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The most complete line of Christmas goods ever shown in La Grande, and all shrewd buyers will profit by our unusual bargains :: :: :: :: ::

CUT GLASS

\$7.00 Bowls	\$5.45
\$9.00 Pitchers	7.00
\$2.50 Nappies	1.85
\$10.00 Sugar and Cream	8.15
Nice line of German Vases	25c to 50c.

Toilet Sets in Ebony and Silver, New Designs.

Manicure Sets of All Kinds.

Collar Boxes in Leather, Stag and Burnt Wood.

Xmas Postals, 3 for 5c.

BOOKS

Burnt Leather Gift Book	\$1.25
Whitehouse & Bucky Cook Books	\$1.00
E. P. Roe's	40c
We have a complete line. Popular Copyrights	75c
Martha Finley's Elsie Series while they last	40c
Alger & Henty Series	35c

Gentlemen's Traveling Sets, the new kind.

Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, latest patterns.

Tie Boxes, 50 cents and up.

Jewel Cases in Gold and Silver, \$2.25 and up.

PERFUMES

The Ricksecker line, none better. Nice line 25c and 50c. Elegant boxes from \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Japanese Lacquered Boxes and Trays.

Jewelry, not the cheap kind, but something Good.

Cutlery, Sears Line. Every piece guaranteed by us.

Ash Trays, Smokers' Sets, Tobacco Jars, Meerscham and Briar Pipes.

Burnt Leather Cushion Covers, very swell.

Purses and Hand Bags, all prices.

CANDIES

Lowney's Make Beautiful Baskets and Boxes, all prices.

Chafing Dishes \$10.00 kind only \$8.00

Fountain Pens, a big line from \$1.00 up

Hand Painted Plates make nice presents.

New Card Games, Trolley, Stage, Block, Gauntlet, 50 cents each.

Stationary in Fancy Boxes, 25c and up.

Sterling Hand Mirrors and other kinds. Triplicate Mirrors, \$2.00 and up.

HILL'S

HILL'S DRUG STORE

HILL'S

XMAS PRESENTS HE WILL APPRECIATE

TOTAL BLISS IS DESCRIBED BY PRESIDENT CLEVELAND AS HAVING A PAIR OF SUSPENDERS ON EVERY PAIR OF PANTS. WE HAVE "THE BLISS" AT FROM 50c TO \$2.60 A PAIR.

- A Conqueror Hat \$3.00 Get the size out of his old one
 - A Good Sweater, \$5 to \$6
 - A Smoking Jacket of Cordigan, \$6 to \$15
 - A Silk or White Wash Vest, \$1.50 to \$6
 - A pair of Fancy Hose, 25c to 75c
 - A Tie, all descriptions, from 25c to \$2.50
 - A Muffler, \$1.50. Full Dress Muffler, \$2.50
 - A pair of Wilson Bros. Shirts, \$1.50 to \$2.50
 - A Handkerchief, from 50c to \$1.50
 - A pair of Hanan or Walkover Shoes, from \$3.50 to \$6. Bring the figures in the old pair to get the size you want.
- Gloves, all kinds and prices. We carry but one class of goods—the BEST. Call and make your selection and we will keep them for you until you want them.

\$40 SUIT GIVEN AWAY

DEC 31

Every \$1 cash purchase, or paid on account entitles you to a chance.

COMMENCING ON NOVEMBER 1

SUIT CLUB WINNERS
Dr. G. L. Biggers. \$35 Suit New Club

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J. A. THRONSON.

TAKES EXCEPTION TO REPORTS ABOUT MILITIA

Member of Company L. Answers Questions About Its Mission.

It is of late becoming a noted fact that some of the business men and citizens are cultivating an unfair prejudice and grudge against the militia generally and Company "L" especially.

They ignorantly attribute to the militia dishonesty, vagrancy, ignorance, viciousness and drunkenness, and foolishly ask, what has the militia ever done to merit our respect and moral support?

To a fair minded thinker it is evident that this question is prompted either by ignorance or hatred of some individual; and from recent circumstances it appears that hatred is their strongest if not the only ground for their false antagonism.

Let a few significant facts be submitted here:

First. It is asserted that the militia fosters dishonesty. That statement is pure nonsense, because it is impossible for a defaulter to escape the just punishment of his misdeeds in the militia more than elsewhere, and again, because there are comparatively few dishonest men admitted into the militia. This is not intended to imply that the militia is free from dishonesty; unfortunately in investigating the character of recruits or prospective members, the investigation "board" is no more infallible than any other organization, religious, fraternal or governmental. It is meant however, to imply, that the per cent of dishonesty is at least as small in the militia as out of it.

