

## MORE ABOUT THE RAILROAD

### Mr. Hammond Has Returned From New York.

Steel Rails Purchased for the Entire Line—He Means Business and Will Push Work.

Mr. A. B. Hammond, proprietor of the Astoria-Globe railroad, returned last evening from a two months' visit in New York, and, with Mrs. Hammond, is registered at the Portland, according to Sunday's Oregonian. Mr. Hammond announces that work on the proposed road to connect Astoria with the outside world will now be pushed with energy, and that cars will be running by November, or of next year.

While in New York, Mr. Hammond purchased the steel rails for the entire road, which will be shipped from England. In reply to criticisms passed on his purchase of the rails in the English market, he said that he saved a large amount of money by doing so, which, he thought, ought to be sufficient reason to a business man.

"I hear that some doubts have been expressed about my sincerity in building the road," said Mr. Hammond. "It matters little to me what is said, as long as I know what is going to be done. I mean to finish the road, and have the money to do it. To those who are continually advancing theories as to who is backing me, I can only say that I wouldn't be surprised to hear that the Rothschilds or Vanderbilts are furnishing the money. By April 1 next, \$300,000 will have been expended on work of construction by the company. Then the remaining 50 miles will be finished by contract."

"During my Eastern visit I have talked with the gentlemen who control the principal transcontinental roads. Mr. Hill, of the Great Northern, says the Astoria-Globe proposition is a good one, but is inclined to believe that this is not a good time to build a railroad anywhere. Mr. Huntington, of the Southern Pacific, thinks we have a good thing, and says that all traffic by rail is bound to follow the water courses hereafter. Receiver Mink, of the Union Pacific, says that his company at one time made investigations for the purpose of building a line to Astoria, and would have built such a road had not the panic of 1893 struck them. All admit the feasibility of the line, and, for myself, I'm entirely satisfied with the outlook."

Mr. Hammond vigorously denied that the Southern Pacific had any interest in the affairs of the Oregon Central & Eastern railway, of which he is president. He says the road is entirely independent of any other railroad corporation, and that he is entirely satisfied with the outlook.

While in New York he partly closed a deal for the purchase of a steamship to run between Yaguina and San Francisco, but delayed matters owing to the fight now on between the Southern Pacific and Oregon Railway & Navigation company, which, he says, complicates the freight and passenger situation.

Mr. Hammond, with his family, expect to remain at the Portland for the rest of the winter.

### VERNONIA VARIETIES.

VERNONIA, Dec. 30.—The mail carriers who have this winter are good enough without praising.

There was a very pleasant gathering at the home of Mr. Shannahan on Christmas day. Also at Mr. Ridgway's.

The patches of graveled roads in the neighborhood are highly appreciated during this weather. Let us have more.

The postmaster, ever mindful of the patrons of his office, has built a new sidewalk from the end of the bridge to his place of business.

Carol McNutt, known otherwise as Mr. "Spud Murphy," together with his handsome wife, is spending the holidays with his wife's parents, and visiting old friends.

R. Sessman has just finished an exceedingly neat job of re-shelving the drug store and putting in new fixtures, finished in natural color. He is now engaged with a crew of helpers in putting in a new staging and otherwise fitting up Webster's hall. Still the improvements go on in spite of the cry of hard times.

The population of Vernonia is considerably increased just now by the number of young people who have moved in to avail themselves of the privilege of attending the school under the efficient tutelage of Prof. Dow, who has just finished a very successful term, and has been engaged by the directors to immediately commence another term, to the great satisfaction of both pupils and parents. We hope to hear in the near future have a school building adequate to the needs of the community.

Candidates for the various county offices are "looming up" in this vicinity as in other localities. At a public meeting a few days ago one of the speakers called for all candidates for office to raise their right hand. The speaker's hand went up with much force as to nearly dislocate his shoulder, and lift him off his feet. Although there were but about twenty other hands raised, there was a suspicious looking of right shoulders all over the room. Indeed, a few ladies jerked both shoulders, and one gentleman excused himself afterwards and "wished he had raised his hand."

"Vouches."

### IN REPLY.

To St. Helens Lodge, I. O. O. F.—Gentlemen—I am at a loss to know why you feel yourselves under any obligation to me. If I have shown any favor in our dealings it was no more than the Golden Rule requires: "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." I freely accept of you truly give this token of friendship. I will further say that you could not have selected anything that I prize more highly than the ebony case properly mounted, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Joseph Copeland by St. Helens lodge, I. O. O. F., December 25, 1890." Please accept once thanks and well wishes for the future.

