

The Weekly Chronicle.

COUNTY OFFICIALS. County Judge, Sheriff, Clerk, Treasurer, Commissioners, Assessor, Surveyor, Superintendent of Public Schools, Coroner.

STATE OFFICIALS. Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Attorney-General, Senators, Congressmen, State Printer.

Weekly Clubbing Rates. Chronicle and Oregonian, Chronicle and Examiner, Chronicle and Tribune, Chronicle and N. Y. World.

COST OF GETTING GOLD.

It costs ninety cents to produce every dollar's worth of gold mined in California last year. To be precise in figures, the value of the ore mined was \$13,969,529 and the cost of getting it \$12,506,555.

This statement is quoted from an article in the New York Mail and Express by a writer who evidently knew what he was writing about. And he produced other statistics corroborative of this paper's claim that gold mining is not all profit. It cost \$3.05 in Alabama and \$5.56 in Wyoming to produce a dollar of bullion from the mines. In Colorado the total mined was \$23,000,000 in round numbers at a cost of \$13,500,000, so that it cost fifty cents there to mine a dollar of bullion. In Montana the cost was forty five cents. In 1890 the total gold and silver mined in this country was \$99,283,752, and the capital invested was \$486,323,338, or \$4.90 of capital for every dollar of bullion produced. Putting it in another way, there was only twenty cents of bullion produced for every dollar of capital. The total expenditures in mining this sum was \$63,451,136. The amount of expense per dollar of bullion gold and silver was 64 cents. More than 3000 mines produced less than \$10,000 each. Only twenty-eight mines of the 6000 produced over a half a million each; fewer than fifty produced between \$250,000 and \$500,000. It is estimated that 1000 non-profit-producing mines were worked last year, and that there were 1266 idle or abandoned. California has now first place in gold production, but Colorado is close behind, and the two produce an aggregate of \$27,000,000 of gold per year, California being about \$1,000,000 ahead of Colorado. The total production now in this country averages about \$35,000,000 a year, although last year the production was \$46,610,000.

There is gold in Alaska and British Columbia—untold billions of it. But when the quantity taken out is compared with the cost of getting it out, the showing will carry with it more significance than attends the bare statement of the output.

The London Spectator says that the American politicians have insulted England. That if a man insults another once, he may ignore it, but the second time the only thing to do is to "knock him down." It then gravely goes on to intimate that if we "do it again," we will "get knocked down." Of course that may be possible, but England must remember that she has attempted the knocking down plan twice, with results not satisfactory to herself. She should remember, also, that in all her wars she has never yet, single handed, whipped a civilized nation. England has hit this country some pretty severe blows, and can and will continue to do so, but she never strikes above the pockets.

The Oregonian thinks the congressional delegation made a mistake in not making their recommendations with regard to the federal appointments in this state before they left Washington. This may possibly be true, but whether it is or not, at least by coming home the delegation had one advantage, and that is that it was enabled to consult with the Republican party through its leaders, nearly every prominent Republican in the state having called upon them. They must have a pretty good idea

of whom the leaders of the party, at least, desire to see get the offices. There was no mistake about this.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

Governmental drift is unmistakably in the direction of public ownership of street railways and electric lights. The best governed city on earth, Glasgow, owns the street railways, and since it acquired them the benefits have been so numerous and palpable that opposition has quite vanished. Since Glasgow took its street railways in 1894 fares have been reduced about 33 per cent, and the service has been improved until it is conceded that the tramways of that city are the finest undertaking of the kind in the country.

The change has proved profitable as well as beneficial to the riding public. In spite of the reduction in fares, for the year ending June 1, 1896, there was a clear profit to the city of \$213,000 above operating cost and all fixed charges, interest, taxes and depreciation.

It has been said by the opponents of municipal ownership of the street railways that what Glasgow has done cannot be successfully imitated in this country, and the only argument brought forward to support that contention is the bare assertion that the American people are incapable of self-government. It is the old tory plea, raised in 1776 when the patriot forces were striking for liberty.

