THE COAST MAIL.

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The Coast Mail.

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Charade.

My first is as dark as midnight,
When lights are completely obscured;
My second is not very light—
All attritions of time has endured.
My whole was as wise as a saw—
The greatest expounder of law.

WILL HUNTLEY.

Human Curiosity at Bombay.

Bombay Times.

There is at present in Bombay a living object that may rightly be classed among the most curious phenomena of nature. At a home in Mazagon may be seen a pair of female twins, separate in every respect, but from the breast bone to the lower part of the abdomen, which is joined. The upper breast of each infant is joined into the other, the outer skin covering both trunks. The twins are joined front to front; shoulders, arms, lower limbs and feet perfectly formed, and development healthy, while the heads are well shaped and the faces really pretty, with beautiful eyes, large and bright. The twins are six months old, are in perfect health, and measure twenty inches in height, one appearing, but in a very trifling degree, larger than the other.

Both have vigorous appetites, and take kindly to the feeding bottle, are extremely lively and appear good-natured. The pulses beat in unison; they generally fall asleep or keep awake together, and their actions are usually simultaneous, though sometimes one would cry while the other was quietly drawing at the mouthpiece of its bottle. The strangely united pair were born in Dapooli, in the Rutnagherry Collectorate, the father being a Mohammedan and a sea-faring man, while the mother had besides a pretty little daughter about ten. The infants feed separately, each having a bottle to itself, and draw vigorously at their nourishment. The doctor declared that it would be impossible to separate them without extinguishing life. The twins have up to this time never been ill, and to every appearance are likely to grow up.

An Important Organization.

An exchange says: An enterprise of considerable international importance and special interest to Americans has just been started in New York, in the organization of a corporation with a capital of $1,000,000 to carry on and develop the American exchange in London, of which Henry F. Gillig was the founder and has until now been sole proprietor. Americans who have been in London of late years are familiar with the exchange and its multifarious functions. It is the headquarters for citizens of the United States in Europe, and for such as choose to avail themselves of its facilities it is a faithful guide and helper through all the intricacies of foreign travel. It is at once a club-room and reading-room, a bank, a steamship, railway and newspaper agency, a forwarding company, a storage room, a commission house, a land and emigration agency, besides being a mine of information in regard to America. Mr. Gillig who seems to have a genius for his undertaking, appreciates the importance of stepping slowly and safely in extending his connections and interests. The Bowles Bros. made a somewhat unfortunate failure in a similar enterprise several years ago. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Gillig will succeed.

A WINDY orator once got up and said: "Sir, after much reflection, consideration, and examination I have calmly, and deliberately, and carefully come to the conclusion, that in those cities where the population is very large, there are a greater number of men, woman and children, than in cities where the population is less."

WRITTEN FOR THE COAST MAIL.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES

Of Oregon's Southern Coast.

NUMBER XV.

JOURNAL OF L. L. WILLIAMS—CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

From the positions thus assumed, they opened a rapid fire from all sides at once—all running in one direction, myself in the center; they ran as I ran and dodged as I dodged. What could a poor fellow do in such a fix as that? I made many efforts to bring myself in reach of some of them, or near enough to strike. But whenever a movement was made in any direction, the Indians before me would swiftly glide away, keeping just out of reach, while the others were firing their arrows from both sides and the rear. Feeling much more disheartened than ever, I turned my face towards the timber and run for dear life without any hope of ever reaching it alive—feeling that I had already received a mortal wound, but was yet alive, and naturally had a desire to escape, if possible, and die in quiet under some tree in the forrest near by. I was chased furiously for some time in this manner, a perfect string of arrows flying at me from all sides at once; many of them sticking into me, and many others glancing from the different parts of the person. Although covered with blood I did not feel that I had received but the one very severe wound. I was soon very much surprised and somewhat relieved too, to see all the Indians except two abandon me and fall back toward the river; each of whom were armed with bows and full quivers of arrows, while one of them carried a rifle that had been taken from one of the men. Just at this time I noticed Mr. Doherty a short distance off, and almost directly ahead of me, chased by a half dozen Indians, and a dozen arrows or more sticking in him from every side. He very soon fell, and the last time I looked in that direction, he was prostrate upon the ground, the Indians filling his body with arrows, and beating him with clubs.

