

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 1881. D. C. IRELAND, Editor.

Editorial Correspondence.

Ogden, Feb. 3.—People often notice that the street lamps are not lighted. Wherefore? Because, as Puck has said, "the moon shines" in the almanac. It may be as dark as Tophet, but the ordinances of the city exempt the sexton when the almanac is all right. So with our silver palace car porter, Harry. Up here in this most inhospitable region, from Battle mountain to Ogden, it ought to be as cold as Greenland, but it is n't; the weather has been so balmy and spring-like that "all of us" delight in the trip—except Harry. He has most persistently persisted in making our car red hot! and this morning we came from our baths par-boiled, saturated with satisfaction, blood-shot eyes, swollen visages, and feet and limbs too large for our boots and drawers. O, the fellow! How some of us, particularly La Sar, consul for Fiji, would like to "eat him up,"—were it not that his skin is darker than that of the cannibals.

The west bound express train was still under attachment when we passed Battle mountain. This will be made a test case. Lander county claim taxes of the Central Pacific Railroad company; to get it, the sheriff, a well-meaning man no doubt, attached the mart and express train. How it will be decided of course remains to be seen. The detention gave our company good opportunity for sight-seeing at Golconda, bathing in the hot springs, etc., all of which was highly enjoyed, as the weather was and is delightful.

After leaving San Francisco the editor of THE ASTORIAN writes under date of February 1st as follows: "The train from San Francisco to Sacramento was compelled to go the old way on account of loss of bridges, which put us back one and one-half a day. We passed Sacramento at six o'clock in the evening. Think the worst is over, and will go through without blockade. Among our society in the silver palace sleepers are Hon. H. S. La Sur, United States consul at Leonca; Mr. and Mrs. Janion and family, of Liverpool; Hawaiian consul; Mr. Wm. Leut Carpenter, Son of Dr. Carpenter, of Liverpool; Mr. Van Brocklen, of New York; altogether a car full with ladies and children to spice the tone with proper themes and we anticipate much pleasure. Mrs. Janion is from Victoria, where her parents reside. She remembers her experiences in Oregon, Washington territory and British Columbia with a pleasure never to be forgotten.

Judge Gillies, of Auckland, who recently passed through San Francisco on his way to Europe, writes to a friend on his return home: "I have gone round the world without ever encountering a stormy day. The most enjoyable part of all my travels was my two months in America, which is manifestly destined to be the great future home of the English speaking races. Nevertheless, New Zealand, for its size, will be a great country in the future, especially on account of its climate, which is unsurpassed, if not unequaled, in the world. I do hope the Pacific service will be maintained. It is much superior to the P. and O. service in comfort."

Everybody knows how hard it is to induce a boy to get up early in the morning. He looks on rising early as only second in atrociousness to being sent to bed early. A man in New Jersey roused his hired boy at half past four the other morning, and the incensed youth burned down a \$400 barn in revenge. A jury of men who hate to get up early would no doubt acquit the boy. His defense will probably be that he got up to light the fire.

A Live King.

Editorial Correspondence. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 31.—Among the passengers who arrived on board the City of Sydney, on Saturday afternoon, was his Majesty King Kalakaua, the monarch of the Hawaiian islands. He brings with him Wm. Nevens Armstrong, formerly attorney general, but now royal commissioner of immigration; Col. C. H. Judd, chamberlain; and Col. George Macfarlane. The royal party were received by Henry W. Severance, the Hawaiian consul, and by him escorted, in the midst of the storm, to the Palace hotel, where, with other Oregonians, we had the pleasure of meeting him to-day. The king is traveling in cognito a Prince Kalakaua, and is bent on a journey around the world in the interests of his kingdom and for the benefit of his health. He will probably remain here for about ten days, and then leave for Japan and China, then by way of the Straits Settlements to Calcutta, overland to Bombay, thence through the Suez canal, across the Mediterranean to Italy, France and England, and home by way of New York and San Francisco. His ultimate object in this grand tour is to ascertain the most suitable races of the peasant or laboring class for his kingdom. A country with a fertile land enough to support over a million population now has less than 60,000, of whom one-tenth are Chinese. The native population is on the decrease. The Chinese do not bring their wives and do not become citizens. It is thought that among the Asiatic or East Indian races a suitable class can be found. The tour of investigation on this immigration problem will probably last seven or eight months, during which time the government of the kingdom is administered by the King's sister, H. R. H. Lydia Kamakaeha (Mrs. Dominis). The "Prince" is the same pleasant and affable gentleman as when he last visited this city seven years ago, and received several proofs of the honor and esteem in which he is held by them. In a day or two, in company with Claus Spreckles and W. T. Coleman, the royal party will visit Sacramento, and subsequently they will become the guests of W. T. Coleman at San Rafael. Whether his expenses are paid by Claus Spreckles, W. T. Coleman or the Sandwich islands we are unable to learn. Perhaps by Claus.

