

OREGON SCOUT.

JONES & CHANCEY, Publishers.

UNION, OREGON.

DISCOVERIES, inventions and compounds patented each year in the United States and never amounting to anything, cost \$3,000,000.

HELENA is to have the largest reduction works in the Northwest. The capacity of the new works will be 500 tons a day, and will cost \$500,000.

REPORTS say that there are over 100,000 persons out of employment in the city of New York, many of whom are menaced by starvation.

INSURANCE companies lost \$1,500,000 by fires in Montreal last year, which is twice or three times as much as they received for premiums.

In the twenty-three years from 1859 to 1882, the quantity of wool produced in this country increased nearly five fold, from 60,000,000 to 290,000,000 pounds.

A NEW gun has recently been invented in Switzerland. It has four rifles to every foot, thereby insuring greater accuracy and precision of aim than has ever before been attained.

NEW YORK has made a clear profit out of her salt reservation of nearly \$700,000 since 1846, when toll was placed at 1 cent per bushel, and the fields have yielded since they were opened in 1797 over 331,000,000 bushels.

THE Secretary of the Interior has sent to the Senate a statement in regard to the amount of land each of the States has received from the United States for school purposes.

THE wheat crop of the United States for 1887 was 450,000,000 bushels. The home requirements for food, seed and manufactures was 345,000,000.

THE California State Board of Trade has issued a circular concerning the condition of the laboring classes in California, which will be sent East for distribution.

Forty years ago there were not north of the Arkansas river 250,000 American citizens in all the vast area between the Missouri and the Pacific Ocean.

A correspondent writing from Dry Lake, Modoc County, Cal., to an exchange, thus describes some of the wonders of that section of country: A short time since two vaqueros were hunting east of this place, about five miles, they observed steam issuing from a crevice in the lava, which they explored for some distance, but it was so dark they could not see to walk.

OREGON NEWS.

Everything of General Interest in a Condensed Form.

Farmers in Tule lake vicinity have commenced plowing.

Senator Mitchell has made application for the establishment of free mail delivery in East Portland.

The third term of the State Normal School has opened at Monmouth with nearly 200 pupils.

The Stirling mining company have bought Saltmarsh Bros.' placer claim near Jacksonville. The price is reported to be \$10,000.

It is said that during the late cold weather the Umpqua river was frozen over for the first time in its known history.

The military telegraph line is working all right now along its whole length. New poles will put it in good condition next spring, says the Ashland Tidings.

Three passenger depots are to be erected on the line of the Portland & Willamette Valley Railway, one at South Portland, one at Fulton and the other at the White House.

It is stated on good authority that there are 71,000 acres of taxable property in Josephine county, and aside from this some 10,000 acres especially adapted to fruit, and which will come under the plow before a great while.

The furniture factory of George H. Albers, situated near the river bank, at Sellwood, caught fire and burned to the ground. The origin of the fire could not be learned. Loss, between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

The postoffice department is preparing to establish two postoffices on a new mail service between Lakeview and Burns, one at Warner valley with D. E. Jones as postmaster, and one at Rockford, in Grant county, with J. R. Howe as postmaster.

The deer, during the cold spell, came down off the hills on the low lands around Scappoose bay in considerable numbers and the cougars followed. Orville Gorman, of that vicinity, went out with his dogs to hunt a cougar. He shot a wild cat, a lynx and then a cougar.

A party of explorers on the Harney lakes discovered an island three miles in length that is apparently the home and breeding place of all the various water fowl. The island is said to be simply alive with ducks and geese and is a very paradise for sportsmen.

An accident happened south of Mt. Taber, and near the Gilbert place, which resulted in the shocking death of a little 6-year old girl of John Lindenberg. Some men were engaged in burning brush and old timber, and the little girl was crossing the patch of ground where they were at work.

