

THE WEST SIDE

E. C. PENTLAND, Publisher.

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1900.

The men who have built the motor line to Monmouth have shown enterprise. They are deserving of reward, and the public should show them favors.

We have in Independence some of the most enterprising men as can be found anywhere. Some of them are poor, some moderately well off and some wealthy.

The Hon. D. P. Thompson, who was defeated for governor of Oregon in June gives several reasons for his defeat in a letter to the public, and ends his letter in these manly words:

"But the election is over, the people who are sovereign have expressed themselves, and I must bow to their verdict. While I was slaughtered by the republicans, I am a republican still, and I will be found working for the nominees of that party, if worthy, in the future as I have done in the past.

Says the Grants Pass Courier: "An excursion train of capitalists from Pennsylvania is expected to pass through in a few days. They will stop one or two days in this county. They are looking over the coast after timber lands.

Here are the people of Independence within ten miles of a fine timber belt letting it be taken by the "new comers." In a few years they will see how short sighted they are.

Some men are like hogs. They get into the feed trough head, feet and all. When they get full they will lie down and do nothing but grunt until the feeding time comes again, when they get in head and feet together, and make an awful squeal if anything else attempts to get a part of their food.

When \$5000 worth of real estate is assessed at \$500 it would seem that the owner would not find occasion to complain at being over-taxed, and since some men who are thus favored do complain it seems as though the assessor might tax their land somewhere near its value, for they are "kickers" any how and cannot make any more fuss than they do now.

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When the front part was at the state capital, the rear was still on Commercial street, so it can be seen what an immense affair it was. A trade display in a procession is always the most interesting and this proved no exception to the rule.

Very many of the members of the press association at the meeting last year were much opposed to holding its next meeting in Portland; but it was decided to meet

there and the next meeting comes on Thursday and Friday, August 14th and 15th. Those who opposed it did so on the ground that the Portland papers had never shown any inclination to recognize it to be of any value, and had not enrolled their names.

At the present writing there are fifty-six members in the association, and out of Portland's thirty, or more publications, only three are represented in the Oregon Press Association. There appears to us no excuse for this excepting on the ground that the meetings heretofore have been outside of Portland and the publishers have not deemed them important enough to attend.

The state of Oregon is comparatively young and the growth of the press has simply kept pace with the state. The association is only three years of age. The association of our sister state of Washington is also only three years old, being organized at Tacoma, July 6, 1887; while the Oregon Press Association met August 12th of the same year in its first session at Yaquina City.

The Pacific Coast Press Association of California was organized in 1879, and will hold its twelfth meeting this year. The Missouri Press Association was organized twenty-two years ago; the Mississippi Association twenty-four years ago; the New Jersey Association thirty-four years ago; the New Hampshire Association twenty-four years ago; and the Press Association of Minnesota twenty-two years ago. These examples show that the Oregon Press Association is not far to day alone, but for many years, and if it is to assume the position its importance demands, the Portland press must unite with it.

The object of the Oregon Press Association, as set forth in its constitution, is to "promote the mutual welfare of the Oregon Press, protect its rights, unclutter feelings of harmony, and elevate its tone and character," and its membership shall be comprised of "editors and publishers of legitimate periodicals of Oregon."

It would seem that to the above there can be no reasonable objections urged. At the meeting last year it was thought that a meeting in Portland, a display of type, printer's supplies, and machinery would add to the interest. All the type houses of the United States have been informed of this request and many have taken partial action. The sights about Portland are well worth seeing and if an excursion is planned one from Portland can most easily be arranged. It is proposed to take a tour of Puget Sound this year, visiting Tacoma, Seattle, Port Townsend, Victoria, Whatcom, Anacortes, Olympia, etc., which will be an instructive and enjoyable trip occupying only about three days. Taken all together we believe that the coming meeting in Portland will be one of the most interesting and profitable of any yet held.

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A-WHEEL IN EUROPE.

It goes without saying, that two and one-half weeks quickly passed in the busy city of New York, and the 7th of June found us at the French dock. There was a merry party and a large one at the pier last Saturday to see us off. There was a great hustling and busting, such cheering and yells, and such weeping, as one only sees on the occasion of the sailing of an ocean steamer. Not a "weep" did the tourists shed, however, they were radiant with happy anticipations of the joys before them. Their thoughts did not dwell on *mal de mer*, the mind's eye dwelt on the sweet harbor lanes of England, the magnificent estates of England, the grandeur of the British scenery, and the old towers of the Rhine, and to-day we are eight days out and "alls well." Contrary to all expectations and the kindly (?) expressed condoling of our friends before leaving home, none have been seriously sick. In fact out of our party of twenty only one was unable to come to the table every meal and he ate about seven meals per day on the upper deck.

It has been a phenomenal voyage, the ship steady as an island, the sea like a pond and the spirits and ardor of the party consequently undampened. Even Conductor Elwell (who by written contract and verbal promise had agreed to be sick for the whole party) has not missed a meal or smoked a cigar. In the smoking room, on the quarter-deck, in the saloon, in fact everywhere, the cycle party predominates. The flavoring essence of the spirit of cycling has tinged the conversation of even the gravest greybeard and the prettiest young lady on the ship. Enough of rambling thus and let us take the voyage systematically although briefly.

Saturday, June 7th before we had lost sight of land something happened to the machinery of the La Bourg you and we had to stop two hours for repairs. While "laying to" the Emilia of the Cunard line which started thirty minutes later swept by us and was soon out of sight. Once more on our way however, and we were not delayed again.

Sunday the 8th was a calm Sabbath-like day and passed uneventfully, except that we met the LaBretagne of the French line who was on her way to New York. The next two or three days shuffling about and in the evening lounging around and in the evening sitting on the deck, served to make the golden hours fly and cement more firmly friendships already warm and fraternal.

Saturday nothing noteworthy save the most marvelous weather and the longest days ran on the voyage, being 418 miles. Sunday (present writing) general writing and packing up day, as we hope to be at Havre before noon Monday.

This evening there will be a concert, there being several noted musicians and theatrical people on board who will take part. This being our last night aboard, hearts are beating feverishly in anticipation of the longest day and the still more longed for wheels. All signs point to good weather a glorious time. All are busy writing home or studying the ramifications of the foreign currency.

This letter ends as the good ship is rolling at angle of almost 45 degrees, and the steamer trunks clashing each other around the state room floor. Of our ride from Havre to Paris and our week's stay in the latter place I will tell in a future letter. Until then, *au revoir* and may we find the reality as fair as our ideas of it and "all's well."

OUR PARTY. C. H. Atwood, Providence, R. I.; Geo. L. Black, Erie, Pa.; T. C. Balmade, Cleveland, O.; W. W. Dudley, Whitinsville, Mass.; J. S. Duer, J. M. Duer, Jacksonville, Ill.; F. A. Edwell, Portland, Me.; Sherwood Hard, N. Y. City; H. S. Higgins, Portland, Me.; Chas. R. Hobbs, Centralia, Ill.; E. F. Jones, St. Louis, Mo.; B. L. Lucas, Monmouth, Or.; M. C. Morris, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. T. Paiste, Philadelphia, Pa.; E. J. Parker, West Chester, Pa.; Chas. E. Pelton, Lowellville, N. Y.; J. T. Quinn, Albany, N. Y.; Louis Robson, Malden Mass.; C. B. Tyler, Providence, R. I.; J. E. Wilkinson, Baltimore, Md.

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