

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY**

**THE ENTERPRISE CORRESPONDENTS SWEEP THE FIELD.**

**Damascus Notes.**

**DAMASCUS, Dec. 14.**—Quite a heavy thunder and lightning storm occurred here last Tuesday evening. No damage was done except frightening the women. While the storm was raging, a box of giant powder caps were exploded at the residence of Wm. Buchman, the only cause known was either the lightning or jarring by the thunder. The caps were in the old house on a shelf, among some rubbish, and when exploding set the house on fire. Mr. Buchman arrived in time to extinguish the fire before it had done any damage, only to char some of the boards. The caps made several holes in the windows, and it could readily be seen where they had struck the plaster, and from appearances, it was lucky that no one was in the building at the time.

Rock Creek Union Sunday school had a much larger attendance last Sunday than usual, more likely on account of that organ. Rev. J. Bahr delivered a good sermon, after Sunday school, to a well-filled house.

The Sunday school members will have a Christmas tree on Christmas eve, after the literary exercises. Refreshments will be served.

A traveling book agent came to Damascus, not long ago, and found that he could make but little impression on people here. He most likely found the reason was because he did not stay longer. For a salesman, he had numerous tactics to work. Some were to ask, beg and force. Book agents, like everyone else, are all right when they keep their proper boundaries.

The literary and debating society, which meets at the Union school house, is progressing nicely, and no doubt will be of considerable help to the young people.

There will be a grand masquerade ball at the Grange hall, Christmas Eve. A large crowd and good time is anticipated.

A. W. Cooke has been repairing several culverts the past week.

It is reported that Geo. Thiessen has started back East to his former home. He will be missed by his numerous associates, as he was a bright young man.

The item last week that read J. Dearforff should have been Mrs. Dearforff. She is much improved at the present writing.

C. E. Barton is very busy working at the Grange hall.

Bretten Brown is preparing to move from our midst. He is contemplating to go to Alaska in the spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Tong are in Portland visiting a friend, that is in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Schmitt have been visiting in Astoria for the past week.

**Monmouth Notes.**

**MONMOUTH, Dec. 13.**—There are 215 students enrolled at the Normal. The work being done this year is very satisfactory. The kindness of President Campbell and teachers is appreciated by all. The sub-normal will give a public entertainment in the chapel next Tuesday.

A concert, by the Novell's, will be given Dec. 23, for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A.

A ladies' basket ball team has recently been organized, and a contest with other teams is being talked of.

Next Saturday there will be a match football game between the Juniors and a picked team from the other members of the school.

The first publication of the Vesperine Literary Society paper, "The Porter," will be issued next Friday.

Mr. Pentland, a member of the Board of Regents, delivered a short talk in the chapel this morning, concerning the supplying of baths in the gymnasium. The building will be heated by steam.

School will be dismissed on Thursday, Dec. 23, for the holidays. Quite a number of jolly college boys and girls will return to Oregon City by steamer, Friday.

We have always been headquarters for holiday candy, nuts, etc., and this year we have a larger stock and lower prices than ever before. E. E. WILLIAMS, the grocer.

**Springwater Spray.**

**SPRINGWATER, Dec. 13.**—The weather is very bad with plenty of rain and mud. Our school is prospering very nicely with Miss Mayfield as teacher. We also have a debating society organized in our school which is doing very well for beginners. We will soon have a new bell. The pupils are preparing a program for Christmas night which will be followed by a Christmas tree.

Sunday school is held at Springwater church every Sunday at 10 o'clock, and preaching at 11 o'clock every two weeks by Rev. A. A. Hurd.

We have the lowest prices on candy, nuts and groceries for holiday trade. E. E. WILLIAMS, the grocer.

**Harmony Notes.**

**HARMONY, Dec. 13.**—We hear no complaint because of any lack of rain.

Our school is progressing nicely under the management of Prof. Bowland.

The Sunday school is making preparations for a Christmas entertainment.

Mr. Alfred Clark entered the St. Vincent hospital, in Portland, last Monday, where he underwent an operation for cancer of the stomach, which was unsuccessful, and has since been lying very low. Some of his many friends have been with him night and day.

