

Pacific Slopers.

Mrs. J. G. Wilson has assumed charge of the postoffice at the Dalles, which has been moved to the new building adjoining her residence on Union street. She has everything nicely arranged and in order.

On the 29th of March a young man named Willis, residing a few miles below Eugene City, accidentally shot himself. Part of the jaw bone was carried away. The wound was a terrible one, but the patient will recover.

Articles of incorporation of the Young Men's Christian Association of Dalles city, signed by Messrs. Geo. B. Hall, F. W. H. Fisher, C. J. F. Crandall, B. C. Robinson and J. H. Reed, have been filed in the Secretary of State's office.

As Mr. William Wiggerman was coming to the Dalles one day last week in a two-horse wagon, he was attacked by six or eight drunken Indians, when within a few miles of town, and only got away from them by running his horses. These Indians want attending to. Who do they belong to? That's the question.

The business at the Vancouver Land Office for March, was quite small, embracing the following: Original homestead entries, 80 acres; final homestead entries, 950.20 acres; declaratory statements filed, 480 acres, donation certificates, 160 acres.

About two months ago a fossil suarian was unearthed a mile south of Fort Randall, Dakota. The skeleton measured 18 feet in length, and, if perfect, would probably measure 22 feet. It is armed with paddles like the whale, and immense eye-holes. Its food was probably fishes and reptiles.

It is reported that Budlong, of Kalama Express notoriety, is basking in the sunshine of British fealty, he having lately sworn allegiance to the Queen. We should not think he would remain a Bud long before he will bloom and shed his leaves and perhaps go to seed. Fagin, his companion in crime, seems inclined to stand his trial and is still at Kalama.

The Woman Suffragists of Olympia had an interesting meeting last week. A large number of people were present and the subject before the society, "The Present Temperance Excitement," was warmly discussed. The final decision of the majority present was, that to aid in prosecuting the temperance or any other reform to a successful issue, women should have the right of suffrage.

The *Beaver* last week made daily trips between Corvallis and Harrisburg, under command of Captain Baughman. On Wednesday a change was made. Captain Baughman went below and Captain Miller took charge of the *Beaver*, and will run between Corvallis and Eugene City as long as the "heavy dews" continue and the "bars" keep moist.

Sunday evening, the 29th ult., the residence and store of Mr. L. L. Debeau, of Cowlitz Prairie, were both burned to the ground. Mr. Debeau was at church, and it is supposed that the children, who had been left at home, in some manner accidentally set the house on fire. The dwelling, with all its contents, was burned before help arrived, and the flames had communicated to the store, which was also burned down, but a part of the goods were saved. His loss is \$4,000.

We glean the following from the *Idaho World*: "Snow in Banner is 6½ feet deep, and the mining prospects are very encouraging. A pay streak in the Wolverine ledge

from ¼ of an inch to 2½ inches in width assays \$800 per ton. Two men are engaged in representing quartz claims at Forest City; but two sets of placer claims will be worked in that section this season—one at Walker's Diggings and the other at Lost creek."

The *Olympia Courier* says: "Struggling gently with patch on both knees and gloves on; seediness in the usual threadbare coat buttoned to the throat, shiny hat and patched boots; 'poor but honest poverty' with tweed pantaloons, flannel shirt and hob-nail boots, and a sprinkling of clean calico gowns, cowhide shoes and sun bonnets will be among the costumes at the school party on Wednesday evening, April 8th, at Town Hall."

Horse thieves are beginning to operate pretty lively about Walla Walla and other places in that locality. Several fine horses have been stolen within the past two weeks. Farmers everywhere should look after their horses at this time of year.

It is estimated that the coal fields of Montana cover 70,000 square miles. With this is associated iron ore and fine clay. England is the work-shop and bank of the world, but she could be pocketed in this single mine of Montana, and leave plenty of elbow room to work in.

The *Cheyenne Leader* says: "It is estimated by competent judges, that there are now 50,000 head of cattle in Laramie county, worth on an average \$15 a head. This would give us a stock valuation of \$750,000. The herd of Ed. Creighton alone, on Horse creek, is valued at \$120,000."

The *Baker City Herald* learns that the quartz which is now being taken out of the Summit mine at Augusta, that county, is of a richer quality than has ever before been produced in that mine. We are inclined to the belief that there are no mines in Baker county which have been fully developed. But much will be done the present season tending that way.

The dwelling house of Wm. Wilkinson, on Butte creek, Jackson county, was burned to the ground Sunday evening, the 20th ult. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mrs. Wilkinson had left the house but a short time before to meet her husband, who was hunting stock, and was returning when she discovered the house to be on fire. With the exception of a few articles, everything was burned.

Prof. Felix McArdle fell from a ladder in an incline shaft in the Speckled Trout mine, near Deer Lodge, Montana, on the 21st ult., a distance of eighty-five feet, and received injuries from which he died on the 23d. One of his legs and one of his arms were broken, and his head was badly cut and bruised.

