

Oregon City Enterprise.

Published Every Friday.
OFFICIAL PAPER OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY.
MESERVE & LAWRENCE,
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
One year, \$2.00
Six months, 1.00
Three months, .50
Subscriptions payable in advance.
Advertising rates given on application.

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Entered at the Post Office in Oregon City, Or., as second class matter.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1891.

Trial Subscriptions.
Trial subscriptions to the ENTERPRISE for a period of two months will be received until January 1st for twenty-five cents each, strictly in advance. Here is a good chance to try the paper for a very little money. Get your neighbors and friends whose names are not now on our books to send in trial subscriptions. The paper will be stopped promptly at the expiration of the trial period if it is not desired longer.

The Seventh Street Difficulty.

The difficulty over the collection of the assessments for the improvement of Seventh street seems to have resulted as much from ignorance of the provisions of the city charter as from any other cause. There appear evidences that some of the nominal objectors are the victims of the culpability of others, but in the main the people seem guided by their ideas of justice, though those ideas may differ from the ones entertained by others.

The people who signed the petition prayed for the improvement of the street with gravel. Precisely that improvement is what the assessment was levied for. It was folly to expect that every person on the street should be suited with the grade or the manner in which the work was done. Having granted the prayer of the petitioners for the street improvement it became the duty of the council to decide on the details and to have the work done in the best manner and economically as possible. The property owners interested of course had the right to make suggestions, but whether those suggestions were given respectful attention is not a question that has any bearing upon the validity of the charter or the legality of the council's proceedings.

As to the objection that the street is not yet completed, that is not tenable for a moment. The charter gives the right to levy the assessment as soon as the work is ordered and it expressly states that if the first assessment shall prove after the work is done not to be enough to pay the expense another may be levied. If, on the other hand, the assessment proves to be more than the expense the excess may be refunded to the person paying it.

The worst feature of the whole business is the combine which has been formed to contest the collection of the assessment. Many of those who entered the combine did so upon urgent solicitation and they can allege no good reason for their action. It is certain that no person would upon his own responsibility risk a law suit without knowing anything about the real points involved in his case, and it is equally certain that many of the people whose interviews appear in another column of this paper allege frivolous and wholly irrelevant reasons for their action, reasons that do not require a knowledge of law to show to be of no possible value in the case.

Punishment in the Public Schools.
One of the most perplexing of the problems that have presented themselves to teachers in the public schools is how to maintain order in the school room; and intimately connected with it is the question regarding the expediency or efficacy of corporal punishment. It is a matter that is always interesting and sometimes exciting. Though the stern methods of inculcating knowledge practiced upon our forefathers are not in general favor today, there are still many who point with pride to the adman-tine schoolmaster of the days gone by as the ne plus ultra of pedagogic wisdom. It is not probable that Solomon's epigram will ever be entirely outgrown.

In another column of to-day's paper Mr. Phillips writes very fairly on the subject, taking the ground that corporal punishment in the common schools is always unnecessary if the teacher be what a teacher should be. All this may be admitted, however, and still an argument in favor of corporal punishment maintained. There are very few people who appear to have been designed for the precise niche they occupy in the world. A good farmer is too often spoiled to make a poor lawyer, a good soldier to be a poor teacher and vice versa. Most of the square people have gotten into round holes and the round people into square holes. So the school teaching profession contains and always will contain many who are utterly unfit to guide the minds of young children. Not that they are especially vicious, but they are unsuited to the work by instinct, temperament and training.

There are few children who are naturally studious. To bring out the best that is in the average pupil in the common school requires intelligence, quick intuitions and sympathy as well as firmness and the strictest integrity. In a school in school management will not save these. So while the conditions of school teaching are imperfect there will be more or less friction in the management of the schools and corporal

punishment is sometimes the best available re-enforcement of weak points. If all parents would do their duty by their children it might be laid down inflexibly that corporal punishment should be banished from the common schools. But in the face of the fact that parents are not always dutiful to their children and that teachers are, after all, but human beings, it will be difficult to do away with corporal punishment if it be administered with judgment.

The officials of the Oregon City land office seem to have fallen in the category that previously included, postmasters, school teachers, railway conductors and newspaper men, whose blessed privilege it is to see more than half of the faultfinding side of human nature. It is not expected that any office shall be so conducted that it will suit everybody. The United States land office is a place where business must be done according to certain forms or not at all. Many attorneys who have business to transact at the land office for clients do not bother themselves to learn the proper forms to be observed but think the land office officials should instruct them in their duty. This cannot be done. Those who do understand how to present business in the land office find no trouble in getting proper attention. The land office is not unlike any other where special forms for doing business are prescribed, and as has always been and always shall be those who take the pains to present their business properly will be more successful than those who do not.