Second. Vagrancy is attributed to the militia. Now this accusation is preposterous! because the militia does not afford the means of living to any one, and a vagrant cannot live long even in La Grande. Then again the militia is made up largely of young farmers, young mechanics, clerks, lawyers and business men, who earn their bread by honest toil, which is more than some of their would be detractors even pretend to do.

Third. Ignorance is imputed to the militia, by those enlightened citizens. Now if this were true, the fact that a man belongs to the militia (which is an institution of learning) proves that his perception is stronger than those who cheer their blindfold prejudice by hurling the epithet "ignorance" at an institution fostered by George Washington. Then again the accusations of these self-appointed judges, fall back upon their own heads, inasmuch as they would imply defective public schools, at which they secured their exalted degrees of enlightenment, as well as the personal of the militia.

Fourth. When we come to their assertion that the militia generally and Company "L" especially, is composed of drunkards and vicious characters, our

task of refutation is ended, as the very accusation brands itself as the product of a dwarfed intellect and diseased mind, wanting in patriotism, deficient in public spirit and utterly regardless of truth and honesty.

To those who ask, it may be well to say that the present particular organizations have not done any grand or heroic service in subduing rebellious or quelling gigantic riots to merit their respect and moral support, but, on the other hand, they have done nothing to merit the contempt or unmanly grudge of those pious citizens.

Permit us to ask those who hold the militia in such righteous contempt, if they ever stopped to reflect on the propriety of their opinions? By whom were the battles of Lexington and of Bunker Hill fought, if not militia? Did not "Old Hickory" (Andrew Jackson) administer the most severe defeat of arms, to the British at New Orleans in 1815, and with no other troops besides militia?

Then coming down to more recent times, it may not be amiss to ask these self-appointed prosecuting attorneys and anti-militia cranks, who made it possible for them to live in Oregon or any part of the west and make a living without the danger of encountering enthusiastic, ungentle "red men" who are the most successful of barbers? Answer, "the militia."

Through what military organization did Oregon secure an untarnished name for heroic valor and unimpeachable fortitude, (during the late war with Spain) in a climate that was either too hot or too damp? Why the 2d Regiment of Oregon Volunteer Militia, of course.

In conclusion it may be well to set forth a few indisputable facts, as follows:

1st. Oregon has about 700 organized militia standing high in discipline and equipment.

2nd. \$500 annually is allowed Company "L" for current expenses, which is all expended in La Grande and vicinity.

3rd. Near the beginning of the present decade, the Union county court discontinued a small monthly allowance of \$12 to Company "L" the military and moral support to the Union county court, by the laws of Oregon.

4th. Not long ago a band of Greek employees of the S. P. R. R. barricaded themselves in a large warehouse and proceeded to riot and disturb the peace in various unpleasant and ungovernable ways, which could only be stopped by calling out a company of militia. An occurrence of the same kind, by the way, was barely averted in La Grande two years ago, and might easily occur again, in such nature as to preclude the success-

ful interference of the civil authorities, in which case Company "L" might prove a valuable auxiliary, with its organized force in support of the civil authorities.

Those who are stirred with such radical dissatisfaction at the personnel of the militia, should curb their "fire" with the reins of investigation. They may possibly belong to the militia (but of course only to the reserve militia, which is a less important branch of the service) unless they are exempt, to which class belongs cripples, criminals, idiots and lunatics.

It may be observed here, that those who are most earnest in the cry of "Down with militia" are usually the last to respond to the urgent needs of a nation.

This moralizing and recrimination might be continued indefinitely, but let this righteous indignation give way to the hope that this short article will remove some of the prejudice and unfair grudge, in which the militia generally and Company "L" especially is held.

Respectfully, J. H. GUTRIDGE,
Sergeant Company L.

Mrs. J. L. Corbett who has been quite ill the past week, is able to be around again.

LA GRANDE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PROF. DAY, PRINCIPLE.
MRS. DAY, ASSISTANT.

This is one of the best musical institutions in the state, and that people in this city and valley are beginning to discover the advantage of this school. The system is the latest and most practical, and includes all the latest discoveries in the art of teaching music. The school is divided into two departments: No. 1 is for beginners from 5 years or more and are taught the first three grades. Pupils come one hour each day. This is no kindergarten system but far superior. In No. 2 the grades are from 2 to 5. Here they graduate. Pupils take one or two lessons a week as they desire. No scholars will be permitted to remain in this school who do not study.
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