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Astoria, Oregon, Saturday Morning, September 22, 1883.

No. 149.

THE FIRST WHISTLE

The story of the first steam whistle on the Missouri river is amusing. Its introduction dates back to 1844. At that time the settlers on the Missouri river were in the habit of making regular yearly visits to St. Louis to do their friends. They were not pro- \$300,000. vided with daily intercourse with the outside world, and many who lived back from the river seldom, if ever, swa a steamboat more than once a year. It happened that during the tall of 1844 the new steamboat Lexington started up the Missonri river, loaded down to the guards with freight.

The steamer was provided with a steam whistle-the first used on the Missonri river-and as it happened no one new about it except Warner, who was a wag and a lover of jokes. The night after leaving St. Louis the passengers were collected together playing cards (for fun) in the cabin, when the talk turned upon steamboat explosions, then very common.

"I feel perfectly safe on this best," said Warner, as he dealt the cards.

"Why?" inquired Yocum the the planter.

"Why!" echoed the rest of the

"I will tell you why," said the wag, carefully studying his cards. "This hoat is provided with a new patent safety valve, which notifies passengers when it is about to when you hear it, it is time to get on Lake Erie to 1817.

back aft or jump overboard." Notwithstanding the fact that Warner told his story with the than the year before. most solemn and earnest countenance, some were skeptical. Not so, however, with the planter. Next morning, when the Lexingon was steaming up the long straight stretch of river just below Washington, Mo., the passengers were at breakfast. The meal had been called, and all were busily engaged in doing justice to the good things accustomed to be served on steamboats in those days. Suddenly the whistle commenced to blow, the first time on the trip. The passengers looked at each other a moment, and horror and dismay spread over their faces. The first man to realize the New York. situation and act was Yocum, the as he pulled over one after anoth- system. er of the passengers:

"Run, run for your lives, the d-d thing is going to bust. Come with me and let's save our-

Of course, there was a stamit was only by the exertions of some of the crew that the more five human beings. excited were restrained from jumping into the river.

This story of David Crockett is going the rounds: On his return of his highway tax. to Texas after his first winter as a representative in congress, his questions about life in the city of period of six years. Washington. "When do they dine?" one demanded. "Common people such as we have here," Col. Crockett replied, "dine at 1 \$20,441,395 in 1882. o'clock, the big ones at 3, we representatives at 4, and the aristocracy and senators eat at 5." Well. when does the president fodder?" "Old Hickory?" the Colonel exclaimed, "well, he doesn't dine till the next day."

The Liverpool Mercury says: There is in fact, only one thing that America cannot produce. She can not produce old churches. That is very true, but she can produce such a crop of new ones as to make England look like a heathen country in comparison.

According to commissioner Evans, there will be moonshiners in North Carolina and Tennessee as long as there are mountains in those states. He says he does not think illicit distilling can ever be fully stopped in those mountain regions.

HASH.

In Norway a first-class dinner costs twenty-five cents.

Iowa's timberlands have doubled in area in thirty years.

There is in the United States one lawyer for every 700 people. The loss to Rochester, Minn, fall down dead.

their trading for themselves and by the recent tornado exceeds

Negro physicians are wanted in Over ninety per cent of New

York city people live in rented There are many brunettes at

Saratoga, and they nearly all wear The taxable value of railroads now in New Mexico is placed at

122,000 square miles and a popu-

of New Mexico are natives, who speak Spanish.

lation of 150,000.

An ordinary maker puts together three hundred baskets a day.

The center of the Brooklyn bridge hangs two feet higher in winter than in summer. Nitro glycerine is now frequent-

ly used as a medicine, under the name of glonoine. New Mexico is largely plastered

with Mexican land grants, some of which are bogus,

juice whitewash, as it were. The total valuation of Verme s given at \$169,022,800, against

\$167,733,000 last year. Since 1861 conscience-stricken persons have paid \$186,459.01 into the United States treasury.

