

LOCAL ITEMS.

Howard Eberlee, a student at O. A. C., is home for the Christmas holidays.

Cleve Dogitt left this morning for Elzaville, Wash.

Fireman Charles Bull is indisposed with a grippe.

Fireman Arthur Wall is in Kamela today.

Mr. and Mrs. Kivette of Imbler, are visiting friends in La Grande.

Miss Vle Hart, night operator at Hillard, was in La Grande yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Turner Oliver are visiting friends at Summerville today.

Brakeman Jack Meyers is in Walla Walla visiting his "old pal," Gust Fitchinger.

Miss Anna Madden, a student at Walla Walla, went to her home at Elgin this morning.

Elmer Thomas, who has been in Walla Walla some time, is in the city again.

Harry Finn of Portland, is visiting at the home of his parents, Attorney and Mrs. C. H. Finn.

Mrs. J. P. Donnelly left this morning for Enterprise to visit with her sister, Mrs. Frank O'Hare.

Mrs. J. Kalmbach and son, Jess, went to Walla Walla this morning to spend Christmas with friends.

Mrs. W. W. Kinzie left for Walla Walla this morning. She will remain until after Christmas holidays.

A. S. Clark, of Indian Valley, Idaho, arrived in La Grande this morning to spend the Christmas week with his brother, J. S. Clark.

Walter Bunker, formerly of La Grande, but now at Walla Walla, is visiting friends in La Grande, intending to remain until after the holidays.

Conductor Grady is on a lay-off for the holidays, and Conductor Donnelly has his run on the La Grande-Joseph extension.

J. C. Kessel and Percy Harrison, both of Vancouver, left today for their homes after making timber and stone proofs here.

Conductor Fred Rutherford and wife took their departure this morning for a visit to different points in California.

Clyde Kiddle, attending business college at Portland, arrived home this morning to spend Christmas with his parents at Island City.

Miss Alice Richardson left this morning to spend the holidays with friends in Washington.

Miss Effie Baker, who has been visiting relatives and friends for the past week, returned to her home in Summerville this morning.

J. F. Phealan of Welser, arrived in the city this morning to spend Christmas with his sister-in-law, Mrs. J. H. Peare.

E. S. Olds, accompanied by his mother, are in the city today on their way to Elgin. Their home is in Welser.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Hook of Baker City, arrived in the city today to spend the holidays with Mrs. Hook's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hook.

Miss Ethel McKennon, attending school at O. A. C., came home this morning, accompanied by Miss Mabel Tuttle of Elgin. She will return after the holidays.

Mrs. J. A. Holman, who is at the Grande Ronde hospital, is reported slightly improved this afternoon. Her friends believe that she is now on the Chester Foreman, for the past two weeks in La Grande, in the interest of timber claims disputed by squatters in Walla county, left today for his home in Portland.

Miss Ruby Theison arrived home last evening to spend Christmas with her parents, Engineer and Mrs. P. Theison. She is attending school at Portland.

Miss May Topp of Summerville, accompanied by her aunt, Mrs. E. R. Neardoff of Pendleton, passed through La Grande en route to her home this morning. She is a student at the Pendleton academy.

Miss Lulu Gulling went to Pendleton this morning where she will spend Christmas with her parents. Miss Ethel Gulling, now of Portland, will also join the family at Pendleton today.

The long drawn out and tedious contest case at the land office, entitled Mizner vs. O'Brien, was closed last evening. Mr. O'Brien is wearing a broad smile today, believing his claim is safe.

Gilbert Barron, O. R. & N. ticket clerk, leaves this evening for Baker City, to spend Christmas with his parents. It is rumored in railroad circles that Mr. Barron will say good-bye to the lonesome life after this trip, as he has been known to say that "it is not good for man to live alone."

O. T. Galloway came over from Union this morning to spend his holidays with his family.

Jay Reynolds is home from O. A. C. visiting at the home of his father, J. E. Reynolds.

Miss Mary Topp, a student at the Pendleton academy, is visiting her parents during the Christmas holidays. She was accompanied here by Mrs. F. K. Noordhuff of Pendleton.

APPROPRIATE EXERCISES.
Exercises were held this afternoon in nearly every room in the public schools today and a number of parents attended the different schools and rooms. Nothing is more interesting than children's exercises and those who attended today, were more than repaid for the effort.

The Pastime Change.
Owing to the holiday rush the films from the new film house for the Pastime were delayed. But the energy displayed by Manager Eccles in the conduct of this popular house, was again brought to the fore in his securing the needed films for the change tonight. A timely film and one appropriate to the season, is "A Christmas Carol," a beautiful yuletide story, well told. This reel contains 10 scenes and opens with a miser, Scrooge by name, passing down a London street the morning before Christmas, on his way to his counting house. So detested is he that no one speaks to him. He strikes down a beggar who asked him for alms. A pretty love story runs through the entire film, in which Fred, a nephew of the miser takes unto himself a bride. The miser is compelled to change his entire mode of living by the events that occur in rapid succession. The end of the story pleases all who see it. The other films are Maggie, the Dock Rat, and the Tale the Ticker Told, both of which are out of the ordinary. Robert Burton will, beginning with tonight, sing by special engagement. Special preparations are being made to care for the little ones at the matinee tomorrow afternoon, and those attending are assured of an excellent time. Don't miss this change. It will help you round out the Christmas festivities, and drive away dull care.

