

# The Daily Astorian.

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## WHY THE DE LONG EXPEDITION FAILED.

The Carson, Nev., *Appeal* of the 17th says: Senator Jones, who is in Carson, gives an account of DeLong's Arctic expedition, which he got from Capt. Newbaum, in San Francisco. Newbaum is a Russian, who has been for many years in the service of the Alaska Fur company. He was the last man from whom the DeLong party received provisions. He says: "DeLong left my station, almost at the northern point of Alaska, and I furnished him, at the order of the Alaska Fur company, with sledges, dogs and provisions. He took 27 dogs and one Indian. I account for the loss of the party on the theory that they killed the dogs. I do not believe that DeLong knew anything about the undertaking that he was grappling with, and was ignorant of the means by which a trip could be made in that region. I see by his diary that there was but one dog left a few days prior to his death. He must have killed the dogs without knowing their tremendous value, and when the dogs are gone there is absolutely no hope left. The dogs could not have died or been lost—they were killed. The scent of these animals is remarkable, and they will detect provisions, no matter wherever they may be. When men in these regions kill Polar bears, and have more meat than they can keep, they cache the meat, and it sometimes lies hidden in the ice for years, until discovered by dogs. The ice is full of these places. If you meet an Indian in that region and kill his dog he lies down and dies, considering that the better part of him is gone. Another great oversight was the neglect to take the right kind of guns. I offered DeLong a fowling piece made expressly to use in the Arctic seas and calculated to stand the climate. He refused it because he said he wanted a gun that would kill bears. I explained that he needed guns for birds and not for bears, but he would not listen to me and took Remington rifles, the weight of which hampered him and were of no use. He must have seen fowling pieces over his head all the time and yet could not kill them. The diary says, the Indian, after drawing the sledge all day, would go out at night and get birds and he kept the party alive for two weeks. Anywhere you cut a hole through the ice and flash a light down the fish will swarm, but they had no fishing tackle. All their chances were thrown away through ignorance. I am not saying a word against DeLong. I liked him personally, but he was not the man to command an Arctic expedition. The North Pole, in my opinion, can be reached only by following up the warm current that flows to the pole, and beyond there is an open sea. Put men in such an expedition who have been raised in the northern part of Alaska and who know all about the region, and there is a strong chance of success."

"Cookroach Tea."  
A Philadelphia medical journal has received a communication from a Louisiana physician, asking if there is any virtue in tea made from fat female cockroaches, brandy and sugar. The following formula of a preparation used by old women nurses in the south was also furnished: "One dozen fat female cockroaches, put into a pint of boiling water (after being bruised); let stand a couple of hours, then strain well; add two tablespoonfuls of brandy and 3j of crushed sugar; stir till thoroughly dissolved. Two tablespoonfuls every hour."

The professor of materia medica in Jefferson college said last night that he presumed cockroaches were not entirely unknown in the medical practice in this city, and "cockroach tea" may be used with good effect in some cases, although, owing to the public prejudice against the insect, it would not be

a popular medicine. The use of the cockroach as a diuretic in some cases is almost universal in Russia, and is very general now in European medical practice as a cure for Bright's disease. To what extent it may be used in Philadelphia is not known. Physicians would not care to have it known that they prescribe so detested an insect in their practice, and few druggists will acknowledge that they keep it in stock. Its medicinal properties are in many respects the same as those of cantharides, and when prescribed are in the shape of pills, made with the powder of the dried insect, or the "cockroach tea" of the southern "grannies." A *Record* reporter who visited several of the leading drug stores in the city yesterday and asked whether powdered cockroaches were kept in their stock, was told that they did not sell it, but that a prescription containing the active principle, batten, can be easily prepared by drying half-a-dozen of the animals and powdering them, so as to make a pill, and a solution can be occasionally prepared by soaking fat female cockroaches in whisky. The professor of materia medica in Jefferson college says that the cockroach is no more offensive than the cantharides, which are of the same class of animals, and their smell is, if anything, less disgusting than the much used Spanish fly. Several physicians who were interviewed yesterday on the subject said that in their opinion it was only a matter of time when cockroaches, or the active principle, will be in as common use in this country as they are in Russia or central Europe.—*Philadelphia Record*.

