

AN ISLAND TRAGEDY.

Salute Island is a French convict station. It is a barren strip of sandy desert, bare absolutely of vegetation. Life there has not one attractive feature.

I was attached a number of years ago to the fleet in the South Atlantic, and during the course of our journey we anchored off Salute Island. One night I sat on the deck in company with another officer. We were lastly smoking our after dinner cigars, when I heard a cry of "Help!" from the water below, followed by a splash.

I ran immediately to the rail, as I thought it was a case of a man overboard. But there was a sailor ahead of me, who tossed a rope to a man who was swimming in the water below. In a moment he was drawn up on deck and at once began an explanation of his appearance.

He was a convict from the dread station on the island. He had seen our flag, and he had swum out to the ship. "Would we take him aboard and enable him to escape?"

I did not listen to another word of explanation. It was altogether too serious a matter for me. The admiral of the fleet was then dining on board the very ship where I was. I sent an officer to him, asking him if he would come on deck.

I shall never forget the picture presented when the admiral appeared. He was in full dress of his rank, as the dinner was one of ceremony. The prisoner was tall, gaunt and haggard. He stood in his convict dress, in an attitude of entreaty.

The admiral said "Well, sir," and then the man began to tell his story in the clear, well modulated French of an educated person. According to his story, he had committed no crime. He had been exiled for his political opinions. He had a wife and family at home. He had come out to the ship at great peril in the hope that he would find freedom here. He swam out to our flag, the emblem of which meant liberty. Had he made his appeal in vain?

The admiral was deeply moved, but his face was stern as he said: "I am sorry, sir, but I can do nothing for you. It is not your life or mine that would be at stake. If we were to take you away, I should be guilty of interfering with the police regulations of a friendly foreign nation, and that would be sufficient cause for war, in which many innocent lives would be lost. I am sorry, but you must go back."

The prisoner's attitude was now one of intense dejection. He said, without further argument, "Sir, you have just condemned me to death."

"How is that?" asked the admiral. "According to the regulations of the island, which is governed by military law," replied the convict, "any prisoner who attempts to escape is shot. At 9 o'clock the rounds of the cell are made. If a prisoner is absent at that hour, his absence is considered as proof of his attempt to get away."

Our admiral started as if he had heard the crack of a shot. "Heavens, man!" said he, "what time is it now?"

He pulled out his watch as he spoke, with a nervous wrench. "It is only 20 minutes to 9; I will get you back."

Without a second's delay, the admiral turned to the side of the ship opposite the island. A few hurried orders were given in a low tone. A boat was dropped. The oars were promptly muffled, and a boat's crew clambered like monkeys.

The prisoner was buried in the bottom of the boat, and within four minutes from the time the order was given, the boat started on its errand of mercy toward the island. A little black cloud came across the moon just as the boat started, as if the elements were lending a kindly hand in concealing the return of the unhappy man.

The officers who heard the story all swarmed to the side with their glasses. We watched in the darkness for the appearance of lights or some signal of alarm. The boat landed without a single sign of disturbance. The prisoner was back a few minutes before 9, in ample time to return to his cell. A sigh of relief was breathed by us all when we saw the boat coming back and nowhere any evidence of anything unusual in the appearance of the island.

But still we felt uneasy. The admiral walked up and down, talking about the poor man. Some way he felt that it was not all right. We could not feel certain of his escape. We sat up nearly all night studying the island through our glasses.

The next morning we felt that we must satisfy in some manner our doubts. The admiral decided to pay a visit of ceremony to the French military commander of the island. The officers on board our ship were invited to accompany him. We thought surely in a visit of this kind we would hear if any unusual event like an attempt at an escape or an execution had taken place.

We all put on full uniform for a visit of ceremony. The admiral's gig was lowered and we set out for the island about 10 o'clock. We were received with great politeness. The French commandant invited us to remain for a mid-day breakfast.

At the close of the meal the commandant selected a young officer of his staff and directed him to turn out with a guard of honor and accompany us back to our boat. The commandant, in giving his instructions, added, "When these gentlemen are ready to depart, give them my message." This phrase sent a cold chill through our company. We felt that everything was not all right.

We marched back in silence to our boat. When every one was in position and the oars were ready to let fall, and pull away, the young French officer said, with his hand to his head in an attitude of military salute: "This is the message of the commandant of this post. He wishes me first to

Advertisement for KARL'S GLOVER'S ROOT BLOOD, claiming to cure various ailments like constipation and skin eruptions.

Advertisement for Marshall's TWINE, featuring an illustration of a man carrying a large bundle of twine.

present to you his compliments. You are brave and honorable men. You have attempted to do a merciful act. Last night a prisoner escaped from this island. He was seen by the sentry as he entered the water. He was seen to swim out in the direction of your ship. We all saw that he was taken on board. Every man in the battery of this island was brought to bear on your ship, waiting your decision. We saw you when you let fall the boat to bring the prisoner back. We watched the boat advance to the island through our night glasses. We received the prisoner as soon as you landed him. Gentlemen, the prisoner was shot at 4 o'clock this morning."—Pearson's Weekly.

