



LADIES

Don't buy sweat shop, machine-made hats, when you can get the best hand-made up to date hats just as cheap. Made to order hats a specialty.

Until April 2d we will give a special discount on dress goods, dress trimmings, hats, ribbons and hundreds of other things too numerous to mention. Remember all our goods are new this season and our prices are from 10 to 20 per cent lower than any firm in La Grande.

We don't want you to take our word, have hundreds of witnesses besides our goods and prices. It will be money in your pocket to call and let us show you we're right. Expert Jeweler who guarantees all work

RAINBOW STORE

AN INVITATION TO YOU, THIS IS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO YOU.

We are receiving daily many new designs in Wall Paper and Wall Decorations, and we extend this special invitation to you and your friends to call and see them.

We are anxious to have you see our line and we feel sure you will be delighted with the visit.

Yours Respectfully,

Stackland & McLachlen PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS

Paper is Cheaper Than Coal and Looks Better.

In other words if your walls are well papered your fuel bill will be reduced. We do proper Paper Hanging at prices you can afford to pay.

HARRIS & PRICE

Painters, Paper Hangers and Decorators.

A. C. HARRIS, Phone 1566, J. M. PRICE, Phone 1491



—IF BROKEN HEARTS— could be mended as neatly, quickly and thoroughly as I can repair your jewelry there would be no sorrow in the world. No matter whether it be a watch, ring, a necklace or a baby pin dear from association needs repairing, bring it to me and it will be mended so you cannot tell it from new. My specialty is watch repairing. Bring it here and have it done honestly, expertly and cheaply.

J. H. Feare, the Jeweler

- Fresh Chocolates
- Fresh Bon Bons
- Fresh Nougat
- Fresh Carmels
- Fresh Taffey
- Fresh Salted Peanuts
- Fresh Salted Almonds
- Fresh Popcorn
- Fresh Fruit

GREENE & CO.

ALWAYS ON TIME

When you order groceries from us you are sure to have them delivered on time

ANOTHER THING

When you order groceries from us you are sure to get the very best to be had. We keep only the best

The next time you are at our store ask for our special line of

BREAKFAST BACON & POTTED MEATS

C. RALSTON

KA GROCERY STORE

Fir and Jefferson Sts.

LA GRANDE MORNING OBSERVER

CURREY BROS. Editors and Proprietors.

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SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 26, 1904.

THE FIRST HOMESTEADER

A statement is going the rounds of the press that Daniel Freeman, who made the first entry under the Homestead law on January 1, 1863, at Brownsville, named after Old John Brown, in Nebraska, is still alive and residing on the land he filed on 41 years ago.

The history of the struggle on the part of the common people for free homes was a long one, stretching through many long years, and should not be forgotten by the people. Away back in the 30s the people in the west began to clamor for a change in the land laws so as to enable landless pioneers to secure homes without running the hazard of being outbid at the public land sale, and turned away from their log cabin and little clearing by the wealthy speculators. In 1841 the pre-emption law was passed by the Whig Congress and approved by the Whig President, Millard Fillmore, which gave settlers the right to go on unoffered land and granted them time to make payments therefor.

The demand for free homes began about 1850, and in 1852 the Free Soil Democratic National Convention, that met in Pittsburgh, Pa., and which nominated John P. Hale of New Hampshire for President, and George W. Julian of Indiana for Vice President, placed in its platform "That the public lands of the United States belong to the people, and should not be sold to individuals, nor granted to corporations, but should be granted in limited quantities, free of cost, to landless settlers."

Franklin Pierce, the regular Democratic nominee on a platform endorsing the Virginia and Kentucky resolutions of 1792 and 1793, to solidify the slaveholding South, was elected President by a large majority. Though the Democracy sneered at and ridiculed the demand for free homes and styled the advocates for free land "mud sills and greasy mechanics," they cast 156,149 votes.

