

COLUMBIA COUNTY.

In this issue of THE MIST will be found a personal write-up of a number of the different business houses and institutions of this section of Columbia county; also a synopsis of the various resources of the entire county—as much as our limited space and means will admit of.

As a residence county, it stands without a parallel in the fair State of Oregon. The soil is of superior quality and the natural drainage is such that general farming and stock-raising are easily combined, to advantage. And the greater portion of the county is especially adapted to fruit raising and dairying, which at no distant day will be one of the chief pursuits of the producer. Already the demand for prunes, pears and apples are far in excess of the supply. Within a few minutes ride of the Columbia river there are thousands of acres of unclaimed land situated just in the foothills and overlooking a beautiful landscape lying eastward to the Columbia river, the hills of Washington lending a very beautiful shade to the picture, and to complete this admirable view the great Cascade range affords a background that commands the praise and admiration of all beholders. The advantage of thus locating a home is certainly apparent to every lover of agricultural and horticultural pursuits. Our climate being tempered by the soft breezes of the Pacific ocean, renders the care of all these industries a comparatively easy matter. However, these opportunities, ere long, will be a thing of the past, as the rapid growth and development of the entire Northwest is to-day attracting the attention of the world, not only the burdened peasantry of Europe, but thousands of our American home-seekers are turning their attention Oregonward with a view to procuring themselves a home, while land is within easy reach and building material cheap.

There is yet in Columbia county thousands of acres of government land, mostly heavily timbered but invariably adjacent to some creek or river which furnishes water power or flume supply for transporting the timber to market, thus enabling the settler to realize ready cash for his labor while clearing the land for agricultural pursuits. After the land is once cleared it will produce anything in the shape of grains and grasses; all kinds of fruits, except a few varieties such as oranges, lemons and other citrus fruits which can only be grown successfully in the tropical climates. Our chief products at the present time are lumber and salmon, but as the lumber is taken from the land it opens up the country to agriculture, which is being done very rapidly of late years, and as the lumber product decreases farming will increase in proportion; in fact Columbia county furnishes inducements to all classes in pursuits to the immigration which each one desires, and in this connection we invite inspection of our vast resources by Eastern people coming to the Pacific Northwest.

BLAINE NOT A CANDIDATE.

Under date of February 7th, James G. Blaine wrote to Chairman Clarkson, of the republican national committee, formally announcing that he is not a candidate for the republican presidential nomination. Following is a full text of his letter:

"I am not a candidate for the presidency, and my name will not go before the republican national convention for nomination. I make this announcement in due season. To those who have tendered me their support I owe sincere thanks, and am most grateful for their confidence. They will, I am sure, make an earnest effort in the approaching contest, which is rendered especially important by reason of the industrial and financial policies of the government being at stake. The popular decision on these issues is of great moment, and will be of far-reaching consequence."

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

The republican state central committee met in Portland, February 3, and decided to hold the state convention in Portland April 6. They recommended that the primaries be held March 19, and county conventions March 26.

The representation decided on was based on the vote for Binger Hermann in June, 1890, one delegate-at-large being allowed each county, and one for each 200 votes or fraction over 100. This gives the following number of delegates to the convention by counties:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Number of Delegates. Includes Baker, Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Total.

This gives 117 votes to the first congressional district and 116 to the second. Polk lacks one vote and Douglas six of having another delegate, as their vote was 1099 and 1594 respectively.

CLATSOP NEWS.

Mrs. Ed. McClure spent a portion of last week in the village visiting her sister and other friends. W. H. Conyers has decorated his office door with some porcelain letters advertising his business. They were quite skillfully put on by Ben Mattison, and make a good sign.

C. W. Jones spent a few days in the Nahalem valley, and last week took a trip to Astoria as a witness for R. Springstead.

The school board have succeeded in about completing the title to the ground for the new school building and have had their deeds placed upon record. A great deal of time seemed to be spent in getting these deeds, but it is not known that the erection of the building has been materially delayed in consequence.

Mrs. E. H. Lane, of the Summit was seen on our streets during the past week.

Mrs. Wm. Barr also had the courage to get to town on Saturday, despite the muddy roads. Rev. Coats and son, Clarence, came into town Monday morning in pedestrian attire—pants in boots. They had taken the overland route on foot last Saturday to Mayers, where the Rev. gentleman preached on Sabbath, returning as indicated.

Clerk Bryant is still looking for 4-year-olds and over, to complete the school census. Your correspondent hearing some fine vocal music Friday afternoon, and looking for its source, saw a number of girls assembled on the back porch of G. P. Hiatt's residence as guests of Miss Madge. They were singing over parts of the late Christmas cantata, in which they had taken a part, and decorating themselves with such drapery as the house seemed to afford. It was surprising to hear how much of the music they remembered and how correctly they sang it; and it was equally as amusing to witness their attempts at dramatic representation. That they had a good time was evident from their uproarious laughter, and their fun brought broad smiles to the passer by who witnessed it.

Quite a supply of new goods has been landed at the different mercantile houses during the past week, probably the introductory invoice of the coming spring styles. The town got quite a supply of smelt last week of excellent quality. They were eaten with a relish and considered quite a luxury.

Puffy faces and running noses, with a cough and general uncomfustableness indicates that the gripe is still with us. Cough cures are now at a premium. It seemed a little singular last week to see Dr. Hall setting up the cigars, until it was announced that a boy had arrived at his home last Thursday evening, when it was decided that cigars were in order.

