Flights of the Press.

Interesting News Items and Commentaries Clipped From Our Exchanges.

A MOTHER'S UNAVAILING LOVE.

The Dalles Times Mountaineer: Last evening we listened to the most pathetic story of maternal affection to which we have heard. Yesterday morning about 10 the D. S. Baker arrived opposite Mill River, and Capt. McNulty blew the whistle to make the landing. Soon thereafter the captain's attention was called to an inverted boat, to which a small Indian boy was clinging and the upturned face of an Indian woman floating in the river with a child clasped in her right arm. The boat pushed ashore and the boy was rescued by persons on the bank, and the captain lowered a boat to proceed to take the woman and child out of the water. In taking them out the woman was found to be alive, though nearly exhausted by the effort of keeping the child on her arm above the surface of the stream, and strange to say, she was grasping the dress of a little girl in her left hand. Every effort was made to resuscitate the children, but to no purpose, as they were both dead when taken from the river. The kind-hearted captain assisted by passengers, were determined that the heart-broken mother should see her children alive after her heroic effort to prevent them from drowning; but they were dead, and although only a squaw, she had clung to her boy and girl, when by so doing, she had imperiled her own life. Can a better exemplification of maternal affection be shown among civilized people than this example of a savage Indian in the wilds of Oregon."

PORTLAND'S CITY HALL.

East Portland Chronicle: Great Guns! Portland owns no city hall!! This is astounding news to all blinded saints. The announcement that it has become necessary to rent larger and more commodious quarters for the city council meet in and for city officers' quarters is a revelation. And so it turns out that the building in which the city council now meets, branded "Council Building," does not belong to the city but to a private party and the city pays a monthly rental of $200! What has Portland been doing all these years that it has not built a building of its own for city officers? Why, nearly every little city, village and hamlet in this state owns its "hall." And yet metropolis Portland has no hall of its own. Two hundred dollars a month—twenty-four hundred dollars a year! The council had better at once appropriate two month's rent in advance, buy a large tent and spread it in one of the city parks for use as a council chamber! Contemptible as East Portland is it owned a "city hall" for years.

USELESS WORK.

Grants Pass Courier: We would like to ask Mr. Wanamaker what good it does to compel postmasters to stamp all letters on the back before they can be distributed. The useless process takes a great deal deal of the postmasters time when it is the most precious. The presumption is that letters are stamped on the back to show when they arrive at the postoffice, and what good does it do? It's an innovation that crept in during a former administration and should be done away with as incumbrance for which there is not the slightest excuse.

MAY GET A START.

Yamhill Reporter: Plutocracy is one of the dangers that menace this country at present. With wheat turning out thirty or forty bushels per acre and bringing eighty-one cents, with a prospect of going still higher, the danger becomes imminent, not to say alarming. Some of these poor farmers of Yamhill county, who have been struggling and toiling at the foot of the ladder, may get a start that will help them to climb to the top.

A QUESTION OF VARACITY.

Hillsboro Independent: The Independent is pleased to see Forest Grove grow and prosper; but the Times is mistaken when it asserts that the Grove will have more brick buildings this fall than any town in Washington county. Before cold weather, Hillsboro will have seventeen substantial brick buildings, two of which cost more money than all the brick buildings in Forest Grove. The improvements in Hillsboro this year, not including the court house, will amount to about $150,000.

TO THE LOWEST BIDDER.

Baker City Blade: We believe all work to be performed for the state should be let to the lowest responsible bidder, particularly the state printing, which has grown into huge proportions of late in our state. At the next election let representatives let every voter see that the man he votes for is pledged to do away with this monopoly.

TOOK A TUMBLE.

Salem Statesman: The wheat market is not nearly so firm as it was a few days ago, and in consequence of the nervous condition quotation fell a cent on the bushel, the price paid yesterday being eighty-four cents. About 5000 bushels were taken in at the upper mill yesterday. The lower mill did not receive so much.

THE USUAL AFTER COMPLAINT.

Central Point Enterprise: The circus, with the usual number of sure thing men, has come and gone with a great deal more money than the valley could spare. The number of people who thought they had a cinch on some other man's game was up to the average.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

GEORGE L. STORY - - - - Editor.

Custom is the great law of mankind, and every one must yield to its imperial mandates; therefore it is fitting that, in making my obeisance to the teachers of Clackamas county, that I shall follow the practice of all time, and briefly state the course that I shall pursue, before entering upon the duties of editor of the teachers' department of the ENTERPRISE.