First Editor Scott declined to be a candidate for either United States senator or representative. Then Governor Penoyer said a governor was greater than a United States senator and he didn't want any office of less importance than the one he now holds. (A place on the national ticket, presumably, is about the size of his idea). Then the preacher-teacher-politician-editor, J. R. N. Bell, hastens to decline the democratic congressional nomination. If anybody else is yearning to be truly great let him stand forth and decline some high office that has not been tendered. It doesn't cost a cent.

It is something of a surprise to the public that Joseph Simon should have received the endorsement of the Oregon delegation for the new circuit judgeship, but the fact that Simon's name was being urged has been known in political circles several weeks. Mr. Simon is an able lawyer and one whose service on the bench would doubtless be creditable. But his political affiliations have not been such as to point to a high judicial career for him. Still, divorced from practical politics, there seems to be no reason why Mr. Simon would not make an able and upright judge.

The organization of the national house of representatives was completed last Tuesday. Congressman Charles R. Crisp of Georgia was chosen speaker in accordance with the action of the democratic caucus in which he beat Mills, of Texas, and Springer, of Illinois. Crisp was born in Sheffield, England, and it is fitting that he should be chosen by a free trade party to preside over its deliberations. His election does not complicate the situation for the democratic national ticket, for his foreign birth keeps Crisp out of the catalogue of presidential possibilities.

This is a great season for babies. The Cleveland baby, the Jenness-Miller baby and the Astor baby have come into the very sweetest ranks of swiftdom during the past three months and there has been no end of gushing over them. The young Astor exhibits interest because of the extreme blueness of his blood, which is refined into the sixth generation; the Jenness-Miller daughter because of a bewildering array of freak clothing; and the Cleveland baby just because Baby McKee is temporarily eclipsed.

The first republican club organized in this county this year is at Milwaukie. Barlow is about to organize one. It is not too early to begin organizing these clubs so they may be in healthy working order when the campaign fairly opens. The republicans must not let their confidence in their strength prevent them from preparing thoroughly for the contest that is coming. They have everything to gain by getting the issues before the people early so that they may be discussed and understood.

The editor of the Linkville Star says he can lick the editor of the Portland Mercury. There are ways of attaining fame, it seems, other than by declining untended congressional nominations.

HEARTS.
I.
We met; we loved;
We quarreled, and
With angry words we parted.
A rival came
And won her hand,
And left me broken-hearted.
II.
Long years have passed
Since that sad day;
My heart is still unmeddled;
And still I am
Not, truth to say,
Lonely or unbelieved.
III.
And this I think
When this I tell—
What joy it would betoken
If other things
Went work as well
As hearts do when they're broken.
—Semerville Journal.

PRESS OPINIONS.
Cleveland Leader: Jay Gould has retired from Wall street again, but all the same the prudent speculator will refrain from attempting an assault on the Gould stocks.
Louisville Commercial: A week ago the Russian government reported that it had grain enough for present needs, but the people continue to die of starvation just the same.

PETERS GETS MORE MONEY.

The City Council Finishes the Business of its December Session.

At the adjourned council meeting Monday evening all were present but Councilmen Randall and Charman. Chairman Porter of the committee on streets and public grounds, to which was referred the request of Contractor Peters for an additional payment on his Seventh street job, made a verbal report recommending a payment of \$2500, which, in the estimation of the committee, would be within twenty per cent of the value of the work done. The report was adopted and a warrant of \$600 on the Seventh street fund and \$1900 on the general fund was ordered drawn for Mr. Peters, though no adequate statement could be obtained from the committee to indicate how it arrived at its conclusion. The same committee reported the ordinance for the franchise to the Willamette Falls Electric company with a section added by the city attorney specifically asserting some of the restrictions that should rest in the council as to exercise of the franchise by the company. Latourette added another section making it necessary for the electric light people to get the consent of property owners or the city council before cutting down or in any manner destroying shade trees that might touch their wires, and O'Connell struck out "public parks and public grounds," from the portion defining where the franchise should be. The council adopted both amendments and the ordinance was ordered published. There was considerable discussion of the clause pertaining to the franchise for the transmission of light or power through the city to points beyond its boundaries, but a move to change it was lost.

Upon application of the city marshal that official was authorized to purchase material and erect a shed to shelter impounded animals.

Then Mr. Peters wanted a still further payment on his work and the council finally voted him \$442.40 for filling in the public parks and \$175 on his Washington street work and then it adjourned.

Scraps About the State.

Peanuts are to be extensively grown by Dr. Elmer on his ranch on the Columbia next year. He made an experimental trial this year which proved a success.

The steamer Chance, on her last trip from Siuslaw to Portland, brought out 10,000 feet of clear cedar lumber, which is worth from \$25 to \$30 per thousand in Portland.

S. G. Kelly, superintendent and engineer of the sewer now being constructed at Roseburg, states that most of the work is done, \$15,000 of the amount appropriated having been expended, leaving but \$2500.