New York eats \$5,000,000 worth of ovsters in a year. Philadelphia \$3,500,000, and Boston \$1,750,-

The subject of establishing country workhouses for tramps will be agritated in the state of

Governor Sheldan of New planter, who, with hair erect and Mexico says the greatest want blanched face, jumped up, crying of the territory is a proper school

It is represented that New Mexico contains 8,000,000 acres of land adapted to fruit and cereal culture.

The horse population of the pede for the rear of the boat, and United States is now over 11,000,-000, or about one horse to every

Every Massachusetts citizen who sets out four trees by the highway is allowed \$1 abatement

All railroads except the Atlantic and Pacific, are exempt from neighbors overwhelmed him with taxation in New Mexico, for a The taxable property of New

Mexico this year is \$27,137,903, Hardware and Ship Chandlery against \$14,088,524 in 1881, and Joaquin Miller is impressed with Hardware and Ship Chandlery.

the levely suburbs of Boston, but the heart of the city is horse cars and graveyards.

Our country, it seems, can run along very nicely for awhile whether the government lives at Washington or not.

Mrs. Jermiah Levitt, of Tilton, N. H., has a watch in her possession that is 573 years old. It was Agricultural Implements. made in Londen in 1310.

Southern newspapers remark Paints and Oils, Groceries, etc. that while the growth of their states is comparatively slow, the population is strongly Ameri-

A letter containing \$3 in bills turned up at Ilion, N. Y., the other day, after wandering through various postoffices for sixteen years.

Land turtles are becoming

fashionable for ladies' pets in Pennsylvania. They are dressed in ribbons and jewelry, and are as beautiful as the lovely pug dog.

A New York paper intimates that noise is a tonic and if all the sounds in that roaring city were to suddenly stop many people would

Oregon Short Line

The Salt Lake Tribune of the the South. There are enough 11th says the Oregon Short Line reached the mouth of Boise river, thirty miles below Boise City, on last Saturday. At this point the supply of steel rails beame exhausted and there will be a short halt by the track layers. Superintendent Doddridge issued orders yesterday for the erection of a depot, and for that place, called Caldwell, to be a terminal station for the present. From Caldwell New Mexico has an area of to the junction with the Oregon Navigation & Railway company in Burnt river it is some thirty or Three-fourths of the population forty miles, part of which will be very expensive to build. Snake river is to be crossed just above peach-basket the mouth of Boise river, after which the track will run on the west side a few miles, then cross the river again to the east side, and afterwards back to the west thus making three long and expensive bridges. This is made necessary by the broken condition of the country. There has been caused to crops by the enormous considerable talk about the road multiplication of rabbits in New being run down Snake river to Zealand, that the government of Lewiston, a distance of 186 miles India has been asked by the New from the point of junction with Zealand government to send out blow up. It is a concern which steamboat navigation on Lake the O.R. & N.Co. The route has for acclimation accumber of munmakes a most unearthly noise, and Ontario dates back to 1816, and been surveyed and placed, but it gooses, which animals are well would be so expensive that there known to be effectual destroyers Five million acres more public is no prospect of its being built, of rabbits. Whether the munland were taken up or sold last year Such a road would have to pass gooses may not in their turn through a great gorge or canyon prove undesirable visitors does A lemonade bath is said to thirty miles long. Very few per- not appear to have been considwhiten the skin-a sort of lime, sons have ever passed through ered. this canyon, because of the difficulties and dangers attending the We learn that the road is carrying many passengers and much freight between Granger and the present western terminus, a large percentage of business being with the Wood river coun-



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ave the worms on exhibition themy store Yours truly, JUHN PIPER. The gennine DR. C McLANE'S VER-MCFUGE is manufactured only by Fleming Bros., Pittsburgh, Pa.,

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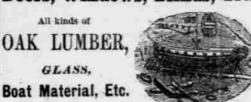
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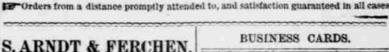
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