

FROM PORTLAND TO FRISCO

Humors of a Trip on the Pacific With Winds and Seas at Play.

COLUMBIA RIVER AND THE CASCADES

Most Enjoyable Route to the Golden Gate—Idiosyncrasies of the Seaside—Avoid Tobacco and the Papers That Are Too Funny.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 8.—[Special Correspondence of The Bee.]—Whenever you make a pleasure trip out here, or business isn't too pressing on an errand hither, don't fail to come by way of Portland and take in the voyage by steamer from that city down the coast and through the Golden Gate. It doesn't take much more than two days longer and not only is the monotony of an all-rail ride through a dreary and lifeless country in November avoided, but on the steamer is grateful freedom and ozone unlimited and invaluable.

The Union Pacific railway in advertisements of its line to Portland advises passengers, and especially tourists, to leave the train at the Dalles and go down the Columbia river by steamer. I didn't go that way because the boats don't run at this season on the upper Columbia. But it must be a grand trip, indeed, if the railway company recommends one to take it in preference to going all the way through the cars.

The railway line from the Dalles down to the Willamette river, on which Portland is situated, is the most picturesque mountain route in the world. It is a grand trip, indeed, if the railway company recommends one to take it in preference to going all the way through the cars.

The train on which I was a passenger was late in arriving at the Dalles, where the flyer is due somewhere in the neighborhood of 5 o'clock in the morning. In this instance the delay was more convenient. The best way to encourage early rising is for one to once get a glimpse of the picturesque Cascade mountains from the car windows and see that in making the trip he will be willing to sacrifice his sleep for another view of the panorama unfolded. Those who are not so fortunate, named, for from their lofty heights and the outlying battlements of the lesser slopes tumble down innumerable ribbons of water that appear in the sunlight like diamonds.

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encouraged and careless of wind or tide I made no attempt to check my risibilities. A merry game of cards was played in the room. Something resembling curses was heard but no attention paid to them. Suddenly there shot by a body that, when it brought up against the wall on the opposite side, I saw bore resemblance to a man. A derby hat was jammed down over what was probably the head of a human being but so great had been the confusion from the abrupt checking of the flight of this comet that no features were discernible. The hat was a sort of cap or mitt on the head, but it was driven down by the force of the shock.

"To laugh at such a sight would have been pedantic, but I didn't mind, for there had been so much misery exhibited that even the ludicrous incidents of the victims of sickness had earned pity. Swearing became more pronounced, but I didn't mind, for there had been so much misery exhibited that even the ludicrous incidents of the victims of sickness had earned pity.

No word of comment was made. The door flew open and the stranger was fairly hurled across the narrow deck passage, up against the steamer rail and then thrown back again as the boat lurched and rolled.

"Never mind the door," I called out. An oath came back in wind blown tatters.

Such an exhibition of temper was quite unpleasing. Two days ago I thought I recognized in the clothing of a man on deck that of the figure that had shared the smoking room with me. An attempt was made to open conversation with him. Gruffly the advances were repelled. By a little tact, though, the ice was broken finally.

"Do you know you came mighty near getting thumped the other day?"

"This was news to me. How I escaped was a matter of moment. I am smart to laugh at a fellow when he's seasick, as you did," said the man.

The change was resented so far as the personal reference went. That did not satisfy the man who had been sick.

"Yes, you did," he declared. "And if I had been sick then either you or I would have been licked."

Of course the chaff was unfounded, and after much persuasion the man explained. It appeared that the man, Charles B. Ford, in that funny paper I exhibited led him to imagine that I was gloating over his misfortune or making fun at his misery. Who was I to blame for that? The stranger had been assured that jokes and not he had excited my laughter he seemed somewhat embarrassed.

"Let me give you a piece of advice," he remarked. "The next time you are on a steamer where people are seasick don't read a funny paper."

Verily, said.

Verily, said.

Verily, said.

Verily, said.

man in which solar heat is produced by the rapid changes of the molecules taking place in the molecules of our atmosphere. In this connection the shape of the molecules is given, and the peculiar movements by which the elements of precipitation are effected are clearly and minutely described, together with a photo-engraved illustration of the solar and earthly dynamic in action. Published by Taylor Fitch, Washington, D. C.

The Californian Illustrated Magazine for March shows marked improvement over its predecessors. Among the papers of special interest is one on a theory of "The Crater of Copernicus in the Moon," by Prof. Holden of Lick observatory. Another charmingly written article is "A Woman's Walk Through Bavaria" and the first of a series of papers on the "Niagara Canal," by Captain Merry, the canal from Niagara Falls, is begun in this number. Mr. G. H. Fitch of the San Francisco Chronicle contributes an entertaining paper entitled "Climbing Mount Shasta," and the "Niagara Canal," by Captain Merry, the canal from Niagara Falls, is begun in this number.

