

# The Daily Astorian.

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## RAILROAD EXPERIMENTS IN POPULATION.

The Central and Southern Pacific railroads were constructed chiefly by Chinese labor. There was no controversy about this plan of construction. The railroad companies wanted to push the construction of the roads rapidly. There was not a laboring force in this part of the country which was available to do the work. At least, that was the view which these companies took of the situation. No attempt was made to import laborers such as Portuguese, Scandinavians and others. There was a surplus of Chinese laborers in the country. Something like a thousand were landed on every incoming steamer from China. This army of Chinese laborers camped along the line of the railroads. They were cheap laborers in one season and dear in another. Few of these received more than a dollar a day, out of which sum they lived and laid up money. But in all these great armies, numbering first and last on the two roads probably not less than 20,000 persons, not one of them ever settled down on the line of the road as an agriculturist, or created a homestead for himself. He did not want a homestead, nor anything else but the silver dollar every day for his labor. In this respect he was a cheap man; in the other he was not. He created no business for the railroad, he opened no farms, made no improvements, built no towns or villages, but left the great thoroughfare to the desolation of the wilderness as soon as his work was done and he had received his pay. The result has been that there have been great spaces of waste country along the line of these roads. Some of it was not fit for immediate settlement; much of it was. If Scandinavian immigrants had built these roads, their labor would have been as cheap at the outset as that of the Chinese, or nearly so, and the greater part of these would have been converted into settlers, using the very money which they had received from the railroad companies to create business for them at a future day.

That these propositions are substantially true we have only to take account of the latter experiment of the Northern Pacific Railroad company, who tried the experiment of Chinese labor on the western, or Pacific end of that road, and tried the experiment of white labor on the other end. That company found that the Chinese laborer was not a cheap man at the outset as compared with Portuguese and Scandinavians. The Chinese were like the locusts. They left the country desolate where they had been. Of course, they made no permanent homes, secured no homesteads and opened no farms. The Northern Pacific Railroad company, having large tracts of land to sell, invited white immigration; they offered employment along the line of the road; they offered cheap and productive lands to every white laborer who was inclined to secure a farm. The result was that the white immigrants were inspired to do their best. They worked, says one observer, like Trojans. They made extensive settlements. The result is that a chain of settlements is extending along the great stretch of the Northern Pacific on all the good land. These settlements are creating business for the road, and they are giving an additional value to the unsettled lands.

It is a fair inference that this latest railroad experiment is by far the best. The Chinese laborer was available for a time when

there was a pinch in the labor market. But experiments have shown that he is not the most available laborer in the construction of railroads in the long run. This is not a new discovery. It is the old theory confirmed by fresh evidence. His creative power is only temporary. He stops short of creating the homestead, the farm and the town. His value ceases just where the greater value of the white immigrant begins. The latter creates a chain of farms and homesteads along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The Chinese left the line of railroad which they had assisted to create, to solitude and desolation. It was only at a later day that white immigrants distributed themselves slowly along the lines, where if an earlier initiative had been taken it is probable that for every ten settlers now on the ground there would have been one hundred if a different policy had prevailed. In the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad there was the pressing necessity of haste. The cheapest laborers who would go about the work were employed, and these no doubt met in a satisfactory way that particular emergency. But at a later day there was no difficulty in distributing something like twenty thousand white laborers along the line of the Northern Pacific, and in demonstrating by a direct experiment that they were the cheapest and in all respects the most satisfactory laborers.—Bulletin.

**Short Bits.**  
Cassius M. Clay, whose home has been in Kentucky for a long life, claim that forests not only retain water, but directly affect rainfall. In early times the loss of a crop of corn from drought in Kentucky was unusual; now it is frequent.

Germany is burying its telegraph wires, and has already completed an elaborate system of subterranean cables from Konigsburg to Strasburg and from Linden to Breslau, connecting 250 German towns. The system cost 10,000,000, and is working admirably.

Five per cent. profit on the money invested satisfies the owner of a Belgian woolen mill. He pays only a third of one per cent. taxes and gets his coal delivered at the mill for \$2.30 a ton. The highest wages paid are \$12 to some of the overseers. The averages for seventy hours' labor a week is only \$4 to \$5.

About four thousand boats and twenty-five thousand fishermen are engaged in the sardine industry on the French coast. There are about two hundred factories, in which fifteen thousand to seventeen thousand women are employed. A good catch for a boat would be twenty-five thousand fish a day, for which they get about thirty-five francs a thousand.

At the ropewalk in Bath, Me., the spinners wind huge skeins of manilla hemp around them, catch a thread or two of it upon the hook, and as the spindle whirls walk slowly backward down the length, spinning as they go, and leaving before them a long twisted strand. Every twenty minutes they disappear from sight, and are seen as far as the eye can reach coming into view down the dimly-lighted walk, nearly a mile away. Thirty or more trips a day make a wand, and every wand is a half mile, and every day each spinner walks fifteen miles and spins seven miles of strands.

The youthful color, beauty and lustre are gradually restored to gray hair by Parker's Hair Balm.

Fair, of Nevada, says a Washington correspondent, is the richest senator; Harris, of Tennessee, is the poorest; Sherman, of Ohio, is the leanest; David Davis, of Illinois, the fattest; Butler, of South Carolina, the handsomest; McDill, of Iowa, the ugliest; Mahone, of Virginia, the most heterodox, and McMillan, of Minnesota; the most orthodox. Senator Ingalls, of Kansas, is the best debater, and Don Cameron, of Pennsylvania, the poorest; Van Wyck, of Nebraska, the wittiest, and Mitchell, of Pennsylvania the dullest; Bayard the most scholarly, and Plumb the least so; Morgan, of Alabama, talks the most, and Johnson, of Virginia, the least; Saulsbury, of Delaware, is the tallest, and Sawyer the shortest; Edmunds is the best lawyer; Davis, of West Virginia, the best business man; Logan the most noted general, and Frye, of Maine, the most eloquent orator.

In Bloomington, Ill., there are thirty-two saloons, and a population of nearly 20,000. The fee is \$50 a month, or \$600 a year, and this brings into the city \$19,200 a year, or nearly one-third the whole revenue. The saloons are said to be orderly, and generally in the hands of substantial men.



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Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 105 Wall-st., N. Y.



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Also in connection with the Parlor  
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**THE GREAT GERMAN REMEDY FOR RHEUMATISM,**  
Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Backache, Soreness of the Chest, Gout, Quinsy, Sore Throat, Swellings and Sprains, Burns and Scalds, General Bodily Pains, Tooth, Ear and Headache, Frosted Feet and Ears, and all other Pains and Aches.

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Pain in the right side, under edge of ribs, increasing on pressure; sometimes the pain is on the left side; the patient is rarely able to lie on the left side; sometimes the pain is felt under the shoulder and is sometimes taken for Rheumatism in the arm. The stomach is affected with loss of appetite and sickness; the bowels in general are constive, sometimes alternating with laxity; the head is troubled with pain, accompanied with a dull, heavy sensation in the back part. There is generally a considerable loss of memory, accompanied with a painful sensation of having left undone something which ought to have been done. A slight, dry cough is sometimes attendant. The patient complains of weariness and debility; he is easily startled; his feet are cold or burning, and he complains of a prickly sensation of the skin; his spirits are low, and although he is satisfied that exercise would be beneficial to him, yet he can scarcely summon up fortitude enough to try it.

If you have any of the above symptoms you can certainly be cured by the use of the genuine **DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS.**

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