Birtha Williams

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Monarch of the Amateurs.

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FIRE IN THE FOOT-HILLS.

MIGHT HAVE RESULTED DISASTROUSLY BUT FOR TIMELY ARKEST.

A forest fire of no small extent was raging in the foothills South of Ashland last Thursday afternoon and night, and for a time, the flames were dangerously near the residence of G. Y. Heaton and the firemen were called to save it. The men worked with a will, and after hours of hard work, succeeded in saving the dwelling. A stream of water was continually played upon the building to lessen the danger from flying sparks.

The flames crossed the road several times and started conflagrations on the timber land of O. H. Blount, but were extinguished before any damage was done.

The fire was watched all through Thursday night, and it was by the closest attention to duty that Mr. Blount's barn was prevented from being fired by flying sparks.

By Friday night the fire was nearly all out, leaving a blackened piece of barren ground, where, the day before grew green foliage.

The fire was supposed to have been started by some camp-fire carelessly left burning by some of the campers along Ashland creek.

ANOTHER BLAZE.

The rapid ringing of the fire bell last. Thursday night brought the firemen to their post and sent them spinning down Oak street to the residence of Capt. J. L. May, to find his chicken house ablaze and presenting a threatening attitude toward neighboring buildings.

By quick and determined work, the fire was put out before further damage was done.

The origin of the blaze is laid to a tramp, who, having been refused a meal at the late hour of eleven o'clock, took this means of "getting even."

I. N. Towne, General Traffic Manager and Vice President of the Southern Pacific R. R. Co., is dead.

SATISFIED AT LAST.

It is an old saying that the farmer is a hard man to please and satisfy; no sooner is he thoroughly complaining of too much rain than the necessity for irrigation stares him in the face, and starts him investigating the latest practical and profitable methods. Experience now confirms the claim that a Hercules Gasoline Gas Engine solves the problem of economical, reliable power; and for once the farmer is suited, for a Palmer & Rey Pumping Plant so operated gives him a chance of clearing his overflown lands, and, later on, of flooding his parched fields, besides using his engine for cutting feed, sawing wood and runchurns, etc.

CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY.

The third annual Chautauqua Assembly of Southern Oregon, now in session in Ashland, is proving a grand success in every respect. The lectures are all first class and never fail to draw a full house, and for the last two nights the isles had to be filled with seats for the accommodation of the audience

All express themselves well pleased with the entertainments, and a large attendance for future Assemblies is assured.

A tramp has just worked out his fine on the streets of our city, as a penalty for making threats and frightening women and children when refused "meals to order." What the city wants for such fellows as he, is a stone pile and the requirement to break a given amount of stone before they are fed. We would then have pulverized stone enough to put our streets into fine condition.

The Ashland woolen mills will begin operation August 1st, using about 1,000 pounds of wool per day. Besides other improved machinery, there will be in operation, an improved extractor that will dry as much wool in an hour as the old style could dry in twenty-four hours.