

Very singularly this coast region combines the treasures of the ocean with the best game of the mountains. The streams that put down...

Close by this north coast rise mountains that abound in deer and elk, so that the hunter has a natural paradise about him with game and fish in profusion. It is not often that the ocean and mountains combine to yield up their treasures in the same near vicinity...

WAKIACUM COUNTY. Next above Pacific county, on the Washington county, is Wakiakum, a small county that has very little agricultural area, but has some valuable fisheries and canneries upon its shores...

COWLITZ COUNTY. East of Wakiakum, has an area of 1,100 square miles and 1,800 population. Its chief town is Freeport, formerly called Monticello, on the Cowlitz river, which has 300 inhabitants...

LEWIS COUNTY. Which has an area of 1,800 square miles and 2,004 population. The Chehalis river also has numerous branches in this county and its general character is hill and valley, similar to other counties we have named...

CLARK COUNTY, W. T. What we know is from circular prepared some years ago by a committee of patrons of Husbandry of this county, who present the facts in a plain and reasonable manner. They say: We have "set our stakes down here," in all probability for life, and we are resolved that any statements of ours shall be such as the facts warrant...

He never adapted any country to the life of a drone, for the reason that he never designed men or women to be such. What we want, and what the interests of the country demand, are live men and women, who will not only stay but enter into the life of the country and enterprise enrich themselves as they may, and contribute to the permanent wealth and prosperity of the country.

In most parts of the country the surface is very level; in others hilly, the Northern part bordering on the Cascade range being mountainous. But little land in the country is too hilly for cultivation, and that portion which is, furnishes good pasture for stock. In some portions there are small prairies although these are mostly occupied. The greater portion of the land is heavily timbered, but is interspersed with rich swales of from five to twenty-five acres, nearly, or quite, destitute of timber. There swales are easily brought under cultivation and produce abundantly.

The Vancouver Land District extends along the North bank of the Columbia river, running Eastward from its mouth for a distance of 180 miles in a direct line, and embraces the counties of Clarke, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania and Wakiakum. A portion of the lands embraced in this district are mountainous, though the greater part is susceptible of a high grade of agriculture. Many fine farms have been opened, the soil in most cases being rich and is well watered, and much of it is covered by a fine growth of excellent timber, such as fir, cedar, oak, ash, etc.

Below will be found a table of the lands embraced in the Vancouver Land District, which is compiled from the official township plat. The odd lots were withdrawn from market August 13, 1870, under the grant to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Under the head of "vacant and subject to entry" is given only the number of acres in the even sections, the same being now vacant and ready for settlement:

Table with columns: COUNTY, Total Area, Surveyed, Unsurveyed, Settled. Rows include Clarke, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, Wakiakum, and a Total row.

It must be remembered in connection with lands reported vacant on the line covered by railroad grants, that railroad lands are counted out. It is probable that a great area of railroad lands are for sale, or will be for sale, in such counties, above what the land office reports as vacant, which report only refers to lands subject to homestead or pre-emption. It is also necessary to recollect that many persons file on lands they do not remain upon, and the land office gives by the record of filings, which show a much greater amount of land that is actually occupied, so the area of vacant lands is always much greater than the land office records state the case.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. The early settlers of Oregon had braved and endured much to make their homes in this far off country, and they brought with them primitive habits and very economical ideas. While California went to housekeeping in great state and upon an extravagant scale, so that when the flood tide of golden prosperity began to ebb, her people found themselves saddled with an extravagant system and political habits that were such a burden that almost a revolution was required to amend the State constitution to suit the times, the very contrary was the case in Oregon. Salaries of State officials here are almost too low: Governor \$1,500, Secretary of State \$1,500, Judges of Supreme and Circuit Courts \$2,000.

The economical idea has prevailed, with few exceptions, from the beginning. The State has been liberal in caring for the insane, the blind and the mutes, and nearly laid the State expenses for these objects, but the people keep a strict watch over their officials and hold them to rigid account. It is probably true that the State Government of Oregon is the most economical of all the States in the Union. We are liberal for schools, as the figures we give from the biennial report of the State Superintendent will show. The same economical spirit is evident in Washington Territory, and is manifest by the same liberality in connection with State charities and the cause of education.

township of thirty-six sections, have been set aside by the government for the benefit of public schools. When the territory becomes a state, these lands will be sold, the money invested, and the interest therefrom used to sustain our schools.

