

The Corset Question

Is one of the most important of many pertaining to woman's dress. Just a few hints on this subject: A proper corset means, Good Health, Perfect Form, Comfort to wear, Elegance to costume. Royal Worcester Corsets are the leaders in all that's good in corsetry.

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OUR DEFENSES.

Official Report of the Work at the Mouth of the Columbia.

General Wilson, chief of engineers in his recently submitted report, describes the military defenses at the mouth of the Columbia as follows:

"The defenses include two works of old type, both of which were garrisoned at the close of the fiscal year. The 10-inch smooth-bore guns in the left face of the old fort had been dismantled, a 15-inch front pivot platform built on the site occupied by them, and the carriage and gun mounted.

"A number of minor repairs were made during the year from appropriations for preservation and repair of fortifications.

"During the fiscal year eight emplacements for 12-inch mortars and three emplacements for eight-inch guns on disappearing carriages (two L. F. model 1896, and one experimental, model 1894) have been completed and turned over to the artillery for care. All of the mortar battery carriages are mounted, but not the mortars. Two of the eight-inch carriages and guns are mounted, the third carriage (experimental) has not yet arrived, but the gun is on hand. For the eight-inch battery the wiring is done, but the electric light plant is not yet installed.

"Two additional 10-inch emplacements have been completed from funds allotted from act of May 7, 1898, and are now ready for the carriage.

"Funds allotted the latter part of the year from act of July 7, 1898, provide for four emplacements for six-inch guns on disappearing carriages and four emplacements for 15-pounder rapid-fire guns. At the close of the fiscal year the sand has all been received and the work of receiving broken stone for their construction is in progress.

"One additional concrete cable tank and a torpedo storehouse have been constructed during the year.

"Torpedo material used in preparing for submarine mine defense during the war with Spain was taken up, cleaned and stored.

FACTS ARE FACTS.

Cold-Blooded Statement of a Government Official.

There is a growing disposition among Portland business men to treat the "Astoria proposition" with favor. They see the handwriting on the wall, and they are inclined to make a virtue of necessity.

Among Astorians there is an implicit confidence that we shall soon see the fruition of our hopes and efforts. The heights of these hopes cannot be measured by the depths of Portland's fears, for the most rabid Astorian does not expect that Astoria's prosperity shall be built upon the ruins of Portland's business. On the contrary, Astorians see in the condition which they are striving to bring about, the sole salvation of Portland as the commercial metropolis of the Northwest.

Facts are facts, and facts will obtrude themselves where least wanted. For instance, in the report of General Wilson, United States chief of engineers, there is this statement regarding the Columbia river:

"The season's work has benefited the improvement to the extent of affording easy navigation for the increased traffic, although no permanent results have been obtained, and while the shoal above Tongue point will carry only 19 feet at low water, ships of even greater draft navigate the channel on the higher stages of tide. Twenty-three feet has been carried from Portland to the sea by wheat ships at different times during the fiscal year."

The Oregonian cannot ascribe this statement to "Astoria malice."

In describing the work at the mouth of the Columbia this paragraph occurs:

"A survey completed on June 23 shows a decrease in the depth of the channel of one foot, which limits the depth of the channel across the bar to 23 feet at the mean of the lowest low water, the width, with not less than 23 feet depth, being about 2300 feet."

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