WEST SIDE TELEPHONE.

McMINNVILLE, TUESDAY, JAN. 25, 1887.

Just now a sweet scented morsel of scandal is going the rounds, to the effect that some member of the legislature, in disposing of a clerkship to a young lady, made dishonorable conditions. Of course the matter has to be investigated, and a few scandal-loving people are anxiously awaiting results, while the sober minded are honestly disgusted with such nonsense. It is certainly ridiculous to pay any attention to the affair, and is only giving prominence to rumors and wasting time. The time of the legislators belongs to the people, and they demand that time to be spent in endeavors to benefit them by just legislation, and not in investigating some silly rumors regarding the actions of any certain one of their number. If every rumor of this kind is to be brought up and overhauled, the time of the honorable body will be pretty well occupied.

The New York Tribune in referring to the proposition that invisibility rather than invulnerbility is to characterize the coast fortifications of the future, says: According to Sir Andrew Clarke, who is an authority on the subject in England, the United States has lost nothing by its neglect to build expensive fortifications. Sir Andrew's opinion is based on the idea that his new system of "invisibility of defences" will do away with the necessity of enormous fortifications. The plan, as stated in a cable dispatch to the Tribune, certainly appears to be worthy of consideration. But the great trouble with this country is that we have no guns for either visible or invisible defences, and no plant to manufacture them. It will be a work of years to supply this deficiency.

Representative Munger of Multnomah county, is after the Chinese, and has introduced a bill in the house that Chinese be prohibited from holding real estate or mining claims, and those now in possession of mining claims be compelled to relinquish title in sixty days on notice of the sheriff; the county court to appoint three disinterested persons to assess the damages sustained by relinquishment. On failure of the Chinese to comply they are to be fined $100 to $500 or imprisoned from thirty to ninety days. The sheriff on failing to enforce the law shall be subject to the same fine. This bill is in accordance with the recommendation of Pennoyer's message.

Henry M. Stanley, the explorer, is flooded with offers from good men who whish to accompany his expedition for the relief of Emir Bey, and he has found it difficult to select from the many competent applicants the few required. The British government has supplied the expedition with a major and a lieutenant of engineers. Stanley is determined to reach Emir Bey by July at the latest. He will meet Dr. Junker at Port Said, on the way out. He will establish a station at a safe distance from the Congo, on the route to lake Victoria Nyanza, to be used as a base of operations.

Petitions are being circulated, (and signed we are sorry to say) in Multnomah county, praying that Gov. Pennoyer pardon that notorous bilk, and quack doctor, Geismardo, who was convicted at the June term of circuit court in Portand, for attempted rape on Mrs. Smith, of Albina, and receiving a three years' sentence. It is to be hoped that Gov. Pennoyer will let him remain where he is. There is no room in any respectable community for such a villian as he proved to be, and the walls of the penitentiary were built on purpose to hold him.

Some of the senators have become incensed at certain references made to their actions by Senator Wagner, of Umatilla and Morrow, in his paper, the Pendleton East Oregonian, and they have brought this personal matter to the attention of the public body, the senate, whose time belongs to the people and is paid by them. If Mr. Wagner has asserted what he cannot prove, his is a responsible journal, and there is recourse to the courts.—Statesman.

Konomshi Hagashi, convicted of murder in the first degree, for killing a Japanese woman in San Francisco November last has been sentenced to imprisonment for life. The judge said he deserved hanging, and no one need ever apply to him to sign an application for the prisoner's pardon.

Little has introduced a bill in the house for the definition of boundary lines between this county and Tillamook county. It is to be hoped the bill will become a law and this vexed question of boundaries become settled.

J. H. Snyder, convicted of rape on Louise Bell, at Golden Gate park, has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Collins, the principal criminal, is serving a twenty-five-year sentence. Both sentences are just.

Lucius W. Phelps, father of Ed C Phelps, editor of the Yaquina Mail, died at Newport, January 13th 1887, aged 79 years.

A comet of the first magnitude has made its appearance at Melbourne, Australia.

SELLING LIQUOR TO MINORS.

It is not to be presumed that any one will be opposed to the principle of the bill introduced by Mr. Daly amending the criminal code with regard to selling liquor to minors.

The amendment abolishes the present feature which permit such sales upon the written consent of the parent or guardian, and increases the fine to not less than three hundred dollars, and the imprisonment to a period not exceeding one year, and forfeits his license. This of course, deprives justices of the peace of jurisdiction to try the case.

No law can be too strong to prohibit the sales of liquor to minors. The present statute has been found insufficient to cure the evil, and the readiness with which it is evaded justifies the demand for more strenuous measures. If the liquor seller has doubts as to the age of a customer, he can satisfy himself, and if he has no means of ascertaining, no great injury will be done to society, by keeping on the safe side and refusing to sell. The News thinks this amendment should be flanked by another provision making it a misdemeanor to sell to minors the seductive cigarette, which is the source of so much evil and demoralization to the rising generation.

Within a few days a bill will be introduced in the legislature to establish the "Oregon State Weather service" and to appropriate $1,000 for the purchase of meteorological instruments and $1,000, or as much thereof as is necessary, for expenses for the two years ending June 30, 1889. The central office for observations will be at the state university at Eugene. The presidents of the university and state agricultural college will constitute two members of a board of control, the third member to be appointed by the chief signal service officer of the United States. Volunteer weather stations will be established throughout the state. An advantage that will be inaugurated by the above system will be the dissemination of weather forecasts, which will be highly beneficial to the agricultural and horticultural industries, etc. Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Tennessee and Mississippi support state weather bureaus.—News.