In our country most religious denominations are represented in greater or less numbers. Ministers of various denominations hold services in the school houses or churches in the country, while in our towns services are held regularly every Sunday by settled ministers. Much of our land is heavily timbered. In time the greater portion of this timber must become valuable. Fir trees grow to immense size. It is no uncommon thing to see trees six or seven feet in diameter and 250 feet in height. Besides the fir there is plenty of oak, ash, cedar, maple and alder. The cedar (white) is used for finishing and is an excellent substitute for pine.

The chief town in this county is Vancouver and is situated on the Columbia river, about midway between the upper and lower extremities of the county, where a good market is found for the productions of the soil. Portland, in Oregon, a city of about 20,000 inhabitants also furnishes a ready market for any excess of productions, not wanted at Vancouver. Portland is situated on the Willamette river, about 17 miles from Vancouver by water, and six by land.

Clarke county is a very valuable region and will develop with time, great wealth and dense population, for the greater part of its surface is capable of cultivation. Almost three-fourths of its area has been surveyed and it is remarkable that less than one tenth of the surveyed land now stands vacant on the books of the land office.

We are under obligations to Hon. N. W. Newlin, Register of the United States Land Office at Vancouver, for a complete review of the lands in the different counties in his district. The tables he sends us give each township of every county, with statement of land surveyed and unsurveyed and amount of acres in each subject to entry. With the brief time at our disposal it is impossible to set these tables in time for this issue, but the main facts of importance are contained in the recapitulation which follows, and which we give in tabular form.

The introductory remarks which follow, are furnished by Mr. Newlin. VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON TERRITORY, LAND DISTRICT. The Vancouver Land District extends along the North bank of the Columbia river, running Eastward from its mouth for a distance of 180 miles in a direct line, and embraces the counties of Clarke, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania and Wakiakum. A portion of the lands embraced in this district are mountainous, though the greater part is susceptible of a high grade of agriculture. Many fine farms have been opened, the soil in most cases being rich and is well watered, and much of it is covered by a fine growth of excellent timber, such as fir, cedar, oak, ash, etc.

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Latest by Telegraph.

EASTERN.

The Illinois University. BLOOMINGTON, ILL., December 27.—The Trustees of the Illinois Wesleyan University, who have been in session in this city since Tuesday morning, closed their labors to-day, appearing to realize the great responsibility that rests upon them to free the institution from the heavy debt now resting upon its shoulders. The result of their deliberations is as follows: The board will endeavor to raise one-half of the \$10,000 deficit among themselves and the friends of the institution, who have been present attending the meeting of the board. About one-half this sum was pledged at the meeting. It was also decided to request President Adams to take the field, and by personal work raise not only the \$5,000 needed to liquidate the \$35,000 note, but to continue the canvass until the floating debt of \$13,000 is liquidated.

Two Children Burned to Death. MEMPHIS, TENN., Dec. 28.—Two negro children of tender age were burned to a crisp this morning. The parents went to work and left them alone in their shanty, locking the door and taking the key. No one present at the fire knew the children were in the house until their charred remains were found in the ashes.

Trouble in New Mexico. LAS VEGAS, N. M., Dec. 28.—The notorious gang of outlaws composed of about 25 men, who, under the leadership of "Billy, the Kid," have for the past six months overrun Eastern New Mexico, murdering and committing other deeds of outlawry, was broken up last Saturday morning by the killing of two and capturing of four others, including the leader. The prisoners were lodged in Las Vegas jail and threats of lynching were prevalent, but the vigilance of the captors, Deputy Sheriff Garrett and others, prevented. Yesterday afternoon Garrett and the other captives boarded a train with the prisoners for the purpose of taking them to Santa Fe. Sheriff Romero remonstrated against taking the prisoners, who were crowded with additional guards pressed into service by Garrett, and nearly every window of the cars served as portals for rifles. Somebody suggested to take the prisoners now. Stewart, of Garrett's party, said: "The instant the first shot is fired we will unleash every man and arm him." While a fight seemed imminent Chief Engineer Robinson appeared and demanded that the train be allowed to proceed. The Master of Transportation said that if the train was not allowed to proceed he would arm all the railroad men and take it out. Detective J. F. Marley, of the Post Office Department, jumped into the car with a pair of six-shooters, and told the engineer to "let her go." A conference had just concluded, a compromise being effected by which it was agreed that the Sheriff and two men should go to Santa Fe with the party, and if the Governor agreed, bring Rudabaugh back to Las Vegas. The train then proceeded.

