

ATHENA PRESS

F. B. BOYD, PUBLISHER.

Entered at Athena postoffice as second-class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:

Per year, in advance, \$1.50
Single copies, in wrappers, 5c.

Advertising Rates:

Local reading notices, first insertion, 10c per line. Each subsequent insertion, 5c.

All communications should be addressed to the PRESS, Athena, Oregon.

ATHENA, JULY 29, 1898.

True to the promise he made to Prince Henry in Hong-Kong three months ago, Admiral Dewey has demonstrated that it is not advisable for German ships to interpose between American war vessels and Spanish forts. The demonstration was vicarious—that is, Dewey was not on hand in person—but the moral effect of the incident will be the same. The action of the Raleigh and the Concord in bombarding Grande Island while the German gunboat Irene was in the line of fire will probably convince Prince Henry and Admiral Diederichs that Dewey meant exactly what he said. The demonstration was evidently entirely convincing to the captain of the Irene, who instead of continuing a passive protest against the bombardment, incontinently slipped his cable and ducked out of range as fast as steam would carry him.

Among the graduates of the Iowa State University this year was a colored man who paid his way through school as a hotel waiter. He ranked high in his class and by his scholarship won membership in the Phi Beta Kappa society—the society of scholars. That shows what a young man can do under the most discouraging circumstances. White boys as a rule have to contend only against lack of means, and there are usually opportunities of employment at fair wages open to them. The black boy in question had to support himself by one of the most menial of occupations and win his way in his class against race prejudice. All the more credit is due him for his success on that account.

The armor plate placed on our war vessels was perhaps a little high-priced, but judging from the reports from the front it is worth all Uncle Sam paid for it. The cruiser Brooklyn was hit 45 times during the running fight with Cervera at Santiago, when all of the Spanish fleet concentrated their fire on that one vessel with the hope of being able to put it out of commission, and then when our speediest vessel was gone to be able to escape, and the news comes that the Iowa was hit 11 times, twice with 11-inch armor piercing shells, without effect.

General Garcia has resigned his position as commander of the Cuban forces near Santiago. He certainly has grievances against the United States authorities. The Cubans were not recognized or proper courtesies shown to them when Santiago surrendered. Nor was due respect paid the Cubans when government was reorganized in Santiago. Instead of reinstalling Spanish officials others should have been placed in authority. This war was not begun to continue Spanish rule in Cuba but to eradicate it.

Arthur Bride, who has been mourned as dead 16 years by his relatives in Rochester, N. Y., turns up with a fortune of \$300,000 in hard gold made in the Klondike, and deeds to \$3,000,000 worth of claims. He happened to be on the spot when the strikes were made and his wanderings had given him the necessary knowledge of mining to make good locations.

After this war is over the nations of the world will be convinced that Americans are the best fighters on earth, and will not be poking fun at our "little navy." Few of them

will care to measure strength with a nation that can wipe out a single fleet without the loss of a single vessel and the loss of only one man. Yankee marksmanship has proven too accurate for any of them.

An exchange speaks of a man who it is said always pays for his local paper in advance. As a result he has never been sick a day in his life, never had any corns on his toes, or the toothache, his potatoes never rot, his oats never rust, the weasel never kills his chickens, the frost never kills his beans, his babies never cry at nights and his wife never scolds.

The conduct of our allies at Santiago is not encouraging. The Cubans are anxious to get into the city, no doubt to wreak vengeance upon their former enemies. Revenge with the Cuban is one of his most striking characteristics. The American army is capable of holding them in check, and in time will educate them to forgive their enemies of the past.

There was a time when "Remember the Maine" meant something, but lately so many rough jests have grown out of the expression that it seems almost sacrilege. It is to be regretted that the practical joker found it necessary to use as sacred a motto as that for the carrying out of his humorous ideas.

Judging from the results of the present war, the safest place in battle is on board an American warship. It is ten to one that the vessel will not be hit, and if hit it is one hundred to one that no damage will be done.

