

tastes and desires of the better portion of the community? This scandal, which is just as abominably obscene and vulgar, just as depraved and pernicious in its whole character, as anything in the *Police Gazette*, is not legitimate news, and is neither needed nor wanted. Is it any the less pernicious, abominable and harmful because it is the statement in court of a lot of witnesses who have for years been living in the foul social atmosphere of this London home, rather than the creations of the vile imaginations of those who fill up the columns of the "smut machines" on this side of the Atlantic? Is it not even more to be dreaded on this very account? Is the publication of this mess of filth conducive in any way to the welfare of any portion of this community? Does its publication subserve a single genuine, honest interest? Certainly not; nor can it be justified on any tenable grounds whatever. The claim that this sort of literature teaches the horrors of guilt and immorality by describing things as they are, is the plea of the "mosquito" press, and is without anything real to support it. Instead of this, is not just the opposite the actual truth? Does not the publication of such matters suggest to the mind, and familiarize it with, phases of life of which pure-mindedness should remain ignorant, and reveal vices of which innocence should never learn? Does not familiarity with such things deaden the sensibilities, and lead directly to the spread of the very vices so graphically held up to the view of those who would otherwise not see them? It will not do to say that human depravity will inevitably make excursions into this province; it may, but the growth will be much more rapid under such a tilling as comes from the publication of these vile details. There is but one other possible excuse—that the matter was paid for by contract, and must be used, but this is so purile and unmanly that such a journal as the *Oregonian* would, or should, disdain to hold it up as a shield to ward off deserved criticism.

In these days, when there is so much of the vile in literature, there is need of the exercise of every possible virtue to aid in its restriction. Whatever we limit we lessen. This ought to be the rule of conduct of a great journal with regard to these matters. It is to be hoped that the *Oregonian* will see the justice of these claims in behalf of our children, so many of whom are among its daily readers, and purify its columns of everything that is demoralizing and vile.

AN elegant steel plate New Year's card has been received from the enterprising real estate firm of Eshelman, Llewellyn & Co., of Seattle, one of the most widely known and successful firms on the Pacific coast. There is not a real estate dealer in this city who exhibits the enterprise and business capacity displayed by this firm, and consequently none who enjoys the widespread reputation they have earned. Parties desirous of learning about Seattle and surrounding country will do well to correspond with Eshelman, Llewellyn & Co.

PEACE RIVER COUNTRY.

The *Calgary Tribune* gives the following particulars relative to the Peace river country, furnished that journal by the Rev. J. W. Brick, a missionary of the English church, who recently arrived in Calgary from that far off country. Mr. Brick brought with him samples of wheat and barley which he grew beside the mission, and which show that the country is not one of eternal frost and snow. The wheat was sown on the twelfth of May, the latest spring that Mr. Brick has known during his five years' residence there. The wheat is of the red fyfe variety, and is hard, plump and good, with no indications of any frozen kernels. The yield was twenty-two bushels for every bushel sown, and the straw was five feet and six inches in length. In barley, Mr. Brick had two varieties, one a hullless kernel which grows in two rows and is bearded; the other is Russian barley, which is not marked with rows, but grows round something like wheat and is not bearded. The samples of both varieties were remarkably good, the kernels being much larger than the ordinary barley, and which yields about thirty-five to forty bushels to the acre.

Dunvegan is nearly six hundred miles north of Calgary, being about the fifty-seventh parallel of latitude and one hundred and fourteenth degree of west longitude. Spring usually opens so that cattle can find their own fodder from the 18th to the 25th of March, and seeding often begins about the 12th of April. Winter sets in about the 1st of December, but the country is visited by the warm Chinook winds and a great deal of warm weather is experienced throughout January and February. Horses graze out all winter and come out in good condition in the spring. The greatest degree of cold which Mr. Brick has experienced was a dip to sixty-eight degrees below zero. This, however, lasted only for one night. The usual temperature for winter is between twenty and thirty degrees below zero, with frequent breaks, when the mercury rises to about the same number of degrees above zero. The valley in which Dunvegan is situated is about sixty-five miles in length, by eighteen to twenty-five miles in width, and Mr. Brick says it is the finest land he has seen in the whole of the Northwest. Potatoes and vegetables grow remarkably well. The summer is warm and agreeable, with only an occasional summer frost.

Mr. Brick thinks that the Peace river country will yet be settled and become a profitable grain growing and stock raising country, and the snort of the iron horse will yet be heard echoing among the valleys. Besides the Hudson's Bay Company's post in the neighborhood, there are traders from British Columbia who visit the district and deal with the Indians for skins and furs. A railroad route from Winnipeg to Peace river was described in the September WEST SHORE.

A NEW WONDER

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