

**The Weekly Chronicle.**

THE DALLES. - - - OREGON  
OFFICIAL PAPER OF WASCO COUNTY.

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**LOCAL BREVITIES.**

Wednesday's Daily.

The land officers are kept busy receiving filings, and final proofs in cash entries. The rush will be over the last of the month, as that completes the time in which cash entries can be made.

Reports from Sherman county are to the effect that the ground is thoroughly saturated, our informant stating that his horses mired down in the stubble field. It is entirely too wet to plow up in that neighborhood.

The committee appointed to raise money to assist in purchasing a diamond drill are not apparently pushing the matter as fast as it might be done. The matter is a very important one and we hope will be boomed right along.

Don't forget, if you have railroad lands, that the time in which they can be purchased expires December 31st. After that but one means is left by which government lands can be acquired, and that is under the homestead laws. Swamp and desert lands may be obtained, of course, under the law, but the homestead is all that is left for the general public lands.

Mr. Charles F. Mitchell returned last night from Bohemia mining district in Lane county, where he has been prospecting for some time and where he thinks he has located some good claims. He brought back some fine specimens of base ore composed of iron sulphurets, black-jack, galena and copper. The ore assays in the neighborhood of \$20 per ton in gold and silver.

The Regulator came in last night about 8 o'clock, having left Portland quite late in the day. In spite of the lateness of the hour there was a large crowd present to see the old familiar "Pride of the Dalles" again at the wharf. There may be, probably will be many steamboats visit The Dalles in the future, but there will never be one that will hold the place in the affections of Dalles people, filled by the good old flyer the Regulator.

Thursday's Daily

The diamond ring raffled last night was won by Joe Batty.

The ladies of the Good Intent Society will have on sale Wednesday and Thursday of next week, pies, cakes and doughnuts; also kitchen aprons.

We have coal and iron in abundance and with an open river, what's the matter with The Dalles becoming the "Pittsburg of the Pacific."

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union will meet tomorrow (Friday), the 18th at the residence of Mrs. W. H. Biggs, at 3 o'clock. A full attendance of members and friends of the cause is requested.

We understand the attempt to have Ellen Beach Yaw sing here has not been abandoned, but that the arrangements will probably be completed for her appearance here after she sings in Portland, sometime about the last of the month.

Teams are busy hauling wheat from the warehouses to the Regulator wharf, and from present indications that good little steamer will have all the cargo she can carry, at least until her running mate, the Dalles City, is again ready for business.

The argument in the Steeves case was concluded today at noon, and perhaps by this time a verdict has been reached. There seems to be a strong impression at Hillsboro that the jury will either hang or acquit, and that there is no probability of a conviction.

Two complaints were filed with the county clerk yesterday with the object of severing the ties of matrimony heretofore and now existing between the parties therein named. One was the suit of Ernest Morgan against Nettie Morgan; the other Frank Meyers against Annie M. Meyers.

The Monmouthshire, the big Asiatic-Oregon liner, arrived at Astoria yesterday and at Portland today. She brings 2,500 tons of freight and several passengers, besides forty Chinese. She will leave for Hong Kong some time next week, probably the 23d, and will carry quite a number of passengers on that occasion.

Friday's Daily.

The Cascade Locks edition of the Oregonian will be issued tomorrow.

The Congressional Record has resumed publication, and we rejoice to be again long on wrappers for THE CHRONICLE.

The weather remains damp and remarkably warm, mud is abundant, and everything is at a standstill. Indeed, one looking at the muddy streets and

cloudy skies could easily imagine it was webfoot instead of Eastern Oregon he was looking at.

The dispute over the money in the Sharkey-Fitzsimmons prize fight has been settled and Sharkey gets the hard-earned coin.

The big show windows at Pease & Mays are things of beauty. A very pretty effect is produced in one window, the materials used being just handkerchiefs and kid gloves.

Section 1857, Endowment Rank, K. of P., held their regular annual meeting last night, and elected the following officers: J. S. Fish, president; W. E. Walther, vice-president; F. S. Gunning, secretary. The membership is gaining steadily.

As we go to press we learn that a man named J. W. Baker slipped and fell on the sidewalk near A. M. William & Co.'s store, about 3:15, and broke one of his legs about halfway between the knee and hip. He was taken to Mrs. Obarr's, where his injuries were attended to.

