

THE DAILY PAPERS

A Visitor Comments on the Duties of Readers.

HE WHO READS AT BREAKFAST

Does Not Realize the Labor Necessary to Prepare His News of the Morning.

To the Editor:-

We read our morning paper, god-rawledly or grumbly, according to the mood in which we have risen, without a thought of the many minds and hands that have labored to produce it.

Do we ever for an instant stop to consider the immense expense of running a newspaper, reckoning item by item, the elements that have been put in force and the energy expended while we are quietly sleeping that we may be advised over our morning coffee of the whole world's progress?

More than all do we think of the one or two persons connected with every newspaper on whom the responsibility of the whole falls? These must bear and lose, any blame, and be responsible for all that appears on the pages of the paper.

Is there no duty incumbent on the reader? If the newspaper of a small town is eagerly and avidly run in a manner worthy of a large city, why does not the reader show his appreciation of that fact by expressing satisfaction to the editor, and give to that editor for the public praise for his unwearied efforts.

A VISITOR.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

ASTOR HOUSE. R. W. Hardenbrook, C. C. McCorkell, Salem, Portland.

BUYERS AND SELLERS.

The following real estate transfers were filed for record in the office of Recorder Gundersen yesterday:

NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Old Fellows' Land and Building Association will be held at Old Fellows' Hall on Thursday, August 23d, at 2 o'clock p. m.

MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY.

Buy a piano from a manufacturer who warrants his own instruments and not from one who won't warrant his own goods, but depends on a local agent to warrant them for him.

HORACE GREESLEY'S HANDWRITING

How Two Chicken Cocks Wrote an Editorial for Him.

Chief Engineer Lord of the Columbine backs the Astorian the following amusing extract:

"Apropos of the notoriously bad handwriting of Horace Greeley, and the trouble it gave the compositors of the Tribune, Hayden Carruth tells a good story in Harper's Monthly. One of these compositors, named Larkway, a character in the composing room as Greeley was in the editorial sanctum, was noted for being able to make something out of anything Mr. Greeley wrote. On one occasion two live young roosters of a new strain were sent to the editor as a present, but he complained that they ate up all his paper, and he gave them to the foreman of the composing room to get rid of them. What followed Mr. Carruth tells thus:

"After they had been with us a couple of weeks the boy one day left the ink roller of the proof press on the floor. One of the roosters walked over it and then across a pile of white paper. The foreman saw him and a great light burst in upon his mind which nearly stunned him. He stepped his leg over his hand hard enough to break it, and shut his jaws together like a vise to keep from breaking out in a volcanic of laughter. He walked to his desk as if in a trance, keeping his eye on Larkway. Before he went home he spoke to the proof-reader and one or two others, and they traced

tured their legs with their hands and then they all went off to the hospital for the night.

"The next afternoon they were back at the office two hours before the usual time. The foreman caught one of the roosters and the proof-reader the other, and they took them over in the corner behind the imposing stone. They had previously sent the devil down to Mr. Greeley's room to get a dozen sheets of the paper he always wrote on. These they spread on the floor in the form of a square, carefully inked the feet of the fowls and set them to fighting on the paper copy. They had just had a meal of cockroaches and they went at each other savagely. Every two or three minutes the men would take them off, ink the bottoms of their feet and beat them into the ring again. At the end of twenty minutes every sheet of the paper was covered with their tracks, and the foreman gathered up the pages, numbered them and scribbled a mark on the first one, 'The Plain Duty of Congress' in the imitation of Greeley's hand, marked the whole 'Brevier-Double Head,' and stung it on the copy book.

"Pretty soon the men began to drop in, but they had all heard the same story, and a while Larkway came lumbering along. He had just made a new pipe out of the biggest corn ever raised in Cayuga county and a particularly crooked pig's tail from York, Va., and seemed unusually port. He started the conflagration in his pipe and put on his spectacles and walked to the book.

"Hey! You fellows, still soldiering, ain't you? The crowd said 'Still afraid of the old man's stuff, hey? Can't rattle with it, can't you? Had to leave it for old Larkway, didn't you? Well, that is all right. I like it. You do me a favor when you leave it to me.'

"He took it, walked over and slammed it down on his upper case, planted a handful of leads at the bottom of it, and picked up his stick. Every man in the room held his sides and watched to see the old man flabbergasted, but by the goodness of Truth he began to set it.

"Yes, Larkway started to set it. At the end of the second line he began to look troubled, laid down his stick, and we thought our moment of victory was come, but he only swore a little, knocked the ash out of his pipe, refilled it, with one of the husks from the outside, picked up his stick and went on. You could have packed every one of us in a hat box. The old cave-dweller worked on and never looked up again until he had got almost to the bottom of the last page. Here he stuck on the piece where the rooster had slapped down the end of his wing, also inky. Larkway studied over it for a long time, then said to the foreman:

"Darn! If the best of us don't get hung up on a word once and a while, what's that down there?"

"Don't ask me, said the foreman. 'You know that I cannot read the stuff. Go down and ask the old man himself.'

"Larkway shuffled out with a long face carrying his pipe in one hand and the copy in the other. He went into the chief's room and said in a low tone: 'Mr. Greeley, I'm stuck. What is that word?'

"Greeley snatched the sheet from his hand impatiently, studied for a moment, and then squeaked in his highest voice: 'Unconstitutional, sir! Great Jehoshaphat, it seems to me that some of this stuff was full of pesky college graduates, and after I have given the janitor strict orders not to allow one of them in the building.'

GOLD IN IDAHO AND MONTANA.

