

UP IN OUR RIVER

Railroad Survey Recently Made and Map Filed.

EXTENSION OF OREGON PACIFIC

Rich and Rapidly Developing Country Which Transportation Companies Are Anxious to Reach.

BURNS, Or., Aug. 5.—The United States Land Office at Burns is kept bustling these days. The filing of homestead entries and claims under the desert act is always large here, and during the last month there has been a rush, the number of filings more than doubling those for any previous July. As is the case all over Eastern Oregon, the small ranchmen are looking for a home here. Wherever there is a level tract of land and water convenient there is a race to see who will be first to get it. Every year finds more and more people coming here. The resources of Harney County are great, but on account of its isolation the outside world has been slow in finding it out. But people are coming now, and they find a welcome here. A large surveying party for the Corvallis & Eastern Company has just completed its work in the county, and filed in the Land Office here its map of definite location, along with a profile of the right of way or route to be taken. It began surveying about 24 miles southwest from Burns, on the Malheur River, and added about 16 miles to that already surveyed. The new profile filed in the Land Office here shows the line to be along the valley of the Malheur River. It follows that river for a distance of 24 miles, the entire distance from Burns to the river. The surveying party broke camp on the 18th of July and filed its profile, or definite location claim, in the Land Office at Burns. The Land Office officials have been busy since that time examining the records, so as to report to the General Land Office at Washington each 30-acre tract of Government land through which the new railroad may pass. The line, meandering with the creek, covers a large section of country.

The present survey ends near Crane, in this county, 40 miles southeast of Burns. It is 10 miles from the Burns office, and a preliminary survey made along this route several years ago. A few miles this side of the terminus of the present survey there are two preliminary surveys. One leads out south via Albert Lake and Lakeview, in Lake County, and thence south through California to a point on the Southern Pacific road. The other comes via Burns, thence by Prineville and on to Albany.

The field is a good one from beginning to end. The thousands of head of horses and cattle and sheep, and millions of pounds of wool, find their way to the center demand better transportation. Besides this and the vast amount of freight shipped into this country, the rapidity with which it is settling up is enough to make the shrewd railroad magnates that this is not a country to be neglected. It is no longer a question of the people of Eastern and Southeastern Oregon begging for a railroad, but a race for the swiftest to get here first.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.

30,000 Destitute Men Who Will Create Anarchy If Not Taken Care Of.

PENDLETON, Or., Aug. 7.—The last mail brought letters from John R. Dodson, Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for several years in Alaska, who, when he wrote, was quarantined at Nome. Mr. Dodson is now engaged in taking the census of Alaska, and is familiar with the entire Yukon Basin. He says that 30,000 men, on a conservative estimate, are stranded in the Nome country, having absolutely nothing with which to pay their way out to the states. Furthermore, he writes, the Government will not permit citizens to take the men home, bringing home these stranded men, or experience an open rebellion against the legal power of the land, when the men take forcibly what they cannot buy.

Mr. Dodson says, "It is by no means a statement made without due consideration. But it is the opinion of the most conservative and experienced men who are here. In fact, this is the open and avowed intention of the men who are to do it is not kept as a secret. Being without means and subsistence, and unable to obtain work for anything beyond the present necessities, they are bound to do even to do that, their situation is desperate."

"This condition of affairs is due to the efforts of the big merchandising and transportation companies to induce men to come here by the thousands, when, as the companies' officers well knew, there was nothing for them. I regard it as actually criminal, and this country has been boomed, and the people of the states made to believe that so great a number could do well. It was well known that only a few could find anything of profit, and the rest were being industriously boomed on the assumption that everyone stood a show to become rich by coming here."

"Typhoid fever, smallpox, and other malarial diseases are practically without restraint. Men hereabouts are so poorly nourished, by lack of proper food, that they cannot repel the attacks of the diseases, and for that reason they are liable even to die of the diseases under ordinary conditions there would be comparatively few. In this respect, the prospect is exceedingly gloomy."

"We can get out of this locality, escaping the quarantine by going up the river, and this we intend to do. But few are able to pay for traveling in that direction."

"What we do not understand is that the Government officials, who apprehend the condition fully as well as any of us, do not lay down the requirement that all who come to Nome must purchase a round-trip ticket, thus providing against the necessity of going out. This was done during the rush of 1898 into the Klondike, where it effectively prevented men from going in who had no provisions. Then they had to have provisions for a year. Now, they should have a return ticket home. Why, men are coming here, and some come on foot, and of each score that come, ten are broke as soon as they land."