Owing to the late arrival of the new program, the regular house ad. could not be changed for today's issue.

TOYS=TOYS=TOYS

Every nook and corner of our immense store is crowded with toys. The ceiling shelves, tables, and floor are burdened with gifts to commemorate the greatest day in life. The day to breathe peace to every man, woman and child, and bring joy in every home has arrived again, only once in a year, why not be

HAPPY--HAPPY--HAPPY

Happiness does not come in receiving, but in giving. If you are blue, down cast and think no one cares for you, buy a few small presents for children or friends and see how light your heart will become and how bright the world will have grown and how easy it is to drive away life's cares. Of course the selection of these presents is of great moment to every person. To get the right present for John or Mary, one they will appreciate and one you can afford, is the greatest problem before you.

WITH OUR IMMENSE STOCK

At your disposal the selection of presents become a mere trifle and within the reach of all. We place presents from the greatest value to the mere toy at the LOWEST PRICE possible.

FREE ---SOUVENIRS --- FREE

Besides helping to make shopping a pleasure and to show our appreciation to our patrons, we are going to give absolutely FREE, 100 handsome souvenirs a day for one week commencing Saturday, December 19th. We limit these souvenirs to one in a family. Buy your Christmas Goods where you can get everything you want at the lowest price.

Golden Rule Co.

Evening Observer Want Ads Pay

To The Patrons of the City Grocery:

WE Desire to thank you for the many favors extended during the year just closing and to assure you of our appreciation.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year,

Sincerely Yours,
E. Polack

TURKEYS
TURKEYS BY THE HUNDRED
GEESE

DUCKS
CHICKENS

Too Numerous to Mention
At the
GRANDE RONDE MEAT COMPANY

TWO STORES
FIR STREET ADAMS AVE.
PRICES WITHIN THE REACH OF ALL

The Scenic.
For real amusement, the kind which makes you laugh for the next two days, go to the Scenic. At this popular playhouse there will be found laughs enough for the entire family and then some for the neighbors. The colored gentleman will keep you smiling for at least 24 hours and his partner has some good comedy waiting for you. The lady with the nervous feet will demonstrate to you that she can dance most any old time and to suit the popular fancy. She has a way of making you laugh with her monologue, too. The pictures are more than interesting. The balloon view of Paris is instructive as well as interesting.

Birthday of Clara Barton.
Washington, Dec. 24.—Christmas will be a double anniversary for those interested in the humanitarian work of the Red Cross society, since it is also the birthday of the founder of the organization, Miss Clara Barton. Tomorrow will be the 87th anniversary of the birth of the famous woman.

Miss Barton was born in Oxford, Miss., the daughter of Captain Stephen Barton, who fought under General Anthony Wayne. In her early career she was a school teacher. She founded a free school at Bordentown, N. J., which, beginning with six pupils, quickly grew until it numbered nearly 600. This work she gave up to accept a place in the patent office in this

city, which she held until the outbreak of the civil war.

After giving up her government position, Miss Barton advertised in the paper of Worcester, Mass., that she would receive stores and money for wounded soldiers at the front, which she would personally distribute. Her appeal was liberally answered, and she began her great relief work. She continued with the soldiers in Virginia during nearly the entire period of the war, being head nurse of the hospitals among the armies on the James.

Taft in Georgia.
Augusta, Ga., Dec. 24.—William H. Taft and family will spend the Christmas and New Years holidays in this

city. The President-elect is avoiding as far as possible all social engagements and will spend the holiday season quietly with his family. Many presents have arrived from admirers all over the country. Judge Taft will deliver addresses in several southern cities before leaving for Panama next month, and after his return will speak in Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York. He will then proceed to Washington to prepare for his inauguration.

W. R. C. Election.
All members of the W. R. C. of this city are hereby notified that there will be a meeting next Saturday, December 26, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing term. A full attendance is desired.

STEWARD'S OPERA HOUSE

2 NIGHTS 2

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23th and 24th

THE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA COMPANY

40 PEOPLE ON THE STAGE 40 Including Teddy Webb, Geo. Kimball, Evelyn Francis Kellog, Addie Sharpe, Ame Lester and A BIG BEAUTY CHORUS

PRESENTING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT SHUBERT BROS. JAPANESE-AMERICAN MUSICAL COMEDY

"Fantana"

The piece with remarkable record. Over on solid year in New York, six months in Chicago, five months in Boston

COMEDY FROM START TO FINISH WITH 27 BIG MUSICAL NUMBERS

ON THURSDAY NIGHT, CHRISTMAS EVE, H. C. CLINE'S TRANSLATION FROM THE FRENCH "LA PAUPEE" OR

"The Toymaker"

The finest Yule-tide opera ever written. It is one continuous laugh set to beautiful music

Both Operas Produced on a Scale of Spectacular Magnificence

PRICES: \$1.50; \$1.00; 75c and 50c. Seats on Sale, Mail orders filled in the order received