

# The Daily Astorian.

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### THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

That salt fish are quickest and best freshened by soaking in sour milk.

That cold rain water and soap will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

That fish may be scaled much easier by first dipping them into boiling water for a minute.

That fresh meat, beginning to sour, will sweeten if placed out of doors in the cool air over night.

That milk which has been changed may be sweetened or rendered fit for use again by stirring in a little soda.

That boiling starch is much improved by the addition of sperm, or salt, or both, or a little gum arabic, dissolved.

That a tablespoonful of turpentine, boiled with your white clothes, will greatly aid the whitening process.

That kerosene will soften boots and shoes that have been hardened by water, and will render them pliable as new.

That clear boiling water will remove tea stains; pour the water through the stain, and thus prevent its spreading over the fabric.

That salt will curdle new milk, hence, in preparing milk porridge, gravies, etc., the salt should not be added until the dish is prepared.

That kerosene will make your tea-kettle as bright as new. Saturate a woolen rag and rub with it. It will also remove stains from the clean varnished furniture.

That blue ointment and kerosene mixed in equal proportions and applied to bedsteads, is an unfailing bug remedy, and that a coat of whitewash is ditto for a log house.

That beeswax and salt will make your rusty flatirons as clean and as smooth as glass. Tie a lump of wax in a rag and keep it for that purpose. When the irons are hot, rub them first with the wax rag, then scour them with a paper or cloth sprinkled with salt.

The new president of the United States Senate, Senator George F. Edmunds of Vermont, is said to have an income ranging from seventy-five to one hundred thousand dollars. He is the counsel for the Vermont Central railroad, for which he is paid \$5,000 a year. There is not a single case brought before the supreme court that does not first go to him for an opinion, and for these opinions he receives sums varying from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each. Only a few days ago he went over to New York and argued two cases, and for the two arguments he received \$20,000. The late Matt Carpenter had in hand all the complicated cases growing out of French claims, and the litigations of the cable companies in this country. When he found that he was going to die, he notified these companies, and they asked him to name his successor. He said that Mr. Edmunds was the only man who could master the complicated details of the cases, and it is said on good authority that the Vermont Senator received \$100,000 in retainers from the cable companies after Carpenter's death. Mr. Edmunds is estimated to be worth not less than a half-million, and every dollar of it he has earned himself.

A gentleman who claims to know informs the *Post-Intelligencer*, that orders have been received to definitely locate the line of the Northern Pacific railroad over the Cascade Mountains, that the engineers are now in that work, and that construction of the road will follow at once.

The attention of the Michigan and Wisconsin lumbermen is being turned in this direction, and recent advices from that section of country are to the effect that in less than two years we may expect a large influx of capital and a small army of loggers.

Nothing is easier than fault-finding. No talent, no self-denial, no character is required to set up in the grumbling business.

### Medicinal Value of Vegetables.

Asparagus is a strong diuretic and forms part of the cure for rheumatic patients at such healthful resorts as Aix des Bains.

Sorrel is cooling and forms a staple of the *soup aux herbes* which a French lady will order for herself after a long weary journey.

Carrots, as containing a quantity of sugar, are avoided by some people, while others complain of them as indigestible. With regard to the latter accusation it may be remarked, in passing, that it is the yellow core of the carrot that is difficult of digestion. The outer part a red layer, is tender enough. In Savoy the peasant have recourse to an infusion of carrots as a specific for jaundice.

The large sweet onion is very rich in those alkaline elements which counteract the poison of rheumatic gout. If slowly stewed in weak broth, and eaten with a little Nepal pepper, it will be found to be a very admirable article of diet for patients of studious and sedentary habits.

The stalks of the cauliflower have the same sort of value, only too often the stalk of a cauliflower is so badly boiled that but few persons would thank you for proposing to them to make part of their meal consist of so uninviting an article.

Turpots are also thought to be indigestible, and better suited for cows and sheep than for delicate people; but here the fault lies with the cook quite as much as with the root. The cook boils the turnip badly and then pours over it some butter, and the eater of such a dish is sure to be the worse for it. What shall be said about our lettuce? The plant has a slight narcotic action of which an old French woman, like a French doctor, well knows the value, and when properly prepared is very easy of digestion.

Popular estimates of Vanderbilt's wealth range all the way from \$300,000,000 to \$600,000,000. There can be no exaggeration in the lowest of these figures, and may be but little in the higher. Speaking to a *Times* reporter the other day as to a reported retention of bonds by the New York Central, Mr. Vanderbilt stated incidentally that he himself held between \$60,000,000 and \$70,000,000 of the stock of the New York Central, which pays regular dividends of one per cent. a month; that there was about \$100,000,000 in the Vanderbilt family, and that besides this he was a large holder in the bonded debt of the company, which ranks at over par. Add this to the sixty odd millions of registered United States bonds that stand in his name, and the enormous interest he is known to hold in other railroads, his real estate and properties of various kinds, and the aggregate must be something enormous, making him beyond a doubt the richest man in the world.

Jake Roy, was to be hanged by a Montana mob. He saw the rope was thin, and would probably break if strained suddenly by his whole weight, so he climbed up the tree, after he had put the noose around his neck, and dropped a distance of twelve feet. The rope parted, as he expected, but his spinal column was broken nevertheless, causing immediate death.

Some weeks ago a druggist in Burslem, England, had carelessly served a customer with poison instead of magnesia. He summoned the bell-man as soon as the mistake was discovered and sent him about the streets warning the unknown purchaser not to use the deadly drug. This is rather a novel way of neutralizing personal error, as it may be called; but it was successful.

Professor Herrmann, the wonderful magician, known throughout the world for his skill, used St. Jacobs Oil for a severe attack of rheumatism in the shoulder, and was cured by it. He considers St. Jacobs Oil a valuable preparation.

Fifty years ago, when California was under the dominion of Spain, a one-eyed commander ruled at San Francisco, who was the terror of all the Indians in the vicinity. A Yankee skipper traveling that way induced the Spaniard to purchase one of the then newly-invented glass-eyes of him, and, to the fear and surprise of the red-skins, the commander suddenly appeared with two eyes. This was too much for the braves, so one of their number was deputed to assassinate the senator. He managed to gain access to his chamber, but on approaching the couch, was terrified to find the commandant sleeping with one eye closed and the other wide open. The amazed Indian gave an unearthly yell and threw himself headlong from the window.

The *Tribune*, published in Decatur, Texas, describes a new discovery as follows: "The health of the country has improved wonderfully since the advent of cold weather, but this section would be in a reasonably prosperous condition but for the breaking out of a disease, which threatens to nearly depopulate our section of the country, namely the 'Washington Territory fever,' which is raging fearfully. Some of our most stricken citizens have been stricken with this fever and are ready to contend that Washington Territory is where the garden of Eden was originally located.

"What made me," said the father of a wife who, one year after her marriage, was seeking a divorce, "what made me is the thought that they made me pay \$5,000 for a wedding for them when they didn't want it."

William K. Vanderbilt's house is considered much more aristocratic and elegant than his father's and is the only residence in this country where the servants and lackeys appear in silk stockings and knee-breeches and with coats covered with gold lace. A little more than a year ago says the *Oregon Mail*, C. Specht bought 400 acres of land on the river, ten miles below St. Helens, for which he paid \$1,500. Last week he sold the same land for \$20,000. Real estate is looking up in Columbia county. The Colfax mills are offering ninety cents for wheat and selling flour at \$6 per barrel, retail. Parties who have wheat do not seem disposed to sell for less than a dollar a bushel.