

The Daily Astorian

VOL. XX, NO. 40. ASTORIA, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1883. PRICE, FIVE CENTS.

A CAL-LOAD OF CARP.

The car of the United States fish commission which left Washington on November 5 with 25,000 young carp, arrived here over the Northern Pacific yesterday morning, and was at once transferred across the river and is now at the west side depot. Five thousand of the fish were left with the Ohio fish commission, and the same number with the commissioners of Iowa and Minnesota. The remainder are for distribution in Oregon and Washington Territory. The car is in charge of Mr. George H. H. Moore, with James Carswell, assistant, and George Demone and Arthur Yeaman, apprentices in the employ of the United States fish commission. Mr. Carswell was here some time since with a lot of carp. The car is fitted specially for the transportation of fish. In one end is an office for the person in charge, at the other end a kitchen, and along the sides a series of lockers, in which the fish in tin buckets, each containing about fifty carp, and about a half gallon of water, are placed. Pipes convey air through an ice box at each side of the car to the lockers in which the fish are placed, so as to keep the air at a proper temperature, which with carp is 45 degrees. These carp are four months old and of an average length of two inches. They are in good condition, only 244 (less than one per cent.) having died on the way; and this was caused by sudden climatic changes, it being very cold in crossing the Rockies. Any person desiring to obtain a bucket containing fifty carp, only charges being twenty-five cents for the bucket. The fish have been sent out here by Prof. Biard, at the solicitation of Hon. M. C. George. They were hatched at Washington, in the Potomac, from original German stock, in the Atlantic States the covariance to each applicant is only twenty fish; but on account of the great distance from the source of supply, it was deemed no more than just that applicants on this coast should have fifty each. The car will remain here until Friday evening, when it will go to Walla Walla.

Mr. Moore suggests that until the carp are placed permanently in ponds, the water in which they are kept should be changed daily. They will live in confined places in Potomac river water about two weeks, and were brought here without change of water. Yesterday they were put in Willamette river water. If in ponds not too cold, the carp will grow in one year to weigh from two to five pounds. In native waters they often obtain a weight of fifty pounds and over. Average weight in southern states at one year old is four pounds. The carp thrives on vegetable matter—lettuce, cabbage, boiled potatoes, water cress, celery tops, etc.—and is fond of cornmeal. *Oregonian*, Nov. 15.

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST.

Salem wants to have the Forest Grove Indian school removed to the capital.

Coal has been struck at each end of the Siskiyou tunnel. Its quality is not fully ascertained yet.

The *Minneapolis Tribune*, noting the marvelous progress of that young city, states that during the present year 300 new business concerns have been established there, of which six-hundred are now manufacturing establishments.

Ainsworth sent a man with a petition and \$300 to Olympia to work for the triple division of Whitman county, but the man kept right on to California, and did not visit the capital. Hence Ainsworth is out \$300 and her petition.

The Dallas, Oregon, fire department received their new hand engine last week and are highly pleased with it. In a test trial last Saturday evening their force was too much for the engine, and they succeeded in breaking the castings on the pump handles.

There is an increasing demand in Portland for houses of five, six and seven rooms. A hundred of this class would be rented in one day, if rates were reasonable. The scarcity of houses has had the effect of filling the upper floors of the many new business buildings just completed. The cry for houses is as great as for female help.

The following is from the *Weston (Oregon) Leader*: "The great bulk of grain has now been hauled to the different stations. There is still, however, a good deal in the country. The railroad has plenty of work to do. At Blue Mountain station alone there are over seventy-five thousand sacks of wheat awaiting shipment. The amount taken away daily does not probably average over sixteen hundred sacks. At this rate, and making allowance for what yet may be delivered, the platform will not be cleared much before the first of January."

One of the most singular features in the scenery of the territory of Idaho is the occurrence of dark, rocky chasms into which large streams, and creeks suddenly disappear and are never more seen. These fissures are old lava channels, produced by the outside of the molten mass cooling and forming a tube, which on the fiery stream becoming exhausted, has been left empty, while the roof of the lava duct having at some points fallen in, presents there the opening into which the river plunges and is lost. At one place along the banks of the Snake, one of these rivers rushes gushing from a cleft high up in the basaltic walls, where it leaps a cataract into the torrent below. Where this stream has its origin, or at what point it is swallowed up, is utterly unknown, though it is believed that its sources are a long way up in the north country. Besides becoming the channels of living streams, these lava conduits are frequently found impacted with ice masses, which never melt.

By many individuals in many countries an oath is regarded very lightly. To them it is just as easy to swear as to sneeze, and in many instances easier. In eastern nations, among the Mohammedans, an extraordinary sanctity is attached to a solemn asseveration, and the belief in punishment hereafter to a perjurer is carried to a degree of fanaticism. When a Hindu or a Barmese swears, he implicates not himself alone, but all his kindred to the seventh degree, all his personal acquaintances, and all his posterity. When he, through lapse of memory, perjures himself, all these are condemned to "ten kinds of punishment and five attacks of enemies." Should the perjurer be of a more serious form, the "earth will open and swallow them all up." Should he knowingly make a false oath, all his friends and acquaintances will be precipitated into eighty great hells and one hundred and twenty small ones.

Talmage has taken the role of prophet and makes this prediction: "The time will come when John Chinaman will be able to vote, and when the Republican party will put its arm around his neck and kiss him on one cheek and the Democratic party will kiss him on the other cheek, and both of them will fight as to who loved him longest and best. The Chicago news says we used to spew negro with two g's, but we now speak of the negro as 'our intelligent colored brethren.'"

Another English expression struggling for adoption in this country is "standing for office"—as Mr. So-and-so has concluded to "stand for the legislature." The American statesman who would succeed cannot afford to stand for an office—he must run, and run lively. *Cincinnati Commercial*.

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