

PURELY PERSONAL.

H. E. Ankeny left yesterday morning for Yreka. W. S. Hoesack is up on Nell creek upon lumber business. J. F. Dittworth, of Leeds, was here last week upon business. E. B. Jennings, of Table Rock, was here Tuesday—just business. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Cotton, of Talent, were in the city Wednesday. Fred Tice is over at Parker's station this week rounding up cattle. D. Boothby, of Applegate, was registered at Hotel Nash Sunday. County Commissioner Bradshaw was in Medford Tuesday upon business. L. B. Warner was at Woodville and Gold Hill this week upon business. W. N. Wilson, of Klamath Falls, was in the Rogue river metropolis Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. F. Williams, of Ashland, were visiting in Medford this week. Lee Parsons left Saturday for San Jose, Calif., to remain during the winter. E. A. and H. G. Meyer, of Lake Creek, were in the city yesterday—business. F. P. King, the mining man, was up from his Sardine creek mine upon business Wednesday. J. L. Thorndike, of Sterling, was pressing downy pillows at Hotel Nash Wednesday night. Mrs. J. H. Norris left yesterday morning for a few days' visit with friends at Coletian. E. D. Rose left Medford Monday for Redding, Calif., where he expects to remain for several months. Miss Maggie Eaton returned Sunday from Jacksonville, where she has been stopping for a couple of weeks. Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Kates left Sunday evening for Concordia, Kansas, where they will spend the winter. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Stewart left Sunday for Los Angeles, Calif., where they expect to reside during the winter. Mark Baker, the Gold Hill confectioner, was in Medford yesterday calling upon friends and doing business. Wm. Allen, who has been stopping near Talent for the past few weeks, has returned to his home in Hastings, Ia. J. U. Willeke left Monday evening for an indefinite stay at the Whitehead-Porter mine, near Leland. Councilman F. Hubbard returned this week from a quite extended trip into several counties in Eastern Oregon. Rufus Cox and family, of Central Point, spent last Sunday in this city, the guests of Capt. and Mrs. J. T. C. Nash. Cashier J. E. Enyart was at Ashland yesterday adjusting a fire loss recently had in that place by a company he represents. O. Harbaugh returned Saturday from Portland, he having been successful in getting exonerated from the U. S. jury list. Thos. Riley, one of THE MAIL's very best friends out at Wellen, was in the city yesterday doing business with our merchants. T. V. Hall, a medical student at San Francisco, is in Medford for a visit until after holidays with his brother, J. C. Hall, and family. Editor Churchill, of Gold Hill, was in Medford Wednesday en route to the county seat where he submitted a bid to do the county printing. Mrs. L. Stiner left Medford Sunday for Sisson, Calif., where she will cook for her husband and two brothers who are engaged in lumbering. Rev. T. Conklin and family, of Gold Hill, came to Medford Wednesday for a visit with W. J. Prall and family. They are old-time Nebraska friends. W. T. York was over at Jacksonville Tuesday in Judge Crowell's court upon business relating to closing up his work as administrator of the Drum estate. J. H. Bellinger was at Grants Pass and Jacksonville this week, looking after collections for the Standard Oil Company and buying wood for the local market. J. C. Peadleton came in Monday and on Tuesday went to Jacksonville and made a final settlement of affairs appertaining to his administration of the Frierson estate. J. E. Taylor, formerly of Medford, now traveling for the Pacific Paper Company, of Portland, dropped off in Medford Tuesday to do business for his firm and visit with friends. Mr. and Mrs. H. Williams, of Ashland, are in Medford visiting W. P. Dodge and family and other old-time Iowa friends. Mrs. Dodge and Mr. Williams are brother and sister. R. G. Brown, of Eagle Point, was in Medford Tuesday upon business—a part of which was ordering bills printed announcing a New Years ball at his town—given by Brown and Ashpole. Mrs. G. W. Colvig and daughter, Mrs. F. W. Chausse, and Mrs. J. A. Jennings, of Grants Pass, were in Medford Tuesday in attendance at the funeral of Mr. Woods. Mrs. Colvig and Mrs. Jennings are sisters of Mrs. Woods. Dr. G. B. Cole was at Grants Pass this week upon business. When returning on the train Wednesday morning his professional services were called to good account. A child on the train was taken ill suddenly and had no medical assistance been rendered it would probably have died. Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Southerland, of Brandon, Manitoba, stopped off in Medford yesterday for a day's visit with Mr. and Mrs. J. Gallaher. Mr. S. is spending the winter on the coast upon pleasure bent and possibly in quest of a home. He is just naturally tired of the frigid weather of Manitoba—and there are others. A. L. and S. A. Redden arrived in Medford Monday from Guide Rock, Neb., for a visit with their brother, Townsman J. W. Redden. Their coming was a complete surprise to J. W., but notwithstanding that they are having an almighty good visit. Both these gentlemen are farmers in Nebraska and they are swearing by their native health. One of them, A. L., relates that the crops of that state this year were something tremendous—corn, wheat and