George C. Israel and C. M. Thorndyke, who were recently acquitted of the murder of E. D. Cohen, at Baker City, are at Seattle. Thorndyke is the eldest son of Captain J. K. Thorndyke who, with Mr. Sayward, founded and built the Port Ludlow saw mills. He was born in Seattle thirty-one years ago, and is in there for the first time in 29 years. Israel and Thorndyke promise to return to Baker City in about ten days. A committee of public safety was organized at Baker City and resolutions passed to the effect that the acquittal of Israel and Thorndyke did not give satisfaction; neither did the subsequent celebration of the acquittal, suit the meeting. Judgings from the tone of the resolutions it would hardly seem that Baker City would be a safe place for either of the acquitted parties to reside in for some time to some. There's no law against their residing there however, providing they can stand off the safety committee.

Wager's railroad bill which he has introduced in the senate stands a fair chance of success. It cuts down freight rates on the O. R. & N. railroad about one third. If it passes, the rate on wheat will be about $4.00 a ton instead of $6.00 as heretofore. This will give the farmers of eastern Oregon six cents more per bushel for their wheat than they have been receiving. The bill is a fair, just and conservative measure to both the people and the railroads. There are better chances for the passage of Wager's bill than for any similar bill introduced in the senate or house. Its conservatism is what makes its passage all the more probable. Eastern Oregon will be satisfied with a four dollar rate on wheat, and rates on other commodities in proportion, for one or two years to come. The passage of this bill will occasion great rejoicing throughout the empire east of the mountains.

In the secret session of the U. S. senate last week, the British extradition treaty was under consideration and caused a heated debate. The principal speakers were Evarts and Riddleberger, the former supporting and the latter opposing the treaty. Riddleberger declared that he was not willing to give up patriotic Irishmen in this country, meaning those who had left Ireland because of thier hostility to British laws and their efforts to overthrow them by force, for boodle aldermen who had fled to Canada. The patriotic Irishmen who have tried to overthrow British tyranny, he believed we should protect.

Officers at the sanitary headquarters in New York, are alarmed at the increasing probability that smallpox has taken a firm hold upon the tenement districts of the city. New cases are reported daily, and the authorities now fear an epidemic of the disease, for the cases are not confined to one or two districts, but are reported from every part of the city. Every precaution is being taken to prevent contagion in the vicinity of the infected dwellings, but grave fears are entertained that the anxiety of families to keep the disease a secret may cause it to spread.

TELEGRAPHIC.

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 23.—F. A. Lawenbern, alias Fish, a gambler was held for trial yesterday on a charge of counterfeting postage stamps.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—Stevens, the bicyclist, left on the Oregon this morning. He was attended to the wharf by all the bicycle clubs of the city. He is on his way east.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—The annual convention of B'nai Brith of this coast met to-day for a week's session. The principal question is whether the present endowment system will be maintained as it threatens to split the society.

ASTORIA, Jan. 23.—Fire broke out in the Astor house at 6 o'clock this morning. It caught from a burning flue and caused a damage to the building to the amount of about $1,000 and to the furniture, $300. The building was partly insured, but Mrs. Daggert had no insurance on her furniture.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 23.—The steamer Seminole sailed for New York yesterday with 163 tons of pig iron received here from Birmingham, Ala. This is the first cargo of pig iron ever shipped from here, and is the beginning of a trade which promises to make Charleston the most important shipping port for Alabama iron on the south Atlantic coast.

POINT PLEASANT, W. Va., Jan. 23.—The dead body of Nelson Borden was found yesterday in a clump of bushes. Three years ago Borden killed John Letcher during a quarrel. Letcher's son, Abner, then 12 years old, told his mother and others that when he was big enough he would kill Borden. The fact that he was hunting yesterday in the woods where Borden was found dead gives color to the belief that he has carried out his threat.

ERIE, Pa., Jan. 23.—Dr. C. N. Moore, a prominent physician of West Springfield, is dying from the effects of cocaine poisoning, contracted by the use of the drug. The doctor experienced the terrible effects first after six months' use. The first frightful hallucination accompanied the seasons of prostrations, until his mind was entirely wrecked, and during the past week he was seized with a lung difficulty, which, with the cocaine poisoning, will result fatally.

The attention of the legislature has been called to the swamp land swindles in this state, and it is expected that some definite action will be taken during the present session to restore these lands to the public domain. Of the many afflictions under which our people have suffered, not the least is the "Greek gift" of swamp and overflowed lands.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the tax books of Yamhill County for the year 1886, 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.:

Dundee	Monday	January	24
East Chehalem (Newberg)	Tuesday	"	25
West Chehalem (Carter's store)	Wednesday	"	26
North Yamhill (Runnels')	Thursday	"	27
Carlton	Friday	"	28
North McMinnville	Saturday	"	29
South McMinnville	Monday	"	31
Bellevue	Tuesday	February	1
Willamina	Wednesday	"	2
Sheridan	Thursday	"	3
Amity (Simpson's)	Friday	"	4
Wheatland	Saturday	"	5
Dayton	Monday	"	7
Lafayette	Tuesday	"	8

All persons are requested to be present at said appointments and settle their taxes, or pay the same to me at my office by the first of April, as required by law. If not then paid we will be necessitated to follow the constructions of the law.

T. J. HARRIS,
Sheriff and Tax Collector.

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