

It seems that the ocean pool which was lately formed between the Atlantic steamship lines has already gone to pieces and rates are down again to \$15 a head for emigrant passengers. This will aggravate the financial troubles of the companies. The Inman line is practically bankrupt; the Cunard company is earning no dividends on its New York line; the White Star and the Guion line are barely holding their own; the French line depends on its subsidy for profit; the German lines are just living, and that is all. It appears to be a question of time when circumstances will compel a consolidation of some of the companies to put an end to the competition.

One explanation of the embarrassment is in the theory that more lines have been established and more steamships laid on than there is any call for. In the summer season all the crack steamers sail full. One has to apply some time beforehand to get a good state room on a Cunarder or a White Star boat, or a French steamer, and good berths are worth \$100. Coming this way, the ships carry about as many cabin passengers as they want, and they often carry also 1,300 or 1,500 immigrants. Allowing \$3 per head, the cost of feeding the latter, the gross receipts from 1,500 would be something like \$18,000. Add \$15,000 from cabin passages, and we have \$33,000, besides the freight money for the outward trip. It seems singular that this does not pay.

There is no doubt that the crack ships on the Atlantic are run very expensively. To make the passage in about seven days an enormous consumption of coal is required even with the latest improved compound engines, and a very large crew of picked and high priced sailors is essential. If the truth were known other leaks would probably be discovered through which the profits of stockholders disappear.

On this side of the world, the three steamship lines which sail out of San Francisco for foreign ports are understood to be making money. There is nothing in the cabin passenger business, though the fares are high, travel being too light. But 1,000 Chinese stowage passengers from Hong Kong pay something like \$45,000, and about \$28,000,000 of merchandise are imported every year in the steamers from China and Japan. The freight money earned on this side is less; but a good many Chinamen go back in every steamer, and as their food costs practically nothing, their passage money is nearly clear profit. The ships are run more cheaply than they are on the Atlantic; they sail more slowly and consume less coal; their crews are not always picked men, hired by the year at high wages. This must be the reason why it pays on the Pacific to carry stowage passengers for \$45 for a twenty-four days' trip, when it does not pay to carry similar passengers for \$15 for an eight-day trip on the Atlantic.

As for the steamers between here and San Francisco, the State of California, Columbia, Queen of the Pacific and Oregon, there is probably no steamship line in the world that pays a handsome dividend on the amount invested. The late Commodore Judkins, of the Cunard line, used to predict that the steamship lines of the future would be of two classes; a line for cabin passengers exclusively, consisting of 12,000 and 15,000-ton ships, which would cross the ocean in six days, and in which the torment of seasickness would be minimized by the enormous bulk of the ships; he thought these vessels would charge double the present rates; and a line exclusively for stowage passengers and freight, consisting of heavy,

slow ships, of 4,000 or 5,000 tons, like the Spain and Egypt of the National line, which would take to fifteen days to cross the ocean, and would accommodate 2,500 stowage passengers at \$10 a head. He prophesied that the new cabin passenger line would run from Austin Corbin's new port on Long Island to Milford Haven. It is very certain that things cannot go on as they are on the Atlantic side. The Cunard company saved money by losing the Oregon, and the Guion company is losing a small fortune by running the Alaska, "the greyhound of the sea." There are not enough people willing to pay big money to save a day's voyage to make such vessels profitable as mercantile propositions.

Since the above was in type the following comes to hand: New York, Feb. 28.—The rate of stowage passage from New York to Europe has been increased on all the principal steamer lines, on an average of \$5. The average rate was \$15, and it was to-day increased to \$20. So that the probable advance has taken place, and an effort thus made to stop the wholesale loss existing under the former low rates.

CHICAGO promises a sensation similar to that occasioned by the prosecution of the boodle aldermen in New York. State's Attorney Grinnell is reported to have said: "I have evidence enough in hand to send every boodle county commissioner to the penitentiary if I can procure a fair and impartial jury to try them."

The more one studies the interstate commerce bill, says the Oregonian, the more he may incline to the opinion that its principal result will be the opportunity it offers to railways to unload their dead-head list.

STATE senator Wager has a little the advantage of most of his legislative colleagues. Since returning from Salem to Umatilla he has been filling his paper with explanations of his actions while at the capital.

THE Jacksonville Sentinel flies the name of Jas. G. Blaine for president at the head of its editorial column; the Albina Courier puts Henry George there.

THE News thinks the newspapers of Oregon can advertise the resources of Oregon more than an immigration board and at much less cost.

A Reliable Article. For enterprise, push and a desire to get such goods as will give the trade satisfaction, J. W. Conn the Druggist leads all competition. He sells Dr. Bosanko's Cough and Lung Syrup, because it's the best medicine on the market, for Coughs, Colds, Croup and Primary Consumption. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Samples free.

