

POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

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ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Fred Douglass has a fortune of \$300,000, and there are said to be one hundred colored men in Washington who are worth \$25,000 or more.

An old horse at Beaver Falls, Penn., long noted for its slowness, suddenly became remarkably lively, and now is almost as frisky as a colt. There are some who think the animal has gone insane.

It is said that enough of salt underlies the city of Ithaca, N. Y., to supply the world for a century, and that a syndicate has been formed to build there the largest salt works in the State of New York.

The lower classes of the Italian people continue to emigrate in enormous numbers, and the Government is much alarmed. The number leaving Genoa last year was 101,200, as against 52,852 the previous year.

The Liverpool and Manchester Ship Canal, which is to cost \$30,000,000 and be built in seven years, will be dredged by German dredging machines, as the English contractor finds nothing in England to equal them.

Hawkinsville, Ga., is remarkably proud of Miss Annie McCormick because she can play two tunes on the piano and sing a third, all at once. It is said that "she can sit with her back to the instrument and play most beautifully."

Empress Elizabeth of Austria, having been forbidden to take equine exercise for some months, now amuses herself with a tricycle. It is whispered that Her Majesty also practices, when in the seclusion of her grounds, upon a bicycle.

A copper soda fountain exploded with a report as loud as a small cannon, in Baltimore the other day. A man named Tysinger had his leg badly lacerated by the top of the apparatus, and another named Barnes was knocked over by the steam of escaping soda.

A Charlotte Harbor, Fla., lady has a small green frog with its home in the calyx of a lily in her room. The little fellow is quite a pet and perches high on the pistil of the flower to receive his dinner, consisting of flies fed to him from the point of a pin.

Swallows have been making their home in the chimneys of the First Ward School-house at Appleton, Wis., and when a fire was built in the stove the other day hosts of dead birds came tumbling down the chimney. Altogether 850 dead birds were picked up and removed in bushel baskets.

The ups and downs of a speculator's life were splendidly illustrated the other day in the case of a man in New York, who made \$42,000 in two days. He put \$50,000 with it to make \$450,000 in three days, and lost the entire sum in six hours. In the morning he lived in a palace. In the evening he was out looking for apartments.

Red canaries sell for \$5 apiece in the bird stores. They are said to be produced from the eggs of an ordinary canary that has been fed on cayenne pepper. The young birds also are kept on a red pepper diet until they are full grown and their plumage has become a settled and permanent red. Some doubt this story, but it is stuck to by all the bird dealers.

A very valuable insulating material, described in the *Chronique Industrielle*, has just been produced. It is composed of one part Greek pitch and two parts burnt plaster, by weight, the latter being pure gypsum, raised to high temperature and plunged in water. This mixture when hot is homogeneous, viscous paste, and can be applied by a brush or cast in molds; it is amber-colored, and possess the insulating properties of ebonite, and can be turned and polished. Its advantage is its endurance of great heat and moisture without injuring its insulating properties.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

MILITARY EXPEDITION.

Escaped Convict Killed. Fire in Los Angeles. Disastrous Collision at Sea.

SEVEN MONTHS' FIRE RECORD.

Mysterious Deaths.

George Friedenber, a saloon-keeper was found dead in his saloon at San Francisco, having committed suicide by taking poison, because, it was alleged, of jealousy of his wife, Wm. C. Laders, a book-keeper, and W. H. Waldron, a printer, together with Friedenber, had been drinking for several days. Laders was found on the streets, insensible from an overdose of morphine, the next day, and he died at the hospital. Shortly afterward the body of Waldron was found in a hallway on Howard street. It is supposed he died from alcoholism. Coroner Stanton is nonplussed at the turn events have taken, as these two were the only witnesses he relied upon for the inquest on Friedenber, and as Laders in conversation with the coroner said it would not be long before he would be laid beside Friedenber, it is supposed he committed suicide, though no motive is apparent.

Disastrous Collision at Sea.

A dispatch received at the Merchant's Exchange at San Francisco, states that the British ship Earl Wemyss, which left for Cork, collided with the British ship Ardencaupe, bound from Liverpool to Calcutta. The Wemyss, which sunk, carried 43,342 cents of wheat, valued at \$63,700, shipped by G. W. McNear. The Ardencaupe was badly damaged. She put into Fernando Noronha, a small port on the coast of Brazil. A part of the crew of the Wemyss was saved.

Shot by a Policeman.