**Kelso Notes.**

**KELSO, Dec. 8.**—A very pleasant surprise was given Miss Nellie Donahue, by her many friends, Dec. 7th, at her home. The evening was spent in games, music and other amusements until 11 o'clock, when they retired to the dining room where the tables were spread with all kinds of delicious eatables. After partaking of these heartily, they retired to the parlors and played games until one o'clock. They then sang a few songs and departed, wishing Miss

Donahue many returns of the day. Miss Nellie was the recipient of several beautiful presents. Those present were: Mrs. M. C. Donahue, Mr. and Mrs. P. Dana; Misses Bertha Rich, Martha Lind, Emily Smith, Ada Rich, Ellen Myers, Sophia Peterson, Hulda Jari, Maggie Bill, Annie Nelson, Annie Peterson, Georgia and Nellie Donahue; Messrs. Spencer Nash, Alfred Rich, Robert Johnson, Clark Rich, Ned Nelson, Arthur Rich, Max Kligel, Gilbert Eri, John Nelson, Bernhard Kligel, Henry Myers, R. Nelson, John Epperson, Frank Thomas, Walter St. John, Thomas Dunn, Lewis Haughum, Joel Jari, Johnnie Dunn, Joe Donahue, D. C. Allard, Emmett Donahue.

**Dover Items.**

**DOVER, Dec. 13.**—The weather has been very rainy, the last few weeks, preventing farmers from putting in their grain.

Henry DeShazer has been digging potatoes for Mr. New, who has moved to Eastern Oregon, where he has traded places with Mr. Bowman, our new arrival.

Our school will close next week, which was taught by Mr. Bates.

Mr. and Mrs. Kitzmiller have taken their daughter, Mary, to Portland to attend school.

Mr. Nelson has improved the appearance of his place by constructing a wagon shed and a fence around his orchard.

J. A. Strowbridge is getting out a new orchard and several others of this burg, also.

F. R. French is building a large cellar and an addition to his barn.

W. P. Roberts has built a large wood-house and made other improvements.

We have always been headquarters for holiday candy, nuts, etc., and this year we have a larger stock and lower prices than ever before. E. E. WILLIAMS, the grocer.

**Redland Rumbles.**

**REDLAND, Dec. 13.**—The Ocoila brass band has again begun practicing, after a delay of several months. The band will give a ball at Lisen's hall, New Year's Eve. The music will be furnished by the band and orchestra. Tickets will be 25 cents. The proceeds will go toward uniforms for the boys.

John Wolf, of Beaver Creek, spent one day last week visiting relatives in this burg. Come again John, when you can stay longer.

Boys! I would advise you to gather up the tin cans and cow bells, as there will be a wedding in town about Christmas.

E. Mosher and son made a business trip to Molalla, the first of the week.

Quite a few of our young folks attended the dance at Heurricanes' last Saturday evening. They report a most enjoyable time.

John Sprague, of Stone, spent Sunday with relatives here.

The question for debate at the next meeting of the Redland literary society, which will be held Saturday evening, Dec. 25, is resolved "That a Road Tax Be Imposed on All Vehicles, Including Bicycles." Speakers for the affirmative, D. H. Mosher, L. Ruchim, Mr. Behmyer, George Armstrong, Miss Augusta Funk; negative, G. Behmyer, L. Funk, Wm. Stone, Mr. Hickman and Miss Lizzie Armstrong. Come one and all and let's make this society a perfect success.

There will be a Christmas tree and exercises held in the M. E. church, Christmas eve. A program is being prepared and everything needed to have a very nice time. Everybody is invited to come and bring their presents.

Mr. Sievers, of Viola, has been working for Mr. Shultz for the past few weeks. Mr. Shultz is having some fencing done, and will soon commence grubbing about five acres.

The revival meetings came to a close last Wednesday evening. They were held for two and one-half weeks.

We have the lowest prices on candy, nuts and groceries for holiday trade. E. E. WILLIAMS, the grocer.

**Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.**

As mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75 cents per bottle.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

**HOUSE TO RENT.**—A brand new seven room cottage, hard finished and located in the healthiest part of Oregon City. Rate of rent no object, right kind of family wanted to care for house. Apply at this office.

**One Insane.**

John Perrenond, a native of Switzerland, was examined before Judge Hayes, by Dr. Carl, Thursday, on complaint of A. L. Matherly, adjudged insane and taken to the asylum at Salem, Thursday evening by Sheriff Grace. Perrenond is 35 years old, unmarried and temperate in his habits. His insanity is of the mild type and is thought to be hereditary, as he has a brother in the asylum. His appearance was uncouth and unkempt in the extreme, looking as though he had not taken a bath for years.

Blank note, receipt and order books at the ENTERPRISE office.

**WANTED.**—A loan of \$400 for four or five years; will pay 8 per cent interest and give good security. Apply at this office.