"It is easy for people in the states to see that this cannot go on indefinitely without terrible conditions prevailing. You at home may perhaps appreciate the truth of what I say, when I state that at this time, when the ships are not allowed to go out, from the shore, the men would seize one or more of them by force, and either take the provisions or compel the masters to transport them to the states."

Mr. Dodson will remain in the Yukon country during the coming winter, having mining interests in the interior, and no doubt by this time has been home for the river. His letter was written to his brother-in-law, T. E. Fell, manager of the Pendleton Woolen & Scouring Mills.

GOLD AT COPPER RIVER.

Eight Pounds Said to Have Been Taken Out in a Week.

SEATTLE, Aug. 7.—News of a reported fabulous rich placer gold discovery in the Copper River district was brought to Seattle by the steamer Bertha. From bedrock at a depth of seven feet, four men are said to have taken out 25 ounces of coarse gold from a claim on Steam Creek, a tributary of the Chistachin, which flows into the Copper River. The claim was made in one day.

The news was brought down by James

Fish, the Government mailcarrier between Port Valdes and Coah City. He had his information from a miner named Fulkerson, who was direct from the district, and who is said by Fish to be thoroughly reliable. The find, he says, was made on July 7, and resulted in a stampede to State Creek. The mine where the strike was made is owned by Joseph Bourke, J. Jacobson, William Trarrey and Robert Cole. In the seven days following their lucky find they are said to have taken out eight pounds of dust.

Fish adds that a good strike has been made at the headwaters of the Chinna, a few inches below the surface, as high as 30 cents to the pan being obtained. The new discoveries are 24 miles inland from Port Valdes. There are not to exceed 50 miners in the district.

A telegraph line now connects Swanport, the little town surrounding the United States Station, and the Copper River district with Port Valdes. It was completed a few weeks ago.

Corwin Could Not Reach Siberia. VICTORIA, B. C., Aug. 7.—The steamer Corwin, which was to leave from the Siberian coast. The Corwin reported having pulled the steamer Progress and a Russian vessel from the ice pack. The owners of the Progress have a large concession in Siberia, and the owners of the Corwin crossed the straits to see what there was on the Russian side. They took a number of miners, who went over in the hope of doing some prospecting, but the ice was still thick in the beds of the creeks, and after a stay of a week, the Corwin returned with her party. The Corwin will now proceed to the Arctic.

Washington Notes.

John Saunders, a pioneer, aged 60, died at Monroe recently of consumption.

Johnny Peterson, aged 15, was drowned Saturday while swimming in the Spokane river.

Whatcom Democrats will hold their primaries August 15, and their county convention the 20th.

King County's assessment foots up a grand total of \$1,388,531, of which nearly \$3,000,000 is for the county.

A young woman clerk in Tacoma is reported to have refused point-blank an introduction to the Governor.

Mrs. Margaret Spinning died in Walla Walla August 4, at the age of 65, after a lingering illness with consumption.

F. A. Fluke is said to be the name of the man who committed suicide in a Spokane variety theater. He came from California.

The dates set for holding the state fair at North Yakima are September 24 to 29, inclusive. Among the exhibitors are 250 poultrymen.

William Moore, a North Yakima carpenter, died August 4 for abusing his family. Sentence was suspended during good behavior.

Hon. John M. Frink's friends carried the Port Townsend primaries, and will have a delegation at Tacoma in favor of his nomination for Governor by the Republicans.

A Hilliard correspondent reports that the Prairie Squirrel Club has killed 613 squirrels this year. Elmer Palmer killed 120, and Fred Hill 428, and received a target rifle as a prize.

Both wheat and fruit from the Big Bend country are reported to be of inferior quality this year. Fruit trees are too heavily laden, and the parching weather has affected the product.

W. A. York, the missing Walla Walla farmer, is reported at Adams, Or. During his absence he was working as a farm hand. It is said he was temporarily demented by worry over business.

Henry McLeod and Frank Farr were badly crushed by a falling log at Gougar's mill, in Centerville, the morning of August 6. McLeod, it is feared, is injured beyond recovery, but Farr's injuries are not serious.

Jonas Gae, of Port Townsend, died at his home in that city August 3, of heart failure. He was a member of the historical expedition, headed by General I. Stevens, which left Nebraska in 18— for the Pacific Coast. His age was 75.

Rev. E. E. Thompson, while preaching, took down the pulpit of the church of Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Seattle, Sunday morning. It was found that he was suffering from heart trouble. He is confined to his bed, but is improving.

