She gaty estoxim

ASTORIA.OREGON:
b. c.iretand
$\frac{\text { WEDNESDAI ..........AFRHL } 30.107}{\text { The Superflous sinisters. }}$
The government is at a heary ex-
pense to support its forcign ministers, the services of whom do not appear in
any mamer to be commensurate with the outlay. It so hajppens, howevor,
with very little to do, that these ministers complain of bing poorly paid This gives rise to the question 1 n sum
minds, "Of what nse are the mini ters, anyhow P" T. be sure, the goir ernment must have representative
agents abroad, to look after the inte ests of its absent citizens, bat the con-
suls are entirely competent to attend
to this business, and, indeud, moust. cases, it is the consuls who are ap
plealed to when any wecasion for American official interference arnses
Ministers are simply diplomatic duums, to handle the correspondence
of the secretary of state, and d.liver or transmit the same to its proper des-
tination, to receive visits of courtesy, fact, to sapport a tutle, draw a salary, and enjoy a term of elegant leismre ter, Maynard, is now on a visit to hi relatives in Massuchusetts; our Rus-
sian minister. Stowghton, is trav.ling for his health; our Spsnish minister,
Lowell, has received a lcave of ahsence Lowell, has received a care of ahsence
to come home; and Mr. Marsh, our Italian minister, is in feeble health,
and unable to discharge his ofticial dutics - that is, sippposimg he had any
duties to discharge. Thus, it will be seen, that if the comsular system were revised, and some atmendments made
to it, the ministerial office conid be greatly modified. Perhaps it world be sufficient to send ministers ablown
when great questions were pending. Theaties to tre entered into or modified,
Tor Very Well Saia Henry Burgh, the great friend of the brate creation, has the prond satis-
faction of knowing that thirty-four states of the union have adopted laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals after the model of the statute he had passed in New York fifteen years ago.
He delivered a lectrre in the elty of New York, in which be answered the following question, "Why d. you
take so much interest in the brute take so much interest in the brute
creation?" by saying, "It was in the intervast of muakind as well, because,
in every department of life, we were indebted to the brute for the pleasures and necessities of life. Look," he
suid, "at a beantiful woman. Her shoes are furmshed by the calf, her
gloves ly the kud, her furs by theseal, her druss by the silkworm, her shaw by the camel, her comb by the tom toise, her whalebones by the whate,
and even the color of her cheek is supplied by the insect cochinual." M Bergh talks like a logician.

Pittsburgh is terribly disappointed
at the refusal of the Pennsylvania legislature to assume her debt, on account of the riots a coluple of jeant
ago. She had a strong lobby present, while the bill was under consideration to create an influence in its favor, and would cortainly become a law. The press, however, everywhere outsice a
Allegheny connty, kept up an unre mitting warfare upon the bill, and the assembly killed it. Now, there are abont by suspicious practices, and there is to be an investigation.
-The San Francisco Call says that
Senator Grover's bill to eatend the Senator Grover's bill to eatend the time fur the completion of the Northern Pavitic railroad company, "com-
prises portions of both the senate and house bills of last session, and is understood to be satisfactory alike to sificors of the company and to the distinctive local interests of the Pacinic the brach road wer the Casale The branch road over testy cascade
mountams, we earnestly protest aguinst it on behalf of Washington territury, says the Walla Walla Uution. Let the branch ryad go with the wain

Omioial Stupidity.
Walla Walla Vnion
A recent order to the Walla land office directs th obtain from each claimant unde
the act of June $3 \mathrm{~d}, 18 ; 8$, the for the sale of timber lands, a nor proof already Gorwarded. Th proof already Gorwarded. Th
reason for this order is obseure it
the mists of red tape The mists of red tape. The net of
June 3.1, 18 is, requires each applicant when he applies for the tain any "valuable deposit of goll silver, cinnalar, eopper or coal,
and when he makes his proof and payment he is required to produce payment he is required to produce persons that the land "apparently contains no valuable deposits o
gold, silver, cimnabar, copper of
coal." The elerk who wrote the order and the official whosigned it must b not have issued an order for merely
cumulative proof. If the order is
enforced it will entail and useless expense on all appli-
cants under the law. The order is
all outrage on common sense and
shonld bo revoked at once.
 LOT NDD FOTSD shauld be promitly Sow LOAR--Brote aurin in the Co





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