ASTORIA. OREGON:

WEDNESDAY FEB. 16, 1881 D. C. IRELAND

Crumbs of Comfort.

By examining our telegraphic dispatenes this morning, our readers will notice that we have the same old story to tell in reference to the action of congress with regard to the improvement of the Columbia river bar, Every creek and mud flat of the United States, for improvement; but nothing is allowed-absolutely nothing-for however, a crumb of comfort to property from taxation. offer our friends in Astoria on this ought to settle the case. And we titude of congress and the engi-This is not a defeat merely of the legislation as the Examiner pro-Astoria Chamber of Commerce, poses. If wheat must be exempt but it is also a defeat of the Port- from taxation so must be horses both of which have lately joined prevent any property from being climate temperate. us in an earnest demand that the exempt from taxes. The farmers entrance to the Columbia river be improved.

give it as a suggestion that the taxation. Wheat in store will be city of Astoria should, conjointly taxed on the first Monday in March, with Portland, undertake the tem porary improvement of the bar by payment of the money will be direct tax. We suggest this, al- taxed, and all upon the same day! though not particularly advocat- The Bee made this clear before ing it.

We should be pleased to have the opinions, by letter or otherwise, have been right. of our tax-payers, whose pockets are touched by the difficulties now existing.

methods will be improved by the decadence of stock gambling. Of course if a new mineral zone is found on the Comstock stocks will advance and gambling will be great, but at present there is nothing to indicate any such discovery. It is to agriculture that California must look primarily for her prosperity as a state, and when I left San Francisco her agricultural interests were flourish-

The seventeen-year locusts, acin portions of the United States next June. It seems there are two breeds of these periodical locusts, one appearing once in seventeen years and the other professor says the thirteen-year Louisiana, Arkansas, Indian terri-Carolina, South Carolina. The two kinds of locusts differ very little in appearance. The earliest appearance of the seventeen-year seventeen years since. No mention is made that Nebraska will be visited by these winged pests, and we hope the professor has made assertion that Gould has purchased no mistake on this point. They the Montreal Telegraph company. have had their share of this kind of With this purchase and a system infliction in former years, and de- now organizing for Mexico, he is serves to be given the go-by on autocrat of the wires of the conti-

About Taxing Wheat.

The San Francisco Examiner, of January 30th, wants the legis lature to exempt from taxation all the wheat in the state. It says: "In this condition of things it is of very great importance that the legislature should immediately take steps to relieve the farmers from this burden. The remedy is simple. All that is necessary is to exempt the product of the year's mento Bee replies:

It can't be done. The constituno power to pass a special law for the assessment or collection of taxes or extending the time for the and houses, dry goods and money insisted upon this. They even should escape, as to provide for Now, what is to be done? We double and in many cases treble the money loaned on it will be taxed, and the note given for the the election, but as a rule the farmers assured us that it could not be. And perhaps they may

The Northeast Passage

M. Strave publishes in the St. The New York Times prints an Petersburg Novoe Vremya a letinteview with Senator Miller, who ter on the subject of future waterspeaks of monetary affairs in San way between the Pacific and Arc-Francisco as follows: "It makes a tic oceans. He thinks that Eugreat difference whether the city is rope and Siberia may be connectdrawing two or three millions a ed by a surer route than that month in dividends, as San Fran- indicated by Professor Nordenskcisco used to do, or paying out a jold, and that a way may be open million in assessments with no re- ed by which Siberian products turns. The failure of the Com- may reach the Pacific. He prostock, however, has had one good poses a scheme for connecting the effect. It has resulted in almost Obi river with the sea at a point abolishing stock gambling, which to the west of Nova Zembla, and has ruined so many Californians, the connection of the Obi by a There is no longer anything like canal with the Petchora and Yenithe stock market in the old sease, sei rivers, thus making a direct and people are not dealing in waterway between Irkutsk and stocks as recklessly as they used to. the ports of the White sea. Con-We think we have got to bedrock nection, too, could be made be and that from this time we shall tween the Yenisei and the river go on a surer basis. Our financial system of eastern Siberia, and it would then be possible to reach Nelokan, only 130 miles from Aiane, on the Pacific. M. Struve argues this plan forcibly and at length. Meanwhile, Professor Nordenskjold is having a vessel built at the mouth of the Lena river, in eastern Siberia, and will set out in 1882 on another voyage of discovery in the Arctic seas.

