

THE ASHLAND TIDINGS

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1878

Bill for the Transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department.

A Washington dispatch of Apr. 7th says: Senator Slater introduced a bill for the transfer of the control of Indian affairs to the War Department which, in some respects, seems to be an improvement upon all measures hitherto introduced for that purpose.

This bill provides that from and after July 1, 1880, the secretary of war shall have the same general power and jurisdiction over Indian affairs as are now possessed by the secretary of the interior; that he shall detail some army officer of rank, not less than colonel, to act as commissioner of Indian affairs, and make such details of officers, not below that rank, as he may select from the active list or retired list of the army, as may be necessary from time to time to administer the affairs of the Indian service.

Commanding officers of military departments are to be ex officio in charge of Indian matters therein, and the inspector general of the army is to be inspector of the Indian service, and to make an annual report to congress of the number and condition of Indian tribes. The bill requires all contracts for supplies or transportation connected with the Indian service to be made in the same manner, and as far as practicable, at the same time as army contracts.

Officers of special commissions, superintendents, boards of Indian commissioners, and inspectors of Indian affairs are to be abolished from and after July 1, 1880.

Among other things it is provided by this bill that all religious denominations shall enjoy the free and equal rights of meeting and maintaining churches and schools on any and all Indian reservations, and shall not be molested in their religious or philanthropic efforts to advance the Indian in moral, religious and literary culture.

White Men as Section Hands.
(Wisnemecca (N.Y.) Silver State.)

In consequence of the refusal of the Chinese section hands to perform their duties, or from some other reason to us unknown, those employed in the yard here and on the road east to Tule were discharged recently and white men employed in their stead. This section foreman had no difficulty in getting white men, and eight pale faces are now at work fixing tracks in the yard. They receive \$2 per day and are furnished with comfortable houses to live in and fuel free, or at a nominal cost.

This is much better than tramping through the country and being out of employment the greater part of the time. We are informed that if white men kept sober and attend to their business they will have steady employment, and that it is probable the change will be made all along the road. The discharged Chinamen were greatly disappointed at the turn events had taken. They imagined that they had a monopoly of the section work, and could do as they pleased. It is said that the excuse which they offered for refusing to walk the track and see that it was in order was simply a ruse to get rid of a task which they disliked, and that there was no cause whatever for the suspicion that white men threatened to kill them when alone walking the track. Now the Chinese have gone from the yard and the section east of Wisnemecca, and depends upon the conduct of the white men whether they will be again employed.

The Trouble with Talmage.
(New York Letter to Boston Journal.)

There is more smoke than fire in this case. The trouble with Talmage is not personal. Nobody knows him but what likes him. He is a cheerful, generous, large-hearted, unselfish man, helping every fellow that don't interfere with his plans. Nor has the trouble arisen out of any doctrinal questions. He is as sound as Criffin, Miller, Holge or Alexander. But Talmage is not a Presbyterian in method or matter. There is an antagonism, constant and increasing. The Presbyterians take no stock in the Tabernacle concern, in Arbutick, or Morgan, or Talmage. The more success attends his movements the greater the annoyance. Harmonizing matters is simply impossible, unless Talmage changes—and he won't do that. Sooner or later a collision is inevitable, and the Tabernacle will probably be a free Presbyterian church, governed by its own session—owing no allegiance to presbytery, synod, or general assembly. The conclusion is already discussed. A leading Presbyterian clergyman said the other day in my hearing that he considered the Tabernacle a blot upon Presbyterianism, and that from its services no stranger could get the slightest idea of Presbyterian form of government.

Sensible Views of Fred Douglass.

Fred Douglass writes a long letter to the Philadelphia Press in opposition to the schemes for negro colonization. He thinks that the negroes, if placed in a separate territory, would meet the fate of the Indians and says: That negro suffrage will ultimately be respected in the south, as now in the north, I have not the least doubt. Human nature in one section about the same as in another. Human progress cannot be confined to any one part of our common country. What is true of a part must at least be true of the whole. I remember when the negro schismatis when he was not allowed abut of the wheel on steamboats; when he was dragged and kicked out of railroad cars; when he was not allowed to enter a concert, lyceum, theatre, church or equal terms (and in some cases on any terms) with other varieties of the human family. All this is changed now. Time, effort and events have done wonders in that old commonwealth and in all the states of the north. The same beneficent agents will produce the same result in the south.

Polar Expedition.—About the middle of June, James Gordon Bennett's yacht, Jeannette, will leave San Francisco for the Arctic Ocean. She takes food and fuel for a three years' cruise. She will touch at St. Lawrence Bay, on the Siberian coast. From there she will proceed north westerly in search of Prof. Nordenskjöld, the Swed who sailed from Stockholm last July, to make the never-accomplished north-east passage through the Siberian Sea. If the natives are to be believed, he has reached Kolintchin Bay, not many hundred miles distant from Behring's Straits, where he is frozen in, and probably perfectly safe. In this direction, the seventy-first parallel has never been passed. The Jeannette will winter near Kelat Lard, and make a dash for the pole the following summer.

FLOUR MILL AT LITTLE SHASTA.

