

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

THURSDAY.....MARCH 24, 1881

D. C. HEALD.....Editor.

Destruction of our Forests.

A writer in a recent number of the Baptist Review calls attention to the rapid destruction of American forests, and to the necessity of some legislation to arrest it before it is too late. It is undoubtedly true that within the last half century our timber lands have been growing less and less; and it is the opinion of all who have given any attention to the subject that, at the present rate of destruction, the resources of our forests will be destroyed before many years. It is a fact to-day that only four of the twenty-six states east of the Rocky mountains can furnish supplies beyond what is needed for themselves.

The figures quoted by Mr. Thompson, the writer of the article referred to, are full of significance, and apparently trustworthy. We can only sum them up in a general way. The four great timber states are Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Of these the first is nearly stripped of her valuable timber, and the lumbermen are compelled to cut the young trees which should be allowed to form the seed for a future growth. In Ohio, between the years 1853 and 1870 there were cleared over 1,200,000 acres—equal to one-sixth the area of the entire state, and equivalent to the removal of the timber from an entire county each year. Between 1870 and 1878 over 4,500,000 acres of timber had been cleared. The demand for white pine upon the northern sections of Michigan and Wisconsin has been so great that it is not believed that the supply can last longer than six or seven years. All the timber lands near the leading streams have been long since cleared. As to Canada: "A gentleman who has traveled over the territory says there is not from the province of Manitoba to the gulf of St. Lawrence enough spruce, pine, hemlock, ash, oak, elm, and other commercial woods to supply the whole consumption of the United States for three years."

The value of the annual cutting from the American forests is near \$1,000,000,000, which is consumed in a thousand different ways. Over 100,000,000 cords are used for fuel. In 1871 ten thousand acres were stripped to supply Chicago alone. To supply the demands of the railroads in the state of New York, 50,000 acres of woodland have been cleared in a single year. Then the annual losses by forest fires are something enormous. The loss by the fires of 1871—which swept over Wisconsin, Michigan and New York—is estimated at over \$215,000,000. In 1876, and again in 1879, Pennsylvania suffered terribly from these forest fires, which in 1876 destroyed timber in value beyond computation in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and New Jersey. In 1878 the woods on lake Superior were afire almost continuously for 160 miles. These figures give a general idea of the importance of a proper care being taken of our forest lands and of the immense annual demand upon them.

Dr. Carver, Scott and Reeve Smith, manager of the Brighton aquarium, have entered into the following agreement: Smith gives a prize of £2000 to be shot for under the following conditions: Carver and Scott are to shoot in thirty contests at 50,000 glass balls in any towns of Great Britain Smith may select, thirty contests to be concluded within two months from date. The first one winner is to receive £1500 and loser £500. Smith will supply glass balls and cartridges, and Carver and Scott guns, traps and assistants.

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"Mistakes of the Compositor."

Some one has taken the pains to collect for the Chicago Times some of the more famous typographical blunders of recent days—of the proof-reader on the Herald who underscored the line of the hymn "Hark, The Herald angels sing!" so as to give due credit to his own paper; of the World's report of political meeting—"the snouts (for shouts) of 10,000 democrats rent the air," of Gath's Fourth of July oration about the effect of the immortal declaration [penned by Thomas Jefferson at which "Thomas reeled," he was made to say, instead of "thrones reeled;" a local reporter represented Talmage as reading the well known hymn thus: "Nearer, by God, to the!" Instead of the fiat of the Almighty, a New York paper spoke of "fist of the Almighty." Another paper declared that the Meeker massacre was caused, not as the dispatch said, "by the farmers pulling down the Indians' tents and corrals," but "the Indians' beets and carrots." Out west the obituary of a right reverend "prelate" was described as "the death of a pirate;" in a sermon a clergyman was announced as preaching about "a woman clothed in scantity" instead of sanctity; and the subject, "Influence of Rome on the Formation of Christianity," got into print as the "Influence of Rum upon the Digestion of Humanity." The compiler should have added to his collection the story of the Connecticut editor who wrote what he thought an unusually fine article entitled, "Is There No Balm in Gilead?" and awoke next morning to see it read "Is There No Barn in Guilford?"

