

Bar Improvement.

With reference to the frequent comments that we both hear and receive on the merits and demerits of the work now progressing at Coos bay and the mouth of the Coquille, we deem it sufficient to say that, all comment by parties outside of the Board of Engineers, seems to be superfluous. Government educates men with a view to their utility—the theory first, and then the practical instruction follows. This being the case, of what use is it to complain? The heads of departments will take no notice of people objecting to the course of an improvement progressing according to the plans and specifications of that department. Complaints have been made, heretofore, calling attention to gross corruption on the part of some of these officials; but, on a thorough investigation, the charges were not sustained.

Of what use is obstruction, anyway? Untold efforts, and some that have been thoroughly ventilated, were made to obstruct the preliminary proceedings of the bar improvement at Coos bay. After that work commenced—for some reason unknown to us—the system of attack was changed, and the men in control came in for their share of abuse. What effect has that had? None whatever. Yes, we are mistaken, it has had the effect of enabling the officers in charge to treat all such matters with contempt. Monopoly has had, and still keeps a wedgy weapon of obstruction pointed and ready to insert whenever an opportunity offers. If no improvement had taken place, the business would have been circumscribed, and would have remained in the hands of those who would have controlled it for their exclusive benefit. This is the meat in the cocoa-nut. The improvements will still go on, notwithstanding all this opposition. We all may give our opinions, pro or con, but, if we are not connected with the constituted authorities in such matters—the Board of Engineers—we will enjoy as much satisfaction from our opinions as if we were to whistle against a hurricane.

During our checkered career, we have had considerable experience with rough, rocky inlets and sandy streams, or in other words, where the action of the current was confined by shifting sands. Our opinion is that where you can obtain rock that will harden in water—there is plenty of such rock here—you must build crib work first, as it offers an advantage in building track in a direct line with the proposed improvement; and moreover, where the appropriation is light, you can carry the jetty further into the stream by this method, than by any other; besides, you will have an earlier opportunity of observing its action. In soft sand containing great quantities of drift wood, this object can be attained best by driving piles. On Coos bay, where the foundation was solid rock, they had to build cribs made of square timber. On the Coquille bar, they are driving piles, which is by far the cheapest method, and if appropriations are made sufficient to rip-rap the crib work, there need be no fear of the result.

Fears have been expressed by some parties, that the winter freshets will wash the new work away. Granting this to be so, although we fail in seeing how the piles driven to an extent of sixteen feet, can be so easily washed out, what would be the effect of the current on a wall of artificial rock placed on this sand in a position where you can obtain no solid foundation? The winter freshet would come just the same; the swift current would cut the quicksand with the same severity, and the magnificent wall would be undermined and tumble into the river. This is precisely what occurred to the Umpqua lighthouse. They dug in the sand around old logs for a foundation, and built their lighthouse—a veritable house on the sand; but the high tides came, and the sand shifted, and away went Uncle Sam's lighthouse.

Rip-rapping is, no doubt, the best method for the Coquille. The rock used both here and at Coos, is said to harden and become firm, therefore, instead of attempting useless obstruction, let us join in efforts to promote the continuation of this much needed work. The Coquille is bound to go ahead regardless of obstruction. Men with capital will finally enter and develop her resources. Great efforts have been made on Coos bay to keep them out; but, what is the result? The Southern Oregon Improvement Company, and the investment in coal lands by J. C. Hawley and others. What the Coquille needs is a few such men, then, her business will progress without those depressing fluctuations which are an ever recurring theme.

Two points in dispute.

First: Is it correct to address a lady, as Mrs. Dr. Smith? No; we think not. If it is incorrect to say Mr. Dr. Smith, it must be equally so to say Mrs. Dr. Smith. The Mrs. Captain, and Mrs. John, and all addresses of that kind are equally absurd. A woman, by virtue of marriage, may lose her surname; but it does not follow that she loses her femininity, or the given name of Mary, Alice, etc. These were old customs in vogue in England, when women were held in little more estimation than a chattel, and were transplanted in her colonies. The age of the style is only equalled by its absurdity.

Second: Is Jno. a proper abbreviation of John and Jonathan? Jno. is the proper abbreviation of Jonathan. We cannot see the propriety of taking that letter h from John, and then transposing the fourth letter into the position of second, something that is never done. It would be better to take h out and let Jon remain. That would make a true distinction between them and it would possess the value of being the customary manner in which words are abbreviated. The third letter in Jonathan takes the place of the second, evidently, to distinguish it from John, or any abbreviation of that word. We give the opinions above for what they are worth; at the same time, we are willing to give the opinions of others pro or con.

Blasted Hopes.