oats, all big and a pretty good price. Several farmers, he states, had just about given up all hopes of getting out of debt, in fact were expecting to take off only this year's crop and then let the mortgage have it, but the crops were so big that everyone of them paid off their mortgages and have money left. He said there were a few zephyrs prancing around when he left—and they were chilly ones. Uncle Dick Williamson came in from near Steamboat Tuesday and will probably remain with his family until after holidays. He is employed as blacksmith at Merrill & Scott's mine where a new "Hog" quarts mill is being put in. Uncle Dick has reduced his avoirdupois several hundred pounds, more or less, since his sojourn in the mountains—presumably tapering down for the Klondike. Echoes From the Street. D. R. Hill:—"We have just finished loading the last of nine carloads of Ben Davis apples." D. T. Lawton:—"My business almost always slacks up during the winter season, but I sold a lumber wagon this week to T. E. Hills, of Ashland." Agent Lippincott:—"Our fruit shipments have averaged about one carload a day for the past fifteen days. Except one carload of pears and one of dried fruit all have been apples. J. W. Wiley shipped a carload of hogs to Portland this week." Dr. Cole:—"While at Grants Pass I met Kessler, he who used to run the Western hotel in Medford. He is engaged in manufacturing pine needle mattresses and is doing a good business. The mattresses are proof against vermin and are especially useful in hospitals." C. W. Palm:—"I am doing a good bit of business for the O. R. & N. and Rio Grande railroads. I ticketed J. D. Heard, to Chicago and return, W. M. Allen to Hastings, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Kates to Kansas, Mrs. Lyon to Denver, and Ira Burnett to Kansas. All within a couple of weeks." Joe Thomas:—"My partner writes that things are humming on Palmer creek. Says Bailey & Co. are doing a whale of a business with pipe and giant and are working good ground. Morris, Smith and Phillips are also doing a right smart of work and have their mine in splendid shape. Palmer creek is all right and is rich its full length." W. H. Bradshaw:—"There positively is not a thing new up my way. You can send THE MAIL to my son Lee for a year. That man, E. M. Stewart, that you have in your employ, and myself fought shoulder to shoulder all through the war. Our regiments were both from Illinois and one of us didn't get into a skirmish that the other was not mixed up in." Kit Bateman:—"I returned Wednesday from the Big Bend country, Washington. Al. Bell stopped off at Salem. I don't know whether Phillips will be back or not. We had a good run at threshing and I cleaned up an even \$800 over and above all expenses. I will return in March and commence threshing again. Around Davenport there is a territory four by six miles square of almost solid wheat that has not been threshed. Snow fell to a depth of about a foot and we were compelled to close down." MAIL OFFICE DEVIL:—"You say you never dun your subscriber through the paper? Well, that's all right, too, but here is an 'Old Oaken Bucket' parody which I 'writ' and which fits pretty well, thank you: How dear to our heart is the old silver dollar, when some kind subscriber presents it to view: the liberty head without necktie or collar, and all the strange things which to us seem so new; the wide-spreading eagle, the arrow below it, the stars and the words with the strange things they tell; the coin of our fathers, we're glad that we know it, for some time or other 'we come in right well, the spade-edge dollar, the star-spangled dollar, the old silver dollar we all love so well." H. G. Shearer:—"A few days ago I received a letter from an old acquaintance of mine at Brandyville, Iowa. He has recently become converted and as a result of the good which the conversion has done him he sent me a dollar bill, to pay for watermelons which he says he stole from my patch several years ago. He says: 'I was in your patch about four times and got all I could eat, and I want you to forgive me for it. I also carried off a couple. If the enclosed is not enough to pay for them I will remit when you name a price.' That fellow is all right and means business. I shall buy something with the dollar for a present and send it to him. The one great trouble with some people I know is they could not possibly hope to live long enough to pay back all they had wrongfully taken should they be converted." —Miss Allie Hughes, Norfolk, Va., was frightfully burned on the face and neck. Pain was instantly relieved by DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, which healed the injury without leaving a scar. It is the famous pile remedy. Strang, the druggist, Medford; Dr. J. Hinkle, Central Point. St. Mary's Entertainment. A musical and literary entertainment is to be given in Jacksonville by the pupils of the St. Mary's academy, on Wednesday evening, December 16th, at U. S. hall. The Medford-Jacksonville shoreline will leave Medford at 7:15 and return after the entertainment. The admission is twenty-five cents; reserve seats, fifty cents; children under twelve years, fifteen cents. Following is the program: Overture, Tascendi..... DeRosini Military Discipline..... Boys The Famine, Longfellow..... Recitation Merry Over the Ocean Spray..... Solo and Chorus Oriental Perfumes..... Mandoline Japanese Fantasies..... Vocal Duet COMEDY—"THE QUESTION OF HER SEX"—CAST OF CHARACTERS: Mrs. Duplex, a widow with money and a mission, M. Pymale Mrs. Deborah Hartshorn, her mother, A. Morris Florence Duplex, her daughter, B. Nickel Carolina Duplex, her step-daughter, D. Reuter Rhoda Anderson, her friends, M. Lippincott Follie May, her friends, M. Houck Katie O'Neil, the cook, M. Nickel Maggie Donovan, the chambermaid, H. Colvig Too Late..... Scriptural Tableau Natcho Triophale..... Instrumental Trio Good Night Drill..... Minstrel —Prosperity comes quickest to the man whose liver is in good condition. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are famous little pills for constipation, biliousness, indigestion and all stomach and liver troubles. Strang, the druggist, Medford; Dr. J. Hinkle, Central Point.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