The newsboys of Denver are the latest to form a protective trades union. They found that a number of wicked outsiders were making inroads on their traffic, and so twenty of the legitimates formed an organization with constitution, by-laws, etc. They will doubtless be reported on a strike next.

The artesian well at Fort Russell is now down 1,350 feet. Rock was struck at a depth of 1,212 feet below the surface. After going through about 100 feet of rock, a vein of cannel coal of the very best quality was struck. The coal is as hard and as bright as jet, and burns with remarkable brilliancy; but the vein is thin.

The *Walla Walla Spirit*, of the 3d inst., says: It is now thought that not near so much stock has died this winter as was anticipated. Stock begins to "pick up" once more, and in the course of some weeks will be all right again.

Sowing of spring crops has gone energetically on of late. The universal desire now among the farmers is for a rain. It is hoped that we may get one soon. In case we do, large crops may be certainly looked for this year.

The *Steilacoom Express* says: "While Mr. Thomas Hood and wife were driving in a buggy towards Tacoma to attend the funeral of the lady's father, Mr. J. B. Wren, she suddenly fainted and fell from the buggy on the double-tree, while the horses became frightened and started off at full speed. Mr. Hood at last ran the vehicle against a tree, bringing the horses to a dead stop, and lifted his wife into the seat, just in time to save her from being severely kicked by the wild animals. She escaped with some bruises on her body and a shattered dress."

Says the *Jacksonville Sentinel* of last week: On Friday the 27th ult., a miner named Premus Fasnacht, working on Gauls Creek, was caved on by a 20 foot bank, which nearly covered him up—so nearly so that he could not extricate himself and would soon have perished, had not he been assisted by a friend named Schumpf, who succeeded in digging him out before another cave came down, which soon after occurred. Fortunately he received but comparatively slight injury, and at last accounts was likely to soon be about again.

Late advices from Baker county say Summit Mine, owned by Packwood and Stewart, is looking first-rate. The level tunnel that is running south from the 130 feet station is showing a fine body of ore. A Winze is being raised to connect the air-shaft, exposing a fair ledge all the way through, from one to six feet in width. The main sinking is being pushed as rapidly as possible from the 210 feet level; this slope is opening out a vein two feet thick, which prospects from \$20 to \$25 per ton. They have about 300 tons of quartz on the dump, and, by the time the roads are dry enough to haul, will have not less than 500 or 600 more. The snow is four feet deep at this place.

Major Wm. A. Owen, says the *Jacksonville Sentinel* of the 4th inst., was in town on Wednesday. He came direct from his ranch north of Florence Rock, where he has been wintering stock in the snow by a novel process suggested by the experience of trappers and Indians. The snow caught him with a limited quantity of hay, which was soon exhausted; but he had a good supply of oats and flour, and with this and other means he prepared to make the best of the chances. He scalded a portion of the oats each day and mixed with flour, which he doled out to them at the rate of one handful per head, feeding it to them from boxes and holes prepared for the purpose, and guarding the weaker from the stronger with clubs while the feeding was going on. He then, with hired men, cut down oak trees, covered with moss and mistletoe, upon which the cattle browsed during the remainder of the day. By this means he has succeeded in avoiding the loss of a single head. But he was not so successful with his sheep. These were given into the care of other parties, and he is fearful of losing them all—certainly will lose the greater portion of them.

A fearful tragedy occurred at Salinas City, Cal., on the 6th inst., by which one man lost his life and another was badly wounded. The parties were named Downey and Dennison. The tragedy grew out of a harmless joke on Downey, April 1st. Some of the young folks at Diamond's Hotel on April fool's day sent Mrs. Dennison to Downey's room with a letter containing the words "April Fool." Dennison saw her coming from the room and, taken with a fit of jealousy, he re-

proached her with bitter words, and she retorted in the same kind. A separation was agreed on and proceedings were commenced for a divorce. Much ill feeling between the parties concerned has been the result. Dennison, it is said told his mother-in-law, Mrs. Warren, today that one of them must die before the day was over. Going down to Cropley's saloon he saw Downey, and called him out to speak to him. They passed through a narrow hall to the rear of the building in a little back yard. Dennison said, "You are a ———— You caused my trouble."

Downey then struck him with his fist and knocked him down. Dennison then drew his pistol, and Downey sprang for him and the pistol was discharged; the ball striking Downey in the left side and coming in contact with a rib, glanced around it and came out near the spine. Downey then seized and wrested the pistol from him, when Dennison turned and ran through the saloon and up the street, followed by Downey. When in front of Winn's Chop House, he stumbled and fell. At the instant of falling, Downey fired, the shot taking effect in the right temple, coming out near the top of the head, on the left side. Downey was arrested, placed in charge of the Sheriff and taken to the drug store, thence to his room at the hotel. He still continued to smoke a cigar, which he had in his mouth all the while. He said, while being taken to the drug store: "If I am mortally wounded, I want you all to know that he shot me first."