JOSEPH COPELAND.

The Discovery Saved His Life. Mr. G. Callioutre, druggist, Beaverville, Ill., says: "To Dr. King's New Discovery I owe my life. Was taken with LaGrippe and tried all the physicians for miles about, but of no avail and was given up and told I could not live. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in my store I sent for a bottle and began its use and from the first dose began to get better, and after using three bottles was up and about again. It is worth its weight in gold. We won't keep store or house without it." Get a free trial at Dr. Rose's drug store.

## PERSONAL AND LOCAL.

New resolutions are now in order.

County court meets next Wednesday.

Girls, this is leap year; don't all speak at once.

J. B. E. Bourne, of Rainier, was in this city Monday last.

Mother earth is now clothed with a robe of "the beautiful."

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Allen were in Portland over New Years.

Deputy Clerk Harris spent New Years with his family in Nehalem.

Mrs. O. M. Murray came down from Portland Saturday to visit relatives.

A masquerade ball is announced to take place in St. Helens on Feb. 14.

W. J. Bothwell, of Portland, was in this city during the week visiting relatives.

Wanted—Girl to do general housework in private family. Apply at this office.

W. J. Deitz, of Rainier, was a passenger for Portland on the Shaver yesterday.

Assessor White, assisted by G. W. Barnes, is here making a copy of the assessment roll.

Quite a number of St. Helens people attended the ball at Scappoose on Tuesday night last.

Commissioner Frakes, of Scappoose, was in the county seat Tuesday attending to business matters.

A matrimonial bureau would have done a thriving business in Columbia county during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dolman returned Tuesday from Salem, where they spent several days visiting relatives.

Henry Henderson, of Mayger, the assignee of The Mayger Company, was in this city a short time yesterday morning.

J. R. and Miss May Willis, of Hillsboro, spent Sunday in this city, the guests of their sister, Mrs. J. R. Beeble. They returned Monday.

The state board of equalization has made a reduction of 10 per cent on the valuation placed on land in Columbia county by the county court.

Harry West, of Scappoose, was in this city Monday, and shipped one of his thoroughbred Chester White pigs to a man over on the Washington side.

Rev. Philbrook will preach next Sunday at Scappoose at 11 o'clock a. m., and at Warren at 3 o'clock in the afternoon; also at Houlton at 7:30 p. m.

License to wed have been issued by the county clerk during the past week to G. D. Bonny and Mrs. Eva Crane, and to Ernest Krueger and Eva Schmitke.

Wallace McCamant, master in chancery, of Portland, was in this city last Monday, and sold at public auction the property of J. B. E. Bourne at Rainier. It was bid in by the creditor for \$6,635.15, the amount of the judgment.

The New Year's number of the Oregonian contains a most complete and comprehensive description of Oregon and her resources. It is, beyond question, the greatest attempt ever made toward a thorough description of the growing Northwest.

Mr. Dolman has one arm that he appears to think a great deal more of than its mate, and consequently carries it in a silk handkerchief suspended from his neck, the result of a sprain of some weeks ago. However, the chief clerk in the store asserts that this special care of the "injured" member was not deemed necessary until the recent hostilities broke out between this country and England.

A BIG DEAL. Mr. E. A. Seeley, of the Columbia River & Puget Sound Navigation Company, has bonded the property belonging to C. W. Shively in Astoria for \$100,000. This is done in anticipation of the heavy goods Astoria is expected to have next summer, and no doubt Mr. Seeley will make a large margin on his investment. Astoria cannot fail to have a healthy growth within the next twelve months, and a permanent growth henceforth.

Cure for Headache. As a remedy for all forms of headache Electric Bitters has proved to be the very best. It effects a permanent cure and the most dreaded habitual sick headache yield to its influence. We urge all who are afflicted to procure a bottle, and give this remedy a fair trial. In cases of habitual constipation Electric Bitters cures by giving the needed tone to the bowels, and few cases long resist the use of this medicine. Try it once. Fifty cents and \$1.00 at Ross' drug store.

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## MONTGOMERY'S LATEST TALE

### Denies Having Murdered His Father and Mother.

He Cheerfully Awaits the Day of Execution Which Will Take Place January 31st.

