

Next spring there will be many fine additions to the steamship fleet of the Pacific ocean, as several lines are to have new steamers, large, commodious, convenient and fast.

Another candidate for notoriety is Davis Dalton, an Englishman, who proposes to swim a distance of twenty miles for a purse of fifty pounds sterling. It is a long distance to swim for the sum of \$250, but people can be found who will undertake almost any foolhardy feat for money or notoriety.

SEATTLE was visited by another fire yesterday. The blaze was a fierce one and baffled the efforts of the firemen, but fortunately it was in a locality remote from the city and the town escaped a repetition of the great blizz of a year ago. Seattle may not be fire-faithful like Clara Morris, but all the same the fire bell rings there with alarming frequency.

INSANITY sometimes causes its victims to commit such horrid acts as to almost curdle one's blood. This is exemplified in the telegrams on the first page where an account is given from Minneapolis of a fearful tragedy committed by an insane man, who killed his wife and five children with an axe, and then commenced to cut the arm of one of the dead children.

The secretary of war is to appoint at once a board of army officers whose duty it will be to select a site for an ordnance foundry on the Pacific coast, where cannon for forts and vessels will be manufactured. How would Astoria meet the board? Its location is most excellent, and its harbor facilities cannot be excelled. The board is respectfully invited to consider the advantages Astoria can offer.

THE ASTORIAN acknowledges receipt of a complimentary season ticket to the North Pacific Industrial Exposition to be held in Portland, from September 25th to October 25th, and will endeavor to be represented on the occasion. According to the large number of entries and the demands for space, it is safe to predict that the fair will be an immense success, and in every way superior to the splendid one held last year. These gatherings are of incalculable benefit to this entire coast.

The action of the commander of a French man-of-war in shelling a native village in the New Hebrides is open to severe criticism. It is true that the natives murdered a portion of the crew of a German ship, who went ashore to coerce the natives into going to Sydney to take the places of striking dock laborers, and the dispatch intimates that the Germans essayed to take the islanders by force. The proper course for the French officer to pursue, it appears, would have been to have investigated the matter and punish the murderers, and just how he can justify the wholesale slaughter that his guns caused is not apparent.

Possibly there is a point to be considered which has been overlooked by many, who urge litigation in order to prevent William Reid from acquiring the virtual possession of the Astoria and South Coast railroad as a whole. It may be that Reid will succeed in disposing of the bonds, and if he does, the railroad will undoubtedly be completed, and Astoria will have through railroad connection. The point alluded to is this: just as soon as any legal steps are taken, just so surely are the entire wheels blocked and the bonds cannot possibly be disposed of, and consequently the railroad will not be built for two or three years, as Reid would surely contest any claim attempted to be enforced by a civil action brought against him. The city wants the railroad, it needs and must have railroad connection if it ever expects to occupy any prominent position as a seaport, for which it is by natural surroundings so eminently qualified. It might therefore be better that cool judgment be exercised, and that an amicable adjustment be effected with Reid, that no bar may be interposed towards disposing of the bonds. The railroad must be constructed, no matter who builds it.

"Poor mamma." Not many things in the life of a boy seem more important to him than his first getting into trousers. It is to be doubted, indeed, if he is likely to find much of his after life that will give a joy so keen and unminged; and when Master Jamie, having reached the mature age of "most five," as he puts it, was given his first pair of knickerbockers, the whole family were naturally called upon to rejoice with him. It was after his first transports of joy were over, and he was able to speak of the great event with calmness, that Jamie came to his mother, and after parading up and down before her two or three times, said, in a tone of perfect satisfaction:

"D'you mamma, pants make me feel so like somebody! Don't I look real grown up, mamma?" His mother smilingly told him that she certainly did, and that she could not feel that he was her baby any more. "Didn't I make you feel grown up, mamma," Jamie began, "when you—"

He stopped short. It had evidently come to his mind that his mother had never known this deep delight which so filled his soul. He looked at her a moment, an expression of the deepest pity coming over his face, and then he took her hand in both of his and laid it against his cheek.

"Poor mamma!" he said softly, "Poor mamma! If you'd been my little girl, I'd have let you wear pants just the same as if you'd been a boy."

WHAT WOMEN LIKE. They like men who believe in women. They like their opinions to be thought of some value. They like a man who can be strong as a lion when trouble comes, and yet, if one is nervous and tired, can button up a shoe and do it with an amount of consideration that is a mental and physical bracer-up. They like a man who knows their innocent weaknesses and caters to them; who will bring them a box of candy, the latest magazine, or the latest puzzle sold on the street, that will do more than its duty in entertaining everybody for the whole evening. They like a man who is the master of the situation—that is, who has brains enough to help a woman to decide what is the best thing to do under the circumstances, and who has wit enough to realize, when one of the fairer sex is slightly staid, that persuasion is more powerful than all the arguments in the world. They like a man who likes them—don't scorn their opinions, who believes in their good taste, who has confidence in their truth, and who, best of all, knows that the love promised, is given him. That's the sort of a man a woman likes, and her very sigh of satisfaction, as his virtues are mentioned, is a little groaner that says, "God bless him!" Ladies Home Journal.

The new French dictionary to be published by Delagrave is expected to revolutionize the system of dictionary-making hitherto in vogue, and even to supersede the colossal production of Little.

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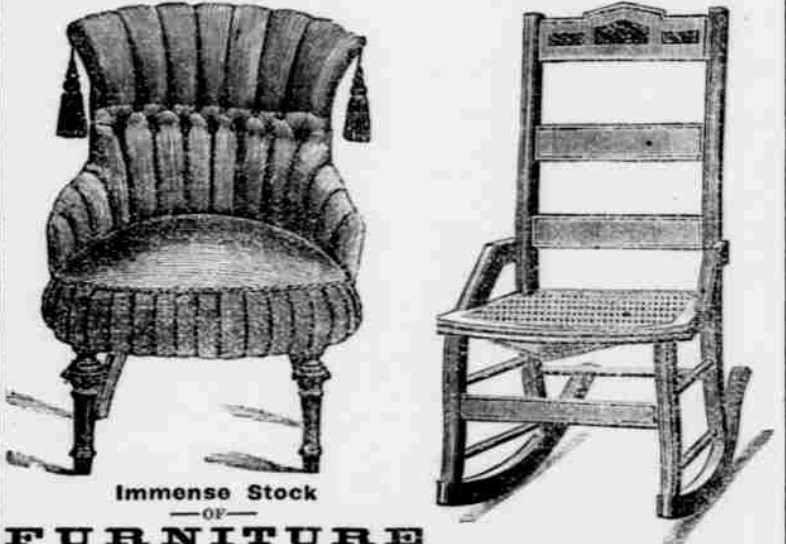
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