The Engineering and Mining Journal says: "While we do not hear quite as much of the increase in gold production from placer mines in Idaho and Montana as we did a year ago, there is still a great deal of such work going on in a quiet way, the results of which will be apparent in the returns for the year. In Idaho especially the number of placer miners at work is large and the season so far has been fairly favorable. In Oregon also the placers are being prospected more thoroughly than for a long time past, and in several cases extensive operations have been undertaken. It must be remembered that in these northern states there are difficulties in the way of prospecting which are not found in the regions further south. In a country where the climate permits work to be carried on for six months in the year at the most a larger capital is needed for operations, and the individual prospector's field is much restricted. Moreover, in Oregon and Washington, and in a large part of Idaho and Montana also, the dense forest growths are a very serious hindrance to travel and exploration. They not only render progress slow and difficult, but prevent the ready examination of the surface indications, which is easy in an open country. Under all the circumstances it was to be expected that the development of the mining resources of the northern regions would proceed more slowly than that of Colorado and New Mexico, in spite of their undoubtedly great resources."

The Daily Astorian positively guarantees to advertisers a larger City, County and State circulation than all other papers published in Astoria combined.

MONSTER SNAKE.

With a Body as Big Around as a Water Pail.

New York Recorder. The people of this neighborhood are very much alarmed over the fact that a monster snake has been at large on the outskirts of the town for a number of days, and it is feared that somebody will be attacked by the serpent before it is killed or captured.

The monster was first seen about three weeks ago by Justice Vektor. Since then it has been seen at intervals by I. W. Valentine, superintendent of the Baptist Union Sunday school, and by Dr. Oliver Jones. The latter chased the snake into the woods in an effort to capture it, but was unsuccessful.

All agreed that the snake is about 12 feet in length, with a body as big around as a pail. Its head is diamond shaped, and its top is surmounted by a crown that is shaped like a crown. Some time ago, Dr. Wood, a resident of this place, died, but before his death he illustrated a number of large snakes which he had captured. The snake which has been seen is believed to be one of them. The monster is referred to by the people hereabouts as the "King of Snakes."

Boston Post. One of the hardest things sometimes is to be patient with ourselves. Boys and girls who hear nothing but words of reproof or complaint, and sit down at the end of the day without having heard one word of encouragement, say to themselves, it is no use trying. Dr. Arnold relates that he was once bending over a boy who was slow at his sum, and spoke to him roughly. The boy said: "Dr. Arnold, why do you speak so harshly? I am doing the best I can," and the doctor said the words haunted him so during the night that he could not sleep, for thinking who he was that he should be impatient with one who was doing the best he could.

CHINESE OBJECT.

But Will No Doubt Yield the Point.

Washington, August 20.—The state department was informed today that there was some disposition on the part of the Chinese officials not to allow the American and British officers to be present at the investigation of the Ku Cheng riots. It is stated at the department that the usual hitch has occurred in which the Chinese officials have refused to allow any interference with the British forms of procedure.

In every case where there have been investigations of this kind, the same objections have been made, the Chinese officials insisting that they may lose prestige with their people if they allow foreigners to participate in their courts. These objections have always ended in submission of the Chinese after some delay.

It is understood that the Chinese minister has informed his government that the best interests of China will be subserved by according to the American and British officers thorough facilities for obtaining all the information desired. The attention of China has been called to the fact that when the United States government was investigating the Chinese riots in this country, the officials of the Chinese government were asked to be present to obtain all particulars.

WASHINGTON'S NEW STATEHOUSE.

Olympia, August 20.—The state capital commission met today and opened bids for the construction of the superstructure of the capitol building. But two bids were on file, one from W. M. Shewry, Chicago, who bid \$1,223,500 for the complete building; the other from Jonathan Clark & Sons, Chicago, for \$1,054,354. Both were rejected because not in accordance with the call for bids in that they exceeded the limit placed on the cost of the building by the act of the legislature, and also were not accompanied by sufficient bonds. A new call for bids will be made to be received up to November 19.

COXEY IN THE FIELD.

Guthrie, August 20.—General J. S. Coxey the Populist candidate for governor of Ohio, is, according to the statement of a leading Oklahoma politician, after the congressional nomination from this territory. His recent trip to the southwest, it is now said by prominent Populists here, was for the purpose of looking over the field preparatory to taking up his residence here. It is understood that he will return to Oklahoma after the Ohio election, if he is not elected, and run for congress next fall.

WEATHER REPORT.

Portland, August 20.—For Washington, showers, followed by fair weather in the western portion. Fair weather in eastern portions. For Oregon—Fair weather.

The Astorian is an established institution. It was here yesterday, and last week, and twenty years ago. It will be here tomorrow, and next year, and twenty years after that. It is of known circulation—twice as great as all the other papers of this city combined—and your advertisement is always read. Our advertisers are not fools. They advertise in the Astorian liberally and well because it pays.

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—TO—

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China steamers leave Vancouver, B. C.:

Empress of India - - - Aug. 19th.

Empress of Japan - - - Aug. 26th.

Empress of China - - - Sept. 16th.

Empress of India - - - Oct. 12th.

Empress of Japan - - - Nov. 11th.

Empress of China - - - Dec. 9th.

Australian steamers leave Vancouver, B. C. 16th of every month.

For ticket rates and information call on or address

JAS. FINLAYSON, Agent, Astoria, Or.

W. F. Carson, Traveling Pass. Agt., Tacoma, Wash.

Geo. McL. Brown, Dist. Pass. Agt., Vancouver, B. C.

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