

## Miscellaneous.

**WALLA WALLA.**—During the Winter snow has fallen in the mountains to an unusual depth—this, when melted in the Spring, will furnish an abundance of water for mining operations. It is safe to say there will be a large amount of gold taken out during the coming season.

During the last few days the grass in this valley has grown rapidly and is now sufficient to support the stock very well. Animals that are not already poor will thrive and do well on it unless we have another cold snap, which from present indications, does not at all seem probable.

I. T. Reese, proprietor of the flouring mill at the lower end of town, has manufactured, during the month of February, forty-five barrels of flour per day, and during this time has bought 15,000 bushels of wheat, for which he has paid 75 cents per bushel. He has now on hand 2,000 barrels of flour awaiting shipment below. — *W. W. Statesman.*

**WASHINGTON TERRITORY.**—William Jarman, tried for the murder of James Farmer at Bellingham Bay, has been acquitted.

Watts, who killed a man some time ago on San Juan Island, has been tried at Port Townsend and convicted of murder in the first degree. The case has been long delayed, owing to disputes about jurisdiction of the civil authorities over acts done on San Juan Island.

David Phillips, of Seattle, a resident of the Puget Sound country since 1852, died on the 6th instant, aged 71 years.

A long article appears in the *Real Estate Record* (Walla Walla) in favor of opening a better and shorter route from that place to Grande Ronde, in Oregon.

**WAIT'S HAY PRESS.**—Mr. O. Fleming, who lives on the opposite side of the river, brought to our office the model of Wait's Patent Portable Hay Press. After giving it a thorough investigation—and having some practical experience in hay pressing—we have concluded it is the very best thing of the kind we have ever seen or heard of. The press is on wheels and can be brought to any part of the field by one horse, the same horse being also used for turning the crank by which the hay is pressed. We understand that Mitchell Bros., of this city, will probably manufacture a number for the market. This is an Oregon invention. — *Dulles Mountaineer.*

**MONTANA.**—Sometime during the month of February three boys of a Mr. James Spray, aged respectively 19, 16 and 8 years, were caught in a snow-slide in Madison valley, Montana, and all perished. The necks of the boys were broken, and the side of the face and head toward the hill was badly bruised. When found the bodies were covered six feet deep in the snow.

In Montana during the winter hay sold for \$40 and \$46 per ton; oats 5 cents per pound; flour \$8.50 per sack; wood \$8 to \$10 per cord. The cheapest and most abundant articles were cold and snow.

**CAPT. JOHN WOOD,** recently deceased, late of the Indian army, was distinguished in geographical explorations. He was the only European traveler, since the days of Marco Polo, who ascended the Bamidoony, or roof of the world. For the splendid achievement of discovering the source of the Oxus in 1838, Capt. Wood received the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society.

To supply the regular edition of *Harper's Weekly* fifteen tons of white paper are consumed every week, or seven hundred and eighty tons per annum. The average weekly cost of engraving is \$900, or \$30,000 per annum, and the cost of drawing on the block is about the same exclusive of the salary of artists regularly attached to the office.

The small pox seems to be spreading through the Western States. A late Eastern exchange says that this disease is raging terribly at Thayer, Iowa, on the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad. In a population of less than 1,000, over 80 deaths have occurred within less than four weeks. Almost every person in the town is afflicted with the disease. No trains are allowed to stop there.

More than one thousand tons of ore are annually consumed in Staffordshire, England, in the manufacture of cast-iron nails, which are tempered in oxide of iron after they are taken from the moulds, and made malleable.

### THE BIG TREES OF THE WORLD.

A writer in *Appleton's Journal* has, with commendable industry and research, collected and arranged accounts of the most famous trees of the world. We transfer a portion of the article, in a condensed form, to our pages:

A recent English periodical mentions a great chestnut-tree at Tortworth, in Gloucestershire, which, it says, rivals or surpasses any existing oak or yew-tree in Great Britain. Its circumference, five feet from the ground, is over fifty feet. As it was mentioned as a boundary-mark of the manor in the reign of Stephen, was famous in King John's time for its magnitude, and was in existence in the time of Egbert, it may be even much older than a thousand years.

The magnitude of the famous chestnut-tree on Mount Etna is still more remarkable. This is the "Castagno de Cento Cavalli," which is probably the largest chestnut-tree in the world, the trunk of which is described by Brydone as resembling five large trees growing together, and having a hollow cavity more than sixty feet in diameter.

