

The Daily Astorian.

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The Daily Astorian.

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(Sundays Excepted).

D. C. IRELAND, PUBLISHER.

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—The Centaur, a German bark 468 tons register, arrived this morning, 49 days from Hongkong. She brings 224 Chinese passengers, and 250 tons mdc. consigned to Allen & Lewis.

—Rev. J. D. Eaton, the popular pastor of the Congregational Church of Portland, having resigned his pastorate, left last week for the East, much to the regret of a large part of the community.

—Mr. Einberger caught ninety fish at one drift, last Friday night, and on taking up his net found six ducks in it, which had become entangled in the meshes while diving, and were drowned, so says a fisherman.

—Wilson captured 106 fine salmon last night, for Kinney's Fishery; 1150 fish were taken in at that fishery before noon to-day, and they were numbered by hundreds at all other fisheries along the river, so far as heard from.

—By the courtesy of Thos. L. Davis, Superintendent of Booth's cannery, we were to-day enabled to inspect a curious piece of mechanism for the labeling of cans. The affable young Superintendent explained that one thousand labels can be attached to as many cans, in one hour, after the operator shall have become used to it. It consists of two parallel rods on an incline wide enough apart to allow a can to roll between them. Midway of the incline is a packet of labels, at either end of which is a reservoir of prepared paste, self feeding. By the time the can has passed these labels it is neatly covered and ready for packing, avoiding the daubing of the paste on the glossed labels and requiring a man to remove them who cannot allow grass to grow under him. Apropos of the imitative genius of the Chinaman, it was curious to note how readily a heathen mastered the intricacies of this really complicated machine.

—The San Francisco Daily Commercial News, referring to the departure of the ship Samuel Watts from Astoria says: "The draught of vessels loading at Astoria has been gradually becoming greater until now it seems that vessels of almost any draught can cross the Columbia river bar in safety. We would advise our friends at Astoria however, that some improvement might be made in the system of towage as very many complain of unnecessary delays passing in and out." In the matter of towage it must be admitted by all who are fully aware of the facts that the system at Astoria is as perfect as can be made. There never has been any unnecessary delays, either in or out. The pilots and tug owners are careful men, of sound judgment, and the complaints to which the News refers, are solely from prejudice and come from a blind ring of Portland manipulators. The fact that all losses on the Columbia river bar, put together, would not amount to \$5,000 in the past six years, ought to be sufficient evidence of the truthfulness of our statement.

Current Events of the Day.

—There is no longer any doubt but that several centuries ago an expedition from China approached these shores for the purposes of settlement. It is supposed that the expedition was composed of those who were "fenced out" of China by the building of the wall. But they never landed here, or at least never made a sure foot-hold, and all the evidences of the expedition that are to be found are in the shape of trophies occasionally washed up by the surging billows from the briny deep. The latest of these is a bees-wax figure head of a dragon, petrified into wood, and now on exhibition at H. B. Parker's Art Gallery. A party of distinguished Scientists from Europe are expected to examine this curiosity—if any such should ever come this way.

—A resident of Clatsop county showed us a Postal card mailed to him from Buena Vista, April 24th from gentleman, on his way east, who wished an interview at Astoria or Portland, before sailing. The card "lodged" in the Portland office, and was delivered in Portland to the rightful owner, on the 4th inst., not coming to Astoria at all. We think the Government should be compelled to refund that postage, and the clerks be reminded to inspect addresses more closely.

—Capt. Ashton, sojourning temporarily at Astoria, expects to enter the list of journalists in Oregon in a short time, and will have control of one of the leading daily papers of the interior. His visit to Astoria has been one of pleasure. He has been fortunate in finding several old-time acquaintances here, and has literally been "making hay in the sunshine" by storing his note book with useful memorandums and data for future benefit, both to himself and the readers of the journal he is soon to take charge of.

—The Pioneer and Historical Society of Oregon have in press a pamphlet of 32 pages, containing the proceedings, etc., of the fifth annual meeting held in Astoria, February 22d, 1876, and also the able address of Rev. Dr. Atkinson, delivered on the occasion as a "Centennial Paper," devoted to the subject of the American Colonist in Oregon. The pamphlet will also contain a letter from Hon. A. L. Lovejoy, of Oregon City, narrating the eventful winter trip of Dr. Whitman across the Rocky Mountains in 1842. Mr. Lovejoy was with him and writes this letter by request.

—A number of the river boats are lying idle waiting for traffic to increase. The Dixie Thompson and several other steamers in the O. S. N. line, besides the Ohio, Gov. Grover, Champion, Willamette Chief, and Orient, and the barges Columbia and Columbia Chief are at Portland. The Dixie Thompson and Willamette Chief both have fractured shafts and are awaiting repairs.