I bore a little to the left, hoping to avoid those Indians who had killed poor Doherty, so that they might not join in the fight against me. Those two with whom I was now contending were swift of foot and at once placed themselves on each side of me, about ten feet off, firing their arrows with a speed not easily realized by anyone who has had no personal knowledge of the manner in which these weapons are handled by an expert. I soon concluded that under this condition of things it was utterly impossible for me to reach the timber; and desiring a change some how, I made a furious rush toward one, but as, before observed, he cunningly kept a few steps in advance, while the other, never but a few feet away, would fire his hateful arrows at me from behind. A sudden turn on my part, and a hasty pursuit on theirs, would not change the condition of things in the least and all the time productive of the same result. My only clothing to start in with, was a ragged shirt and pair of pants, and as if to render my chances of escape more hopeless, just at this time the fastenings gave way and my breeches fell down under my feet. It did not appear to be a time for a fellow to be very particular about his toilet. And as dangerous as the circumstances were, I was obliged to disentangle myself, and kick the old breeches off. I was now only dressed in a bob-tailed shirt, and I felt a little more sprightly for a time, but the Indians were in no greater danger than before. They were doing all the firing, while I was receiving all the punishment.

Their constant cross firing while we were chasing each other back and forth rendered it almost impossible for me to dodge many of their arrows. Why I was not completely riddled in this long running fight across the prairie is more than human tongue can tell. My only weapon, the gun barrel, alone prevented them from closing in upon me; they could play all around me but were careful to keep out of its reach. I felt this to be the most dangerous position since the fight began, and possessing the many advantages over me that they did, I would gladly have exchanged my position for that earlier in the fight, where I was contending hand to hand in the center of a body of a hundred Indians all as well armed as these. My face, eyes, mouth and person was covered with blood. I felt as if I was almost dead. I had abandoned all hope of escape. My mind was firm, but my nerves were in an indescribable state of agitation. The Indians still had several arrows left, and the timber was some distance off.

I hoped apparently against all hope that some lucky accident would place one if not both in my power. All emergencies have an end, and this one came in a manner the least expected by me. Upon arriving at a point about twenty-five yards from the timber, I turned my eyes from the Indians to see whether it would be possible for me to enter the tangled mass of brush and briars along the margin, in case I should be able to reach the timber, when, stepping in a little hollow, I stumbled, pitching forward headlong on the ground. The two Indians determined not to lose this opportunity, rushed upon me and the one who carried my comrade's rifle, dropped his bow and arrows, cocked the gun, pushed the muzzle of it against my breast, as I was in the act of rising, pulled the trigger and—it snapped. The gun was a good one, and I knew it to be loaded. It was never known to miss fire; and as I saw and felt the muzzle thrust against me, I felt a sickening sensation pervaded my whole system; but it was suddenly dispelled when I realized the fact that the gun had failed to fire. I felt new life infused into my system, and was on my feet in an instant, rifle barrel in hand as usual. The Indian, instead of running, as had invariably been the case before, met me face to face with the breech of his rifle drawn. The critical moment of the whole affair seemed to have arrived, and of course I knew it to be the last final struggle, and hence became, if possible, a little more desperate than ever. On the first pass I failed altogether, and received some blows in consequence. But in the second I was more fortunate, and brought the heavy iron gun barrel down upon his head, killing him almost instantly. During this short interval, the other Indian was at his post not over eight feet away firing his few remaining arrows with all possible swiftness.

