

HE SAVED OREGON.

REV. MARCUS WHITMAN PRESERVED A STATE TO THE UNION.

Rode Across the Continent to Be It—News He Brought to Washington Settled the Treaty of 1846—His Life For the Cause—Statue to His Memory.

To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the massacre of Dr. Marcus Whitman and his wife on November 29, 1847, the statue of which an illustration is here given, was placed on the front of the new Witherspoon building in Philadelphia. It was through the efforts of Dr. Whitman that that portion of our country now comprising Oregon, Washington and Idaho, with portions of Wyoming and Montana, was saved to the Union.

Previous to the final establishment of the boundary line between Oregon and the United States by the treaty of 1846, the Hudson Bay Company was in virtual possession of that whole country. It opposed all efforts to civilize the Indians, for the reason that civilization would interfere seriously with their trade.

In 1832 four Indians came from Oregon to St. Louis, a journey of more than 3,000 miles, for the sole purpose of obtaining for their people the "Book from Heaven," the white man's Bible. It is almost inconceivable that the authorities into whose hands they fell allowed them to go back to their country without the slightest effort to meet their desires.

These facts, when they came out, at once aroused the deepest interest. The Methodist Episcopal Church sent out Rev. Jason Lee and his associates in 1834 and in 1835 the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions sent the Rev. Samuel Parker and Dr. Marcus Whitman to explore the country. They reached Vancouver



MARCUS WHITMAN, WHO SAVED OREGON TO THE UNION.

In September, 1836, having journeyed by wagon all the way and having proved it possible to take emigrant trains from the Mississippi to the Pacific coast.

In 1842 there were 322 Indian families which, under their tuition, had begun to cultivate the soil. In September of that year Dr. Whitman met at a dinner table at Walla Walla several of the chief officers of the Hudson Bay Company, and heard what convinced him that efforts were being made to stimulate immigration from the British possessions and to raise over the whole Territory the British flag. Excusing his hasty departure, he rode twenty-five miles to his home, and before he had leaped from his saddle announced his purpose: "I am going to ride to Washington, God carrying me through, and bring out an immigration next season which will save this Territory to the United States."

Within twenty-four hours he had started, with one companion, who, worn out by toll and exposure, was obliged to remain at Bent's Fort on the Arkansas River until spring. After suffering untold hardship with his ears, face and hands frozen, Dr. Whitman reached St. Louis in February, 1843, and on March 3 he arrived in Washington, five months from the time of starting.

His first question on reaching civilization was as to the Ashburton treaty. He was told it had been concluded. "How about Oregon?" "Left out of the treaty," was the reply. The whole question of the boundary west of the Rocky Mountains had been reserved for future settlement. Dr. Whitman was able to give such information as to the value and the accessibility of the country as determined American statesmen not lightly to surrender it. Daniel Webster said to him that mountains and deserts made communication with Oregon impossible.

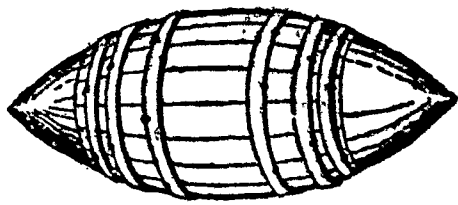
"I took a wagon over the mountains," replied Dr. Whitman, "and have the wagon now." The same summer Dr. Whitman conducted a party of nearly nine hundred emigrants, with 121 wagons, across the mountains into Oregon and practically settled the question as to which flag should float over that vast domain. Legal effect was given to it by the treaty of 1846.

The hostile influences, however, of the Hudson Bay Company and others, continued to work on the minds of the Indians, with the result that, on November 29, 1847, he and his wife, with thirteen other persons, were foully massacred by the people they had come to benefit. Whitman College has since been founded there.

ARCTIC DRIFT.

Commodore Melville's Plan for Ascertaining Secrets of the Frozen North.

A novel plan has originated with Engineer-in-Chief Melville of the navy for getting accurate information concerning Arctic drifts at comparatively small expense and without the sacrifice of human life. He proposes launching in the highest attainable latitude north of Bering strait, east of where the Jeannette entered the pack, about 100 heavy casks, with parabolic ends fastened to them. In them will be placed numbers and records. Scientific societies have approved the scheme and will aid in carrying it out. Drifts of Arctic exploration parties and of wrecked vessels differ so greatly and opinions of drifts are so diverse that



DRIFT CASK.

this plan has been proposed in order, if possible, to get reliable information on the subject.