But the plane trees of Greece seem to be bear away the palm for magnitude. Of this species is the specimen of "Godfrey de Bouillon," at Buyukdere, on the European side of the Bosphorus, a tree that was flourishing when first

*Byzantium's native sign  
Of cross on crescent was unfurled.*

and is conjectured by M. de Candolle to be more than two thousand years old. When measured in 1831, it was found to be a hundred and forty feet in circumference at the base, and it has been described as resembling a tower of clustered trunks. Its branches are said to be more like a forest than like a single tree. Its sides are cavernous, and shelter the herdsmen, who make their fires in these hollows.

Another enormous plane-tree, growing on the banks of the Selinus, near Nastizza, is mentioned in Hobhouse's "Travels in Albania," and is described as being forty-five feet in circumference at the base, and a hundred feet high, covered with luxuriant foliage. In the Turkish Empire these ancient trees seem to be held in reverence, as they were before the days of the Prophet.

Among the flourishing giant trees of western Australia, rivalling in magnitude our California wonders, is one near Warren river, recently discovered, and by actual measurement found to be four hundred feet high; and, another in the same region, in the Black Spur Mountain, four hundred and eighty feet high. The tallest tree in California is said not to exceed four hundred and fifty feet. Although the tree at Warren river is large enough to permit three riders, and an additional pack-horse to enter its hollow trunk and turn in it without dismounting, the size of some of the California trees, at the trunk, greatly surpasses it. The stump of one of the latter measured, on its surface, a space of six hundred square feet.

A traveler gives the following account of the "zamaug," a tree belonging to the suborder *Caculipinae*, which he saw in Venezuela, South America:

"Its head is somewhat in the shape of an open umbrella, and covers very nearly an acre of ground. In 1857, I measured its head in its greatest diameter, from east-southwest to west-northwest, most carefully, and found it to be two hundred and six feet and eleven inches."

The Brazilian journals tell of a wonderful tree on the banks of the Branco, a tributary of the great Amazon, under the canopy of which ten thousand human beings may find shelter, and the height of which is such that a gigantic bird, the sonnydon, perches itself so high up as to be quite beyond rifle-shot. The tree belongs to the malvaceous order.

In Mississippi county, Missouri, paw-paws grow to a circumference of three feet, and grape-vines and trumpet-keepers to a circumference of nearly two feet.

A sycamore tree one hundred and

ten feet high, and with a hollow fourteen feet in the clear, is mentioned as a feature in Calhoun county, Illinois. In Kansas, at the mouth of Fall river, is a remarkable tree, the dimensions of which are on record in Washington. It is nine feet in diameter, thirty feet in circumference, and runs up, straight as an arrow, forty feet without limbs.

The original "Loudon Pippin-tree," in Virginia, is still standing. It is known to have borne every season, for the past eighty years, from forty-five to seventy-five bushels of apples, and eighty years ago it was regarded as a venerable specimen of vegetation. The fruit is of excellent quality, and above the average size. The tree is forty-five feet high.

Another aged fruit-tree—the "Big Apple-Tree," as it is known—recently passed away after an existence of over a century and a half, it is believed, at Peekskill, New York. Its trunk, near the ground, was over thirteen feet circumference.

### A NATIONAL PARK.

The bill to set apart the region of wonders in Montana as a National Park, has passed both branches of Congress. It is claimed that no region in the world contains an equal wealth of natural curiosities. The *Helena* (Montana) *Herald* says that the idea of a park was first conceived by a party from that place who visited the wonder land in 1868, and gave to the world the first reliable reports concerning it. Descriptive letters were published by members of this party and were widely circulated by the press of the country. These excited not merely a passing curiosity, but created a living, general interest that has since received strength and larger proportions by the publication of Lieutenant Doane's official report to the War Department of the same expedition; followed, as that was, by the expedition of Professor Hayden, during the last summer, under the patronage of the Smithsonian Institute, with its fully appointed corps of scientific gentlemen and distinguished artists, whose reports have more than confirmed all descriptions of former parties. Such, in brief, has been the origin and progress of this project now about to receive definite and permanent shape in the establishment of a National Park. It will be a park worthy of the great Republic. It will embrace about 2,500 square miles, and include the canyon, the falls and lake of the Yellowstone, with a score of other magnificent lakes, the great geyser basin of the Madison, and thousands of mineral and boiling springs. Should the whole surface of the earth be gleaned, another spot of equal dimensions could not be found that contains on such a magnificent scale one-half of the attractions here grouped together. Without a doubt the Northern Pacific Railroad will have a branch track penetrating this Plutonian region, and few seasons will pass before excursion trains will daily be sweeping into this great park thousands of the curious from all parts of the world. A steamboat will be plying upon the crystal waters of the Yellowstone Lake, and excited sportsmen will be deceiving the speckled beauties from its depths, or aiming for the swans, geese, ducks or gulls that heretofore have floated undisturbed upon its surface. The *Helena Herald* advises those who would look upon this scene in its wild primitive beauty, before art has practiced any of its tricks upon nature, to go soon.

