

COLUMBIA RIVER BAR.

A few days since we copied an article from the San Francisco Commercial Herald upon the subject of "Navigation of the Columbia river," in which the premise was assumed that the bar at the entrance to the Columbia river "is an obstacle to the enlargement of this trade;" and further, that "many a vessel has stranded there and gone to pieces."

We have been conscientious about this matter of "navigation of the Columbia river," in all that we have had to say, and will continue to be so in future. Safely relying upon the facts to bear us out, we have not the slightest apprehension but that the subject will soon be fully understood.

Now as to the safety of the Columbia river. Exact data is wanting of the whole number of vessels that have crossed the bar, but from certain periods during which the data is complete, we are enabled to approximate very closely, and set the number down at an average of five hundred a year for the last twenty-one years, or since 1852.

Barks Mendora, and Merrithew, lost January 12th, 1853, came in without pilots, wind failed after getting in, and they drifted ashore. Bark Oriole, lost September 19th, 1853. Brig Detroit, lost Dec. 22, 1855, on outer spit. Going out at night.

Bark De-demonia, lost Dec. 31st, 1856. Came in without a pilot, ran on sands six miles inside.

Schooner Woodpecker lost May 10, 1861, four miles inside.

Bark Industry, lost March 16, 1865, coming in without a pilot.

Bark W. B. Seranton, lost May 5th, 1867.

Only eight vessels in twenty-one years. Eight out of 10,500. One out of 1,312, or one-thirtieth of one per cent, of the shipping coming into the river.

Of this number, four were coming in without pilots. It further appears that nearly every loss during the time under review, was the result, not of a rough bar, but of the wind failing after the vessel had crossed this leaving her to drift on the sands. It also seems that each loss of vessels coming in occurred when they were sailing against the tide, instead of with it.

There being no tug to go to their relief, of course there could be no rescue. It is safe to say that had there been a tug at hand, every vessel thus far lost on the bar might have been saved. "Since the placing of the tug Astoria upon the bar, or pilot grounds in 1869, there has been no loss, and with proper care on the part of tug and pilots, there need be none for many years to come. These facts warrant us in making the bold assertion, that there is no barred harbor known to commerce, where the percentage of loss is so small; and few, if any, open harbors that can show so fair a record. The currents and prevailing winds are such, and the land marks so well defined, that at a time when it is unsafe to cross the bar, vessels outside can readily keep off, and wait a suitable time to enter. And there is good holding grounds but a few hundred rods inside for vessels bound out to anchor, and select from the spot their own time to pass out. Less trouble is experienced from fogs at the Columbia, than either to the north or south, as they are not frequent, and are much less dense, owing, no doubt, to the presence of aerial currents, resulting from peculiar physical conformations. The channel is distinctly buoyed out, and lighted by a first class light-house on Cape Disappointment, where is established a life-saving station by Government, with a few of the needed facilities for rendering aid in case of accident on the bar. Government has also made an appropriation for a light house at Point Adams, and preparations are going forward for commencing the work at once.

The commerce of Oregon has heretofore

been taxed by underwriters far above the proper and reasonable rate. But, as the rate of insurance is made up from a knowledge of the actual pro rata of loss incident to a given harbor, when such data is to be had, or guessed at from general impressions, in the absence of reliable information, there seems no good reason why, if the above facts are laid before the various marine underwriters of the land, the discrimination against the Columbia river bar should not be removed, and our insurance had at a fair rate, much less than is now imposed.

The question is now never raised about Sandy Hook bar, at the entrance of New York harbor, being too shallow and rough for the extensive and profitable employment of all classes of vessels, yet there is five feet more water on the Columbia river bar at high tide, than there is on Sandy Hook at a corresponding stage of water.

Eighteen vessels were on the way to San Francisco for New York, and one from Boston, July 31st.

A correspondent of the Baltimore American proposes that the space recently burned over in that city be set apart for a public garden.

The Newport High School gives a medal for "tried and approved morals," which was taken this year by the only male graduate over all feminine competitors. It also gives medals for amiability.

Mr. Scoresby, a very high authority on this subject declares that the whale seldom exceeds seventy feet in length, and is much more frequently under sixty. Out of 322 whales, which he assisted personally in capturing, not one exceeded fifty-eight, and the largest of which he knew the reported measurement to be authentic, came up to only sixty-seven feet.

Two specimens of the rorqual or razor-back whale have been observed of 105 feet in length. One of these was found floating lifeless in Davis Straits, and the skeleton of the other was found in Columbia river, part of which is now on exhibition at the Seaside house, and measured 112 feet. Other specimens have measured a hundred, and many others from eighty to ninety feet. One cast on shore at North Berwick, Scotland, and preserved by Dr. Knox, was eighty-three feet in length. These instances seem to established the average and extreme length of these huge animals. But with considerable credulity in earlier accounts, Cuvier, the eminent naturalist, says, stoutly: "There is no doubt that whales have been seen at certain epochs and in certain seas upward of 300 feet long or 100 yards in length."

