

Oregon City Enterprise.

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CHAS. MESERVE,

PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1895.

AGENTS FOR THE ENTERPRISE.

Bever Creek, Geo. B. Thomas	Dr. T. B. Thomas
Canby, A. Mather	Geo. Knight
Clatskanie, Oscar Wistinger	A. Mather
Clifton, G. J. Trullinger	Oscar Wistinger
Midway, Chas. Holman	G. J. Trullinger
Wilsonville, W. S. Newberry	Chas. Holman
Meadow Brook, Henry Miley	W. S. Newberry
New Era, F. L. Russell	Henry Miley
Parke Place, T. M. Cross	F. L. Russell
Gladstone, J. G. Gage	T. M. Cross
Stafford, C. T. Howard	J. G. Gage
Malheur, R. M. Cooper	C. T. Howard
Caras, Annie Stubbs	R. M. Cooper
Molalla, E. M. Hartman	Annie Stubbs
Marquess, B. Jennings	E. M. Hartman
Battleville, Ed Muecke	B. Jennings
Adron, L. J. Perdue	Ed Muecke
Oreville, H. W. Wern	L. J. Perdue
Eagle Creek, J. C. Elliott	H. W. Wern
Danvers, F. Gotsch	J. C. Elliott
Sandy, Mrs. W. M. McIntyre	F. Gotsch
Salmon, Geo. J. Currin	Mrs. W. M. McIntyre
Currsville, Mrs. M. J. Hamner	Geo. J. Currin
Cherryville, Adolph Aschoff	Mrs. M. J. Hamner
Marnot, Adolph Aschoff	Adolph Aschoff

The way to build up Oregon City is to give Oregon City people your patronage.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM.

In making the assertion that Clackamas county leads in the good roads movement in Oregon, the ENTERPRISE does it not as a title boast but as a fact that can be borne out by the results attained. Its methods of locating roads, improving them, building bridges, and raising the money to meet its road expenses, are up to date and not excelled, in fact not equaled, by a single county in the state.

In locating roads the county court long since made an order that no grade should exceed ten per cent except in impassable places, and then after the most careful survey by the road engineer. In the location of new roads, and changes in old ones, the county court depends on the report of the engineer as to their practicability, and it takes pretty strong evidence to overrule his objections. In fact such has been the skill and good judgment of Mr. Kinnaird that the records show that no recommendation of his has been set aside.

The results of working the roads under the cash system have been so flattering that even the strongest objectors to the new system have changed and are now its strong adherents. A vote to go back to the old horse trading, yarn-spinning style of road work would not poll twenty-five ballots in Clackamas county. By selecting foremen regardless of politics, (for good roads is not a political question,) who are known to be skilled in road work, and who are capable of handling men, and are industrious, the people are getting much better service than under the old spoils system. By retaining such foremen as have proven competent from year to year, the county court has shown the good judgment that a successful private individual displays in his affairs. The work of the past two years has proven this.

In carrying on the bridge work the county court at the beginning of this year made a radical change from the old methods heretofore in vogue. Under the old rule contractors for bridge work were compelled to furnish their own plans. As for few bridge carpenters or skilled mechanics are draughtsmen, and not always being able to hire an expensive plan prepared, with a chance of getting to use it, the result was that many capable and honest men were deterred from bidding, and the county was thus left to the mercy of the big bridge companies who, by combining, forced the taxpayers to pay from one-fourth to one-third more than a bridge was really worth. By the county furnishing the plans and specifications many of the resident mechanics are enabled to bid on the bridges, thus keeping the money at home as well as making a big saving to the county in the cost of the work. The plans are furnished by the road engineer of the county with no additional expense, his salary covering all his work. As to their adaptability and completeness there can be no question, for Mr. Kinnaird is one of the best engineers on the Coast and was for years engaged on railroad bridge work. This new plan of handling the bridge work has already this year saved several hundred dollars to the county. Judging by the size and expense of bridges heretofore built for the county, the new one now under construction across Butte creek will cost about \$600 less than similar bridges built under the old system when the county was bled by the big bridge companies.

In handling the repairs to bridges as well as the building of new ones the court has adopted a new plan that has given good satisfaction and has saved in this expense to the county. They have employed an expert bridge builder to supervise and make all repairs to bridges as well as to build the smaller ones, the county furnishing the material. The work for this year shows that a decided saving has been made to the county. The road system of Clackamas county is now well nigh perfect, and if the legislature will only let the present laws alone this county will have within five years highways that will be a credit to the state and a monument to the enterprise of our people.

LETTER LIST.