My first impulse was to jump over the dead Indian, pick up his bow and arrows and defend myself with those weapons, but before I had time to do so, I changed my mind, and snatched up my comrade's rifle, drew it to my face, directed it at my tormentor, and was agreeably surprised to hear a quick and sharp report, and still more gratified to see my last remaining pursuer stagger back and fall down a corpse, with a bullet hole through the center of the lower part of his breast; as he thus fell back the last remaining arrow fired from his nimble fingers glanced upon the side of my head. This terminated the fight. While I was really the victor, I expected to die at any moment from my wounds. I looked back toward the river, and saw the Indians in a large body, swaying back and forth and keeping up their infernal whooping, howling and yelling, any like a correct description of which never can be written. It was a satisfaction to feel that I was now able to strike out into the thick woods unpursued, where I still hoped to find some safe place from the Indians, to die in peace and quiet; myself supposing that every one of my comrades had been massacred.

As I reached the timber, Mr. Hedden, who had escaped unhurt, popped his head out of the jungle about a hundred yards above me, and called me toward him. We hurried ourselves as fast as possible into the thick and tangled forest. He had been disarmed and badly pounded with clubs at the first onset, but dodging away, he fled back som distance, closely pursued by two or three Indians, who, after firing several arrows at him, turned back and joined in the general conflict. He thus made his escape across the prairie to the timber without further molestation, and halted in an obscure place and watched our movements; from which position he witnessed the death struggle of poor Doherty, and all the latter part of the conflict in which I had been engaged, without any power to render me assistance, when at last he saw it terminate in my favor.

(To be continued)

PROGRESS OF THE RAILROAD.—The *Mountaineer* says that the building of the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company's road is being rapidly pushed. The grading from Celilo to opposite Columbus will be finished this month. The building of the bridge that crosses the Deschutes river is progressing finely. There are now twelve hundred men at work on the line of the road between Celilo and Wallula. Large quantities of railroad material pass through The Dalles every day on its way to the front. From present indications the road will be completed between The Dalles and Wallula in time to move this year's crop.

Senator Edmunds.

Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, is assuming prominence as a candidate for President. A late Washington dispatch says: The growing prominence of Senator Edmunds as an available candidate of the Republican party for President, is attracting increasing attention here. The friends of both Grant and Blaine acknowledge his high character and the sterling quality of his Republicanism, and profess that they would rather have him nominated than any of the other so-called "dark horses."

Another, to the Utica *Herald*, says: Intimate friends of Don Cameron, who have been working with him in the movement for the nomination of Gen. Grant, say that the chances are now all in favor of Edmunds being the second choice of Cameron and his co-workers, and their first choice in case it is determined for any reason not to present Grant's name. Information from various parts of New England shows that the proposition to unite on Mr. Edmunds is rapidly gaining strength. The suggestion of his nomination is received with great favor among Republican Senators.

A Indian Fight.

A Santa Fe, New Mexico, dispatch of the 9th says: Information received at military headquarters says that General Hatch, with a part of the command, attacked 300 Indians in a camp near San Andreas mountain. The fight lasted six hours and the Indians retreated, leaving their dead behind them. Captain Henry Carroll, of the 9th Cavalry, and seven soldiers, were severely wounded. A large amount of stock was captured from the Indians, who are supposed to be Mescalero Apaches, as they retreated toward the Mescalero Apache agency. Hatch, with his command, is in pursuit.

A Hazardous Leap.

A Cincinnati dispatch of April 12th has the following: Thomas Boyd, yesterday, in the presence of about a thousand people at Mulfordsville, Kentucky, jumped from the railroad bridge over Green river, a distance of 120 feet to the water below. He sprang off the bridge headforemost and struck the water in that position, and in a moment he appeared swimming. He was picked up by a boat's crew, and when brought ashore passed through the crowd receiving what money was offered. He was not injured in the least.

Two of Secretary Evarts's daughters have lately become engaged—Miss Louise, the youngest daughter, to Dr. Scudder of New York, the home physician at Bellevue hospital, and Miss Bettie to Mr. Perkins of Boston, who is studying with ex-Attorney-General Hoar. Both couples are very young, and the marriages are not expected to take place for a year. Mr. Scudder goes abroad for further professional study this summer, and Mr. Perkins has yet to be admitted to the bar.