"Rose and Ninette; a Story of Morals and Manners of the Day," is regarded by its author, Alphonse Daudet, it is said, as the supreme effort of his life. The subject is a question of divorce, and the author evidently feels deeply on the subject he treats so powerfully. The translation, which is a very excellent one, is by Mrs. J. Serrano. Published by the Cassell Publishing company, New York.

The English Illustrated Magazine can be classed among the leading periodicals, although it is not quite so large nor is the subscription price as high as some of the others. The pictures are always well executed and the reading matter carefully selected and of a most varied character.

The highest price paid for gold during the late war was \$2.85, the quotation for July 16, 1864.

It is interesting to learn from a scientist who likes to delve into the minute that a quart of milk may contain as many as 60,000,000 bacteria.

During the past four months more than \$7,000,000 in gold has been brought to the United States from Australia.

It is estimated that at least \$50,000,000 of the government's paper money has been lost or destroyed.

A camel of the largest size has been known to drink from thirty to fifty gallons of water, and can travel without any more for twenty days.

Wars during the last thirty-three years have cost 2,500,000 men and \$3,000,000,000.

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THE METHODIST CONFERENCE

Questions of Vital Importance to Come Before the Meeting.

INTEREST MANIFESTED IN THE FAR EAST

Returns of the Vote on the Admission of Women—Serious Demands of the Colored Church Which Imperil Unity and Harmony.

New York Times, March 8.

The great deliberative, legislative and executive body of the Methodist Episcopal church, known as the general conference, will hold its next quadrennial meeting this year in Omaha. The sessions will occupy the entire month of May, and for several reasons they promise to be fraught with most notable results. Methodists are looking forward to the general conference with great interest.

At least two questions are bound to come up, the settlement of which may cause the birth of new denominations. A large number of other questions are likely to cause undue excitement, as upon them may be reflected the influence of the greater questions, without any reference whatever to the merit or demerit of the lesser. Many of the annual conferences have instructed their delegates to the general conference how to vote on the question of admitting women to the conferences, and, whether favorably or unfavorably, to cast their votes on every other question, no matter how remote, accordingly. Therefore, a delegate in favor of the admission of women will not vote for any man opposed to their admission, no matter what office he may be put up for.

The general conference will be a very large body. It will be made up of six ministerial and two lay delegates from each of the 111 annual conferences. It will be presided over in turn by the sixteen resident bishops of the denomination. The annual conferences are divided into two classes, called the fall and spring conferences, from the season of the year in which their meetings are held. The majority of those conferences have already elected their delegates. Those of the east are now assembling, and much attention is being directed to them in the hope of discovering indications as to what course they are likely to pursue on the great questions of the hour.

East and west were directly arrayed against each other in the preliminary votes that the general conference of 1888, which met in this city, directed should be taken on the woman question in 1891 and 1891, the west voting largely in favor of admitting women to the conferences, and the east, on the other side, voting against it. In the case of the western conferences have elected are known to be almost all "woman" men, while in many instances, to guard against any possibility of conversion by the eloquent orators of the east, the eastern conferences, in construction has been given to vote for the admission of women as lay delegates. In the case of the Cincinnati conference, a delegate who has been instructed that way is pronounced "anti-woman" man.

Will the east adopt the same tactics in the question often raised in Methodist circles. Here in New York and Brooklyn, where the foes of women are the most bitter and most numerous, the prevailing sentiment is that the delegates will not be hampered in any such way. The local friends of the cause, but a woman man, however, will get a place on the New York East conference.

Rumor is busy among the constituencies concerned with the mention of the women who are likely to be elected or who may be elected. In this city, Rev. Dr. J. R. Day, pastor of the Mission society, is prominently spoken of. He is an uncompromising anti-woman man. Rev. Dr. M. D. C. Crawford, corresponding secretary of the city church and Extension and Mission society, is also mentioned. He is also a decidedly anti-woman man. Others by whom the New York conference may be represented are: Rev. Dr. James M. King, secretary of the National League for the Protection of the American Church, Rev. Dr. J. R. Day, pastor of Calvary church, Rev. Dr. A. J. Palmer, presiding elder of the New York district; Rev. G. H. Gregory of Trinity church, Poughkeepsie; Rev. Charles W. Millard, pastor of the Washington street church, New York; Rev. Dr. J. H. Kingdon, and Rev. Dr. J. H. Miley and G. R. Crooks, professors at Drew theological seminary, Madison, N. J. Every one of these ministers is on record as opposing the admission of women.