I am truly mindful of the great responsibility resting upon me, and I shall earnestly labor to merit the confidence so generously reposed by my election of this honorable position. It is indeed a delicate and difficult undertaking to conduct successfully a department in which every thought will be crucially criticised by Clackamas county's able and efficient corps of educators.

It shall be my desire to make this department not only a source of pleasure to teachers, but also a medium of useful information, and a means of bringing them into closer professional relations. To accomplish this I shall insist on their hearty co-operation, and shall deem it not only a favor to me, but a duty of theirs to assist by every possible means to make this department a grand success.

We must "BE, and not SEEM."

The teachers of Clackamas county have taken an advanced step in the cause of education; the outlook is promising, and though some may stay out of the association for divers trivial reasons, we can assure them that even if they are eminently successful by themselves, they will be more so by becoming members of the association.

The day of log school houses has gone by, and likewise has been relegated to the realms of antiquity that class of teachers whose usefulness was confined within the narrow limits of "the three R's." They served their purpose well, and without the least disrespect to their memory, we may heartily rejoice that their services are no longer needed.

The spirit of progress in education is marching onward with rapid strides, and every one who would be successful must keep up with the procession. The wisdom of our legislature has made it impossible for a teacher in the schools of Oregon to stand still. He must advance or be dropped by the wayside. A teacher can never store his mind too full of knowledge, and a time will come in the professional career of every teacher when the storehouse of the mind, if well filled, will prove a mine of both pleasure and riches.

Carlyle has said that "the mischief done by one blockhead, in a world so teeming with endless results as ours, no ciphering will sum up." This axiom is no where truer than in the school room, and the necessity for thorough preparation in school work becomes more and more apparent.

This department will be open to all interested in the cause of education, and I am confident, if properly supported, it will be a help to every teacher in the county.

Education.

The word "education" is taken from the Latin verb "educo," and signifies "to draw out." In its most comprehensive sense it means the development or unfolding of all the powers of man, as they were implanted in each individual by his Maker. Then the prime motive of education is to cultivate the individuality of each mind, and to draw out any special talent with which it has been endowed by nature.

The acorn is only a seed which, if planted in rich soil, where the rains will keep it moist, and the sun warm it, will grow slowly but surely into a noble oak. No amount of care or special training will produce an apple tree from an oak, or vice versa. But if the seed be planted in poor soil, and left uncared for or exposed to injury, it will be prevented from sprouting, or will become so dwarfed in its growth as to be of no value. So it is with the mind. It will develop, only as God has made it, after its own kind, when culture is applied to to it, and opportunities are opened for its advancement. If these be wanting, the germ that might have grown to be a mighty oak will slumber on as fruitless of any good as the seed sown upon the rock. If culture and opportunity be wrongly applied, the mind will become distorted or its usefulness destroyed. Instruction is vain and visionary when it attempts to treat all minds alike, or blindly presumes to change the laws which have been indelibly imprinted upon the mental organization of every individual by the Creator.

While education seeks to develop in each individual the highest culture of all his powers, it also aims to suppress the evil that is inherent in every nature.

The good, the beautiful and the true are the objects to be attained in education. It seeks to develop an independent, intelligent, self-reliant, just and practical nature in each individual, and make him familiar with human nature in all its phases, and capable of examining both sides of a question before pronouncing judgment. Education promotes universal common sense, and makes good law-abiding citizens; it inculcates the principles of true freedom, and makes man faithful and energetic, and ambitious of a good name.

There are those who would treat all minds alike, and cram the memory with the stale precedents of antiquity, "while they bow the reason in the dust in abject submission to authority." Despotic in every thing, learning with them can only be gathered from the writings of a certain school of men. Under such a system the mind is so cramped that there can be no permanent progress. The arts that stir the reason, the latent power of every mind, and that bring about the highest development are left untaught. The two-edged sword of authority, like the angel's at the gate of Eden, zealously guards each avenue to freedom of research. "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther" is the universal motto that hides behind authority. Such a system flourished with all of its attendant evils in the middle ages, and to-day it prevents the Chinese mandarin from being guilty of the impiety of knowing more than his fathers before him knew. Such a system kept down for ages the true spirit of liberty and nourished despotism wherever it prevailed.

The true and American idea of education has brought about the most wonderful achievements the world has ever known. It has filled the patent office with more than a hundred thousand inventions; it has girdled the earth with the telegraph and the railroad, and it has so diffused the spirit of freedom that despotism has been compelled to crouch and flee before its elevating and enlightening power.