THE biggest real estate sale ever made in Minnesota was the recent purchase of the St. Anthony falls water power in Minneapolis by the managers of the St. Paul Minneapolis and Manitoba railroad for $425,000. This property has lain in an unproductive state for some years, but its 7000 feet of frontage on the Mississippi river is capable of such grand possibilities that Minneapolis looks forward to a population of 200,000 and the development of the largest manufacturing interests of any city in the country.

A WASHINGTON special says that Levi C. Wade, a representative of Boston capitalists, has received telegraphic information from the City of Mexico that Diaz has confirmed the grant of a charter for the Mexican Central Railroad Company of Boston. He did this in accordance with recommendations of the Mexican minister here. Over a million dollars have been subscribed to build a line which is two hundred miles in length and runs northward from the City of Mexico.

THE daughter of Spotted Tail, a tall ungainly young woman of eighteen, is studying in the Government school for Indians at Carlisle Barracks, Penn. She has lately married the half-breed interpreter employed at the barracks, and when sent to do some scrubbing the other day her lordly husband interferred. His wife was of royal blood, he remarked, the daughter of a chief, and he wanted her to learn only what the white ladies do.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT's five-year-old horse "Muscadin" won the race for the Park hurdle handicap plate at the Kempton park (London) recently.

Grant at the Time of Lincoln's Assassination.

From J. Russel Young's Book.

"The darkest days of my life," said the general, "was the day when I heard of Lincoln's assassination. I did not know what it meant. Here was the rebellion put down in the field and starting up in the gutters: we had fought it as war, now we had to fight it as assassination. Lincoln was killed on the evening of the 14th of April. Lee surrendered on the 9th of April. I arrived in Washington on the 13th. I was busy sending out orders to stop recruiting, the purchase of supplies, and to muster out the army. Lincoln had promised to go to the theatre and wanted me to go with him. While I was with the President, a note came from Mrs. Grant saying she must leave Washington that night. She wanted to go to Burlington, to see our children. Some incident of a trifling nature had made her resolve to leave that evening. I was glad to have the note as I did not want to go to the theatre. So I made my excuse to Lincoln, and at the proper hour started for the train. As we were driving along Pennsylvania Avenue, a horseman rode past us on a gallop, and back again around our carriage, looking into it. Mrs. Grant said "there is the man who sat near us at lunch to-day, with some other men, and tried to overhear our conversation. He was so rude that we left the dining room. Here he is now riding after us.' I thought it was only curiosity, but learned afterward that the horseman was Booth. It seems that I was to have been attacked, and Mrs. Grant's sudden resolve to leave deranged the plan. A few days later I received an anonymous letter from a man, saying that he had been detailed to kill me. That he rode on my train as far as Harve de Grace, but as my car was locked, he could not get in; he thanked God he had failed. I remember the conductor locked our car, but how true the letter was I cannot say. I learned of the assassination as I was passing through Philadelphia. I turned around, took a special train and came on to Washington. It was the gloomiest day of my life."

A Sacramento Woman on the Warpath.

A Sacramento dispatch of the 12th has the following:

The assembly chamber came very near being the scene of another sensation this morning before the opening of the session. It seems that several days since a member of the House said in the presence of several persons, that he would contribute one hundred dollars toward a fund to transport Mrs. F. R. Fitzgerald, wife of the proprietor of an ephemeral newspaper in this city, out of Santa Clara valley. Mrs. Fitzgerald delivered a lecture Saturday evening at the theatre here, and had been upon the floor selling tickets, and a member stated that he thought she should not be allowed in the chamber. These remarks came to the knowledge of Mrs. Fitzgerald, and this morning she appeared in the assembly chamber with a black-snake whip concealed under her cloak. She sent a messenger to the gentleman who had made the remarks stated above, to ask him if she had been correctly informed. The gentleman from Santa Clara replied that he had said so, whereupon Mrs. F. stepped up and informed him that unless he immediately signed a retraction, to be published to-day, she would horsewhip him. The member looked into the gleaming eyes of the irrate female, glanced around to see that his means of retreat were somewhat circumscribed, and then sat down and penned a satisfactory retraction, to the intense disgust of several who had gathered around to see the fun.

