

DEVOTED TO ALL LIVE ISSUES.

THE INTERESTS OF SOUTHERN OREGON ALWAYS FOREMOST.

The Development of our Mines, the Improvement of our harbors, and railroad communication with the Interior, specialties.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

State of Oregon. Governor, W. W. Thayer; Secretary of State, R. P. Earhart; Treasurer, E. Hursh; Supt. Public Schools, J. L. Powell. 2d Judicial District. Judge, J. F. Watson; District Attorney, S. H. Hazard. Coos County. County Judge, J. H. Noster; Commissioners, John Kenyon, R. C. Dement, Sheriff, A. G. Aiken; Clerk, Alex. Stauff; Treasurer, D. Morse, Jr.; Assessor, John Lane; School Superintendent, J. F. Moore; Coroner, T. C. Mackey. Curry County. County Judge, Delos Woodruff; Commissioners, P. Hughes, J. A. Cooley, Sheriff, A. H. Moore; Clerk, Walter Sutton; School Supt., A. M. Gillespie; Treasurer, M. B. Gibson; Coroner, Thos. Cunningham.

An Indian Policy.

The senate committee on Indian affairs have agreed to report for passage the original bill designed to cover the entire range of various new provisions based upon the general principle that the United States should in a great measure abandon the policy of treating Indians as children, and place them as speedily as possible upon the footing of citizens. The main features of the plan outlined by the committee, are: First—Permanent localization of the Indians by allotting homesteads to them in the several territories with provision that the lands so allotted shall be absolutely inalienable during a period of 25 years. Second—Extension over the Indians of the general civil and criminal laws of the United States, or of the respective states and territories within whose borders they are located. Third—Continuation of a certain degree of assistance to them by the government in line of their progress toward civilization, until they become self-sustaining by means of agricultural and pastoral occupations. It is not proposed by the committee to transfer the control of Indians to the war department, but the bill will largely divest the interior department of discretionary power in regard to the Indians by placing them individually under the country's general laws. The provisions of the bill are to apply to the five civilized tribes of Indian Territory. Its details will be a subject for consideration at future meetings. Col. Brooks, acting commissioner of Indian affairs, said that all tribes except the Utes and Lemhis are on reservations, and capable of supporting themselves by means of agriculture or stock raising.

Our Health.

The comparative rate of mortality, prepared by the government, shows that Oregon, as a state, is the healthiest in the union. The following table, taken from the government statistics, shows that the proportion of deaths to the number of inhabitants in some of the principal eastern states, compared with the Pacific coast: EASTERN STATES. Maine and Louisiana 1 in 48 die yrly; Illinois and Indiana 1 in 47 " Arkansas 1 in 48 " Kansas 1 in 68 " Vermont 1 in 92 " PACIFIC COAST STATES. California 1 in 101 die yrly; Oregon 1 in 172 "

Though there may be some sickness incident to the humid climate of the coast region, the people who come here from the east are benefited by the change. The country east of the Cascades is dryer and the air lighter than in the valleys of the coast, and a good change in climate and atmosphere is possible in one day. Almost as great a change may be realized in one day's travel from Portland to The Dalles as to remove from the region of Richmond, Va., to Denver, Col. There is no parallel in climate, however, for the dense air of the coast country has not the oppressive heat of Virginia, and the air of the Cascades and Blue mountains is not near as cold or changeable as the atmosphere of Colorado. Resources of Or. An exchange says Barnum proposes to benefit the suffering in Ireland with another \$100,000. His plan, however, differs from that of the New York Herald. It consists in buying Western lands and selling alternate plots to immigrants on condition of immediate improvement; and also, in advancing money to bring families from Ireland, or any other part of the world, and in starting them so that they may be able to take care of themselves.

THE COAST MAIL.



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WRITTEN FOR THE COAST MAIL. HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

OF Oregon's Southern Coast.

NUMBER IX.

CAPT. L. L. WILLIAMS, AND THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION OF 1851.