DUANE STREET IMPROVEMENT NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Oregon, have determined to improve Duane street in Adair's Astoria, from the west line of 34th street to the west line of 37th street, by grading said street to its full width and establishing a grade where the improvement is on solid ground, and by piling, posts, caps and stringers at other places, where piles or posts are used to be placed to the full width, and where on solid ground 20 feet through the center with sidewalks on both sides thereof.

The lands and premises upon which the special assessment shall be levied to defray the cost and expense of such improvement and the district embracing said lands and premises, be and the same are designated as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the southwest corner of Lot 1, in Block 19, and running thence east on the south line of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, in said block, and Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, in Block 20, to the southeast corner of Lot 4 in Block 20, and thence north on the east line of said Lot 4, and the east line of Lot 5 in Block 19, to the northeast corner of said Lot 5, and thence west on the north line of Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8, in said Block 15, and Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8, in Block 14, to the northwest corner of Lot 8 in said Block 14, and thence southerly on the west line of Lot 8 in Block 14 and Lot 1 in Block 12 to the place of beginning, containing all of Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, in Block 19, 1, 2, 3, and 4, in Block 20, 5, 6, 7, and 8, in Block 15, and 5, 6, 7, and 8, in Block 14, all in the town (now city) of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John Adair.

Estimates of the expense of such improvements and plans and diagrams of such work or improvement and of the locality to be improved have been deposited by the City Surveyor with the Auditor and Police Judge for public examination, and may be inspected at the office of such officer.

At the next regular meeting of the Common Council, after ten days from the final publication of this notice, to-wit: On Wednesday, February 20th, 1905, at the hour of 7:30 p. m., at the City Hall, the said Council will consider any objections to such improvement being made, and if a remonstrance against such improvement, signed by persons owning more than one-half of the property in such district herein described, and in which the special assessment is to be levied shall be filed with the Auditor and Police Judge before the said time of meeting of the Common Council, no such improvement or work shall be ordered except by the concurrence of all the councilmen elect, and if such remonstrance shall be signed by the persons owning three-fourths of all the property in such district and filed with the Auditor and Police Judge before the said time of meeting of the Common Council, no such improvement or work shall be ordered in any event.

By order of the Common Council. K. OSBURN, Auditor and Police Judge, Astoria, Oregon, January 19, 1905.

THIRTY-SEVENTH STREET IMPROVEMENT NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Oregon, have determined to improve thirty-seventh street from the south side of Duane street to the north side of Commercial street, all in the City of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John Adair, by grading said street to its full width and establishing a grade, and putting in new piles and caps and stringers where necessary.

Said improvement to be made in accordance with plans and specifications and ordinances in relation thereto.

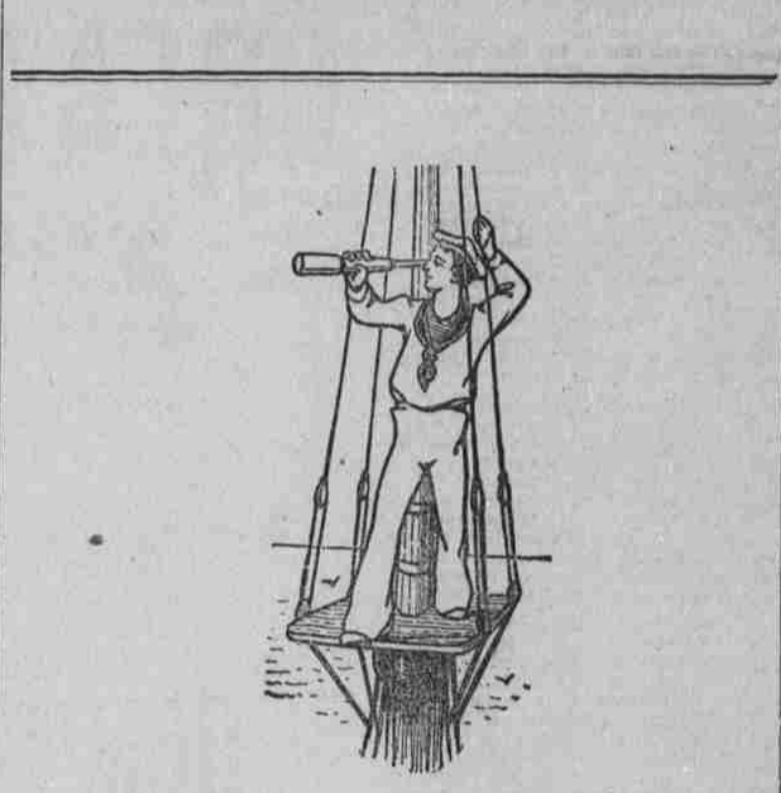
The lands and premises upon which the special assessment shall be levied to defray the cost and expense of such improvement and the district embracing said lands and premises, be and the same are designated as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the southeast corner of Lot Number 7, of Block Number 14, running thence north along the east line of Lots 7 and 2, to the northeast corner of Lot 2, in said Block 14, thence west to the northwest corner of Lot 3, in Block 15, thence south to the southwest corner of Lot 5, in said Block 15, and thence east to the place of beginning, containing all of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 7, of Block 14, and all of Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, in said Block 15.