"My idea of a keg, for the ordinary drift bottles used for current studies would never do, is the kind measuring about two feet between heads," said Commodore Melville. "I would build them of thick, tough wood, thoroughly waterproof and heavily bound to resist crushing under the tons of ice they would have to contend with, the solid parabolic ends fitting firmly down upon the heads and staves ends to prevent detachment. The shape of float, lying with its axis horizontal, is the best possible form to meet the ice conditions, for it would probably never be tipped in the rough-and-tumble experience it would get. In ninety-nine cases it would slip away safely from extraordinary pressures and remain intact if it floated, as it would lie on solid ice."

"With fifty or a hundred of these floats properly made and sealed the most difficult and important part of the scheme remains—their effective launching on their journey. This must be done by a Government ship or by other trustworthy hands."

"These details carefully observed, we could then patiently await results, and at the end of four or five years we might begin to look for our kegs between the Spitzbergen and Greenland or along the shores of both."

Commodore Melville's proposition is bound to attract the attention of scientific men on account of its simple, inexpensive and useful character and its practicability. Already funds have been assured for the requisite preliminaries, and by next spring there is little doubt that at least one vessel will start north to begin his great drift study.

Miss Oona Ireland's Adopted Partridge.

Miss Oona Ireland, a young lady living near Skillem, Ky., has a bird, the history of which would grace the columns of our natural history. Miss Oona has a very large and beautiful flock of turkeys, a part of which were hatched in the early summer months and strayed away from the house for quite a distance. In their rambles a young partridge, presumably an orphan, fell into the ranks of the little turkeys, and finding the company congenial, forsook the field, stayed in the barnyard and orchard, and never for a moment left the turkeys, eating and roosting on the limb of a tree with them. Now the turkeys are grown, as also is the partridge, and it is no unusual sight to see the partridge creeping beneath the flock of turkeys.

She is a Youthful Engineer.

The youngest engineer in the world is undoubtedly Miss Lola Coulter, of New York City. She is only fourteen years old, but she knows all about throttles and valves, and she can send a locomotive speeding over the curved tracks and straight tracks up hill and down dale. From infancy Miss Lola has shown a fondness for mechanics. When she could scarcely walk she played with toys which contained some mechanism. Later she devoted all her time to building small engines, wagons, and other movable toys out of anything on which she could lay her hands.

Longevity and Agriculture.

Roswell Loveland is a centenarian who leads one to believe that there is a connection between longevity and agriculture. He lives at Fulton, N. Y. He has been a lumberman and a farmer. Even yet he chops and piles wood with all the vigor of a youth of seventy-five. He has tilled his garden all the summer and still regards splitting wood as a sort of pastime, to be taken after the serious occupation of digging.

Peculiar Fact About Whiskers.

It is a peculiar fact that with most men the growth of hair is stronger on one side of the face than the other. It is said that hair always grows more quickly on that side on which we are stronger.

Oregon a Nut Orchard.

Sweet almonds and chestnuts have been raised with success in parts of Oregon, where it had been thought no palatable nuts would grow.

Census in Australia.

The Australian Statistical Society estimates that the population of Australia, including Tasmania and New Zealand, was last June, 4,362,756.

Patronize Germans Only.

The population of Antwerp includes 20,000 Germans, who, it is said, buy their goods of German merchants only.

SHEEP OF DEAD SHEPHERD.

A Flock of 2,000 Wandered 500 Miles After He Was Killed by Lightning.

A herder in charge of a flock of 2,000 sheep, which were grazing near the base of the San Francisco Mountains, in Arizona, was killed by lightning during a terrific storm which visited that section about the 1st of August. As the herder was not expected to come in with his sheep until the 1st of October, his absence during August and September attracted no attention. When the middle of October came and he did not show up, messengers were sent out to find him.

After a search of some days in the vicinity of where he was last seen, the remains of a camp were found under a tree which had been riven by the lightning. The cooking utensils were scattered about, and the remains of a blanket were found, which were identified as parts of one which the man had taken with him. The water keg also was recognized by a mark which had been burned into one of the staves.