In accordance with a petition of 240 residents of Harney Valley, Governor Pennoyer has indited the following letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington, D. C.: "In a late letter to you I requested a speedy issuance of patents to the State of Oregon to lands declared to be swamp by the agents of the federal and state governments.

Albert Scow, a stevedore, 33 years old, was accidentally struck by a sling of shingles on the steamer City of Chester, at San Francisco, and thrown down into the hold, a distance of thirty feet. He died in an hour from the injuries received from the fall.

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COAST CULLINGS.

Devoted Principally to Washington Territory and California.

Nineteen horses were frozen to death in Pine Valley, Nev.

Centralia, W. T., is to have a board of immigration.

Spokane Falls pays about \$400 per month for city printing.

The proposition to establish a county jail at Montesano, W. T. failed by seven votes.

Michael Brady, aged 57 years, was struck by a train at Vallejo, Cal., and crushed into an unrecognizable mass.

Charles Patterson, a switchman, was thrown from a moving car and almost instantly killed, at San Diego, Cal.

V. B. Burke, a restaurant proprietor, was shot and instantly killed at his restaurant at San Francisco, by J. G. Crawford, a railroad engineer.

Mr. Toney states that his peach trees are killed, every one of them, and will have to be converted into fire wood, says a Walla Walla paper.

Jas. McEwan, an apprentice on the British ship Ayshire, fell from a staging on the vessel into the bay, at San Francisco, and was drowned.

Arthur Hall, a signal man on the S. P. R. R., was killed at the railroad yard near the depot, at San Francisco. No blame is attached to the engineer.

Charles Wehrley, aged 35, a tanner, suicided at Napa, Cal. He put a pistol in his mouth and blew out his brains. The cause was temporary insanity.

J. W. Willage, California fish commissioner, committed suicide. Testimony at the inquest showed that he had collected money and failed to turn it into the treasury.

Thomas C. Ross, a school teacher recently from Oregon, has been committed to the Stockton insane asylum because he says he hears the angels singing.

S. P. Risley fell from a derrick a distance of seventy-five feet at Rowland's oil wells at Puento, Cal., striking on his head. He died half an hour later.

A German laborer named Holm, while employed with other workmen in tearing down an old house at San Francisco, was killed by the falling debris.

Wm. Sexton was shot and killed at Elk Creek, near Willows, Cal., by David Pierson. Sexton was plowing land claimed by Pierson, and on a refusal to quit, was fired upon with the above result.

J. S. Brackett, while in a somnambulist condition, fell from his bedroom window at Petaluma, Cal., and was fatally injured. He was 70 years old and leaves large landed estates in California and Mexico.

Francisco Schwartz, while walking alongside an empty lime kiln, near Santa Cruz, Cal., slipped and fell a distance of twenty-five feet. His head struck a rock breaking his skull and killing him instantly.

While two men were digging at the Almaden mine, near San Jose, Cal., to place some timbers in position, they struck an old blind. One of the men, named Guitera, was instantly killed, and the other so shockingly mangled that he will die.

A fatal shooting affray occurred near Spokane Falls, in which three men—W. B. Mills, Andrew and Henry Clarke—were killed. The trouble was the result of an attempt of the Clarke brothers to jump Mills' land claim.

Julian Ledon, a native of California, 22 years of age, was found hanged at his ranch at Pea ridge, Mariposa county, Cal. The fact that his hands were tied behind him, and that the horse he is known to have ridden during the day had been turned loose, seemed to indicate that murder had been committed.

A fearful collision occurred on the Central Pacific railroad at Gold Run, Cal. A west bound passenger train striking an east bound freight, demolished four locomotives, crushing a fireman named Walker to death, and the engineers Hoodley and O'Mears, were slightly injured. The mail, baggage and express cars and a number of freight cars were badly wrecked.

Thomas Edwards, a hack driver, was shot and fatally wounded by Officer Harrington, at San Francisco. The latter thought Edwards was a garroter, having heard a scuffle a few minutes before Edwards appeared. He says he fired under the belief that the man was a wrong doer, and was strengthened in his belief when he refused to halt.

