

COAST MAIL.

SATURDAY, FEB. 1 1902

Published Every Saturday by the
MAIL PUBLISHING Co.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year, in advance \$1.50
Six months 1.00
Three months50
\$2.00 will be charged when not paid in advance.

It would be a joke on Uncle Sam if the French, after selling us the Panama canal, should shift operations to the Nicaragua canal and flank us with a shorter route to the Pacific.—Globe Democrat.

According to the almanac, there will be five eclipses, this year three of the sun and two of the moon. Only one will be visible in the United States and that will be a total eclipse of the moon, will occur on October 16-17. The moon will enter the shadow at 10-17 p. m., the eclipse will be total at 11: 19 p. m. and end at 12.4 a m.

There is a notice posted up in the postoffice here to the effect that Florence has quarantined against Marshfield, Empire and Gardiner. There is no doubt that Marshfield, Empire and Gardiner can stand this if Florence can. At the same time, it illustrates the beauty of letting the outside world get its information by rumor instead of by authentic statements through the press.

Some of the papers are much exercised because the legislatures of Kentucky and Maryland propose to pass resolutions declaring Admiral Schley the hero of Santiago. The proposed action is called "trying to legislate history." Everybody knows who was the hero of Santiago, and it will do no harm for a few legislatures to go on record as voicing the sentiments of their constituents, for once. In a certain way they will be "legislating history", for their action will become a part of history.

Coast Mail—P. of Washburn, State Biologist is about to experiment with foreign oysters. It is to be hoped the gentleman will at least consider Coos bay not entirely too far out of the world when it comes to planting. Don't put all your eggs in one basket as in the last planting. There are other bays besides Yaquina. We believe Coos bay is a more congenial clime for oysters any way.

The Bro. has evidently never tasted the "native oyster" of Yaquina Bay, the finest flavored bivalve of its species. When the "foreign" oysters become plentiful here, as they no doubt will, Coos oystermen will then be able to get some for transplanting to their mud flats, which are apparently much better adapted for raising "clams."—Yaquina Bay News.

Our error was in speaking of Yaquina as a "bay", when it is nothing but a dodgasted slough. We have tasted the Yaquina oyster on his native heath, at the sweets of contributing towards the support of the residents of that

section, who live all the year on what they can make in three or four months out of the people who come down there for a breath of fresh air.

PHILIPPINE MORALS GOOD.

Rev. A. L. Hazelett, a Methodist Episcopal preacher of Colorado City, Colo., has returned from the Philippines. He went to the Philippines at the request of Gen. MacArthur and under the authority of the secretary of war to study and report upon the moral conditions in the islands, particularly at Manila. His report is that he found a gratifying condition of affairs in the metropolis of the Philippines.

"Manila is the best governed city I have ever seen," said Rev. Mr. Hazelett, and I do not believe its equal in this respect exists in the United States today.

The moral condition of the city is better than ever before in its history. Since the American occupation the arrests for drunkenness has been discouraged by the authorities in the right manner.

It was formerly said that there were 400 saloons on the Escalita, but now not one is to be found there. The total number of saloons in this city is 109, and they are governed in a strict manner. The city generally is in a pretty condition and its management reflects credit upon the Americans, who have its government in charge.

A Postal Telegraph Service

Albert B. Chandler, chairman of the board of directors of the Postal Telegraph company, in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post, says:

Our own government, should it take the telegraph lines, would be at a considerable advantage over the private corporations. It would be no great matter for the government to establish a greater uniformity of rates, and to fix tolls on a basis so low as to be impossible of attainment by a private corporation. The idea of a first rate, regardless of distance and other conditions, such as now prevails on letter postage, it would probably never be able to carry out; but it is quite conceivable that the government could reduce the classifications to, say, four or five, on which it might perhaps fix a minimum rate of fifteen cents and a maximum rate of fifty cents for ten words, though we have no data by which any definite figures can be laid down. The government could economize in many ways that are not open to a private corporation. It could wipe out the item of taxation which, in many places, is now most burdensome and unreasonable. It could have the right-of-way everywhere at little or no cost, whereas the private corporation must pay dearly for such rights. The government could use the postoffices for telegraph stations, thus avoiding large expenditures for rental. Having no competition it could naturally reduce the number of offices without bringing any hardship on the people.

As an example of what could be done by the government in this direction, I may mention the island of Manhattan for illustration. There the Postal Telegraph Company maintains a hundred offices; the Western Union probably maintains twice as many. That means that rent must be paid for three hundred offices that three hundred office managers must be engaged, and many other employes maintained. The same amount of business could be easily done in a much smaller number of offices without occasioning inconvenience to the public. The government would have to earn no dividend on the invested capital if the business should be carried on as the post-office business is, and claims for damages would probably be treated as they are by the telegraph administrations in Europe—that is, they would not be recognized, and no responsibility in money would be assumed.

Under government control, telegraph business would probably be increased, and so would the demand for experts in the business. Economizing as it could, the government would almost of necessity reduce the present tolls, and thus stimulate an increased use of telegraph facilities. People would learn to use the telegraph wires almost as freely as they use the mails now.

ENTERTAINMENT AND DANCE OF F U OF A

The concert and ball given by Altior Lodge, F. U. of A. at Odd Fellows' hall Saturday evening was largely attended in spite of the unusually cold weather.

The concert was opened with a chorus by a male quartet, composed of Messrs. Sacchi, Sumner, Ayer and Quiek, and was followed by an instrumental solo by Prof. Chas. Kaiser on the euphonium, entitled "Selections from Lucretia Borgia," by Donizetta. Prof. Kaiser responded to an encore with "Robert Le Diable" by Meyerbeer.

Miss Ella Butler's recitation, entitled "They kissed, I saw them do it" was short but sweet and was followed by another, "Money Musk," that was delivered in that lady's usual captivating manner. Miss Butler was accompanied by Miss Susie Kiekworth on the piano.

The old but ever popular song "Annie Laurie" was sung by Mrs. C. W. Tower and brought forth a round of applause from the audience. Mrs. Tower responded to an encore with "Swinging in the Lane."

Dr. W. A. Toye played Moore's "Second air with variations" on the Clarinet and followed with "Thou Sublime Sweet evening Star" by Wagner. Dr. Toye's ability as a musician is too well known to need further comment.

Rev. R. C. Lee who was to deliver the address of the evening was unable to be present on account of sickness in his family. Mr. V. O. Pratt who was on the program for a vocal solo was also unable to attend and his place was filled with "The Soldier's Chorus," by the quartet, who also closed the program with a song entitled "Speed Away."

After the concert the floor was cleared for dancing which lasted until well into the morning. The music being furnished by Mr. Frank Wickman, who is well-known as one of Marshfield's best musicians.

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Got the Piles Again.

A raft of cedar piles belonging to Ingersoll & Tablet, of South slough, which has been lying at Sengstacken's wharf, went adrift Friday the boom being broken by the storm. The piles were all recovered so that nothing was lost by the accident.

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