Mrs. Kate Stevens Eltingham, daughter of Major General S. Stevens, died at the first Territorial Governor of Washington, is on Puget Sound for the purpose of taking orders for the biography of her father's life, written by her brother, General Stevens.

A Fairhaven woman lost her purse, containing \$50, and promised some children a reward to find it. Four little chaps searched an "addition," found the purse, and carried it down to the owner. She gave them 15 cents for division among them.

Nothing has been heard of the Populist Central Committee for some time, and it is rumored that the committee has been disbanded, and the party has been merged into the Social Democrats, says the New Whatcom Revue.

It is stated that the committee chairman, W. H. Dorr, has also joined the Democrats.

Three young men claiming to be ex-soldiers of the Philippine Army, and giving their names as Harry S. Smith, Gilbert White and Golden Barum, recently stopped at Thomas R. Ronda's home, and filed their briefs to be extended to September 15, 1900.

Linn County, respondent vs. P. G. Morris et al., appellants, ordered that appeal be taken to the state supreme court, and that the appellants be allowed to file their briefs to be extended to September 15, 1900.

R. A. Skinner, administrator, appellant, vs. George E. Lewis et al., respondents, ordered that the respondents be allowed to file their briefs to be extended to September 15, 1900, to serve and file their briefs.

The Board of State School Land Commissioners has sold the school lands in Chehalis County to parties living in Aberdeen for \$500. This is the last tract of school land remaining on the Chehalis river, and it was sold for only \$33. The large price realized by the state was on account of the controversy over the ownership of the land between Chehalis County and the state.

William R. Hammond, a pioneer of Walla Walla, died Monday at his home near that city. He left a wife, two sons and the following daughters: Mrs. John Teasler, Mrs. Joe Turner, Mrs. J. L. Berry, now in Denver; Mrs. Joseph Fields, of Portland, and two unmarried, Gertrude and Emma. One son, John Hammond, is in Spokane, and another, Harry R. Hammond, is in Seattle.

Mrs. James Green, Mrs. P. J. Brumagin and Mrs. Nancy Hancock, live in Walla Walla.

There is a bitter dispute at McIntosh over the sawmill at that place. A. P. Perry claims to own it, and denies the right of Receiver Hovey to have charge of it. Further, he made good his own property, and was shot until arrested by Sheriff Billings. It seems that Perry is the owner, and received no money from his lessee, Lester. The creditors of Lester will resist Perry's claim, and an earnest legal fight is promised.

Sheriff Tucker, of Yakima County, offers a reward of \$50 for the arrest and detention of Harry H. Graham, wanted at North Yakima for obtaining money under false pretenses. He is described as "38 years of age, 5 feet 5 inches in height, 135 pounds in weight, dark olive complexion, blue eyes, black hair, very slightly curly; eyes brown; heavy, coarse features; thick lips, flat nose and large nostrils; claims to have worked three years as a gold miner, and was in San Francisco; left here with a young wife (having been married less than three weeks) July 19, and departed here in Seattle the same day."

REASONABLE TIME TO PAY

AFTER THAT COUNTIES MUST PAY STATE INTEREST.

Attorney-General's Opinion Squares With Decision of the Supreme Court—Troops for China.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 7.—Attorney-General Blackburn has rendered an opinion at the request of State Treasurer Moore, in which he holds that a county is liable for interest on delinquent state taxes after a reasonable time has elapsed after it is possible for the taxes to be paid. The question was raised in regard to balances of taxes due from Washington County for the years 1892 and 1893.

Some time ago, in a suit brought by the State against Marion County, the Supreme Court decided that interest cannot be collected from a county on taxes

which have become delinquent because the Legislature has made it impossible for the county to collect its taxes by the date they are made due to the state. In the decision the Supreme Court said: "The state ought not to be permitted to insist that the county shall pay interest because of a default which it was impossible for them to avoid on account of the action of the state itself."

The opinion by Judge Blackburn is upon another question, but it is decided by the Supreme Court in the Marion County case. He agrees with the Supreme Court that the counties should not pay interest for money due during which it was impossible for them to pay their state taxes, but he holds that if, after they are enabled to pay their taxes, they delay payment beyond a reasonable time, they must pay interest for the time they delay.