Horace Mann fitly said: "Education must prepare our citizens to become municipal officers, intelligent jurors, honest witnesses, legislators or competent judges of legislation—in fine, to fill all the manifold relations of life. For this end it must be universal. The whole land must be watered with the streams of knowledge. It is not enough to have, here and there, a beautiful fountain, playing in palace gardens; but let it come, like the abundant fatness of the clouds upon the thirsting earth."

Notes.

Take a board 9x15 inches and saw it once, so that placing the two parts together, it will be 12 inches square.

M. A. H.

Mr. J. W. Gray has been granted a first grade State certificate, upon a direct examination, by the State Board of examiners.

Mr G. H. Dunn, one of Clackamas county's most successful teachers is succeeding finely in his school at Latourelle Falls.

Mr. J. R. Nelson, who is visiting his brother in California, will soon return to Clackamas and again resume teaching.

Messrs. George L. Story and H. G. Starkweather, both passed satisfactory examinations, and have received state diplomas for teaching.

Seven new names were added to the membership of the Association at its first regular meeting.

The public schools of Salem will open on Sept. 7th, with a corps of 26 teachers under the superintendency of Mrs. Grubbe.

The first meeting of the Clackamas county Teachers' Association, held in Oregon City, Aug. 29th., was well attended, and everything passed off very pleasantly.

The next meeting of the Association will be held at Needy, on the last Saturday in Sept. The resident teachers have promised a hearty reception to all who will attend. They assured the Association that nothwithstanding the unpropitious name of the place, all they are really in need of is more people to consume the many good things produced by the country round about.

Mr. Edward Henry closed a successful term of school in the Irwin district last Friday.

Mr. J. C. Stupp will begin a term of school at Park Place, Sept. 7th.

Mr. J. W. Gray left Wednesday for Newport where he will teach during the coming year.

Until further notice, Supt. Thomson will be absent from his office on the last Saturday of each month, as that is the day for the regular meeting of the Association.

Minutes of Clackamas County Teachers' Association.

The Clackamas County Teachers' Association met in the High School building in Oregon City, August 29, and was called to order by President Thomson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

There being a vacancy in the office of editor, caused by the resignation of J. W. Gray, the association proceeded to fill vacancy. George L. Story and S. A. D. Gurley were placed in nomination. On ballot, Geo. L. Story was declared duly elected to fill office of editor for balance of term.

Communications were received from the following persons, asking to be admitted to membership in the association: Elgira Mullen, Mrs. Katie Smith, Geo. L. Story, Chas. Spence, O. H. Byland, Maggie Williams, Mrs. Libbie Bates and Annie Hicinbotham.

On ballot, all applicants were declared duly elected members of the association.

The exercises commenced with an address by Superintendent Thomson.

How to teach numbers was presented by Professor Yoder, followed by a discussion on numbers by the association.

How to teach reading, by Miss Donaldson, came next in order, followed by discussion by the association.

The president appointed the following named persons to act as a committee to prepare program for next meeting: Fannie Andrews, Mrs. M. Halladay, S. A. D. Gurley.

On motion, the association adjourned to 1:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association was called to order at 1:30.

Song, "America," by the association.

How to teach local geography, by Professor Gurley.

Some members who were to take part in the exercises being unavoidably absent, the association substituted a discussion on school organization.

The committee on program reported the following for next meeting:

Song ..... Association.
Business—new and old ..... Association.
Methods of teaching grammar, Mr. Story.
Discussion on grammar ..... Association.
Methods of teaching the nature and effects of narcotics and stimulants. Mrs. Bates

INTERMISSION.

Vocal music ..... Association.
How to get the co-operation of parents and teachers ..... Miss Porter.
Recitation ..... Mr. Byland.
Essay ..... Miss Beattie.
Recitation ..... Mr. Yoder.

On motion, it was decided to hold the next meeting of the association at Needy, September 26.

On motion, the association adjourned.

The following named teachers were present:

Alex. Thomson,	S. A. D. Gurley,
J. W. Gray,	Fannie G. Porter.
Geo. L. Story,	Eunice Donaldson,
Madge Hiel,	Fannie Andrews.
Mrs. M. Halladay.	Millard Hyatt,
Chas. E. Pease,	Geo. H. Dunn,
Jessie Waldron,	A. J. Yoder,
W. F. Rodgers,	Elgiva Mullen,
Ann. Hicinbotham,	Maggie Williams,
Chas. Spence,	O. H. Byland,
Mrs. Libbie Bates.	

FANNIE G. PORTER, Sec'y.