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The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

TUESDAY, - - - APRIL 28, 1896

WAYSIDE GLEANINGS.

Remember the lecture this evening. Work is progressing fast on the new Vogt and Williams building.

Wanted, by two young ladies, work in family. Inquire at this office a28-34

Watch our window tomorrow. We will give you a touch of high grade neckwear. J. C. HERTZ.

Hon. B. B. Beekman's address tonight on "Abraham Lincoln" at the Congregational church.

Mr. D. P. Ketchum went out today to the Deschutes, Bakeoven and Antelope country to buy mutton sheep.

A Goldendale paper says the altitude of that town is not over 15,000 feet. We should think not. Neither is Mt. Hood.

Those who travel the new road three miles from the city now wonder why it was not done twenty years ago. It only cost about \$250 and dispenses with one of the worst hills in the country.

Hermann, the "healer," seems to be heeling himself in the most thorough manner, judging from the large crowds of credulous humanity that are constantly paying for his "miracles" in Portland.

Mr. George Ernest Stewart returned last night from Hillsboro much improved in health. He leaves tonight to accompany Mr. Bennett in his political tour throughout the Second congressional district.

The express office was scented in a most unusual manner this morning. It arose from a basket of some Chinese vegetable sent from Portland to The Dalles, resembling in aroma a garbage pile in August.

The jury in the case of Donovan vs. Taffe has been secured, and is as follows: John Robinson, Andrew Velarde, G. B. Adams, Theo. Prege, F. Ross, R. F. Gibbons. The trial comes off at 10 o'clock a. m. tomorrow before Justice Davis.

We have left a few choice canna and dahlia bulbs, large flowering geraniums at 15 cents, and the choicest tea roses at 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Our late large flowering pansies are now in full bloom at 25 cents per dozen. At the Stabling Greenhouse. apr28-1w

Hon. B. B. Beekman, who will deliver an address on "Abraham Lincoln" this evening at the Congregational church, is one of the prominent young men of Oregon. His reputation as an orator has preceded his coming to The Dalles and there will be many people glad of an opportunity to hear him. Mr. Beekman was president of the Republican league during the two years ending last February, and in that position his abilities found wide recognition. The lecture tonight will be the last in the course, which has proved so entertaining and instructive to our citizens.

Subscribe for THE CHRONICLE.

MITCHELL EXPLAINS.

The Oregon Delegation Doing All in Their Power for the Locks.

The self-explanatory letters, which are published below, were received this morning from Senator Mitchell. They are especially acceptable just at this time and convey the information that of the \$179,000 appropriation in the sundry civil bill, \$20,000 will be available for building the inner walls that are necessary before the locks operate. The provision referred to has passed the senate since Senator Mitchell's letter was written and will go to a conference committee from the two houses. The news is reassuring and with our hopes revived somewhat, we will await further developments:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1896. Editor Chronicle, The Dalles, Or.

MY DEAR SIR:—In response to a communication from Hons. J. H. D. Gray, W. L. Bradshaw and A. S. Mac Allister, I have just written them a letter, one copy of which I sent to Astoria, and the other to The Dalles, bearing upon the situation at the canal and locks, as I understand it. I also send you a copy.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN H. MITCHELL.
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1896. Hons. J. H. D. Gray, W. L. Bradshaw and A. S. Mac Allister, Astoria, Or: GENTLEMEN:—I hasten to acknowledge receipt of yours April 15, inclosing one to you of date April 14 from Captain W. L. Fisk, corps of engineers, U. S. army. I will explain matters as briefly and as fully as I can.

About the middle of March the attention of the Oregon delegation was called to the fact that something must be done by congress immediately to facilitate the early opening of the canal and locks at the Cascades. I immediately consulted with the chief of engineers for the purpose of ascertaining precisely what was necessary to be done by congress, if anything, to insure their early opening. I was advised that there were between forty and fifty thousand dollars balance appropriated and expended and was assured, as was the whole delegation, that if a sum not exceeding \$20,000 of this amount could be made available immediately in constructing on the land and river sides of the canal between the upper lock gate masonry and the upper guard gate masonry such portions of the walls proposed by the modified project presented by the board of engineers in its report of October 18, 1894, which report was printed in the annual report of the chief of engineers for the year 1895, part V, pp. 3578 and following, as may be necessary to construct in advance of the opening of the canal to commerce, that then all work necessary to the opening of the locks could be completed inside of a month and the canal and locks opened. At this same time one of the contractors, Mr. I. N. Day, was in Washington, and in the presence of the chief of engineers, after hearing the engineer's statement, coincided in that view of the case. I then asked the chief of engineers to prepare a joint resolution covering the case and my colleagues and I would get it through the two houses if possible, and as soon as possible. The resolution was prepared by the chief of engineers and sent to me, which I introduced, and Senator McBride and I took hold of the matter at once and promptly passed it through the senate. The resolution then went to the house where some delay occurred in getting it up, occasioned by the speaker of the house postponing it for other matters. It finally passed the house some two weeks after it passed the senate and was signed

by the president on the 6th of April. See copy inclosed.