The drift is strong toward public ownership of all such public or quasi-public monopolies. The cruder the government, the greater the monopolistic powers surrendered to private corporations. Time was when even the military power was out of the hands of the people, and they were compelled to seek protection for life and property beneath the feudal standards of baronial captains. To these barons the masses paid enormous tribute, and out of this tribute the feudal lords supported their following of men at arms.

There was resistance then to the demands of the people, and there is resistance now. Always men are reluctant to yield sources of power and profit. Cities which have wrested their waterworks from private ownership have done so only after a severe struggle. A like struggle must precede the public acquisition of the street railways.

Mr. F. A. Carle, who for eight years has been managing editor of the Oregonian, has severed his connection with that paper and goes to New York to take editorial charge of the Commercial Advertiser. Of Mr. Carle's ability as a writer there is no doubt, and yet his departure from Oregon is Oregon's gain. Carle is evidently a dyspeptic, and his work shows it. He has perhaps said more uncalculated and unnecessarily unkind things of and concerning Oregonians than the balance of the Oregon editors. At least, we have been given to understand that Mr. Carle was the author of the articles to which we allude. We hope alongside of Buttermilk channel he may find a new cook, and take, in consequence, a brighter view of life.

This being the first Monday in September is a legal holiday, and known as Labor day. It was observed here in the way other labor days are, everybody who had anything to do doing it. In Mexico it is said every day is a holiday of some kind; but with Americans holidays are, and always will be scarce. There is too much activity, too much rush after the almighty dollar, to permit the fooling away of a whole day. Christmas, New Year, July Fourth, Thanksgiving, these old stand-bys will always be observed, as will the modern Memorial day; but Arbor day, Labor day and the other recent holiday attempts, will never be generally kept.

The trial of Leutger, the Chicago sausage-maker, who is accused of murdering his wife, is attracting a great deal of attention. The charge against Leutger is that he killed his wife and then destroyed the body by putting it in a vat in a bath of caustic potash, by which it was entirely consumed. The evidence is entirely circumstantial, though it is said Leutger was desirous of getting rid

of his wife, and had threatened to kill her. If she was killed, the body has never been found; but the prosecution rely largely on the fact that the rings belonging to Mrs. Leutger were found in the vat.

A recent cheap-John book on Alaska, published by F. Tennyson Neely of London and New York, contains the largest amount of misinformation ever condensed into the same space. Its author does not even know the mining laws, but gives quartz locations 1500 feet on each side of the center of the vein. One of the brilliant things is this: "The Alaskan rivers and streams produce a variety of edible fish, of which the salmon is king, and after the exhaustion of the Columbia river the canning of this noble fish in Alaska received a great impetus." If the writer could visit Astoria and see, even this year, which is an off one, the thousands of cases of salmon vainly seeking a market, he might wonder how he came to imagine the "Columbia river was exhausted." If he could visit Celilo and the rapids this side next month, and see the fall run of salmon fighting their way up; could he see Taffe's fishery, where the salmon are chased into a box with a club at the rate of from ten to twenty tons a day, he might change his opinion with regard to the salmon being extinct in the grand old Columbia. The balance of the book sizes up with the part quoted.

The names selected for recommendation for the federal offices in Oregon are not satisfactory to everybody. That follows, of course, for each of the applicants had his coterie of friends who are disappointed. After all it is largely a question of "which coterie shall be disappointed?" The side-tracking of Timothy T. Geer is liable to cause trouble, and those who know him best say he will not accept the position of register of the U. S. land office at Oregon City. Mr. Geer is well up in the front rank of Oregon politicians, and by refusing the office offered him he will be in position to make a fight for the position now held by Mr. Tongue. The latter gentleman should have insisted on Geer's appointment, if it took all summer, for with him out of the way, the chance for re-nomination is good; otherwise—not.

Europe wants horses for her armies, and must have them. Some time ago the French government sent an army officer to the United States to learn how far a supply could be drawn from this country for the French cavalry and artillery, and the report was most favorable to American breeding and the abundant supply. With Japan willing to take bronchoes of the great western ranges for army purposes, and the fighting nations of Europe looking this way in search of high-bred horses for their cavalry forces, Secretary Wilson is justified in the hope of being able to establish through the department of agriculture a foreign market for the American horse, whose value in the home market has suffered a sharp decline through competition with electricity as a motor in recent years.—Oregonian.