Dennison was taken into the chop house until a surgeon came, who, upon examining the wound, said, "I can do nothing for him only let him die in peace." He presented a ghastly sight. Blood and brains were trickling from the bullet hole. The body was taken to the Coroner's office and his wife sent for. Her grief was intense. Her cries and tears were pitiable, as she stood weeping over the body. He lived but a short time and died unconscious. He did not speak after the fatal shot was fired. His brother, who lives in Santa Cruz, has been sent for and will be here to-night. An examination will be held as soon as Downey is able to be brought into Court, if his injuries do not prove fatal.

The new mill at Gardiner, owned by Hinsdale, Leeds & Co., has commenced operations, there being a single gang of eight hands employed on a circular saw. Hinsdale has gone to San Francisco to purchase a planing machine, edger, and another steam engine, all of which will be in operation early in May.

Sauborn appeared before the Ways and Means Committee on the 6th, but acting under the advice of counsel, declining to submit a written statement. Sauborn said he had received between \$210,000 and \$211,000 under his contract, of which he had probably paid \$160,000 to others, and had yet to pay men still. He had paid \$25,000 to \$30,000 as counsel fees, but nothing to Internal Revenue officers. He made his entire arrangements with Boutwell. The additions to his contract were obtained from Richardson while Boutwell was in Boston. The witness had no doubt Richardson knew perfectly what he was signing.

The stock on Butte Creek, Jackson county, is getting along finely, and there is but little danger of any further loss. The loss during the winter was not heavy. Grass is springing up nicely, and with a few days more of fine weather will be good grazing.

An artesian well has been sunk at Yreka, Siskiyou county, in the vicinity of salt springs by a gentleman who desires to engage in the manufacture of salt. At last accounts, at a depth of over 500 feet, there was at least 14 cubic inches flowing from the well, or about 450,000 gallons every hour. It is said that gas escapes in a sufficient quantity to light the town of Yreka.

Congestive chills are prevalent at Tacoma, especially among the ladies.

The Circuit Court for Josephine county will convene on Monday, April 13th, 1874.

The German Red Men of Jacksonville will have a grand celebration and ball on May 26th.

Wild geese and ducks are flocking in the ponds and streams of Grand Ronde Valley by thousands.

F. Spencer has taken the contract of getting out 500 tons of quartz for Hover & Watson of Rye Valley, Baker county.

The warm weather now prevailing has started the snow to melting which causes Rogue river to be very high. The various creeks are also almost unfordable.

Miners in Jackson county are beginning to feel the failing of the water in the creeks and ditches, and many of them will soon be compelled to lay down the shovel for another season.

The following postal changes have been ordered for the Pacific coast: Postmasters appointed—George R. Hammersley at Camp Creek, Lane county, Oregon; C. T. Tracy at Yoncalla, Douglas county, Oregon. Office discontinued—Centerville, Washington county, Oregon.

The recent cold weather drove deer and other game down into the valleys in Jackson county from the mountains in considerable quantities, and any amount could be slaughtered without any trouble.

The pinch in the James Gordon Ledge, Baker county, has been worked out, and now there is a large vein of quartz developed, which is far richer than any heretofore taken out. All the force that can be worked will be immediately employed, and the work will be pushed forward.

The roads in Powder River Valley are reported in a terribly bad condition. The *Herald* says: "There seems to be a general 'looseness' underneath the ground's surface. Cayuse horses go down, but always manage to get a sage brush in their teeth, thereby keeping their head above terra firma."

About three minutes walk, in an easterly direction from Main street, Gold Hill, there is to be seen a most wonderful phenomenon. The ground, either from an earthquake or some other cause, has recently split open for at least a quarter of a mile. The crevice thus created, starting at Fort Homestead, crosses the railroad track, and thence pursues a nearly southerly direction down the west side of the canon embraced between Fort Homestead and the hill beyond. It then crosses the canon and extends for a considerable distance up the west side of the hill last named. The crevice varies in width from one to twenty inches, and in places appears to be bottomless. The crevice or chasm through its entire extent is a straight as an arrow, and is of recent origin. That it is something more than a landslide is evident from the fact that it crosses the canon in a direction nearly at right angles to the same. The ground upon which the town of Gold Hill is built seems to possess the element of instability, and in many cases the water pipes have pulled apart and boiler beds have got out of position owing to this circumstance. The question "Whither are we drifting?" is a permanent one.—*Gold Hill News*.

Wells, Fargo & Co. shipped from Silver City, during the week ending March 6th, \$10,808 50 worth of bullion.

The value of wheat and flour shipped from Portland since August 1st, 1873, is estimated at \$3,000,000.