This opinion seems at first to be in conflict with a decision of Justice Thayer in the case of State of Oregon vs. Multnomah County, reported in the 12th Oregon report, page 257, but Judge Blackburn explains this apparent conflict by the fact that Justice Thayer's decision was based upon section 1 of chapter 27 of the General Laws of Oregon, 1887, which at that section was materially amended by the amendment by Justice Thayer. The law as it formerly stood provided that the rate of interest on this state shall be per centum per annum, and no more, on all moneys, after the same become due on judgments and decrees, for the payment of money, etc. The amendment of this law was changed in the amendment, which reads as follows: "The rate of interest in this state shall be 8 per centum per annum, and no more, on all moneys, after the same become due; on judgments and decrees for the payment of money, etc."

The old law made interest payable on all moneys after they should become due on judgments and decrees, but the new law made interest payable on all moneys after they should become due. Judge Blackburn holds that state taxes are a debt due from the county to the state, and that they are due within a reasonable time after they can be collected according to law. If they are not paid within a reasonable time after they can be collected, he holds that interest shall be charged at the legal rate. What constitutes a reasonable time, he says, depends upon the circumstances of each case.

Oregon Supreme Court.

In the Supreme Court today the following orders were made:

M. P. Montgomery, executor, respondent, vs. Robert Smith et al., appellants, ordered that the appellants be allowed to file their briefs to be extended to September 15, 1900.

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HELD FOR BIGAMY.

Edwards, of Alsea, the Accused Man, Offered No Defense.

CORVALLIS, Or., Aug. 7.—At his preliminary examination held in Alsea, R. Edwards, accused of bigamy, was held over to the Grand Jury for the sum of \$500. The evidence for the state included the marriage certificate, which related that Roscoe Edwards became the husband of Miss Touchet at New Lisbon, Wis., about 19 years ago. There was a letter from the accused, Wisconsin wife, in which she claimed marriage relation with Edwards, saying that to her knowledge no divorce had ever been granted. There were also letters of similar tenor from the accused to his wife, who lived at New Lisbon. The defense offered no evidence, but moved for dismissal on the ground that the state had not proved that the former wife was still alive.

QUARANTINE AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Said to Be 25 Cases at Five Landings on the Columbia River.

THE DALLES, Or., Aug. 7.—Notification has been received here from the Health Officers of Hood River, Clatsop County, Washington, declaring Cook's Landing, Drano, Underwood, White Salmon and Singen under quarantine on account of smallpox. These places are adjoining landings on the Washington side of the Columbia River opposite Hood River, among whose population, it is stated, there are 25 well-developed cases of smallpox.

Oregon Notes.

Scarlet fever is reported at Cove.

The town of Flora thinks it has a good opening for a physician.

At Cornucopia recently two miners broke a faro bank, getting \$900.

New Britain, in Union County, reports a temperature of 116 in the shade July 31.

A bicyclist in Crook County claims to have run over a rattlesnake and barely escaped its fangs.

Hon. R. D. Hume, of Curry County, has 100 acres of land for canning purposes; but the ravages of cutworms will render the yield light.

Fourteen business men of Eugene have put up \$1000 for improving the road to the Blue River, and further subscriptions are expected.

Four "prostrations from extreme heat" are reported during the recent hot spell in the eastern part of Union County—a surprising fact to warrant a registration.

The Cove Courier says that the residence of Herman Geer, father of Governor Geer, caught fire on the 21, but was saved by fruit-pickers. The damage was small.

May Koster, of Mohawk, aged 13, strayed from home and neighbors searched all night for her. Later she was found in Eugene, and refused to say why she left home.

Yreka, Cal., Tuesday, after giving space to a couple of bellicose correspondents, stops the discussion and suggests that "they try some other method of settling their differences, as razors, bricks, red-hot anything but slinging news."

A Corvallis lawyer has been to Eddyville, the scene of the fatal accident to Mrs. Luckey and serious injuries to Mr. Weiland and family, for the purpose of getting facts to warrant an action against the Blue River mill.

The Salem Statesman has this concerning a former editor of the Salem Independent: "The late J. H. Fletcher and his son Ham, who went to Nome last Spring, are said by W. J. Culver to be among the luckiest ones of the Salem miners. They secured a good claim, and at last accounts were taking out \$20 per day. The ex-Governor is reduced in flesh, but is in splendid health and good spirits, and well satisfied with his venture."

Dr. Sanford's Liver Invigorator.

The best Liver Medicine. A Vegetable Cure for Liver Bile, Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation.

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Pacific Coast Seaports

JAMES J. HILL, IN SEATTLE, BOOMS PUGET SOUND.