It is Geer versus Patterson in the race for the collector of customs appointment in Portland, with the tall agriculturist in the lead. At Salem the fight has taken the shape of a petition in favor of Mr. Geer's appointment, and according to the returns, out of 126 business men to whom the petition was presented, 105 signed it, while of the twenty-one refusing, only four favored Patterson. The ramifications of a political squabble are as intricate and uncertain as quartz stringers in trap-rock. From present indications Mr. Geer will get into the official harness.

Those who left Portland in July for the Klondike, and who are now preparing to winter in Juneau, realize that in some things it is better to "make haste slowly;" that "the race is not always to the swift," and that, taking St. Michaels and the open Yukon into consideration, "the farthest way round is the shortest way across." Some other homely prov-

erbs may suggest themselves during the long winter months. For instance: "All that glitters is not gold;" "Cows far off wear long horns," and dozens of others.

The Klondike excitement is already presenting its tragical side. A letter received recently from Juneau tells of a party of seven crossing to Skaguay in a small boat, which upset and four of its passengers were drowned. At Portland Mrs. J. J. Carscadden has brooded over her husband's exposure on the Skaguay trail until she has gone crazy. These are but the forerunners of hundreds of tragic and sorrowful things, the result of the gold craze.

A wild Alaskan, writing from that land of promise, says: "Dogs are worth their weight in gold. A good long-haired dog sells for from \$150 to \$200." Alaska gold is worth \$15 an ounce, so it seems that a good long-haired dog would weigh from ten to thirteen ounces. There is a wide range of variance in an Alaskan story, whether it is concerning gold or dogs.

Silver is going down and lead is going up, being now higher than for several years. Wonder if those blasted gold bugs are not booming lead just as a slam at silver? It may be that the price of lead has been affected by Japan's abnormal appetite in desiring to swallow the Hawaiian islands and the Nicaragua canal.

The New York World prints a list of the coal mining states with amount of product, and shows that if the proposition to increase the rates paid for mining coal is carried out by the operators, it will give the miners additional wages amounting to \$13,442,197. Pennsylvania miners would receive more than \$5,000,000 of this sum.

The mining situation in the East gives no sign of change, other than the offer on the part of the operators to concede part of the miners' demands. The latter, however, refuse to consider anything less than a 60-cent-a-ton rate. This the operators will not concede, and so the fight goes merrily on.

Mr. E. B. Piper, who for several years has held the position of city editor on the Oregonian, has gone to Seattle to take charge of the Post-Intelligencer. As Mr. Carle has also severed his connection with that paper, there is to be a decided change in the editorial staff.

The Afridis, the wild tribes of India that recently captured the Klüber pass, are starting in to celebrate the queen's jubilee a little late; but they are putting lots of enthusiasm into the effort.

Senor Sagasta thinks he could march a Spanish army from Boston to California. Perhaps he could, but before they got across they would be "walking Spanish."

England threatens, under certain conditions, to keep her gold. This threat is easily made, but when she gets hungry she will have to part with her gold, or its equivalent.

Hood River Fruit Fair.

Hood River is going to have a fruit fair Wednesday and Thursday, October 6th and 7th. Committees have been appointed, arrangements made for reduced fares on the boat and railway lines, and it is going to be a success. The fruit fair in Hood River some four or five years ago was a surprise even to the people of Hood River, and we believe that the finest exhibit, of the size, of apples ever made in the world was made there and then. The fair this fall should show at least as fine a selection and we advise all fruit growers of Hood River valley to take an interest in the matter. It is bread thrown upon the waters in the shape of advertising, and it will return ere many days.

