

PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

Gathered in All the Towns of Our Neighboring State.—Improvement Noted in All Industries.—Oregon.

Forest fires are said to be raging throughout the Nehalem country.

Curry county's delinquent tax amounts to about \$6,000 this year.

Seventeen boxes of peach plums, the first of the season, were shipped from the Dalles last week.

Of the 361 students graduated from the state normal school at Monmouth, 100 are at present teachers.

The Empire cannery, on Coos bay, will run through this fishing season. Preparations are being made to start up next month.

The board of equalization for Coos county will meet in Empire August 31, and will continue in session until September 5, 1896.

The Oregon Central & Eastern Railroad Company will probably be a bidder for the government work to be done at Yaquina bay.

Citizens of Coquille are making great preparations for the soldiers and pioneers' reunion that will be held there August 13, 14 and 15.

The county court of Curry county has directed the county treasurer to pay state taxes out of the county funds hereafter and to use no school funds for that purpose.

John Durbin will celebrate his 102d birthday at the home of his son, Isaac, on Howell prairie, September 13, and every immigrant of 1845 in the state is invited to be present.

The postal department has disapproved of the proposition to establish a mail line from Klamath agency to Silver lake, and to increase service on the route from Silver lake to Prineville.

The grain crop in Lane county has proven to be much better than was anticipated a few weeks ago. Some fields of grain are very light, but the yield in most cases will be very good, and much better than was expected.

Smoke from fires in the Cascade mountains has been blown by western winds across the valleys and plains until it is thick and blue in Grant county, nearly obscuring the sun, and impairing the usefulness of the moon, says the Canoy City News.

Reports from Sherman county are to the effect that wheat is suffering from the continued hot weather, and farmers do not expect the average yield of the county will be more than 12½ bushels to the acre. A month ago they expected the average yield would be twenty-five bushels.

Mrs. Mary Henkle, who died recently in Independence, was born in Green county, Kentucky, July 29, 1817. She crossed the plains with her husband in 1866, to California, and they came to Oregon in 1867, locating two and one-half miles south of Philomath. She was the mother of fourteen children, nine of whom survive; thirty-nine grand-children, thirty-one of whom survive, and thirteen great grand-children, twelve of whom survive.

Washington. The fishermen men of Seattle have

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MARK TWAIN IN ENGLAND.

His Opinion of the Transvaal and Its Inhabitants.

Southampton, Aug. 4.—Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), with his wife and daughter, arrived today on the steamer Norman from Table bay, Cape Colony. Although he started out on his tour of the world in feeble health, being obliged often to take to his bed between the delivery of lectures, and notwithstanding an attack of sickness in India, Mr. Clemens looked the picture of health when he landed here. He has gone far and seen much, in the Sandwich islands, Australia, India, South Africa. He expressed himself as charmed with what he had seen in South Africa.

"I consider the Transvaal the country of the future," said Mr. Clemens. "It has a delightful climate and boundless natural wealth. I had presented to me in Johannesburg a little nugget with figures on it showing the enormous increase of the gold output. The bulk of trade there is in the hands of English and Germans, but Americans should be able to command the lion's share of the trade in machinery, the largest portion of the machinery in the Transvaal being American. Mr. Hammond, the reform leader convicted of treason, but whose sentence was commuted, intends to bring back from the states with him \$200,000. The majority of Americans in the Transvaal are engaged in mining and engineering. The American element is small, but the mass of the Boers make no distinction between Americans and English. Indeed, all foreigners, with the exception of Germans, are deferred to."

"The excitement over the Jameson raid and subsequent trial of the reformers has subsided, but all the reformers are agreed that the cause of political reform has been retarded a decade by the Jameson fiasco."

ENGULFED BY A TIDAL WAVE

It is Estimated That 4,000 Chinese Perished.

Shanghai, Aug. 4.—News of a most terrible disaster, which occurred on Sunday last in the province of Kiang-Su, has just been brought to this city. An immense tidal wave, fully five miles in length and of great height, swept in from the sea upon the coast of Hayehau, which is in the southeastern part of the province, inundating the entire country and destroying numerous small villages in its path.

At present it is estimated that 4,000 people were drowned, but it is probable that when a full investigation has been made, that number will be increased.

In addition to the great loss of human life vast numbers of cattle were drowned. Rice fields were submerged, and the crops almost totally destroyed, and a famine is feared in the district during the coming autumn. Great numbers of people who escaped the fury of the waves are left utterly destitute, without food or shelter or the means of procuring it.

