

## PORT ORFORD POST.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, - 1880.

### A NEW APPORTIONMENT.

A part of the duties of the approaching session of the Legislature at Salem will be the re-apportionment and re-adjustment of representation in the Senate and Assembly. There seems to have been, in the past, no very definitely settled rule observed in the matter of adjusting representation in our Legislature. The census now about completed will furnish light by which our Solons may be guided, and it only remains for them to do justice, when all reasonable people ought to be satisfied. But if a system of gerrymandering with a view to future partizan advantage is resorted to, why, then, let all those who countenance or participate in such injustice, consider themselves elected to stay at home for all future time. Voters are become essentially independent in Oregon, and seem inclined to keep themselves in the humor to rebuke trickery and knavery on the right and on the left.

As at present distributed, the representation in our Legislature is not as fair as it might be. But we are more directly interested in the fate of Coos and Curry counties in the forthcoming re-distribution. On a fair and equitable basis, Coos would be entitled to an additional member, giving her two; Curry would be entitled to, and we will certainly insist upon a separate representative in addition to a joint member with Coos as at present. Coos would be entitled, under a re-apportionment on this basis, to a separate Senator, and Coos and Curry to a Joint Senator as at present. This would give the two Southern Coast counties a combined membership in the Legislature of six delegates, whereas, as at present adjusted, the single county of Polk enjoys that number.

At present there are but twenty-three counties in the State, as follows:

Lake, Jackson, Josephine, Curry, Coos, Douglas, Lane, Benton, Polk, Yamhill, Tillamook, Washington, Columbia, Clatsop, Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Linn, Wasco, Umatilla, Union, Baker, Grant.

Population and relative importance considered, we believe that Coos and Curry have a more meager representation than any other two of the counties above named.

ADMIRAL ALDEN contended from his earliest acquaintance on the upper Coast, that Port Orford must some day be selected as a Harbor of Refuge; no other point on the Coast could compete with it for natural adaptability for the purpose.

### GLIMPSSES OF THE LATE RIVER AND HARBOR APPROPRIATIONS.

We have before us a copy of the Bill "making appropriations for the construction, repair, completion, and preservation of certain works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes." In many respects this is a curious document, especially so to persons personally familiar with the geography and topography of many of the States included in the long list, and the rivers, creeks, bays, inlets, etc., which are provided for in the Act.

The Eastern Coast, and the inland waters of the States East of the Rocky Mountains, have, as usual, been abundantly provided for, while appropriations to be expended in Oregon are meagre and seem to have been grudgingly conceded. Take the aggregate appropriations for river and harbor improvements at the East and it will be found to be simply enormous. Creeks, sloughs, ditches, etc., away inland are not overlooked or slighted in the dispensation of the Government's bounty. And why should they be? The people of the States and Territories contribute every cent of the revenues of the Government, and can claim as a right an interest in their distribution. The people are not alone benefited in that the improvements made are of permanent advantage; the expenditure of money for these purposes gives employment to the needy and gives circulation to funds that would otherwise lie locked up in the vaults of the Treasury Department, to all intents and purposes as useless to the country as so many chips.

The appropriation of, from a half million to one million a year as recommended by the Board of Engineers to construct the Break water at this place would not only secure a work of lasting benefit to commerce, but would, meanwhile, furnish employment to hundreds of men, who in turn would expend the proceeds in improvements and enterprises of development, wherefore all branches of trade and industry would be stimulated, and the whole country would be the gainer.

We select a few examples tending to show that all the States East are provided for with a liberal hand:

Improving outside harbor at Chicago, Illinois, one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars.

Improving Galena river and harbor, twelve thousand dollars.

Improving Black Lake, Michigan, six thousand dollars.

Improving the gut opposite Bath, Maine, seven thousand dollars.

Constructing pier in Delaware Bay, near Lewes, Delaware, ten thousand dollars.

Improving harbor at Black river, Ohio, one thousand dollars.

Ice-harbor at mouth of Muskingum river, Ohio, forty thousand dollars.

Improving outside harbor at Michigan City, Indiana, forty thousand dollars.

Fifty thousand dollars was ap-

propriated by Congress for the construction of an "ice harbor at St. Louis."

Three hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for the improvement of the Tennessee river below Chattanooga. This was liberal to the last degree, considering the comparative unimportance of said river. Ten thousand dollars was also appropriated to be expended above Chattanooga on said river.

Upward of one and a half million dollars was appropriated for improvement of various specified points on the Mississippi river; this exclusive of the jetties.

The bill under consideration has in it four hundred and forty-three separate items or places to be improved, with sums named ranging all the way from one thousand dollars to half a million.

### What the Stars Foretell for 1881.

Those who study the stars will have plenty of occupation in the coming year. The index hand on the celestial dial plate points to events of momentous import. The four great planets reach their points to the sun more nearly together than they have done for almost 2,000 years. It is not unreasonable to suppose that with their strong pull and pull altogether they will create some unusual disturbance in the chaotic elements that make up the sun's fiery mass. The forces of the new spot cycle are now in active operation and those who have closely watched the influence of the solar disturbance on climatic conditions predict a hot summer from the heat waves that follow the commencement of the tremendous solar outbreaks. The hidden chambers of the great Pyramid have given forth in oracular fashion momentous prophecies for 1881 to the few disciples who have faith in their teachings, and astrologers cast strange heroscopes from the unusual planetary combinations.

### Among the Lepers.

A matter which, from its peculiar horror, I am not likely to readily forget, was a visit made to the Hospital de San Lazoro, at Havana, the home of lepers. This ancient and terrible disease finds many victims among the low caste Cubans and the poverty stricken Chinese, though it reaches its gaunt fingers into better society sometimes. Leprosy is either inherited or induced by poor food, and especially by eating stale fish. It seems to be a fisher's disease, in fact, seldom prevailing at any great distance from the sea. Leprosy, as seen in the West Indies, is simply a dry-rot. The soul of a man is imprisoned in his body long after he is, to all intents and purposes, dead, and, with all his mental faculties intact, he must endure the gradual falling apart of his earthly tenements, awaiting with what philosophy he may the hour when the cancerous agent shall touch a vital point. This may not occur for many years; it may happen on the morrow. The traditions of the hospitals do not point to any individual case of cure whereby the patient may gain ever so faint a hope. It might well be inscribed over the portal: "Let those who enter here leave all hope behind."

It is not generally known that George Washington had been the means of the introduction of mules at the South which have always been so largely used on the plantations down there.

HYDE received 505 votes and Stauff 606 for County Clerk of Coos.

## THE PORT ORFORD POST.

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