

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

SUNDAY FEB. 13, 1881

D. C. IRELAND Editor.

Editorial Correspondence.

Eno, Utah, Feb. 3.—Who was it, if not Thackeray in his King Canute, who gave us such famous impressions of parasites,—human, animal and the like. "King Canute is dead—parasites exist always." All along here from Ogden we have found those parasites. The man who bores you worse than the teredo bores the Puget-sound piles in a new Tacoma dock. And the little wood tick,—I have not the least idea of how ticks support themselves, where they cannot find an animal sufficiently accommodating to support them, but I would today devoutly wished that some parasite may suck their blood even as—

Little fleas have lesser fleas. Upon their back to bite you. And these again have lesser fleas. And so ad infinitum? Judge Twiss joined us at Ogden, he is jolly good company. But that Boston chip; the old man; and a superannuated general, who sees "the nigger" in West-point; do everlastingly bore everybody. Proctor, the astronomer, made \$8,000, nearly \$40,000, by his lectures in Australia and New Zealand. He also fell in love with the widow Corey, coming to her St. Jo home by the same ship from New Zealand, and will marry in a month at St. Jo. Mrs. C. leaves San Francisco for St. Jo today. Proctor will "lecture" across by the way. The match is set down as a good one by passengers on board the City of New York. It was purely an affair "at first" sight, encouraged by mirth and music, sense and sentiment, on the voyage. Mr. Proctor is a widower with six children, Mrs. C. has two children. Her husband died recently in Australia. Proctor will settle in either New York, Philadelphia, or Boston, perhaps the latter place, and devote his future attentions to his new family and literature.

The solution of the Mormon problem is contained in that part of President Hayes' message relating to polygamy and Utah affairs—the appointment of United States commissioners entrusted with the management of affairs in the territory; but it would prove to be a position most uncertain as to the tenure of the office, because, though there may not be so many murderous villains in Utah now as formerly, there are nevertheless murderers enough in the church to attempt to perpetuate its dynasty in spite of any number of commissioners sent out under authority of National law. D. C. I.

Notes from the Editor.

We are in receipt of notes from the editor of THE ASTORIAN while on his way east in which he writes, under date of 3d inst., as follows: We met west bound train at Wahsatch at 2:25 p. m.; all well. The snow is plentiful to-day, but no obstruction is caused thereby; it is only a little blinding to the eyes. I wished I had my smoked glasses to-day. The weather is delightful. On the 4th, we met west bound train at 2:30 p. m. at Otto. We meet west bound train every twelve hours, alternate day and night. Bishop Morris passed west yesterday afternoon. The weather continues mild and pleasant, but there are evidence all along Laraine plains of past vigorous winter. Twenty-one days since was the worst that this country has experienced for ten years. Cattle are dead on all sides of us, and immense amount of snow drifts still remain. We will meet west bound train this afternoon, 5th, at Valley at 1:50 o'clock, and will reach Omaha at 4 p. m. This morning at breakfast at G and island we met the embraces of Boreas, outstretched to enfold us and give us a taste of winter such as we have not experienced for twenty years. Talk about an Oregon winter!—look at the blizzard here to-day, and we are pushing right along headlong into it at the rate of thirty miles an hour. When we reach Chicago to-morrow we will tell you how we like it, so far as we have got. Snow is not deep to-day, but it is most infernally cold.

Sand Island to be Colonized.

On Thursday last, Capt. Fred Congdon, long in the employ of the Messrs. Cook Brothers, of Clifton, made a visit to Sand island for the purpose of locating the spot which offered the most favorable facilities for the erection of the building, necessary to carry out the plans and designs of Cook Bros., who have leased the island from the United States government for a term of five years, securing for themselves the exclusive privilege of the use of it for that period.

Realizing that the greatest salmon catch as well as the finest fish can be secured at the mouth of the Columbia river, in the immediate vicinity of the island, these gentlemen propose to locate all the fishermen they employ during the fishing season on the island. It is their intention to erect there comfortable mess and lodging houses for the fishermen, and the necessary racks for drying and mending their nets. A large scow wharf is also to be built and anchored in the sheltered bay at the head of the island, a spot which has always been used as a calm resort and resting place by the tired fishermen after his nights toil when waiting for a tow to his cannery. This bay fronts the spot selected for Cook Bros. buildings. The houses are now in course of construction at St Helens, the material will all be prepared there, framed and cut, ready to be speedily put together when landed on Sand island.