Officer Whalen, of San Francisco, heard the cries of a man on the corner of Russ and Folsom streets. Running there he found Officer Glennon, with a pistol, standing over a man who was bleeding. On examination it was found that he had been shot by Officer Glennon in three places. He was taken to a hospital, where he lies in a critical condition. The cause of the shooting was not disclosed.

Wholly Unknown.

An unknown man was found by a policeman before daybreak, lying in an insensible condition at the foot of a bank near the Union Iron Works, in San Francisco. He had fallen over the bank, which is twenty feet high, while drunk. At the receiving hospital his injuries were pronounced fatal. All the ribs on the left side were fractured, as was his right hip, and he had suffered contusion of the brain. Who the man is, is not known. There was nothing on him that would help to identify him.

Escaped Convict Killed.

There have been frequent fires and robbery on Fowler Bros. railroad, near Dutch Flat, Cal., causing heavy losses. Constable Ferguson and a party found a camp with three men in the brush. On seeing the officers two ran away and the third was killed. Henry Watters, one of the hunting party, was shot in the leg by one of his own party, but not much injured. The men are supposed to be escaped convicts.

Fire in Los Angeles.

Fire gutted a two-story wooden building in East Los Angeles, owned by L. Stronmee. The lower portion was occupied as a tin shop and picture store, and the upper floor was used as a lodging house. The loss is estimated at \$2,500, partly insured. The interior of a three-story structure adjoining, owned by J. N. Abbott, was flooded, causing a loss of \$1,500, insured.

Successful Military Expedition.

Capt. McConihe, commanding officer of the recent army expedition to Yaquina bay, rode into Portland and telegraphed the news of his arrival to Vancouver. The expedition, which consisted of two companies of infantry and a platoon of artillery, took a course southerly from here on the west side through Sheridan and the Grand Ronde Indian reservation to Nestucca bay. From this point an exploring party was fitted up with a pack train, and mounted upon mules, went down the coast to Yaquina bay. The captain, with the main command, came back east of the Coast mountains and took their march through King's valley and along the route of the Yaquina river to Yaquina bay. From this point the whole command returned on the west side by a different route, having marched in all

about 400 miles. They are now stationed about three miles up the river. "I am well pleased with the result of the expedition," said Capt. McConihe, "both in the advantages accruing to the troops from the marching experience, and the successful passage of the exploring party from Nestucca bay southward. There is no official record, so far as we know, of this route having been covered, though there are rumors in that direction, and it has been an open and interesting question whether such a trail could be found. We take no little satisfaction at the success of the enterprise. Most of the passage was made along the beach, but several streams enter into the ocean, and the high and frequent promontories render the route difficult. The deep rivers were successfully swum by the mules, and a toilsome way picked over the rocky headlands. Such tramping expeditions are annually customary, and this is the only one this year."

From Seattle.

Louis English, while at work digging a deep trench for a sewer at Seattle, W. T., was caught by a cave-in and buried. His fellow-workmen dug him out in a half-dead condition. It is hardly expected he will survive internal injuries, resulting from the pressure he received.

Poisoned by Canned Goods.

Three families have been poisoned by eating canned goods at San Diego, Cal. Four members of the family of W. F. Baltimore are prostrated, and Katie, the youngest daughter, is not expected to recover. Four members of the family of Capt. Charters and Mrs. Miller and her daughter, are also in a critical condition.

Attempt to Wreck a Train.

An attempt was made to wreck the overland train near Los Angeles, Cal. The train reached a dark point near the outskirts of town, where the track is on an embankment. When the engineer saw something on the track he reversed the lever and put on the air brakes; but the cow-catcher struck the obstruction, which proved to be a telegraph pole, evidently laid across the track by some unknown persons.

Seven Months' Fire Record.

Following is the fire record of Portland, Or., from January 1 to August 31, as taken from the record of the fire commissioners: During the month of January there were twenty-two alarms. The total loss was \$4,224 65, on buildings, \$1,408 15, contents \$2,816 50; total amount insured for \$1,700, on buildings \$4,600, contents \$6,100; total insurance paid \$3,649 65, on buildings \$1,208 15, on contents \$2,441 50. During February there were six alarms. Total loss \$558, on buildings \$105, contents \$455; total amount insured for \$850, buildings \$100, contents \$750; total insurance paid \$388 25, buildings \$55, contents \$333 25. During March there were nineteen alarms; loss, \$10,355 05; buildings \$2,166 05; contents \$8,189. Insurance, \$22,775; buildings, \$19,895; contents, \$2,900. Insurance paid, \$1,855 05; buildings, \$1,166 05; contents, \$689. During April there were eleven alarms. Loss, \$2,446 76; buildings, \$796 76; contents, \$1,650. Insurance, \$11,500; buildings, \$1,500; contents, \$10,000. Insurance paid, \$1,546 76. During May there were fourteen alarms. Loss, \$2,550 75; buildings \$1,898 75; contents, \$652. Insurance, \$2,900; buildings, \$1,400; contents, \$1,500. Insurance paid on buildings, \$1,098 75; contents, \$352. During June there were two alarms. Loss, \$100. Insurance none. During July there were thirteen alarms. For this month the losses and insurance are not reported. During August there were fifteen alarms. For this month also there is no record of the amount of losses and insurance.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

