

THE OBSERVER

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EDITOR AND OWNER

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"FOOL'S GOLD" AT THE MINT.

A pathetic story comes from Tomak of a family of ignorant peasants arriving on foot after traveling 3000 miles with a wagon filled with a supposed fortune in gold and finding on arrival at the mint that the value of the treasure was only \$10. It was "fool's gold."

It would require an extraordinary power of imagination to picture in detail the hopes that were centered upon that wagon load of supposed gold.

In the shine of the metal that poor peasant family saw reflected a new world. Cold and want and sacrifice and fear were to be theirs no more. The unspeakable hardships of the 3000 mile journey on foot through Siberian snows and wilds must have been tragical in the extreme, but—

Ah, the journey home again!

That glorious prospect recompensed for everything.

Did the father's shoes wear through, leaving his bare feet to be cut and bruised by the frozen ground? Well, he would soon have the best boots that money could buy. The child shivering and crying with the cold was hushed with promises that, forever after, warm clothes would be plentiful, and toys and sweets. The worn mother, with her babe at her breast forgot her weariness and her woe, dreaming of the days to come when the glitter of the gold would be turned into perpetual sunshine.

Who can tell all the dreams that

the poor dare to dream at the prospect of sudden wealth.

The miseries and the grinding toll and the hopelessness that wealth relieves are so near to them, so constantly with them, that to have them lifted seems to have opened the gates of heaven. They know nothing of the cares wealth brings; they know only of the cares it relieves.

We shudder with this poor family at the transfiguration moment of their disillusionment, when they learned the awful truth, that they had brought nothing but empty dreams, and must take up the journey back over the same long, hard road, with their bleeding feet and their rags and their despair—back to the same old misery.

Yes, we shudder with this poor, deluded peasant family, but maybe we had better do some shuddering for ourselves as well.

How many of us are carrying only "fool's gold" to the mint of death.

How many of us are making our journey of life a hard and a hopeless one, by the load of selfishness, greed and worry we are carrying to the great mint, there to lay it all down as utterly worthless.

We pity the poor peasant family, but had we not better pity ourselves, too?

PROGRAM AT ARCADE

- 1—"HER FIREMAN," THANDHUSER DRAMA.
2—THE BARHAMMS, IN VAUDEVILLE.
3—"TOM, DICK AND HARRY," A CLASSY COMEDY.
4—"THE EXTRA BABY," COMEDY.
5—"THE DUNGEON OF DESPAIR" DRAMA.
6—DAY & CHAPMAN, IN MUSIC AND EFFECTS.

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PERSONALS.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Perry, who have been at Emmitt, Idaho, for the winter, have returned to their home in Mount Glenn.

Rev. Father John Campion of Condon, was a guest in the city with friends this morning.

Rev. Father J. F. Murphy of Wallawa returned to his home today after spending a few days here with friends.

Walter M. Pierce was a home-bound passenger from Hot Lake this morning.

C. S. Van Houten, the Pacific States telephone manager at Walla Walla, was a business visitor in the city today, staying at the Foley while here.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Dearharm of Winston, Ga. were guests at the Foley yesterday.

George Gillet and Charles Black, both of Halfway, were guests at the Foley this morning.

Ray H. Wisecarver, of Baker, who is one of those seeking the receivership of the United States land office here dropped into town today on business matters.

Ed. Kammerer, the local contractor, has returned from an extended visit to the Sound country.

THE BARHAMMS TODAY

The Barhamms, a high class musical act, open at the Arcade today for a two days' engagement. This is an excellent musical team and their playing is of a high order. Especially so is the lady member of the team who is an accomplished harp soloist.

There is a complete change of pictures, featuring "Her Fireman," a great Thandhuser, and a classy comedy.

Fifteen Known to Have Been Killed in Storm

(Continued from Page 1.)

states. The crop damage will already total several millions.

Indiana Is Storm-Swept. Indianapolis, March 21.—Reports indicate that every section of Indiana is being swept by a terrific gale. Frank O'Veice was killed here by a falling roof, and a sign fell at Lafayette, crushing to death Henry Walters.

Disaster Spread in Michigan. Detroit, March 21.—One fatality is reported from an eighty-mile gale which is sweeping the state. Wire service is demoralized and great havoc is being done to buildings here and elsewhere. When the gale struck Detroit it took off a part of the roof of an unfinished hotel, the Charlevoix and cause the collapse of several other buildings, and littered the streets with debris. Many were hurt by flying gales and falling signs.

A ferryboat stranded in the middle of the Detroit river was berthed with great difficulty. Heavy damage is reported at Niles, Ypsilanti, Battle Creek, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo and other Michigan towns. Mount Clemens is afire following a gale in which several buildings were destroyed.

Imbler Personals. Imbler, March 20.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Williams attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Worstell, Tuesday. Mrs. Geo. Cleaver has returned from a trip to Portland, where she went to attend a meeting of the state prohibition committee. She reports that the committee will spend \$100,000 to make Oregon dry in 1914 and that they are counting on the woman's vote for a clean state. Miss McKelvey was hostess to the Berlm Lasadi, last Friday afternoon.

Have a new hat made from old ones. HATS cleaned and blocked. McLeod, The Wardrobe. 3-20-13

TO TRADE—50 acres choice fruit and berry land in the Lyle fruit district on the Columbia river. Will trade for La Grande residence property or farm land in this vicinity. Value \$4,000.00. For further particulars see Dr. H. S. Brownson. Phones: office Black 311, Residence Black 3592. 3-17-13

For Sale. 175 egg "Old Trusty" incubator at a bargain, used but three times. Also thoroughbred black and buff Orpling-

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The Easter season is now at its height and each day finds many of the nifty new garments missing from the display racks. Make your selection now and give our fitters as much time as you conveniently can.

The pretty new Bulgarian Suits in the popular materials and shades. Tailored suits for spring in serges and mixtures with Bulgarian trimming and fancy buttons. Spring coats of the three-quarter length so favored this season, Dresses of all the new silk and wool materials with trimmings of lace collars and new buttons.

Our Easter Suits \$12.50 to \$40
The New Coats \$12.00 to \$35.00
The New Dresses \$8 to \$32.50

A Charming Array of Easter Millinery

Now awaiting your selection in our exclusive millinery department.

THE FAMOUS GAGE BROS.' PATTERN HATS

"sold exclusively by this store" are here in an endless variety of attractive new shapes.

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This bank has been in business twenty-six years.

It has grown steadily until it has become one of the strongest and most prosperous financial institutions in the West.

The soundness of its policies is attested by the long list of conservative business men who transact their business here; also by an earned surplus of \$130,900.00, the work of time and the result of conservative management.

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La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

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