Hai Chau is situated opposite Yu Chau island, on the coast of Kiang Su province, which is on the Whang Hai or Yellow sea. The surface is mostly level, which may account for the great loss of life. Kiang Su is one of the most fertile provinces of the empire, and exports more silk than any other province of China. The Yang-tse-Kiang enters China through this province, the principal city of which is Nanking.

THE LUMBER COMBINE.

Washington Lumbermen Not Afraid That It Will Be Broken.

Tacoma, Wash., Aug. 4.—Manager W. H. Hanson, one of the proprietors of the Tacoma Mill Company, said that the story sent out from San Francisco, that there was likely to be a disruption of the lumber combine, is without foundation.

"The millmen of this coast," he said, "have been losing money long enough, and present prices are but little higher than the actual cost of production."

"If the retail dealer of Oakland or any other city sees to fit to cut rates, that is his business, but he cannot expect millmen to get in any cut rates to them. My opinion of the whole trouble is that several of the retailers have been after the same business, and some of those who failed to get certain orders out under their more successful competitors to try and get the business away from them."

"It is safe to say there will be no reduction in cargo rates, for two reasons. There is no necessity for cutting, and the present rate will not stand it, as the increased price for stumps and the greater distance the mills have to go for logs would make any such cutting a loss to the millman."

Killed by a Falling Building.

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 4.—At Columbus City, Ala., Maynard Covans was escorting Miss Dovie Proctor and Della Bishop, daughters of prominent families, out for a walk, when a wind and rain storm came up, and the trio stepped into an old building out of the storm. The wind increased in fury until the building collapsed, and all were caught in the debris. Covans and Miss Proctor were instantly killed, and Miss Bishop so badly injured that death will result.

BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

Political Uncertainty Has an Unfavorable Effect.

New York, Aug. 3.—Bradstreet's weekly review of trade says: Political uncertainty continues to have an unfavorable effect on trade, and industrial and mercantile lines are unusually dull. Mercantile credits are closely scanned, and in many cases shortened. The industrial situation is less favorable. Among manufacturers of iron and steel it is regarded as serious in some lines, owing to the surprising falling off in the demand. The reduction of pig iron is further curtailed, yet stocks increase. The outlook is for a further decline in iron and steel prices. Chicago offers concessions on pig to bring bids for round lots. Curtailments of products in cotton fabrics continues, yet fall purchasers in prints are of small volume. The demand for boots and shoes is also smaller.

Exports of wheat flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States for last week amount to 2,484,000 bushels, as compared with 3,074,000 bushels for the corresponding week of last year.

The total number of business failures in the United States this week is 294, as compared with 280 last week. The increase, as contrasted with the corresponding total in 1895, is seventy-three, or an average of ten each day during the week. There are thirty-seven failures reported in the Canadian dominion this week, six more than last week and thirteen more than in the corresponding week last year, and only six more than in the like week in 1894.

L. H. PLATTOR KILLED.

Shot Through the Heart While in the Spokane Court House.

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 3.—L. H. Plattor, a well-known attorney and Democratic politician, was shot and almost instantly killed in the corridor of the courthouse shortly before 6 o'clock this evening. The shot was fired by Henry Seiffert, a restaurant proprietor and sporting man, who is also well known.

The tragedy resulted from remarks made by Plattor in court, and which Seiffert construed as a reflection upon his character. Seiffert was being pressed before the court as administrator of the estate of Rudolph Gorkow, a rich brewer, who died here this week. Gorkow had married a variety actress about a year ago, and the marriage was an unhappy one. He brought suit for divorce shortly before his death, and in his will cut his wife off with a dollar. She is contesting the will, and there is a struggle over the administration of the estate. Plattor represented some of the beneficiaries of the will, opposing Seiffert. It had been insinuated that Seiffert's relations with Mrs. Gorkow were not of a proper nature.

Prosecution of Railway Claims.

Washington, Aug. 3.—A complete change of policy in the method of government prosecution of railroads in the West to recover lands erroneously patented to them, is provided for in directions issued by the secretary of the interior to the commissioner of the general land office. In this rule is laid down that all railroads against which suits are now pending for vacation of patents under the act of March 3, 1887, shall make a showing as to the bona fide purchasers from the road of lands patented, similar to the showing made in the cases of the Burlington & Missouri River and Union Pacific roads. Similar recommendations for the dismissal of suits wherein non-bona fide purchasers may retain title will hereafter be made by the department in all cases. The proceedings accordingly can be hereafter instituted under the act of March 2, 1896.