A Good Cup of Coffee.

is the best part of a good breakfast. Some people spend money extravagantly on high-priced coffee and are even then frequently disappointed in their beverage. Some women can take a tin can and some dried sunflower leaves and make good coffee. With our Imperial Boss Coffee Pot any woman can, with common coffee, make a good cup of coffee. Agents wanted, both sexes. Circulars free. Write the U. S. Novelty Mfg. Co., 1517 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Subscribe for THE CHRONICLE.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

A Friend Pays a Tribute to the Late Mary C. Bills.

When a life that has been so long before us, almost coeval with the length of the century is closed, it is fitting that we should give it more than a passing notice.

Mary C. Bills was born in Prussian Germany in 1804. She was a happy little girl, playing among the hills of fatherland unconscious of the great events then transpiring around her convulsing a continent, and filling history's pages since to overflowing. She was too young to care much personally when Queen Luise, the beloved, made her appeal for the preservation of her threatened country, to the ruthless power that was then overthrowing thrones and kingdoms, and setting up others in their places. But she was not too young to remember when her father came home and said: "All must now arm for the defense of their country." "I, too, father?" she asked. "Yes, you too, if I could only make a man of you." The closing scene of the battle of Waterloo was a vivid memory to her as the fugitives fled from the bloody field, bearing such news as they might in that newspaperless age.

She lived the greater part of her long life in her adopted country, America, but never did her tongue learn any but the talk of fatherland. Her German Bible was her constant companion; it's precepts the daily rule of her life. She was left a widow at the age of 23, with two daughters, one of whom is now living in Wisconsin. The other, who married a man of the same name as herself, and a distant relative, is buried in Sunset cemetery.

Mrs. Bills was a woman of great physical and mental vigor. Ninety years had not power to bend her erect and graceful form, or make clumsy the movements which her active temperament made natural. She had great personal beauty, to which age and death could only add a holy majesty. She went out over the harbor bar, the Savior, whose devoted and life-long follower she had been, was her pilot, to the rest that remaineth for the children of God. How rich was her life in that love, which is confessedly, "The greatest thing in the world."

The grandchildren of Mrs. Bills are: Mrs. Brittain, N. J. Bills, dead, Mrs. Densmore, with whom was her home, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Louise Wyndham and Jacob Bills of California, Christopher Bills of Idaho, and Henry A. Bills of The Dalles.

History.

Many people think Appomattox marked the end of the war, as Sumter did its beginning. As a matter of fact, the war did not end officially until Aug. 20, 1886, when President Johnson issued a proclamation announcing that the war was at an end, and that peace, order and tranquility and civil authority existed in all the states. While Lee's surrender was not the end of the war, it was the beginning of the end. Johnson surrendered on April 26, "Dick" Taylor on May 4th and Kirby Smith not until May 26th. On May 13th, more than a month after Lee's surrender, a sharp fight took place at Palmetto ranch, in Texas, which is called by Jefferson Davis and other authorities the last battle of the war. The commander of the Union troops, mostly colored, says in his report: "The last volley of the war, it is believed, was fired by the Sixty-second United States Colored Infantry, about sunset on May 13, between White's ranch and the Boca Chica, Texas." In this fight, which took place on the American side of the Rio Grande river, the Mexican Imperialist sent over a body of cavalry, which aided the confederates in their last and successful attack. On June 13th Tennessee was declared at peace; June 23 the blockade was raised; July 22d, Grant made his last official report; April 2, 1866, proclamation that Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida are tranquil, issued by the president. Aug. 20, 1866, war officially declared ended. The latter date was in 1867 fixed by congress as the official and legal date of the close of the war.

A. L. Mohler is the President. At the meeting of the new board of directors of the O. R. & N., held at Portland Friday afternoon, A. S. Heidelbach, of New York, was elected chairman of the board.

A. L. Mohler was elected president. The executive board, as selected, consists of A. S. Heidelbach, William G. Bull, Edward D. Adams, Charles S. Coster, W. G. Oakman and Samuel Carr. One of the most satisfactory results of the meeting was the declaring of a dividend of one per cent on preferred stock, payable October 1st.

The new board of directors, as elected Friday has five new names on it that replace that number dropped. The old directors supplanted are E. McNeill, Charles S. Fairchild, John Crosby Brown, W. E. Glin and Francis S. Bangs, all of New York except Mr. McNeill.

