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St. Helens, November 24, 1893.

The Oregon Mist is published as essentially the only paper in Columbia county. This is not to be understood as a recommendation of any speciality of the local news. All the latest official news is published in the Oregon Mist. The only reliable advertising medium.

BIG PROFIT IN PRUNES.
How They Can be Successfully Grown—The Soil.

The Olympia Tribune is certainly a friend of the prune industry. It loses no opportunity, apparently, to copy anything of merit on the subject. In fact it is wide awake to the pleasure and profit of the industry. Its latest effort in this behalf is the following interview with Hon. Amos F. Shaw, of Fruit Valley, Washington, which will not only be interesting to our readers, but intending settlers and prune raisers.

When the interest in it has been displayed during the past year there remains no doubt but that prune culture is to be the coming industry in the vicinity. It has been shown to be a source of profit, and the markets, both foreign and domestic, are always ready for the product at a good figure. After the trees are in bearing the greatest part of the labor is accomplished and the real expense is done for. The success with which a few men have operated in this vicinity has induced many others to take hold of the industry, and land in tracts of five, ten and fifty acres are being cleared and set out in young trees in all parts of the county. Probably one of the most successful prune-growers in the state is Surveyor General Amos F. Shaw, who has just returned from his orchard in Clark county. General Shaw has 10 acres in what is called Fruit Valley. His peach orchard has been successful for some years, gives it its name. It is a strip of country commencing just above Vancouver and extending down to and around Vancouver lake. It covers an area of about two miles wide and ten or twelve miles long. In this Valley there are about 500 acres of land set out in prune trees, a good portion of which are in bearing. There are about fifteen driers in the valley, and during the season the shipment covered probably 300 tons, which readily found a market in Portland and the Sound cities. General Shaw and his brother shipped one car load to St. Louis. The crop this year has brought from 75 to 85 cents per pound by the car load lot. The Italian prunes predominate and by far are the best. General Shaw has some selected Italian prunes which weigh twenty-six to the pound when dried, while fifty to the pound is considered gilt edge. His orchard covers ten acres, seven in bearing, with a total generally of fifty-seven tons, or a little more than eight tons to the acre. One acre he mentions in particular produced 16,933 pounds of green fruit, which when dried made about two and one-half tons. There at 75 cents per pound would yield \$1,270 for the acre.

"The Indian," said Mr. Shaw, "is by all means the best prune. The trees are hardy, they bear well and are troubled but very little with insects."

When asked just what details attached to the planting of a prune orchard, the expense and process, Mr. Shaw started from the work of breaking the ground and told just what his experience had taught him. Every person interested in prune culture will learn his views with profit.

"First, about soil. That which gives the best results is a silt clay. It waters not about the lay of the land so long as the hard pan is deep enough to prevent the water standing within three or four feet of the surface. And rid the ground from roots to that depth. Plow as deep as possible and work thoroughly. If it is not good land, I would not set out the trees. There is an idea that any of this gravel land will grow prunes successfully. That is a mistake. Having put your ground in shape, set out your trees, yearlings, and not closer than twenty feet apart. It is just as easy to over pasture an acre of land with weeds as with horses, cattle or sheep. While you don't get so many trees to the acre as by setting them only sixteen feet apart, they get better growth, and just as much fruit. The best yearlings can be bought for from eight to ten cents apiece at the nursery.

"I would plant the trees when the ground is comparatively dry so that it won't pock. From now till next spring is a good time. Immediately after planting, go through the orchard and head them off not less than four feet high. Then cultivate all summer up to the middle of July, just as you would cultivate corn. Let the trees grow until winter, and then prune them. Better wait till spring if you can. Next year, proceed with the same cultivation as the year before, and prune properly. Continue with this until the trees are big enough to bear, which is generally the fourth year. After they are six or seven years old, don't prune much unless it is to thin out. If properly cared for they ought to bear a full crop at eight years from setting.

"I had my entire crop picked this year at five cents per box of sixty pounds. Some pickers will go as low as four cents. The prunes are dipped in hot lye, placed on a dripping board and washed in cold water, which removes all lye as well as dirt. The fruit is then put in trays and placed in the dryer, which is heated from 150 to 170 degrees. In the dryer the fruit remains from ten to twenty-four hours. "As an evidence of the profit in prune culture, a fair example is shown in one acre of mine which, at the end of nine years, had paid for itself and all expenses attached to fencing, plowing, setting out trees, cultivating and drying, and then gave me \$800 over and above every expense."