—The barkentine Webfoot, with two new boilers for the Knappton mills, reached Knappton yesterday, and will load with lumber there for San Francisco. She has been to Portland and discharged considerable merchandise and other freight, and was returned as above in tow of the Shoo-fly.

—If you should wish to see a bee, hear a bee, be where a bee will recognize you and be friendly as a bee maybe and you have not got any bees of your own, send a dollar to the Portland Bee-Hive Co., for some of their lively little Bees.

—The fire in the slab pile at Knappton made a dense smoke yesterday, which, as seen from this city, circling and winding its way heavenward in such dense black volume, reminded one of the portrayals of Vesuvius in an active state.

—Soon after the steam whistles about Astoria sound the notes for "quitting time," the streets are thronged with people. At least five hundred white laborers are employed here daily upon various works in process of construction, and in the canning establishments now in operation.

—Dr. F. W. Sparling, late of Ft. Canby, has been appointed U. S. Pension Agent at Seattle. Pensioners in the Territory will no longer be obliged to send to distant cities for their allowances.

—Bramel is serving fresh McMurray oysters in every style, direct from Baltimore, whilst our Oysterville product is in the "milky way."

New Counterfeit \$5 Pieces.

The San Francisco Chronicle of a late date, has the following notice of some new bogus coin that may likely drift up this way.

The skillfully executed gold five dollar pieces which have recently been creating considerable excitement in New York, and also at the Washington Mint, have finally turned up on this coast, and were a few days ago refused at the Bank of California and sent up to the Mint to be assayed.

When the piece came to the Mint it was pronounced genuine by several parties whose experience with coins of all descriptions entitles their judgment to consideration. The piece was somewhat lighter in color than the piece coined here, but this was supposed to be accounted for by its having been coined at the Philadelphia Mint, where for quite a number of years past the process of working the metal gave it a light color without in the slightest degree detracting from its value. The counterfeit was also carefully weighed and found to come up to the standard.

"Look inside," suggested somebody and accordingly a piece of coin was sawed off, and the fraud was at once apparent. While the piece resembled gold to all intents and purposes, it was perfectly white inside, simply a piece of platinum plated with gold. The platinum gave it the weight, and in fact a piece of platinum the size of a gold five would weigh more than the gold. This difficulty was obviated by making the piece a trifle thinner than the genuine coin, but the difference was not noticeable. The specific gravity of gold is 19.30; platinum 31.15. The peculiar properties of platinum have often given rise to the fraudulent admixtures which have deceived experienced assayers. Experiments by M. Vanquelin, a French Chemist, determined the fact that where the platinum does not exceed thirty or forty parts in the one thousandth of the alloy, the presence of the platinum is not determined by ordinary test.

In this instance, however, no attempt was made to mix the metals, but the gold plating covered the platinum. Platinum is worth from \$8 to \$12 an ounce, and gold \$18.66. The coins were presented at the Bank of California by a sea captain, who bought them at the usual rates of exchange. He had several hundred dollars to deposit at the bank and their light color first attracted attention.

There is no foundation to the report that the counterfeiting was executed on this coast. The government officials here know nothing of it except from the Washington dispatch, and have received no orders to investigate the matter.

—Postage on the WEEKLY ASTORIAN is two cents a paper to any part of the United States, when sent by people not connected with the newspaper office. We will send four copies (separate dates), equivalent to one month, to one address, in one wrapper (post-paid), on receipt of 25 cents.

Any person inquiring for a fine quality of liquor, and can appreciate the same, can find the genuine J. H. Cutter Whiskey and Millers extra Old Bourbon, at the "Columbia Bar" saloon Astoria, with Geo. Usherwood late of Portland to cater to their tastes. Gentlemen will please give us a call. Cigars of a fine quality also on hand. JAS. M. LYNCH, Prop.

Everybody goes to the Novelty Barber shop to get fixed up in style. Every person may come, and more too, for I have employed a first-class artist who will smilingly manipulate your chin, gracefully curl your mustache, nicely puff your hair, and last of all, but not least, will perfume your clothes with the most popular perfumery in use. "Patchouly" if you don't believe it just try it. Hair cutting, shaving, and shampooing. Hair dying done and warranted not to turn red, break or split. Parker House, Astoria.

J. L. CAMPBELL, Proprietor.

Telegraphic News.

Synopsis of Press Dispatches.

Dom Pedro in the East.

Suit to Stop Cars from Running in Chicago.

Politics in the M. E. Conference.

The Indian Resolution and Father Wilbur.