Scarcely had the resolution become a law when we were advised that the forty or fifty thousand dollars unexpended balance at the date the resolution was presented to the senate had been used up, leaving nothing for the resolution to tack to. As the sundry civil bill, however, which has passed the house, contains an appropriation of \$179,597 for continuing the improvement at the Cascades, I immediately went before the appropriation committee of the senate and had incorporated in substance and effect as an amendment to that bill the resolution heretofore passed setting \$20,000 of this \$179,597, for the purpose of completing these walls, the completion of which we were assured both by the engineer department and the contractors, through Mr. I. N. Day, would enable the locks to be opened to commerce without delay. I send you today a copy of the sundry civil bill. The appropriation and amendment I refer to are on pages 84 and 85; that printed in italics is my amendment put on in the senate committee.

This bill has now been reported to the senate and will come up for consideration and will pass the senate and go into conference within the next ten days. Just how soon it may become a law of course it is impossible to tell, but I should say some time between the 10th and 15th of May at latest; probably not later than the 5th of May. We have no doubt whatever of being able to hold this provision in the bill. As soon as the bill become a law, therefore, the engineers and contractors will have all the money at their command, which they each assured us was necessary in order to open the locks to commerce.

In addition to this, the river and harbor bill, which has passed the house, is now under consideration in the senate committee of commerce, of which my colleague, Senator McBride, is a member, and this same matter as to the appropriations necessary to the speedy opening of this work is receiving his careful consideration and attention, and some further appropriation and provisions looking to that, and will, I have no doubt, be incorporated in the river and harbor bill when it comes from the committee. I can assure you there has been no dereliction upon the part of the delegation in either house in doing their duty and in doing it promptly, in regard to this whole matter. We can only move in these matters, of course, in accordance with the recommendation of the engineers, and whenever the engineers have required money we have promptly given it in the manner desired.

You can rest assured, and can so assure the people interested, we will leave no stone unturned to secure the early opening of the canal and locks at the Cascades. Very respectfully,
JOHN H. MITCHELL.

Weather and Crops.

The following is taken from the bulletin issued by B. S. Pague, director of the Oregon climate and crop service, and appertains to Eastern Oregon:

"The soil is unusually well soaked and the farmers are pleased over the prospects for the year's crops. As a rule but little rain falls over Eastern Oregon after May 1st, and the year's crops are directly dependent upon the moisture in the soil and the occasional showers of May and June; should the soil not be moist on May 1st, then it requires good rains in May and June for good or average crops, but when the soil is moist, as it is this year, then light or occasional rains are sufficient to produce good crops.

"Fruit—In the Columbia river valley the fruit shows but little injury from the frosts. The correspondents as a rule report no material or general injury. The fruit trees have been filled with bloom and the embryo fruit is now setting. To the south of the mountains the fruit is just coming into bloom, and the weather for the next few weeks will determine the crop. One thing is certain, there has been less injury to the fruit in Eastern Oregon than in the western portion of the state.

"Stock—The rains have caused the grass to grow, and excellent food for cattle is at hand. The stock wintered well and are now in good condition. Lambing is nearly over. In the section where the snow was heavy several weeks ago some loss to the lambs resulted, but as a whole the lambing season was successful, and but little loss resulted—fully nine-tenths of all lambs born were saved."

Crazed Over Her Boy's Death.

It is reported that Mrs. Daffron, mother of the boy killed at Umatilla, has become crazed over the event. The story is told that she was sick in bed and prostrated with grief at the time of the funeral, but insisted on arising and following her boy to the grave. The doctor's advice was powerless to prevent her intention, and it was considered wiser to allow her to follow her inclination than to prevent her doing so. She arose and dressed, but the sight of the hearse was too much for her mind in the weakened condition she was in, and her reason deserted her. The husband, also, is now confined to his bed. This was the second child lost by the Daffrons, the former death nearly resulting in Mrs. Daffron's loss of reason.

Mt. Hood Hose Co. Meeting.

There will be a called meeting of Mt. Hood Hose Co., No. 4, at the hose house on Friday evening next, at 7:30 o'clock, for election of officers for the current year. By order of the president.

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