domes at night time, while hundreds of men toiled in and about the works, cutting and shoveling ore and slag, molding bars of bullion and refining it to pure silver, gold, lead and copper.

In 1885 the Selby company concluded to move its works. It was known that the old underground flue that connected the furnaces with the chimneys, as well as considerable of the ground all about, was permeated with gold and silver settlements and solid metal. On the advice of a skilled European expert the company dug up the ruins as well as a large amount of soil to the depth of five or six feet and transferred it by tons to the new works at Port Costa.

Some time ago W. H. Cluff, the well known merchant and politician of this city, acquired the ground on which the old works and the present slag pile and chimneys remain. It consists of five fifty-acre lots, or 2 1/2 acres. Meantime he had several experts make examination of the brick towers and the surroundings. They reported that the metal and black dust of the towers was a veritable mine of wealth, and that the grimy matter that filled the interstices and in one form or another permeated the brick reeked with valuable minerals.

Also that the gray slag which had been carted away from the blazing furnaces in primitive days contained large quantities of gold and silver and should be worked over. Promptly thereupon Mr. Cluff secured the silver and gold lined towers and the debris. He is said to have paid \$40,000 for the chimneys alone. His object is to work them up and get the money out of them.

"I do not think I will have any trouble in getting the gold, silver and other mineral out," he said yesterday. "It was on the advice of an English expert that Selby & Co. took a lot of the debris to Port Costa, and I am informed they got over \$500,000 out of that. Several skilled mining men have come to me lately and offered to buy me out or work the chimneys, slag and soil on a percentage. I have not closed with anybody and do not think I shall. There is an immense amount of slag there. In some places it is 200 feet deep. It all contains gold, silver and lead, with some copper. I have had the ground assayed around there, too, and it all shows up well. In some places it is very rich."

Mr. Cluff's intention is to tear down the great towers, which have so long been landmarks in the history of the city, and which can be seen for miles out at sea and in other directions, and wrest from them their gold and silver lining.

A Judge's Jocosse Retort. "I think the late Judge Devens," said Mr. Arthur Macy to me the other day, "was the greatest after dinner speaker I ever heard. I remember a striking instance of his readiness in jocosse retort. He made a five minute speech at a club dinner, and in the course of his remarks he established his claim to his place at the dinner by instancing his authorship of a large volume that was made up of tragedy and comedy and of many startling phases—some dramatic, some ludicrous, some pathetic—of human life and nature."

"The book was the 143d volume of Massachusetts laws. Immediately a member was on his feet and thanking the judge. He had been on a jury once, and the justice who was trying the case said that a verdict should be rendered unhesitatingly in accordance with a decision that was contained in that very volume of the verdict had just spoken. The verdict was rendered immediately and the jurymen secured a good night's rest, for which he was thankful to Judge Devens and his book."

"Without a moment's hesitation, Judge Devens replied, 'If the gentleman will imitate the example of the justice of whom he speaks, and peruse the entire volume that I have spoken of, I assure him that he will secure many a good night's rest.'"—Boston Globe.

A Rich but Unapproachable Country. There are said to be five counties in Missouri and eleven in Arkansas, comprising a strip of country 135 miles square, that have no railroad communication with the outside world, and are yet wonderfully rich in zinc ore. This section of the country lies south and west of the Memphis railroad, north and west of the Iron Mountain, south and east of the St. Louis and San Francisco and north of the Arkansas river. The zinc carbonates of this region yield 83 per cent and the "jack" 60 per cent of pure zinc ore.

A traveler, Mr. W. E. Wiener, of Kansas City, says that he found in the mountain a cave even larger than the Mammoth cave. The manner of life of the people is extremely primitive. They live in log houses without windows. Bacon is their main staple of diet and tobacco their only solace. They seldom work so long as they have food and tobacco in the house. But they are virtuous, peaceable and kindly disposed to the stranger.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

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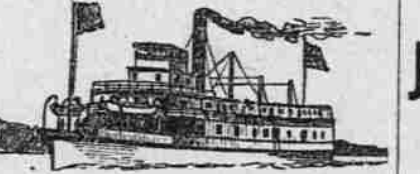
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