The mystery which enshrouded the disappearance of two boys—C. F. Odean and Vincent W. Applegate—who left their homes in Duarte on December 28, has been solved by the melting of the snow in a canyon nine miles from Monrovia, Cal., where the bodies were found. The two lads were lying only a few rods apart. They evidently became lost in a snow storm and struggled on together until they dropped down from sheer exhaustion.

TELEGRAPHIC.

An Epitome of the Principal Events Now Attracting Public Interest.

Loss of the Abercorn.

MONTERANO, W. T.—Following particulars of the wreck of the British ship Abercorn have been obtained from the three survivors:

They were out 125 days from Glasgow, with 2,000 tons of steel rails consigned to the O. R. & N. Co. They took Pilot Johnson on board, as previously reported, and stood out to sea. The wreck occurred at half-past six Monday morning, by the vessel running on a sand beach. There was no gale blowing whatever, but it was somewhat foggy.

Two hours previous to striking Johnson sent a man into the cross-trees to keep a lookout for lights at the mouth of the Columbia river, supposing they were near that locality. At the time, they were steering a southeast course and carrying a light sail. The old sailor was on watch. He says they took soundings only twice after taking Johnson on board, first on Saturday when they found eighty fathoms, and again after standing out to sea on Sunday, when they sounded and found 120 fathoms.

All the survivors agree that these were the only soundings taken. The vessel struck seven miles north of Gray's harbor, near Damon's point. Immediately after striking all hands went into the after cabin, as the sea was breaking badly forward, and while they were there the foremast and mainmast broke, and the deck split. About 1:30 p. m. a heavy sea broke into the cabin. The old sailor, who was first out of the cabin, could not tell how many were drowned at that time, but is satisfied some must have been. Those who survived ascended the rigging of the mizzenmast, and the old man saw Pilot Johnson as he came out of the cabin, which was filled with water. He then saw a wave strike him, upon which he tried to grasp the bar of the companion-way, but missed it, when a second wave struck Johnson and carried him into the ocean. The old man watched him for some time in the water, and says he swam nobly, but as he was looking back at the vessel and swimming parallel with the coast, he did not appear to be making for the shore, although the sailor thinks if he had had anything to assist him he could easily have been saved.

A little later the mizzenmast gave way, and the ship opened and let all into the sea. As the mast was going, the old sailor jumped to clear the side of the ship, and was under water for some time. As he came up the second time he saw near him a plank about thirteen feet long, which he seized and steered for the shore. After getting on the plank, he says his hair was hardly wet, showing there was no storm.

The next survivor, a man about 25 years of age, came ashore with a piece of plank under each arm. Both of the men were in the water about half an hour.

The boy who was saved is an orphan and was one of the five boys from the training ship, all of whom were making their first voyage. He will be 17 next April, but like the others his name is unknown. He also came ashore with two pieces of plank, and was the last to reach shore, having been about an hour in the water, and having drifted two miles up the coast from where the others landed. He was unconscious when found by Mr. McIntire and an Indian. The boy says he saw several persons in the water after he had left the wreck, and was the last to see the captain alive. At one time the captain was within fifteen feet of him, and told him to hang on to his planks and not to be scared, and he would reach shore all right. Then a heavy wave struck the lad and that was the last he saw of the captain or any of the ship's crew.

Shortly after the boy reached shore a body was seen floating but a short distance from the shore, but it sank immediately after being sighted, and although the Indians and McIntire and A. O. Damon rushed into the waves up to their necks, it was impossible to recover the body, which was supposed to be that of the captain.

Sixteen bodies are reported found, including those of Pilot Johnson and the captain, the former having been recognized by a note book found in his pocket. All the bodies were found from sixteen to nineteen miles up the coast.

The ship's company consisted of the captain and twenty-four men.

