

A correspondent of the Capital Journal, does not think the site selected on the Willamette river for the Nebraska colony by the Portland real estate firm, a desirable location. He says it overflows almost every winter.

HOLIDAY NUMBERS.—The Oregonian, as is its custom, will get out a large New Year edition, which will be filled with matters of general interest and information. The Oregon Statesman will also issue a large and well filled holiday paper. The Capital Journal also will print a special holiday edition.

Revs. Poling and Pratt of Lafayette, were present at the dedication of the new Independent Evangelical church at Salem on Sunday last. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Poling, and was attentively listened to by a large audience. A collection of between two and three hundred dollars was raised at the morning service to pay off the indebtedness of the church.

"Brick" Pomeroy can't stand it any longer to publish a monthly, and in order to say more and say it oftener, hander and hotter, will with the New Year bring his paper out as an eight-page weekly, six columns to the page, at one dollar a year. It will be a hot advocate of the free coinage of silver into full legal tender money for all debts. Will urge the entire cessation of all Government bonds. It will be one of the liveliest and most interesting family newspapers in America. One dollar per year. Three copies one year, all ten to one post-office, five dollars. If you are for silver and against a national debt, this is a paper you want for a fact and for its facts. Send at once to M. M. Pomeroy, Room 46, World Building, New York City.

NEW VOTING MACHINE.

We make an extract from the Sonoma Democrat of an article on a voting machine, a new invention for voting. It is said that voting by this process is simple, and the opportunities for fraud are reduced to a minimum. The advantages gained by the machine are absolute secrecy, the impossibility of tampering with the voter's ballot, the rapidity with which the result is known, the accuracy of this result, and the economy of the system. The Democrat says: "H. A. Clifford of San Francisco has patented a voting machine that is simple, accurate and cheap. Thousands of people tested it at the Midwinter fair and it was given the first award. By its use the voter can save more than half the time required to stamp an Australian ballot, the vote of each candidate is automatically tallied and counted as voting proceeds, so the total vote received by each one is known just as soon as the last vote is registered, while the cost of an election can be reduced to one-third or even one-fifth of what they now are. If Mr. Clifford's machine will accomplish all these things, there is no reason why it should not and will not be adopted by California and other states."

"A representative of this paper examined the machine at the office of the Examiner in San Francisco, where it has been on exhibition. It resembles a box ten inches square and from two to four feet long. The length is regulated by the number of candidates to be voted for. Briefly described, the machine consists of a row of keys—one for each candidate, and placed opposite the names of the respective candidates. The keys are numbered to correspond with the numbers of candidate's name on the ticket. To vote for a candidate, his particular key is pressed down, which perforates his column in the sheet, the latter being on the inside of the machine, on a roller. When a voter has completed his choice, the machine is automatically moved forward one space, to accommodate the next voter who enters the booth.

To illustrate, when a candidate has received, say one hundred votes, his sheet contains one hundred perforations and the registered number is 100. When a key is pressed down it becomes locked and remains so until the voter passes out of the booth. Not only is the particular key locked, but all other keys in that compartment are locked by the single operation of pressing down the one voted. Thus, if there be five or any number of candidates for one office, like governor, it is impossible to vote for more than one, and that one but once by a single voter. As the voter passes out

NOTES BY THE WAYSIDE.

A few items of interest was noted by the writer during a short visit to Forest Grove. The Marsh memorial hall was under roof, and presented a fine appearance from the outside. Quite a number of new houses had been built since my last visit, indicating a good growth. I will state some facts for those who believe in graded roads, and they can draw their own conclusions. In the summer of '93 that town in conjunction with the road supervisor graveled the road to the station, making a good road bed of that material. In a few instances property owners voluntarily had their taxes doubled. The gravel did not stand the constant wear of wheels but during the winter it took a double team to pull the stage to the depot. Not in my 18 years of experience did I see the road in such a bad condition. In summer of '94 a roadbed of crushed rock was laid from the station to the principal street in town. A team can draw as heavy a load now, over that road as in summer, and I failed to discover any place where the roadbed showed signs of wearing out. Of course the previous graving of the streets gave a better foundation for the crushed rock, than would the clay. Yet the fact was demonstrated that crushed rock was superior to gravel in making a roadbed capable of standing hard usage during the season.

I found considerable interest in another feature of road improvement. Representative Yates, elect of Washington county, has drawn up a bill, setting aside six feet on each side of a public highway for the use of footmen, and making it a fineable offence for a horseman or teamster to travel thereon. This is a step in the right direction. Excitement over the discovery of gold in the coast range prevails. In 1867 or 1868 T. W. Sam of Scoggin valley, got lost in the mountains when on a hunting expedition. During his wanderings he discovered gold bearing quartz. He brought specimens home with him. They were so rich that an expedition went out to discover the ledge but failed in so doing. A few years later T. M. Hines a noted prospector, discovered gold in paying quantities. He located the spot as best he could, blazed a trail out, but has been unable to rediscover the lost Eldorado. Has a third party discovered the lost treasure?

The inhabitants of Scoggin valley and of the upper Nehalem, thought they were shaken up by an earthquake, several weeks ago. The event took place at 10 a. m., Dec. 1. A noise louder than thunder was heard, and the earthshaken. From the testimony of observers the phenomenon was caused by the fall of an avalanche, which passed to the northeast. The light of which was distinctly seen by a number of people.

OVERLAND'S LITERARY NOTE.—The Overland Monthly for January will make its appearance in a new cover in honor of the New Year. The most extensively illustrated and most interesting contribution in the number will be a descriptive article on the strange old Asiatic city, Singapore, under the caption of "In the Golden Chersonese," by Rounseville Wildman, late U. S. Consul-General for the Malay Peninsula. Joaquin Miller's great four-part poem—"The Song of the Balboa Sea," concludes with this number. Its production has excited world-wide interest. The magazine and author are in receipt of congratulatory letters from Mr. Gladstone, Lord Houghton, Oscar Wilde, Dr. C. E. Stedman, Lord Roseberry and many well-known literary men. Following in the footsteps of the "Vigilance Committee of '56," as an addition to Pacific coast literature, will be "The Evolution of Shipping and Ship-building in California," being a collection of personal narratives by Irving M. Scott and a dozen early ship-builders. The introduction will be written by J. M. Scanland, bringing the record up to the days of '49. The article that will probably attract the most wide-spread attention among legislators and thinkers will be Mirafrae Manson's masterly study on the "Naval Control of the Pacific Ocean." It is a forcible protest against England's aggressions on our coast.



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