Iring Shepard, of Shasta Valley, intends putting up a flour mill on Little Shasta during the coming summer, several of the Little Shasta farmers having already subscribed toward its erection. To take their pay in grinding at the mill when in operation. It will be a first class mill, with two runs of stone. This is an institution greatly needed in this vicinity, and will be the means of causing large crops of wheat to be raised toward getting our flour right at home, in place of depending on Oregon and other sections altogether. Mr. Shepard is one of the best millers on this coast, having built up the reputation of Ashland mill in Oregon, during his management of it some years ago. Besides producing the best quality of flour, this mill would be very handy for producing cracked grain, and bran and shorts for cow feed, now brought to town in great quantities from Scott Valley mills. We expect to see this mill up and in operation, so that farmers can have the benefit of it in grinding the coming season's crop of grain, should they so desire.—Yreka Journal.

THE TOBACCO TAX.—Reduction of the tobacco tax was a gigantic job by which the treasury was robbed of from eight to ten million dollars, to be divided among manufacturers of tobacco. Of the amount stolen one million, it is said, goes into the pockets of the Lorrains, who manufacture and sell about one eighth of all the tobacco products of the country. Excluding the Lorrains, it is said by Washington correspondents, whose figures are undoubtedly derived from the treasury statistics, and twenty-eight manufacturers will each realize an average of over \$70,000 by the job; that thirty-four will receive an average of over \$40,000; eighty-one over \$9,000, ninety-four over \$5,000; one hundred and fifteen over \$2,500, and six hundred and forty-two over \$1,500. This is what the reduction of the tobacco tax means, and the money thus taken out of the treasury will have to be made up by some from the taxation of the industries of the people or the necessities of life.—Oregonian.

A Magic Car.—An English paper says, Blackburn, of 14 Victoria Road, Kensington, has invented a remarkable vehicle, which requires no horse to draw it. The body is in the form of a dog-cart, and the arrangement of wheels like tricycle. The power, concealed in the body of the vehicle, is obtained by the combustion of benzoline, a small jet of which is admitted into a burner about the size of an ordinary chimney pot hat. The steam passes into the cylinders of a small torpedo engine, which rotates a horizontal shaft. There is no steam given off, for it is reconcealed and passes back into the tubular boiler. The weight of the steam power is about 240 lbs. On lighting the benzoline the steam requires no attention from the driver during a ride of many hours. The driver, by applying his foot to a pedal, can regulate the speed and power of draft. It travels at the rate of about eight miles an hour, and is easily directed in its course.

DOUBLE DOSE DISGUISED.—A domestic in an up town New York family, one morning before breakfast, took the following prescription to a druggist in the neighborhood: "Please give the bearer a double dose of castor oil with taste disguised." Handing it to the clerk, she sat down to await the preparation, but was so greatly surprised to be soon asked if she would like a glass of soda water. Having drunk it, she resumed her seat and waited for about fifteen minutes. She then ventured to remark that she was afraid the folks would be ready for breakfast if she did not go soon. "Well," said the clerk, "what are you waiting for?" "Why, I gave it to you in that glass of soda water some time ago." "Oh, law!" was the reply "it was not for me; 'twas for a man down at the house."

LAZY MEXICO.—The City of Mexico is a lazy place, according to the Chicago Times correspondent, who accompanied the visiting committee from the United States. "The hotels are languid," he says, "so are the restaurants, the theaters, the public houses and barber shops. The business houses have an air of perpetual waiting upon providence. The clerks act like weary angels looking patiently for a 'rise.' A generation of American enterprise might revolutionize all this and raise the metropolis all her frame."

Mr. A. N. Spaulding of Stony Point, brought to the Agria office yesterday a healthy four legged chicken, which is a marvel of ingenuity, the four legs being nearly equally developed, although the two hind ones are chiefly used for locomotion, the other two being held up as it walks. The bird, which is about two weeks old, is as lively as any other chicks of the same age, and does not appear to suffer any inconvenience from its extra feet and legs.—Petaling, Cal. Agria.

"Do you really believe that an ass ever spoke to Balaam?" queried a man who prided himself on his intellect. Coleridge to whom the question was put, reflected very calmly for a few moments, and then responded, "My friend, I have no doubt whatever that the story is true; I have been spoken to in the same way myself."

A young lady was endeavoring to impress upon the minds of her Sunday School scholars the sin and terrible punishment of Nebuchadnezzar; and when she said that for seven years he ate grass like a cow, she was astonished by a little girl who asked, "and did he give milk?"

A professor in Cornell, lecturing on the effect of the wind in some western forests, remarked: "In traveling along the road I even sometimes found the logs bound and twisted together to such an extent that a mule couldn't climb over them, so I went around."

The report is current that the Panama Railroad Company has, or will soon have, control of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, because of an indebtedness of \$2,000,000, which the latter is unable to pay.

"There are too many women in the world—60,000 more women than men in Massachusetts alone," growled a silky husband. "That shows the survival of the fittest, my dear," replied his ready and quick-witted wife.

Tacks and hypocrites always point heavenward when they mean the most harm.

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(Vol. III No. 142)

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