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**DRS. BIGGERS & BIGGERS**  
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 La Grande, Oregon

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 Leave orders at Red Residence Cor  
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 Thirty five years experience, best of reference  
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 Civil, Mining, Irrigation Engineering and  
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**Lodge Directory.**  
**EAGLERS**—La Grande Lodge No. 108 meets every Sunday night in R. of P. hall at 8 p. m. Visiting brethren invited to attend.  
 J. A. Masotti, W. F. J. E. Pollock, W. B.  
**100 F.**—La Grande Lodge, No. 10 meets in their hall every Saturday night. Visiting members cordially invited to attend.  
 Country club can be seen at office of City Recorder.  
 G. W. Robertson, N. G.  
**STAR ENCAMPMENT** No. 31, I. O. O. F. meets every first and third Thursdays in the month in Odd Fellows hall. Visiting patriots are cordially welcome.  
 I. B. Snook, C. P. Edmund Robinson, scribe  
**EASTERN STAR** O. E. S. Hope Chapter No. 10 meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m. in Masonic Temple.  
 Mervin Aldrich, W. M. Mary A. Warnick, Sec.  
**M. W. A.**—La Grande Camp No. 1703 meets every first and third Wednesdays of the month at I. O. O. F. Hall. All visiting members are cordially invited to attend.  
 E. Rosland, V. C. John Hall, Clerk.  
**FORENTERS OF AMERICA**—Court Maid Marston, No. 22 meets each Thursday night in R. of P. hall. Brothers are invited to attend.  
 T. S. Thibson, Chief Ranger. G. S. Williams, Fin. Sec.  
 Board of Trustees—Dr. G. L. Biggers, John Hall and Herbert Peterson

**La Grande Evening Observer**  
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**OUR COMMON SCHOOL**

In the early days of our Republic, before we had passed the experimental stage, and when the fate of all previous republics strengthened the belief held by many good people in the United States that the life of our nation would be short, in summing up the arguments for and against this idea a wise statesman declared that "the common schools were the panadium of the nation," without them we would soon lose our freedom and some bold soldier or cunning politician would don imperial robes and rule the country. Another one about the same time, more than a hundred years ago in a great oration declared; "We must educate! We must educate or we must perish!"

The people heard and heeded and began the work of establishing common schools. In this great work they had many objections to meet and overcome. The rich had colleges in which they could educate their sons, and academies where their daughters could be taught, and felt that it was an outrage to tax them to educate other people's children. The possessors of large colonial grants of land deemed it little better than robbery to make them contribute towards building schoolhouses every two or three miles on their baronial holdings. Many of the small farmers and mechanics entertained a prejudice against schools supported by the public, and looked upon them the same as poor houses, for paupers only. Throughout extensive regions this prejudice against public free schools, was so strong that many parents, though unable to send their children to schools where tuition had to be paid, were too proud to permit them to attend free schools, and let them grow up illiterate, unable to read or write, and thus swelled the illiteracy of their state and greatly hindered the development of the common schools and of their states.

The literature of the first hundred years of the United States contributed largely to the low estimate in which the common schools were held. For the first century of our nationality, writers, to evoke a broad grin from their city and college bred readers, gave grotesque descriptions of country schools, the raggedness of the pupils and ignorance and crude manners of the teachers. Washington Irving's fiction Ichobod Crane was accepted as a true photograph of the country school teacher and when a writer, whose ossified brain had never originated an idea or had vigor enough to comprehend truth, failing in everything else, attempted to become a wit, he turned to "yepedaogus" and his silly effusions were applauded by stamps of the

gouty feet of college professors. The pioneer female teachers were treated with less justice than the males and when a parapetetic lecturer with "A moony breadth of virgin face by thought inviolate" vainly tried to be witty he pronounced the word school warm with a broad (s) as though it had been soaked in German lager beer and a thrill on the (r) as if it had a fit of the ague from long soaking in an Irish bog.

The common school of America has emerged triumphantly from the conflict with prejudice, and in 1900 there were 15,925,887 American children enrolled in the public schools out of a total of 22,261,863 children of school age, leaving but 6,335,976 out of school or attending private schools, academies or colleges. That year there were expended \$255,208,465 in maintaining the public schools of which \$160,013,734 went to pay 439,596 teachers of whom 317,204 were females, school mamas if you please.



There are many kinds of meat, but we sell only the best kind. A trial order will convince you of the truth of this statement. We kill only the best specimens and kill it correctly. Our prices are as low as consistent with the best quality.

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**Sickenig Shivering Fits**  
 of Ague and Malaria, can be relieved and cured with Electric Bitters. This is a pure, tonic medicine; of especial benefit in malaria, for it exerts a true curative influence on the disease, driving it entirely out of the system. It is much to be preferred to Quinine, having none of this drug's after-effects. E. S. Monday, of Henrietta, Tex., writes "My brother was very low with malaria fever and jaundice, till he took Electric Bitters, which saved his life." At Newlin Drug Co. drug store; price 50c guaranteed.

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 Brick furnished in any quantity or any style. No contract too small or too large. See samples of our pressed brick.  
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 La Grande, Oregon.

**Greatly in Demand**  
 Nothing is more in demand than a medicine which meets modern requirements for a blood and system cleanser, such as Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are just what you need to cure stomach and liver troubles. Try them. At Newlin Drug Co. drug store, 25c guaranteed.

**GOOD PASTURE**  
 300 acres fine pasture, adjoining city. Abundantly watered. Cows in heard \$1.50, dry stock and horses 1.25, per month. Stock delivered on short notice at reasonable prices.  
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 "Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets have done me a great deal of good," says O. Towne, of Bat Portage, Ontario, Canada. "Being a mild physique the after effects are not unpleasant, and I can recommend them to all who suffer from stomach disorder." For sale by Newlin Drug Co.

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 Complete assortment of finest marble and granite always on hand. Estimates cheerfully furnished upon application.  
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 Safe and reliable rigs furnished at all times. Special accommodations furnished to commercial travelers.  
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 First class turnouts furnished day or night.  
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Rigs furnished for parties, funerals and picnics. The best carryall in the city.

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 "The man who loves his wife the most is not the one to let her roast."

These hot days, in a kitchen overheated by a sweltering stove—Cut out the family wash day. Send your laundry to us. Saves wood, time and energy. Don't burn up a lovely disposition. Send your linen, all of it to  
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