A Miserable Town on the Mississippi.  
Arkansas is not unlike the rest of the wretched little towns along the lower river. First, there is a high levee about thirty feet up, to reach which you have to climb up a slippery pine board incline, where a footing can be only obtained by carefully picking one's way up line of cleats nailed and worn. There is a long warehouse at the top. This is well built and clean. That is because it is owned by the steamboat interests. The town is made up of one street, flanked by small, cheap, dirty-looking houses. A tall, broad-shouldered citizen, dead drunk, lay flat on his face in the middle of the street. Numerous mules, wearing high-horned Mexican saddles, were hitched up and down the street, generally in front of some saloon. No horses were seen. The mules were poor and ungroomed, with their tails so thickly studded with burrs that nothing but amputation of the former would ever get rid of the latter. There were perhaps thirty or forty men in the street—corn-craekers and negroes. I walked through the street, and from one end of the town to the other there was not to be seen the first trace of anything indicating one symptom of modern civilization. There was not a flower on the entire street. Not a house was painted. The fences were falling down; everywhere there was such a spirit of decay quite in keeping with the morose, sneaking, lounging groups that hung about the saloons. Back of the town was a flat, God-forsaken country, cut up by muddy, red clay roads. No one would imagine from the poverty-stricken look of the village and the wretched attire of the slack-jointed victims of melancholia ranged along the street, that the country round about is one of the richest in the natural advantages of any place in the world. Here, upon the banks of the river, just beyond the village many thousands of bales of cotton are lying. At a short distance above the village is a huge mill for the reduction of cotton seed into oil. From the superintendent of this mill I learned that cotton seed produces enough oil to pay the entire expenses of the cotton crop, leaving the cotton clear profit. In this rich bottom it is possible for a planter

to clear \$40 from every acre he plants. With this enormous profit possible, there is nowhere the slightest sign of wealth or even ordinary comfort.  
The amount of construction work on the Northern Pacific railroad for the year 1882 is stated by Vice President Oakes as follows: Three hundred and twenty miles furnished in Yellowstone valley, 25 on the Wisconsin division and 125 up the valley of Clark's fork of the Columbia, in Idaho and Montana, making in all 470 miles. In addition there has been 200 miles graded. The gap between the two ends of the track in Montana is now 280 miles, nearly all being in the old settled portion of the territory, between Bozeman and Missoula, where the gold mines attracted considerable population as early as 1862. The present end of the track of the road building west is Livingston, a new town at the head of the Yellowstone valley. The total mileage of the finished main line now operated by the company is 1546 miles. So far advanced is the work of the uncompleted section that the opening of the entire line to the Pacific coast is regarded as certain to take place next summer.



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## SYMPTOMS OF WORMS.

The countenance is pale and leaden-colored, with occasional flashes of a circumscribed spot on one or both cheeks; the eyes become dull; the pupils dilate; an azure semicircle runs along the lower eyelid; the nose is irritated, swells, and sometimes bleeds; the upper lip; occasional headache, with humming or throbbing of the ears; an unusual secretion of blood; belly swollen and hard; breath very foul, particularly in the morning; appetite variable, sometimes voracious, with a gnawing sensation of the stomach; at others, entirely gone; floating pains in the stomach; occasional nausea and vomiting; violent pains throughout the abdomen; bowels irregular, at times costive; stools slimy, not unfrequently tinged with blood; hilly swollen and hard; urine turbid; respiration occasionally difficult and accompanied by hicough; cough sometimes dry and convulsive; uneasy and disturbed sleep, with grinding of the teeth; temper variable, but generally irritable. Whenever the above symptoms are found to exist.

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