

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF DALLES CITY AND WASCOCO COUNTY.

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FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

President Harrison has again brought to the attention of congress and the nation the necessity of more stringent laws regulating foreign immigration.

But Asiatic cholera is by no means the worst evil coming to us through imperfect immigration regulations; the Pacific States fully appreciate the situation because of their experience with the Chinese question; they have suffered much more, and have therefore, been more persistent in demanding and more successful in obtaining protection at the hands of congress than any other portion of the United States; and the question, so far as we are directly concerned, is about disposed of: the pauper labor of eastern Asia is excluded: every Chinaman within our borders must stand, be numbered and registered, and when he once returns to his native land he generally has not the courage to attempt to get back.

The Atlantic States have been further removed from the evil of unrestricted immigration, and until recently have little felt the danger; but with increased facilities of travel, the danger has become more real, and its accompanying scourge, a terrible disease, calls the nation's attention directly to it, and now for the first time, the people of the entire country sympathize with us in our opposition to the Chinese. Ignorance, immorality, physical deformity and weakness, distorted views of political, social and religious life are quite as disastrous to national safety and happiness as are the contagious diseases which originate and best thrive in the home of these less easily quarantined evils.

Two thousand per week is not a large estimate of the number of undesirable population which have passed from the decks of the great immigrant transports to our shores during the past year; and every male among them who is not, at the time he lands under 16 years of age, may, in five years, exercise every right of citizenship; except that of holding some of the offices; ignorant of every principle of government, with distorted social ideas, even vicious in a large number of cases, unable to speak our language, much less to read it, he takes his place beside the best citizen of the land and has as much voice in the government.

Had the Chinese worn a less yellow skin, and therefore been eligible to American citizenship under the constitution and had they been as eager to be naturalized as are the Russian, Italian and Bulgarian paupers who are now seeking to land here, the Pacific States at one time would have rebelled and refused to be governed by a class of people so utterly devoid of every qualification to exercise the functions of American citizenship; yet who will say that we would have been worse off than are many portions of the cities of New York, Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans?

The problem is both serious and difficult and will tax the ability of our legislators and diplomats during the next few years as no other question; a wise solution by the incoming administration of this problem will do more for the ultimate welfare than any measure that will be brought before it. Already several plans have been suggested; absolute exclusion is neither practicable nor politic, and any plan which is likely to be adopted, will be found inefficient until after experience has enabled us to perfect it. But some plan is imperatively necessary.

What use will there be in the senate of the future for satire or invective when the opponent can be simply and effectually discomfited with the remark that opponent's hat is not on straight?

If all the gentlemen who feel sure of becoming members of Mr. Cleveland's cabinet shall eventually get there, Mr. Cleveland will have to open his cabinet meetings with a battalion drill.

Lieut. Peary wants to pave the way for another rescuing expedition. Why not send the rescuing expedition first, and save time and money?

There seems to be a distressingly large quantity of ghoulish glee just now among those demure individuals, the prohibitionists.

What Mr. Ingalls thinks about Mrs. Lease's candidacy might be liquefied and condensed into a fine quality of vinegar.

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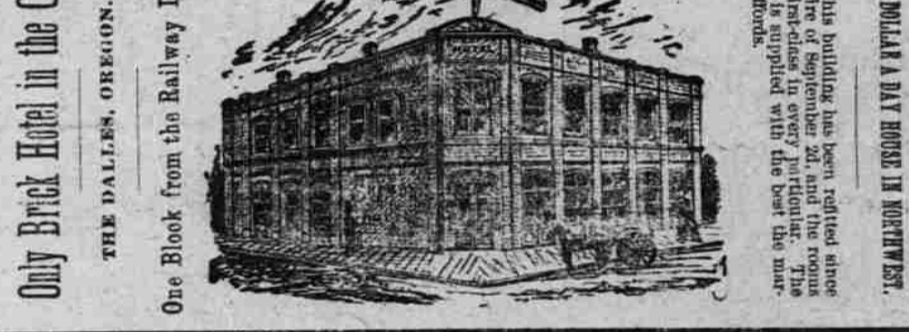
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