A Seattle Man's Long Ride.

Chicago, Aug. 3.—Mr. Sheneman is in Chicago, after a ride by wheel from Seattle. He left the coast June 1, expecting to reach Columbus, O., by October 1. After he had crossed two states on his journey he made such good time that he decided to keep as far ahead of his schedule as he could. Shortly after leaving Seattle Sheneman reached the desert which extends from Prosser Falls to Umatilla, and in attempting to cross the thirty-five miles of sandy fields the tourist nearly lost his life. He could not ride the wheel through the sand, and had to dismount and push it ahead of him. All the water in his canteen had been consumed before he had covered half the desert, and when he reached the Columbia river he fell exhausted on the bank.

A Nest of Murderers.

Vienna, Aug. 3.—After a six week's trial at Agram, the Stenje band of thirty-six persons, charged with nineteen murders and numerous assaults and robberies, has been ended. Nineteen members of the band, including two women, have been sentenced to death. Nine have been sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment. Eight were acquitted.

Female Racing Condemned.

Toronto, Aug. 3.—In the racing board bulletin issued today, the Canadian board condemns female racing, and announces that the board will hereafter blacklist any track upon which female riders are allowed to race before the public.

UNPRECEDENTED RUN.

More Salmon Than the Lower River Canneries Can Handle.

Astoria, Or., Aug. 3.—The receipts of salmon at the various lower river canneries continue unusually heavy and are far in excess of the capacity of several of the packing establishments. Today the fish were so plentiful that one of Kinney's men delivered nearly 100, and near Sand Island it was reported that the water was almost alive with large chinooks. Many were reported to have been taken with gaff hooks by some of the men who found themselves in the midst of a great school of fish. At one or two canneries, where too many fish were received, the loss is heavy. Tons of the fish are being thrown overboard at Kinney's on account of the lack of means to preserve them until they could be canned. As many as possible have been salted for the winter use by the citizens in the west end of town, and were freely given to all who would carry them away.

Fishermen assert that never since the canning industry began has such a run been seen. If it continues until the close of the season, the chances are favorable for a much larger pack than had been anticipated. An unusual feature of the situation is the quality of the fish, which is fully equal to those taken in June, the flesh being exceptionally red and firm and the quality of oil abundant.

THROWN INTO A CISTERN.

Texas Man Slays His Family and Disposes of Their Bodies.

Austin, Tex., Aug. 3.—T. E. Burt, a member of one of the most respectable families, murdered his wife and two children, aged 2 and 4 years, last Friday night, and placed the dead bodies in a cistern. He left the city Saturday night following the terrible deed, after advising several neighbors not to drink the water in his cistern, as it was polluted. His relatives became alarmed at the disappearance of his family, and began an investigation, resulting in the finding of the bodies today. Burt bound his wife in a blanket, after tying her feet and neck together, and then dropped the body into the cistern. Both children had their brains knocked out. His brothers have offered a reward of \$300 for his apprehension.

Burt was at one time a prominent furniture dealer in this city, but gambling got the best of him, and last year he failed and was indicted for embezzlement, but his brothers succeeded in getting him out of the trouble. The governor has offered a reward for his arrest. Nothing is known as to Burt's whereabouts, although telegrams have been sent all over the state and to outside cities. No motive for the crime is known.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Grass Valley Suffered a Severe Loss From the Flames.

Grass Valley, Cal., Aug. 3.—At 8:20 o'clock tonight, an alarm of fire was sounded for a blaze in the opera house. The fire started under a store occupied by Ismert and Webbe, and spread with great rapidity. Soon the whole building was enveloped in flames, and the adjoining buildings commenced to burn and, despite the work of the firemen, it looked as though the whole center portion of the town would be destroyed.

The fire department of Nevada City came over to assist the local department, but a scarcity of water hindered them so they were of little service until an extra head of water was turned in to the supply ditch. The two departments did great work and confined the fire to the block bounded by Neal, Church, Auburn and Bank streets. The loss will exceed \$100,000, it is thought. Insurance in most cases is small, and the blow is a hard one to the city.

An Indiana Tragedy.

