

ALONG THE COAST.

Items of General Interest Gleaned From the Thriving Pacific States.

Crucely on the High Seas. At Portland, Or., on the 18th, sailors on the German ship Margaretha told startling stories of alleged cruel treatment on the part of Captain Rasch.

Portland a Reserve City. Portland is now a reserve city, and thousands of dollars herefore kept in San Francisco and New York by the bankers of Oregon, Washington and Idaho will come to Portland.

Steelhead Salmon Scarce. Steelhead salmon are becoming scarcer as the season draws to a close. So few are being taken that the cold storage plants at Astoria have refused to receive any more.

Puget Sound University. The new management of the Puget Sound university, of Tacoma, propose to pay the debts of the university and endow it under a subscription scheme.

Waterworks for Elgin. H. V. Gates, of Hillsboro, has contracted to put in a gravity water system and an electric light plant in Elgin, Or., construction soon to commence.

Geo. W. Dent Dead. George W. Dent, brother-in-law of General U. S. Grant, and uncle of U. S. Grant, jr., candidate for United States senator, died at Oakland, Cal. He was 79 years of age.

Herring Fishing at Port Townsend. On the 18th the docks of Port Townsend were lined with people watching anglers catching herring, which were so plentiful in the bay that in a single haul of the jigger one to four herring were landed.

A Thief Caught. About a week ago \$500 in coin and some valuable articles were stolen from an old man named John Weaver, near Canyonville, Or.

Boggs Makes Revelations. Ex-Treasurer Boggs testified in court recently that about \$70,000 of the warrants involved in the warrant suit against the city were not signed by him while he was treasurer of the city.

Soldier From Walla Walla Dead. P. J. Carlyle, of Walla Walla, received a telegram from Manila, informing him of the death of Allen Carlyle, his brother.

The Astoria Fish Club. Secretary Lyman, of the Astoria Fish Club, has been authorized to visit the creameries at Albany, Rainier and Skamokawa for the purpose of making observations and reporting to the creamery committee of the association.

First Columbia River Smelt. The first Columbia river smelt of the season were offered for sale in an Astoria market on the 18th. They were taken at Cathlamet, and the consignment did not exceed over 50 pounds.

The Dallas Slot Machines. As a result of the semiannual license recently placed upon all electrical slot machines by the Dallas council, \$250 has already been collected and turned into the city treasury.

F. E. Thompson, who left a trail of bad checks on a local bank from Seattle to Kamloops, in the interior of British Columbia, is under arrest at the latter point. He has drawn between \$500 and \$1,000 on a \$10 deposit made at Seattle the day before Christmas.

There will be more new fishing gear on the Columbia river during the next season than there has been for several years. The price for raw fish promises to be good, and in anticipation of it, nearly every local fisherman is knitting himself a new net, and, what is a more promising sign, the cannerymen are not hesitating about giving the fishermen plenty of credit for twine.

The total rainfall in Ashland this far in January amounts to 2.06 inches, within half an inch of the average for the entire month of January, as shown by the records for 17 years past.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets. Onions, \$5 @ 90c per 100 pounds. Potatoes, 20¢ @ 25¢. Beets, per sack, 75¢. Turnips, per sack, 50¢ @ 75¢. Carrots, per sack, 45¢ @ 60¢. Parsnips, per sack, \$1. Cauliflower, 50¢ @ 90c per doz. Celery, 35¢ @ 40c. Cabbage, native and California \$1.00 @ 1.50 per 100 pounds.

Portland Market. Wheat—Walla Walla, 59c; Valley, 61c; Bluestem, 62c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.20; graham, \$2.65; superfine, \$2.15 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 41¢ @ 42¢; choice gray, 39¢ @ 40c per bushel.

San Francisco Market. Wool—Spring, Nevada, 10¢ @ 12c per pound; Oregon, Eastern, 10¢ @ 12c; Valley, 15¢ @ 17c; Northern, 9¢ @ 11c. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$22 @ 24.00; bran, \$20.50 @ 21.50 per ton.

Brave Girl. "It's a dreadful thing," he said, "with a gloomy air, 'that ice cream makers are getting so unscrupulous that they put glue in the frozen mixture to give it firmness.'"

Struggles of the Young Mind. The following are extracts from examination papers presented by pupils at a prominent private school in this neighborhood: In history—Q: "What was the character of Henry VIII?"

From the Pound. Lodger—How do you buy your sausages, Mrs. Knag? Mrs. Knag—Oh, by the pound. Lodger—Ah, I thought it was somewhere near the pound, from the horsey flavor.—Larks.

Nothing for Coos Bay. Washington, Jan. 23.—It is learned that the rivers and harbors committee has left out the appropriation for Coos Bay. An item of \$100,000 was made by the department. The committee says there is not enough commerce at that point to warrant the expenditure.

Plenty of Change. "Have you any change about you?" "Can't hear a word you say." "Because, if you have, I can pay you that bet about the war, that I love you."