Congressman Ellis has introduced a bill to extend the time for payment on forfeited railroad lands to January 1st, 1897. It is not at all probable the bill will pass, and those who have railroad lands will make a mistake if they place any reliance on its becoming a law.

The Steeves case, being tried at Hillsboro, was expected to go to the jury last evening, but the argument was not concluded at the hour of adjournment. Two of the attorneys spoke for five hours each, but it is thought they will run down today and that the jury would get the case by noon.

Mr. B. J. Sharp of Salem, organizer of the Labor Exchange, will lecture in the court house here Tuesday evening next at 7:30, and on the following evening will organize a branch here. Mr. Sharp is a fluent speaker, is thoroughly informed on the subject, and will be well worth listening to.

Miss Cella Conley, daughter of Mrs. Jas. Conley, of Auburn, died very suddenly on the train from Seattle to Auburn Tuesday. The young lady had been ill in Seattle for some time, and her mother was having her brought home, where she could have more quiet. When the train was a short distance this side of Black river she suddenly threw up her hands, gasped once, and all was over.

The coolest and most daring burglary that has been perpetrated in Seattle for many days took place Tuesday afternoon. The residence of W. H. Finck, 511 Seneca street, was broken into between 2 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, during the temporary absence of the family, and was rummaged from top to bottom, some jewelry belonging to Mrs. Finck, of not very great value taken, and the thief escaped unchallenged and unnoticed.

Saturday, in Colfax, the Catholic brotherhood and a large number of their friends united in the dedication services made in honor of a fine five-foot statue of the Blessed Virgin and Child. This statue was made in France. Father Armschwald, of Tekoa, led in the service. Father Kearns, of Colfax, preached the sermon, taking as a text as a text John 1:29. The choir gave some splendid music. Bordes's mass was rendered in F. Nearly 300 people attended the meeting.

**Elect Postmasters.**

The idea is not wholly a new one, and has been tried several times before but never on so grand a scale, covering an entire state, as it is proposed to try it in Indiana; and the experiment there will be watched with great interest. It is thoroughly in line with the drift of political sentiment in the country, where the idea is to get down to the people and let them select their officials. They choose their president, state and local officers, and it seems only reasonable that they should have some choice of their postmasters, with whom they often have the closest relations. To say that they cannot make good selections is to express doubt as to our republican form of government. Moreover, if they can be trusted to elect the head of the government—the president—they are certainly capable of making good selections of postmasters.

**For Lady Bowlers.**

The trustees of the Commercial Club at a recent meeting adopted a new rule concerning the bowling alley, which will go into effect Jan. 1, 1897. Heretofore the bowling alleys have been free to the ladies, but after the date named the loser will be charged five cents. This change was not made for the purpose of providing revenue, but to awaken interest in the game by making the loser pay a trifle, and thus stimulate the bowlers to their best efforts. It is quite probable the money derived from this source will be returned to the ladies in the shape of a medal or prize.

**O. D. Taylor Wins.**

A dispatch dated at Saznaw, Michigan, today has been received announcing that O. D. Taylor has beaten the Cornell case. This is the case out of which Mr. Taylor's arrest grew, and he now stands clear of all charges thereunder. Mr. Taylor has many friends here who will be pleased to learn the above bit of news.

**A NEW GRADE NEEDED.**

It Should be Finished Early Next Season.

We understand a committee has been appointed by the Commercial Club to look after the matter of laying out and building a new grade from the free bridge across the Deschutes. The grade is badly needed, and should be built just as soon as the weather permits.

The grade in Sherman county is said to be first-class, but on this side it is in bad shape, being irregular and running at all the way from seven to twenty-two inches to the rod. A preliminary examination of the proposed route has been made, and it is thought a grade can be made with not to exceed fifteen inches pitch to the rod. The new grade would not follow the old one, and so one great difficulty would be obviated that exists now, as soon as it was made passable. At present in the summer when the wool teams are using the grade and coming this way it is impossible to get down it on account of their being no turnouts. While the new grade should be well provided for in this respect, it would not be necessary to make them at once, as the old grade could be used for a while by teams going down.

We understand money was donated by Sherman county people to fix their part of the road, with the understanding that Wasco county would build and maintain a good grade on this side. As the ground gets in good condition to work, the surveys should be completed so that the work can be pushed to an early completion, and while the ground is still moist enough to pack. The grade should be finished in time for use by next spring's wool teams.

