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COAST



MAIL.

Evidently a Mistake.

We print below an extract from the columns of the Willamette Farmer, relating to the wreck of a Coos Bay vessel. The statement is full of errors, and whether it has even a foundation of truth may be doubted.

The Star King did not sail from Coos Bay on her last voyage; she left San Francisco for Coos Bay about eight years ago and was never heard from; Mrs. Sprague was not a passenger; Capt. Park Butler, of North Bend, was one of her victims. It was the schooner Elida that carried Mrs. Sprague, her two children and the father of Mr. Sprague, none of whom were ever seen again.

Fishing in Lapland.

The water is very clear at Hammerfest, in Lapland; you may see everything that goes on among the fish. A few feet down you may see the young cod snapping at your hook, if you have one; a little lower down the codfish, and the huge plaice and halibut on the white sand at the bottom; in other places, as large as a plate, and purple and green shell fish of all sizes.

HELP THE CHILDREN TO GROW ERRECT.—William Blackie, the author of "How to Get Strong and How to Stay So," spoke before the Brooklyn Teachers' Association recently on "physical education."

Polygamy as an Investment.

We halted at a way station for dinner. A white haired but not very sanctimonious saint occupied a seat next me. "A resident of the country?" I asked. "Oh yes; for 25 years."

A Tough Story.

Arthur Fitzpatrick, who returned from Colorado, a short time ago, gives the following account of an occurrence in the mining districts, of which he was an eye witness: "A miner and some companions were crossing the Continental Divide when it was covered with snow."

Nursing an Orang-Outang.

The London correspondent of the Liverpool Post says: "The missing link who parted her hair in the middle, and has been for some time past on exhibition at the Westminster Aquarium—namely the orang-outang—has not escaped falling a victim to the malady which has proved so fatal to so many of his kind in our climate."

Buchanan, the bogus diploma dealer of Philadelphia, is acquitted of the charge of using the mails to defraud the public, as those who purchased the diplomas knew they were frauds.

A Huge Spider.

They have in the sub-treasury, at the custom-house, Baltimore, a spider which is making itself quite a public character. Several months ago it was caught from a bunch of bananas that had come from the West Indies, and it is about the size of the palm of a man's hand.

Improvements in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is looking up. The streets are to be lighted with gas, and a horse-car company is going to run a line of "bob-tails" to the top of the Mount of Olives.

Astronomical Changes.

A few years ago astronomers witnessed two remarkable appearances. In 1866 a tenth magnitude star in the constellation of the North Crown suddenly shown as a second magnitude, and in 1876 a new star became visible in the constellation of Cygnus, subsequently fading so as to be only perceptible by means of a telescope.

Florida advises say that the republicans will contest both seats in congress on the ground of gross frauds the democrats.

The Skeleton in The Closet.

It has been said that every house has a skeleton in the closet. It is a strange assertion, wholly incapable of proof, yet one that we feel and know contains much of truth. A skeleton in the closet! Yes, it is there; not, perhaps, literal, ghastly and awful, but in a form whose ugliness calls for concealment and secrecy.

Handle Dairy Stock Kindly.

Mr. Parcell, in the report of the New Jersey agricultural society, says: "It is important that dairy stock, from the young calf to the old cow that is being fed for beef, should be handled and treated kindly."

Civil Service Reform.

Horace White and F. W. Whitebridge, representing the independent Republicans of New York, presented Gen. Garfield an address congratulating him on his election, which sealed the approval of the principals he had advocated, and promised him support in carrying them out.

Fatal Accident.

The Moscow correspondent of the Palouse Gazette writes the sad news of the accidental death of Mr. James Jones—familiarily known as "Friday" Jones—which occurred on the 19th inst. Deceased had been to Northrop & Moore's saw mill, where he loaded his wagon with about 500 feet of green boxing and about 11 o'clock started for home.

A Narrow Escape.

Last Saturday evening Eugene McAllister, who lives on Howell's prairie, says the Statesman, went out into the neighboring woods after a load of wood.

The Northern Pacific Railroad

A Philadelphia special furnishes additional facts concerning the Northern Pacific syndicate. From the engineer's estimate it is thought that \$40,000,000 will prove more than enough to complete all the lines. The syndicate take this amount in first mortgage 6 per cent. bonds, which are to be issued at the rate of \$25,000 a mile.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

The New York Post says: Private advices are that the large movements of gold to this country are at last attracting serious attention in London.

You may rise early, go to bed late, study hard, read much, and devour the marrow of the best authors; and when you have done all, be as meagre in regard of true and useful knowledge as Pharaoh's lean kine after they had eaten the fat ones.

A man was urged to take a Galveston newspaper. "What is the use of taking it? I never open it; so I don't know what's in it. What good would it do me?" "You take liver pills occasionally, don't you?" "Certainly."

Jackson Ferguson, supervisor of the census for Nevada, has just completed returns for that state. Official figures are not yet published. He informs the Reno Gazette that the total population of Nevada is within 100 or 200 of 60,000, showing a general gain throughout the state over the last census.

The heat of the springs of Chandes-Aigues, which reaches about one hundred and eighty degrees Fahrenheit, is used by the inhabitants for purposes of cooking and heating their dwellings. M. Berthier has estimated that the heat furnished daily by these springs equals that produced by the combustion of more than four and a half tons of coal, and it is sufficient to comfortably warm the houses of the village, and even the streets throughout the winter season.

Advices from Honolulu, by steamer City of Sidney, describe the eruption of Mauna Loa, now in progress, as one of the grandest ever witnessed. It broke out November 5th about six miles from the summit, the crater throwing out two great streams of lava, one of which is thirty miles long, 100 to 200 yards wide and about 20 feet deep.

The Ashland Tidings says: "The gentlemen who have been in Lake county sometime engaged in examining swamp lands in contest have concluded their labors in that section, and passed through town this week upon their return to the Willamette valley. The party was composed of Gen. R. V. Ankeney, of Iowa, agent for the U. S., Dr. Whitenaker, agent for the State, and their assistants. Mr. Perkins, special agent for the State to select new swamp lands, has also finished his work in Lake county and accompanied them upon his return home."

On the slopes of Amethyst mountain, in the Yellowstone Park, are exposed at different levels a large number of silicified trees, many being rooted in the position in which they grew, and from twenty to thirty feet in height. Some lying down are of immense size. The series of sandstones and conglomerates in which the trees are embedded is more than five thousand feet thick, forming a vertical mile of fossil forests. The woody structure is well preserved. Where cavities have been formed by the wood they are filled with crystals of amethyst and quartz.

A Narrow Escape.

Last Saturday evening Eugene McAllister, who lives on Howell's prairie, says the Statesman, went out into the neighboring woods after a load of wood. After getting his wood he started home, and when near the edge of the woods jumped from his wagon, and as he did so he heard the sharp report of a rifle, and, looking up, saw the flash and just caught a glimpse of a man running through the bushes. The ball from the rifle passed directly through his hat, about two inches above his head.

Yesterday a number of men went into the woods, looking for some sign that might lead to the discovery of the man who attempted the murder, if such it was. About 100 yards from where the man stood when he shot, there were evidences of a horse having been tied, and also tracks where it went away. Owing to the frozen ground the tracks could not be followed. Mr. McAllister has not an enemy in the country that he knows of, and can assign no reason for such an attempt to take his life.