NEW TO-DAY. ASTORIA Planing Mill. HOLT & CO. Proprietors. Manufactures of MOLDINGS, SASH DOORS, BLINDS, RAILS, BALUSTERS, NEWEL POSTS, BRACKETS. Scroll and Turned Balustrades. Boat Material, etc. Orders solicited and promptly attended to. Satisfaction Guaranteed as to Style, Quality and Prices. Mill and Office cor. Polk and Concomly streets, Astoria, Oregon.

Special Auction. Thursday, March 3, 10:30 a. m. Sold on Account of Departure. I will sell at my Sale Rooms a lot of Household Effects consisting of Extension Table, Chairs, Bedsteads and lot of Sundries. Also one Heavy Overcoat and lot of Clothing and Fancy Goods. E. C. HOLDEN, Auctioneer.

Rooms and Board. Nicely Furnished Rooms and Good Board at Mrs. Rucker's, over Murray & Co.'s Store.

The First National Bank Will Buy PLATS-P.O., "B. FUND" WARRANTS, and Astoria City Warrants. Annual School Meeting, District No. 18, Clatsop Co., Or. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE legal voters of School District No. 18, of Clatsop county, Or., that the annual school meeting of said district will be held at the district school house, to begin at the hour of 7:30 o'clock P. M. on the first Monday, being the 7th day of March, A. D. 1887. This meeting is called for the purpose of electing one school director for said district to serve for the term of three years. Also to elect a school clerk for said district to serve the term of one year, and to transact any other business usual at such meetings. C. W. SHEPHERD, District Clerk. Dated this 25th day of Feb., A. D. 1887, in the city of Astoria, County of Clatsop, and state of Oregon. 4-107

Cannerymen Get The Best NOTICE. If you want to contract for your summer wood now is your chance. Apply to FRANK L. PARKER Or to the Astoria Wood Yard. Just received at the Astoria Wood Yard 150 cords extra choice Red Fir Wood. Also 50 cords line Vine Maple Limbs. Leave orders with F. L. PARKER. Telephone 36.

DUPLEX AXE. PATENTED AUGUST 21, 1886. 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. CARNAHAN & CO., Agents, Astoria, Price, \$1.50.

Beware of Imitations. SMOKED TANSILL'S PUNCH THE HANDMADE CIGAR. One Agent (dealer only) wanted in every town. H. W. Tansill & Co., 55 Rialto St., CHICAGO.

D. L. BECK & SONS, Agents. W. E. DEMENT & CO. DRUGGISTS. ASTORIA, OREGON. Carry in Stock, DRUGS, CHEMICALS, TOILET and FANCY ARTICLES. Prescriptions carefully Compounded.

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY. There is no occasion for the most fastidious of our citizens to send to Portland or San Francisco for Custom Made Clothes. As they can get Better Fits, Better Workmanship, and for Less Money. By Leaving their Orders with MEANY. He has just received a large stock of Goods from the East. Fine Business Suits from \$35. Call and See Him and Satisfy Yourself. P. J. MEANY, MERCHANT TAILOR. Steam Lanche For Sale. OFFICE DEPOT QUARTERMASTER, Vancouver, W. T., January 1, 1887. For want of use, there will be sold at Portland, Or., on March 3rd, 1887, at public auction to the highest bidder, the United States Steam Lanche "Dispatch." Length, 72 feet, Beam 9 ft., Draught 6 1/2 ft., Main Cabin, 11x20, After Cabin, 7x8, Westinghouse Engine, 35 horse power, Westinghouse Boiler, 8x12, Rate of speed 10 to 11 miles per hour. Sale to take place at foot of Morrison St., Portland, Or., at 10 o'clock A. M. Terms of sale Cash in U. S. currency. All enquiries addressed to the Depot Quartermaster, Vancouver Depot W. T., will be promptly answered. Photograph of boat can be seen at the office of this paper. W. S. PATTEN, Capt. and A. Q. M., U. S. Army.

Annual School Meeting, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE legal voters of School District No. 1, Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, that the annual school meeting of said district will be held at the school house of said district, to begin at the hour of 7:30 P. M., on the first Monday, being the 7th day of March, A. D. 1887. The meeting is called for the purpose of electing one director to serve for three years, and one clerk to serve for one year, and the transaction of the business usual at such meetings. J. G. HUSTLER, Clerk District No. 1. Astoria, Feb. 21, 1887. Cannerymen and Fishermen, Attention. I AM NOW PREPARED TO LEAD LINES with my patent leading machine, guaranteed to do first class work, my price is 5 cts. per lb. and furnish lead. For particulars enquire at Occident Bk. Co. ERIC MAUNULA.

WATCHES, CLOCKS AND JEWELRY. BOOKS, PERIODICALS AND STATIONERY.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE. CARL ADLER, Manager. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. NOTIONS AND CUTLERY.