**Titles Will Be Secured.**

The decision of the United States supreme court Monday in the quadrant case, settles the title to about 200,000 acres of valuable land in Washington county. More than 500 settlers occupy the land and they will now be enabled to get title to the lands.

The land in question consists of a quadrant shaped tract having a radius of ten miles, situated adjacent to a point above the railroad which was started to run from Portland to Astoria; stopped and turned at a right angle and ran south to McMinnville. The government claimed that there were two roads to which the grants were given, Portland and Astoria road, and the one running to McMinnville, while the railroad company claimed that the whole was one continuous road and they were entitled to a grant ten miles in width along the whole line.

When the grant, on the line from Hillsboro to Astoria lapsed, many settlers considering this quadrant tract government land, took up homesteads and pre-emption claims from the government. Many who had bought claims from the railroad company quit paying them and entered their claims under the law as public lands and some have kept on paying the railroad company till this time. The government finally brought suit in the United States district here to quiet title to these lands and the case was decided in favor of the government by Judge Bellinger some three years ago. The company appealed the case to the circuit court of appeals, and it reversed Judge Bellinger's decision. The government then appealed to the supreme court of the United States, which has now reversed the court of appeals and sustained Judge Bellinger. The settlers who have taken their claims under the government will be rejoiced at this decision. Those who have been paying the railroad company will probably endeavor to secure a return of their money, and there will be interminable litigation over the matter.

**Business Increasing.**

Already business is improving in the retail line, caused largely by the demand for holiday goods. The Dalles stores are well supplied with everything in that line, from dress goods to cotton flannel, and from diamonds to soap. There is not a better place to purchase substantial tokens in the shape of clothing and groceries than this; and in the line of jewelry, curios, artistic products of pencil and brush, and the thousand trinkets that go to make up the average Christmas presents, few places of its size can show so large or so varied an assortment. As we have said, trade in these lines is already good, and would be better if it were not for the vast sums being sent out daily to pay for railroad lands. With a good crop next year, an open river, and the drain caused by land purchases stopped, business will be better here than it has since the days when this was the outfitting town for all the mining region east and south of us. A new era of business prosperity has already begun for us, but its magnitude will not be realized until next summer.

**Last Night's Play.**

Katie Putnam has been here and is gone, leaving very pleasant recollections of her visit. Nothing that can be said in praise of the little lady will do her justice, for she is perfect.

The curtain went up promptly at 8 o'clock, as it should, and the ultra-fashionables, who drift in at all hours, lost a goodly portion of the play. Owing to the fact that the company had to get away on the evening train, due to leave

here at 10:15, the two last acts of the play were cut, and then they only got away by having the train held for twenty minutes. The tickets were 75 cents and \$1, which is pretty steep for these hard times, but in spite of this, there was quite a good house.

Owing to the present time card on the O. R. & N., every show we have this winter will have to put the curtain up at 8 o'clock, or before, in order to avoid remaining here a whole day after the show. This being the case, theatergoers should see to it that they are there on time.

**The Circulating Library.**

The circulating library, started some time ago by Miss Henrietta Owen, is not receiving the patronage it deserves. The idea in starting the library was to place within the reach of all the very best modern literature. Old standard works are not kept, but the latest and best novels, as well as more solid reading, are kept. Books that one is compelled to read to keep up with the times, yet such as one does not care to purchase at the prices charged when first issued, are of the class most largely selected from.

We suggest that the long winter evenings may be passed pleasantly and profitably by the perusal of books from the circulating library. The life membership costs only \$1.50, and the dues are 25 cents per month. This is surely cheap enough for anyone. We feel certain that if our people once begin to patronize the library and realize the wide scope of first-class reading material at their disposal, the library will be patronized as it deserves to be. Eugene, Ashland and the towns of Southern Oregon where the system under which this library is run is in vogue, have very large memberships, and there is quite a rivalry as to who shall have the first chance at the new books.

It might be well to add that a paid-up life membership would make a very acceptable Christmas present.

**The Other Side.**

**EDITOR CHRONICLE:**  
In regard to an article that appeared in the Dispatch of the 16th, written by the gentleman from Warm Springs, we wish to call your readers' attention to the fact that the \$70 which he claims to have given, is all false. The other articles were left in the room, and if they are missing, he must look elsewhere for them. Acting on the information he received at the hotel, he made a call when he thought that there was no one there but women, and requested the lady to step outside as he wanted to speak to her. Upon this the lady of the house ordered him to leave, when he became very insulting and abusive. A gentleman from the next house compelled him to comply with the request to go, and he went. As to the hotel bill, that was settled satisfactorily, without the aid of the most noble carpenter from Warm Springs. Instead of the lady coming here last July, she came here one year ago last August. J. H.