War is no respecter of the holy Sabbath. It was Sunday morning when Dewey sailed into Manila bay, and when Cervera undertook to sail out of Santiago harbor on Sunday what could Sampson do but follow him?

After the American flag was hoisted on the bluff near Guantanamo, the next thing set up was a United States post office. The government will be collecting box rents from all over Cuba in a short time.

Among the cities of the United States Honolulu will be one of the first favorites as both a winter and summer resort. The thermometer there is noted for its moderate range and uniformity.

The government cook book tells how to prepare flapjack, but not how to turn it with a flip in the air. Cook books maintain their reputation for leaving out the most important point.

With the new war stamps, the Omaha stamps and the regular issues, all circulating at the same time, there is likely to be a vast confusion of colors and denominations.

PORTO RICO.

Richest in Resources of all Spanish Possessions in the Indies.

The Spanish West India island that General Miles has started to invade with his gallant American soldiers was discovered by Columbus, November 16, 1492.

Better roads than in Cuba. Soil extraordinarily fertile. Railways are in their infancy. Exports in 1896, \$17,295,535. Much more healthy than Cuba. San Juan has 37,000 inhabitants. It is a land of rivers and streams. Imports in 1896, \$18,945,793. The climate though hot is agreeable. Population in 1887, 317,000 souls. Gold, copper, iron and coal in plenty. Principal mining industry that of salt.

Rainy season from August to December. In 1895 San Juan sacked by the English. San Juan is the best port in the West Indies.

Agriculture only surely successful by irrigation. Here Ponce de Leon first sought the fountain of youth.

Telegraph service incomplete and only partially maintained.

The capital is San Juan Bautista, founded in 1510 by Ponce de Leon.

Porto Rico is 108 miles long, 37 broad and has an area of 2400 square miles.

LAUNCHING A BATTLESHIP.

It Is a Complex Problem and a Slight Mistake Would Cost Millions.

Albert Franklin Matthews tells an interesting story of "The Evolution of a Battleship," in the Century. This is a history of the construction of the Indiana, so far the only vessel of this class we have in our navy. After describing the wonderful power of this monster, the most formidable engine of war in the world, and the manner of its construction, Mr. Matthews says:

So the building goes on until the launching day comes, and two broad ways are built up against the bottom of the vessel, and the keel-blocks on which it has been resting are knocked away. In the launch of the Indiana Mr. Nixon ran a row of electric lights beneath the bottom of the vessel, adding another innovation to the details of American ship-building. Each launching way consists of upper and lower planking, between which is spread thousands of pounds of the best tallow. At the bow of the boat these upper and lower planks are clamped together, and when all is ready they are sawed apart, and the vessel starts. The upper part of the ways slides into the water with the vessel, and the lower part with the smoking hot tallow remains stationary.

A launch in these days is so smooth, and so soon ended, rarely occupying more than twelve seconds from start to finish, that one scarcely realizes its difficulties. These things are absolutely necessary; it must be on time, when the tidal water is highest; it must be of smart speed, so as not to stick on its downward journey to the water; and it must be accomplished without straining. So complex a thing is a launch that the careful engineer-in-charge is able to estimate the strain on every part of the vessel for every position it occupies, at intervals of one foot, on its way down the incline.

There is one supreme moment. It is when the vessel is nearly two-thirds in the water. The buoyancy of the water raises the vessel and throws its weight on its shoulders. Here is where the greatest danger of straining comes, and should the ways break down the vessel would be ruined, a matter of nearly two million dollars in a ship like the Indiana when it was launched.

The launch over, the machinery is lifted in and fitted, and then comes the board of government experts, who look the vessel over inch by inch, the fires are started, and the trial trip follows. For four hours, amid suppressed excitement that answers nervously to every quiver of the vessel, the engines are run at full speed. A premium or penalty is at stake now. The breakage of a bolt or the disarrangement of a valve may mean thousands of dollars of loss to the contractors. Trained workmen are locked in the firerooms, not to be released until the test is over. Cooled drinking water with oatmeal sprinkled upon it is run down to them in a rubber tube from a barrel on the deck. A hose is played on the costly machinery in places where there is danger from overheating, as though it were on fire. Almost every pound of coal used on the trip is carefully selected.