A lady, with whom we were unacquainted, called to us in a somewhat loud voice, on the street, a few evenings past, and seemingly in a great hurry. We thought that leap-year being near its dissolution, she was making a last, frantic effort to spread her net. Being perfectly willing to be taken in out of the wet, we awaited the angler. "Mr." said she, on leaving along side, "you will excuse me; I was looking for my brute of a husband, and thought that you were he. There is a striking resemblance between you." We thanked her for the compliment, and, in pure, unadulterated exasperation, made a striking go-as-you-please record for home. Farewell to the ear-piercing cry of that misguided creature.

The year is leaping—passing by; Dog-gone its phantom feature. Our hopes are blasted—flung abroad. Those leap-year antics but a fraud.

Important Measure.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Three measures of importance are mentioned as likely to come up this week for discussion in the Senate. On Monday Senator Slater intends to call up the House bill to "declare the forfeiture of certain land granted to aid the construction of a certain railroad in Oregon," known as the Oregon and California railroad bill. On Tuesday Senator Harrison will call up the bill for admission of Southern Dakota as a State. The measure is expected to give rise to considerable discussion which will probably be of a political character. On Thursday Senator Cullom will, if possible call up the inter-State commerce bill.

It is probable the regular order will be temporarily laid aside, early in the week, to give Senator Hill an opportunity to make a speech on his "silver" resolution, offered last week.

The hypocrite will leer and lie, And not one step retreat— He loans his venom wingsto fly, And smiles before your face.

The impossibility of a reformation in the character of those whose untiring efforts are always put forth with the object of deceiving, is perpetually apparent. No system of persuasion possesses any virtue with the habitual liar—no manner of attack is available, because this character fights back, and but supplements his mendacity with a torrent of abuse. The character depicted here, is abominable, and while it escapes criminality, it must be shunned and allowed to thrive in an isolated sphere—that of its own creation. All the reformatories and humane societies in existence are unable to control the hypocrite. Externally, he may seem to acquiesce; but, internally, the subject is the same.

Capt. Reed will immediately commence the construction of a stern wheel steamer in the ship yard at this place, for Capt. G. W. Cooley, to be run on the bay. The dimensions are, keel, 90 ft., beam 22ft, and depth, 4ft. The lower deck, forward, will be used for freight, and a hurricane deck and comfortable quarters for passengers will be fitted up aft. Machinery will be put into the boat to assure a speed of 12 knots an hour. A spark catcher will be put on the smokestack, so that in fine weather passengers can enjoy a seat on deck without danger of having their clothes burned, and it is the intention to make her in every way a first class boat.—News.

The latest novelty in the line of burglary was the attempt of three daring burglars to rob the King's County Penitentiary in New York. Having gained access to Penitentiary grounds, they tried for some time, but unsuccessfully, to throw a string over the iron bars of the window of the stove shop. Then they went to a window and filed the bars off, through which they entered and stole money from the drawers in the office. Being late, they decided not to attack the safe, and left the way they came. They were all arrested and turned over to the Brooklyn, New York, authorities.

The director of the mint writes us for a detailed account of the various mines of gold and silver in this part. As this is to be published to the world, it is important that our part of the country should be fairly represented. To this end, we request those who have such knowledge as will be of interest and show our great resources of precious metal, that they will each send us a true statement of the mines in their respective localities and we will see that a correct compilation of the facts are duly forwarded.

There is a mistaken idea with some of our patrons. They seem to think they can order the paper for some friend for six months or a year, and we will discontinue the paper at the expiration of that time, whether it is paid for or not. Our subscription book is our account book of subscriptions, and when a subscription is erased the account is also erased. Please remember this; and when you want the paper stopped, send in the "spondulix."

GENERAL NEWS.

The first snow fell at Seattle on Friday night, Dec. 5th.

A grizzly bear is killing sheep and hogs in Pine Valley.

Tacoma has 350 men employed laying pipes for her gas works.

Vanderbilt has obtained judgment for \$150,000 against ex-President Grant.

Snow-plows are used on the O. R. & N. Baker City branch in the Blue Mountains.

Ten bondsmen on the Mendocino County Treasurer's bonds have withdrawn their names.

O. L. King's tannery in San Francisco was burned last Wednesday. Loss, \$40,000.

Daniel Kennedy was shot and killed in San Francisco last Wednesday, by his wife. Cause, jealousy.

The Kamloops registered letter bag was recently stolen, containing \$9000 in cash and checks. There is no trace of the robbers.

A bill has been introduced in Congress to appropriate \$50,000 for a colored people's world exposition at Chicago, in Sept. 1885.

Out of 29 opium fiends arrested on a police raid in New York City on the 10th inst., 15 were young women from 17 to 19 years of age.