Magnus C. Crosby Dealer in HARDWARE, IRON, STEEL, Iron Pipe and Fittings, STOVES, TINWARE AND HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS. SHEET LEAD STRIP LEAD SHEET IRON. Tin and Copper. The New Improved Family and Manufacturing SINGER Sewing Machine. Call and Examine at the American News Depot. A. BALMANN, AGENT. All Kinds of Type Writing, MANIFOLDING, Copying, Bookkeeping, etc., done at shortest notice. Legal work a specialty. J. H. MANSELL, Astoria Agent for Hammond Type Writer.

MURRAY & CO., GROCERS And Dealers in Cannery Supplies! Special Attention Given to Filling of Orders. A FULL LINE CARRIED And Supplies furnished at Satisfaction Terms. Purchases delivered in any part of the city. Office and Warehouse In Hume's New Building on Water Street P. O. Box 153. Telephone No. 37. ASTORIA, OREGON. Frank L. Parker, Dealer in Fancy and Staple Groceries. Flour Feed and Potatoes. Headquarters for ASTORIA WOOD YARD.

G. A. STINSON & CO., BLACKSMITHING. Mrs. F. E. Hudson. Having returned from the East, is now prepared to do Fashionable Dressmaking. She can be found at Mrs. F. W. Parker's residence on Polk street, west side, between Chenamus and Concomly.

BOOTS and SHOES. Genuine English Porpoise Shoes For Gents. Ladies' Flexible Sole Shoes in French, Kangaroo and Dongola Kid Boys and Youths Shoes of all Kinds, Misses and Children's and Infant heels, and Spring heels. WE DEAL IN BOOTS AND SHOES ONLY. P. J. GOODMAN.

A. V. ALLEN. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES, PROVISIONS AND MILL FEED. Crockery, Glass and Plated Ware. Teas, Coffees, Spices, &c., &c. Fresh California Butter, Swiss, Holland and New Cream Cheese; Smoked Herring, Holland Herring, Caviar, Anchovies, Tongues and Sounds, White Fish and Mackerel, Schrimps, Lobsters, French Sardines and Oysters. Shrewsbury Ketchup, Chili Sauce, Tobacco Sauce, Celery Salt, French and German Mustard, Leibig's Ex. Beef, Sea Foam Wafers, Van Houghton's Cocoa. Triticum, Germea, Epicurean Food, Oat Porridge, Rolled Oats. Oranges, Lemons, Nuts, Figs, &c., &c.

City Book Store. A Full and Complete Stock Fine Stationery, School Books and Supplies, Blank Books, Artist's Material Musical Instruments, Violins, Guitars, Banjos, Accordeons, etc. Children's Carriages, Wagons and Velocipedes. Agents for Pacific Coast Charts and Tide Tables. GRIFFIN & REED.

The Empire Store. For the Next 30 Days We will sell all of our Ladies' and Children's Cloaks at 25 per cent. Less than Former Prices. We have Just Received a Large Lot of the celebrated Brownsville, Oregon, Woolen Goods in Men's and Boys' Clothing, Underwear, Flannels and Blankets. Also, Direct from the East, Gents', Youths', Boys', and Children's Fine Clothing and Hats. All of which we will sell at the Very Lowest Prices. Our Stock of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods is one of the most complete north of San Francisco. Our past reputation justifies us in saying that We Lead in Quality of Goods and Prices. W. T. PARKER, Manager.

H. B. PARKER, DEALER IN Hay, Oats, and Straw, Lime, Brick, Cement, Sand and Plaster. Wood Delivered to Order. Draying, Trimming and Express Business. STEAMER CLARA PARKER. Eben P. Parker, Master. FOR TOWING, FREIGHT or CHARTER apply to the Captain, or to H. B. PARKER.

Furniture and Upholstering. Mattresses Made and Repaired. Paper Hanging, Carpets Sewed and Laid. Furniture Sold on Commission. Suor, corner Main and Jefferson Streets. MARTIN OLSEN. American News Depot. ON SALE. The latest Magazines and Illustrated papers of the day. Swedish, Danish and German papers, Books and Dictionaries. Lovell and Seaside Libraries, School Books, Stationery, etc. A. BALMANN, Chenamus St. near Main.

J. C. ROSS, COUNTY CORONER. First Class Undertaking Establishment. A FINE HEARSE. Newest style Caskets and Funeral Material. Everything Neat and Well Arranged. Coroner's Office, Undertaking Rooms next to Astorian office, (R. R. Franklin's old stand.)

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J. R. LEESON & CO., BOSTON, SOLE AGENTS AND IMPORTERS. The Johnstone (Scotland) and Grafton (Mass.) Prize Linen Threads AND Salmon Net Twines.

The only Linen Threads awarded a Prize Medal London 1851 and New Orleans Worlds Exposition 1881. Did not exhibit at Philadelphia 1876 or Paris 1878. First Prize Awarded Wherever Exhibited!! References for the Scotch Salmon Net Twines: EVERY CANNER or FISHERMAN who bought it last season. IT GAVE UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION. Agents for the Pacific Coast: KITTLE & CO., 202 Calif. St., San Francisco, Cal.