The advantages to be derived from this unique scheme are, in the estimation of the enterprising firm who have taken it in hand, very many and very obvious. Among others, they say it will be a great saving of labor from the fact that the men and boats being located right on the fishing ground will render the pulling or towing of the loaded boats to their cannery at Clifton or even to this city, and also a return trip in the evening unnecessary. Then again, much of the time consumed on these hitherto necessary trips can be comfortably spent by the fishermen in needed sleep.

They contend also that their fishermen will be greatly benefitted by this arrangement, by labor saved and sleep gained, and will also have a better chance to save their hard earned money. We understand that Cook Brothers intend under no circumstances to allow any of their fishing boats to leave the island except for the purpose of fishing, but it is proposed to give such of the men as desire it, an opportunity to come to town on their new steamer, the Argonaut, every Saturday evening, returning next day in time to resume fishing. We are also informed that they purpose to pass a law which is intended to be held as sacred as that of the Medes and Persians, that if any fishermen in their employ shall be found to be intoxicated, his boat will be irrevocably taken away from him. Success to the Sand island colonists.

The Washington, the new steamer for the People's Transportation company, of Vancouver, will be finished about March 15th. She is 140 feet long, 24 feet beam, and with her machinery in her, will draw 30 inches. She is a beautiful model, sharp and keen, and is built to run. Her cylinders are 15 inches in diameter, 6 feet stroke; wheel 18 feet in diameter. She was designed by John Gates, chief engineer of the Oregon Railway and Navigation company, who superintends the construction of the machinery. The woodwork is under charge of J. F. Steffen of Portland. Her cabins fore and aft will be commodious, very little space being taken up by state rooms. Of these there are only three for the public and four for officers. Her cost will be between \$18,000 and \$20,000.

Col. G. L. Gillespie, major of engineers, announces officially that the fog siren at Tillamook rock has been established, and that from and after this date during thick and foggy weather the fog signal will be sounded in accordance with the notice to mariners published from the office of the lighthouse board Dec. 15, 1880.

The New Northwest and Mormonism.

Reply to Mr. W. H. Gray.

THE ASTORIAN having given publicity to Mr. W. H. Gray's letter charging the New Northwest (Mrs. Duniway's paper) with favoring the polygamous system of the Mormons, in justice to that sprightly journal we give its answer to the charge, in its issue of the 10th inst.

In last Sunday's ASTORIAN, Mr. W. H. Gray, of Olney, complains that the columns of the New Northwest have been "opened for an article from a man called Bishop Lunt, on the genuine bible arguments in favor of a polygamous system," and "prostituted in the interests of men calling themselves a religious sect." Mr. G. is needlessly worried, and might restrain his unseemly wrath. He has been a subscriber to this journal since its infancy, and knows that it has never lost an opportunity to depict the horrors of Mormonism and denounce the crime of polygamy. No other paper in the state has commented so freely on the practices of the Mormons. In the introduction to the article which so excited him, it was expressly stated that the New Northwest favors the the disfranchisement of polygamists "because they are offenders against the laws and no more deserving of the ballot than other criminals;" that "the statutes against their practices could be enforced if they were deprived of political powers;" and that "the remarks made in defense of polygamy by Bishop Lunt" were published because "we always wish to be fair in discussing any question" and to give both sides. With these sentences staring Mr. G. in the face, he is guilty of demagoguery in holding this journal up as an endorser of the Mormons and charging that its editor's pen is "prostituted" to disseminate their doctrines.

Some say that it is no use for them to advertise, that they have been in the race in business all their lives, and everybody knows them. Such people seem to forget to take in consideration that our country is increasing in population nearly 40 per cent. every ten years, and no matter how old the place may be, there are constant changes taking place; some move to other parts, and strangers fill their places. In this age of the world, unless the name of a business firm is kept constantly before the public, some new firm may start up, and by liberal advertising, in a very short time take the place of the older ones, and the latter rust out, as it were, and be forgotten. No man ever lost money by judicious advertising.

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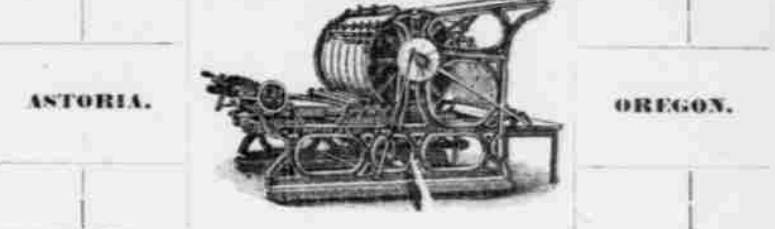
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