A Shooting Affray. FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 28.—A disturbance occurred Friday evening at Smithville, fifteen miles west from here, between a white man named Dunn and a party of colored men who had met to organize a military company. One of the men sought Dunn by the whiskey and slapped his face, whereupon he drew a single-barreled pistol and killed the negro. Dunn then ran into a store and loaded his pistol, with drawn sword, attacked him. He shot Cook dead, after which he seized a butcher knife and cut his way out. One man named Drew was badly cut in the abdomen and while others were mortally wounded, less injured. Dunn gave himself up and is now in jail at Williamsburg. Intense excitement prevails among the colored people.

Railroad Accident. TIFFIN, OHIO, Dec. 28.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon a collision occurred near here between a passenger and freight train. Both were wrecked. The mail, express and baggage cars were thrown together and burned with their contents, except the baggage was mostly saved. Wm. Woodberg, fireman on the passenger train, was killed outright. His wife was on board the train. Several other men were injured, but no passengers were much hurt. The engineer of the freight train is missing. It is said that he was drunk and was running against orders.

The New York Democracy. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A re-organization of the New York Democracy is under the auspices of the Brunswick Hotel Committee and Young Men's Democratic Club, was well attended to-night by those interested in re-organization of the Democratic party in this State. Frank in Elson presided. Among the Vice Presidents were George W. Lane, Samuel D. Bibcock, David M. Stone, Charles A. Dana, Henry L. Hoag, Allen Campbell, J. M. Beach, Wm. H. Appleton, Pierre Van Hook, Abram S. Hewitt, L. L. Starr, Jas. W. Gerard, Daniel E. Tamm, Oswald Kitchener, Wm. Henry Burleigh, C. S. Fairchild, Simon Stearns, Wm. C. Whitney, Erastus Brooks, Robert B. Roosevelt, and S. L. M. Barlow. Most of them occupied seats on the platform.

Resolutions were adopted declaring that the late defeat of the Democratic party could have been avoided and victory secured but for the unfortunate dissemination in its ranks in the city and county of New York; that the policy of the party had not been felt in the selection of candidates, and could not, under existing organizations, had expressed, advocating full and free elections, an honest count and all measures which opposed the right of Federal officials to make arbitrary arrests on the eve of an election, use of troops at the polls and any interference which impaired the right of suffrage. The tariff issue should be more sharply defined, and the Democratic party should cease to compete for the support and votes of those who do not believe in free trade and our commercial legislation; that restrictive and obstructive features; that to restore our maritime power American citizens should be allowed to buy or build ships for the foreign trade in any part of the world and obtain for them American registers. The issues were not fairly presented. Democracy had money doctrine was diluted in Maine and Indiana with greenback herey in order to secure votes. We lost, and justly lost, both States. The Democratic doctrine of a tariff for revenue only was explained and modified to suit the atmosphere of Connecticut and New Jersey, and the result was that we lost the former and carried the latter State by a greatly reduced majority, but, failing to secure any return for these unwise concessions, we lost in the State of New York a large vote, perhaps large enough to have changed the result. We prefer defeat with honor to victory achieved by any compromise of principle. The Democratic party would have been necessary for a disturbing element which existed here in the city of New York and which did not exist outside the State of New York. Hewitt reviewed the New York campaign, denouncing Kelly and Tammany and praising the Irving Hall Democracy. He predicted that the party would adhere to its principles without consulting expediency, and would begin a new career of victory and usefulness.

FOREIGN.

Relating to Irish Franchises. LONDON, Dec. 18.—A deputation of the corporation of Dublin has interviewed Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and urged the Government to introduce a bill in Parliament to assimilate franchises of Ireland to those of England. Forster said that the Government intended that borough franchises should be made alike in both countries; but that it would be as well not to meddle with county franchises at present, as they were looking forward to a great change in English and Scotch county franchises, and perhaps the Irish franchise would be dealt with at the same time. The Government, he said, were of the opinion that the municipal franchise ought to be similar to that of England, but they could not promise to deal with the matter immediately as other Irish business was very pressing.

Seven hundred members of the Magisterial Executive of Ireland recently sent Gladstone a memorial declaring that the state of lawlessness existing in the country requires immediate attention from the Government. Gladstone replied that Parliament will deal with the question.

Canadian Pacific Railroad. LONDON, Dec. 28.—At a meeting here yesterday it was resolved that the proposal made by the Government, and now before Parliament—to expend about \$60,000,000 and grant 25,000,000 acres of choice land worth, at an estimate made by the Government last session, \$79,000,000—for the purpose, as alleged, of insuring the completion of the Pacific Railroad, is highly inexpedient and calculated to prevent the reduction of taxation, which is now excessive.