Estimates of the expense of such improvements and plans and specifications and diagrams of such work, and of the locality to be improved, have been deposited by the City Surveyor with the Auditor and Police Judge for public examination and may be inspected at the office of such officer.

At the next regular meeting of the Common Council, after ten days from the final publication of this notice, to-wit: On Wednesday, February 20th, 1905, at the hour of 7:30 p. m., at the City Hall, the said Council will consider any objections to such improvement being made, and if a remonstrance against such improvement, signed by persons owning more than one-half of the property in such district herein described, and in which the special assessment is to be levied shall be filed with the Auditor and Police Judge before the said time of meeting of the Common Council, no such improvement or work shall be ordered except by the concurrence of all the councilmen elect, and if such remonstrance shall be signed by the persons owning three-fourths of all the property in such district and filed with the Auditor and Police Judge before the said time of meeting of the Common Council, no such improvement or work shall be ordered in any event.

By order of the Common Council. K. OSBURN, Auditor and Police Judge, Astoria, Oregon, January 19, 1905.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder World's Fair Highest Medal and Diploma.



Oregon's Great Seaport.

The prediction of shrewd old John Jacob Astor is about to be fulfilled. The city of Astoria, Oregon, is about to become the greatest seaport and metropolis of Northwest America.

Its location and resources have attracted the attention of capital, and it is today the best field for the investment of money, brains and muscle on the American continent.

This "Largest civilized city in the world without a railroad," is to experience the impetus of a connection in different directions with two of the greatest continental railway systems.

Astoria's harbor advantages (the best on the whole Pacific Coast) are now understood and appreciated; its fishing interests (already paying to the hands employed in the salmon canneries alone over \$250,000 of wages each month) are to be augmented by the investment of outside capital and the erection of large and latest improved plants. The immense forests of Oregon pine surrounding the city are to be converted into lumber for the Australian, Chinese, Japanese, and South American markets.

The great coal fields within a few miles of the city are to be immediately opened, and the product thereof shipped in every direction.

A dairying region unsurpassed in the whole world is to be opened up and afforded an outlet to market.

A harbor, better than that of San Francisco, and the only one with this exception on the more than two thousand miles of Pacific coast, is to be supplied with increased dockage and coaling facilities, and immense grain elevators will be built to store and load the wheat of the Columbia basin directly on the merchant fleets of the world.

Astoria offers openings for many new industries, namely, grist mills, saw mills, paper mills, stove, box, barrel and tub factories, show case works, sash and door factories.

There will be room for many live, energetic and wide-awake men and women with or without money. All inquiries promptly answered. Papers and data supplied on application.

Address ASTORIAN'S INFORMATION BUREAU. Astoria, Oregon.

Advertisement for FREEMAN & BREMNER, Blacksmiths, with address at 197 Olney street.

Advertisement for Dalgity Iron Works, General Machinist and Boiler Works, located at Foot of Lafayette St.

Advertisement for ASTORIA IRON WORKS, located at Concord St., Foot of Jackson, Astoria.

Advertisement for General Machinists and Boiler Makers, listing John Fox as President and Superintendent.

Advertisement for St. George's Rheumatic Bitters, a remedy for rheumatism.

Advertisement for Kopp's Beer Hall, offering choice wines, liquors and cigars.

Advertisement for HUNTER & Mergen's Epicures, featuring pork sausage and other delicacies.

Advertisement for J. A. FASTABEND, GENERAL CONTRACTOR, PILE DRIVER, HOUSE, BRIDGE AND WHARF BUILDER.

Advertisement for FISHER BROS., SHIP-CHANDLERS, HEAVY AND SHELF HARDWARE.

Advertisement for ANTAL-MIDY, a medicine for various ailments.

Advertisement for THE ASTORIA SAVINGS BANK, listing directors and services.

Advertisement for Japanese Bazaar, featuring various goods and services.

Advertisement for SEASIDE SAWMILL, offering a complete stock of lumber.

Advertisement for O.R. & N. Co., with address at 197 Olney street.

Advertisement for THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE, connecting Chicago, St. Paul, and Minneapolis.

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Advertisement for GREAT SHORT LINE, connecting Chicago and Duluth.

Advertisement for ST. PAUL, CHICAGO, and other points east and south.

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