We now enter upon the most important, as well as the most interesting incident in the history of Coos and Curry counties, the ill-fated expedition of 1851. Of this expedition L. L. Williams, a man well known in southern Oregon, now a resident of Waisburg, W. T., and Mr. Hedden, of Seaside, are the sole survivors. The expedition was one of great hardship and peril from the commencement, and terminated in a deadly hand-to-hand fight near the mouth of the Coquille river, from which but five came off alive. The part borne by L. L. Williams in this expedition and the bloody conflict in which it terminated, as well as his career since, are of such a remarkable character, and so closely connected with the history of southern Oregon, that we here introduce, by way of preface, a brief sketch of his life.

L. L. Williams was born in the State of Vermont, in 1831, moved with his parents to Michigan in 1833, his father settling sixty miles northwest of Detroit. Young Williams never attended school, and all the educational advantages ever enjoyed by him were those of his own creating. He was endowed by nature with a strong constitution, and at the age of fifteen was a man in size, broad-shouldered, well-developed, and possessing in its fullest degree the determined and self-reliant spirit that has since carried him through hardships that very few men could survive. It was at this age that he joined a company engaged in hunting and trapping for furs along the northern boundary, from the Lakes to the Rocky Mountains, and remained in this service for five years. He saw many hardships and many narrow escapes; they were surrounded by Indians more or less hostile, and were frequently attacked by small bands, which were repelled by the daring frontiersmen. The experience acquired in this business served him a good purpose in after life. In 1850 he came to California, and the following year came to Port Orford in the steamer Sea Gull, of which Wm. Tichenor was commander. He received a severe wound in the fight with the Indians near the mouth of the Coquille, in September, 1851, being then twenty years of age, arrived at the Umpqua some days later, and remained an invalid from his wound for some years. He was twice County Treasurer of Umpqua county, and twice County Clerk of the same county. Douglas and Umpqua counties were consolidated in 1863, and he filled the office of County Clerk of Douglas county three terms by election, and two by appointment, and in the year 1863 Williams was enrolling officer for this district and became Captain of a Co. of volunteers and spent the following two or three years with his command among the Indians of Southeastern Oregon.

He has been a Government Deputy Surveyor and chief clerk in the Roseburg Land Office. He also took an active part in the Snake Indian campaigns. In 1874 he visited the buffalo country on the Saskatchewan river in British America and thence to the Black Hills in 1876. In 1879 he made an extended tour of the Yellowstone country and wrote some interesting description of the remarkable scenery of the National Park.

Williams is a bachelor of medium height, strongly built, and a man whose acquirements and general intelligence considering his want of early training, are quite remarkable. He is one of the best clerks in Oregon, and his long experience in the clerks office united with sound judgement a habit of close observation, have given him a better knowledge of the forms of law than is generally to be found outside of the legal profession. He is a good financier and has acquired a handsome competence. He never gambles, uses tobacco nor drinks tea, coffee nor whiskey; is always honest and straight forward in business, and enjoys the fullest confidence of all his acquaintances. He is a strange combination of a self-taught scholar, a life-long backwoodsman, a first class hunter, a good explorer and mountaineer, and a persistent Indian hater. For this last named quality he has as good warrant as any man living, as will appear more fully from the following extracts from his journal, the facts and details for which were carefully noted by Williams and Hedden immediately after the occurrences narrated, and while the incidents were fresh in the minds of the actors. Having thoroughly explored the whole coast from the mouth of the Coquille River 30 miles north of Port Orford to the California line about 90

miles south, it was determined to organize a party to explore the interior, and about the middle of August 1851 an expedition of 23 fine young men under the charge of W. G. T. Vault left Port Orford, to examine the Coast Range mountains, and find a practicable route if one existed, for a road or pack trail from the Coast eastward to a point on the Oregon and California trail near Shasta. T. Vault was an old Oregonian, had been six or seven years in the country, and his services had been secured to explore this region of country in the interest of the Port Orford company. He was represented as being a good practical mountaineer, and an experienced Indian fighter. The most of the party were emigrants of that year, or the year previous, and had but very little knowledge of the geography of the country, and but few of them had ever been accustomed to mountain life or the ways of hostile Indians, yet all were anxious to be off, looking forward to the time when they might immortalize themselves in some hand-to-hand conflict with the natives, or reach the rich gold fields of the Shasta country, which at this time was attracting the attention of the adventurous gold miners from all parts of the coast. The parties in interest at Port Orford being more directly interested in the success of this expedition, had provided about eight days rations, asserting confidentially that no longer time would be needed in passing over the mountains to the mining districts in the interior where supplies could be obtained.