The following is the list of letters remaining in the post office at Oregon City, Oregon, 1:30 P. M., November 6, 1895:

Anderson, John	Lee, Jas
Berjennett, F. L.	McKinney, N. O.
Bolt, Peter	Mosey, A. D.
Cornfield, John	Royle, C. F.
Farecloth, A. P.	Sullivan, A. H.
Harden, Geo.	Shoyt, Hiram
Hodge, Wm	Stargent, A.
Jones, H.	Watkins, Warren
Kell, J.	

THE DESTINY OF RUSSIA.

The Russians are a wonderful people. They are the enigmas of the nineteenth century. Napoleon predicted that within a century Europe would be all Cossack or all republican. It begins to look as though his prediction would become true to a certain extent, for the Cossack has come to dominating almost all Europe as well as the greater part of Asia.

Russia's growth within the last century has been amazing. From an insignificant province in the wilds of Eastern Europe she has spread out until her territory embraces the larger part of that continent, including many of the best portions. In Asia she has acquired the greater part of the continent and her conquests have but just begun. Unless some unforeseen disaster befalls her Russia will possess Turkey, Corea, and the greater part of China before another twenty-five years is past. England's bayonets and ironclads will be all that will prevent her, even if that country is able, from absorbing the remainder of the Asiatic continent before the twentieth century closes.

The Russians are civilized and develop a country so soon as they possess it. They more nearly resemble Americans in their ability to open up a new country. They build highways and railroads that are marvels for their stupendousness and excellence. Cities grow up by magic under their hand. They are "A. P. A.'s" of the roughest sort, for all within their borders must be Russian or get out of the country within twenty-four hours.

The government of Russia is modeled something after the plan of the United States, only that all the officers are appointive instead of elective. The czar alone is the only one that is hereditary. Thus by means of their local governments, all under one great central power, are they able to govern and control sections of country of diverse interests. It is said that the subjects of the czar do not feel the rigors of government any more than we do here in the United States, if they mind their own business and do not question his authority, but we be to him who intimates that any other form of government would be better.

TUESDAY'S ELECTIONS.

The republican landslide started two years ago still continues, and indications are that it will be with us in still greater force at the presidential election next fall. The election Tuesday was a far greater republican victory than the strongest partisans expected. It even extended into Utah and Kentucky. This was not only the case as to the state tickets, but to the legislatures as well. This insures two new republican senators in the next senate, and the defeat of Blackburn, of Kentucky, who will retire in 1897, with Gilson, of Maryland, and Brice of Ohio. The official returns are in from no state, but sufficient is known to tell everything excepting the exact majority or plurality, as the case may be. In all states this will be swelled, with the possible exception of Ohio. The only states that have gone democratic are Virginia and Mississippi. The latest figures given out as to majorities or pluralities were:

Massachusetts 63,000	Kentucky 15,000
New York 66,000	Mississippi 30,000
New Jersey 27,500	Ohio 100,000
Pennsylvania 190,534	Iowa 70,000
Maryland 19,716	Utah 2,480

The figures given for Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Iowa are pluralities. The others are majorities. This sweeping victory following those of last year, indicates that the American people, who, like the Israelites of old, can be led astray once in awhile, yet soon learn the error of their way, and then repentance comes quickly and it comes strong. They have had all they want of free trade and other democratic glittering gems which have proved to be base frauds when put on trial. The American voters have decreed that the next administration shall be favorable to American industries and ideas, and shall not cater to foreign influence.

The ENTERPRISE publishes in another column a protest from one of the heaviest taxpayers in Clackamas county, and a man who has been in the front in the good roads movement, against the building of the river road between this city and New Era. His objections are sensible and are held by nearly all who are familiar with the two routes. It would be a waste of the county funds to build this road, and when completed it would not fill the needs of the people of the south part of the county who are principally interested.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has designated Thursday, November 28 as Thanksgiving day. As to what we have to be thankful for in this the third year of our promised prosperity it is hard to tell. In addition that many of us are able to live, the principal thing that we can be thankful for is that in one year more we have a presidential election.