Lloyd Montgomery, who is now in the Albany, Or., jail awaiting execution for the murder of his parents and Daniel McKeecher, which will occur on January 31st, was visited by an Oregonian reporter last Saturday and told a new story of the crime, a part of which is given below:

"I am going to hang on January 31," he said, "and there is nothing I can say to you that will make me any friends or set aside the death sentence. But I would like very much to have the people know that I am not such a bad boy as I have been made out by the lawyers and newspapers. I did not kill my father or mother; but I did kill McKeecher. He shot my father and mother, and would have killed me, had I not had a fight with him and shot him before he could do it."

"Of course," continued the boy, after a moment's thought, "no one believes my story now, for, I am told, I admitted killing all of them, when my head was wrong. Now I feel all right, and my head is clear, and I can say honestly that I only killed McKeecher. But I am ready to die, and the sooner it is over the better. I will have more peace in the next world than in this, the way I'm situated. Everybody thinks I killed my parents, and even if I were free, I would suffer more than death by knowing that everybody thought I ought to hang. I don't see any way to establish my innocence, and have given up thinking about it. Everything is against me, and I want to die. I don't want to go to the penitentiary. What's the use?"

"You thought you were to hang December 31, didn't you?" asked the reporter.

"Yes, I made a mistake about the date. You see, I took a little interest in the execution that I only noticed the date, '31st.' I supposed, of course, they would hang me this month. In fact, when I left the courtroom after the judge sentenced me, although he didn't set the date at the time, I supposed I was to be hanged right away off—the same day. I was surprised when I found that I had some time to prepare for death, and when informed that I was to die on the 31st of January, I thought they meant December, and was spending my time as comfortably as possible until next Tuesday. But I am to see the beginning of the next year, anyway, and I guess it is just as well."

"What do you think will become of you when you die?" was asked.

"I don't really know what you mean," replied the condemned youth, with a puzzled expression on his face.

"Do you believe in future punishment?" was a more terse question, which the prisoner readily understood.

"Oh," he replied, carefully choosing his words, "the Bible says that there is punishment in store in the next world for those who commit crime in this."

"Don't you have some fear about it?" "No; why should I? I am innocent of any serious crime. I never murdered any one, and I killed McKeecher because he killed my parents. I won't suffer for causing his death. I don't know anything about the next world, but I don't fear it in the least. If I had killed my parents, though, I should."

Montgomery discussed the hereafter with evident interest, and if he fears to meet his God he does not show it. He showed considerable intelligence, and for a youth whom no one believes innocent of the crime for which he is convicted, shows wonderful nerve in talking about it.

CIRCUIT COURT. Adjourned Term Begins Next Monday—Cases Set for Trial.

The following cases which were continued from the regular October term of circuit court will come up for trial at the adjourned term which will convene next Monday, as follows:

January 6th, Newell vs. Hayburn, and State vs. Ienhardt, the latter case coming up on a motion for new trial which will be argued at that time; January 7th, Blakeley vs. Muckle Bros.; January 8th, McCaulley vs. Mills; January 13th, Kelly vs. Lamberson; January 14th, Burns vs. Cole; January 15th, Cline vs. Cline.

NEW CASES FILED. The following new cases have been filed since the October term, but it is not known whether they will be brought to trial now or lay over until the regular May term:

J. H. Lee & Co. vs. George F. Moeck; Emmons & Emmons and G. C. Moser for plaintiff.

J. H. Lee & Co. vs. W. A. Edgerton; Emmons & Emmons for plaintiff.

Smith Wallace Shoe Co. vs. W. A. Edgerton and J. H. Lee & Co.; Emmons & Emmons for plaintiff.

Gideon Sowers vs. Barbara D. Sowers; S. T. Jeffreys for plaintiff.

Norman Merrill vs. Anton Gunderson; W. H. Conyers for plaintiff.

H. Viereck vs. Emily M. Viereck; S. T. Jeffreys for plaintiff.

Feldman & Cole vs. W. A. Edgerton; Aller & Cleeton for plaintiff.

Henry Everding vs. Charles Erickson; K. C. Wright for plaintiff.

Watts & Price vs. John M. Gove; Allen & Cleeton for plaintiff.

Olde & King vs. W. A. Edgerton; Allen & Cleeton for plaintiff.

The American Fire Insurance Company vs. C. O. Lovegren; George Sanford Smith for plaintiff.

R. L. Sablin vs. The Mayger Company; A. L. Fraser for plaintiff.

The Rosenthal Smith Co. vs. The Mayger Company; A. King Wilson for plaintiff.

E. J. Colvin vs. Thomas S. Colvin; Fulton Bros. for plaintiff.

W. H. Dedman Jr. vs. John and B. A. Quigley; George E. Davis for plaintiff.

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## CLATSkanie.