The Shingle Situation.
Before another issue of The Lumberman the shingle manufacturers will have plans perfected for reorganizing the Manufacturers' association. Already meetings have been held in

Divided They Fall.
It seems that Astoria's chances for a railroad are as far distant as they were a year ago. There are many reasons which might be attributed for this state of affairs, but as the saying goes, that it is the best to cry over spilled milk, it will be well for the citizens of the city by the sea to forget the past and look forward to the future. They should profit by the experience of the past and make use of the lessons taught therefrom in seeing the goal which they have sought these many years. They should unite and work for a specified object, and not have a dozen irons in the fire at once, as has been the case in the past. There are two things for them to accomplish, and these done the future growth of the city will be easily foretold—the building of a railroad and a complete system of wagon roads leading from the many valleys tributary to the city. One is as important as the other. In the past the latter has been utterly neglected. Let the capitalists attend to the railroad project and the merchants and those of moderate means devote their efforts in the building of wagon roads to the city. With their work thus designated, one class of citizens will not come in conflict with the work of the other, and the result will, beyond a doubt, prove a success. If some such methods are not used very little will ever be accomplished for the city's welfare.—Cathlamet Gazette.

Nervy Young Tramp.
More or less sensational reports of cases where tramps have deliberately mutilated themselves in a manner that would create sympathy for them, and then go about the country begging money and a living on the strength of their injuries, have, from time to time, appeared in the press of the country, but the extravagance of these reports always carried discredit with them. We are now convinced, however, that these reports have not been exaggerated, since a genuine case has come under our personal observation.

The case referred to is that of a young man about eighteen years of age who appeared on our streets some ten days since asking assistance from the charitable inclined and, exhibiting about the worst looking arm we ever saw. His right forearm from the elbow to the knuckle joints was a mass of round, suppurating sores from the size of a pea to as large as a silver dollar. These sores were as deep as the skin and had the appearance of blood poison.

The young hobo was asked how he got in such a fix and explained that he had lately been employed by a man named Johnson who kept a tinware establishment in Myrtle Creek, Oregon, and that a short time since while at work in the store, a pile of scrap tin fell on him severly lacerating his arm,

and that blood poison resulted. He said he had just been discharged from St. Vincent's hospital, at Portland, on account of having no money, and was trying to make his way to New Whatcom, Washington, where he has a brother. A letter from a nurse at the hospital says that the young man never was an inmate of that institution and that no such case as the one described in the letter of inquiry has lately been treated there. This confirms the belief that the young fellow was a professional tramp; that he had deliberately mutilated himself with nitric acid or something equally strong in order to more effectually appeal to people's sympathies and enable him to travel about the country and live well without working. He exhibited unlimited nerve and seemed to have rehearsed his little "song" until he had it down fine.

GOES TO DR. PRICE.
World's Fair Jury Decides in His Favor.
Chicago, Nov. 22.—On the analysis and recommendation of Dr. Wiley, Chief United States Government Chemist at Washington, and greatest living authority on food products, the World's Fair jury to day gave the highest award to Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder for strength, purity and excellence. This conclusively settles the question of superiority. Dr. Wiley rejected the alum powders, stating to the World's Fair jury that he considered them unwholesome.

Your Children Subject to Croup?
If your children are subject to croup you should never be without a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is a certain cure for croup, and has never been known to fail, if given freely as soon as their croupy cough appears. It will prevent the attack. It is the sole reliance of thousands of mothers who have croupy children, and never disappoints them. There is no danger in giving this remedy to large and frequent doses, as it contains nothing injurious. Fifty cent bottles for sale by Edwin Ross.

NOTICE!

The well-known firm of J. M. MOYER & CO., No. 140, First street, Portland, advertise to close out their stock at cost on account of

Dissolution of Co-Partnership!

The goods carried by this firm are well-known and have given satisfaction to every purchaser. Their stock is complete in every respect and they offer their lines of imported goods at

NEW YORK COST,

And their sterling line of Oregon-made goods at actual cost of manufacture. They offer \$25 lines of men's suits in Crepe, Clays, Diagonals, Chevioss, Meltons, Kerseys and Tweeds; 100 lines of overcoats in Kerseys, Meltons, Beavers, Pilot Cloth, Cheviots, Serges, Mohairs and Tweeds; 75 lines of trousers in every conceivable pattern; 50 lines of boys' suits in Cheviots, Serges, Cassimeres and Tweeds; 60 lines of knee pants suits of all grades; large lines of

FURNISHING GOODS, HATS, UMBRELLAS AND MACKINTOSHES!

In all, the stock consists of over \$80,000 worth of first-class, reasonable goods which will be sold at actual cost. This is an opportunity which should not be neglected. The entire stock of goods is placed in stacks with prices underneath in plain figures, each stack containing goods of one price. Merchants in the interior will find this a splendid chance to purchase goods at New York cost, and save freight.

J. M. MOYER & CO.,
140 FIRST STREET, PORTLAND, OREGON.

CITY BATHS
Hot and Cold Water.
BARBER SHOP
In Connection.
CLEAN TOWELS A SPECIALTY.

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Livery and Feed Stable,
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HORSES BOARDED.
Stylish Turnouts.

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Souvenir Spoons a Specialty.
Special Attention to Watch Repairing.

MORRISON ST., Op. P. O., PORTLAND.

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The Leading Merchants
—OF—
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J. George, Proprietor.
Tables always supplied with the best edibles and delicacies the market affords.

**TERMS REASONABLE FOR
REGULAR BOARDERS.**

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Tables always supplied with the best edibles and delicacies the market affords.

