THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1881.

A GREAT RIVER.

The Mightiest Stream of the Pacific Slope---Characteristics of the Columbia.

Cor. San Francisco Chronicle. The Columbia is without much

slope, and in regard to the volume of minimum calculation for such an enwater which it pours into the ocean terprise would be about \$7,000,000, may without injustice be ranked with congress very wisely has had nothing the mighty Mississippi itself. There is something in rivers of the first magnitude which appeals forcibly to THE CASCADES. the imagination of all men, and the bold adventurer who should dare to wade through those portions of congressional reports which have reference to the appropriations made for been a cheerful acquiescence as to the necessity of improving the navigation of the Columbia. The size of the latter river and the cubic feet of water which it pours into the Pacific inflame their imaginations, and as their ideas grow large and poetic so do the figures of the annual appro-priations wax and swell. It is impos-sible for congressmen to visit the ac-tual scene of each proposed improve-ment. They have to make up their minds at second hand, and often through a medium of facts improperly colored, either through local prejudice or personal bias. Therefore, we find that they in their generous desire to develop the country andymaintain its the people, must not exult over them, but must remember that congressmen men either.

lions could be inaugurated by con- as follows: gress without a preliminary visit from a congressional committee, the present attempt in this spot would never have been made. I use the term attempt Upon these the atmosphere acts. The advisedly, because I am convinced lightning tears away corners and that the undertaking never can be leaves great marks upon the perpencarried to a successful issue. The un- dicular cliffs-meteors rend away huge fortunate engineer in charge is en- masses; earthquakes upheave great gaged in a hand-to-hand conflict with one of the most potent forces of "na-which the rains that fall upon the ture, and can hardly be victorious. The scheme, which he did not originate, and of whose futility he must be convinced, but which he is expected and covers the monntain with a mantle to be in opposition to the great law by which the mountains have been con- the fostering warmth of the sun, and verted from rectangular masses into the water fits itself into every crevice, pictures que peaks, with broad plains every little indention and irregularity stretching far away at their feet. He of surface. Then, at night time, it is expected to build a canal at the foot freezes, and as water expands in of a disintegrating mountain. Whether congress expects him to stop the pro-hard basalt has to yield. The indencess of disintegration, or to prevent tation becomes a little larger, the the canal from being filled up, will be hard to determine. But it is obvious that for the canal to be of any utility towards the navigation of the Columbia one of the navigation of the Columbia one of into these two things must be done. If balast has one law which it must we were Mohammedans we might invoke the aid of Mohammed to re- is columnar, and as the water works stop the falling earth at the brink of small rectangular masses, with a colcentury, we, at least some of us, have superficial mass of shaly basalt the learned to comprehend that natural water finds it way, and remains in forces are simply organic matter doing pellets of ice until the sun is warm the expressed will of the Creator; and the expressed will of the Creator; and we do not invoke supernatural aid they must go down sliding to the lowagainst the Most High. I have made no inquiries as to the paternity of this canal scheme, because it is quite pos-disintegrated basalt that hides them sible that the project as it issued from the brain of one engineer may have been perfectly sound and logical, and may have been turned into nothingness and folly by meddling politicians, from the smaller considerations. For if the canal had been made upon the Washington territory side of the river there would have been nothing to impede its continuous and rapid progress to a triumphant conclusion, and to a busy career of usefulness ever afterward. And if habitants comes shding down in fear- of marrying a rich widow upon the we go upon the soundest principles of ful ruin. reasoning and ascribe to professional engineers the keenness and comprehension which are their characteristics, we must come to the conclusion that in the original scheme that side was chosen, but that some political Ahriman pierced the egg of the engineering Ormuzd and made confusion out of discretion. These are the facts. two great impediments, one known as cultured as we deem them, their hearts were deeply impressed by the beauties of the nature, and their wits capable of recording these impressions by ex-pressive epithets. By dalles we may comprehend the pavement of a ter-race, but though there is nothing in the English language which comes so close to it as the cockney term "flag" for a broad stone used in making side-walks, yet this, though it conveys the walks, yet this, though it conveys the sense of flatness, size and breadth, the bar. There was a time when it does not give the whole idea. The was believed that this was not needed dalles implies the grandeur of a noble for it was supposed that eighteen feet