A Brief Mention of Some of the More Important Matters to Be Acted Upon. President McKinley's message, which was presented to congress Monday, after extending greeting to the 55th congress, and speaking of the conditions which have contributed to our prosperity as a nation, deals with important national questions to be considered by the present session. A summary of the topics discussed in the message, and the president's recommendations concerning them, follows: THE CURRENCY. The president points out that the evil of our currency system is the great cost to the government of keeping all the forms of our money at a parity; that we have \$900,000,000 of currency that the government is pledged to redeem in gold, but its receipts are not required to be paid in gold, and hence the only means at command of the government for obtaining gold is by borrowing it, which accounts for the increase of the bonded debt during the Cleveland administration of \$262,315,400 to secure money to keep up the gold reserve at \$100,000,000. Should the present policy of raising gold by bond issues be continued, it is recommended that the secretary of the treasury be given authority to sell bonds bearing a lower rate of interest, and for long or short periods. He recommends that when a United States note is presented at the treasury and redeemed in gold, it shall not again be put in circulation except for gold. In his opinion, it is of great importance that the government should not be required to provide the gold needed for exchange or for export. It is pointed out that the existing system is fraught with great danger. He indorses the plan recently outlined by Secretary Gage for reforming the currency, and further asks that notes of national banks be restricted to issues of \$10 and upwards, and that national banks with a minimum capital of \$25,000 be allowed to be organized, and all national banks be allowed to issue notes equal to the face value of their bonds deposited to secure such circulation. CUBA. The question of the Cuban war and our relations with Spain and the insurgents occupies the greatest space of any question considered. The president shows that in the revolution beginning in 1888 the United States, through President Grant, endeavored to put an end to bloodshed in Cuba, but its efforts were unsuccessful. At that time the question of granting belligerent rights to the insurgents was considered, as now, but was not favored by Grant, and McKinley takes a decided stand against it now, believing that it is unwise, but says he will take the step whenever right and duty demand it. It is due to Spain, in view of our friendly relations, that she begin in time to prove that she can and will achieve the pacification of the islands and introduce reforms which the present Spanish ministry is committed to. HAWAII. Reference is made to the treaty with the Hawaiian islands, laid before congress last June, which has been ratified by the Hawaiian republic, and now awaits action by the United States senate. Its adoption would complete annexation of the islands to this country, and the message says that "every consideration of dignity and honor requires it." NICARAQUA CANAL. In regard to this matter, of such importance to our country, he states that the commission appointed last July to continue the surveys and examinations into the proper route, feasibility and cost of the canal is now at work; that he will transmit to congress the report of the commission when it is prepared, together with his own recommendations as to action. BIMETALLIC COMMISSION. On April 14, 1897, the monetary commission, to promote an agreement for international bimetalism was appointed, consisting of E. O. Wolcott, A. A. Stevenson and C. J. Payne. The president says that, while they have not been able to accomplish their mission, he hopes their work may ultimately bring about an international agreement securing recognition to both gold and silver as money, on a basis which will bring injury to nobody. RECIPROCIITY. He believes that some grievances in trade relations may be removed or alleviated by reciprocity, and that the volume of our business may be enlarged. MERCHANT MARINE. The president contends that our merchant marine should be enlarged and improved so we would receive our full share of the commerce of the sea, and says that the government should by every proper means foster and encourage carriers under our flag. ARBITRATION. He pledges his encouragement to arbitration treaties which shall avoid the horrors of war, provided they do not imperil our interests or our honor. THE NAVY. The president speaks with much gratification of five battle-ships of the first class, 16 torpedo-boats and a submarine boat now under construction, and says that the recent increase of the navy was needed and has received public approval. He recommends that three or four drydocks be constructed on the Atlantic coast, at least one on the Pacific coast, and a floating dock on the gulf. ALASKA. The needs of Alaska receive attention in the message. It gives in outline the laws applicable to the territory; approves the establishment of the military post to give protection to persons and property; asks congress to establish a flexible system of government adjustable to the future's needs; and brings to the attention of the national legislature the reported probable shortage of food. INDIANS. The president believes that new laws and regulations for the government of the Indians are imperative. The area of Indian territory is 25,564,546 acres, much of it being fertile land. Numbers of whites have settled in the territory, and by present laws are deprived of the right of citizenship and schooling for their children. A commission is now investigating the matter and treating with the Indians. He believes, with the secretary of the interior, that the government should reserve ownership of the land now belonging to Indians. —One Minute Cough Cure cures quickly. That's what you want! Strang, the druggist, Medford; Dr. J. Hinkle, Central Point.