AN ANCIENT BELL.—In the belfry of the Episcopal Church, at Ellicottsville, N. Y., there is a bell which was cast in Moscow in 1708, and was one of a chime for the cathedral which was burned during Napoleon's Russian campaign. Along with other old metal this bell was brought to New York by a sea captain, as ballast for his vessel. Eventually it was carried to Troy, and became the property of a well-known bell-founder of that city. It was there discovered by a member of the Ellicottsville parish, who purchased and gave it to the church. Its condition is sound and its tone still good.

IN the Circuit Court at Washington Judge Cox refused the motion of Senator Hill's counsel to strike out the case of Raymond vs Hill from the docket, and held that inasmuch as Miss Raymond had stated in open court that she authorized the institution of the suit, the case must be tried.

Tokio's Great Fire.

The Japan *Gazette* giver the following account of the destructive fire which occurred on the 9th of December, and by which over 260 persons lost their lives. The fire broke out at 12 o'clock in the central part of the city, close to Nihonbashi. It was blowing a gale at the time, and within thirty minutes of the outbreak, the city was on fire in seven different places; burning shingles were flying about as thick as hail, and were carried long distances by the wind, settling on other houses, setting fire to them. The scene is said to have been terrible. Strong men were running about in a state of bewilderment, with old men, old women and children on their backs; mothers dragging their little ones, bent only on saving their lives. All day the fire raged with utmost fury. The whole of the buildings on the Island of Iskikawa, at the mouth of the Sumida river, including the dock yard and prison, were burned. So rapidly did the flames travel that it was with difficulty the streets were cleared of the people before the houses ignited, and in so many places was the fire raging that they knew not which way to turn. Anxious to save futons and wearing apparel, the poor creatures sallied forth from their homes with bundles on their shoulders to fly they knew not whither. The streets became blockaded with the surging masses; women and children were trampled under foot; many who fell in the crowd never rose again; the little children were seen looking for their parents, parents looking for their children, while the air was rent with cries of rage, anguish and dispair. Still they clung tenaciously to the few worldly possessions they had succeeded in bringing from their burning homes, thereby almost completely blocking up the narrow streets through which the masses were threading their way. At length the police interfered and caused numbers to throw their bundles into the rivers or anywhere else out of the way, so as to facilitate the escape of the people from the frightful death which threatened them, and was gaining on them fast. The native papers say that the 68 streets, containing 11,664 houses, were burned, rendering over 40,000 persons homeless. A relief fund was started toward which their majesties, the Emperor and Empress, subscribed 2,000 yen each. Long before the fire reached the foreign settlement Tsukiji, the residents felt anxious and began to pack up. But this appears to have been an almost needless task; for for when the fire did reach them, there was no one to be found to convey their goods and chattels away. Everything had been got ready for flight, but had to be left in the house, as no coolies were to be found willing to undertake the task of removing even the boxes of clothing. The American legation was in imminent danger for some time, and Mr. Clautaud's hotel ignited several times but each time the flames were successfully suppressed. The residence of Bishop Williams of the American Episcopal Mission was burned. It was the property of the Bishop, and was uninsured; personal effects saved. The Methodist Episcopal Church, partly insured-was consumed.

VENTILATING BEDROOMS.—A simple device is within the reach of every one having an ordinary window in his room, by which fresh outer air can be admitted in small quantity with such an upward current as will prevent its being felt as an injurious draft by the inmates. It is particularly adapted to sleeping rooms when the weather is to cold to admit of an open window. Thus start both top and bottom sashes of the window half an inch, which is not quite enough to clear the rebate or stop-beads at top and bottom, but which leaves an opening of an inch between the connecting rails, through which a current enters, but diverted upward by the glass as it should be, so as not to fall directly to the floor, as its coolness might otherwise induce it to. It thus becomes well mixed with the air of the room, without being felt as a draft.