overcome these terrible obstacles there ternative is between some railroad is but one way, and that is to cut, traveling at each end, some pretty blast, rend, trash through the lava by rough staging in the middle, and giant powder for a distance of six three transfers, there can be no sur-miles at least, or nine miles accord- prise that people with baggage prefer ing to other calculations, and give to to go by sea. the canal thus made some five or six THE BAR OF THE COLUMBIA. But the sufferings of invalids and locks, for there is a fall from Celilo to the end of the dalles region of someladies in rough weather are really terdoubt, the great river of the Pacific thing like a hundred feet. As the rible, and there is not the most re-

mete possibility of any natural improvement. The trafic between the two cities is rapidly increasing, because there is great growth and much enterprise on a grand scale in Oregon; and yet Oregon is and always will be

But the other impediment, the Casdependent upon San Francisco for cades, is not so terrible to look at, many comforts and luxuries, even though there is a strong probability that even here a successful canal in the Washington territory side could nection with the eastern states. From internal in provements will quickly not be made for less than several mil- every point of view, then, it would discover that rivers have been attend-ed to by congress according to size. In the Cascades, as the name seem desirable that congress should implies, are a series of rapids, which make some appropriation to improve Legislators can hardly be coerced into at low water are very formidable, but the bar of the Columbia. It is the the consideration of such questions as at high water can be surmounted by more imperatively needed because are presented by the American and powerful steamers - save the last one. matters look as if there was to be a and other rivers that fall into the Thegovernment engineers determined, very material increase of population Sacramento, though of the highest importance; whereas there has to been a cheerful acquiescence as to the quickest relief to steam navigation being built in the interests of th

develop the country and maintain its natural arteries in a high degree of efficiency, do occasionally fall into pit-holes, and make huge blunders, we, making the canal they would create into a high degree of the mountain. They there-fore came to the conclusion that by making the canal they would create into a high degree of the mountain. They there-fore came to the conclusion that by into a high degree of the mountain. They there-fore came to the conclusion that by into a high degree of the mountain. They there-fore came to the conclusion that by into a high degree of the mountain. They there-fore came to the conclusion that by true reason for shooting Gartield? still water along the shore, and so the trouble would cease. How any per-cause he had been put out of the are but men, and not very superior son of common foresight and observa- White House. The d-d little egotist tion could have adopted a theory so believed that he was mainly responsi-A DOUBTFUL UNDERTAKING. I have been led into this chain of For had the current of the Columbia wanted official recognition and re-I have been led into this chain of remarks by a very natural process of thought. Standing here at the cas-cades of the Columbia, face to face with the government works now in progress, I cannot but be convinced that if no project of importance in-volving the expenditure of many mil-lions could be inauverated by can taken to the columbia and re-ward for his labor. He forced his way into the president's room, and he was put out of it by his orders. This touched his vanity and so preyed on his egotism that he resolved on revenge. Having resolved to kill the progress of an and the current of the Columbia way into the president's room, and he was put out of it by his orders. This touched his vanity and so preyed on his egotism that he resolved on revenge. Having resolved to kill the president, he sought for a reason that would give the solar of instification would give the color of justification to the act. He is lawyer enough to THE PROCESS OF DISINTEGRATION.