The largest yield of corn per acre ever recorded in Scott county, Ill., was produced by L. W. Clemens, of Pleasant Valley townships this year. His sworn statement to the Scott county agricultural society is that the yield was 154 bushels and three pecks of shelled corn! His onion crop was at the rate of 480 bushels per acre, which was a goodly yield for the past year, but was 800 bushels per acre less than he raised on a previous season, several years ago. His carrot crop at 1,600 bushels per acre, and potato crop at 180 bushels per acre, are extremely hard to beat.

### NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

**PARIS, March 10.**—Strong efforts are making to reconcile the differences between Thiers and the Committee of the Assembly on the bill for the control of the press.

The condition of the national treasury, even after paying the fourth half milliard of indemnity, is satisfactory. The Minister of Finance, is enabled to report a balance of 450,000,000 francs on hand.

**LONDON, March 10.**—The *Observer* states that Secretary Fish's reply to Lord Granville's concerning the claims for indirect damages, has been received and it expresses the desire of the American Government for a final and amicable settlement of the whole question. The *Observer* adds that neither the British nor American Government is in favor of reopening the proceedings of the Joint High Commission.

**LONDON, March 11.**—The *Financier* says the American Government, after mature deliberation, has resolved to present their case to the Geneva Tribunal on the 15th of April, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Washington, even if the British Arbitrators do not be present, and insist on proceeding to arbitration regardless of any protest or withdrawal on the part of Great Britain.

In the House of Commons, to-day, Macfee called the attention of the Colonial Department to the report which came from America of the Secret Treaty for the separation of Canada from Great Britain.

Hughes, Under Colonial Secretary, replied that he had not thought it worth his while to contradict such an absurd rumor, but out of respect to the gentleman present he would state that there was not the slightest foundation.

**NEW YORK, March 12.**—The resignation of Jay Gould, as President of the Erie Railroad, is said to have been accomplished as follows: General Sikes was empowered by the Board to offer an ultimatum to Gould, Eldridge, Sherwood and Drake, that they should be permitted to retain their positions as Directors if they would come into the session of the new Board. Sikes, after considerable difficulty, gained access to Gould's stronghold and after considerable discussion the terms were accepted to, and these gentlemen attended the meetings, when all the acts of the new Board were confirmed and Gould's resignation offered and accepted: Lynch and his men were dismissed, order restored and the police discharged. General Dix took formal possession of the President's room.

The *London Times* says the election of the new Board of Erie Directors and the election of Dix to the Presidency, will restore confidence in American enterprise, and consequently result in an increase of the resources of the country.

**CONCORD, March 14.**—Reports received from 204 towns give Straw, Republican, 36,709; Weston, Democrat, 34,210; Blackmer, 309; Cooper, and scattering, 375; making the majority for Straw 1,685, which will be reduced below 1,500 by the remaining towns. The 11th Senatorial District is doubtful.

**NEW YORK, March 13.**—The affairs at the Erie Railroad office have settled down to the ordinary quiet. Gould said to-day he was glad to be out of the Erie Presidency, the salary of which did not pay for the perpetual harassing which came with the office. He will soon return to Wall street.

The steamer San Francisco is in from Bermuda. She reports that the Denmark, originally, and better known as the Great Republic, was abandoned at sea in latitude 30° north, longitude 69.40 west, with fifteen feet of water in her hold. The Captain and crew arrived safely at Bermuda in the ship's boats.

**WASHINGTON, March 13.**—The President entertained the Japanese Embassadors at dinner this evening, together with other guests. To-morrow night the Embassy holds a reception at Arlington, to which all distinguished officers of the Government have been invited.

Government officers have discovered an extensive scheme of smuggled silks, laces, gloves etc., which have been bought from Europe, sent to Halifax, thence to St. Stephens, N. B., and smuggled across at Calais, reaching Boston, and New York and Chicago in large quantities. Parties have thus smuggled seven hundred thousand dollars' worth the past year.

**HALIFAX, March 13.**—There was another severe snow storm last night, and railroad travel is again interrupted. In some cuttings on the Eastern line the snow is thirty feet deep.

