

WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

For several years the river has been gradually washing away the banks in the upper part of Florence, the channel having changed so the current strikes against the bank. Some of the people owning property in that part of town are very anxious that something be done to protect the bank and stop it washing away. They are willing to stand their share of the cost of the work but some of the lots fronting on the river are owned by non-residents who do not realize the necessity of preventing further cutting away and are waiting for the authorities to order the work before they incur any expense in that way.

Three or four years ago the council advertised for bids for building a break-water for some distance along the bank but soon afterward a city election was held and the city council did not let a contract for the work.

It has recently been suggested to us that this question be made an issue in the coming city election and that a set of candidates for councilmen be nominated who are in favor of having the work done.

We think that a better way would be to leave it to a direct vote of the citizens at that time, with the understanding that if a majority vote against it the matter will be dropped for the present so far as the council is concerned; but if there is a majority in favor of it, the council will let a contract for necessary work—the cost of building the same in front of private property to be assessed to the lots in the vicinity, and that in the streets to be paid from the city treasury.

HELP HIM OWN HIS HOME.

They do some things better in England than here. The dispatches for instance, say that on Tuesday next Mr. Chamberlain will introduce a bill empowering local authorities to advance money to enable occupiers to acquire ownership of small houses on the principle of the Irish land acts and the small holding acts.

One of the most serious crimes to be charged up to the recent legislature is that it failed to pass a bill enacting a first class building and loan association law, such a one as has been tested by years of experience in Minnesota and Pennsylvania the home of building and loan associations. Such a law would have been worth more to the state than the bringing in of \$10,000,000 of eastern capital to loan.

The home owner is always a good citizen. He takes an intelligent interest in municipal affairs and is always on the side of law and order. The city wherein the greater number of its inhabitants own their own homes is always a progressive and enterprising city. Hard times have little effect upon it.

Encouragement in home owning should be fostered in every legitimate way. If you know of a man who is struggling under a burden and is endeavoring to save enough money to pay for his home, help him. It is a good investment in good citizenship.

INTEREST AROUSED.

Quite a number of papers copied part or all of our article of two weeks ago descriptive of the Siuslaw valley. The Oregonian of the 14th published the article in full.

Already one effect of it is seen in the numerous letters received by Postmaster Kyle and others in the past few days from people who read that article and are anxious to learn more about this part of Oregon.

Efforts are being made by the postmasters and patrons of the various offices along the Glendora-Gardiner route to have the mail on that line increased from a semi-weekly to a tri-weekly service. This would be a great benefit to the people along the route and should be granted by the post-office department. The route should also be extended from Glendora to Florence thus making Gardiner and Florence the ends of the route.

Billous headache, yellow skin, coated tongue, fevered lips. Hulyan cures. 50 cents.

The California legislature adjourned without electing a senator.

FROM COPPER RIVER

WASHINGTON LETTER.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

Chester Bean Writes About It. His Experience There.

WASH., D. C., March 12, 1899. "When the cat is away the mice will play."

No Gold in that Section

Boomed by Transportation Companies. The Winter—Short Days—Indians, Etc.

A few days ago Mrs. Q. R. Bean received the following letter from her son Chester who went to Alaska some two years since. Through the kindness of Mrs. Bean and family we are permitted to publish the letter:

Klentena River, Alaska.
January 31st, 1899.

My Dear Mother:
The mail came in yesterday and brought me three letters from you. I was glad to hear from home again and know you were all well, but was a little disappointed for you did not say a word about the Washington election, or who was elected U. S. senator from Oregon at the special session, or whether they elected anyone or not, and I was very anxious to know how it came out.

I see from one of the clippings that you sent me that there has been a rich strike on the Tanana but we have not heard of anything of the kind up here. The place spoken of is about 30 miles from here and we were over there but it is all a fake. The boom was gotten up by what is known as the Wear party and part, if not all of them are in here for the transportation companies and they are trying hard to boom the place in order to get a crowd to come in here again this spring. If you ever see any reports from this country given by a man by the name of Bruce or Smith, you can put them down as false, for they have gone out to boom the country and will go about having some great stories to tell. There hasn't been a dollar's worth of gold taken out of the ground in this country, and my advice to anyone thinking of coming here would be for them to stay at home, for the Copper river valley is all alike and it is impossible for one to get from Valdig to the Tanana with an outfit in one year and the hardships are too much to endure not knowing whether the country is any better over there or not. We hope to find things more favorable when we get over on the Tanana, but don't know, for I wouldn't believe a person on oath in this country.