PUBLIC SCHOOL NOTES.

Three pupils entered the fifth grade Monday. Charley Isaacs and Omer Walden entered the seventh grade this week. The pupils of the fourth grade are glad to welcome Carl Richardson once more. The fifth grade class in music is doing some excellent work. Its last selection was a round in three parts. Visitors: Madames E. Dodge, F. E. Birge, H. DeGroot, Messrs. L. B. Warner, R. Bram and Miss Maysto Foster. The little ones of the north primary were delighted to see so many of their parents and friends present during their "Thank you" exercises. The little ones from the second grade are pleased to see some of their number, who have been out of school on account of sickness, with them again. The members of the tenth grade, who did not get an average of 90 per cent or above in geometry took the examination Monday. Very few had to take it. The second term of school began last Monday. Those of the tenth grade who expect to graduate will have to study harder during the next term than they did the last. Football playing has been forbidden in the tenth grade. No pupil of the grade being allowed to play in a match game on account of some of the boys falling low in their studies. The study of the Lady of the Lake having been completed, the ninth grade will take up Julius Caesar, while the eighth grade will begin work on Washington's Farewell Address. The little people of the south primary are sorry that some of their little friends are unable to be with them at school, but hope that they will soon recover from their illness and be with us again. Rev. and Mrs. Eli Fisher gave a birthday party in honor of their nephew, Frank Stratton, last Saturday evening. The members of the class of '98 were the guests and all had a very pleasant time. The match game of football which was to be played at the Medford fair grounds next Saturday between the Medford high school and the Ashland normal, has been postponed for reasons best known to the teams. The movement among the pupils to put an end to the use of tobacco, in any form among the pupils of the public school, is apparently meeting with success. Many kind words from parents and patrons of the school, commending the plan have come to the teachers and pupils. Going to Hold a Box Social. There will be a box social at the Independent school house Tuesday evening, Dec. 21, 1897. Everybody cordially invited. Ladies please bring your boxes well filled. There will be a short program and then the boxes will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Care of Thanks. To those of our friends who were so very helpful to us during the protracted illness of our husband and father, and who were so expressive of sympathy and so kind in their ministrations at the time of death, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks. Mrs. N. E. Woods, MR. AND MRS. WALLACE WOODS. Among the Churches. EPISCOPAL CHURCH. The Rev. Isaac Dawson will conduct divine services in St. Marks Church on Sunday evening next, Dec. 12th. Services at 7:30 o'clock. A cordial invitation to all. CHRISTIAN CHURCH. Services at the usual hours except the Junior Endeavor, which will be at 2:30 o'clock to allow the gospel temperance meeting to be held at 3 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. All are invited. Advertisd Letter List. Following is a list of letters remaining uncalled for in the Medford postoffice on Dec. 8 '97: Bangert, Mr. Bangert, H. Friley, C. W. Gray, Miss Mary Roberts, Miss Nellie Roberts, Nellie A charge of one cent will be made on delivery of each of the above letters. Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "Advertised." M. PURDIN, Postmaster.

City Council Proceedings.