THAT BEEF WAS BAD

Testimony of Major Daly, the Chief Surgeon.

MEAT PRESERVED BY CHEMICALS

General Miles Charges Strengthened Before the War Investigation Committee.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Major W. H. Daly, chief surgeon with General Miles, and whose field service stretched from Tampa to Porto Rico, whose report condemning beef furnished the expeditionary forces created a sensation some weeks ago, made his long-awaited appearance as a witness before the war investigation committee today.

Daly's report was the strongest in language of those submitted by Miles in substantiation of his attack on the beef supplies. On being sworn the witness identified the report submitted as his own. He was willing, he said, to stand by his report. It was wholly voluntary, and was not called out by any request or in obedience to any circular or letter.

FROM A DIFFERENT SOURCE.

The German Version of the Present Difficulty in Samoa.

Hamburg, Jan. 23.—According to news received from Samoa, Chief Justice Chambers on December 31 annulled the election of Mataafa, who was returned by a sextuple majority, and declared Malietoa Tanu, son of the latter king, Malietoa, who is still a minor, to be king.

No Official Report at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 23.—There is still lack of official reports as to the situation in Samoa, but it can be said that the state department is moving in the matter with due deliberation, and with full regard for maintenance of the tripartite agreement for government of the islands.

PAUL JONES LOST.

Part of Her Stern Found on Breton Island—Was Blown Up.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 23.—The government steamer Fanny touched at Biloxi, Miss., this afternoon, and reports finding on Breton island a part of the stern of the naphtha launch Paul Jones, also a yawl boat with both smashed and other small articles from the launch.

A Curious Seattle Verdict.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 21.—The jury in the trial of Isadore Schopp, for the murder of Gus Hoyter, has brought in a verdict of "not guilty by reason of insanity."

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A Bank Burglarized.

Arthur, Ill., Jan. 23.—The bank here was entered by burglars last night. The loss is between \$4,000 and \$5,000. The bandits escaped.

Central Pacific Stock Up.

San Francisco, Jan. 23.—Central Pacific railroad stock, which less than three months ago was quoted at 13, has advanced to 45. Mrs. Stanford owns \$3,333 shares of the stock, and at 13 it was worth \$43,329. At the present rate she might sell it for \$1,599,984, and it is said she has received even a better offer.

Pope Convalidated.

Rome, Jan. 23.—Dr. Lapponi, physician of the pope, says the pontiff, who has been suffering from a slight attack of influenza, is convalescent.

ODD WHITECAP RAID.

It Cost a Witness \$50, but the Sam Wasn't Grudged.

"Strangest experience I ever had," said the man who used to do a wholesale business in live stock, "was out in Iowa, and not very many years ago, either. I had put up at a little country tavern in a sparsely settled country, where it looked as though the inhabitants were having a pretty hard struggle to keep the wolf from the door.

"You were \$40 on this place, and haven't paid it," said the leader sternly. "I couldn't," was the old man's tremulous answer. "Me and Beekie has saved and scrimped and done the best we could."

The Chinese Chopstick.

With the evidences of Asiatic contact supposed to be strong in Central America, one might have imagined that so useful a device as the simple chopsticks would have secured a footing. These two sticks, held in one hand and known in Chinese as chopstick or mumble stick, are certainly the most convenient device for their purposes ever invented by man.

Sea Lions as Hat-Catchers.

The wonderful alertness and activity of them to gain fish for their food in arctic seas is qualities that are manifested in a still more striking way by the capture of specimens at the Zoo. These three sprightly individuals in the big outdoor tank have developed into rat-catchers that never miss their prey.

Tree's Root in a Tomb.

Meehan's Monthly has recorded trees growing from the mortar of stone walls and on church steeples. It is said that a horse chestnut several years old is still growing from a tomb inside an old church at Kempsay, near Worcester, England.

Bad Spelling a Disease.

A medical authority claims that bad spelling is caused by a disease. In certain conditions of brain and nerves the patient frequently writes "of" instead of "to." In another slightly varying form, instead of "the," the first letter is omitted, and so in many other short words. The malady usually affects the brain only in connection with words of one syllable, but cases have occurred where longer words have been so distorted that it was difficult to get their sense.

A Russian Sect.

A new religious sect has been founded in Russia in the province of Saratov. The main idea of the members of which is that while the soul is immortal the body is of the devil and should therefore be neglected as far as possible. In Russia this possibility goes further than anywhere else in the world.

Marrageable in Turkey.

The Turkish woman is marriageable at the age of 9 years, and by Turkish law, at that age, if married, she is competent to manage her property and dispose of one-third of her fortune. The law allows her to abandon her husband's house for just cause, and will protect her in so doing. She cannot be compelled to labor for the support of her husband.

Poisonous Castor Oil Plant.

There is no plant which animals so detest as the castor oil plant. It being poisonous to the whole animal world. A goat will starve rather than eat it, and those destroyers of everything green, the locust and army worms, will not feed upon it.