Taken for Granted.

The habit of taking everything for granted is very damaging. A young professional man takes it for granted that veneering instead of solid acquirements will enable him to succeed, because there are so many notorious examples of men's rising and maintaining themselves in public life through pure audacity, native wit, and utter lack of conscience. He will find too late that it won't do to plan and risk a career by the exceptions rather than the rule. The farmer keeps no accounts—crops his farm according to the season, or last year's markets, or his neighbor's success—takes it for granted that the laws of nature and of trade will accommodate themselves to his necessities—sinks deeper into debt, and wonders why farming doesn't pay. And so on to the end; men are not willing to pay for success.

The Nautical Gazette says: Great Britain has, at the present time, sixty-five ironclad ships of all classes in her navy, thirty-three of which were built in private shipyards, while of the machinery of these vessels not one engine for the fleet was built in a British navy yard. Many of these vessels have been rebuilt or altered, and have received very extensive repairs at these private ship yards and machine shops. Millions of pounds sterling have in this manner been paid into the hands of British ship-builders, who, in turn, have invested their capital in building merchant steamers in which to monopolize the carrying trade of the world. The British people have never complained of thus subsidizing their ship-building, nor have her legislators risen up and denounced them, as those who were robbing the public funds. England fosters and guards the interests of her ship-builders with jealous care, well knowing that in these establishments lies a greater power than that of all her standing armies and police.

A suit was brought in the United States district court, in San Francisco last week, by W. J. Adams, against the Bellingham Bay company, to recover \$17,000 damages resulting from a collision of the bark Germania with the bark Oregon, in the straits of Fuca, in March, 1880, whereby the latter vessel was rendered a total wreck.

NEW TO-DAY.

Administrators Notice.

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY GIVES notice that he has been appointed by the County Court of Clatsop county, Oregon, administrator of the estate of John Carr, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same with proper vouchers within six months from this date to the undersigned at Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, and all owing said estate are required to make immediate payment and turn over all moneys and effects.

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Boarding Prisoners.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED by the undersigned at the office of the Auditor and Clerk of the city of Astoria, until Friday, March 25th, 1881, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the boarding of all prisoners that may be confined in the city jail for one year from April 1st, 1881, at the rate of \$100 per annum per prisoner. Each bid must also be accompanied with a guarantee signed by two responsible tax payers to the effect that if the contract be awarded to such bidder, that he will within forty-eight hours after notice of such award enter into contract therefor with good and sufficient securities for the faithful performance. The right to reject any and all bids is hereby reserved.

Notice.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED by the undersigned at the office of the Auditor and Clerk of the city of Astoria, until Friday, March 25th, 1881, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the furnishing of Coal Oil, A, B, and C, kerosene, and A, B and D wicks for the lamps of the city for one year from April 1st, 1881. Bids must state the price per gallon for coal oil, the price per dozen for A, B, and C, kerosene; and the price per dozen for A, B and D wicks. Each bid must also be accompanied with a guarantee signed by two responsible tax payers to the effect that if the contract be awarded to such bidder, that he will within forty-eight hours after notice of such award enter into contract therefor with good and sufficient securities for the faithful performance of the contract. The right to reject any and all bids is hereby reserved.

Notice to Cannermen.

CANNERMEN ARE HEREBY informed that I am prepared to furnish promptly any number of Chinese laborers experienced in the work of packing, room, both, tin shop or any other department of a cannery. All applications by letter or otherwise will be supplied at any point on the river.

City Assessor's Notice.

CITY TAX PAYERS ARE REQUESTED to fill out their blanks and hand them in as soon as possible. Also, to be particular if any indebtedness is claimed, to state on the return the amount, and give the name or names of the party or parties to whom the same is due, as the law requires.

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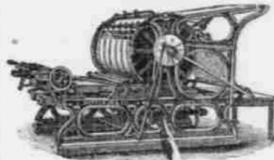
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