

### The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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MONDAY, - - NOVEMBER 25, 1895

#### A DISAPPOINTING REPORT.

The report of the Nicaragua canal commission will be a great disappointment to the people of the Pacific slope. The whole trend of the commission's statements is unfavorable to the project as now contemplated, and advises that the subject must be studied at greater length, and more exact data obtained before the undertaking can be commenced. A provisional estimate, made by the commission, places the probable cost of the canal at \$133,472,893, or nearly double a former estimate of \$69,893,660, made by the Maritime Canal Company. At the same time their estimate is made the commissioners say it is liable as much to be an underestimate as over the mark. The topography of the country, the character of the soil along the proposed route, are so undetermined as yet, that the commission states its inability to arrive at any estimate which it is willing to hazard as correct.

The present report differs widely from the statement sent out by the canal company and made by the friends of the enterprise in congress. As an example: The Maritime Canal Company had proposed to build a rock fill dam, which would hold the lake and river at a navigable elevation and connect the river and the Caribbean sea by a canal in excavation. The canal company estimated the cost of this project at \$977,273; the commission says this work cannot be done for less than \$4,000,000. Such discrepancies occur at various places throughout the report.

In order that the necessary knowledge may be obtained upon which more reliable estimates can be made, the commission recommends that \$350,000 be appropriated by congress for additional surveys and examinations. These latter should be completed within eighteen months.

Dampening as will these statements be upon the ardor of those who are interested in the Nicaraguan project, it is better that the truth be learned at the beginning, and not that the enterprise be begun under promises which are sure to fail of realization. Very rarely do the estimates made of any great work prove too low and it is very probable that the report of the present commission is nearer the truth than the previous statements sent out by the canal company. The building of this great waterway between the oceans will be a tremendous undertaking and it is well that it begun with all possible information in advance. The Panama canal, which has proved the colossal failure of recent years, was begun with the same bright hopes that attend the Nicaragua project. The recommendation of the commission that a sum be appropriated sufficient to cover expenses of surveying is wise and the appropriation should be one of the first acts of the incoming congress.

Although the report of the commission is not what the proprietors of the canal project would wish, yet in nowise should it be allowed to hinder long this splendid scheme for the quickening of commerce between the Atlantic and the Pacific. This project though once but a dream, has now the commendation of all who wish our country to grow in greatness. The United States must have the canal whether the cost be seven million or twice as much.

An amusing paragraph is going the rounds of the eastern papers to the effect that the hut made by Alexander Selkirk on Juan Fernandez is about to be torn down, and on its site are to be erected buildings for the use of a penal colony to be there established. This is funny! Is it the way history is made? A hut nearly two hundred years old standing the tropical rains and hurricanes of two centuries, now to be torn down and demolished. The penal colony is already over a half century old. Alexander Selkirk's hut may possibly have lasted three months. The tangle of tropical growth would by that time have obliterated all signs of its existence. This is funnier than the tomb of Adam.

The latest fad of the day is a trip to San Francisco. This "craze" has the combined merit of being both popular and cheap.

COMMENT FROM NORTHWEST EDITORS.

Spokesman Review: "Why should President Cleveland be opposed to a

third term any more than a bank president?" asks Secretary Morton. Mr. Morton states the case from the wrong side of the counter. The real question is: Why should a bank president have a third term after he has "busted" the bank?

Walla Walla Union: It would have been better had Senator Sherman written his autobiography and left it for a post mortem publication. Other public men had preceded him and aired their political vanities, and their experience should have deterred the senator from courting a great deal of nasty controversy in old age to mar his well earned fame, by exhibiting so much bitterness at his failure to attain presidential honors.

Albany Herald: The next president will be a man who occupies no middle ground on the main question before the people—that of starting up our factories, giving employment to idle workmen and protecting our own products and people. McKinley is such a man, and his aggressive ideas on the subject should not be thought of as a bar to his nomination. The country is just now in need of this sort of aggressiveness.

#### Miss Newman's Recital.

To a score or more of music lovers there was afforded a treat last Saturday afternoon at a piano recital given by the pupils of Miss Aimee Newman. Everyone present felt that not only were the pupils receiving a thorough musical education; but they were besides taught many most essential, though usually neglected, things. When participants would modestly and correctly enter the room, seat themselves at the piano, and after playing gracefully acknowledged the applause given, they showed very plainly the good training they had received at the hands of a conscientious teacher. While all reflected great credit on their teacher and on themselves, and made their friends feel justly proud, we cannot refrain from especially mentioning the Beethoven overture "Prometheus" by Clara Nickelsen and Georgia Sampson, and the solo, "Les Phalenes," played by Lena Liebe. The "Sherzo Valse" of Godard, by Miss Clara Nickelsen, showed she had received excellent training and that she could do herself and her teacher honor when playing in public. The last number on the program, of course, delighted all present, as Miss Newman ever does. Always appearing at her best, she has made the people of The Dalles feel they have a musician to be proud of in their midst. After responding to an encore, the following program was brought to a close:

- PART I.**  
 Pianoforte Duet—"Lullaby".....Gounod  
 Selection.....Grace Hobson and Alice Ball.  
 Margaret Bronson.  
 Folk Song.....Ella McCoy.  
 "The Swing".....Edith Mans.  
 "Hondino".....Martha Baldwin.  
 "Tarentelle".....Emilie Crossen.  
**PART II.**  
 Overture—"Prometheus".....Beethoven  
 Clara Nickelsen and Georgia Sampson.  
 "Les Phalenes".....Lena Liebe.  
 "Valse in E Minor".....Chopin  
 Julia Nickelsen.  
 "Polish Dances op 40".....Scharwenka  
 Georgia Sampson.  
 "Sherzo Valse op 106".....Godard  
 Clara Nickelsen.  
 "Caprice Espagnol".....Mozzkowski  
 Miss Newman.

**Married.**  
 Sunday, November 24th, by W. C. Curtis, pastor of the Congregationalist church of this city, at his residence on Second street, Charles Davis of Prosser, Yakima county, Wash., and Miss Pearl M. Reeder of The Dalles, Wasco county, Oregon.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Davis will make their home in Prosser, Wash.

**Lost.**  
 Black fur cape, either in Fraternity hall or on Second street, last Saturday evening. It will be a favor to return to 25 3t Rev. W. C. Curtis.

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 A nicely furnished room, suitable for one or two gentlemen.  
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 A. C. Wyndam.

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 Music furnished by Orchestra Union.

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 That will make her strong and well, and bring back the roses to her cheeks, and the bright happy look to her eyes. Don't waste a moment. Get it for her to-day.

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The poet unquestionably had reference to the

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