**JOHNSON'S BOSWELL.**

**The Alleged Original Source of Our Knowledge of English Literature.**

To some of us—1 suspect, indeed, to a good many—Boswell represents the original source not only of knowledge about Johnson, but of our knowledge of English literature in general. He was our introducer to the great anonymous club formed by English men of letters from the days when Shakespeare met Ben Jonson to the days when Carlyle discoursed to Frode. We became members of the craft in spirit under Boswell's guidance, whether we have or have not become actually identified with it in the flesh. It therefore becomes next to impossible to abstract from Boswell—all our later knowledge has been more or less ingrafted upon him, however far we may have traveled from the source. Boswell gave the nucleus, and more or less consciously we have used his world as a standard inevitably taken into account in all later judgments. To suppose Boswell nonexistent is for such readers to suppose a kind of organic change in our whole estimate of literary characteristics.

When reading, especially about some of the other famous talkers, Coleridge's monologues or Sydney Smith's explosions of fun, I find myself thinking how they would have sounded at the Miter or the Turk's Head. Thanks to Boswell, I take the Johnsonian article to be a fixed datum like the official yard at the Tower, and to be asked to put that out of my head is to be invited to deprive myself of my only measuring rod. It is exceedingly difficult, at any rate, to put oneself outside of Boswell and to construct a portrait of Johnson simply out of such other materials as are here put together.

I have read Hawkins and Mrs. Piozzi and the rest, but always with the help of the preconceived notions. Where they could be fitted into Boswell I have accepted them as corroborations, but when they differed I have probably rejected the un congenial elements with perhaps a careless assumption that they must be inaccurate, and yet it seems only justice to these respectable persons to consider whether we ought not to reopen the point. If Mme. D'Arblay saw something of Johnson which was not revealed to Boswell, may we not discover similar supplementary hints in the other attempts at portraiture—Leslie Stephen in National Review.

**Diamonds.**

Professor Crookes, in his recent remarkable lecture on diamonds, mentioned some interesting facts concerning that always popular subject. When in examining diamonds under polarized light the black cross of the polarizer revolves around a particular spot in the inside of the crystal and the point is examined with a high power, a slight flaw and more rarely a minute cavity are sometimes seen. This cavity is filled with gas at an enormous pressure, and the strain which is set up in the stone by the effort of the gas to escape is not infrequently removed only by the explosion of the gem. It is not at all uncommon for a diamond to explode soon after it reaches the surface, and some have been known to burst in the pockets of the miners or when held in the warm hand. Large crystals are more liable to burst than smaller pieces. Valuable stones have been destroyed in this way, and it is whispered that cunning dealers have often done a handsome stroke of business by allowing responsible clients to handle or carry in their warm pockets large crystals fresh from the mine. By way of safeguard against explosion some dealers embed large diamonds in raw potatoes to insure safe transit on the ocean voyage.

Professor Crookes showed that a diamond could actually be too hard. From a rich yield of beautifully white diamonds in New South Wales great things were expected. When a parcel of many hundred carats came to England, it was found they were so hard as to be practically unworkable as gems, and they were ultimately sold for rock boring purposes. The intense hardness of the diamond was illustrated by an experiment. The diamond was placed on the flattened apex of a conical block of steel, and on it was brought down a second cone of steel. As these cones were forced together by hydraulic power the image of the diamond and the steel faces of the cones were projected on the screen with an electric lantern. The stone was seen to be squeezed right into the steel blocks without being injured in the slightest degree.

**Limbless Cotton.**

An interesting sight at Opelika, Ala., is a patch of "limbless" cotton. The plants are from five to seven feet high and have no limbs or branches at all. The bolls form on little twigs two and three inches long, and when in bloom the stalk presents the appearance of a white column. A crop of about four bales to the acre is what is expected under fair conditions. This Alabama patch is the property of the Rev. L. N. Fitzpatrick, a prosiding elder of the negro Methodist church, and such is his care of his unique crop and his confidence in his neighbors that he watches it at night with a dog and gun.—Exchange.

**Kilts.**

Between 150,000 and 200,000 kilts are made every year. The kilted regiments of regulars, militia and volunteers number some 17 battalions. As the military kilt is only provided biennially this represents a supply of 7,000 a year.

Among the many devices to assist the blind one of the best is a typewriter in which the keys have raised letters and which punctuates the paper with either letters or the dots contained in one of the blind alphabets.

In North Dakota the killing of quail and English and Chinese pheasants is prohibited until 1906, and beaver and otter cannot be trapped and killed until 1903.