A further search revealed the bones of a human being scattered about over the ground, some of them more than a hundred yards from the tree, having evidently been carried about by wolves. A prospector who had passed that way had camped for a night with the man about the 1st of August and said the herd was then moving northward. This tree around which these articles were found was just about far enough north to have been the next camping place, and when it was remembered that there was a severe storm of thunder and lightning in that section one night about the time referred to, it was clear that the man had made his camp under this tree and had been killed by lightning and his body devoured by wolves. The sheep had never been heard of and no trace of them could be found anywhere in that part of the country.

But now comes the strange part of the story. Early in November a herd of about 2,000 sheep was found on the plain in San Miguel county in New Mexico, with no one in charge of them, and to all appearances belonging to nobody. The parties in Arizona heard of this fact and wrote to an officer in that Territory, giving their marks and explaining how the sheep could be identified. It was found beyond any doubt that this was the herd that had disappeared from the range in Arizona about the 1st of August. The animals had been shifting for themselves for more than three months, and turned up at a point fully 500 miles from the place where the herder was killed. They had crossed the Rio Grande on the way.

Cat Came Back After Six Years.

Visitors and intimate friends of Mr. Meredith Reynolds, who died in Glasgow, Ky., in the year of 1891, will recall a large family cat, which, during the declining days of this kindly old gentleman, was the recipient of devoted attention from him. After his death the cat seemed to mourn for a short time and then suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. As weeks lapsed into months and months into years it was finally given up for lost and forgotten. Recently while the family of Mr. B. Reynolds, who is now occupying the old home, were seated at the dinner table, the cat appeared as suddenly as it left six years before and took up its abode in the house with seemingly no fear or thought of intrusion after such a prolonged absence.

Bear in a Lodging House.

Chief of Police Angevine of Missoula, Mont., placed Otto Siegel under arrest for maintaining a nuisance. The cause of the trouble is the pet bear that belongs to Siegel, which has caused so much excitement of late in the neighborhood of the Mount Hotel. The latest prank of the bear was his entrance into the second story of the lodging house and restaurant occupied by Harry Sheppard. He went upstairs unobserved, and when he got into the sleeping rooms he upset the beds and other furniture and tore up bedding. Finally he pulled down a cage containing two birds and put an end to the inmates of the cage.

Suit Made of Rattlesnake Skin.

Blue Hill, in Milton, Mass., is famous for its observatory and its rattlesnakes. To add to its standing among the hills of the country, it has a freak advertisement, so to speak. He is known far and wide as "Blue Hill Bob." His favorite sport is the killing and skinning of snakes. So many of the rattlesnakes of Milton has he dispatched that he is able to wear a suit of snake-skin as a result of his labors and skill. It is a weird and scaly garment, but "Blue Hill Bob" rejoices in it.

Cow With a Hagfish in Its Mouth.

Veterinary Surgeon A. M. Coats was called to New Berlin, N. Y., to find out what caused the death of a cow that had departed this life rather mysteriously. The surgeon performed an autopsy and found in the stomach of the animal a hagfish 5 1/2 inches long, which had perforated the pericardium and entered the heart.

A Remarkable Knife.

The most remarkable knife in the world is that in the curiosity room of a firm of cutlery in Sheffield. It has 1,380 blades, and 10 blades are added every 10 years. Another curiosity is three pairs of scissors, all of which can be covered with a thimble.

She Is Forty-Niner.

Mrs. Julia Clark of Dallas, Tex., is a survivor of the days of '49 in California. She was the only woman in the gold hunting party which left New Orleans in July of that year.

SLIPPERY ELM BARK.

NEW INDUSTRY FOR FARMERS TO SUPPLY IT TO DRUGGISTS.

A Memphis Man Discovered That There Was a Ready Demand for the Slippery Elm—He Also Discovered an Unlimited Supply—How It Is Obtained.

Slippery elm bark is widely used in medicine to-day. Long ago, when doctors thought water, when drunk clear, was certain death to a person with fever, slippery elm came to the rescue of suffering thousands, and when it was put in water the patient was allowed to drink it. As the years went on, and the doctors grew in wisdom, new uses were found for slippery elm bark. There are drug factories in which this bark is pulverized, and it is prescribed by physicians and sold by druggists for various uses. Sometimes it is for a poultice for some inflamed and irritated place. Again it may be used when there is internal irritation, to soothe and ally the suffering. Its uses are legion, and for years the frugal people who live in the rural districts of the East have had lucrative employment in gathering this bark.