Senator Slater called up the Oregon Central land forfeiture bill on the 9th inst., but the senate, by a vote of 29 yeas to 30 nays, refused to consider it.

A boy of train robbers were tracked into Little Rock, Ark., by blood hounds, and there arrested. They had just robbed the Valley route passenger train.

Battery F, First Artillery, will be transferred from California to Fort Camby, W. T., this week, and Battery I will take its station on Alcatraz Island.—Standard.

Prince Alexis Sargo, of Japan, died at Washington D. C. on the 10th inst., where he has resided with the Russian Minister for some time. His age was 11 years.

A New York dispatch of Friday, the 12th inst., says: It was made public to-day that Mayor Edson has decided to appoint Gen. Fitz John Porter commissioner of public works.

Barnum is gloating over the prospects of a baby elephant at his house in the spring, the name of which if the gender will admit, will be James G. Blaine; otherwise, Belva Lockwood.

Dublin, Dec. 10.—In the Catholic Church of Wexford collections of two pence on the pound on valuation has been raised for a fund to provide pay to the Irish members of Parliament.

It is supposed that the son of J. L. Keefer, whose residence was burned, near Chico, Sunday, was lost in the fire. He was thirty years old, weak-minded, and has not been heard of since.

California, and particularly San Francisco, was visited by a severe wind storm on the 7th inst. Vessels were driven from their moorings, the street railways covered by sand and signs blown down.

Three persons were deformed and then brutally murdered in their beds, in Mitchell county, Georgia, on the 11th inst. The murderers failed to get the money for which they committed the crime.

An Omaha dispatch of the 9th inst., gives an account of the United States grand jury's findings in the Otee Indian reservation investigation. Several prominent men are proved to have robbed the red men in the sale of their lands of \$40,000.

Young girls are being enticed into opium dens in Chicago by Chinese laundrymen, who have raised means to pay any fine any of their countrymen may be subjected to for the offence. A 15-year-old girl has recently been secreted in one of these dens. It is thought a special statute will have to be passed there before redress can be had. Pity the Chicagoans.

Snow at Bakersfield.

San Francisco Dec. 8.—Reports from the interior show that a cold wind storm prevailed generally throughout the State. At Hanford, in the San Joaquin valley, there was a light fall of snow, and at Bakersfield, further south, three inches of snow fell. This is unprecedented in that section of the State.

An Editor Killed.

Rolla, Mo., Dec. 8.—Information has reached this place from Vienna, Maries county, that a street encounter took place there on Saturday evening between Thomas M. Watkins editor of the Maries Co. Weekly Herald, and John H. Diggs editor of the Maries County Courire in which the former was shot twice and killed by the latter. The affair grew out of a personal controversy through their respective papers. Diggs surrendered and was lodged in jail.

Our Railroad.

Portland, December 8.—Captain W. H. Besse, a well-known shipowner of New Bedford, Mass., and one of the principal stockholders in the Southern Oregon improvement Company, arrived here last night. Relative to future movements of the company, Captain Besse said to a Chronicle correspondent that they would, no doubt, build a railroad from Coos bay to Roseburg as soon as everything was in readiness. The company has nearly finished a sawmill at Empire City, which will have a capacity of 150,000 feet per day. It will cut mostly white cedar for export.

The Chinese Treaty.

New York, Dec. 9.—The Herald says of the Supreme Court decision: "There is no question that Congress has power to pass a law in conflict with a treaty. The courts never hesitate to sustain a statute which overrides a treaty, when the language or the intention of Congress is clear to that effect. The number of Chinamen benefited by the decision is insignificant, and therefore its practical effect is not likely to be serious." Referring to Judge Field's remarks that it will revive and intensify the bitterness on the Pacific Coast and that courts on the Pacific Coast will be crowded with applicants for relief who never before saw our shores, the Herald says: "The function of the judiciary is simply to interpret the law. His intemperate remarks are not only out of place on the bench, but are calculated to do more mischief than he predicts from the decision of the court." No other paper notices the decision editorially.

Prohibition in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 11.—Speeches were made by leading men at the citizens' meeting of yesterday, and resolutions were adopted protesting against any action favorable to the sale on license resolutions at present under consideration by City council and urging that all law-abiding citizens and lovers of good order and sobriety, use all means to enforce the prohibition law of Iowa in this city. Copies of these resolutions were sent to the clerk of the council and the city papers. A form of remonstrance, to be signed by citizens, claiming any action of the council favorable to license as illegal and calculated to cause disrespect for all law, was adopted and sent to the council. The council has yet taken no decisive action on the matter.

