

FURTHER PROGRESS STOPPED

Fear has been expressed that the Canadian Pacific would not be able to find a practical crossing over the Selkirk range of the Rockies, through Kicking Horse pass. No effort nor expense to secure the shortest and best route across the mountain has been spared by the company, as it is well known that the company has been at enormous cost keeping engineers in the Rockies for two years making surveys and explorations with views of securing the best route. At this late hour when the track has been laid far up the Bow river pass, to within thirty-five miles or so of the summit, it has been discovered that after all it may be impossible to cross via Kicking Horse pass. Engineers are on the work in dispute. Some claim that it is impossible to go that way and avoid the crossing of the range by Horne's pass. In order to go via Horne's pass it will be necessary to deviate considerably, and to do so seven or eight miles of track already laid would have to be lifted. The engineers could not come to any agreement, so they were called in, and the matter was laid before the general manager and other officials. When it was seen that there was but little prospect of an agreement among the engineers on one route, and serious consequences might result by further prosecuting work this season, when it was not definitely known that that pass was feasible, it was deemed best to stop all work for two years, and orders were accordingly sent out to that effect. In the meantime the most efficient engineers will be put to work to ascertain the best route. Several hundred laborers have to Winnipeg. They state that all the workmen, between 4000 and 5000 in number, have been dismissed. Work on all sub-contracts, many of which were let quite recently, has also been stopped. Many workmen had been led to expect that they would be given work in the winter, in consequence of the heavy work in the mountains. It is expected that two hundred will arrive daily until the entire number is brought to that city. The majority of them belong to the United States and will proceed there. All will go to St. Paul first and many will remain there.

The Laws of Trade.

"Twenty-three dollars for that 'ere stove!" she exclaimed, as she held up her hands in horror.
 "Yes-m, twenty-three."
 "But iron is down."
 "Yes."
 "I've seen in the papers during the last month where as many as six big iron companies have failed."
 "Well?"
 "Well, that ought to make stoves cheaper, and I know it."
 "Madam, in the last two months death has laid his hands upon as many as twenty-five young'uns in this town."
 "Yes, poor things!"
 "But are nursing bottles any cheaper than three months ago?"
 "N-o," she slowly admitted.
 "Of course not, madam. The laws of trade are immutable. The best I can do is to throw in a horse radish grater if you take the stove at twenty-three dollars."
 It was estimated that both skilled and unskilled coolie laborers now receive from fifteen to twenty-five per cent. more pay than when the Restriction act went into effect. During the scarcity of farm laborers the past summer, hop pickers have received twenty-five cents per hundred weight more than last year, and harvest hands received an increase of twenty per cent. About the same increase was asked by cigar makers. The Chinese are reported to ask higher wages for fruit-packing than white women and children.

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Colonel Baker's Tomb.

Early in the present month says the *S. F. Chronicle*, a letter was published in an eastern journal, stating that during the triennial convalescence a few ex-soldiers from Pennsylvania, "who still retain vivid recollections of the early scenes enacted in the late war, and especially the one which ended so disastrously to the Union forces under the lead of the gallant Edward D. Baker, at Ball's Bluff, Va., October 21, 1861, visited his tomb, which is situated on a commanding elevation in Laurel hill cemetery." According to the article they found the monument crumbling and covered with mold and the plat uncarved for, "the bare, unkept ground flowerless and void of any vestige of evergreen." The article also said that the party of visiting soldiers raised a fund, which was sent to this city, the interest of which was to be used annually in keeping in order and preserving Colonel Baker's tomb. Inquiry among the veteran organizations of this city failed to disclose any knowledge of such a fund. Just before last Memorial day a small sum was supplied the cemetery authorities for decorating the grave, and it was all used and more with it for that purpose. They say that this is the only money they have received to decorate or keep the tomb and plat in order. Recently Colonel Baker's son died in Oregon and the remains are to be brought here for interment in Laurel hill. Then, perhaps, something will be learned of the fund and what use has been made of it.

Ex-Senator Eaton of Connecticut, is a Democrat in whom there is no guile. When he was in the senate he was distinguished for his common-sense speeches, and it appears from an interview recently had with him that the old gentleman is still in his right mind. In Hartford, the other day, a brother Democrat asked him: "What do you think of the prospects in '84, Senator?" "Don't know." "Well, aren't our prospects pretty bright?" "Don't know." "Hasn't Ohio gone Democratic?" "Why, yes." "What's the trouble then?" "I'll tell you," said the senator, pressing his thin lips together, "the Democracy, twenty years ago took out a patent for making d-d fools of themselves, and it has never been infringed upon."

Our government has determined to enforce a proper respect for the old flag. It has stationed a war steamer in the harbor at Canton—a six gun monster of the deep, floating forty-six American sailors and marines. How the five hundred millions of wicked heathen must tremble in their boots at this paralyzing menace.

Canada offers the munificent sum of \$5 to every able bodied man who will lose himself in the continuous woods of British Columbia as a bona fide settler. Even with that splendid inducement the tide of emigration to that region is not overwhelming.

Said an expert penman to another of the same guild who was examining two pieces of writing: "What has that 'that' that that that 'that' that you made resembles to do with this 'that'?" The other replied that he desired to answer by counsel.

Wyoming may come into competition with the eastern petroleum districts, as it has two oil basins that have been discovered, the Shoshone and Beaver, which experts think will exceed the richest deposit ever struck in Pennsylvania.

"The darkest day," said Horace Greeley, "in any man's earthly career, is that wherein he first fancies there is some easier way of gaining a dollar than by squarely earning it."

The center of the Brooklyn bridge is four feet lower than it was originally, having settled, but it is still above the limit which the law allows.

A Twin Story.

Henry and Alfred Groves of St. Helens are twins, and look almost exactly alike. Henry has a wife living in Kansas, but he did not let that interfere with his flirting with Letty Avery, the pretty daughter of a neighboring farmer. To test the depth of her love he "popped" the question and she snapped him up like a gold two-and-a-half piece, and before he could stop her she acquainted her parents with the glad tidings; who with business-like celerity named the 21st of October as the time for the wedding. Henry was in a dilemma, but he made a clean breast of it to his twin brother, Alfred, who with real fraternal sacrifice, agreed to stand in the married brother's stead and wed the Avery girl. Alfred played the deception so successfully that he married Miss Avery, she being under the impression that he was Henry. All went smoothly until Alfred, who had learned to love her and wanted her to return the affection, told her of the deception. She was indignant, left him for her parents, and at last accounts Alfred was in this city hiding from an indignant father-in-law. The East Portland *Indicator* in closing a column account of this match says: "The Groves and Avery families no longer visit each other and a divorce case is expected in that section of country soon."

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