

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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EASTERN OFFICE—230 to 234 Temple Court, N. Y. City. E. KATZ, Agent.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1897

A CANAL.

In last week's San Francisco Examiner was an article of some length regarding the work now being done on the Panama canal. According to this article 3,000 Frenchmen are at work on the canal and work is progressing night and day. They are running seven mammoth dredgers in its completion. Should this work keep up two years hence vessels should be passing through without the long, tedious journey around the horn. The canal will be operated on the franchise held by the French government, instead of a corporation, which would prove of advantage to marine interests.

Some might say that this would not augur well for the future success of the Nicaragua canal under the patronage of the United States government, but a closer view of the matter would convince most any one that such would not prove to be the case. In the first place the Nicaragua canal is primarily the ideal crossing from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is a much shorter route for all vessels from England, France, Russia, Germany and the Atlantic coast of the United States to the Pacific coast of North and South America, Hawaii and the Orient, and would therefore be more advantageous. Another thing that would render the Nicaragua canal the more popular is the fact that the vessels would have a spin in fresh water going through, thus killing the barnacles that attach themselves to the bottom of a vessel, and saving the heavy expense of dry-docking. This one item would render the Nicaragua canal the ideal waterway through the continent.

Be that as it may, it is evident that easily within the life of the present generation will be witnessed the opening of a much-desired passage between the two oceans, and the building up of the countries bordering on the Pacific ocean.

The Turks may not understand the science of government, but they know how to fight. From the time that Mahomet first led his little band of fanatics into battle, that race has been practically unconquerable. They are fighters still, backed by a hatred of the Christian, and sustained by a blind faith that he who falls in battle, goes straight to Paradise, to dwell forever with unnumbered hours. They go to the battlefield and death as cheerfully as a tramp tackles a free lunch, sure of being, whatever the result, better off for it. The Greeks, on the other hand, are degenerate and demoralized, without leadership and discontented with their government. We sympathize with the objects that caused the Greeks to go to war, and we regret their defeat; but at the same time we deplore their judgment. They have set a fine example to the powers, but the powers will not profit by it. On the contrary, England and Germany will condole Greece with the homely old couplet, "Let those get who have the power, and let those keep who can."

The dispatches state that Japan is highly incensed at the Dole government for refusing a landing to a lot of Japanese immigrants, and the press of that country is urging the government to send the immigrants back and hand them under the guns of a warship. They also urge that the United States be taken in hand by Japan and made to keep her hands off of Hawaii. This sounds easy enough to a lot of little people who whipped China so easily; but with America it is a much larger contract. Uncle Sam is not looking for

a row, and if he were, would not want to quarrel with trundle bed trash. It begins to look as though we will have to annex the islands, for just as soon as some other government says we shall not have them, we will not only want, but will take them.

The situation in Greece is anything but cheering to the friends of that country. At nearly every point where they have met the Turks they have been beaten, and while they seem to have fought well, their leadership has been poor and their retreats simply the fleeing of demoralized mobs. There can be but one result, and that is a peace made on such terms as the Christian nations of Europe see fit to allow Turkey to impose. After all, it seems as though there was truth in that old saying that "God fights on the side of the heaviest battalions."

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Tom McCoy has opened his new barber shop opposite the Clarendon restaurant on Second street. m4-1m

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