The school teachers in Morrow county have struck for higher wages. At the teachers' institute recently held there they organized a teachers' association and passed resolutions limiting the minimum salary to be accepted by any member of the association to \$50 per month.

The Salem grange met Saturday, celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the grange. Resolutions were passed endorsing the state board of railroad commissioners in their efforts to reduce freight rates, petitioning congress to carry free mail delivery into the country and to protect settlers on forfeited Northern Pacific grants.

State Exchanges.

Bay City Tribune: It is all very well to abuse tramps for being dirty. But did it ever occur to one of us to consider that in all the cities of this broad land there is not a place, if he was out of employment and had no money, where the cleanest man in America could wash his own shirt?

Salem Statesman: Every paper in the state has something to say about the necessities of good roads. This is a universal want—Astorian. And the Oregon legislature at its next session will do just as much as all the rest have done—nothing.

Portland Oregonian: Those persons who were innocently sent over the state to collect money for an Oregon exhibit at the world's fair have returned to Portland, thanking heaven that they had brought their hats back from this congregation. There is a great moral lesson in this. It will probably be understood now that it is useless to try to collect a dollar from the state for a world's fair exhibit until Portland has subscribed a good round sum. That ought to have been understood before.

Parceling out land in severalty to the Indians makes a change in the old reservation appearances. The Pendleton East Oregonian says that the appearance of the reservation north of Pendleton is undergoing a decided change. Much land has been and is plowed, and many farm dwellings, some mere cabins to be sure, are completed or in the course of erection. Grain sown is coming up splendidly under the influence of the rains, and several green tinted fields may be seen on the reserve. Next year lots of wheat will be added to the product of this section.

NEWS FROM BARLOW

A GRAND BALL TO BE GIVEN AT ZEEK'S HALL.

Sales of Real Estate—A Busy Lot of People—Social and Other Notes of Interest.

SOUVENIR BALL—A Grand Souvenir Ball will be given in Zeek's hall Friday night the 11th. The Aurora band will furnish their usual good music and a good time is looked for. Souvenirs will be given to every lady and gentlemen and two handsome prizes given to the best lady and gentleman dancer. This is a novel feature in dancing circles and will no doubt be one of the most enjoyable events of the season.

PUGET SOUND INVESTORS—Mrs. Kate Kohn, Smith wife of D. W. Smith the Port Townsend, Wash., capitalist has purchased three lots on Main and First streets and in the spring will erect a fine building. Mr. Smith has had his eye on Barlow for a long time and we are glad to have such influential men become one of us.

PRUNE CULTURE—Mr. H. M. Brown of Tacoma Wash., spent a few days looking around and purchased of Barlow & Co a ten acre tract of land in the rich Molalla bottom. He is a man of capital and will at once have his land put out in prunes.

BUSINESS GOOD—Notwithstanding the heavy rains and south winds we have been having for the past week, business with our real estate men has been good and the indications for the spring opening are fine. On last Monday during the heavy storm could be seen men in their oil suits surveying and locating land for purchasers and in the office of Barlow & Co. three sales were recorded. Pretty good for a wet day.

MISS BAUER'S EUCRE PARTY—At the residence of Mrs. Wm. Irvin on last Friday Miss Lydia Bauer gave a progressive euc're party which resulted in Miss Gussie Barrett and H. Beyer getting the first prize, and the booby was captured by Miss Annie Bauer and J. Mollett. An elegant spread was then served and the party broke up in the small hours. Those present were: Misses Bessie Sheppard, Vera Tull, Anna Bauer, Clara Irvin, Gussie Parrott, Mrs. Wm. Barlow, Mrs. John Mollett, Mrs. W. W. Jesse, Mrs. Geo. A. Sheppard. Messrs. W. W. Irvin, Wm. Barlow, W. W. Jesse, Jake Mollett, L. B. Jesse and J. Morris.

NEW PROPRIETOR—Mr. E. B. Ramsay, the former manager of the City stables in Portland, has moved up and taken charge of his feed sale and livery stable he purchased of Barlow & Co a month ago. Mr. Ramsay is a thorough liveryman. He is now ready to take care of all transient at all hours of the night, and in the spring and summer will put on a fast passenger service to Willhoit springs, making the trip in three and a half hours. This will be of great convenience to the traveling public.

PERSONAL.

Henry M. Brown, capitalist of Tacoma, is at the Cafe.

Mr. Frank Walgamot, a clever cigar dealer of Portland, was in town this week.

James R. Minroe Esq. and Chan. Drexwell of Riparia, Wash., are registered at the Koehler.

Mr. Geo. A. Sheppard came up on last Sunday's train and spent a few hours with his family.

Mr. J. Woodcock a real estate man with Hart & Co., Portland, and wife spent a few days in town this week.

Mr. John Willhoit sr., the discoverer of the famous Willhoit springs, was in town a few days last week and was the guest of Mr. Levi Shanks.

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