Banister, C. A. Mrs	Malbridge, N. Mrs
Catto, K. A. G. 2	McGulock, E. Mrs
Dixon, Wm. Mrs	Miller, Sarah E. Mrs
Ellis, M. J.	Newman, E. Mrs
Gregory, Fanny	Seabury, Anna Mrs
Kilgus, A. Mrs	Waterman, O. B. Mrs
Max, Nellie	

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

There is hardly a daily paper now-a-days but what contains an account of the accidental death of some child. The frequency of these "accidents," and criminal carelessness of many parents causes the Oregonian to make the following severe and merited criticism: Parents allow boys of nine and seven years of age to go out with a shotgun for sport, and are then so unreasonable as to be shocked and surprised when the younger son is borne in by pitying neighbors with a charge of shot in his side; other parents permit a lot of three years, wearing a cotton apron to help feed a brush fire in the clearing, and are amazed when he is burned to death; still another rises in the night to give a restless fretful infant a dose of "Castoria," and is horrified to find that laudanum has been given instead; while others—and these are the most careless and irresponsible of all—make loud lamentation upon discovering in the morning, after a night of heavy sleep following hard work and full feeding, that their babe, snugly tucked between them in the stuffy bed, some eight or ten hours before had unaccountably "stopped breathing." Naturally enough, the parents in all such cases are profoundly grief-stricken, but in no instance had they any right to be surprised or charge the result up to accident or to an inscrutable dispensation of providence. Nature has no special laws for the protection of the offspring of the irresponsible and ignorant who ruthlessly violate the regular code, the key to which is common sense.

One factor in the cause of dull times in Oregon is tersely and sensibly given by the Salem Statesman, as follows: Eggs - 30 cents a dozen in Salem now, and roughly scarce at that. And yet wheat is about 40 cents and oats about 20 cents a bushel. The parity between eggs and the cereals is not being kept up by the farmers. They would certainly find it profitable to do so. They can produce eggs the year through if they will make a business of it—when they are high in price as well as when they are cheap. This is not an insignificant matter: it is of great importance. Poultry on a large and intelligent scale would furnish us the difference between dull times and prosperity.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The edition of the Portland Chronicle for last Friday was a most creditable one for a weekly paper. In fact it was one of the best gotten up illustrated papers that has been received at this office for some time. The illustrations were very fine and those of the exposition gave a very clear idea of the sights to be seen at that great fair. The publisher of the Chronicle, Mr. E. L. E. White, has the push and snap that always brings success.

The Oregonian celebrated the close of the exposition by getting out a very creditable exposition number for its edition of last Sunday. The descriptive matter was very good and gave a good idea of Portland's greatest exposition as well as the enterprise of Portland's greatest paper.

The long drawn out Durrant trial in San Francisco came to a close last Friday when Durrant was convicted of murder in the first degree for the killing of Blanche Lamont. The jury was out twenty minutes and arrived at a verdict on the first ballot. As there was no recommendation of mercy the punishment was fixed at death. The scene in the court room when the verdict was announced was tragic in the extreme. Men cheered and women cried and it was some time before order could be restored. Durrant was the only one that remained self-composed. Sentence will be passed on him Friday of this week by Judge Murphy. On the same day a notice of appeal will be heard by the judge. It will probably be a year before Durrant hangs if the fend ever hangs.

The long talked of fight between Corbett and Fitzsimmons has at last succumbed to the law and order element of the country and has been indefinitely postponed. They were driven out of Texas by a governor and people who had no use for the hoodlum crowd, and now Arkansas has notified them to keep out of her borders. Even bull-fighting Mexico draws the line at prize fights. Verily in these modern days does the prize fighter find no friend to welcome him and his gang.

A ROAD PROTEST.

TO THE EDITOR:—I understand the county court has concluded to alter or build a new road up the river to New Era. Although rather late I wish to give the public my views. In the first place there is no need of altering the road. It is just as good as ever except in two short places where the river has encroached, which can be fixed perfectly safe by driving a few piles and filling with stone. Whatever may be done it will always be a dangerous road, running a long distance by the side of the Southern Pacific railroad. There are but two families living between New Era and Stringtown; and they do not care to have the road altered.

The proposed new road will run directly under the high bank and in many places under overhanging perpendicular rocks more than one hundred feet high, that are much more dangerous than the banks of the river. This road runs parallel with a road over the hill that is just about the same distance from New Era to Oregon City with very much easier grades and perfectly safe. With what has been done the past season, and a little more expense, the hill road will be a good and easy route between the two places. The building of this new river road will cost this terribly over-taxed county nearly or quite ten thousand dollars, which, I believe, nineteen twentieths of the voters of the county would put their heels on if they had a chance. Of all the foolish things this county has done in the last fifteen or twenty years I believe this beats them all.

Blacksmithing. Clarence Porter has re-opened the blacksmith shop lately occupied by W. S. Maple, opposite Pope's hardware store and is ready to do all kinds of repairing and horseshoeing. As a shoer Mr. Porter is equal to the best and always gives satisfaction.

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