**LISBON, March 13.**—The steamer Duoro arrived to-day, from Rio de Janeiro on the 23d ult.

A tremendous land slide occurred on the line of the Paulo Railroad. An inland plane for miles in extent moved from its foundation and buried the road for a long distance under earth and rocks. It was believed that it would take two months to restore the road to working condition.

**LONDON, March 13.**—Murphy, the well known anti-Popery lecturer, is dead. It is believed that his death was caused by injuries received by the hands of the mob while he was deliv-

ering a lecture, some time since, at White Haven.

The Queen approved of the grant of a pension to the widow of Mark Lemon.

**VERSAILLES, March 13.**—In the Assembly to-day Minister Dufflere made a powerful speech in support of the bill for penalties against the International Society, which he declared was a standing menace to European Society. Jules Favre opposed the bill. At the close of the debate, the first clause, making it a criminal offence to belong to the Society, was adopted by a vote of 501 to 104.

At a sitting of the Budget Committee to-day, Thiers consented to a reduction of the Army from 400,000 to 440,000 men, thereby saving 10,000,000 francs to the country. The President urged upon the Committee the adoption of a tax on raw materials.

**PARIS, March 13.**—According to advices received from Spain, a crisis is at hand. King AmSdeus is concentrating his army around Madrid, disarming the National Guard, and preparing to defend his throne.

**ROME, March 13.**—Victor Emanuel will review the Italian troops stationed in and around Rome some time during the present month. The review will take place in the presence of the King and Queen of Denmark and General Von Moltke.

In the opinion of the *Nationale* it hints that one of the objects of Prince Frederik Charles' visit here is to bring about a good understanding between Italy and Germany with reference to the common action against the clerical parties of both countries.

**BERNE, March 13.**—The Federal Council has appointed the 9th of May as a day for the people to vote upon the ratification of the revised Constitution adopted by the National and State Councils.

**PARIS, March 13.**—Gambetta will soon start on a political tour through France, and will deliver addresses at all the principal cities.

**WASHINGTON, March 14.**—A delegation of chiefs of the Chippewa tribes from Northern Michigan were at the White House to-day and paid their respects to the President.

The Senate Arms Committee to-day resumed the examination of Bennett. He testified there were 682,869 serviceable arms on hand, and that the total number of arms of all kinds was 1,159,088.

Commissioner W. B. Appertel, of the Centennial Commission, called on the Japanese Embassy and invited them to participate in the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and to use their personal influence to induce full representatives from the Imperial Government of Japan.

Iwakura responded: "It will afford us great pleasure to recommend to our Emperor such steps as may be necessary to unite with you in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the existence of the Government of the United States."

**PORTSMOUTH, March 14.**—The *Chronicle* has returns from all but eight towns, which last year gave Straw less than 8,000 votes. Straw has 38,563; Weston and scattering, 37,338; Straw's majority, 1,230 which will probably be increased. The Senate stands 8 Republicans to 4 Democrats. The lists of Representatives is incomplete, but so far as heard from the Republicans have 209; Democrats, 135; Temperance, 1; Labor Reform, 4. The full list will probably give the Republicans about 50 majority.

**LONDON, March 14.**—The reply of Secretary Fish to Earl Granville's note was communicated to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs yesterday, and to Gladstone last evening. The reply of the American Government, though friendly, is firm and unyielding. It calls upon England to submit to the Geneva Tribunal for arbitration the question whether claims for consequential damages shall be admitted and discussed by the Board.

**WASHINGTON, March 16.**—A New York dispatch says Gen. Sikes has prepared a letter resigning the Spanish Mission, and having taken a partner will soon open a law office in this city. The new firm will of course take the Erie railway business, an enormously lucrative business.

### The Indian War in Arizona.

**LOS ANGELES, March 15.**—The latest army news from Arizona is reported as follows:

The Indians have left nearly all the reservations. Some thousands of Apaches are now on the war-path. The country between Prescott and Wickenburg is alive with well armed hostile Indians.

The "Peace Policy" of the Government is worse than a failure—by furnishing the Apaches with supplies, which are now used in making war on the whites.

A party of Indians is raiding on Deer creek. A white man, name unknown, en route from Monteymons Wells to Federal Camp for medicine, was overtaken and killed.

General Crook left Fort Rock ten days since with a company of cavalry and a band of friendly Indians on a tour in the Apache country. He proceeded in the direction of Tonto Pass, from thence right and left, and returned.