

CHANGE OF DATE.

The NEW NORTHWEST will hereafter be published on Friday, as heretofore.

THE CONVENTION AT ASTORIA.

Announcement was made in these columns several weeks since of the session of the Oregon State Woman Suffrage Convention at Astoria.

ANOTHER CHAMPION OF RIGHT.

Earnest, progressive Christian workers and their friends and sympathizers heretofore may well congratulate themselves for the pupils of the city are supplied to an extent not known heretofore in its annals with men who see their duty to humanity, and are fearless in the discharge thereof.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR READERS OF THE NEW NORTHWEST: So thoroughly tired and exhausted are we with the fatigues of a recent voyage and the subsequent endeavor to "do" the Bay City in the shortest possible space of time in order to be ready to retrace our way to Portland on the returning steamer, that we feel wholly incapacitated to make a comprehensive record of our wanderings.

Our present trip to San Francisco was planned on the spur of the moment, and is to be excessively unsatisfactory on many accounts, chiefly because of its suddenness; but we received, with our liege, to visit the former types of the People's Paper while the fare was down; so behold us, on Sunday, the 7th inst., in company with several hundred fellow-voyagers, on board the steamer "Great Republic," and watching the excited throng of lookers-on who line the wharves to bid adieu to friends, and watch the endeavors of the massive ship to follow in the wake of a little river steamer, that, with the agility of a pet poodle that gambols at the end of a tow-line in the hands of her mistress, frisks hither and thither, till finally she accomplishes her purpose, and leads the greater craft captive at her will.

Once away from the Portland docks, and well on her downward way toward the ocean, the compiler of these chronicles sets about the ever-recurring task of serial writing, which, like washing day, must come every week, and we saw but little of the ship, the Columbia River, or our fellow-travelers till the fast line of Chapter XXIV, of "Her Lot" was finished and ready for the Astoria mail. Then we looked about us and beheld a large number of Portland acquaintances, with whom we beguiled the time not spent at table in agreeable chit-chat till 3 p. m., when the numerous white sails on the widened bosom of the River to the West bespoke the vicinity of fisheries. Presently, in the teeth of a refreshing breeze, we made the Astoria landing, and everybody who desired went ashore to forage for fruit, and also to reconnoiter.

On Monday morning, before we had hardly thought of leaving our comfortable quarters in one of the "bridal chambers," of which the "Great Republic" boasts a score, our liege, who had been ashore for several hours, informed us that the bar was passed, and we were already off Tillamook Head. And yet the sea was so calm and the great ship so steady that we, used in times past to the heaving motion of the favorite little "Oriflamme," could hardly realize that he was not jesting. But we arose and dressed and breakfasted, and then went on deck, to find half the passengers seasick, and the other half enjoying the fun of it. The most of us were hand-lubbers, but there were a few regular sea-goers. All were delighted with the steamer. Through the politeness of the chief engineer, Mr. Horton, we learned that the "Great Republic" was built at the Novelty Iron Works, New York, in 1857. She is of 4,600 tons register, and accommodates 900 passengers. Her cylinder is 105 inches in diameter, of 12 feet stroke, and she has a capacity of 2,360 horse-power. She has four boilers, six furnaces each, and consumes forty tons of coal in twenty-four hours. Her wheels are forty-two feet in diameter, making over fifty revolutions per mile. The steamer is well supplied with all appliances in case of fire, having four powerful engines ready to be started at any minute. Boats and life-preservers, capable of rescuing double her number of passengers in case of accident, are always ready. Her staterooms can all be warmed by steam, a great convenience in cold weather. She has hitherto been on the China trade, for which she was originally built. We cannot omit commending her excellent table regulations, which prevent crowding and confusion, each passenger being supplied with a ticket designating his seat during the voyage. Through the kindness of Captain Carroll, to whom we were introduced by our old Oregon friend, Captain Baz. Miller, of Williamette River navigation fame, we were permitted to wander through every part of the vast machinery, into all the intricate places where "No admittance" debars the general public, and were deeply interested in watching the mysterious workings of the mighty yet invisible vapor that silently moves the ponderous engine and drives the huge iron wheels through the motive power that is warmed into life by the tremendous heat of the fiery cavern that glows and glares beneath the thoughtless throngs that pace her magnificent decks or recline at ease under her wide-spread awnings. Then we thought of the bowels of the earth, and speculated upon the "ignis theory," and hastened up the iron steps and out into the open air, a trifle sea-sick. There is only one step from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Our captain signaled the "Idaho" on Monday, making her way to Portland, and on Tuesday several schools of whales repeatedly signaled us. The Grand Opera Troupe was on board, and on Tuesday evening we were treated to a concert and dramatic readings, the entertainment being in every way acceptable to the crowd of passengers, who eagerly thronged the dining saloon to see and hear. Mr. J. O. Barrows and the Misses Holbrook and True were especially pleasing in their recitations, with, of course, the ladies ahead.

"MAKE ROOM FOR TRAMPS."

