

The Daily Astorian.

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RAILROAD RUMORS

A San Francisco dispatch of the 28th says the large number of prominent railroad officials from the east who have been visiting the coast recently, are responsible for considerable gossip in connection with the contemplated changes in the railroad system of the state. No pretense was made to create the impression that their visit was merely for the purpose of recreation, and during conversation last night with gentlemen connected with eastern railroads running through New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois, the subject of Villard's proposed visit was broached. Considerable importance was attached to his presence in the west, as he is conceded to be a man who is thoroughly wrapped up with his business, and whose task is not such as to induce him to leave his active scene of operations for a mere pleasure trip. It was stated in this connection, that the changes recently made by the promotion of John Muir and the appointment of a thoroughly competent railroad man to the vacancy thereby caused would obviate any necessity for Villard's present trip, unless the following gossip was true in its main points. From personal observations made by one of these men he was satisfied that the purchase of the Southern Pacific coast road would be perfected, and that it would rapidly be followed by further improvements, and probably by the extension from its present terminus of Santa Cruz. It also was represented that Villard owns the controlling interest in the railroad commencing at Port Harford, in southern California, and running through San Luis Obispo with a prospective terminus at Santa Barbara. Certain remarks that he had made recently in the east were interpreted so as to apply to the possible extension of the South Pacific Coast railroad, in the event of its purchase by him or the syndicate in which he is the moving spirit, to Port Harford, making a junction at San Luis Obispo, and thus reach the extreme southern portion of the state.

To accomplish this object considerable tunneling would have to be done, especially along the line of the coast. It was strongly intimated that should the purchase be carried out an endeavor would be made to so work the latest Villard acquisition as to make it subsidiary to the O. R. & N. company and the Northern Pacific system, so as to insure carrying trade at least from Southern California to the northwest generally, and that but little doubt existed but that the combination would ultimately be made as against the Southern Pacific. On the other hand it was not improbable that an aggressive move would be made so as to offset the advantages of the extension of the Central Pacific to Oregon, via Redding, by either the purchase or lease of the Northern Pacific Coast railroad. It is a well known fact that the latter road, which is owned almost exclusively by English capital, has been previously offered to Villard, and that for some reason or another the sale fell through shortly before making out the final paper. In view of the vast interests at stake, in the event of the gossip being well advised, it is impossible to obtain their confirmation or positive denial from those who are in a position to know the minutest details.

A well known local capitalist, who is in a position to know much of the inner workings of the corporation, stated that the original idea was to extend the road to Ukiah, and gradually work up the coast to Eureka, in Humboldt county and finally from the most available point extend it to Oregon, but that he was unable to state if that arrangement had been entered into with Villard or not.

Not an experiment or cheap patent medicine is Brown's Iron Bitters. It is prepared by one of the oldest and most reliable chemical firms, and will do all that is claimed for it.

The First of the Argonauts.

As the winter of '48 waned, the companies, one after another, set sail for the land of gold. The Sunday preceding they listened to farewell sermons at the church. I recollect seeing a score of young Argonauts thus preached to. They were admonished from the pulpit to behave temperately, virtuously and piously. How seriously they listened. How soberly were their narrow-brimmed, straight-up-and-down little plug hats of that period piled one on top of the other in front of them. How glistened their hair with the village barber's hair oil. How pronounced the creak of their tight boots as they marched up the aisle. How brilliant the hue of their neckties. How patiently and resignedly they listened to the sad discourse of the minister, knowing it would be the last they would hear for many months. How eager the glances they cast up to the church choir, where sat the girls they were to marry on their return. How few returned. How few married the girls of that period's choice. How little weighed the word of the minister, a year afterward, in the hurry-scurry of San Francisco life of '49 and '50.

What an innocent, unsophisticated, inexperienced lot were those forty odd young Argonauts who sat in those pews. Not one of them then could bake his own bread, turn a flapjack, reseat his trousers or wash his shirt. Not one of them had dug even a post hole. All had a vague sort of impression that California was a treasure shell of a country, and that they would see each other frequently and eventually return home at or about the same time. How little they realized that one was to go to the north and the other to the south, and that the one to remain in San Francisco, and the three never to meet again! What glittering gold mines existed in their brains, even during the preaching of that sermon. Holes where the gold was thrown out by the shovelful, from which an occasional boulder or pebble was picked out and flung away.

The young Argonaut—church being dismissed—took his little staff, shiny plug and went home to the last Sunday's ten. And that Sunday night, on seeing her home from church, for the last time, he was allowed to sit up with her as long as he pleased. The light glimmered long from the old homestead front window. The cold north wind without roared among the leafless sycamores, and clashed the branches together. It was a sad, sad picture. The old sofa they sat upon would be sat upon by them no more for years. For years? Forever in many cases. To-day, old and gray, gaunt and bent, somewhere in the gulches, "up north," somewhere hidden away in an obscure mining camp of the Tuolumne, Stanislaus or Mokelumne, or up in the Cariboo, or down in Arizona, still he recollects that night as a dream. And she? Oh she dried her eyes and married the stay-at-home five years after. A girl can't wait forever. And, besides, bad reports, after a time, reached home about him. He drank. He gambled. He found fair friends among the seniors, and, worse than all, he made no fortune.—*Prentice Mulford in S. F. Chronicle.*