We have put in the winter all right now, and might as well go on and see for ourselves, although I dread the mosquitoes of next summer more than I did the winter.

The Copper river valley is about 50 miles wide and about 150 or 200 miles long and is of a white clay formation, covered with a heavy growth of scrub pine about like the sand hills back of Florence. You can hardly find a tree more than six inches in diameter and it would be just the question to get one ten feet long without limbs on it. In places the river cuts through banks of clay five or six hundred feet deep and no one knows how much further it is down to bed-rock. In one place near Mount Drum there are some men sinking a shaft and are down 60 feet now and there don't seem to be any more bed-rock there than where they started; so you see a poor man couldn't do anything in this country even if there was plenty of gold, for bed-rock is too deep. We are lying four miles from the mountains at the head of Klentena rapids 25 miles from Copper river. The mountains of this country are not much like the mountains around Mapleton, but are much higher and are nothing but large piles of lava and not a tree growing on them. As for the game the papers speak of, it is like the gold, there is none here except salmon and they are so poor a dog wouldn't eat them on the Siuslaw, but we smoked about 100 last summer and must say they tasted fine once in a while.

There are no Indians to speak of here possibly three hundred in the whole Copper river country and I am surprised that there are so many, for I don't see how they ever lived before the whites came up here; they are the most honest set I ever saw. Of course they will come around and beg something to eat, and I don't blame them for they are nearly starved all the time. One Indian came here one day when I was alone and I gave him his dinner and it did me good to see him eat. He ate three plates of beans, drank six cups of coffee, and went to the rice, fruit and everything else the same way. I had dried apple pie and he was stuck on that, and wanted a piece to take home to his wife over the Toussain, 30 miles from here, so when he started home I gave him a whole one, he wanted me to leave it on the pan so he could pack it and I thought he was just going to his camp with it, but he didn't show up again that day, so I thought I was looser a pan but about two weeks later he came back with the pan all right.

(Continued next week.)

Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed had not been away from Washington twenty-four hours, before active agitation was begun by members of his party in an effort to prevent his being re-elected speaker of the house. This has become an old story in Washington, although there appears to be more life in the present movement than in any one of its numerous predecessors. It is most positively stated by the agitators that the administration wishes Mr. Reed defeated, because of the manner in which he treated the administration measures in the last congress, some of which were entirely hung up and none of which went through as originally intended, and that if there is any show of defeating him, it will openly throw its influence against him. That is a very big "if." There are lots of men in his party who would do the very same thing, except for that, but who do not care to antagonize him, unless sure they could beat him. There are reasons which cause veterans of congressional prattlers to think that if Mr. Reed wishes the speakership again, nothing can prevent his getting it—the report that he will not take it is again revived. Chief among these reasons is that all the chairmen of important committees in the last house, among whom are some of the shrewdest and most influential men in public life, will support Mr. Reed's candidacy, because, by his election, they will be sure to get the same places in the next house. No man in public life has a stronger personality than Mr. Reed; that is admitted by his friends and enemies alike. He lost popularity during the last congress by getting on the unpopular side of every important matter that came before that body, and probably destroyed whatever chance he may have had to ever become a presidential candidate, but a much stronger combination than there is now any signs of will have to be formed before his domination of his party in the house can be broken.

There are wide differences of opinion among members of his own party, concerning statements made by Representative Cannon, of Illinois, about the defeat of legislation "authorizing the construction of the Nicaragua canal, Mr. Cannon thinks the house deserves credit for knocking out that legislation and providing for spending a million dollars on another engineering commission, before the last commission has even completed its full report in favor of the Nicaragua route. Others do not, and among those others is said to be the president. Here is another point upon which others do not agree with Mr. Cannon. "The U. S. cannot afford to enter upon this great work, until it has acquired by a treaty a zone of territory whereon to construct the same."