The withdrawal of the circulating medium from fifty to five dollars per head from among the people is one of the greatest curses ever perpetrated upon the laboring classes in the United States. It has stopped enterprises, paralyzed all branches of business, sent thousands of men into bankruptcy, shut down manufactories, turned thousands upon thousands of men, women, and children penniless into the streets, created an army of "tramps," robbed the poor man of the little he had earned by the sweat of his brow and put in part payment toward a home, cast distrust and doubt upon all branches of business, and created a world of woe.

The Walla Walla Union of July 6th has an item upon the subject of "tramps," which runs thus: "If the unemployed laborers of the cities and towns could be induced to settle upon and cultivate the idle lands which everywhere abound, the country would be vastly improved, all would be provided with bread and meat, 'tramps' would become extinct, crime would diminish, and hard times would be abolished." Will the Union be kind enough to tell those "unemployed laborers" how they can get the means to get upon these "idle lands," and where they can get the means to start improvements there if they get there. Not one in ten thousand of them has means enough to pay the first mile on a street car to get outside of the city limits. They are being fed by the thousands on one cent meals in the city of New York to-day, while Sherman & Co. are clamoring for "specie payment" with heartless indifference. There is another fact about these starving millions in the great cities. Not one in a thousand of them have any more of an idea how to farm or cultivate these "idle lands" than the farmer's boy has of the various trades necessary to a city life, which these starving thousands are masters of. It would be as idle to place them upon farms without means to live on while they learned how to make a living out of Mother Earth, as it would be to take a boy or a man who had farmed it all his life, and set him in a machine shop, surrounded by all of the material and tools necessary to make a steam engine, and tell him to make one or more.

pay on untaxed bonds boarded in Idaho.

The British Cabinet has finally resolved not to dissolve the Parliament this year.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Russian unoffical press is more or less dissatisfied with the treaty. Before its conclusion Aleskoff, Panlavian agitator, made such a violent speech in Moscow against the Russian concessions in the congress, that he was warned that its repetition would be regarded as a personal attack on the czar.

Early Marriages.

Nearly or quite a century ago, maybe more, we are not good in antiquities, old Ben Franklin put himself upon record as in favor of early marriages, giving reasons therefor in which the woman's personality and well being were totally submerged in that of the man. Everybody knows that Franklin revelled in the luxuries of a foreign court while rigidly enforcing his "poor Richard" maxims upon his wife; so, if events had not through every year of the dead century proved the fallacy of his views upon early marriages, he would scarcely have been considered a pattern and exemplar in marital affairs. We find in a Chicago paper, the American Home, an article on "Early Marriages" as illustrated by a sensation of the day, which unfolds a chapter in human affairs that no man or woman of observation or experience will declare too strongly drawn. We quote:

The sad tragedy which is occupying the public mind in Chicago to-day, in which a beautiful young girl was shot down in the first bloom of her life, is a case that has attracted attention to the subject of early and immature marriages, and their generally disastrous consequences. Search the records of the divorce courts throughout the country to-day, and see how many foundations were laid in the fact of the extreme youth of the wife. Go farther, and search the houses of ill repute, and see how many of these unhappy creatures owe their present fate to the fact of an immature and almost necessarily unhappy union. I would venture to say that fully a half of their numbers will do so. An immature marriage is always more or less an outrage, and it is not to be wondered at that the victims to it have all the delicate womanly instincts injured, and the finer feelings of purity and chastity damaged. The man of mature age who takes a child for his wife before it is possible for her to realize the meaning of the position she assumes, and its consequent burdens and terrible responsibilities, commits a crime against her which, though it is not recognized by our present laws, is nevertheless a crime, and such a crime as sets the foundation for a train of evils, the extent and ramifications of which it would be hard to circumscribe.

The marriage of a very young girl is the alarming case of a girl about upon a deep and tempestuous sea without sail and without ballast. Helplessly she will drift along, the sport of the wind and waves, till finally she is either dashed to pieces on the rocks of prostitution or cast upon the sands of a wasted life, and for which terrible consequences the man who marries her, the parents who consent and the laws which unite them, are all equally responsible. The poor girl in question, who has paid with her life the penalty of an unjust position and the follies almost always consequent upon such a condition, is a sad illustration in point, the ways of life opened out and amiable possible to her before her feet were trained to carry her safely through. Though not entirely innocent, she yet has claims upon the sympathy and sorrow of all charitable persons. She was more stoned against than stoned. Her youth deserved a protection it did not get. For her husband, whose jealousy drove him to the commission of a great crime, what can be said but that he has two crimes to answer for, the marriage in the first place, the murder in the second? And for her—as well drop from the tree of life in early youth as to live to an imperfect maturity. When once the seed of sin and corruption has been sown in the tender fruit, its worth and sweetness are gone.

Laying the Corner-Stone.

The ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the Unitarian Church, in progress of erection at the corner of Yamhill and Seventh streets, took place on Sunday evening at 5 o'clock. The formal laying of the stone was conducted according to the impressive rites of Masonry, and was witnessed by a vast assemblage. Rev. D. N. Utter, of Olympia, gave a cordial greeting to the multitude in a few well-chosen words, and after the mystic and symbolic ceremonies attending the placing of the stone were completed, the choir arose and sent out upon the air of the still Sabbath evening an anthem, sweetly, grandly beautiful and solemn. The "Declaration of Principles" of the Unitarian Church was read by Mr. C. W. Burrage, containing so much that was Christ-like that it seemed sufficient to renew a faltering "faith in God and faith in man" to hearken to their clear enunciation. The address of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Elliot, was appropriate in every sentence. The financial exhibit showed that about \$15,000 of the \$18,000 thought necessary to construct the building has already been subscribed.

