

explanation of the warlike instructions satisfactory, and ordered the *Iphigenia* to be boarded, her men, charts, instruments and papers to be transferred to the Spanish ships, and the vessel got ready to sail for San Blas as a prize. "I inquired," says Douglas in his journal, "the cause of his not taking the sloop *Washington*, as he had orders from the king of Spain to take every vessel he met out on this coast, but he gave me no satisfactory answer."

There were reasons enough probably why Martinez was more suspicious of the Portuguese-English vessel than of the American. But when he reflected, or possibly was shown, that the Portuguese authorities at Macao could have no means of knowing that the Spaniards intended to occupy this portion of the coast, he came to the determination of releasing the *Iphigenia*, on condition that her officers would sign a declaration that she had not been interrupted, but had been kindly treated and supplied during her stay at Nootka; and that they should engage to pay her value on demand to the Viceroy of Mexico in case he should pronounce her capture legal.

After some difficulty the officers of the *Iphigenia* agreed to these terms, and on the 24th of May had their vessel returned to them in good order for sea, and well supplied with everything necessary, being really the better for the capture; and on the 31st she sailed for Queen Charlotte's Island, where, in a few weeks, she collected \$35,000 worth of furs, and sailing thence arrived with her cargo in China in the following October.

But the end was not yet. On the 8th June a schooner called the *Northwest America*, built the previous year in Nootka Sound, by the Portuguese-English Co'y, arrived at Nootka, laden with sea-otter skins.—This was at once seized by Martinez; according, as he believed, to an agreement made with Douglas, and while his ignorance of the English language caused him to misunderstand, and as Douglas had written it. Eight days after this there arrived from Macao the *Princess Royal*, bringing news of the failure of the merchant on whom Douglas had given bills for the payment of the supplies to the *Iphigenia*. This determined Martinez to hold the schooner for the debt, which he did, transferring her valuable cargo to the *Princess Royal* for the benefit of her owners in China. After a friendly visit of two or three weeks, the *Princess Royal* was permitted to depart on her trading voyage, her officers having received distinguished attentions.

And still the end was not yet, for, on the evening of the same day, there arrived off the port the ship *Argonaut*, also from Macao, and belonging, like the *Princess Royal* to the "King George's Sound Company." She was met by the Spanish and American officers on the outside, and invited by Martinez to enter. Her commander, Capt Colnett of the British navy, was advised by the American officers of the seizure of the *Iphigenia* and *Northwest America*, upon learning which he hesitated to enter; but being assured by the Spanish commander that all would be right, consented to come in. It would have been better had he staid out, or had used more discretion in his conduct afterwards.

Martinez had procured some supplies from the *Argonaut*, and when they were aboard invited Colnett to visit the *Princess*. He went accordingly, in the

uniform of the British navy, with his sword at his side. On being asked his designs in visiting Nootka, he boldly replied that he had come to erect a fort and settle a colony; to hoist the British flag and take possession.

"That, I have already done, in the name of his Catholic majesty," replied Martinez.

Some discussion then ensued. Colnett was offered the privilege of erecting any building necessary for his comfort; but when he again said it was his intention to build a block-house, erect a fort, and to establish a colony, Martinez assured him he would not be permitted to do so; that to allow such action would be to be false to his king and his trust. Besides, he reminded Colnett that the *Argonaut* did not belong to the English king, nor was he, Colnett, in the king's service. Then followed an altercation in which Colnett drew his sword on the Spanish commander; after which Martinez ordered his arrest, and the seizure of his vessel.

No sooner was Colnett arrested than he was seized with a fit of insanity to which he was hereditarily predisposed, and which lasted for several weeks, during which time his mate, Duffin, acted for the proprietors. Meanwhile

coveries extended, he returned to Nootka in his own vessel, in 1790, and finding the place deserted, sailed for Macao, where he arrived the same year. Such were the stirring events happening on the Northwest coast eighty-seven years ago; events that helped to shape the destiny of the American people in acquiring Oregon Territory.

(To be continued.)

#### MAKING COLLECTIONS.

Many boys and girls take a fancy to make collections of something. Some collect postage stamps, others coins, and we have seen very large collections of buttons in which there were no two alike. The desire to make as large a collection as possible, without regard to anything else, we do not approve of; but it is very pleasing to see young people collecting specimens which shall teach them something. A collection of postage stamps made for the sake of getting the greatest possible number, is of no more use than so many pieces of newspaper; but if one will read about the country to which each stamp belongs, then something interesting and useful may come of this postage stamp mania. So with coins—collections of which, at least the foreign ones, very few young people are able to make. These can lead to historical studies. After all, we prefer much to see young folks take to collecting natural objects. Those of you who live in the country

#### SALMON FALLS, COLUMBIA RIVER.

A short distance above The Dalles, the Columbia river takes one of its peculiar leaps, forming Salmon Falls, so named, perhaps, from the fact that thousands of salmon here find annually a watery grave. Many fine salmon, in their efforts to reach the spawning grounds, strike against the sharp, projecting rocks and fall back bruised and dying. The few Indians still left near The Dalles, find their chief subsistence at these falls, and it is astonishing how correct their aim is. A long spear attached to a rope is lightly flung at a salmon, in the act of leaping the falls. Nine times out of ten it is landed in almost the twinkling of the eye. Still, even here, the Indian's proverbial cruelty is fully exhibited. After having dried and packed their winter's supply, they will still repair to these falls almost daily, and for mere wantonness and cruelty, spear the beautiful fish and throw them out on the stones to die there horribly, and to rot and infect the air.