Lady Ashburton, who died sixteen years since, and has just been suitably commemorated in Lord Houghton's Monographs, was an exceedingly clever and remarkable woman, the soul and center of a notable literary group, in which Thomas Carlyle was a prominent figure. She was a keen free lance in conversation, and people who retired discomfited from the sharp encounter with her wit would say of her: "I do not mind being knocked down, but I can't stand being danced upon afterwards." Thackeray was one of the eminent men of letters whom she piqued by her too brilliant rallying, and he left her parlors at Bath House, resolved never to return. He declined Lady Ashburton's invitations, spoke of her dislike and discourtesy. Months after, when angry feeling had had time to die out, he received from her one day an invitation to dinner. Thackeray returned it, with one of his inimitable drawings on the back, depicting himself kneeling at her feet, with his hair all aflame from the hot coals she was energetically pouring upon his head out of an ornamental brazier. This act of contrition was followed by complete reconciliation and warm friendship to him and his family.

Come to the fountain.—One of the most attractive establishments in Portland is the drug and perfumery store of our old friend Samuel M. Smith, corner of Ash and First streets. Mr. Smith was for many years senior partner of the firm of Smith & Davis, and besides being a thoroughly practical druggist and chemist is, withal, as genial a gentleman as ever grasped a hand in friendship. His store is fitted up and stocked in a magnificent manner with everything usually found in a complete stock of drugs, chemicals, perfumeries, etc. But the feature par excellence is the soda fountain, one of the famous Arctic patent, an immense affair, a monument reared in marble and silver to the health of the thirsty. It has deliveries, on opposite sides, and can accommodate a rush. It is stocked with Kissengen, Congress, Vichy, Seltzer and different kinds of syrups. The cooling apparatus is the most perfect in use, and the product of that fountain a draught that surpasses "the nectar of the gods."

Beaver Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F.

Meet every Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the Odd Fellow's Hall, corner of Cass and Jefferson streets, Astoria. Members of the Order are invited to attend. By order, N. G.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LUMBER. LUMBER.

THE COLUMBIA RIVER MANUFACTURING CO. ARE NOW DAILY MANUFACTURING from 30,000 to 40,000 feet of the all the very best kinds and quality of Lumber, which will be sold in lots to suit purchasers. Address: K. KINSEY, General Agent and Superintendent, Knappton, W. T.

Sheriff Sale.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION issued upon a decree of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Clatsop, made on the 13th day of August, 1873, in which Alanson Hinman is Plaintiff, and James Welch and Nancy Welch are defendants, commanding and directing me to sell to the highest bidder, four and five, in block one hundred and twelve, of Shively's Astoria, in the County of Clatsop, in the State of Oregon, or so many of them as may be sufficient to pay and satisfy the several sums of money in said decree specified, to-wit: the sum of three hundred and eighty-one and fifty-one hundredths dollars, and interest thereon at one per cent. per month, in favor of said Plaintiff and against said defendant James Welch; also, the further sum of forty dollars for attorney's compensation, together with costs and disbursements taxed at 21 35-100 dollars, and costs to accrue on said execution, I have this day levied upon all the right, titles, interest and estate of the said James Welch and Nancy Welch, in and to the said lots one, two, three, four and five, in said block one hundred and twelve, in said Shively's Astoria, in Clatsop county, State of Oregon, and shall proceed to sell the same at Public Auction, to the highest bidder for cash, on the 4th day of October, 1878, at 2 o'clock p. m. of said day, at the Court-house door, in the County and State above written. W. H. TWILIGHT, Sheriff of Clatsop Co., Oregon. Dated at Astoria, Oregon, this 3d day of September, 1878.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

AS HAS ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED through the newspapers of the State, the following named books have been duly selected as the authorized text books in the branches mentioned, in the Public Schools of Oregon, for four years commencing Oct. 1, 1878. ARITHMETIC—Thompson's New Graded Series, (including New Mental for primary classes—New Rudiments and New Practical), and Brooks' Normal Mental, for advanced classes. GEOGRAPHY—Montieth's Introduction to Manual, and Physical and Intermediate (both in one book). GRAMMAR—Clark's Beginner's and Normal. UNITED STATES HISTORY—Barnes' Brief History. GENERAL HISTORY—Peter Parley's Universal, (for beginners). PENMANSHIP—Spencerian system and copies, FOR SCHOOLS OF ADVANCED GRADES. HIGHER ARITHMETIC—Robinson's Progressive Higher. ALGEBRA—Brooks' COMPOSITION, "Hints". GENERAL HISTORY—Anderson's (advanced). PHYSIOLOGY—Steele's "Fourteen Weeks." NATURAL PHILOSOPHY—Steele's "14 Weeks." CHEMISTRY—Steele's "Fourteen Weeks." BOTANY—Wood's Botanist and Florist. BOOK KEEPING—Bryant and Stratton's (High School Edition).