Heroic Women.

The extraordinary courage of the Albanian women has been displayed over and over again in the history of the country; but one of the most celebrated instances was that recorded of the branch of the Albanian people represented by the Suliotes, when they were besieged by Ali Pasha in 1792. The Suliotes formed a semi-independent confederacy, comprising 66 villages, in the districts of Margarit, Paramythia and Janina. Up to the time of Ali Pasha they prided themselves on the regularity of the payments of their dues to the Porte. But the intrigues of the cunning old Veli, who wanted to get the whole of the spahilik of Suli into his greedy hands, soon roused the people into rebellion, and they commenced their glorious and lengthened war against the far greater resources of the renowned Pasha. The latter, by means of the duplicity of which he was such a consummation master, had entrapped Tazvella, one of the Suliote heads of houses, into his power, and then laid siege to the town of Suli. He endeavored by bribes to induce Tazvella to turn traitor. Cunning here met its match; the crafty Suliote pretended compliance, and even led his own son Foto in Ali Pasha's hands as a hostage. He returned to Suli under pretense of betraying the town, but no sooner had he arrived than he sent a letter of defiance to the Pasha. Ali assailed the town, and it was here that the heroism of the Albanian women became so conspicuous. Mosko, the wife of Tazvella and mother of Foto, showed degrees of valor during the siege. She broke open some cartridge-boxes with a hatchet, and then loaded them on the other women, and rushing into the trenches, distributed them among the Suliotes. All threatened to roast alive her son Foto, but she replied that she was young and could have other children, and that she would eat a bit of the roasted flesh of her son rather than betray her country.—Blackwood's Magazine.

Gov. Garcelon's Love Marriage.

His first wife was Miss Waldron, and by her he had five children, four of whom are now alive. He went out with a Maine regiment early in the war, but soon returned home. When he came back he married the wife of a man who had gone to California when the fever broke out, but who had always sent back plenty of money. Just before the marriage \$700 was received from him, and this helped to buy the wedding presents. Just three weeks after the marriage the former husband returned from California and was greatly surprised to find that his wife was the wife of another. He went to Garcelon and told him he could keep the woman, but he wanted his money back. An arrangement was made and he returned to California. Rochester Democrat.

The Secretary of the Navy has been cabled from Montevideo that the U. S. steamer Marion had arrived there from Rio, and that six officers and fifty men had been down with the yellow fever. Lieutenant Wallis died on the 23d, and Rogers, an apprentice on the 20th. All the officers, except one midshipman, were well and convalescing. The officers and men were ashore on Flores Island. It is supposed that the fever originated at Rio while the vessel was coaling.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE MAIL.

Surroundings of the Imperial Household in Russia.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says it may be unintelligible to many persons abroad how the nihilists succeed in doing their work in the very residence of the royal family. Probably no other building in St. Petersburg is less safe than the winter palace. It has always been a refuge for numberless vagabonds, workmen, friends of servants and others, and many without passports who could not live with impunity anywhere else. The imperial ukase of last April gave full power to Gen. Gourka to search the buildings of the palace, but even that severe governor could hardly venture, such is Russian administration, to interfere with the special authorities of the imperial residence. There is an old Russian law which gives the right of sanctuary to criminals taking refuge within the buildings of the imperial palaces, so far as concerns the ordinary police, who have no jurisdiction in such cases. No fewer than five thousand persons have been living in the winter palace, and nobody has ever known the precise duty of one-half of them. The appointment of Gen. Malloff as virtual dictator has created a good impression, especially in circles where he himself and his previous administrations are best known. His rule at Kharkeff, though mild, has been effectual in repressing disorders. His views generally are known to be liberal. All classes feel that the measures taken are necessary and wise, and think Gen. Malloff is the man most fitted for the place. No well informed person believes in any widespread conspiracy amongst dignitaries, court officials or military.

Stammering.