In later years the Eastern supply has grown so short that the manufacturers have had to cast about for new sources, and have turned to the South for their supply. Accordingly, last spring, Allen Asher, of Memphis, received an inquiry from an Eastern house wanting from 100,000 to 200,000 pounds of the bark. This was last April. Mr. Asher inserted an advertisement in the papers inquiring where and in what quantities the bark could be found in Tennessee. There were hundreds of responses, and a thriving little industry has been established. Mr. Asher tells the story of the bark in this manner:

"After looking into the matter carefully I found that there was any quantity of this bark to be had in this section. In Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Alabama I found, by advertising, that this bark was very plentiful, mostly on ridges contiguous to rivers, creeks or bodies of water, and I immediately corresponded with several hundred persons who had answered my advertisement, telling them I wanted the bark in large quantities, and endeavoring to secure all this bark I possibly could. The mill which wants it desired to get from 100,000 to 200,000 pounds annually. This, of course, is a large quantity of the bark, owing to the shape in which it is desired, and the fact that, when dry, it is not nearly so heavy as when stripped from the tree."

"If the people would pay particular attention to gathering this bark for the market, it is so easily gathered, and requires so little work, that it would be quite remunerative, especially as it can be gathered from the time the sap rises until the fall. It is not necessary to cut down or kill the trees. It is better to net out bark down nor kill them. If enough bark is left, the parts stripped will be covered thicker and better in time. All that the mill requires is that the outside, or rough part, of the bark, be taken off clean to the white part of the bark; then, that the bark be thoroughly dried, and while drying protected from the weather."

"I don't think the people realize how much could be made in this manner by men and children engaged in farming, and it is really an extra duty and can be performed when the crops are laid by or when the weather is too wet to plough or do other field work, or at any spare time. The frugal Eastern people have been gathering it for years to supply the increasing demand of manufacturers and druggists. I have seen 3 1/2 cents for the dry bark. So far most of our supply has come from Northern Alabama, Crittenden County, Ark., and along the line of the Illinois Central Railway as far down as Grenada, Miss., but we could handle many times what we now get, and would be glad if greater numbers of people would become interested in this industry. Many might find it more profitable than cotton."

700-Pound Sturgeon, 11 Feet Long.

A large crowd was collected at the Alder street wharf, Portland, Oregon, recently, to view what many considered the largest sturgeon ever brought to the city. It was caught near Meigs' cannery at Brookfield by a Russian Finn, who could not speak English and who sent a young man up there with the fish to sell it. It was 11 feet, 6 inches in length, and weighed nearly 700 pounds. It sold for about \$20. It was a monster, and must, of course, have been very old, but it was impossible to count the wrinkles on its horns.

Lawsuit Over a Pebble.

A pebble in a bun is surely a novelty and it has given rise to a lawsuit in this city, for the purchaser of the biscuit thus stuffed broke two of his teeth and experienced much pain in his efforts to eat the compound. The baker denies responsibility for the accidental dropping of the stone in the dough.

Notes of a "Physical Spec."

"Type century runs are," says Dr. Cyrus Edson, almost suicidal. "Every person," says the doctor, "has so much nervous strength in reserve, and if he or she goes on a physical spree and exhausts that in foolish exertion, the natural result is that he or she is left a physical bankrupt."

A Novel Recommendation.

One candidate for the postmastership of Waldoboro, Me., urged as one of his qualifications for the position that a man who could manage a flock of 66 hens, as he did, was equal to any public trust in the nature of a postmastership.

Paris Waiters Tire of Tips.

Paris waiters have joined their Marcelline brethren in demanding the abolition of pourboires. They want fixed wages, and declare that the only person who profits by tips is the employer.

The Barwig's Name.

The designation Barwig is a corruption of earwig, the insect being so styled because of the resemblance of its hind wing to the human ear.

A LESSON IN ECONOMY.

New Wealthy Russell Sage Provides His Working Apparel.

