

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: TUESDAY, DEC. 27, 1881. J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

Here Too.

In an article on the improvement of the Mississippi river the St. Louis Globe-Democrat uses several arguments that have almost as potent an application to our case in the Northwest as to the people of that valley.

"This being understood, it would be wise to examine and review the reports of the Mississippi River Commission. If the suggestions of that body are decided to be the best attainable, with a view to permanency and effectiveness, then they should be adopted.

The chief enemy to the proper treatment of our grand river system is the pressure brought to bear on individual Congressmen to get local appropriations. It has embarrassed the prosecution of useful and necessary work, and thrown such a discredit on the river and harbor bills, that there is a natural desire to separate the Mississippi scheme from them.

"If Congress decides to spend large amounts of money right away, well and good. Then the amount of early work may be extended; but the principle to be adhered to always is to put whatever money is appropriated where it will do the most good to the greatest number, be the amount great or small.

our system of water-courses can be accomplished."

The last paragraph of the article quoted is particularly applicable in the matter of the proper improvement of the Columbia.

A Dental.

A WASHINGTON dispatch of the 24th says: "Congressman Curtin and several of his Democratic colleagues from Pennsylvania, including ex-Speaker Randall, express considerable vexation at the reports which have gained currency and which have been specially brought to their attention by a recent caustic editorial in the San Francisco Bulletin concerning the alleged purpose of Curtin and his friends to take revenge upon southern claimants of seats in congress for the opposition of southern Democrats to Curtin's admission in last congress.

THE Alta has a grand plan for solving the Irish question. It is to "weed the Irish out" if they refuse to pay rent, and let their places be supplied by Scotch and English.

REPORTS from the various Central and Southern Pacific railway stations in California and Nevada of the amount of rainfall for the twelve months ending June 30th, 1881, show various degrees of humidity, from a rainfall for the year at Cisco in the Sierra Nevada of 82.71 inches to .88 of an inch in the arid desert of the Colorado in San Diego county.

THE drift of Congressional opinion seems to be that Alaska is a little premature in asking for a territorial form of government, and, for the present at least, must be contented with annexation for governmental purposes to Washington.

It is estimated that there are 1,200,000 survivors of the Union army. There were 268,000 pensioners on the rolls last July, and if the present law is not repealed, it is thought that Uncle Sam will have 180,000 more to care for by next July.

BEECHER'S opinion of the Guiteau matter is, "he who is sane enough to organize the elements of a crime, and accomplish it, is sane enough to be hanged."

TALMAGE thinks that the curse of this country is geniuses; the men who think themselves Lord Byrons because they have his vices.

FEARING absorption by Mexico, Guatemala has asked the protection of the United States which will, probably be given.

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1882.

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