**SAMPLE CORPSE.**

**Scheme of an Ohio Undertaker For Advertising Embalming.**

An Ohio undertaker named Pearce doesn't allow sentiment to interfere with business. He can't see why the shoemaker adjoining his establishment should advertise his skill by displaying his samples, or the tailor across the street hang his latest sartorial concoction in his front window, while the embalmer's good work has to find a lodgment beneath six feet of earth almost as soon as it has been accomplished.

Mark Twain, when he was shown the mummy of a Pharaoh who lived in the time of Moses, shrugged his shoulders with contemptuous indifference and remarked to the curator of the museum: "Haven't you got a corpse that is a little fresher?"

All Mark has to do is to visit the funeral direction establishment of Mr. Pearce at Ardmore. There he will probably find something more to his fastidious fancy in the shape of a sample of embalming, kept on view by Mr. Pearce for inspection by his customers. The "subject" has now done service for a period of three years, and the proprietor confidently expects that it will last as long as he remains in business.

The body in question has been in the very warmest workshop of his establishment all this while, and the leather-like flesh of the corpse is totally free from odor or putrefaction. Some say the hair on a body will grow after death. This probably originated in the mind of a dramatist or novelist, who wanted to sensationalize his readers to sell his books, for there lies Mr. Pearce's dead man, with his very last hair cut the same as it was two or three years ago. Then some say that the hair will fall out, but you couldn't pull the hair out of that body with tweezers. Each hair seems to be particularly riveted in to the hardening leather and bone. Even the fuzzy, lighter hairs of all other parts of the body remain the same as they were at death.

Formaldehyde, a product of wood alcohol, and a comparatively recent product, is the fluid with which the body was embalmed, and Mr. Pearce says that there is now a fluid, with other elements added, that is far better than the 140 ounces, or a little over one gallon—\$3 worth—of the formaldehyde used for the desiccation of the body in question.—New York Herald.

**A New Use For Organ Grinders.**

A well dressed woman lately entered a Paris jeweler's shop and asked to see some valuable gold pins. While she was examining them a man began playing a barrel organ before the door. The music seemed to annoy the lady, and, stepping to the door, she threw a piece of money to the man and told him to go away, which he did at once.

On returning to the counter she said that none of the pins suited her, but that as some compensation for the trouble she had given she would buy a brooch. She accordingly chose one, paid 10 francs for it and was leaving the shop when the jeweler missed a diamond pin of great value from among those she had been examining. He accordingly stopped his customer, who seemed highly indignant and insisted on the proprietor's wife searching her, which was done, but no pin was found. The jeweler then set his sister to watch the woman, who was seen to enter another jeweler's shop, and was pretending to make a purchase when the organ grinder made his appearance. As soon as he began playing she again threw some money and ordered him to move on, but the person who was watching her perceived that with the money she had given the man a piece of jewelry. This was at once made known to the police, who arrested both, and on searching the man they found several articles of stolen property.—Paris Letter.

**What Squirrels Eat.**

Squirrels do not entirely subsist on nuts, as most people suppose. They are largely fruit eaters, and occasionally work big havoc in the orchards at the fall of the year. They are not above stealing partridge eggs, and on this account are not beloved by the sportsman. Even poultry, when they stray, as they often will, and lay eggs beyond the confines of the poultry yard, suffer from attacks of squirrels when the mother bird is away. In pine tree districts these little climbers are fond of splitting the pine cones and eating the seeds thereof.

But above all things squirrels are fond of fungus. They will not have anything to say to the common or garden mushroom, but confidently devour the most yellow and poisonous looking of toadstools that grow in damp woods and fields. They never store these, for they know well that fungi will not keep. They devour them greedily as they come to light and revisit the spot as soon as fresh spawn renews the fungus. There are, however, many kinds of toadstools that squirrels know to be poisonous, and these they will not touch.—Detroit Free Press.

**Interesting Information.**

"The reason they make so much fuss over my birthday," explained Kitty to the young man in the parlor who was waiting for somebody else, "is that I've only had six. Sister's had 32, and she's so used to em she don't even mention em. How many birthdays have you had, Mr. Spoonamore?"—Chicago Tribune.

The Canadian department of agriculture estimates the population of the Dominion to be 5,125,438, a gain of rather less than 300,000 since the census of 1891. In 1890 there were two states of the Union that exceeded Canada in population—New York, with 5,997,853 inhabitants, and Pennsylvania, with 5,258,014.

Frogs and toads have remarkably acute hearing. The slightest noise in the vicinity of a pond will at once attract the attention of the frogs and put them on their guard.

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