JESSIE RAYMOND is said to have left Washington, having compromised with Ben Hill for $3000.

A YOUNG man advertises in a city paper for a place as salesman, and says he has had a great deal of experience, having been discharged from seven different stores within a year.

WHEN a man of varied talent has reached the age of 30 years without having decided precisely what he will be, he may as well settle down to the conclusion that he is not going to be anything in particular.

The Coast Mail.

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, specialities.

Taking the Census.

The following, is a portion of the official circular of instructions relating to taking the census: The appointments should be made with reference to physical activity, and to aptness, neatness and accuracy in writing and in the use of figures. These requirements are scarcely more in the interests of the census than in the enumerator himself. Unless the officer be fairly proficient in all clerical exercises, he will find his duties very trying and his pay very meagre. To appoint old or broken men to this duty as supervisors will on all sides, be pressed to do, would not be an act of charity, but of cruelty.

The census requires active, energetic men, of good address and readiness with the pen. Only such can do the work with satisfaction to the government or profit to themselves.

The superintendent is aware of no reasons existing in law, for regarding woman as ineligible for appointment as enumerators. Each supervisor must be the judge for himself whether such appointments, in any number, would be practically advantageous to his own district. It is clear that in many regions such appointments would be highly objectionable; but the superintendent is not prepared to ay that localities may be found where a canvass of the population by women could be conducted without any disadvantage being encountered by reason of the sex of the enumerator.

The enumeration must be made during the month of June and in order to secure the completion of the canvass within the prescribed limits, the enumeration districts must be made small enough to allow the work to be done thoroughly and in time. To this end supervisors will be expected to exercise their best judgement, and compliance with the law will be rigidly insisted on. In most cases every town, township or other prominent civil division of the country will be considered as constituting an enumeration district, if the estimated population exceeds seven or eight hundred inhabitants. The number of inhabitants who can be enumerated within the time allowed by the law, will vary greatly, according to the geographical conditions of the district and the density or sparseness of its settlement.

The compensation allowed supervisors for the completion of the work in their districts has been fixed at $500, with such an allowance for clerk as the superintendent may think necessary. The enumerators are to be allowed $6 per day, or a certain fixed sum per name, which shall not exceed the aggregate the per diem allowed by law. In cities of over 10,000 inhabitants the time for making the canvass is limited to two weeks, while in small towns and the country, from the first Monday in June to July 1st, twenty-six working days are allowed, and it is therefore evident that only experienced and prompt men should be appointed enumertors. The amount appropriated by congress for the entire census of the country is $3,000,000, and for printing and preliminary expenses an additional sum of $250,000. In addition to the enumeration of individuals, arrangements will be made for gathering complete statistics of the manufacturing, mining, agricultural and other industries of the country. A well organized effort will be made to obtain accurate and reliable vital statistics, something which was never done in former censuses. On this point the superintendent says: "Hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in life insurance in this country within the last thirty years, and yet we have not even an approximate life table of the United States. Insurance companies do not know how much they should charge to sell insurance at its fair value. All parties are and have been operating in the dark in the matter of interests involving enormous expenditures and receipts, for lack of information which only government can supply, and which in almost all other progressive countries government does supply."

The law provides that any person refusing to answer any questions propounded by census enumerators shall be liable to be punished therefor on conviction and subject to pay a fine not exceeding $100.

AN IMMENSE GIRL.—A Russian peasant girl, ten years old, weighing four hundred and eighteen pounds, is now on exhibition. She is accompanied by her mother, and is engaged by a Jewish manager, who pays to the mother for the girl's services $70 monthly. This gigantic girl when traveling, is put in the baggage car, as she cannot pass through the door of the passenger cars.