The "mud sills and greasy mechanics" continued to agitate for free homes in the wilderness West, and in 1853 had strength enough in Congress to begin an agitation there. In 1860 they had grown strong enough to pass through Congress a homestead law, which James Buchanan, the then Democratic President, vetoed on June 23, 1860, to sustain which veto General Joseph Lane, Democratic Senator from Oregon, voted yes and the Democrats in Congress sustained the veto and the homestead bill was killed by the Democrats.

The Presidential election in November 1860, placed the Republicans in power in March 1861, and on May 20, 1862, the homestead law, having passed both houses of Congress, though Benjamin Stark, Democratic Senator from Oregon, voted against it, became a law upon being approved by Abraham Lincoln, the first Republican President. By the provisions of the act, filings could not be made until January 1, 1863, the day when it is alleged Daniel Freeman made the first filing thereunder.

Since the homestead law has been in operation, that is from January 1, 1863, to June 30, 1903, persons to the number of 1,247,110 have made homestead filings, and secured the right to become the owners of 160,307,-

858 acres of land. Not one filing could have been made or one acre secured had the Democratic party remained in power. A million and a half independent homes is the monument the Republican party can point to with pride and satisfaction.

The La Grande city election resulted in a practical unanimous vote in favor of bonding the city to build a \$25,000 city hall for county seat purposes. La Grande has "blood in her eye" this time and is going after the county seat in spite of the Constitution, the Supreme Court and the City of Union, and other small objections—Wallowa Democrat.

La Grande certainly is doing the fair thing in filing the petitions with the county court at this early day. It was not necessary to file them until April 6th. We have reference to the petition asking the court to grant the voters of the county an opportunity to vote on the relocation of the county seat.

Benton county is out of debt. This is hard for a Union county citizen to realize, but it is given out as a fact. Were it not that a few other counties in the state are reported to be in the same condition, we would pronounce it a fake of the first degree.

Those who are keeping track of the registrations in the four La Grande precincts state that there are at least 250 who have not registered. This matter should be looked into. This is too large a percentage not registered.

The report of the referee in the Wade estate, of Pendleton, shows that the creditors will receive about ten cents on the dollar.

The World's Fair Route

Those anticipating an Eastern trip, or visit to the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis, cannot afford to overlook the advantages offered by the MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY, which, on account of its various routes and gateways, has been appropriately named "The World's Fair Route."

Passengers from the Northwest take the MISSOURI PACIFIC trains from Denver or Pueblo, with the choice of either going direct through the Kansas City, via Wichita, Fort Scott and Pleasant Hill.

Two trains daily from Denver and Pueblo to St. Louis without change, carrying all classes of modern equipment, including electric lighted observation parlor cafe dining cars. Ten daily trains between Kansas City and St. Louis.

Write, or call on W. C. McBride, General Agent, 124 Third St., Portland for detailed information and illustrated literature.

Marshals Notice

I hereby give notice that from and after this date I will strictly enforce the ordinance prohibiting stock running at large within the city limits.

L. Ryburn, City Marshal
Prof Simpson's dancing school will be postponed until Saturday evening of this week. Teaching as usual until nine. Class assemble with orchestra from nine until twelve.

SACRED HEART ACADEMY

La Grande, Oregon.

Conducted by Sisters of St. Francis. Select boarding and day school for Young Ladies.

Academic, Preparatory and Kined garden courses are conducted on the same principles as those pursued in our schools of Philadelphia.

Music and painting receive special attention. Letters of inquiry directed to SISTER SUPERIOR

OUR SPRING Sack Suits

are not of the ordinary character.

There is a certain nobleness in the.....



"Hart, Schaffner & Marx" Clothes



that appeals to every stylish man. These are decidedly "young men's clothes." They have dash—you admire your own appearance if you wear one. Along with up-to-date clothes goes fine shoes—We have them in the Fier-heim make, the dressiest and largest stock in town. Let us show you.