Medford city council met in regular session Tuesday evening. Present Mayor G. H. Haskins; Councilman Wilson, Woodford, Hubbard, Plymale, Recorder Stanfield. Petition of J. C. Hall for liquor license was considered and license ordered issued. Bondsmen S. Rosenthal and Wm. Slinger. Petition asking for a cross walk on South O street, at the intersection of Eighth street, was referred to street committee, as was also matter of causing sidewalk to be graded and laid on Eighth street between C and D streets. A tax of ten mills for city purpose for 1898 was voted. Town election was ordered for Tuesday, January 11th. Judges and clerks of the coming election were then appointed, and are—North Side:—Judges, Carl T. Jones, E. W. Star, H. Kilppl; clerks, H. L. Gilley, Ed. Philpe. South Side:—Judges, M. S. Damon, J. K. Darnell, G. S. Briggs; clerks, Wallace Woods and R. B. Dow. Recorder ordered to settle with A. A. Davis in matter of water ditch. BILLS ALLOWED. F. Amann, street and ditch work..... \$ 33 75 J. K. Darnell, special police..... 5 00 E. W. Gardner, engineer salary..... 25 00 Wm. Churchman, marshal..... 40 75 W. W. Haskins, recorder's fee..... 8 00 Total..... \$122 50 —For \$1.00 we will give a year's subscription to THE MAIL and the Toledo Blade. This will apply to old subscribers who will pay in advance as well as to new ones. —Watches cleaned and warranted for one year for \$1—Pritchard, the jeweler.

Another Pioneer Gone.

Died—in Medford, Oregon, Sunday evening, December 5, 1897, Abijah E. Woods, aged 67 years, one month and seventeen days. Mr. Woods was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, October 18, 1830; came to Oregon in 1853, and settled in Douglas County where he lived until thirteen years ago, when he moved to Medford. He was married to Nancy E. Dyer, December 6, 1860. Two children blessed this union, a daughter, who died in her second year, and a son, William Wallace Woods, who with his mother mourns the loss of a kind husband and father. In his protracted illness of thirteen weeks, in which he was unable to raise his head or help himself, suffering the most severe pain, he never murmured or complained. While loving hands ministered to his every want, still death claimed him. He was a good man, and when the summons came from above his answer was, "I am ready." Besides a wife and son he leaves a host of relatives and friends to mourn his death. Funeral services were conducted at the residence on Tuesday, December 7th, by Rev. J. F. Wallace, pastor of the M. E. Church, South, who were attended by a very large concourse of friends. Interment was made in the Odd Fellows cemetery. For Rent—The Commercial Hotel. The furniture is for sale cheap. Parties wishing to engage in the hotel business can secure a bargain by calling on J. W. Marksbury or Dr. J. W. Odgers. —Superior job printing, MAIL OFFICE.

Early :: :: Christmas BUYING Has a two-fold advantage. One is more apt to get precisely what is wanted and can make purchases with much greater comfort and satisfaction, owing to the absence of the crowds of the later Christmas season. We have a beautiful assortment of appropriate and useful Christmas gifts. J. G. Van Dyke...

Mitchell, Lewis & Staver Co. VEHICLES AND MACHINERY We now have on hand a large stock of Wagons, Hacks and buggies. Call and see our new Case Black Land gangs. We have a full stock of machinery of all kinds. D. T. LAWTON, Manager Medford Branch.

RATES FROM... \$1 to \$2 PER DAY I. L. HAMILTON... PROPRIETOR... THE HOTEL BAR is always supplied with the very best brands of wines, liquors and cigars.... L. M. LYON, CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER. JOBBING OF ALL KINDS. All work guaranteed first-class. Plans and estimates furnished or all kind of work either brick or wood. Bills of LUMBER of all kinds filled on short notice. Sash, Doors and Mill work of all kinds—any thing in the shape of wood work can be had on short notice. Medford, Oregon.

Mrs. Kate Etter OF MISSOURI, Is Cured of Heart Disease by Dr. Miles' New Heart Cure. Mrs. KATE ETTER wrote from Neosho, Mo., in March last. "Two years ago I was severely troubled with my stomach and kidneys, and a great affliction so unnerved me that my condition became alarming. The telegraph brought a prominent physician in a consultation which resulted in no benefit. I went to Wyoming for change of climate without benefit, was brought back to Atchison where nurses worked with me night and day to keep me alive to reach my friends here. My heart became so bad that my friends gave up all hope. I began taking Dr. Miles' Heart Cure and Nervine alternately and was restored to health. It is now months since and I am perfectly well." Dr. Miles' Remedies are sold by all druggists under a positive guarantee, first-class benefits or money refunded. Book on Heart and Nervine sent free to all applicants. DR. MILES MEDICAL CO., Elkhart, Ind. No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents. Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c. \$1. All druggists.