The Daily Astorian.

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EASTERN CRITICISM.

Like all new countries, Oregon has suffered from the extremes of praise and censure. The self-satisfied old inhabitant, whom an isolation and rich farm-lands has made indifferent to the rush of the outside world and independent of its greedy exactions, the climate, soil, all the conditions of his beloved country, are as such to make Paradise a secondary consideration. To him the rain of the Oregon winter possesses the miraculous property of warming and even drying all substances with which it is brought into contact, and the drought of the Oregon summer, by some equally remarkable process, keeps all vegetation supplied with moisture. On the other hand, to the impecunious immigrant, weary after weeks of searching for some impossible country where wealth without sagacity or labor is the common lot, the first little drizzle that lays the autum dust seems a month of sunless storm, and the bracing northeaster of summer is like the sirocco of the desert. To the former, bound to be suited with everything, the wildest, windiest, sandiest plains of the interior are "the finest stock range in the world, sir!" and the most forbidding jungles of the coast region are the best timber lands on the continent. To the latter, bound to be suited with nothing, the vast rolling plains, where grass and flowers fight for superiority, are fit only for the sage brush, jack-rabbits, coyotes and rattlesnakes, and the forest trees, 200 feet high, and forty to fifty to each acre, are simply obstacles to the plow.

The unsanitary condition of certain towns in the United States has drawn attention to the fact that wooden houses, and especially wooden foundations, are liable, after a certain time, to cause malarious symptoms. So many malarious attacks have been experienced of late years in San Francisco, that the medical men begin to suspect the buildings, especially as the structures themselves, which are nearly all built of wooden foundations, begin to show disturbances, cracks appearing in the walls and the floors settling. Scientific investigation into the cause of these troubles points to the fact that the wood used in the foundations becomes decayed by contact with the soil, which destroys its fibre and leaves it porous and brittle. The next stage in the progress is the formation of a fungous growth from the edge of the wood, composed of infinitesimal insect life, which burrows the remaining wood until its vitality is gone, and the insect itself dies. Physicians attribute many of the unpleasant smells and bad health that hang about the inhabitants of these dwellings to this malarial condition, which to a great extent disappears as soon as proper foundations are substituted for the wooden ones.—*Exchange.*

It has been discovered that beavers are at work constructing a dam over Feather river at Oroville, near the Cape claim, just above the large bridge. The industrious little builders have already cut down a good-sized cotton tree, to be used in their work. As beaver dams are never carried away by floods, it may be possible that the one building over Feather river will hold back some of the debris that is washed down from the mines, much better than any dams that have yet been put up by scientific builders.—*Chico, Cal., Record.*

Lewis G. Folger, Esq., 25, Elizabeth street, Cincinnati, says he was cured by St. Jacobs Oil of a very severe attack of neuralgia in twenty minutes.

River and Harbor Bill.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 7.—A Washington special says: Representative Page, in answer to a direct inquiry whether the house commerce committee would in the face of the report of Secretary Lincoln, undertake to put through a river and harbor bill this year, said they most assuredly would: that the committee intend to frame a reply to the secretary's report, which would show that he had made some very wild statements. He said that among the list of harbors the secretary said would not be benefitted by the expenditure of money appropriated, was Plymouth harbor, Mass., and yet the president had sent to congress a special recommendation for this appropriation. He said it would be news to the Pacific coast that the Sacramento river is not a navigable stream, yet its waters carried ocean vessels for hundreds of miles and had a large commerce. Page said that the bill would be drawn and passed making appropriations for all rivers and harbors where it appeared that appropriations heretofore made would be exhausted by next July, notwithstanding the president's recommendation.

An Ingenious Miner.

A man who was appointed watchman at a mine on the Comstock had no watch. He did not wish to buy one, yet was desirous of knowing how the time was passing. He borrowed the watch of a friend for one night. On returning the watch the next day he told his friend that he was all right now, that he had a time keeper of his own. He then unrolled a strip of paper, some four inches in width, from a stick, and exhibited it as his clock. On the strip of paper he had marked down, as they appeared above the horizon, all the stars and constellations within a narrow belt. Opposite each star was the time of its making its appearance—hour and minute. The watchman says his watch is a fine time-keeper: He has recently improved it somewhat. The slip of paper now runs on two small rollers that are placed in a small box that has a sliding lid of glass. As the night wears away and the stars pass over, he now turns the crank of his watch and looks at the time marked by the side of each. To wind up his watch he runs the tape back upon the initial roller.—*Virginia City (Nev.) Enterprise.*

Transferred.

We are informed says the *Chronicle*, that A. M. Cannon has sold half of his saw and planing mill to parties in Oregon for $15,000. The sale does not include stock on hand, which is over 2,000,000 feet of cut logs and lumber, which at present prices would amount to $30,000. At the above figures this would make the mill property and stock on hand worth about $60,000. We mention this to show our readers that mill property and water power is worth something in Spokane Falls.

Rev. E. R. Geary, James H. Fisk and Col. J. McCrocken, the commissioners appointed to examine and report to the government the condition of the extension of the O. & C. R. R., have formally accepted the 45 miles just completed south from Roseburg. Messrs. Geary and Fisk are two of the original board appointed by President Grant ten years ago. Col. McCracken was lately appointed to fill a vacancy in the board caused by the death of Thomas Savier. Six years have elapsed since the services of the board were last called into requisition. The 45 miles accepted just reaches from Roseburg to the west fork of Cow creek, and is said to be one of the best sections on the line, the grade being easy and the road laid with steel rails and ballasted throughout.

The Columbia river was first called the Oregon, from the mention of the name by Carver. In 1792, Gray called it the Columbia. Capt. Clarke says that in 1805, the Indians called it the Shocatileum, and another tribe called it Chockalilum, both being the same name differently pronounced.

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MOTHERS, READ.

GENTS:—About nine years ago I had a child two years old and almost dead. The doctor I had attending her could not tell what ailed her. I asked him if he did not think it was worms. He said no. However, this did not satisfy me, as I felt convinced in my own mind that she had. I obtained a bottle of DR. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED VERMIFUGE, genuine. I gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was cured. Since then I have never been without it in my family. The health of my children remained so good that I had ceased watching their actions until about three weeks ago, when two of them presented the same sickly appearance that Eliza did nine years ago. So I thought it must be worms, and went to work at once with a bottle of DR. C. McLANE'S VERMIFUGE between four of my children, their ages being as follows: Allie, 8 years; Charley, 6 years; Emma, 6 years; Johnny, 4 years. Now comes the result: Allie and Emma came out all right, but Charley passed forty-five and Johnny about sixty worms. The result was so gratifying that I spent two days in showing the wonderful effects of your Vermifuge around. I [illegible] have the worms on exhibition [illegible]. Yours truly, [illegible]

The genuine DR. C. McLANE'S VERMIFUGE is manufactured only by

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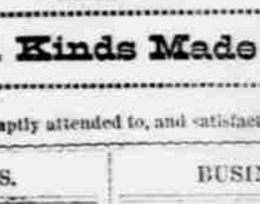

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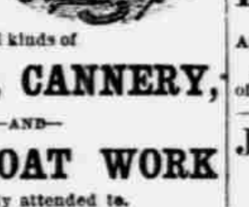

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