

# The Daily Astorian.

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## DAVY CROCKETT'S TRICK. A Backwoods Campaign.

In 1827 the famous David Crockett was elected to congress. In this canvas he played the famous 'coon-skin trick, which he relates as follows:

"Well, I started off on the Cross Roads, dressed in my hunting shirt, and my rifle on my shoulder. Many of our constituents had assembled there to get a taste of the quality of the candidates at orating. Job, Snelling, a gauder-shanked Yankee, who had been caught somewhere about Plymouth bay, had been shipped to the west with a cargo of cod-fish and rum, erected a large shanty and set up shop for the occasion. A large posse of the voters assembled before I arrived, and my opponent had already made considerable headway with his speechifying and his treating, when they spied me about a rifle shot from the camp, sauntering along as if I was not a party in the business. 'There comes Crockett,' cried one. 'Let us hear the colonel,' cried another, and so I mounted the stump that had been used for the occasion, and began to bushwhack in the most approved style. I had not been up long before there was such an uproar in the crowd that I could not hear my own voice, and some of my constituents let me know that they could not listen to me on such a dry subject as the welfare of the nation until they had something to drink, and that I must treat 'em. Accordingly I jumped down from the rostrum and led the way to the shanties, followed by my constituents, shouting 'Huzzah for Crockett' and 'Crockett forever.' When we entered the shanty, Job was busy dealing out his rum in a style that showed that he was making a good day's work of it, and I called for a quart of the best, but the crooked carrier returned no other answer than by pointing to a board over the bar, on which he had chalked in large letters 'Pay to-day and trade to-morrow.' Now that idea brought me all up standing; it was a sort of cornering in which there was no back out, for ready money in the west in those times was the shiest things in all nature, and it was most particularly shy with me on that occasion. The voters seeing my predicament, fell off to the other side and I was left deserted and alone, as the government will be when he no longer has any offices to bestow. I saw, plain as day, that the tide of popular opinion was against me, and that unless I got some rum speedily I should lose my election as sure as there are snakes in Virginia—and it must be done soon or even burned brandy would not save me. So I walked away from the shanty, but in another sort from the way I entered it, for on this occasion I had no train after me and not a voice shouted 'Huzzah for Crockett.' Popularity sometimes depends on a very small matter; indeed, in this particular it was worth a quart of New England rum and no more.

Well knowing that a crisis was at hand, I struck into the woods with my rifle on my shoulder, my best friend in the time of need, and, as good fortune would have it, I had not been out more than a quarter of an hour before I tread a fat 'coon, and in the pulling of a trigger he lay dead at the root of a tree. I soon whipped his hairy jacket off his back, and again bent my way toward the shanty; and walked up to the bar, but not alone, for this time I had half a dozen of my constituents at my heels. I threw down the 'coon-skin upon the counter and called for a quart of rum, and Job, though busy in dealing out rum, forgot to point to his chalked rules and regulations, for he knew that a 'coon was as good legal tender for a quart in the west as a New York shilling any day in the year. My constituents now flocked about me and cried 'Huzzah for Crockett!' 'Crockett forever!' and finding the

tide had taken a turn, I told them several yarns to get them in a good humor, and having soon dispatched the value of the 'coon, I went out and mounted the stump without opposition, and a clear majority of the voters followed me to see what I had to offer for the good of the nation. Before I was half through one of my constituents moved that they would hear the balance of my speech after they had washed down the first part with some of Job Snelling's extract of cornstark and molasses; and the question being put up, it was carried unanimously. It wasn't considered necessary to tell the yeas and nays, so we adjourned to the shanty, and on the way I began to reckon that the fate of the nation pretty much depended on me shooting another 'coon. While standing at the bar, feeling sort of bashful, while Job's rules and regulations stared me in the face, I cast down my eyes and discovered one end of the 'coon-skin sticking between the logs that supported the bar. Job had slung it there in the hurry of business. I gave it a sort of quick jerk, and it followed my hand as natural as if I had been the rightful owner. I slapped it on the counter, and Job, little dreaming that he was barking up the wrong tree, shoved along another bottle, which my constituents quickly disposed of with great good humor, for some of them saw the trick, and then we withdrew to the rostrum to discuss the affairs of the nation. I don't know how it was, but the voters soon became dry again, and nothing would do but we must adjourn to the shanty and, as luck would have it, the 'coon skin was still sticking between the logs, as if Job had flung it there on purpose to tempt me. I was not slow in raising it to the counter; the rum followed, of course, and I wish I may be shot if I didn't, before the day was over, get ten quarts for the same identical skin, and from a fellow, too, who in those parts was considered as sharp as a steel trap and as bright as a pewter button.

"This joke secured me my election, for it soon circulated like smoke among my constituents, and they allowed with one accord that the man who could get the whip hand of Job Snelling in fair trade could outwit Old Nick himself, and was the real grit for them in congress. After the election was over I sent Snelling the price of the rum, but took good care to keep the fact from the knowledge of my constituents. Job refused the money, and sent me word that it did him good to be taken in occasionally, as it served to brighten his ideas, but I afterwards learned that when he found out the trick that had been played upon him he put all the rum I had ordered in his bill against my opponent, who, being elated with the speeches he had made on the affairs of the nation, could not descend to examine into the particulars of a bill of the vendor of rum in a small way."

