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OREGON OFTY, DEC. 26, 1902.



This week the Courier is not up to its desired our force to lay off and enjoy. them work on this great festival.

No Eastern mail has been received at Oregon City for the past four days. All trains from the East are snow bound east of Rocky countains. While the East is enjoying its blizzards and its hard winter thus early in Oregon City and the Willamette valley there is no winter to speak of. The weather is delightfully mild and enjoyable.

"PEACE ON EARTH,

GOOD WILL TO MEN."

This is Christmas week. The greatest festival of all the year. In every civilized country in the world there is rejoicing and good cheer. From the palace of the prince to the beggar's hut, from the octogenarian, whose hair is frosted with the snows of many winters, to the halting steps and lisping tongue of the infant, Christmas brings its glo rious memories, its softening influences, its humanizing inspirations. For nineteen hundred years the birth of the lowly Nazarine has been celebrated in every Christian land, in every part of the earth, by song and music and story. As he brought into the world the greatest gift to all mankind, so we give of our abundance and plenty to those we know and love, and make happy those about us. Business cares for once are forgotten, the trials and tribulations of life are pushed aside, bickerings and heartburnings are laid to rest, and we live the best and happiest day of all the year. Christmas Day is a mile-stone that marks the greatest epoch in human life. Whether we be priest and prophet or worldly laymen we one and all do homage to Him who taught the greatest and best lessons to be found in the literature of all the sges. Out of the dimness of the past these teachings come down to us a blessed heritage and a golden promise. We rejoice that these things are true. Let all of the children of men be glad. May there be sunshine in every home and joy around every hearthstone. Rejoice yourself and help others to be glad. and keep forever in mind the beautiful text, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

"DAM THE POOR."

For cold blooded rapacity the editorial in the Enterprise last week in regard to the comments of the Courier on the delinouent tax list of Clackamas county is a remarkable utterance. Among other things the learned writer closes his defense by saying that "The county does not in the end pay the bill but the delinquent tax payer." That is the true intention of the law and with it we find no fault. Of course no one cares anything about the poor tax payer. The man whose home is advertised for sale, Who cares for the poor? Who cares for the business man who has spent a part of his best days in building up his town and county and while in distress finds all of his property advertised for sale for taxes, by a county he has honored and a town whose prosperity his generous expenditure of money has helped to make, and the cost of the advertisement twice as much as the amount of the taxes he owes. But the cold blooded politician who sees nothing in this life but the almighty dollar says "dam the poor" and has the effrontry to put the sentiment in cold type. No the Courier had no chance to bid on the publication of the tax list since it came under its present management. Two months prior to that time, before we cast our fortunes in this lovely city a corrupt bargain had been made by which the Clackamas county cow should be milked and the cream divided between two men, each of whom are rich in this world's goods. Two thousand dollars is a goodly sum to di- recover after all. vide. As the beneficiaries this Christmas week sit around their big fires in their own comfortable homes enjoying every luxury and comfort, the poor tax payer will be hustling to raise the \$2,000 to place in their pockets and make them richer still. We do not know and certainly do not believe that any blame attaches to the County Judge, Sh eriff or next door to Harris' Grocery.