Signal Station at Astoria.

We have late private advices from Hon. Jno. Whitaker and Senator Slater that the chief signal officer at Washington has submitted estimates to the secretary of war for the building of a telegraph line from Astoria across Young's bay to point Adams, thence to Tillamook head and thence by sub-marine cable to Tillamook rock, with the recommendation that the amount asked for be appropriated.

Why Thieves Are so Skillful.

It is common to speak of the skill and exploits of thieves as remarkable. It is more remarkable that thieves do not accomplish greater things than are recorded of them. The thief simply follows his trade, making himself as thoroughly competent in it as if he were learning some other means of obtaining bread. Those upon whom he preys are careless and forgetful, while he is always watching for an opportunity. Officers of the law are paid when they make no arrests, and there is little incentive to catch a thief; so that thieves, if they can guard against the vigilance of the property owner, which is rarely exercised as it should be, have an easy road to travel. It is difficult to catch them; it is difficult to prove their crimes; they go to prison but a short time if they are convicted, and so— "The enterprising burglar goes a-burgling." The price of subscription to THE WEEKLY ASTORIAN has been reduced to \$2 per annum when paid in advance. If not paid in advance the old price of \$3 will be charged.

Taxation in California.

A correspondent of the San Francisco Bulletin thus refers to the double taxation in that state. This writer says: "One of the evils of double taxation is made very apparent in connection with the subject of taxing wheat. On the first Monday in March, at 12 o'clock noon, (1) the wheat will be taxed; (2) the coin borrowed thereon will be taxed, and (3) the promissory note given by the borrower to the lender will also be taxed. Now it is undeniable that the only real values are the wheat and the coin, but the law steps in and says the contract to return the coin, and also the coin itself, must be taxed—that the contract has doubled the taxable value of the coin. Many of those who in 1879 voted for this kind of taxation, now see it in a different light. The truth is, the present system of taxation is about the worst that could have been adopted, and the sooner it is abandoned the better. It is even more injurious to the interior than to the city."

The Poet of To-day.

The Athenaeum. To say the truth, the poet is not quite so various as other people. The fine egotism of the poet, which impels him to express his emotions in song, naturally deafens his ears for the most part to those deeper harmonies, "musical as is Apollo's lute," to which the ears of the philosopher are attuned, and blinds his eyes to the drama—harlequinade and tragedy—in which the mere man of the world plays with such gusto his part. But then we used to see this right; we used to starve our poets once and force them to hold horses at the theater door. We coddle them now. The poet's intercourse with the world is through arts and through books. His experience of man is second hand. No man is so little able "to put himself in another's place." And this proves especially awkward for him when he comes to write dramas.

The Idaho house of representatives by a vote of fifteen to eight passed a memorial to congress asking that northern Idaho be attached to and become a part of the proposed state of Washington. The memorial tersely gives reasons for preferring the request.

MARRIED. In Kalama, W. T., by Rev. J. V. Milligan, Mrs. Cornelia Wherry and J. F. Warren, of Knappa, Oregon.

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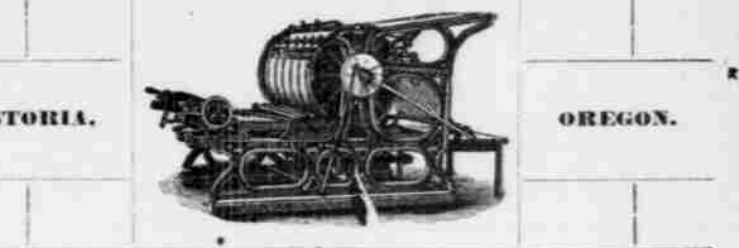
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