

one escaped save a Chinaman and myself. We chanced to seize upon a battered boat and finally crawled upon what seemed to be the shore of an island. Morning revealed it to be small, uninhabited and barren. On the further side from where we landed was, however, a narrow belt of timber, infested by a sort of rabbit, that proved very fair eating under the circumstances. The flesh of these, with an occasional fish, made up our bill of fare for three long, dreadful weeks, when we managed to signal a vessel bound for Sidney, Australia; and there I found myself at last—a stranger and penniless in a strange land. I remained for some weeks, doing anything that I could get to do until I found a captain willing to let me work my passage to Auckland. At the latter place I was taken sick, a low, slow fever ending in rheumatism. But for the kindness of an American family there I must have died for want of friends and care. My body seemed a wreck and I should have longed for death had it not been for a dear little brown-haired girl I left in San Francisco; and though the day set for our nuptials was long past before I could leave my bed, I felt that she was still watching and waiting for me. I knew, of course, that she must have expected me—or at least some message—on the *Storm Bird*; but I had not said positively that I should be able to sail on her and, therefore, when I was not on board, she would continue to look for me. I will not weary you with the details of my

slow convalescence at last; suffice it to say some eighteen months elapsed from the time I took passage on the *Albatross* before I reached San Francisco. On arriving there imagine my surprise on learning that the *Storm Bird* never reached harbor, but went down in sight of land. My former employers assured me that no doubt had remained in the mind of any one as to my probable fate, especially as some article marked with my initials washed ashore. My affianced, they told me, had waited a year or more and then married an old friend who had been her lover before, and at the time, too, of our first meeting. He never forgave me—this Max Browning—for winning her from him; but he had beaten in the race at last, and they were removed to Oregon.

To be continued.

ONE OF OREGON'S LEADING PAPERS.—Prominent among the permanent institutions of Astoria stands the leading newspaper of the place—*The Daily Morning Astorian*. The *Astorian* was established in July, 1873. It has the largest circulation of any newspaper published on the Columbia river, and its proprietors, J. F. Halloran & Co., say they have one thousand dollars ready at any time to back up their statement as to the fact. It certainly wields a powerful influence in Northwestern Oregon and Southwestern Washington and has a large constituency of readers. The *Daily Astorian* is found in every nook and corner of the lower Columbia region and the weekly "goes all over." J. F. Halloran & Co., bought the paper in September, 1881, for \$8,000, and have judiciously used the profits of the paper in increasing its capacity in every possible direction during the past eight years. J. F. Halloran, the editor, has occupied that position continuously for eight years and has aided materially in the advancement and progress of the community.

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### WASHINGTON NOTES.

William D. Bushnell, owner of patent rights on ice-making machinery, has organized the Bushnell Ice Machine Co., in Tacoma, with a capital of \$100,000, and will engage in the manufacture of machines for making ice. He recently supplied machinery to the Tacoma Ice and Refrigerating Co., a new incorporation, and this plant, with a capacity of twenty-five tons of ice per day, is now in operation. It is expected to supply the coast with ice and refrigerating machinery of all kinds from the Tacoma factory.

Although rich float quartz has frequently been found in the Swawk placer mines, all efforts to find a ledge containing free gold have hitherto failed. Recently an inexperienced prospector G. W. Seaton by name, followed up float of this kind on Williams creek and discovered a ledge containing a streak of free gold quartz from six to eight inches wide. He has bonded his claim for \$50,000 to the real estate firm of Walters & Co., of Ellensburg.

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