

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

RUSSIAN SANITATION.

In an aggregate population of 100,000,000 in Russia, according to Dr. Bubnoff, there are only about 5,000 medical men, while no working sanitary system can be said to exist in the empire. In some districts the death-rate ranges from 60 to 80 per thousand, and in spite of a high birth-rate the population of the country is increasing only at the rate of one per cent. That a frightful penalty in human lives is paid for neglect of public health is shown by the fact that of the total of some 2,800,000 yearly deaths something like 1,000,000 may fairly be traced to preventable causes.

FINGER LENGTHS.

A comparison of the lengths of the first and third fingers has been made in many years in progress. Ancient Greek art seems to have found the greater beauty in a longer forefinger, but in the Apollo Belvidere there is no appreciable difference in the lengths of the two. Gorillas, orang outangs and Bushmen have a longer third finger, while among Europeans and Americans the longer finger is sometimes the first, sometimes the third, and sometimes both appear of equal length.

Comet-seeking and its profits. Comet-seeking is recommended by Mr. W. F. Denning, the English astronomer, as attractive work for amateurs with telescopes of four to ten inches in aperture. No systematic search for comets is made in Europe, and the fame and spoils of comet-finding are chiefly won by two indefatigable American observers—Barnard at Nashville, Tenn., and Brooks at Phelps, N. Y. Each of these astronomers has discovered nine comets in six years, and of the Warner prizes—which have added much to the interest of this department of astronomy—they have received over \$2,700. Many comets of course elude discovery, but the number of those detected has greatly increased during recent years, having been only fourteen in the decade 1827 to 1836 and forty-nine in the decade 1877 to 1886.

ONE OF THE SEA'S DANGERS.

A curious acoustic phenomenon, sometimes observed at sea, has been termed by M. Fizeau the "mirage of sound," from its analogy to certain well-known phenomena of light. The sound-waves are deflected upward to a very marked extent under the influence of strata of air of various temperatures, and to this effect are ascribed numerous collisions between vessels having powerful fog-signals.

AN ANCIENT CHAIR.

What is probably the most venerable piece of furniture in existence has just been deposited in the British museum. It is the throne of Queen Hatsu, who reigned in the Nile valley some 1,600 years before Christ and 29 years before Moses. This now dilapidated object seems to be of lignumvite, the carvings of the legs being inlaid with gold, and those of the back with silver.

A powerful disinfectant, adapted to all purposes, has been obtained in Paris from coal oil. It is a sirupy brown liquid, of a not disagreeable order, resulting from a peculiar saponification of the oil by caustic soda. It destroys moss and fungus on trees, and sponging with a weak solution keeps flies from horses.

The possibility of infection from disease-germs escaping from hospital windows is attracting some attention, and a special inquiry is recommended. Hospital ventilation might be so arranged that the foul

air would be drawn through a furnace before mingling with the outer atmosphere.

Phillip Hoffman, a German clergyman and naturalist, claims to have discovered the art of photography in 1833, six years before Daguerre.

Dr. Bubejinski, of St. Petersburg, has found that the gastric juice is less acid during sleep than at other times.

The membership of the Liverpool astronomical society has now practically reached 1,000.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

A democratic state convention for the state of Oregon is hereby called to meet at Pendleton, Umatilla county, on Tuesday, April 3, 1888, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for member of congress, a candidate for judge of the supreme court, six delegates to the national democratic convention, and six alternates; to ratify the various district nominations, and such other business as may properly come before the convention.

Said convention will be composed of 155 delegates, apportioned to the various counties on the vote cast for candidate to congress at the election of 1886, being one delegate for each county and one for every 200 and fraction over 100 votes so cast. In accordance with said apportionment, the respective counties will be entitled to the following representation:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Number of Delegates. Includes Baker (5), Benton (6), Clackamas (7), Clatsop (5), Columbia (3), Coos (4), Crook (4), Curry (2), Douglas (6), Gilliam (3), Grant (5), Jackson (7), Josephine (3), Klamath (3), Lake (2), Lane (7).

The committee respectfully recommends that the county conventions for the election of delegates to the state convention, unless otherwise ordered by the local county committee, be held on Saturday, March 24, 1888. B. GOLDSMITH, Chairman Democratic State Central Committee.

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Table with 2 columns: Train Name and Time. Includes Portland (9:40 a.m.), Dundee (12:28 p.m.), Sheridan (2:46 p.m.), Lafayette (4:30 p.m.), Portland (ar) (4:30 p.m.).

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Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned J. B. LAYMON, administrator of the estate of Wilson Gibson, deceased, has filed his final account of his administration of said estate in the county court of Yamhill county, Oregon, and said court has fixed Tuesday, March 6th, 1888, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon of said day at the county court room at Lafayette, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing the same.

Therefore all persons interested in said estate, are hereby notified and required to appear at said time and place and show cause if any here be why said estate be not finally settled. Dated this 20th day of January, 1888.

J. B. LAYMON, Administrator of said Estate. FENYON & FENYON, Attorneys for Estate. 25-54

Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned J. T. FOUTS, administrator of the estate of Oliver Fouts, deceased, has filed his final account of his administration of said estate in the county court of Yamhill county, Oregon, and said court has fixed Tuesday, March 6th, 1888, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the county court room at Lafayette, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing the same.

Therefore all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified and required to appear at said time and place and show cause if any here be why said estate be not finally settled. Dated January 27th, 1888.

J. T. FOUTS, Administrator of said Estate. FENYON & FENYON, Attorneys for Estate. 25-54

Notice of Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT OREGON CITY, Oregon, Jan 17th, 1888. Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the county judge or clerk of Yamhill county, Oregon, at Lafayette, Oregon, on Wednesday, March 14th, 1888, viz:

O. Hanchett, Homestead Entry No. 5537. For the s. e. 1/4 and s. e. 1/4 of n. w. 1/4 and n. e. 1/4 of sec 25, T. 5 S., R. 9 W.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: I. Fuqua, Amos Fuqua, Francis Mercier and Robert Mulligan, all of Lafayette, Yamhill county, Oregon.

W. T. HURNEY, Register. 24-61

TAX NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the tax books of Yamhill county for the year 1887, are now in my hands for collection, and that myself or deputy will visit the various precincts of said county as follows, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m.:

Wheatland, Monday, January 23rd; Dayton, Tuesday, January 24th; Dundee, Wednesday, January 25th; East Chehalam, Thursday, January 26th; West Chehalam, Friday, January 27th; North Yamhill, Saturday, January 28th; Carlton, Monday, January 30th; North McMinnville, Tuesday, January 31st; South McMinnville, Wednesday, February 1st; Bellevue, Thursday, February 2nd; Willamina, Friday, February 3rd; Sheridan, Saturday, February 4th; Amity, Monday, February 6th; Lafayette, Tuesday, February 7th.

All persons are requested to be present at said appointments, and settle their taxes or pay the same to me at my office, within 30 days from date of this notice, without fail. Dated, January 4, 1888.

T. J. HARRIS, Sheriff and Tax Collector. 21

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