The Chief of our village, paid his respects to the Clatskanie correspondent of THE MIST in its last issue. Any differences between us had probably better be settled at home, and if we feel inclined to reply will do so in that paper. It is not probable that the county at large will be interested in our local disagreements.

The earthquake shock last Wednesday evening a week ago gave us quite a shaking up, and it seems amusing now—not then—to think how, from each house, we ran to the street to see how it effected other people.

Among the late visitors of gripe, Jim Vanvolkinberg is suffering most severely at present. He is dropsical and quite prostrated. He was arranging to go down the river for the summer, but will be compelled to take care of himself in the house for some time.

G. W. Badger has submitted to the school board an excellent plan for a two-story school house of four rooms to suit the requirements of our growing village. It may be seen at the drug store.

Miss Gertrude Badger is at the county seat this week to undergo the ordeal of a teacher's examination. Miss Ida Bozarth returned to Woodland, Washington, this week. Another meeting of the citizens of this school district is called for February 17th. If the citizens of this school district, No. 5, do not know how its affairs are conducted it is not

because they do not have opportunities enough to get together and compare notes. At the meeting now called for, it is expected that some of the final wind work will be done preparatory to actual business. There is a good prospect now of getting funds enough by subscription to at least make a start on a two-story school building, and it is expected that immediate steps will be taken for building.

State Convention.

A democratic state convention will be held in the city of Portland, Oregon, April 19, 1892, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for congress; one supreme judge; one candidate in each judicial district for circuit judge and prosecuting attorney, to be voted for at the coming June election, and such other business as may properly come before said convention. The various counties are entitled to representation in said convention as follows:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Number of Representatives. Includes Baker, Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Total.

It is recommended, unless otherwise ordered by the local committees, that the primaries in the various counties be held on Saturday, the 9th day of April and the county conventions on Thursday, April 14, 1892.

By order of the democratic state central committee. B. GOLDSMITH, Chairman. A. NOLTER, Secretary.

BIOGRAPHY.

Miss Elvora Phillips, only daughter of Henry B. and S. R. Phillips, was born February 15th, 1876, in Erlington, Kentucky, and died of quick consumption January 3rd, 1892, in the town of Rainier, at the age of 15 years, 10 months, and 18 days.

When about 3 years old she moved with her parents to the state of Kansas, where she remained about 3 years, when she again moved with her parents to Oregon where she spent the remainder of her life. Nora was very highly esteemed by all who knew her. From her childhood up she was very studious and endeavored herself to all of her teachers. The written testimony of her last teacher is that she cannot recall anything in her life that was wrong, and only wishes that her life might be as pure as Nora's was.

When spoken to about dancing, which is very common here in the far West, she would say that she had no desire for anything of the kind. When about 12 years old Nora gave her heart to God in meetings held by the Salvation Army, but not being encouraged by her parents and other associates, as there were no meetings in the neighborhood except once in a great while a very formal sermon. She became rather indifferent outwardly, but always kept up her secret devotion. She read the Bible a great deal and marked many passages of scripture, and copied many of them in her school books and other books.

Although conscious to the last it seems that Nora did not expect to die so soon, and as no questions were asked her she left no testimony in regard to her spiritual condition. This troubles her parents some, but we hope it may be a warning to them to make their peace with God and election sure, knowing that in such a time as they think not the Son of Man cometh. The writer preached a memorial sermon to an attentive audience of sympathizing friends January 31st, from John 5:39. "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify in me."

JOHN O. CRISP, Kelso, Wash.

DEER ISLAND.

For the past two weeks the weather has been most pleasant, with bright sunny days and light frosty nights. This neighborhood is at present scourged with la gripe. Those confined to their rooms are Charlie English, Mrs. English, Elzy George and wife, A. F. McDonald and wife, Mrs

Edwin Merrill, Mrs. Henry Bumgardner and Mrs. Elizabeth Merrill; Mrs. Merrill being the most serious one owing to her age. Dr. A. W. and J. S. Moore, of Portland, are attending to them. Norman Merrill, of Clatskanie, came up on the Shaver Tuesday, and is visiting his mother and friends. E. H. Girty made a flying trip to Clatskanie last Monday. Edgar Eyrart was thrown off a vicious horse a few days ago and sustained several bruises.

C. H. Merrill returned from Portland last Monday much improved in health.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Thursday Feb. 11. WHEAT—Valley, \$1.60; Walla Walla, \$1.55 to \$1.57; per cental. FLOUR—Standard, \$5; Walla Walla, \$1.80; Graham, \$1; superfine, \$1 per barrel. OATS—New, 40¢ per bushel. HAY—\$11.00 per ton. MILLS—TUFFS—bran, \$19.00; shorts, \$20.00; chop feed, \$18.00 per ton, barley, \$3.00 per ton. BUTTER—Oregon fancy creamery, 37¢; Columbia, 36¢; Malheur, 35¢; Coos, 34¢; Polk, 33¢; Sherman, 32¢; Curry, 31¢; Tillamook, 30¢; Gilliam, 29¢; Union, 28¢; Grant, 27¢; Walla, 26¢; Washington, 25¢; Jackson, 24¢; Wasco, 23¢; Josephine, 22¢; Yamhill, 21¢; Lake, 20¢; Total, 235.

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