J. M. BERRY

HOME GROWN Healthy Apple Trees

In Variety, Thrift and Prices.

I can furnish large or small orders of Apples in any variety, also shrubs, vines, weeping trees and small fruits: Carolina Poplars, Black Locust, Sycamore, Mulberry, Catalpa, Linden, Maple, Larch, Birch, Elm, Ash, Privet and roses in any variety.

Write for prices to Con. Plant, Box 604, LaGrande, Ore.

WM. GILPINS' GREEN HOUSE

—Phone 1161—

SECRET BROS.

New & Second-Hand Goods,

SHELF and HEAVY FURNITURE.

Gardiner Building .. FIR STREET

THE A B C

Laundry Is now Ready for Business

With our new up-to-date Plant we are in a Position to turn out the best of work. Short Order work a specialty. Phone No. 185 Call us up and our wagon will call.

A B C LAUNDRY

PHONE 1851

DO YOU WANT

CHOICE TIMBER CLAIM?

If so, we can locate you on some fine claims in Wallowa County.

McDaniel & McDonald, WALLOWA, OREGON

A Two Light Electrolier

Empire style complete with etched glass shades and all accessories put up in your residence for \$5.00

See samples in our window.

La Grande Light & Power Co

NEW MARKET

Stillwell & Vanderhuten

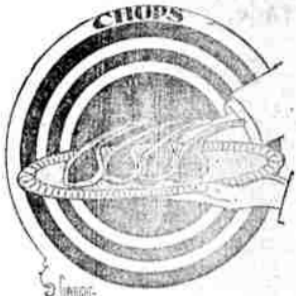
Wish to announce that on Saturday February 27 they will open a first class Meat Market in the old Stand

"THE BOSS"

Corner Railroad & Fir St.

We will always keep on hand a good stock of fresh and smoked meats, sausages, fish and poultry, and will be glad to meet all my old patrons and as many new ones. All orders will receive our prompt attention.

Phone 181



Four of a kind—is a pretty good hand at cards. But at the but-let's take the kind that counts, not the four. We keep only one kind of meat, the kind that's fresh, healthy, tender and juicy.

Buy your steaks and chops here, and they'll always be right. Our stock is well-dressed and properly cared for. Consequently our meat has a delicious flavor.

Bock & Thomas

Early Risers

THE FAMOUS LITTLE PILLS.

For quick relief from Biliousness, Sick Headache, Torpid Liver, Jaundice, Dizziness, and all troubles arising from an inactive or sluggish liver, DeWitt's Little Early Risers are unequalled.

They act promptly and never grip. They are so sanitary that it is a pleasure to take them. One or two act as a mild laxative; two or four act as a pleasant and effective cathartic. They are purely vegetable and absolutely harmless. They tonic the liver.

PREPARED ONLY BY E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago

For Sale by all Druggists

NOTICE:

I would like all my old friends and customers to know that I have rented a portion of A. J. Webb's feed barn for

LIVERY PURPOSES

and will be found there for business with first-class rigs and good accommodations. I will also board horses by the month. Horses bought, sold and exchanged.

G. W. ALLEN

ADAMS AVE. Phone 1211.

Like a Comet

This is the only remedy for the most common and most distressing of all ailments, namely, indigestion, flatulence, nervous dyspepsia and all stomach troubles, whether acute or chronic, or overburdened.

Kodol

supplies the natural juices of digestion and does the work of the stomach, relaxing the nervous tension, while the inflamed muscles and membranes of that organ are allowed to rest and heal. It cures indigestion, flatulence, palpitation of the heart, nervous dyspepsia and all stomach troubles by cleansing, purifying and strengthening the glands, membranes of the stomach and digestive organs.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure

See Dealer, Can Supply You. Bottles only, \$1.00 the bottle, 24 bottles the trial size, which sells for 50c.

Prepared by E. C. DeWitt

For Sale by all Druggists