Stammering is the result of a functional disorder of that part of the brain which presides over the faculty of speech, according to an article of Dr. Hammond. This is proved, he says, by the fact that all stammers can at times speak as well as other persons. "There is no defect in the organs of speech, but there is a condition present which, at times, especially when the subject is excited or interested, or especially tries to do his best, prevents the normal systematic articulation of certain syllables. And this appears to be due to an impossibility of co-ordinating the muscles by which speech is effected—of bringing them into harmonious and systematic action." Dr. Hammond was a stammerer at 19 but entirely cured himself, mainly by the performance of some slight muscular action synchronously with the articulation of difficult syllables. "With each troublesome word," he explains, "especially with one beginning a sentence, I made some slight motion with my hand or foot, or even with a single finger, and I found that this plan enabled me to get the word out without stammering. In this procedure the attention is diverted from the effort to speak to the performance of the muscular action mentioned, and hence the speech becomes more automatic than it is with stammerers generally. And this is the whole system of cure. It consists in efforts to render the speech automatic." He occupied two years in curing himself.

Narrow Escape.

The steamer George W. Elder had a very narrow escape from shipreck yesterday, and the passengers can scarcely realize by what happy combination of circumstances their lives were saved, for had the vessel sunk, scarcely a survivor would have been left to tell the fearful tale. The good ship was steaming merrily through the white crested waves toward the mouth of the Columbia river, her jiving freight amusing themselves as best they could, and anticipating a joyful reunion with relatives and friends. A tolerably thick fog covered the bosom of old ocean and concealed all familiar objects from the eyes of the Captain and his experienced Pilot. At once, as if by magic, the heavy vapors lifted and exposed to the startled gaze of the tars and passengers, Tillamook rock square ahead, not more than two hundred yards distant. Orders were bellowed, the bells tinkled, the gigantic engines stopped, then reversed, and the fortunate steamer with her 200 men, women and children swiftly retreated from the vicinity of the dangerous reef. Another minute's fog and the vessel would have struck and her living cargo been scattered in the fierce and angry waters. A sigh of relief was uttered by every heart, as each realized the fearful danger averted by a kind and all-wise Providence and

many a fervent prayer ascended to the Heavenly Throne in thankfulness for their miraculous escape.—Telegram, March 1st.

German Wives.

The culinary art forms a part of the education of the women in Germany. The well-to-do tradesman, like the mechanic, takes pride in seeing his daughters good housekeepers. To effect this object, the girl, on leaving school, which she does when about about 14 years of age, goes through the ceremony of confirmation, and then is placed by her parents with a country gentleman, or in a large family, where she remains one or two years, filling what may also be termed the post of servant, or doing the work of one. This is looked upon as an apprenticeship to domestic economy. She differs from a servant, however, in this—she receives no wages; on the contrary, her parents often pay for the care taken of her, as well as her clothing. This is the first step in her education as a housekeeper. She next passes, on the same conditions, into the kitchen of a rich private family, or into that of a hotel of good repute. Here she has control of the expenditures of the servants employed in it, and assists personally in the cooking, but is always addressed as Miss, and is treated by the family with deference and consideration. Many daughters of rich families receive similar training, with this difference, however, that they receive it in a princely mansion or a royal residence. There is a reigning queen in Germany at the present time who was trained in this way. Consequently the women in Germany are perfect models of economy.

Railroad Incorporations.

The Salem Talk of the 1st instant has the following: On Saturday evening articles of incorporation of the Salem and Silverton and the Albany and Lebanon railroad companies were filed in the office of Secretary of State. J. N. Dolph, J. Brandt, Jr., and P. Schulze were the incorporators of the two lines, and directors of the two roads. J. N. Dolph has been elected President and Joseph Simon, Secretary of the companies. It will be seen that the companies are in earnest in the matter, as the engineers were to start out to-day to locate the routes. Both roads are expected to be built and equipped in time to carry the growing grain crop to market. The farmers along the route between this city and Silverton can congratulate themselves in the fact that they will soon be independent of mud schooners as their only means of transportation in the winter, over almost impassable roads.

