

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: SUNDAY, NOV. 13, 1881

J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

R. R. Report.

THE annual report of the O. R. & N. Co., just issued at Chicago shows that the company has, during the past year, completed 250 miles of standard gauge road, and before January 1, 1882, the president expects that 300 miles of new road will be completed and in active operation. There have been constructed 1464 feet of Howe truss and 11,268 feet of trestle. All questions of right of way have been settled at a comparatively small cost to the company and with scarcely any litigation. The right of way across the Umatilla Indian reservation on the Baker City line was amicably settled at the council by agreement on the part of the company to pay the Indians \$2.50 per acre for all wild lands, and \$2.75 per acre for cultivated land necessary for the roadway and depot grounds located within the reservation, the whole cost of which will be about \$43,000. When all deliveries shall have been made under the existing contracts, the railroad equipment of the company will consist of 51 locomotives, 18 passenger cars, 4 Pullman sleeping cars, 2 baggage cars, 2 combined baggage, mail and express cars, 600 covered freight cars, 500 flat cars, 100 stock cars and 40 hand cars. There were expended during the year the following sums:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. For railroad construction \$4,217,462.14, For other constructions 241,524.91, For railroad equipments 266,528.70, For other equipments 116,629.71.

The several lines operated by this company represent a total of 1591 miles. The business of the company for the year is as follows: Receipts from all sources \$8,500,020, Total disbursements \$8,014,250, Traffic (gross earnings) \$7,320,245, Operating expenses, and taxes 2,065,283, Showing net earnings of \$1,695,864.

Against 147,817 passengers and 379,840 tons of freight carried in 1879-1880, there were carried in 1880-1881, 167,787 passengers and 623,025 tons of freight, showing an increase of 19,970 passengers and 243,181 tons of freight. The report enlarges somewhat on the consolidation recently effected with the Northern Pacific railroad and transfer of controlling power over both corporations to a third corporation, the Oregon and Transcontinental company, having an authorized capital of \$50,000,000. Mr. Villard thinks that the proprietary interest of that company in the other companies, is the best guarantee to the latter that its power will be exercised to promote their legitimate development to the fullest extent.

Sensible.

THE level-headed Prof. Huxley, in a recent college address, says: "Quickness in learning, readiness and accuracy in reproducing what is learned, industry, endurance, these are the qualities, mixed in various proportions, which are found in boys who win prizes. Now there is not the smallest doubt that every one of these qualities is of great value in practical life. Upon whatever career you may enter, intellectual quickness, industry, and the power of bearing fatigue are three great advantages. But I want to impress upon you, and through you upon those who will direct your future course, the conviction which I entertain, that, as a rule, the relative importance of these three qualifications is not rightly estimated, and that there are other qualifications of no less value which are not directly tested by school competition. A somewhat varied experience of men has led me, the longer I live, to set the less value upon mere cleverness; to attach more and more importance to industry and to physical endurance.

"Indeed, I am much disposed to think that endurance is the most valuable quality of all; for industry, as the desire to work hard, does not come to much if a feeble frame is unable to respond to the

desire. Everybody who has had to make his way in the world must know that while the occasion for intellectual effort of a high order is rare, it constantly happens that a man's future turns upon his being able. To a lawyer, a physician, or a merchant, it may be everything to be able to work sixteen hours a day for as long as is needful without giving up. Moreover, the patience, tenacity and good humor which are among the most important qualifications for dealing with men, are incompatible with an irritable brain, a weak stomach, or a defective circulation.

"It any one of you prize-winners were a son of mine, and a good fairy were to offer to equip him according to my wishes for the practical life, I should say, 'I do not care to trouble you for any more cleverness; and oh, if you please, a broad, deep chest and a stomach of whose existence he shall never know anything.' I should be well content with the prospects of a fellow so endowed.

Nothing New.

WHAT is now said about the labor system in the Sandwich islands, might have been said with as much truth any time since that country has been under what is called a civilized government. It is not and never has been a free country; the natives have never had the right to go abroad and the contract system has always been enforced. There has always been complaint among the planters about the scarcity of workmen and the importation of Chinamen was going on before the treaty of reciprocity was proposed. The government of the United States looks upon such contracts as a species of slavery, as against public policy, and in negotiating the treaty, there should have been a clause declaring against them. As long as the humble Kanakas and the Chinamen were the only sufferers nothing was said about it, but now the same system is applied to white people who have been imported from Europe, and there will be another demonstration of the fact, often before proven, that the Caucasian will not long be held in bondage.