The case of Littleton vs. Fritz, appealed from the ruling of Judge Given by Fritz, granting an injunction against him to restrain him from the further use of his building as a place for the sale of intoxicating liquors, was submitted to the Supreme Court to-day. The decision in this case is of the utmost importance, and is anxiously watched for by both sides. It is not at all improbable that the future policy of this State as to license or prohibition hinges upon the result.

Market Report.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Eggs, Apples, Flour, Butter, Cheese, Beefsteak, Beef, Pork, Mutton, Salt Pork, Corned Beef, Hams, Bacon, Lard, Potatoes, Cabbage, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Rice, Beans, Apples, Raisins, Currents, Wool, Dry Hides, Green, Hay.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION.

Notice is hereby given that the co-partnership heretofore existing between A. L. Nosler and J. H. Hunt, is this day, by mutual consent, dissolved. Mr. Nosler assumes control of the business, and all bills due the late firm are payable to him. Dated at Coquille City, Oregon Dec. 10, 1884. A. L. Nosler, J. H. Hunt.

To Carpenters and Others.

WALLAN'S BOOK SHOWS HOW TO proportion a cornice. To make mouldings. To get the rake to fit with eve mould'g. To get the length of Jack rafters 2 ways. To make hip for concave roof. To lay out rafters of any pitch. To cut gable mouldings to fit at top. To cut upper end of Jack rafters. To cut Valley rafters. To get 8 square 2 ways. To strike a circle with a square. To square a rafter. To plumb a post with a 10-foot pole. To square foundations. To plumb a crooked post. To make one box contain same as two. Sent 30 cents to T. R. Willard, Coquille City, Or., and receive a copy of this valuable book.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION.

Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, November 29, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of Coos county, at Empire City, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 6, 1885, viz: Thomas Langford, pre-emption D S No. 462, for the S E quarter of N E quarter, N E quarter of S E quarter of section 8, N W quarter of S W quarter and S W quarter of S W quarter section 9, township 33 S R 14 W.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Walter Shoemaker, Millard Shoemaker, of Denmark, Oregon; and Steve Gallier and Edmund Gallier, of Coquille City, Oregon. Wm. F. Benjamin, Register.

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He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: W. C. Bullard, John Bremer, all of Norway, Oregon; Philip Drane, John Mumford.

Also at the same time and place, Philip Drane, Homestead No. 2380, for the E 1/4 of N E 1/4, E 1/4 of S E 1/4, E 1/4 of S E 1/4 quarter Sec 2 T 29 S R 13 W.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: W. C. Bullard, John Bremer, all of Norway, Oregon; John Mumford, Tom Drane, John Bremer.

Also at the same time and place, John F. Mumford, Homestead No. 305 for the S 1/4 of S E 1/4, N E 1/4 of S E 1/4, E 1/4 of S E 1/4, and S E corner of N W quarter section 12 township 29 S R 13 W.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: W. C. Bullard, John Bremer, all of Norway, Oregon; Tom Drane, John Bremer.

NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF.

Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, August 24, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of Coos county, at Empire City, Oregon, on Wednesday, January 7, 1885, viz: John S. Cooley, Homestead No. 310, for the W 1/2 of N E 1/4, N E 1/4 of N W 1/4, and W 1/2 of S E 1/4 section 28, township 27 S R 11 west.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: L. A. Johnson, Geo W. Norris, all of Fairview, Oregon; T. G. Norris.

Also at the same time and place, Melvin Newland, pre-emption D S No. 423, for the S 1/4 of the S E 1/4, E 1/4 of S W 1/4, and S W 1/4 of S W 1/4 section 28, T. 27, S. R. 11 west.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: L. A. Johnson, John S. Doobe, Thomas C. Norris, all of Fairview, Oregon; Thomas Norris.

NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF.

Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, November 29, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of Coos county, at Empire City, Oregon, on Wednesday, December 31st, 1884, viz: Jonathan Quick, Homestead No. 443, for the N W quarter Sec. 32 T 28 S R 12 West.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: John L. Gifford, of Randolph, Oregon; John Donaldson, S. W. Gillman, of Coquille City, Oregon; W. T. Stillier.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION.

Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, Oct. 28, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of Coos county, Oregon, at Empire on Friday, Dec. 12, 1884, viz: Elias B. Robinson, Homestead No. 3779 for the lots 6 section 13 lot 4 section 14 and lots 4 and 5 section 24 township 31 S, R. 12 west.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Henry Wigant, James D. Hayes, all of Myrtle Point, Oregon; Isaac Bincham, Charles Morris.

Also at the same time and place, James D. Hayes, pre-emption D. S. No. 4269 for the W 1/2 of W 1/2 section 7 township 31 S R 11 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Henry Wigant, Elias B. Robinson, Isaac Bincham, all of Myrtle Point, Oregon; R. B. Jefferson, Wm. F. Benjamin, Register.