PACIFIC COAST. The Chinese Treaty. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—W. H. Trecoett, one of the commissioners to negotiate a treaty with China, arrived by the City of Peking this evening. He has been besieged by interviewers since his landing but remains strictly reticent regarding the proceedings of the commission and terms of the treaty. The only information he conveys is to the effect that the commission on arrival at Peking took up quarters at the American legation; that negotiations which occupied one month and one day were carried on at the Chinese foreign office; that Commissioner Swift is at Shanghai and will return by next steamer; and that he (Trecoett) will go East Wednesday. As to the terms of the treaty, the spirit in which the propositions of the commissioners were met by the Chinese, of the nature of their intercourse with Chinese authorities, Mr. Trecoett announces he will shortly publish regarding the work of the Commission, and declines either to affirm or deny them.

An Oregon Schooner Lost. SANTA CRUZ, Dec. 27.—Last night the schooner Helen Merriam, 74 tons burthen, laden with telegraph poles for Oregon, taken on at Monterey, went ashore half a mile this side of Soquel. The first mate, Martin Frees, a native of Germany, and a sailor attempted to go ashore in a boat, which capsized. Frees was drowned but the sailor was rescued this morning, having clung all night to the boat.

ITEMS BY TELEGRAPH. The Democrats of St. Louis are effecting a new organization. A French firm intend erecting sugar beet factories in Canada. The difficulty between China and Russia has been settled entirely. The Brooklyn Aldermen refuse to license Chinese laundries at any price. The grain commission house of W. B. McLaren, Milwaukee, Wis., has failed. A railway accident near Ceanboth, N. C., resulted in several being killed and burned, recently. Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin, the world-renowned Universalist preacher of New York, is dead. The situation in Ireland remains unchanged. The government is inactive and the agitators are active. Up to the morning of the 27th inst., the number of immigrants arriving at this port since Jan. 1, 1880, was 318,937.

The Boers of South Africa have released the prisoners they took, but it looks as if England, while others were mortally wounded, less injured. Dunn gave himself up and is now in jail at Williamsburg. Intense excitement prevails among the colored people.

Further reports received from points West and North show that the weather is generally colder here than in Chicago. In many places the thermometer marked fourteen to twenty degrees below zero during the day and evening. A friend of Gen. Garfield says that he has every reason for believing that ex-Senator A. Sargent, of California, will be invited to a new cabinet. The Journal merely remarks that this is a rumor which is of doubtful truth. The storm raged on the New Jersey shore for 72 hours. Summer evidences were scattered and the sea swept away the place of the Central Hotel, and carried away 200 feet of the bulkhead of the Manhattan Beach Hotel at Long Beach. The Ponce Indian chiefs desire to remain on the lands they now occupy, in Indian Territory, and to make permanent homes there, and have schools provided for them, and seem perfectly satisfied with promises made them at Washington.

Leduc, Commissioner of Agriculture, is in Charleston, S. C., and has completed arrangements for the establishment of an experimental farm. The location selected is 20 miles from Charleston and two miles from Summerville on the line of the South Carolina R. R. Recently, at New York, Gen. Grant gave Blaine the cut direct, by refusing to see him when he called, because he didn't like the way Blaine made war on him at Chicago, and when Grant was on the floor of the Senate the other day, Blaine was the only Senator who did not shake hands with him. The cabinet is of the opinion that West-taker will not get another chance at Whit-poor. Jay Gould predicts another crisis similar to the one of 1873, consequent on too much reckless speculation in railroad building. A bronze statue of General Phillip Kearney was unveiled in the military park, Newark, on the 28th, with imposing ceremonies. Thos. Lee shot and killed Chris Lawson, his brother-in-law, at Midway, Ky., Christmas night, after Lawson had dangerously stabbed him.

RAILWAY COLLISION.