When the four hours are passed and the strain is over a sigh of relief from everyone on board, and even from the vessel herself, goes up, and the ship passes from the contractor to the government, and day after day while she is in commission the flag will be saluted and the score or more of other ceremonies and formalities observed on a man-of-war will follow.

No Gripe

When you take Hood's Pills. The big, old-fashioned, sugar-coated pills, which tear you all to pieces, are not in it with Hood's. Easy to take

Hood's Pills

and easy to operate, a true of Hood's Pills, which are up to date in every respect. Safe, certain and sure. All druggists, 25c. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Wm. McBride,

Dealer in.

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Fine Chemicals, Pharmaceutical Specialties, Dye Stuffs.

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Sundries.

Toilet & Fancy articles, Combs, Brushes, Perfumery, Powders, Preparations for the teeth. Prescriptions carefully compounded.

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Everything first-class at the "Palace."

This Is Your Opportunity.

On receipt of ten cents, cash or stamps, a generous sample will be mailed of the most popular Cathartic and Hay Fever Cure (Ely's Cream Balm) sufficient to demonstrate the great merits of the remedy.

ELY BROTHERS,

56 Warren St., New York City.

Rev. John Reid, Jr., of Great Falls, Mont., recommended Ely's Cream Balm to me. I can emphasize his statement, "It is a positive cure for eczema if used as directed."—Rev. Francis W. Poole, Pastor Central Pres. Church, Helena, Mont.

Ely's Cream Balm is the acknowledged cure for eczema and contains no mercury nor any injurious drug. Price, 50 cents.

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Carries the best line of Cigars, Tobaccos and soft drinks in the city. Call and inspect his stock.

Athens, Oregon

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A. F. & A. M. NO. 80 MEETS THE First and Third Saturday Evenings of each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited to visit the lodge.

I. O. O. F. NO. 73 MEETS EVERY Friday night. Visiting Odd Fellows a good standing always welcome.

A. O. U. W. NO. 104 MEETS THE Second and Fourth Saturdays of each month. Lake France, Recorder.

ATHENA CAMP, NO. 171, Woodmen of the World, meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Visiting Choppers always welcome. G. C. OSBURN, Clerk.

PTHIAN, NO. 29, MEETS EVERY Thursday Night.

S. F. SHARP, Physician and Surgeon.

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Fine work at short notice, with the best kind of materials, neat and artistically done. Fillings in Gold and Silver a specialty.

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DEPART TIME SCHEDULES ARRIVE

2:45 a. m. Pendleton, Salt Lake, Denver, Omaha, Chicago, and East via Oregon Short Line.

9:27 p. m. Spokane, Roseland, St. Paul, Duluth, Chicago and East via Great Northern.

11:10 a. m. Weston, Milton, and Walla Walla.

3:45 p. m. Pendleton, Portland, and West.

8 p. m. OCEAN STEAMSHIPS All sailing dates subject to change. For San Francisco Sail Aug 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30.

7 p. m. To Alaska Sail Aug 8, 22.

8 p. m. COLUMBIA RIVER STEAMERS, To Astoria and waylandings.

6 a. m. WILLAMETTE RIVER Ex. Sunday.

7 a. m. WILLAMETTE and YAMHILL RIVERS, Oregon City, Newberg, Salem & waylandings.

6 a. m. WILLAMETTE RIVER Ex. Sunday.

7 a. m. WILLAMETTE and YAMHILL RIVERS, Oregon City, Dayton and waylandings.

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ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED to cure any case of constipation. Cascarets are the Ideal Laxative and booklet free. All STEELING BERRY CO., Chicago, Montreal, Can., or New York. B17

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