The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

TUESDAY.....APRIL 28, 1885

It is reported in Odessa that the Ameer Abdurrahman has sold Penjdeh to Russia, and is now negotiating for cession of Herat.

The Victoria *Colonist* contains a proclamation by the authorities informing all deserters from her majesty's navy that if they will re-enlist no notice will be taken of their past transgression.

A postal card was received at the sheriff's office, Buffalo, the other day, giving the particulars of the escape of prisoners from the Jackson, Mich., penitentiary, and addressed to "Grover Cleveland, Sheriff."

A suit has been brought in the wilds of Pennsylvania by a man against his mother, who is charged with having cast so large an assortment of magic and spells over the plaintiff's dog as to kill the beast.

The *Druggist's Circular* says that the essentials of a healthy home are *dryness*, plenty of sunlight, an abundance of pure water, pure air and *cleanliness everywhere*. "These things cost money;" but are not funerals expensive.

The Russian-Afghan conflict occupies entirely the attention of European diplomacy at present. An isolation of England in Europe is eagerly sought to be brought about. The British empire has not a single friend on the continent.

The Jacksonville *Sentinel* says that an enterprising New Yorker has made the O. & C. R. R. Co. a proposition to buy their tunnel on the Siskiyou to be used as a cellar for a large ale and porter brewery which he proposes to erect there.

The commissioners of Douglas county, W. T., have appointed Mrs. Sadie Coyle treasurer of the county. This is believed to be the first time in the history of the Pacific coast that a woman ever regularly filled the office of county treasurer.

The question which is agitating the minds of the Victorians just now, says the Seattle *Chronicle*, is whether coal is contraband of war. They fear that if a Russian fleet comes into British Columbia waters it can be successfully supplied with coal by the Americans, unless the latter be prevented therefrom by coal being declared a contraband article.

Our state exchanges are still discussing the last legislature. At the risk of saying something original, The Astorian suggests that next time it might be well to send something less than ninety candidates for U. S. senator to represent us at Salem. A legislator is one thing; a candidate for senator is another, and an attempt to unite the two in one thing or man, is disastrous to all concerned.

It is stated in San Francisco journals that the Northern Pacific people are contemplating seriously of putting a line of steamers on the Columbia river, between Wallula Junction and Portland, with portages at The Dalles and the Cascades; in other words, re-establishing the line of the old O. S. N. Co. The line is to be prinpally for freight traffic. This announcement is considered by some railroad men as a "bluff" to secure better terms for the proposed lease of the O. R. & N. Company's property.

A generation ago Tennyson charmed the world with his delightful poetry. Of late years he has diminished his fame by his mediocre productions. His last two are almost idiotic. Here is his latest, published in last Wednesday's London *Times*:

THE FLEET: ON ITS REPORTED INEFFICIENCY.

You, you, if you have failed to understand,
The fleet of England is her all in all,
On you will come the curse of all the land
Which Nelson left so great.

This isle, the mightiest naval power on earth,
This one small isle the lord of every sea,
Poor England! what avail thine ancient fame of free!
Were thou a fallen state.

You, who had the ordering of her fleet,
If you have only compassed her disgrace,
When all men starve the wild mob's million feet,
Will kick you from your place,
But then too late, too late!

The Charleston, S. C., *News and Courier* explains the mystery of the confederate bond craze as follows: Judah P. Benjamin, secretary of state of the confederacy from 1862 until its collapse, was the originator of the plan by which the demand was created for bonds. At different times the confederate congress voted large sums for secret service, the principal deposits being in London and Paris banks. The funds were placed to the credit of citizens of Great Britain and France who were friendly to the south. At the close of the war there was an unexpended balance of $5,080,000. Benjamin consulted with these agents as to the disposition of the money and it was agreed that it should be surrendered to the United States. The question was then how to disburse the money so as to benefit those who were entitled to it. It was concluded that those who had given their means to the confederacy for its bonds were entitled to the money, and bonds were advertised for, and to cover the real object of the movement it was hinted that the bonds were to be held by speculators and that suit was to instituted against the United States for their payment.

The *News* says that a Madrid journal, called the *Correspondencia*, is peculiar in its way. It has the largest circulation of any paper in the capital, reaching from 200,000 to 300,000 a day. It has no editor, but a dozen wide awake reporters, who scour the town for every kind of information. They come to the office and drop their manuscripts in a bag, and there they stay until the foreman wants copy. Every thing is then thrown into the forms without regard to order or anything else, and the paper is read from end to end in spite of the fact. That's a capital idea! No personal or impersonal responsibility. No irate subscriber or avenging inquirer to disturb the reportorial thoughts. The Spanish custom might bear transplanting. Referred to the Seattle *Chronicle*.