Mr. Russell Sage of New York, who is one of the richest men in this country and in the world and is famous for his financial shrewdness as well as his habits of economy, came into a meeting of the board of directors of the Western Union Telegraph company the other day wearing a new suit of clothes, which was at once observed by his associates. They "looked" the old gentleman as much as they dared,



RUSSELL SAGE.

accused him of becoming a dude, and related examples they had heard of men who became fond of urae and squandered their money in that direction in their old age. Mr. Sage seemed rather proud of his new costume, and had a story to tell which illustrated how he made his enormous fortune. He said that while he was walking down the street one day last summer he passed the window of a store in which were displayed several suits of clothes marked to each. As the color and style suited his fancy he went inside and examined the material and found it to be excellent domestic goods. As he passed down the street he thought the matter over, and decided that as those garments had been made from free wool the price must be very nearly double in case the duty on that article were restored and the duty on imported woolen fabrics increased by the Dingley bill then pending. As he wore one suit of clothes a year, he would save \$5, and if he bought three suits they would last him three years, and he would save \$15. He did not think it advisable to buy more than three suits, because he was an old man, and by the ordinary chances of mortality is not likely to live more than three years longer. Having reached this conclusion he stopped the waiter as he came downstairs and bought three suits of clothes at \$5 each. One suit he had on, the other two he left in the store, and he paid for them. As under the law tariff he would be compelled to pay at least \$15 a suit, or \$45 for the three, and had actually paid only one-half as much, or \$15, Mr. Sage estimated that he had made a profit of 100 per cent on the transaction—or, in other words, had clothed himself three years for nothing.

The Siamese National Air.

The European tour of the King of Siam has elicited the fact that there is a Siamese national air, not to say anthem. A great celebration for its score, under various arrangements, began among the Continental and British bandmasters and orchestra-leaders in general, as soon as the King and his suite were fairly on their travels. One bandmaster informed the writer of this note that he was obliged to copy the parts for his men in great haste from a scrawled French manuscript, and that when the air was played, without rehearsal, "it sounded queerer than it looked"—so much queerer that he was somewhat taken aback at its Oriental intervals, although the King and his suite showed no sign of dismay. He discovered presently that he had confused two or three measures and given their contents to the wrong wind instruments. The air was written by a wandering Italian musician, unwillingly a visitor to Bangkok many years ago, who took a good native tune as the basis of his melody.

Novel Fidelity.

The inconveniences of learning to ride a bicycle are considerably mitigated by the use of an apparatus now adopted by several riding schools in Germany. A miniature railway runs round the school about twelve feet from the ground, and from this are suspended several straps, each one of which is hooked to a machine in this way keeping it upright.

Typewriter With His Feet.

Among the pupils in the Industrial School for Orphaned and Deformed Children in Boston is a boy, born without arms, who is learning to use the typewriter, manipulating the keys with his toes. He is a bright little fellow and declares confidently that he will soon be able to make money enough to support himself.

Extraordinary Success.

Herr Dusen, a German traveler, who has recently explored the west coast of Patagonia, says that mooses of all species are developed there to an extraordinary degree. They grow in immense herds, in which the explorers sank up to their armpits.

The Increase of Suicide.

Suicide is alarmingly on the increase in France and noticeably increasing in England. The law of England considers an attempt to commit suicide a felony.

A New Fun.

Climbing Mount Washington by moonlight has become quite a fad.

STOLEN.

Valuable Diamonds—How They Were Stolen—How They Were Found—How They Were Recovered.

In days gone by the diamonds which were stolen from the American Museum of Natural History, and which were recovered, were the most valuable diamonds in the world. One day, a man named John Doe, who was a member of the museum, was walking down the street when he saw a man carrying a large box. The man was walking very fast, and Doe followed him. The man turned into a house, and Doe went in. The man was carrying a large box, and Doe saw that it was full of diamonds. Doe took the diamonds and ran away. The man was very angry, and he went to the police. The police found Doe, and they took the diamonds from him. The man was very happy, and he went home. The diamonds were very valuable, and they were recovered.

The History of the Stolen Diamonds.

The history of the stolen diamonds is a curious instance of a novel, especially obtained under the cloak of an appeal to philanthropy. In 1878 there lived at Atlantic City a watchmaker named Krumpholtz. He became acquainted with the watchmaker in New York and set himself to the task of making them. Krumpholtz was a very clever man, and he was very successful. He made a large number of watches, and he was very rich. He was very kind, and he was very generous. He gave a large sum of money to the American Museum of Natural History, and he was very happy. The diamonds were very valuable, and they were recovered.

How the Old Man.

After getting an old man, the old man was very happy. He was very kind, and he was very generous. He gave a large sum of money to the American Museum of Natural History, and he was very happy. The diamonds were very valuable, and they were recovered.

The Old Man's Story.

The old man's story is a very interesting one. He was a very kind man, and he was very generous. He gave a large sum of money to the American Museum of Natural History, and he was very happy. The diamonds were very valuable, and they were recovered.

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