OREGON CITY COURIER County Commissioners for the present state of affairs. We do know that the delinquent tax list of Clackamas county makes nearly three times as much when J. H. WESTOVER, Editor and Business Manager. published as the delinquent tax list of car just observe. Every eye in the Oregonian. As the county will have to buy in much of this property and sell it a real general concern over its recov 75 half the tax value, the County of Clackamas in the end will probably will Oragon City Courier and Weekly Oragonian \$2.25 make two miles of good plank road, many rivers in this county, and would bring infinite joy to a hundred poverty stricken homes in this valley at this The date opposite your address on the great Yule tide festival. But 'tis idle to aper denotes the time to which you have paid. f this notice is marked your subscription is due. talk of these things now. The bill for great Yule tide festival. But 'tis idle to this publication will be presented to the next session of the County Board of Commissioners and we presume that it will be paid dollar for dollar as the far sighted editor has his contract of record and Shylock must have his pound of flesh. To the uninitiated, to the stranger usual standard in reading matter and it looks like this tax list had been pad- little coin is not lost while there is a news. We are out a day ahead of time ded. Nearly sixty columns of printed on account of Christmas day, which we matter, in small nonparell type, but as our worthy contemprary says the peo-The Courier force has been greatly ple have to pay it and what is the differeverworked for the past six weeks and ence anyway? Just here we want to say it would have been unfair to have had that a corrupt bargain between newspapers is just as much a trust and just as wrong in every way as a corrupt bargain about anything else. These things may be done better next year. The Courier will have a chance to get this work or at least to put in a bid that will materially reduce the cost to the tax payers whose homes are advertised for sale. As the members of the court have largely embarked in the newspaper business and they would certainly not give the work to themselves we are likely to get the job. In the meantime every tax payer in the county should scan this bill which will be presented and paid in January

> When the long hand points to 12 o'clock And the short hand points to 11

next and see just how big it is.

We turn our thoughts from earthly And think of those in heaven. Of those who've crossed the silent

And climbed the farther hill-Who loved us ere they went away, God knows, we love them still.

Make the Most of Your Gifts. Personality has done wonders with both heredity and environment. It has made moderate gifts accomplish marvelous things. Men with moderate gifts, by patient and persistent application have put to shame the splendidly equipped, who have indolently frittered away their patrimony. Out of the most untoward surroundings men have found their way to the grandest achievements. The boy from the log cabin has outstripped the boy from the palace. The barefooted boy has outstripped the boy of pampered indulgence. The plodder has outstripped the genius. The tortoise has passed the hare. Whether a man be richly endowed or moderately endowed, his success will depend on the use he makes of what God has given him.—Independ-

Spoke From Experience. A man who tries to uphold all his statements with the prop of personal

ent.

experience is pretty sure, sooner or later, to find himself in difficulties. "What kind of posts should you say I'd better have for my piazza?" asked he had left me twa hunner poun'." a summer resident of the oracle of Bushville. "Cedar?"

"No," was the instant reply; "not 'less you want to pay for poor stuff. you, James.' Git pine. Pine will last you a hundred

"Are you sure?" asked the summer resident doubtfully.

"Sure!" echoed the oracle. "I never state a thing without I can prove it. I've tried 'em both. Tried 'em twice on my south porch, I tell you!"

With Interest.

"Yes, I know that certain passengers object to tipping on principle; but, speaking for myself, I believe in it," remarked a ruddy faced old man in the corner of a third class smoker. "It is only right to reward courtesy, and I always make a point of giving the guard of this train sixpence when he comes to see if I'm all right, although I'm only a poor man."

The other passengers, not to be outdone, thereupon dived into their pockets, and when the guard popped his head inside the door a few minutes later he found himself overwhelmed with silver coins.

An hour passed, and the passengers got out one by one until the old man was left facing a spruce commercial traveler, who leaned toward him confidentially and asked him how he could afford to give the guard sixpence every time he took a journey.

"Oh, don't worry yourself about that," responded the old man. "I dare say I shall get it back with interest." "How will you?"

"The guard is a son of mine,"-London Globe.

Life's Little Irontes.

Doctor-I'm very glad to tell you, Mrs. Hodges, that your husband will Mrs. Hodges - Lord, sir, don't say

Doctor-Why not, you unnatural we-

Mrs. Hodges-Well, you see, str. after I'd sent for you, sir, I took an' sold all his clo'es - Sketch.