The New York east conference only "anti-woman" men are expected to be sent to the general conference. The Rev. Dr. James M. Buckley, editor of the Christian Advocate of this city, is sure to go. So are Rev. Dr. George F. Maine, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, and Presiding Elder C. S. Wing of Stamford, Conn. Others mentioned are Rev. Dr. George Reed, president of Dickinson college, Carlisle, Penn.; Rev. Dr. J. Oramel Peck, secretary of the Mission society, Brooklyn; and Presiding Elder John W. Beach of Middletown, Conn.

Almost half a century has passed since the followers of John Wesley in America divided upon the slavery question in the adoption of the original constitution. The next most important crisis came less than a generation ago, when the laity demanded and received at the hands of the clergy and were admitted to representation in the general conference. Since then the development of the church has been remarkable, and many find the cause of it in the wider and wider sphere of activity that the church has allowed to its women members.

The women succeeded in getting elected as delegates from as many conferences to the general conference of 1888. They were Miss Frances E. Willard of the Rock River conference, Amanda G. Rippey of the Kansas conference, Mary G. Hind of the Minnesota conference, Angie F. Newman of the Nebraska conference, and Lizzie D. Van Kirk of the Pittsburg conference. They were elected under the interpretation of the term "lay," as including both men and women, but the general conference was not ready to let them take their seats.

The decision to exclude the women was not reached until an animated and very general discussion had taken place. When it was finally decided that the women, it was also resolved that the question as to their eligibility should be referred to the entire church. The months of October and November, 1890, were designated as the time when every member of the church over 21 years of age, without distinction of sex, should vote on the question. As the result would only be taken as indicating the sentiment of the church, it was further agreed that all annual conferences

should also pass judgment in like manner on the matter in 1891, the provision being that if three-fourths of their number favored the admission of women, then the general conference of 1892 would take it up, while fourteen, a majority of the quorum of its members, should be sufficient to settle the question.

A representative anti-woman vote in the east was cast by a New York East conference. In the Brooklyn district of this conference there are seventy-eight churches, seventy-two of which took the vote. In the New York East district there are seventy churches, fifty-seven of which took the vote. In the New York district there are seventy-four churches, sixty-eight of which took the vote. The New Haven district has eighty-one churches, seventy-one of which took the vote. The churches which failed to vote were in every case among the smallest in the conference. The result of the vote was 1,893 for admitting women and 3,919 against the proposal.

Students interest was not taken in the question in all parts of the country to bring out a thoroughly representative vote. A great many churches refrained altogether from passing on it, while several conferences failed to report what action, if any, they had taken. It is interesting, however, to note that the returns from 337 presiding elders' districts show 182,000 votes in favor of the women to 109,033 against, the majority being 73,924. The total vote cast was only 901,314, out of 1,531,024 members reported. On this basis the membership of the entire church was 2,500,000. It was estimated that at least 700,000 would be entitled to vote under the condition of being 21 years of age or over. Applying the same proportion to the membership of the district above mentioned, it will be seen that the vote brought out was very small.

The leader of the advocates of the admission of women is Miss Frances E. Willard of the Woman's Christian Temperance union. The opposition is led by the Rev. Dr. James M. Buckley of the Christian Advocate.

The other question referred to as likely to cause another split in the church is one which the colored members of the denomination have been agitating for some time. They want representation of a kind different from that which the women are demanding. They argue that their numbers entitle them to secretariats and similar offices in the great societies of the church. They also declare that one of their number ought to be honored with an election to the episcopacy. There is no likelihood that their appeal will be favorably answered by the conference, and there is, therefore, danger that they will withdraw from the church, and either go into one of the many Methodist denominations for colored people, where they will not be in such a subordinate position as now, or form a new church for themselves.

The next question of importance that the general conference will have to take up is that concerning the episcopacy. In some quarters there is a conviction that there should be an increase in the number of bishops, and there may be an election of additional bishops, as some of the aspirants are likely to push their way strongly in the election. The conviction that their chances of election will not be as good four years hence.

Another mooted question concerning the Episcopacy is that of the abolition of the presiding elderships and the establishment of diocesan bishops, as in the Protestant Episcopal church. There is talk also of making the presiding elderships elective and of limiting the term of office of the bishops, who are now elected for life.

There is only one missionary society in the Methodist Episcopal church. It is possible that the general conference will be asked to divide it into two—home and foreign.

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