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OUR OREGON LETTER.

Special Correspondent of the HERALD.

Great interest is being felt in the Gray's harbor country, a section of the coast region of Wasington Territory, rendered tributary to Portland by steamer lines by way of the ocean and the Columbia river. It is one of the most promising of th newer regions being opened up to settle ment, and as such, your readers will no doubt be glad to have a brief description of it.

Gray's harbor is the name of an inlet from the Pacific ocean, indenting the shore of Washington Territory. The entrance is between one and two miles broad, having a channel seven hundred feet wide, carrying at low tide, a depth of twenty two feet of water. The usual tides in the harbor are eight to ten feet, so the largest vessels, by crossing the bar at high tide, may enter and depart in safety.

Emptying into the bay is the Chehaliriver, one of the most important streams in Washington Territory. It drains an area of two thousand square miles. All streams have the choicest agricultural lands along their banks, and take their rise in the timbered bills of the int-rior.

Some eight years ago the attention of lumbermen was attracted to the Gray's harbor region, and operations were at once commenced for the establishment of saw mills, to prepare for market the tim- bo h in this city and county that are ments, a rapid growth began. The principal town on the harbor. Aberdeen, lies to the poor and thus make both yourself at the mouth of the Wishkah river, and only four years ago last February th first house within the present corporate limits was built. Now it is a flourishing town of a thousand inhabitants, and is growing rapidly. It has four saw mills, the aggregate daily output of which is two hundred thousand feet of lumber. a ship yard, three salmon canneries, and a foundry and machine shop. The valley of the Wishkah extends back into the interior many miles, and for fifteen or twenty miles up stream ranchers are located along the banks. The product of the valley are floated down the stream. and find a ready market in the manufacturing villages on the harbor.

Montesano, a town of about one thousand inhabitants, is situated on the Chehalis river, fourteen miles from its mouth, and at the head of tide water navigation. There are two saw mills, a furniture factory, a brick kiln, and a large salmon cannery. The mercantile business is very large, as it is the most important town between the harbor and Puget sound. Sea-going vessels take cargoes direct from Montesano.

The climate is generally damp, but is marked by an entire absence of extremeof temperature or moisture. This is due to the proximity of the ocean and the warm Japan current that touches this caost. Hops are among the most profitable crops. Most of the fruits common to the Pacific slope flourish in the Gray's harbor country, apples, pears, cherries. grapes, plums, prunes, etc. All the farmers have more or less fruit, and the handsome specimens produced, indicate the possibilities of that locality in the fruit business. There are some nine mills constantly cutting timber, which is furnished from the country along the streams flowing directly into Gray's harbor, and the daily output of lumber is about half a million feet. This is shipped direct by water to ports in North and South America, Sandwich islands, China and Australia.

The principal timber of the Grav's harber country is the fir, but spruce, cedar, pine and such hard woods as oak, maple ash, etc., are in the forests and of good quality for manufacturing purposes. The spruce grows to enormous size, some trees twelve feet in diameter having been cut, but their comparatively of a morning. His tongue will hardly short length brings their lumber yields bear inspection at any time; if it is not much below the average fir, which is white and furred, it is rough, at all extremely tall, as well as of huge trunk events. diameter. The spruce lumber has a special use for small boxes, because it is be a symptom or the two may alternate. fine grained and odorless. The cedar There are often hemorrhoids or even loss makes excellent shingles.

The chief fis's of Gray's harbor is the The chief fish of Gray's harbor is the and tenderness in the pit of the stomach salmond, and hun freds of men are employed in the work of entelling and can- Creen's August Flower, it costs but a

The Plattsmouth Daily Heraid. year to prosecute deep sea fishing for halibut off Gray's harbor, and the prospects for devoloping an extensive business in this line are very flattering. The fisheries of the North Pacific promise to become of more importance than those of the North Atlantic, and Gray's harbor is so favorably situated with respect to these fisheries, that it is likely to become the New Bedford of the Pacific.

A number of railway enterprises supplying communication with this harbor have been projected, but until recently these schemes have been of rather indefinite character. The Tacoma, Olympia & Chehalis Valley Radway Co. has been incorporated, to build a road up the valley of the Chehalis, across the Cascade mountains, forming a junction with the Northern Pacific at Centralia, and extending to some point in Eastern Washington, with a branch from some smooth dry roads. Call and Examine point to Olympia and Tacoma. Such a these Shoes and you will have no other, railway would run through a surpassingly rich agricultural and timber country, and give the interior access to one of the best shipping points on the Pacific coast.

THE REAL TARIFF SCARE. There was another tariff scare in the

recent canvass besides that connected with the fear of free trade.

The free traders themselves attempted to create a panic over the tariff through the assertion that if it was not cut the country would be plunged into hopeless disaster through the accumulation of a surplus. Yet the natural, certain, democratic way of guarding against such a catastrophe lay through the abolition of the internal revenue.

Now that there appears to be no surplus, no tariff scare of the free trade sort s possible for some time to come. Nevertheless, the internal revenue should be abolished .- Sun.

THE Milwaukee Sentinel suggests that the federal offices in the south should be given to the best men in the republican party in the south, white and black. Certainly General Harrison cannot afford to recognize the color line drawn by the brigadiers, and it is safe to predict that he will not .- Bee.

ONE week from today is Christman, and you all should remember the needs of the worthy charities. There are many ber of that locality. With these move | needing help and are yet too proud to ask for it. Open your hearts and give and them happy.

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PLATTMOUTH ENCAMPMENT No. 3, I, O. O. F., meets every alternate Friday in each month in the Masonic Hall. Visiting Brothers are invited to attend.

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F. E. WHITE, H. P. WM. HAVS. Secretary.

M. ZION COMMA DARY, NO. 5, K. T. Meets first and third Wednesday night of each month at Maso i's hall. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. WM. HAYS, Rec. F. E. WHITE, E. C.

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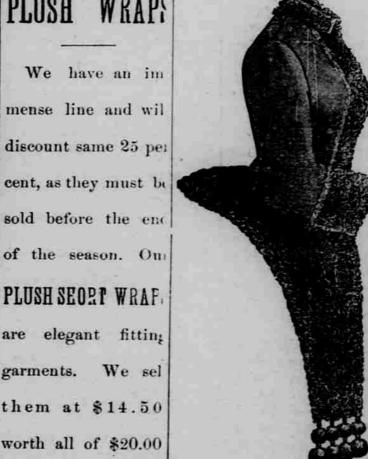
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