#### OREGON AS SEEN BY A CALIFORNIAN.

When one returns from a trip to Oregon and remarks that he has just visited the finest country on the face of the globe, people open their eyes with astonishment and ask you where in California you have spent your years. Then you hear such a tirade about "web feet" and "moss backs" that you are willing to give up the argument without being half convinced, rather than hear the pesty words and bear the unsatisfied looks of your dear neighbors. Now, Oregon has just what California lacks, a plenty of rain. Rain, O! beautiful rain, give us bountiful showers of rain here and we can command the wealth of the world. Leaving California with about an inch of dust on my back, I arrived in Portland and Salem finding mud nearly ankle deep. The flocks and herds were luxuriating on pastures of red clover and timothy, and the green fields looked very cheerful as compared to our dry, dust covered hills and valleys at this season. The farmers are busy threshing their stacked wheat, also plowing and sowing, and those who are farther advanced with their fall work

have the pleasure of seeing their wheat out of the ground, growing finely. Oregon is a timbered country, yet there are large prairies of rich, loamy, beautiful soil. These prairies skirted with oak, fir, ash and maple timber, together with orchards loaded with ripe fruit, gives the country a beauty in autumn which would be hard to rival. About half way between Portland and Salem, in the beautiful Willamette valley, is Barlow's prairie. Here are the homes of real luxury, where Nature's best gifts are dispensed and appreciated, and where the least effort of the husbandman is richly repaid in the bounties of the golden harvest.—R., in *Rural Press*.

It is said that a very large amount of good farming land lies yet untouched by settlers, up the Stoloquish river, W. T. Like most other rivers, this one has its jam which must be removed before the rich bottom land above it can reach its proper valuation. It seems unfortunate that the attention of Congress has never yet been properly directed to the value of these lands, and the necessity of appropriations to remove obstructions in the rivers.—Argus.

BEST BOOK FOR EVERY DAY.—The new illustrated edition of Webster's Dictionary, containing three thousand engravings, is the best book for every body that the press has produced in the present century, and should be regarded as indispensable to the well-regulated home, reading-room, library and place of business.—*Golden Era*.



SALMON FALLS, COLUMBIA RIVER. INDIANS SPEARING SALMON.

the cargo of the *Argonaut* was transferred to the Spanish ships, and on the 13th of July, she was dispatched as a prize to San Blas, with her officers and most of her crew as prisoners. The *Princess Royal*, returning to Nootka from a cruise up the coast which she had been permitted to make, was also seized, and her crew transferred to the *Argonaut* as prisoners to be taken to San Blas. The sloop was then put in Spanish employ together with the *Northwest America*. The officers of the latter vessel, and some of those belonging to the *Princess Royal*, were put on board the *Columbia* as passengers to China; and one hundred sea-otter skins found in the *Princess Royal* were made to pay their transportation and wages.

Such was the decided manner in which Spain's agent at Nootka sustained the claim of his king to American territory. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, it is difficult to find much to blame in his action. But out of it grew serious troubles, and the arming of two or three navies; demands and conferences; a commission, and finally the "Nootka Treaty," by which the whole affair was settled. As for Colnett, he was kindly treated in Mexico, and after the settlement of the dispute which left Spain mistress of the American coast as far north as her dis-

can find an abundance of things more interesting than postage stamps or even coins. We once saw a large collection—we have forgotten how many specimens, of all the different kind of beans—a dozen or so of each kind put in a neat little paper tray, and correctly named. A nice collection would be all the different kinds of wheat—indeed, we should much like to have such a collection ourselves. Then how interesting it would be to have specimens of the seeds of every kind of troublesome weed. The eye having become accustomed to the appearance of these seeds, would be able to detect them at once among seed grain, or other kinds of seeds. Another collection we would suggest to the older boys, is one of all the native woods of the farm, or the neighborhood; very few people know any but the larger kinds of wood. A collection with specimens to show the bark, the end of the wood and the grain would be something worth looking at. Then there are the insects which are injurious to crops, which would make not only a useful but a really handsome collection, and would lead to a study and close observation of the habits of the insects. Of course, one will take a fancy to one thing and one to another, and in a family of several boys and girls, a museum may be formed which will be worth showing to others. Those who are old enough to study plants, minerals, insects, etc., will, of course, make collections of specimens to illustrate these studies. Our object was to suggest something that seemed to us better worth doing than accumulating postage stamps or buttons.