The usual newspaper comments on our public school system are being made. One point is this: too much is attempted to be taught. Boys and girls should learn what they are to use when men and women. Thousands go out of our schools yearly with their heads, crammed and their hands empty, when a few bright, clear ideas of the day and time are what they need for immediate use. Another point: The success of a teacher depends upon the interest he takes in his work, and that interest is in direct proportion to the knowledge that he himself possesses; hence a primary requisite is good teachers—and first-class teachers are just like all other first-class workmen; they should have first-class salaries.

'Tis singular to note the phases in the agricultural prosperity of various portions of the earth, and how, in turn, what injures one section benefits another, and vice versa. During our civil war fortunes were made by growing cotton in the Sea islands and in India. Costly machinery was ordered, vast outlays incurred, only to bring ruin on the proprietors at the return of peace to our country in 1865. And now the Russian wheat exporters are being ruined by the great shipments of wheat from the United States, and the piles of wheat along the lines in the interior form to the farmers a sad contrast to the times when Odessa was the grain port for Europe.

The Republicans will have control of the next House of Representatives by a majority of four. In the Senate 'tis a question as to who will have the ascendancy, though the administration party seem to have the most points in their favor.

THE Workingmen's Party of California has closed up its affairs and gone out of business. The funds remaining were divided among the members of the state committee. The party is the most remarkable that ever carried an election in California. For a brief time it seemed as if it would gain complete control; the sympathies and the votes of all classes of people went with it, and had the men it put into the more important places had more capacity and a higher sense of their duties, the organization might have been in power to-day. Its influence upon the affairs of state will long be felt, and none can deny that many real abuses have been brought to light and corrected through its instrumentality. There was much nonsense in its demands, but there was also a great deal of practical reform in the ideas advanced and acted upon by some of the leading spirits in the organization.

THE Oregonian thinks that the fact ought to be generally known that the river appropriation of last year was virtually squandered by bad judgment in engineering. The sum of \$68,000 employed under direction of Col. Gillespie in dyking the sloughs at the mouth of the Willamette might as well have been sunk in the sea.

NEW TO-DAY.

Wanted. A PERSON TO MANAGE A SALMON Cannery in British Columbia. Services required at once. Application to be made by letter, enclosing references, to: Address: TURNER BROTHERS & Co., Victoria.

A CARD.

ASTORIA, Nov. 12th, 1881. EDITOR DAILY ASTORIAN: Is it one of the mortal sins to criticize the conduct of members of the police force of this city, to doubt their efficiency, to question their honesty, or to hint that their chastity is not like that of Caesar's wife, above suspicion? One would think so, from the conduct of members of that force, since the communication which appeared in THE DAILY ASTORIAN of Sunday, October 30th, 1881, signed by "Citizen." It seems to me as if they would like to have the lines of Burns transposed a little, to still their notions of their merit and importance. In a fit, probably of penitence, Burns once wrote,

"Then gently scan your brother man, More gently sister woman."

In a fit of egotism, and with a proper spirit of deference to their own conception of their power, in this community, they with one exception, would have the lines read as follows:

"Then gently scan your brother man, More gently a policeman."

Now, Mr. Editor, I would like to ask a few questions in addition to those asked by "Citizen." Do the tax payers of this city wish to pay men for services as policemen, while they themselves are violating the laws? Are they appointed to keep and preserve the peace of the city, or to break it? Should they be paid for the persons and property of citizens, or should they cry "havoc" and let slip the dogs of war, because a citizen tries to protect himself against their insults and abuse by having them tried in the police court? Is it one of their duties to conceal violations of law when committed by a policeman, or to threaten a citizen, because he refuses to consent to dismiss a criminal action brought against a policeman? Do we need men who try to run elections to make their stay in office perpetual, or men who go right along trying to do their duty? Do we want men who violate the laws of those who keep it? Have citizens any rights, that policemen are bound to respect? Does the city council think that it has any authority over the police force? If it has will it exercise it? If it is not positive, will it examine the charter? Is not five dollars an excellent line to place upon a policeman, for violating a city ordinance? What kind of police force have we, any how? Yours respectfully, R. E. MADRON.

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