The Finnish newspapers record a striking instance of the extent to which the land on the shores of the Gulf of Bothnia is being gradually upheaved. It appears that on June 25, 1755, a surveyor made a mark in the smooth rock at an elevation of two inches above the level of the sea. On being lately measured, the present height was found, after the lapse of 128 years, to be six feet five inches.

"How many horse-power has this engine?" asked a stranger of a colored man who was inspecting the new engine that runs the Siftings press. The colored man to whom the question was addressed scratched his head under his hat and replied: "I dunno, boss, how many hoass power hit's got, but I heered hit tuck six mules and a truck to foteh hit from de depot."—Texas Siftings.

Leadville, during the past five years has produced 28,000,000 ounces of silver, 140,000 tons of lead and 26,000 ounces of gold.

## By Proxy.

A beautiful young lady tripped into Dr. Hatchett's drug store a few days ago, and told young Mr. Speight, who presides there, that she wished some castor oil, and asked him if he could mix it up so as to disguise the taste of it.

"Oh, yes," says Speight. Presently Speight said: "Will you have a glass of soda water, Miss?"

"Oh, yes," says she. After drinking the soda water the young lady waited a while, and then asked Speight if the castor oil was ready.

"Oh!" says Speight, "you have already taken the castor oil in the soda water."

"Great heavens!" said the young lady, "I wanted the oil for my mother."—*Fr. Gains Trib-une.*

The French navy has 258 vessels, about 50,000 men, and costs over \$32,000,000 annually to maintain it. The navy of England consists of 258 vessels, nearly 60,000 men and costs to maintain it, nearly \$52,000,000 annually.

The jealous husband of a pretty woman at Fayette, Texas, branded her with an iron for marking cattle, making a star and cross, which she must bear on each cheek for life.



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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 hundreds of low test short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. **ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO.**, 106 Wall-st., N. Y.

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The next year will begin on Wednesday, July 26, 1883.  
Miss L. A. FIELD, Principal.



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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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Absinthe is becoming a favorite drink among the dudes of New York City. Its chief recommendation is the speed with which it kills.

The rockets fired from the Brooklyn bridge on the night of the opening day were seen from one of the Catskill peaks, a hundred miles away.

**MOTHERS, READ.**  
GREEN'S—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 the child was suffering from worms. I obtained a box of **GREEN'S VERMIFUGE** and gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was well again. Since then I have never been without it in my family. The health of my children remained so good that I had neglected watching their actions until about three weeks ago, when two of them presented the same sickly appearance that my child did nine years ago. So I thought I would give them a box of **GREEN'S VERMIFUGE** between four of my children, their ages being as follows: Alice, 8 years; Barbara, 7 years; Emma, 6 years; John, 5 years. Nine ounces the result: Alice and Emma obtained eight worms; Barbara five; John five and Johnny about sixty worms. The result was so gratifying that I put two boxes in stock for my own use, and now have the worms' exhibition in my house. Yours truly, **JOHN W. HILPEL.**

The genuine **DR. C. McLANE'S VERMIFUGE** is manufactured only by **Fleming Bros., Pittsburgh, Pa.** and bear the signature of C. McLANE and Fleming Bros. It is never made in any other way. Be sure you get the genuine. Price, 25 cents a bottle.

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**King of the Blood**  
Is not a "cure all," it is a blood-purifier and tonic. Impurity of the blood poisons the system, deranges the circulation, and thus induces many disorders, known by different names to distinguish them according to effects, but being really branches of the same tree that great generic disorder, **Impurity of Blood.** Such are **Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Liver Complaint, Constipation, Yrres, Rheumatism, Headache, Barache, General Weakness, Heart Disease, Dropsy, Kidney Disease, Piles, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Scrofula, Skin Disorders, Pimples, Ulcers, Swellings, &c.** **King of the Blood** prevents and cures these by attacking the cause, impurity of the blood. Chemists and physicians agree in calling it "the most genuine and efficient preparation for the purpose." Sold by Druggists, \$1 per bottle. See Instructions, directions, &c., in pamphlet, "Treatment of Diseases of the Blood," wrapped around each bottle. **D. RANSOM, SON & CO., Proprs Buffalo, N. Y.**

**NEVILLE & CO.,**  
Pacific Net and Twine Co.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11th, 1883.  
DEAR SIR: For general convenience, we have sent a supply of **No. 30, 12-PLY Genuine Scotch Salmon Net Twine**, to the care of **A. M. JOHNSON & CO.**, Astoria, which will be sold at low enough figures to make it an object for all net members to use it for repairs, in place of the more costly No. 40, 12-PLY. Fishermen who have heretofore used this grade of twine for repairs, claim that the durability of the patch is equal to the balance of the net, after the latter has had a few weeks use. We think it will be money in your pocket to try it. For prices and samples apply to **A. M. JOHNSON & CO.,** San Francisco. **Neville & Co.** Sole Agents, 3 and 3 1/2 California St.

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FREE COACH TO THE HOUSE.

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**JEFF'S CHOP HOUSE**  
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He has Always on Hand **FRESH Shoal Water Ray and Eastern Oysters.**  
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"JEFF" IS THE BOSS CATERER.

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