

The Oregonian

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wine makes it legal. The upper classes in Constantinople drink to excess, their ancestors did as far back as we can trace them, and the people is still to be found which has not used and abused intoxicating drink.

WHEAT AND STOCKS.

The wheat holder who pins his faith in better prices for cereal to the theory that a boom in stocks and other commodities must pull wheat along with it, is courting disappointment.

PORTLAND'S OPPORTUNITY IN NEHALEM.

The report of the officers of the Portland, Nehalem & Tillamook Railway Company, which is published elsewhere in this issue, shows the opening that awaits Portland enterprising in the Nehalem country.

Recent investigations have demonstrated that the Nehalem line will not be so costly to construct as was at first estimated. A more southern route on the summit reduces the grade from 2 per cent to 1 1/2 per cent and lowers the cost of work in proportion.

There is no question that a dollar's worth of wheat, at present moderate prices, is an intrinsic collateral value greater than the fictitious value created by his manipulation brought out from all over the world, and the English market, which is really the world's market, was soon swamped under heavy offerings which were beyond the control of the American speculator.

The company proposes to build and operate a line of 45 miles of road, which will cost \$14,750 per mile, exclusive of rolling stock. To do this, the officers recommend that \$500,000 of 5 per cent, first mortgage bonds be issued, and that for equipment \$100,000 be raised on preferred stock.

THE STRANGE CASE OF CONGER.

"I cannot be a candidate, but will accept the nomination if it is tendered me," this is the answer which Conger has given to the popular demand that he should stand for Governor of Iowa.

In contrast with the Oregon plan of elevating to the Governorship or the Senate, those men of ability and character are recognized by common consent as fitting them for preferment, let us contemplate the Iowa attitude toward the man who cannot be a candidate, but will accept if elected.

Wilson, well known here, was Chief of the Corps of United States Engineers. He would have attained his 64th birthday and been placed on the retired list on the 8th of October next.

SOMETHING NEW IN EXPOSITIONS.

This is emphatically the era of expositions. Never before in our history has the desire to let the world know, by sample, so to speak, what we are and what we can do been so pronounced as at the present time.

Another form of exposition to which American ingenuity and enterprise may well give attention is found in the proposal made awhile ago by O. P. Austin, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department.

The American commercial traveler understands his business and works it industriously. The floating exposition, properly managed, would be the American commercial traveler multiplied, intensified and equipped for increased and increasing business.

Recent statements of the press to the effect that the oil well struck in Texas in the suburbs of the syndicate a commission to be deducted from the realized sales and in proportion to the value of the product.

BRIGADIERS WHILE YOU WAIT.

There has been uncertainty of late as to who has been Chief of United States Engineers. Among the appointments telegraphed from Washington, April 29, were the following:

Chief of Engineers, with rank of Brigadier-General, John Barlow, George L. Gillespie, Henry M. Roberts.

Will Governor Geer have to stand before the silly women who signed the Patterson petition for pardon and their sex, by refusing to grant the request? Is there any punishment too severe for the crime Patterson committed, and was it for protection of women that the law was designed against viciousness such as his?

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LESSON OF JACKSONVILLE'S FIRE.

The Jacksonville fire, with all its sickening train of known and unknown tragedies, will at least force home upon the American people the necessity of finding, and that without delay, some inexpensive fireproof building material.

Science has been dealing with this problem of fireproofing wood with notable success during the past two years. The latest method, invented and successfully developed by Joseph L. Ferrell, of Philadelphia, is described in a recent number of the Scientific American.

Two planks of white pine, each measuring 1 inch by 8 inches by 12 feet, were subjected to treatment exactly 10 minutes. The liquor commenced to penetrate the pores of the wood as soon as the pressure reached 400 pounds.

England, \$175,733,855; France, \$165,875,545; Germany, \$141,235,000; Russia, \$93,540,000; Austria-Hungary, \$13,240,000.

A Birth Notice.

The first child born in the new mining camp of Ashwood made its appearance on the 21st ult. The father, who is a well-to-do man, and the mother, who is a native of the State, came to port without ballast, for she weighed only four pounds.

A Generous Offer.

ASTORIA, May 3.—Dear Miss Portland: While I do not always approve of your actions, and think you are inclined to be very affected at times, I wish you to understand that I am heartily in sympathy with the effort you are making for the Lewis and Clark fair, and it is my sincere wish that the exposition will be most successful.

The Name Commended.

What's in a name? Everything! The coming Oregon centennial in 1862 at Portland has an appropriate name. It's a little long, to be sure, but it tells the whole story with a little sentiment added.

AMUSEMENTS.

In "A Suit of Sables," a light and pleasing comedy which was staged last night at Cordray's, the Belasco & Thall Company had the best opportunity yet afforded them to show their strength as an organization.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Omaha justice, it seems, is not only blind, but deaf and dumb. The corner in corn will not keep whisky from going down right along.

Chief Kiple, of Chicago, has been re-fired. As he has made \$300,000 while in office, he certainly ought to be willing to pass the job along.

"NATHAN HALE" TONIGHT.

Clyde Fitch's play at the Marquand. At the Marquand Grand Theater to-night, the attraction will be Clyde Fitch's well-known historical play, "Nathan Hale," with Howard Kyle in the name part.

Notes of the Stage.

Florence Roberts has sat for her photograph over 400 times. Ernest Barton Thompson, the "Animal Man," has been seen in the city.

Our Immense Gold Holdings.

New York Times. A recent dispatch from Washington called attention to the very large amount of gold now in the Treasury, larger than ever before, and according to the dispatch, greater than the amount of gold in the national banks of any other country.

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Reciprocity.

A large number of Oregon papers are giving extensive notice of the approaching session of the International Mining Congress. They should urge that their state be largely represented and Idaho, they will remember the fact at the time of the great Lewis and Clark expedition.

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FLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS.

"How did you like the pictures at the art exhibition?" "Splendid. I met everybody and I never needed more attention in my life."—Philadelphia Times.

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The True Situation.

Some one has pertinently remarked that so far as the United States is concerned, the only thing that is true is that the United States is just this: Cuba shall have the right to do as she pleases as long as she pleases to do right.

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