On arriving at Hoquiam bay the men were most hospitably entertained and everything done for their comfort. Too much praise cannot be given to the Indians for the manner in which they risked their lives to save the drowning men, and the care they took of the survivors.

The old sailor says he has gone through many scenes of shipwreck before, but this was the worst he has ever witnessed. Had there been a life-saving station or a rocket to carry a line to the vessel, every man might have been saved. The immediate necessity of a station in that vicinity is now only too apparent.

Advices from Shanghai say that nearly 2,000,000 persons are entirely destitute through the Hoang Ho floods.

Two men were killed by the explosion of the Standard Explosive Co.'s mixing house near Tom's River, N. J.

At Paris, a woman was pushed off a bridge into the Seine and drowned. Arrests were made, and the fact developed that the murder was committed for a wager of a cup of coffee. One man has been sentenced to penal servitude for twenty years, and another has received a life sentence.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Legislation Pertaining to the Interest of the Pacific Coast.

SENATE.

Senator Dolph reported favorably to the Senate, from the Committee on Commerce, his bill to prevent obstructions to navigable streams, which will prohibit the dumping of garbage and refuse, and anything, into any of the streams of the country which would tend to obstruct navigation.

A bill was introduced by Stewart to amend the mining laws of the United States by providing that no person shall acquire more than one mining claim on the same vein, or relocate a claim which he has previously located. Also requiring that each patent for mining lands shall reserve right of way through or over any mining claim for roads, ditches, canals, cuts and tunnels for the purpose of working other mines; provided, that damages occasioned thereby shall be assessed and paid for according to law.

Mitchell moved an amendment, by providing that no Chinese shall ever be allowed to buy public land in this country.

The Secretary of War, in response to a Senate resolution, has sent to the Senate a voluminous report made by Capt. C. Powell and Maj. Wagoner, respecting the salmon fisheries on the Columbia river, and how such fisheries interfere with and obstruct the navigation and commerce of that waterway. There are quite a number of photographs showing different styles of capturing salmon, canneries and some of the finest specimens of fish.

The Secretary of War concurs in the reports of the engineer officers that it is in the interest of commerce and navigation that the general government should have supervision of and make proper regulations for the management of appliances in use for the capture of salmon on the Columbia and its tributaries.

Capt. Powell reports that there are a dozen fish wheels below the uncompleted improvements at the Cascades that do not now interfere with navigation, but that when the improvements are completed they will tend to shoal the waters of the river. It is recommended that the fixed parts of these fish wheels be removed. Traps and pound nets cause shoaling of the waters.

Salmon seines used near Astoria do not interfere either with navigation or tend to cause the formation of bars, but in the fishing season gill nets set across the stream often interfere with the passage of steamers and sailing vessels.

It is suggested that the prevention of gill net fishing on the bar of the Columbia would result in a large saving of life, as between twenty and sixty fishermen are drowned on this bar every season.

HOUSE.

The House passed the bill to discontinue the coinage of three-cent pieces.

Representative Hermann secured the insertion into the new land bill, being proposed by the house committee on public lands, of the main features of his land bill, which allows a second homestead entry to those who fail to consummate their original entry through any cause except abandonment of their entry or through sale to others.

Hermann introduced a bill for the disposal or sale of mineral land on Indian reservations; and also that the timber on such reservations may be used for mining purposes when compensation has been made.

PORTLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Table listing market prices for various goods including Butter, Eggs, Apples, and other produce. Columns include item names and prices per unit.

UNEXPECTED FORTUNES.

An Optician and a Magician Awake and Find Themselves Rich.