Over 60,000 Oil Wells Have Been Struck in the United States.

EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER OFFICE.

Compositors and Pressmen in White Turbans and Bare Legs.

I went the other day to see the editor of an Arab newspaper in Cairo. His office is a disused palace; all new khedives build new palaces in this country, so that it is difficult to find a house of any size that has not begun life as a palace. In the middle wing sits the editor writing his leader—a string of Arabic cobwebs down a narrow slip of paper. The editor is a stout man; he has blue serge and yellow elastic-sided boots, with two warts on his nose and a deep-blue dimple on his chin; he writes in a light overcoat and a rug over his knees, for it is a very cold winter—clouds half-way over the blue sky, and you must shut your windows by 5.

INDIRECTION.

Fair are the flowers and the children, but their subtle suggestion is fairer; Rare is the rose-burst of dawn, but the secret that clasps it is rarer; Sweet the exultance of song, but the strain that precedes it is sweeter. And never was poem yet writ, but the meaning outmastered the meter.

A GAME OF BLUFF.

"A RAG and a bone and a hank of hair," cynically quoted Marlon, the next moment he repeated his words, when he noted the hurt look, accompanied by the flash of resentment, in Warren's eyes.

There Are Others.

Ludwig Lushi is a good man. He preached a most valuable sermon to women the other day, and his text was that magnificent piece of slang, a genuine classic in its way. "There are Others." A willful young woman who was engaged to marry Lushi threw him over at the last moment without a word of warning.

The Return of the Rattons.

In the civil war as well as in that just past our soldiers faced privation and hunger. A little story, in H. Clay Trumbull's recent book, "War Memories," tells of the spirit in which they sometimes did it.

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No bird can fly backward without turning. The dragon fly, however, can accomplish this feat and outstrip any swallow.

Oysters, after they have been brought away from the sea, know by instinct the exact hour when the tide is rising and approaching their beds and so, of their own accord, open their shells to receive their food from the sea, as if they were still at home.

The tongues of the cat family are covered with recurving spines. In the common domestic cat these are small, but sufficiently well developed to give the tongue a feeling of roughness. But in the lion and tiger the spines are strong enough to enable the animal to tear away the skin of a man's hand merely by licking it.

Whether "A He told and stuck to it" was the "truth" was debated at the dinner table where a man was sitting one day, and it brought out the following story from a rather dyspeptic-looking man who had eaten very sparingly.

"I used to live in the country," said he. "One of my neighbors, an unskilful, unthrifty sort of a man, killed a pig one day with the aid of a local butcher. 'By Jinks, Sam, I hate to cut up that pig.' 'Why? 'Cause, you see, I'm own' most everybody here a piece of pork, and if I cut up the pig I'll have to give most of him away.' 'I tell you what to do,' said the butcher. 'What's that?' 'I'd have the pig hung up outdoors all twelve o'clock at night, then take him in and give out the next morning that he's been stolen.' 'By Jinks, I'll do it.'"

"It was a wonderfully fine plan, the farmer thought, and he left the pig hanging out, as the butcher suggested. 'At eleven o'clock the butcher himself came along and packed the pork into his cart. It was not there when the farmer went out after it. 'The next day, with a long face, he addressed the butcher in a hoarse whisper: 'I say, Sam, somebody did really steal that pig.' 'That's right,' said the butcher, nudging him and winking wickedly at the same time. 'But, by Jinks, the pig was really stolen.' 'That's right, you stick to that and you'll be all right,' said the butcher, encouragingly, and he hurried off, leaving his friend in a most bewildered state of mind, from which I don't think he ever fully emerged.'"

Musie Bath Charming.

A couple of sailors, returned from a long voyage, strolled into the bar parlor of a public house near the docks. Above the rumble of the traffic in the street could be heard at intervals a harsh, unamused voice. After listening intently for a moment one of the sailors turned to his companion and said: "Heard Jack, lad; it's a long time since we heard that song." "What song?" "The one that fellow's singing in the street—'The Light of Other Days.'"

"Stow it!" ejaculated the other gruffly. "That fellow ain't singing 'The Light of Other Days' at all, man. I've been listening to him. He's a piping 'The Banks of Allan Water.' Each sailor was certain he was right, and with characteristic contempt for money, a wager was made—a month's wages depended on the result. "Here, Tommy," called out one of the men to the little son of the landlord, "run out and get to know what that fellow's singing." Tommy departed on his errand, which did not take many minutes. "Well," demanded Jack when the youngster returned, "which of us is right?" "Nayther," replied Tommy, grinning. "The fellow's not singing. He's hawking fly-papers!"—Answers. "I must be getting o.d.," said a woman to-day. "All the friends I go to see are in trouble. I can remember when I didn't have a friend who had a grief." If there is anything particularly useless lying around the house, you can make up your mind it was won as a prize at a card party.