Vincennes, Ind., Aug. 3.—Thomas Prather, a farmer, and Miss Maud Delay, daughter of a wealthy farmer, eloped from Sanborn, this county, and drove to this city and were married. They then drove back to Sanborn, when an altercation took place between Prather and Clyde Delay, a brother of the bride. Prather fatally shot the new brother-in-law in the abdomen. The elopement was planned some time ago, but Prather's marriage license was forcibly taken from him by members of the young woman's family.

Neutrality Proclamation.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The president has issued a proclamation bearing date of July 27, again commanding citizens to observe the neutrality laws in respect to the Cuban insurrection, and giving notice that all violations will be vigorously prosecuted. The president cites the decision of the supreme court in the Wiborg case in order that citizens may not be misled as to the meaning of the military laws.

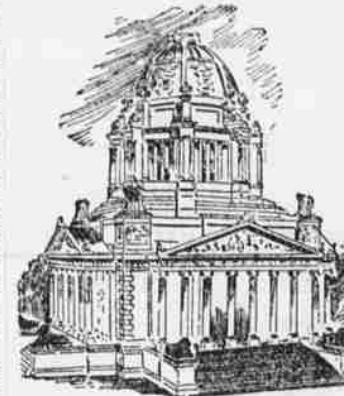
Oil Tank Exploded.

New York, Aug. 3.—Two men were fatally injured and three others severely burned by the explosion of a tank at the Standard Oil Company's works, at Cravens Point, Jersey City, today. The fatally injured are: Richard Cunningham, and John Goldsmith. The works were set on fire by the explosion, but the flames were extinguished before much damage was done.

THE DAVIS MONUMENT

Design Has Been Accepted and the Cost Will Be Nearly \$200,000.

The design for the Jeff Davis monument, the corner stone of which was recently laid in Richmond, is that of Mr. Percy Griffin, of New York. This gentleman's plan was selected by the committee of design, composed of well-known gentlemen. Their choice was



THE DAVIS MONUMENT.

approved by the Jeff Davis monument board and the committee of the United Confederate Veterans. There were twenty-seven competitors.

The monument will stand on a concrete foundation, and the construction is to be in masonry and not of iron. The marble inside and out are to be "Tuckaho," and the floors to be mosaics. The estimates of the cost are as follows:

Masonry work and marble work	\$125,000
Statuary and bronze work	55,000
Decoration	20,000
Total	\$200,000

HISTORY OF THE A, B, C.

The Horn Book Was the First Alphabet Card.

The horn book, which was the first alphabet card, is described by a recent author as "a board of oak about nine inches long, and five or six wide, on which was printed the alphabet, the nine digits and sometimes the Lord's prayer. It had a handle and was covered in front with a sheath of tish horn to prevent its being soiled, and the backboard was ornamented with a rude sketch of St. George and the Dragon." This board and its horn cover were held together by a narrow frame or border of brass.

The oldest horn books were undoubtedly frequently used in the schools and common-rooms of the great monasteries. In the earliest specimens the let-



AN OLD HORN BOOK.

ters are arranged in the form of a Latin cross, with the A at the top and Z at the bottom.

A Roman Custom.

The practice of the wife assuming the husband's name at marriage, according to Dr. Brewer, originated from a Roman custom, and became the common custom after the Roman occupation. Thus, Julia and Octavia, married to Pompey and Cleero, were called by the Romans Julia of Pompey, Octavia of Cleero, and in later times married women in most European countries signed their names in the same manner, but omitted the "of." Against this view it may be mentioned that during the sixteenth, and even at the beginning of the seventeenth century, the usage seems doubtful, since we find Catharine Parr so signing herself after she had been twice married, and we always hear of Lady Jane Grey (not Dudley), Arabella Stuart (not Seymour), etc. Some persons think that the custom originated from the Scriptural teaching that the husband and wife are one. This was the rule so far back as Braston died 1268, and it was decided in the case of Bon vs. Smith, in the reign of Elizabeth, that a woman by marriage loses her former name, and legally receives the name of her husband. Altogether, the custom is involved in much obscurity. In Iceland the opposite is the rule. There, after marriage, the husband assumes the wife's name.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Palmer—"You can never convince me that women will succeed in politics." Polk—"Why?" Palmer—"How are you ever going to keep them from talking?"—Philadelphia North American.

known in the history of the river is taking place this season, says the Cathlamet Gazette. Some fishermen claim there is a gasoline boat which is making a business of stealing web. The men claim that the gasoline boat picks up the web with a hook that reaches to the bottom and severs the lead and cork line with one slash.