I look at this piece of dressed rock we have laid here, and find it bringing by its symbolic presence, a throng of thoughts reaching into the past and future. I realize the solemnity of the hour, not for us only, but in history questions and problems from the deep sea come surging against this simple stone. I realize that it is laid in a crisis of the human mind and world life. The new and the old, letter and spirit, substance and shadow, never have been in such earnest conflict and stern antagonism as to-day. Where, I ask myself, will the tremendous questions of 1875 be fifty or a hundred years hence? What of our political fabric? Is it to pass into disintegration and despotism as a phase of national evolution? What of mental life, is it to become the grand product of positivism? What of ethical principles? Are they to prove relative only and domestic relations? Are they to drift again where pessimists forecast, into the age of Augustus or Louis XIV.? What of religion? Are we to find the so-called fixed essentials of to-day held as open questions in 1878? It is amid such thoughts that we lay that stone.

REGENT EVENTS.

Crops in Dakota promise well, and Indians there are peaceably disposed. The Nez Perce prisoners have been removed to a home near Baxter Springs. Two women were killed by lightning in Gloucester, Massachusetts, on Sunday.

Work-shops in the new State prison at Concord, Massachusetts, burned on the 29th. Loss estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The probable loss to the crops in Minnesota from rains and hot weather is estimated at from twenty to forty per cent. Harvest is in full blast. General Sheridan is in the Black Hills country, attended by an escort. He will select a location for a military post in that region before returning. A cyclone swept through West Albany, New York, on Sunday, unroofing houses and scattering things generally, to the damage of about \$100,000 worth of property.

NEWS ITEMS.

A land office will shortly be established at Boise City. There is said to be an abundance of salmon in the Owyhee River. There are about eighty patients in the Territorial asylum at Stollacoom. A salmon-keeper at Oregon City was recently fined \$300 for selling liquor to a minor. Mr. Plummer is meeting with success in disposing of his fruit-dryers in Yamhill county. The narrow-gauge railroad will be in running order between Sheridan and Dayton by the middle of September. W. B. Carter, State printer elect, filed his official bond of \$50,000, and took the oath of office as the law directs last week. Salmon catch during the last month was good. The average catch on Tuesday night of last week was twenty to thirty tons. A woman, while hurrying to Weston for safety from the Indians, let her baby fall from the wagon, and it was run over and killed. Four pairs of aborigines of the Iwoava tribe were united in marriage at the Stollacoom reservation on the 4th of July by Rev. M. Ellis. There are about twenty wounded men in Pendleton—most at private houses. Most of these are wounded in the leg, and only two or three in danger of life. One hundred and sixty stands of arms with ten thousand rounds of ammunition has arrived in Canyon City, and the settlers are masters of the situation. A man named John Gannville was committed to the insane asylum at Stollacoom recently. The attack being the result of sun-stroke while working in the neighborhood of Port Townsend. Early of Oregon City, who stabbed Henry Meyers at New East last Sunday week, is held in bonds of \$1,000 to answer to the court for the crime. George La Roque is also under bonds for appearance for taking a part in the fray. A writer, speaking of the Walla Walla Valley, says: "It does a poor man good to see the thousands of acres of grain now being harvested, but the all-absorbing question is, 'How shall we get it to market with freight \$2 1/2 per ton?' It is written concerning the situation on Butter Creek, Umattila county, that 'every home is deserted and plundered of everything valuable, and crops and gardens destroyed by stock. It will take years of hard labor to rebuild the happy homes of two weeks ago.' Rev. William Jolly was severely injured on Monday of last week by attempting to restrain a team of runaway mules. He was dragged some distance and finally thrown against the end of a bridge, sustaining severe bruises. His wounds are doing well. Alex. S. Arnold asserts that he never attended a woman's rights convention, but when the news came that only forty and five single women availed themselves of the seven-by-nine privileges of the Hilton palace (Stewart's hotel for women), his respect for the sex was so augmented that he decided at once to attend the next Woman Suffrage meeting, at whatever cost. A minister of an extremely hopeful spirit is reported. He says he has no doubt that the time will come when members of the church choir will behave just as well as other folk. DR. MANNING, of Baltimore, the most skillful optician that ever visited Portland, can tell the most difficult cases, on the inspection of the eyes, with his improved Parabola Spectacles. Near, Far, and Cataract eyes can obtain immediate relief by consulting the doctor at the Occidental Hotel, room 13, this week. Dr. Manning can produce the best of cures in the country. Dr. N. B. Smith, W. T. Howard, M. D., Elias Garber, surgeon of Nebraska, Wm. H. Doty, Gen. Harold, B. C. Dunaway, A. J. Marshall, of Portland, and others.