Lawyers of reputation have stated on the floor of the senate and the house that no such treaty was necessary. The lobbyists who actually did prevent useful canal legislation are doubtless pleased at Mr. Cannon's effort to relieve them of the responsibility and place it upon his party, but other members of his party are vigorously objecting.

An official of the navy department said that the new batch of yellow yarns about the "terrible" condition of Admiral Dewey's health. "While it is not likely that a man of Dewey's age—almost 62—and physique could remain in tropical waters as long as he has been there without showing signs of the effects of the climate, not to mention the nervous strain he has been under since the fight of last May, I have no fear of his remaining in Manila bay until he breaks down. He is there now simply because he wishes to be, as far as months he has had official permission to start for home at any time he desired to do so. He is too level headed to strain his strength too far. You can set it down as certain that his physical condition is not as bad as the yellows have painted it.

Gen. Fitz Lee's withdrawal of his name as a candidate for the senate, was no surprise to the Virginia politicians who frequent Washington. They say that it has been evident for some time that Gen. Lee would cut no figure in the senatorial campaign, and that Senator Martin would be his own successor.

An official statement prepared at the war department gives the the total

number of deaths in our army from May 1, 1898, to Feb. 23, 1899, as 5,731; of these 529 were killed in action, 125 died of wounds, and 5,277 died of diseases etc.

Now that the president, the vice president and their wives have gone to Thomasville, Ga., as the guests of Senator Hanna, it may be said that the capitol of the U. S. has been temporarily removed to Crackerdom. How long the presidential party will remain in Dixie will depend upon public affairs. The war department is expecting important news from the Philippines, and its nature may determine the length of the president's vacation.

Parasit Complexion.

A majority of the ills afflicting people to-day can be traced to kidney trouble. It pervades all classes of society, in all climates, regardless of age, sex or condition.

The fallow, colorless-looking people you often meet are afflicted with "kidney complexion." Their kidneys are turning to a purplish color, so is their complexion. They may suffer from indigestion, bloating, sleeplessness, uric acid, gravel, dropsy, rheumatism, catarrh of the bladder, or irregular heart. You may depend upon it, the cause is weak unhealthy kidneys.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble and both need the same remedy. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy will build up and strengthen weak and unhealthy kidneys, purify the diseased, kidney-poisoned blood, clear the complexion and soon help the sufferer to better health.

The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases, such as weak kidneys, catarrh of the bladder, gravel, rheumatism and Bright's disease which is the worst form of kidney trouble. At drug stores, fifty cent and dollar sizes. You can have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

When writing please mention this paper.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

10 a m Sunday school, 11 a m and 7:30 p m preaching, Endeavor 2:30 p m, I G KNOTS, pastor.

CITY ELECTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Election of the Town of Florence will be held in the I. O. O. F. building on Tuesday the 4th day of April, A. D. 1899. The polls will be opened at 9 o'clock A. M. and closed at 5 o'clock P. M. This election will be held for the purpose of electing a President, Recorder, Marshal and four Trustees.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 1899.
By order of the Board of Trustees.
JOHN I. BUTTERFIELD, Recorder.

ALPHA CLIPPINGS.

BY EVEN CHANGE.

March 20, 1899.

Mr. Ed Haight is at C. A. Potter's helping him to make over a large patch of brush.

We are going to build a new school house up here if a location can be agreed upon.

Mr. Wheeler of Nelson creek has become quite a successful angler for the wily salmon.

Mrs. Sibyl Thurston will teach a three month's term of school here commencing April 10th.

We are reliably informed that the grade just above John Pope's will be opened this spring if there is enough assessment work.

Several dealers have been here buying cattle and paying a good price. There are more left yet.

Mr. H. J. Tabor and family will leave Eugene this week for Waukegan, Wash. to reside in the future.

The Misses Katie and Juliette Mann arrived on Deadwood to spend several days visiting relatives and friends returning next Thursday.

Frank Potter has returned from Hale where he went to get the saw and smoke-stack for his mill.

Rev. I. G. Knotts delivered an able sermon at Alpha Sunday morning and one at Deadwood in the afternoon.

The recent write up in the West about the Siuslaw's resources was a success. Now if the editor will just give us from time to time a detailed account of all the vessels as they arrive or depart, what the mills, booms or steamboats are doing, the readers of the West up here where we can hear very little of what is going on at our seaport city, would be very thankful.