The public schools will begin again next Monday after a vacation of two weeks.

Miss Leota Merrill took advantage of the vacation to visit in Portland this week.

Miss Fannie Burns and Vivian Tichenor returned Monday from their visit to Astoria.

The Chief last week says one dealer here sold 600 pounds of candy about Christmas. What a lot of candy that is.

Professor Whitten, after spending Christmas here, left for a visit to his mother at LaCamas, Wash., the last of the week.

Rev. Bryan returned last Friday and meetings are being held every evening in the church with good attendance.

Now we do put on city airs. A telephone message was received from Portland last Sunday and handed to a lady in church, just as they do in New York or Chicago.

Ed Wilcox, while walking outside of his house last Sunday morning slipped and fell, dislocating his wrist. Ed's limping gait reminds him of a broken leg some years ago, and this injury makes him think he is doomed to misfortune.

Miss Abbie Bryant and Misses Mary and Nora Conyers left last Friday, one for her school and the others for Oregon City, where they are making their home. The ladies were compelled to go out to the Beaver in a small boat as the steamer could not get up to this place on account of the high water and rapid current in the river.

The departure of the old year and advent of the new was celebrated by the ringing of bells, shooting, and such other noises as could be made by material at hand, including the triangle suspended at the City hotel, all of which awakened sleepers to the fact that 1896 was coming on time. Vocal music lent its assistance, and the strains of "Good-by, Ladies, We're Going to Leave You Now," were wafted on the breeze in the intervals of the more noisy demonstration.

Norman Merrill returned from a visit to San Francisco last Monday. He was gone something over two weeks, and in going took passage by steamer for an ocean voyage, being one out of a very few of 250 passengers that did report for meals while en route.

He took occasion while en route about the city to visit the fortifications for coast defense, and was undoubtedly impressed by the sight of the big dynamite guns he found there ready for action.

He feels that San Francisco is pretty safe from foreign invasion by water, and returns with the belief that our country is getting well prepared to take care of itself.

The office of city marshal is not without its disappointments, as was illustrated in the last pig capture by that official, assisted by one of our good citizens. Two wandering and careless pigs were violating a city ordinance last week, and in consequence were driven into the pound to be cared for until redeemed by their owner or until sold for expenses of impounding and feed during ten days.

They proved to be very peculiar pigs. They seemed satisfied with their quarters as long as they got enough to eat, but they were fooling the marshal and devising plans for escape, and one morning when the marshal went to care for them they were not there. One twelve-inch board, eight feet high, that had made part of the fence, was not there either, but an open space was left where it had been. The marshal could not settle in his mind which pig knocked the board off, and as the pigs cannot be found, it is not likely that he will find out soon. The desired information will be thankfully received by the marshal or recorder.

ELECTION CONTEST.—The election contest case of W. T. Muir against W. T. Hume, for the office of district attorney in Portland, will be commenced Thursday, before Judge McBride, who will hold court in Judge McGinn's department, says the Oregonian of Wednesday. As the ballots are all to be recounted, the trial will probably consume about one week. There are 75 election precincts in the county, and there were five election officers in each of these. If all are examined as witnesses at any length, the case cannot be tried in a week. It is not probable, however, that it will be necessary to examine more than one of each election board, as to the custody of the ballots and their delivery to the county clerk.

MARRIED. GIBSON-FISHER.—At Houlton, Oregon, on Wednesday, December 25, by Rev. G. McElroy, Mr. Frank M. Gibson and Miss Florence B. Fisher.

PRINGLE-DOW.—At the residence of E. M. Dow, near Vernonia, on Wednesday, December 25, Mr. John G. Pringle and Miss Ethel B. Dow, Rev. W. H. Palmer, officiating.

BORN. BOTHWELL.—At the home of Dr. Chalmers, in this city, December 20, 1895, to the wife of W. J. Bothwell, an 8 pound daughter.

TARBELL.—At Yankton, on Wednesday, January 1, 1896, to the wife of Mr. Tarbell, a son.

DUNN.—At Houlton, on Sunday, Dec. 29, 1895, to the wife of Henry Dunn, a daughter.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Most Perfect Made. 40 Years the Standard.

NEWELL & WATKINS

—DEALERS IN— Groceries, Hay, Flour and Feed

WOOD AND SHINGLE.

Country Produce Bought and Sold, and Exchanged for Goods. Undertaking Goods furnished on Short Notice.

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