

In sailing craft alone, says Gath, the United States has always been without a rival. Anybody who wants to take up Cooper's naval history and read it as closely as Cooper wrote it—for he was a precise man, versed in the sea—will find that almost from the moment of the appearance of these colonies on the sea they had a skill and shrewdness of their own. In the first place they did a more extensive commerce when they were colonies than almost any other nation on the globe did with other parts of the world. The Dutch, Quaker and New England vessels from the Delaware and the Hudson, from Long Island sound and Massachusetts bay, had a splendid stimulus in the proximity of the Spanish West Indies and of the auxiliary islands which belonged to other nations. In the second war with England, the capture of regular British frigates caused such excitement that later on a deliberate attempt was made to burn every ship-yard in the United States. By 1860 the American merchant navy was the largest in the world. The comparative retirement of the Americans from the seas was not consequent, as is generally supposed, upon our inferiority to handle the seas. The causes of that withdrawal had been somewhat in operation a good while before the civil war and the defeat of secession and provincialism and the opening of the entire interior of the country to free labor and immigration, and the building of the government railway to the Pacific, gave us at home the end of all maritime adventure, namely, colonies and trading stations. Our ocean became the great west rolling on to the Pacific. We extended our voyages to Canada and Mexico. More colonization has been done in the United States since the close of the rebellion than all the rest of the world has done everywhere. Nevertheless in our coastwise commerce lies a great and sufficient nursery of the maritime art. As to maritime building we are doing plenty of it. The mere ferry boat system of this country is remarkable; and at the beginning of the civil war nearly all the ferry boats needed were put to war purposes. The ferry boat fleet of New York alone is very remarkable in tonnage, in the number of vessels, in the employed hands, and in the high engine power. We are also able to keep afloat a respectable ocean navy. American steamers run to the West Indies, to Brazil, to Mexico; and we still have some to Europe and Asia. It is very close business to make any money out of ocean steam shipping, and two or three per cent a year will not satisfy the average American corporation.

JUDGE HOFFMAN, of San Francisco, has decided that in the future if Chinese applicants to land fail to prove that their certificates are genuine, the United States district attorney can be given possession of such documents as evidence of fraud, and institute proceedings to prosecute the holders. It is believed that this decision will stop the efforts of Chinese to land without proper certificates.

HARPER'S Weekly, the mugwump Bible, announces that the election of Hill in New York is "a Democratic defeat." These mugwumps are too fine haired for anything. When a man is beaten he is beaten. The mugwumps were beaten in New York and everybody, Republicans and Democrats, are glad of it.

DAKOTA men profess to know that it is the intention of the president to recommend the admission of Dakota as a state, but that he is inclined to think that the territory is large enough for two states.

THE commissioner of the general land office has refused to approve a list of lands selected by the Northern Pacific railroad company, including about 58,000 acres in Washington territory embraced within the forfeited grant of the Oregon Central railroad company. The Northern Pacific railroad company's line from Portland to Tacoma traverses a portion of the forfeited grant, and that company claimed the tract on the ground that it had not been withdrawn for the benefit of the Oregon Central railroad. The commissioner in his decision holds that it is immaterial whether or not the lands were withdrawn for the Oregon Central, for as the tract had been granted in the first place to the Oregon Central, they could not have been included in the grant to the Northern Pacific, even if any grants of lands had been extended by the joint resolution of May 31, 1870, upon which the Northern Pacific bases its claim.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND issued a timely and sensible proclamation last Saturday warning all engaged in turbulent or unlawful conduct in Seattle, or elsewhere in Washington territory, to disperse and retire to their homes. Three hundred and forty-five U. S. troops went from Vancouver to Seattle, the same day, seventy-five stopping off at Vancouver.

THE Vancouver U. S. grand jury has found indictments against several participants in the "polite removal" of the Chinese from Tacoma. Such little legal formalities as being tried and convicted of having broken the laws may constitute the unpleasant aftermath to a day's sport.

THE mayor of Tacoma who heads the gang that runs that city must be a determined enemy of the movement to make Washington a state. He has done his little best or worst to keep Washington a territory for at least two years more.