Younger, the watchmaker, has moved

Try This-Drop a Penny,

that money attracts even if it is only a single cent? The next time that you see a copper coin dropped in a street Multnomah county as published in the car will turn to the spot where it dropped, and there will be manifested at a jank sale afterwards for less than to come in contact over the point of its ery. Two or three heads are likely disappearance, and then their owners draw suddenly back and try to lose \$1000. That sum of money would appear unconcerned, but in another

second they are again leaning forward. The man who dropped the cent is usually the first who appears to have brushed memory of the trivial occurrence aside, but just as soon as the eyes in the car have turned from him his own are sure to go back to the floor in the hope that the truant coin

will be seen. When he has gone, there is a renewed interest among the passengers, for the stage of "finders keepers" has arrived, and those near the spot of disappearance become quite diligent until they are aware they make a center of attraction. But interest in that | DR. GEO. HOEYE passenger left, and when the car is empty the conductor takes his turn and resurrects the cent.-New York Herald.

Making Them All One. An elderly minister is fond of telling of a "break" he once made at a double wedding of two sisters. It was arranged that the two couples should be married with one ceremony, the two brides responding at the same time and the two bridegrooms doing the same. There had not been any previous rehearsal, as the minister had come a long distance and had reached the church but a few minutes before the time for the ceremony.

All went well until it came time for the minister to say, "And now I pronounce you man and wife."

It suddenly became obvious to the minister that the usual formula would not do in the case of two men and two wives, and he could not think of any way of making "man" and "wife" plural in the sentence. In his desperation and confusion he lifted his hands and said solemnly:

"And now I pronounce you, one and all, husband and wife!"

A notorious gambler, who died some time ago, once wagered a thousand dollars to one that six would not be thrown with a pair of dice ten times in succession. His offer was taken up by a fellow clubman. The dice were brought, and his opponent actually threw six nine times in succession. The gambler then offered \$470 to be free of the bet. The other man declined, had his tenth throw and failed to getanother six.

Just to show how very little the average man knows about the doctrine of chances a well known mathematician has pointed out the real odds about The chances were no less this bet. than 60,466,175 to 1 against six being thrown ten times in succession; therefore the real bet should have been about \$600,000 to 1 cent against such a thing happening.-Pittsburg Gazette.

A Drawback.

"Well, James, how are you feeling today?" said the minister to one of his parishioners, an old man suffering from chronic rheumatism. "You are not looking as brisk as usual." "Na, sir," replied the old fellow sad-

"I've been gey unfortinit the day." "How, James?"

"Weel, sir, I got a letter fra a Glasca lawyer body this mornin' tellin' me that ma cousin Jock was deld an' that

"Two hundred pounds!" repeated the minister. "And you call that hard luck? Why, it is quite a fortune for

"Aye," said the old man sorrowfully, "but the stipid lawyer body didna pit encuch stamps on his letter, an' I had a hale saxpence to pey for extra post- OREGON CITY age,"-London Tit-Bits.

Sand Swept Asta.

In the arid lands of central Asia the air is reported as often laden with fine detritus, which drifts like snow around consplcuous objects and tends to bury them in a dust drift. Even when there is no apparent wind the air is described as thick with fine dust, and a yellow sediment covers everything. In Khotan this dust sometimes so obscures the sun that at midday one cannot see to read fine print without a lamp.

Varnish From Seaweed.

A kind of seaweed which is plentiful on the coast of China furnishes an admirable glue and varnish. When dried, it is waterproof, and it is employed to fill up the interstices in bamboo net- CANBY work, of which windows are frequentty constructed in that country. It is also utilized to strengthen and varnish paper lanterns.

A Cheerful Proposal. A Scottish beadle one day led the manse housemaid to the churchyard

and, pointing with his finger, stammered: "My folk lie there, Jenny. Wad ye

like to lie there too?" It was his way of popping the question.

A Composer. Hoax-I thought you said that man was a musician*

Joax-Nonsense! "You certainly told me be wrote melodies." "I told you he was a composer of

A Marrying Man. "Are you a marrying man?" was asked of a somber looking gentleman at a recent reception.

heirs. He sells soothing syrup."

"Yes, sir," was the prompt reply; "I'm a clergyman."

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