A Beet Sugar Factory.

Henry Weinhard, E. C. Hockopfell and W. W. Boag have incorporated a company at Portland with \$750,000 capital for the purpose of making and refining sugar, syrups, glucose, etc., from

beets, etc. It is intended to erect and operate a factory on a large scale with the capacity to use all the sugar beets which can be raised or secured. There will be no question about the money being put up, as Mr. Weinhard is one of the strongest men financially in the city, and his well known enterprise and liberality is a guarantee that the project will be pushed to a consummation, says the Portland Tribune, which fails to state where the enterprise is to be located.

A FRUITFUL FIELD.

Christian Associations Turn Their Attention to College Students.

Many new students will enter the colleges of Oregon this fall. Many of them will have to go some distance from home and among total strangers, but the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations in all these institutions will give them not only a warm welcome, but also all the assistance in their power. To this end they issue in the larger colleges, hand books containing brief and indispensable information concerning the college and its vicinity. They also establish information bureaus where aid in securing rooms and board is given free. Then in order to remove whatever feeling of homesickness may still linger in the Freshman's breast, a reception is given to the whole entering class by the two associations.

No obligation is incurred by accepting these services, but all men and women who believe in the value and need of Christian work for students by students are given an opportunity to join one of the associations. Their principal lines of work are Bible and mission classes and regular religious meetings.

The college Christian associations are now a potent factor in the life of the colleges of the United States, numbering as they do over 800, with a membership of over 45,000. The organization is spreading rapidly through the universities of Europe, China, Japan, India and even Brazil. Thus the associations in Oregon are but a part of a growing international movement, wisely directed and heartily supported.

In order to secure the hand book or obtain information, either about the University of Oregon or the local associations, parents, pastors and prospective students, should address one of the following associations: Y. M. C. A., or Y. W. C. A., Eugene, Or.

The high standing of these beneficent organizations is evinced by the following:

I cordially commend to all who are interested in education the labors of the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, in behalf of students. In this university they have been a conservative and regenerating force of the highest value. They are worthy of all confidence and their zeal deserves the warmest praise. C. H. Chapman.

A Wife's Obligations.

Under the law of California a wife can be compelled to support her husband, says the Boston Woman's Journal. This point was established recently by a decision rendered by Justice Temple, of the supreme court, concurred in by Justices Henshaw and Van Fleet and Chief Justice Beatty. The circumstances on which this decision was made were peculiar.

In Los Angeles county there live an aged couple named Livingston. The wife, Mrs. Mary A. Livingston, has reached the mature age of 70 years, and her husband, Samuel W., is even older than his wife. In fact, he is so aged as to be infirm and unable to support himself. Some time ago the wife deserted her husband, and he was left as helpless as a baby. In their more prosperous days the wife always carried the bank book, and, furthermore, she had money in her own right.

After the old woman deserted the old man he sued her for maintenance, and won the suit, the supreme court of Los Angeles county ordering Mrs. Livingston to pay her husband a monthly allowance of \$24. She at once transferred all of her property to her daughter, so as to avoid the execution of the order. She was cited to appear and show cause why she should not be punished for contempt. The contempt proceedings resulted in her being committed to prison until such a time as she would comply with the order of the court. From that judgment she appealed to the supreme court, and the judgment has been affirmed.

A Rich Treat Is Promised.

To the Oregon State Fair for 1897.—September 30th to October 8th—the Southern Pacific will sell tickets at one fare rates for round trip from all points on their lines in Oregon.

You will be entertained from morning until night. No time to rest. Liberal prizes offered for all kinds of sports, such as baseball, tug-of-war, chopping contests, foot races, hammer throw, shot put, and various other sports in charge of a competent committee. Don't overlook the date and the cheap railroad rate of on fare for the round trip. Popular admission of 25 cents.

The Vale Advocate says that in the canyon of the Malheur there is a small active animal unlike anything described in the natural histories. By people living on the Malheur it is called a "rocket cat," although it is very unlike the common stamtail wild cat, of which there are many in the country.