Reports from Virginia say that Mahone is in the depths of gloom. He is socially and politically ruined, and has serious thoughts of leaving Virginia. The feeling against him in the state is so great that he will be socially ostracized.

NEW TO-DAY.

Found.
A FISHING BOAT ON SUNDAY THE 8th inst., above Tongue Point, which the owner can have by proving property and paying charges. Apply to F. E. WRIGHT, Upper Astoria.

Lost.
FISHING BOAT, ROUNDED AT ENDS of keel; sail thwart brand "D. C. C."; boat used as trap boat and has tar marks on it. Information leading to its recovery will be rewarded. WM. FREIDBERG, Or at ASTORIA OFFICE.

C. E. BAIN.
BRACKETS, MOULDINGS, WINDOW FRAMES, ETC.
A Full Supply of Material. Bids Furnished. Contract Work a Specialty. Mill and Office on the Old Site.

NOTICE!
To the Patrons of Athletic Exercise.
W. M. DAVIS,
The Veteran Pugilist, Ex-Champion of America and Teacher of Athletics.
Will open at Grant Bros., on Water street, on Tuesday evening Nov. 10th, 1885. Terms liberal. Apply to W. M. Davis, on premises.

Meeting Notice.
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRITISH Benevolent Association on Tuesday evening, 10th inst., at 7:30 in their rooms over Van Dusen & Co.'s store.
P. L. CHERRY, Pres.

Fifty Dollars Reward.
I WILL PAY THE ABOVE REWARD for the recovery of the body of E. F. Cochran, drowned at Walker's Island on Wednesday the 4th inst. Fell overboard from the steamer R. R. Thompson; about five feet, four inches in height, dark hair and eyes and mustache, about 30 years old.
E. A. NOYES.

Opening of the Skating Season!

AT ROSS' OPERA HOUSE,

Continue every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 10 P. M., and Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4 P. M.
Admission: on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoon, Ladies free, skaters 25 cents; Gent's admission 25c, skaters 25c. Admission on Saturday evening, with Cushing Post Cornet Band, Ladies 25 cents, skaters 25 cents; Gent's 25 cents, skaters 25 cents.

Ross' Opera House.

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13, 14.

STRONGEST ATTRACTION EVER BROUGHT TO ASTORIA!

GRACE HAWTHORNE,
Supported by the Brilliant Young Actor
WILLIAM F. CLIFTON.
And a Powerful Dramatic Company, Presenting on Friday Night Alex. Dumas' Masterpiece,
"THE NEW CAMILLE,"
In which Great Character Miss Hawthorne has No Equal.

Saturday Nov. 14, an Extra Night, when by Special Request will be Produced the Union Square Theatre success,
"QUEENA,"
A Comedy That has kept the Entire New York Public Laughing for Over Two Years.

Admission—Reserved Seats \$1: Family Circle 75c; Gallery 50c.
The Box Sheet for the Sale of Seats will be open Tuesday Morning next at the Usual Place, the New York Novelty Store.

DUPLEX AXE.
PATENTED AUG. 20, 1881.
J. C. Trullinger
WILL Cut Faster AND EASIER Than any other axe made. Hundreds of woodmen testify to its superiority. It goes Deep and Never Sticks.
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Assignee's Notice.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned has been selected by the creditors as assignee of F. R. Elbertson, an insolvent, in place of the assignee appointed by such insolvent, and all persons having claims against the said insolvent's estate are hereby notified to present the same property verified to the undersigned at the office of D. L. Beck & Sons, at Astoria, Oregon, within three months from this date.
F. H. POINDEXTER, Assignee.

October 9th, 1885.

FOR SALE.

The Anglo American Salmon Cannery, With complete plant, including boats, nets, machinery, etc. This well known cannery is situated in upper Astoria, commands good frontage and central location. Title perfect. The Anglo American "Lion" brand of salmon stands high in all markets. Ready sale at market price for all its pack.
For particulars apply to CORBITT & MACLEAY, Agents, Portland, Or.

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MRS. E. C. HOLDEN HAS A FEW NICELY furnished rooms to rent at five dollars per month and upward, and by the week or night. Enquire corner Main and Jefferson streets.

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Will conduct Auction Sales of Real Estate, Cattle, and Farming Stock wherever desired.

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