The readers and spellers will be selected about the middle of September. The law requires that the books selected shall be introduced into all the Public Schools of the State, "on or before the first day of October, 1878." But the act, (owing to an inadvertent omission in framing it), did not go into effect until three months after the close of the session, and as there has been some unavoidable delay from other causes, the text-books have been adopted at so late a day that it would be a hardship upon the patrons of the schools to insist upon having the introduction of the "authorized" series completed by the day named in the law. Under these circumstances the State Board of Education has concluded to take the responsibility of extending the time so as to secure the gradual introduction of the books that have been adopted. Hence, though it will be expected and required that all the Public Schools of the State shall begin in good faith "on or before October 1st, 1878," if the books can be procured by that time, to introduce the "authorized" series, they will be allowed until March 1st, 1879, to complete the introduction.—[By the order of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Oregon.]

In the meantime, let District Directors, Teachers, and all others having authority, see to it that the books which have been selected are introduced as rapidly as possible. After October 1st, 1878, the purchase of any other books, for use in Public Schools, than those named above, is most strictly forbidden. "And any District neglecting to so provide for the introduction of the 'authorized' series of text books, shall forfeit its proportion of the School fund for the succeeding year, and every year thereafter until all of said series are introduced."—(School Laws, Section 12.) W. A. JENNERY, Superintendent of Schools for Clatsop County.

L. P. FISHER, ADVERTISING AGENT,

Rooms 20 & 21 Merchant's Exchange, California street, San Francisco. SOLICITS ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS for the TRI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN and for papers published in California, Oregon and Nevada; Washington, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Arizona and adjacent Territories; Sandwich Islands, the British Possessions, Mexican ports, Nicaragua, Panama, Valparaiso, Japan and China; New Zealand and the Australian Colonies, the Atlantic States and Europe.

ADVERTISING

Has created many a new business; Has enlarged many an old business; Has revived many a dull business; Has rescued many a lost business; Has saved many a failing business; Has preserved many a large business; And insures success in any business.

GIRARD'S SECRET.—Stephen Girard used to say in old age: "I have always considered advertising liberally and long to be the great medium of success in business, and the prelude to wealth. And I have made it an irrevocable rule to advertise in dull times as well as the busiest, long experience showing that money thus spent is well laid out, as by continually keeping my business before the public it has secured many sales that I otherwise would have lost." ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS. KEEP YOUR NAME BEFORE THE PUBLIC. Judicious Advertising Insures A FORTUNE! If Business is dull.—ADVERTISE! If Business is brisk.—ADVERTISE! The man who didn't believe in advertising has gone into partnership with the Sheriff, and that official does the advertising.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ONLY Manufacturing House IN OREGON.

Fishel & Roberts, Corner First and Washington Streets, PORTLAND, OREGON.

FASHIONABLE CLOTHIERS, AND MANUFACTURERS.

THE BEST VALUE FOR THE LEAST MONEY.

PROPOSALS For the Construction of the Astoria Farmers' Company's Wharf and Warehouse.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received by the Board of Directors of the Astoria Farmers' Company, for the construction of a Wharf and Warehouse, until the 9th day of September, at 12 o'clock p. m. Bids will be entertained.

For the Whole, or any Portion of the Work! The Company will furnish all materials. For further particulars, enquire at the office of the Company. The Board reserve the right to reject any or all bids. By order of the President, S. D. ADAIR, Secretary.

George A. Pease, Pacific Boot and Shoe Store, Is now prepared to wait on his customers, At The Old Stand Again! S. W. Corner First and Morrison Streets, Portland, Oregon.

HALL'S PATENT Fire and Burglar Proof SAFES! SAFES!

A NUMBER OF THESE SUPERIOR Safes can now be seen at the Agricultural store of Knapp, Burrell & Co., Portland. The Hall safes are superior to any now in use, are absolutely fire proof. Books and papers deposited in the Hall safes, are warranted not to mould. These safes all have Hall's Patent Combination Lock! Without either Key or Key-hole. Prices—Ninety Dollars and Upwards!

Many leading houses in the State have already been supplied with these safes, and over \$70,000 worth have been sold to prominent Bankers, Merchants and County officials in California. W. M. B. WILSHIRE, Agent Pacific Branch, Hall's Safe and Lock Co., San Francisco

Schools! St. HELENS HALL, AND THE..... Bishop Scott Grammar School, Will Re-open in Portland, on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1878.