A Heavy Embezzlement.

It was definitely learned that the embezzlement of Joseph Breed, assistant cashier of the Hartford (Conn.) National Bank, who recently committed suicide, would aggregate \$108,500 instead of \$22,000 as first reported. The estate of Daniel Goodwin loses \$86,000. The large Shults estate, of which Breed was custodian, is intact. The examination of the bank is finished, and not a dollar is missing. Breed lost the money in stock speculation.

Dynamiters at Work.

For the fourth time Cutler, Ind., was the scene of a terrific explosion. Dynamite was placed under the post office, and that structure literally blown to atoms. A large quantity of dynamite was found under a hotel with matches half burned. A strong gale undoubtedly extinguished the match.

Death from Hydrophobia.

Two horses died at Secorro, N. M., in the agony of hydrophobia, having been bitten by a mad dog. A yearling

colt died of the same disease, having been bitten by the same dog. A child recently died here from the same cause in horrible agony. Several more show signs of hydrophobia, and it is thought they will die.

Killed His Wife and Children.

Near Columbus, Ind., James Ford, a farmer while suffering from delirium caused by fever, sprang from his bed and made an attack upon his wife and two children. He seized a chair and killed the youngest child and his wife, and his 10-year-old boy was so badly injured that he died.

A Verdict of Guilty.

Judge Schroder of Cincinnati, ordered the jury to return a verdict of guilty, in the case of Ives and Stainer, two very prominent New York financiers, in the trial in which they are charged with embezzling some millions of securities of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton R. R.

A Wife's Punishment.

Mrs. Lena Schreiner, who poured kerosene on her husband while he was drunk, and set him on fire, pleaded guilty to a charge of murder at Chicago. With her baby on her knee, she listened stolidly while the judge pronounced a sentence of ten years in the penitentiary. The judge said that in fixing the sentence he had taken into consideration the fact that Schreiner was a wife-beater of the most brutal variety.

A Scout Commits Suicide.

Senior Florence Luiz, a wealthy ranchman of Sonora, and famous for a quarter of a century as an Indian scout for the United States and Mexican troops, committed suicide by shooting himself near San Lazaran, A. T.

A Deadly Duel.

A sanguinary duel took place at San Felipe de Sabinas, Texas. Losira Amador, captain of the Gontias Guards, a body of mounted custom house inspectors, and Graciana Cautau, one of the state rangers, had had trouble and a grudge existed between them. Meeting in San Felipe de Sabinas, they drew pistols simultaneously and began shooting. Amador fell dead at the second or third shot and his opponent, Cautau, died within four hours from the effect of wounds received from his slain antagonist.

Accident on the Wabash.

A passenger train on the Wabash road, near Fairmont, Ill., was wrecked by a collision with a freight. An unknown man stealing a ride was killed, and the engineer and postal clerk are badly injured.

Accidentally Killed.

John Payne met death in Pine canyon, near Fillmore, Utah. He was taking home a load of lumber, and in some way he was thrown under the wagon, the wheels passing over him, crushing his skull and breaking bones in his body.

"Met Death in the Clouds."

A large silk balloon, its car deserted and drifting, was captured on Cumberland hill, R. I., where it had caught among the trees. The address, "Carl Myers, Mohawk, N. Y.," was found on it, and a bit of a Buffalo newspaper was pinned to the basket, on which was pencilled "Met our death in the clouds."

Killed his Brother-in-law.

Alexander Malock and George Turner, prominent farmers of Shelby county, Ala., and brothers-in-law, settled a feud by a duel. They met in the public road and fired five shots each. Turner was mortally wounded. Malock escaped.

Three Mexicans Murdered.

The bodies of three Mexicans who were mysteriously murdered at a way station near Pueblo, Colo., were found. There is no clue to the murderer but it was doubtless for the purpose of robbery.

A Millionaire Pardoned.