Postal Decision.

The postoffice department was recently informed of the loss of a sum of money which was being cording to Prof. Riley, will abound transported in a registered mail package to Helens, Montana, and asked if the contractor of the coach route where the loss occurred was not responsible for it. The postmaster general rendered a decisonce in thirteen years. Both ion on the subject, in which he broods will appear this year, but says that the report of the inspecnot in the same localities. The tor for this department who made an investigation would indicate brood will probably be seen in that the loss was accidental and southern Illinois, in all of Missouri without fault of the contractor, except the northwest corner, in but were it otherwise and it could be shown that the loss was attory, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mis-tributable to negligence or even sissippi, Alabama, Georgia, North fraud of the contractor, it is not perceived that any right of action would thereby accure to this department, nor does the loss of mail matter without fault on the part of locust in this country, so far as the a contractor constitute ground of records go, was in 1634, at Ply- facfeiture as agreed upon. The mouth, Massachusetts, and they facts as presented do not afford have not failed to appear once in this department the means of repairing the loss referred to.

There is good authority for the

COMMERCIAL

The Baltimore Gazette says: The south is on the highway to prosperity, sure enough. Six milfor this year's crop, which is almost a million in advance of last year, and more than a million greater than the crop of 1879.

Several days ago the Grand Canon Coal company struck oil at a depth of 1,445 feet, near Canon crop from taxation." The Sacra-city. Boxing had to be stopped until a pump could be put in. The well now yields from five to tion declares that all property shall eight barrels of oil per day, and it discernible by the aid of a magni-be taxed in proportion to its value is thought that by boring it deeper fying glass, has its appropriation and that the legislature shall have it will yield a greatly increasing

The quinine production of the the Columbia river bar. We have, collection of taxes, or exempting world is estimated at from 230,000 That to 260,000 pounds per year, as folsecuringly negligent or hostile at- are sure it will settle it when, if lows: Germany, 56,000; Italy, ever, it shall come before the Su. 45,000; France, 85,000; England, preme-court. The constitution was 27,000; America, 63,000; India, neer department, and it is this: made to prevent just such special 12,350. Efforts are being made to acclimatize the einchona in Italy. Its successful culture in India and Ceylon encourages the belief that land Board of Trade and the San and all other property. The con- it will grow wherever the soil is *Francisco Chamber of Commerce, stitution was made on purpose to dry, the rainfall large and the

> All the prominent butter dealers went so far, for fear something and commission merchants in South Water street, Chicago, have signed an agreement not to sell or deal in any imitation of butter, either as butter or its real name. This action became necessary, as some firms doing the largest export trade in butter in the country, bave found that reports of adulteration and fraudulent butter were having a marked injurious effect upon their foreign trade.

The total liabilities of the coffee trade failures now amount to more than \$5,000,000. All the houses that have gone down were rich and strong six months ago. They got terribly squeezed in their attempts to squeeze the public. Legit mate business cannot be conducted sucessfully on the methods of the stock gamblers, and it would be a blessed good thing for the country If the wheat syndicate, pork syndicate, sugar syndicate and all the rest, endeavoring to make corners to rob the people, should meet a Salmon Net Twine. like fate. They would obtain no public sympathy, and would deserve none.-Chicago Grocer.

DIED.

On John Days river, February 14th, 1881, Mary A. Dennis, aged 74 years.

NEW TO-DAY.

FURTHER NOTICE And no terms of peace until

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Dissolution Notice.

THE PARTNERSHIPHERETOFORE EX-Astoria, Feb. 14th, 1881

Assignee's Auction Sale. On Monday, February 21st, 1881.

I am instructed to sell at Public Auction that TWO-STORY FRAME BUILDING 20x50. on Water street, adjoining Hume's Lumber yard, and now occupied as a Chinese store by Quan Yee Gee & Co. The building must be removed from the lot on which it is situated on or before the first day of March next. Terms Cash. Sale on the premises, at II A. 8.

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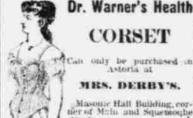
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