Private School. SQUEMQUE STREET.....ASTORIA Under the Management of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hyland, Will Re-open on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1878 Tuition per quarter, in advance, \$7 50.

HALL'S PATENT IMPROVED SPRING Stamp, for stamping Linen and 1800 other articles. A silver-plated stamp of fine finish and perfect construction, with bottle of best Indelible Ink, Ink Pad, and three entire Alphabets, enclosed in a neat box, with full instructions, sent prepaid for only \$1.50. The best thing for the price ever invented. Agents wanted. H. C. Barnard & Co., 314 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo.

WELLS, FARGO & CO.'S EXPRESS. HAVING ESTABLISHED OFFICES IN all parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho Territories, we are prepared to do a General Express and Freight business in all its branches. Freight or Packages will be called for in any part of the city (by giving proper notice) and forwarded with dispatch to any part of the world, through our own and connecting Expresses, at Greatly reduced rates. COLLECTIONS MADE, and Commissions for Purchase of Goods, etc., etc., will receive prompt attention. We shall continue to DRAW EXCHANGE as usual on all the principal cities of the United States, the Canada and Europe, and to sell TELEGRAPHIC EXCHANGE when desired. WELLS, FARGO & CO. A. VAN DYKES, Resident Agent, Astoria.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Badger's Music Store Sole Agency for the Leading Instruments of the World

HALLETT, DAVIS & CO.' PIANOS!

POWERFULLY CONSTRUCTED, Highly finished and elegantly designed. Acknowledged by the greatest living Pianists—Liszt, Rubenstein and Leutner—to be the most remarkable Pianos in existence for Power, Sweetness, Durability, Brilliance and Perfection of Touch.

GEORGE WOODS & CO.' (Boston) Wonderful Cabinet, ORGANS!

The most important invention of the day—capable of producing immense power, as well as every shade of delicate musical expression. Call and examine before purchasing.

W. K. BADGER, No. 113 Third Street, (near the Postoffice), Portland, Oregon. Established Twenty-two Years.

S. J. McCormick, PUBLISHER: Franklin Book Store!

BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, 19 First Street, Portland, Oregon. Constantly on Hand, a full Stock of STANDARD SCHOOL BOOKS, And Staple Stationery.

J. K. GILL & Co., (Successors to G. A. Steel & Co.) IMPORTERS: WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN BOOKS AND STATIONERY. No. 75 First street, bet. Washington and Stark PORTLAND, OREGON.

J. Kraemer & Co., Importers of and Wholesale Dealers in..... BOOTS AND SHOES, 47 Front Street, Portland, Oregon.

OFFER TO THE TRADE FULL LINES of Mens', Boys', and Youths' French Calf and Kid Boots, Ladies' Misses and Children's Shoes of all grades, and also a full line of Slippers.

JANION, RHODES & CO., Liverpool, Victoria, B. C. Janion & Rhodes, Importers and Commission Merchants Front Street, Portland.

Lloyd's Agents for Oregon THE PIONEER ENGLISH HOUSE IN the city, and the founders of a direct line of Clipper Ships between Liverpool and Portland, offer for sale the largest assortment of General Merchandise In Portland.

Appointed Agents for J & R Tennent's Celebrated brand of Ale and Stout; Wm Younger & Co's Celebrated Edinburgh ale; Gilroy Brothers & Co's Dundee Grain Sacks, Wool Sacks and Burlaps. Sole Agents for Blood, Wolfe & Co's Celebrated brand of ale and Stout; Ind, Coope & Co's Celebrated Burton ale; Wm McEwan's Celebrated Edinburgh ale; Worthington's Liverpool Salt; Hockin, Wilson & Co's Celebrated London Pickles and Sauces; J & J Armistead's Celebrated Durham Mustard; J & H D Grimond's Celebrated Dundee Hemp Matting and Carpeting; George Curling & Co's Citrates and Drugs; Dunville's Irish Whisky; Stewart's Scotch Whisky; Hill, Evans & Co's English Malt Vinegar; Noble's & Hoare's London Varnishes; John Fowler & Co's Celebrated Steam Pumps.

NOTICE. OFFICE OREGON IRON WORKS, South Front St., Portland, Oregon, April 24, 1873.

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Oregon Iron Works, it was resolved to continue the business. We shall continue the business, as heretofore, and have added the manufacture of Robb's Patent Similtanian Head Blocks for Saw Mills! A great saving of labor—also: Robb's Patent Gang Edger, and Gang Lath Mill!

We would invite careful inspection of our work and solicit the patronage of Mill and Steamboat men. We have on hand a large assortment of OREGON MADE STOVES! Persons wishing business in our line should give us a call, as we are prepared to do work as low as good material and workmen will warrant. J. A. ROBB, Supt. Oregon Iron Works.

COME AND SEE MY FANCY POULTRY A J MEGLER, Chenamus street