The board of pardons of Pennsylvania has granted a pardon to Milton Weston, the Chicago millionaire who is serving a five years' sentence in the Western penitentiary for contributory murder in causing the death of a man named Haymaker during a fight between employes of the two men over possession of a piece of land in Western Pennsylvania about four years ago.

A Woman's Terrible Encounter.

At North Baltimore, Ohio, Mrs. H. C. Moyer went to the stable to feed a horse, when she was accosted by a man who demanded her money. A struggle ensued, and the woman finally escaped with nearly all of her clothing torn from her person. Going to the house she encountered another man who was ransacking the house. Picking up a gun she fired at the fellow, but missed him. She was then knocked down and beaten so badly that she will probably die. The thieves secured \$200 and escaped.

AGRICULTURAL.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF FARMERS AND STOCKMEN.

The sheep must have a dry location at night. Dampness is fatal to sheep, being the cause of distemper, while wet pasture fields conduce to foot-rot.

A half-bred ewe, bred to a Shropshire ram is reported from England dropping six well matured lambs at one birth. Another produced four lambs and two others triplets.

Sheep eat so many different kinds of plants which horses and cattle refuse that the addition of a sheep, by keeping down those plants which other stock refuse, really increases the product of the pasture.

The vessels carrying frozen muttons from Australia are said to be taking out their refrigerators to abandon the business, while the South American trade is preparing for an increase in the same line.

Southdown rams are the best for crossing on small native breeds in order to produce excellent mutton. The ewes from such cross should be mated with Oxford or Shropshire rams if larger size be desired.

The Indiana Farmer is authority for the statement that the Shropshires have grown more rapidly in popular favor than almost any other mutton breed of sheep, especially in the central Western States.

An English farmer, writing of feeding ensilage to his flock of five hundred sheep, says that they did better on it than on any other food, and last year of his 480 lambs not one died, and his ewes did better than usual.

The way to build up the sheep industry is to weed out the flocks, go for greater capacity for mutton, and increase in the individual, and put a small flock on every farm, where they will pay their way, even if wool isn't worth a cent a pound.

The points to be observed in putting up wool are, not to fold the fleece too tightly as to destroy its elasticity; not to try to sell twine for wool, and to exclude all tags, leg wool and all foreign matter from the interior of the the fleece.

The business of raising lambs for early spring marketing is yearly assuming greater proportions in New York and New England. To meet with the greatest success it is found important to select ewes for dams that are large milkers, and to so feed them as to keep a liberal flow of milk long continued.

There is always an uncertainty regarding the temperature for churning. While from 62 to 65 deg. is usually accepted as the proper temperature, the milk from some cows produces cream that requires as high as 67 deg. to form butter. On each dairy farm practical handling of the milk only can determine how best to churn for first-class butter.

To get the cream quickly from milk, as soon as it is drawn from the cow reduce its temperature to about 45 deg. and keep it there, and in four or five hours all the cream will rise. The cream will be perfectly sweet, and the skim milk will be of a very superior quality. If the cream is to be made into butter, it should be kept at a temperature of about 65 deg., and churned at a temperature of from 55 to 60 degrees.

The idea that any method of feeding turnips to cows, either just before or just after milking, will save the next mess from being flavored, is a popular mistake. Heating the milk will cause the flavor of the turnip to evaporate so that it will not affect the butter made from it. But there are objections to this. The butter from milk thus treated will be soft, and the milk, if used as food, will have a constipating effect which it did not before possess.

The competition among market gardeners is now so great that early vegetables for outdoor planting are offered by them cheaper than most farmers can grow the few they may require. Send an inquiry to any leading market gardener, and the writer will be surprised to learn how cheaply tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce and other plants are furnished to those ordering by the quantity. It is often better and cheaper for farmers to buy these than to try to grow them, with the poor facilities that most can command.

MARKET REPORT.

RELIABLE QUOTATIONS CAREFULLY REVISIED EVERY WEEK.

WHEAT—Valley, \$1 30@1 31 Walla Walla, \$1 20@1 22 1/2.

BARLEY—Whole, \$1 10@1 12 1/2; ground, per ton, \$25 00@27 50.

OATS—Milling, 32@34c.; feed, 44 @45c.

HAY—Baled, \$10@13.

SEED—Blue Grass, 14 1/2@16c.; Timothy, 9 1/2@10c.; Red Clover, 14@15c.

FLOUR—Patent Roller, \$4 00; Country Brand, \$3 75.

EGGS—Per doz, 25c.