Incidentally Tells What Great Northern Railroad and Steamships Will Do to Help the Growth.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 7.—James J. Hill today gave the following interview: "There is a great struggle going on for the control of the trade of the Western coast of the United States, and which will result in one great metropolitan city and port, and that struggle will be between Puget Sound and San Francisco."

"The advantage at present is with San Francisco, because of the amount of ready capital and the large investments made in that city, and you know that capital is the chief element in a hard fight. There are many men in San Francisco who have invested largely in San Francisco, and those gentlemen are not going to see Puget Sound carry off the palm in this great struggle without a vigorous contest."

"But in the long run Puget Sound will win because of the great advantage derived from cheap coal. Other things equal, such as docks, transcontinental roads, quantities of freight, etc., the tramp steamer goes where coal can be obtained the cheapest, and as the tramp steamer determines the rate of ocean freight, it will readily be perceived how cheap coal will send San Francisco in the long run."

"Seattle has reached a point in her growth that is as high as she can go from her present resources, and that is why I have made such efforts to establish an Oriental line connecting with this point, and why I am today expending nearly \$5,000,000 in the construction of two of the greatest freight-carrying steamships that have ever been undertaken in the history of the world."

"I shall, therefore, look forward to the beginning of the Seattle boom, and the growth at the close of 1901, when these two steamers will be ready to undertake the work for which they are being constructed, and when this shall be accomplished, together with such other undertakings as the entire country will recognize that the present growth of Seattle is permanent, and that the commerce and trade already obtained is but a small part of what will be accomplished."

"During the winter I shall lay the keels of two new steamers to be put upon a new line plying between Seattle, Honolulu and Hilo. These boats will be built at the same yards where our monster freighters are being constructed, and this is a part of the additional Pacific Ocean trade that will be turned to Seattle."

"Mr. Hill, how will the Chinese war affect your Oriental plans?" he was asked.

"Not in the least, unless, indeed, it may benefit them. I believe that ultimately the United States and other nations will unite on a policy to aid the Chinese Government in the restoration and preservation of order."

"Our trade may temporarily drop off the trade of the Nation, I mean—but the presence of so many American and European soldiers will serve ultimately to increase trade. Every soldier who is in China, and particularly every soldier who stays when the trouble is over is a commercial agent. He can't help but make trade, make deals for American things."

"Another new industry of which you are now receiving a slight taste is the supplying of Government transports with their necessary outfit. Seattle ought to be the Government depot for the United States dock at this point. If it were to occur, a Government ship coming to this port would not be compelled to buy a portion of her cargo in Portland, as was the case last week, for the storeshouse would be kept full constantly, and when a Government ship wanted a cargo in an emergency, the great bulk would be ready for shipment. Nor would this arrangement be in wise interference with the supply from Seattle. Indeed, this patronage of Uncle Sam would mean an immense trade to your merchants."

"But I desire to give you a pointer to the future. The Government of Seattle should place in the top of his hat: Seattle will never be able to obtain Government business as a permanent institution until she has at least some representation in the Congress of the United States, and Mr. Hill laughed at Seattle's defenseless condition in the halls of Congress. "Seattle is to be the giant port of the Coast," was Mr. Hill's conclusion.

NORTHWEST DEAD.

Ezra Moe, the Oldest Settler in Wahkiakum County.

SKAMOKAWA, Wash., Aug. 7.—Ezra Moe, one of the oldest settlers in Wahkiakum County, and probably the oldest citizen hereabouts, died yesterday morning of old age. He was 88 years old February 23 last. He was the first Postmaster in Skamokawa, and at one time owned a wharf and a small business in the freight business of this section. He had been unusually vigorous for one so aged up to April, and Skamokawa people, who took great interest in the venerable old man, thought he would live to be a hundred. He left two sons, Alex Moe, of Skamokawa, and Albert Moe, of La Center, Clark County.

J. H. Stewart, Oregon Pioneer of 1861.

CORVALLIS, Or., Aug. 7.—James H. Stewart, an Oregon pioneer of 1861, died last night from a paralytic stroke, sustained last week. The deceased was born in Fountain County, Indiana, June 19, 1812. In 1844 he went with his parents to Polk County, Missouri, where he engaged in farming until 1861. In the Spring of that year, with his mother, wife and two children, Mr. Stewart started for Oregon, arriving September 23. Within a few months he took up a donation land claim near Corvallis, and here he remained until 1861. He was a native of Missouri 22 years ago, and was a native of Germany. The deceased left a wife and five children.

GOLD GLISTENS IN ORE.

A New and Significant Strike in the Bohemian District.