Lake creek is the lover of new sensations. Besides this others have been sensed, Roy Eggesham who married a young lady at Blachley about five years ago, after trying in vain to get her to sign a deed for eighty acres of land, sold her cow, calf and chickens and offered to sell their little girl for \$25. He then arose at 4 o'clock one morning telling his wife that he was going up to the lake to attend church. He was last seen in Junction and was going to Alaska. Her parents moved her home.

Pimples, eruptions, sweaty hands and feet are cured by Hulyan. All druggists. 50 cents.

PORTO RICAN EMBARRASMENTS.

It is not positively known what started the trouble between the Porto Ricans and the American authorities, but probably a number of causes combined. Many of the natives are naturally turbulent and, being free from the strict, suppressive rule of Spain, indulge their lawless impulses. American inexperience in the control of alien people also has its bearing. The Anglo-Saxon and Latin temperaments never get on well together. The English and French in Canada are by no means friends; the Americans and Creoles of Louisiana are separated by an unbridged social gulf, and there is little community of feeling between Americans and Spanish descendants in California and Texas. Between ourselves and the Spanish-Americans below our southern frontier friendship is only a matter of polite phrases. For eighty years or more we have been at odds with Spain. So it is not at all surprising that the Porto Ricans, like the Cubans and Filipinos, should be restive under our government. It is in the nature of things.

When the whole truth about the Porto Rican affair is known it may also appear that there is an organized conspiracy, centering in Cuba, to secure the independence of the island, contingent upon its future union with the Cuban republic. Some weeks ago General Gomez declared for the delivery of Porto Rico from the "American yoke," and offered his sword for that service. It was understood that his plan was to join Cuba, Porto Rico, Hayti and Santo Domingo under one government. If so, the violence of the Porto Rican natives toward the American soldiers may be the prelude to a general rebellion such as the natives of Luzon are waging.

It is all very embarrassing, but the temper of the nation toward Porto Rico is not likely to be altered by the attitude of its people, who, when American civil government is begun will have no just grievances. As for our abandoning the islands to such feuds and strife as mark the history of the Central American republics, it is out of the question. We won the island fairly; it is a part of our indemnity; the ownership of it gives us a strategic position in the West Indies we have long desired, and which we cannot obtain otherwise without keeping Cuba or buying the Danish island of St. Thomas or St. Croix. Our title to Porto Rico is perfect. Under these circumstances any effort to wrest the property from us will be speedily crushed, a fact which, if impressed upon the islanders now, as Governor-General Henry may be trusted to impress it, may incite them to confine their surplus energies to the work of securing territorial autonomy under the flag of the United States.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS

IN HATS and CAPS

AT THE GREAT WHITE STORE

FOR A SHORT TIME * * * * * FOR CASH ONLY.

TO REDUCE STOCK REGARDLESS OF COST.

See our special counter.

O. W. HURD CARMAN'S CHEAP CASH STORE!

Dr. Goods, Groceries and Notions.

FLORENCE MEAT MARKET.

Just Opened.

Goods as Represented.

J. W. CARMAN PROPRIETOR

Send for this CATALOGUE of the FAMOUS HOLMES English-Bookkeeping-Short-hand- Penmanship-Telegraphy COLLEGE.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

"Great Haste is Not Always Good Speed."
Many people trust to luck to pull them through, and are often disappointed. Do not dilly-dally in matters of health. With it you can accomplish miracles. Without it you are "no good."

Keep the liver, kidneys, bowels and blood healthy by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, the faultless blood purifier.

Dyspepsia.—I know a positive relief for dyspepsia and that is Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cured me. My neuralgia also stopped.—W. B. BALDWIN, 164 Oak Street, Binghamton, New York.

Tired Feeling.—My appetite was capricious, my liver disordered and I was tired. Hood's Sarsaparilla relieved it all. It cured a friend of mine of female weakness.—Mrs. JESSIE A. MEARS, Clayton, Del.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

A house and lot in Glendora. The house is 16 by 24 feet and one story and a half in height. Also a good woodshed on premises. For further particulars inquire at this office.

TO OUR PATRONS.

We have made arrangements by which we will furnish the Weekly Oregonian with the West for one year to any address for the sum of two dollars, payable cash in advance.