What People Eat

The editor of the *Christian Statesman*, published in Milwaukee, says he was lately informed by a railroad official that he transported over his road at one time four tons of cockle seeds, to be ground up and mixed with black pepper. A confectioner of that city recently received a letter with a handsomely lithographed head, from a New York firm of "importers, manufacturers and exporters," whose business was "established in 1820." The letter says: "Inclosed please find sample of refined French terra alba, which we offer at seven-eighths cents per pound. Barrels included. Packed in


handsome new barrels all branded 'California Beet Sugar.' Freight to Chicago \$3 70 per 100 pounds. Shipped as sugar." Terra alba is merely a finely powdered white earth. This earth is largely mixed with the cheap candies. Some of the baking powders are made of this earth and ammonia. There are mills in which nothing is ground but terra alba. Gypsum is also largely used. Ship-loads of this article are sent to China to be used in making green tea. Another letter, also from an enterprising New York firm, says: "If you use terra alba, we can sell you goods like the enclosed sample at one and a half cents per pound. It is put up in sugar barrels, and each barrel is stenciled 'Imported Potato Starch,' and shipped as such." A firm of Philadelphia druggists show quite equal enterprise. They offer through their agent 100 pounds of an article they call 'California Powdered Sugar' for 90 cents, for which they have a large trade among confectioners. This is sweetness dirt cheap. It is no wonder our people are afflicted with dyspepsia and debility, and that children die young. Until laws against the adulteration of food are enacted and energetically enforced, we shall have to eat not only the proverbial "peck of dirt" but no end of nastiness, and there is no telling what poisons.

If the immigration from Kansas continues its unprecedented flow this way, somebody will want to call this territory New Kansas. But it is a little singular that a state which came into the union with such extensive advertising and at such cost to the government and to its original settlers as Kansas, should be the first western state from which emigration has already begun to flow in such proportions as to be termed a hegira. Kansas is already doing more than any other state to populate Washington Territory.



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BAKING
POWDER
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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CELEBRATED
STOMACH
BITTERS

Invalids who are recovering vital stamina, declare in grateful terms their appreciation of the merits as a tonic, of Hostetter's Bitters. Not only does it impart strength to the weak, but it also corrects an irregular acid state of the stomach, makes the bowels act at proper intervals, gives ease to those who suffer from rheumatic and kidney troubles, and conquers as well as prevents fever and ague.

For sale by all Druggists and Dealers generally.
ASTORIA
Brewery Beer Saloon.
The Best Beer 5 cts a Glass.
Hot Lunch every Day from 10 to 12 A. M.
The best of Liquors and Cigars on hand. A deservedly popular place of social resort.
GEO. HILLER.



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THE GREAT
GERMAN REMEDY.

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.

No Preparation on earth equals Dr. Jacobs Oil as a safe, sure, simple and cheap External Remedy. A trial entails but the comparatively trifling outlay of 50 Cents, and every one suffering with pain can have cheap and positive proof of its claims.

Directions in Eleven Languages.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS IN MEDICINE.
A. VOGELER & CO.,
Baltimore, Md., U. S. A.

The general superintendent of the life-saving service has instructed the keepers of stations to preserve all strange specimens of fish and marine curiosities which may be washed ashore, and notify Professor Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution, so that the specimens may be forwarded to Washington if deemed of sufficient value for scientific purposes.

The O. R. & N. Co. have notified Idaho and Eastern Oregon shippers that the Baker City branch will be opened for traffic next week to Cayuse station, 12 miles beyond Pendleton. This is one step near Idaho and will save the wagon haul over the worst part of the stage road. It is expected that the line within a month will be opened for traffic to Meacham's near the summit of the Blue mountains.

A LETTER FROM GERMANY.

Very esteemed sirs:
The praise your Liver Pills have called forth here is wonderful. After taking one and a half boxes of your genuine DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, I have entirely recovered from my four years' suffering. All who know me wonder how I, who, for so many years, had no appetite, and could not sleep for backache, slitch in my side, and general stomach complaints, could have recovered.


An old lady in our city, who has suffered for many years from kidney disease, and the doctors had given her up, took two of your Pills, and got more relief than she has from all the doctors. Yours truly,
J. VON DER BERG.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
The genuine are never sugar-coated. Every box has a red wax seal on the lid, with the impression: McLANE'S Liver Pills.

The genuine McLANE'S LIVER PILLS bear the signature of C. McLANE and Fleming Bros. on the wrappers. Insist upon having the genuine DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, prepared by Fleming Bros., of Pittsburgh, Pa. The mark being a bird in flight, and the name McLANE, spelled differently, but of same pronunciation.

If your stockkeeper does not have the genuine DR. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, send us 25 cents, and we will send you a box by mail, and a set of our advertising cards.

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AND
Pharmacist,
ASTORIA,
OREGON.

Prescriptions carefully compounded Day or Night.

Improvement of Chehalis River, W. T.
U. S. ENGINEER'S OFFICE.
PORTLAND, Oregon, March 24th 1883.
PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL 11 A. M., April 20th, 1883, for removing drift and bars from the channel of the Chehalis River, W. T.
Specifications, required forms of bids and necessary information will be furnished on application.
CHAS. F. POWELL,
Captain of Engineers.

A. M. JOHNSON & Co.,

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Ship Chandlery and Groceries
CROCKERY & GLASS WARE.
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PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS.
Goods and Tools,
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Stoves, Tin Ware and House
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Sutton's Genuine Cape Ann Oiled Clothing.
Double Long Coats, Half Peas, Double suits.
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GENUINE ENGLISH CUTLER
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Fine and Coarse Liverpool
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Tin Plate, Block Tin, Caustic Soda.
For sale ex Warehouse at Portland or Astoria by
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