

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA-OREGON:

SUNDAY.....JUNE 5, 1887

D. C. IRELAND.....Editor.

Boss Busy Bumble Bee.

Yesterday a bumble bee, strange visitor to be in the city; buzzed across the face of a way farer on the street, bringing with him suggestions of the meadows. He was not an humble bee; there was not a trace of humility in his deportment—he was a bumble bee, with a capital B, and don't you forget it. The bumble bee is the very type of the summer loiterer. He does not work himself to death, like the little busy bee that doth improve each shining hour. He loafs and invites his soul; the dear old blundering awkward reverter. The very smell of him is suggestive of the weedy banks of a favorite trout stream, where thistles grow, and fat flowers hide under rank leaves or broad stretches of red clover, or blossoms of sweet peas. Who would not swap two days of weary hard worked city life to be a bumble bee for one day in the meadows of farmer Gray for instance, along the classic shades of Klaskanie? How jolly it would be to fight on the red topped clover that bends down under the weight and clasp it tight with those bristly fuzzy legs, and dip down into the nectaries, taking no refusal, wallowing and stumbling around on it, getting gold-dusted with the pollen. The bumble bee is your true epicure; but he always pretends to be engaged on business of importance. His buzz, even when he is on a protracted loaf, is worse than that of a Chinese dragon kite in a windy day, and makes you think that he is as busy as one of Bain & Co.'s plainers with a few circular saws thrown in. If you take a blade of grass and push him gently when he is on a thistle bloom, he will kick at you and go on feeding. A honey bee would be off like a shot, but Mr. Bumble gives a shrug of impatience and burrows angrily down in the blossom, as much as to say: O, go 'way from here with your foolishness; I'm busy! for it is in the nature of this insect to think that he is busy when he is eating. Perhaps he is right, some business men have the same opinion. There is a great deal of human nature in a bumble bee. Honey bees fly straight from place to place; hence the phrase, bee-line. But a bumble bee never seems to be going anywhere in particular. Sometimes he flies lazily sideways or backward, and goes tumbling around all day. His chief amusement is in aggravating drowsy dogs like Sam and Brick. He will buzz around just close enough to make a dog give a languid snip or keep one eye open and twitch his upper lip. It is impossible for the bumble bee to conceal his malicious pleasure in this cruel amusement. In fact the interesting creature suggest in every way the pleasures of country life to jaded city folk, its drowsy aimless drift; the open air, the hedges, the meadows, no steamer days, no collection days, no business days, no shipping, nor marketing, only long naps in the middle of the day, buds of mint in a tumbler with a stick and a straw, a shimmer of heat along dusty roads, the smell of blossoms, new mown hay, the old horse nibbling grass in the fence corners, the quarrelsome setting hen, the king-fisher, flying up the creek, the wood-pecker tapping the dead limb; and a thousand other visions arise at the sight and smell of a bumble bee buzzing on the streets of the city. What an advertisement a few of them would be for our summering resorts, let loose on the streets of Portland, we offer this as a suggestion for mine hosts Megler & Wright, of the ne plus ultra Occident, Stanley, et al.

We find this in the Oregonian of yesterday: "This paper cannot permit itself to be made the instrument of indecent attack on men, either in public or private capacity, by persons who would like to conceal their own names." Referring to the "authoritative way" Hon. Theophilus French addresses country editors on the Cascade branch business, the Oregonian remarks that Mr. French is not "the government," but only an accounting clerk of a bureau, whose utterances carry about as little authority as those of any one of his ten or twenty thousand fellow clerks in the service of the government.

Gen. Grant Returning.

A New Orleans dispatch of the 3d says: Gen. Grant is greatly irritated over the Conkling affair and eagerly reads all dispatches. He says that Conkling has been shamefully treated and should be re-elected to the senate. He thinks that newspaper abuse of Conkling is instigated by White house influences, but not by Garfield. He reaffirms his letter to Senator Jones of Nevada, but will take no hand in the fight. He pronounced Governor Youngs statement of his connection with the United States national bank and the marine bank as false, and says that there is no truth in the story about lost jewelry. His mission to Mexico was also highly successful. He got the concessions wanted, the only opposition being from rival subsidized railroads. General Grant will go to St. Louis, Galena and Chicago after leaving here.

No change in the New York senatorial fight. Beecher seems to have forgotten his agreement with Conkling, that if ever there was a time now is the time for such men to "stand in together."

Another crazy son of a gun named Elijah Sterling, claiming to be the son of God, attacked his wife and son with an ax at Crisfield, N. J., on Friday. The son escaped, but the wife was fatally hurt.

The will of the late Thomas A. Scott contains one sensible clause long omitted from such documents. It provides that no inventory or account of the estate shall be filed in any public office. This thing of exposing the private pecuniary affairs of a man, after his death, is lacking in sound sense for its support.

A special meeting of the common council will be held to-morrow evening for the purpose of devising some plan or arrangement by which Water street (so called) and a portion of Squemoah street, may be improved. If property holders and others interested would attend this meeting, it seems to us some definite plan could be agreed upon.

Warranted deeds at THE ASTORIAN office.

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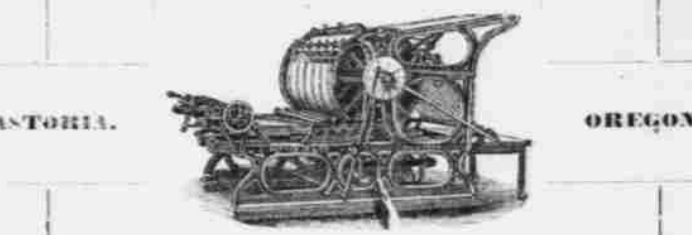
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