Six Mills in Western Massachusetts Closed.

One Million Dollars in Liabilities with Unsaleable Assets.

Twelve Hundred People Thrown out of Employment.

The Democratic Candidate for President.

John M. Palmer of Illinois.

The House Door-keeper Writes a Letter.

"Who would not be a Door-keeper," Etc.

A New American Consul for Samoa.

—Dom Pedro arrived in Chicago Saturday and after a trip to the crib which supplies the city with water, left at 9 o'clock via Pittsburg and Fort Wayne. He will stop at Pittsburg and Oil city and thence proceed directly to Philadelphia.

—A question was brought before the Circuit Court of Cook county Illinois, by a suit begun between prominent members of the board of trade, as to whether the new rules of the board, adopted in September last, have effectually put an end to the running of cars in Chicago. The suit will probably last some time, and be an interesting test case.

—At the meeting of the Methodist Episcopal Conference on the 5th, in Baltimore, the resolutions of J. H. Wilbur, of Oregon, relative to the transfer of the Indian Service to the War Department, were taken up and Wilbur advocated the passage of the resolutions. Judge Lawrence, held that the present policy had put an end to Indian wars and elevated the condition of the Indians. Now it was proposed that the dominant party in the House cared very little about either civilization or christianity. Neither was material to its success. If this General Conference representing a million and a half of people shall send a committee of five to the Senate its voice would be heard and respected, and the bill would not pass, for there was some regard for christianity and civilization at that end of the capital. The President was not a Methodist himself, but his wife was, and she could appeal to him in behalf of peace policy which he had inaugurated. Judge Cooley, of Iowa and Gen. Fisk, of St. Louis, regretted that political issues or personal references should have been made, which was also the unmistakable sentiment of the conference.

—The heaviest mill failure that Western Massachusetts has yet seen

is that of Henry Arnold & Co., of North Adams, print works, shutting up their mill, and that of Gallup, Houghton & Smith, and E. H. Arnold & Co., North Adams; the Williamstown Manufacturing Co., at Williamstown; the North Pownall Manufacturing Co., of Pownall, Vermont, and Arnoldville Mill, at South Adams—a total of six mills, with aggregate liabilities of probably over one million dollars, and assets of most unsaleable property, costing, probably, \$1,500,000. The mills ran in all over 4,000 looms, some on print goods. Some 800 people are thrown out of employment.

—The failure of Henry Arnold & Co., of North Adams print works, is even more disastrous than it at first appeared. The liabilities, it is thought will rise over rather than fall below the estimate of \$1,250,000 and not less than 1,200 men, women and children in the six mill have been thrown out of employment.

—The movement looking to Judge Davis, as a Democratic candidate for president has about spent itself. The chief objection to him is that he is an old whig. There is a strong opinion among western Democrats of nominating Gen. John M. Palmer, of Illinois. He was an old Democrat before the war, became a Republican and fought with distinction; became a Republican governor and finally became a Democrat on account of Grantism.

—A letter was published in Washington on the 5th, from Fitzhugh, doorkeeper of the House, to a friend in Texas. The following are a few characteristic extracts: "I wish you could be here with me. Do try and come. The government furnishes me with a fine turnout and a spanking pair of horses, and before and after the House session, and at recess, I have the exclusive use of them. I have more invitations to frolic with members and Senators than any man in Washington. I am a bigger man than old Grant. I cannot put my foot on the floor of the hall but that they make a break for me, and sometimes there are a dozen trying to see me at once for a place for some friend. I have a boy to take my hat and coat, and I cannot turn round without some one at my beck and call, and when I get all my new appointees broken in I shall have a nice time. Good night."

—Dispatches were received at San Francisco from Washington, displacing Foster, the American consul at Samoa, and appointing in his place Jas. M. Cave, who arrived on the 5th at San Francisco from Fiji having been taken there from Samoa a prisoner on the British war vessel Barracouta. The dispatches arrived in time to go on the schooner Ada May which sailed a few days ago; but owing to some misunderstanding she left without them. A tug was sent out with them but failed to overtake the schooner. They will go by the next vessel.

—The Washington Correspondent of the Boston Herald says the next President, if he be chosen, from among candidates now prominent, is not likely to be a poor man. On the Republican side, Blaine is richest; Bristow and wife are worth a quarter of a million; Hayes is still better off; Conkling is believed to possess over \$100,000, while Morton and Wheeler have smaller fortunes. Tilden, on the Democratic side, is the wealthiest, he being put down at \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000; Davis owns more than \$1,000,000, and Thurman has a large fortune; Bayard is well to do, while Hancock is in comfortable circumstances.

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