"Monday night I was poor and Tuesday I was rich," said Mr. Charles H. Scheffren, a few days ago to a Courier reporter. That he had very recently been poor no further evidence was needed to convince the reporter than the almost poverty stricken home in which he had been found in Russell place; that suddenly he had been made rich the reporter had written proof in his possession, as had also Mr. Scheffren, who, with well founded delight showed his visitor a receipt, signed by the cashier of one of our largest banks for a negotiable order for thousands of dollars, which had been deposited for collection that very day. "Yes, I am indeed a fortunate man. But I had faith and knew it would come sooner or later. 'How many children have I?' There is this little girl," said the elated speaker pointing to a pretty black-eyed little Jewess, perhaps ten or eleven years of age, "and five others, besides a daughter who is married. Yes, I have had a tough time of it, and had it not been for the hope of some day having just this luck I cannot tell what I should have done. I left Russia five years ago with my family, thinking I should have no trouble at all in making a good living. I found it much harder to get along than I thought I should. Selling spectacles and eyeglasses, which is my business, is very hard work, there are so many doing the same thing, and many days I made no money at all.

"There is one thing though, my friend, I have always made money enough for, and that was to buy a ticket each month since I have been here in the Louisiana State Lottery, and sir, you see what has come of it. Ha! ha! I told my wife," continued the animated speaker with chuckle, "I should get it some day, and I have, I have!"

Mr. Scheffren seemed very anxious that the public should know of his good fortune. "I wish I could tell every man in Boston to buy a ticket," he said. "I have told every friend I have seen, and many of them have already taken my advice. Yes, put it in the Courier by all means, let everybody know it." A strange incident connected with Mr. Scheffren's drawing a part of the second capital prize of \$100,000, and one which would seem to indicate that nothing had power to prevent him from getting it, was the fact that, although he ordered his ticket several weeks before the drawing, by some accident or other it had not reached him as late as five o'clock on the Monday afternoon immediately preceding the Tuesday on which the distribution of prizes took place, and it was the new ticket that he ordered at that late hour by telegraph which proved to have on it the lucky number.

On the same day that Mr. Scheffren drew his fortune Mr. C. Fredericks, of Norman street, who held another part of the same ticket, was also equally enriched. Mr. Fredericks, who is a traveling magician, was away from his residence performing with a dramatic company when the reporter called, and therefore could not be interviewed. Enough however, was learned about him to assure one that the money was as much needed as it was welcome. With none of his cards, or any of his other magic paraphernalia has he ever produced such a wonderful transformation as his good luck did for him on December 13 with the little engraved ticket issued by the Louisiana State Lottery Co.—Boston (Mass.) Courier, Jan. 1.

A great international exhibition of science and industries will be held next year at Brussels, Belgium, commencing on the first Saturday in May and closing November 3.

It appears from an article in a French scientific journal, that analyses have been made of articles found in Egypt which show that bronze was in use in that country more than two thousand years before the Christian era. —What is expected to be the second largest bagging and cordage factory in the United States is soon to be located in Galveston, Tex. It will contain fifty looms, and most of the machinery will be obtained from this country, although the spinning and carding machines will come from England.

It is believed by a writer for the Lancet that somnambulism is in many instances occasioned by worry and distress of mind, and the action consequent thereon; "some of our actions often becoming by practice so nearly automatic that partial sleep or stupor does not arrest their unconscious performance."

A long continued series of observations, made both at Paris and Munich, indicate that the sanitary condition of a locality depends on its volume of ground water; that is, on the amount of water contained in the ground. It is stated that "the years in which there has been a large quantity of ground-water present have invariably been the healthiest years, while those in which there has been a small quantity have invariably been the most unhealthy periods."—N. Y. Ledger.

According to Professor S. P. Langley, the well-known American astronomer, the temperature of the sunlit surface of the moon has been commonly over-estimated, and probably does not exceed fifty degrees centigrade. Mr. Richard A. Proctor, in his elaborate work on the moon, says that, during the lunar day, the surface of the moon burns, one may almost declare, with a heat of some five hundred degrees Fahrenheit, if the inferences of our most skillful physicists and the evidence obtained from our most powerful means of experiments can be trusted.