**Somewhat Treacherous.**

The folding chairs in the New Vogt are amusing things, for as Artemus Ward says, "You never know just what they are going to do." They have a faculty, wanting in some people, that is they can shut up so easily. If a person leans forward the least bit, down they go, shutting up like a pocket comb, and landing the recent occupant on the floor. It gives one such a delightful feeling of uncertainty that it does not matter much what is going on on the stage. However, we have no kick coming, and would much prefer taking the chances of a dumping at a good show to having a couch of rose leaves at a poor one. If the management will just continue to give us as good companies as Katie Putnam's, we will all forget about the danger behind us.

**Militia Notes.**

From orders recently issued by Lieut.-Col. Patterson, we glean a few notes on the militia.

There will be quarterly muster and inspection of the subdivisions of the battalion at the last meeting in December, except G company, which will be inspected by Col. Patterson at the armory Dec. 28th.

D. H. Roberts has been appointed battalion sergeant-major, and E. B. Kerns company quartermaster sergeant of company G, to rank as such from Sept. 23, 1896.

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Most Perfect Made. 40 Years the Standard.

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IN EXCHANGE FOR 100 COUPONS, OR, IF YOU PREFER, FOR 2 COUPONS AND \$1.00 IN CASH.

The watch is nickel, good timekeeper, quick stem wind and set. You will find one coupon inside each 2 ounce bag and two coupons inside each 4 ounce bag of

**BLACKWELL'S GENUINE DURHAM TOBACCO.**

Send coupons with name and address to BLACKWELL'S DURHAM TOBACCO CO., Durham, N. C.

Buy a bag of this Celebrated Smoking Tobacco, and read the coupon, which gives a list of other premiums and how to get them. 2 CENT STAMPS ACCEPTED.

**New York Weekly Tribune**

—FOR—  
Farmers and Villagers,  
—FOR—  
Fathers and Mothers,  
—FOR—  
Sons and Daughters,  
—FOR—  
All the Family.



With the close of the Presidential Campaign THE TRIBUNE recognizes the fact that the American people are now anxious to give their attention to home and business interests. To meet this condition, politics will have far less space and prominence, until another State or National occasion demands a renewal of the fight for the principles for which THE TRIBUNE has labored from its inception to the present day, and won its greatest victories.

Every possible effort will be put forth, and money freely spent, to make THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE pre-eminently a National Family Newspaper, interesting, instructive, entertaining and indispensable to each member of the family.

We furnish "The Chronicle" and N. Y. Weekly Tribune one year for only \$1.75.

Write your name and address on a postal card, send it to Geo. W. Best, Tribune Office, New York City, and a sample copy of The New York Weekly Tribune will be mailed to you.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Now is a good time to lay in your nice things for the Holidays.

- WE HAVE— ALSO A CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF
- Good Apples,
  - Choice Cranberries,
  - Sweet Potatoes,
  - Seedless Raisins,
  - Fresh Currants,
  - Oranges, Lemons, Figs,
  - Dried Fruits,
  - Canned Wild Blackberries
  - Choice Creamery Butter,
  - Hams, Bacon and Lard.
- Leave orders for Dressed Turkeys, Chickens and Eggs bought and sold.
- Garden and Grass Seeds in Bulk for Early Planting.
  - Hay, Grain, Feed, Flour.
  - Seed Wheat,
  - Chicken Wheat,
  - Oats, Rolled Barley,
  - Bran and Shorts,
  - Middlings,
  - Rolled Oats.

All of which will be sold at Bedrock Prices for Cash at **J. H. GROSS' FEED and GROCERY STORE,** Corner Second and Union Streets.

**The Price on Farm Wagons Has Dropped;**



That is, the price on some wagons has fallen below our price on "OLD HICKORY" Wagons. Why? Because no other wagon on the market will sell alongside of the "OLD HICKORY" at the same prices. It is the best ironed, best painted and lightest running, and we guarantee every bit of material in it to be strictly first class. If you want the CHEAPEST Wagon on the market, we haven't got it; but we have got the BEST, and solicit comparison.

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**Lumber, Building Material and Boxes**  
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