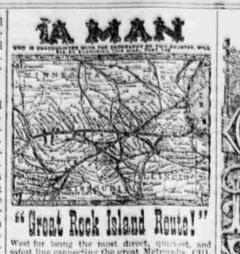
know that if he avowed any personal Formerly basalt mountains as nearhostility to the president his act ly as possible rectangular masses. would show malice; so he carefully refrained from any expression on the subject. "The quarrel between Conkling and

the president gave him the desired reason. He put it on the ground of patriotism, and eagerly avows that he had no personal reason for shooting the president. Have you noticed that never since his arrest has he alluded to the fact that he was ejected from the White House?"

Guiteau fancied that his work in the campaign elected Garfield. Guiteau was ejected from the White House, and he resolved on revenge, and cunningly planned to give it the appearance of a political act without personal malice. For that was all his previous letter writing and his conned exclamation when he had done the

Flame.

securement of a government appoint-ment has caused much talk in this city



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that Garfield has. The appointment the surface rock. The obey-that of cleavage. Its cleavage him from the White House; made him move the mountain. If we were pa- upon it by alternate contraction and and despicable towards the president; pans, we might ask the Kobold to expansion it begins to cleave into made him throw up his seat in the the canal. But in the nineteenth umnar tendency. Then, under this senate, taking his colleague with him, surrendering the senate to the democrats, and then call upon the New York legislature to re-elect him upon his own manifesto, which is a declaration of war on the president. And all this indulgence of egotism and personal animosity he pretends to be out of consideration for the public welfare. He is still continuing this from vision. When they get to the forlorn contest for re-election, or the bottom they are the first beginning of prevention of any election, although a plain. The time comes, however, a plain. The time comes, however, when the mountain, by continual wearing away, gets itself into such a condition that its detritus cannot reach the plain, but is compelled to striking one? reach the plain, but is compelled to form subsidiary hills. The water ac- Sister Van Cott Was Guiteau's cumulates under them silently until it acquires force to move the whole, and New Lond ct. (Wis.) Special. then the subsidiary hill, with all its A recent Washington disputch to trees, plains, orchards, houses and inthen the subsidiary hill, with all its

A SINGULAR FACT.

Now the men who built the wagon road must be aware that this is true, because they noticed as a very singu-lar fact that about a foot under the shale there was a structure of the structure of that melting ice must slide downward, because their brains were filled with the rapid current theory, although the Columbia has no more effect upon the mountain than I should have if I were to sneeze. The inevitable con-clusion to be drawn for shale there was a stratum of chunks prefacing the act with the statement, Celilo is about 100 miles by the river, but in that distance the Columbia has lo increase. The inevitable con-two great impedimential has a clusion to be drawn from this is that when a perfumed blue immediately the canal is built it will scribed as a mixture of ambiguous disthe Cascades, the other as the *dalles*. commence to fill up. Nor can it be The readers of The Chronicle will be kind enough not to confound the lat-the Washington territory side the dis-sorbing affection, profound admiration ter word with the bustling, brisk, live-ly and pleasure-loving town called by that name. The word is one of the Error of bits of mode algorithm of the solution of the soluti French bits of rude eloquence by which the voyageurs of the old Hud-road company have their portage, and el great pride in showing the letters, son Bay company described striking here a canal could be dug which would ed great pride in showing the letters, objects, and is a proof that, unletter- be permanent. But I cannot avo'd and seemed to cherish a deep affection ed as they were, and rough and un- asking the question whether it would for the author, and I believe she is cultured as we deem them, their hearts not be more practical, more sensible, the wealthy widow the crack-brained

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dalles implies the grandeur of a noble terrace, the splendor of the pavement of a palace, and the English tongue can only obtain this by an extended sentence, such as "broad flights of noble flag-ging," all of which is implied by the one word, dalles. And it describes the scene perfectly, for the river finds its way through lava beds, which *i* are actual terraces, and upon which the process of disintergration has up to the present hour made no mark and recorded no progress. They remain like great masses of iron ore. To HONORED AND BLEST.

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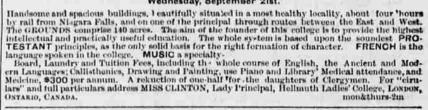
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