THE TENDENCY OF GOLD.—A late dispatch says the imports of gold to this country, which were so large three and five months ago, have ceased almost entirely and the tide has turned the other way. If the imports keep up until June to the amount reported in January and February, the balance of trade in favor of the United States will be reduced to a very low figure for this year, and the gold accumulation will be drained away. The secretary is anxious to get silver dollars into circulation, and use them instead of gold in the markets. The New York money market is now almost entirely dependent upon the action of the treasury, the large increase of business everywhere having absorbed all the currency, and monthly purchases of 5 per cent. bonds, that will be made by the treasury, will have an important effect upon financial centers. It is understood that an important circular is being prepared at the treasury with regard to getting silver into circulation.

DASHED OUT HIS BRAINS.—A Maryland farmer, the other day, went to Baltimore, and permitted himself to indulge overmuch in the flowing bowl. As a propitiatory offering to his wife, he purchased four pounds of sausage meat, and as a handy place to carry it, he placed it in the crown of his hat. On reaching his station and attempting to alight from the cars, the overloaded granger stumbled and went headfirst to the ground, bursting the high hat and scattering the sausage meat. The conductor horrified the passengers by singing out for "Help, in heaven's name—the man has dashed out his brains!" And so it seemed in the dark, until a light was brought and an inquest held—the jury rendered a verdict of "whiskey and sausage."

THERE are 20 Indian tax-payers in Yakima county, 33 in Clarke county, 50 in Thurston, and 155 in other portions of this Territory. These taxes are paid mainly on land.

Benedict Arnold's Wife.

H. C. Van Schaack, of Manlius, Onondaga county, New York, father-in-law of Aaron J. Vanderpeel, of this city, read before the New York Historical Society last evening, a paper entitled "Benedict Arnold before his Treason." The paper was too voluminous for reproduction in a daily paper. In concluding it Mr. Van Schaack however, touched upon a phase of the subject too interesting to be omitted; "An attempt was made," he said, "many years ago and has been repeated since, to implicate Mrs. Arnold in her husband's treason, and in fact to make her the chief conspirator. The object was, it seemed, to convince the world that had not Arnold married Miss Shippen, he would not have strayed from the path of patriotic virtue, his treason would not have occurred, and by consequence, the unfortunate Andre would have escaped the gallows. Remarkable discovery that Arnold would have been no traitor but for his wife!

We shall perhaps next be told that it was the condition on which she yielded to him her heart and hand. It was Davis' biography of Aaron Burr which undertook to convince the world that Arnold's virtuous patriotism was corrupted by his wife. Strange indeed is it that the American public should thus have been made acquainted with this remarkable fact through the pages of a work which commemorates a character scarcely less extraordinary than that of the arch-traitor himself. If, indeed, we were called upon to designate two individuals figuring upon the pages of American history whose characters beyond all others were the most mysterious and the hardest to understand, we should unhesitatingly point to Benedict Arnold and Aaron Burr.

After Arnold's escape from West Point, Washington kindly gave Mrs. Arnold her election to be sent to her husband in New York or her friends in Philadelphia. She chose the latter, and while on her way in her carriage with her nurse and young child to that city, she stopped one night in New Jersey with Mrs. Prevost, who two years afterward became the wife of Colonel Burr. Now the statement in Burr's biography represents him telling his biographer what Mrs. Burr told him after marriage in regard to Mrs. Arnold's admissions to her while stopping at her house. (Mr. Schaack here quoted from the Burr biography.) This account places before us a newly married young lady of nineteen—and she a young mother—corrupting an American General of six years' standing, and of the mature age of forty, and that General her husband, all for such is the motive ascribed to acquire the means of gratifying an inordinate vanity. *Credat Judoens Appella non ego!* Time will forbid my entering upon a full vindication of this lady from the absurd charge of being the author of the plot for the surrender of West Point, and her husband only a reluctant instrument in her hands to further the dark scheme. The hearsay testimony upon which it is based is so unsatisfactory in itself, so inconsistent with historical documents of established authenticity, and with the clearly expressed opinions of General Washington and Col. Hamilton and Major Franks, that I protest against its imputation. I impeach it the name of female loveliness, incapable of such baseness. I arraign it in behalf of youth without the art to conceive or the craft to mature the foul plot, and I discard the revelation in all its material positions as absurd in itself and as a tax upon our credulity at the expense of our judgement. Margaret Arnold never dug the grave for her husband's honor. Burr's story is entirely too big. There is, however, an episode to the history of Mrs. Arnold's visit to Mrs. Prevost's, which does not appear in Col. Burr's biography. Burr was himself Mrs. Prevost's at the time Mrs. Arnold was there, he probably being at the time a suitor of Mrs. Prevost. It is not surprising, however, that Burr should have neglected to state in his biography the facts that when Mrs. Arnold left her house in the morning Burr offered his escort, which, he pretended, might be useful to her in the then excited state of the public mind. On the way he basely made love to this afflicted lady, thinking to take advantage of her just feelings of indignation towards her husband, and her helpless condition to aid him. Being indignantly repelled, he treasured up his revenge and left a story behind him worthy of his false and malignant heart to blast this amiable lady's name.