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REGULAR BOARDERS.**

Having been newly refurbished, we are prepared to give satisfaction to all our patrons, and solicit a share of your patronage.

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Meat Market,
—ALL KINDS OF—
Fresh and Salted Meats,
SAUSAGE AND FISH.
Meats by Wholesale at Special Rates.
Express wagon run to all parts of town, and charges reasonable.

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PROPRIETORS,
St. Helens, Oregon.

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OF COURSE YOU DO.

SUCH BEING THE CASE, IT behooves you to find the most desirable place to purchase your "livings." **"THE BANQUET."** Keeps constantly on hand the famous Cuban Blossom Cigars. The finest line of Wines, Liquors and Cigars to be found this side of Portland. And if you wish to purchase in advance of the season of

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They can assure you that they have the best table in town. Everything new and neat, and your patronage is respectfully solicited.

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—MANUFACTURER OF—
Marble and Granite
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All Kinds of Cemetery Work.
FOOT OF OLNEY STREET,
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Model Saloon.
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ST. HELENS, . . . OREGON.
Choice Wines,
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Cream Baking
Powder.**
The only Pure Cream of Tartar Powder—No Ammonia, No Alum.
Used in Millions of Homes—40 Years the Standard.

A POLITICAL PUDDING.
The unparalleled republican cloud-burst in the Eastern states has convinced disgruntled politicians that they cannot ruin the country by means of cheap legislation, so the reform cranks and free-silver cranks have decided to fuse and try to run the country with cheap money. These two elements will combine forces and get ready for business in 1896, but the country has anticipated this movement and will be ready to administer the quadrennial dose of peace when the time comes. No political party could survive such a landslide as overwhelmed populism on November seventh. The people's party realizes that there is no hope at all for life, and the only chance left them for even a brief existence is to tack itself on to the tail end of the free silver movement and try to wallow through the swamp into which it has been unceremoniously dumped by both of the old parties. As republicans, we hope this movement will prevail, for it will have the effect of keeping a really dangerous party of some kind out of the fight, and it will make it such easy game for the republicans that not half of them will need to go to the polls to make a second Waterloo, and, compared with which the cyclone of the '76 will be as a gentle evening zephyr stirred by the downy wing of a passing hour.

A GREAT statesman once said "you can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." The people of Kansas have just demonstrated the wisdom of this great truth by refusing to be fooled any longer by the people's party. They have had enough of hayseed legislation, and will be glad to return to the old order of things which prevailed under the administration of the substantial old republicans party. A short season of misrule, damage and spoils-hunting has sufficed to disgust the crank-ridden Kansas with populism and all other isms except republicanism and they have very sensibly decided to return to the fold of the republican party where they are assured protection, peace and prosperity.

It is now stated with much positiveness that the free-traders among the democratic members of the House Ways and Means committee have trumpeted and that the new tariff bill is to be made about as radical as it can well be made, but the statement has not caused much uneasiness for the very simple reason that "the more radical the bill is made the less probability there is of its becoming a law. The number of democrats in congress who will refuse to vote for radical bills in the tariff is every day becoming larger.

THE Portland Sunday Mercury is in bad luck. Both of the editors were lately convicted of libel, and last Saturday night the police swooped down upon the office and scooped it in bodily. The foreman, compositors, "devil" and every body else connected with the paper including about fifty newsboys were "pulled" in, and now languish in durance vile. The outfit is charged with publishing and circulating objectionable matter.

PARAMOUNT to everything else is the revival of the lumber industry in Columbia county. A few years ago there were twenty transfers of timber land in this county to one at present, and it is not hard to discern the difference in money matters, considering a so more important part than the money placed in circulation by intending settlers. A return of those conditions is a prime factor in the revival of monetary affairs in this county.

JEREMIAH McLAIN RUSK, ex-secretary of agriculture, passed peacefully away at his home in Virqou, Wisconsin, at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning, of a complication of diseases. Uncle Jerry Rusk, as he was very commonly known, has lived a useful life, leaving behind him nothing but fond recollections, and like thousands of other brave veterans, has joined the host in the eternal bivouac.

THE ways and means committee will, more than likely, have the new tariff bill ready to submit by the first of the week. There is considerable guessing as to how radical the document will be.

Can be had cheap for cash by applying to A. H. Fowler, Soap-maker, Oregon. Apple trees, 1 to 3 years old, \$5 to \$10 per hundred. Prunes and other varieties. Can be seen at St. Helens on Wednesday of each week.

Executed at this office in a stylish manner, and at prices to suit the times. Job orders, bills, letter heads, business and visiting cards, bags, and in fact, the office is better equipped than ever before to turn out all classes of commercial job printing.

Knowing themselves indebted to the late firm of Foster & Foster, of Eugene, Oregon, either by note or book account, (notwithstanding the date of issue, 11, 1893, will save costs and trouble by settling the same with me at once at my office in St. Helens. T. C. WATKINS, administrator of the estate of Foster, deceased.