BUTTER—Fancy roll, per pound, 25c.; pickled, 20@25c.; inferior grade, 15@25c.

CHEESE—Eastern, 16@20c.; Oregon, 14@16c.; California, 14c.

VEGETABLES—Beets, per sack, \$1 50; cabbage, per lb., 2 1/2c.; carrots, per sk., \$1 25; lettuce, per doz. 20c.; onions, \$1 00; potatoes, per 100 lbs., 40@50c.; radishes, per doz., 15@20c.; rhubarb, per lb., 6c.

HONEY—In comb, per lb., 18c.; strained, 5 gal. tins, per lb. 8 1/2c.

POULTRY—Chickens, per doz., \$4 00@6 00; ducks, per doz., \$5 00@6 00; geese, \$6 00@8 00; turkeys, per lb., 12 1/2c.

PROVISIONS—Oregon hams, 12 1/2c per lb.; Eastern, 13@13 1/2c.; Eastern breakfast bacon, 12 1/2c per lb.; Oregon 10@12c.; Eastern lard, 10@11 1/2c per lb.; Oregon, 10 1/2c.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples, \$ 50 @ 85c.; Sicily lemons, \$6 00@6 50 California, \$3 50@5 00; Naval oranges \$6 00; Riverside, \$4 00; Mediterranean, \$4 25.

DRIED FRUITS—Sun dried apples, 7 1/2c per lb.; machine dried, 10@11c.; pitless plums, 13c.; Italian prunes, 10@14c.; peaches, 12 1/2@14c.; raisins, \$2 40@2 50.

WOOL—Valley, 17@18c.; Eastern Oregon, 9@15c.

HIDES—Dry beef hides, 8@10c.; culls, 6@7c.; kip and calf, 8@10a.; Murrain, 10 @12c.; tallow, 3@3 1/2c.

LUMBER—Rough, per M, \$10 00; edged, per M, \$12 00; T. and G. sheathing, per M, \$13 00; No. 2 flooring, per M, \$18 00; No. 2 ceiling, per M, \$18 00; No. 2 rustic, per M, \$18 00; clear rough, per M, \$20 00; clear P. 4 S, per M, \$22 50; No. 1 flooring, per M, \$22 50; No. 1 ceiling, per M, \$22 50; No. 1 rustic, per M, \$22 50; stepping, per M, \$25 00; over 12 inches wide, extra, \$1 00; lengths 40 to 50, extra, \$2 00; lengths 50 to 60, extra, \$4 00; 1 1/2 lath, per M, \$2 25; 1 1/4 lath, per M, \$2 50.

BEANS—Quote small whites, \$4 50; pinks, \$3; bayos, \$3; butter, \$4 50; Limas, \$4 50 per cental.

COFFEE—Quote Salvador, 17c; Costa Rica, 18@20c.; Rio, 18@20c.; Java, 27c.; Arbuckle's roasted, 22c.

MEAT—Beef, wholesale, 2 1/2@3c.; dressed, 6c.; sheep, 3c.; dressed, 6c.; hogs, dressed, 8@9c.; veal, 5@7c.

SALT—Liverpool grades of fine quoted \$18, \$19 and \$20 for the three sizes; stock salt, \$10.

PICKLES—Kegs quoted steady at \$1 35.

SUGAR—Prices for barrels; Golden C, 6 1/2c.; extra C, 6 1/2c.; dry granulated, 7 1/2c.; crushed, fine crushed, cube and powdered, 7 1/2c.; extra C, 6 1/2c.; halves and boxes, 4c. higher.

—A man, who was very sad, once heard two boys laughing. He asked them: "What makes you so happy?" Said the elder: "Why, I makes Jim glad and gets glad myself!" This is the true secret of a happy life—to live so that by our example, our kind words and deeds, we may help some one else. It makes life happier here, and Heaven will be happier for the company of those we have, by God's help, brought there.

—If there were to be any difference between a girl's education and a boy's, I should say that of the two the girl should be earlier led, as her intellect ripens faster, into deep and serious subjects; and that her range of literature should not be more but less frivolous, calculated to add the qualities of patience and seriousness to her natural poignancy of thought and quickness of wit; and also to keep her in a lofty and pure element of thought.—*Ruskin*.

—"Look out for number one" is like the baseless fabric of a dream to a widow on the *qui vive* for a second husband.—*Binghamton Republican*.

—St. Louis man (witnessing "Julius Caesar")—"Do you notice, my dear, with what stately grace Brutus moves about?" Wife—"Yes, and he is in his tight-iron, too. It's wonderful!"