Several Persons Killed and One Burned—Heroic Conduct of an Engineer. CHARLOTTE, Dec. 27.—A railroad disaster occurred on the Air Line Railroad, 500 yards beyond Paw creek trestle, 9 miles from this city. Two freight trains, one about 15 minutes behind the other, on the up grade just beyond the Paw creek trestle, 14 cars of the forward train broke loose and stopped after running a short distance. In the rear car were the flagman, Bob Griffith, of this city, and six passengers, three of whom were colored. When a passenger, immediately jumped off, and having told the train men to notify the passenger that they had broken loose from the remainder of the train, immediately started back to signal the second section. He had not gone far before he heard the approaching train. He then realized the fact that he could proceed no farther because of the trestle, 150 yards wide and very heavy. He waved a flag as the engine in charge of Engineer Embury came in sight. The engineer expressed his recognition of it by immediately blowing on brakes, but they were too heavy, and he was wearing the bottom of one of the biggest grades on the road, hence it was impossible to stop. As soon as he realized these facts, and before crossing the trestle, he reversed his engine and continued to blow on whistles. Realizing the catastrophe, he left his seat, and standing in front of the fire box, with his hand on the lever, awaited the shock. He came, and he was partially knocked down by a stick of wood from the tender, but was otherwise unhurt, though seriously injured, having been in a mass of debris which was thrown against the engine. His life was probably saved by the fact that the rear of the tender was thrown to one side, thus diverting the full movement of the train from the engine to the side of the cut, against which the shattered cars were piled in an inextricable mass. What occurred in the cab is obtained from the statement made by Thos. H. Gaither, of this city, who was a passenger and who miraculously escaped, though seriously injured, having had several of his ribs broken. There were six passengers besides the flagman. The train which ran into them had caught up with them at a wood station a few miles back, and hence when its coming was announced no one felt apprehensive. The flagman had been sent back as an additional precaution, and hence no attention was paid. The approaching train was upon them before they knew it. Gaither remembers that he and Philip S. Whinsant started to get out, but before he reached the middle of the car he was knocked down. He managed with the assistance of the colored man to extricate himself by lifting the top of the car off. The other passengers, Philip S. Whinsant, of this city, Charlie Sellers, whose parents live in Penhook, and a negro named Ned Stroud, were all killed. The cars telescoped each other and were piled in the greatest confusion. The mass took fire and the remains of the cars, including that in which the passengers were, were destroyed. At least one of them, name unknown, was burned alive, his cries being heard. His charred remains were recovered after several hours, but could not be recognized. The head, feet and hands were entirely burned off.

Yesterday afternoon the Council Committee on Ways and Means met at the room formerly occupied by the Board of Police Commissioners, in the Police Court building, for the purpose of considering the testimony adduced in the Besser-Thompson investigation, and also to make up its report. The different questions arising were all carefully canvassed and discussed, and the testimony of the witnesses given before the Committee during the investigation was gone over, and after a careful consideration of all the points contained in the charges made by ex-Chief of Police Besser against Mayor Thompson, unanimously agreed upon the following report, which is presented to the Common Council at its next meeting, one week from to-night:

To the Hon. Mayor and Common Council of the City of Portland: GENTLEMEN—We, your Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the charges of L. Besser against D. P. Thompson, beg leave to report that we have investigated said charges, so far as relates to the city taxes, and find that said D. P. Thompson, in law, owed the \$80,000 in question to Capt. A. P. Auker. The charge of L. Besser, to which he declined to answer, except in so far as relates to city taxes, we return herewith, also he sworn reply of D. P. Thompson to said charges. HENRY HEWITT, W. H. ASHURB, HENRY WEBER, Committee on Ways and Means.

The above report, for a second time, explains the charges made against Mayor Thompson, that he had withheld from taxation portions of his property by making a false return. The same matter was settled a year ago, but when the charges were again revived by Mr. Besser, Mayor Thompson expressly desired and courted the fullest investigation of the matter. The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom the matter was referred, has done this, and its report, as above given, fully exonerates Mayor Thompson. If this matter is again brought up in the Council it should be promptly rejected as not worthy any further consideration at the hands of the members. Mr. Besser claims he is actuated only in taking the rights of the citizen tax payers. He has failed to make out a case and he should now cease to agitate the matter or his action will be regarded more in the light of a personal persecution than prompted by a sense of duty.

SHOOTING AFFRAY.—Last Saturday, soon after noon, says the Dalles Times, Jos. Azenot, a waiter in the Cosmopolitan Hotel, got upon Mr. John Fahey's horse and rode it around a block and returned. When getting off the animal he was met by Mr. Fahey with a drawn pistol. Azenot, in attempting to ward off the pistol, received a bullet through his right wrist, it having passed through Fahey's left hand first. This must have been occasioned by the scuffle, as he says the pistol was pointed at his breast. Mr. Fahey was arrested by Sheriff Stearns. Mr. Azenot is a native of Morocco, Africa, and only claims to have been in this country ten months. Mr. Fahey is an old resident of this county, and, as we are informed, thought the man was attempting to steal his horse.

It is believed in Washington that Secretary Ramsey will be elected Senator from Minnesota; that Gen. Miller will succeed Booth in California; that Jones will be re-elected from Florida, and Republicans confidently expect to elect at Tennessee, which the Democrats refuse to concede. Morton is the favorite in New York and Oliver in Pennsylvania.