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In conclusion the lecturer said: "Peter Van Schaack, LL D., was in England several years after Arnold's treason. On the occasion of one of his accustomed visits to Westminster Abbey, his attention was arrested by the entrance of General Arnold accompanied by a lady. The lady was doubtless Mrs. Arnold. They passed to the cenotaph of Major Andre and there stood. What a scene for a pencil! The traitor Arnold at the tomb of a man for whose ignominious fate he was responsible, reading the monumental inscription that will transmit to all ages the tale of his infamy."—New York World.

Big Tree Fossils.

Two large fossil trees are now on their way to Washington from the western part of New Mexico, designed for the new National Museum. General Sherman, while on his tour of inspection to the military posts of New Mexico, examined some of the large petrifications which abound in the vicinity of Fort Wingate, and he was so much impressed with the value of these specimens that he decided to have them brought to Washington and placed in front of the National Museum. The two specimens referred to will weigh several tons; they will serve as conspicuous representations of the ancient flora of the region from whence they came. The entire country surrounding the spot where these fossil trees are so abundant is at the present day utterly destitute of vegetation, save a few pines and other stunted trees, which are of little or no use. This was not the case in times long past, for the two immense specimens now on route to Washington, according to General Sherman's account, were not alone. The country is literally covered with the remains of an ancient forest, representing a great quantity of vegetation and establishing the fact beyond doubt that this entire country, which is now only inhabited by a few tribes of Pueblo Indians and covered all over with evidences of extinct tribes, and which is destitute of vegetation, and so arid that there is no inducement to the settler, was once a tropical country, abundantly supplied with tropical fruits and vegetation. General Sherman is much interested in the preservation of such specimens, and encourages every one connected with the army to make collections in all branches of science.—Baltimore Sun.

Important Decision.

A Washington dispatch of the 1st instant says the Supreme Court has given a decision in the case of Taylor Stronmiller, plaintiff in error, vs the State of West Virginia Legislature excluding colored citizens from jury service in the courts of that State. This court holds that when a "colored citizen is tried for his life by a jury from which citizens of his own race are by State statute expressly excluded, he denied equal protection of law guaranteed by the third clause of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution and that the State statute denying him such right is repugnant to said constitutional provision. The judgement of the Supreme Court of appeals of West Virginia is reversed. Justice Strong delivered the opinion, Justice Field dissenting.

A REPORTER'S IDEA.—One day there was a great loss of one of the banks by means of a raised check reported in New York, and the reporters of the Sun were busy writing out the facts about it. One of them stopped a moment to say in a chatty way that if the bankers would cut into the checks the amount for which each was drawn, a raised check would be an impossible thing. The managing editor overheard the remark. "Mr. Blank," he said, "when you get through, write a letter to the editor of the Sun, giving that idea." It was done, and the letter was printed the next morning containing the suggestion that the amount of each check should be cut into it to prevent any alterations. A few nights afterward a spruce young man came in, and scattering around some blank checks with numbers cut through them as is now common, said: "I am much obliged for that idea; it is going to be worth \$10,000 to me." The reporter who originated it is still laboring by the week.

HEPPER'S CORRESPONDENT.—Frank Maldock's coal mine, about 13 miles from Heppner, is a decided success. A great many families in town and also many of the business houses are burning this coal; it makes a splendid fire, heating up a room much quicker than wood, and it is said that one ton of coal will last as long as two tons of wood. The coal is sold at the mine for 80 per ton, and delivered in Heppner for \$12.